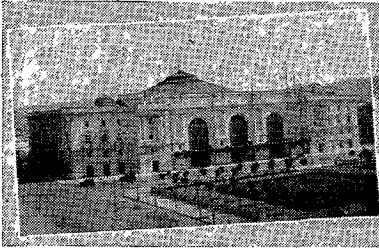


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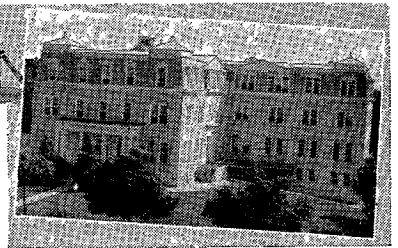
S A B B A T H

REVIEW AND HERALD

GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
DEDICATED TO THE PROCLAMATION OF THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL



Telephone News



Friday, June 6

By ROY F. COTTRELL

THE last Thursday evening of the Conference was an occasion long to be remembered. The words, "Far Eastern Division," with a map of that territory, stood out in bold relief over the platform. Above it waved the Stars and Stripes, while beneath the great sign hung the flags of fourteen nations, these national emblems representing the countries, dependencies, and colonies embraced within the confines of this cosmopolitan mission field.

In a conspicuous place between the pulpit and the piano, stood a temple drum of old Siam, about two by two and a half feet in size, made of teakwood and sheepskin, and said to be about 150 years old. At the appointed hour, five persons appeared upon the platform, and after brief opening exercises, V. T. Armstrong, president of the Far Eastern Division, pointed to the drum that had so many times summoned barbaric peoples to the jungle pagan worship, and requested V. E. Hendershot to wield the drumstick calling others to divine service.

The deep tones pealed throughout the Auditorium, and what a response! Down the long aisles, clad in various picturesque native costumes, group

after group marched forward. They came from Japan, Korea, Indo-China, Siam, Cambodia, Java, Sumatra, Borneo, various parts of the Philippines, and other lands. As each company approached, the missionaries were in-

troduced by Elder Armstrong, and at length about eighty workers from overseas were gathered upon the platform.

F. A. Mote, Sabbath school and Missionary Volunteer secretary of the division, spoke briefly of this far-flung field along the eastern fringe of Asia, with its thousands of islands, its 217,000,000 inhabitants, its more than 200 languages and dialects, its countless manners and customs, and its babel of religions. Seventh-day Adventists are publishing the message in nineteen languages and working orally in a total of ninety-six tongues.

S. Ogura, newly chosen superintendent of the Japan Union, presented in both Japanese and English the greetings of our people in the Sunrise Kingdom, and the determination of his constituency to stand loyally with God's people in these crisis hours.

The message given by Y. H. Phang, Chinese pastor of Singapore, and J. B. Emralino, director of the Central Luzon Mission, together with several songs in various languages, were intensely interesting and brought hearty responses from the audience. Especially thrilling and inspiring was the appearance of K. Mandias, a native of the Celebes, director of the North Sumatra Mission. These men of the South Seas, transformed into apostles



Special Message From the President of the General Conference

THE business sessions of the forty-fourth General Conference have adjourned. The last Sabbath day's services have come to a close. The sun is setting on the calm Pacific as the notes of the vesper song bring to a final end our spiritual activities at this Conference.

It has truly been a great session—great in more than one feature. The attendance has been larger than ever before in the history of such gatherings. On the first Sabbath the arena of the Auditorium was filled to the last seat. The Opera House two blocks away secured for overflow meetings, was also filled to capacity, with hundreds unable to find seats.

But the greatest features of the session have been the spiritual blessings received. This has been manifest in every Bible study given, in every sermon preached, and in the

responses of the brethren and sisters. The Lord has met with His people and has imparted a great blessing. The Holy Spirit has done a deep and blessed work in hundreds of hearts of both leaders and laity.

Another feature of this session has been the inspiring reports of progress of our world divisions. Truly the work of God is moving on to its final triumph. I call upon every believer everywhere to rally in these closing days of time to the great task that yet lies before us. Prepare to meet our soon-coming Lord. Pray for the full and yet fuller outpouring of the Holy Spirit. With great diligence proclaim the message everywhere, with deeper faith and greater courage, that all may abide in the love of God's precious truth.

J. L. McElhany.

of the Prince of Peace, truly presented a modern miracle.

The program also included a brief screen lecture which revealed marvelous development in evangelistic, educational, medical, and literature work. In his closing remarks Elder Armstrong stated with appealing emphasis that the opportunities of this hour are the greatest ever presented to the advent movement.

The Friday morning Bible study given by O. Montgomery brought to us anew the infinite and all-embracing love which God has had for His people through the ages, seen especially in the divine guidance and leadership of the remnant church. This was followed by heartfelt responses from representatives and veteran workers. These will appear elsewhere in the Review.

Here we pause in our daily narrative to speak of the devotional groups which met at this hour during most of the Conference. The value and influence of these sectional meetings held in the numerous smaller rooms of this great building is beyond computation. In these meetings many thousands have been privileged to bear personal testimony. Lurking sins have been confessed and put away; and constrained by the Holy Spirit, large numbers have decided anew to live wholly for Christ. In these rooms, too, the inspiring departmental meetings have convened daily; while on the walls are exhibits and placards that preach many a dynamic sermon.

Occupying the place of honor in Polk Hall is a quotation from the Spirit of prophecy which begins with the words, "The restoration and uplifting of humanity begins in the home." To the right are many statements from Washington, Lincoln, Grant, Webster, Roger

Williams, and others extolling the principles of civil and religious liberty. Among these is one from Whittier with the terse tribute to our country: "America, the hope of all who suffer, the dread of all who wrong." On another, the words of Thomas Jefferson still carry their eloquent and timely warning: "Liberty can never be safe but in the hands of the people." In many lands today such sentiments would be condemned as treason. And

Seventh-day Adventists are desirous of doing their full duty by "voice and pen and vote" to combat this vicious destroyer of manhood and womanhood.

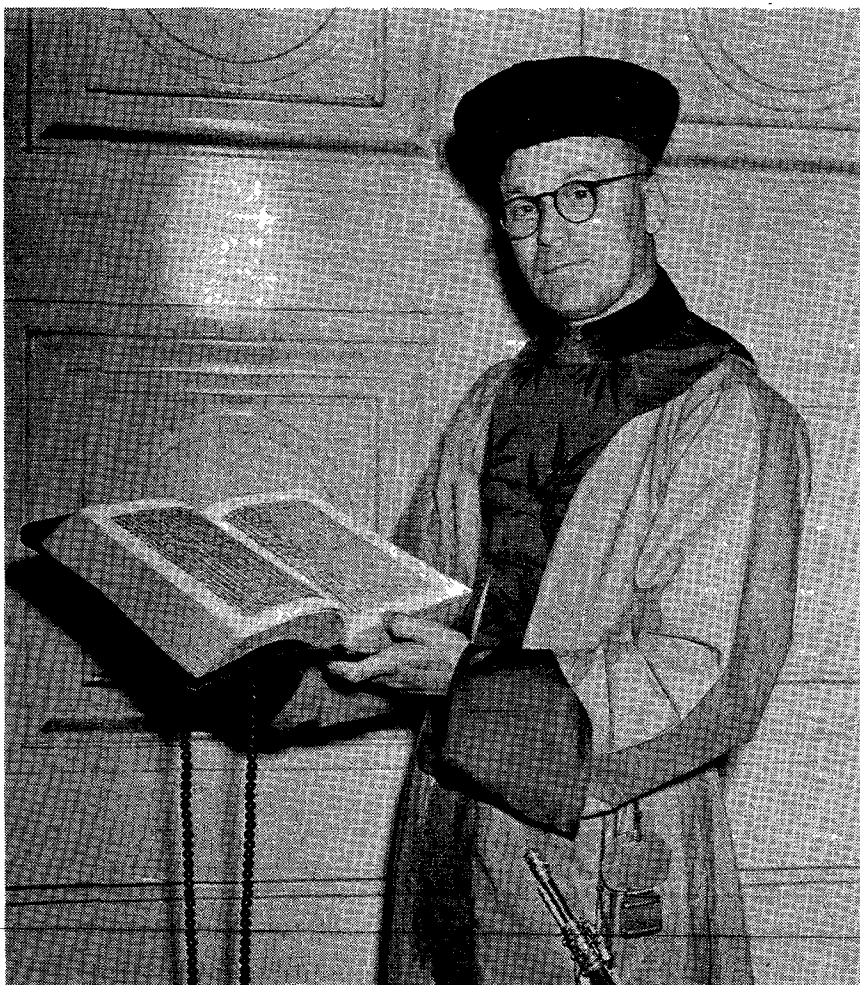
Other walls present a display of hundreds of handbills, window cards, and announcements, showing the unique and ingenious methods of advertising which are employed by our successful evangelistic workers; while underneath an artistic array of prophetic symbols is the forceful statement: "Make use of every means that can possibly be devised for causing the truth to stand out clearly and distinctly."—*"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 109.* Thank God, the opportunity is still ours.

In another room is a remarkable pictorial display of home missionary activities; while the call to service stands out clearly: "Wake up, wake up, my brethren and sisters, and enter the fields in America that have never been worked."—*Id., Vol. VIII, p. 36.* Friends, should not each Christian who is looking for the soon coming of Jesus have an individual missionary project and field for his own personal effort?

In a conspicuous place is the large motto: "What Helps the Sabbath School Helps the Church." How true! It is the world's great university for Bible study, with 14,300 branches and more than 600,000 students.

Also, since the year 1878 the Sabbath schools have made the excellent contribution of some \$40,000,000 to foreign missions.

Returning to the arena for the morning session, we were cheered with a cablegram from the ancient land of Abraham, now a grim battlefield: "Iran Mission with you for finishing God's work." Numerous items of business were then considered—a report from the Plans Committee, and



Mongolia, the land of Lamaism, presents a great challenge to the church. Work was begun in this land ten years ago by Elder and Mrs. O. H. Christensen. Literature had to be prepared. Even type had to be cast by hand for this purpose. The Old Testament, printed over one hundred years ago, is now nonexistent except for three or four rare copies. To obtain a copy of the Old Testament in Mongolian it was necessary to write it out by hand from one of these rare copies. The first baptized woman believer did this copying work in a very neat hand. It took eight months of work of ten hours or more a day. And the evenings of this same time were spent by Elder and Mrs. Christensen in correcting copy. This old Testament, the final cost of which was \$150 national currency or \$50 U. S. money, is shown in this picture, held by Elder Christensen. He is dressed in a Mongol lama costume of the Yellow sect. Each lama carries a rosary, and his traveling paraphernalia hangs from his belt. This consists of a knife and chopsticks in a sheath, and the flint and steel for building his fires in his constant journeyings. May the Bible soon take the place of the rosary.

in view of present adverse trends in our own fair land, how long will America continue to respect and esteem them?

Some fifty placards denounce the curse and tragedy of liquor. For example, on one of these is the startling statement that "75 per cent of all criminals, 90 per cent of all murderers, 87 per cent of all public paupers, and 60 per cent of the insane have been users of alcoholic beverages." Surely

several resolutions of gratitude to the city of San Francisco and its newspapers, and to other organizations that have contributed to the success of this Conference; there was also an extended report on distribution of labor.

At 2 P. M., C. T. Everson delivered an eloquent message in which he drew from the life of Moses many valued thoughts for the church of today, lessons for a people soon to unite with the 144,000 in the song of Moses and the Lamb. Following this address, a brief closing business session was held at which a final series of plans was adopted and the report of the Committee on Credentials was received. The Conference then adjourned *sine die*. The official business of the great gathering has been transacted, and the people are expectantly preparing for a wonderful Sabbath of blessing.

During the last few days the question has been frequently asked: "Will there ever be another General Conference?" We do not know. Ninety-three years of history look down upon the remnant church. We praise our great Leader for the progress attained, for the trophies won. Before us stretches the future, unknown and untried; yet we are assured that the time of ultimate victory is near and the triumph certain. By God's help in these closing hours of time let us prove ourselves worthy of the divine mission to which we are called. The spirit of this great gathering is well expressed in the lines of A. A. Esteb:

"O God of might, before Thy throne
of power,
We hear the vibrant challenge of this
hour
To uplift Christ before the world of
men,
And let them see the living Christ
again.

"O God of right, before Thy throne
of grace
We clearly see our mission to our
race.
As valiant soldiers of the Christ of
power
We now accept the challenge of this
hour."

The oldest delegate present, a man who for a time served on the General Conference Committee when the total membership of that body was but nine, is A. T. Robinson; it seems appropriate for us to conclude this sketch with a testimony from him: "Having nearly reached the age of ninety-one, I never expect to attend another General Conference, if, perchance, another is ever held in this world. It may be that the next session will convene in heaven, and I have a picture in my mind of that great gathering when all those who have had a part in this advent movement will meet to commemorate the experiences through which they have passed in giving this last message to the world. Everything that could cause a shade of sadness or sorrow will then be forgotten, and all will unite in one triumphant song of joy and gladness to God and the Lamb. O, it will be good to be there when these poor lisping tongues, touched

with the gift of immortality, will help swell the glad note of eternal jubilee!"

"Then courage, brother, sister; shake off every doubt and fear,
The jubilee trumpet is sounding, the coming of Christ is near.
In the strength of that hope eternal let us drop every wearying load—
The triumph of right is now in sight, we are nearing the end of the road."

Sabbath, June 7

By LAMBERT L. MOFFITT

THE Sabbath hour is approaching, the last Sabbath of the forty-fourth session of the General Conference. It is 6:30, Friday evening. Hundreds of people are already seated in the Auditorium; others are streaming in. The arena and lower balconies are filling rapidly. Higher and higher later arrivals climb to seats in the upper sections.

Seven o'clock, the hour for vespers has come. We linger in the hush of the Sabbath eve while the gentle music from choir and organ suffuse the soul. The full choir comes in. The ministers file onto the platform. This is the Voice of Prophecy hour.

H. M. S. Richards, the Voice of Prophecy radio evangelist of the Pacific Union Conference, in his opening remarks, reminds us of the common greeting of the first century Christians—"Maranatha," "The Lord cometh"—and that this thought should still be uppermost in our minds as we greet each other in this the last century. Taking as his text John 14:1-3, the speaker leads us on to the evidences of Christ's imminent return. "O, I wish He would come tonight. Do you ever pray for the coming of Jesus? Many of our people in Europe and in other war-torn lands are praying for His speedy return. Conditions will soon cause all of us to pray that prayer also."

At 8:30 Sabbath morning, a full hour before Sabbath school, parking is at a premium. We manage to find a space two blocks from the Auditorium. As we enter, we find the arena and the lower balconies pretty solidly packed. By 8:45 the upper banks in the gallery are beginning to fill.

9:28. The Sabbath school officers and those taking part in the program come onto the platform.

As Miss Rosamond Ginther reads the report of last Sabbath, we jot down a few interesting items: Attendance last Sabbath, 12,014, about 3,000 of whom were in the Young People's section in the Opera House, two blocks away, and 400 were in the kindergarten rooms. The primary and junior divisions accounted for several hundred more. More than 8,000 were in attendance in the adult section in the Auditorium. The offering amounted to \$3,084.

As an item of special music is being announced, we slip out of the main section of the Sabbath school for a tour of the divisions. In a near-by hall

we find Mrs. C. D. Striplin, handing out the dolls to six little boys and girls standing on the carpet at the front of the room. These dolls represent children from Africa, China, Japan, India, Hawaii, and Europe. Standing there with the dollies, they, with all the children, sing a missionary song.

As we enter the next hall, we find a Burmese gentleman clad in national garb, telling a missionary story to the primary children.

Across at the other side of the Auditorium, a distance of almost a city block, and then up three flights of stairs, we discover two roomfuls of juniors. They are being told that last Sabbath thirty States and the foreign countries of Africa, China, Burma, Hawaii, and England were represented by juniors in attendance.

Before we leave the fourth floor, we must look in on the Japanese Sabbath school in a near-by room. Splendid! About fifty Japanese are in attendance.

Now for a hurried visit to the Opera House. The main floor of the Opera House is filled to capacity, and hundreds are seated in the balcony. T. G. Bunch, president of the Michigan Conference, is conducting the lesson for this overflow Sabbath school of approximately 3,000 attendance.

Returning to the Auditorium, we find the main Sabbath school enjoying the lesson for the day, ably conducted by Varner J. Johns of Loma Linda. Brother Johns is commenting on Agrippa's words, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

10:50. Choir and congregation sing "We Are Nearing Home." Look! Here comes a group of workers and nationals clad in foreign costumes. Inquiry reveals that they represent Mexico, several sections of China, the Philippines, Burma, South America, and other lands. They stand near the front of the platform while the ministers take their places.

As Elder McElhany steps to the pulpit, he announces his text, Matthew 24:14, and emphasizes two points as he reads: First, the text reveals that we are to preach a definite message to all the world, and second, there is a sign of Christ's second coming. Calling the congregation to look at the group of costumed workers at the front of the platform, Elder McElhany says, "This represents a cross-section of the world fields." He now asks us to sing "From Greenland's Icy Mountains." We are requested to give special heed to the third stanza.

"Can men, whose souls are lighted
with wisdom from on high,
Can they to men benighted, the
lamp of life deny?"

Continuing his sermon, Elder McElhany declared, "Jesus has promised to be with us to the end. This is not a promise of freedom from difficulties—the difficulties will thicken, but thank God, His work will be carried on in spite of difficulties. As long as Jesus leads us, we will carry on. The greatest progress of the message lies before us."

(Continued on page 221)

Proceedings of the General Conference

Thirteenth Meeting

June 4, 1941, 10 A. M.

CHAIRMAN: W. H. Branson.

OPENING HYMN: "To God Be the Glory," No. 647 in "The Church Hymnal."

PRAYER: O. Montgomery.

SPECIAL MUSIC: Solo by Mrs. Gladys Manchester Walin, of Pacific Union College, "I'm a Pilgrim and I'm a Stranger."

W. H. BRANSON: We shall ask the secretary to read a further partial report of the Plans Committee. Before we proceed with the report, I should like to suggest that we shall be glad to have any of the delegates speak to any of these recommendations if they wish to do so. There are microphones on the floor for your convenience, so that you can be heard.

H. T. ELLIOTT: We have already adopted the recommendations of the Plans Committee on "Religious Liberty" and "Soul-Winning Crusade for and by Youth." This part of the report deals with an "Appeal for a Greater Evangelism" (reading):

Appeal for a Greater Evangelism

The hour is late, far later than we realize. We are far advanced in "the time of the end." "God is doing the last things of His closing message." Everything about us, everything among us, gives clear and convincing evidence that "the kingdom of God is at hand."

The hearts of the delegates from all the world assembled at this session of the General Conference in San Francisco have been sobered at the immensity of our task, startled by the momentous events taking place on earth, set ablaze by the staggering possibilities of this tremendous hour, and made newly aware that we are men of the most solemn responsibilities of all the long history of God's work on earth, charged as we are with the solemn, destiny-fixing mission of bringing to the attention of this generation of men the terms of God's last message to mankind before the close of human history. No former generation of men and no former servants of the living God have ever faced a crisis of such proportions as that which confronts us.

Looking to God for guidance, we feel impelled to send forth to our workers and people everywhere a ringing call to rise and finish God's work, making no further delay, putting aside all lukewarmness, relying wholly on divine leadership, and marshaling all our forces and energies in a supreme endeavor to complete a work which should have ended years ago. Just as the nations are drafting every resource for the accomplishment of their purposes, so the time has come for this movement to assemble the united resources committed to us, calling upon both workers and people to en-

list in a great soul-winning evangelistic movement for the finishing of the work.

For the accomplishment of this challenging task,

We recommend, 1. That executive committees in each field give first place to evangelism in planning for their work; that provision for financing this evangelistic program be given a preferred place in the yearly budget; and that study be given to conserving the sacred tithe for the purposes to which it is dedicated.

2. That our conference and mission field committees plan with each pastor and district leader, so that they may conduct, or assist in, at least one public evangelistic effort of not less than twelve weeks' duration (preferably five or six nights a week) each year, the laity relieving the pastor as far as is practical of the details of church work, and that the evangelistic company be strong and well balanced.

3. That executive committees seek to provide opportunity for administrative and departmental workers to conduct, or associate with, evangelistic efforts, and that our departments rally our whole membership in a great forward soul-winning movement.

4. That a list of all unworked cities, towns, and counties be prepared in every local conference and mission and presented to the workers and churches, and that churches, pastors, and district leaders be urged to enter these neglected territories located near by, and thus utilize in a large measure the latent talents of our church members in the establishment of memorials in new fields.

5. That each local field fix as an objective in soul-winning endeavor a definite annual goal of at least 10 per cent increase in membership.

6. That conference committees definitely plan the work of their ministerial interns, so that these young ministers shall not have their energies absorbed in pastoral and district work, but shall be connected during the period of their internship with at least three series of evangelistic meetings and that the ministerial intern shall hold at least one of these efforts himself. And further, that young ministers of definite evangelistic ability be given opportunity to associate with some experienced evangelist in his or some near-by conference, and that every effort be made to develop strong city evangelists.

7. That we encourage our young men who possess musical talent to give prayerful consideration to God's call to give their lives to singing evangelism by preparing themselves for effective congregational song leadership, and by training themselves to interpret the gospel in solo singing, emphasizing in their vocal work the touching of hearts through the tender influence of simple, effective songs; and that all our colleges be urged to provide training in song evangelism

and music appreciation in our ministerial courses.

8. That our evangelists endeavor to place in the hands of all who attend the meetings, books, periodicals, and tracts covering the full message, and that we appeal to our publishing houses, in counsel with leading evangelists, to provide more message-filled literature adapted to the needs of soul-winning evangelism.

9. That union committees consider the holding of evangelistic councils in connection with the approaching union sessions to give further impetus to the movement for greater evangelism.

Radio Broadcasting

Believing that radio broadcasting has been brought into existence and developed to its present status as one of the important agencies for finishing the work of God, and that through no other means can the masses be reached so quickly; and inasmuch as so many homes have radios; and in view of the fact that to us has been committed the message of God for this hour, a message that is to fly in the midst of heaven and to be proclaimed with a loud voice to every soul, and that we should be using far more extensively its unlimited possibilities;

We recommend, 10. a. That in countries where radio broadcasting is accessible to us, every worker who is qualified for radio work, and who can develop the opportunity, be encouraged to give this message over local stations or local networks, and that these workers strive to use the most effective methods of follow-up.

b. That our radio speakers explore the possibilities of co-ordination and co-operation in their work, in order that it be organized upon a unified basis, and that union and local conferences co-operate in developing a complete and continuous coverage of their territory.

c. That the General Conference Committee study ways and means for expanding through our union conference organizations a chain broadcast, looking to the widest possible coverage in these closing hours of probation.

d. That our willing people shall be called upon to support an enlarged radio program by a steady flow of contributions for the specific purpose of acquainting the masses with the advent message.

Promotion of Evangelism by Ministerial Association

In the light of the clear call to a world advance in aggressive evangelism as sounded in this General Conference;

We recommend, 11. That one of the secretaries of the Ministerial Association be an experienced, successful evangelist whose primary duty would be to assist in evangelistic institutes and councils, both in North America and overseas, and to foster the development of younger evangelists of promise for the gigantic task of proclaiming the message in the great metropolitan areas of the world.

Developing Our Bible Work

In view of our depleted corps of Bible workers throughout the field;

We recommend, 12. a. That our colleges be urged definitely to strengthen the courses for Bible workers, and to encourage more of our strong young women to train for this needy branch of service, under instructors with successful field experience in soul-winning endeavor.

b. That our conferences seek to strengthen their evangelistic efforts by using the trained product of our schools, and also by developing promising recruits from the churches.

After discussion and amendment to read as above, the series of recommendations on evangelism was duly adopted.

In the discussion of the section "Radio Broadcasting," in the report of the Plans Committee, the following remarks were made:

O. MONTGOMERY: In "a" it is recommended "that our willing people shall be called upon to support an enlarged radio program by a steady flow of contributions for the specific purpose of acquainting the masses with the advent message." I have been under the impression that most of the funds to finance these radio programs flow in very freely from the radio audience, and that the major responsibility has not rested upon our own people. I am wondering if this is a change in that plan or purpose, and how much this will affect the flow of funds toward our world mission work.

W. H. BRANSON: W. G. Turner, chairman of the Committee on Plans, will answer.

W. G. TURNER: While what Brother Montgomery has said is true in the ultimate, it is nevertheless generally recognized that to launch a radio program, money must be found from sources other than the listening public. That has been found to be so in the Pacific Union Conference, and in other fields in which such a program has been launched. As time goes on and the public becomes interested in the program, money comes in and thus eliminates the need of funds from our own people. It is thought that this plan will need to be adhered to if any progress is to be made in radio work.

W. H. BRANSON: I recall also that it was stated in the Plans Committee that many of our people are now supporting other broadcasts not our own, and that it was considered to be very desirable that our people who wish to contribute to radio broadcasting shall confine their contributions rather largely to those of our own ministers.

J. L. TUCKER: I would like to make this one observation: We have just three national chains for broadcasting in the United States. Only one is available for religious broadcasting. I think that what we do in the way of broadcasting should be done quickly, because all the doors for our work will soon be closed, and probably the first door to close will be the radio. Everything is being done now, my friends, to stop individual radio broadcasting. We

now have this open door. Of all the messages that ought to be given over the air—that is, religious messages—the advent message, which is a message flying in the midst of heaven, ought to continue to go forth. I believe that we are far behind what we ought to be doing in the way of coast-to-coast broadcasting, and we should plan for 1941. Our people are wondering why we do not take this advanced step. We talk about finishing the work. Probably the greatest agency today for finishing that work is the radio. There are millions whom we cannot reach in any other way. There are about thirty-five million radio sets in America. Perhaps seventy or one hundred million persons listen over these sets. Brethren, we ought to see to it that they hear the advent message. We ought to start a program that will give our people opportunity to contribute in this way to the finishing of the work.

W. H. BRANSON: Now that this business is concluded, we have about five minutes left. If we have a short resolution, Brother Secretary, we shall have time to consider it. After that we want to change the order of the meeting.

H. T. ELLIOTT: Brother Chairman, we shall present the resolution on "Bible Distribution" (reading):

Bible Distribution

WHEREAS, The great need of a sick and distressed world is the message of God's love, as contained in the Bible;

Resolved, 1. That we, the World Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in session at San Francisco, May 26 to June 7, 1941, express our great appreciation for the effective work being done by the Bible Societies in endeavoring to provide accurate translations of the Holy Scriptures, for their extensive circulation of the word of God throughout the world, and for their supplying us for distribution the Bible, in whole or in part, in the languages of most of the peoples among whom we are working.

2. That we take this opportunity to assure the Bible Societies of our co-operation with them in their good work, by our continued financial support; by encouraging our missionaries in all lands to undertake a still larger distribution of the word of God.

3. That we continue to co-operate with the Bible Societies in providing the services of our missionaries who may be qualified to assist in the work of Bible translation.

4. That we endeavor to promote a larger circulation of the word of God in all lands, and that our division offices prepare statistical information concerning this work in their fields and submit the same to the Secretarial office of the General Conference, such information in summarized form being made available annually to our organizations throughout the world.

The resolution on "Bible Distribution" was duly adopted.

W. H. BRANSON: Now we are going to change the order of the meeting,

and, as indicated on the printed program, C. B. Haynes, secretary of the National Service and Medical Cadet Training Commission, will give us an address explaining the purpose and the work of this Commission. I am sure that this address will be one in which all our members, delegates, and many others also, will be intensely interested, because it affects the status of our boys in the Army.

C. B. HAYNES: I have in mind to divide what I have to say into two parts: first, a formal brief report of the activities of the Commission for the General Conference proceedings; and, second, a statement of explanation regarding the work and the objectives of the Commission (reading):

Report of Commission on National Service and Medical Cadet Training

The Commission on National Service and Medical Cadet Training is an agency recently established by General Conference action to take care of the interests of Seventh-day Adventist men called into the service of the United States Government under the provision of the Selective Service Act of 1940. It has been in existence only a few months, but during that time it has been required to discharge many important responsibilities. Its work is comparable with that of the old War Service Commission of 1918 and 1919.

The Selective Service Act of 1940 recognizes and grants the right of non-combatant service to those who "by reason of religious training and belief" are conscientiously opposed to participating in combatant service.

For our men of draft age to obtain the noncombatant status thus granted by the Selective Service Act of 1940, requires the careful following of a very definite procedure. First, the claim for exemption from combatant service in the questionnaire sent to all registrants; second, the filling out of the special form for conscientious objectors issued to those claiming this exemption; and third, the obtaining of an "O" rating or classification if and when they are called into service in a military unit.

A large part of the activities thus far carried forward by the Commission has been the effort required to send out information to our people regarding the procedure necessary to obtain a proper classification, the large amount of correspondence necessitated in caring for individual cases, and the constant contact with Army and Government and Selective Service officials in ironing out difficulties and misunderstandings, and the giving of assistance and counsel to men who are wrongly classified, in the effort to obtain reclassification, together with the general supervision of the spiritual interests of our boys actually in the service.

One important activity of the Commission is the supervision of the Medical Cadet training. Not only has this assumed large proportions and been wonderfully blessed to the good of

those who have taken it and are taking it, but it has also been instrumental in exerting a most helpful influence in our favor in high Army circles. It has been accepted as an evidence that Seventh-day Adventists, instead of emphasizing their conscientious *objections*, have desired to make a real contribution to their country by emphasizing their conscientious *co-operation*.

It is of unusual importance that all draft-age men of the church liable to military service shall arrange to obtain this valuable Medical Cadet training. It is a comprehensive, thorough, and exceedingly helpful course, preparing those who take it to render efficient service in the Medical Corps of the Army when they are called to serve their country.

It is a course of training carefully prepared, with the thought in mind of placing Seventh-day Adventists where they can serve eagerly and gladly in noncombatant lines and in the ministry of healing and human welfare—a service which will have connected with it far fewer difficulties regarding Sabbath observance than has any other form of service in the Army.

Men who have become twenty-one years of age since registration day in 1940 will be required to register on July 1, 1941, and will thus become subject to the Selective Service provisions. Men now twenty years of age, men of nineteen, men of eighteen, will have to register under the present law when they become twenty-one.

In addition to this, strong pressure is being developed to change the regular age limit of registering, lowering it to eighteen, all of which indicates the urgent need of our younger men's taking advantage of the Medical Cadet training at the earliest opportunity. Information regarding it can and should be obtained from the Missionary Volunteer secretary of each local conference.

Many hundreds of Seventh-day Adventist men are now in training in Army camps. Union and local conferences have appointed camp pastors, who visit these men and assist them in their problems and encourage them to continued faithfulness and devotion. We are endeavoring to keep in touch with every one of our men who is affected by the Selective Service Act.

This report ought not to close without an expression of gratitude for the favors shown us by Army and Government officers, for the consideration they give us in helping to solve our problems, and for the opportunities for missionary and spiritual service which our boys are finding in connection with their service in Army camps.

Statement Regarding the Purpose and Work of the Commission on National Service and Medical Cadet Training

C. B. HAYNES: I take this opportunity to make an explanation regarding our motives and purposes in proceeding as we have in what we are doing in the Commission on National Service and Medical Cadet training. Such an explanation will be welcomed by some

of our people who find themselves beset by fears that we are taking steps to precipitate our boys into war activities much sooner than they would be inducted if we remained inactive. In the hope that misunderstandings and uneasiness may be cleared away by a candid statement of objectives and motives, I proceed to make such a statement.

Let me at once meet the fears of some by saying plainly what we are not endeavoring to do, and what we have no purpose of doing.

We are not trying to make our boys into soldiers. We are not training them to fight. We are not preparing them to go to war. We are not getting them ready to compromise their religious faith. We are not teaching them to violate their conscientious convictions.

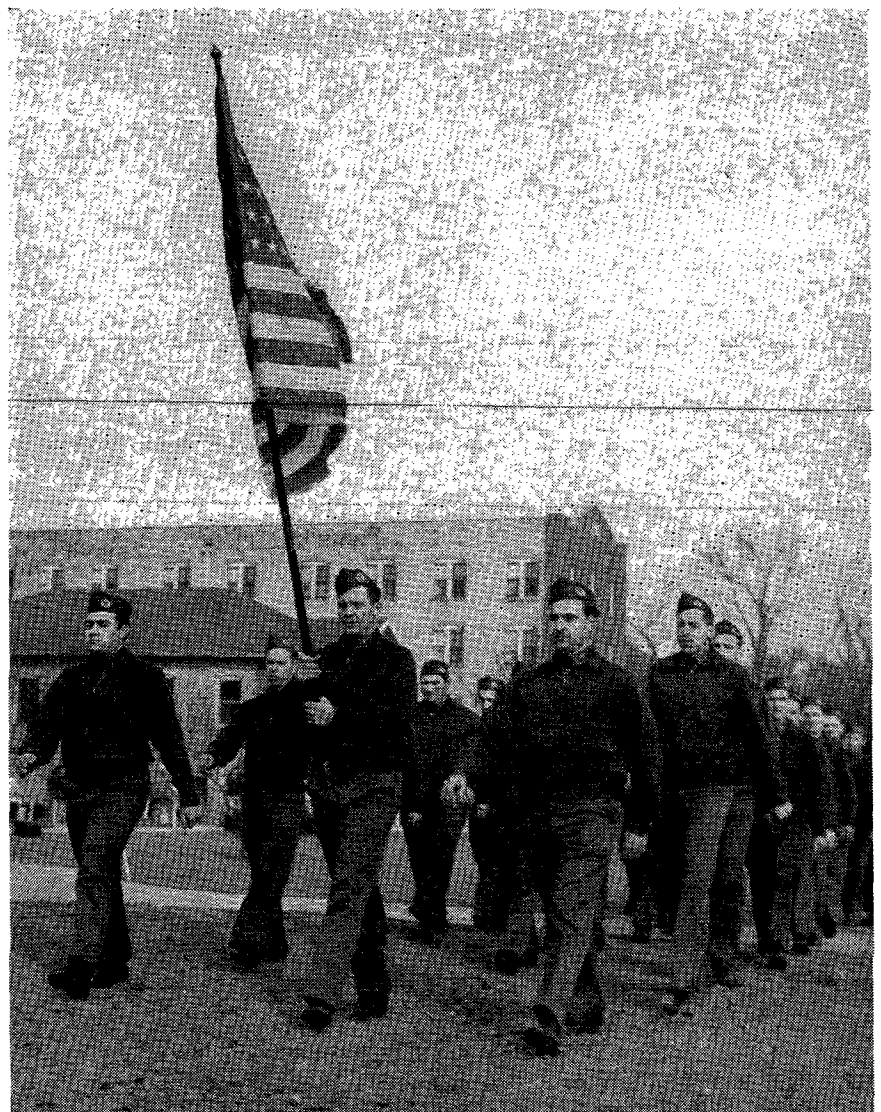
On the contrary, we are training them to be Christians. In war, as in peace, we are endeavoring to make them into missionaries of the gospel. We are getting them ready to practice their religious faith. We are teaching them that no situation can ever arise which would justify them in going contrary to their conscience. We would send them into the service of their country, if and when they are called

to that service, as faithful servants of the most high God. That is what we have in mind, and that is all we have in mind.

There are a few among us who have not taken pains to acquaint themselves with our plans and purposes, and who think our Medical Cadet training is an evidence that we have departed from our former position of noncombatancy. They are wrong. When they really understand what we are doing, they will see that our Medical Cadet training is evidence that we are only endeavoring to maintain our historic faith.

What we are training our boys to do is simply to be prepared to live out their religious convictions, no matter what pressure of compelling circumstances may surround them. We are preparing them just to be Christians, no matter where they may be placed. We have not swerved away a shadow of a degree from our Biblical and historical position on the matter of noncombatancy, nor do we propose to do so.

But someone will ask, "Are you not training our boys to be soldiers?" Yes and no. Military soldiers—no. Medical soldiers—yes. Soldiers who take life—no. Soldiers who save life—yes.



Illinois Medical Cadets March in Review

Soldiers for war—no. Soldiers for Christ—yes.

We are teaching our boys that they have a double allegiance: the first and highest, to God; the second and subordinate, to the state. We are teaching them that that order never changes. God must always be first. We are teaching them that no combination of circumstances, not even the breaking out of war among men, ever changes the obligation of a servant of God to obey God first.

It is the duty of a Christian to follow Christ, to do His will, to obey His commandments, always, everywhere, in all circumstances. War does not change that. In war as in peace the Christian is to do the will of God.

The Christian's purpose in life is the same as his divine Master's—to save life, not to destroy it. War does not change that. In war as in peace the follower of Christ is to save life, not to destroy it.

It is the duty, most certainly of the Seventh-day Adventist Christian, to observe the seventh day as the Sabbath. That is the plain commandment of his God. War does not change that. In war as in peace he is to keep the Sabbath.

We are not teaching our boys to compromise these basic principles. We are teaching them to uphold them, to practice them, to live them, to be prepared to die rather than yield them.

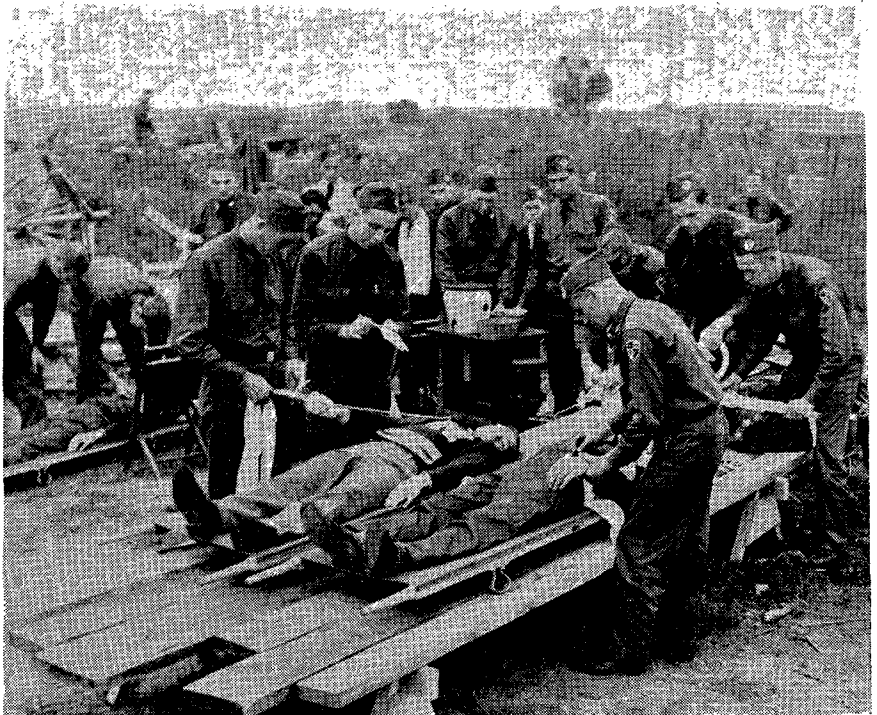
Recognizing that Army service will present a tremendous opportunity to do good, to help men, to minister to their welfare, to save human lives, we are training our boys to take full advantage of such opportunities to serve their country, to minister to human welfare in every capacity in which they can make a contribution to the saving of life, and avoid every activity which would contribute to destroying life.

That is what the Medical Cadet training is for; that is what it is doing; and that is all it was ever designed to do—just to train men to live out their Christian faith.

The Medical Cadet training was not brought into being to help men out of danger, to keep them out of the front line, to drill cowardice into them. It grows out of a conviction which has no reference to danger or to safety. It prepares men to serve their fellow men regardless of personal safety or danger, in the front line or elsewhere, in lines which in former wars have proved to be subject to the greatest degree of mortality. Stretcher-bearers and medical men have never been known to shun the first line of duty; they are there to save life, and are unarmed at all times.

There is but one thing we teach our men to shun and be afraid of; that is, going outside of God's will. They will do anything and all things to help men; they will do nothing to hurt men. They will lay down their own lives in the service of God and man. They will not take any man's life. They refuse but one thing—to disobey God.

From the beginning of our history



The Collecting Station in the Sham Battle at the Lake Union Medical Cadet Corps Camp, October, 1940

we have called our position that of noncombatants. We still call it that. We have not looked upon ourselves as pacifists, as war resisters, or even as conscientious objectors. But under the Selective Service Act of 1940, in order for us to obtain our status as noncombatants, we are compelled to register as conscientious objectors. We do not relish that, but there is no escape from it.

The Selective Service Act provides that—"Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to require any person to be subject to combatant training and service in the land or naval forces of the United States who, by reason of religious training and belief, is conscientiously opposed to participation in war in any form. Any such person claiming such exemption from combatant training and service because of such conscientious objections whose claim is sustained by the local board shall, if he is inducted into the land or naval forces under this Act, be assigned to noncombatant service as defined by the President, or shall, if he is found to be conscientiously opposed to participation in such noncombatant service, in lieu of such induction, be assigned to work of national importance under civilian direction."

Regulations 364 and 365 of the Selective Service regulations provide as follows:

"Conscientious objectors opposed to combatant service only.—A. If the local board finds that a registrant, who has been placed after physical examination in Class 1-A, Class 1-B, Class 1-D, or Class 1-E, and who claims to be a conscientious objector, is, by reason of his religious training and belief, conscientiously opposed to combatant service in which he might be ordered to take human life, but is not conscientiously opposed to noncombatant service in which he could contribute to

the health, comfort, and preservation of others, the local board shall determine that the registrant is available for noncombatant service only.

"b. Whenever a registrant is thus determined to be available for noncombatant service only, the local board shall indicate this by placing an "O" after the letter indicating his subclass on all records, reports, orders, and other papers on which the registrant is mentioned by name. For example: Class 1-A-O, Class 1-B-O, Class 1-D-O, or Class 1-E-O.

"Conscientious objectors opposed to combatant and noncombatant service.

—If the local board finds that a registrant, who but for his conscientious objection to both combatant and noncombatant service, would have been placed in Class 1-A, Class 1-B, Class 1-D, or Class 1-E, is, by reason of his religious training and belief, opposed to both combatant and noncombatant service, he shall be placed in Class 4-E. Registrants in Class 4-E shall be liable to be assigned to work of national importance under civilian direction under such rules and regulations as may be later prescribed."

We do not consider ourselves as conscientious objectors, but rather as conscientious co-operators. We believe we have an obligation to our Government which enables us to comply with its call to service. We simply ask that that service be in lines in which we can serve our country without disobeying our God. We are not unwilling citizens; we are not reluctant citizens; we are not objecting citizens; we are just Christians, and we propose to go right on being Christians through all that war or the future holds for us.

Another thing the Medical Cadet training is preparing our men for is to give a reason for their faith to every man who demands such a reason. And the demands in this direction upon our

boys are many and searching. Let me illustrate: In the special form for Conscientious Objectors known as Form 47, which our boys have to make out, are such questions as, "Describe the nature of your belief which is the basis of your claim as a noncombatant."

"Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe in the use of force?"

"Describe the acts and behavior in your life which in your opinion most conspicuously demonstrate the consistency and depth of your religious convictions."

"Describe carefully the creed or official statements of your religious denomination's relation to participation in war."

Dear friends, our boys in Army service are meeting real problems. They need our prayers, and they need a preparation and a training in advance of going into the service that will enable them to meet statements and questions and arguments. That is what we are trying to give them. That is what the Medical Cadet training is for.

The Selective Service Act recognizes two classes of conscientious objectors; those who claim exemption from combatant service alone, and those who claim exemption from both combatant and noncombatant service. The first, which includes Seventh-day Adventists, can be sent into Army units, but only for noncombatant service. The second are classified as 4-E men and sent to public-service work camps, where they do work of national importance under civilian direction without pay.

The President of the United States has defined by executive order what noncombatant training and service is. It is the most comprehensive, the clearest, the simplest definition of noncombatant service I have ever seen. His definition is:

"I hereby declare that the following military service is noncombatant service:

- (1) Service in any unit which is unarmed at all times.
- (2) Service in the Medical Department wherever performed.
- (3) Service in any unit or installation the primary function of which does not require the use of arms in combat, provided the individual's assignment within such unit or installation does not require him to bear arms or to be trained in their use.

"I further declare that noncombatant training consists of training in all military subjects except marksmanship, combat firing, target practices, and those subjects relating to the employment of weapons.

"Persons inducted into the military service under the above act whose claim to exemption from combatant training and service because of conscientious objection has been sustained will receive noncombatant training and be assigned to noncombatant military service as defined in paragraph one."

Another feature of the work of the National Service Commission is that of caring for the spiritual interests of

our boys who are actually serving in Army camps. Very few of us have come to realize what an enormous change in American life is bound to be made by the functioning of the Selective Service Act and the program for national defense. The future of the religious life of the American nation is bound to depend quite largely upon the attitude of the twenty-one million young men between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five who are affected by the provisions of the Selective Service Act and the program for national defense.

The greatest social dislocation in our history is taking place before our eyes. Practically one half of the young manhood of this nation is being brought under direct governmental influence, if not actual discipline, within the next five years. Hundreds of thousands of young men are being assembled into vast military training camps, and hundreds of thousands of others are being transferred to plants, factories, and other service, directly or indirectly associated with the program of national defense.

A conservative estimate, therefore, is that one half the young men of America will be uprooted and transferred from communities where they have been under the normal influences of home, school, and church, to areas where their religious privileges will be determined very largely by governmental action.

Within the military camps and other areas used by the Government, the religious program is fixed by the Government. In these places, religious services will be conducted by chaplains employed by the Government. Outside these areas, the churches will be presented with an opportunity to minister to these men when the men are on leave.

All religious organizations are being kept outside the areas of military camps, including the Salvation Army, the Knights of Columbus, the Y. M. C. A., and the Jewish Welfare Board, and all the religious authority inside the area of the camp is in the hands of camp chaplains. It is not as it was twenty-three years ago. The Army authorities are dealing with only three organizations, so far as Army chaplains are concerned. These are what is known as the Vicariat of the Catholics, the Jewish Welfare Board for the Jews, and the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains for all Protestant bodies. And it is because of this that the General Conference Committee has authorized membership in the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains. I am a member of that body now, and we shall have contact with the whole religious setup to reach our boys.

An Army chaplain has been provided for every twelve hundred men. More than twelve million dollars is being spent in the erection and furnishing of chapels in which these chaplains will carry on religious exercises.

The Government plans to spend one hundred fifty million dollars in promoting the welfare of men in service. This involves caring for the man in

uniform as much as possible when he is inside or outside military or naval posts. The program calls for the erection or renting of buildings in every city, town, or village adjacent to camps, and these buildings will be leased to some one of the United Service Organization for National Defense, Inc., which includes the Salvation Army, the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the Traveler's Aid, the Catholic Community service, and the Jewish Welfare Board.

In these buildings there will be carried on under religious auspices programs and exercises covering entertainment, recreation, education, and religion. The church will not have to erect buildings for the use of the soldiers in the communities adjacent to the camps. The Government proposes to do this.

Under the encouragement of the Commission on National Service and Medical Cadet Training, union conferences in the United States are providing for camp pastors to serve our boys in these military camps. One of our most important services will be keeping in touch with all our boys who are inducted into the service of their country.

Now that the Selective Service regulations recognize and grant our noncombatant status, the greatest difficulty that our boys will meet in the Army and the Navy will be with reference to Sabbath observance. Each boy will find it necessary to work out his problem concerning Sabbath observance with his immediate superior officer. There is no regulation on which he can rely, there is no general Army order covering that matter. I believe, however, that you will be interested in this particular development:

Not long ago I went down to the War Department in Washington in the effort to obtain a general order regarding Sabbath observance and the release of our boys from Friday night to Saturday night from their routine duties.

I talked to a high-ranking officer to whom I had been referred at first. He was not only not interested, but was opposed to the idea that any Sabbath could be kept in the Army. Then he straightened up in his chair and looked at me for the first time, and he said, "Oh, you are the people. I forgot. You are the people who are giving this Medical Cadet training to your men, aren't you?"

I said, "Yes."

"Well, now," he said, "you are doing something. You are making a real contribution to the welfare of your Government." And then he added, "Tell me again what was it you were speaking to me about."

I said, "About Sabbath observance."

"Oh, yes. Well—" And much to my astonishment that high-ranking officer began to say that, certainly, it was perfectly legitimate for a man to want to be religious in the Army. "I don't see any reason why a man shouldn't keep the Sabbath in the Army. Certainly a man ought to be a Christian. What was it you wanted me to do?"

"Well," I said, "I was talking about the possibility of obtaining a general order instructing Army camp commanders to make it possible for our boys to be free on the Sabbath, so that they can go to church."

He said, "I don't see why not. Only, general orders are issued from General Headquarters. I am not authorized to make a general order, but I will tell you whom to go to." He took the phone and made an appointment for me over at General Headquarters.

I didn't get any farther with the next officer than I had with this one. He explained that such matters are being left to the camp commander to settle.

Then the officer said to me, "Well, Mr. Haynes, I am not giving an Army order, but I'll tell you what I can do. When I go around on my first inspection trip of all the base hospitals in the Army, I know what I am going to do. The first thing I am going to ask is, Are there any Seventh-day Adventists here? And if they say, 'Yes,' I am going to see that they get their Sabbath off."

Not long ago we approached the Chief of Chaplains of the U. S. Army, the man in charge of all the Army chaplains, about 1,500 in number now. Whether they are of the Catholic faith, the Jewish faith, or the Protestant faith, he is in charge of them all, and he is a Catholic priest. This whole subject was again presented to him, and I asked whether he could do anything to enable Seventh-day Adventist boys to be faithful to their religion in the observance of their Sabbath. That Catholic priest, chief chaplain of the U. S. Army, in response to my visit, has written a letter to every Army chaplain in the military forces of this nation including in his instruction the advice that every moral question comes within their province, and that when any boy in their unit is found to be a boy who insists upon keeping a certain day, it is the business and duty of the Army chaplain to go with that boy to his commanding officer and stay with him until the matter is satisfactorily adjusted.

E. D. DICK: A few mornings ago I made a statement concerning our missionaries on the S. S. "Zamzam." At that time I was unable to tell you whether or not Sister Johnson was among the rescued. We now have a cable from the passengers themselves, sent from Lisbon. I may say also that in referring to this matter previously, I spoke of the possibility we faced that James Russell and Sister Hankins might be detained for the period of the war, because James Russell is a Canadian citizen and Sister Hankins is a South African citizen. While this cable gives us some thrilling information, it also contains some disappointing news, for it says: "ARRIVED SAFE TODAY. JAMES RUSSELL MRS. VIOLET HANKINS DETAINED IN GERMANY. NOTIFY RELATIVES. SAILING POSSIBILITIES UNCERTAIN. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT LOST. ALL WELL. COURAGE GOOD. REPLY CARE AMERICAN CONSUL, LIS-

BON. (Signed) MRS. RUSSELL, JANET, HYATT, JENKINSES, JOHN-SONS."

These missionaries are marooned in Lisbon and do not know when transportation will be available for them. It seems to me it would be in order for us to send them our greetings from this Conference, and I move that we authorize the sending of the following message:

"GENERAL CONFERENCE ASSEMBLED SEND GREETINGS. DEEPLY REGRET UNFORTUNATE EXPERIENCE THOUGH GREATLY CHEERED YOU FREE, SAFE, WELL. AUTHORIZING AMERICAN CONSUL SUPPLY NECESSARY FUNDS."

The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Benediction by E. F. Hackman.

W. H. BRANSON, *Chairman*.

H. T. ELLIOTT, *Secretary*.

Fourteenth Meeting

June 4, 1941, 3:30 P. M.

CHAIRMAN: W. H. Branson.

OPENING HYMN: "Awake, My Soul!" No. 355 in "The Church Hymnal."

PRAYER: J. E. Fulton.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Jesus, These Eyes Have Never Seen," No. 166 in "The Church Hymnal," sung by Harold Graham.

W. H. BRANSON: We are very sorry that some of the overseas divisions have no delegates at our meeting, but we are glad that some of them have been able to send written reports. At this time we shall hear a report of our work in the Southern European Division, with headquarters at Bern, Switzerland, with mission fields scattered all through Africa and adjacent islands, and continental territory scattered all over Southern Europe. H. T. Elliott, Associate Secretary of the General Conference, will read the report on behalf of A. V. Olson, president of the division, who cannot be with us.

H. T. ELLIOTT: Brother Chairman, it is apparent from the form of the report that when he wrote it, Elder Olson was still thinking that he might be able to attend the General Conference.

[The report of the Southern European Division appears on page 207.]

W. H. BRANSON: It would be very fitting, after hearing this wonderful report and earnest appeal for the prayers of the people of God on behalf of those of our brethren and sisters who are suffering so intensely, for us to have a season of prayer. I suggest that we all stand while E. E. Franklin leads us in prayer in behalf of our believers in the Southern European Division.

Prayer by E. E. Franklin.

W. H. BRANSON: At this juncture we shall give consideration to further resolutions that have been circulated from the various committees.

H. T. ELLIOTT: The first resolution has to do with adherence to church standards. It comes from the General Conference officers and from the evangelistic council, and reads as follows:

Adherence to Church Standards

WHEREAS, The principles of truth and righteousness which underlie Christian conduct are eternal and do not change with the passing years; and,

WHEREAS, It is recognized that certain essential church standards must be established and maintained, such being clearly understood and accepted by all candidates for baptism and membership within the remnant church; and,

WHEREAS, Throughout the years these standards have been clearly enunciated by the leadership of the denomination and acted upon at General Conference sessions, Autumn Councils of the Executive Committee of the General Conference, such bodies being the only authority in the denomination empowered to establish church standards; and,

WHEREAS, It is clearly recognized that there are matters which we as a people teach, seeking thereby to educate and establish our people in vital Christian experience and conduct, but upon which the church does not legislate or which it does not establish as tests of church membership; and,

WHEREAS, It is to be regretted that some individual workers have taken a very liberal attitude and thus have greatly lowered the standards, while others sometimes have gone much beyond the mind and expression of the general body in their interpretation of church requirements, thus bringing unnecessary embarrassment and misunderstanding to new converts and fellow believers;

Resolved, That we hereby direct the attention of our workers and organizations to the principles clearly laid down in our "Church Manual" with respect to standards and practices, and urge that such be followed without any attempt to require standards not adopted by the general body.

W. H. BRANSON: This is a very important resolution, and we are asking the chairman of the committee that prepared this resolution, O. Montgomery, to make a statement in regard to it.

O. MONTGOMERY: Just a brief statement to help you better to understand the effort of the committee. May I call your attention to the various paragraphs?

The first WHEREAS. To meet the attitude and claims on the part of some that times and conditions have so changed that the church, in order to meet this situation, should take a more liberal attitude; that the church should no longer try to hold to the standards held by this people in former years, we have stated in this WHEREAS broad, clear, fundamental principles that godly conduct and principles of truth and righteousness have never changed.

The third WHEREAS. It is stated in this paragraph that the General Conference Committee compose the only body that is empowered or authorized to establish church standards. That being true, it is clear that no evangelist, pastor, or worker, no conference

committee or union committee, has any right or authority to set up standards for the baptism or the disfellowshipping of church members. Your committee made no attempt to list the very many points of faith and matters of conduct which we hold to be becoming to Christian believers. There were several suggestions made to the committee before we took up our work as a committee, that we should list this matter and that matter and another matter. But we felt that if we undertook to list all the various points; we would have—well, it would be impossible. We preferred rather to deal with principles than with detailed items.

The fourth WHEREAS. A broad, clear, fundamental principle is set forth in this paragraph; namely, that as a denomination we teach and preach many things upon which we do not legislate, upon which we do not make tests of fellowship. My brethren, there are some of our workers and many of our dear people who cannot differentiate between a teaching and a baptismal requirement or a church-membership requirement. We have tried to make it clear in this paragraph.

In connection with these two paragraphs it might be stated that we have made no reference to the instruction given this people through the Spirit of prophecy in regard to the many evils to be avoided and the right principles to be followed.

As a denomination we hold to the fundamental Protestant principle—the Bible, and the Bible only, as our rule of faith and conduct. Every doctrine, every principle of faith, every truth of the gospel, every standard of righteousness, is found in the word of God. The counsel given through the Spirit of prophecy sheds wonderful light on the word of God. It magnifies the word and makes its meaning clearer and more beautiful. It is for our enlightenment and instruction. We recognize the divine source of this counsel and light. It is counsel from the Lord. It teaches, instructs, and admonishes. It clearly sets forth the right way, and the true principles, but does not legislate. It has never undertaken to establish in the church baptismal requirements. It is for the denomination to do this in its official capacity. Therefore, it seems clear that the personal or private interpretation of the teachings of the Spirit of prophecy should not be used or applied by an individual worker, as a substitution for or an addition to accepted church standards as adopted by official action of the body.

The fifth WHEREAS. We have attempted in this paragraph to point out the dangers of a liberal, careless attitude on the part of some workers who are neutralizing or lowering proper denominational standards. While on the other hand we have tried to warn against the danger on the part of others of taking extreme positions and making unwarranted interpretations of church requirements, and sometimes adding their own requirements to those principles held to by the denomination. We believe that

both of these tendencies are wrong, and are productive of evil. These are just a few comments on the various WHEREASES that you find in this series. These are the principles that your committee had in mind in doing its work. [The resolution on adherence to church standards was moved, seconded, and carried.]

W. H. BRANSON: Now we have a series of recommendations from the Finance Committee that we desire to introduce next.

H. T. ELLIOTT: I move the adoption of the series of recommendations from the Finance Committee, as follows (reads):

Church Funds

We recommend, That the revision of the policy governing the handling of church funds be referred to the Autumn Council, with the suggestion that a committee with field representation be appointed to give study to this policy and report to the Finance Committee at the time of the Autumn Council.

Midsummer Offering

WHEREAS, There are many urgent appeals coming from overseas for aid in establishing new mission projects in territories not directly affected by the present war; and,

WHEREAS, There is no provision made in the 1941 budget for this advance, and in view of the possibility that these open doors of opportunity may soon close;

We recommend, That the Midsummer Offering for 1941 be devoted to nonrecurring expenses in establishing new work, and that these funds be allocated for special appropriation at the time of the Autumn Council of 1941.

Harvest Ingathering Goals for 1941

We recommend, 1. That the promotional Harvest Ingathering goal in 1941 be one million dollars (\$1,000,000), as the aggregate of the combined promotion goals for the unions of North America; and,

2. That the General Conference promotional material feature only the various union basic goals, and that the basic goal be placed at the one hundred per cent mark.

Special Days and Offerings for 1942

We recommend the following dates for special days and offerings in the North American Division for 1942:

Home Missionary Day	January 3
Religious Liberty Day	January 31
Christian Home Day	February 7
Temperance Day	February 28
Home Missionary Day	March 7
Missionary Volunteer Day	
and Week of Prayer	March 14-21
Medical Missionary Day	April 4
Spirit of Prophecy Day	April 18
Home Missionary Day	May 2
Home-Foreign Day	June 6
Home Missionary Day	July 4
Educational Day	July 25

Harvest Ingathering Rally

Day	August 1
Home Missionary Day	September 5
Home Missionary Day	October 3
Colporteurs' Rally Day	
(Home Missionary Day)	October 31
Week of Sacrifice	November 14-21
Annual Week of Prayer	December 5-12

Dates of Campaigns in 1942

Liberty magazine campaign	January 17-31
Signs of the Times campaign	February 21-March 7
Missions Extension and Big Week	April 26-May 2
Official Ingathering campaign	August 1-September 26
Watchman and Message campaign	October 3-17
REVIEW AND HERALD campaign	December 1-31

Dates of Special Offerings in 1942

Religious Liberty Offering	January 31
Elementary Schools Offering	March 28
Missions Extension Offering	May 2
Midsummer Offering for Missions	July 18
Week of Sacrifice Offering	November 21
Annual Offering	December 12

[The series as amended and given above was duly adopted.]

W. E. NELSON: (discussing the recommendation on Midsummer Offering): I am sure that our hearts have all been thrilled as we have heard the wonderful reports that have come to us from overseas divisions, and that we have all felt that there are still many open doors that have not yet been entered, and that there is opportunity for real advancement. It now seems possible for the Midsummer Offering to be devoted to new work rather than held for appropriation at the next Autumn Council for the year 1942. We have heard from overseas divisions that there now are remarkable opportunities for advance work, and we are sure that it would be an encouragement to our people everywhere if we could use the Midsummer Offering this year, as we did five years ago, for new work in territories that have not yet been entered, or for projects that are not provided for in the present budget. It is suggested here that it be allocated at the time of the Autumn Council. That would be about as soon as the funds would be in hand, and at that time the distribution of these funds could be made better than it could be at this time, as we do not know now how much will be received. It will be an excellent thing for the General Conference in session to vote to dedicate the 1941 Midsummer Offering for this worthy work.

W. H. BRANSON: What will you do with this?

W. G. TURNER (speaking to the recommendation on Harvest Ingathering goals): Brother Chairman, it is very gratifying to note that for 1940 a sum well in excess of \$900,000 was raised in the North American Division in our Harvest Ingathering campaign. Since the time of that campaign, money

has flowed more freely than it was flowing then. It is believed by the brethren that it will not be at all impossible or difficult for our church members throughout this division to raise in 1941 one million dollars in connection with this 1941 campaign. I think, Brother Chairman, that it will be a wonderful thing if it can be done. I believe that it can be done. And I believe in my heart somehow that it will be done by our members throughout this division.

W. E. NELSON (also speaking to the recommendation on Harvest Ingathering goals): Perhaps it should be explained that this does not in any way affect any of the actions taken at the last Autumn Council pertaining to Harvest Ingathering goals. The basic goals which will be promoted by the conferences and unions, as set at the Autumn Council, when added up amount to the sum of one million dollars.

R. G. STRICKLAND (also speaking to the recommendation on Harvest Ingathering goals): It does seem, in this hour of national emergency, when our country is spending millions upon millions of dollars for war, when nations across the seas have passed such restrictions as prohibit our people from gathering funds for the furtherance of the cause of God in homelands as well as in mission fields, that we in this most favored land should arise as never before to do a mighty work for God. We are in a land of gold and wealth, a land of freedom—such freedom as is enjoyed in few places upon the earth. This is a time when we can do mighty things for God. I am sure that our brethren and sisters here in America will arise, and that when the 1941 campaign for Ingathering has come to a close, we shall have not only a million dollars for missions, but also a generous overflow beyond that mark. Let us gird ourselves, and may God bless us to that end.

W. H. BRANSON: The secretary will now bring us some resolutions that come from the officers of the General Conference, which were worked out in the officers' council before this session.

H. T. ELLIOTT (reading):

Moral Standards of the Ministry

We recommend to the General Conference in session that paragraph 13 under "Credentials" in the "Working Policy of the General Conference," on pages 58 and 59, be amended to read as follows: "It is to be recognized that in case of moral fall by any minister in violation of the seventh commandment, he has by that transgression made void his ordination to the sacred office of the ministry and forfeited his right to church membership. In such case the conference which last issued him credentials shall annul his ordination and withdraw his credentials, thus divesting him of all authority and privileges that pertain to the gospel ministry; and it shall be the duty of the conference to inform the church, of which the offending minister is a member, of its action, and the duty of the church, when it is informed of

such action on the part of the conference, to disfellowship him from church membership.

"While one so offending has access to the mercy and pardoning grace of God, and in reformation of life is assured of the love and good will of the brethren, it is clearly indicated that, for the sake of the church and the maintenance of moral standards, the individual must plan to devote his life to some other calling or business than that of the ministry.

"When a minister who has been disfellowshipped from the church because of the violation of the seventh commandment gives evidence of repentance and conversion, he, as any other former church member, shall be rebaptized before rejoining the church."

[It was moved, seconded, and carried to adopt the recommendation on "Moral Standards of the Ministry."]

W. H. BRANSON: The secretary will read the next recommendation.

H. T. ELLIOTT (reading):

Administration and Readjustment of Territories

Central European Division, Section II: Since changing political situations have made it impossible for the temporary division, known as Central European Division, Section II, to administer the work in most of the territory allotted to it,

We recommend, That this organization be discontinued.

WHEREAS, The present world crisis has resulted in the cutting off of many of our fields throughout the world, from their division headquarters, in some cases resulting in the complete disruption of some of our division organizations; and,

WHEREAS, Rapid political changes often require that immediate emergency measures be taken by the General Conference Committee in order to provide temporary leadership for fields thus affected; and,

WHEREAS, It is impossible at this time to effect a permanent realignment of said division organizations, owing to the fact that the political situation is not yet clarified; and,

WHEREAS, According to the constitution changes in division boundaries can be made only by the General Conference;

We recommend, 1. That the General Conference Executive Committee be authorized to make such temporary arrangements during the present war emergency as may be deemed necessary for the conduct and supervision of the work in division fields or sections thereof which are seriously affected by the war.

2. That at such time as it seems practicable to bring together representatives of the world fields for the purpose of considering a permanent realignment of division territories, the General Conference Executive Committee be authorized to take all necessary steps to effect such reorganization.

W. H. BRANSON: The constitution provides that the division of territories be made at the General Conference session, or a biennial council,

except in extreme emergencies, such as war. We recognize that there is such an emergency at the present time, and that during this war changes will need to be made frequently in the line-up of our various overseas divisions. Sometimes overnight a political situation will change territories attached to one division, that makes it impossible for that division to administer the work in such territory. Thus it becomes necessary to immediately attach that territory to some other division. This resolution empowers the General Conference Committee to make such temporary arrangements as may be necessary and at such time as seems practicable, that would call together a representative group from the world field to make permanent arrangement for our divisions that have been disrupted as a result of the war. It then would not be necessary to wait until the session or a biennial Council, in order to take care of the situation.

[The recommendations given above were adopted by vote.]

Benediction was given by C. L. Taylor.

W. H. BRANSON, *Chairman*.
H. T. ELLIOTT, *Secretary*.

Fifteenth Meeting

June 5, 1941, 10 A. M.

CHAIRMAN: L. H. Christian.

OPENING HYMN: "All the Way," No. 259 in "The Church Hymnal."

W. E. Murray of South America led in prayer.

Mrs. Stanley Ledington, assisted at the piano by Mrs. Grace Nelson Reed, sang "On Hills and Vales of Heaven," No. 98 in "The Church Hymnal."

L. H. CHRISTIAN: At this hour V. T. Armstrong, president of the Far Eastern Division, will bring us his preliminary report.

[This report appears on page 214.]

L. H. CHRISTIAN: One of our brethren from the Central European Division came over some time ago to attend the Theological Seminary. He has been here since, in other of our schools, and is returning now to his homeland. Would it not be very appropriate for us to send by him our greetings in the Lord to our fellow believers in the Central European Division, Section I?

W. E. READ: I so move. [The motion was seconded.]

L. H. CHRISTIAN: It is moved and seconded that we send greetings by this dear brother to our leaders and believers in the Central European Division. Those who favor the motion—and I will ask not merely the delegates, but all to vote—will kindly stand. [The congregation stood.] Thank you very much. We have an item before us now which really means very much for the welfare of our missions. W. E. Nelson, Treasurer of the General Conference, will present this matter to us.

W. E. NELSON: In our session yesterday we voted that the 1941 Midsummer Offering should be devoted

to new work in our mission fields. We are happy that we have here this morning a number of the representatives from these fields. It will not be possible for all of them to speak, but we shall ask five of them to speak, each being allowed five minutes.

From time to time we receive letters from brethren and sisters, some of them workers, asking, "Is it not true that the work is closing up, that it is impossible to do any advance work now in overseas divisions?" I believe that these brethren will be able to show us that there are still many open doors, and many great opportunities for mission advance.

It seems to me that the next few years should mean more for the advancement of the cause of truth throughout the world than has any other period in the history of our denomination. We are nearing the time of the end, when God has promised that He will bestow upon His people a greater portion of His Holy Spirit, and as a consecrated group of workers and people we may look for a great advance movement, when thousands will be converted where we have seen hundreds in the past.

We shall hear from G. A. Roberts, of the Inter-American Division; N. C. Wilson, of Southern Asia; N. P. Neilson, of South America; V. T. Armstrong, of the Far East; and J. F. Wright, of South Africa. They will come on in the order in which I have mentioned them, and will have five minutes each to present some very interesting matter to you.

G. A. ROBERTS: The greatest need in the Inter-American Division at this particular moment is for assistance to finish the building of two training schools. We had money enough in hand to begin a dormitory at each school. There are about a hundred students now enrolled at each of these institutions—the school in Cuba and the school at Medellin, Colombia.

Now as to the real need. I hold in my hand a photograph. This photograph shows six beds in one room twelve by thirteen feet. That you may understand what it really means to have six boys or six girls in one room, I am going to ask five of these brethren to step right up here. [Five brethren stepped forward and joined Elder Roberts.] Here we are now—six of us. How would you like to put six of your boys or six of your girls in one room twelve by thirteen feet? Six of them to live there during the school year? Do you think we need help to finish our dormitory? Surely we do need help. We also need equipment. We have practically no equipment in our training schools.

The school work is making the greatest gain of all lines of work in our division, particularly that part of the schoolwork that has the youth enrolled in our training schools. We have made a gain the last five years, as I told you the other evening, of 207 per cent in the enrollment in our training schools.

The greatest industry we have in

connection with the schools is our book work. About 80 scholarships were earned this year in the Inter-American Division. We appeal for help from the Midsummer Offering, that we may finish our two dormitories and further equip our schools.

N. C. WILSON: As one thinks of the many needs in Southern Asia it is difficult to choose one in particular. But we have chosen to present this morning the need of the work in South India, particularly in Travancore. Travancore is one of our most fruitful, one of our brightest, fields. You may remember that the evening after the Sabbath we told you of the eagerness of our workers, our national workers in Travancore, to push forward the work of God in that field, and of their willingness during 1941 to dedicate one month's salary in order that the work of God in their field might be advanced. It is said that the apostle Thomas during the first century visited and preached the gospel in South India, particularly Travancore. As a result, there are today several million Christians there, known as Syrian Christians. It is among these people and also a large group of Hindu people, that we wish to establish a new station.

We have a man, Letcher Huntington, who has just finished his year's language study, and is now ready to start work among these people. He will serve probably anywhere from fifteen to twenty million people along the western coast of South India.

We appeal this morning, dear friends, for simple equipment, in order that Elder Huntington may be able to establish a new station in this large and fruitful field. He needs a simple place of worship, a simple school building, and a humble dispensary building, in order that he and his wife may conduct their work. We appeal to you for \$10,000 to help us to establish this new station.

N. P. NEILSEN: We have a large number of nonrecurring needs in the South American Division, caused largely by the ever-expanding work as we enter new territories. But the one that I want to mention this morning is the need of a headquarters property for our Central Amazon Mission, in the city of Manaus. We have an organized mission, and in order to carry on our work successfully we need funds with which to establish mission headquarters.

I want to take you back in your thoughts a few years. Several years after I went to South America to labor in the South Brazil Union, it was my privilege to go up into the interior of that large country. I went to the end of the railroad. From there I went still farther into the interior. I wish I could express to you the thoughts that came to me as I stood there in the interior, looking in the different directions. I looked to the north; at that time there was a territory extending about 2,000 miles northward without a known Seventh-day Adventist, reaching to the country inhabited by the people we call

the Davis Indians. Then I looked to the west, a distance of about 2,000 miles, before I could shake hands with F. A. Stahl, who was then at Iquitos, in the Upper Amazon. It came to me with exceeding depression of heart that that large territory was without a representative, or even a known Seventh-day Adventist, among all the tribes of Indians and other people living in the great Amazon region. I thank God that I can say this morning that that situation has been changed.

There is perhaps no newly entered mission territory in all the world that is greater in extent than the great Amazon region. We have now divided that region into three missions, the Lower Amazon, the Central Amazon, and the Upper Amazon. I plead this morning for help for the Central Amazon. There we have our headquarters in meager rented buildings. The Central Amazon Mission is a large mission in territory, with thousands and tens of thousands of people living along the rivers and many Indians living principally in the highlands. Our colporteurs go up and down those rivers, traveling thousands of miles into the interior, scattering our literature. We need to establish a headquarters station in the city of Manaus. We have a superintendent for that vast field, but we need many more workers. This morning my plea is that you help swell this Midsummer Offering, so that this vast field may receive the help which is so much needed.

V. T. ARMSTRONG: One of the largest islands of the world is New Guinea, the eastern part of which belongs to Australasia, the western part to the Far Eastern Division. Very few missions have done any work in the western section. Last Autumn Council we were given a little money for this work. We have had a telegram telling of the prospects before them and saying that two of our workers are now endeavoring to open up the work there. In the part that belongs to Australasia there are 2,000 Adventists. In our part of the island we have not done anything. These missionaries will need a boat to travel around the coast. The boat service is very poor, and boats are seldom available for travel from one city to another up and down the coast. They also need money to help in establishing this new center.

Our workers on the island of Ambon, not far from New Guinea, have had good success. A number of the converts there are well known to the government, for in the past they had caused the government much trouble. But since becoming Seventh-day Adventists they have changed, and this has given us favor with the government officials. This change will also react in our favor in establishing the work in other parts of Dutch New Guinea.

Up in North Celebes where Dallas Kime is laboring, we have a number of young people, but no Seventh-day Adventist school. We hope within the

next year to be able to secure the funds to open up a school for these promising young people.

We also have an air-mail letter from W. P. Bradley, telling of the needs of the work on the Malay Peninsula. They are endeavoring to put on evangelistic efforts throughout that field. They report that the little halls and tents and other meeting places are crowded with interested people wherever they hold their meetings, and a number have taken their stand for the truth in the last few weeks. However, they do not have enough money to continue the work.

Just before coming to this meeting I was in Sumatra. Our Battak workers there were laying plans for the summer evangelistic campaigns, mapping out just where they would work, and it was sad to see the small sum we were able to assign them for this work. They pleaded for money for tents, halls, theaters, and other facilities to carry on their evangelistic work this summer.

Over in French Indo-China, with its twenty-six million people, we have made only a start. We have a small printing plant and a school there, and help is needed to advance the work in that promising field.

J. F. WRIGHT: Never was the opportunity for advancement in the Southern African Division greater than it is at the present time. Through the confidence which the Autumn Council had in this people and its loyalty to missions, there was voted last fall sufficient money to open two new stations in the Belgian-Congo; that is, to supply a European family in each place, along with a home for each family.

These stations are now being opened. Funds, however, have not been provided for a church or school building or dispensary, which are essential as the work is opened in this very heavily populated country. I. H. Evans was with us in 1935. Together we visited the location where one of these missions is to be opened, and he agreed with us that it was a field bright with promise and offered one of the greatest opportunities he had seen anywhere in the mission field.

A few years ago a law was passed in Southern Rhodesia which prohibited our registering doctors in that country. While A. W. Cormack and I were at the Lower Gwelo Mission camp meeting two years ago, a delegation of more than 150 native men came to us and appealed very earnestly to us to open medical work in that locality. We carried this appeal to the government, and I am glad to tell you that the law has been amended whereby we can now register doctors in that territory. We have a small building with which to start the medical work at this station, but the great need is for a hospital building. If we can have from this offering the sum of \$15,000 it will provide two church buildings, two school buildings, and two dispensaries at this new station in the Congo, and a new hospital

building at the Lower Gwelo Mission. We pray that God will make the Midsummer Offering large enough so that Africa can have a share in it.

W. E. NELSON: I am sure we have been thrilled with these appeals. We have heard much of South Africa. We have not heard so much about Central Africa, and yet the population of the territory of Central Africa is greater than that of South Africa, and we have done very little work, comparatively speaking, in the great expanse of Central Africa, both east and west. Now we want to hear from W. E. Read for just a few moments.

W. E. READ: I must tell you of one of our needs in Nigeria. For the benefit of those who may not know, let me say that Nigeria is on the west coast of Africa; it has been known for many, many years as the white man's grave. Nigeria is densely populated. In that country there are about twenty-two millions of people. The government lists 227 forms of speech. Our work began there in 1914 but moved slowly for six years. In 1920 we opened work in the eastern part of that field, and from that time to this we have had wonderful success, particularly in the eastern part of Nigeria. Today we have thousands of people in the Sabbath schools, and thousands in the baptismal classes, and year by year we are having large baptisms. Two years ago, when attending the camp meeting, we baptized 326 people who came to us direct from heathenism.

Two years ago a very urgent call came to us from a tribe for whom we had done no work. There are two or three million people in this tribe. We sent a missionary family there. We had no money except to provide for their support. They began to work, and lived in what is known as a bush house. Some of you know it as a mud and wattle building.

God has blessed their efforts in a wonderful way. Now we have eighteen groups of people there, numbering more than 1,100, attending our Sabbath schools. At a recent camp meeting more than a thousand people were in attendance. Two new languages have been added to the list in which we are now preaching the message. Thirty-five were baptized at the recent camp meeting, and our special request to you today from the Midsummer Offering fund is for \$5,000 to give that missionary family a house in which to live in that unhealthy part of Africa, where our workers can stay no longer than two years before they take a furlough. We ask that you provide \$5,000, so that we can give them a suitable house and provide an African teacher, and have a strong base in that field from which to carry forward our work.

W. E. NELSON: I am sure these appeals have touched our hearts very deeply; and as we go home and the time for the Midsummer Offering comes in July, let us take opportunity to tell of these needs of which we have heard this morning. I hope and pray that the offering will amount to at least \$50,000. Five years ago it reached nearly that point. Shall we

not do today more than we have ever done before, since practically all Europe is now cut off from contributing to our overseas work. Let us do all we can to forward the work of God, so that it may be finished and those who sit in darkness may see the light before the coming of the Lord Jesus.

L. H. CHRISTIAN: One of the greatest joys that this good Conference has brought us has been the privilege of seeing and hearing representatives from many divisions of the world. But we are keenly disappointed, because no one has been in attendance from certain world sections of the General Conference. But where such representatives could not come, they have sent in a written report. It has been an especially keen disappointment that no representative could be with us from the Australasian Division. We have all missed C. H. Watson, our former beloved General Conference president.

A report of the progress of the work in the great Australasian Division has been prepared by E. B. Rudge, the union conference president, and we are glad to have this report from Australasia presented to you this morning. It will be read by one of our brethren from Australia, A. W. Cormack, an Associate Secretary of the General Conference.

[The report appears on page 218.]

L. H. CHRISTIAN: In no division around the world are the members closer to us in faith and in spirit than in Australasia. Would it not be appropriate, at the close of this excellent report, to send our hearty greetings to Elder Watson, who has served and is serving so effectively in this great mission work, and to all our believers there?

[It was duly voted that such greetings be conveyed to our believers in the Australasian Division.]

I believe the Committee on Nominations is ready to bring us a further report.

F. H. ROBBINS: Brother Chairman, delegates, brethren and sisters, your Committee on Nominations is ready now to bring to you its final report. Elder Blunden, secretary of the Committee, will present the report.

H. M. BLUNDEN: Brother Chairman, your Committee on Nominations respectfully submits the following report:

Vice-President for the Australasian Division: C. H. Watson.

Field Secretary of the General Conference: M. L. Andreasen.

Medical Department Secretary: H. M. Walton, M. D.; Associates, M. A. Hollister and D. Lois Burnett.

Publishing Department Secretary: H. M. Blunden; Associate Secretaries, J. J. Strahle and E. E. Franklin.

Auditor: W. E. Phillips; Associate Auditors, H. W. Barrows and Claude Conard.

Additional members of the General Conference Committee: C. B. Haynes, J. J. Ireland, B. G. Wilkinson.

(Continued on page 222)

The Home Study Institute

By M. E. OLSEN

THE Home Study Institute has been ministering to the educational needs of ambitious men and women for more than thirty years, during which time it has shared in the educational development of a goodly number of men now carrying large responsibilities in our organized work. Among the students have been heads of divisions, union and conference presidents, college professors, departmental secretaries, treasurers, editors, mission superintendents, and pastors, as well as thousands of men and women in the common walks of life.

During the five years since we met in General Conference session, the Home Study Institute has enrolled 7,719 students, and has sent out 4,150 certificates for completed courses of study. The number of test papers and final examinations corrected by our faculty in this time was 105,915. I will not here enumerate the different countries from which pupils have mailed their test papers to us, but the list would be long and impressive. Besides the large number enrolled as individual students, we have had some thousands of others who have been members of study groups that we have fostered. These have done most of their work under approved teachers, only the final examination papers being sent in to the Institute. The studies thus taken in groups are limited to the few that especially lend themselves to the plan, such as Lay Evangelism, Spiritual Leadership, and Lay Preaching.

While the home school has students in many different parts of the world, the larger share of foreign students are enrolled in one or another of our four different branches. The oldest, and by far the largest, of these is the Oriental branch, with headquarters at Shanghai, China. It has carried on its work with vigor in spite of the difficulties incident to the war. Until very recently Professor William Scharffenberg, the founder of the branch, has had immediate charge of its various activities, and his strong leadership has gone far to make it what it is and has been for years, a very important part of our educational work in the Orient. Besides its numerous correspondence students, the Oriental branch has carried on resident language schools in various large cities, and has thus given valuable instruction to hundreds of foreign workers. Our Australian branch, with headquarters in Sydney, Australia, has carried on its work for about fifteen years, and our Southern European branch, with headquarters at the Junior College in Collonges, France, has been operated for more than ten years. In the summer of 1939 a branch was started at Newbold Missionary College, near Rugby, England, under the general oversight of W. G. C. Murdoch, principal of the college. About the same time a branch was started at Poona,

India, under the leadership of J. M. Steeves, educational secretary of the Southern Asia Division, Mrs. R. B. Thurber serving as registrar. We have received encouraging reports from this Southern Asia branch, which bids fair to become an important feature of our work in that interesting field.

Finishing Courses

Our friends often ask the question, "What percentage of the students who begin work with you finish the course?" The answer is, "More than many people think." The pupils of college or high-school grade who take work during the summer to improve their spare time or make up something they have missed, get along very well. Boys and girls whose parents take an interest in them and help them to follow a daily study program, nearly always finish their courses with credit. It is not unusual for such young people to meet all the requirements of the ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade in the course of eight or nine months, and besides this, they usually have plenty of time to lend a helping hand in the homework.

When we deal with older people, men and women carrying heavy burdens in the home and trying to do their studying in spare minutes, the average of those who finish is not quite so high, but a great many of these ultimately complete the course of study, even after two or three years, and it is often this class of students who show the greatest appreciation of the Home Study plan.

"This course in Lay Evangelism," writes a recent student, "has supplied a longfelt need in my life. It has been to me a real blessing, which I hope may be passed on to others. My memory has been quickened, my mind has been trained to dwell more on spiritual things. I have learned to some degree to put first things first."

An enthusiastic worker with our literature writes: "I owe my success in the colporteur work to the courses you gave me in Christian Salesmanship and Lay Evangelism."

A busy church school teacher bears this testimony to the attractiveness of our courses: "For real pleasure give me a course with the Home Study Institute. It satisfies, and it refreshes."

In general, our percentage of "finishers" is higher than that of many other schools, and it will reach a still higher point when the study spirit takes hold of the rank and file of our church members, so that the development of one's personal talents comes to be viewed in its true light as a matter of large importance to the spiritual life.

We are in recent months adopting more and more the plan of supervised study. The teacher of a church school, for instance, will have certain pupils in his school doing advanced work through the Institute with the under-

standing that he supervises it. Often he himself looks over a certain portion of the test papers. Where this plan is followed, the cost to the student is somewhat reduced, and he always has by his side an experienced teacher who can give him a little extra help from time to time.

School Credit

Another question often asked is, "Do your students receive full credit for their work when they enter the college or academy?" The answer is, "Yes, the heads of our resident schools give us their hearty co-operation, because they realize that the mental discipline gained by carrying on a Home Study course is a valuable part of the pupil's equipment for life." Home Study pupils also, very generally, receive credit in schools outside the denomination when they go about it in the right way.

There have been some changes on our faculty during the last five years. Miss Lizzie M. Gregg, who has served us faithfully as registrar since the spring of 1926, has recently retired, feeling that she was no longer physically able to carry this responsibility. In the Bible department we have lost the services of Professor Waldorf, who retired for health reasons. We have added in that department Professor L. A. Semmens, head of the department of theology in Washington Missionary College, and Professors B. P. Hoffman and F. H. Yost, who are teaching in the Theological Seminary. Professor Paul Gibbs, of Washington Missionary College, has taken over our course in Journalism, and Professor R. E. Hoen, of Pacific Union College, is instructor in Astronomy. Professor E. B. Ogden, of Atlantic Union College, has joined the department of Mathematics, and Professor G. F. Wolfkill, of Pacific Union College, is a valued member of our department of Education.

New Courses

We have introduced some new courses that are meeting with widespread approval. Our course in Sociology, an important subject not given till very recently in Adventist colleges, is supplying a need felt by forward-looking workers who realize how wide a field of knowledge is opened up by that study. The course in Lay Preaching, prepared jointly by the Home Study Institute and the Home Missionary Department, is being taken by many of the consecrated men who are doing yeoman service as lay evangelists. The course in Nature Appreciation makes a strong appeal to young people, and also to parents and schoolteachers who need to have firsthand knowledge of birds and trees and wild flowers in order to take children out in the fields and woods and peruse with them some of the interesting pages of God's other book. We have developed courses in New Testament Greek and Hebrew that are especially adapted to the needs of the Home Study pupil. A young minister who recently began to study Hebrew with us expresses surprise that we

could make it so easy for the student to learn that language through a correspondence course. He feels that the author of the lessons has anticipated his every need, and made the acquiring of a good working knowledge of Hebrew a pleasant as well as profitable task.

The course known as Spiritual Leadership has been taken individually by leaders in our churches, Sabbath schools, and young people's societies, and in some cases it has been studied in groups. When church officers come together for a week-end institute, it is obviously chiefly for inspiration. One cannot possibly do much in the way of giving systematic instruction in so short a time. But having come together and enjoyed a valuable interchange of thoughts and ideas, how excellent to go back to the church and enter upon a systematic course of training prepared and administered by men who are giving their lives to the fine art of developing talent. And when the evangelist baptizes a new group of converts, how natural to organize them into a class and give them, through a Bible worker or some other officer of the church who has teaching ability, a somewhat thorough-

going course of instruction in Lay Evangelism.

One of the recent developments in our work has been the close co-operation of conferences with the Home Study Institute in making it somewhat easier for our busy ministers and other conference workers to take some of the advanced courses offered by the Institute. It is sometimes felt that these men are too heavily loaded with duties to find time for advanced study, but wise planning and a carefully worked out program make it possible.

The future of the Home Study Institute is in the hands of God, who has blessed the work hitherto, and has made the Institute a means of bringing the benefits of a Christian education to many thousands of young people who were deprived of the privilege of attending one of our resident schools. It has also brought opportunities for advanced study to a growing number of adults in many walks of life. Grateful for the co-operation given us by teachers and students and workers generally, and confidently hoping for its continuance in the future, we request the prayers of all believers in Christian education.

sion fields in Africa and in the islands, as well as in the homelands. Before long union and local conference presidents, secretary-treasurers, department leaders, mission superintendents, pastors and evangelists, and institutional heads and employees were in the service of their respective countries—some for a few weeks or a few months at the time; others, permanently.

Our colporteur ranks have suffered heavily. In some conferences practically every colporteur, as well as the leader, has been called into the army. In addition to this depletion and disorganization of our working forces, we have had to contend with all the other difficulties that result from the war. Through evacuation schemes, many of our churches have been scattered to the four winds. In other places workers and members have been swept along in the flood of refugees who are fleeing before the on-rushing armies.

Transportation systems on land and sea and in the air have been overtaxed, disorganized, and in many places completely destroyed, with the result that passage from one place to another is difficult and often impossible. Telephone, telegraph, and postal services have been disrupted and well-nigh paralyzed. For weeks on end, and in certain cases, for months, our division office has had no mail connections with some of our fields. Visa restrictions and military regulations have greatly complicated travel from country to country and in military zones. The depreciation of currencies, the fabulous increase in the cost of living, the widespread poverty and distress, have all combined to create new and perplexing problems for the financing of our conference, mission, and institutional work.

But notwithstanding the upheaval, destruction, and turmoil, the hardships and the perplexities, we are happy to say, to the praise and the glory of God, that our work in the Southern European Division has not come to nought. The God of Israel, whom we serve, has in mercy watched over His people and His work. Our organization is still intact, our institutions are functioning, and our conferences and churches are courageously pressing on with their duties. Conference borders have had to be altered to meet new situations. Broken and depleted evangelistic and colporteur ranks have had to be reformed again and again. Dangers and difficulties have been legion, but through it all God has wonderfully protected, guided, and blessed.

During the war in Spain all our foreign workers employed there, and also a number of the Spanish workers, were compelled to leave the country, much to our regret. These men are now filling important positions in our work in North America, South America, Inter-America, and Europe. Only a very few workers remain in Spain, and they are laboring under great handicaps. The meeting halls are closed, and it is impossible for our people to meet together for public worship. The few workers who re-

Southern European Division

By A. V. OLSON, President

FROM our faithful and devoted brethren and sisters in the war-cursed and war-harassed lands of the Southern European Division, I bring greetings to the delegates and friends here assembled in General Conference session.

The five years that have passed into eternity since we last met in session under the same roof in the peaceful and friendly atmosphere of beautiful San Francisco, have been years of severe trial and anguish of soul for the two hundred million people within the confines of our large division. During practically all this time, war has been raging within our borders. Before some of our delegates who attended the last session here had time to return to their homes, there broke out in sunny Spain one of the most devastating civil wars of modern times. Scarcely had the smoke cleared away from the blood-soaked battlefields of old Spain before the present European conflict burst upon the world in all its fury.

For nearly two years now every country in our division (not only in Southern Europe, but also in Africa and the islands of the sea) has been under arms. The whole territory is, as it were, one vast military camp. Even the nations that are not as yet directly engaged in the conflict are armed and ready for the struggle. The very earth itself trembles under the tread of the martial host, while the heavens are darkened with fighting planes, and the air is rent with the screams and shrieks of falling bombs.

No pen can correctly picture the devastation, sorrow, and suffering that have been caused by these wars. Proud cities have been wrecked and ruined; beautiful towns and happy villages have been reduced to dust and ashes; fertile fields, fruitful orchards, and productive gardens have been turned into a wilderness. Millions of people have had to flee from their homes and their occupations to seek refuge elsewhere. Multitudes are now homeless and destitute. Thousands of men, women, and children have been maimed and crippled for life, and many tens of thousands have lost their lives. Our beautiful Europe has been turned into a slaughterhouse, and its fair lands are a vale of tears.

Dire Results of War

It must be evident to all that such ruthless, destructive, and havoc-producing wars cannot come to a field without serious consequences to its church life and its mission program. In America and other English-speaking countries in which ministers of the gospel and theological students are exempt from military service, the evangelistic forces can be kept intact, even in times of war, and well organized for the shepherding of our flocks and the prosecution of public evangelism. Such is not the case, however, in our lands, where there is no exemption for these classes.

As soon as hostilities broke out, our ministers of military age began to be drafted into the armies of the different countries. This happened in our mis-

main in the field are trying, with the help of the Lord, to carry on the work, but their number is totally inadequate for the task that confronts them. Though the situation is extremely trying and difficult, a few souls were won and added to our churches there last year. Much more could have been accomplished had we had more experienced leadership, more laborers, and greater freedom. Will you not join us in praying that religious liberty may soon be restored in Spain, and that the door may be thrown open for the messengers of God to enter the country again?

The Wrath of Man Restrained

In some of our fields we have experienced strong opposition and relentless persecution. The devil has seemed determined to annihilate our work. Time and again during these last five years government decrees and edicts have been issued against us. Orders have been given to close our churches and to confiscate our properties. Large numbers of our workers and members have been beaten, stoned, imprisoned, and tortured. Each time a decree has been issued against us, there has been great rejoicing in the camp of the enemy. They have felt sure that the hated "sect" would be blotted out of existence. Often the future has looked dark and impossible for our dear people.

Only a few months ago, in the country in which we have our largest constituency, our people passed through one of the most agonizing, and yet one of the most glorious, experiences in their whole history. Without a moment's warning, the minister of cults, who previously had shown himself friendly to our people, promulgated, over the radio and through the public press, a decree to dissolve all our conference and church organization, and to confiscate all our denominational properties. Immediately the machinery was set in motion for carrying out the provisions of the decree. With a shout of triumph, the enemy began to take possession of our chapels and to carry away their furnishings. The hour was announced when the officers would arrive to take over our fine new school plant.

To all human appearances, Seventh-day Adventists would in a few brief days be crushed and silenced forever, and the work of God here would be completely destroyed. It was a dark and tragic moment. It looked almost as though God had forsaken His people. But He had neither forsaken nor forgotten them. He who in response to Daniel's importunate appeals sent the angel Gabriel to rescue His people of old, heard the cry of His oppressed children and sent His angels to deliver them. The very day the officers were to take over the school, the newspapers announced that the minister of cults had been removed and that his office had been entrusted to another. That same morning the new minister made known over the radio and through the papers that the terrible decree had been set aside. At the same time orders were given to restore our proper-



Children of Our Missionaries From Southern Asia, in Native Costume

ties and to cease the persecution. Soon frightened priests and repentant village officers brought back the keys of the confiscated chapels, and invited our people to come and get the seats and other furniture that had been removed. Calmly our people replied, "You carried these things away; you must bring them back." This they promptly did. Thus God turned apparent defeat into glorious victory. For this we praise His holy name.

Increased Membership

Though funds have been scarce, the working force has been small, and the hindrances and perplexities have been many, the work of the Lord has made steady and gratifying progress in the territory of the Southern European Division since the last session of the General Conference. During the four years 1936 to 1939, there were added to our churches 11,613 new members by baptism and on profession of faith. During this same time our church membership increased from 25,816 to 32,180, and the Sabbath school membership from 36,004 to 43,222.

The accession of new members by baptism and vote in our division during the four-year period 1936 to 1939 equaled 45 per cent of the division membership at the beginning of 1936, while the accessions in the world field for this same time equaled 36.3 per cent of the world membership at the beginning of the period. The net increase in church membership for the world field amounted to 15 per cent; for our division it was 25 per cent.

Owing to a deranged postal service, we have not, at the time these lines are being written (March, 1941), received complete statistical reports from all our fields for the year 1940; consequently we cannot give the exact number of baptisms during the year of

stress and storm; but from the information that has reached us, by letter and otherwise, it seems evident that more than two thousand have been added to the church by baptism, which seems miraculous when we consider the trying and very difficult conditions under which the work has been carried on.

What has been accomplished during these last five years, under the guidance and blessing of God, in winning souls for the kingdom above, is the result of the united prayers and labors of workers and members. Every branch and every department of the work has contributed its part. The work of our faithful and devoted lay members, under the able leadership of our home missionary secretaries, has produced excellent results. Our noble and heroic colporteurs must also be given a large share of the credit for what has been accomplished.

Our Publishing Work

The conditions brought on by the war have created many new problems and embarrassments for our publishing houses. Paper and other raw materials needed in the manufacture of books and papers have become very scarce, and almost unobtainable at any price. Because of the glutted and impaired condition of the postal and other transportation systems, it has been extremely difficult for our houses to supply their customers. Some have been completely cut off from all contact with large sections of their territory. The constant drain made upon their sales forces by the military organizations has naturally caused much care and anxiety.

Regardless of all these hindrances and obstacles, our publishing houses have done remarkably well. In Yugoslavia the sales for the year 1940 were

the highest in the history of that field. In Rumania, where the union lost six thousand of its members and large sections of its territory as a result of the shifting of international boundary lines, and where all the field secretaries and most of the colporteurs were called to the colors, it was feared that the publishing house would have little or no business for a long time to come. But, thank God, the colporteur lines have been rebuilt, and the sales, after a period of retrogression, have increased from month to month, so that they are now larger than they were before Bessarabia and other parts of Rumania were lost. The last monthly sales report (January, 1941) from Rumania was the highest that has ever come to us from that field.

A year ago, when the tempest broke over northern France, the workers in our French publishing house near Paris were ordered to close the house and to flee for their lives. Suddenly all our French-speaking fields were left without a source of literature supply. This created a very serious situation for the publishing work in these fields. Without delay an editorial office was set up in our division headquarters building in Switzerland, under the direction of Brother Robert Gerber, our division Sabbath school and Missionary Volunteer secretary. Arrangements were made with a large printing establishment in Bern to print for us. At the same time plans were laid for Professor Maurice Tièche, one of our seminary teachers at Collonges, France, to edit certain papers to be printed on our school press.

Soon books, papers, and Sabbath School Quarterlies were flowing in regular streams to our colporteurs and churches in Switzerland, southern France, and elsewhere. Owing to the fact that books and papers could not be shipped out of occupied France for many months, this arrangement continued to function until the end of 1940, even though our publishing house in Melun had been able to open its doors several months before. We thank the Lord for having helped us through this difficult period. And we wish to express our profound gratitude to the Lord for so marvelously protecting our publishing house from harm during the dark days of the invasion last summer. Though bombs fell very near it, not even one tile on its roof was damaged.

Our Mission Fields

During this last General Conference term, the Lord made it possible for us to open two new mission fields. The French island of Réunion in the Indian Ocean was entered by Brother and Sister Girard of North Africa in 1936; and the Portuguese island of St. Thomas, off the west coast of Africa, was entered by Brother and Sister Freire of Portugal in 1938. These are not easy fields, but God has blessed the labors of His servants, and a good beginning has been made in both islands. Last year a beautiful and commodious chapel was erected in

Saint-Denis, the capital of Réunion. This is the first non-Catholic church building ever built on the island. May God grant that many more such meeting places may soon dot these needy fields!

The work in our numerous mission fields in Africa and in the islands of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans has made encouraging progress. God has blessed the labors of our devoted and self-sacrificing missionaries. It has been a real source of encouragement to see how bravely and cheerfully they have remained at their posts during these many long months of war, uncertainty, and danger. Many of them have been cut off from all communication with their loved ones at home. We know that God will richly reward these valiant men and women for their sacrifice and toil!

In the building line, we cannot boast of any great achievements during this last conference period. We are glad to report, however, that a number of chapels have been constructed in different parts of our far-flung field. Some institutional projects have also been undertaken.

In Madagascar, land was bought near Tananarive, the capital, and buildings were erected for our new Indian Ocean Union training school.

In the city of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, where our work had suffered much in the past for lack of proper accommodation, one of the most serviceable buildings that we have in all Europe was finished about three years ago. In addition to a meeting hall which seats nearly a thousand people, and some smaller halls, there is ample accommodation for the union conference offices, the Jugoslavian Publishing House, and apartments for a few of the workers and their families.

About two years ago we purchased a desirable church property in Florence, Italy, from the Methodists. Here our church, after a long pilgrimage, has now found a permanent home. This property, located in the heart of the city, has given new character and influence to our cause in this large, important center, and has provided both new facilities and new possibilities for the development of our work there. The Italian Union and the Italian Publishing House have both been given quarters in this same building.

In our Florence Via Trieste property, formerly occupied by the Italian Union office and the publishing house, a training school has been opened. Thus an urgent and longfelt need has been supplied. Our believers in Italy are happy and thankful that at last they have a place where their young people may be prepared for a place in God's work.

Expression of Thanks

On behalf of our division, I wish to express to the General Conference and to our generous brethren and sisters in North America our sincere and heartfelt gratitude for the liberal financial aid that has been granted to our field. Especially have we felt to

praise God for the munificent support that has been given us during these last two years of war and distress. The relief money which you have sent to help our refugees and other war victims has been a wonderful help. May God bless and reward every brother and sister who has contributed for our relief!

Mention has already been made of the fact that our division sustained some heavy losses in membership as a result of altered frontier lines. When Bessarabia and northern Bucovina were taken over by Russia, 76 churches, with a total membership exceeding 2,800, were cut off from our field. When Dobruja was ceded to Bulgaria, we lost nearly 500 more members. And a little later, when a large section of Transylvania passed under the Hungarian flag, there was another loss of 2,700. All in all, there has been a combined loss of more than 6,000. By action of the General Conference Committee, which transferred the Hungarian Union Conference from the Central European Division, Section II, to the Southern European Division, we have recovered the 2,700 Transylvanian members, and have received besides them 3,107 others, or a total of 5,819, which nearly covers our combined losses.

In spirit we are often with our dear brethren and sisters of Bessarabia, who are now on the other side of the Russian border. With our mind's eye we can still see them as they used to come in large numbers to our annual assemblies and to other important gatherings clad in their quaint national costumes. We can still hear their plaintive voices as they joined in singing their beautiful hymns. Most of them knew what it meant to suffer persecution for their faith. Often my eyes grew dim and my cheeks moist with tears as I listened to them tell of their experience under the cruel hand of their persecutors. Some of them still carry the scars and the marks of what they have suffered for their Lord.

How I long to see those dear brethren and sisters again! How I long to embrace once more those noble young men upon whose heads it was my privilege to lay my hands in ordination! Men who had hazarded their lives in the service of their Master! Men who, like Paul and Silas of old, had lifted their voices in praise to God from dark and dismal prison cells! It was one of them who won 23 souls for God while he was in prison for his faith.

Often we are asked how these brethren and sisters are faring now. We do not know. Is their lot better? Is it worse? We cannot tell. We have reason to fear, though, that the road they must travel is strewn with more thorns than roses. Shall we not all join in praying that God may help them to remain firm in the faith, and that He may make them a light and a blessing in that faraway land?

What of the Future?

In reports such as this, it is customary, I know, to speak of prospects

for the future. But at a time such as this, what can I say regarding future prospects? To the human eye the outlook is as dark as midnight. The future seems to offer nought but war, famine, and pestilence, with accompanying suffering, sorrow, and tears. It seems that no power on earth can arrest the forces of evil that are at work. It seems that destruction and carnage must continue until our cities are all broken down, until our lands are utterly wasted, and there be no more man. I repeat: To the human eye the future prospects are as dark as midnight. But to the child of God, whose eye of faith has pierced the blackness and the gloom, and has sought a gleam of the radiance of that other angel that is yet to fill the earth with the light of his glory, the prospect is bright with promise.

We know that hardships and trials await us, but we also know that the greatest victories of the remnant church are just before us. The eternal God, the Master of earth, sea, and sky, still "ruleth in the kingdom of men." His restraining hand is still upon the nations. He has fixed a line, by man unseen, beyond which they cannot pass until His work on earth is done. Because of this, our hearts are full of courage and confidence in God. We have the assurance in our souls that He will lead His people and His work in the Southern European Division, and in all the world, from victory to victory, until that happy day when Jesus, our blessed Lord, shall come in power and great glory to gather home the ransomed of every land and age.

From all the lands and climes in our vast division field, and from all around the world, there sounds tonight the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us!" There are so many—oh, so many—in this hour of agony whose hearts are crushed with sorrow and are heavy with the weight of sin. Now, while the whole creation is groaning together in pain, and waiting to be delivered, is the time for the church of God to move forward in a mighty undertaking to save the perishing. But you ask, Are there not great dangers now to be met? Is there not danger that mission workers may lose their lives in the present upheaval? Certainly there are dangers to be met! Certainly some of us may lose our lives while trying to save others! But, brethren and sisters, at a time when millions of men are risking their lives in the service of their countries, shall we refuse to risk ours in the service of Christ? It is far better and sweeter, if so it must be, to fall at our posts while caring for our flocks and seeking the lost, than to sit safely sheltered far away from the storm and from our duty!

But you say, Is it not wiser to wait until the storm has abated and the danger is less? When a ship has been wrecked in a furious sea, and men and women are being swallowed by the angry waves, can the lifesaving crew wait till the tempest is over and the sea is calm before they push out to the rescue? If they do, they will arrive too late. So it will be with us;

if we wait for calmer days, we shall arrive too late!

Do I hear someone say that it will call for great courage to press forward in the face of present perils, hardships, and uncertainties? Doubtless it will require courage! And yet, to my mind, it is not so much a matter of courage as it is of love and devotion. When a frail, timid little mother presses her way through the crowd of strong, stalwart men who are standing helpless before her burning home, and plunges through smoke and flame in search of her sleeping babe, and finally staggers out with the precious little bundle clasped close to her breast, does she do it because she possesses unusual courage? No, she does it because she is moved by an undying love for her

child. It was love, not courage, that led Jesus to the cross. Consuming love for the lost has been the impelling force that has led men and women down through the whole history of the Christian church to hazard their lives in their Master's service. If our hearts are warm with this love for our fellow men, who are ready to perish, we will not hesitate in the face of the storm.

O brethren and sisters of the advent hope, this is no time to falter! This is no time to seek shelter from the storm! This is the hour for action! With hearts aglow with the love of God, and throbbing with divine sympathy and tender compassion for suffering humanity, let us arise and move forward.

The Press Bureau

By CARLYLE B. HAYNES

THE General Conference Press Bureau is twenty-nine years old.

For twenty-eight and a half years of its existence its work was under the leadership of W. L. Burgan. During those years the publicity given to the teaching and the activities of this message and movement in the public press developed to such an extent that Seventh-day Adventists and their work are far better and more favorably known in all the world than before.

The cause of God sustained a grave loss when Brother Burgan died last July. He did his work so unassumingly always keeping himself out of sight, that we scarcely knew that he was around. Through the years, however, he did his work faithfully and well, encouraging men to write, helping them in their first efforts, instructing them in the essentials of newspaper reporting, showing them how, giving them a lift when they stumbled, cheering them on to greater endeavors when they succeeded, and finally succeeding in establishing and training a staff of writers which today circles the globe.

We miss him. And we shall always cherish the memory of his gentle ways and his earnest devotion. The contribution he has made, the legacy he has left to the cause he loved and served, is a large one.

The Press Bureau which he began and carried on so efficiently continues its helpful ministry. Workers and laymen around the world are getting the news of this message into the public press. Their number should constantly enlarge. The opportunities in this direction are literally without limit. Everywhere newspapers are printed there should be Seventh-day Adventists to put something of this movement into them. This can be done far more widely than many of us are willing to believe. Every worker should know how to secure publication of news regarding this movement.

Writing for the press is not a difficult thing to learn or to do. And it is surprising how many opportuni-

ties open in this field for one who has learned how to utilize them.

It is my conviction that we are approaching a large and important expansion of this press work. Much of our effort so far has been directed in the field of the larger metropolitan dailies. We have not attempted to do much in the field of the smaller weekly papers. In this direction lies an opportunity which is simply enormous in its possibilities. These papers do not have the staggering circulation of the large city papers, but there are many more of them, and the influence on their readers creates a stronger and more lasting impression. I do not hesitate to express my conviction that in this direction lies an opportunity for the press work of this movement which is of incalculable value. It is my earnest hope that whoever is placed in charge of the Press Bureau following General Conference will thoroughly explore this possibility.

God will hear the prayer of the contrite heart; He says He will, and what better assurance can you desire than the word of God? Your weakness and sinfulness are all known to Him. While you cannot rejoice over this, you may rejoice that Jesus is your righteousness. Your very weakness may make manifest His grace and power; for your conscious weakness drives you to Him who is willing and mighty to help when you lay hold upon Him by prevailing prayer.—Mrs. E. G. White, in the *Review and Herald*, May 27, 1884.

In response to the prayers of God's people, angels are sent with heavenly blessings. The Lord desires us to be far more successful in our missionary efforts. Through daily prayer and consecration all may so relate themselves to their heavenly Father that He can bestow upon them rich blessings.—Mrs. E. G. White, in the *Review and Herald*, Jan. 3, 1907.

An Evening With the Inter-American Division

June 2, 1941, 7:45 P. M.

OPENING HYMN: "The Church Hymnal," No. 437, "Lord, Her Watch Thy Church Is Keeping."

Prayer was offered by A. R. Ogden, superintendent of the Caribbean Union.

The Peninsula Male Quartet sang: "There's a Beautiful Country."

L. H. CHRISTIAN: We are to hear tonight concerning the great things of God as they have been manifested in the Inter-American Division during these past five years. The signal blessing of heaven has rested upon the believers and workers and members in that field. It has been my privilege twice during this past term to visit Inter-America. I was there at one of their earliest division meetings four or five years ago, and I am happy to say that I was deeply impressed with the mission morale of our workers, with the vision, and with broad plans that were laid.

I witnessed, I think, the very beginning of that great mission advance which we have seen there these years. I counted it a special privilege to be there for a time with Brother Roberts and his associates.

We are happy that these people from Inter-America are with us tonight, and I take great pleasure in introducing to you the president of that division, G. A. Roberts, who will take charge of the meeting.

G. A. ROBERTS: We are profoundly thankful to God for His kindly care over the workers and over the work of the Inter-American Division since last we met here in General Conference session. We are thankful to Him for the advancement He has brought about in His work.

Our 37,607 loyal church members send the deepest love and warmest greetings to the brethren and sisters round the world who are represented here by delegates to this session. Some of our faithful members have been slain because of their faith and work in the message, and they cannot join in these greetings, but we know that they will soon wear the crown of life that fadeth not away, and that their works do follow them, for souls are flocking into the truth where these members fell at their posts of service.

The Blood of Martyrs

Brother and Sister Prada were slain in 1936, and a great company have come into the truth in that section in Colombia. One of our churches organized eight branch Sabbath schools in their district. This aroused great opposition. One of these branch Sabbath schools grew until it had a membership of more than ninety persons. Pedro Flores, thirty-five years of age, was superintendent of this Sabbath school, and Rafael Flores, twenty-five years of age, was leader of the Young People's Society and secretary of the Sabbath school.

These two brethren and another brother were invited to inspect a piece

of land which, it was said, was to be given them for the work, but enemies were waiting for them in the bushes by the river, and the superintendent and the secretary of the Sabbath school were killed instantly by pistol fire. The other brother was wounded, but escaped by plunging into the river. They fired at him a number of times, but, fortunately, missed. Not satisfied with killing the other two men, they returned and chopped them to pieces with their machetes. These poor, ignorant people have been taught that for everyone they kill who differs with them in their religion, they will receive certain indulgences.

It was evidently the plan of the enemy to destroy the work in this district, but instead a great interest has been aroused to hear the truth. The shed blood of these faithful brethren will be carried, in a figurative sense, to all parts of that great district.

Pedro Flores leaves a wife and four children. Rafael Flores also leaves a widow and children. May the Lord bless and comfort these families, that a great harvest of souls may be reaped as the result of this persecution. Our hearts go out to the dear ones who mourn their loss, and we extend to them the cheering hope of the resurrection soon to come.

We have probably more than fifty dialects among the Indians of Mexico and in our South American territory. The best method of approach to these tribes, is to get a member and set him to work. C. E. Moon writes: "We now have a Tarahumara Indian boy in our colporteur work. This is a very important thing, as it is a very difficult matter to get a start among these people. Only by converting and training one of the tribe, can we hope to work among them, and now we have a boy from these cliff dwellers. It seems providential to me."

God Delivers His People

A native teacher writes: "My mother and I decided to visit a sick brother. On our way to his house we met two men, who drew their pistols and tried to shoot. Their pistols did not discharge, but they asked who gave us permission to work in that place. We answered that God had sent us there to do His work. We had no fear, as we felt that God would deliver us. We were greatly encouraged by the Lord's presence. They kept on threatening, and one of them put his pistol to my heart, but I was praying to God for His protection, and they could do nothing against us. We stayed in this place nine months. The brethren gave us food, as we were self-supporting workers and only desired to save souls for Christ."

This girl had eighteen children in her school and gave daily studies at night, organized a Sabbath school and a Young People's Society, had charge of the baptismal class (forty-three persons were baptized later), organized

home missionary work with good results, and thus brought many people into the church.

From Harold F. House of the Mexican Union we have this word:

"We expect to have 200 baptisms this year in the Gulf Mission alone. Last year we had 125, and in 1939 the report was 69. Up to that time no better report in baptisms for any year had been given. Surely the latter rain is falling on Mexico, because everywhere we see God's Spirit working on the multitudes.

"Several hundred new believers were organized into a Sabbath school only about a year ago. Not far from there, a few months ago, one of our lay workers by the name of J. Quintin Lozano was visiting a family who were interested in the truth in a small village called El Barranco.

"About twenty-five interested people were listening to his Bible study, inside the friend's house, when a company of fanatics surrounded the house. They propped the door shut and remained silent as the men outside threw stones and opened fire with their pistols. The little company prayed, trusting that God would protect them during the night. The mob shouted at the people inside, saying: 'Come out, you saints. We'll kill every one of you.' They partially tore down the upper part of the door, and thrust their pistols inside and shot in every direction. The house had only one room; so there was no place in which they could hide. The attack continued during most of the night.

"Two or three of the men who remained close to the door, to hold the props in place, cannot understand how they escaped the bullets that were shot inside. Two little boys told me with pride that they did not get shot either.

"The brother who gave the Bible study was baptized in Rio Grande a year ago, and a number of those who passed through this trial were baptized last week. Our worker in that district is Daniel Zertuche, who has been out of school only about two years. He is working with the members of the ex-governor's family in that state, and the first one was baptized the other day. The mother of the ex-municipal president was baptized into our church last year, and a number of the town and state officials are now greatly in favor of our work. We need a church building large enough to accommodate the many new believers in that place. At the present time they are using a house that the father of the ex-governor gave to us for our services, but it is altogether inadequate."

The Harvest Is Ripe

In visiting another place where much persecution has taken place, one of our workers found a very large company of believers and interested people who were anxious to hear the message. Not all could enter the large hall in which the meeting was held; many stood outside. Our worker spoke for three hours. When he concluded,

they begged him to tell them more concerning the truth, but he had to leave, because he had an appointment at another place. When he reached Rio Grande, he found the building filled to overflowing. He spoke until 11 p. m., and suggested that they sing a closing hymn. But the people begged him to stay longer. He says in his letter: "The people truly are ready to hear the message. Two powers are working today—one power stirring up persecution, and the other influencing the people toward the truth. The harvest is ripe, but the laborers are few. *We have reached the time when the fruit ripens very soon after the seed is sown. It is the time of finishing the work.*"

God is using the simplest methods to catch up our lost stitches and reach our unworked out-of-the-way sections and fully saturate with the truth the inadequately worked fields we already occupy. He truly is *finishing* the work through His people.

In one place a humble man accepted the truth. He had been a fanatical opposer. But this blessed truth changed his heart, and he became an earnest worker. He gives Bible readings and does all he can to advance the cause.

When the priest learned of this, he asked: "How did you become a teacher? You were an ignoramus, and never knew anything. How does it come you can stand before congregations and teach them?"

The brother gave the priest to understand that he had learned what he knew from the word of God.

Seeking the Lost

Arthur Roth, educational and M. V. secretary of the Central American Union, told us of a brother in Guatemala who has been successful in winning many souls. Upon inquiry how he did it, he said: "You can win souls if you know where to work for them." He makes a business of winning souls, and goes where he can find them and work with them. He stands before the stores in which they sell idols, because he believes people who buy idols are religiously inclined and desire spiritual help.

When a man enters to buy an idol, he steps in and listens to what he says, and then engages him in conversation, asking if he knows about Jesus. Then he tells him that Jesus is a real Saviour. This opens the way for further conversation, because those who buy idols do not really know Jesus as a Saviour. In this way he wins a number of souls.

Then he goes to the marble cutters and watches those who come to order tombstones for their loved ones. He knows that people who do that are in a serious frame of mind and are thinking of their dead, and possibly of the salvation of those who had died. So he engages them in conversation. Then he goes to the cemetery and watches those who come to mourn over their lost ones, and finds a way to tell them of Jesus and the final resurrection to life. He says that there are

good people in all these places, and that if you want to win souls, you must know where to work for them.

We have an oculist who fits people with glasses. He has not had much training along that line, but he fits them as best he can. Then he gives them a tract on the message and asks them to read from it. He keeps changing glasses until the person can read the tract fairly well. Then he says, "I want to fit you in the best way possible. You take this tract home with you and read it through without stopping. When you come tomorrow, tell me what the new glasses did for you." On the slightest complaint from the patient that his eyes hurt, he fits him with another pair of glasses and gives him another tract to read through. In this way he tries several pairs of glasses, and the customer reads several tracts. When they had an evangelistic meeting in that place, this brother brought twelve interested persons to the meeting.

Brother Romera seeks souls among the oxcart men. Caravans of ox carts go across country with produce to sell. They stop at night to camp and eat. Brother Romera finds these camps and begins to talk with the men and to read from the New Testament. After he arouses an interest, the men say, "Tell me about your little book. What is it? Where did it come from?"

He then tells them about Jesus, about the truth, about the Bible. In one place a company has been raised up, and in another place three companies.

We have another man in that section who believes in preaching the message. He has made himself a little collapsible pulpit, which he carries around. He sets it up anywhere he can, and preaches. He says that he is not a worker, but that he will find men who will be workers, and he has actually brought into the truth a man who is soon to be taken on as a worker.

So the message goes through the laymen. Who prompts all this? He who is finishing the work and who has a thousand ways of which we know nothing.

Brother Roth writes: "It was my privilege to meet with a number of the brethren who had come in from a church in Guatemala that has a membership of about thirty-five, and that was raised up entirely through lay efforts. A preacher has never visited this church except for a period of a day or two once or twice a year, and yet this little church is so active that every time a minister visits, a baptism must be held."

Another of our workers writes: "We were especially interested in the fine report of the work that is being carried on in the capital city of the republic, Bogotá. During the recent vacation period there were six student colporteurs located in the very heart of the business district, among the leading business and professional men. These six colporteurs worked a total of less than twenty-four city blocks, less than four blocks apiece, and each of them delivered more than enough books for a full scholarship.

Unique Experiences

In one place a Roman Catholic bought a Bible. In reading the one hundred nineteenth psalm, he noticed that there were so many references made to the "commandments" that he decided to investigate. As the Sabbath came to his attention, he began to keep it and to teach others. E. Plata was sent into that region to investigate the interest, and found forty-seven keeping the Sabbath of the fourth commandment.

A young girl memorized the first two chapters of "Unto the Golden Age," and goes from house to house reciting these chapters.

A young man in San Cristobal, selling books back in the hills, carries his guitar along with him. He stops overnight at homes, plays his guitar, and sings the songs of the message. He explains the meaning of the songs which tell of the coming of Christ. Now he has twelve persons interested in the truth through this method. God is sending the truth to these out-of-the-way places to finish the work. Someday he will exchange his battered guitar for a harp of gold.

Frank Fletcher reports:

"During the latter part of 1933 I received an urgent letter from an elderly member of one of our churches, in which he requested me to conduct an evangelistic effort in a certain district. He had started a branch Sabbath school there, and has walked twelve miles to and from his home each Sabbath for some months to conduct this school. A tabernacle could not be secured; so I erected a coconut booth. Our elderly brother planned to assist with the effort as best he could, but he never enjoyed the privilege, for he died just one week before the effort began. He had been ill for a long time, but never once had allowed ill-health to swerve him from his chosen task. He made his last trip to the Sabbath school the week before he died. The effort was conducted, and as a result forty-six persons were baptized, and a growing church was organized at this place. The brave soldier of the cross sleeps, but his works do follow him." Committees usually plan for efforts, but God planned this effort.

Miraculous Deliverance

When Brother and Sister L. G. Lindo arrived at the Bahama Islands as missionaries, their boat capsized as they were nearing the shore, and Sister Lindo nearly lost her life. A young man plunged into the sea and saved her. Now Brother Lindo writes:

"It gives me great joy to mention that the young man who, by God's mercy, rescued Sister Lindo from drowning, on our arrival here last May, has now accepted the truth and is keeping the Sabbath. God in His mercy that morning saved us, that through us He might save him."

In one place threats were made against Brother Lindo's life, and he was warned not to preach again on the Sabbath, but he did so. Persons stood at the door with stones in their

hands to stone him, but when he passed out, their hands were held at their sides—God's hands were mightier than theirs. As a result of this experience, a number of persons, including some who had backslidden for a number of years, accepted the truth and are now rejoicing in the Lord. And before they left that field, those who had been set against the truth brought their band of musicians up to the house where they stayed, and gave them a beautiful farewell. The last piece they played was, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

Two weeks after they arrived in their field, Sister Lindo became very ill. Her case was serious. There was no medical aid to be had in the island; nothing they could do helped her. The only way they could get medical aid was to send for a plane to take her to another island, but they had no money with which to do this. Friday evening a young man climbed a tree by the side of the house and saw a huge vessel anchored offshore. Sabbath morning they learned that it was an American war vessel. The captain came ashore, and, hearing of Sister Lindo's condition, offered to send the doctor over from the ship. At six o'clock that evening the doctor came and gave treatment. The next day the warship received a message to leave, but the doctor came back just when the ship was about to go, and gave her another treatment. Thus, by the sure mercies of God, Sister Lindo improved. God is able to help when help is most needed.

Who sent that battleship and the doctor? They longed for an airship. God sent a battleship.

God Protects Soul Winners

Just an illustration of how God protects His people as they go about doing this soul-winning work. One of our sisters writes: "The church had divided the surrounding territory and had been going to the village of Paraje Nuedo. I could make this trip either by bus or by train. The train, however, would arrive late for Sabbath school; so I decided to go by bus. When I reached the bus station, I found that I had forgotten to bring the tracts I wished to distribute in that place; so I went back home for them. When I returned to the bus station, the bus had gone. I was greatly disappointed, as I saw that I would be obliged to travel by train. Before the train had gone three kilometers, we passed the bus overturned. The driver was killed, and a number of the passengers were wounded. I understood then why the Lord had caused me to forget the tracts."

Another worker reports: "While holding meetings in a certain place we feared that an effort would be made by fanatical religionists to kill us. Just before the time of our meetings a hurricane destroyed many of the homes of these enemies of the truth. Their time was occupied in repairing their houses; so they did not have time to interfere with our meetings. When they had finished the repair work, they began to search for us with the intention of killing us, but

we had finished the meetings and had gone. We learned from this that God protects us at all times."

How our God does work! He uses a hurricane, saves from a bus wreck, sends a battleship, sends a young man to save a missionary and to be saved, sends a dream of the return of Jesus, uses a battered guitar. A girl reads Psalms 119. He uses lay preachers, students with books in the heart of a great city, a magnifying glass, a portable pulpit, reading glasses, idol stores, marble cutters, and cemeteries.

Lay-Preaching Results

Our scores of lay preachers are doing a most remarkable work. In a number of our fields hundreds of lay-preacher efforts have been held during the past several years. More of our fields are coming into line, and through lay preaching the light of the third angel's message is now blazing brightly in many places.

About three years ago at a conference session in one of our fields a series of sermons on stewardship were preached. The people of this field were very poor. They seemed to be doing their best to pay tithe, and it did not seem that great results could be expected.

At the close of the second discourse several men came forward to ask questions, which we answered, and two of them indicated their purpose to pay their back tithe. After the conference session one of them went into the conference office and counted out to the conference president more than \$1,600, stating that this was tithe on money which he had in the bank, and that he had property besides, and would be considering the tithe on that. No one had suspected that this man had anything like that amount of money or possessions.

Not long afterward another of these men came to me and said that he was figuring up his back tithe. Shortly thereafter he paid into the conference in one sum \$4,000. He said that this was a partial payment, and that he had not finished figuring his amount. The most remarkable providences and prosperity have come to him since. With all the fervor of his soul, he said to me, just before I started for this meeting, that God was fulfilling to him the promise that He would open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing that there should not be room enough to receive. You can imagine that his faith is strong in God, and that nothing could deter him from rendering to God His own.

In one place we had to send three of our workers to sell books, for lack of money to keep them in the ministry. One of them, Brother Cortez, sold a number of books, treated a sick man, helping him wonderfully, and raised up a Sabbath school. These newly converted souls have been alone for several months, but have been faithful in their tithe and offerings and in keeping the Sabbath.

In another place a faithful tithe-paying member sowed his field with rice seed and reaped 4,450 pounds of rice. His neighbor, who was not

faithful to the Lord, reaped less than 2,500 pounds from fifty per cent more seed.

Medical Missionary Work Opens Doors

It is very hard to get missionaries into certain fields even to replace missionaries who have been in the field for years. Recently inquiry was made of the government to ascertain whether it would be possible to replace one of our workers who must return to the homeland for health reasons. We have been informed by the one who represents us that, ordinarily speaking, permission could not be obtained, but because of our medical missionary and welfare work, it may possibly be arranged, though there may be necessity of a 10,000 peso deposit to bring this about.

A zealous Catholic woman called upon the wife of a worker and asked for medical help. Our sister took her husband to this woman, and they found her to be in a very serious condition. They give simple hydrotherapy treatments. After a few days of treatments, the inflammation greatly subsided, and she rapidly recovered. She was very thankful and began to keep the Sabbath. Soon nearly all the members of this family were keeping the Sabbath and faithfully paying tithe.

At another place there arose great opposition to our work, and it seemed that every family was opposed to our message. The father in one family became very ill with pneumonia. There was no doctor in the town. They came to the wife of the worker. She went immediately, and after prayer gave a treatment to the sick man. Each day she visited the home and continued to give the treatment, until the patient was well. The members of this family who had been our enemies before, became our friends. The entire family began to attend the Sabbath school, and their attitude towards us soon changed.

God Blesses Faithful Service

Silvic Anoona, of Yucatan, says: "While I was visiting in a certain town, I was called to treat a child. The Lord blessed the treatments so that the child made a rapid recovery. Five other mothers brought their children. Later the wife of the mayor came, and we gave her treatments. Some people in this town were much opposed to the work I was doing and tried to stop it. They sent me to the secretary of the local government, who was very bitter against me, and persecution was raised. This man made serious complaints against the local government, but the mayor of the city was so pleased with the help given his wife that he said he would see that we have liberty to carry forward the good work, and that he would allow no one to hinder us. We have been pleased to see that the Lord works in our behalf in every difficult situation."

Rosendo Estrada, of Punte de Ixtla, relates: "A member of a Protestant church became very ill. His wife

came and asked me to pray for him. The elder of the church and I visited him and found a very serious condition. We knelt beside the bed and prayed that God would bless the treatments. The treatments were simple. We believe the Lord answered our prayers and healed this man. In a few days he visited our church and invited others from his church to accompany him. He is now a faithful member of our Sabbath school."

A. R. Sherman, superintendent of the Venezuela Mission, has opened a clinic in connection with the mission office. With the help of members of the church he is doing a strong medical missionary work. W. E. Baxter has just equipped a room at his office in Bogotá, Colombia, and hopes to begin regular clinic work immediately.

We are hopeful that ere long medical missionary work will be established

and functioning strongly in all Inter-America's fields.

We are glad that the work is kept strong in the homeland. We are appreciative of all the many past favors in sending us workers and means. Because of the vast unfinished work we are praying that this same liberality be continued and if possible greatly increased.

With good courage and bright hope we stand in happy anticipation of the time just upon us when our Father with His almighty hand will have finished the work which we have so poorly carried on.

L. H. CHRISTIAN: Surely the Lord is doing great things in this large division to the south.

W. A. BERGHEM: Let us sing No. 349, "Faith of Our Fathers," first stanza only.

Benediction by H. M. Blunden.

The Far Eastern Division

By V. T. ARMSTRONG, President

THE most momentous five years in modern history have passed since we last gathered here to report what God has wrought for His people in the Far Eastern Division. The advance of the church during these five years has been most encouraging. This report can touch on only a few of the many remarkable experiences that have come to God's people in our territory. The delegates gathered here from the territory of the Far Eastern Division, the workers who are out there carrying on at their post of duty, and the 33,602 church members who comprise the constituency of the division territory wish, with you, to thank God for what has been accomplished.

The territory of the Far Eastern Division includes Korea, Japan, with the island of Formosa and the mandated territory, the Philippine Islands, French Indo-China, Thailand, the Federated Malay States, Borneo, and the numerous islands of the Netherlands East Indies. It is an extensive, interesting field. From the western tip of Sumatra to the eastern part of Dutch New Guinea the distance is approximately 4,000 miles. From north to south the territory extends more than 5,000 miles. This extensive field of peninsulas and islands is home to 217,000,000 people. Reliable statements place the number of languages and dialects spoken in our territory at more than 200. The gospel can be given to 95 per cent of the population of the division with perhaps 25 major languages. We are publishing the message in 29 languages, and oral work is being done in 67 more. Thus the message is sounding in at least 96 different tongues in the territory.

The greater part of the people in the Far Eastern Division are Mohammedans and Buddhists. Then there are also many Confucianists and Hindus. A small percentage are believers in Christianity, and the rest are members of unclassified sects, or pagans.

Our work started in this territory in November, 1896. Professor W. C.

Grainger and Pastor T. H. Okohira opened up work in Japan in that year. These pioneers are both sleeping in Japan, waiting for those who have followed to finish the work they so nobly began. The passing of Pastor T. K. Okohira in December, 1939, marked the close of a life which for fifty years had been fully given in the service of this advent movement. Forty-three years of his labor was in the field of Japan, where his service was greatly appreciated.

Our Headquarters

From 1930 until 1936 the headquarters for the Far Eastern Division were located in temporary quarters in the Philippine Islands. Late in 1936 the division office was removed to Singapore, in harmony with the General Conference action. Early in 1937 eight acres of land were procured in the city of Singapore on Thomson Road, four miles from the center of the city. A large brick dwelling on this property was remodeled and made into a very comfortable and commodious office building. Five dwellings have been erected for the housing of the division workers. The division staff are very grateful for this beautiful headquarters and for the provision that has been made for their comfort.

At the Autumn Council in 1937 the Netherlands East Indies were reassigned to the Far Eastern Division. Thus another union was added to our territory. The Netherlands East Indies are easily accessible from Singapore, as there is direct boat and mail service to these various islands.

During the period under review we have received great benefit from the visits of many of our general workers. A. W. Cormack, W. H. Williams, W. E. and Mrs. Nelson, Claude Conard, L. H. Christian, E. E. Franklin, J. F. and Mrs. Piper, C. L. Bond, and H. W. Barrows have visited our interesting field, and we extend the invitation for others to come. We wish to express the deep appreciation of our field for the coun-

sel and spiritual help rendered by these visitors. We wish also to express the sincere appreciation of our workers and laity throughout the division for the financial support that has been sent to us year by year.

For the encouragement of those who have so loyally supported the work through the years, we want to assure you that your sacrifice has not been in vain.

The following ratios of members to population at four different periods of our history illustrate the growth in quite a comprehensive manner.

In 1910 we had one church member for each 493,030 of population.

In 1920 one member for each 45,163 of population.

In 1930 one member for each 9,982 of population.

In 1940 one member for each 6,458 of population.

During the five-year period our membership has increased from 27,699 to 33,602, a net gain of 5,903, or 21.3 per cent.

Of the five years covered by this report we wish to emphasize that 1940, the most troubled year of the period, records the largest number of baptisms ever reported for the Far Eastern Division field—3,072. Our tithe has been steadily gaining and shows a 22 per cent gain during the last five years. Mission offerings increased from \$64,452 in 1936 to \$80,232 in 1940. Harvest Ingathering receipts for the term have increased 29 per cent. Our Harvest Ingathering campaign for 1940 was outstanding in many ways. Notwithstanding the unsettled conditions and the unfavorable outlook when we started the campaign, we are glad to report that all of the fields reached their goals and exceeded all former records. Some of the donors said that they were not able to give, but because they knew of our need and that others would not give, they were going to double their offerings, which they did.

We are happy to report progress toward self-support. The average for the five union fields in our division is now about 80 per cent, compared with 66 per cent five years ago. Institutions show even a better gain. The publishing houses are around 90 per cent self-supporting, and the sanitariums and hospitals, 96 per cent, according to the last report.

The property holdings of the Far Eastern Division have increased \$504,071 during the last ten years, or during the time since the territory was set apart as a separate division field. This is an average gain of more than \$50,000 a year.

We are especially thankful for the liberal grants that have been made by the General Conference during these years, and we are also glad to report that the larger part of the money for the land, buildings, and improvements that have been added during these years has been raised within the division territory. All our institutions and churches and real-estate holdings are free from indebtedness. The division and the union organizations do not borrow money, nor do we plan to proceed with any building project faster

than the needed funds are in the treasury.

Public Evangelism

Public evangelism has proved a very effective means of soul winning. Many public evangelistic efforts have been conducted with good success each year in the Philippine Islands. The attendance at these meetings has generally been good. Much opposition has been met by our evangelists in their public work. Stones are often thrown, tents are sometimes cut down, and in some instances men have been hired to cause disturbances and break up the meeting. At one place the seats were taken from the tent and thrown into the sea. Notwithstanding these hindrances, good success has crowned the efforts of our workers.

In Japan and Korea some general public meetings have been conducted, but the cottage meetings and personal Bible studies have been the most successful and effective during recent years. Public meetings in Sumatra have added a number of churches. Often the worker goes in the evening to an open lot or park or the market place and there gathers the people. Large crowds often gather and attentively listen to the preaching of the word. It is not uncommon to have several thousand people in attendance at these open-air meetings.

Pastor D. S. Kime and his workers are meeting with good success in the Celebes Islands, and in nearly every place where they have held a public meeting a church has been raised up. The constituency is rapidly growing in the North Celebes Mission as a result. They now have sixty churches in that field, with a membership of more than 2,000.

R. H. Wentland, assisted by native workers, held public efforts in Hanoi, the capital of Indo-China, and in Saigon and Tourane in that field. Several important cities in the Malay Peninsula were blessed with public meetings.

V. E. Hendershot conducted a number of efforts in the city of Penang. J. M. Nerness assisted in efforts in Ipoh and Kuala Lumpur, and W. W. R. Lake conducted an effort in Victoria Memorial Hall in Singapore. Our leaders in each field are wholeheartedly supporting public evangelism.

Recently Paul H. Eldridge, who is engaged in city evangelism in Manila, has begun weekly radio broadcasts. This radio station reaches all parts of the Orient. In many of the cities in the Philippine Islands public radios are installed in the parks or the town plaza. The radio in this way reaches thousands throughout the field, and we are encouraged to believe that our broadcasts will bring the message to many.

At the present time, owing to unsettled conditions, public meetings are not permitted, nor would it be advisable to conduct them in some sections of the territory. This is not true, however, in all parts of our field.

Medical Missionary Work

Good progress has been made in our medical work. We now have well-



J. Harold Shultz and His Happy Family. He Is Engaged in Mission Work for Tibetans in Northwest China

established medical units in all the unions except the Netherlands East Indies. Sanitarium-hospitals are in operation in Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Malaya. In these institutions nurses' training schools are conducted.

In 1938 the Seoul Sanitarium built a tuberculosis unit on the grounds of the institution, somewhat isolated from the main building. From the first, this unit has been filled with grateful patients. Dr. G. H. Rue and his staff of workers have made many friends and won converts for the church in Korea through their devoted service.

The small institution at Kobe, given to the Japan Union some years ago, has carried on its work under difficulties, because of lack of help. Dr. E. H. Olson, who was head of the work there, was called to take charge of the Tokyo institution when Dr. Paul V. Starr left for his furlough. The sanitarium at Tokyo has enjoyed a good patronage during the years, and has done much to give us influence in the country. Our medical work in the Japanese Empire, both in Korea and in Japan, is highly respected by the government and the public generally.

Since the opening of our medical work in the Philippine Islands, there has always been the hope that someday a fireproof building adequate to care for those who sought our help would be provided. We are glad to report that the new building is finished and occupied. The former property has been sold. Drs. H. C. and Vera Honor are working hard to extend the blessings of our medical work to those in need. In the Philippine Union fourteen of our trained nurses are giving their full time to field nursing, with very successful results. As these nurses travel over their appointed territory, they find many who need their help. The influence of these field

nurses is a help to all lines of our work.

The medical work in Penang and the Federated Malay States has accomplished much good. In 1940 a suitable property in the center of the city of Penang was purchased, and the clinic, which through the years has been in a rented building, moved into permanent, commodious quarters. The funds for the purchase, which amounted to \$18,000, were from earnings of the institution and donations from the public. Sufficient money is also in hand to build a much-needed addition to the Penang Sanitarium, which is located near the edge of the city. Dr. H. G. Hebard is medical director of these institutions, and with his staff of helpers is more than busy.

Early in 1937 Dr. Ralph F. Waddell opened up medical work in Bangkok, Thailand. From the first, success has attended this enterprise. Besides paying rents, salaries, and all other expenses, the Bangkok clinic has been able to accumulate funds which later are to be used to purchase property more adapted to our needs than property that we can rent. Dr. George Innocent and Miss Ruth Munroe have joined the staff in Bangkok to help care for the ever-increasing patronage. The medical work in Bangkok has been a great blessing to the sick in that place, and many have been won to the truth through the influence of the institution.

Dr. Arthur E. Geschke has recently opened medical work in Bhuket, Thailand, and after two months and a half of operation he reports a net gain of \$2,000, after paying all salaries and expenses.

Dr. La Tourette has just arrived to join these faithful medical workers in Thailand territory. We are grateful for the God-fearing, capable medical workers, both doctors and nurses, who

are ministering to suffering humanity in the Far East.

The Literature Ministry

During the last five years the literature sales reported by our publishing houses amounted to \$680,347.45, a gain of \$130,632.37, or 24 per cent. The number of regular colporteurs enlisted has increased from 326 to 500, or an average of approximately 400 for the term under review.

George A. Campbell and his earnest group of literature workers are doing an excellent work. The colporteur is continuing to be the advance guard and pioneering agency to many of the unentered islands of the Far Eastern Division.

Over in the Netherlands East Indies, where our colporteurs have in most of the field pioneered the work, we have a chain of islands that extends from the tourist mecca of Bali on east to Timor and Dutch New Guinea. We have as yet done approximately nothing as far as preaching by word of mouth in this string of islands, but the colporteurs have gone from Java and other parts of the Netherlands East Indies Union during past years.

One of our faithful colporteurs reported, after a two-year colporteur tour of these islands, several individuals and companies interested in the truth as a result of his former visits. On the island of Bali, which is not open for general missionary work, he found a leading man and nineteen others in one village who are interested in the truth and who asked the colporteur to send them a worker. On another island he found three families ready for baptism. On the small island of Roti he found thirty interested ones calling for help. He found on several of the islands interested people who are waiting for a fuller knowledge of the message. A chief raja on one of the islands has made a special request that help be sent to his island, that the seven thousand inhabitants under his jurisdiction may know the way of salvation.

We have had some outstanding gains in our literature work during this term. The sales in the Japan Union, for example, for 1940 were 111,653 yen, which was double the yearly sales four years ago. The subscription list for the monthly magazine in Korea has been increasing year by year, and nearly reached the 40,000 mark in 1940. This is more than the circulation of any other magazine, either secular or religious, in that country.

Two years ago a small printing plant was put in operation in French Indo-China, under the supervision of the Singapore Signs Press. Formerly the Signs Press in Singapore was printing literature for this field, but owing to high duty and other obstacles it seemed wise to print for French Indo-China within the territory. We are thankful today that this step was taken when it was, inasmuch as it is difficult today to ship books into the territory from Singapore. Our colporteurs in the needy field of Indo-China are meeting with success, and

additional literature is in preparation. The literature sales for Indo-China were 50 per cent more than for the preceding year.

If time would permit, we could tell many instances of companies that are keeping the Sabbath and churches that have been raised up as the direct results of the colporteur work.

From every part of our field comes the cry for more literature. Our problem is not how to sell the literature, but how to find colporteurs enough to enter the waiting fields and how to secure or print the tracts, papers, and books fast enough to supply the demand.

Our Largest School—The Sabbath School

The Sabbath schools of the division, numbering 1,141, have a membership of 40,225. Branch Sabbath schools are proving very effective in the establishment of new centers, and many are being won by this means to the truth. The students of the academy at Artacho in Northern Luzon, Philippine Islands, are conducting sixteen branch Sabbath schools, with more than three hundred in attendance, and thirty-five have been baptized from the work thus far.

The gain in offerings from the Sabbath schools amounts to \$25,989.98, or total offerings for the five-year period of \$127,681.34. Many, many of our members have but little of this world's goods, and many labor for very small wages. Could we understand the sacrifice necessary on their part to bring \$127,681 in to the Sabbath school collection, we would appreciate more fully the words of Christ in calling attention to the widow's mite. Some have denied themselves necessary food that they might have an offering to give. Surely, the sacrifice of our faithful people is remembered in heaven.

The Japan Union recently reported that nearly all the Sabbath schools in that field have one or more branch Sabbath schools. Through this means the Sabbath school membership has made a substantial gain, and offerings have also shown a good increase.

The Laymen's Movement

The members of the Far Eastern Division are energetic and successful in soul winning. Between sixty and seventy per cent of the constituency report actively carrying on missionary work. In one year 1,959 persons joined the church through the missionary work done by the laymen. We are emphasizing lay preaching and Bible work throughout our field, and the results prove that our laymen are successful in their endeavors.

During the past year more than fifty evangelistic efforts were conducted by the laymen in the Philippine Islands. Some of these were conducted along very simple and primitive lines. One lay preacher conducted an effort in the house of a Catholic friend. The friend became interested in the message preached, and furnished seats and lights for the meeting. Seventy attended this meeting.

Another layman, who is blind, memorized thirty Bible studies and began to hold public efforts. He has won more than thirty converts thus far in his experience; seven of these were won in the last nine months.

A sister in Java handed a tract to a Chinese gentleman on the bus. The recipient was a master of a private school in the city. He read the tract, became interested, and after further study gave up his school and has now entered the colporteur work.

We are grateful for the spirit of devotion and work that possesses the hearts of our people. Today thousands of our members are visiting the homes of their friends and neighbors, opening to them the words of truth.

Educational Work

During the years the educational feature of our work has been given much consideration. We have been blessed with a group of workers in the educational department who sense the need of guarding our children and youth, saving them from the evil of the world, and preparing them for effective service in the Lord's work.

During the last five years the number of elementary schools increased from 97 to 144. We have added two secondary schools and one school that offers college work. The gain in enrollments is shown by the following figures:

Elementary department	2,111
Secondary department	191
College department	83

We now have 8,079 students in our Seventh-day Adventist schools in the division. During this five-year period 263 of those who have completed the course of training have entered some branch of the organized work. At the present time all our schools are full, and in many instances they are unable to accommodate additional young people who wish to enroll.

There has been a substantial increase in buildings erected for educational purposes in the last five years. The Junior Training Institute has been established in Chosen; a small training school has been opened in French Indo-China; also a training school for Dusun workers in British North Borneo, the East Visayan Academy in Cebu, Philippine Islands, and a new training school, including the purchase of land, in the Netherlands East Indies at Bandoeng. We have also added an upper-division department and a premedical department at the Philippine Union College, and a collegiate training department at the Malayan Seminary in Singapore.

During this time 12 dormitory buildings, 4 teachers' cottages, several major additions to growing institutions, and a new school building at Ubol, Siam, and one at Kuala Lumpur in the Malay States, have been built. Practically all the cost of these buildings and additions has been met with money raised within the field.

Many of the former students are occupying responsible positions. We might name a few: one is superintendent of a union mission; two are filling

the position of secretary-treasurer of union missions; another is manager of a publishing house; still another is head of a Bible department in one of the junior colleges; two are principals of training schools. Many others are doing evangelistic work in the field. Many are working in fields far distant from their home. They have gone out as missionaries to work for others who speak a different language and live under different environments. Our young people are enthusiastic in their service for the Master.

I quote from a letter received from one of the schools:

"Practically all our students are talking about going into the work; especially is the ministry receiving favorable consideration. Last Sabbath we had a beautiful scene. There were forty baptized here at the college. Twenty-three of them were from our student body and seventeen were from the college tent effort that was conducted by the students and teachers. From our first effort we baptized nineteen. This makes a total of fifty-nine baptized from the college evangelistic effort this year. There are several hundred people attending our branch Sabbath schools which are being conducted by teachers and students."

From Siam, where it has been difficult to win people to the truth, comes the encouraging word that thirteen have recently been baptized at Ubol in eastern Siam. This work was enhanced recently been baptized at Ubol, and we are glad to see the influence of the educational work in Siam reaching the people of that field. Some time ago the enemy tried to close this school, but through the influence of a friend in the department of education in the government, our school was permitted to continue, and the premier expressed his good wishes for the future development of our work there.

The Missionary Volunteers

Professor W. P. Bradley was secretary of the Missionary Volunteer department for eight years, or until 1939, when F. A. Mote was invited to carry this department, thus releasing Professor Bradley for other responsibilities in the division.

The report from this department testifies of the enthusiastic leadership which has been given. We are blessed with thousands of children and youth within the boundaries of this division field. We now have 9,916 of these young people in the Missionary Volunteer Societies of the field, a gain of 3,693 during the period. During this term 5,143 of the members of these societies have been baptized. In the five years 2,434 of our young people have been invested—107 of them being invested as Master Comrades. Our field greatly appreciated the help of Pastor C. Lester Bond. His visit, covering several months, spent in the five unions was an inspiration to our young people and did much to strengthen and encourage the fields in their work for the youth.

A number of youth's congresses were conducted, with very encouraging results. Perhaps nothing we have done

for our youth in the Far East has given them more help than did these meetings.

Our young people are active soul winners. Many are conducting branch Sabbath schools. They are assisting in gospel meetings; others are doing colporteur work, and many are helping to care for the sick. Nowhere can a more enthusiastic, devoted band of Seventh-day Adventist young people be found than we have in the Orient. They are loyal to the message. They want to be properly trained. They want to find their place and do their part in the closing work. If we can save and educate our youth, we will save our church and evangelize the world.

Home Commission Work

One of the best tests of the success of our local mission work is found in the homes of those who accept our message. This is especially true in the mission field. The success of the efforts of the worker is determined largely by what is accomplished in elevating the homes of the people. Are the newly won members instructed in homemaking and in the care and training of the children? Does the atmosphere of the home correspond with the high standards we teach? The home is the unit of society. Throughout our field each department of the work senses the need of instruction and reformation in the homes of the people.

While we have done something to build up the Home Commission work, we see a greater task before us. This work was ably carried by J. H. McEachern until his return to the homeland. Since his departure from the field, Mrs. Armstrong has led out in this important work. Most encouraging is the response that has come from the fathers and the mothers throughout the field as we have endeavored to give them help in their home life.

Mrs. Theodora Wangerin in Korea, Mrs. A. N. Nelson in Japan, Mrs. R. R. Figuhr in the Philippines, Mrs. K. Tilstra in the Netherlands East Indies, and Mrs. E. A. Moon in Malaya have all worked hard, along with their other duties, to bring the blessings of the Home Commission work into the homes of the people. Studies have been given in general and local meetings, institutes have been held in many different places, and some literature has been translated and adapted and placed in the hands of the members. In the institutes held, instruction has been given on the care of the baby, diet, cooking, home nursing, child training, and homemaking. Many parents' societies and mothers' circles have been organized in the different fields. We are greatly encouraged by what has thus far been accomplished, and the possibilities before us spur us on to greater zeal and activity in the days before us.

Conclusion

At the 1940 Autumn Council our appeal for funds with which to start work in Dutch New Guinea was granted. Two workers are already in

the territory working with literature, exploring the field, and in counsel with the union officers they will choose a location for the beginning of our work. We are happy to report this new territory as entered by our work.

In recent months it has been considered wise to transfer some of our missionaries from their former fields of labor. We have in nearly every instance placed these transferred workers in places where there was an urgent need, and thus they have continued their service with very little interruption. The question may arise in the minds of some whether more men and women should be sent out from the home base, and if we should not retrench at this time. At no time in the history of our work in the Far Eastern Division have we witnessed greater opportunities for sounding the message. The calls are coming to us from many quarters for literature and the living teacher. The sick and distressed are coming to our medical missionary workers in ever-increasing numbers. Our educational institutions are full, and yet many children and youth are asking for an opportunity to enter one of our schools.

There is a sound of going in our ears in the Orient. It is true that difficulties are multiplying. It is not easy to administer the work amid the perplexities and restrictions that arise in these troubled days. Travel from place to place is often inconvenient, and many times fraught with danger. But these things must not cause us to slacken in our giving of funds. We must give more and still more. Additional workers must be sent to unite with the ever-growing force of workers that are being recruited in the field. To retrench now will mean serious loss. The harvest is ripe, the greatest opportunity of the advent movement is here. May our convictions give us courage to press on with the work until the light of the gospel has illuminated every dark corner of the world. We appeal to you to continue your support with men and money in ever-increasing streams, that the doors of opportunity now open may be entered before the night cometh, when no man can work.

THE loveliness of the character of Christ will be seen in His followers. It was His delight to do the will of God. Love to God, zeal for His glory, was the controlling power in our Saviour's life. Love beautified and ennobled all His actions. Love is of God. The unconsecrated heart cannot originate or produce it. It is found only in the heart where Jesus reigns. "We love, because He first loved us." In the heart renewed by divine grace, love is the principle of action. It modifies the character, governs the impulses, controls the passions, subdues enmity, and ennobles the affections. This love, cherished in the soul, sweetens the life, and sheds a refining influence on all around.—"Steps to Christ," p. 59.

The Australasian Division

By E. B. RUDGE, President

THE Australasian Division is made up wholly of island territory that stretches a third of the way round the world. It is not densely populated. Its easternmost outpost, lonely Pitcairn, rises abruptly from the deep blue of the faraway eastern reaches of the South Pacific, while its westernmost shores are washed by the waters of the Indian Ocean. From almost as far south as men live, to islands at the Equator, the members of our church are now to be found. They present an ever-increasing number of kindreds, and tribes, and tongues, and peoples.

From that membership, and from thousands of believers not yet received into church membership, I send you sincere greetings and the assurance of loyal co-operation in the finishing of our common task.

With you all, we have rejoiced in the onward march of the movement, and we thankfully acknowledge the goodness of God for the manifold blessings received and for the gains made during these past years.

With deep sorrow of heart we report the death of some whose lives in the work of God have been unusually faithful, whose service is well known, and whose helpfulness is greatly missed.

Elder C. H. Parker, who passed to his well-earned rest on July 20, 1939, was such a one. He left the United States for Fiji forty-one years before the date of his death, and to him and his devoted wife was given the privilege of laboring in many of the romantic mission fields of the South Seas, as well as at the home base in Australia. Theirs was a service of almost constant peril, but of unusually rich fruitfulness in souls won from the darkest and most forbidding places.

An old comrade in the South Sea Island service has written of Brother Parker: "*Truly, 'the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.'*"

The memory of Brother Parker and his devoted wife is greatly honored in this division.

Elder and Mrs. G. F. Jones, a wonderful pioneer missionary couple, have both passed to their rest since the last General Conference session. Theirs, too, has been a remarkably fruitful service. Though won to the truth in Great Britain, they came to this division from the United States in 1901. Their greatest work began in 1914, when they went to the Solomon Islands as our pioneer missionaries to the benighted people of that interesting group. Their work there quickly resulted in a great ingathering of souls directly from devil-worshipping heathenism. They labored, too, in Papua, in the mandated territory of New Guinea, and in other South Sea Island groups. Everywhere they met with unusual success as pioneers of the movement among heathen peoples. They will always be remembered here for their deep piety, their high cul-

ture, and their unquestioning devotion to the missionary cause. They both were kindhearted, humble, and very courageous. They each possessed a wonderful faculty for dependence upon divine help and guidance.

These dear workers all rest from labors that have greatly influenced the course of the work in this division, and that have wonderfully inspired the hearts of their fellow workers. Their lives were linked with heaven. Their missionary experience was wrought in God-given wisdom and strength. Their influence, so true, so helpful, so inspiring, and so very encouraging, will continue always.

Growth of Membership

It seems but yesterday that our beloved leader of former years, Elder J. E. Fulton, was earnestly striving to lift the evangelistic efforts of this division toward a total membership of 10,000. It is now our happy privilege to report a church membership of more than 20,000, and a Sabbath school membership of more than 33,000.

Since the beginning of the great depression our church-membership gains have exceeded 1,000 in each year, while our accessions to the faith have been still larger. For this we sincerely praise God.

In those fields where our membership is won from the primitive heathen, our gains are best measured by the numbers that attend Sabbath school rather than by those who are within the membership of the church, for the policy of this division concerning church enrollment of converts from primitive heathenism is the same as that of other divisions which embrace heathen territories. Our Sabbath schools take in all who are interested in present truth. Our church membership takes in only those who, after long study and satisfactory experience, evidence recognition of the seriousness of entrance to church membership and who have demonstrated their ability to maintain proper church standards in their lives.

Five years ago it was the privilege of this division to report large accessions to the faith from the heathen populations of Papua (British New Guinea), the mandated territory of New Guinea, and the New Hebrides. It is now very satisfactory to find that the converts then reported have not merely stood firmly in their determination to be done with heathenism and to accept the truth as it is in Jesus, but have also greatly multiplied their numbers.

Some of these populations are reachable only by airplane; all others, by boat. For this purpose we have now to maintain an increasingly large fleet of mission boats, some sufficiently large and sufficiently powered for deep-sea service, and others, smaller and suitably equipped, for coastal and river work.

It is interesting to observe the grad-

ual swing with which the balance of membership is turning from the home base to the purely missionary sections of the division. In 1930, 69 per cent of our divisional Sabbath school membership was in Australia and New Zealand, and 31 per cent was in the mission fields outside of those two home-base territories. Now the membership stands at 54 per cent in Australia and New Zealand, and 46 per cent in the purely missionary sections of the field. In other words, ten years ago the home-field Sabbath school enrollment was more than double that of the mission membership. Now they are almost equal.

This situation is wonderfully encouraging from the standpoint of advancement in our island mission work, but it also indicates the tremendous increase of mission burden that now rests upon the membership in Australia and New Zealand. In these days of extremely difficult transportation, of changing economic conditions, and of perplexing situations through exchange, pegged currencies, and such matters, the difficulties in the way of carrying the work forward from one common base, over such a large area of ocean and islands, have been greatly multiplied. But once again we are discovering that difficulties and hardship nourish faith and bring their own peculiar successes. Our membership continues to grow notwithstanding the serious obstacles which face us in all places.

Sabbath School Department

In the 747 Sabbath schools that are now operating within our division, God has been very definitely with us.

Of the more than 5,000 new Sabbath school members who have come to us during the last five years, 3,682 are of those dark-skinned South Sea Islanders in whose lives the acceptance of the truth has worked amazing transformations. Of these, our divisional Sabbath school secretary has recently said: "To see how these dark-skinned people welcome the light of the gospel, and to observe the change that it has wrought in their lives, even in their countenance, and to know that the Sabbath school has had a useful part in the work that has brought this about, brings great joy to our hearts."

Even amongst the savages of certain islands, where no Christian missionary is, as yet, allowed to live, we have hundreds of Sabbathkeeping adherents. A recent visit by one of our missionaries, allowed for a few hours only by the European government which exercises nominal control over that territory, reveals that God has gone before us in a marvelous way, and that there fifteen regular meeting places for Sabbath school have been established, and that into these hundreds of the people crowd regularly to attend Sabbath services.

All this is the result of the influence of a lad from those islands who once had the privilege of attending a Sabbath school and a day school for a few months at the head station of our Solomon Islands Mission. On return-

ing to his own heathen people, he proclaimed the truth as he had learned it, and organized the fifteen Sabbath schools as the interest grew and as more and more of the people desired to accept the Christian faith and the Christian way of living.

To many, the Sabbath School Lesson Quarterly and the Sabbath school hour are the chief means and occasion of Christian worship. Loyal and willing hearts are to be found in the darkest places, planning, working, and giving through the Sabbath school, so that the joy they know may become the joy of life to others. Thus the Sabbath school continues to be the greatest and most telling of all the missionary agencies of our movement for the spread of the truth and the establishment of believers.

Missionary Volunteer Department

The stirring events of this administrative period, and the rapidly changing conditions of life in the world all about us, have brought new and challenging problems to the work for our young people. Never was there greater need for consecrated leadership of this department of our work, and for a supreme effort on the part of the whole church to bring our youth to Christ and to give them effective leadership in the proclamation of the message of Christ's second advent.

In this department we are also able to report a yearly gain of a thousand members. The worth of this membership as an evangelistic agency is indicated by the fact that, during the five-year period, the young people of this division have distributed almost three million pieces of literature and contributed almost fifty-two thousand dollars to the cause.

Each year, special evangelistic efforts are being conducted for our youth in the large cities, and hundreds of young people have found the Lord through these special efforts.

The year 1939 witnessed the holding of the first Australasian Youth's Congress. Some hundreds were in attendance, and very encouraging results were obtained.

Some of our young people are taking an active interest in open-air evangelism. At one time, in one city, upwards of one hundred of our young people were witnessing for the message in these open-air efforts. One of the converts from such a meeting was a man who conducted a gambling den on the opposite side of the street from the place of the meeting.

Week-end conventions, too, have been conducted generally throughout our home-base field, the Sabbath being a day of spiritual revival, while Sunday is devoted to instruction and discussions of youth's problems and methods of evangelism by the Missionary Volunteers.

Missionary Volunteer officers' camps and Senior youth camps are regular yearly fixtures which provide wonderful opportunity for Missionary Volunteer workers, in addition to contributing strongly to the unity of our youth movement and the strengthening of Missionary Volunteer fellowship.

We regard the young people of our church not merely as a strong evangelistic agency, but also as a very fruitful field of evangelism. We believe that the saving of the boys and girls of the church is a most important work, and our purpose is to operate more strongly within that particular field.

Elder A. G. Daniells said: "The spiritual tone of the denomination may be judged by the spiritual condition of the young people within its ranks. This has been true in all ages. Whenever you see the young people of the church earnest and spiritual, you will see a denomination that stands high in religious lines." It is our firm purpose to encourage greater evangelistic activity in the hearts of our Missionary Volunteers, and, by the grace of God, to encourage such a deepening of the spiritual life of our young people as to make their influence a mighty spiritual force within the church membership.

Junior Missionary Volunteer Department

The Junior section of the Missionary Volunteer Department has become very active as leaders and people have been led to do more to interest the boys and girls, both in missionary activity and in living the message in their daily lives.

We number, within our ranks, almost 5,000 Juniors for the guidance and training of whom the church is responsible.

While some 1,600 of these have been invested with an insignia for one or another of the Progressive Classes, many more are endeavoring to be true to the ideals of the movement and to their title of Junior Missionary Volunteer. In all, they have distributed more than three quarters of a million pieces of literature in the period under review.

Summer camps for the Juniors are among the means that have obtained encouraging results in victories won and changed lives; and many are the stories that might be told of interesting conversions of those outside of the Adventist faith by the efforts of Juniors.

Not so very long ago, a Junior brought along his Roman Catholic chum to the Junior Missionary Volunteer meeting. This Roman Catholic boy became very much interested in Bible requirements and wanted to know whether Jesus would receive him. At the same time he expressed a longing to become a Seventh-day Adventist minister. But since his mother would not permit him to have a Bible, such a longing seemed impossible of ever being satisfied. However, that boy today has his Bible at a neighbor's. He attends Sabbath school and Missionary Volunteer meetings regularly, and already is determined, in his heart, that as soon as he attains the age when he can make his own decision legally he will become a member of the Adventist Church and a Seventh-day Adventist minister.

In another place, two Roman Catholic and two Plymouth Brethren

children have been invested with the Companion and the Comrade insignia. These four children meet all the requirements, and devotedly maintain the standards of our movement. The parents of these children have told them that they can decide for themselves as to their church affiliations when they reach the age of eighteen years.

In still another place, a little lad who was a very sincere Junior Missionary Volunteer started a Sabbath school with fifteen children. Last year that school was organized as a regular school of the conference, with a membership of thirty. Many of the members of this Sabbath school are now baptized and connected with the church.

In this army of Australasian youth is the hope of future progress in this division.

May God richly endow us in the leadership of His work with grace and strength so to guide, to train, and to inspire this youthful force, that, as responsibility comes to its members, they shall not fail.

The Field of Education

In the field of education we recognize that much yet remains to be done in order to reach the high standards which God has set us in denominational education.

New courses have been introduced into our colleges, and the scope of studies and practical training has been enlarged.

In this division it is now necessary in many lines of study to obtain qualifying passes by public examination. The successes of Adventist candidates from our colleges in these public examinations have been exceptionally high. In 1939 one of our young men obtained the highest marks in a certain business course examination for the whole of Australia and New Zealand, and in 1940, another secured second highest place in New South Wales examinations in accountancy.

Graduates from our business course have secured many honors and distinctions in these public examinations. Altogether, more than two hundred graduates from our three colleges have entered the organized work in the period under review. The very fine type of efficient, consecrated young people that our colleges are sending out from their courses of study to carry on the work in home and mission fields is their highest testimonial.

There has been a marked increase of qualified teachers for both colleges and central schools, and we look forward to the time when, in the near future, all our teachers in college and intermediate work will possess the necessary recognized qualifications which teachers in the large public schools of our lands are required to have.

The spiritual tone of student life at our colleges is high. The students generally are diligent and faithful in their studies, and engage cheerfully in the various forms of missionary activity possible to them in their situation.

In our primary and central schools some twelve hundred children are under the instruction of 64 teachers, and the qualifications of these teachers and the efficiency of the schools are steadily increasing. A very high percentage of passes in the state examinations have been obtained by the students in these primary and intermediate schools.

It should be stated that, though so many of our students sit in public examinations, our own educational department requires that all our students shall pass our own denominational educational examinations. As a matter of comparative standard between these two examinations, it is generally recognized that the obtaining of the pass in our own primary tests is just as difficult as the obtaining of a pass in the state tests, while those of our own educational department, in secondary education, are recognized as being harder to obtain than those of the state.

Our educational work for the native populations in our island missions is also very interesting. We now have an enrollment of almost five thousand. This work, of necessity, began in the simplest of ways, but has steadily grown in volume, in importance, and in educational standards. In some of our island fields, such as Fiji, we now have to conform in educational work to the requirements of the government, but we are finding the standard of our own work lifted under the compulsions of the situation.

The possibilities of expansion of our educational interests and efforts among the populations of the South Sea Islands is difficult to estimate, but more and more we are coming to recognize our dependence for the future expansion of our general work there upon the successful education of the native youth and the efficient training of those of their number whom God will call to His service.

Colporteur Work

Approximately one hundred colporteurs have been engaged in colporteur evangelism, and interesting results have been obtained.

The year 1940, although a year of turmoil and warfare, has brought our book-sales summaries to the second highest point in the history of the colporteur work in Australia, the total being \$210,445. The summaries were higher only in the year 1922, when \$228,870 worth of literature was sold.

It has been both interesting and satisfactory to note that, of the total literature sold in the period under review, the emphasis of the work has been upon religious books rather than upon medical, the relationship being roughly more than two to one. Of the large number of canvassers employed, five have an unbroken colporteur service record of ten consecutive years, and fifteen of more than five years.

Health and Medical Work

Our health and medical work has made very satisfactory advancement. The two sanitariums, engaging some

scores of workers, have been well patronized and have continued to create a large measure of good will in the hearts of people who are efficiently served by these institutions. These two sanitariums, each within reach of large cities, have done untold good, not merely in the field of medicine and healing, but by creating favorable understanding and friendship in the world of affairs about us.

Our health-food work, too, continues to be a very helpful factor in our general effort. From its earnings, the financing of our educational work is made possible, the school of nursing connected with our Sydney Sanitarium is subsidized, our influential welfare work is sustained, and our general mission funds are helped.

By the operation of this branch of our service approximately a thousand workers are employed, whose tithes and offerings comprise a substantial portion of the support of local conference and mission efforts.

National Emergency and Welfare Service

The organization of National Emergency and Welfare Service in this division in 1939 was not only an advance step in the promotion of methods of Christian help work of the highest order, but a means of bringing the church back to those first principles of "applied Christianity," which, in the early days, laid a wonderful foundation for the message which we preach.

With war clouds ready to burst, it was felt that, in this special work, the chief points of emphasis should be the preparation of those young men of our ranks who would be called to serve in the army, and of our entire membership to meet any emergency that total war might bring to the civilian community.

An efficient knowledge of first aid and home nursing was considered of primary importance both to those who would serve under the compulsion of military requirements and to those whose service would be given in a voluntary civilian capacity. In conjunction with the St. John Ambulance Association, classes of instruction have been conducted, with the result that now more than twenty-five per cent of our membership has been trained and hold certificates of proficiency in these lines of emergency service.

Our large fleet of delivery vans used in the sanitarium health-food work have been so fitted that, in the event of a national emergency involving the civil community, in a matter of minutes they can be called in from their regular work and sent out fully equipped as complete ambulances, each with six stretchers, in charge of a trained Seventh-day Adventist driver and staff. The civil authorities have greatly appreciated this action. These vans, so fitted, are capable of transporting more than two hundred and forty casualties at one time, and constitute a contribution to general emergency provisions for which the whole community is grateful.

In our churches, women's auxilia-

ries have been formed, and Dorcas work, sewing, knitting, home nursing, Christian help work, and many other lines of helpful service are in progress. Thousands of garments have been sent to the refugees of China, to the unfortunate English who have been bombed out of their homes, and to the poor in our own midst.

We are sure that God's blessing is resting in a special way upon this phase of the work.

Home Missions

A retrospective glance over the voluminous figures and statistics that find their way into the home missions department reveals to us a path strewn with the star dust of God's providences and tender care.

We are happy to report good progress in those lines of work which particularly affect the dynamic power of the church, such as the regular missionary service, the ten-minute service, reading racks, Bible training classes, the distribution of literature, and Christian help work.

During the period under review, 1,023,588 missionary visits have been made, 134,789 Bible readings have been given, 181,886 letters have been written, almost a million persons have been helped, 6,654,280 pieces of literature have been distributed, and no less than 125,645 treatments have been given.

One of the most inspiring features of this department's effort has been the continued success of the Harvest Ingathering campaign. More money is being received through this effort year by year, and the campaigns are occupying each year a shorter period of time.

Big Week continues to grow bigger and better. "Souls at home and souls abroad" continues to be the slogan of the church consecrated for service. Eternity alone will reveal the real results of the efforts put forth day by day by God's faithful home missionaries.

Religious Liberty

Since the outbreak of war, considerable activity has been called for on the part of our Religious Liberty Department, owing to the calling up of all unmarried young men between the ages of nineteen years and thirty-five years for compulsory military training. Under such circumstances our young men naturally face two serious difficulties: the Sabbath question and their noncombatant principles. These difficulties have been brought under the notice of the commonwealth government by our Religious Liberty Department, with very gratifying results. The military authorities last year issued a routine order which reads as follows:

"Seventh-day Adventists who are members of the military forces are not to be called upon to perform duty on Saturdays unless in the event of a grave emergency or if an exercise conducted on a Saturday is part of an extensive training exercise.

"Members of the denomination are furnished by their pastors with a certificate as to their religious adherence,

and this certificate must be produced by the member desiring release from duty on Saturdays.

"They are available to perform duties on Sundays."

One commanding officer who misinterpreted this routine order fined four of our young men eleven dollars each, and committed two others to be tried by court-martial for refusing to drill on the Sabbath. We immediately sent a protest to the government, and an investigation was ordered, the result of which was very gratifying. The minister for the army notified us that "the incident occurred as a result of a misunderstanding of the term 'extensive training exercise' in the routine order; and that no further proceedings will be taken in respect to the noncommissioned officers who elected to be tried by court-martial, and the convictions and fines recorded against the other men have been canceled and the relevant entries in their records will be expunged."

Another privilege which was granted to our young men was exemption from signing the oath which requires all military trainees to "resist His Majesty's enemies" until such time as Parliament can provide an oath in conformity with the conscientious convictions of noncombatants.

These privileges granted to us by the Australian Government indicate in no small way that the statesmen of this British Dominion uphold the principles of liberty for which the British Empire is noted.

In New Zealand also the government has shown our young men the greatest consideration and has undertaken to provide noncombatant duties for all who conscientiously object to combatant service.

We feel deeply grateful to God that our lives are cast in a country which recognizes the rights of conscience and respects the religious scruples and convictions of its citizens.

In this brief report, nothing more has been attempted than to indicate the continued usefulness and progress of our main lines of work.

With that in all other divisions of the world, our work is encouragingly advancing. Our believers are found among the educated European populations of Australia and New Zealand, and among those of the least advanced of all the peoples of the earth. Some of our church members have been won from peoples who cannot go beyond their fingers and their toes in counting. Among tribes but a single generation from heathenism we have those who now hold ministerial credentials, and who administer our work in mission districts. They take their place among our Australasian missionaries as members of important mission committees, and, as they grow in grace and Christian experience, are manifesting more and more the call of God in their lives and service.

At the Mona Mona Mission, in the far northern part of Australia, where we carry on mission work for the Australian aborigines, we have more than 200 aboriginal Sabbath school

members. It is a thrilling experience to listen to these dear people as they make the rafters of their simple church building fairly ring with our well-known advent hymns. From these exceptionally backward people, those have been won who have been chosen of God to go off in foreign-mission service to Papua.

Almost everywhere one may travel in this field, whether in the crowded cities or the most isolated island of the Pacific, he may meet with believers who at once receive him as a brother in the blessed hope. In the home field, we now see the third generation and even the fourth in our Sabbath schools. In our island mission field, but few of the charter members of our first island church remain. Surely it is time for the work to be finished and our Lord to come.

We thank God for the many who have remained faithful all through the years. We believe that their faith is



Pastor J. N. Anderson, First Missionary Sent Out by the Denomination to China, With K. T. Khang (right), General Field Secretary of the South China Union

to be rewarded in the rich, full way of which the message has always given them assurance.

We welcome, with glad hearts, all the new additions to the faith by which our labors have been rewarded. And, as we review what the Lord has done through this period now closing, we say with the prophet:

"Sing unto the Lord a new song, and His praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof. . . . Let them give glory unto the Lord, and declare His praise in the islands."

Though existing conditions have made it impossible for us to be with you in person at this General Conference session, our prayers are earnestly ascending to God for the richness of His blessing to be with all the brethren as they assemble. May His Spirit direct every action of the Conference, and may His presence be so marked that the influence of the session shall go out to the ends of the earth, quick-

ening the pulsations of the whole movement and hastening the completion of the task.

Telephone News

(Continued from page 195)

Paying tribute to the achievements of the past, the speaker now challenges us to a great advance in the immediate future. He calls for a solemn dedication of heart and life. Thousands respond. Practically the entire congregation stands.

Calling upon all to seal up the sum of our blessings by making a great offering to God, Elder McElhany calls upon the ushers to pass the offering envelopes. Heads are bowed as God's blessing is invoked on our giving. Elder McElhany announces that \$12,000 has already been handed in. As the ushers bring in the envelopes, W. E. Nelson, General Conference treasurer, reads off sums from \$1 to \$10,000. Thus on the high note of liberality, the morning service ended.

1:30. Your reporter is in the editorial room shaping up the morning's notes for the stenographer. It is with regret therefore that we are not able to take you to visit the numerous language groups—Japanese, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, German, Italian, and Jewish—now meeting in subsidiary halls of the Civic Auditorium.

3 P. M. The afternoon meeting begins with W. H. Branson in the chair. He announces that this is a symposium in which thirteen speakers with six minutes each will give a glimpse of mission work around the world.

A. F. Tarr, president of the South African Union Conference, brings greetings from 8,000 believers. He states that during the past year the tithes and mission offerings have exceeded all previous records, and that evangelistic efforts have brought in the largest number of souls in their history.

H. G. Stoeher, of East Brazil, repeats Matthew 24:14 in Spanish, and calls upon the congregation to repeat the text in unison. We are stirred by his story of a woman who is led to our church through a dream, which resulted in her becoming an earnest member of the faith.

R. H. Hartwell, of Shanghai, China, who for years has been doing radio broadcasting in Shanghai and Manila, reports that he had one-half hour to broadcast in English and one-half hour in Chinese, and that these broadcasts have been heard in many parts of China and in other countries. He closed his remarks with an appeal that we "make hay while the sun shines."

S. G. Maxwell, of the Kenya Union Mission, East Africa, brings greetings from 15,000 believers. We are intensely interested in his report of how the native work in one great section of that field developed into self-support. When a survey was made, it was found that the African believers were raising 40 per cent of their mission budget. They set their goal for the next

year to raise 60 per cent, the next year, 80 per cent. Each year they reached these amounts, and for the last five years they have been caring for the entire staff of native workers. The money that has been saved in this way has been used to open up three new mission fields.

J. B. Emralino, from the Philippines, reminds us that Elder McElhany opened up the work in the Philippines in 1905.

C. E. Wood, from Mexico, says, "I invite you to go with me this afternoon to the southern part of Mexico. We will visit a town where every person is a Seventh-day Adventist." He says that the local elder of the church would not be able to sleep at night if one person in the town should be found not to be a Sabbathkeeper.

C. W. Bozarth, treasurer of the Southern African Division, tells of great gains in that field.

Gertrude Green, from the Yencheng Sanitarium in China, tells of her experiences and marvelous deliverances during air raids, and then adds, "I am happy to have had these experiences. It proves to me that if the Lord is willing to care for us when we are in physical peril, He is much more willing and even yearning to save each from eternal death." The work of the Yencheng Sanitarium and Hospital has gone on without interruption through the entire period of the war.

Hans Kotz, giving greetings in the African tongue, says, "These were the last words which were spoken to us as we were leaving our mission home for our journey here. They are greetings from our believers in Tanganyika, near Lake Victoria, right in the heart of Africa."

Jorge Escandon, speaking in Spanish, brought greetings from our believers in Colombia, South America. He reports that there are open doors for Seventh-day Adventists everywhere. Macedonian calls are coming in by the hundreds.

Ralph Watts, former superintendent of the Korean Union, says, "We are glad for the assurance that the evacuation of foreign workers does not mean the close of the work in Korea, but that native workers are carrying on in spite of all difficulties."

A. E. Nelson, of India, and T. J. Michael, formerly secretary of Central European Division, Section II, are now closing this most interesting symposium by reports of progress in the difficult country of India and in Moslem lands.

6:30. The last meeting of the great Conference has begun. Choir and congregation are uniting in vesper songs.

7 P. M. Frederick Griggs announces the opening hymn, "There's a Land That Is Fairer Than Day."

Commenting on John 14:1-3 and Revelation 21:1-7, E. D. Dick, Secretary of the General Conference, conducts the vesper study, and W. A. Spicer leads in prayer. The last song of the Conference session, "God Be With You Till We meet Again," is sung with deep feeling as we realize that this may be the last General Conference we shall ever attend. Again we dedicate our

hearts to the Lord, as O. Montgomery pronounces the benediction.

Proceedings of the General Conference

(Continued from page 205)

Ministerial Association: Associate Secretary, R. A. Anderson.

Central European Division: We recommend that the incumbents in office in the Central European Division continue to function as at present.

Home Commission: We recommend that the Home Commission continue to function as at present until January 1, 1942.

Inter-American Division: Educational and Missionary Volunteer Secretary, E. E. Cossentine.

Southern Asia Division: President, G. G. Lowry; Secretary-Treasurer, A. F. Tarr; Educational Secretary, J. M. Steeves; Young People's Missionary Volunteer Secretary, J. M. Steeves; Home Missionary and Sabbath School Secretary, E. D. Thomas; Publishing Department Secretary, J. M. Hnatyshyn; Medical Secretary, George Nelson, M. D.; Religious Liberty Secretary, R. B. Thurber; Medical Extension Secretary: We recommend that the Medical Extension Secretary be appointed by the General Conference Committee.

WHEREAS, A number of our brethren who have given a lifetime of faithful and loyal service to the cause of God are retiring from office at this session of the General Conference;

We recommend, That we extend to these veteran workers our deep appreciation for their valued leadership in the high offices which have been entrusted to their hands throughout the years, and that we pray for them God's choicest and richest blessings as they continue to assist the great cause with their valued counsel and experience. Among these we would name W. A. Spicer, I. H. Evans, E. E. Andross, G. W. Wells, J. L. Shaw, H. E. Rogers, and T. E. Bowen.

We recommend that all other vacancies, and the placing of men who have not been provided for, be referred to the General Conference Executive Committee.

L. H. CHRISTIAN: You have heard this report from the Committee on Nominations. What is your pleasure?

It is moved and seconded that it be adopted as we take it name by name. We shall ask the secretary to read.

[A. W. Cormack read that portion of the report dealing with nominations, and the question was called on each name.]

L. H. CHRISTIAN: Perhaps now that this portion of the report has been read, we should take a vote on these names that have been presented and upon which the question has been called. Those in favor of electing those whose names have been read, please raise their hands. Thank you. They are all unanimously elected. The secretary will read on.

[Here the secretary read again the recommendation of the Nominating Committee concerning workers retiring from office.]

L. H. CHRISTIAN: Are there any remarks on this last resolution?

J. L. McELHANY: I greatly appreciate the resolution that has come to us from the Committee on Nominations with reference to some of our brethren who have served the cause so faithfully through the years. I think this is a well-worded, a well-expressed recommendation. And yet, as choice as the words are, expressing the sentiments of those who have framed this resolution and who bring it here for your action, I think we all must recognize that there are times when even the best of words are very poor things with which to express our real feelings. I want at this time to express my concurrence in this recommendation, and I would like to suggest, Brother Chairman, that we give more than the usual formal expression in this instance, and invite everyone present, delegates and brethren and sisters, to participate in this expression of appreciation to these dear brethren by a standing vote.

[All arose.]

L. H. CHRISTIAN: Thank you.

That completes the report of the Nominating Committee.

J. H. McEachern announced the closing hymn, No. 182, "Tis Almost Time for the Lord to Come."

BENEDICTION: H. K. Christman.

L. H. CHRISTIAN, *Chairman*.

A. W. CORMACK, *Secretary*.

THE ADVENT SABBATH REVIEW AND HERALD

Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel

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How a Snake Helped a Colporteur

OUR colporteurs have many experiences which no other class of workers encounter in their labor. Many of these experiences seem to be providential, and the colporteurs consider them as such. From the steaming Amazon region of South America comes this interesting account of how a large python helped to deliver a book for which the colporteur had an order. L. B. Halliwell, superintendent of the North Brazil Union, tells how Colporteur Francisco Maciel arrived at a certain home near the city of Manaus to deliver a book. The man of the house was not at home, and the woman refused to take the book until her husband should be present. Distances are very great, and the homes far apart, and this failure to make the delivery made our colporteur feel rather downhearted. As he rowed his boat down the stream—all the colporteur work is done in that region in canoes—he heard the woman calling to him to come back, because a large snake was killing their chickens. It was flood season, and the river had overflowed its banks, surrounding the chicken coop with water.

The colporteur took his rifle and started to wade through the water that was up to his knees, when his eyes caught sight of one of the largest snakes in that region, a Sucurujú, a mammoth python, which was trying to kill a hen. He raised his rifle to fire, but as he did so he stepped in a hole and lost his balance, cutting his foot as he did so. This colporteur told Elder Halliwell how his hair stood on end and the cold shivers ran down his spine as he saw the monstrous serpent start toward him. He managed to take swift and sure aim, and the shot hit the serpent in the head, killing it instantly.

The woman asked as soon as he left the water, "Where is the book that my husband ordered from you? I will take it for him." This colporteur firmly believes that the Lord intervened and helped him to deliver the book that had been ordered. Someday these faithful messengers of the printed page will learn of many instances in which heavenly agencies aided them in their work.

J. BERGER JOHNSON.

"Do Not Seem to Understand"

IF all our members understood clearly the great opportunity that medical missionary work affords, that each church should actively take up this line of work, and that every member should have a part in this great work of healing both body and soul, we would soon witness a world-wide movement to prepare a people, soul, body, and spirit, for the coming of the Lord.

This medical missionary phase of our work is taking a deep hold on our Mexican brethren. While we do not

have a sanitarium in this great republic, or a regular school for training medical missionary nurses and other workers to do medical missionary work, there is, however, a movement among the church members who are anxious to learn what they can from classes organized in the local churches. There are twenty-two clinics already built or under construction, which will no doubt become centers for training our church members in hygiene and the care of the sick in a practical way.

We have called in a group of laymen from the four missions, and have given a course of three months, to better prepare some of our members to lead out in the local church groups.

The last class, made up of representatives from fourteen states of the union and one general secretary, terminated their studies on April 30, and are now returning to their respective churches with a clearer view of this important branch of God's work.

The class gave a very interesting program at the termination of the course, in which was clearly presented some of the principles underlying the medical missionary work, especially depicting its effectiveness as a soul-saving branch of our work as represented by the relation of the hand to the body.

Surely many souls will be saved as the result of this work, which is such an important part of the third angel's message, and is so essential in preparing God's people to stand during the time of the terrible scenes of the last days.

This is a time when calamities are

coming upon the earth, as has been announced by His messengers, and today a large part of the earth is suffering the destruction of many centers of population. But still the winds of strife are being held in check over this portion of the earth, and there is a divine providence in this work.

"In quick succession the judgments of God will follow one another,—fire and flood and earthquake, with war and bloodshed. O that the people might know the time of their visitation! There are many who have not heard the testing truth for this time. There are many with whom the Spirit of God is striving. The time of God's destructive judgments is the time of mercy for those who have had no opportunity to learn what is truth. Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; His hand is still stretched out to save, while the door is closed to those who would not enter." —"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 97.

We are just now making a special effort for the fifty-three Indian tribes of Mexico, and have set apart a day on which a special collection will be taken for these tribes. Souls in remote regions, steeped in sin and vice, bound by superstition and chains of darkness, will shine as the stars in the kingdom of God.

The time has come to show mercy for these peoples who have their homes in the forests and cliffs of the mountains, but who do not know of the soon coming of the Saviour of men.

C. E. MOON.

Berlin Foreign Office Promises Release of Missionaries From "Zamzam"

FURTHER cheering news has reached us concerning our missionaries on the ill-fated steamer "Zamzam," which we desire to share with our people. It will be recalled that the following missionaries were aboard the "Zamzam," which was sunk in the South Atlantic: Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. James Russell, an infant child, Miss Helen Hyatt, and Mrs. Harry Hankins. All of these are American citizens except James Russell, who is a Canadian; and Mrs. Harry Hankins, who is a South African.

We learned through the press and official channels that these, along with other passengers, were taken to a port in western France, and after certain formalities were completed, our missionaries of American citizenship were released. They have proceeded to Lisbon, where they are awaiting transportation back to the United States. Those with other than American citizenship were detained—James Russell and Mrs. Harry Hankins. The problem of appealing in their behalf, it will be recognized, was rather delicate. In the hope that we might find favor by appealing as a World Conference in their behalf, a delegation was sent to interview Dr. N. Wiedemann, German

consul general here in San Francisco. Our delegation was most cordially received, and after a full statement of our request for the release of our missionaries, the consul general assured us he would gladly cable the foreign office in Berlin and intercede for their release.

This interview took place on Thursday morning. We were thrilled by the news read at the close of the Sabbath morning service which gave assurance of the release of these our workers.

The cable from the foreign office in Berlin read as follows:

"Passengers on steamer 'Zamzam' are located near Biarritz, having almost complete liberty of action. Large part of passengers of American citizenship have left for Spain. Whether the two Adventists are at Biarritz is not definitely known, but in case they should be there, their release will be ordered."

This is truly good news. Naturally it will take some little time for working out these orders, but it is nothing short of providential to receive this favorable action in these days of war and international tension. Surely the Lord has worked again in our behalf.

E. D. DICK.