

The Advent Sabbath Review and Herald

THE FIELD IS THE WORLD

GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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Highlights of the Central European Division

By OTTO SCHUBERTH

(Sent in by Telephone)

AFTER the delegates from this field had sung the German Reformation hymn, H. F. Schubert, the president of this large division gave his report. (This report will be printed elsewhere.) He then introduced B. A. Ohme, superintendent of the Netherlands East Indies Union Mission, which is one of the mission fields of the Central European Division. This mission field comprises all the islands of the Netherlands East Indies.

The union headquarters are at Bandung, Java, about 2,100 feet above sea level. The membership is 1,972. There are sixty-eight evangelistic workers, thirty-three colporteurs, and thirty-eight church school teachers. In November, 1929, they started a union training school at Bandung with an enrollment of ten students. The church school enrollment is 1,344.

Brother Ohme told some interesting experiences, a few of which we quote here:

"It is my privilege to bring you the greetings of 2,000 of your brethren from Netherlands East Indies. There are 1,000 islands in the Netherlands East Indies field. Sumatra, Celebes, Java, and Borneo are the larger islands.

"We live in a land of sunshine, for the sun shines always in our field. Our island kingdom is as wide in extent as the United States of America, and we must pass through great distances by water and land to visit our field. We have about 60,000,000 inhabitants in this field. Ninety-two per cent of these are Mohammedans, and only 6 per cent can read. That means 94 per cent must be taught to read, and that is the reason why we emphasize the need of teaching the young to read. We need teachers who can speak the Dutch language, and have Dutch diplomas. If we had these teachers, we could begin 100 schools at once, and receive government support for them.

"Although we have liberty to preach the gospel, still we have much persecution.

We have had persecution in Battakland, in one of our earliest missions we have established there. Two of our teachers invited their pupils to the Sabbath school upon the Sabbath day. They did nothing except sing our good songs of Zion and pray, but because they had not the right as teachers to do this, the government took them prisoners. One was punished with three weeks, the other with six weeks' imprisonment. They didn't have an especially good prison.

But one of these teachers met a pris-

Munson translated. He said: "Eight years ago, when I first went to Menado as a dentist, there were no Adventists there, and when the people saw written on my door, 'Closed on the Sabbath,' they were amazed. They could not understand the meaning of it. About a year after I went to Menado, Brother Munson, with Samuel Rantoenge, began evangelistic work there. People gathered around, and hundreds and thousands of people heard the gospel, and wonderful were the results. In only six short years, Brother

Munson, single-handed, with the help of only Samuel Rantoenge, was able to raise up about thirty companies, with a membership of 600 or 700."

At one time the government was very angry at Brother Munson, and his work, and Brother Phang was a great service to the cause. The governor became very ill from bad teeth, and was obliged to call on Brother Phang, the only dentist within reach. Thus

Brother Phang had a good opportunity to speak with this man about the truth, and he gained his friendship.

Brother Munson and his wife and brother then sang in Malay, "Take the name of Jesus with you." This song had been translated by Brother Munson's father about forty years ago, who was then a Methodist minister.

W. Müller, president of the East German Union, who has just returned from a trip to Liberia, spoke of our work there. We began there in 1927. Now there are three missionary families and a school of forty-three pupils. Brother A. Helbig is the superintendent.

Brother Müller and Brother Paul Drinhaus had been sent to Liberia to investigate the interior. They passed through territory where never before had white man set his foot.

The climate is very trying and dangerous to our missionaries. Brother Müller said: "They speak of Liberia as the



Floral Welcome in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California, to the World Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, May 26 to June 12, 1930

Note: The Conference changed its date of opening to the twenty-eighth.

oner who really desired to hear the gospel, and he asked, 'How long have you been sentenced to stay in prison?'

"He said, 'Three months.'

"Then our teacher said, 'I will give you something to think about during this time.'

"And as we live in a country where the sun rises at six and sets at six, they had time from six in the evening until six in the morning to study the Bible, but they had no light of course, at night, and it wasn't permitted to take the Bible into the prison. The teacher recalled what he had learned of Scripture, and he told it orally. As it was dark in the prison, those who might have been ashamed to listen to the word by day were not ashamed to listen to it by night, and when the three weeks were up they were sorry he had to go."

Then Elder Schubert called upon Brother Phang, from the Celebes, to speak. He spoke in Malay, and Brother

grave of the white man, as is the case with all the west coast of Africa. Therefore the difficulties of missionary work are very great. A few days ago I received a letter from Sister Helbig, and it gives an insight into this. The letter read as follows: 'My husband was very ill Sabbath. The second missionary, Brother Flammer, was also sick. One of our native teachers died.' You can think how sad I was."

After having mentioned some difficulties they passed through on their trip into the interior, Brother Müller referred to the sad experience that followed their work there.

"We ourselves had a most sad experience. We had scarcely reached home. Our families met us at the station, and they were happy to see us again. We said good-by to each other, Brother Drinhaus and the others in a short way, and promised each other we would first have a good sleep and not allow ourselves to be disturbed by the telephone for two days. It was Friday night that we arrived in Berlin. We had been traveling day and night to reach home before Sabbath.

"I heard nothing on the Sabbath day. Sunday I was called by the telephone. Sister Drinhaus said to me by telephone: 'Come quick!' My husband is sick with malaria.' I could not believe it. I went, and found a physician in the home. He had examined the blood and diagnosed the case as tropical malaria, the most severe form of malaria. In fact, the blood was almost overwhelmed with malaria germs. I found him unconscious, and he died without regaining consciousness.

"That was the hardest blow for me. I had seen many give up their children,—many such sacrifices in the mission field,—but it seemed to me as if my brother had been taken out of my own side. We will all have to deal with this difficulty year by year, and still we cannot give up our missionary program. It is just as it is with the soldier in battle. When an important order must be delivered and the messenger is killed, some one else must take his place and deliver the message. We have the command of our Master to go into all the world and teach all nations. I can tell you that in the Central European Division we do not intend to become weary, but we are willing by the help of God to make every sacrifice that is necessary, to bring to that people also the gospel. I know at the same time that the help of God is assured to us."

Another mission field of this division is the Arabic Union, where W. K. Ising is superintendent. Although he is not present at the Conference he sent in a report, from which we take the following:

"The Arabic Union Mission was organized in 1927 and began to function January 1, 1928. It has a population of some 30,000,000. In point of members—222—this is among the smallest of the sisterhood of our union mission organizations, while its 93 per cent Mohammedan population constitutes a problem unparalleled, we believe, in our work in the world field, viewing the fact that here is the homeland of the prophet of Mecca and his followers.

"Our workers, who are Arabs, Austrians, Britishers, Germans, French, Swedes, and Swiss, are of good courage, laboring in hope of better days when, under the outpouring of the latter rain, their many years of patient toil will see an abundant fruitage, for which we are all working."

Following this, Brother Hasso, a dele-

gate from that field, and a native of Mesopotamia, spoke a few words of greeting.

Emil Gugel, president of the South German Union, reported for his field. Although German Switzerland was cut off from this union two years ago, the present membership is given as 8,368. The tithe and offerings have increased. The brethren and sisters were very enthusiastic in their Big Week and Harvest Ingathering work. Health work has been carried on in the small sanitarium at Bad Aibling, as well as at the Marienhöhe Seminary, where many guests were received during the summer months. Brother Gugel is especially glad that a very good work has been done at Vienna, Austria, the old Roman Catholic citadel.

The educational work is prospering in this union. The Marienhöhe Seminary, surrounded by wonderful forests near Darmstadt, has been remarkably blessed by the Lord. The average annual enrollment has been 200 for the last four years. The thought of Christian education is getting a good hold in this union.

The West German Union was represented by J. Wintzen. This union includes western Germany and Holland. There are 308 churches, with a membership of 11,988. The net gain during the last four years was 343. In 1926 the tithe was \$185,012, and in 1929, \$217,833. The union school is located at Neandertal. The enrollment has grown rapidly within the last two years. It has been 178 this year. Brother Erzberger is in charge of this prospering school. Many students of this school earn a large part of their school expenses by selling our literature. The colporteur work is going well in this union. Not only are many books sold, but through the efforts of the colporteurs, 109 souls were won for Christ during the last year.

The East German Union is represented by W. Müller, who followed Paul Drinhaus in its presidency. The union has a present membership of 14,951. Financially, conditions are especially bad in East Germany, but in spite of millions being without employment, most of our brethren have work. Tithe increased from \$218,342 in 1926 to \$260,314 in 1929. Sabbath school donations increased from \$32,533 to \$36,347 during the same period.

We quote Brother Norris: "Our colporteur work, which has especially suffered on account of the falling off of the purchasing power of the people, is now, after many setbacks, showing a great betterment. The same might be said with reference to our school in Friedensau, which suffered on account of a great many changes in its course of study during the past few years. Today there are 111 pupils there. One very serious fact is the impossibility of employing further laborers, notwithstanding the lessening of the number of workers. We are of good courage, however. An increasingly large number attend our meetings. In many places, there is a greater longing for truth; new churches are being established, and we are happy to look into the future with a consciousness that the Lord will bless us."

M. H. Wentland is the president of the Czechoslovakian Union. Many languages are spoken in this union, but the majority speak Czech and about one third speak German. During the last four years 1,016 people were baptized. The tithe amounted to \$98,973. At the end of 1929, there were sixteen ordained ministers, four licensed ministers, ten Bible workers, and fifty-five colporteurs. Our pub-

lishing house prints literature in seven languages. During the last four years, the sales amounted to \$151,167. We also have a small training school near Prague. Of the thirty-six graduates, twenty-two are now engaged in Bible work, five in colporteur work, and one in the publishing house. The present enrollment is thirty-three. During the past year, two new church buildings have been erected, one of them at the capital city of Prague.

The Hungarian Union belongs also to the Central European Division. A. Minck, the president, not being present, we quote from his written report: "In spite of legal prohibitions to holding meetings, and other great difficulties, God's work has made progress. Our corps of evangelical workers, which increased from twenty-eight to thirty-four, aided by our faithful book evangelists and our lay members, increased our membership in sixty-seven churches from 1,265 to 1,708, a net gain of 443. During the same time, there were twenty-one new churches and companies organized. The increase in membership has naturally brought with it good growth in tithes and offerings. The tithe was \$10,850 in 1925, and it has risen in 1929, to \$18,500. On the other hand, our total offerings were \$6,000 in 1925, and in 1929 they had reached \$8,500. The seventy-three book evangelists were able to sell during the four-year period \$97,800 worth of books, and in addition to this the colporteurs had a real hand in the winning of 168 souls, and in the establishment of twenty-one churches."



We are living in a time when Satan is working with all his power to discourage and defeat those who are laboring in God's service. But we must not fail nor be discouraged. We must exercise greater faith in God. We must trust His living word. Unless we have a firmer hold from above, we shall never be able to cope with the powers of darkness that will be seen and felt in every department of the work.—"Testimonies," Vol. VII, p. 267.

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The Sermon

Sabbath Evening, May 30

By O. MONTGOMERY

THIS is a great meeting. Never before in the history of this people have we seen an hour like this. God has visited us. His presence has been with us. The messages that have been borne from this desk were soul-stirring. They have moved our hearts. We are here on this first Sabbath evening of this great gathering. We earnestly entreat that every heart in the divine presence may be lifted in living faith to the great throne of mercy that God may pour out His Spirit even on this first Sabbath day, upon His people here in this gathering.

I have chosen tonight to endeavor to speak to you concerning the power and the spirit of this message. I want to read a text in the fourth chapter of the book of Acts, the 33d verse. "And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus; and great grace was upon them all." With great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

I have very greatly appreciated this scripture, the assurance of the positive, clear-cut testimony of the disciples in an hour of crisis and test concerning that one great outstanding truth or doctrine upon which the whole evidence of the Christian faith centered in that day. The issue at that time was over the question as to whether Jesus the Son of God was actually alive or whether His body had been stolen away. There was a doubt concerning the divinity of the Son of God. There was doubt concerning His miraculous birth, His divine sonship. While all recognized His ministry and the power of His miracles, many doubted His divinity. The proof of it centered in the question as to whether He was living or dead. And the disciples stood forth and gave testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ with great power, with great positiveness. With great assurance they declared that this Jesus the Son of the living God, is alive. He is risen; and their testimony was with power.

Peter declared: "We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory, when there came such a voice to Him from the excellent glory, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with Him in the holy mount."

The power and the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ was testified to by the disciples with certainty. Great power attended their preaching. Mighty works were wrought; deliverances were seen. The sick were healed; those in bondage and guilt of sin found deliverance. Thousands were converted under the testimony of those disciples, as, endued by the Holy Ghost from heaven, they stood forth and gave witness concerning Jesus Christ, His life, His ministry, His death, His resurrection.

I thank God for that clear, ringing, positive testimony concerning the power and the redemption that is in Jesus Christ. "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and one soul; neither said any of them that ought of

the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things in common, and with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus; and great grace was upon them all." The apostles had a very definite message to bear to the world.

As I think of Pentecost, and of all that was manifest there in the power that attended the ministry of the disciples, I think of the repetition of that experience in the setting of the message that we are bearing to the world in our day. It was, "When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son," and the disciples in their ministry bore witness to His birth, His ministry, His healing, His crucifixion, His burial, His resurrection, and His ascension. My friends, it is in the time that God has appointed that the message that we bear to the world



O. Montgomery

is to go to earth's remotest bounds, bearing the same blessed gospel that the disciples bore in that day, and with the same power and assurance.

I like to think of the time in which we live. I like to think of it in connection with my whole study of the birth, the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus in the time that was set apart by the God of heaven, foretold by prophecy, that brought Pentecost and the mighty preaching of the gospel in all the then known world. And in what time do we live today? We find ourselves in the time of the end. We find ourselves in the time that was marked off by the prophetic period of 1260 years, or days, ending in 1798, that marked the beginning of the time of the end—the time of the end that should continue from that period right on to the very last moment, right up to the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ in the clouds of heaven. It embraces this whole period, as I understand it. For more than eighty years the advent people have understood and taught that the time of the end is marked by that prophetic period and will continue until Jesus is seen in the clouds of heaven, coming with power and great

glory to gather His people and take them to be with Him in His kingdom forever.

In this time of the end we find clustered all of those mighty events foretold in prophecy that are to usher in and to be grouped about the appearing of the Son of God in the clouds of heaven.

It is a wonderful message that God has committed to His people to bear to the inhabitants of the earth in this day. It is a stirring message, my friends. It is a message that grips the heart. It is a message that moves men. It is a message that transforms the life, that brings men and women again to the saving knowledge of the mighty gospel of the great God of heaven.

Well, I like to think of the time of the end. I like to think that we who are here tonight are among those that will see the Saviour come in the clouds of heaven. That hope is bright in our hearts. We believe it with all the faith that God has given to us. We are looking earnestly and praying fervently and trying to square our lives with the standard of this divine word, that when He comes we may be ready to meet Him in peace.

Does your heart respond to that message, and do you find your heart in tune with that message, and are you by the grace of God endeavoring to keep step with the advance of the movement, of the cause, as He goes among His people and leads us on from day to day in holy living, in earnest endeavor and in that ministry of service that will finish His work? God grant that every heart here may be true to the spirit of this message.

I understand that this advent message is set forth in the 14th chapter of Revelation. It has been referred to several times from this platform since we have been together in this meeting, and I don't know but that I should turn and just note it briefly. I am not going to make a long exposition of Revelation 14, but I do want you to see tonight something of what is embraced in this blessed message that we are carrying to the world.

We read in the 6th verse of the 14th chapter the wonderful figure that is used here of an angel flying in the midst of heaven. We understand that this angel, with the two angels that follow, represents a mighty message, a threefold message that is going to earth's remotest bounds. It is said of the first angel that he had the "everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, the sea, and the fountains of waters." It is declared to be the everlasting gospel proclaiming the judgment hour.

I understand, therefore, that this everlasting gospel is not a new gospel, not a different gospel, but the same blessed gospel that was declared by the apostles when they gave witness with power and with demonstration of the Spirit concerning Jesus the Son of God as the only redeemer from sin, and that message, that gospel, is in the setting of the judgment message that is to be heralded around the earth.

O my friends, I rejoice in the knowledge and in the assurance that the gospel that is being carried to the world in this particular message of the judgment is the everlasting gospel of God concerning His Son Jesus Christ. [Amen.] It is not a new gospel; it is not a message

that is being carried to the world in a set of peculiar doctrines or isms or notions separate and apart from the redeeming, saving grace of the blessed Saviour, but it is the gospel of salvation from the power of sin to every soul that believeth! [Amens.]

Now, I cannot think of the message that we are carrying on and bearing to the world apart from the fullness of that power. I cannot think of it apart from the baptism and the ministry of the Holy Ghost in all its fullness, and I like to think of the gift, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in connection with the plan of the Lord Jesus back there in the very beginning of the Christian dispensation. Christ was just about to end His ministry on earth. He was just about to leave His disciples. He called them together, and gave to them that wonderful talk recorded in John 14, 15, and 16. He told them there that He was going away, but He said, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him; but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you."

Now, it is evident, I think, from my study of the Scriptures—at least to my own mind it was evident that the Holy Ghost was about to enter upon a ministry and work that it had never carried forward before. Although the Holy Spirit had been in the world from the beginning, it had, as the Spirit of prophecy tells us, never been in its fullness. Now Jesus Christ, ascending to the Father, about to enter upon His work there as our Priest, as our intercessor to present before the Father His blood in our behalf, sent, in His stead, His own chosen representative of Christ—the greatest and most blessed gift that He could ask of His Father—to be with His church here on earth and minister to us and make real in our lives and to make positive in our experience the blessed things that He provided for us through His intercession with the Father and His ministry there in our behalf.

He gave us the assurance in that wonderful talk that the Spirit would not speak of itself; it would not do anything of itself, but the things it heard between the Father and the Son in the councils; the things the Son should receive from the Father, these things would the Spirit bring and bestow upon every waiting, believing child of God.

Well, dear friends, while we think of the ministry of the Spirit in that day, and all it meant to the work of Pentecost, I am glad for the blessed assurance, and I am glad for the faith that enables me to reach out and believe that in my day Pentecost shall be repeated with many times its former power. I think of those blessed promises of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost in the latter rain; I think of the admonitions to these people, to you who are here tonight, to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Ghost in Pentecostal power in the time of the latter rain.

Are you praying that prayer, dear friends? Are you praying that prayer in faith; are you praying that prayer in understanding; are you praying that prayer in a living experience, in squaring your life with the requirements of God's word and the blessed standards of the righteousness of Jesus, putting away sin out of your life, overcoming your culti-

vated and inherited tendencies to evil, so that the Holy Ghost may baptize you with its fullness? It would be useless to pray that prayer except we prepare our hearts and our lives so that the Lord may answer the prayer and bestow upon us His Spirit.

Well now, I must not take the time tonight to go through this wonderful prophecy of Revelation 14. It was my purpose only to call your attention to it; to emphasize the thought that we are in the time of the end; that we are in the very last of the last days; that we are in the last hour of the last days of the last time that was ever set apart in the word of God as relating to earth's history. And it is high time, my friends, that you and I awake out of sleep; it is high time that we make divine preparation in the soul searching, in the earnest consecration, in the putting away of sin, that God may have His way in our lives, and that His name may be glorified and we may know the fullness of the power of His Spirit in our hearts.

It has greatly rejoiced my heart as I have visited different fields and come in touch with our people, to find on every hand the wonderful evidence of the mighty Pentecostal power that is attending the proclamation of this message. It has rejoiced my heart to see the miracle-working power of God as it has wrought in the lives of men and women in many lands. I am glad to see the sinner set free, the shackles of sin broken, the bondage of iniquity shattered, and the soul liberated through faith in the divine Son of God, so that the newborn soul finds joy and rejoicing in the Lord Jesus Christ as a personal Saviour. I am glad to find that the miracle-working power, the miracle-working healing power of the Lord Jesus is also seen in connection with our work.

We do not have to go very far afield in order to find these evidences. We do not have to go to foreign lands to find those upon whom the divine hand has been laid in healing power. How our hearts have been humbled, how our spirits have been quieted, and how we have found ourselves on our faces before the Lord in humility, almost struck down, as it were, with the consciousness of the blessedness of His presence, and our own unworthiness as we have seen some of these things wrought in the lives of men and women that have been bound in disease and infirmity.

I remember some few years ago I was called to pray for a sick person. I was not acquainted with the family. They were strangers to me. I was in charge of a district in one of the local conferences, and away off in one corner of my district this family lived alone. I was called to pray for their twelve-year-old daughter; and when I got out there I found the poor little child, as stated by the doctor who had diagnosed the case, in the last stages of tuberculosis of the bowels. She was bloated as full as the skin apparently would hold. She was lying on the couch, not able to sit up.

I went in and met that family. I talked with them earnestly and asked them to search their hearts. I asked them many questions as to their manner of life, their relationship to the Lord Jesus, their faith and confidence in Him and in His truth, and every detail in their family life. I wanted to know if there was anything to hinder prayer in behalf of that little one, and I asked them to think it over and read their Bibles and study, and I would come back the next day.

When I came back, they were ready.

Just the father, the mother, and I knelt beside the bed of that little child. We prayed earnestly and I anointed her in the name of the Lord. After the prayer I left.

When I went back the next day, I found that little girl out under the trees, dressed, and able to walk out. She was sitting there watching other children playing.

A week later I got a letter from the father telling me that the child had improved every day in a remarkable way. About a month later I got a letter from the father saying that the child was fully restored, apparently, to her normal health. My heart was greatly touched, and I said, What hath God wrought. What wonderful healing power has He manifested in that poor, earnest, humble family of believers.

So, from that time down to the present hour we have seen here and there among God's people these demonstrations of God's healing power. Why, my dear friends, I stand before you tonight myself a monument to His healing power, and I give glory to Him.

Brother Farnsworth, our dear father in Israel, is here. He knows, and you all know of his experience. Well, my friends, that is the same power that is attending this message all around the circle of the world.

Aren't you thankful for the power of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ that is attending this message as it is swinging on around the circle of the world field? Ah, my friends, God does sometimes, I believe, manifest Himself in healing in order to strengthen the faith of people in the community. I believe that He works in many wondrous ways in order to manifest His grace and make known His power.

Why, I think of that experience when four Indians led a paralytic down into the waters of Lake Titicaca and Brother Stahl baptized that man by the help of those four Indians, and as they arose from the water he walked out of the lake fully healed of God.

Now, which is the greater, to heal a paralytic or to heal a drunkard from his appetite? Which is the greater, to heal a person of epilepsy, to reduce a fever, to open the eyes of the blind, to reduce a great tumor, to heal a cancer, or to speak in that still small voice the word of blessed assurance to a repentant, contrite soul, "Thy sins are forgiven thee?"

I believe that the miracle of God's great grace in the healing of the soul is the great purpose for which Jesus Christ came and died on Calvary's cross. The physical healing of the individual is to demonstrate the fact that He can heal the soul. This message is going on, my friends. It is speeding around the circle of the earth. It is meeting the situation that is in the world today. Was there ever a time in the history of this world when God's people ought to ring it out more clearly and with greater assurance and power than today? God has promised to pour out His Holy Spirit in wondrous showers of blessing.

I earnestly pray that that promise may be fulfilled right here tonight, tomorrow, and every day during this conference session. We must be endued with power from on high. We must be endued with the Holy Ghost that came down in the days of the apostles, that brought forth Pentecost back there. We must receive that same blessing and power if we are to finish, under God, and through His grace, the work that He has appointed

(Concluded on page 95)

Morning Bible Study

Friday, May 30, 1930

"Prepare to Meet Thy God"

BY A. G. DANIELLS

My text you will find in the fourth chapter of Amos, twelfth verse: "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel." This word from God has been applicable ever since the fall of man, and today it is still of great force and meaning to the church of God. It has always been set before men that they must meet God face to face, but the generation has come when this great and solemn and terrible meeting is soon to take place, and so this counsel of the Lord is of special meaning to Seventh-day Adventists. I sincerely hope that we shall gain a personal blessing here this morning.

In the study of this subject, I wish to consider it from three points of view. One is the nearness, the fact, of that meeting; the second, the preparation to be made in order to meet God; and third, how we are to enter into that state of readiness that is required.

As to the fact that we must all stand in the presence of God, the people assembled here have no doubt and no question, but it may be well for us to remind ourselves of that solemn experience to which we are coming, so I will read to you from the first chapter of the book of Revelation and the seventh verse: "Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen."

Behold, He cometh, and every eye shall see Him. Even those who dared to put Him to death on the cross, those who pierced Him, those who mocked Him, will stand in His presence, and every eye shall see Him.

And so, dear friends, you and I are some day to stand in the presence of the Majesty of the universe. We are to stand in His sight, and you remember that many times the Bible raises this question, "Who shall be able to stand?" We know very well that the coming of our Lord is not to be a glorious event to all men to whom He is coming. We know that it will be the most terrible meeting that some people have ever experienced, the most terrible event, the most awful; for we read that great men, kings, captains, mighty men, rich men, poor men, will cry for the rocks and the mountains to fall upon them, and hide them from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb.

So I think that we as a people should realize that the coming of the Lord may possibly be a dreadful event to us. It all depends upon our standing, our preparation, our readiness to meet Him. Because we have the name Seventh-day Adventist, and believe in the second coming of Christ, and proclaim the signs of His coming, and tell people they are soon to meet Him, it does not follow that that great event must necessarily be a glorious event to us. We may be unprepared; we may be unready.

This morning I want to appeal to every believer in this great message to listen to this divine counsel, "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel." And you will note that the message is not to the world, to the heathen, to the man in the street. It is to Israel. It is to the church. It is to the professing Christian, and I take this counsel as coming to me as a minister of the gospel. I may preach that message of His coming, and find myself cast out, a castaway at last. You may

believe in it. You may circulate tracts and papers about it. You may tell people about the signs of the times, brethren and sisters, and yet yourself be unready for that great meeting, unready to stand in the presence of a holy God.

Now the Lord takes note of this, and warns us. Away back in the beginning of our history as a people and this movement, we find that the Lord gave this warning. Here in "Early Writings," page 64, I read this: "Then I was pointed to the earth, and saw that there would have to be a getting ready among those who have of late embraced the third angel's message. Said the angel, 'Get ready, get ready, get ready. Ye will have to die a greater death to the world than ye have ever yet died.' I saw that there was a great work to do for them, and but little time in which to do it."

These words, dear friends, are just as true today, just as full of meaning, as when they were written; and I think that while we are here at this great Conference, preparation to meet God, getting ready for that great day, should be a prominent thought in all our minds every day and every hour.

Then here is another message on this same subject: "It was shown me that a great work must be done for His people before they could stand in the battle of the day of the Lord." This is the warning of God to His people in this three-fold message, to make sure of their readiness to meet Him when He comes.

Now just a word with reference to the imminence of that meeting with God. I need spend but a moment on that; but we should remind ourselves that according to our understanding of the Bible we must be very near that great day. We certainly, dear friends, must be near! [Amen.] We have been teaching throughout our history—our lifetime as a people—that this is the generation that is to



African Division Delegation

Seated, left to right: E. D. Dick, educational secretary, African Division; J. F. Wright, president, South African Union Conference; A. E. Nelson, secretary-treasurer, African Division; W. H. Branson, president, African Division; E. C. Boger, superintendent, Zambesi Union Mission; C. W. Bozarth, superintendent, Central African Union Mission

witness the coming of the Lord. We have believed that God is now finishing His work in the earth, His closing work, and that in this generation He will close it, finish it, and come for His people. I want to tell you that I am feeling concerned about this matter. I feel that it becomes the church, that it becomes every minister of this movement, to search diligently into the cause of what seems to be a delay, to know what can and should be done to enable God to finish His work with us and bring the end. If there is anything on our part that is standing in the way, we ought to know it and gladly put it out of the way; and if there is anything we can possibly do to let God do His gracious work upon our hearts, we ought gladly to do that.

I read in 2 Peter 3: 10, "The day of the Lord will come," and then in verses 11 and 12 is this statement: "Seeing that these things are thus all to be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness, looking for and earnestly desiring ["hastening," margin] the coming of the day of God?"

It seems from this that the spiritual experience—the way the church is living—has to do, in a measure, with the hastening or the delaying of that event. All

tion again comes to us, Who shall be able to stand? Paul answers that: Follow holiness; follow after righteousness, without which no man shall see the Lord and stand, or abide in His holy presence. That is the teaching of this scripture.

Let me call your attention again to this demand by the apostle Peter: "Seeing that these things are thus all to be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness?"

That is when the day of God is about to come. So it is perfectly plain that the preparation to be made is a preparation in holiness, in righteousness. It is the experience of being delivered from our sins and being clothed with the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ. That is the preparation, the vital and only preparation, that will enable any one to stand in His presence, and go with Him to that sinless world above.

Our denominational name is not the preparation; our beliefs, our teachings, our gifts, our activities, are not necessarily the preparation required. We do not think that when we meet the Lord and tell Him, "Lord, I paid tithe; I paid a faithful tithe down there during my life and in the church," we do not think that will open the gates and take us

righteousness and hated iniquity—hated sin. There was the cleavage. Christ loved righteousness; He hated sin. And the individual who shall stand in His presence without fear and say, "Lo, this is my God, I have have waited for Him, and He will save me"—the individual who can do that will be one who loves righteousness and hates sin.

And so, brethren, this sin problem is the great problem, and victory in this conflict with sin is the great question with us today. Unless we learn the secret of victory in this mighty conflict, unless we know the way of righteousness, how can we make the necessary preparation to stand in the presence of a holy God? We read: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance."

That is the righteousness, the holiness, expressed in different words—that is the fruit of the Spirit. When the fruit is brought forth, immediately He putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come. We are told by this what the fruit is, and then the statement of Jesus is quoted. When the fruit is brought forth, immediately He putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is ripe.

There was a time when I read that with this understanding, a saved soul is fruit. And that is right and true. And so I put it this way, and drew this conclusion,—that when the last person is brought to Christ, the last one that can be persuaded to come, and He closes His mediatorial work, the fruit is brought forth. That is true, but that is not its meaning here. The fruit is holiness in the heart and life; and when that holiness, that righteousness, is brought forth in the church, then immediately Jesus will put in the sickle, because the harvest is come. That is the teaching here.

Now let me read a little more bearing this out: "Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church." Now in what way? "When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own."

Is not that beautiful? Is not that a clear message to us? I remember once when I was at Friedensau over in Germany, giving some studies in a ministerial institute, this question of preparation, and of the coming of the Lord, the finishing of His work, was pressing very hard upon my heart. I was praying, "Lord, what can we do to finish this work? What can we do to bring the end, if man can do anything? What can it be?" I was up in my room praying about this, and I was terribly anxious, and I cried to God. Somehow I wanted a clear understanding. If I was doing anything or not doing what I should do, I wanted to know it. I arose after some time of pleading, and picked up this book, "Christ's Object Lessons," which had just come out, and Sister White had had a copy sent to me. I opened it, and this was the first thing I read: "When the fruit is brought forth, immediately He putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come," the time to reap. I tell you, dear friends, it brought great joy to my heart. I read it, and then I reread it, and I rejoiced and praised God.

When Jesus reaps, what will He reap? He will reap the wheat and gather it in the garner, and He will reap the tares and put them in bundles to be burned. That follows in the fourteenth verse of the fourteenth chapter of Revelation: "I



Spion Kop Native Training School, Natal, South Africa

holy conversation and godliness in the church would seem to be a necessary preparation, a readiness, for that great event, that meeting with God. On the other hand, if the church is careless and living on a low level, living in sin, unprepared to meet God, it would seem that would have a tendency to delay that event. So here it is set before us.

I say again, brethren, the situation we are facing today is such that we are called upon to give earnest attention to our situation, to get clear light from the Lord, from His word, and from the writings of the Spirit of prophecy, that we may understand the will of God at the present time.

Now I come to another point of greater importance than those I have mentioned,—that is the preparation itself. The word exhorts to this over and over again; the Testimonies exhort us to get ready. What am I to do? What is the preparation I must make in order to meet my God?

First of all we will read from Hebrews 12:14: "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."

We understand that no man can see the Lord and live, and be able to stand in His presence, for in another scripture we read that they that pierced Him shall see Him. Every eye shall see Him, but those who are unprepared will not be able to stand in His presence. They will flee. They will cry for the rocks and mountains to hide them from His face, and the ques-

tion, do we? We do not think one will then plead his activities. He cannot say: "Lord, I went out to a foreign field when I was a young man; I remained there and worked for you fourteen years, and then I traveled around to other foreign fields and mission fields; I worked real hard, so hard that I got tired, and was so busy that I didn't have time to read the Bible, or thought I didn't. I did not have much time to pray, but I worked very hard for you." Do you think that will open the gates? I do not. Well, friends, what will open those gates? What will enable me to stand, and take me through? There is one thing I know will do it. If I stand in His presence clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness without sin, I know that that will take me through.

The apostle John tells us here in his first epistle and the third chapter, beginning with the first verse: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are. For this cause the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we children of God, and it is not yet made manifest what we shall be. We know that, if He shall be manifested, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is."

It is very evident, dear friends, that the preparation God calls for is that we shall become like our Lord and Saviour. When He was here, we read that He loved

looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle."

What is this sickle for? What does that crown indicate?—that He is no longer a priest; He is a King coming to establish His kingdom upon the earth. And that sickle indicates that He has come to reap the harvest of this world. And then there follows the angel telling Him to thrust in His sharp sickle and reap, for the time has come to reap the earth. And He does thrust in that sickle and reap, and gather the fruit unto eternal life.

This says that when the fruit is brought forth in the church, when the members of the church are bearing this fruit of the Spirit,—love, joy, peace, long-suffering, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance,—immediately He putteth in the sickle, because the harvest has come. And that explains—I will read it again:

"Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ [the righteousness of Christ] shall be perfectly reproduced in His people"—in me, oh, how solemn that is! that the Lord Jesus Himself is waiting with longing desire to reproduce Himself in my heart!—He places His Holy character there, and when that is done for all in the church, then He will come to claim them as His own.

Now notice the next, "It is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." And the scripture I have read, 2 Peter 3:12, is given as the proof. "Were all who profess His name bearing fruit to His glory, how quickly the whole world would be sown with the seed of the gospel. Quickly the last great harvest would be ripened, and Christ would come to gather the precious grain."

I tell you that brought joy to my heart. I accept that as the truth for this people at this time, and I believe, brethren and sisters, we ought to read that and get that thought, and every day of our lives press closer and closer to God, praying that He will reproduce Himself in our hearts, put His character into us.

Now how can this be done? The first thing that I will give you as a step in this direction, the way to make this preparation of holiness, you will find in the first chapter of the first epistle of John, verse eight: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." We must recognize that we by nature are great sinners, and "if we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves." "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

The first step, brethren, for this cleansing, is for a vacuum to be created in these sinful hearts of ours. In the first chapter of Romans, twenty-ninth verse, we are told that we are "filled with all unrighteousness." Here is the way to get rid of that: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

The next verse I want to read is in Romans 3:21, 22: "But now apart from the law a righteousness of God hath been manifested, being witnessed [approved] by the law and the prophets; even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ unto all them that believe."

Now the first text tells of the cleans-

ing from that unrighteousness, and this brings to us, in the place of that unrighteousness, the full and perfect righteousness of God, and that comes to us through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord.

"Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel." The meeting is very near. Soon we are to stand in the presence of that Holy One, and if unprepared, we shall flee from His presence; but if prepared, we shall stand without wavering, and say,

"Lo, this is our God, we have waited for Him." That preparation is to be ours when we have perfect righteousness, and that is a gift from God. We cannot earn it. We cannot work it out. We cannot buy it. But we can get it by faith in God's dear Son. Brethren, let us give this matter earnest study, and pray here and now that the Lord will lead us on to the preparation we need to fit us to meet Him in peace.

Proceedings of the General Conference

Sixth Meeting

JUNE 1, 10:30 A. M.

E. E. ANDROSS in the chair.

OPENING SONG: "Jesus Paid It All."

Prayer was offered by Frederick Griggs, of the Far Eastern Division.

E. E. ANDROSS: We have with us this morning Brother Kimlin. It gives me great pleasure to introduce Brother Kimlin to you. He is the mayor of the city of Glendale. He will take just a few moments of our time to tell us about Glendale and the standing of our people in that community.

C. E. KIMLIN: I am very happy indeed to bring to the delegates of this Conference greetings from the city of Glendale, Calif. In the last ten years Glendale increased its population 49,000 people, which is quite a gain. In 1920 we had 13,000; now we have 62,607 persons, by the recent census report.

It may be of interest to you to know how the people in that community look upon us as Seventh-day Adventists. A thing that is of great interest to me—and I think it is quite a tribute to the denomination and work that we represent—is the fact that almost every morning and evening my telephone is kept very, very busy, people calling in for this, that,

and the other in matters pertaining to city affairs; but when sundown comes Friday evening, to sundown after the Sabbath, very, very seldom does my telephone ever ring. So the people in Glendale all know that I am a Seventh-day Adventist, and they respect the Sabbath, and are very glad to help us observe the Sabbath. Never am I called upon to take part in any public functions on the Sabbath day. I think that is quite a tribute to our work and people. I am very glad at this time to bring to you greetings from the city of Glendale. Thank you!

E. E. ANDROSS: We will now introduce the Far Eastern Division. Elder Evans, its president, will take charge of the program for one hour.

The reports given at this meeting are featured in an article by Frederick Lee elsewhere in the REVIEW.

E. E. ANDROSS: The next item on our program for the morning is the report of the College of Medical Evangelists. This is presented by Dr. Magan, the president of the college.

A résumé of this report is given elsewhere in the REVIEW.

The benediction was pronounced by Dr. H. W. Miller.

An adjournment was taken.

E. E. ANDROSS, *Chairman*.

B. E. BEDDOE, *Secretary*.

The Home Missionary Department

By J. A. STEVENS

THE secretaries of the Home Missionary Department in the world-wide field unite with the General Conference Home Missionary Department secretaries in extending greetings to the delegates assembled in this General Conference session, and in presenting the following survey of work accomplished during the past quadrennial term, which reveals the greatest progress ever made by the department.

The ready response of the laity to the call to soul-winning service during the

last four years, constitutes one of the outstanding developments in the advance of the advent movement in all the world. This has been particularly marked in lands where the promotion of our work as a whole has been subjected to the most bitter opposition. In such countries as Rumania, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Mexico, our lay members have zealously united their efforts with those of ministers and church officers, often suffering persecution and imprisonment, but receiving for their



Delegates to the African Division Council, 1929

labors a wonderful return in souls won to Christ.

Like Martha of old time, the Home Missionary Department is "careful and troubled about many things" in every part of the world, but there rings clear in every call to service our slogan, "Souls—the Goal of Goals." The spirituality of these many activities is amply demonstrated in the mounting total of souls won to Christ and His present-day message through the work of consecrated laymen, and the deepened spiritual experience of all those who engage in such personal soul-winning ministry. This is a fulfillment of the assurance given in "Steps to Christ," where Sister White says:

"The spirit of unselfish labor for others gives depth, stability, and Christlike loveliness to the character, and brings peace and happiness to its possessor. . . . The only way to grow in grace is to be disinterestedly doing the very work which Christ has enjoined upon us,—to engage, to the extent of our ability, in helping and blessing those who need the help we can give them."—Pages 84, 85.

In apostolic times thousands were added to the church in a single day under the united labors of ministers and laity, and the gospel was heralded to the then-known world before the death of the apostles. In this last generation God designs to do a greater, though similar, work through the united efforts of ministers and church members, and we are seeing the result of this divine plan in the goodly harvest of souls revealed by our reports. During the last four years our lay members, young and old, have won 29,825 to the truth. We greatly rejoice at this blessed fruitage that has rewarded our missionary workers for their efforts in the many lines of soul-winning work. Surely in this ingathering of souls we can see at least a partial fulfillment of the promise penned by Sister White, and recorded in the "Testimonies," Volume VIII, page 246:

"If the lay members of the church will arouse to do the work that they can do, going on a warfare at their own charges, each seeing how much he can accomplish in winning souls to Jesus, we shall see many leaving the ranks of Satan to stand under the banner of Christ. If our people will act upon the light that is given in these few words of instruction, we shall surely see of the salvation of God. Wonderful revivals will follow. Sinners will be converted, and many souls will be added to the church. When we bring our hearts into unity with Christ, and our lives into harmony with His work, the Spirit that fell on the disciples on the day of Pentecost will fall on us."

Analysis of Statistics

An analysis of our Home Missionary statistics shows the part each line of missionary work has had in making up the grand total of results. Supreme in

all our soul-winning agencies is the Book of books, the Bible itself. "Is not My word like a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?" Jer. 23:29. Like a fire in a forest the message has burned its way into many a hidden corner of earth, the humble layman being as a brand in the hands of the Lord to kindle interest in the truth. No people of earth have proved to be so hardened, in either sin or superstition, but that the power of the word has broken down the heart barriers at last.

We are carrying forward a definite program of training that develops the latent talent of lay members, and fits them to go into the field as capable laymen Bible workers. Thousands have thus been trained, and many thousands more must receive this fitting for efficient service. A textbook entitled, "How to Give Bible Readings," has been prepared for these classes, and the material contained therein is being adapted for use in many foreign fields. According to our reports during the quadrennium just closed,



J. A. Stevens

4,366,003 Bible readings and cottage meetings were conducted by the laity. Compared with the previous quadrennial period, this is a gain of 38 per cent.

Our wonderful missionary literature, we believe, is next in importance as a soul-winning agency for the use of church members. Now printed in 141 languages, it enables our believers in every land to search out those who will respond to the gospel invitation. Not only so, but literature "pioneers" the way into nations, kindreds, tongues, and peoples, and searches out the honest in heart where the living disciple has never been. Like rays of brightest light, it pierces the darkness of heathen lands, and confounds the deeper darkness of "worldly wisdom" in civilized lands.

Thus a way has been made plain to the cross for many, and so "in a large degree" will be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with power and who lightens the earth with his glory.

Importance of Literature

From the earliest days of our history the printed message has been one of the most favored agencies for the dissemination of the truths peculiar to our faith. Like the former rain, tracts and papers were showered upon many spiritually dry places in those early days, and, lo, the seed sown yielded a good fruitage. In these days of the latter rain a veritable flood of truth-filled literature is pouring from our presses, and is being taken by our lay members to be showered upon truth-thirsty hearts everywhere. Time will not allow even one instance showing the miracle-working power inherent in our literature ministry, but they could be recounted at great length, giving renewed emphasis to the fact that God watches over these "speaking leaves," and blesses with soul-winning results the vast volume of missionary literature that is being circulated.

Figures compiled in our office indicate that a total of 60,056,699 periodicals and tracts were used by our people in their missionary work during the last four years, and the extension of the Home Bible Study League plan and the revival of the King's Pocket League bid fair to increase still further their circulation.

The Home Bible Study League is a modernized method of systematic literature and correspondence work, although the plan may also be used for personal house-to-house distribution of literature. The church at Takoma Park has been carrying on an extensive Home Bible Study League program for some years, and is now mailing literature to 3,400 addresses each week. At the proper time these people are mailed a questionnaire that is calculated to give an accurate representation of their convictions concerning the truths contained in the literature they have read. This questionnaire, when filled in and returned, reveals definite information regarding the attitude of the individual to the coming of the Lord, the Sabbath, etc. During 1929 this church received replies to 108 questionnaires, with every one of the questions answered affirmatively, and at a cost of \$11.11 for each person thus brought to a saving knowledge of the truth. To date in 1930 there have been 63 people who have given a favorable answer to the questionnaire. Other churches and conferences report equally successful work through the Home Bible Study League plan.

The King's Pocket League is experiencing a real revival of activity, and we expect it to have a definite membership of 10,000 in North America alone before the close of 1930. The members of the King's Pocket League carry a select assortment of tracts in a specially prepared pocket, and thus are ready to "give an answer" or to drop a seed of truth "as they go."

When our Lord was about to send forth the seventy laymen to pioneer the gospel message as thirty-five missionary bands, He expressly charged them to "heal the sick," and just a little later suggested the extent of Christian neighborliness by the parable of the good Samaritan. This spirit of helpfulness is deeply imbedded in the remnant church, and the laity ex-

THE HARVEST INGATHERING CAMPAIGN IS WORLD WIDE

DURING 1929 MORE THAN 4,000,000 HARVEST INGATHERING PAPERS IN 35 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES WERE PRINTED. SINCE 1908, THE BEGINNING OF THE CAMPAIGN, \$10,740,018.95 HAS BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE MISSION TREASURY. \$1,337.48 EVERY DAY FOR 22 YEARS!

pend much time and effort in ministry to the sick and needy. The counsel that comes to us from the Spirit of prophecy says that "the medical missionary work should be a part of the work of every church."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VI, p. 289. And again, "We have come to a time when every member of the church should take hold of medical missionary work."—*Id.*, VII, p. 62. In close co-operation with the Medical Department, we are constantly working to fulfill this counsel. The report of the Medical Department shows that thousands of home nurses have been trained to do efficient neighborhood missionary work, and our department has endeavored to take these trained workers fresh from their classes and direct their activities through our various bands.

Christian Help Work

The Christian help work reported in 1928 alone is equivalent to the work of 800 nurses, working eight hours a day, six days a week, for an entire year. It is thus that our laity, and in this instance largely our women, are doing what they can to obey the Master's command to minister to the sick. Our total report for the four years shows 7,344,031 hours devoted to various phases of Christian help work. But this does not tell the whole story of loving ministration: 1,172,439 treatments were also given. These figures show a gain of 44 per cent in Christian help activities and 53 per cent in the number of treatments. As a part of this helpful ministry to the sick and needy, hundreds of thousands of articles of clothing were given away and hundreds of thousands of dollars spent in providing meals.

whereas our latest reports from the world field show 117,755 believers, young and old, definitely connected with one or more of the many activities included in our laymen's missionary endeavor. Our missionary correspondence work is now quite largely carried on through the Home Bible Study League plan, although the old correspondence band method is still in vogue in many churches. The extent of this missionary correspondence may be gathered from our world reports for the four-year term, which show that 1,514,662 missionary letters were written during that time. This, of course, has to do only with the personal letters mailed to individuals, and does not give any idea of the multiplied thousands of mailings of missionary literature. This is a generous increase over the preceding four years, and eternity alone will reveal the fruitage of such a seed sowing.

Often we find ourselves trying to visualize the influence of the army of approximately 300,000 Seventh-day Adventists scattered around the world. Just one day's missionary story in all its detail would fill a ponderous volume. What a record it would be, and how feeble are the figures we give in this brief summary to reveal the activities of this great movement! Our reports show 8,225,914 missionary visits, which testify to the zeal of the church members. Busy men of every class, faithful women, and a host of young people have made up the army of workers ever on the watch to drop some seed of truth where it may find good soil and bear fruit. In numberless instances such a brief visit has opened the way for Bible studies that eventually culminated in another addition to the church.

Promotion of Campaigns

The Home Missionary Department is responsible for the promotion of the major campaigns, such as Harvest Ingathering and the Missions Extension Big Week. In some division conferences the department is also responsible for the promotion of other general campaigns, but this survey covers only the statistics of the campaigns that are denomination wide. It is a very cheering report of progress that we are able to make of the last four years' campaign achievements, and we humbly acknowledge God's rich blessing upon the endeavors that have been made to insure victory each year. The Harvest Ingathering total is \$4,640,242.07. This approximates a gain of 33½ per cent over the preceding period. Each year of the quadrennium has registered a gain in the world total, and our figures for 1929 show that there was a gain for every division conference throughout the world. The grand total of Ingathering funds since the plan was inaugurated in 1908 reaches the splendid amount of \$10,740,018.95, and each year adds another \$1,250,000 or more. To God be the glory, great things He has done.

The Missions Extension Big Week plan

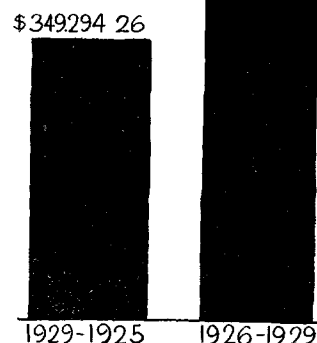
is the youngest of our general campaigns, but it has been accorded the heartiest co-operation on the part of our workers and members everywhere. It is impractical in this brief report to present the accomplishments made possible through Big Week campaign funds. Suffice it to say that eighty-eight publishing houses and depositories, ninety-five medical units of various classes, and ninety-one educa-

BIG WEEK

COMPARATIVE QUADRENNIAL REPORT

FOR THE WORLD \$570,016.49

1922 1929

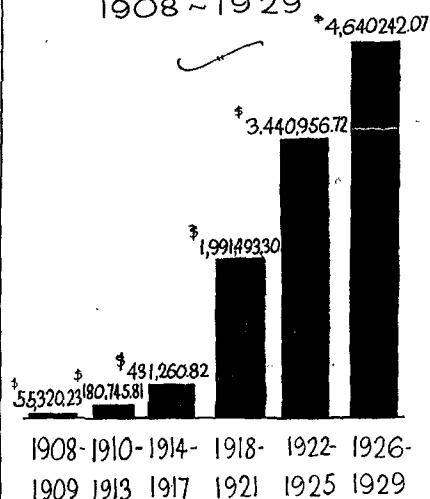


Harvest Ingathering

COMPARATIVE QUADRENNIAL REPORT

FOR THE WORLD

1908 ~ 1929



The history of our missionary correspondence plan takes us back to the early years of the second advent movement, and the organization of the Vigilant Missionary Society, sixty years ago. S. N. Haskell was the prime mover in the development of this first laymen's missionary organization in 1869, but he had received strong encouragement from Elder and Mrs. White to go forward with such work. Ten people constituted the membership of this Vigilant Missionary Society,

tional enterprises have been built or substantially helped from the \$1,482,933.18 that has flowed into the fund, inclusive of the 1930 budget. This total includes \$570,016.49 raised by the lay members during the past quadrennial term. This is an increase of 39 per cent over the preceding period. It is interesting to note that whereas we were printing our literature in 99 languages when the Missions Extension plan was adopted in 1920, today we are printing in 141 languages, a gain of forty-two in ten years.

Development in Organization

The past quadrennial term has witnessed a rapid development in the organization of the Home Missionary Department throughout the world field. Added growth has made necessary the strengthening of the General department by the addition of another associate secretary. In 1928 L. E. Christman was called to connect with the department, and has rendered greatly needed assistance. This addition to the General departmental staff filled the vacancy that has existed since 1923, and continued growth will certainly necessitate additional help. In the field the Far Eastern Division has separated the home missionary and publishing departments, calling L. V.

MISSIONS EXTENSION PROGRAM

\$1,482,933.18 APPROPRIATED IN TEN YEARS
IT HAS BUILT, EQUIPPED, AND ASSISTED 274 PROJECTS,
88 PUBLISHING HOUSES AND DEPOSITORIES,
91 SCHOOL PROJECTS,
95 HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES

Finster to the secretaryship of the home missionary department.

The reorganization of the European Division into the North, Central, and Southern European Divisions has greatly strengthened our department, and already we are seeing a wonderful increase in missionary work and funds raised through the various campaigns. The Southern Asia Division has also reorganized its departmental work, J. F. Ashlock being called to the secretaryship of the home missionary department. Already we are seeing beneficial results from this change. The Australasian Division has laid the major responsibility of the leadership of the home missionary department upon W. J. Westerman; and also given him as an assistant, R. E. Hare.

The work in the African Division has been strengthened under the leadership of L. A. Vixie; and R. R. Breitigam has found a hearty response to his efforts to place strong leaders in every union and local field in South America. The slogan of that division is, "Every Convert a Convert Maker." The Russian Division has also appointed a home missionary secretary, and we are confident our laymen in that great field are rendering earnest service, though reports do not come regularly. Under the leadership of C. E. Wood the home missionary work in Inter-America has made steady growth, and stands at the head of the divisions in the percentage of reporting members.

It has been a source of great encouragement to the General department that officials and committees in all the world fields have given such careful and favorable planning to the strengthening of the home missionary work by the appointment of strong leaders in so many union and local fields. We believe we shall see continued development until every field is under the direction of a strong home missionary leader.

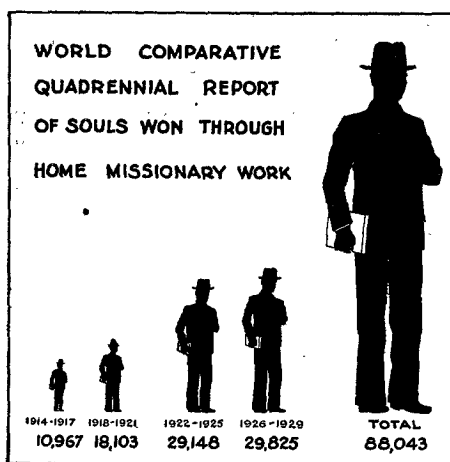
Our program of soul-winning training is being adapted to every land, and the laity are availing themselves of the opportunity to become more efficient in various lines of missionary work. Home missionary conventions have been held in most of the division conferences during the quadrennium. Early in the term the General secretary visited Inter-America and E. F. Hackman attended conventions in this field later, and in 1929 in Northern and Southern Europe. Hundreds of church officers' meetings and missionary conventions have been held throughout the world, and numberless conventions and institutes in churches. All of this is greatly helping to swell the mounting total of results reflected in our missionary statistics.

We are glad to make a brief mention here of the wonderful development of the fifteen-minute missionary meeting that is held between the Sabbath school and the preaching service. Indorsed by the General Conference Fall Council held at Springfield, Mass., in 1928, this plan has been adopted quite generally throughout the world field. Palpably a radical innovation in our work, this brief missionary service each week has revolutionized our missionary endeavor in many hundreds of churches. Activities have increased in some churches from 300 to 800 per cent or more, and thousands of members have become inspired to do missionary work who were inactive before. It has been impossible for us to develop experienced leaders for this service in many hundreds of churches in the brief period that has elapsed since the plan was

adopted, but "practice makes perfect," we recall, and we are glad for the reports that constantly come to us from all parts of the world that the plan is a success, even with inexperienced leadership. Where the plan has been longest in operation and experience has been gained in its actual working, it is being carried on smoothly and bringing blessing to the church. The First Sabbath service is being more generally observed than ever before in our history, and the missionary spirit is constantly deepening and broadening in all our churches as a result.

Expression of Appreciation

With eager anticipation we have looked forward to this opportunity to express to this delegation, as representing our workers and church members throughout the world, our very sincere appreciation for the co-operation that has made possible the wonderful advancement the home missionary work has made during the last four years. In all the world our workers and members have stood ever ready to respond loyally to every call to service, and we consider it a high privilege to be counted a member of this great soul-winning army. Thank God, it is an



ever-growing host of workers that we serve in our departmental leadership, for "the work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."—"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 117. The rallying cry is sounding insistently, and our people are responding to the call to a deeper spirituality and a more consecrated service. Thus the banner of the cross has been planted on greater heights

than it has known before. But the peak of final victory towers before us yonder, and the call to advance is a call to greater spiritual power. This is our greatest and most imperative need. But we need, also, consecrated and efficient leadership to marshal the hosts of the Lord for the finishing of the task.

From a great array of counsel from the Spirit of prophecy I have chosen this closing thought:

"God and Christ and the heavenly angels are working with intense activity to hold in check the fierceness of Satan's wrath, that God's plans may not be thwarted. God lives and reigns. He is conducting the affairs of the universe. Let His soldiers move forward to victory. Let there be perfect unity in their ranks. Let them press the battle to the gates. As a mighty Conqueror, the Lord will work for them. *Let the gospel message ring through our churches, summoning them to universal action.*"—"Testimonies," Vol. VII, p. 14.

And so the church will go forth to victory in ten times the power of Pentecost, and the earth will be lightened with the glory of God's message of truth, reflected in the service of His faithful people.

"Advance, O living church of God! Advance! Your leader, Christ, stands far within the ranks Of sin-stained, darkened lands, and beckons you To follow where He leads. Must He still wait Alone there in the whitened fields, but see No garnered sheaves that you have helped to reap? Servants of Christ, awake! Arise and shine! Thy light shall reach hearts lost to hope through sin, And guide them out of darkness into day.

"The Master calls to you to serve Him now In this and other lands. And will you say Him nay? He calls for sacrifice of life and means, Nor will He be content with less than these; How can we be content to follow Him with less? Advance, O church of Christ! Advance where'er The Master calls, and yield Him service true Until His work is finished in the earth, And those who've shared His toils and sufferings here Shall share His holy joy forevermore."—Adapted.

The Missionary Volunteer Department

By M. E. KERN

A few months ago I stood, with a group of Missionary Volunteer secretaries of Southern Europe, on the ground where, twenty-three years ago, the General Conference Committee authorized the organization of the Missionary Volunteer Department.

As we look back today over these twenty-three years, we are very sensible of the fact that the department has not accomplished all that needed to be done, although we must recognize the blessing of God in what has been accomplished in working for the spiritual welfare of our youth and by enlisting them in missionary endeavor. There has been a gradual and steady growth in the membership of

the young people's organization since its beginning. This increase has been greater than the corresponding growth of the church, showing that the denomination is enlisting a larger per cent of its youth in the Missionary Volunteer work year by year. And the increase of missionary work and offerings to missions, has been even greater than the increase in membership.

To indicate something of the progress of the work during the last quadrennial term, we have set down in parallel columns a few of the items of our report for that and the preceding term. There is also a graph showing the upward trend of the work during the last four years.

Comparative Summary of Missionary Volunteer Work

	1922-25	1926-29
Number of Societies	3,023	3,192
Membership	58,811	76,859
Missionary Visits	1,379,093	2,140,018
Bible Read. & Gospel Meet.	596,031	916,818
Hrs. of Chr. Help Work	1,670,048	2,820,122
Periodicals Distributed	3,705,157	10,802,912
Tracts Distributed	3,541,269	5,090,762
Books Distributed	550,949	732,120
Letters Written	401,694	484,650
Foreign Miss. Offerings	\$724,435.63	\$876,846.55
Bible Year Certificates	13,372	17,492
Reading Course Certificates	45,068	61,504
Standard of Attainment Cer.	6,522	7,411
Young People Added to Ch.	17,765	25,516

Our growth in society membership during the past term has been almost 3 per cent larger than the increase in denominational membership. The increase in Missionary Volunteer membership over the previous term has been almost 18 per cent, while the increase in missionary work has been all the way from 24 to 55 per cent. It is an interesting fact, too, that while the Missionary Volunteer membership for 1929 was 24 per cent of the church membership, these Missionary Volunteers did 29 per cent of the reported missionary work of the entire church. This is the more remarkable when we remember that about half of our Missionary Volunteers are children. We are sure that the older members of the church rejoice in this manifestation of the devotion of our young people.

Perhaps it would help us to realize the volume of missionary work represented, to say that it would take one person approximately 860 years to make those missionary visits, and over a thousand years, working steadily, to accomplish the hours of Christian help work reported. Besides these we have nearly a million Bible readings and gospel meetings held. And the pieces of literature distributed placed end to end would almost span the Atlantic Ocean.

How strikingly do these facts illustrate the truth of that first statement from the Spirit of prophecy concerning the organization of the youth: "We have an army of youth today who can do much, if they are properly directed and encouraged."

There is also the Bible Year, Reading Course, and Standard of Attainment Certificates, which represent the voluntary efforts of our young people at self-improvement and preparation for Christian service.

But the most encouraging of all the items is the last. The 25,516 young people baptized and entering the church during the four-year period is equal to the entire membership of the denomination forty-five years ago.

Financial Plans

A few words regarding the financial plans of the department. We are now only asking for a report of the young people's Harvest Ingathering and Big Week work, and their cash offerings in the society. The plans are not just the same in every division, but everywhere the young people are learning to support this cause with their means as well as their service. In one of the Chinese unions, for instance, the young people have as one of their goals the buying of land and the erection of a chapel in a new locality each year.

Our Missionary Volunteers around the world, besides their Sabbath school and other offerings, and with no undue urging, have placed in the General treasuries of the denomination, for foreign missions, over \$876,000. This consisted of Harvest Ingathering and Big Week funds, and society offerings. Besides this they con-

tributed \$65,000 for their local society work.

Something over a year ago we inaugurated a self-denial plan, and in many places it has been a decided influence in the development of Christian character, which is its chief purpose.

To illustrate: Four Juniors in Australia decided to give all their school prize money to help make up the missions budget shortage. The promotion of these financial plans does help to make our young people intelligent about our world task, and to lay the burden upon their hearts for its support. And many of our young people, in this extravagant age, are learning to give to the Lord what they have been spending needlessly, and even to sacrifice some things they really need.

Young People at Work

Rather than dwell longer on statistics which at best are only symbols, I will give a few concrete illustrations of our



M. E. Kern

Missionary Volunteers at work round the world.

Last year a group of Junior girls in Takoma Park, preparing for the Junior class of Friends, heard of the need of bandages in our medical work in Africa. "Let's make some," said they, "and send a whole box full." They gathered old sheets, shirts, and other clean, white cast-off clothing, cut them in strips and made tight rolls of bandages. I had the privilege of carrying their gift to Africa. It cost little money; but as enthusiastic minds planned and nimble fingers worked, this effort fanned the flame of missionary zeal in the hearts of these Junior girls. And you can imagine their joy when word came back that the very next day after their bandages were received at the mission station, some of them had a large share, in an emergency, in saving the life of one of our missionaries.

And while speaking of Africa, please come with me to the new college near Cape Town, and meet a fine group of colonial students earnestly preparing for God's work. There I found a 100-per-cent Missionary Volunteer Society, with its Bible workers' and ministerial band, literature and correspondence band, and foreign mission band, all aflame with a desire to win souls. A group of these

Missionary Volunteers were going with their Bible teacher twice a week to assist in an evangelistic effort in a near-by town, with good results. And the leader says, "The surprising thing about it all is that there is a continual increase along all lines. I have tried a new system this year, and that is of going to each one individually and encouraging him to take part in the missionary work; and I can now see the results, not only in every member reporting, but in the growth of the society."

And while we tarry in the Dark Continent, let us note the practical working of a Missionary Volunteer Society in Nyasaland. It came to the watchful eyes of some of these young volunteer missionaries that the hut of a poor old woman was so dilapidated that it did not afford her proper protection. So plans were laid to supply this poor woman with a new home. One group went to the woods to get poles, another to bring the long grass, and still another group peeled and prepared the bark necessary for the construction. In one day these materials were all secured and brought together, and the hut constructed. In the morning the poor old widow had no proper house in which to live; at night she had a beautiful new home. You will not be surprised that this woman soon wanted to know about the religion of those who performed this work of love for her. In such ways do our African Missionary Volunteers teach Christ to those who sit in darkness.

Let us now fly across the Indian Ocean to Australasia, where our Missionary Volunteers in 1929 made the largest gift to missions in their history, over \$10,500. Not only European young people gave, but considerable amounts came in from Missionary Volunteers of the Australian aborigines, supposed to be the lowest human race, and from the Missionary Volunteers of the far-flung South Sea Islands. One of their successful plans for getting money is the sewing circle. "At one of the sewing circle meetings I attended," writes the union secretary, "I found a number of young people busily at work making children's clothes, pillow slips, raphia baskets, embroidery work, etc., while one of their number read aloud one of the Reading Course books. These young people have an ever-widening circle of friends who purchase their handiwork. One circle made a profit of \$500 during 1929."

From Chosen, "the Land of the Morning Calm," comes the good word that the young people "have tasted the joy of winning souls." In South China a church of twenty-five members was raised up as a result of the interest created by the young people. The young people in our Canton school have for several years supported a teacher in an elementary school for the heathen, and now, as a result of that school, a church has been organized.

From Poland, where our Missionary Volunteers are advancing under difficulties, and where the department has recently started Reading Courses in the Polish, German, and Russian languages, I will give one incident illustrative of love and devotion to the message. A young man who had finished working his village with the Harvest Ingathering paper, had one paper left. He walked twenty-five miles to sell it to one he thought would be interested, and the man bought the paper and accepted the truth.

In one of our German schools the young people distribute 1,200 copies of their mis-

sionary paper each month, and they find it difficult, for lack of time, to follow up the interest which has been created.

The record for Bible readings given is held by the young people of Hungary, where one year they reported sixty Bible readings per capita, and this under very severe handicaps. In North America the annual average of Bible readings is one per capita.

In North America and elsewhere our young people have frequently held regular series of preaching services on the streets or in halls.

Our Missionary Volunteer Societies are constantly training workers for larger service. In one of the oldest churches in Brazil, South America, a young man who was chosen as Missionary Volunteer leader for a year, did so well that the next year he was elected church elder. Another young man only twenty-three years old was so active in building up the church, that he also was chosen as church elder. Largely through his efforts twenty-three souls have been added to the church.

In Southern Asia young people are finding the light of the advent message, and they are learning how to win others. A young girl who emerged from the darkness of Mohammedanism under severe persecution, and who has won others, sends us an article on "Soul Winning in Islam." Southern Asia and Inter-America led the world in 1929 in the number of reporting members, each having 61 per cent.

So we might continue giving illustrations of how our young people everywhere are using their talents and skill in the Master's service, devising new ways and employing the means already in vogue for winning souls.

The Junior Work

Our Junior work has made gratifying progress during this quadrennial term. The foundation of this work is the Junior Pledge and Law. In encouraging Juniors to memorize and practice the Pledge and Law we are building into the foundations of young life those great principles of righteousness, without which no one can truly succeed. One Junior superintendent wrote: "I have been talking with the boys and girls about the principles involved in the Junior Law. At such times the silence has been almost breathless. It has seemed as though the Holy Spirit were speaking directly to us. I believe these boys and girls are willing to fit into a deeper program."

The Progressive classes with their varied requirements have a special appeal to our boys and girls. They set before the Junior a great incentive to *attain*, and *hold up* ideals of an all-round development, physical, intellectual, and spiritual. These plans seem to meet the needs of Juniors in every field. Word is just received from India of a group of Juniors working to become "Friends."

I fear that we have greatly neglected to give our Junior young people the intelligent training they need. Our statistics show that the ages when the greatest number of Seventh-day Adventist young people are baptized is eleven to fifteen, with the peak at fourteen. Truly the Junior age is the harvest time of the soul.

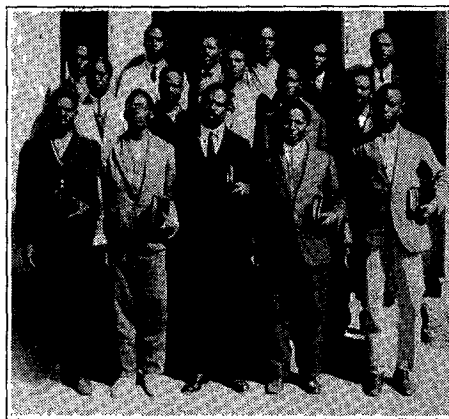
One conference Missionary Volunteer secretary writes: "It is marvelous to see the interest of parents in seeing their boys and girls work out these class steps. I certainly believe God is in these plans for our Juniors."

I am glad to tell you there has been an encouraging response to the call for older young people to prepare definitely for Junior leadership. Many have already attained to Master Comradeship, and special institutes of instruction are being planned for those who dedicate themselves to this important field of missionary endeavor.

Trained Leadership

There is much truth in the statement that there is really no boy problem, no young people's problem, but only a problem of leadership. Our denominational experience has proved conclusively that the training of the children and young people in missionary endeavor is weak or strong, and rises or falls with the strength of its leadership.

For instance in a local conference of Northern Europe, the first month of this year, there were enrolled more young people for the Morning Watch, Bible Year, and Reading Courses, than the entire union had in 1929, due to the earnest efforts of the leader in doing systematic promotion work in the societies. Such leaders are a paying investment. As a conference president said at the Chemnitz Young People's Congress, "In spending



Native Delegates Attending the 1929 African Division Council

money for the support of our young people's work, cold cash is turned into very warm activity."

I called your attention four years ago to one great weakness in our work, the short tenure of office of our Missionary Volunteer secretaries,—an average of one year and ten months in North America. We are glad to tell you that there is improvement along this line. More of our secretaries, I believe, have caught the vision of Missionary Volunteer secretaryship as a life work, and our conference leaders are coming to see the great wastage of money, experience, and souls because of frequent changes.

One way to develop the efficiency of our Missionary Volunteer secretaries is to hold carefully planned secretarial councils. Aside from the annual council of local conference secretaries, which is now held in practically all the unions, our local conference Missionary Volunteer secretaries need a larger vision that comes from a wider range of council. In North America we have had one such opportunity during the four years. In the autumn and winter of 1928 we had a series of four regional Missionary Volunteer secretaries' councils. Aside from General department help, one of the executive officers of the General Conference assisted at each of these meetings. We had a full attendance of local conference Missionary Volunteer secretaries and also

a number of our union and local presidents.

There is also need that the union secretaries of each division should meet for study at regular intervals. There has been only one such meeting of the North American Union secretaries during the last four years, at Chattanooga in 1927, in connection with the Autumn Council of the General Conference Committee. Among other things we gave very earnest study there to the question of saving our young people from the prevailing laxness of social conduct of our day. A statement of standards of Christian living was prepared which was accepted by the Council. This statement received wide publicity in the public press. We also published it in booklet form, and over 50,000 copies have been circulated among our people.

The union Missionary Volunteer secretaries of other divisions have also held similar councils. The secretaries of the African Division were together last year in connection with the biennial council of that division. A Missionary Volunteer convention was held in which the members of the African Division committee and the workers participated. A Missionary Volunteer Manual for the missions department was approved, and other actions were taken which will greatly strengthen this branch of a rapidly growing work in Africa. A similar council was held a little later in the Southern European Division. I have never attended a more earnest council than this. Our hearts were stirred as we faced the problems confronting the church in Southern Europe, and the need of a stronger young people's movement.

If this great foundation work of enlisting and training our youth in service is to be solidly built, we must make provision for regular union and division councils, where the Missionary Volunteer secretaries and also the presidents can study, pray, and plan together for the prosecution of this work. In no department of our work is it more important to have strong leadership than in this department that reaches out into the churches to help the young people where they are. In "Testimonies for the Church" (Vol. I, p. 397) we read:

"We are living in an unfortunate age for children. A heavy current is setting downward to perdition, and more than childhood's experience and strength is needed to press against this current, and not be borne down by it."

Our statistics indicate that over 25 per cent of our children pass the age of fourteen unbaptized. On the other hand, the greatest number of apostasies from the ranks of our young people are during the years from seventeen to twenty-five, with the peak at twenty. "What a sad spectacle to the world," wrote Sister White in the *REVIEW AND HERALD*, Feb. 21, 1893, "are the numbers of unconverted children that attend our churches."

And as to the importance of giving the needed help, we read, "Why should not labor for the youth in our borders be regarded as missionary work of the highest kind? It requires the most delicate tact, the most watchful consideration, the most earnest prayer for heavenly wisdom."—*"Gospel Workers,"* p. 207.

Evangelistic Work for Young People

We have endeavored to keep to the front soul winning as the chief factor in our work, but not to relax our promotion of the devotional, educational, and service features. And there is a distinct ad-

vance along this line. The evangelistic efforts held by secretaries in churches have resulted in saving many of our young people, and in greatly strengthening the churches. There have also been a goodly number of converts from outside the church as a result of these efforts. Missionary Volunteer Week, as a definite conference-wide effort to bring our youth to decision for Christ, is becoming a stronger soul-winning factor year by year. The results of this yearly effort in conversions and in the reclaiming of the backslidden have been very gratifying. Much more could be done if Missionary Volunteer Week were well organized everywhere.

A very large percentage of our denominational increase is from the ranks of our own boys and girls. In North America nearly 50 per cent of our baptisms are young people. In one union last year 52 per cent of the baptisms in one conference and 85 per cent in another were of our own young people.

We believe the numbers of such baptisms might be greatly increased, for we are still losing large numbers of our precious heritage every year. In one large union conference it has been found that two fifths of the young people between fifteen and twenty-five, of Adventist parents, are in no way connected with the church. In a large section of our world field it was learned that only 38 per cent of the young people of Adventist parents were attending our church services.

Here is one example of this evangelistic work for the churches and of the co-operation of our Missionary Volunteer secretaries and conference leaders: One of our union presidents in North America joined with a local conference Missionary Volunteer secretary in an effort for one of the churches. They held twenty-six public services, besides special meetings with the church school pupils and baptismal classes. They did personal work in seventy-one different homes, coming in contact with 245 boys and girls, and on the last Sabbath had the privilege of baptizing forty-eight, thirty-five of whom were young people. I believe with all my heart, dear fellow workers, that this is the kind of work that should be done all through our ranks. "A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs." And when such work is done, the Lord has given us, in our various Missionary Volunteer features, the very help we need for holding and training these young people in God's service.

Institutes and Conventions

One of the best methods of keeping our Missionary Volunteer work strong is the holding of an annual institute for local society officers. This is a regular feature in many of our conferences, and the idea should be carried out in some form in every conference. To increase the efficiency of the officers of our societies means a greater young people's movement, more souls saved, stronger churches, and, in the person of these leaders, the development of a promising group of church workers.

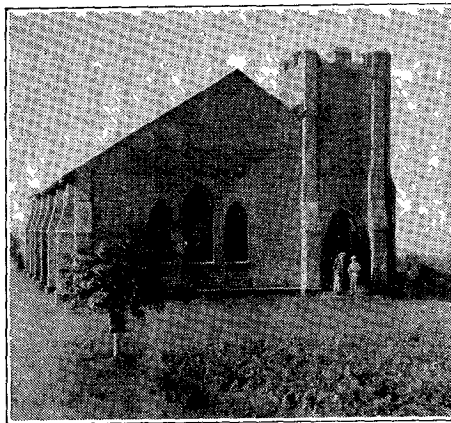
One illustration from Africa of the value of institute work: The division secretary says: "We got right down to the real problem of how to carry on the Missionary Volunteer work among the natives. We had thirteen institute sessions in all, and ten public meetings. Over 600 people were present on the Sabbath

and there were nine teachers and workers who attended the institute. We had one very interesting hour in discussing 'Higher Christian Standards.' It was remarkable how ready these workers were to help raise the standard of living among the native people."

There is also a growing appreciation of the value of the young people's conventions, in impressing the whole church with the importance of this young people's movement, and in setting before the young people ideals of Christian life and service. In one conference *seventy-five* young people took their stand for the first time in a series of sectional conventions.

A few months ago we received at the General Conference office, greetings from a large young people's congress or convention in the state of São Paulo, Brazil, in which they said, "As an army of Missionary Volunteers in Brazil, we rejoice to tell you that during our congress we have renewed our vows of loyalty to our Master and have anew placed our lives on the altar of service." They also sent a message of appreciation to their parents.

In July, 1928, there was held in Chemnitz, Germany, a Young People's Congress for all Europe. It was probably the larg-



Thekerani Mission Church in Nyasaland,
Seating 1,000 People

est gathering of Seventh-day Adventists ever held in Europe, and its influence has been far-reaching.

We have felt for years that something needed to be done to develop the initiative of our Senior young people along religious lines, and to get them to thinking more for themselves, rather than merely reflecting the thoughts of others, to grapple with their own problems rather than

to feel that decisions regarding the great problems of life are merely handed down to them. So recently, in some places, our Missionary Volunteer leaders have been giving part of the time of the conventions to small group meetings in which there has been a free discussion of the problems presented from the platform. One secretary writes, "Special interest was manifested in the 'Forum' while the various phases of 'Christian Standards' were discussed. We were agreeably surprised by the way the young people responded in these discussions."

When we stop to think of it, this is not a new plan. In Volume VI of the "Testimonies for the Church," page 87, this group plan of studying life's problems is recommended for our camp meetings: "There will be little groups all over the ground, with their Bibles in their hands, and different ones leading out in a free, conversational study of the Scriptures."

Our Present Need

The problem of saving from sin and guiding in service the 150,000 young people already in touch with the church, is one of the greatest problems facing the church today. It is absolutely fundamental, for on its outcome depends to a very large extent the success of the movement. It is perhaps not extravagant to say that the church that cannot save its young people is doomed. What we need, then, as we in the Missionary Volunteer Department view it, is a greater young people's movement. The foundations of the movement have been carefully constructed on the word of God and in harmony with the laws of developing young life. The organization seems to be well adapted to the needs of the work in every land; but we need greater efficiency and more dynamic for the superhuman work before us.

As secretaries we need greater efficiency and deeper consecration. And in the majority of cases our secretaries need more time to devote to their work. We need a greater society membership, nothing short of every boy and girl, and every young man and young woman enrolled as a Missionary Volunteer, either as Junior, Senior, or Preparatory member. The resolutions which the department has to suggest to this Conference have been submitted with this end in view,—a greater young people's movement, which shall be a greater strength to the church in finishing the greatest task in the history of the promulgation of the gospel.

Four Years of Publishing Progress

By W. E. READ

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it."

Ps. 68:11.

The Publishing Department presented its report to the delegates of the Conference on the second day of this large gathering. What a wonderful story of progress and achievement it brought from the ends of the earth! We could not help feeling that the time of the Latter Rain had come and that we were beginning to see the fulfillment of the remarkable statement which came to us through the Spirit of prophecy many years ago: "In a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down

from heaven with great power and who lightens the earth with his glory."

The veteran leader of this vital phase of our work, the secretary of the department, gave a thrilling report of the progress of our literature activities during the past four years. Our minds were directed to the words which came through the servant of the Lord in the early days of our work. Then we were counseled to print a little paper, and send it out to the people. It was to be small at first. From this small beginning we were assured, the work would develop until it would be like streams of light shining forth to the whole world.

In harmony with this counsel, the work was begun, and yet what a modest begin-

ning! The whole edition of this little paper, *Present Truth*, printed in 1849, weighed but twenty-five pounds. Now the issues of the 215 periodicals we publish throughout the world field average more than 110 tons each month.

What remarkable success has attended the circulation of our message-filled books and papers! For the first seventy-five years of our history, the sales of our literature totaled less than \$38,000,000; whereas, for the decade 1920 to 1929, we exceeded this sum by over \$8,000,000. Now through our fifty-eight publishing houses the sales reach approximately \$5,000,000 in a single year.

In 141 languages and dialects our literature is being translated and published today, and it is estimated that 95 per cent of earth's inhabitants can read the message of the advent of the Saviour in their own language. Truly this is a wonderful achievement, and to God be all the glory! Verily, the rays of light streaming from heaven through our publishing work, are shining clear around the world.

Elder Town paid a very fitting tribute to our army of faithful colporteurs in every land. This body of men and women numbering about 2,500, are carrying the advent evangel by means of the printed page to the remotest parts of the world. Many times they labor under great difficulties, amidst persecution and imprisonment, and yet they toil on, nothing daunted, in their endeavors to reach the people.

We remember also the splendid help rendered by our colporteur leaders, and also the many workers in our publishing houses. The majority of these are working within four walls, preparing literature for circulation in every land. The faithful co-operation of these many laborers has made possible the encouraging report we are able to render at this time.

It is encouraging to note the practical results of this faithful seed sowing. Wherever the seeds of truth are sown there springs up an abundant harvest. Word concerning this reaches us from all lands today. In some fields as many as 50 per cent of those who embrace the truth do so through reading our literature. In other fields it is as high as 90 per cent. Here and there whole churches have been raised up in this way. After all, this is the acid test of all forms of Christian activity. If we ask the question, Does the publishing work win souls to the Saviour? the answer in the affirmative comes ringing back from the four corners of the earth. In every land and among all peoples and languages are to be found today souls rejoicing in the third angel's message because the faithful colporteur brought to their homes the message of saving grace.

From all parts of the globe, from Europe, from Asia, from South America, from North America, from Africa, from Australia, from the islands of the sea, comes the cheering word of increased sales during the past year. New records have been made. New goals have been reached. In places, many of these increases have been made through much tribulation and under very perplexing circumstances.

Even though there has been severe opposition, the Lord frustrates the power of the enemy. Notwithstanding all his attempts to hinder the advance of the truth, the cause of God rides forth to victory, and in some way or other the people get the literature which brings to their hearts the message of joy and peace.

W. W. Eastman, in reporting for North America, told of a splendid increase in sales during the past four years. God has richly blessed in the endeavors put forth by our five publishing houses, our nine branches, and by the large army of colporteurs. One of the great problems we are facing, however, is that of leadership. It is a solemn responsibility laid upon us to train young men to direct in the activities of our literature work. Men are needed not only in the home fields, but also in the lands across the seas. Notwithstanding the many needs in North America, the brethren in this home base have sent out no less than twenty-five colporteur leaders to needy mission fields during the last quadrennial period.

F. Charpiot brought greetings from the growing force of colporteurs in the Southern European Division. He told of the bright rainbow of promise which has been over their work. They not only rejoice in God's promise, but in the wonderful fulfillment they are seeing at the present time. His thought on this was appropriately illustrated by a chart which showed the territory of the division over which was spread out a beautiful rainbow.

Although many of the colporteurs have been called upon to endure persecutions; they are learning to rejoice that they are accounted worthy to suffer for Christ's sake.

Considerable attention has been given to the scholarship plan and it is remarkable that most of the young people attending the schools in the Southern European Division earn one or more scholarships each year.

There has been a remarkable growth in church membership in Rumania, due in quite a large degree, to the activities of our faithful colporteurs.

J. A. P. Green, in telling the story of the progress of the work in the Inter-American Division, mentioned that notwithstanding hurricanes, drouths, and even revolutions, the work in that part of the world field is going forward with increasing success. The colporteurs are going out into the highways and byways and giving to every one they meet the invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb. They are reaching men of wealth, as well as those of other classes.

"There is hardly a presidential palace in the Inter-American field that has not been entered by some colporteur, and at least one Seventh-day Adventist book can be found in each library. The Pacific Press Publishing Association prepared four books for the president of one of the republics. When these books were delivered, the president arose and said, 'I thank you very much, and now what can I do for you?' We asked him to read the books so as to understand better the work of Seventh-day Adventists. He promised us that he would read at least a portion of each book." So our literature is finding its way into the hands of statesmen and rulers.

Another worker, writing from the Bahamas, found himself out of funds when reaching his field. He took several orders, however, for delivery the following week. The week he started to canvass there came a very severe storm, rendering rich and poor alike homeless. Still he arranged for his delivery at the regular time. He wondered what might happen, but the Lord so moved upon the hearts of the people that he delivered every book. The following week he went out and took orders amounting to \$400. The next week brought the total up to

\$600 in about seventy hours, in spite of unsettled conditions. He writes, "I shall not remain idle, for the King's business demands haste."

J. J. Strahle brought greetings from the Far Eastern Division. Notwithstanding the serious difficulties they have faced on account of revolution, their work goes forward. As a result of the ministry of our Chinese colporteur evangelists, large numbers of people have been won to the truth of God. This is true in Korea, in Japan, in China, and in other fields. In some places thirty, and in other places as many as ninety people are now rejoicing in the truth through the ministry of the printed page.

Our literature work is commanding the respect of many leaders in missionary circles in the Far East. The National Christian Council of China had the following paragraph in one of their recent bulletins: "The Seventh-day Adventist Church is the only church that has made adequate provision for the handling of its literature." Another statement is made by the secretary of the American Bible Society: "We in the American Bible Society feel that if there is any group that is doing things with literature in China, it is the Seventh-day Adventists." Brother Strahle showed us copies of letters which had been received from ministers of state and governors of provinces, recommending our books. These statements have been a great help to our workers in approaching the people.

C. E. Weak, in reporting for the Northern European Division, spoke of their three hundred colporteurs as Gideon's band. He brought their greetings to this large Council. One of the many difficulties in this field is the language problem. Literature is being published in no less than thirty-four different languages. The territory of the division, stretching, as it does, from the North Pole to quite a distance south of the Equatorial Line, presents many problems not only of language and nationality, but also of race.

Our colporteurs are meeting with many interesting experiences. Some of them, however, meet with much opposition. In one of the Baltic fields, one of our canvassers had splendid success in securing orders in nearly every house he visited. He felt very much encouraged. Finally he came to the priest's house, who asked him how he was getting along with his work. As soon as the priest learned he was an Adventist worker, he said, "I shall go to my people immediately. I will see that none of them buy this book." The colporteur felt somewhat disappointed, but he retired to his room and earnestly sought the Lord. Before the priest was able to start on his intended mission, he became very sick, and was confined to his bed. He was there for many days. In fact, he was not able to leave the house until the colporteur had delivered all his books. Thus the Lord frustrated the efforts of the enemy to hinder His work. How true it is that we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.

In another field a colporteur was cast into prison because he was selling Adventist literature. While there he met a fellow prisoner, and was instrumental not only in leading him into the truth, but in leading him to take up the colporteur work as well. So the Lord is using even adverse circumstances to augment the ranks of our faithful literature workers.

Away up in the north of Finland, where the Laplanders have their home, two of

our sisters recently began to work. It is a land of snow and ice. At the time they were there it was mid-winter, when the sun never appears above the horizon. They equipped themselves for the journey, carrying all their belongings in little bags strapped to their backs, and then started out on their journey, using skis to move from place to place. Houses were few and far between. Often they would travel ten, eighteen, or even thirty miles to reach the next dwelling. They were able to find their way over the snow only by the aid of their maps and compasses. They encountered many difficulties, and yet, through all their trying experiences, God was with them, and gave them remarkable success. One night, they lost their way in the darkness. They did not know which way to go. Their matches were so wet that they could not light them to see their compass. They would not lie down to sleep, for fear they might freeze to death. So they made up their minds they would run up and down a narrow crag to keep warm. It was not long, however, before they became so tired that they fell asleep. At midnight they awoke. They were cold and stiff, but they managed to get up and run again until the blood began to course through their veins. Again they sat down, and fell asleep. When they awoke it was morning. They ascended a hill, and there, stretched out before them was the Arctic Ocean. Truly, our faithful colporteurs are going to the ends of the earth, carrying the message of God for these days, and taking to the people the only message which saves.

Those who were privileged to be present at this meeting will long remember the spirit of enthusiasm and quiet determination to press forward to victory which characterized the proceedings. The notes sounded were the notes of triumph; the witness borne was the witness of victory. There was the calm assurance that

we have the message for this time and that through our literature ministry earth's millions will hear the last call of mercy, and a people be prepared for the coming of the King.

The Sermon

(Concluded from page 84)

to us. I earnestly pray that God will make bare His arm, that His Holy Spirit may brood over this congregation, that His presence may be here in a very marked way.

And may I, in closing, speak just a word to you personally, individually? May I entreat you, even while you are sitting here, to search your hearts, to look into your own life, ask yourselves the question, and ask it earnestly, Am I walking in the light? Does my conduct, my association, my daily walk, harmonize with the plan and the purpose of God for me? Am I entering into that relationship to the Lord Jesus that will enable Him to pour out His Spirit upon me and prepare me for His coming?

In closing this talk, and in connection with this appeal, this earnest request that you search your hearts, I want to notice in brief that experience that will fit us for the coming of the Lord. "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." What is the experience, dear friends, that we must have in order to be ready to meet Jesus? The very God of peace sanctify you wholly, not in part, but wholly, entirely, separate you from sin; cleanse your heart, purify your life, purge your conscience, make you clean, make you in every respect a child of God, a son or a daughter of the Most High, and impart

to you the indwelling of His Holy Spirit, the divine presence of Jesus Christ Himself, the personal Saviour, to abide in your heart, to live His life in you day by day. That, I understand, is what this text refers to.

I connect with this just one other scripture, Titus, the second chapter, that very familiar scripture: "The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

Are you looking for the coming of Jesus? Really, earnestly, honestly, brother, sister, are you looking for the coming of Jesus? Are you looking for that blessed hope, the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ? Well, if you are, then the grace of God says to you that you should deny ungodliness, that you should deny worldly lusts, that you should live soberly, that you should love righteousness, that you should live godly in this present world, as you look for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. O may the Lord give us that experience, dear friends, may He give it to us as an abounding, overflowing, all-embracing experience in the soul from day to day. God prepare us for the coming of Jesus. God fit us, I pray, for the work that we must do in connection with the preparation of His people for that day, and may we each be saved when Jesus shall appear, is my prayer.

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THE Lord does not regard the request of those who cherish iniquity in the heart; it is written that "he that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 584.



Book Stand at the General Conference, Where There Is a Very Complete Display of Books and Periodicals in English and Many Other Languages. Back of the Bookstand Are Desks for Use of Publishing House Representatives.



WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE 4, 1930

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All communications relating to the Editorial Department, and all manuscripts submitted for publication, should be addressed to Editor Review and Herald, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

Daily Program

A. M.

Morning Watch (Private) 7:00-7:30
Missions Round Table 7:30-8:20
Bible Study 8:30-9:20
Devotional Groups:
Prayer and Testimony 9:20-10:15
Conference Session 10:30-12:30

P. M.

Committees and Departments 1:30-2:30
Conference Session 3:00-5:00
Committees and Departments 5:15-6:15
Junior Young People's Meeting 5:15-6:15
Evening Address 7:30

Here and There at the Conference

BY CARLYLE B. HAYNES

Most striking of the decorations in the arena are the flags of all nations hanging all around the edge of the gallery.

Repeated announcements are required to keep unauthorized persons out of the seats reserved for the delegates.

Time usually consumed in announcement making is being saved here by flashing the announcements by stereopticon on the screen.

Out in Golden Gate Park, facing the setting sun, is a fine bed of flowers spelling out in living plants, "Welcome, Seventh-day Adventists." We thank you, San Francisco!

Translators are in constant requisition. In many places throughout the audience foreign delegates who do not understand English call on friends to explain to them what is going on.

The international character of the advent movement is disclosed by the natives and nationals of many countries, many dressed in their native costumes, who are seen at the Conference. Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, Filipinos, Fijians, Africans, Incas, Syrians, Abyssinians, Italians, Frenchmen, Brazilians, Argentines, and many others, flow through the corridors, giving visual evidence to the onlookers, of whom there are many, of a world-wide movement. The gathering call is certainly reaching the entire earth.

THIS Conference would not mean much to you who are not here were it not for the battery of faithful, prompt, skilled, precise stenographers, working in relays, and capturing every spoken word, who make it possible to set before you, just as they are spoken, the transactions taking place each day. I think you would like to know their names. Here they are: H. E. Rogers, J. K. Macmillan, C. L. Rogers, B. P. Foote, Miss Mertie Wheeler, and Miss Katie Farney.

MANY of the inventions of these last days are being utilized to make this Conference a success. The microphone and loud-speakers are used at every meeting to carry the voices of the speakers to every part of the vast hall. The motion picture projection machine is used to bring mission views before our very eyes. The automobile has carried thousands here, and will carry thousands away. By every modern device the threefold message is flying through all the earth.

No others drink in the words from the platform so eagerly as the elderly folk in the easy chairs stretching two and three rows deep clear across the front of the arena. They look up into the speaker's face, watching his lips intently, and with hands cupped back of ears, or with various special mechanical devices for improving their hearing, strain to catch every word. From the expressions on their faces they are getting genuine satisfaction out of this Conference.

It is a source of disappointment that space for meetings of some of the departments makes it impossible for all who desire to attend these meetings. Even this gigantic Auditorium, with its numerous side halls, has become inadequate for the General Conference session, bringing together, as it does, not only the entire delegation with visitors, but very large meetings of all the departments as well.

On a visit to City Hall, our Fijian delegates, Ratu Jiali Tuilakemba and Ratu Setareko Cevaca, the opening day of the Conference, after making gifts to the Mayor, were made guests of the city of San Francisco, and an automobile was placed at their disposal. They certainly will have something to tell the brethren when they return to Fiji.

FLASH lights for photographs are booming away continually in the corridors as newspaper reporters and photographers capture important delegates and back them up against the wall for interviews and pictures. It is really surprising and gratifying how much attention this Conference is receiving from the daily press.

Partial Report of the Nominating Committee

At the tenth Conference session held Tuesday morning, the following partial report of the Nominating Committee was given:

Vice-President for African Division, J. F. Wright.

Vice-President for Australasian Division, W. G. Turner.

Vice-President for Central European Division, H. F. Schubert.

Vice-President for Northern European Division, L. H. Christian.

Vice-President for Southern European Division, A. V. Olson.

Vice-President for South American Division, C. B. Haynes.

Vice-President for Inter-American Division, E. E. Andross.

This report was unanimously adopted. At the eleventh Conference session, held June 3, at 3 p. m., the following partial report was given:

Associate Secretaries of General Conference, E. Kotz, M. E. Kern.

Assistant Treasurers of General Conference, H. H. Cobban, Claude Conard, W. H. Williams.

General Conference Auditor, J. J. Ireland.

Statistical Secretary, H. E. Rogers.

General Conference Field Secretaries, W. A. Spicer, L. R. Conradi, W. W. Prescott, F. C. Gilbert, G. W. Schubert, G. W. Wells, J. W. Westphal.

Elective members of the General Conference Committee: W. T. Knox, E. R. Palmer, F. M. Wilcox, Dr. A. W. Truman, Dr. P. T. Magan, C. H. Jones, M. F. Knox, C. P. Crager, Dr. W. A. Ruble, W. C. White, W. E. Nelson.

Religious Liberty Department: Secretary, C. S. Longacre; Associate secretaries, H. H. Votaw, M. C. Taft.

Sabbath School Department: Secretary, Mrs. L. Flora Plummer; Associate Secretaries, S. A. Wellman, John Thompson.

Southern European Division

Secretary, Steen Rasmussen.
Treasurer, F. Brennwald.
Field Secretary, J. C. Raft.
Medical Secretary, Dr. J. Nussbaum.
Missionary Volunteer Secretary, Steen Rasmussen.

Publishing Secretary, F. Charpiot.
Sabbath School and Educational Secretary, L. L. Caviness.

Ministerial Association, J. C. Raft.
Home Missionary Secretary, Theo. Oswald.

Central European Division

Secretary, Guy Dail.
Treasurer, O. Schildhauer.
Educational Secretary, Guy Dail.
Home Missionary, Sabbath School, and Missionary Volunteer Secretary, R. Ruhling.

Medical Secretary, Dr. L. E. Conradi.
Publishing Secretary, H. B6x.

Northern European Division

Secretary, W. E. Read.
Treasurer, Christian Petersen.
Educational and Home Missionary Secretary, L. F. Oswald.

Publishing Secretary, E. Remsen.
Sabbath School and Missionary Volunteer Secretary, Gus Lindsay.

African Division

Secretary-Treasurer, A. E. Nelson.
Field Secretary and Educational Secretary, E. D. Dick.
Publishing and Home Missionary Secretary, L. A. Vixie.

Missionary Volunteer Secretary, J. I. Robison.

Sabbath School Secretary, W. B. Commin.

Medical Secretary, Dr. A. N. Tong.

South American Division

Secretary-Treasurer, C. L. Bauer.
Publishing Secretary, J. L. Brown.
Educational, Missionary Volunteer, and Sabbath School Secretary, A. W. Peterson.
Home Missionary Secretary, R. R. Breitigam.

Inter-American Division

Secretary-Treasurer, F. L. Harrison.
Missionary Volunteer Secretary, Mrs. E. E. Andross.
Home Missionary Secretary, C. E. Wood.
Sabbath School and Educational Secretary, W. L. Adams.

This report was unanimously adopted.