

The Advent REVIEW AND Sabbath HERALD

GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

The Story of the Day

Monday, June 10

By R. B. THURBER

ONE would think, on entering the church Sunday night, that the program would feature Inter-World rather than Inter-America, there were so many national flags draped about the choir balcony. But on second thought, that tie-in between the Americas is surprisingly international.

The A Cappella choir of Washington Missionary College gave a spring to the evening's inspiration with selections from the "Refuge Psalm" by J. S. Washburn. Then the Inter-American group, unusually large, perhaps because they live right next door to North America and can drop in to see us easier, surged into the scene. They filled the whole front of the church and crowded the edge of the rostrum, with the romantic costumes of Spanish America to the fore, and huge sombreros conspicuous. (A pause to get a time exposure photograph of the whole congregation, the largest yet in this church. The picture will be published in the bulletin.)

These Inter-Americans may be hyphenated but they are progressive and unique in their methods. They put us in darkness, threw a spotlight on the pulpit, and during much of the program projected a succession of colored stills on the screen high above them in the rear. And such pictures! The amethyst and cobalt blue of the sunny Caribbean's rolling waves, mod-

ern port cities, primitive homes and industries, cunning children, luscious fruits, magnificent cathedrals, gorgeous sunsets, precipitous cliffs and smoking volcanoes—all unrolled a fascinating panorama, from sea-washed islands to cloud-washed uplands.

The division president, Glenn Calkins, gave way to R. A. Torrey, secretary-treasurer, as chairman. Each union president was introduced, and in turn presented a national worker in his territory who described his work, narrated a gripping story, and made his plea. A. H. Roth, division educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary, interpreted when necessary. He reversed Babel and echoed the unknown tongue into English like tropical lightning.

They do things in Inter-America, seeming to handle goals almost recklessly. They have a goal of a thousand souls a month *and are reaching it*, and they dare think of a thousand a week. One field has an E-day (evangelism day) when they start all their evangelistic efforts at the same time. We admired the spokesman for each local field, who stood up, had his say in clipped sentences, and impressed us that it came from his heart. Elder Calkins concluded the program with an informative address and an urgent request for interest in and support of his field. All of us sang with them "Inter-America's Call" with fervor, and felt

as if we belonged. Inter-America stormed its way into our hearts.

In the Monday morning devotional service, W. G. C. Murdoch of England, with incisive words and forceful sentences, brought home to us the necessity of absolute faultlessness and guilelessness if we would stand on the crystal sea triumphant. He took his text from Revelation 14:1-5. Perfection is the standard that must be reached, and can be reached, for he told us through the Word how to be perfect, drawing liberally from the best-known book of illustrations, the Bible. You will miss something vitally helpful to you in victorious living if you skip this morning's devotional inspiration.

Just before the opening of the business session, the Boys' Choir of the Takoma Park churches, led by Prof. Gilmour McDonald, added appreciably to the enjoyment we get from the musical numbers as the days go by. It is good to see the juniors contribute their part in praise.

The Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer Departments stood shoulder to shoulder in their reports this morning. They are inseparable as they inspire both laymen and youth to have a sense of belonging, of being needed and appreciated. They emphasized that the whole church is to carry the whole message to the whole world, as M. E. Kern prayed at the opening of the session. Time after time during the rousing presentation of these (no, not merely reports, but) flaming evangelists, we were made to feel like rising to our feet in response. Surely our lay members are pushing the regular workers for honors in soul winning. Read after the Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer Secretaries for a clear view of our denominational future.

Today's further partial report of the Nominating Committee, followed by



Newly Elected Officers: E. D. Dick, Secretary; W. E. Nelson, Treasurer; L. K. Dickson, General Vice-president; W. B. Ochs, General Vice-president; A. V. Olson, General Vice-president

the unanimous election of the executives named, is another indication of our global expansion. It stresses the supplying of the need for more and younger officers. The older leaders are not being pushed out, but up to more time for planning and counsel, as they are able. A heartfelt tribute to them. But physical strength is ever a prime requisite for the grueling days ahead. We thank God and take courage as new leaders assume the lead. Here's to upholding their hands loyally.

We feel to play up the Press Bureau report, first on the docket in the afternoon session, just as its secretary and indefatigable sponsor, J. R. Ferren, plays up all our interests for the public. Flanked by innumerable newspaper clippings (he has enough to bury himself in them) our publicity man told of the marvelous progress that has been made in getting the work and message of this people before all people. We "make news," however modest we may be about it, and Brother Ferren ferrets out our news value with remarkable genius and persistence. His enthusiasm is contagious. May we all "catch" it, and be "great" with the company which "publishes." The four Washington newspapers, reaching over 200,000 homes, are giving liberal space to this session.

The reports from the foreign fields flow in upon us with refreshing frequency. The Provisional Division, led by its liaison officer in the General Conference, W. H. Branson, took the stage of publicity with their flowing robes, veiled feminine faces, fezes, and burnouses. This division, whose territory stretches from West Africa to India, over vast reaches of Northern Africa and Western Asia, is provisional in the sense that the war has kept it so unsettled and divided that it could not be properly organized.

Such countries as Egypt, Ethiopia, Palestine, Arabia, and Mesopotamia, so well known to us by Bible story, are always intriguing in present interest. The large group of missionaries before us showed in their faces the fortitude and resourcefulness so necessary in working for Moslems; and I cannot reflect the deep impression they made upon us, as recorded in their burning words, on another page.

We have come far from the days when we drove a tent-loaded hayrack into a town; pitched, prayed and preached for a week, and then organized a church. In fact, tradition has it that in at least one case it was done over a week end. Now, decisions come slower, but the methods of inducing them are faster. Full many a delegate reached this Conference by swift plane. Our radio voices are now girdling the earth. And Bible correspondence schools report in terms of millions contacted by that method.

On an ambling directive I repaired to the cool ground-floor chapel of the Sligo Church to see what is being done in the way of latest methods in

evangelism. Every afternoon E. Toral Seat, Director of the Bureau of Visual Evangelism and Education of the Pacific Union Conference, demonstrates something new along this line. Yesterday he was showing the film, "The Birth of a New World," which is none other than "Daniel Two," as we familiarly refer to it. But what an advance over our old chart illustrations!

This motion picture, with a sermon in sound, was filmed on a "set" in southern California. Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon, the great image, and the unhandled stone smiting the feet and grinding the image to powder—all are pictured in vivid color. It was thrilling, to say the least.

It is the first time the prophecies of the Bible have been portrayed in sound-color motion pictures. A sanctuary patterned after the Mosaic sanctuary in the wilderness, and the same size, has been erected at the foot of a large mountain which looks like Sinai; and a picture has just been filmed entitled "The Cross and Its Shadow." Nothing like this has been done in the history of pictures; for the priest's garments, the furniture, and all were made as near like the original as possible.

A series of beautiful Kodachrome slides featuring the costumes of the patriarchs and prophets in full color has been prepared. The department has one of the finest wardrobes for color reproduction to be found anywhere in the world today.

The recent war has brought to light the fact that pictures are the most effectual means of teaching; and the Pacific Union Conference, in counsel with the General Conference, has taken thought in using this most effectual means in preaching the gospel. If it is good for teaching other subjects, it should be just as effectual for preaching the gospel. "The Birth of a New World" has been shown in 46 States and a number of foreign countries. This particular picture is not only used by the Adventists but by the Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians. The Christian churches have been using it very freely. In one large city in the East the Methodists put on

a city-wide revival and they used the moving picture of Daniel 2 to open their revival meeting.

Shall we yet see the day of a million-dollar film on the closing scenes of earth's history, as word-pictured in the last chapters of *The Great Controversy*? "Ye shall see greater things."

My former associate, John Hnatyshyn, who spent thirteen years in India and has just come from four years in Africa, is bursting with stories of fresh triumphs in the Dark Continent. He tells of one pastor-teacher in Northern Rhodesia who assigned a near-by 200-person village to a student layman group for a vacation evangelistic effort. The group was disappointed, for its members had chosen a distant village as having brighter prospects; but they obeyed their teacher.

They went to the village and asked to see the chief, who was old and sickly. He exclaimed in amazement, "Are you really a missionary? You have come almost too late. Yes, it is too late. Why have you gone by our village these many years? Many have died without hope and I am even now ready to die. It is too late, even too late tonight to have a meeting." But they assured him it was not too late, and they had a meeting. That was the beginning of a great work that resulted in 115 in that village being baptized.

Brother Hnatyshyn's voice is animated as he tells of professional dancers coming to our meetings hoping to earn money by dancing, and remaining to pray and accept Christ; of God's money that couldn't be stolen by a thief; of professional cattle thieves who found Christ and restored their ill-gotten gains; and then this:

An intelligent heathen father sent his daughter to our school to be educated. While still very young she returned home, and he had her "married" to a man who gave the father sixteen head of cattle as a dowry. The father urged her to live with her "husband." She said, "I will not be married to a heathen," and she kept on

(Continued on page 127)



Newly Elected: A. W. Cormack, Secretary to the President; Claude Conard, Statistical Secretary; W. E. Phillips, Auditor

The Voice of Prophecy

By PAUL WICKMAN, Radio Secretary

THE General Conference Radio Commission is one of the youngest members of the General Conference family. It will be four years old this coming October. During its short life the world has been like a great ship broken from her moorings, adrift without chart or compass.

Today we look out upon a world that is bleeding and torn by the most terrible war in the history of mankind. There is scarcely a home in the land that has not felt its ravages. Sorrow and pain, confusion and unrest, strife and fear, are on every hand. Men are seeking for the meaning of these things. Men's hearts are "failing them for fear."

We believe that in the providence of God—like Esther of old—the Voice of Prophecy was born "for such a time as this." The thousands of letters addressed to the Voice of Prophecy, Box 55, Los Angeles, California, from burdened and sin-sick souls testify eloquently to the efficacy of its service.

This is not a record of the achievement of H. M. S. Richards or of the quartet or of any one group. It emphasizes what can be done when everybody gets under the burden and lifts—that in unity there is strength. Without *your* splendid co-operation, *your* earnest prayers, *your* sacrificial giving, this thrilling chapter in radio evangelism could never have been written. This is the record of *your* achievement; the Voice of Prophecy is *yours*!

Results of this great adventure can never be measured by statistics. In these few pages we can but condense the high lights of the past four years. As the air force is to the infantry, the furrowing plow to the farmer's field, the labors of the pioneer to the last harvest, so is the Voice of Prophecy to the gospel commission, "Go ye into all the world." Eternity alone will unfold the full story. This gigantic enterprise has come to be recognized as one of our greatest single contributions to public service.

Scope of the Work

In harmony with the command of the Master to preach the gospel "to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people," the message of the Voice of Prophecy is heard each week over 510 stations in English, Spanish, and Portuguese—from Alaska to the Strait of Magellan, from Hawaii to Portuguese East Africa. The Afrikaans of South Africa hear the Voice of Prophecy in their own language, and a Chinese evangelist is prepared to deliver the gospel story by the magic of radio to China's eager and waiting millions. Our brethren are broadcasting in Germany, and we hope to lay plans for a large Voice of Prophecy expansion throughout Europe. A powerful station on the Continent of Europe has accepted the Voice of Prophecy pro-

gram, and we hope soon to launch our first broadcast there.

Behind the phenomenal growth of our radio programs in the United States and Canada and in Central and South America is a thrilling story of divine leading and providential openings. Never before has an opportunity so great and so successful been presented to this denomination for an evangelistic project.

On January 4, 1942, the Voice of Prophecy was first released coast-to-coast on a national hookup of 85 stations. One cannot forget the opening



Paul Wickman

announcement on that memorable Sunday night—"Hello, America! This is the Voice of Prophecy, over the Mutual System, coming to you from the studios of KHJ, Los Angeles, California."

From the very first there was evidence of remarkable interest. As funds came in, in harmony with the idea that growth is always an evidence of life, new stations were added. The following table indicates the growth in radio stations carrying the Voice of Prophecy program:

January 4, 1942	85
December, 1942	216
December, 1943	286
December, 1944	363
December, 1945	374
April, 1946	380

Volume of Mail

Radio experts have various ways of analyzing a listening audience. A consistent method is by a count of the volume of mail. The increase of letters in the mail bag has indicated a steady growth of the listening audience. This is somewhat a measure of radio interest. The unseen audience of the Voice of Prophecy, according to its mail bag, has been estimated at 5,000,000. Note the table showing the consistent increase in volume of mail:

1942	228,828
1943	311,173
1944	396,087
1945	555,514
Total	1,486,602

Just think! Over a million and a half letters received to date. At present approximately 48,000 letters per month are pouring in. We dare say this exceeds any published report of any religious broadcast today.

A record of letters received throughout the United States and Canada indicates a consistent interest and general response. (Record of mail began in 1943; no comparison for 1942.)

	1945	1944	1943
Atlantic	42,913	28,088	22,222
Canadian	13,329	7,563	4,055
Central	44,713	33,798	22,693
Columbia	85,895	57,950	47,638
Lake	62,095	50,673	41,533
Northern	29,326	20,990	16,477
North Pacific	44,187	39,543	37,527
Pacific	96,486	76,413	66,331
Southern	79,180	44,564	28,812
Southwestern	54,003	35,527	23,681
Miscellaneous	3,437	978	204
Total	555,514	396,087	311,173

Free Bible Correspondence Schools

The Bible correspondence schools conducted by the Voice of Prophecy throughout the world are a unique experiment in radio evangelism. One-half million people, young and old, have enrolled in the free Voice of Prophecy radio Bible schools conducted in English, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, and a Filipino dialect. As of March, 1946, 305,399 have enrolled in the North American World-wide English course for adults. An additional 103,151 youth and children have matriculated in the 24-lesson junior Bible course. A new advanced course for those who complete the senior course is being offered—a series on Daniel and Revelation.

Free lessons for the blind have attracted 2,000 sightless enrollees, and 4,000 servicemen in Western Europe, Canada, United States, Philippines, Japan, and other islands of the sea as active students. Korean, Arabic, Malayan, and French Bible courses are now in preparation.

In North America, with our active senior enrollment of 70,000 and 26,000 juniors, we have a Bible class of 86,000 active Bible students. These figures represent a Bible class composed of God's children in nearly all denominations, Protestant and Catholic, comparable in size to the Seventh-day Adventist membership of the Australasian, China, Southern Asia, and Northern European divisions, with several thousand to spare. Our world-wide enrollment is comparable to our Adventist membership.

About 16,968 have graduated from the senior Bible course and 10,206 from the junior course.

We have received from our conferences 2,050 reported baptisms as a direct consequence of the Voice of Prophecy ministry. These returns represent 23 per cent of the 8,900 letters of interest mailed to conference officials. Recently the Voice of Prophecy office mailed a letter to all pastors and evangelists in North America. From the answers received and the baptisms re-

ported, 80 per cent of the candidates had not heard the advent message except through the Voice of Prophecy medium. This serves to illustrate how inaccurate any specific report of baptisms can be because many other agencies contribute to soul winning.

It is encouraging to find 7,500 juniors expressing desire for baptism.

Radio Offerings

The expansion of the radio work is dependent largely upon public gifts and church freewill offerings. No announcement of money can ever be made on the air. This is a fixed policy of all networks. Despite this, God has moved upon hearts to give and as the income has grown, our station outlets have been increased in number.

A table of income from the mail bag and churches throughout the United States and Canada will serve to inspire us.

Conferences	1945	1944	1943	1942
Atlantic	\$ 41,730.75	\$ 29,352.75	\$ 23,119.94	\$ 17,737.63
Canadian	4,527.42	2,475.96	2,058.61	774.58
Central	47,656.24	36,609.82	28,670.42	13,928.17
Columbia	75,594.08	55,560.38	48,674.67	34,633.16
Lake	71,177.45	59,050.03	48,880.43	28,102.38
Northern	32,813.34	24,908.23	18,450.80	12,354.38
North Pacific	80,716.01	64,076.63	52,827.87	29,839.37
Pacific	185,560.40	156,553.85	124,229.73	87,894.35
Southern	46,119.47	34,542.81	20,719.20	10,398.12
Southwestern	36,012.29	26,455.86	20,810.07	8,648.87
Miscellaneous	675.01	624.96	302.41	1,032.05
Total	\$622,582.46	\$490,211.28	\$388,744.15	\$245,343.06

Foreign Broadcasts

It was October 18, 1942, when our first broadcast commenced on foreign soil, that station being HP5G-HOA Panama City. The program was in English. It is now released over a station in Colón. The first Spanish release for South America was LU4 Comodoro Rivadavia, Patagonia. We are no longer using this outlet, but we are on the air still farther south on station CD-111 Punta Arenas, Tierra del Fuego. The Portuguese had its beginning over five Brazilian stations on September 26, 1943, including Rio de Janeiro. The following week six more went on the air.

Central America began its first Spanish broadcast April 4, 1943, in Ciudad Trujillo, Santo Domingo, and over WKAQ San Juan, Puerto Rico.

A brief summary of our South American Division radio report is as follows:

	End of '43	1944	1945	Approximate Total to March '46
Number radio stations	41	49	73	
Letters from listeners		10,000	13,644	28,000
Offerings from listeners		U.S. \$750.00	\$3,000	\$5,500
Enrollments Bible school		23,862	51,187	100,000

Surely the Voice of Prophecy is growing throughout that great division.

A glance at our radio picture for Inter-America cheers us onward.

	1944	1945
Number radio stations	54	55
Enrollments Bible school	21,506	44,047
Graduates	604	2,408
Baptisms	39	191
Offerings	\$1,676.02	\$3,159.21

Lylon H. Lindbeck, radio secretary of the South American Division, shares with us some of the letters from the mail bag.

Santiago, Chile: "After having listened to the Voice of Prophecy for some months, I have now united with the Adventist Church. The program was so beautiful and impressed me so deeply with God's truth that I was led to search until I found your church. I am now a member and am so happy, having found true peace which I have so long needed."

Buenos Aires, Argentina: A student who had found a Bible in a garbage can and later enrolled in the Bible school writes as follows: "I am asking that you pray that I may get my Sabbaths free. Also pray that I may be successful in winning five of my close friends to Christ this year."

São Paulo, Brazil: A student writes that he has now sold his bar and bakery in order to keep the Sabbath.

Rio de Janeiro: A commander in the Brazilian Navy, after nearly completing his course, wrote, "I am deter-

mined to be loyal to God in the keeping of His holy day."

Northern Brazil: Missionary L. B. Halliwell reports that he finds Sabbathkeepers in the far interior of the Amazon region whose only contact has been the radio. As he recently entered one interior city he was asked, "Have you met your man in this city?" Upon inquiring, he was directed to a man who kept the seventh-day Sabbath. Further inquiry revealed that he was keeping the Sabbath as a result of his study in the Bible school.

Wesley Amundsen, radio secretary of the Inter-American Division, writes: "A gentleman who used to live in Santa Clara, Cuba, had commenced to listen to the Voice of Prophecy but was obliged to move away up into the mountains, isolated from civilization. He continued to tune in to the Voice of Prophecy and today, as a result, he, his wife, and his four children are asking for baptism. This experience

could be multiplied many times."

"Recently one of our workers received an urgent letter requesting him to visit a family about twenty miles away. Upon arrival, he found a mother and two daughters who were taking the Bible course, and who had accepted each truth as they had studied it. They were going to one of the popular churches to be sprinkled, but our worker showed them the Bible way. They are now preparing for baptism as Christ was baptized."

"A woman on the north coast of

Honduras heard the message over the radio and enrolled in the course. When she came to the lesson on Sabbathkeeping she found it difficult to close her department store on the Sabbath. After we had a short visit with her she decided to prove God's promises. She is now baptized and plans to attend one of our training schools."

For about a year the Voice of Prophecy broadcast in English was released by the powerful Lourenço Marques station, Portuguese East Africa. This program was heard as far as England, India, Palestine, and Lebanon. On October 16, 1945, the South African Division assumed the responsibility for the program. It is now a half-hour broadcast divided equally between English and Afrikaans.

Space does not permit us to relate the thrilling experiences that come to us daily, nor to mention the names of all concerned with the vast enterprise. This is truly a world-wide evangelistic campaign, with unlimited possibilities.

We are glad to report a very happy relationship with the officials of the Mutual Broadcasting System and other independent stations releasing the Voice of Prophecy program. Recent developments in the world led us to a new approach in our contacts with radio station executives and network officials. The consistent principles of religious liberty, as affecting radio policies, have helped to create a sympathetic attitude toward religious programs.

On a recent visit to one of our senior colleges I discovered a fine young woman training to be a missionary. "Are your parents Seventh-day Adventists?" I asked. "No, but they are interested." "Well, how did you become a member?" She then told me that she listened to the Voice of Prophecy broadcast, enrolled in the senior Bible course, then called up the Seventh-day Adventist minister, and requested baptism. "And here I am," she said, "and so very happy!"

At the same institution a bright young man is studying for the ministry. Three years ago he left Austria as a refugee and, via England, came to an uncle in the United States. His uncle introduced him to a friend—an atheist barber—who gave him a radio as a gift. The young man tuned in regularly to the Voice of Prophecy, was enrolled in the Bible course, and one day telephoned the local minister for baptism. He is now training for God's service.

We would not overlook the magnificent work of our local broadcasters in proclaiming the message in local fields. In the United States approximately one hundred voices are heard each week proclaiming the message for our time. The field of local broadcasting should be stimulated.

Today as we look back over the four years of radio endeavor, we can say, "The Lord hath done great things for us." We face the future with undaunted courage and look forward to greater conquests by radio in the name of the Lord.

The Southern European Division

By A. V. OLSON, President

THE Southern European Division was organized in 1928. Until then all of Europe, Russia, and large mission fields in Africa and the islands had been operated under one division. But at a meeting held in Darmstadt, Germany, in the autumn of 1928, with a large number of General Conference officers present, as well as representatives from nearly all parts of this stupendous territory, it was decided to separate the old division into four divisions.

To the Southern European Division were assigned the countries of France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Jugoslavia, Rumania, all of North Africa, most of French Cameroon in West Africa, and Madagascar, Mauritius, and a large number of other islands. The combined population of this far-flung field was around 200,000,000. The vast majority of these teeming millions were Greek Roman Catholics—the largest bloc of Catholicism to be found anywhere in the world.

When our division began to function as a separate organization, on the first of January, 1929, there were in this field 14,644 baptized members, organized into 530 churches. There were three union conferences, four union missions, with a total of 15 local conferences and 12 local mission fields.

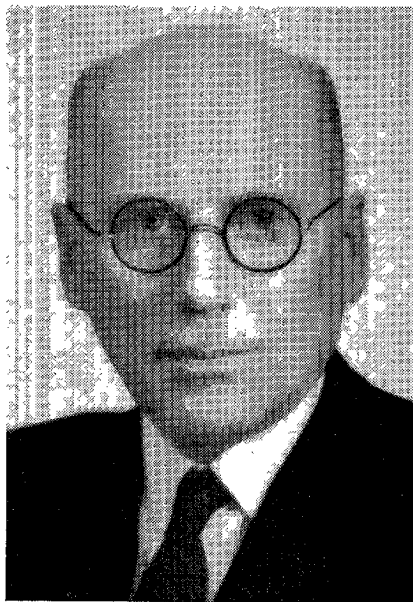
Shortly after our division had commenced to operate, one of the worst financial panics in history spread around the world. This naturally caused a decrease in the appropriations from the General Conference as well as in the income of tithes and offerings from our own fields. Notwithstanding this shrinkage in our already limited income, our laborers pressed forward with courage and confidence. New fields were entered, and the membership grew from year to year. By the close of 1939 the number of members had increased to 32,180, a net gain of 17,536 for the eleven-year period. Had the war not come, we believe the 1939 membership could have been more than doubled by this time.

During the last ten years our field has seldom been free from the horrors of war. Scarcely had our delegates returned home from the 1936 General Conference when a ferocious civil war broke out in Spain. For several years the storm raged, causing terrible destruction of life and property. And then World War II burst upon us in all its fury. Never since the dawn of time has the world witnessed a war of such magnitude and terror.

Now, thank God, the war is over; but not so with its consequences and results. Wreck and ruin greet the eye on every hand. Multitudes of hungry, ragged, suffering, and discouraged people are still dragging themselves about in search of food and shelter. The maimed and the crippled,

the widows and the orphans, are everywhere. In the work of reconstruction some progress has been made along certain lines, but it will require many years of hard, painful toil for Europe to rebuild her ruined cities and towns, to bring order out of chaos, and prosperity out of poverty. Even though this may be accomplished in time, Europe will never be the same as before. The changes she has undergone in her very soul are too profound and too far-reaching for this to be possible.

Needless to say, these many years of storm and stress brought much perplexity, hardship, and suffering to our brethren and sisters in Southern Europe, which was one of the principal theaters of the war. Many of them had to leave all their belongings and



A. V. Olson

flee before the advancing armies, to seek refuge elsewhere. Some lost their homes; many became separated from their families, and for months, sometimes years, were without news of their loved ones. Every day long hours had to be spent in search of food and other necessities.

Marked Providences of God

But in all these experiences they were always conscious of the presence of God. Comparatively few lost their lives in the bombardments and battles. In His loving-kindness the Lord spread His protecting wings over them. Wonderfully He shielded them from injury and death. So marked were these divine interpositions in their behalf that their neighbors often came to them for refuge when they saw or heard the bombers approaching. With the psalmist of old we exclaim, "Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!" Ps. 107:8.

For the work of God, the war created tremendous problems and difficulties. General mobilization robbed us of nearly all our field and institutional workers of military age, thus leaving us only a very thin line to carry on the work. In most places public lecture halls were taken over by the military authorities. Where halls could be obtained, they were usually of little value, having neither light nor heat. Other serious obstructions were the black-outs and the frequent bombardments. The evacuation of cities and repeated transfers of populations from one country to another also hindered us much in our efforts. They often upset our plans and caused us the loss of many churches and valuable workers.

In addition to all these hindering elements, bitter persecution broke out against us in several lands. In Spain our meeting halls were closed and our work was forbidden. When Alsace was annexed by Germany, our conference and church organizations were dissolved and the church properties confiscated. All workers were removed from the field except the treasurer, and he was forced to sign a statement that he would receive no funds from the members. In Croatia, all our meeting places were also closed. It became illegal for our people there, the same as in Alsace, to hold Sabbath school or any other religious service, even in their own homes. The gathering of tithes and offerings was prohibited. In reality Seventh-day Adventists were not supposed to exist. A number of our Jugoslavian people died as martyrs rather than surrender their faith in God.

The most terrible persecution of all broke out in Rumania, where we had more than 20,000 baptized members and many thousands more in our Sabbath schools. With one single stroke our union conference, the local conferences, and all our 500 churches were dissolved. Our fine training school, the publishing house, and all the church buildings—between two and three hundred—were taken from us. Church and conference funds were likewise confiscated. Next began a wholesale arrest of our members. We are told that more than 4,000 of our dear brethren and sisters were cast into prison. Many of them were sentenced to as high as twenty-five years of imprisonment, and a number were condemned to death. This cruel persecution constitutes one of the darkest chapters in Rumanian history.

Changes in Membership

Notwithstanding all the upheavals, obstructions, and hindrances of war and persecution, the work of God in the Southern European Division did not perish. Under the good hand of God it lived and moved forward, though at a slower pace.

With a greatly reduced working force, and under such unfavorable circumstances, it was not possible to realize the same progress as could have been achieved under normal conditions. Certain fields suffered a loss



Five of Our Believers in Italy Going to Sabbath School Sixteen Miles on Bicycles

in membership. This was true in Alsace, where many of our people were deported by the enemy, and where we were left without workers, and as already mentioned, religious services of all kinds were prohibited. In Rumania, where more than 60 per cent of the entire Southern European Division membership resided, the number of members at the close of the war was only about one half of what it had been at its outbreak. Through the annexation by Russia of the provinces of Bessarabia and North Bukovina, the Rumanian Union lost one of its largest conferences, with a total of several thousand members. Repeated deportation schemes robbed the union of hundreds of other members who were transplanted to countries outside our division. An unusually heavy death toll, resulting from the privations and hardships of the war, was also responsible here, as in many other fields, for considerable reductions in the membership list.

With most of the workers and church officers either in prison or in military service, the few remaining workers bound to their village by government decree, and all church services suspended, it was impossible for Rumania to bring in enough new members to make up for the losses.

In all the other lands of our division, both at home and in the mission fields, there was an encouraging growth. In some fields the baptisms were larger than before the war. This was true even in certain places where persecutions raged. Through the columns of the REVIEW AND HERALD we have already told of some of the ingenious ways adopted by different workers in their efforts to inform us during the war of their success in winning souls under difficulties.

Because of disrupted communications, and more especially because of severe military restrictions and other causes too numerous to mention here, it was not possible to gather or send statistics during the war. Even now some of the conferences have only been able to give us approximate figures of their present membership. Therefore it is not in our power to give a detailed statistical report for the years 1940 to 1945. Hence, comparisons are impossible.

Comparisons are also difficult because of a number of territorial changes that have taken place. It is estimated that we have lost six or seven thousand members through deportations and through the transfer of Bessarabia and the Cameroon. This loss has been more than compensated for by the transfer of Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary, Austria, and Czechoslovakia to our division. Because of the transplanting of populations that is still going on in these lands, the leaders there have not been able to furnish us with exact figures of their actual membership, but as far as we can learn, there must be eight or nine thousand. This means that the Southern European Division, as it now stands, has over 40,000 members. Based on the rate of increase in the prewar years, this is below what it would have been if the war had not obstructed and hindered our efforts.

and it is far below what we had hoped to see.

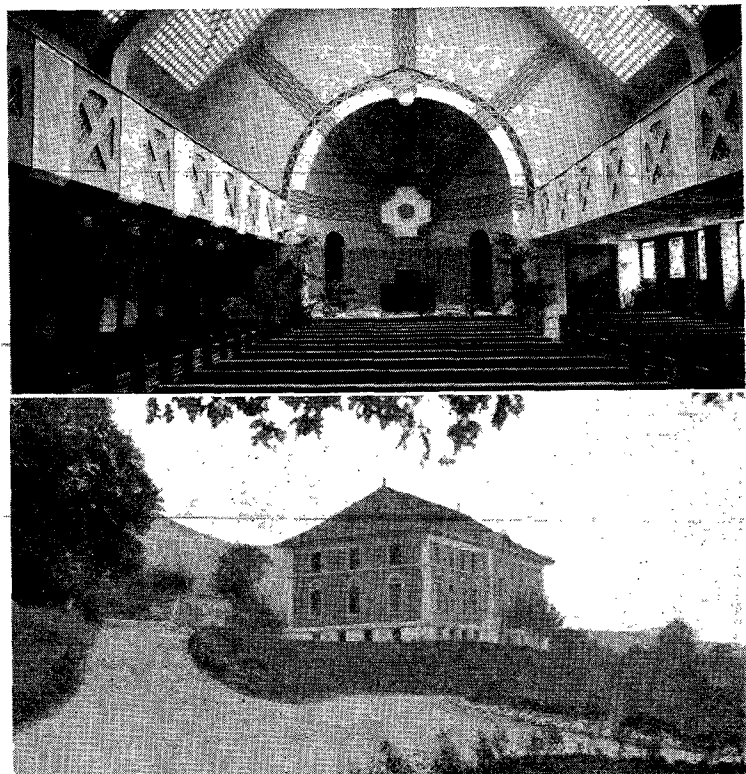
Nevertheless, we are extremely thankful to God for having brought His work through this terrible ordeal in such excellent shape. Instead of lying in ruins, as is the case with so many other organizations and institutions in war-torn Europe, the Southern European Division is bigger and stronger than ever before. The conference machinery is intact and functioning well. Everywhere there is life and activity.

In Alsace and in all the Balkan countries where our organizations had been dissolved and our activities forbidden, we now enjoy full liberty. The confiscated properties have been restored, the prison doors have been thrown open, and all our dear brethren and sisters are free.

God's Care Over Properties

We all give glory to God for the way He protected and cared for our church buildings and institutions. Many of them stand today in the midst of acres of ruins, as silent witnesses to the protecting care of God. People are amazed as they behold how these were shielded from destruction. From Rumania the union president writes that many people became convinced that God would not permit the destruction of our chapels. They said that these buildings belonged to God and that He would care for them. When the air raids took place, they showed their faith by rushing to our confiscated chapels for refuge.

France and Belgium each lost one little chapel. Why God permitted this, we do not know, unless He saw that they were too small. As soon as build-



Upper: Our Church in Paris, France

Lower: Administration Building of Our School at Collonges, France

ing materials are available, the brethren hope to erect bigger and better chapels to replace the old ones. Aside from these two, which were completely demolished, a few other chapels received slight damages, which have already been repaired.

During the final battles in Budapest our publishing house there was rather badly damaged by the explosion of near-by ammunition dumps. The place is now undergoing repairs, and it is hoped that the plant will soon be in operation again.

Our Schools

For our schools in Southern Europe, the last few years have been trying ones indeed. Our Rumanian school was taken from us and turned over to the state church for a girls' school. In Jugoslavia also our school was forced to close its doors as a result of the persecution. Because of this our young people in these countries have been denied the privilege of a Christian education. The result is that now the conferences have no young men and women ready to fill the places left vacant by the many workers who have been removed by death, deportation, old age, or sickness. The leaders know not where to turn to find workers to answer the urgent appeals for help. Now the Rumanian school is back in our hands again, but some time must pass before it can prepare and send out a group of new workers.

Before the war our seminary in France had served all the Latin fields of Western Europe. Immediately after the declaration of war the frontiers were closed. This meant that our young people living outside France could not come to the seminary. The majority of the foreign students who were in the school were able to remain until they graduated, but very few new ones were able to get across the borders and through the German lines. This situation naturally caused a heavy reduction in the enrollment. However, the school was able to operate throughout the entire war period. From year to year there was an increased enrollment from the churches in France. Thus each year the seminary was able to furnish several new workers for the field. Because of this, France has recently been able to give us a number of fine young workers for our mission fields.

That Collonges was able to operate

throughout the war is nothing short of a miracle. The armies of occupation were only a few miles away. Enemy soldiers were stationed all around. Time and again it was planned to take over the institution, but each time God intervened.

Today the seminary is filled to overflowing with students, mostly from France and North Africa, visas being still difficult to obtain for those who would like to come from outside French territory. As in the ancient school of the prophets, our students are crying, "The place where we dwell . . . is too strait for us!" Unfortunately, the needed room cannot this time be built with a few beams cut from some near-by forest with borrowed axes! At a recent board meeting it was voted to buy two hotel buildings adjacent to our property.

Training School in Portugal

Shortly before the war Portugal opened a little Bible school in the basement of the Lisbon church, a rented apartment serving as dormitory. This arrangement was far from satisfactory. Search was made for a more suitable place. A former convent belonging to a private individual was found for rent just outside the city of Portalegre. This the conference rented for a modest sum, and two years ago the school was transferred to the new location. Here, under the leadership of Brother Enoch Hermanson, a new era opened for our Portuguese training school. Until a permanent location of our own can be provided, our Portuguese people are very happy and thankful to have this beautiful and commodious property. This little institution has already furnished a number of workers, not only for Portugal and the islands within the Portuguese Union, but also for the Portuguese colonies in the South African Division. A heavy responsibility rests upon our school in Portalegre. To it we must look for a growing supply of new recruits for the many Portuguese colonies in Africa and the islands, as well as for the home conference. It is imperative, therefore, that it be given all the help and encouragement necessary in order that it may successfully meet the demands that must be made upon it in the future.

When because of the war, it became impossible for our Italian young people to cross the frontier to attend our seminary in France, it was decided

to open a school in the old office building on Via Trieste, in Florence. This decision brought much joy and courage to our believers in Italy. Despite the war which raged with such fury over this unfortunate country, the school never closed its doors. Battles were fought all around our building. Up and down Via Trieste the struggle went on. A cannon ball ripped away part of the roof from our building; yet teachers and students remained at their posts. Already several graduates from the Florence school have entered the work, and others will soon be ready.

During the war, when comparatively few young people could reach the school, the old office building sufficed. But now it cannot accommodate one half of those who wish to come. Furthermore, a great, crowded city is not the proper place as a permanent location for a Seventh-day Adventist training school. From the light given us through the Spirit of prophecy, and from our own experience through the years, we know that the country is the ideal location for such institutions.

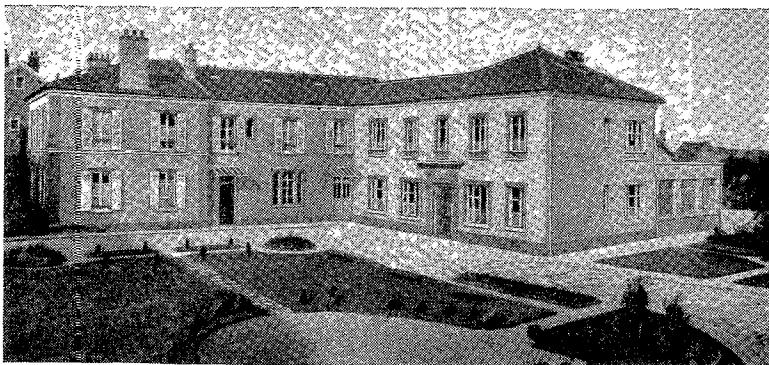
Last autumn the General Conference appropriated \$50,000 to the Italian school, and earnest efforts are now being made to find a suitable location for it in the vicinity of Florence.

Publishing Work

Our publishing work was greatly handicapped by the war. It is a marvel that it was not totally destroyed. In the first place, the major part of our colporteurs were drafted into military service. Others were often caught between the battle lines. The disruption of communication and transportation systems made it well-nigh impossible for colporteurs to obtain supplies. In the lands where the persecution reigned, the authorities closed the publishing houses and banned the sale of our publications. Then, by and by, paper became almost unobtainable in many lands.

Where supplies were available, the colporteurs continued their work with good success. In France, for instance, several of these faithful, undaunted servants of the Lord sold more in a month than they had done in a whole year before the war. Fortunately, the French publishing house had its book and paper stock rooms packed to the ceiling when the war broke. This, together with what little paper they were allotted, enabled them to operate on a reduced scale till the end of the war. Church and missionary papers had to be discontinued.

When Switzerland was cut off from the French house, the division bureau was turned into an editorial office. W. R. Beach and R. Gerber kindly accepted the editorial work for the *Revue Adventiste*, *Vie et Santé*, *Les Signes des Temps*, and *Leben und Gesundheit*. These and other papers, as well as large quantities of books and tracts in both French and German, were printed for us by outside firms in Switzerland. This made it possible to keep the colporteurs and churches well supplied at all times. Under the



French Publishing House, Dammarie-les-Lys, France

blessing of God, the Swiss Union sold more of our publications during the war than before. In Italy, Portugal, and Hungary the sales were also good.

Since the close of the war earnest efforts have been made in all fields to reorganize the colporteur work. Colporteur leaders are being supplied wherever these posts had become vacant, and a new army of colporteurs recruited and trained. In Rumania, where there was not a single book evangelist at the close of the war, there are now three or four hundred. These are meeting with such success that our presses cannot begin to supply their demands. Our publishing house in Bucharest has had to call on five other printers to help them. "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes." Ps. 118:23. It is a new day for our publishing work in old Rumania.

Medical Work

In the entire Southern European Division there is only one sanitarium. This is located on the shores of Lake Lemman, halfway between Lausanne and Geneva. Here there is also a health-food factory. Besides these two institutions we have a rest home in Algiers, North Africa, and a small food factory in Paris.

With the closing of the frontiers, because of the war, our sanitarium lost its foreign patronage. This naturally was a heavy blow to the institution, since many of its guests had always come from foreign countries. Several medical institutions had to close their doors for lack of business. For a time the outlook was dark indeed, but the Lord heard our prayers. Gradually the patronage increased until there was not room enough to receive all who wished to come. More room should be provided without delay. The sanitarium is doing a good work. It has a large circle of appreciative friends, both inside and outside of Switzerland.

The food factory in Gland did a bigger business during the war than ever before. It could have done far more if the necessary raw materials had been available. The Paris food factory is to be moved to the seminary at Collonges-sous-Salève, where it will have room to develop, and where it can provide work for students who must earn part of their school expenses.

Rumania is pleading for a sanitarium. It should have one soon. The same is true of France, Italy, North Africa, and other countries. Such institutions are needed today, as never before, in war-torn Europe. May God graciously open the way for these needs to be met!

Building Program

Owing to a lack of material, our building program came almost to a standstill in most places. Except for a few chapels, nothing could be undertaken in the building line. In Paris and several other places in France, building lots were bought, and as soon as materials become available, construction work will begin. In Switzerland the money is in hand

for a representative church building in the city of Bern, the capital of the country. Here our church, which has always been a pilgrim, moving about from hall to hall, rejoices to know that it shall soon have a home of its own. Ground is now being broken in two other Swiss cities for the erection of chapels. Thanks to the generous help of the General Conference, a number of churches in Italy will soon have meeting houses of their own. A commodious chapel is now being built in Milan, the great industrial city of Northern Italy. In Porto, the second city of Portugal, a large building was purchased a few months ago. With a few alterations and improvements, it will have an auditorium seating between four and five hundred, two smaller halls, and a dwelling for the pastor. Building projects are also under way in the mission fields and elsewhere.

Our Mission Fields

To our mission fields the war brought its share of perplexity and trial. Several of them became battlefields. All except the Portuguese islands were cut off from the homelands, which meant that they could receive no visits from division leaders, and no new missionaries could come to them. They were also threatened with the danger of being cut off from all outside financial support. When the war broke, most of the missionaries in the fields had either already finished their term of service or nearly so, and were due to come home on furlough. But when they learned that no new families could be sent to replace them, they chose to remain at their posts, regardless of the dangers involved. Our faithful missionaries deserve much credit for the spirit of loyalty and self-sacrifice which they have manifested. Eleven long years—and more—they have toiled on in trying tropical climes without change or rest. A growing work made heavy demands upon their strength. In His loving-kindness God preserved and sustained His servants. Not one had to be laid to rest. A number of them are now home on furlough, and others will be coming as fast as transportation becomes available. Quite a number of new recruits have already been sent out, and others are under appointment, awaiting transportation.

Little Portugal deserves special mention for the large number of missionaries it sent out during the war to the islands of the Portuguese Union, and to the Portuguese colonies in the South African Division.

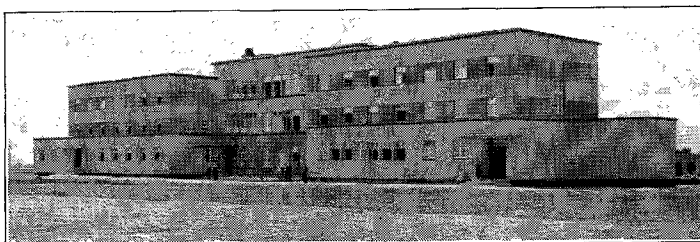
Before closing a report of this kind it is customary to say something about prospects for the future. Humanly speaking, these are dark and dreary. Stout hearts grow faint as they contemplate the desolation, the political chaos, the economic collapse, and the moral degeneracy on every hand. Notwithstanding this somber picture, the child of God is full of hope. By faith he can "see the gleams of the golden morning piercing through this night of gloom." On the strength of the prophetic word, he knows that the earth is soon to be filled with the light of the glory of God's eternal truth. He knows that the greatest victories for the remnant church are just ahead.

Prospects

To me the prospects for the work of God in Southern Europe look brighter and more promising than at any other time since I connected with this field twenty-six years ago. A new day seems to have dawned for us in the Southern European Division. In every land except one, we now have full freedom to proclaim the message both by pen and by voice. Never before have we enjoyed such freedom to preach the message, and never before has there been such hunger and thirst for the bread and water of life. In many places large numbers are accepting the truth. The year 1945 witnessed the largest number of baptisms ever administered in a single year since the organization of our division. Rumania alone baptized more than 3,500. The present year promises to be more fruitful still. Most of our meeting halls are becoming too small. One field reports that they often have to preach from the church steps, the room inside being too small to contain the crowds. Our publishing houses are unable to supply the growing demand for our books and papers.

Yes, brethren and sisters, there is "a going in the tops of the mulberry trees." 2 Sam. 5:24. It is time for us to go forth to battle, for God has gone out before us. The enemy is strong; the problems are legion, and the obstacles mountain high, but with God victory is sure.

THE influence of the mother who has a close connection with Christ is of infinite worth. Her ministry of love makes the home a Bethel. Christ works with her, turning the common water of life into the wine of heaven. Her children will grow up to be a blessing and an honor to her in this life and in the life to come.—*Gospel Workers*, p. 206.



Rumanian Union Training Institute, Brasov, Rumania

An Afternoon With the Southern European Division

June 9, 1946, 3:45 P.M.

A. V. OLSON: I am glad to bring to you this afternoon the greetings of our brethren and sisters of Southern Europe, and our mission fields. You might be glad to know, perhaps, just what lands are included in our division. It begins with Portugal and Spain on the west, sweeping on east through France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Rumania. Then we have all of North Africa, Madagascar, Mauritius, Reunion, and other islands of the Indian Ocean, besides numerous islands in the Mediterranean and out in the Atlantic Ocean.

We have a number of men here on the platform with us, and as I call on them they will say a few words.

First, Brother L. Beer, the superintendent of the Italian Union. Brother Charpiot, our division colporteur leader, will translate for him.

L. BEER: The Italians want to bring their greetings, and it is their privilege to read them out of the Bible. You find that written in Hebrews the thirteenth chapter, verse 24: "They of Italy salute you." No other field can bring greetings out of the Bible as we Italians can do. And before I left our brethren in Italy asked me to add a word to greet the brethren very heartily.

In Italy we are very happy that the war is finished. It was very hard. But God has kept the life of His people. And He has done great wonders, and has helped us in a wonderful way. We have had good experiences and our faith has been strengthened. During the war we have added more members than before to our churches. Not only in the world do great things happen, but God does great things. In the last years we have been able to baptize in Italy 500 new members, and we have been able to organize six new churches. And whosoever knoweth Italy, the country which is the seat of that great power described in such a way in Revelation, knows what these results mean. Eight of our churches where we have met have been destroyed.

The General Conference has done much to help us this year, and I want to thank our brethren very much for this. Since I have been here in this meeting I received a letter from a brother in Rome. We have received money to build new chapels in Italy, and we have also received great help in clothing for our members. But the brethren have asked me, if I have the opportunity to do so, to ask for one thing more. And they are sure that the brethren here in America will do this. This is to receive the necessary money to build a church in the city of Rome. We do hope that our brethren will help us to get a good chapel in Rome. This is what we hope for Italy.

A. V. OLSON: Next we shall hear from Madagascar. R. Guenin has spent eleven years down there without furlough in that hot climate as teacher and head of our school at Tananarive.

A Word From Madagascar

R. GUENIN: It is a very great happiness for me to be with you this afternoon. During the eleven years when I was in Madagascar we did not have the privilege of such assemblage and such meetings. We had meetings with the natives. It is a very great privilege for me to attend the General Conference for the first time. Madagascar is an important country of four million population. A large part of the population is Protestant, and they have had the Bible for more than one hundred years. They understand that the Adventists have the truth because our teaching is nearer the Bible than the teaching of the other Protestant missions.

In a circle of about ten miles around Tananarive, we have seven churches. In all the country there are about thirty churches and groups. It would be possible to have more if we had more workers. Often we receive letters asking us to open new groups but many times it is impossible to send a worker. In this big island we have only three missionaries to do evangelistic work. In many countries the Adventist people are almost unknown, but in Madagascar our mission is well known. This is mostly the result of our big mission school in Tananarive. It is considered the best school in the country by many non-Adventist people. We now have a school of about 800 students and twenty-two teachers. Every day we have to refuse new students because our classes are more than full.

A. V. OLSON: Next we shall hear from A. D. Gomes, the superintendent of Portuguese Union Mission.

A. D. GOMES: The brethren and all the workers in Portugal and the Portuguese Union asked me to bring to you their best and heartiest greetings.

You may ask what are our greatest needs? With our poor organization, we need financial help, but it is not the most important thing we need. We need new ideas for our work. We do not need methods of one hundred years ago. I am certainly glad to be in North America for during these few weeks I have been here, I have taken notice of many very fine ideas. If you wish to be kind, come with me to my country (especially the young people), and we shall convert Portugal to God. [Voices: Amen.]

A. V. OLSON: Well, Portugal is a fine little country. Our membership is not so very large yet. Nevertheless, they are sending out missionaries. They have sent them to such places as the Azores, to Madeira, to Cape Verde Islands. They have sent them to West

Africa and to East Africa, and they are still ready and willing to send more as fast as they can train them.

And now we shall ask Brother L. Schneeberger, of the Austrian Conference, to say a few words of greeting.

Years of Trouble in Austria

L. SCHNEEBERGER: I come from a land which, with many others, has gone through years of trouble. And this country is, at the present time, still in the deepest distress and the deepest need. I would have to take a long time in order to present all its needs.

As we arrived here in your country we felt that we were transferred to a better land. Help has come to us from this country, and we are very thankful to God for that. The first help came from the American brethren that are a part of the army of occupation in Austria. Then our division was able to send us condensed milk. And they also sent other food. The General Conference sent us Elder Strahle, with several helpers. Brother Strahle has brought me the good news that 2,000 packages are on their way to Vienna. Brother Aitken has arranged to have 2,000 kilos of potatoes sent to us from Berne, Switzerland. Our neighbor country, Switzerland, has been ready and willing to accept of some of our poor and hungry children. And thus the prophetic word is being fulfilled.

Thus the prophetic work is being done as you divide your food with the hungry ones and receive the poor into your home. The situation is about the same in Germany as in our country. I am very happy to be able in behalf of our 1,600 members to tell you of our appreciation for what you have done.

We have in our country another hunger, and that is the hunger for the Word of God. Our meetings are very well attended. We could not have any heat in our meeting halls, yet the halls have been more than full. We are happy to see this kind of hunger in our country. But we do not have enough Bibles. God will help us in our poverty and our distress, and God will give victory to His people in all this difficulty. The day will come when these words from heaven will resound, "These are they which came out of great tribulation." "They shall hunger no more."

A. V. OLSON: We shall next ask Albert Meyer, president of the Swiss Union, to speak. Before he rises, I will say that it was his brother who died in the concentration camp over in Dachau, Germany.

ALBERT MEYER: Dear brethren and sisters, you can understand that it was not without a certain emotion that I attended the memorial service this morning. This is the first time I have had the privilege of attending a session of the General Conference.

Switzerland is the headquarters of our Southern European Division. America sent her first missionary to Switzerland in 1874. We still see in Basle the tombstone erected to Elder Andrews. He was the founder of our paper, *The Signs of the Times* in

France. From Switzerland the advent faith spread out into other parts of Europe. There are at present approximately three thousand members in the Swiss Union, and they send their fraternal greetings to the brethren and sisters who are meeting here from all parts of the world. We do not speak the same language, but we do have the same faith, the same hope, and the same message to proclaim to the world. We wish, too, to thank you for what you have done for Switzerland. The work needs your continued support. At the present time a number of large evangelistic campaigns are being carried on. Perhaps it is for the first time that we have seen the power of God revealed in such a manner. A very remarkable work has been done which leads us to realize that the Spirit of God is poured out upon our people. With all our brethren and sisters in the world we desire to finish the task committed to us.

A. V. OLSON: For many, many years Switzerland has been a strong base of supplies. It sends out large numbers of missionaries and splendid sons for the mission fields. We will now hear from the president of the Franco-Belgian Union, J. C. Guenin.

France During the War

J. C. GUENIN: I am happy to be able to speak to you in French. [Brother Beach interprets.] First of all, let me thank you very gratefully for all you have done for our brethren and sisters in France and in Belgium. You can never know how much our people have appreciated what has been done for them. And I must confess this afternoon that I am wearing a shirt sent to us from America. Nevertheless, we made progress. Our school was never closed, being under God's protection, and it has furnished us new workers. New churches have been founded.

By the grace of God, in the four conferences comprising the Franco-Belgian Union, we have about 3,000 members. We have been able to buy property in Paris—one of the finest locations in the city—on which we hope to erect a church. The one we now have has become too small. We need a sanitarium. I take this opportunity to encourage you to make the coming Thirteenth Sabbath Offering the very largest in history, and in advance I thank you for it.

We have very special, definite problems in France. We do not know where to find lodgings for our workers. We need chapels. Our brethren over there are doing all they can financially. The tithes are increasing from year to year. The Ingathering increases also. Ingathering in the Franco-Belgian Union last year brought in 2,000,000 French francs. We have one brother in France who collected by himself about 300,000 francs.

All our brethren and sisters are of good courage. With the love of the truth which abides in their hearts and with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, they are going to advance courageously, assured that the work of God has wonderful days before it in France.

A. V. OLSON: Brother F. Charpiot, who acted as president of the Franco-Belgian Union during much of the time of the war, wishes to say a few words regarding the American Seventh-day Adventist boys who came across as soldiers.

F. CHARPIOT: We had the joy of meeting, soon after the liberation of Paris, some of our dear soldier boys. The first who came was Dr. George Marsh, I think. He arrived in my office one afternoon, but had to leave soon, and then a few days later we had a few more boys, and then the number increased, and in the course of time more than 500 boys visited the Paris church. A number of them were stationed in or around Paris, and others came on passes and visits to Paris on Sabbath or in the week. I was living with my family in Paris at that time, and I can tell you, it was such a joy for us each time that we had the privilege to have the visit of one of these dear boys; and they have been a great inspiration to our people, not only in Paris but in our other churches in France. In some cases they visited some of our small groups in smaller cities, and there were sometimes as many or more American soldiers in our little church than there were French believers, and they had the meeting as best they could together, and it was very inspiring.

Many a time a soldier would come to my home or to my office from the front and ask: "Brother Charpiot, can I pay tithe and offerings here?" They would put some bills on my desk, five hundred francs, one thousand, two thousand, four thousand, five thousand, and even more sometimes. They had gathered the money, week after week, and kept it faithfully to give it at the first opportunity for the Lord's cause.

The brethren who were stationed in Paris built a small wooden house with a slit in the top. Every Sabbath afternoon, besides the regular collections that they gave in the Sabbath school and in the church service, they gave an offering for our school in Collonges to help French boys and girls to attend school. And in that way, in the course of a short time, there slipped into that little house over twenty thousand francs, and that paid for our students partly to go to our school. We have many happy remembrances of the meetings we had with them and with the young people in Paris.

A. V. OLSON: Some of the men who sit on this platform could have told you this afternoon of their experiences under the bombs. They could have told you of their experiences as they have traveled from city to city, visiting the churches, how the trains on which they traveled were bombed. Brother Charpiot, who has just spoken, was on one of these trains. It was bombed. Many were killed, and large numbers wounded. But he was safe and sound. He took his bag, found his bicycle, and went on his way to fulfill his appointment. And there are others who have had the same experiences.

Not only have we had the difficulties caused by war, but in some of our lands we have also had to endure persecution.

It seemed that the enemy was not satisfied with heaping on Seventh-day Adventists all the troubles that the war could bring, but he also raised up the enemy to persecute us. This happened first of all in Spain, where all of our meeting halls were closed and all of our work forbidden. It happened over in Alsace, after that province was taken over by the Germans. All our churches were confiscated, our workers sent out of the field. They took our money, our books, everything that we owned. Over in Yugoslavia, in the country of Croatia, the same thing happened. And we were forbidden to work.

Persecution in Rumania

But the worst of all was over in Rumania. We had in that field more than 20,000 baptized believers who had been won during the years, in the midst of great difficulties and hardships. In a little while they closed all of our churches and confiscated our property. They cast 4,000 of our members into prison. Large numbers of these were sentenced to as high as twenty-five years of imprisonment. A number were condemned to die. Police and Greek priests went from house to house, inquiring the religious belief of the occupants. If they found they were Seventh-day Adventists or Baptists they tried to force them to sign a little statement promising that they would abandon their faith and return to the Greek Church. If they refused, they were beaten. They were offered again and again the privilege of signing. But I am happy to tell you that most of the people simply refused.

Some of you perhaps have heard me tell what a welfare worker wrote. This man was not a Seventh-day Adventist. After having visited Rumania, he wrote a long document and sent it to me, describing the persecution of Seventh-day Adventists and Baptists. He told, among other things, about a little girl eleven years old who, when she was asked to sign that statement saying that she would abandon her faith and return to the Greek Church, said, "No, I cannot. I love my God; I love my Saviour. I cannot deny Him. I will not sign." That child was beaten until she lay on the floor in a pool of her own blood. She was raised again to her feet, and asked to sign, and when she refused, they beat her to death, and she sleeps today in a martyr's grave. She is not the only one.

Over in Yugoslavia, where not a few of our people lost their lives as a result of the war, a number gave their lives as martyrs. They were told that they must either surrender their faith or die. Well, they said, "We can die, but we cannot surrender our faith. We will be true." And they had their throats slashed. They were murdered, martyred for the faith. But I am glad this afternoon, brethren and sisters, to know that even in this day and age, there are men and women who so love God and His truth that they prefer to go into a martyr's grave rather than to abandon the faith that has become so precious to them.

The four thousand that I speak of that were cast into prison in Rumania,

did they fold their hands? No, they were missionaries in those prisons, and in a number of instances they had the joy of organizing Sabbath schools. In one place I know they organized a church and they had the Lord's support. This church was not composed simply of Seventh-day Adventists who had been thrown into prison, but others who had been won by simple brethren and sisters and by the workers. They had been doing missionary work in the prison. It may seem strange to you when I say that only a short time ago I received a letter from one of the workers in Rumania telling of some of the brethren and sisters in prison who were almost sorry to be free, for they had never enjoyed such a blessed experience with God, a wonderful experience in winning souls for the Lord.

Let me tell you about the conference president over in Rumania, dear Brother Popov. One of our ordained ministers had been martyred in the village where he was working some years ago. I went over to Rumania to meet with the union committee, and one of the questions we had to consider was how to find a man who would go to these villages to replace our martyred brother. A young man was invited to go. He had a wife and two little children. He dropped his head. I noticed that he was praying. He lifted his head soon. There were tears rolling down his pale cheeks. Then a smile came over his face, as he said, "Brother Olson, Jesus died for me, and I am willing to die for Him if He sees that my death will bring more souls than my life."

We sent him into those villages. His life was threatened again and again. But courageously he continued his labors, and it was not long until he had five hundred souls in his baptismal classes. We organized several churches. He did a wonderful work. It was our privilege to ordain him before long. A little later we made him president

of the conference. He has been in prison much of the time, but whether he is in prison or out of prison he is joyful, and whether he is in prison or out of prison he is always a missionary, winning souls for God. He was sentenced during the war to twenty-five years of imprisonment. He served three before he was liberated. He is back at his work, praising God. [Voices: Amen.]

Hunger for the Word of God

The president of the Hungarian Union called me over the telephone just before I left Berne, and said, "Brother Olson, we are hungry, we are starving over here. We thank you for what you are doing in sending food. But in our land there is a greater hunger still for the Bread of life. We baptized 150 the first quarter of this year, and we expect to baptize at least 500 more before the end of the year." Remember, brethren and sisters, in old Hungary we could not work. Our children and our young people were never permitted to go to Sabbath school before they reached the age of eighteen. Today we have perfect freedom, but we have so few workers. A number of them are still in prison camps instead of in their fields, yet God is blessing the ones who are there.

The same thing is true in Yugoslavia. And the letters that come from Rumania are very encouraging. Last year, brethren and sisters, in what remains of that old country they baptized more than 3,500 souls. That is more than we ever baptized in the whole division before the war. Now I want Brother Beach to say a few words. Brother Beach has been my faithful secretary and helper over in Europe.

W. R. BEACH: I think we should finish up on these very fine words of Elder Olson, striking a note of courage for the work in Europe. I think the most wonderful days of the work in

Europe lie just ahead of us, brethren and sisters. [Voices: Amen.] As we look out upon the things over there, we see converging events and circumstances which give us proof that this is the case.

I suppose that the most encouraging feature of our work over there in many ways is the fact that our educational work has remained intact, and that our schools are now preparing young workers to carry on in the cause of God. We have a unique school in Portugal. This school is in a former Catholic convent. The director, the principal of our school, is a former Catholic priest who spent many years studying over in Rome.

The Rumanian school was taken from us. They found nothing better to do during the war than to make it a school for orthodox girls. They said it was an excellent plant. We think so. It is one of the finest we had in Europe. Now it is back in our hands, and we hope before long it will be contributing to the education of fine workers for Europe.

The Collonges school—the French college—is really the only full-fledged college we have in Southern Europe, and it has remained so all during the war. Very hard times they had. When war broke out the decision was taken to keep school going if we had only one teacher and one student, and so it was kept going. May God bless as plans are laid for the carrying out of God's purpose in Europe is my prayer.

A. V. OLSON: I am sorry that the superintendent of the Spanish Mission was not able to get out of the country to come to this meeting. They have endured much hardship in that field, but now again they are permitted to have their meetings on the Sabbath in their own hall, and we hope soon greater liberty will come to our people and work in Spain. Pray for Spain and pray for the work in Southern Europe.



Looking Toward the Rostrum During a Morning Devotional Study

The Inter-American Division

By GLENN CALKINS, President

NINETEEN centuries ago the Prince of heaven spoke these words as He stood upon the mount of blessing: "Ye are the light of the world." Matt. 5:14.

The apostle Paul later picked up the refrain and echoed back the call: "Shine as lights in the world." Phil. 2:15.

And the prophet Isaiah, speaking those immortal words found in Isaiah 60, says: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee."

We are told that back in the fifteenth century, in certain cities of England, it was customary to hang lighted lanterns in the steeple of the village church as a guide and inspiration to the people. In addition, the Lord Mayor commanded that a lighted lantern be hung in front of each home to light the path of the stranger and the wayfarer. The watchman would pass along the streets at dusk, shouting out to the people, "Hang out your lights! Hang out your lights!"

It was in the year 1922 that there was the beginning of a systematic "hanging out of lights," as it were, in Inter-America; for then it was that the division was organized. E. E. Andross was chosen as leader, and he and his co-workers were set as watchmen over the cause of God in the great expanse of territory making up Inter-America. Elder Andross went forth calling to the comparatively few believers at that time to "arise, shine; for thy light is come." They responded heartily, and as a result, their numbers increased rapidly.

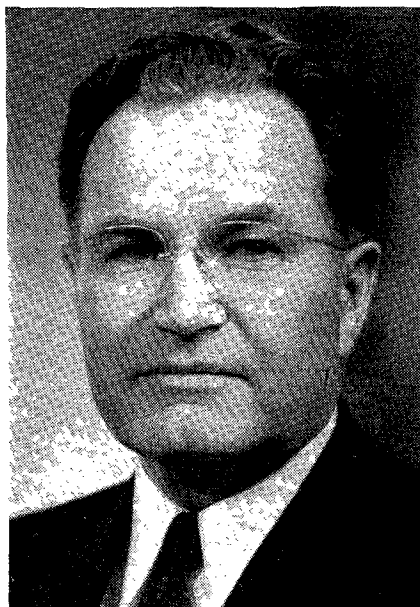
Later on, G. A. Roberts took up the cry, and he, with his associate watchmen, declared to the people, "The glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Thus, through the faithfulness of the watchmen and of the people the number of believers continued to increase until, at the time of the last General Conference session, in 1941, there were 670 organized churches within the territory of the Inter-American Division, with approximately 37,000 baptized church members.

In 1941 other watchmen were appointed to carry on the work that had been so ably begun. I am happy to tell you that today, just five years later, the Inter-American Division, consisting, as it does, of 27 different countries and political divisions, with 55,000,000 people, including many different nations, and stretching nearly 6,000 miles from the northwest corner to the southeast corner, is the largest division, in point of baptized church members, outside of North America.

During the five years intervening since the last General Conference session, nearly 28,000 persons have been baptized in Inter-America, 6,000 of

whom were baptized during 1945. By this time, June, 1946, the church membership of Inter-America stands at approximately 56,000 baptized members, with more than 80,000 Sabbath school members, many of whom are in the baptismal classes preparing for entrance into the church.

Keep in mind that the countries of Inter-America are largely controlled by anti-Protestant influences, and those who accept the truth usually do so under great opposition, often suffering severe persecution. But they make



Glenn Calkins

good, loyal Seventh-day Adventists, for they realize what it means to suffer for Christ's sake, and they know what it is to be persecuted and falsely accused. As a result the percentage of apostasies in Inter-America is far less than that in many other countries.

The goal we have set for 1946 is 10,000 baptisms for Inter-America, and our workers have rallied with a great enthusiasm to this mighty challenge. Everywhere the spirit of evangelism is catching on. The slogan of "*Mil por Mes*," or "A thousand per month," is upon the lips of many. Think, my brethren and sisters, what joy it will bring to the Chief Watchman, and to us all, when we are able to report a thousand believers baptized every month! The workers in Inter-America are unanimously behind this program. Their hearts are in this campaign for souls, and everywhere the cry is sounding, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come.... And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."

Below I present a table of comparative statistics showing the baptisms, the net gain, and the total membership for the last two five-year periods

—1936 to 1940 and 1941 to 1945 inclusive.

	Membership	Baptisms	Net Gain
1936	29,161	3,189	1,029
1937	31,136	3,488	1,975
1938	33,296	3,631	2,160
1939	34,979	4,442	1,683
1940	37,607	4,237	2,628
Totals, five years	18,987		9,475

1941	40,891	5,302	3,284
1942	44,226	5,464	3,335
1943	47,473	5,299	3,247
1944	51,257	5,511	3,784
1945	54,503	5,988	3,246
Totals, five years	27,564		16,896

The table which follows gives at a glance the number of churches in the Inter-American Division year by year for the same two five-year periods, and also the number of ordained ministers and the average baptisms per minister during that time.

Year	Number of Churches	Number of Ordained Ministers	Baptisms per Minister
1936	533	92	34.6
1937	554	99	35.2
1938	594	106	34.2
1939	633	114	38.9
1940	670	107	30.2
1941	684	122	43.4
1942	723	127	43.1
1943	748	140	37.8
1944	774	147	37.4
1945	799	161	37.0

In listing these figures it should be taken into consideration that the number of ordained ministers includes all those engaged in administrative and departmental work—in the division office, in the unions and in the local missions—as well as those occupied with institutional work—educational, medical, and publishing.

During the last five-year period the tithe income has nearly trebled that of the preceding five years, while mission offerings and Ingathering receipts have more than doubled. All this we say to the glory of God, and to the earnest, untiring efforts of our present efficient corps of workers, both national and foreign; and to the liberality of our faithful people, for their giving comes not from their abundance but rather as a result of their faithfulness. The income of our believers is pitifully small as compared with that of our people in North America; and when I tell you that the tithe brought into the Lord's treasury during the five-year period since 1941 amounted to nearly \$2,250,000, you can well understand what I mean by "their faithfulness." In many instances their daily earnings amount to no more than the price of a quart of milk in the United States.

A report of tithe income, mission offerings, and Ingathering receipts is hereby given.

1936 to 1940		
Year	Tithe Receipts	Net Gain
1936	\$148,476.44	\$13,283.68
1937	182,289.74	33,813.80
1938	200,285.69	17,995.95
1939	206,888.10	6,102.41
1940	213,780.70	7,392.60
Totals	\$951,220.67	\$78,587.94

Mission Offerings		
Year	Mission Offerings	Net Gain
1936	\$ 74,773.39	\$ 3,429.62
1937	84,696.97	9,923.58
1938	91,447.57	6,750.60
1939	90,522.02	*925.55
1940	94,016.44	3,494.42
Totals	\$435,456.39	\$24,523.77

Year	Ingathering	Net Gain
1936	\$ 26,480.93	\$ 2,091.40
1937	30,203.43	3,722.50
1938	33,801.92	3,598.49
1939	33,317.88	*484.54
1940	34,538.68	1,221.30
Totals	\$158,342.34	\$11,118.23

* Loss.

1941 to 1945		
Year	Tithe Receipts	Net Gain
1941	\$249,204.40	\$ 35,423.54
1942	355,526.00	106,321.76
1943	445,559.82	90,033.82
1944	527,695.84	82,136.02
1945	603,717.56	76,021.72
Totals	\$2,181,703.46	\$389,936.86

Year	Mission Offerings	Net Gain
1941	\$108,922.89	\$ 14,906.45
1942	137,524.89	28,602.00
1943	179,165.85	41,640.96
1944	201,700.54	22,534.69
1945	238,133.26	36,432.72
Totals	\$865,447.43	\$144,116.82

Year	Ingathering	Net Gain
1941	\$ 42,127.83	\$ 7,589.15
1942	54,053.60	11,925.77
1943	72,846.27	18,972.67
1944	85,118.52	12,272.25
1945	103,468.64	18,350.12
Totals	\$357,614.86	\$68,929.95

Departmental Activities

Every department is a soul-winning agency, and I attribute much of the success in baptisms in the divisions to the earnest and efficient leadership of the various departments. This applies not only to the division staff but also to the various unions, of which we have six in the division, and to the local fields, of which there are thirty-four.

The home missionary department has strongly promoted the training of lay preachers and Bible instructors. Today we have in this division an army of more than 1,000 well-trained, self-supporting lay preachers; and these devoted workers are largely responsible for preparing the major portion of the candidates for baptism, while the few ordained ministers we have, numbering only 161, are kept fully occupied with administrative duties and the examination of candidates—actually baptizing them and organizing them into churches.

If our finances permitted the employment of more ministers, both foreign and national, we could easily baptize twice the number that are now being baptized, as there are literally hundreds of men and women fully instructed by lay workers, and only awaiting the coming of an ordained minister to baptize them.

In one union alone, on a certain

day in January of this year, 100 public lay efforts were started. This was known as E-Day in that union—E for evangelism. In reporting this to the division, the president stated:

"We have planned that every worker, regardless of what position he may occupy, is to have an active part in evangelistic endeavor, and we have divided our yearly goal of 2,000 baptisms into quarters, so that we can check up on ourselves every three months."

Schools of evangelism for lay preachers are being held in many of the unions, to which the most promising lay preachers are invited, and there they are given instruction in the fundamentals of this message and in the presentation of these great truths in their public meetings. They are also trained in the fine art of bringing men and women to a decision for Christ and His truth. These schools last from ten days to two weeks, during which time a very intensive course of instruction is given.

Additional plans which we are now working on embrace a new group of lay workers termed "lay missionaries." We expect to have 2,000 such workers enrolled by the close of this year. They are also trained in the fundamental doctrines of this message and are prepared to give the truth to their friends and neighbors.

The Sabbath school, with its 80,000 members, is another prolific source of candidates for baptism. Many are enrolled in the Sabbath school who are not already church members but who are in the baptismal classes.

The educational program of the advent movement is fundamental to the success of our world-wide work. Without properly trained indigenous youth, the task of evangelizing the peoples of Inter-America would be well-nigh impossible. Therefore, in harmony with divine instruction given this people, our leaders have undertaken the establishment of training centers where a thorough preparation can be given the young people of Latin America for the part they are to play in the finishing of the task that has been assigned to us.

During the five-year period under consideration, 1941-45, five new educational institutions either have been completed or are under construction. This gives us a total of nine training centers in the division, and plans are

under way for that many more as soon as funds can be provided and budgets developed.

It is our purpose to raise our junior colleges to senior colleges as soon as possible: one for Spanish-speaking students and the other for English-speaking students.

The publishing department has made some remarkable strides forward during the past few years. The goals set for 1945 were, 500 regular colporteurs, and half a million dollars in literature deliveries before the close of the year. The goal of 500 colporteurs was more than reached by the end of the year, but we fell a little short of our objective in the matter of deliveries. However, in spite of this, the vision of our publishing department leaders has been lifted to much higher objectives for 1946, toward which they are now definitely striving.

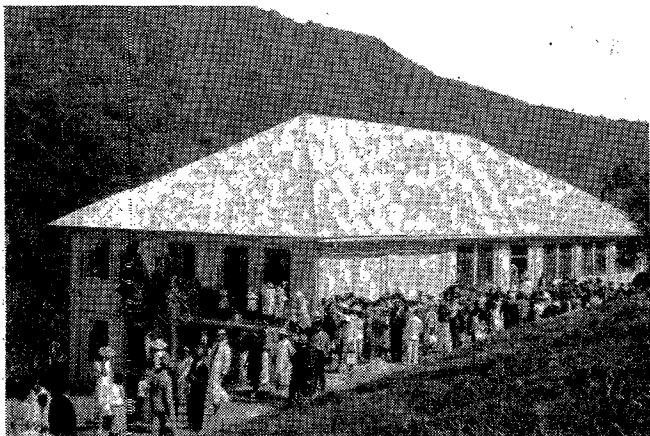
In this connection it is interesting to observe, from the report of our world-wide Publishing Department recently received from the General Conference office, that Inter-America has exceeded all the other overseas divisions in the total amount of literature deliveries during 1945. How thankful we should be for the ministry of the printed page.

The radio department is also proving to be a great blessing, and is productive of many souls. There are now enrolled in the Bible school between 40,000 and 50,000 persons. Because of the many different countries in which we work, our problems in following up the interested ones are tremendous; but in spite of these handicaps, wonderful are the results being realized. In some countries the broadcasting of religious programs is prohibited by the government; so other means are devised to secure enrollees in the Bible school. In one country where we have never had a broadcast, we now have 17,000 students enrolled, more than 10,000 of whom are active members; and among these active members 315 have indicated their acceptance of the Sabbath truth, and 155 have requested baptism. In this particular instance these excellent results have been accomplished in less than two years' time.

One of the outstanding results of preaching the message by radio has developed in the Insular Penitentiary in Puerto Rico, where more than 100 persons are systematically studying the Bible under the direction of competent teachers, with many of the students asking for baptism.

The Missionary Volunteer work sees a great army of advent youth in Inter-America, more than 24,000 strong, marching steadily forward, organized under the Missionary Volunteer department and directed by an enthusiastic group of leaders. Many are the thrilling reports of what our young people are doing for God and how their lives are lighting the pathway of others, showing them the way to the eternal home.

Word recently came to us of a group of our Missionary Volunteers near the



New Administration Building at Caribbean Training College, Trinidad

city of Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, who held an evangelistic effort without any help from the outside. As a result, 18 have already been baptized, and 10 more are in baptismal classes, preparing for church membership.

In the Leeward Islands a small interest developed. Word was sent to the mission for help, but none was available. So a young woman, a member of one of our M. V. Societies, offered to go and do what she could. She labored earnestly for those dear people who were longing to hear the truth, and as a result of her faithfulness 45 persons were prepared for baptism. All these people are now church members. There is also an organized Sabbath school in the little town of La Bayee, where this young woman labored, with a membership of 75.

From Colombia, South America, comes the story of a bashful lad who could not be persuaded to take part in a public way in the work of the Missionary Volunteer Society to which he belonged. But he greatly desired to take part in the Missionary Volunteer Crusade for souls. What *could* he do? No one expected much of him, for he was so very, very timid. But he prayed that the Lord would help him to win some souls, and as he prayed, the burden upon his heart increased. He faithfully memorized some inspirational M. V. choruses, and studied up on some Bible stories and Bible lessons. Armed with this simple preparation he disappeared into the jungle on his self-appointed mission.

Some weeks later he sent word to his home village, requesting that our worker come and examine his "converts"; and when our worker responded to the call of this bashful lad, what was his surprise to find that our consecrated young Crusader had definitely interested and won 10 people to the truth! More than this: a Sabbath school had been organized; and in addition to the 10 who were ready for baptism, twice that many more were preparing for church membership.

Simple experiences such as this could be multiplied again and again. I am proud of the work of our Missionary Volunteers, and pray that God will continue to bless and prosper their efforts to win their associates to the cause of truth.

Medical work. During the past five years three major medical institutions have been established within the borders of Inter-America. One is in Mexico, one in Jamaica, and a third in Puerto Rico. In addition, several clinics are either actually operating or in the process of developing plans for the beginning of medical work. These are located in Guatemala, Colombia, Trinidad, Venezuela, Costa Rica, and Cuba.

Some of these institutions will conduct nurses' training schools, thus making it possible for the advent youth to receive a training that will better fit them as medical missionaries to work among their own people.

Layman's movement. One of our most colorful lay missionaries is Francisco Navas, of Guatemala City.

Brother Navas is an oculist; but that is not his most important work. His real occupation is the winning of souls. While fitting his customers with glasses, he uses extracts from Adventist literature for reading charts. Some are printed in small type, others in larger print, according to the individual needs of each patient.

When the fitting is completed, Brother Navas gives each person a small tract which he requests that his client shall read at one sitting, and then report on the reaction of his eyes to this amount of reading.

"When the customer returns," says Brother Navas, "I give him a tract with a larger type face, and ask him to do the same thing. This process is repeated, so that I can always be assured that my patients are well fitted with their new glasses; and sometimes it is possible to place the contents of five or six tracts in the hands of some of these people.

"Certainly I try to do an honest and good job of fitting them with glasses; but I also want them to get the benefit of the reading matter placed in their hands; so casually I ask: 'By the way, what do you think of the little leaflets I gave you to read?' More often than not, the person is interested, and this opens the way for further discussions; and a little later on I suggest that I should be glad to come to the home and study these subjects further."

Often Brother Navas brings as many as twelve persons with him to one meeting. Many have been baptized and are members of the Guatemala City church as the result of this brother's faithful missionary work.

Faithful witnesses. Certain authorities in the state of Chiapas, Mexico, became concerned about the large number of Adventists in the interior, who could not be intimidated by persecution, nor induced by ordinary means to abandon their faith and practice of the truths of the Bible. A plan was devised by the department of education to open a government school and require all Adventist children of school age to attend.

The Adventist community responded gratefully to this opportunity of sending their children to a good school, but requested that their children not be

required to attend school on Saturdays, giving their reasons for this stand with logical frankness and confidence. Our brethren gave proof upon proof that they must keep the Sabbath that God ordained, and that is taught in the Bible. The government inspector was invited to come and "convince" these simple country people of their "error," for the teacher of the school could make no impression upon them whatever.

In due time the inspector came. It so happened that the day of his arrival was the Sabbath, and therefore he could clearly observe for himself that the effort to conduct a day school on Saturday was useless. Rather, the teacher introduced the inspector to the type of people in this community by taking him over to the little Adventist church. Together the teacher and the inspector of schools observed with intense interest the entire procedure: prayer, Bible study, memory work—all carried on with order and precision.

Finally the inspector inquired: "Where do these simple country people get such a scientific approach to study? Where do they learn this reverence and devotion? Where in the world," he asked, "is there another group of such simple woods people that have so much hidden under their broad Mexican hats?"

After further study of this unusual situation the inspector left the community, having instructed that the teacher continue the day school through the week but not on Saturdays. So the teacher became a regular member of our little Sabbath school in Tierra Blanca. He also attended the preaching services and the young people's meetings week by week, and has begun to keep the Sabbath. He pays his tithe and is expecting to be baptized soon.

There are many evidences that God is leading and prospering His work in Inter-America. Our great volunteer army of lay preachers, lay Bible instructors, and lay missionaries, plus the many hundreds of regular and student colporteurs added to our regular army of ordained and licensed ministers and institutional workers, are all united in speedily finishing the work of God. Surely He has been good to us in Inter-America.

Students and Faculty at the West Indian Training College, Jamaica, B.W.I.



An Evening With the Inter-American Division

June 9, 1941, 7:30 P.M.

C. L. TORREY: I take pleasure at this time in announcing that E. E. Andross, father of the Inter-American Division, will offer the opening prayer.

[After the prayer, Brother Torrey introduced a number of division workers. Then followed a musical number by the Inter-American Division quartet.]

C. L. TORREY: Glenn Calkins, president of the Inter-American Division, will present a survey of division territory. Later in the program, the president will render his report.

[With the aid of stereopticon slides, Elder Calkins gave a brief description of the geography of the division.]

C. L. TORREY: We will now hear from W. E. Murray, president of the Mexican Union.

W. E. MURRAY: We are all glad to be here tonight from Mexico. We bring to you the greetings of 19,000 Sabbath school members, of which 9,500 are baptized members. We would like to take you all to Mexico to see our inspiring work. Or we would like to bring all of our Mexican workers over here to see you, but we cannot do either of these, so we have brought a native son tonight who will speak to us about the work in his great country. Let me introduce to you tonight Emiliano Ponce, who is the director of our British Gulf Mission. A. H. Roth will interpret.

EMILIANO PONCE: God has admirably blessed His work in the Republic of Mexico. Souls respond to the pleadings of the Spirit of God in spite of the fact that they have for a long time been under a strong and determined Catholic heritage. In a place called El Terrera, in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico, a sister who had learned of the advent truth began immediately to do missionary work among her neighbors. News of the work this sister was doing soon reached the ears of the priest of the vicinity, who immediately started persecution against this sister and other people who were interested in the truth. This sister's life was threatened. However, without fear and without trembling, she continued her labors for souls. The greater the opposition of the priest, the greater the interest in the city grew. And so it became necessary for the mission to send a worker into this place.

A Bible by Mistake

A member of the Roman Catholic church who was working as an assistant to the priest and as a laborer around the church, one day came to the priest and asked if he might attend one of these Seventh-day Adventist meetings. "Blessed Virgin Mary," answered the priest, "don't you know that these people are heretics and vile Protestants? I will lend you a book and from that book you will

learn the truth." The priest went to his library to find a small book, and, without noticing its title, he handed it to this helper of his. The man went to his home and began reading.

As he read he became intensely interested in every word. The book was the Bible. Somehow he learned that this book was the same as the book the Adventist preacher was using in his lectures. This made this man daring, and he decided to attend the meetings. Soon he was convinced of the truth, and I had the privilege of baptizing him together with twenty-one other people.

We thank God for having sent missionaries to teach us the truth. And we have promised our heavenly Father that we will work to finish the task He has given us to do before the work is closed.

C. L. TORREY: Now we bring to you the president of the Central American Union, J. L. Brown, who will introduce the next speaker.

J. L. BROWN: It is a great pleasure this evening to introduce David García and his wife. They represent the workers and 6,000 members of the Central American Union, and in your name and the name of the North American workers and leaders I will salute him in Spanish. I greet him just as we do down in the Central American countries.

DAVID GARCIA: Tonight I have the high honor to represent one of the ancient peoples of the new world. I come from the land of the ancient Mayas, as a representative from the Central American Union before this great Conference. The Central American Union is composed of six little nations, a small portion of the world field in which we must preach the gospel. But even though these nations are small nations, they are the hand-clasp that joins together the two continents of the Western World.

Baptism of John the Baptist

It may seem strange, but not long ago John the Baptist was baptized in the city of Totonicapan, Guatemala. Of course he wasn't the John the Baptist of the Bible; nevertheless, he is John the Baptist. This John the Baptist was a drunkard and a bad man. His home was in constant misery. One day he felt terribly ashamed of himself, and so went to the priest to ask him for help so that he might become a better father and a better husband. The priest advised him to confess thirteen times. The man obeyed, but the results were not favorable. John the Baptist continued being a drunkard. His life was filled with more wickedness than ever, until he was almost at the brink of despair. But God had other plans for him. In the city of Totonicapan, our brethren held evangelistic meetings. This man attended our meetings. He accepted the truth

and was baptized, and today John the Baptist is a model husband and father. Furthermore, he is a good and loyal Christian. Dear brethren, the power of the truth is real.

Baptism means very much for my dear people. Once they have been baptized, they seldom forget that great occasion. Each year on the anniversary of their baptism they bring offerings of gratitude. They make faithful and careful preparation for this event. A little while ago we had a very impressive baptismal ceremony in El Paraiso, El Salvador. For many days it had not rained in that region. The rivers and the creeks had dried. There was no water near by deep enough in which to baptize. Nothing was left to do but to build a baptistry. The brethren worked faithfully to build it. Four days before the baptism, our sisters carried water on their heads, going and coming for a distance of over a mile, bringing water for the baptistry. After four days of this precious labor of love, the baptistry was filled. You may ask, "Why did not they build a baptistry near the source of water?" The enemies of the truth would have destroyed it. We celebrated the baptism in that precious water, gathered at great sacrifice, and a beautiful group of people was baptized into the church.

C. L. TORREY: The next speaker, W. A. Bergherm, is the president of the Colombia-Venezuela Union. He will introduce the next speaker.

W. A. BERGHERM: I bring to you greetings tonight from the brethren of the Colombia-Venezuela Union. I take pleasure in introducing to you Vicente Moreno, who will tell you about the work in our union. He is pastor of our large church in the city of Bucaramanga, and the surrounding district.

VICENTE MORENO: It is a high honor for me to come before this great gathering of Seventh-day Adventists. In the lands of Colombia and Venezuela, I have many fellow countrymen who rejoice in the knowledge of this blessed truth. I want to tell you about an old widow who lives up in the high mountains, where the peaks are always covered with snow. We have the largest group of Seventh-day Adventists in all of Colombia there. When I first visited this place, the people of that neighborhood, all the Adventists, were gathered there, and many others interested in the truth. Among these people was an old widow who wanted to be baptized. I brought this name to the attention of the church officers, and they recommended her as a very devout and sincere woman. With the consent of the church, I baptized this woman, together with eight others.

Hoarded Treasures for the Lord

In meetings that followed, I stressed the importance of paying tithe and giving offerings. After one of these meetings, Sister Domiana, for that is her name, came to me. She brought me this parcel [holding it up], and said, "This is an offering for the Lord." When we unwrapped the package we

discovered it contained many very old coins, and then I understood that Sister Domiana had given all her treasure, everything she had. In Colombia and Venezuela, we have many others like her who want to give everything they have and everything they are to the Lord Jesus. You and we together form one great people who are called the Seventh-day Adventists, and we are determined to stay true to God and His Son until Jesus comes the second time.

C. L. TORREY: The next one I am going to introduce is S. T. Borg. He is president of the Caribbean Union, and he will introduce the next speaker.

S. T. BORG: I have not yet set foot on the territory of the Caribbean Union, but I am happy to introduce to you tonight a man who is well acquainted with all the work there, J. T. Carrington, educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Caribbean Union.

J. T. CARRINGTON: It is with great joy of heart and deep courage to God, dear brethren and sisters, that I greet you tonight. We have approximately 12,000 members in the Caribbean Union. Last year the Lord blessed us with 1,405 souls. These are believers in the promises of the Lord, together with you. They are all homeward bound.

A Missionary Deacon

One of the deacons on the island of Trinidad became interested in carrying the message to a distant village. He sold his property and together with his family, and one of the brethren who accompanied him, made the journey. They built a home, and provided a large living room so they might conduct meetings there. Then they opened their little Sabbath school, just a home Sabbath school. For some time one of the men of the village noticed the conduct and general demeanor and deportment of this humble deacon. Finally he went to his house, and said, "Will you tell me why you do not work on Saturdays? Tell me why you have church on Saturday in your house."

Of course that gave the deacon an opportunity to explain the message to the young man. The young man asked, "Would you let me come and see what you do on Saturdays?" "Of course you may come," said the deacon. Finally that young man became so interested in the truth that he decided he would keep the Sabbath. That aroused the indignation of his father, who threatened to take his life, and he had to leave the home.

A little later the older brother became interested. When the father discovered that, he became very angry. He, too, had to leave the home. But the leaven of truth which was working very steadily in that man's home found its way into the heart of his daughter. When the father discovered that the daughter was also becoming interested, he decided that it was time to put a stop to the work of these heretics.

Thirty years previous to that occasion, he had driven our worker out of that village with his sword. This time he sent a message to our brother

and told him that he would give him three weeks to get out of the village. If he failed to leave by that time, he would chase him out at the point of the sword. Accordingly he whetted his cutlass, which is an implement for cutting wood and brush.

An Enemy Won Over

The time passed by. The sons, being alarmed, discussed the matter with our deacon, who said to them, "We will prove to your father that our God is a prayer-hearing God." So during those three weeks they prayed not only for deliverance from the ire of this wicked man, but for his conversion. The Sabbath when they were to be driven out, arrived. It found our brethren, our few believers, quietly in their little room conducting their Sabbath school. They were undaunted. They were unafraid. A holy joy lit up their countenances, for they were strengthened with the faith that God would protect them.

Soon one of the boys noticed that the father was coming up to the house, but strangely, he was well dressed and he did not seem to have an angry appearance. He came up into the room in the house, and asked if he might come in and join them in worship on the Sabbath.

Imagine, friends! this man who was going to drive these people out was sitting there as a captive under the sword of the Spirit, worshipping God on His holy Sabbath day. Today we have a church membership of thirty in that place, and we have just recently sent one of our conference workers to that section to conduct an effort. This demonstrates the truthfulness of the statement that the greatest argument which can be advanced in favor of Christianity is the consistent life of a humble Christian.

C. L. TORREY: Now here comes R. H. Pierson, president of the British West Indies Union.

R. H. PIERSON: In the British West Indies Union every member is a missionary, and tonight 12,000 missionaries representing fifteen organized churches in the British West Indies present as their national delegate, M. G. Nembhard, pastor of the Grants-town church in Nassau, Bahamas.

M. G. NEMBHARD: Quite recently it was my precious privilege to baptize ten believers over on Andros Island, one of the islands of the Bahamas.

My story tonight is about Arnold, the young evangelist of the Bahamas. Soon after Arnold began attending an Adventist church school he was impressed with the truthfulness of this message, and at the age of 14, he decided to accept the message and become a Seventh-day Adventist. The first Friday evening, when he had made the decision to attend church that Sabbath, he noticed that his mother was very angry. Very early Sabbath morning he was present at the Sabbath school. It was a precious privilege to him to be there that Sabbath, but on his return he found his mother and one of his oldest brothers waiting to administer the rod of correction in its severest form.

The following week his mother, hoping to discourage him, decided she would send him on a long, tiresome journey to a neighboring settlement so that he would be too tired to attend church the following day. But he learned that there was a church in that neighborhood, too. So he decided to stay with his sister, who was married and lived in that vicinity. He attended church that Sabbath, and it was one of the most enjoyable and interesting days in his life.

Determined to Be Faithful

But the news reached home ahead of him that he had gone to church, and when he arrived his mother punished him even more severely than the first time. As the third Sabbath came, he made up his mind that he would serve the Lord even at the cost of his life if necessary. So Sabbath morning, as the eastern sun arose in its splendor, with his Bible and Quarterly and a small book in his hand, he wended his way to a quiet spot under the canopy of heaven, and in the quiet woods, he worshiped the Lord unmolested. When he returned in the evening he found his mother again ready to punish him.

In order to revive the boy's faith, his mother led him to the door of a little chapel and ordered him to present himself to the priest for confession. Instead of confessing to the priest, he asked the priest his authority for listening to the sins of the people, and told him that he had read in his Bible that he should confess to Christ. The priest told him he was a very rebellious son.

After a time Arnold was baptized, and although he was the only one in his community for a number of years, walking ten miles to church every Sabbath, he was a true missionary. Later he had the pleasure of seeing six persons baptized as a result of his studies. Among them was his own brother who once had assisted in punishing him.

Today Arnold has an organized Sabbath school of twenty-six members, and his mother attends the Sabbath school in his home quite frequently. She has admitted to her neighbors that he is her most loyal and devoted son. Today he is planning to build a church in that neighborhood.

C. L. TORREY: H. B. Lundquist, president of the Antillian Union, will introduce the next speaker.

H. B. LUNDQUIST: I bring you greetings tonight from the 13,000 members of the Antillian Union and over 20,000 Sabbath school members. It affords me pleasure to present to you Manuel Carballal, president of our Antillian Union College. He has a message for you.

MANUEL CARBALLAL: The Antillian Union, from which I come, is composed of three islands. Dear friends, we are not very old or experienced in this message, but we love the truth with all our hearts. From among the many experiences that we might relate that show our love for the message, I will tell you only one about Sergeant Benito

Rivera. During the month of August, 1943, this young man was in the military hospital in Puerto Rico. One Sunday evening he had turned on his radio and the Voice of Prophecy came over the air. This young man was stirred by the beautiful music and the wonderful message that he heard. So immediately he sent for the free lessons that we offered. He felt greatly encouraged as he studied the message through these lessons. He saw the truth about the Sabbath, and immediately he went to his superior officers and asked that he might have his Sabbaths free. This privilege was granted him.

Sergeant Rivera's Test

A little while after this he took the lessons to his wife, and she studied them. But that wasn't all. He went with the lessons to his companions in the army and other friends he had over the island. As he continued to study the lessons of the Voice of Prophecy, he came to the lesson on baptism. He then asked the officers of our church for baptism. Our brethren instructed him further in our truth, and early in the year 1944 Mr. Rivera was baptized. He became so enthusiastic in the proclamation of the truth that restrictions were placed about him. His sergeant's stripes were taken away from him and he was reduced to a private. To punish him he was sent to Dutch Guiana, to help him forget about his "crazy notions."

But he did not forget them; he could not forget them. When he was in that place he was in the military police and was asked to carry a revolver, but he refused to bear arms. As a consequence, he was thrust into one of the horrible prisons in that section. Having been a soldier for eight years

in the army, he knew very well what it meant to disobey his superiors. The day came when he was brought before a military tribunal. He gave a beautiful and wonderful testimony for his Saviour. He said, "I am a soldier of Jesus, and I will follow Him to the end." He was condemned to five years of hard labor, and was returned to Puerto Rico to serve his sentence.

When he returned to the island, the brethren learned about it. They went to the military officer of the Antilles and tried to secure his freedom. During the time his case was being studied, he was put into solitary confinement for fifteen days because he refused to work on the Sabbath. But because of his weakened physical condition—he only had bread and water to eat and drink—he was taken to the hospital. A little more time went by, and the decision was rendered in his favor. He was honorably discharged from the army, and he felt himself greatly favored by God because of it. During this coming year, Rivera hopes to attend Southwestern Junior College to prepare himself better to carry this truth. He has seen the ripening harvest, and he wants to bring sheaves to the Master when He comes.

C. L. TORREY: We are very sorry that we are unable to give these brethren time to tell you more of their story of God's abounding grace. Some other time, perhaps, they will have opportunity. Now, it gives us much pleasure to introduce Elder Calkins, the president of the Inter-American Division. He will render his report.

[This report appears on page 108.]

In closing, the congregation joined in singing "Inter-America's Call," and the benediction was pronounced by G. A. Roberts, former president of the Inter-American Division.

broken, and we must lay aside every weight of sin so that we can climb those heights of Christian attainment portrayed for us in the Word of God.

There is no excuse for sin, because provision has been made for us to live above it and to overcome every weakness in our character. The attempt to excuse sin is as old as sin itself. When Adam committed the first transgression, he put the blame upon Eve. Eve again excused her transgression on the grounds that the serpent was responsible, but there is no excuse for sin and no reason why it should have any part in our lives. Since, then, there is no reason or excuse for sin, there is every reason for righteousness and perfection of character.

Avoiding That Which Is Evil

The race in which we are engaged can be successfully completed only by those who are prepared to lay aside every weight. When the Greek athletes were in preparation, they spent days and weeks in their gymnasia, loaded down with all kinds of weights. As the day for the race came, however, all these weights were put aside, so that there would be no encumbrance as they sought to win the prize. So we today must unload everything that is hindering our spiritual progress. When the early church began to lose its primitive fervor and prophesying became a profession, then spiritual standards were accordingly lowered. One of the Christian documents reported to be written in the second century shows how the church of that time was beginning to lower the standard and to compromise with the world. This document states: "If you cannot keep the whole law, then do the best you can." Thus through the succeeding centuries, Christianity has been guilty of making many comfortable compromises with the world.

It is for the believers in this advent movement to get back to the perfection of the apostolic age, back to the days of Pentecost, when the disciples had so searched their hearts that every sin was removed from their lives.

Perfection is possible with Christ. Consider one whose record is left for us in the Word of God. The devil was accusing the brethren in the courts of heaven. He had gone there to represent this world in place of Adam, from whom he had taken it by subtlety. He assured God that there was no one on this earth who was capable of reaching the standard which the Creator of the universe had set for them. But God had a man named Job of whom it is said: "A perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil." Job 2:3. The word "eschew" is an old English word meaning "to shy." A spirited horse, when it thinks there is danger lurking on the roadside, shies or jumps as far away from the object as possible. That is what Job did with sin. He did not inquire into it, but kept far away from it. He recognized that sin was of all things most dangerous and deadly and that we should keep away from it as far as possible.

The power that was given Job to live

Going on Unto Perfection

A Morning Devotional Study

By W. G. C. MURDOCH

THE theme for our meditation this morning is found in Revelation 14:5. Speaking of those who will be redeemed alive from the earth, John the revelator says, "And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God." This is the standard which all must reach if they are to be among that blessed company of 144,000 who will stand with the Lamb upon Mt. Zion, having the Father's name written in their foreheads and the victorious song of Moses in their hearts.

The Highest Standard

God has set the highest standard for His people. Nothing short of perfection is expected of this last generation. Says the Spirit of prophecy,

"The greatest teacher the world has ever known is Jesus Christ; and what is the standard He has given for all

who believe in Him? 'Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.' Matt. 5:48. . . .

"There is opened before us a path of continual advancement. We have an object to reach, a standard to gain, which includes everything good and pure and noble and elevated. There should be continual striving and constant progress onward and upward toward perfection of character."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 365.

We must never be satisfied with our present attainments, but continually be striving and pressing on toward the goal of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Our aims, our hopes, our ambitions, and our ideals of the past have all been centered on too low a plane. We must climb higher and higher if we are to reach God's ideal for us. The chains of the past that so often have held us down must be

a perfect life is available for all today. The hedge which the Lord had planted around him to keep him in His love and to keep out the fiery darts of the enemy is still encircling the people of God. Job lived a perfect life alone. His sons and his daughters were wayward and his wife was little help to him. But he retained his integrity in spite of all the circumstances which were against him. Christian perfection can be reached only by definite and strenuous endeavor, but the power is available for every emergency.

Guilelessness is the outstanding trait in the character of this faultless company described by John. In them there is no subtlety, no deceit, no clever manipulating to gain their own ends. They are transparently sincere; their hearts have been changed; the old heart of deceit and duplicity has been taken away, and in its stead has been placed a heart like that of Jesus.

A Heart Without Guile

The prophet Jeremiah declares that the human "heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jer. 17:9. The old life naturally tends downward to destruction. "That which is born of the flesh," said Jesus, "is flesh." John 3:6. Thus it is necessary to be born again. This new birth means a transformation of the entire nature, a complete change, not a modification or a patching up of the old. There can be nothing of the old brought over into the new, as we studied in our Sabbath school lesson the week before last. No man should put a piece of new cloth into an old garment nor new wine into old bottles." (Luke 5:36-38.) Over in the city of London a drunkard staggered into a revival meeting and took his seat on the back row. As he listened to the preacher tell of the power of God to save the deepest sinner from his guilt, the Spirit of the Lord spoke to his heart, and he decided to finish with the old life and begin a new. He had, however, his old bottle at home still half full of the accursed drink. Rather than throw it away, he decided to put it in his medicine cabinet and keep it for some emergency. He reasoned that he might be poorly one day and need it as a medicine. Strange to say, he felt the need of it the next day.

We do not know our own hearts and must not toy with even the appearance of evil. Let us break with the past and make no provision for failure in the future. This is the reason the Master asked the paralytic to take up his bed and move forward, so that he would not be tempted to return to his old life of sin. The company portrayed in our text by John have been changed in life and character. They are the Israel of God and have passed through a similar experience to that recorded of Jacob in Genesis 32:24-29.

The name Jacob is very significant. It means a heel tripper, one who is always ready to take a mean advantage of his brother, a deceiver full of guile. Until the Jabbok experience, Jacob was renowned for his subtlety. He deceived his old blind father. He deceived his

Uncle Laban, and all his life he had manifested a spirit of craftiness and cunning. After this night of terrible wrestling, however, Jacob was a changed man. No longer was he to bear the name of shame and deception, but Israel was to be his name, because now God had helped him to overcome all his former subtle ways and Jacob was now a new man.

A True Israelite

The study of the change of names in the Bible is a very fruitful one. Such a study reveals many thoughts and meanings which are not apparent to the casual reader. Scholars are still divided on the etymology of the word Israel, but the two Hebrew words of which it is composed mean God-ruled, not one who is an overcomer so much as one who has been overcome by God. Could you have seen Jacob coming from that night of terrible wrestling and limping upon his thigh, you would not have thought of him as a conqueror. No, he was one who had allowed the Lord to conquer him.

"God breaks that He may make;
He cripples that Me may crown."

The hymn reveals this great spiritual truth when it so beautifully says:

"Make me a captive, Lord,
And then I shall be free;

Force me to render up my sword,
And I shall conqueror be."

He who has been conquered by Christ becomes a free man, and only such is truly free. "If the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed."

An Israelite has finished with the past. Guile plays no part any more in his life. This belongs to the former Jacob-like life of failure and deception. Christ, in His significant remark concerning Nathaniel, further elaborates this thought when he declares of this apostle, "Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" John 1:47. The word Nathaniel means "gift of God" and indicates that such a guileless character as he possessed comes only as a direct gift from God. Satan is the author of guile and deceit. For thousands of years he has practiced his art on the human family with amazing success. By his subtlety he led astray our first parents, and he is putting forth prodigious efforts to deceive the people of God today.

Some workers in their misplaced zeal for the cause of God stoop to employ means that are not wholly free from guile. They are guilty of reasoning that the end justified the means, and while not publicly acknowledging the old heathen teaching that "a lie is better than a harmful truth," yet they stoop to methods which the Lord would not condone. They even quote the apostle Paul as having stated that he caught some of his Corinthian converts by craftiness. Such is not the case, however, for a careful and critical examination of the text reveals the opposite to be true. (2 Cor. 12:16.) The apostle is here asking the question if he caught them by guile, and the answer to this question is definitely no. Guile forms no part in the life of those who are ready to meet the Lord. The

clever, the cunning, the artful, the deceitful character will have no place among the Israel of God.

Conversation Is Christlike

Our text says that there is no guile in their mouth, that is, their words are pure, noble, and elevating. Their conversation is above reproach. It is Christlike. Concerning the life of Christ on earth, the apostle Peter declares, "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth." 1 Peter 2:22. There is then the closest connection between the words we speak and the life we live. The words are the expression of what is in the heart, for "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Matt. 12:34. Also the words we speak react upon our character. Hence, the importance of giving careful and diligent attention to our everyday conversation. The statement from the apostle Peter concerning Christ indicates that should there be no guile in one's conversation, then there is no sin in the life. James, in that remarkable third chapter of his epistle, expresses a similar thought in verse 2: "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body."

So important are the words we speak that they are the standard by which we shall be judged, according to Matthew 12:36, 37: "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." We who are living in this judgment hour ought to be careful and prayerful about our conversation and follow the example of Christ whose words were always spoken in love.

"Jesus did not suppress one word of truth, but He uttered it always in love. He exercised the greatest tact, and thoughtful, kind attention, . . . never needlessly spoke a severe word, never gave needless pain to a sensitive soul." —*Steps to Christ*, p. 12.

In our talking of others, we need to exercise more charity. Peter, when writing of those who would be living in the last days, says, "But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins." 1 Peter 4:7, 8. This is how the world will know that we are true Christians. This is how we will know ourselves that we are saved. "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." 1 John 3:14. Those who will be ready for the coming of Jesus will have put on charity towards their brethren and will have put away the spirit of unkind and harsh criticism. This is not the time to harbor any grudge, to live in some bitter experience of the past, and to cramp our spiritual life by cherishing harsh feelings against some brother.

This is the time to examine our own hearts and not those of our brethren. We have to stand faultless before the throne of God and not before any human tribunal. It is "as men lose their

first love, . . . then they begin to criticize one another."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 189. In our close watch to discover the faults of others, we neglect the investigation of our own hearts and the purification of our own lives. The Lord is coming for a people who have gained the victory over every sin and especially the outstanding sin of unkind criticism. Those who are ready for His coming will be known by their speech. They will be following the example of their blessed Lord of whom even those servants of the Pharisees confessed, "Never man spake like this man." John 7:46.

Look to Jesus

Let us then look to Christ for our pattern. Looking at our fellow men will bring discouragement, but looking unto Jesus will bring light and joy and victory. Those who will stand with Christ upon that mountain victorious over every sin will have been so accustomed to looking at Christ that they will be like Him, as continual gazing into His face will change the life and character. (2 Corinthians 3:18.) Look up where Christ is. The outlook may be dark and cloudy, but the uplook is always bright and glorious.

We must all appear before that throne, and unless we have sent every sin beforehand to judgment, we shall fail in the final examination and lose the crown of eternal life. During the days of war in our country, many Adventist young men were called before tribunals which had been set up to hear the cases of those who refused to bear arms. Some young men would place their cases in the hands of a representative who would appear and appeal for them when their names were called. This advocate would answer and earnestly present their cases to the judge. This experienced pleader would often impress the judge to give a favorable decision when the young man himself might not have been successful. That is what Christ is doing for you and me. "His sprinkled blood is pleading before the Father's throne," and those who have availed themselves of its cleansing power and stand faultless before that throne will be among that number seen in vision by the apostle John. Put your case then in the hands of Jesus.

May it be said in that glad day of all who are here this morning: "And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God."

AUDITOR

W. E. Phillips

VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE FAR EASTERN DIVISION

V. T. Armstrong

VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

Glenn Calkins

VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION

R. R. Figuhr

VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DIVISION

C. W. Bozarth

VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION

W. R. Beach

That the officers and departmental secretaries of the Central and Northern European Divisions be appointed by the General Conference Committee, in harmony with the action taken at the Fourth Meeting of this Session, June 7, 1946, and recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

That the officers and departmental secretaries of the proposed Southern Pacific Division be appointed by the General Conference Committee, in harmony with the action recorded in the Fourth Meeting of this General Conference Session.

W. G. TURNER: Brother Chairman, the brethren are probably acquainted with this action. This called for visitation of these fields by representatives of the General Conference, and subsequent to such visitation at some Autumn Council the division officers should be appointed by action of the General Conference Committee at such council.

Upon motion being made by N. C. Wilson, and seconded, the report was read a second time and question called on each name separately.

L. H. CHRISTIAN: Now you have heard this report. It has been moved and seconded that we accept it. Those who favor the report as it has been read by the secretary, will you show it by the uplifted hand? [Hands up.] Thank you.

Anyone opposed? It is unanimously adopted. Thank you.

L. H. CHRISTIAN: We shall now have the report of the Missionary Volunteer Department. Brother Peterson will give it.

[The report of the Missionary Volunteer Department appears on page 119.]

E. D. DICK: Let me share with you some cables that have come. The first is from S. G. Hyde, the superintendent of the Welsh Mission:

"The church in Wales sends fraternal greetings to General Conference assembly. We pray that divine wisdom may inspire all decisions and provide solution to perplexing problems."

The next is from L. F. Bohner, from Singapore:

"Malayan Union workers praying for successful conference. Please remember our many needs."

Another, also from the Far Eastern Division, signed by P. L. Williams, the treasurer of the Far Eastern Division:

"Greetings to world conference from workers and believers in Far Eastern Division. John four verse thirty-five

Proceedings of the General Conference

Eighth Meeting

June 10, 1946, 10 A.M.

CHAIRMAN: L. H. Christian.

OPENING HYMN: No. 523, "Take the Name of Jesus With You."

PAUL WICKMAN: This is the second year of our Takoma Park Boys' Choir, directed by Professor Gilmour McDonald. We are to listen to two numbers from this boys' choir.

[The choir sang "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," and "Steal Away."]

L. H. CHRISTIAN: This morning we are to have a report from the Home Missionary Department and also from the Missionary Volunteer Department, and possibly some committee reports. W. A. Butler, the acting secretary of the Home Missionary Department, will bring us his report at this time.

[The report of the Home Missionary Department appears on page 117.]

Partial Report of Nominating Committee

L. H. CHRISTIAN: The nominating committee is prepared to render another partial report.

W. G. TURNER: Brother Chairman, your committee on nominations is prepared to report. By action of the home and foreign officers who met in Takoma Park prior to this session, the following was voted:

"We recommend, That the Nominating Committee of the General Conference session be asked to nominate a General Conference staff that will be adequate to provide for the world-wide needs of our work, it being understood that to make this possible the staff will need, in some instances at least, to be larger than it has been hitherto."

This recommendation has been placed in the hands of the Committee on Nominations, and the brethren have sought to act in harmony with its direction. We are, therefore, Brother Chairman, recommending to this delegation that the Vice-Presidents of the General Conference be increased from three to four. There is no constitutional provision directing in the matter of any number, so that no constitutional change is required. This morning we are having a report only on three of the general vice-presidents. The fourth is yet to be nominated. Also, we are not yet able to report on the leadership of some of the most important divisions. So if you feel that some of our leading brethren have not received consideration, you will be assured by this that the matter is still under advisement, and very important positions are yet to be filled. Brother Wilson is secretary for the Committee on Nominations.

N. C. WILSON: Brother Chairman, your Nominating Committee has pleasure in submitting the following partial report.

GENERAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

L. K. Dickson

W. B. Ochs

A. V. Olson

VICE-PRESIDENT FOR NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

N. C. Wilson

SECRETARY

E. D. Dick

TREASURER

W. E. Nelson

SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT

A. W. Cormack

STATISTICAL SECRETARY

C. Conard

and Matthew nine verses thirty-seven and thirty-eight applicable. Baptisms in Philippines first four months this year total one thousand two hundred twenty-four."

John 4:35, as you probably know, is, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Matthew 9:37, 38: "Then saith He unto His disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest."

A further cable comes to us from S. Jonasson, from the far North, up at Goteborg, Sweden:

"Your fellow believers in the Upper Northland of Sweden greet the General Conference with Psalm 117."

Meeting adjourned.

Closing hymn, "Doxology."

Benediction, Meade MacGuire.

L. H. CHRISTIAN, *Chairman*.

H. T. ELLIOTT, *Secretary*.

Ninth Meeting

June 10, 1946; 3:45 P.M.

CHAIRMAN: L. H. Christian.

OPENING HYMN: No. 157, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."

Prayer by George Keough.

L. H. CHRISTIAN: We have before us a resolution on "Thanks Be Unto God." We will call for the secretary to read this.

The secretary then read the resolution, as follows:

Thanks Be Unto God

For all the manifold mercies of our God, manifested in His kind protective care since last we met in General Conference assembly, we humbly inscribe this tribute of thanksgiving and praise.

Throughout the devastating years of international conflict that has wracked the world, both East and West, He has been the refuge and stay of every believing heart. Like the pillar of fire which led Israel of old through nights of peril, God has led His remnant people forward in all lands, despite the heavy handicaps of privation, upheaval, and isolation. His work has triumphed even under the restrictions of military draft and occupation, with their consequent disruption of our regular leadership. Like the pillar of cloud that hovered over the people of the Exodus, He has protected His suffering people and His work in these crucial years. As the tumult of strife has died away and contacts with the battle-scarred areas of earth are again being restored, we find encouraging advances in membership recorded in all lands.

Our people have remained loyal to the advent cause. Though some have lost their lives, they remained steadfast to the end, sealing their testimony in their death. Under the marvels of God's care, the framework of our organization has remained intact even in sections cut off from the sisterhood of conferences, and the properties

of which we had been deprived are being restored to us. To the great project of rehabilitation of our churches and institutions in ravished lands, our people have responded nobly. In this time of privation and starvation over vast areas of the world in which our own dear people are suffering, God has providentially opened the way for material help from our people in more favored lands to reach and bring relief to our suffering fellow believers whose tragic needs demand our concern. Truly, God has been good to His people. We bow before Him in this humble tribute of acknowledgment. We rejoice in the privilege of rededication of life and strength and means—all we are and all we have—to the finishing of the great task before us. Thanks be to God!

L. H. CHRISTIAN: Is not that, brethren, a very appropriate statement? Those who find that as an expression of our thanksgiving to God, as the motion indicates, will you show it by the uplifted hand. [All hands raised.] Now, brethren, let us adopt it further by a moment of silence. Let us bow our heads silently as we accept it. [Praying:] O Lord, our Father in heaven, our hearts are indeed filled to overflowing with gratitude to Thee for Thy marvelous watchcare and guidance during these past years of war and strife. We do thank Thee, Lord, as expressed in this beautiful statement, for Thy love, for Thy goodness,

(Continued on page 127)



A Group of National Workers in the Costumes of Their Countries

The Home Missionary Department

By WILLIAM A. BUTLER, Acting Secretary

THE past five years have been filled with providential openings and opportunities for home missionary work in a thousand ways. The hour of trial that settled down upon the world during these years enhanced the opportunity for our believers to reveal themselves as a true, unselfish, missionary-spirited people. At times barriers arose that looked forbidding, laws were passed in some countries that apparently cut off opportunity for missionary work, and men in conference leadership were enlisted or imprisoned; yet our loyal members would not be discouraged, but found a way, through prayer and faith, to reach the hearts of their neighbors and win them to this truth. There are no impediments with God.

The Home Missionary Department of the General Conference in its organization throughout the world field reaches every church and isolated church member, endeavoring to enlist everyone for Christian missionary service. To make this noble task effective, a thorough but simple system of education is advanced through our various home missionary institutes, church officers' councils, lay preachers' conventions, and courses of instruction. Also, to assist in this great task of educating and training, some lay courses are offered in our colleges, in the Home Study Institute, and other departments of the General Conference. This we call the educational phase of home missionary work.

However, we cannot stop with the education and training, for the second step—that of getting the laymen into active missionary service—is the grand and glorious aim of all previous preparation. It is our purpose that every church member shall have opportunity for instruction in missionary work, and then under faithful leadership the work of God goes forward.

God has guided in the harvest of souls so that sufficient men and women of leadership will be found in every church or group to advance His cause. It is our business to be able to recognize this leadership and give such the advantage and instruction needed to advance the work of God effectively. In volume 9, page 117, we read, "*In every church there is talent*, which, with the right kind of labor, might develop to become a great help in this work." Talent in every church! We must cultivate these resources in the church and awaken the dormant abilities God has given us.

Christ is the Head of the church and the unseen Director of all missionary evangelism. The ministry and the laity are united in this noble responsibility. The home missionary department representatives are men chosen to lead out and direct in the great layman's missionary ministry, working side by side with all other conference workers, and hand in hand with the Missionary

Volunteer leaders in reaching the youth.

Training the laity in giving Bible studies successfully to their neighbors is one of our main objectives. We all know that consecration, tact, and wisdom are needed to teach from the Bible these great principles of the message; and in order to help our people to do this work skillfully, a course of instruction is given in the church entitled "How to Give Bible Studies." This course has been newly revised and much improved, and will be greatly appreciated everywhere.

God has endowed many of our brethren, also young people, and some sisters with the ability to reach large



Wm. A. Butler

groups successfully. Those who can hold cottage and public meetings with success we call lay preachers. Encouraging reports of this work come to us from nearly every division. There are from 8,000 to 10,000 active soul winners in this group, and the number increases each year. It is really marvelous to note the experiences these brethren are having. Thousands of new believers are won to the truth each year through their labors, and many new churches are raised up. Conference executives and the ministry in general have given these self-sacrificing laymen hearty support. *The Lay Preacher*, a General Conference periodical published by the Home Missionary Department, has proved to be beneficial, and is greatly appreciated in the field.

God's army of lay Bible instructors and lay preachers has been busy during the past five years, for the records that are available indicate that 9,335,400 Bible readings and gospel meetings were held. This includes the work of lay preachers.

The men's missionary organization

is accomplishing a large and noble work in many places. Youth are being assisted in attending our schools who otherwise would not have the advantages of a Christian education; lay preaching is promoted, and assistance is given in various conference building projects and welfare work. The missionary men are especially endeavoring to reach and win more men for Christ. Similar societies are organized in overseas divisions. There is a large work that the men's missionary society can do everywhere, and their united effort is appreciated and needed.

The opportunity was never greater to minister to the sick and suffering and those in distress, and such conditions will increase. During the past five-year period 13,221,859 persons have been helped by treatments or otherwise, and 16,526,491 during the previous corresponding period. Work of this nature varies in different countries. In many overseas fields there is no physician or nurse who would be qualified to teach a technical course in hygiene and treatments; therefore, there is a great need of a simple course along medical missionary lines, and we hope such a course will be available to all church members in the very near future.

All around the world we have had many and even great opportunities in some places to manifest the Christ spirit of helping the destitute, hungry, and homeless, and in these more recent years this opportunity has been thrust upon us in a very great and real way. Those who have been in a situation to help in humanitarian work have considered it a blessing and providential opportunity to do so. Leaders of the laymen's missionary movement have endeavored to place renewed emphasis upon the importance of practical demonstration of Christianity in the daily affairs of life for the relief of suffering and distress. Our Dorcas sisters, as angels of mercy, pioneer the way in this high responsibility, and thus prepare many hearts for the message. As this ministry extends and becomes more prominent, a better understanding and appreciation of Seventh-day Adventists results. Prejudice is removed, Ingathering donations are more freely given, and co-operation in providing for community needs is apparent. Another, and even more gratifying result is seen in the fact that the spiritual experience of our own people is deepened and enriched.

The response on the part of the womanhood of the remnant church to the call to engage in this service has been most heartening. At the present time well-organized work is being carried on in the majority of our churches, not only in North America, but also in each division of the world-wide field. Leaders of Dorcas federations have been appointed to foster the Dorcas Benevolent Service in groups of churches within convenient areas of central points.

True Dorcas ministry calls for the help of every woman in the church. The "mothers in Israel," younger wives and mothers, the juniors, the

shut-ins, and the aged—all are needed to fill places of usefulness in the work needing to be done. Groups of younger women organize as “junior workers” (junior society), with duties and responsibilities similar to the senior society.

Dorcas Benevolent Service requires operating funds. During the last five years \$500,000 has entered the Dorcas treasury, and some \$400,000 has been expended in relief ministry. This relief expenditure has included generous lifts along the way as investment in worthy student funds and aiding in times of special crisis in church building and upkeep. We have recognized the need of divine guidance to keep in the middle of the road and avoid deviating into side lines of commercialism and nonessentials.

The place of the Dorcas Benevolent Service in the missionary program of the church is largely pioneer effort—paving the way for the evangelist, the pastor, the Bible instructor. It is not often the privilege of these faithful workers to see the result of their work in souls won to the truth; yet we know that 3,732 persons became “definitely interested in the truth through Dorcas ministry.”

War Relief Work

The greatest task of its kind ever undertaken by us as a people has been accomplished in recent months. In the North American Division during the year 1945 and the first five months of 1946 our people have prepared and given about 500 tons of used and new clothing, to be shipped to our own believers and thousands of others in overseas fields within the war-stricken areas. This includes 100 tons of parcel-post packages. Seventh-day Adventists love the third angel's message and the doctrines of our faith, and we love one another the world around, but there has been no experience that has bound our hearts more closely together than this opportunity to give clothing for the destitute “over there,” who have been through a terrible experience and crisis. What we have been able to accomplish in this way has been done joyfully. The processing, maintaining of two warehouses in this country, and getting the goods shipped to the points of distribution have cost many thousands of dollars, and even this our people have contributed liberally.

Generally speaking, all shipments of clothing have been sent to our own organizations overseas, and they in turn have distributed it to our church members and others. Many words of praise and gratitude from our people and others have been received, expressing thanks for these liberal contributions. God has worked for us in many providential ways in helping us to get these shipments to our own organizations. We have sent liberal shipments of clothing to over thirty different countries—to North Africa, Ethiopia, nearly all countries of Europe, the Philippines, China, Burma, Korea, and Japan.

Many Dorcas and welfare societies

in Europe helped to remodel their scanty supply of clothing for others less fortunate. A barefooted sister in France, after receiving a pair of shoes from an American shipment, thought of a colporteur sister who could not deliver books for lack of shoes, and gave her precious possession to the colporteur.

Our American soldier boys have been a great help in many countries in getting clothing delivered when there was no other way, the United States Army supplying truck service.

In all this war relief work our faithful Dorcas organization has played a most important part. I would especially mention the most liberal spirit and time given by our Dorcas sisters at the two warehouses. They have been the mainspring in getting the clothing repaired, sorted, and ready for baling. The time contributed would amount to many solid months of working hours, and I pause here to say, “We thank you.”

Our church people have done a grand work through the literature ministry during the past General Conference period. In spite of the fact that there has been a shortage of paper all over the world during the war, they distributed 39,000,000 more pieces of missionary literature than during the previous period. The laymen have used hundreds of thousands of Crisis books, and have loaned to their neighbors large and small doctrinal books of all kinds in hundreds of languages. The pieces of literature used in the period 1940-45 total 144,564,325. All our missionary periodicals and other literature have increased in circulation. During the six weeks' Ingathering campaign in North America more than 6,000,000 pieces of Ingathering material are used in twenty-two languages.

Bible Correspondence Course

Within the last five years a new phase of missionary opportunity has been born into the Home Missionary Department, that of the Bible Correspondence Course. This is proving to be one of the most far-reaching opportunities for winning souls. While this plan started in North America, it quickly reached to Africa and then to other divisions. This method gives the individual the opportunity to study the third angel's message in his own home by correspondence, and many thousands are being reached in this way.

The one great annual campaign in which we all participate is that of Ingathering. All our churches and institutions take part in this annual outing. Our people everywhere cheerfully raise the Minute Man goal or do their part otherwise, from the little child to the grandparent. The last few years each division has enjoyed the pleasure of shortening the campaign to a very few weeks—in some places only two or three weeks—and yet has raised more money in this shorter time. Our heavenly Father has wonderfully blessed these loyal and faithful efforts.

We quote from the report given at the General Conference session in

1936: “We are persuaded that it is possible to reach an Ingathering total of \$2,000,000 a year throughout the world field, and we should not rest content with present achievements.” In 1945 nearly \$2,000,000 was raised in North America alone, and in the world field \$3,592,422. We thank God for impressing our friends to give so liberally to help support our heavy world missionary program. From 1941 to 1945 Ingathering receipts show \$11,299,374, about \$5,000,000 more than the previous five years.

The Missions Extension Fund has also grown steadily year by year. This present period \$950,018 was donated and the previous five years \$594,405, a gain of nearly half a million.

Missions offerings for local work from 1941 to 1945 were \$2,607,371, making total funds raised by the Home Missionary Department for this corresponding period in supporting our world work \$14,856,763.

“Handclasp”

In order to bring about more uniform plans and promote a stronger work throughout the entire harvest field, the General Conference Home Missionary Department is now publishing a world bulletin, *The Handclasp*, which we feel will be much appreciated. It will be a medium for exchanging plans and helpful missionary ideas among the various divisions. Each division will contribute to its success.

In rendering this report the General Conference Home Missionary Department staff give due thanks and recognition to the faithful secretarial leadership of each division, union, and local conference and mission. And we would not be unmindful of the hearty co-operation and assistance of the missionary officers in each church and company. It is through the united efforts of all that we have efficiency, dispatch, and results in the Master's service.

We are happy to report that from 1936 to 1940 there were 65,166 souls won by laymen's efforts. And from the incomplete statistics from 1940 to 1945 there were 81,625. We thank our heavenly Father for this encouraging advance of 16,000.

More Bible readings must be given by more of our people, many more lay preachers must be enlisted in all parts of the world. As paper is supplied again, we should distribute as much missionary literature in one year as we did during the past five years and thus let the floodlights of God's message illumine the world.

We are not content with the achievements of the past, for it all might have been better. As we look into the immediate future we recognize that there is a great work ahead, for God has charged the laymen's movement with a grave and grand responsibility in the final windup of His message. With the definite, glorious promises of strength and guidance from above, commensurate with our duty, we gladly accept our responsibility and push on to the grand climax of victory.

The Young People's Department of Missionary Volunteers

By ALFRED W. PETERSON, Secretary

THIS survey of the work of the Young People's Department of Missionary Volunteers during the past five-year period covers, perhaps, the most difficult era in our denominational history. Youth has always fought the wars of the world. But this war drew into the conflict more young people of more nations than any war preceding. Thousands of youth, many of whom were still in their teens, were moved out of their homes, their churches, their schools, and their customary work, and sent off to army training camps. Other thousands found their way into munitions plants and war-related industries. This war witnessed one of the greatest migrations of youth in all history. It tore them away from their normal environment and thrust them into new and strange experiences in every part of the earth. The impact and the influence of this war upon young life has been enormous.

It was inevitable that the war should profoundly affect our youth organizations in every land touched by it. Societies, service bands, and evangelistic groups lost their young, vigorous leaders. Junior groups in our churches and Junior camps had their counselors taken from them. Our Senior society membership decreased, and in consequence for a time there was a marked drop in society missionary activity. In many of the world divisions our departmental secretaries were entirely cut off from communication with the General Conference office, and in some divisions our departmental organization was utterly destroyed. Reports were not received from about half of the fields.

By 1943 our young people's work had sagged to its lowest point for the five-year period. Adjustments had to be made, new leaders had to be trained, and many societies had to be reorganized. Our Missionary Volunteer secretaries in division, union, and local conferences and in mission fields were doing a magnificent job in their endeavor to recover losses and to drive for new gains.

In 1941 we had 6,774 Missionary Volunteer Societies with a membership of 153,326. By the end of 1945 we had 7,883 societies, a gain of 1,109 societies, or 16.2 per cent, and a membership of 192,799, which is a gain of 39,473, or 25.74 per cent. The picture becomes clearer if we consider the relation of Missionary Volunteer membership to church membership. In 1941 there were 29 Missionary Volunteers to every 100 church members throughout the world field, and in 1945 there were 34 Missionary Volunteers to every 100 church members.

A summary of division reports follows.

SUMMARY OF WORLD YOUNG PEOPLE'S MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER REPORTS 1941-1945

Country	Year	No. Societies	Membership
Australia	1941	470	14,584
	1945	446	14,927
Central Europe*	1940	307	8,408
	1941	92	3,678
China	1945	71	2,650
	1941	501	9,916
Far East*	1941	885	16,557
	1945	1,059	22,111
Inter-America	1941	2,086	44,764
	1945	2,386	50,237
North America	1941	376	9,028
	Latest	277	5,266
Northern Europe*	1941	12	225
	1945	181	6,528
South America	1941	646	11,793
	1945	796	22,267
South Africa	1941	785	27,608
	1945	1,234	42,373
Southern Asia	1941	79	2,964
	1944	80	2,959
Southern Europe	1941	455	7,601
	1945	465	8,957
Russia*	1941	80	1,200
	1945	6,774	153,326
TOTALS	1941	6,774	153,326
	1945	7,883	192,799
WORLD GAINS		1,109	39,473

* The figures given for Russia are those estimated by the Statistical Department. The figures for Central Europe, the Far East, and



A. W. Peterson

parts of Northern Europe are incomplete, and the figures given are the most recent ones within the period 1940-45. General Conference Missions were formerly included in Northern Europe and in the Northern European report; this should be taken into account.

It should be noted in this connection that our Missionary Volunteer camps and our Missionary Volunteer spring Week of Prayer have enormous importance in bringing young people to Christ. Missionary Volunteer Week in particular has become one of the great evangelistic efforts of the church. In 1945 in the North American Division alone 2,579 young people were brought to Christ during Missionary Volunteer Week and in the 65 Junior camps 1,325 children joined baptismal classes.

Fairly complete statistics regarding baptisms were received from five divisions, but in the other world divisions from which no reports came many thousands of young people must also have been baptized.

YOUNG PEOPLE BAPTIZED

Year	Australia	Inter-America	North America	South America	South Africa
1941	474	1,638	3,851	806	569
1942	176*	1,545	4,283	1,076	785
1943	256*	2,168	3,582	1,197	998
1944	505*	2,370	3,758	1,273	1,230
1945	330*	2,679	4,136	1,423	1,448

Totals 1,741* 10,400 19,610 5,775 5,030
Total baptisms for the 5 years 42,556

* Australasian reports from 1942 through 1945 do not include mission fields except for four baptisms reported in 1944 and five in 1945.

It needs to be emphasized again that the greatest number of baptisms take place among youth who are in their twelfth year. No soul-winning endeavor of the church, therefore, could be more fruitful or more important than work for Juniors.

The Morning Watch, that quiet time of communion with God in the morning, is one of the great devotional features of the Missionary Volunteer movement. Through these troublous years there has been an increasing number of Missionary Volunteers observing this sacred trust with God. The circulation and use of Morning Watch Calendars by Missionary Volunteers is significant.

During the five-year period, 788,196 regular Morning Watch Calendars were circulated. In addition to this, 155,915 copies of the Servicemen's Morning Watch were printed, which, added to the regular edition, makes a total of 944,111. This far exceeds the number of Morning Watch Calendars circulated for any similar period.

Character Classics

During this period a new four-year reading plan called the Character Classics was inaugurated. This is a plan for correlated reading of the Bible and the Conflict Series of the Spirit of prophecy, and it has been enthusiastically received. In 1944, when the plan was first launched, 40,200 of the Character Classics reading schedules were circulated, and the next year, 52,790. A. H. Roth, of the Inter-American Division, has informed us that they are to have the Character Classics in the Spanish.

The number of Missionary Volunteers pursuing Reading Courses has been steadily increasing. In some divisions the war made it impossible for the Missionary Volunteer Department to provide Reading Courses for their youth. In the area supplied by the publishing houses of North America there has been a good increase in the circulation of Reading Course books. In the North American Division during the five-year period 82,356 Reading Course Certificates were issued, and in 1945 a number equal to 45 out of every 100 Missionary Volunteers in the North American field completed a Reading Course.

Our Missionary Volunteer Progressive Classes and nature clubs of vari-

ous kinds, sponsored by the church, have been an effective means of making the lives of our children and youth church-centered, and leading thousands of them on into church membership and service. The Missionary Volunteer class pin, neckerchief, and sash, with its varicolored tokens, are symbols of happy fellowship and ever-enlarging experiences. In 1941, 75 vocational projects were provided our young people. Today this has been increased to 107, and these are calculated to appeal to youth of every age level and condition.

Class handbooks and manuals have been prepared in South America, Inter-America, South Africa, the British Union, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Southern Asia, Southern Europe, and China.

Statistics are incomplete from the world field, but in North America 27,165 were invested in the various classes during the five-year period, and nearly 100,000 honor tokens were earned by young people.

In all countries, but especially where educational opportunities are meager, these classes have been an effective educational factor, serving to enlarge the interests of young people and to increase their capabilities for service.

Missionary Volunteer Leaflets

During this five-year period the following new leaflets have been issued: "Be a Master Comrade," "Character Classics" leaflets I, II, III, "In Shining Armor," "As a Christian Doctor Sees It," "Bowling, Does It Open the Door?" "On the King's Highway," "Nictine Knockout," and "Prayer Band Leaflet No. 2." A number of other leaflets have been revised during this period. There were circulated 708,126 Missionary Volunteer leaflets on Missionary Volunteer organization and work, Bible study and meditation, Christian living, recreation and amusement, association, marriage, and the home.

Missionary Activities

Only a partial report of the missionary activities of Missionary Volunteers can be made. Among other kinds of missionary endeavor they have distributed millions of pieces of gospel literature and held thousands of gospel meetings and Bible studies. In the North American Division alone 22,185,065 pieces of literature were distributed and 235,894 gospel meetings or Bible readings were held.

In 1943 the M.V. Crusaders' Corps was launched. The Crusader movement is an endeavor to recruit and to lead into evangelistic service the Senior youth of the church. Typical of the Crusader movement is the effort conducted in Seattle by the young people under the leadership of Arthur Patzer. They began an evangelistic effort in a public hall in 1944. Twelve people were baptized in that effort. A second effort resulted in the baptism of fourteen.

A. H. Roth, of the Inter-American Division, wrote: "Over in East Jamaica, Tim Walters organized the

whole conference force and young people for a crusade in Kingston. . . . These meetings were especially designed to appeal to youth, and our young people played a very prominent part in speaking, singing, and advertising the meetings. . . . Over 30 are in the baptismal class as a result of the meetings held the first week."

J. M. Hnatyshyn, Missionary Volunteer secretary for the Southern African Division, tells, "In one church that was out of the way of travel, and we may say it was more or less forsaken, a young man by the name of Joslin carried on an effort in a small way. He was able to continue for a year, and as a result over 40 are now keeping the Sabbath."

On his return from his itinerary in Northern Europe, E. W. Dunbar brought word of a young man named Onni Halminen, who in 1944, at the age of twenty-one, was drafted into the Finnish army. He got permission to use our church at Turku. Then he secured passes from the army to go out evenings. He began a series of meetings, and by the end of 1944 30 were baptized. He did the same thing in 1945, and 35 were won to the truth. He is now out of the army and is holding a big effort in Tammerfors, with between six and seven hundred regularly attending on weekdays and between twelve and thirteen hundred at the week-end meetings.

The fruitage of the missionary endeavors of our young people cannot be reduced to cold figures, but in four divisions alone the number of people whom young people helped win totaled 13,505—a number equal in membership to a union conference. This, of course, is only a part of the total number of those around the world whom young people helped win to Christ.

Departmental Staff

During the five-year period two changes were made in the Missionary Volunteer Departmental staff. D. A. Ochs left in the summer of 1942 to take the presidency of the Northern New England Conference. We waited until the close of school in 1943 for D. E. Rebok to join the department. He was with us about a month when he was called to the presidency of the Seminary. E. W. Dunbar joined the General Conference departmental staff in September, 1943.

In making this report I must pay high tribute to the skillful ministry and the faithfulness of my fellow workers in the department, C. L. Bond, E. W. Dunbar, and Mrs. Marjorie Marsh, the office secretary. Only in the kingdom of heaven can they be rewarded for their faithful service.

A word ought to be said here about the frequent changes in the Missionary Volunteer Departmental staff throughout the field. Too-frequent changes in Missionary Volunteer leadership in the local conferences tend to retard the Missionary Volunteer movement. In the North American Division 38 of the 67 Missionary Volunteer secretaries are new men since March, 1943. This is a turnover of 56 per cent in North

America in three years. We ought to work toward a program of keeping our young people's workers for a longer period of service, and thus stabilize our young people's work around the field. Fortunately, many of the men who have joined the staff have had good training and a good background of experience in preparation for their work. But no organization can hope to function up to full efficiency if it must suffer too-frequent changes.

Conclusion

Plans ought to be laid at this General Conference for greatly enlarging the young people's work in many of the divisions of the world field. Unless this is done immediately, thousands of youth belonging to the families of the church not only will be lost to the work but will drift out of the church.

Steps ought to be taken immediately to reorganize and staff the Missionary Volunteer departments in many of the world divisions. Materials such as manuals, books, and charts for the instruction and help of conference secretaries and society leaders must be provided. Institutes for the instruction of conference and society officers should be held.

If the call of God to the church four decades ago, to organize the youth of the church, was important, it is a hundred times more important now. The best days of the advent movement are still ahead for us. The ranks of workers must still be filled from the ranks of youth enlisted from Missionary Volunteer Societies in our local churches.

In every field plans ought to be laid for large youth gatherings: (1) to rally the youth and deepen their Christian experience; (2) to captivate their thinking with the part that youth are to have in the advent message and to center their attention upon the great aim of the Missionary Volunteer Movement, namely, "The Advent Message to All the World in This Generation;" (3) to bring them into fellowship with one another; and (4) to develop a consciousness of a great world movement of Adventist youth.

May plans be laid at this General Conference which shall greatly multiply the effectiveness of our Missionary Volunteer work in all the world divisions and which shall bring inspiration and mold the life purposes of our youth around the world, in order that they shall be led to dedicate their lives to the finishing of the gospel commission.

RESOLUTELY refusing to display human wisdom or to exalt self, they [God's ministers] will accomplish a work that will withstand the assaults of Satan. Many souls will be turned from darkness to light, and many churches will be established. Men will be converted, not to the human instrumentality, but to Christ. Self will be kept in the background; Jesus only, the Man of Calvary, will appear.—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 278.

The Bureau of Press Relations

By J. R. FERREN, Secretary

IT IS a privilege to bring to this world delegation a brief review of the activities of your General Conference Bureau of Press Relations.

"Let your light so shine before men," the Master told His early followers, "that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

I have a deep conviction that this instruction applies to the church today in its intelligent use of the opportunities offered by the secular and religious press. Since taking over this work in December, 1942, I have constantly endeavored to develop improved methods for doing this. It has called for extensive promotion, the development of instructional materials and methods, and the building of an organizational structure. This involves the enlistment of our ministers, church members, conference leaders and institutional personnel in a general program of press relations designed to inform and favorably impress the public concerning the work of Seventh-day Adventists.

Every well-organized business and social group today recognizes favorable public opinion to be a priceless asset. They maintain their public relations departments and count warrantable any investment that builds for them better understanding, confidence, and good will.

The church, speaking in general terms, is awakening to the need of extending its influence beyond its immediate congregations and inner circles. The value and need of church publicity is widely urged. Books and articles on the subject are multiplying.

Stewart Harral, author of the book *Public Relations for Churches*, says, "It should be quite apparent to all those engaged in church leadership that no such enterprise as the church can long be successful without the understanding and support of the people."—page 17.

Another author, W. Austin Brodie, says:

"Regardless of other competing mediums of information, notably the radio, the newspaper continues to be, and probably will remain, the outstanding medium for influencing public thought. It is therefore of the highest importance that those working in the field of religion learn how to use the newspaper to the best advantage.

"The method of converting the use of publicity to the needs of religion is not difficult to learn. Knowing the correct methods of procedure, however, is the difference between getting newspaper publicity and permitting a fine opportunity for influencing people in the direction of religion to slip by."

We have found these general principles and suggestions to be true. The Lord has wonderfully blessed in applying them to our distinctive work. Truly we have felt the guiding hand

of God in giving our denominational leaders a larger vision of press possibilities and helping in the consistent and systematic building of a widespread reporting program.

Church Reporting

Large numbers of our churches, now a part of this program, have become real centers for local news. The press secretaries elected in these churches are alert to give their newspapers in proper form every item of news concerning services, activities, and church interests. These cover many subjects—church announcements, visits of guest speakers, young people's activities, Dorcas Society projects, relief work, mission programs, church



J. R. Ferren

schools, building improvements, and many other activities.

Many of these church representatives also find that their local papers will accept reports of a general nature touching the denomination's world work. For example, the story released by the Press Bureau reviewing actions taken at the Grand Rapids Autumn Council appeared in whole or in part in a large number of newspapers. This line of press promotion aggressively and intelligently fostered in our churches is creating a constantly enlarging flow of information through the daily press to the public. This is building understanding and good will, the value of which cannot be measured.

Many of our ministers are enjoying cordial relations with their local editors. We are constantly receiving their clipped reports which have been published in connection with evangelistic meetings or other occasions. Our younger ministers are particularly alert to the possibilities of this press work, and their efforts are very successful.

Seventh-day Adventist news is acceptable. We have a variety that no other church has. Editors are friendly and glad to publish Seventh-day Adventist news. The more we work with editors, give them information, and really let them know the spirit of our work, the more interested they become.

Our general meetings have a news appeal, of course, and editors are always pleased when they learn we have a press setup and can co-operate intelligently with them. Our relations have been most cordial with the papers in the cities where meetings have been held, and from which much church publicity has gone out. Releases sent back to churches for local publication have appeared in scores of papers.

Every newspaper in the country near relatives of the missionary internees freed from Philippine prisons a year ago was avid for information. The experiences of these missionaries were published far and wide, and are still being reported wherever they speak.

The relief work of the denomination has been very acceptable news, and papers all over the country have featured what Seventh-day Adventists have done in gathering and shipping clothing. Latest reports concerning our nation-wide drive for \$500,000 to aid in famine relief have been widely published.

During the meat shortage Seventh-day Adventist principles of diet were made the subject of feature articles. Adventist ministers and their families were written up and pictured on front pages and in pictorial sections of some of the biggest papers in the country. Many more such feature stories might have appeared had we seen the opportunity and made the most of it.

We find the editors are attracted by our school system, health principles, large publishing interests, church finance, loyalty to principles of religious freedom, and the enthusiasm of our people in engaging in all forms of welfare and relief. Building programs of colleges, sanitariums, and other institutions are given large publicity, as are also church dedications whenever our leaders co-operate with the newspapers.

Each year a larger number of newspapers are announcing the local Ingathering campaign. Even as simple a thing as a thirteenth Sabbath mission program, written up in news form, featuring the needs of the country to which the offering goes, is given publicity in hundreds of newspapers.

Of late the Supreme Court decision in favor of granting citizenship without requiring the pledge to bear arms has brought the denomination again into the news and to the forefront in editorials. Records of our Seventh-day Adventist soldiers and the lifesaving achievements of native Seventh-day Adventists in the South Seas continue to be published in various forms.

From time to time church editors of large papers have written favorable feature articles. One such article in the Indianapolis *Times* recently covered the points of Adventist doctrine as clearly as they would be pre-

sented in one of our own missionary papers. Another, appearing in the *Cleveland Press*, described the writer's feelings as he worshiped on a quiet "Sabbath morning" with the members of the Central Cleveland church on Euclid Avenue—a wonderful story featuring the distinctive tenets of the Adventist faith. We cannot overestimate the value of the good will and confidence of editors which is growing out of their personal contacts with our workers and the information going through their hands.

Looking Forward

It would seem advisable to continue strong promotion in fostering and enlarging the press work done in our churches and by our ministers. And we should work more energetically to build up active press representation at every headquarters and in every institution.

As an advance step, I believe this General Conference should go on record in favor of using trained and experienced news reporters in certain important centers. Thus far I have not felt free to urge each conference to provide a complete organization for press operations, such as is maintained for the regular departments of church activity. Recognizing that press work calls for ability and experience of a specialized type, we have desired to test and perfect various methods of procedure and gain experience that would guide us in further development.

I am now convinced that we have come to the place where we should direct definite effort toward building up our work with the newspapers in certain important city areas where we have centered conference headquarters, institutions and churches. This can be done best by experienced newspaper writers—either men or women—who can create, initiate, and carry forward a program which will be acceptable to newspapers and give Seventh-day Adventists the favorable publicity they should have. There are individuals in our own ranks who are qualified by experience on newspapers to do work of this type. With this kind of help I believe we can develop the press work in such centers far beyond anything we can otherwise hope to do and that it will result in far-reaching influence for good. I would like to see sentiment developed here in favor of our co-operating with conferences in launching into this special field of endeavor.

Outgoing Missionaries

A line of endeavor which our bureau has fully tested but has not been able to follow through for lack of help has to do with publicity for our outgoing missionaries. When a mission appointment is final, there is opportunity for a news story in every local newspaper where the person lives, has recently lived, or is visiting relatives. Editors will welcome a story and will often use a picture. Such a story can include interesting information about the field to which the missionary is

going, a review of the work he has been doing, and background material on the world work of the denomination. We are prepared to carry through a well-planned publicity effort of this kind. I am taking this occasion to get you to thinking of its far-reaching influence and to enlist your co-operation.

In Foreign Lands

The use of the secular press in disseminating information about Seventh-day Adventists' work should be extended to every country where there are Adventists and where newspapers are published. This should be done as rapidly as possible.

I have been thrilled to hear of the interest in some of the European countries since word of the press work here in this country has reached them after the close of the war. A. Lohne in Denmark was one of the first after the war to ask us for information, and in his newsletters to the field he is now emphasizing the idea of getting Adventist news into the public press. E. W. Dunbar, just back from Europe, brought with him a collection of newspaper reports of the meetings he held in Scandinavia.

Hans Struve, home missionary secretary of the Southern European Division, caught the vision of the possibilities of press work, wrote for material, and reports that their division committee has set up a press organization in each country. They have also adopted a series of resolutions similar to those passed at our Autumn Council in Grand Rapids, Michigan. We were pleased to receive an Italian paper published in Trieste, carrying a report of the distribution of clothing by the local Seventh-day Adventist church.

Newspapers in the Inter-American field are giving good space to the reporting of Seventh-day Adventist meetings and other activities. Kingston, Jamaica, papers ran large illustrated stories of the opening of the medical clinic and plans for the Adventist sanitarium. We have had some reports of favorable publicity concerning our schools and medical work in South America.

Representatives from Australia, South Africa, and other fields, who have gone over the program with us here, have expressed the belief that there are possibilities in the use of the press in these countries. Leaders there need to be encouraged to take hold of it, and shown how to do it. Plans should be made to give earnest attention to this work in every country, with special study of methods successful here that can be adapted to fit conditions elsewhere. This will take faith and will call for prayerful and persistent effort. But surely Adventist activities in these countries make news, and it must be that the Lord will bless our efforts to bring it to the people through the public press.

Senior theological students about to enter upon their active work feel the need of knowing how to approach an editor, handle religious news reporting, and prepare sermon material for

the press. It would seem that some practical instruction should be included in the course. I have worked with these students in four of our colleges and find them keenly interested in, and appreciative of, every bit of knowledge they can obtain in the brief class period time provided for introducing this work to them. They and their instructors feel that this instruction is highly important. Any step that can be taken by our colleges to give their ministerial students this training will greatly strengthen the future press work of our denomination.

In this report I have mentioned outstanding examples of the publicity given to Seventh-day Adventist news in places where someone has been concerned with press relations. It must be remembered that these examples can be multiplied a hundredfold under similar circumstances in other places if additional recruits can be added to the group of workers and lay members who are now enthusiastically and successfully reporting Seventh-day Adventist activities in the public press.

The power of the press is discussed in practically every meeting of Protestant churchmen these days. Much is said about the desirability of a press organization for Protestantism comparable to the press of the Roman Catholic Church. I was present at a meeting of the Associated Church Press here in Washington only five weeks ago when resolutions were adopted favoring a Protestant press bureau to represent churches and inter-church organizations for the purpose of getting more Protestant news into the papers.

I am not particularly concerned with what this will mean or accomplish. These trends, however, should encourage us and challenge us to put our best energy and ability into making our Seventh-day Adventist press relations strong, continuous, and expanding. Through this united endeavor we shall reach multitudes with information that will favorably influence them in behalf of the Adventist Church, its mission and work throughout the world.

We have little idea of the strength that would be ours if we would connect with the source of all strength. We fall into sin again and again, and think it must always be so. We cling to our infirmities as if they were something to be proud of. Christ tells us that we must set our faces as a flint if we would overcome. He has borne our sins in His own body on the tree; and through the power He has given us, we may resist the world, the flesh, and the devil. Then let us not talk of our weakness and inefficiency, but of Christ and His strength. When we talk of Satan's strength, the enemy fastens his power more firmly upon us. When we talk of the power of the Mighty One, the enemy is driven back. As we draw near to God, He draws near to us. —MRS. E. G. WHITE in *Youths' Instructor*, Jan. 4, 1900.

The Provisional Division

By W. H. BRANSON, Chairman, Division Committee

THE Provisional Division of our work was organized purely as a world war measure. It consists of orphan fields that were cut off from their division bases by the war and were forced to turn to the General Conference for leadership.

The division comprises the West African Union Mission, the Middle East Union Mission, and the Ethiopian Union Mission. The West African Union Mission is made up of French Equatorial Africa and the Cameroons, Spanish Guinea, Nigeria, Gold Coast, Dahomey, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Portuguese and French Guinea, Senegal, and surrounding territory and islands; the Middle East Union Mission is comprised of Egypt, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Saudi-Arabia, Palestine, Trans-Jordan, Cyprus, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran, and Turkey, while the Ethiopian Union Mission consists of Ethiopia, Eritrea and the Somali-lands.

Before the war most of the Middle East Union territory was connected with the Central European Division. Ethiopia and portions of the West African Union were administered by the Northern European Division, while other sections of West Africa were under the direction of the Southern European Division.

The headquarters of the Provisional Division have, until now, been located in the General Conference office, and some of the General Conference staff have, in addition to their regular responsibilities, given direction to the work of this field.

At the beginning of the war many of the missionaries in the Middle East Union, because of their German nationality, were either interned or forced to leave their fields, and some years passed before permission could be secured for recruits to take their places. This left some of the local fields within the union almost destitute of foreign leadership, and with staffs greatly reduced.

Several of our workers in Ethiopia were also forced to leave, because of war conditions, and the few who were able to remain during the period of Italian occupation were unable to work freely. Our institutions were taken over by the military and, for a time, the work was largely at a standstill.

The working staff in West Africa was also greatly depleted, largely because it was impossible to secure entry permits and transportation for recruits to fill the places of those who were forced, because of failing health, to leave the field.

We wish to express the sincere appreciation of the Provisional Division committee to those who, despite these very difficult conditions remained by the work in these fields during the war years and struggled so heroically to hold the work together and to

strengthen the hands of our believers in the churches.

Changing Conditions

During the past two years conditions have been rapidly changing, and large plans are now on foot for strengthening the work in all sections of the division.

In West Africa funds have been provided for the building of—

Union headquarters at Accra.

Training school at Bekwai and mission headquarters at Kumasi.

Chapel at Konola, Liberia.



W. H. Branson

Mission headquarters and school at Bo, in Sierra Leone.

New mission homes in French Cameroons.

A second doctor's home at Ife. Two mission homes in the Ivory Coast.

Already a new hospital is in operation at Ile-Ife, Nigeria, and Dr. G. W. Allen and his staff of helpers report a constant overflow of patients. Their records show that 17,000 patients were treated in this institution during the first four months of its history.

The country of Liberia is now under the supervision of G. N. Banks, an American colored minister. He, with two other colored workers and their families, was sent out to this field during 1945. They have been well received by the workers and church members as well as by the government officials of the country.

W. A. McClements, who has served for many years in the leadership of the work, is the superintendent of the newly formed West African Union, and M. Duploux, long in the service of the Southern African Division, is

the secretary-treasurer. Because of the very unhealthful conditions prevalent in these West African countries (some sections being known as the "white man's grave"), the term of service between furloughs has had to be fixed at only two years. The furlough period, after two years of service, is six months. This constant movement of workers makes it exceedingly difficult to keep the field strongly staffed and the work in a healthy condition. It also necessitates a heavier mission personnel on the field than would be necessary were the climatic conditions better.

Portions of the West African Union are very heavily populated. One area claims 524 per square mile. About one third of the entire population of the continent is found within its boundaries. Within its borders are some of Africa's largest native cities. Ibadan alone has 387,000. Mohammedanism has swept across the continent from the northeast, claiming thousands as its devotees. In French West Africa as much as 90 per cent are followers of this faith; in certain British colonies as much as 35 per cent. This situation creates a mighty challenge to our West African workers, both foreign and national, and we are happy to report that they are facing their task with courage and faith.

During the five-year period since the last General Conference session, the membership in the West African Union has grown from 5,109 to 7,586. These are baptized, full-fledged members of our church. In addition to this number there are some 28,933 others who are now receiving instruction preparatory to baptism.

Ethiopia

The work in the Ethiopian Union is now being rapidly rehabilitated under the efficient leadership of M. J. Sorenson, who returned to that field as union superintendent over a year and a half ago.

The stations and institutions taken from us by the Italian military are being returned to us, though we have not as yet been able to reopen all of them. About a year ago Dr. M. G. Anderson, formerly of the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital, arrived in Addis Ababa to take charge of the Zauditu Memorial Hospital located there. From the very day of his arrival he has had more patients than he has been able to treat properly. The hospital itself has a capacity of of some 75 beds, which is far more than any one doctor should be asked to handle, but, in addition to this, several clinics are held each week in which outpatients, for whom there is no room in the hospital, are given attention.

Dr. Anderson's patients include the Princess Tanya Worke, daughter of Emperor Haile Selassie; the wife of the prime minister of Ethiopia; the wife of the minister of finance; as well as other prominent governmental and commercial leaders.

Members of the Indian Colony, which is very influential commercially

in Addis Ababa, have approached us with the suggestion that they be permitted to construct a new wing to the hospital which would be used exclusively for Indian patients. The greatest need, however, is not for more space or for more patients but rather for more doctors. We are informed by the government that the way is open for new stations to be started as soon as workers can be found to man them. Two schools near Addis Ababa are now filled to capacity.

Funds have been provided by the General Conference and the Division for the rehabilitation of these institutions and stations, and we expect them all to be functioning again at a very early date.

The Middle East

The work of the Middle East Union is under the leadership of E. L. Branson. A number of new mission recruits have been sent out to this union during the past two years so that, at the present time, they have practically as many missionaries on the field as prior to the war. A number of these were trained in the use of the Arabic language before being sent out, and this is proving to be a great advantage to the work. A city evangelistic effort has recently been conducted in Cairo by Neal C. Wilson, superintendent of the Egyptian Mission, with excellent results. Some very fine people have thus been added to the Cairo church.

One of the outstanding needs of the field for years past has been an adequate training school for workers. For some time a very small institution was operated in the city of Beirut, but this in no sense met the field's need. Some two years ago a boarding school was opened in a large hotel situated in the Lebanon Mountains, a popular summer vacation center, and, although this was a very temporary arrangement, it has proved to be a great success. The attendance at this school is approximately 90 this year.

About the same time that the school was thus opened, a permanent location was secured through the very generous gift of one or two of our believers, and the union and school leaders are now busily engaged in preparing the new plant for occupation. Funds have been provided by the General Conference and division committees for two dormitories, accommodating about 80 each, and five cottages for teachers. These will be erected as rapidly as possible. Later an administration building and other equipment must be added.

Our schools in the Middle East are proving to be one of the most effective soul-winning agencies that we have. In a recent year among those enrolled in the Beirut College were 24 students who were not Adventists. Before the end of the year 19 of these had been baptized by Alger Johns, the Bible teacher in the school. The secondary school operated in Mosul, Iraq, has also proved a great blessing in this respect.

Baghdad Sanitarium

For many years plans have been gradually shaping up for the opening of a sanitarium and hospital in the city of Baghdad, Iraq, where we have a company of believers.

Last year we were able to secure two doctors and two nurses for this project, and they are now on the ground and have begun their work in temporary quarters in a hotel that has been secured and adapted for this work. It oftentimes is very difficult to get doctors licensed to practice in new places. Owing to the Iraqi government's extreme shortage of medical help, however, Dr. E. G. Essery co-operated with them, serving as medical inspector at the port of Basra for some time and, as a result of the contacts he made there, was greatly helped in obtaining his license to practice. Dr. Saaty, because he was an Iraqi national, was also able to obtain a license.

Funds are being provided for the erection of a proper sanitarium and hospital building as soon as building materials are more readily obtainable and the present war prices are relaxed.

Dr. Karmy also returned to his home division during the year, and he is at present located in Jerusalem, where he is carrying on medical work.

Russian Work

During the war years the General Conference gave training in the Russian language to a number of young workers in preparation for work in Russian-speaking countries. Six of these families were sent out last year to northern Iran (Persia), where there are many thousands of people whose tongue is Russian. Five of the group have been located in strategic centers along the Russian border, and they report a very encouraging beginning in that field. There were already on the field two or three Russian companies of believers who will assist these new missionaries in evangelizing the inhabitants of that ancient and interesting land. One of the six families has been temporarily located at the union training school.

The war years have been hard on the work in all these fields. The burdens borne by our union and local mission leaders, as they have seen their forces diminishing and many of their institutions destroyed, have been extremely heavy and often well-nigh heartbreaking. But all these things were permitted by God, who has His almighty hand on the lever of circumstances and no doubt will prove to be for the advancement of His work.

The total membership of the division as of December 31, 1945, was 8,730 with 28,933 adherents not yet baptized.

The population of the Middle East Union is 78,200,000, most of whom are Mohammedans. They are the most difficult people upon earth to reach with the gospel of Christ, and actually very few from these people have been converted to the Christian faith by any of the religious organizations

carrying on mission work in these lands. The evangelization of this great Mohammedan world constitutes one of the outstanding problems of the Christian church, and especially of the remnant church. Surely a harvest must be gathered for the kingdom of Christ from among the followers of the false prophet, but the problem of reaching them and winning them to Christ is as yet unsolved. May God hasten the day when many of them will take their stand under the blood-stained banner of Christ and, with the remnant, prepare to receive Him at His coming.

Borrowing Trouble

SOME are always fearing and borrowing trouble. Every day they are surrounded with the tokens of God's love; every day they are enjoying the bounties of His providence; but they overlook these present blessings. Their minds are continually dwelling upon something disagreeable which they fear may come; or some difficulty may really exist, which, though small, blinds their eyes to the many things that demand gratitude. The difficulties they encounter, instead of driving them to God, the only source of their help, separate them from Him, because they awaken unrest and repining.

Do we well to be thus unbelieving? Why should we be ungrateful and distrustful? Jesus is our friend; all heaven is interested in our welfare. We should not allow the perplexities and worries of everyday life to fret the mind and cloud the brow. If we do we shall always have something to vex and annoy. We should not indulge a solicitude that only frets and wears us but does not help us to bear trials.

You may be perplexed in business; your prospects may grow darker and darker, and you may be threatened with loss; but do not become discouraged; cast your care upon God and remain calm and cheerful. Pray for wisdom to manage your affairs with discretion, and thus prevent loss and disaster. Do all you can on your part to bring about favorable results. Jesus has promised His aid, but not apart from our effort. When, relying upon our Helper, you have done all you can, accept the result cheerfully.

It is not the will of God that His people should be weighed-down with care. But our Lord does not deceive us. He does not say to us, "Do not fear; there are no dangers in your path." He knows there are trials and dangers, and He deals with us plainly. He does not propose to take His people out of a world of sin and evil, but He points them to a never-failing refuge. His prayer for His disciples was, "I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest keep them from the evil." "In the world," He says, "ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." —Steps to Christ, pp. 127, 128.

Loyalty to the Advent Movement

Sermon, Friday Night, June 7

By A. V. OLSON

IT MAY be that many of you expected me to say something about our field this evening, but that is not the case. I have been asked to preach a sermon tonight. My text you will find in Joshua 24:15. It reads:

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

This heart-stirring appeal made a profound impression upon the hearts of the children of Israel. In unison they cried out: "God forbid that we should forsake the Lord and serve other gods; . . . therefore will we also serve the Lord; for He is our God."

This solemn pledge was kept for a long time, for we read: "And Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known the works of the Lord, that He had done for Israel." Joshua 24:31.

Would to God they had always continued in this frame of mind! How different then would have been their history. Unfortunately there came a change. After the death of Joshua and his associates, when a new generation arose, apostasy set in.

In His tender love and infinite mercy, God sought to lead His people back into the path of obedience and peace. Again and again He sent unto them His servants the prophets with messages of warning and earnest entreaties to return to the Lord. Sometimes these appeals were heeded, but each time there followed a new apostasy. Finally, when there was no more hope, God was compelled to reject His people.

Every religious movement since that has faced the same danger that the Israelites faced. We cannot help but think of the experience of the apostolic church clad in the garments of righteousness and filled with the spirit of Christ. They went forth conquering and to conquer. They became a mighty power for Christ in the world. In a few short years they spread out over the whole Roman empire. Millions of men and women were won for Christ. Rich and poor were gathered into the fold. The church became popular, and in order to enhance this popularity the church began to lower the standards. Gradually the world crept into the church. This was especially true after the death of the apostles and their immediate successors.

Churches created since then have foundered in the same murky waters of worldliness, unbelief, and corruption. They were founded by men of God. Their standards were high and holy. But gradually these standards

were lowered. The early purity and simplicity departed. Pomp and pride, worldliness and unbelief and immorality came in like a flood.

My dear brethren, we as Seventh-day Adventists face exactly the same danger. We are made of the same flesh, and we must face the same tempter, the same enemy of souls. This movement was born in simplicity. Our founders were earnest, God-fearing men, and they set high standards. But now as the movement has spread to the ends of the world, and our institutions and churches have multiplied and our membership has grown, and as fabulous sums of money have flowed into our treasuries every year, it is quite natural for us to begin to look with satisfaction on these things. It is easy for us as it has been for those who have gone before us, to yield to the temptations of the evil one, to lower our standards, to forget the way that God has led us.

Through His chosen servant the Lord has given us warning. In *Gospel Workers*, we read: "Many of those who have been foremost in carrying out the reforms instituted by us as a people, are now past the meridian of life." This was written, if I mistake not, about fifty years ago. Even then she said the burden bearers among us are beginning to fall and that many who had been foremost in carrying out the reform instituted by our people had passed through the meridian of life.

Yes, years have passed since then, and the pioneers who were still alive at that moment are no more in our midst; they have gone to their rest. Their voices are no longer heard in our councils. Their burdens and responsibilities have been passed on to us who are gathered here for this General Conference session. And may God help us to be true to our trust!

We are living in an evil age. Sin is increasing. Evil men and seducers are waxing worse and worse. Immorality and vice of all kinds are about us. The whole world has gone pleasure mad. Professed Christians are being swept along by this flood of iniquity.

As Seventh-day Adventists, we must guard ourselves lest we be led astray. Not for one moment must we lower our standards of Christian conduct. We can have no part in the pleasures and frivolities of the world. "Come out of her, My people," is the admonition of the Lord, "that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Rev. 18:4.

At times, some of our young people and older ones as well, consider us narrow-minded when we speak against the pleasure of the world. They say we must be more broad-minded in this modern age.

My friends, it is not a question of

broadmindedness or narrowmindedness, it is not a question of the broad way, or the narrow way, it is a question of life or death. We cannot afford to lower the standards that God has set up. They must be maintained at all costs. Instead of attempting to bring the standards down, we must, by the grace of God, bring our lives up to the standards. The remnant church must never permit these standards to be trampled in the dust. Furthermore, we must be loyal to the message of truth which God has given and which must be carried to the world.

A large section of the Christian church no longer believes the fundamental doctrines of the Bible, the creation of the world, the divinity of Christ, the inspiration of the Scriptures, the second coming of Christ. Really it is appalling to see how professed Christians have departed into apostasy, how they have abandoned the faith once delivered to the saints. We find this to be true in the homeland and in the mission fields.

Some years ago I was coming home from a visit to Madagascar. On the boat was an Egyptian businessman. He became friendly with me, and one day as we were seated on the deck he turned to me and said, "Mr. Olson, I wish I could be a Christian."

"Well," I said, "my friend, it is free. You may be a Christian at once, if you only will accept God's way."

"Oh," he said, "I understand those things. They have been told to me before. But the great trouble with me is this: I cannot believe that Jesus of Nazareth was the Son of God. To me He was only the son of Joseph and Mary."

Sitting on the other side of me was a missionary who had spent thirty years in Madagascar. He was returning home on furlough. He reached across and tapped the Egyptian businessman on the shoulder, and said, "Friend, it matters not whether you believe that Christ was divine, all that is needful is to follow His good example."

I was shocked to hear such a statement coming from the lips of one who had been sent out into the world—to the heathen world—to preach a crucified and risen Saviour, to present to the world the divine Saviour. He himself had no hope, no faith, in such a Saviour. But that preacher, that missionary, is only one of the thousands who have drifted into the same error.

We Seventh-day Adventists are also in danger of losing our faith. In different places men who have been counted in our ranks, have been led astray by the evil one, have lost their faith, and are no longer with us. In the name of God I appeal to the ministry of this church, of the remnant church, to be true and loyal to this blessed cause. God has called us into existence at this very time when unbelief is sweeping over the world, calling men everywhere back to the worship of the Creator of the heavens and the earth.

This brings us to our next and last

point: Loyalty to the task which God has given unto us. Much has already been done, but much more remains to be done. To us here assembled, and to every advent believer around the circle of the earth, Jesus says tonight: "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." And as we heed this admonition, and cast our eyes out over the world, we see a sad and sorrowful picture. We behold the world in distress, a world in suffering and in sorrow. Never since the dawn of time has there been so much distress and anguish. In many lands there is great hunger for bread. But, brethren and sisters, in thousands of hearts there is a much greater hunger for the bread of life. Never before have we seen such demand for Bibles in old Europe as now. From many lands pitiful appeals are coming to us for Bibles. I cannot tell you this evening how many letters I have received from the different lands of the division, pleading for Bibles. They tell us there are none to be found; that they cannot be bought for money. One brother wrote that in the town where he lived people were searching for Bibles, and when they found an old used Bible they were ready to pay fabulous sums for it. And when they had it in their possession they would clasp it to their hearts with tears coursing down their cheeks. Oh, they were so glad that once again the precious volume had come into their possession.

Yes, my brethren and sisters, we ought to prize the Word. We ought to value this Book more than we do. We know not how long we will have it in our hands. We know not when we might lose our Bibles. Over in Rumania where 4,000 of our members were cast into prison, many of them were deprived of their Bibles. Many of them for months, and some of them for years, did not have the Word of God. But, oh, how thankful they were for what was stored in their minds! Oh, let us read our Bibles, let us study them, let us be true to them!

In the country of Rumania, where our people in the past have suffered so much persecution, the Spirit of God is today doing a marvelous work. Our books are in such demand that the brethren are at their wit's end to know how to supply or to fill the orders that come in. They are engaging a number of outside printing houses to print for them. Nevertheless the demand is greater than the supply. And oh, there is a hunger for the Word of God such as has never been before.

The president of the union and a number of brethren have written to me since the close of the war telling how the Macedonian calls are coming to them from all parts of the country. They say, "Brother Olson, we are absolutely helpless to meet these calls. Our working force is too small, and the chapels and church buildings are too small." In many places the people gather outside the church, and our ministers preach to them from the steps. Last year alone in Rumania or in what remains of it, they baptized

more than 3,500. And they write me that if a few more workers were released from prison camps and military camps, and they were able to get more help, they are sure that this year, 1946, they will baptize more than 7,000 new believers.

Why, we used to rejoice in our Southern European Division when we baptized between two and three thousand people a year. But now here one little country alone is baptizing far more than we ever did in all our homelands and mission fields combined.

As I have traveled out over these Southern European countries since the close of the war—from Portugal on the West through Italy and other places—I have found that there is a new desire to hear the Word of God. In some of these places, before the war, with the very best of advertising it was difficult to gather an audience to hear the message. But now, without any advertising, we cannot begin to seat the crowds that come.

I was especially pleased on my visit to old Spain—where, since the dictatorship came to power, all our churches have been closed, our ministers have been forbidden to preach, all the foreign workers had been sent out, and we are not supposed to do anything—to find that the work has grown. I found that the few remaining ministers had each baptized more per year than they did before, when they enjoyed comparative liberty. When we entered the meeting halls which had just been opened two or three weeks before our visit, we found them not only crowded to the doors, but the people were standing in long lines down through the stairway and out onto the street.

Yes, brethren and sisters, even though it is true that millions of men are hardened in sin more than ever before, it is equally true that multitudes tonight are longing to know God and wistfully are looking to heaven. They are praying that God may send to them the messenger of His truth. My brethren and sisters, I say to you again tonight, Lift up your eyes and behold the fields already white unto harvest.

What I have said about Europe, I am sure is equally true throughout the world. As we have listened to men from other parts of this old earth, we have heard them tell the story of how men and women are waiting for the truth of God.

Has not the time come, brethren and sisters, for us to plan for a great forward movement? Is not God looking to us at this time, as we are assembled here in Conference, to lay plans for an advance on a larger scale than we have ever known before. Without delay, my brethren and sisters, we must go forward. From this Conference the word should go out to the ends of the world to go forward. This means that we must place ourselves, our children, our means, our all, on the altar of sacrifice.

Since I listened the other day to this choir over in the Sligo Church, there has been ringing in my ears those few words: "Is your all on the altar of

sacrifice laid?" and I bring that question to you tonight, brethren and sisters, Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid? Is our all as a people on the altar tonight? It is time that we should place our all on this altar, that we should make no reserve.

Some may feel that we should wait for better times. Some may feel that the obstacles and dangers now are too great. Yes, I know there are great obstacles—they are mountain high. I know there are great dangers. I know that our problems have seemed impossible for us to solve in our own human wisdom.

As I have sat in my office over there in Berne, Switzerland, looking out upon our field and considering the conditions that exist everywhere today, I have often been perplexed to know how we may advance as God would have us advance. But brethren and sisters, I am confident that if we will but have faith in God, He will help us to overcome.

We must not hesitate because there are dangers. There were dangers, too, for our soldier boys, when they were called to cross the seas and invade the continents to meet the enemy. But when the command of their officers was given, they did not hesitate; they marched forward. Are we who have been charged by God with the task of carrying the message into all the world, going to be less willing to risk our lives for our Lord and Master, and for the souls that are perishing in darkness? I am glad tonight for the heroic example that has been set by so many of our men who were stationed out in the far corners of the earth during the war. Large numbers of them remained at their posts when they knew that by so doing they would be risking their lives. I cannot help thinking this evening of our good Brother Cesario over in Palermo, Italy. Palermo was one of the most bombed cities in all Europe. For days and weeks and months the air raids took place, and very little of the city was left standing.

Brother Cesario was located there with his wife and four children. Finally the union committee wrote to him, and said, "Brother Cesario, take your wife and your children and get out. The danger is too great." But that man of God wrote back, "Brethren, I thank you for your solicitude, but my sheep are here, and as long as they are here I purpose that their shepherd shall be also."

And I believe, brethren and sisters, that it is such a spirit that must actuate us all. As long as it was possible for me, during the war, I felt it my duty to go from country to country in Europe, helping the brethren with their perplexing problems, and also to appeal to them to remain true and faithful to their God and to their trust. I shall not soon forget some of the meetings that I had with the leaders.

I was over in Rumania at the time when the German army entered. We were gathered there in a yearly meeting to plan what to do in case certain things should happen, in case our

leader should be taken away, in case persecution and trouble should come—for we felt that trouble was coming. And after we had finished our committee work I said, "We have a responsibility that God has placed upon us." I tried to point out that God expected us as leaders in a time of crisis to stand unflinchingly for truth and for right, to remain at our posts of duty. And as I was finishing the study I looked upon those brethren as they sat before me and made an earnest appeal for loyalty.

When I finished, Brother Florea, the president, arose. He lifted his hand toward heaven, and then he looked me in the face, and said, "Brother Olson, by the grace of God we shall be true, even unto death." And all the other brethren joined in, and said, "Amen." We knelt down together and prayed God to accept our pledge and to help us to be true to the end. I did not know then, as I know now, that in a few weeks a number of those men who sat before me would be thrown into prison, that they would be tortured and abused. I did not know that they would be sentenced to years of imprisonment, one of them—our dear Brother Popov—to twenty-five years' confinement.

I left those men, and later I met with the committee in Italy. There we had a similar meeting. And again, I remember so well as I looked into the faces of those dear brethren that they were pale—and I am sure I was pale. Those were tense moments. As I made my appeal to them, the union president arose, stepped forward, and took my hand in his, and said, "Brother Olson, God helping us we shall be true." And there, as he remained, we knelt down, and committed ourselves to the care of God, and prayed most earnestly that the Lord would help us to be loyal even unto death. And then when the war was over, I was so happy that I could buy my ticket and board the train for old Italy, and go back to see these brethren who had passed through so many hardships and so much suffering. When I entered the room, Brother Beer—and he is in our midst tonight—came forward, and threw his arms around me in a fraternal embrace. Then he stepped back a little and looked into my face. I saw the tears glistening in his eyes, and with a smile on his face he said, "Brother, Olson do you remember that last meeting we had together?"

And I said, "Yes, brother, never shall I forget it."

"Do you remember the pledge we made to God?"

"Oh, yes, Brother Beer."

And then he said, "Brother Olson, we have kept it; we have kept our pledge; not one has failed."

I thought that was a wonderful statement. I want it to live with me as long as God permits me to live in this world. And I hope, brethren and sisters, that in the last day when Jesus shall come and we shall appear in His presence, we may all be able to come and say, "Here, Lord, we have kept our pledge; not one is missing."

And above all, I hope that this will

be true of the leaders, yes, all of the leaders and the ministers in this great movement. Once more, brethren, before I sit down, I appeal to the brethren and sisters here, both workers and lay members, to be true to God. It is too late now in the history of this world and the history of this movement for us to depart from God, to follow the example of those who have failed in their trust. May God grant, brethren, that we shall be ready to meet our Lord in peace when He comes.

Story of the Day

(Continued from page 98)

saying it, in spite of persuasion, witch doctor magic, and severe beatings. At last he resorted to the starvation cure. She was stripped of her clothes and locked in an empty hut without food. Weakened after a night and a day of this, she felt impressed, as she prayed for help, to dig in the hut floor. With bleeding fingers she tore at the hard mud plaster and sturdy poles. Exhausted at last, she prayed again, made one desperate effort and a pole snapped like a match stick in her hands. She was free.

She headed for a Christian village and ran all night through a jungle infested with lions and leopards. At dawn she had to hide because of her nakedness, but managed to stay in a banana plantation where she could have all she wanted to eat and drink. She arrived safely among Christians, was sent to a distant mission school, married a Christian teacher, and they determined to return to work for her people. Today, as a result of her devoted labor, many of her fellow villagers have been converted, including her parents. Recently her father brought to our camp meeting a dozen head of cattle as his tithe.

Proceedings

(Continued from page 116)

and for Thy protection. And we would dedicate ourselves to Thee. We pray Thee to accept us. We pray, Lord, that this statement that we have here accepted may indeed be the experience of everyone of us in our own lives. Give us anew an infilling of Thy Spirit. Give us joy in that service. Prepare us for a home in Thy everlasting kingdom, in Jesus' name.

Now we will have the report from the secretary of the Bureau of Press Relations, J. R. Ferren.

[This report appears on page 121]

L. H. CHRISTIAN: Now this afternoon we have a very unusual feature, one that I am sure will bring cheer to our hearts as we see the marvelous work of the Lord in the various countries of earth. We are to have a report from the Provisional Division. Some will ask what this is. If you will look over the large company on the rostrum and in the choir loft, gathered in from West Africa, East Africa, Ethi-

opia, Palestine, and away up across the Euphrates, into Persia, you will see representatives from the countries of this division. God has greatly blessed W. H. Branson, who has cared for this work during the years of the war, and I will turn the program over to him.

[Then followed a mission symposium from representatives of the Provisional Division. A report of this symposium will appear in a later issue. Elder Branson's formal report on the division appears on page 123.]

J. I. ROBISON: This evening we will have a report from the South American Division.

[The report of R. R. Figuhr, the president, and a symposium of his workers, will appear in a later issue.] Meeting adjourned.

HYMN: No. 499, "Sound the Battle Cry."

Benediction by N. B. Neilsen, secretary-treasurer of the Ethiopian Union.

L. H. CHRISTIAN, *Chairman*,
T. J. MICHAEL AND
J. I. ROBISON, *Secretaries*.

THE sacrifice of Christ as an atonement for sin is the great truth around which all other truths cluster. In order to be rightly understood and appreciated, every truth in the Word of God, from Genesis to Revelation, must be studied in the light that streams from the cross of Calvary. I present before you the great, grand, monument of mercy and regeneration, salvation and redemption—the Son of God uplifted on the cross. This is to be the foundation of every discourse given by our ministers.—*Gospel Workers*, p. 315.

THE ADVENT SABBATH REVIEW AND HERALD

General Church Paper of the Seventh-day Adventists

EDITOR - - - FRANCIS D. NICHOL

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

FREDERICK LEE J. L. McELHANY
W. A. SPICER F. M. WILCOX

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS

C. H. WATSON, W. H. BRANSON, L. H. CHRISTIAN, E. D. DICK, W. E. NELSON, L. K. DICKSON, PRESIDENTS OR ACTING PRESIDENTS OF OVERSEAS DIVISIONS

EDITORIAL SECRETARY
NORA MACHLAN BUCKMAN

CIRCULATION MANAGER - C. E. PALMER

All communications relating to the Editorial Department and all manuscripts submitted for publication should be addressed to Editor, Review and Herald, Takoma Park, Washington 12, D.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

United States	
One year	\$3.00
Six months	\$1.65
Canada	
One year	\$3.35
Six months	\$1.85
Countries Where Extra Postage Is Required	
One year	\$3.50
Six months	\$1.90

Make all post office money orders payable at the Washington, D.C., post office (not Takoma Park). Address all business communications and make all drafts and express money orders payable to REVIEW AND HERALD, Takoma Park, Washington, 12, D.C. In changing address, do not fail to give both old and new addresses.

Largely Personal

By A. W. SPALDING

A GENTLE lady from the tropics was just before us as we snailed along in the dinner line. She listened to the clanking English tongues about her—we of the States, Murdoch of England (president of Newbold College), Eric Hare of California, born in New Zealand, laboring in Burma, this one, that one—and she smiled her gentle smile, understanding, but not venturing the speech. She got out of line when the girls at the door shucked us in; and Mrs. Spalding pulled her over in place and patted her shoulder; and the talk began.

Very good English has Senora Sara de Garcia, and it flowed along with her story. Of El Salvador, blessed name, "The Saviour," but how much needing salvation! She has the little ones, she confided, the church school; and would dear Sister Spalding help her with the preschool work? for the mothers there need, oh, so much. So a time to talk was set, a time to study as much as this busy Conference will allow. That evening, when the colorful Inter-American Division program was put on, she stood in bright Indian costume with her husband, David Garcia, as in fluent Spanish he poured through an interpreter a plea for the native peoples of Central America.

Parent education among us, brethren and sisters, education of the children through parents, is not dead. It has twinkled along, sometimes a bright star, sometimes dim, since that early start when James White, letting his horse graze by the roadside, on the trip to Vermont, while Sister White cared for the ailing little Edson, rested his block of paper on the top of their lunchbox, and wrote the first article and the first Sabbath school lessons for the projected *Youth's Instructor*.

Joseph Clarke (Have you ever heard of that Ohio pioneer—farmer, teacher, lay worker, delegate to the conference in '61 that favored organization, earliest Seventh-day Adventist missionary to the freedmen, in Texas, just before Robert Kilgore preached there?), Joseph Clarke wrote so much for the *REVIEW* and *HERALD* that he was unofficially a corresponding editor; and he wrote some illuminating material upon home life and child training. But Sister White, in her testimonies on education and home life, set a standard to which we never yet have fully attained.

You remember there was a Home Commission for twenty years? It's now in the Department of Education. We were greatly heartened by Professor Morrison's report of the Educational Department, and the prominence he gave to the home education phase. This is the foundation of the educational process. The Parent and Home division, under Dr. J. E. Weaver and Mrs. Florence Rebok, is carrying on,

making progress. There is a seed-sowing, and it will come to fruition.

R. R. Figuhr of South America is cultivating the home training work that a decade, two decades ago, flourished in Brazil and Peru and Argentina. Australia is not forgetting the work so bravely started there; and the China and Far Eastern Divisions, torn by the war, still have the spirit of home training so diligently inculcated years ago by Mrs. Crisler, Mrs. Armstrong, Elder McEachern, Professor Bradley, and others.

P. G. Nelson of the West Nordic Union (you know, Denmark and Norway) told me they are pressing the Home work there, Elder Muderspach having just been placed in charge of it. Pastor Murdoch tells me the English brethren and sisters are rallying to the Christian program of the home. Europe will reconstruct to the extent it truly reconstructs around the hearthstone.

Today comes a meeting, one of those little conferences within the Conference, of the Home branch of the Educational Department, with some other workers, to fashion and forward the preschool education. But it's not just the plans, brethren and sisters, parents, not just the counsel, not just the lessons, that count: it's you!

PARTIAL REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

General Vice-Presidents

L. K. Dickson
W. B. Ochs
A. V. Olson

Vice-President for North American Division

N. C. Wilson
Secretary
E. D. Dick
Treasurer

Secretary to the President

A. W. Cormack
Statistical Secretary
C. Conard
Auditor

W. E. Phillips

Vice-President for the Far Eastern Division

V. T. Armstrong

Vice-President for the Inter-American Division

Glenn Calkins

Vice-President for the South American Division

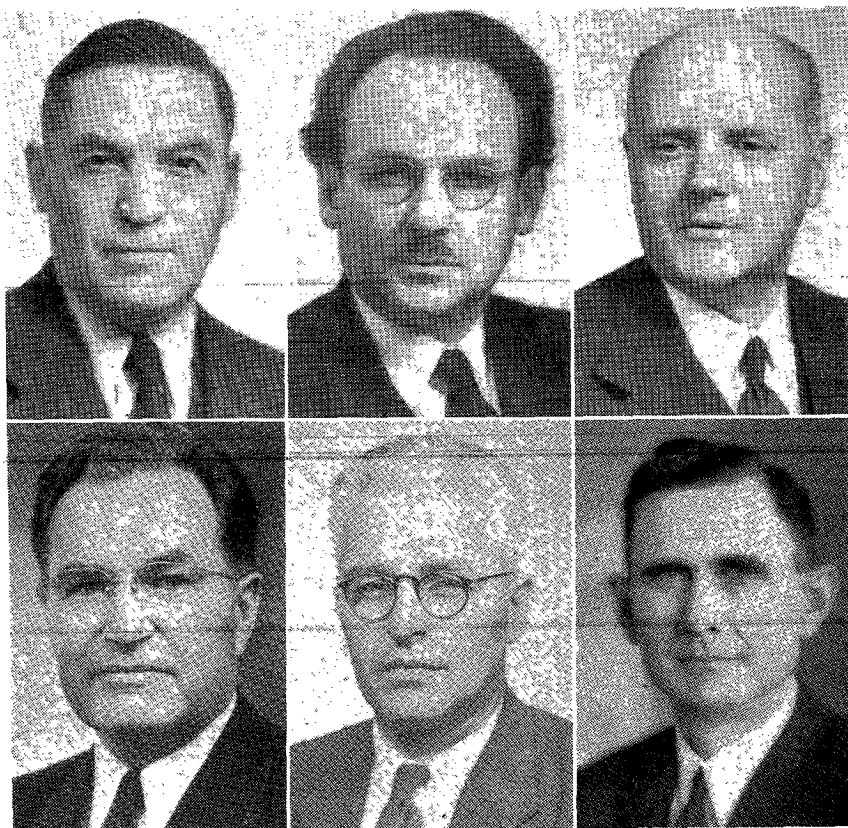
R. R. Figuhr

Vice-President for the Southern African Division

C. W. Bozarth

Vice-President for the Southern European Division

W. R. Beach



NEWLY ELECTED DIVISION PRESIDENTS

Upper: V. T. Armstrong, Far East; W. R. Beach, Southern Europe; C. W. Bozarth, Southern Africa
Lower: Glenn Calkins, Inter-America; R. R. Figuhr, South America; N. C. Wilson, North America