

The Advent

REVIEW

and Sabbath
HERALD

GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF
THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION



H. T. Elliott

W. B. Ochs

J. I. Robison

The world work of Seventh-day Adventists is organized into twelve divisions, one of which is the North American Division. This includes Canada and the United States. W. B. Ochs is the vice-president of the General Conference for North America. The committee that directs the work in this division is called the North American Division Committee on Administration. W. B. Ochs is the chairman of this committee. H. T. Elliott is the secretary. J. I. Robison is the associate secretary. The North American Division includes ten union conferences, the presidents of which (shown below) are as follows: 1. W. A. Nelson, 2. C. A. Scriven, 3. J. D. Smith, 4. M. L. Rice, 5. L. E. Lenheim, 6. C. L. Bauer, 7. M. V. Campbell, 8. D. A. Ochs, 9. L. C. Evans, 10. V. G. Anderson.

CANADIAN UNION



①

NORTH PACIFIC UNION



②



③

NORTHERN UNION



④

LAKE UNION



⑤

ATLANTIC UNION



⑥

COLUMBIA UNION



⑦

CENTRAL UNION



⑧

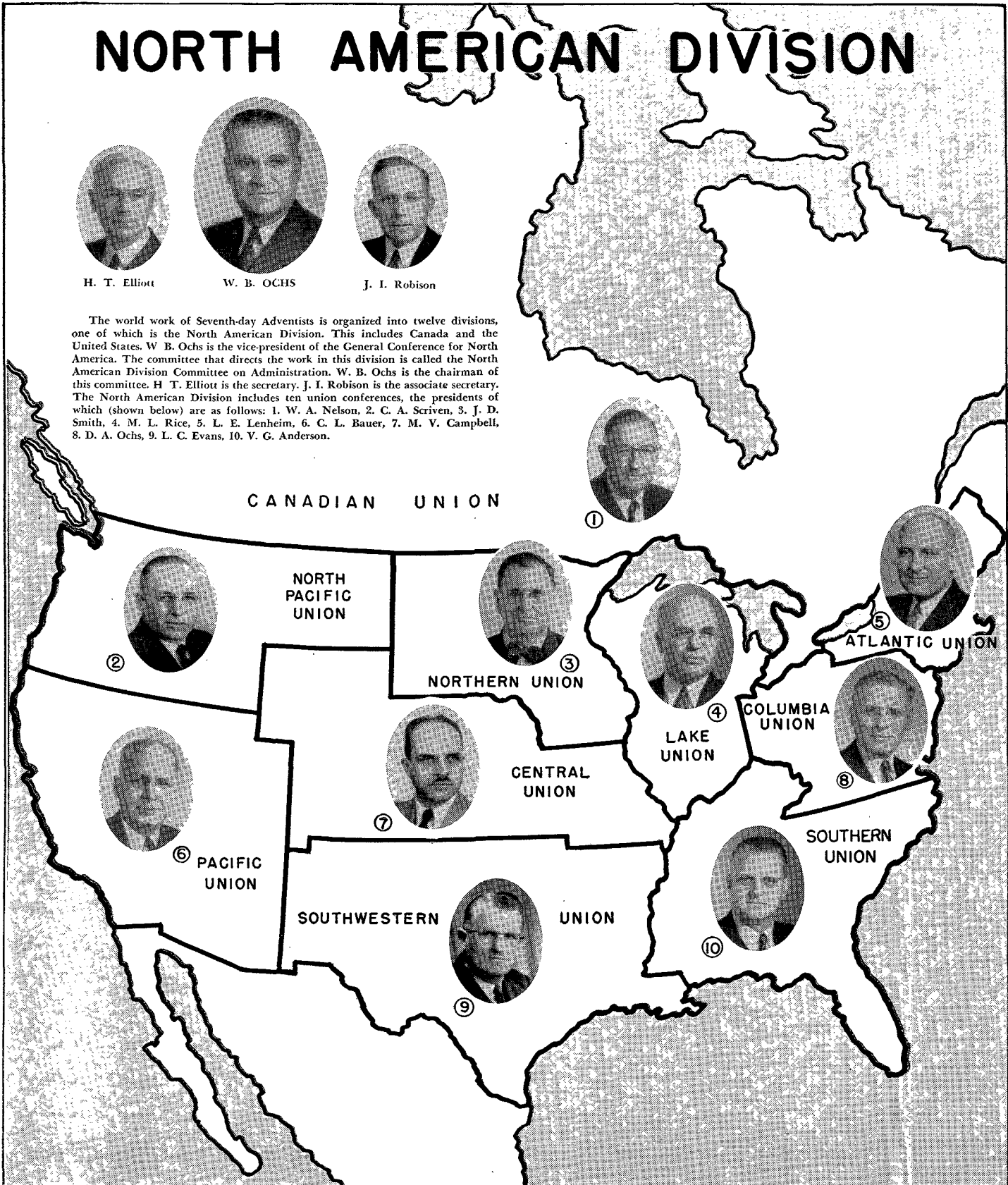
SOUTHERN UNION

PACIFIC UNION

SOUTHWESTERN UNION



⑨



In This Issue

A Personal Letter to You, by Walter E. Murray	3
Lengthening the Cords and Strengthening the Stakes, by V. T. Armstrong	4
What Is Prayer? by Frederick Griggs	6
Editorial	7
What It Means to Be a Church Member, by M. L. Rice	8
Beware of False Teachers, by W. E. Read	10
Why I Joined the Advent Movement, by Harry W. Lowe	12
The United States in Prophecy, by George E. Vandeman	14
Good Tidings From the Home Base, A Symposium	16
Medical Work in Bechuanaland, Africa, by J. A. Hay, M.D.	31
The Man in White, by A. P. Constantino	31
Features: What Does Religion Have to Offer? Enforcement of Sunday Laws; Home Visitation Wins Souls; Voice of Prophecy Around the World	

Copyright, 1953, Review and Herald Publishing Association, Washington 12, D.C.

The Contributors

The writers who contribute the leading articles in this issue, who are not otherwise identified, are as follows:

W. E. Murray, who writes "A Personal Letter to You," is a vice-president of the General Conference and president of the South American Division.

V. T. Armstrong, who writes about "Lengthening the Cords and Strengthening the Stakes" in the Far Eastern Division, is president of that field.

Frederick Griggs, who answers the question, "What Is Prayer?" has passed to his rest. In recent years he was chairman of the board of the College of Medical Evangelists.

M. L. Rice, who contributes "What It Means to Be a Church Member," is president of the Lake Union Conference.

W. E. Read, author of "Beware of False Teachers," is a field secretary of the General Conference.

Harry W. Lowe, who writes, "Why I Joined the Advent Movement," is associate secretary, Sabbath School Department, General Conference.

George E. Vandeman, who discusses "The United States in Prophecy," is associate secretary, Ministerial Association, General Conference.



What Does Religion Have to Offer?

With the publishing world today more alert to the desires of multitudes to know "what religion has to offer in a chaotic world," newspaper editors are opening their columns for church news and feature stories. Their willingness to cover church events is indicated by the fact that during the 1952 camp meeting season reports and features of camp meetings went into newspapers in North America having a combined circulation of thirty-two million copies.

Newsmen with whom our ministers have good press relations are frequently giving out Bible truths about the world work of Adventists. These reach many hundreds of thousands of people. Here are a few examples of the type of information being included in recent news stories:

"Seventh-day Adventists have taken a noncombatant position with reference to military service since the Civil War, a stand which has been recognized by the government since that time." This comes from the *Chicago Tribune*, in a twenty-four-inch front-page story covering Adventist military training program.

"Speaking before 2,500 persons at a city-wide mass 'Survival Through Faith' rally at the Academy of Music, Harold M. S. Richards, director-speaker of the 'Voice of Prophecy,' international radio broadcast of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, said that world peace will 'never come until Jesus returns a second time to this earth.' He said, 'World leaders everywhere are crying for peace, peace; yet they are preparing for war. . . . Recent developments in the political and military world indicate that Bible prophecies of end-of-the-world events are now being fulfilled.'"—*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

"Formed less than a century ago the church was the outcome, not of a denominational cleavage, but of a great 'spiritual awakening' which swept through many denominations of New England, then all over the United States, and finally across to England. Starting with a handful of fundamentalists and a small printing press, Adventists now number 10,273 churches and three quarters of a million members throughout the world." This is a paragraph from a full-page article by a staff writer in the *Utica (New York) Observer-Dispatch*, Sunday, November 23, 1952. This is a marvelous story with eleven pictures covering every phase of history, beliefs, and work of the Adventist Church. J. R. FERREN, *Secretary, Bureau of Press Relations, General Conference*.

The Adventist REVIEW and Sabbath HERALD

GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

FRANCIS D. NICHOL, *Editor*

FREDERICK LEE, *Associate Editor* W. H. BRANSON, *Consulting Editor*
 D. A. DELAFIELD, *Assistant Editor* J. L. McELHANY, *Contributing Editor*
 PROMISE KLOSS SHERMAN, *Editorial Secretary*

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS

C. H. WATSON, D. E. REBOK, C. L. TORREY, L. K. DICKSON, R. R. FIGUHR,
 W. B. OCHS, A. V. OLSON, H. L. RUDY, PRESIDENTS OF ALL DIVISIONS

BRIEF CURRENT NEWS CORRESPONDENTS

GENERAL CONFERENCE: MISS THELMA WELLMAN; OVERSEAS: AUSTRALASIA: E. J. JOHANSON; MIDDLE EAST: A. R. MAZAT; FAR EASTERN: C. P. SORENSEN; NORTHERN EUROPE: E. B. RUDGE; INTER-AMERICA: A. H. ROTH; SOUTH AMERICA: L. H. OLSON; SOUTHERN AFRICA: F. G. CLIFFORD; SOUTHERN ASIA: J. F. ASHLOCK; SOUTHERN EUROPE: MARIUS FRIDLIN

NORTH AMERICAN UNIONS: ATLANTIC: MISS LAURA M. DROWN; CANADIAN: MRS. EVELYN M. BOWLES; CENTRAL: MRS. SYLVIA POWERS; COLUMBIA: WARREN ADAMS; LAKE: MRS. MILDRED WADE; NORTHERN: L. H. NETTEBURG; NORTH PACIFIC: MRS. IONE MORGAN; PACIFIC: MISS OPAL STONE; SOUTHERN: MISS CLARA CRAWFORD; SOUTHWESTERN: H. C. KEPHART

CIRCULATION MANAGER - - - - - R. J. CHRISTIAN

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.*

	United States and Canada	Countries Where Extra Postage Is Required
One Year	\$4.75	\$5.25
Six Months	2.50	2.75

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 the old and new address.

Published by the Seventh-day Adventists. Printed every Thursday by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, at Takoma Park, Washington 12, D.C., U.S.A.

Entered as second-class matter August 14, 1903, at the post office at Washington, D.C., under Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. One Year, \$4.75. Vol. 130, No. 6.

Personal Letter to You

FROM A VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Dear Brethren and Sisters:

As I write this letter to you it is with a feeling of Christian love and fellowship toward all, far and near. We are members of God's great family in heaven and earth. Thanks be to God, the Father of us all, we are one in the Lord Jesus Christ, although we stem from widely separated sections of the world and from a variety of peoples.

In my quieter moments I sometimes meditate on the wonderful spirit of unity of the Advent people through the years to the present time. I am a witness to some of their sacrifices for the cause of the gospel. I see their sons and daughters giving their lives in patient missionary service in the homelands and in the remote corners of the world. I have stood by the graves of some who have laid down life itself to serve Him. The Advent believers deprive themselves of the comforts of life in order to have more to give for missions among non-Christian peoples. All this is an evidence of Christian unity.

How thankful we can be that Christian unity is one of the precious truths of the Scriptures. Jesus Christ taught that unity among His followers was essential. He said that fruit bearing depended on union with Him. The ideal He places before us is that His believers should be united with one another in the way and to the degree that He and the Father were united. He left the world with no doubts about disunity for He said, "And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand." Although His disciples failed for a time to live up to the truth He taught, He labored continuously for their good. One betrayed Him, but He loved that one to the last. Another denied Him, but He said to that one, "I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not." No personal prejudice or vindictiveness ever came between Jesus and those about Him to destroy His unity with them.

A fact of significance is that the pioneers, leaders and laymen, of the Advent Movement have been profoundly impressed with the importance of church unity. An organization has been brought into being suited to unite believers in all the world. The purpose of the organization is effectively and unitedly to carry the gospel to all nations. A spirit of unity has been cultivated and encouraged, and all have responded to this leadership.

We have now reached a time when the most complete unity is essential. We live in the time of the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all flesh. Those who receive the showers of the Spirit will be men and women with great love for, and a great feeling of unity with, their brethren. We live in bewildering times of trouble. It is imperative that we meet this condition with a united front. Everyone should now say to his brother, "Be of good courage." The work of the gospel shows undeniable signs of enlargement to a degree and with a rapidity little imagined. Special unity must characterize the church to ensure success as new vistas of enlargement and development appear.

In our day many thinkers of the world question whether the church will rise up in the power of God to be the regenerating force of this wicked world. As the early Christian church arose in unity to be the regenerating force that changed the course of human history, so the remnant church must arise through unity to be the regenerating force of our times, by the grace of Jesus.

As these considerations pass before my mind, I thank God for the unity of this people. But we must not rest on our laurels. I appeal to all our hearts for a growth in unity. May there be a still deeper sense of union with our fellow believers around the world. May we all have unity with those near as well as with those afar. I appeal for a restudy and a rethinking of the quality of unity required for our momentous times. May we all feel the need of praying for a more profound spirit of Christian fellowship and unity. Let us put ourselves in the place of those of our brethren who suffer for the truth's sake. By an enlarged number of significant acts and words let us show our brethren a deepened spirit of unity with them. Our degree of Christian unity must be strengthened, deepened, enlarged, to meet the demands of 1953. "Press together" more than ever before is the message for our day.

Sincerely yours in the service of the Master,

Walter E. Murray



LENGTHENING THE CORDS and Strengthening the Stakes

in the FAR EASTERN DIVISION

By V. T. ARMSTRONG

AFTER fifty-six years of sowing and reaping in the Far Eastern Division it is well for us to look upon the whitened fields to see what God has done in the countries of the Orient. In these populous lands that hundreds of millions call home we must see a mighty work accomplished, for our Lord has said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations"; and John on the Isle of Patmos announced under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, "I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."

It would be well to remember that when T. H. Okohira and W. C. Grainger stepped ashore in Yokohama, Japan, that chill November morning well over fifty years ago, there were no fellow workers, no church members, and no friends to greet them. They were the first Seventh-day Adventist missionaries to the Far East. This was an experience seldom met by our missionaries today. Only in some isolated spot could this happen now, for representatives of this message are found in nearly every seaport and throughout the eighteen different countries of the Far Eastern Division with its thousands of islands and peninsulas. Here 250,000,000, speaking approximately 200 languages and dialects, follow the religious customs of their ancestors or reach out for other means to give them peace of mind and assurance of salvation.

Today twenty-nine mission fields, similar to conferences in North America, are joined in six union mission organizations: Korea, Japan, North Philippine, South

Philippine, Malaya, and Indonesia. There is one detached mission, the Far Eastern Island Mission, which has the international date line for its eastern boundary and which in time will doubtless become a union organization as the membership there increases and more island groups of the Pacific are entered with the message.

Annual baptisms in this division are between six and seven thousand, which number gives an increase per year of about 15 per cent. The division membership passed the sixty thousand mark at the end of 1952, with a Sabbath school membership of seventy thousand or more.

No one can tell how far this message has penetrated the remote sections of the world. From groups of people where we have not labored and where we did not know the people had ever heard of Seventh-day Adventists, calls come requesting baptism and admittance to church fellowship. It is evidence that God's promise of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all the world is being fulfilled.

For some time calls for visitation came to the mission office in Southern Mindanao in the Philippine Islands from a

group of people living far in the interior of that large island. A. Z. Roda, president of the mission, accompanied by F. C. Cabansag, traveled many miles to reach them. Great was their surprise when they reached these inland villages to find a number of people ready and awaiting baptism.

Twenty years previously one of these villagers had purchased a copy of *The Great Controversy* while living in another part of the Philippines. When he moved to Mindanao he took the book along. His study of the book brought him the Sabbath truth and a realization that soon Christ would return to the earth. He passed on the light to others, until many, convinced of the message of the book, joined him in keeping the Sabbath. They did not know at the time that in many lands of earth there was a church called Seventh-day Adventist. When Colporteur A. Sagadsad visited that section of the field some months ago, the people learned more fully about the church and immediately wanted baptism. Pastor Roda, in telling of his visit, passes on the word that in three villages eighty-nine were baptized and three churches organized.

Samuel Rantung, president of the South Celebes Mission, is receiving many calls from islands in the Timor group in the Indonesia Union. Some years ago a colporteur visited these islands and sold literature to the people. About three years ago a colporteur went to Timor intending to make his home there. Three months later word was received by his family that he had malaria, and then came the sad word that he had passed away. Shortly afterward another colporteur was sent to continue the seed sowing.

He found a company of people deeply interested and asking for Bible studies. He did what he could to meet their request, and soon more than one hundred people were attending Sabbath school. This interest continued to grow. When a minister visited them later a number were baptized and a church was organized. These newly won members have built a church, and the light is shining out from this new lighthouse. Today many of the



Workers and new believers on Okinawa by monument erected in honor of Desmond Doss, medic in World War II.

islands in this group call for the minister to come, and we believe soon there will be other churches in these islands.

The west half of New Guinea was first entered in 1941, but the outbreak of war cut off contacts and drove the first workers from the territory before work could be established. During the war Seventh-day Adventist servicemen were instrumental in passing on the light to many of the people along the coast. Four years ago two workers were sent into the territory by the Indonesia Union. Now five companies of believers have been raised up and more than eighty have been baptized. By the time this report appears in print others will have been baptized. Additional help must be given this needy field, so the work can spread to the interior and along the coast.

One Seventh-day Adventist family is living on the southern coast of New Guinea doing what it can to give the message there. A member of this family was appointed headmaster of the government school in the village and is giving his spare hours to passing out literature and studying the Bible with the people.

The Lord is crowning the evangelistic work done by laymen and evangelists with success. F. W. Detamore and R. M. Turner held two six-month efforts in Singapore and are now in Indonesia, where six months will be devoted to spearhead meetings and workers' institutes. The response in these meetings has been most encouraging. Many Moslems have attended these services, and some have been baptized. Hundreds of Dutch, English, Chinese, Malays, and others have been won to the truth. Early in 1953 this evangelistic team will go to Manila, where a tabernacle is now being built for the meetings, which will continue for six months.

G. W. Munson, in war-ravaged Korea, has been holding public meetings in many villages and cities with thousands in attendance. The war in Korea causes many perplexing problems to the mission program, but nevertheless the work goes on, and baptisms are far greater than in days

of peace. C. W. Lee, president of the union, and his limited staff of fellow missionaries and Korean workers are pressing onward in a medical, educational, and literature program that is taking the message to the millions of Korea more rapidly than ever before.

In Japan for the first time in the history of our work the radio is now sounding the message weekly. Beginning on one station in August, 1952, we will be covering Japan with the message from eight stations this year.

The Japan Missionary College enrollment is the largest in the history of the institution. This is made possible by the new addition to the administration building in 1952. The younger brother of the emperor of Japan was the guest speaker at the dedication of the new building.

The medical work of Seventh-day Adventists is greatly appreciated in Japan and other countries of the Orient. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, in a letter to the Japan Union Mission, wrote: "I have learned with deep interest of the proposed enlargement of the sanitarium-hospital facilities of the Japan Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists in Tokyo. This institution, open to people of all races and creeds, is a practical demonstration of the moral, humanitarian, and spiritual impact of Christianity upon the lives of people and is of out-

standing importance in the areas that it serves.

"The need is great in Japan for the enlargement of hospital facilities that minister to the people who are in want of such care. I have noted the effectiveness with which the Seventh-day Adventist denomination has operated similar institutions on a nondenominational scale in many parts of the world, and extend to you my best wishes for the success of your work in Japan."

What is said of our medical work in Japan is equally true of the work in the Seoul and Pusan medical institutions in Korea, the Manila Sanitarium and clinics in the Philippine Islands, the four medical centers in Siam, the two in British Malaya, and the one in Java. These medical units are open to all, regardless of creed or color. No one is turned away because of lack of money. These medical centers are filled with the sick. Only in eternity will we fully know what these institutions have done in winning souls for Christ and in creating good will for the church.

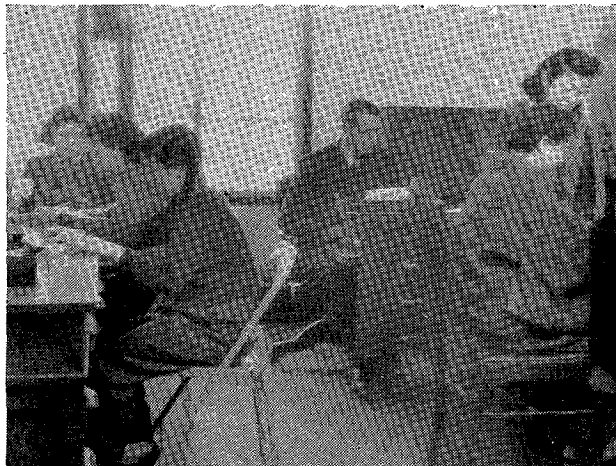
The Bible correspondence school, conducting work in eleven languages, is one of the most effective soul-winning endeavors. More than 90 per cent of the people within the division have the message in a language they understand as Bible lessons and radio broadcasts pro-

(Continued on page 30)

Right: Staff of the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School in Tokyo, Japan.

Lower right: New church under construction in Catanauan, Quezon, Philippine Islands.

Lower left: Ruins of one of our mission buildings in Seoul, Korea.



What is Prayer?

By FREDERICK GRIGGS

MR. MOODY, the soul-winning evangelist of the last century, was once speaking to a large meeting of youth in Edinburgh, Scotland. He asked the question, "What is prayer?" He was much surprised when a large number of those present raised their hands showing that they wished to answer. He asked one youth to reply. And in a clear voice came this good answer: "Prayer is the offering up of our desires to God for things agreeable to His will in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins and thankful acknowledgment of His mercies." It was a well-balanced definition.

David the psalmist had a good understanding of prayer as appears in many of his psalms. "Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul." Ps. 25:1. When we ask the Lord to lift our souls we place ourselves in a position where the beauty of holiness covers them. We make it possible for God to do with us what He wishes to do.

The word *prayer* really means "a wish directed toward God." Prayer is not simply asking God to do things for us. True prayer is worship. Because God is all-mighty, all-wise, all-loving, we must reverence His name above all names. Real prayer expresses our reverence and adoration. However, we are also instructed to ask that our daily needs be supplied. "Give us this day our daily bread." But our love for God is not diminished when we do not get that which we think we need. We still trust God, knowing that He does all things well. It has been said that "prayer is the moment when heaven and earth kiss each other."

Our heavenly Father has only one steadfast, unchangeable purpose. That is to do for us only that which is for our good. When we continually pray for that which we want but perhaps do not need, God may grant it. The psalmist, in speaking of the children of Israel, said, "They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel: but lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert. And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their souls." Ps. 106:13-15. The Israelites brought this leanness upon themselves. They were cursed with the answer to a selfish prayer.

In the minds of many prayer is necessary only in cases of emergency. It is said that two Scotch miners were down in a mine when the roof began to fall. One miner, a godless man, began to pray, and the other, a Christian, remarked, "Aye,

there's nowt like cobs of coal to make a man pray."

One of the valuable things about prayer is that it makes us feel our dependence on God. We become acquainted with people by talking with them. Some time ago a man about whom I had heard much, and concerning whom I had formed an unfavorable opinion, came to my office to confer with me about an item of business in which I was concerned. Our conference was not a long one, but it changed my mind about the true worth of this man.

It is said of Count Zinzendorf, the great Moravian missionary, that "he sought the Giver rather than the gift." It is this very personal acquaintance with the Giver of all good that enables us to ask wisely and well for the things that God alone can give.

Stonewall Jackson is said to have been a man of much prayer. In speaking of his acquaintance with God he is reported to have said that he rarely lifted a glass of water to his lips without thanking God for it. The habit of ceaseless prayer had become very much a part of him. Of Moses the record declared that "he endured, as seeing him who is invisible." Heb. 11:27. Real prayer is a fixed purpose to become acquainted with our heavenly Father.

During the presidency of Abraham Lincoln a gentleman came to a waiting room of the White House and asked to see Mr. Lincoln. He was told that the President was so busy that it was absolutely impossible to see him.

"But," replied the visitor, "my message is so important that I shall wait here until I can see him."

"You can tell me your message, and I will tell it to the President and bring

back his answer," replied another servant.

"Again the gentleman told the White House servant that he would stay in the waiting room or if necessary on the steps of the White House until he could tell the President what he wished him to know. Soon President Lincoln came out and shook hands in a most cordial manner and gave his visitor just the answer he wanted. So it is when we come to our heavenly Father. He may delay answering us, but He will surely give us just the necessary and right reply to all of our requests.

The prayers of our Saviour when here on earth were entirely for His Father's glory, not his own. It is of first importance in learning to pray that we avoid asking for that which contributes to our personal honor and praise. When we are conscious of being in the real presence of our heavenly Father when we pray, then, and then only, do we pray unselfishly, as did Jesus our Lord.

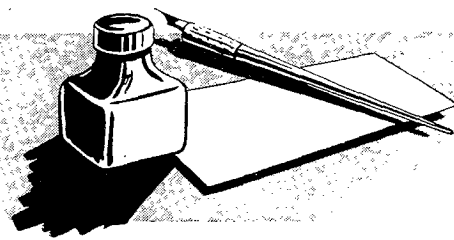
In answering the question "What is prayer?" we should give heed to the Saviour's counsel: "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matt. 6:6. Prayer is a matter of personal experience. It is only as we thus enter into a personal, close relationship with God that we may become acquainted with Him.



A. Devaney

Prayer is the offering up of our desires to God for things agreeable to His will, with thankful acknowledgment of His mercies.

EDITORIAL



The Timeliness of the Advent Movement

It is well for Seventh-day Adventists to take an objective view of the movement of which we are members, and also of the message we are proclaiming to the world. For more than a century we have proclaimed as the central features of our message two great themes. The first one has been that of the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; the second has been a call for a reform that will lead to the keeping of the Sabbath of the Lord on the seventh day of the week according to the fourth commandment. Associated with these two principal doctrines are a number of other vital teachings, all of which make up the framework of the doctrinal belief of the Advent Movement.

In taking such a view, we do well to examine our position in the world. Is the Advent message a timely one? Is this the period of time in God's dealing with the human race in which such a message should be proclaimed? Do conditions in the world indicate that these are the days foretold by the prophets of old, by the apostles, and by Jesus Himself?

As a religious body we believe and teach many principles or doctrines believed and taught by other Christian denominations. It may be asked, then, why we maintain our own distinctive identity and carry on a unique work throughout the world. Such a question is of great importance, and in the answer we find the very core of the Advent message. Space will not permit an exposition of all the prophecies that clearly and unmistakably point to these latter days. But some brief references may be noted.

Prophecy of Our Time

In the twenty-fourth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus gave His disciples a prophetic exposition of events that would occur from the time of the destruction of Jerusalem down to the time of His second coming. In the third verse of this passage His disciples asked Him a question: "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" Jesus proceeded to give them an answer by describing local and world conditions. In verse 14 He stated, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

When Jesus spoke these words He laid down the foundational fact that His second coming was to be preceded by a worldwide proclamation of the Christian message. That proclamation of the gospel of the kingdom was to be based on the authority of the very words Jesus uttered concerning His coming and of the events that would show when His coming was near. His own words are themselves a prophecy of a work or movement that was to be carried on just previous to His coming. When Jesus uttered this prophecy it was ordained in the divine purpose that such a work would be undertaken, that such a movement would arise. Just as John the Baptist was God's messenger proclaiming the first coming of Christ as the Messiah and the one who was to be offered to save every guilty sinner who would accept Him, so

there was to be a movement to proclaim His second coming as the King of kings and Lord of lords.

As the clock of time tolled off the years, the prophecies of both the books of Daniel and the Revelation began to be fulfilled, as well as other prophecies of the Bible. The prophecy of the 1,260 years, terminating in A.D. 1798, and the prophecy of the 2,300 years, terminating in A.D. 1844, are examples. Between these dates there sprang into action in different places many men proclaiming the coming of the Lord. In Europe and America thousands of people were greatly stirred. But it is a significant fact that out of all the interest and stir created by this preaching there emerged only one body of Christian believers committed to the great work of proclaiming the soon and second coming of Christ.

It was thus that the Seventh-day Adventist Movement was born, and in the very time of fulfilling prophecy. It appeared at the right time and came on the scene bearing the very message Christ had foretold to His disciples. Turn to the fourteenth chapter of the Revelation, beginning with verse six, and there read of a three-fold message, under the symbol of three angels. The first of these fulfills the prophecy of Jesus, for it announces that the everlasting gospel is to be preached to all the nations of earth, and this proclamation is to be given in the very hour of God's judgment. (Verses 6, 7.) The result of proclaiming these messages is brought to light in the twelfth verse, where the prophet describes those who are Christian believers and keep the commandments of God. The chapter closes with a graphic description of the coming of the Son of man to reap the harvest of the earth. A fuller exposition of the threefold message in this chapter makes very clear why Seventh-day Adventists are so earnest and zealous in emphasizing the importance of loyalty to the God of heaven in the observance of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. The prophecy of Isaiah, as recorded in chapter 58, verses 12-14, further emphasizes the place of Sabbathkeeping and Sabbath reform in connection with God's last message.

Divinely Called to Witness

Seventh-day Adventists can, with all due modesty, maintain that they have been divinely called to fulfill a special mission in proclaiming God's last message to the world. Noah bore a timely message to the antediluvian world. Jonah was sent with a message to the people of Nineveh. John the Baptist proclaimed the first advent of Christ. Down in these latter days, with the great lines of Bible prophecy focusing upon our day and generation, who stands before the world as the bearer of a message calling upon the world to prepare for the coming of Christ? We sincerely and with all our hearts believe that God has laid that responsibility upon this people.

This movement is in the world in the very time called for and doing the very work specified by the prophecies of God's Word. There are no other religious organizations, so far as our knowledge goes, that profess to do, or attempt to do, the work that Seventh-day Adventists are carrying on throughout the world. This is not said to minimize in any way whatever good other religious bodies are accomplishing in the world, but rather to

(Continued on page 27)



S. M. Harlan

Baptism is the door of the church.

THE church has the distinction of being the only organization established by Christ. All others are man made. By virtue of the One who established the church, it has the distinction of being the greatest organization in the world. The church was the best organization that Christ could devise for making known the plan of redemption to a lost world.

The church is more than an organization. The names of those who unite with the church are not only recorded in the record book of the church but written in the official records in heaven.

"But ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first born, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect." Heb. 12:22, 23.

The disciples whom Christ called became a closely knit brotherhood and the nucleus of the first Christian church. They shared together life's joys and sorrows, its trials and triumphs. Although not perfect, this brotherhood established by Christ was, and still is, made up of the best people, those who are striving for perfection of character and a home in the world to come. There are no perfect churches, since there are no perfect people. "For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." 1 Cor. 13:9, 10.

Certain facts stand out in bold relief in favor of the church. The church is the foe of all impurity and all that is against God.

It champions the cause of right. It is compared to the salt of the earth. It serves as a great preservative without which civilization would soon rot. The church makes this world a better place in which to live. Where questions of right and wrong, good and bad, sin and righteousness, are involved, the church takes its stand on the right side.

To the church of Ephesus, Paul speaks of the church as Christ's body—"the church, which is his body." Eph. 1:22, 23. This is an illustration that all can understand. Everyone has a body. The body has a head. The head of the church is Christ. "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; that in all things he might have the pre-eminence." Col. 1:18.

The body has many members with many functions. So does the church have many members, with varied talents and capabilities.

"But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath

progressive church. Its members are to be organized and united in a body—the church. All members unite in performing their God-given duties under the direction of a divinely constituted authority.

How does man here on this earth become a member of the body of Christ? In a statement written to the church at Corinth we find perhaps the most enlightening phrase that can be found anywhere in the Scriptures. Every Christian has read it over and over, but like so many other things that we read, we often fail to see all that has been written.

"Give no offence," says Paul to the believers in Corinth. To whom are they to give "no offence"? "Give no offence, neither to the Jew, nor to the Gentile." All the world is included in this sentence. There were none besides Jews and Gentiles. All that were not Jews were considered Gentiles. But Paul did not stop with Jew and Gentile. When he wrote there was something that had come into the world that had been nonexistent a short

What It Means to Be a CHURCH MEMBER

By M. L. RICE

pleased him. . . . But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you." "That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." 1 Cor. 12:18-21, 25-27.

Just as each part of the human body must have a living connection with the body, so must the child of God be united with the body of the church of God. In the church is where the current of spiritual life is felt and experienced. Outside the church men soon die spiritually.

There can be no living, active human body unless its members and organs are organically united and functioning together. The various members and organs are to be under one central control—the head. So must it be in the living, growing,

time before; it was the Christian church. So he wrote, "Give no offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God." 1 Cor. 10:32.

Yes, something new had come. Although not a new race, it was an organization made up of new men. Peter speaks of this group as an "elect" nation. So we now have Jews, Gentiles, and the church.

Although living in this world, the church is not of this world.

"I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." John 17:14-16.

"If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." John 15:19.

This new order of men—the church—cannot be accounted for by human

methods. As to how this new order of men came into existence, Christ said to Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again ["from above," margin]." John 3:7.

Jews and Gentiles come into the world by a physical birth. Men come into the church by a spiritual birth. This new birth is from above; it is of the Spirit. It makes man into a new creature. When we are born again, or experience the new birth, Peter says we are "partakers of the divine nature." 2 Peter 1:4. This makes men different. Their actions, their words, are not as they once were. Into the human heart has come a divine nature, something that makes men like God.

The apostle Paul, from his rich experience and under divine inspiration, with his inexhaustible vocabulary and by appropriate figures of speech, describes the beauty and worth of the church. Speaking of churches, Paul is probably the outstanding authority in the world. He raised up and organized many of the churches of the first century. He not only organized the churches but channeled the religious thought that has been constantly flowing to the church for the past two thousand years.

Paul compares Christ's love for the church to that of a husband for his wife. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." Eph. 5:25. Just as a man shall "leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh," so those who accept Christ are to leave the world and cleave unto Christ and the church. Paul speaks of the church as being espoused to Christ. "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." 2 Cor. 11:2.

Paul calls the church "the household of faith." Here he compares the church to a family. All the love, sympathy, and understanding that are found in a well-ordered Christian home are to be found in the church.

Paul refers to the church as the temple of the living God. He is not speaking of the building but of men and women, those redeemed by the Lord Jesus Christ. Each redeemed person is a temple in which the Holy Spirit dwells. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" 1 Cor. 3:16. The temple of God, or the church, is the gathering together in a group of a number of individual temples. The church of God is a building, not of brick and stone, but of men and women, purchased by the blood of Christ. When Paul speaks of the church as being purchased by the sacrifice made by Christ, he is simply affirming that both as individuals and as a group those who make up the church have been purchased by Him.

"His church is to be a temple built after the divine similitude, and the angelic architect has brought his golden measuring rod from heaven, that every stone may be hewed and squared by the divine measurement, and polished to shine as an emblem of heaven, radiating in all direc-

tions the bright, clear beams of the Sun of Righteousness."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 17.

Not many will be saved who do not belong to the church. We are saved by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, by being born again. "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:5. Christ alone can save. But those who accept Him as their personal Saviour will, if opportunity is given, want to take the next step in their Christian experience, which is to unite with the church.

There may be rare instances where people will be saved outside the church. The thief on the cross is an example. This man, who accepted Christ as his Saviour at what we might call the eleventh hour, never had the opportunity to unite with Christ's disciples in making up the group that became the first Christian church. However, we are safe in concluding that had this thief lived to enjoy freedom, he would have joined the church.

How do we unite with the church? What steps are necessary? What obligations do we assume? What is involved?

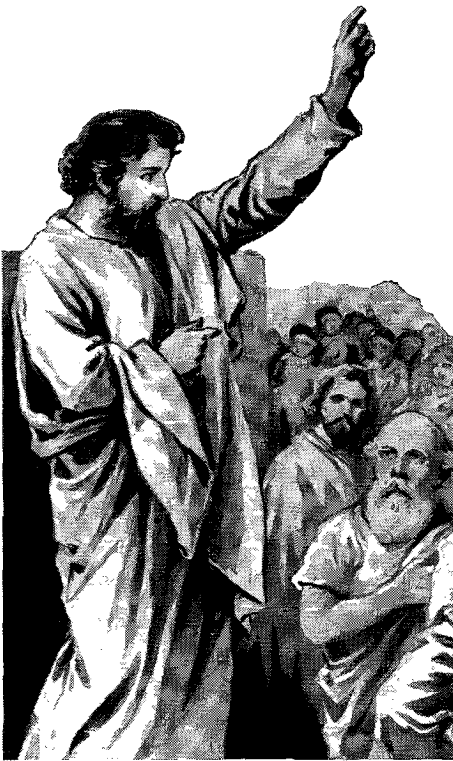
The first step in uniting with the church is to accept Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour from sin. This is to accept the death of Christ on the cross as the price paid for our redemption. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Rom. 6:23. Since "all have sinned," all are subject to death. "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Rom. 5:12. In order that all might not die, Jesus came into the world and gave His life as a ransom, or sacrifice, for all who would accept Him.

To accept Christ as our personal Saviour from sin is more than a mere mental assent. It is to believe that He died not only for us but in place of us. It means

(Continued on page 26)



As each part of the human body must have a living connection with the body, so must the child of God be united with the church, which is the body of Christ.



Peter warned the church against false doctrines.

TAKE heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock. . . . For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." Acts 20:28-30.

Such was the counsel the apostle to the Gentiles gave to the church during the early days of Christianity. That counsel was indited by the Holy Spirit, and was intended for the church until the end of time. This applies then to God's remnant people. Just as surely as men arose speaking perverse things in the apostolic days, just so surely will men arise in the days of the remnant church. They will profess loyalty to the cause, loyalty to the truth, but they will seek to lead the believers to follow them.

The Scriptures of truth declare that the church will have troubles from without, for persecutions will arise and opposition will come to those who preach God's heaven-sent message to men; but there will be troubles from within, and they perhaps might be more insidious, and on that account present greater dangers to the children of God. The word "perverse" in the text given above does not necessarily mean stubborn or obstinate but has the idea of distortion, of actually perverting the truth of God. This thought is conveyed in one of the English translations, which indicates that men will arise in the church who will actually distort the truth; it will be so presented that it means something totally different from what the Lord intended.

Jesus warned His disciples when He was

with them in the flesh that there would arise "false prophets." (Matt. 7:15.) The apostle Paul counseled the early church members to give heed to "sound doctrine." (2 Tim. 4:3.) They were to listen to nothing but "sound" and "wholesome words" (2 Tim. 1:13; 1 Tim. 6:3), to follow the "doctrine of God" (Titus 2:10) and the "doctrine according to godliness" (1 Tim. 6:3). The same apostle refers to some who erred concerning the faith and who actually led some of the members out of the church. (2 Tim. 2:18.)

The apostle Peter also gives vital counsel concerning "false prophets" and "false teachers," who would bring in "damnable heresies." He also tells us how these deceivers carry forward their work. Many times they openly oppose the church, but

learned" (Rom. 16:17). Adverse teachings, he declares, subvert the hearers (2 Tim. 2:14); they will "overthrow the faith of some" (2 Tim. 2:18).

All such teachings, all such heresies, the children of God are to avoid. (1 Tim. 6:20; Titus 3:9.)

Whatever we do, however faithful the church of God may be to its God-given mission, false teachers will arise. They will be found in many countries, not merely in what are called the enlightened lands of earth, but in remote areas and in some instances in far-off island fields. We are told that "in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." 1 Tim. 4:1.

These teachers of unrighteousness not

BEWARE

of False Teachers

By W. E. READ

quite often they move in secret. The apostle refers to those "who *privily* shall bring in damnable heresies." 2 Peter 2:1. This indicates the method adopted by many who engage in so-called works of reform. The Revised Standard Version gives "secretly." This is the way these emissaries of error usually conduct their activities. There is also implied in this word another thought, and that is expressed in another translation, that such teachers will "insinuate destructive heresies."

Quite often the questions that form the burden of these self-appointed teachers are of minor import. Teaching of this nature, however, can cause perplexity to the minds of some, and particularly to those not well grounded in the message. The apostles of the early church had to meet experiences of this kind from time to time. Paul referred to such teachings as "foolish and unlearned questions" (2 Tim. 2:23), as "old wives' fables" (1 Tim. 4:7). He counseled the believers to "strive not about words to no profit" (2 Tim. 2:14), to give no heed to the "commandments of men" (Titus 1:14), to let no man "beguile you with enticing words" (Col. 2:4), to "mark them which cause divisions" concerning "the doctrine which ye have

only will advocate specious, erroneous theories, misapply and misinterpret the Sacred Scriptures, as well as the writings of the Spirit of prophecy, but at times will violently oppose the teachings of truth. They may be prompted by various motives. With some it is undoubtedly the love of argumentation; with others, an unholy ambition for leadership. Some will turn aside from the church because they feel they have some special spiritual gift their brethren in the church do not recognize. Others have not been able to get along with their brethren, and feel they have not been dealt with justly. So they usually leave the church, and often start a movement of their own. To all such, also to the members of God's church, comes the divine counsel:

"Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of." 2 Tim. 3:14.

"Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers." Titus 1:9.

In the last days we need not be surprised that many false theories will be presented to God's people. We were warned of this many years ago by the messenger of the Lord:

"The experience of the past will be repeated. In the future, Satan's superstitions will assume new forms. Errors will be presented in a pleasing and flattering manner. False theories, clothed with garments of light, will be presented to God's people."—*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 293.

Many of the matters presented by false teachers may appear at first sight to be the truth of God, but careful study will reveal that many errors are interwoven with the truth. This was also foreseen by the messenger of the Lord:

"Men fall into error by starting with false premises and then bringing everything to bear to prove the error true. In some cases the first principles have a measure of truth interwoven with the error; but it leads to no just action; and this is why men are misled."—*Ibid.*, vol. 7, p. 181.

As the children of God, we need to seek for divine enlightenment, and make sure that we are enjoying fellowship with the Lord day by day, for we have been told that the path of error lies very close to the path of truth.

"Many things will be presented that appear to be true, and yet they need to be carefully considered with much prayer; for they may be specious devices of the enemy. The path of error often appears to lie close to the path of truth. It is hardly distinguishable from the path that leads to holiness and heaven. But the mind

enlightened by the Holy Spirit may discern that it is diverging from the right way."—*Ibid.*, vol. 8, pp. 290, 291.

One of Satan's devices in appealing to the hearts of men is to present some truth but also to mingle in a good deal of error. Such a plan enables him to carry forward his nefarious work.

As to one of the things that entered into the ministry of Jesus our Lord when He was here among men, we read:

"All the truths of God's word come from Him. But these priceless gems had been placed in false settings. Their precious light had been made to minister to error. God desired them to be removed from their settings of error and replaced in the framework of truth. This work only a divine hand could accomplish."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 287.

Let us, then, remember the command of our blessed Lord through His servant the prophet, to "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness" (Eph. 5:11); "from such turn away" (2 Tim. 3:5). We need to watch and pray. We need to watch and exercise the greatest care. We need also to study the Word of God for ourselves. In doing so we shall make our "calling and election sure." If we heed

A careful study of the Scriptures is our only defense against false teachers.

the command to watch and pray, we shall not place ourselves in any position where Satan can take advantage of us. Let us make sure that our sins are forgiven. Let us avoid the natural curiosity of the human heart to seek after some new thing.

"God is displeased with us when we go to listen to error, without being obliged to go; for unless He sends us to those meetings where error is forced home to the people by the power of the will, He will not keep us. The angels cease their watchful care over us."—*Early Writings*, pp. 124, 125.

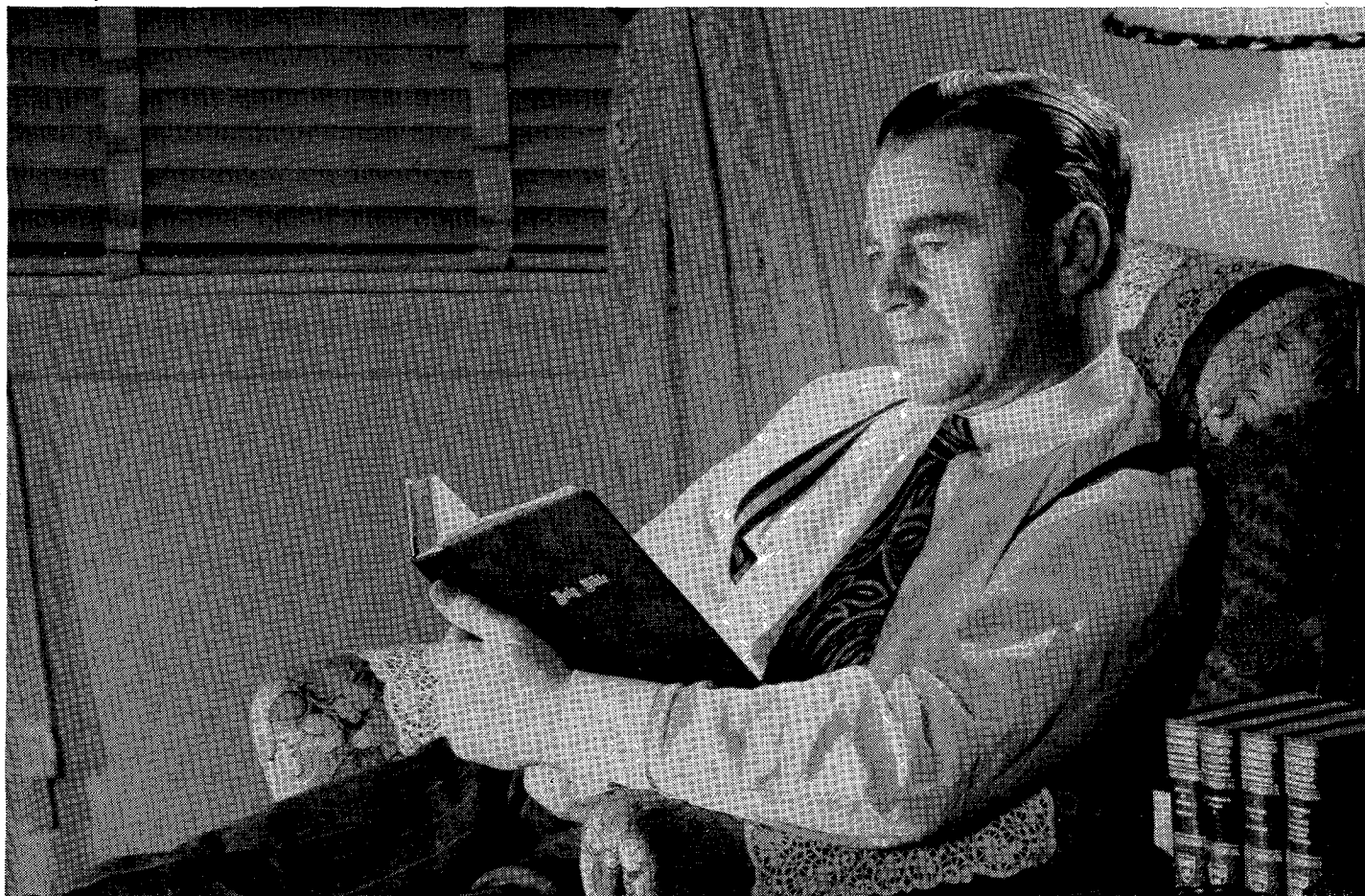
Remember that the Word of God is our safety in every time of need. The power of this Word will keep us in the hour of temptation.

"The people of God are directed to the Scriptures as their safeguard against the influence of false teachers and the delusive power of spirits in darkness."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 593.

"The heart preoccupied with the word of God is fortified against Satan."—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 616.

May we, by divine grace, yield our lives daily to the divine will, and permit God to live in us "to will and to do of his good pleasure." If we make the Word of God the man of our counsel, if we study its sacred pages day by day, if we feed upon the bread of life, we shall be preserved from the blandishments of the enemy and shall triumph over every foe.

A. Devaney



IT WAS not my privilege to be born in the Advent message. I accepted it in my late teens under deep conviction and against much opposition. My parents met as earnest young Sunday school teachers in a great state church in Europe, and in that church we six children were cradled and confirmed. There are many of God's people in these Protestant churches, and we should pray for "the great body of Christ's true followers" who "are still to be found in their communion."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 390.

One of my earliest recollections is of father with the old illustrated Bible. He would read its stories and explain its pictures to us children gathered round the fire on wintry evenings and Sunday afternoons, and the simple history of the Bible became part of us as we grew up. Mother always had us ready and early for Sunday school and church. In regard to a knowledge of God's Word and punctual attendance at church, my parents did not fail us, and I have found it easy to urge the following counsels with personal conviction upon our people:

"Children should be encouraged to become Bible students and to have firm religious principles that will stand the test of the perils sure to be experienced by all who live upon the earth during the last days in the closing history of the world."—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, pp. 212, 213.

"There is nothing more calculated to strengthen the intellect than the study of the Scriptures."—*Steps to Christ*, p. 94.

As I grew older and became a church member, choir singer, and Bible class worker, I was impressed with the dignity and beauty of church ritual, the inspiring singing, and the reverence of the people in the sanctuary. It was never difficult for me to accept the following statement, though I have often wished that our practice might more adequately represent our profession in this respect:

"True reverence for God is inspired by a sense of His infinite greatness and a realization of His presence. With this sense of the Unseen, every heart should be deeply impressed. The hour and place of prayer are sacred, because God is there. And as reverence is manifested in attitude and demeanor, the feeling that inspires it will be deepened. 'Holy and reverend is His name,' the psalmist declares. Angels, when they speak that name, veil their faces. With what reverence, then, should we, who are fallen and sinful, take it upon our lips!

"Well would it be for old and young to ponder those words of Scripture that show how the place marked by God's special presence should be regarded."—*Prophets and Kings*, pp. 48, 49.

I think the greatest impressions on my mind came from the tremendous doctrinal implications of the confessions we so often



Courtesy, Standard Publishing Co.

Why I Joined the ADVENT MOVEMENT

By HARRY W. LOWE

repeated in the great creeds. The sovereign will of God the Creator, the Holy Trinity, the divinity of Jesus, the incarnation of God in Christ, the law of God, the crucifixion, the resurrection, the second coming of Christ, and the general judgment—what greater doctrines are there than these?

I was puzzled if I read any prophetic portions of the Bible, such as Matthew 24, but the liturgical churches, with their roots deep in the historic past, do not give enough attention to prophecies of the future. As to the Second Advent, it is something, I was told, far beyond human

history as we know it. It is tragic that Christendom largely ignores prophecy when it is said that there are at least 355 distinct prophecies in the Bible, more than 200 already fulfilled, and the remainder being or to be fulfilled. Hope lies, not in endless historical development, but in God's termination of history by His Son's return in power and glory.

In due time I went to work in a great government navy yard, and I passed into a world of hard and often godless men. I was abruptly confronted with the world's challenge to every youth—conform or fight! It then dawned on me that some-

thing was lacking in my life. I found myself, like many youth today, wanting to stand up and fight for principles, yet hating to go against my fellows. When I went with the crowd I felt like another poor mortal who cried: "To will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not." Rom. 7:18, 19. When I struggled and failed, I could only cry, "O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me?" Verse 24.

I was attracted to a man of cheerful disposition and of clean, uplifting conversation. He was a Methodist lay preacher, and he soon had me reading carefully chosen literature. It was not long before Wesley's teaching on Christian perfection and the saving grace of God appealed to me. Could it be that although doctrines are the substance of our faith, they are of little value till the grace of Christ translates them into the victorious life of daily service for God? I shall never forget my Methodist friend who, sensing my struggle, would say, "Remember, Harry, that where sin abounds, grace does much more abound." (Rom. 5:20.) Therein is the basis of victorious Christian life. What I needed just then was divine grace. "There is a remedy for the sin-sick soul. That remedy is in Jesus. Precious Saviour! His grace is sufficient for the weakest; and the strongest must also have His grace or perish."—*Testimonies*, vol. 1, p. 158.

I was now attending my friend's church, on the quest for something better. There the cordial atmosphere, the great emphasis on temperance, the discussion circles, the spirit of positive witness, attracted me. The vigorous youth movement soon had my signature on temperance and anti-tobacco pledges, and here I learned not to say a mere "No, thank you" to the invitation to smoke or drink. Henceforth it was an unequivocal "No, thanks, I don't drink," or, "I don't smoke." I have followed that practice ever since. It settled the question of temptation, and it often led others to ask Why, thus providing the opportunity for explanation.

I was now avidly reading in the fields of religion, secularism, modernism, in my search for knowledge and for the satisfaction I did not yet have. It was not possible to find the answers I needed, and it dawned on me that although I was in a less formal atmosphere than I had been accustomed to, and though personal witness was more emphatic, these things were not strongly entrenched doctrinally. It is a great tragedy that the Christian churches have not followed through from the doctrinal awakening at the Reformation. This has opened the way for apostasy. Perhaps it explains the marked scarcity of "meaty" doctrinal sermons and the inability of congregations to enjoy them.

In a state of great confusion I went out

one evening to see a friend, but outside my home I turned left instead of right and headed for the open country. As I was leaving town I heard singing in a small hall, and stopped to listen. I recognized a hymn and went in. Little did I know that He who said, "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go" (Ps. 32:8), had that night brought me in touch with the Advent message, which was to fill my life with satisfaction. The little hall was dingy, the singing poor, the service simple, but these things escaped me as I listened to a sermon on the judgment under the text: "The harvest is passed, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20.

By kindly providence I came under the care of a young minister who was a great personal worker. We spent hours in Bible study. Then I read *Steps to Christ*, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, *The Great Controversy*, and *The Desire of Ages*. Is there a sounder way to come into this truth?

My spiritual problems began to find a solution. I entered into deeper doctrinal truth and a more intimate experience with the Saviour than anything I had yet known. I think these two things were the basic reasons for my joining the Advent Movement.

I saw that "the doctrine of the second advent is the very key-note of the Sacred Scriptures," and that it is "one of the most solemn and yet most glorious truths revealed in the Bible."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 299. I was tremendously impressed with the imminence of our Lord's return, and in my ardent first love wondered each day whether Christ might come before nightfall. A gracious Lord granted to me the assurance that "every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." 1 John 3:3.

This was years before the first world war. If it was true then that "the coming of Christ is nearer than when we first believed," that "the great controversy is nearing its end," and "the judgments of God are in the land" (*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 252), how much more true it is today! How much more evidence of the imminence of Christ's return we now have. I wonder sometimes whether we are as emphatic on the imminence of the end as we were forty years ago.

The Sabbath was a great test, and it cost me my employment, many friends, and my home, for I left to enter the colporteur work and college, and have never since lived in my old home. It was a tremendous upheaval, but I thank God for the precious promise increasingly fulfilled: "There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, . . . for my sake, and the gospel's, but he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time . . . ; and in the world to come eternal life." Mark 10:29, 30. For

forty years the Advent people have been my people, and this truth my whole life.

In accepting this message I adopted a new "way of life," to use an expression found in the *Ministry of Healing*, page 114, in relation to God's commandments. My amusements changed, for I could no longer go with pleasure to places where I knew Jesus Christ could not be found. My companions changed, partly because they no longer wanted me, but also because I learned that "to walk in the counsel of the ungodly is the first step toward standing in the way of sinners and sitting in the seat of the scornful."—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 587. My whole outlook on life changed because I had found Him who is "the way, the truth, and the life." In Him I discovered fullness of grace to change, to conquer, to enjoy, and fullness of truth on which to feed my mind, regulate my life, and lead me to heaven.

When I came fully into the Advent Church I seemed to move out of a small local parish into a great new world. From the first I read THE REVIEW AND HERALD, and its pages have been the windows through which I saw world needs, a growing church, the challenging missions enterprise.

The pace at which my own life was moving was accelerated providentially from the moment I joined the Advent Movement. In rapid succession came the colporteur work, college, evangelism, overseas service, secretarial and administrative work. As with many of us, it seems that this truth has crowded more into my little life than anything else could possibly have done. I feel like the early pioneers who discovered the sanctuary truths: "They knew that God had led them by His unerring providence."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 423. I know that the God who has led this people from the outset, who has superintended all the movements of my life, is lovingly, unerringly directing world events to a final, victorious conclusion.

We are yet to see the world's most stupendous events. "The scenes to be enacted in our world are not yet even dreamed of."—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 753. We shall need to live close to Jesus, to drink deeply of His grace, to fill our hearts and minds with His living Word. Given this devotion, the church of God's appointment is bound to triumph, for "there is no power that can stand against her."—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 600.

My hope today is what it was forty years ago when I joined the Advent Movement—to stand with the great multitude of the redeemed before the throne of God, and sing, "Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." Rev. 7:10. Let all who share this hope be steadfast in the truth, for the return of our Lord cannot be far away.

The UNITED STATES

in Prophecy

AN EVANGELISTIC SERMON

●
By George E. Vandeman
●



R. M. Eldridge, Artist

IF THERE is any subject that should interest us today, it is the United States and its relation to the future as revealed in the prophecies of the Bible. God has placed America under the divine spotlight of revelation. It will play a vital role on the closing stage of human affairs.

The prophecies of the Bible point out the destiny of the nations and give men great courage and confidence as we are nearing the Second Advent of Christ.

I turn now to Revelation, the thirteenth chapter, and read verses 1 and 2. John the revelator is speaking. He points out that while standing on the seashore he sees a beast rising up out of the waters.

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority."

When reading texts such as this, some people become confused and give up Bible study, because they think that prophecy is difficult to understand. Revelation is not so difficult as it first appears. When we discover the Scripture key that unlocks the meaning of these prophetic symbols, we can readily discover the truth for ourselves.

One woman said, "Surely that beast must be the beastly doctrines some people teach." No, friends, it doesn't mean that. This word "beast" does not speak disrespectfully of anything or anybody. God is here cartooning prophecy by the

use of a beast—an animal, you see. We do not differently today. When referring to the United States, we sometimes see an eagle pictured. When referring to Great Britain, we use the lion. When we talk about Russia, what symbol is used? A bear. Nations today use cartoons of animals to describe them. But notice what the Bible says in describing the use of a beast in symbolic prophecy. Daniel 7:17, 23 points out:

"These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth." "Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth."

In prophetic writing you will discover, and Bible students agree, that a beast represents a power—a political power. Someone says, "Does this refer to beastly powers?" No, the Bible does not have that in mind at all. The term "beast" does not necessarily indicate a good power or a bad power. It is not speaking harshly or disrespectfully of any group.

Now what is this power? To whom does it refer? The prophecy makes this point clear. This beast power of Revelation 13:1-10 is none other than the Papacy. I make that statement for three well-defined reasons. It is not our business to condemn. We do not wish to speak disparagingly of any group. I love the people who belong to the great Church of Rome, and God loves them. God accepts men who follow the light that has come to them. But when further light comes, He expects them to walk in that light. The Bible says, "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17. That is why it is so important to step out and obey light when it comes. There will be no confusion in our minds if we are willing

to obey. Confusion only sets in when we are not willing to obey.

But, friend, it is my purpose today to trace the finger of God in prophecy. I repeat, the beast power of Revelation 13 is none other than the Papacy. When I refer to the Papacy I refer not only to the Church of Rome but to the Vatican political institution as well. Did you know that forty-one nations recognize the Pontiff as a king? On that 109-acre plot on the banks of the Tiber, no larger than a golf course, stands the world's smallest kingdom. And yet few will disagree that this kingdom exerts more influence the world around than nations many times its size. Some of the most astute statesmen the world has ever known operate the department of state in the Vatican. Now, are we sure that we are on the right track? Let us see.

Notice what the prophecy says at the close of verse 2: "And the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority." Who was the dragon? According to Revelation 12 the dragon was primarily a symbol of Satan. But Satan never comes out into the battle in visible form. He always works through other agencies. Revelation 12:4 says, "And the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born."

A careful reading of Revelation 12 will reveal that the dragon power stood ready to destroy the Christ child as soon as He was born. Everyone knows that it was pagan Rome under the Caesars that attempted to destroy Him. You remember that Herod, the Roman governor, made the decree. There can be no doubt but that pagan Rome is represented by the

dragon in the prophecy. Now, please note that the dragon gave his power, his seat, and great authority to the rising beast power of Revelation 13. A "seat" is a capital. The seat of the United States Government is Washington. Now, did pagan Rome give the city of Rome to the Papacy? It certainly did. If you will think back carefully to your study of history, you will remember that Constantine, in the year A.D. 330, moved the capital of the empire from Rome to Byzantium, which he later called Constantinople, leaving the Papacy the most powerful force in the West. Pagan Rome gave to papal Rome its seat, power, and great authority.

There need be no guesswork when we come to understanding prophecy. While pagan Rome was going down, papal Rome was coming up. LaBlanca, professor of history in the University of Rome, said, "To the succession of the Caesars came the succession of the Pontiffs of Rome."

I now come to the second point. Please notice that this definitely is a religious power. Revelation 13:4-6:

"And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? . . . And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven."

One can readily see on the surface that it is here speaking of a religious power. "Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?" Please also notice that this power speaks "blasphemy." Now what is blasphemy? Luke 5:21 answers our question: "And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?"

Jesus had the power to forgive sins, but these hypocritical Pharisees did not believe that Jesus was the Son of God. Their accusation was false, for Jesus alone can save from sin. The verse, however, reveals what blasphemy is. It indicates that one who falsely claims the power to forgive sins is a blasphemer. From this verse we have the definition of blasphemy.

I know we have many Catholic friends whom we love. I want to be very, very kind in what I say. For in unfolding the truth of God on this question, as revealed in the prophecy, we must touch a very vital truth. The Bible teaches that the way of access to our Saviour is clear and that no one need stand between the needy soul and his Saviour. The way to the throne of grace is open for every one who in earnest sincerity cries out, "Lord, forgive me."

The great Church of Rome, however, has built its system upon the mediation of the priesthood. We cannot help believing that this fundamental doctrine of the Church of Rome brings it squarely under the accusation of Revelation 13. The word "blasphemy" is a harsh word, but, friends,

think the matter through, and you will see the point, I am sure.

We now turn to the third point. Revelation 13:5 reveals, "And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months."

Again I refer to the address on Revelation 12 describing the 1,260 years of papal supremacy. In three different ways in these two chapters the prophecy clearly indicates that this power will rule with great authority for 1,260 years. This forty-two months multiplied by thirty (thirty days to the month) equals 1,260 days. According to the rule found in Ezekiel 4:6 and Numbers 14:34, we reckon prophetic time as a day for a year.

Did this take place? Yes, most certainly. When at last the authority of the Papacy was established after the final uprooting of the three opposing Arian powers in 538, we can begin computing our 1,260 years. This brings us, as you can readily figure, to the year 1798. At the conclusion of the French Revolution a paralyzing blow was felt by the Papacy through loss of confidence and general confusion regarding religious things. To cap the climax, Napoleon sent Berthier, the French general, into Rome to take the pope himself prisoner. In broken health and crushed by sorrow, he died on August 29, 1799, and no new pope was elected for some time. The Papacy received a deadly wound from which it took years to recover, but the prophecy indicates that "his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast."

What power in all the world could answer this description? Pagan Rome was to give it its seat, its power, and great authority. It was to operate in the realm of religion. It was to arise from obscurity to a place of dominating force and hold this control for 1,260 years, and in 1798

receive a death blow. It was then to come back to its original prestige, until all the world would look on with interest. I ask, What power could it be if it were not the Papacy.

Now I read Revelation 13, verse 10:

"He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."

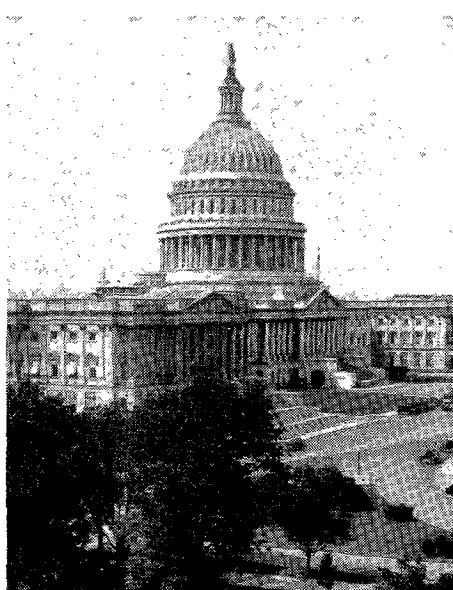
Those who are acquainted with the record of the church of the Middle Ages know that all who did not believe as the established church taught were considered heretics. These heretics, many of them, became martyrs for their faith. Persecution ran riot. If I should bring in every book in the Library of Congress that describes these days of persecution, it would take a two-ton truck to contain them all. But the prophecy indicates that "he that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity." This power that led others into captivity was itself to go into captivity, and it did that very thing in 1798. But listen, as the Papacy was going into captivity the prophecy indicates that another power was arising: "And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon." Verse 11.

As the Papacy was going down in 1798, we discover that another power was coming up. Revelation 17:15 tells us that water in these symbolic prophecies represents peoples, nations, multitudes, and tongues. The first beast power came up out of the sea, or water. It rose from the centers of civilization. This beast comes up out of uncivilized territory—just the opposite. It says "the earth." Now notice. What power was rising in 1798 in a new world of uncivilized territory?

It was in 1776 that a little boy put his ear to the keyhole of an historic room in a familiar building in the heart of Philadelphia. Inside that room men were wrestling far into the night with tremendous issues. Finally the last signature was affixed. The Declaration of Independence was born. The little boy heard the scuffle of feet and the movement of chairs. That was his signal. He rushed upstairs to the bell tower and shouted, "Grandpa, ring for liberty! They have signed it." And grandfather up there in the steeple began to pull the rope. The Liberty Bell rang out over the city. The people shouted for joy. A new power was rising in the New World just as the Papacy was receiving its paralyzing blow in the Old.

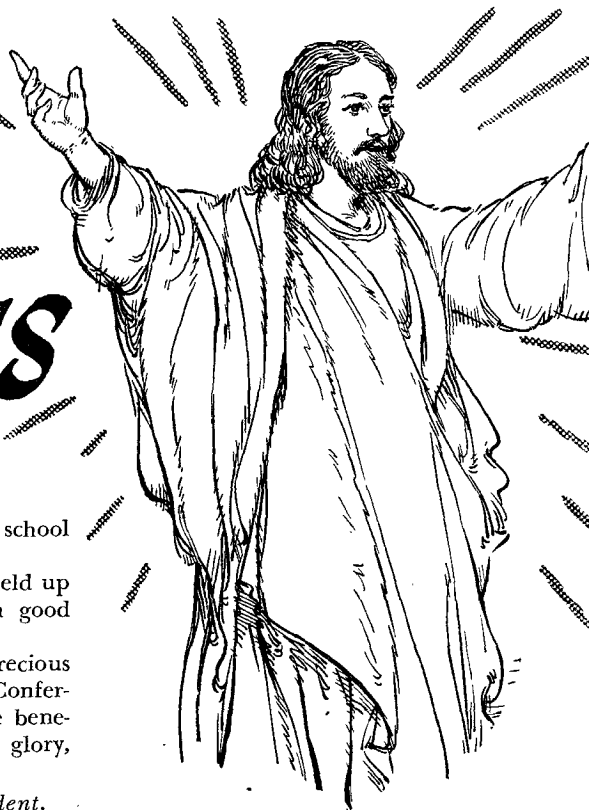
Did you notice that the prophecy said it would have lamblike characteristics and that it would have two horns? There were two distinct reasons for its existence—two fundamental principles upon which this country was founded: Protestantism and freedom, the democratic way, "a state without a king and a church without a pontiff."

How I wish that we could stop here,
(Continued on page 22)



United States Capitol building in Washington, D.C., symbol of the democratic way of life.

Good Tidings



Atlantic Union

Looking back over the year 1952, we feel that the work in the Atlantic Union Conference has made definite progress, and we have been the recipients of Heaven's richest blessings. During the year approximately 1,100 people were baptized and added to the church.

Several major evangelistic campaigns were held in some of our larger cities. These crusades for Christ included the R. A. Anderson meetings in Carnegie Hall, New York City; the L. O. Coon evangelistic series in the John Hancock auditorium in Boston, Massachusetts; and the O. J. Ritz campaign at New Haven, Connecticut. The R. K. Cemer meetings in Bermuda were concluded during the early part of 1952, thus making the Bermuda Mission the first field in the North American Division to double its membership. Many other evangelistic meetings were held in several of our smaller cities and towns throughout the union.

New church buildings have sprung up all over our field, and recent dedicatory services were held at Richmond, Maine; Bayshore Spanish church in New York City; New England Sanitarium church; St. Johnsbury, Vermont; Rochester, New Hampshire; Fitchburg, Massachusetts; Genesee Park church in Rochester, New York; and Dixfield, Maine.

The New England Sanitarium is enjoying a good patronage. The new 100-bed addition, including a brand-new cafeteria and kitchen, is now in operation, and this new wing, completely furnished with up-to-the-minute equipment, has brought great courage to our sanitarium workers. Last summer the sanitarium celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.

Atlantic Union College is now using the new administration building, which includes not only administrative offices and classrooms but also a well-equipped library.

One of the outstanding occasions of the year was the Sabbath school centennial held at Rochester, New York, last fall. Believers from all over our field gathered in Rochester and celebrated the one hun-

dreth birthday of our Sabbath school work.

Our tithes and mission offerings held up very well during the year, and a good increase was made in each field.

The year 1952 was a year of precious blessing in the Atlantic Union Conference, and for the bestowal of these benefits we simply say, "To God be the glory, great things He hath done."

L. E. LENHEIM, *President.*

Columbia Union

The 33,000,000 people in the Columbia Union Conference present a real challenge to our 32,131 believers in the 396 churches throughout the 8 local conferences. Progress along all lines has been marked as unitedly we have endeavored to accelerate the program of evangelism. No less than 200 evangelistic efforts were conducted during the first nine months of 1952, besides some 30 Survival Through Faith rallies and spearhead meetings.

E. F. Koch, the union conference evangelist, completed a profitable effort in Youngstown, Ohio, and immediately after, in September, began an effort in the Lyric Theatre in Baltimore, where M. K. Eckeroth held forth during the previous months with good results. It is gratifying to learn that Elder Koch has obtained the names of about 300 people who had never been reached during the previous effort.

During the past year nearly 500 new laymen soul-winning endeavors were launched in one day alone throughout the union. Our Missionary Volunteers are faithfully sharing their faith. The large colporteur army is ever on the march. The total deliveries in the publishing department during the first nine months amounted to \$431,342.96. This is an increase of \$16,189.93.

The enrollment in our Bible schools is steadily climbing. The total applications has reached the 45,000 mark. During the first quarter of 1952 alone, 3,044 were enrolled. As a result of our over-all soul-winning program we again had more than 2,200 baptisms at the close of 1952.

The membership likewise shows an increase. At the close of the third quarter of 1952 it stood at 32,131. Fifty new church buildings were erected or acquired. The New Jersey Conference purchased a large acreage for camp meeting and Junior camp purposes. Moreover, the East Pennsylvania Conference is now negotiating to purchase an 800-acre farm, with a view to establishing the East Pennsylvania Conference boarding academy. This school will fill one of our greatest needs.

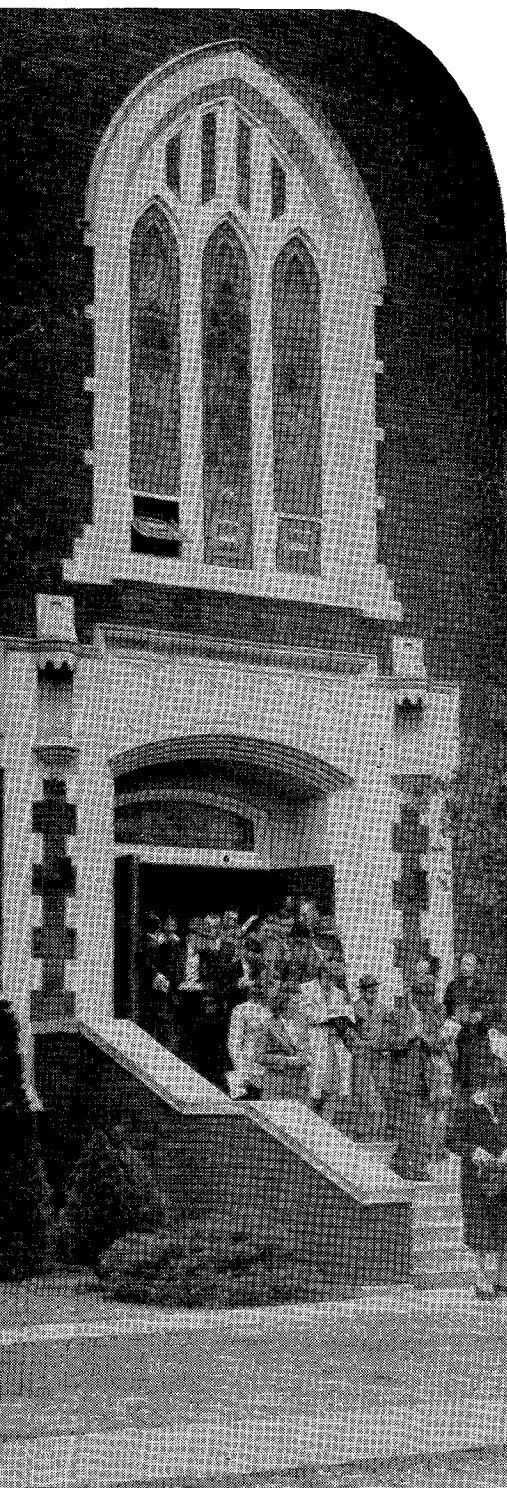
The educational program shows progress. Fourteen new church schools were opened this past fall. The enrollment in the 125 church schools shows a gain of 312. The seven academies in the union reveal a small gain of ten, whereas Washington Missionary College has a healthy enrollment gain of nearly 100 students. The total enrollment in all of our schools is 4,908.

The Washington Missionary College new science hall is now completed, also the new modern academy building.

Again we can congratulate our faithful believers, old and young alike, in their wholehearted support of the worldwide mission program. The 1952 Ingathering amounted to \$534,000, a gain of \$27,560 over the previous year. Five conferences—West Pennsylvania, West Virginia, East Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Chesapeake—reached Minute Man goals. The Eighty-Cent-a-Week Fund totaled \$979,178.99 for the first three quarters of the year, with a gain of \$21,557.39 over the same period of the previous year. The total per capita, \$.818, is the highest

SYMPOSIUM OF NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION UNION PRESIDENTS

FROM THE HOME BASE



average in North America. The tithe over the same months reached an all-time high, \$2,522,606.90, a gain of \$177,458.60 over the corresponding period of the previous year. The Sabbath school offerings as of September 30 amounted to \$405,119.77, or a gain of \$19,800.46.

We face this new year with courage and hope.

D. A. OCHS, *President.*

Canadian Union

The year 1952 has been a year of advancement in all departments of our work throughout the broad expanse of the Canadian Union.

Usually a number of unions combine in support of a publishing house and a college, but here in the Canadian Union we have the Oshawa Missionary College at the headquarters of our work at Oshawa, Ontario, and the Canadian Union College serving the West, at Lacombe, Alberta. Both of these schools are fine institutions, with many new and modern buildings and up-to-date equip-

Chris Bauer

Our great foreign mission program is largely dependent on the consecration and liberality of our people in the home base.

ment. At the present time these schools are enjoying the largest enrollment they have ever had. From these schools, through the years, a large number of students have gone forth to many parts of the world field, where they are carrying heavy responsibilities.

The Canadian Union Conference also operates a publishing house situated at Oshawa. We have a modern up-to-date plant that provides literature for the Canadian field. The subscription book sales alone for the first ten months of 1952 were close to \$300,000, with still brighter prospects for the future.

The Rest Haven Sanitarium is a Canadian Union institution, near Victoria, British Columbia. The setting for this medical institution is one of the most beautiful to be found anywhere. The sanitarium is on a little island connected with the mainland by a bridge. The island is the property of the sanitarium. Looking out across the open expanse of water, the snow-capped peak of Mount Baker can be seen in the State of Washington. The sanitarium has had a full patronage during the year, and its influence throughout the entire area has been a blessing to our work.

In the Canadian Union there are five major local conferences and two missions. Each of these organizations has had a large increase in tithe and mission offerings. The increase in mission offerings at the close of the third quarter totaled more than \$50,000. This increase is largely through the Ingathering and Sabbath school. The Ingathering per capita for the entire field is \$14.59. During the past campaign the Ontario-Quebec Conference had better than the Minute Man standing, being the first conference in the history of Canada to reach the Minute Man goal.

The program of evangelism has gone well throughout the field. For the first nine months of 1952 our baptisms totaled 435, with a larger harvest from efforts assured during the last quarter. When the reports are all in the membership for the union will have passed 12,000 by December 31, 1952. Every field is burdened to carry an ever-enlarging program of evangelism.

W. A. NELSON, *President.*

Lake Union

The twelve months of 1952 have slipped by quickly, but not without registering some advance steps in the Lake Union.

From the material side, in size and cost, we should list as first, the advancement made on the new sanitarium and hospital at Hinsdale, Illinois, which is rapidly nearing completion. This beautiful institution, representing an investment of more than \$3,500,000, will soon be completed. On the Hinsdale Sanitarium campus has been erected a new home for student nurses. This modern structure will house 90 students and also provide ample classrooms for teaching purposes. This building will represent an investment of nearly \$500,000. With a new sanitarium and hospital and a new home for nurses, Hinsdale will be one of the most up-to-date plants that modern science can build. These new buildings, with a consecrated staff, will make possible the continuation of the medical work begun in this place about fifty years ago under the direction of the late Dr. David Paulson.

Emmanuel Missionary College continues to grow and expand. Nearing completion is a new music building, which has been constructed along the same beautiful lines that grace the other buildings, and that give this college its attractive campus.

The Wisconsin Conference during the past year has erected a new dormitory for boys at the academy at Columbus. This representative building, modern in every respect, gives to this institution another building in its expanding program and growth.

On the campus of Indiana Academy, at Cicero, has been erected a most beautiful auditorium, which will serve as a gymnasium and place for large gatherings during the school year, and as a place for large gatherings during camp meeting.

Many church buildings have been built and purchased during 1952. Space will not permit our mentioning all of them. The relocation of the Shiloh church in the Lake Region is perhaps the major change. The old Shiloh church was sold, and a new property, at 70th and Michigan, has been purchased. In addition to a beautiful church building, this property includes a modern parish hall with an auditorium that will seat more than a thousand, a beautiful gymnasium, and a nice parsonage.

What has been known as the South Side church in Chicago has been sold, and a new church building has been erected at 94th and Justine. This new church property, with an adjoining school building, gives to the South Side Chicago church a splendid center from which to carry on the work in that area.

During the past year the Illinois Conference purchased a most beautiful campsite and a place for group meetings at Dixon, Illinois. This property, overlooking the Rock River, has been used during the past

summer for Junior camps and other meetings, and has proved to be a great asset to the work in the Illinois Conference.

Although we realize that material things do not always represent spiritual growth, we are grateful for the prospering hand of God that has been upon our work during the past year. We raised the largest amount of Ingathering funds ever recorded in our history. The tithe reached a new high, and more than \$470,000 worth of literature was sold in this territory. The membership in the Lake Union stands at 30,792. The enrollment in our schools in 1952 was as follows: College, 803; academies, 1,336; elementary and intermediate, 3,420.

M. L. RICE, *President.*

Pacific Union

The spirit of evangelism has been the key to the success of the work in the Pacific Union Conference in 1952. Public and lay evangelism has played a very important part in a twofold way, spiritually and financially.

Our statistical report for nine months shows that 2,133 people have been baptized, but the more recent figures show that there are about 500 more. Our elementary and secondary schools opened this fall with an increased enrollment. Christian education is the watchword in this union.

In Arizona an outdoor drive-in public effort has been the means of interesting many people in the gospel of Christ. A good number have been baptized, and studies are being held with others. Arizona has big plans for 1953. A large tabernacle is being built on the grounds behind the present academy. The Venden brothers with a Bible instructor and several workers will hold a large effort, the results of which we are sure will bring a rich harvest of souls.

In the Central California Conference the work has been onward. A number of evangelistic efforts have been held, which have resulted in many accepting the gospel of Christ. Just now the Venden brothers are holding a large effort in Armona, California. The reports are that large crowds are attending and that the interest is so great that instead of holding an effort of three or four months it will be extended well into next summer. A number of churches have also been dedicated this year.

In Hawaii the well-planned efforts have resulted in 80 baptisms for the first nine months, with the outlook that more than 100 will be baptized in 1952. The mission offerings are 84 cents a week per member, with an increase in Ingathering over last year.

The Nevada-Utah Conference has again come up with another wonderful year. There has been a gain of better than 15

per cent in tithe, and better than 90 cents a week per member has been reached in gifts to missions.

Northern California reports four major efforts in progress, with definite word of 715 people baptized at the time of this writing. The hope is to have more than a thousand baptisms when the year-end reports are in.

In southern California a number of evangelistic efforts have been held, resulting in the baptism of 527 people in the first nine months. All indications are that 300 or more will be baptized before the end of the year. The new conference office is being erected on Chevy Chase Drive just opposite the Glendale Sanitarium.

The Southeastern California Conference reports that more than 10 evangelistic meetings are being held at the present writing and that 347 people were baptized the first nine months. Some of the efforts now being held are in church buildings and are proving very successful. A number of churches have been dedicated, and some new churches have been added to the conference.

Our two colleges have good enrollments. La Sierra College is in the midst of erecting its new science building, which will alleviate the cramped situation.

Our three sanitariums have had a much-increased patronage over that of a year ago, and the prospects are bright for the year. The added building facilities at both St. Helena and Paradise Valley have been a great help.

The Loma Linda Food Company reports wonderful sales both at its Eastern division and at Arlington. Many chain stores, as well as others, carry Loma Linda products.

C. L. BAUER, *President.*

Southern Union

The membership of the Southern Union at the close of the third quarter of 1952 was 32,373. Twenty years ago the membership was 12,789, giving us a net gain of practically 20,000 in the past twenty years. The baptisms for the last four quarters total 2,753.

The most outstanding enterprise carried on in the Southern Union during 1952 has been the work of the Southern Union School of Bible Prophecy. This is the first full year that it has operated under the direction of E. L. Cardey, our veteran Bible school worker. We have followed the continuous mailing program. In 1952 we enrolled 102,298 in the Bible course, this number making a total of 182,298 enrollments since the school was opened. We have received more than 4,000 replies from students who have expressed a definite interest in the Sabbath. This is almost overwhelming, and a great follow-up program is being organized to bring these people all the way into the truth.

Our educational work is very encouraging. Southern Missionary College has a splendid enrollment, and this is proving to be one of the best years in the history of the college. The cornerstone for the new music hall at the college was laid on November 6.

The beautiful new W. H. Green Memorial Library at Oakwood College has now been completed and will be in use very soon. Construction on the new science hall at Oakwood has begun. The *Huntsville Times*, reporting a survey of the Madison County Health Department, lists the Oakwood dairy as occupying the first place of all the grade A dairies in the county. President F. L. Peterson says, "The immediate future of Oakwood never looked better, and the board members as well as the constituency are loud in their praise of the accelerated progress toward putting foundations under our dreams."

The schools in the Southern Union opened this fall with enrollments as follows: College, 987; secondary, 1,202; elementary, 3,968.

The new \$275,000 modern nurses' home at the Florida Sanitarium and Hospital is progressing according to schedule. The entire building is enclosed, and the interior is being finished.

The beautiful new brick church at the Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital is being completed and occupied.

The Ingathering in the Southern Union reached an all-time high of \$468,418.72 for 1952, making a gain of \$45,323.48 over 1951.

The deliveries of our subscription literature in the Southern Union are the highest in the past five years and total almost \$900,000.

The future is bright. Conference-wide lay preachers' conventions have been held recently. Our members are alert and have gone home with the inspiration to let the light of truth shine in their communities. We need help to lighten the dark counties of the Southern Union.

V. G. ANDERSON, *President*.

Northern Union

During the year just past our work in the Northern Union Conference has shown a steady increase. The Lord blessed us with between 400 and 500 baptisms in the first nine months of the year. We hope that when reports are in for the latter part of the year 1952 at least 250 more new members may be listed.

We had a tithe increase of \$31,000, or about 4.3 per cent over the preceding year, and our mission offerings showed a gain of \$12,674, or 4.5 per cent. We are happy also to say that we had an increase in Ingathering of about \$9,500, which is about 9 per cent over the preceding year.

During the past year our home missionary department has been extremely active.

We have had an excellent laymen's congress in each of the conferences in the Northern Union. There have been established a number of Dorcas welfare centers. In the Iowa Conference alone we have eight such centers, with a State welfare depot at Mason City, which has received good publicity in the newspapers.

The Northern Union still leads the North American field in Sabbath school Investment.

In our educational and Missionary Volunteer departments we have had 98 baptisms during the past year, which was a gain of 200 per cent over the previous year. At the present time we have more elementary pupils in our church schools than at any time in the history of our field. Our four academies are operating very nicely, with a slight loss in attendance in one or two of the academies and a gain in others. We are perhaps having the best school year, on the whole, of any time within recent years.

Our publishing department is making slow but sure gains. This is one of the most difficult fields, partly because of our very long and cold winters and partly because of our sparsely settled country, but our publishing brethren are pushing forward with a determination to reach their goal of 100 full-time colporteurs in the union. Recently one of our colporteurs sold a copy of *Bible Readings* to the wife of the governor of the State in which he resides.

Although we were visited with drought, particularly in the two Dakotas, during the past year, we are showing an operating gain. Our courage is good as we look forward to blessings of the new year.

JERE D. SMITH, *President*.

Central Union

According to the latest available statistics, the Central Union Conference has made a larger percentage growth during 1952 than any of the other nine unions in North America. The membership now stands well in excess of 20,000, showing a gain of 2,250 since the last General Conference session.

Soul winning is now regarded as the full-time work of ministers and a substantial part-time task of many of our lay members. Four of the six conferences in this field now employ lay evangelist secretaries. These are department men whose exclusive work is to recruit, train, and supervise brethren and sisters in our churches who devote at least one evening each week to giving Bible studies or to conducting cottage meetings.

There have been large gains during the past year in tithe, Sabbath school offerings, and all mission funds. The publishing work has expanded greatly. Not only are there more colporteurs in the field, but they have also devoted more time to their

work, and have produced considerably better results. Literature sales show a 20 per cent gain over a year ago.

The beautiful Rocky Mountain Glacier View Camp, which three years ago was purchased jointly with the Colorado Conference and the union for our youth, had its first year of service since it has become fully equipped.

At camp meeting a year ago the Colorado Conference began work on a new structure that now serves the dual purpose of gymnasium for Campion Academy and camp meeting auditorium. The Missouri Conference is now building a similar auditorium at Sunnydale Academy, which will also be used as the academy gymnasium.

This year the Kansas Conference erected a new and very modern office building in Topeka, its headquarters. The previous office, a converted residence, was sold for a sufficient sum to supply nearly all the funds needed for the new structure.

The union conference office, in Lincoln, Nebraska, has been enlarged by an addition that nearly doubles its capacity. The older section was also remodeled.

A new men's dormitory is now being constructed at Union College. It will replace South Hall, which must be demolished before the new building is fully completed. This will give the men a modern, comfortable, fireproof home.

We enter the tasks and opportunities of the new year with renewed dedication to our Saviour.

M. V. CAMPBELL, *President*.

Southwestern Union

Under the blessing of the Lord, the work in the Southwestern Union Conference is going forward in a strong way along all lines.

The front line is being cared for by a group of faithful colporteurs who, under the leadership of J. J. Strahle, have placed in the homes of this union \$214,737 worth of truth-filled literature, which total is a gain of almost \$30,000 over the first nine months of last year. Our colporteur force is of good courage, and is pressing on to make the last quarter the best of the year.

The educational and MV work, under the guidance of W. A. Howe, is making steady progress. The MV Week of Prayer last March resulted in 157 baptisms from among our youth, and many of the 700 Juniors at the 7 summer training camps held this year were also led to Christ.

At the close of the last school year 186 students were graduated from the eighth grade, and at the opening of the present school year 1,900 students enrolled in our elementary schools. The Sandia View Academy, formerly called the Spanish-American Seminary, in the Texico Conference opened its doors with an enroll-

(Continued on page 22)

Liberty Can Be Lost

“Equal justice under law can become a memory”

ACT NOW

“Eternal Vigilance Is the Price of Liberty.” Plan today—avoid trouble tomorrow. LIBERTY presents its message of religious freedom, warning of threatening dangers, and presents news of vital interest in its field! It has only one doctrine: That man must be free in respect to religion! ACT YOUR PART.

**Send LIBERTY Now
One Year 50 Cents
10 Subscriptions, \$5**

GIVE a generous offering for the Religious Liberty fund for LIBERTY subscriptions to legislators, judges, editors, teachers, and others on the conference list. SUBSCRIBE for LIBERTY yourself and keep abreast of these fast-changing times. Send LIBERTY to your friends and relatives.

Here's My Subscription

Name

Address

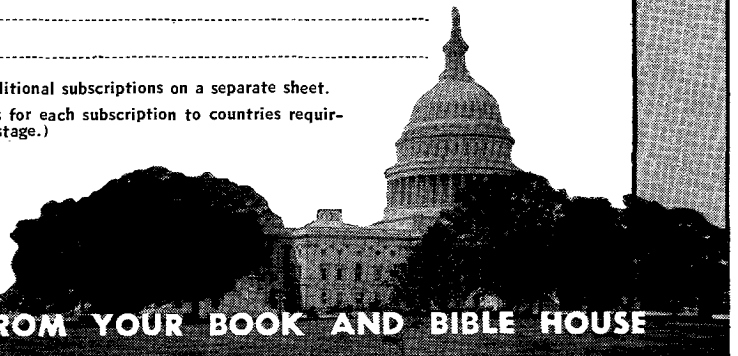
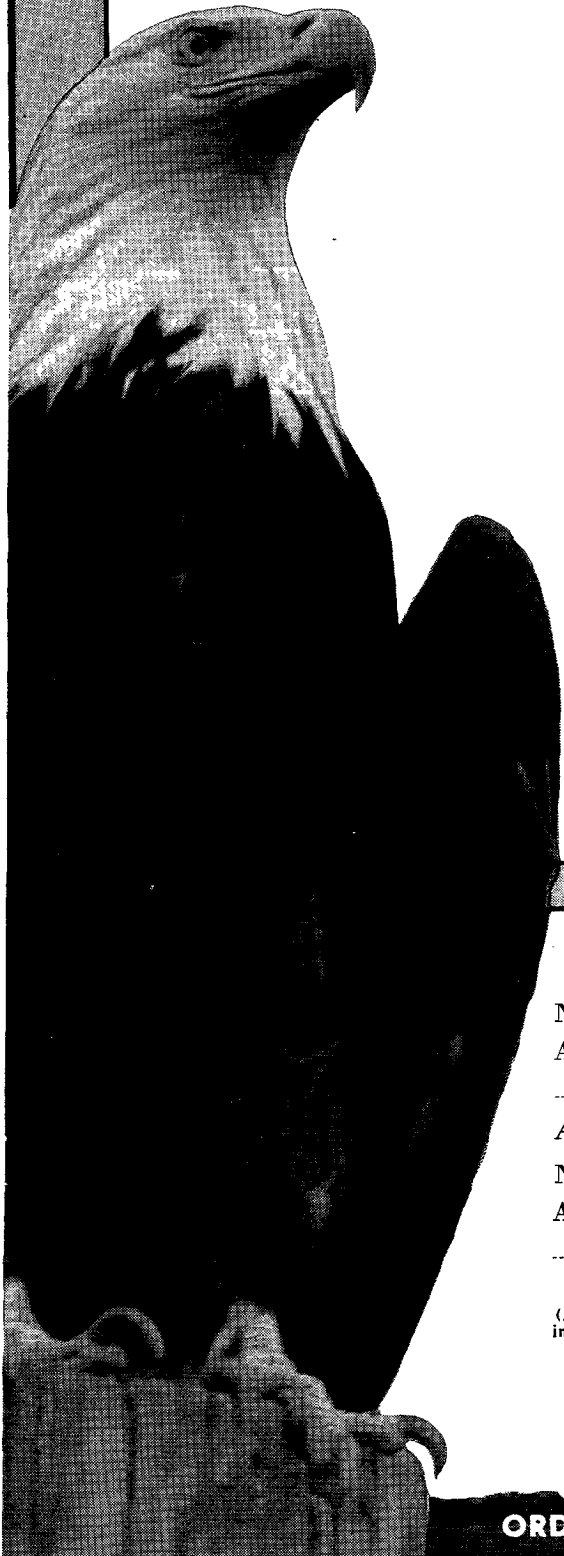
And also my friends' . . .

Name

Address

List additional subscriptions on a separate sheet.
(Add 5 cents for each subscription to countries requiring extra postage.)

ORDER FROM YOUR BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE



WHAT WILL THEY BE?

Will they be doctors, nurses, teachers, preachers, farmers, builders, missionaries? Will they be Christians, giving their lives in service for their fellow men? We as parents can help to answer this question now. The home influence, their associates, the books they read, will help to decide what they will be. We suggest some character-building books which will be of real help to boys and girls.

PRAYER STORIES

Stories of children who prayed in faith and whose prayers were answered. A real faith builder.

Price, \$1.50

GOD'S TEN RULES

A beautiful story in which the Ten Commandments are applied to everyday life. It will inspire the children to be obedient.

Price, \$1.50

SCRAPBOOK STORIES

Stories which Ellen G. White clipped for her children to read, stories she felt would be a definite help to them in building character.

Price, \$2.00

STORIES OF LITTLE ELLEN

A series of short stories about Ellen G. White's life as a child. Written for the children by experienced teachers of boys and girls.

Price, \$1.50

STORIES JESUS TOLD

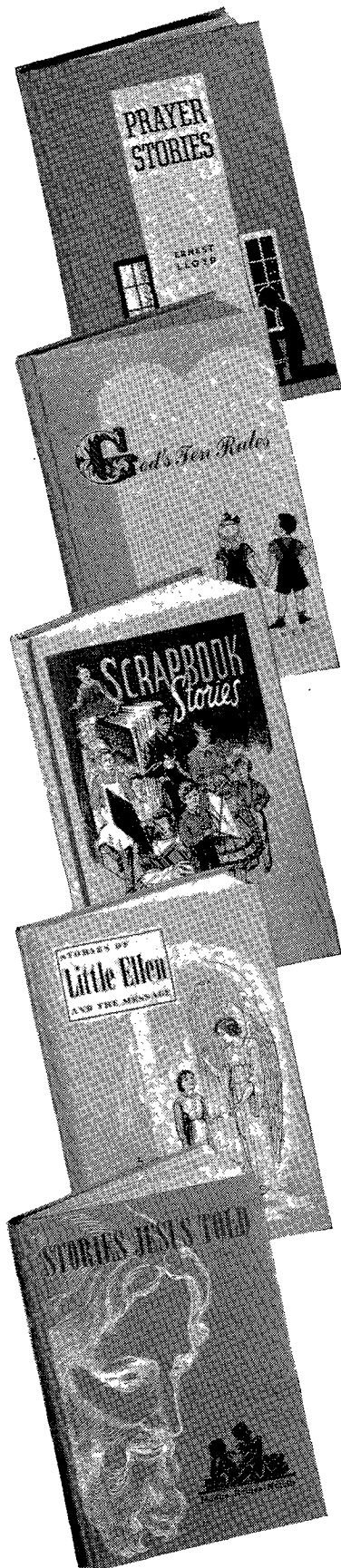
These are stories based on the parables Jesus told while He was here on earth. They will entertain, delight, and help the young reader.

Price, \$2.00

Prices higher in Canada.

Include sales tax where required.

Pacific Press
Publishing
Association,
Mountain View,
California



YOUR BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE WILL BE HAPPY TO SERVE YOU

ment of 66 students. Ozark Academy began its school year with 126 students, which is its largest enrollment in history. Both Southwestern Junior College Academy and Valley Grande Academy have approximately the same enrollment as last year, and Southwestern Junior College shows a slight gain.

The Sabbath school and home missionary departments, with H. M. Burwell in charge, have shown not only rapid but substantial expansion. In the Sabbath school membership there has been an increase of more than 600 during the first nine months of the year, with a financial increase of \$10,000 to missions during this period. The welfare, literature distribution, lay evangelism, and other home missionary activities are on the upward trend. The Ingathering for the past nine months surpasses any previous per capita attainment and exceeds the previous year's total by more than \$11,000.

For the first nine months of 1952, 855 have joined our ranks by baptism and on profession of faith, this number bringing our present membership to 17,803, distributed among the 234 churches of this great union.

Plans are under way for a good strong evangelistic program for 1953. Our theme will be, "How can every worker and every department make a bigger contribution to the winning of souls?"

We solicit an interest in your prayers that God may pour out His Holy Spirit on us in great measure so that the honest in heart may be gathered into the fold.

L. C. EVANS, *President.*

North Pacific Union

This report is being prepared as we approach the closing weeks of 1952. Contemplating the months now past we are conscious that more might have been accomplished under the Lord's guidance and blessing than this summary indicates. Still we are grateful for the results attained.

Recognizing that the purpose of all activities having to do with the cause of God should find their focal point in the winning of souls and the preparing of a people for our Lord's return, we have labored to point all endeavors in this direction. As a result our baptisms are in advance at this time of those one year ago, with a promise of approximately 2,000 men and women being baptized during 1952. For the first time the North Pacific Union has passed the 33,000 mark in membership.

Among the various activities within the field we have been grateful for the large number of boys and girls, young men and young women, attending our Christian schools. According to the opening reports 7,452 were enrolled: 4,525 elementary, 1,935 academic, and 992 college.

Bearing in mind, as God's messenger has told us, that largely through our pub-

lishing work is to be accomplished the work of that other angel mentioned in Revelation 18, which lightened the earth with his glory, we have been vitally concerned with this department. Our faithful colporteurs have sold and delivered to date better than 50 per cent more books than last year. Books and tracts distributed by our laity also show marked increase over the former period.

As our workers and members have planned for the work here at home, they have not been unmindful of the regions beyond. The total amount given for missions is well in advance of that contributed one year ago. On Sabbath, September 27, when our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering was taken, it amounted to \$50,000 as compared with \$21,000 at the close of the same quarter in 1951.

Our young people have carried on a strong work in their MV Societies. The summer camps for boys and girls were well attended. A large number of these, our children, made definite decisions during the days spent at camp to follow their Lord in baptism.

To keep pace with a growing constituency, both institutions and local churches have felt that a continuous building program has been necessary. This has called for much effort and a large outlay of means. The new campus school at Walla Walla College, one of the best, caring for 300 boys and girls and erected at a cost of \$300,000, has been completed and dedicated. Other improvements have also been made at Walla Walla.

The Oregon Conference has moved into their new headquarters. Their office building is a credit to the work of God. It has been so planned that it provides for the needs of a growing constituency in this large conference.

In the Washington Conference the furniture factory has been rebuilt following the fire of last year. This shop is now in operation, with sales far ahead of those in the past. Between 80 and 100 students are employed. Thus it is possible for them to obtain a Christian education.

A large number of new church buildings have been completed and dedicated during the past twelve months. The people of the North Pacific Union are deeply grateful for the rich blessings of God that have rested upon the work in this union and are dedicated to carrying their part in the finishing of our world task.

C. A. SCRIVEN, *President.*

New churches must be established, new congregations organized. At this time there should be representatives of present truth in every city and in the remote parts of the earth. The whole earth is to be illuminated with the glory of God's truth. The light is to shine to all lands and all peoples. And it is from those who have received the light that it is to shine forth.—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 24.

The United States in Prophecy

(Continued from page 15)

sing our closing hymn, have our benediction, and go home! But the prophecy does not stop here. Although the picture changes to a more serious and somber outlook, we must discover what is in store for us. The prophecy clearly predicts that the lamblike characteristics of our beloved country will change. It says that America will speak as a dragon and exercise the power of the Papacy and cause men to do homage to the Papacy, whose deadly wound will be healed in the last days.

"And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed." Rev. 13:12.

The Papacy had been growing in power ever since that humiliating experience of 1798, until in 1929 Mussolini signed the concordat with the pontiff, which made him king again. And today the Holy See is looking to America as the open door of opportunity. It seems almost unbelievable that in 1908 the Roman Catholic Church in North America was a mission project supported largely by gifts from other nations, but today the American sector of Catholicism pays more money into Rome than all other national segments of the church put together.

And then on December 23, 1939, in the face of protests from the heads of Protestant denominations and in the face of America's historic stand on the separation of church and state, President Roosevelt sent a personal representative to the Vatican—Myron C. Taylor. His salary and the maintenance of the accompanying American personnel in Rome cost the taxpayers forty thousand dollars a year. The people of America have been led to bow the knee to the Papacy in spite of themselves, just as the prophecy indicated would happen. But, friend, listen. Revelation 13:15-17 reveals some startling information:

"And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

You say, "What is that mark? I certainly do not want that mark." Do you really want to know? I am sure you do, especially in view of the solemn warning found in Revelation 14, verses 9 and 10:

"And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone . . . in the presence of the Lamb."

Our desire now is to discover the identity of this mark. There is no question as to the identity of the beast, but what is the sign, or mark, of authority of the Papacy?

I carry you back to the early days of the Reformation. All Protestants are somewhat familiar with those early days. When Martin Luther launched the great Reformation, he said, "It is the Bible and the Bible only." The Church of Rome had stood not only for the Bible but for the decrees of the church, which have been called tradition. So when Luther said, "The Bible and the Bible only is our rule of faith and practice," he threw a bombshell into the Papacy. It shook the church to its very foundations. In fact, the Church of Rome might have gone to the wall had it not been for Ignatius Loyola, who founded the Society of Jesuits. The Papacy knew that somebody was menacing her, and so the Council of Trent was called to rethink her doctrinal position. The great questions were: Can the Church of Rome weather the storm? Does it have an answer to the blow of Protestantism? We

might read from many sources today, but one will suffice. J. H. Holtzman in his book *Canon and Tradition*, page 263, says:

"Finally at the last opening on the 18th of January, 1563, their last scruple was laid aside. The Archbishop of Reggio made a speech in which he openly declared that tradition stood above the Scriptures. The authority of the Church could therefore no longer be bound to the authority of the Scriptures—because the Church had changed Sabbath into Sunday—not by the command of Christ, but by its own authority."

What carried the day when all hung in the balance? It was the fact that the Church of Rome had torn from the law of God one of its precepts. "For this reason," they said, "we have the right to bind the conscience of the people by tradition as well as Scripture. It is the evidence, the mark, the sign of our authority in religious things."

Martin Luther in the Augsburg Confession, as recorded in the *Library of Original Sources*, volume 5, pages 173 and 174, says:

"They [the Catholic bishops] allege the changing of the Sabbath into the Lord's Day, contrary, as it seemeth, to the Decalogue, and they have no example more in their mouths than the change of the

Sabbath. They will needs have the Church's power very great, because it hath done away with a precept of the Decalogue."

It is no wonder, then, that the chancellor for Cardinal Gibbons wrote on November 11, 1895:

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act. It could not have been otherwise, as no one in those days would have dreamed of doing anything in matters spiritual, and ecclesiastical, and religious, without her. And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things."

What more need I say? Not only does God warn us regarding the mark of this power, but He describes what it is, about which these people stand up and say, We did it, and the change is the mark of our authority.

Just think it through. Revelation 14:7 says, "Worship him that made heaven, and earth."

How can I worship Him that made the heavens? Please note the fourth commandment. Exodus 20:8-11:

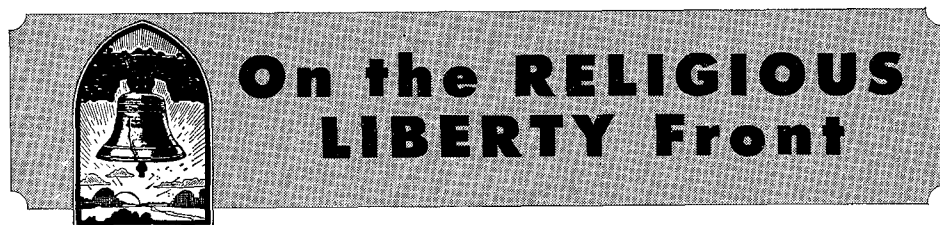
"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: . . . for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth."

The seventh-day Sabbath is a memorial of creation. In Revelation 14:7 we are told to "worship him that made heaven, and earth." Revelation 14:9 warns against worshipping the beast or receiving his mark. Can you not see that the great issue today is receiving the seal, or the mark, of the living God versus receiving the mark of this papal power?

When the issue shapes up, and men and women on every side take their stand for or against truth, those who, knowing what is right, deliberately turn their backs on truth and move out under the guidance of the Papacy as far as the matter of the day they keep is concerned, place themselves under the mark of this power. Yes, that is clear.

But, friend, has not the Lord Jesus Christ brought the very truth of God to you in the Sabbath message? Yes. And God will bless all who respond in obedience. They will receive the seal of the living God.

Satan leads many to believe that God will overlook their unfaithfulness in the minor affairs of life; but the Lord shows in his dealing with Jacob that he can in no wise sanction or tolerate evil. All who endeavor to excuse or conceal their sins, and permit them to remain upon the books of heaven, unconfessed and unforgiven, will be overcome by Satan. The more exalted their profession, and the more honorable the position which they hold, the more grievous is their course in the sight of God, and the more certain the triumph of the great adversary.—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 202.



Enforcement of Sunday Laws

The forces championing Sunday laws are maneuvering for an all-out offensive in different countries of the world.

In Africa one reads in the newspapers such articles carrying the caption "Century-old Law Stops Sunday Sport" or "Individual Liberty Menaced by Sunday Observance Law."

E. Willmore Tarr, religious liberty secretary for the Southern African Division, states that in these postwar years, which have brought a spiritual awakening to many people, an opportunity has been given for would-be "moral reformers" to insist on the enforcement of Sunday laws, which have not generally been taken seriously or in many instances have been allowed to remain on the statute books with little attempt made to enforce them.

One interesting case concerned Brother Wagner, of Groblersdal, who was charged for transgressing the Transvaal Sunday law, which had been passed in 1895. The magistrate gave the verdict in favor of Brother Wagner and thanked the men who had gone to his assistance for their presence and hoped they were satisfied with the verdict.

In the United States the Lord's Day Alliance has announced its intentions to do

everything in its power to secure the adoption of new and more stringent Sunday laws in a number of States and cities and also to secure the enforcement of existing Sunday legislation. Sunday law promoters are hoping to secure the adoption of a new Sunday law for the State of Pennsylvania that may serve as a model throughout the United States. In cities in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, and Nebraska renewed efforts are being put forth to enforce some antiquated Blue Laws that appear in their municipal codes. It is anticipated that as the State Legislatures convene in 1953 Sunday bills will be introduced in a number of the States.

In Syracuse, New York, a Seventh-day Adventist barber was arrested for having his barbershop open on Sunday, a violation of the Sunday law. The barber proceeded to defend his constitutional rights and was released. The Associated Press in announcing his acquittal said, "Syracuse police have learned—the hard way—that it's legal for a Seventh Day Adventist barber to cut hair on Sunday."

ALVIN W. JOHNSON, *Secretary,*
Religious Liberty Department,
General Conference.

"There are multitudes who will never be reached by the gospel unless it is carried to them."
C. O. L., page 229.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Offers YOU

Effective Soul-Winning Opportunities

EVERY "SIGNS" READER
IS A PROSPECT
FOR HEAVEN



PERSONAL DISTRIBUTION



DIRECT-MAIL SERVICE



READING RACKS

This "World's Prophetic Weekly" contains messages of hope, doctrine, and inspiration. Nearly every phase of this blessed truth is presented in more than 500 sermonettes in a year's issues. Each *Signs* reader is invited to become a candidate for heaven.

During the subscription year an attractive follow-up envelope will be mailed to each single subscriber, offering enrollment in the Bible correspondence course, additional free literature, and the opportunity to list names of relatives and friends who might be interested in the message.

Near the end of the subscription year an effective appeal is mailed to each subscriber, urging him to renew his own subscription. Thus every avenue is used to bring the *Signs* reader to a decision for Christ.

FREE: "My *Signs* Prayer List" booklet is given with every subscription order so you may record the names of those for whom you are sponsoring the *Signs of the Times*.

See the new "Signs" motion picture "ON THE WINGS OF THE WIND"

SPECIAL REDUCED PRICES for a greater "Signs" Soul-Winning Crusade"

Single yearly subscriptions to one address any- where in the U.S. and its postal zones	\$1.85
Clubs of 5 or more to one address, each	1.60
Canada and foreign countries:	
Single subscriptions	2.35
Clubs of 5 or more copies, each	1.85

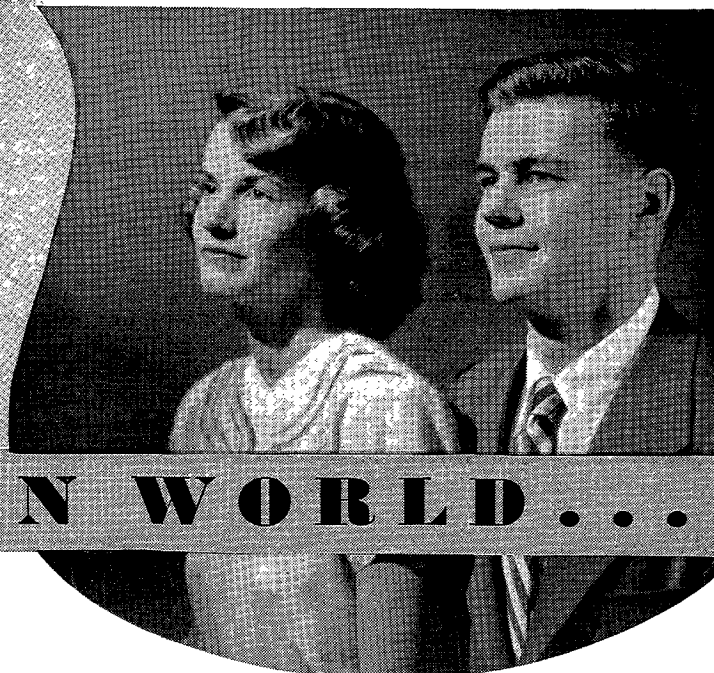
Above rates are figured at U.S. exchange and are effective during the Crusade dates in your conference.



ORDER FROM YOUR BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE

Pacific Press Publishing Association, Mountain View, California

For Youth



IN A MODERN WORLD . . .

2 ESSENTIAL BOOKS By Ellen G. White

You will want copies of these books for your library, and you will enjoy passing them on to your friends.

THE ADVENTIST HOME

"The sweetest type of heaven is a home where the Spirit of the Lord presides."

A wealth of counsel and information on the home. Now, more than ever before, there is a need for this material. Invaluable to parents, homemakers, and young people, especially those contemplating marriage.

A compilation from the writings of Ellen G. White. Most of this material has never before been in book form.

Cloth, \$2.00 De luxe, \$2.75

MESSAGES to YOUNG PEOPLE

"The Lord has appointed the youth to be His helping hand."—Vol. 7, p. 64.

A store of valuable instruction for young people. The author was a girl of only seventeen when she began her work as the Lord's chosen messenger. She knew the struggles of youth, and she knew the joy of living wholly for Christ. These messages, written especially for the youth, direct their minds to Christ as the only source of strength in perfecting Christian character.

Cloth, \$2.00 De luxe, \$2.75

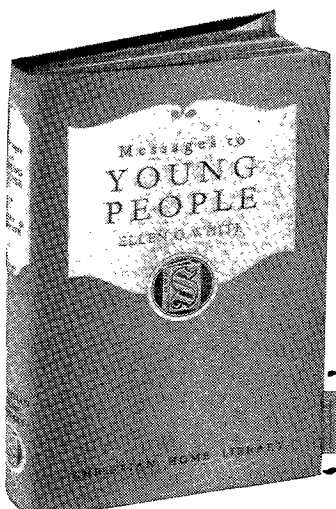
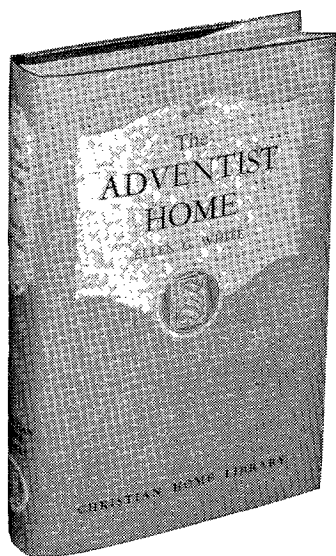
PRICES 10 PER CENT HIGHER IN CANADA

ADD SALES TAX WHERE NECESSARY

ORDER FROM YOUR BOOK & BIBLE HOUSE

SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



What It Means to Be a Church Member

(Continued from page 9)

that sin must be renounced, that repentance must be made, that from henceforth and forever we shall endeavor to live as Christ lived. It is the beginning of a new life.

When we have accepted Christ as our Saviour, the next step is baptism. Baptism is the door into the church.

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor. 12:12, 13.

Again someone may ask, "Is it necessary to be baptized in order to be saved?" To this I would say, "Yes, if you have the opportunity." Of course in rare instances, such as the thief on the cross, or some extreme emergency where baptism is not possible, the baptism of Jesus would have to substitute for the individual in such cases.

We show our faith in Christ as our personal Saviour by being buried with Him in baptism.

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection." Rom. 6:3-5.

Said Christ, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. Belief precedes baptism. On the day of Pentecost, when thousands cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Peter replied:

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. . . . Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Acts 2:38-41, 47.

These Scriptures make plain two facts: first, belief preceded baptism; second, those who were baptized united with the church.

The jailer who had been given custody of Paul and Silas, when awakened at midnight by an earthquake, thinking that his prisoners had escaped because the old prison had been mightily shaken, "drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled." Acts 16:27.

"But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway." Verses 28-33.

These scriptures make clear the following: Before a person is baptized he should have not only a knowledge of the plan of salvation but a firm belief in Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. He should repent of his sins. Repentance is not only asking God for forgiveness for sins committed but a turning away from sin. Only those who have reached the age of accountability have sufficient knowledge to grasp all that is involved in being baptized. Baptism is a serious and important step, and should be entered into with a full knowledge of all that is required.

Uniting with the church brings with it great privileges and also great responsibilities. With every privilege comes a corresponding responsibility. To illustrate, if a man chooses to marry some woman he

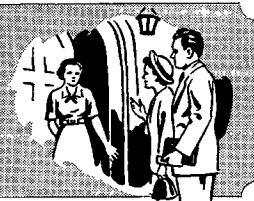
loves, he does by that act, if a true husband, assume the responsibilities as well as the privileges that come with being a husband. By this step he promises to fulfill every moral and financial responsibility that becomes a husband. He promises to love and cherish his wife as long as they both shall live. Likewise, when an individual becomes a member of the church, he not only enjoys the privileges of church fellowship but assumes the responsibilities that come with belonging to the church.

The privileges that come in belonging to the church are many. Among them is that of belonging to the brotherhood established by Christ and whose supreme purpose is to make real in the hearts of men a saving sense of God. To belong to the church is to make real in the hearts of men a saving sense of God. To belong to the church is to enjoy the fellowship of the best people, those whose lives are molded by the best motives, and whose aim is to live as Christ lived. A privilege that comes with church membership is to witness to the world the saving power of God.

To belong to the church is to become an ambassador for God. The church member has the privilege of representing God here in the earth.

Spiritual strength, an inner power,

Fruits of FIELD ADVENTURING



Home Visitation Wins Souls

It was Philip who said to Nathanael, "Come and see," and his coming and seeing Jesus of Nazareth drew from Nathanael the words: "Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel."

Scores, hundreds, yea, thousands of our church members are saying to their neighbors, as did Philip to Nathanael of old, "Come and see." As a result of these invitations, people are coming and seeing the Saviour of men.

Not long ago I was in one of our smaller churches. The church had no pastor, but almost every member was active in missionary work. One brother introduced me to two people he had won to the message in the past few months by going to their home two evenings each week and giving Bible studies. This man and his wife were happy in this message. They too were going out one night a week giving studies to their neighbors.

After the meeting the Dorcas leader introduced me to two women who had been baptized only two Sabbaths before. These women were members of the Dorcas Society. The leader had asked them to join the society, so they with a number of others not of our faith had joined. Thus two of them were won to the message.

The missionary leader introduced me to a young couple. For a number of months he had taken literature to them. As they read this truth-filled literature from week to week a definite interest was created in their hearts, and they longed to know their Saviour better. As they studied, they became interested in the message contained in those pages, and soon surrendered their hearts to God. Now they are active in working for others. Yes, there are six new members in this little church. There is no church trouble found among this group. They are too busy saving souls.

"There are many who are reading the Scriptures who cannot understand their true import. All over the world men and women are looking wistfully to heaven. Prayers and tears and inquiries go up from souls longing for light, for grace, for the Holy Spirit. Many are on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in."—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 109.

To you, brethren and sisters, I want to say, "Lift up the torch of truth high to lead others to the Master."

T. L. OSWALD, Secretary,
Home Missionary Department,
General Conference.

comes to the one who belongs to and attends the church. Church fellowship brings unity among the believers. It acts as a great leveler among men.

"Unto the church of God which is at Corinth . . . : grace be unto you." "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." 1 Cor. 1:2, 3, 10.

It is in the sanctuary that God meets with His people. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10:25. "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name." Ps. 100:4. It was Christ's custom to attend church. "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read." Luke 4:16.

The responsibilities that come with church membership should be taken seriously. But when entered into in the spirit of Christ, they are a joy, never a burden. Paul expressed the responsibility of fellowship with God in these words: "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise." Rom. 1:14. A debtor is one who has a debt to pay. This debt may be money, or it may be something else. Paul's debt was the same as that which is assumed by everyone who gives his heart to God. This obligation is to make known to others God's plan of salvation. Paul's debt could be paid in only one way—passing on the gospel of salvation to others.

Because of his debt or responsibility he says, "So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." Verse 15. He felt this obligation so keenly that he said, "Necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" 1 Cor. 9:16.

Everyone is personally responsible to God for the talents and opportunities entrusted to him. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12. One of the searching questions that will be asked of every child of God is, "What did you do about carrying out the great commission, 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel?'" Every church member has a personal responsibility to God and to the church that he alone can discharge.

Every believer is to be a living witness for God. "And ye shall be witnesses unto me." This is both a privilege and a responsibility. We are to witness by our words—what we say. To be a witness, we must have firsthand knowledge of, and a personal experience with, God.

The very name "witness" implies a relationship or experience. To be a witness is

to witness to something. In the apostolic church witnessing was the substance of Christianity. The believers in Christ simply told a story. They told of Christ's resurrection and of the salvation He had brought to them. They assured their hearers that the same salvation was available for them. No doubt one of the reasons why God gave man the power of speech was that he could witness for Him. We are to witness by our lives. What we are will witness in even a stronger way than what we say. It is when what we say is backed up by a life in harmony with our Christian profession that our witnessing becomes an irresistible force in the world. The words of an outcast woman had power when a change was seen in her life. "Many . . . believed on him for the saying of the woman." John 4:39.

We are to witness by our works. He gave to every man his work. To every believer in the church Christ says, "Go work today in my vineyard." Matt. 21:28.

Every believer has a financial responsibility to the church. God's commission to the church is stated in these words:

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:19, 20.

All know that it costs money to send out missionaries, support a gospel ministry, and carry out the marching orders of God for His church.

To the church members God directs:

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal. 3:10.

One tenth of man's increase belongs to God. Those who fail to return to God His own, God says, have robbed Him.

In addition to the tithe, man is to give offerings to God's work as he is able financially.

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts." Ps. 96:8.

"Every man according as he purposed in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." 2 Cor. 9:7.

God's desire for His church is beautifully expressed by Paul in his letter to the church at Ephesus. "That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:27.

"I testify to my brethren and sisters that the church of Christ, enfeebled and defective as it may be, is the only object on earth on which He bestows His supreme regard. While He extends to all the world His invitation to come to Him and be

saved, He commissions His angels to render divine help to every soul that cometh to Him in repentance and contrition, and He comes personally by His Holy Spirit into the midst of His church."—*Ibid.*, p. 15.

God will not be disappointed; His plans for His church will not fail. Christ's sacrifice on the cross will not have been in vain. The church will triumph at last.

Timeliness of Advent Movement

(Continued from page 7)

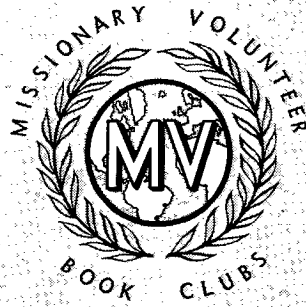
emphasize the fact that the message being carried to the world by this movement is a timely one. It is the solemn conviction concerning the timeliness of such a message that leads Seventh-day Adventists to devote their resources to carrying the message of our soon-coming Lord and Saviour to the people of all nations of the earth.

Such a conviction brings a serious responsibility, a compelling urgency upon every believer in this movement. We cannot expect others to feel a responsibility for proclaiming this message. It is our work, and we must accept the responsibility and respond wholeheartedly to God's divine call. Those who believe this message will live and act wholly with reference to the coming of the Lord. They will show in all their business relationships and in all their social contacts the evidences of their faith. It is not enough to merely believe a doctrine, but the whole life and conduct must, in godly living and righteous actions, embellish such a profession.

Today on every hand there is discussion of the coming of a third world war. In our own land we are taxed as never before in our history to supply weapons and munitions with which to defend ourselves and to help other nations. The outlook is ominous. The whole world is living in a condition described by Jesus, that at the time of His coming there would be "distress of nations, with perplexity . . . ; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Luke 21:25-27.

But the Advent message and movement were divinely planned for just such a time as this. During past years the messengers of truth have gone forth and have sown the seed in many parts of the world. Today the harvest is springing up, and believers are multiplying by the thousands. This is a decisive time in the history of this movement. Dear believers, let us all beware lest the movement speed on to its final triumph and we be found sleeping with no oil in our lamps. Let us keep our hearts in the love of the truth, alert and abreast of every forward move toward the final goal of a finished work in all the world.

J. L. M.



The Missionary Volunteer Department offers the finest in youth literature.

Good books are good friends. We constantly should be acquiring new ones while we hold on to the old. Make your selections from the MV Book Clubs for 1953."

—E. W. DUNBAR, Secretary
Missionary Volunteer Department
General Conference of S.D.A.



"As an Adventist youth my library consisted of good books recommended by the Missionary Volunteer Department. Valiant missionaries, men and women of faith and vision became my heroes. Today the MV Book Clubs continue to offer the best in reading."

—L. A. SKINNER,
Associate Secretary



"To own a good book is to have a spiritual experience. Missionary Volunteers should avail themselves of everything that makes for a richer, fuller life. The finest source I know of for good reading is the MV Book Clubs."

—THEODORE LUCAS,
Associate Secretary

SENIOR

JUNIOR

PRIMARY

HERE is no feeling nicer than the feeling that people like you. At first sight much of the world judges importance by appearance. But when nature is making geniuses she has a trick of paying more attention to the contents than to the container. Ideal merchants and ideal folks are those who display their wares attractively and have a substantial, dependable reserve of stock. They have pleasing manners and engaging ways; but deeper than the surface they have developed ability, integrity, and character, because they know that something more than handsome looks and physical prowess is essential to fill their lives with rich accomplishment.

"We begin life with many different endowments, but a sound mind is the most important of them all. The best preparation for living is the training of that mind to know and love and think. The greatest danger to successful living is an empty mind, which, like an unoccupied room, is open for base spirits to enter. Fill the mind with useful information and love for the right, and, as surely as day follows night, well-controlled habits of thinking can easily be developed."

—J. D. SNIDER in "I Love Books"

1953

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER

Book Clubs

SENIOR—1953

Regular Price for Set, \$13.75
Special Club Price, \$11.95



AFRICA CALLED US

By Oliver and Fredonia Jacques
Price, \$3.00

A different kind of book on missions telling of a mission family's experience from two angles—that of a missionary preacher and that of a missionary wife and mother.

FULLNESS OF JOY

By Eric B. Hare Price, \$3.00

This volume inspires every reader with the feeling that happiness is the chief reward of faithfulness to God and His truth.

GLORY OF THE STARS, THE

By Merlin L. Neff, Ph.D. Price, \$3.75

Explains the wonders of the heavens in a simple, fascinating way, making one appreciate more God's greatness and His wonderful handiwork.

MUCH-LOVED BOOKS

By M. E. Olsen Price, \$1.50

The enthusiasm of the author for the beauty and glowing truths to be found in good books will be shared by all who read this volume.

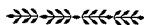
36 DAYS AND A DREAM

By Leona Glidden Running Price, \$2.50

This lively account of two American girls and their happy adventures in the storied lands of Europe will engage the attention of all.

JUNIOR—1953

Regular Price for Set, \$13.00
Special Club Price, \$11.60



GEORGE WASHINGTON

By Clara Judson Price, \$3.50

Here is a human and appealing story of the sandy-haired young surveyor, the commander in chief, the president—one who loved his home and his acres as dearly as he loved his country.

IT HAPPENED AT NIGHT

By Mrs. H. B. Noland Price, \$2.75

These are Bible stories that give us a different way of enjoying the Bible—and they all happened at night.

REALLY-TRULY STORIES, BOOK VII

By Gwendolen L. Hayden Price, \$1.75

Thrilling encounters with bears and wolves, floods and storms—incidents full of suspense flash across the pages of this volume.

STORY OF AN INDIAN COIN

By Elsie Lewis Rawson Price, \$2.50

A unique travelogue of India in which you see that great land of contrasted natural beauty and dark heathenism through the eyes of an anna coin.

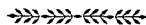
WIND RUNNER

By G. W. Barrington Price, \$2.50

A realistic story of an African antelope—the interesting and exciting things that happened to him and how he finally became the king of the herd.

PRIMARY—1953

Regular Price for Set, \$11.00
Special Club Price, \$9.95



FIVE-FINGER STORIES

By A. W. Spalding Price, \$2.50

A handful of stories, a cluster for each finger, taken from the Bible, mission lands, and everyday life that will delight the little folk at home or at Sabbath school.

A CHILD'S BOOK OF VERSES

By Jessie Wilmore Murton Price, \$2.00

Wonderfully illustrated, this book of children's poems tells about God, everyday life, and nature's four seasons.

ROUND MEADOW, THE

By John Oldrin Price, \$2.50

A story of a tiny fawn left without a mother, his life with the domestic animals on a farm, and how he finally went back to the independent world of the forest deer.

DOODLES

By Mrs. O. A. Skau Price, \$2.00

An instructive story of an appealing, intelligent, active, and mischievous little animal with a real personality.

TELL ME ABOUT THE BIBLE

By Mary Alice Jones Price, \$2.00

In entertaining story form this book explains why the Bible is called God's Book and tells how it came to be written.

ORDER NOW!

REVIEW AND HERALD PUBLISHING ASSN., WASHINGTON 12, D.C.

..... Church Missionary Secretary or
..... Book & Bible House.
Please send me the SENIOR JUNIOR PRIMARY
books at special Club Price. (If single copies are desired, list
on separate sheet of paper.) Total Enclosed \$.....
Add Postage, and Sales Tax (where necessary)

Postage—10c First Book, 5c each additional book.

Name

Address



Prices 10%
Higher in
Canada

Lengthening the Cords in the Far Eastern Division

(Continued from page 5)

claim the truth in Korean, Japanese, Cebuano, Tagalog, French, Dutch, Malay, Chinese, Siamese, Vietnamese, and English.

Fifteen thousand children and youth are gathered into our schools. There is great promise of future workers in this army of young people being trained for service. Committees in each field are faced with serious problems of expansion as more and more request Christian education.

A new junior college is being planned in the South Philippine Union. Twenty-five hundred acres of land has been acquired, and the first crop to be harvested will bring over ten thousand dollars in returns. A sawmill operated by the new school is cutting out lumber for the buildings. The school will open July 1, 1953, for its first term.

Encouraging progress is being made in the organizations of the Far Eastern Division in the matter of national leadership and self-support. Of the gross total operating expenses of all organizations in the field, 76½ per cent was raised within the division, and only 23½ per cent came from the General Conference appropriations for the year 1951. Surely this is evidence that the constituency here in these Oriental lands is standing shoulder to shoulder with the members of other lands in strongly and enthusiastically supporting the work of God. Of the twenty-nine local missions, twenty-two of the presidents and twenty-eight of the treasurers are nationals. The South Philippine Union, with more than twenty-two thousand members, is staffed entirely with Filipino leaders. Recently the Philippine Union College board appointed Dr. R. G. Manalaysay president of that institution and R. D. Brion business manager. These men have served many years in the educational field and are well qualified through training and experience to assume these heavy responsibilities.

The staff of overseas missionaries is the largest the field has ever had, and more are being called. There are unlimited opportunities for workers in every type of endeavor. Much of the pioneer work has been done. Much of what remains to be done in opening new fields will rest upon the shoulders of strong workers recruited in the field. Many of the calls now sent on to the General Conference are for workers with specialized training.

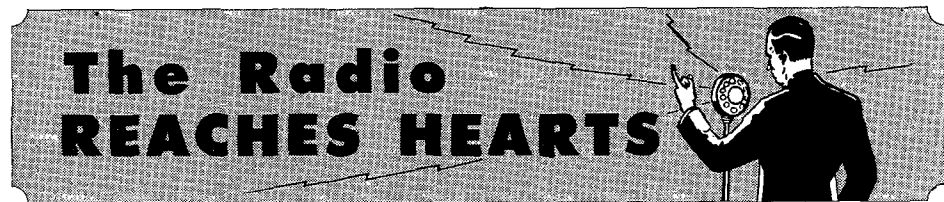
War, political unrest, national barriers, and inflation all bring problems to the mission program. These have increased through the years, yet the advance of the message goes on with increasing success and momentum.

The workers are not looking for or expecting a more favorable time, when conditions will make it easier to finish the task. The workers in Korea expressed it aptly when at the close of their union session and workers' institute they said, "We believe the best day we will ever have for the giving of the message is now; therefore we are going back to our posts of duty with the conviction that the end is near and that now is the appointed time to give the final call to the people of Korea."

The work of God has traveled a long way in the past fifty-six years in the Orient. It has not been easy. There have been many problems. War and political unrest have brought much suffering, persecution, and loss. There has been sacrifice

on the part of many, and separation from homeland and loved ones. Successful mission advance is high priced. Today mission graves are found in every union field of the Far East, testifying to the willing sacrifice of those called to these lands. When sickness has laid workers low or necessitated their withdrawal from the field, others have gladly taken up the burden and stepped into the breach.

The workers of the Far Eastern Division believe the work will be finished, and that soon. The present conditions in the world and the rapid advance of the message are clear indications that increased sacrifices and greater accomplishments are immediately before the church, but in these stirring times the work of God will be finished.



Voice of Prophecy Around the World

From around the world circle come letters of gratitude for the knowledge gained, through the instrument of the Voice of Prophecy broadcast and the Bible correspondence school, of the Saviour of mankind and the message for these last days. We would like to share some of these with you.

Penang: "I am very happy to have completed the last lesson of Bible Course II. I now take this opportunity to thank you for the help you have given me by guiding me to learn more of the great Bible truths. I sincerely thank the Lord for His saving power and grace. It is so wonderful and true to believe that God loves and cares for a sinner like me. This I know from experience."

India: "I have been a regular listener, and regret having delayed writing earlier. I find your half-hour services over the radio have made me desire to draw nearer to the Almighty and my Saviour. I might add that I am governess to the prince and princess of Bundi—aged eleven and a half and nine years respectively, who, although non-Christians, take a very keen interest in your broadcast. They love listening to Bible stories."

U.S.A.: "I have been a Roman Catholic all my life, and my religion has made me very miserable. While traveling in the South Seas, in Pitcairn Island, I met some people who told me about the Voice of Prophecy and urged me to get in touch with you people and receive the free Bible course. I am now asking for this, and will appreciate any help you can give me."

Sumatra: "I am writing you regarding a family I have just baptized. They were won to the truth through the Bible correspondence course. Husband and wife are well educated. The husband is the head of the Christian religious department in the government office in a province in Sumatra. The wife is a teacher in one of the academy schools. Both are so joyful and enthusiastic

in the truth, and they hold a Sabbath school of nine members in their home, three of whom are Mohammedans."

West Bengal: "Because of your sermons our family has turned from Catholic to Seventh-day Adventist, that is my husband and six children and myself. With God's help and a mother's prayers I am trying to bring still one son and my two married daughters and their husbands into the fold. My eldest son is now studying for the ministry. Thank you for the wonderful help I have received and for the radio sermons that touch many hearts throughout this land."

Egypt: "I am a soldier in the British Army, serving with His Majesty's forces in Egypt. I am stationed a few miles from Suez. I would like to enroll in your Bible class. I really enjoyed your service today and shall in the future make it a point to listen regularly."

Australia: "My diploma for the completion of your Bible correspondence course has just arrived, and I was happy to know that I had carried out my studies satisfactorily. You know, those lessons almost used to speak to me, but now they have come to an end. It is almost as bad as parting with a kind and understanding friend, but through a study of your course I have gained something that money cannot buy—faith, hope, and courage in the Lord, comfort and peace to my sad and troubled heart, and a place of quiet rest 'near to the heart of God.' I'm determined to do my utmost to follow the Saviour all the way."

Ireland: "A little over eight months ago it was when I first heard your broadcast and enjoyed the message very much. After listening to it for several months, I have accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour, and the life which I now live in Christ is a contented one."

PAUL WICKMAN, Secretary,
Radio Department, General Conference.

Medical Work in Bechuanaland, Africa

By J. A. Hay, M.D.

Thirty years ago Dr. Kretchmar arrived in Kanye to begin our mission work in this great tract of land in South Central Africa. Medical work was the entering wedge into Bechuanaland.

Growth has been slow, converts difficult to get, and opposition intense. Organized efforts and village meetings have been held time and time again, but in thirty years less than three hundred converts have been baptized.

Then three years ago unrest came to the land. It seemed that the Lord had chosen this time to manifest Himself. Doors were opened that had always been closed. Ears heard that were previously deaf to the message. Our hospital of thirty-one beds, which up to that time rarely served at any one time an inpatient census of more than eighteen or twenty patients, began to fill. More bed space and equipment became necessary. A new ward was built, and the 1951 Missions Extension Offering allowed the erection of a worker's home and the installation of a small steam plant. In 1951 inpatient figures stood at 270 per cent above the record before 1949. Our outpatient figures were almost 100 per cent above previous years. And our baptismal figures also began to climb. This last has been especially true since the coming in November, 1950, of M. M. Webster as resident missionary to care for the spiritual work.

The small increase in budget available in the past three years has little more than paid for the rising costs of medical supplies. Today we have a sixty-eight-bed institution with two outdispensaries in neighboring villages. There is a government-recognized four-year training school for African nurses. A small X-ray has been donated to us, and a truck has been promised to be used in developing the opportunities for opening new medical work.

The Lord has supplied funds for capital expenditure at the time of our great-

est need and opportunity. But this growth of our physical plant, while answering some of our problems, has created even greater ones. Except for the addition to the staff of a second doctor, our staff stands today at the same number that operated the hospital five years ago. Our two European sisters operate and direct a sixty-eight-bed institution, perform most major and important nursing procedures on all patients, teach more than twenty hours a week each in the training school, do all the sewing, mending, making of supplies and hospital linens, care for all the catering for patients and workers, and do the work of a cashier. And also they take an active part in the spiritual work on the mission and in the church.

Yes, the Lord is blessing our work, but we too must do our part. I believe Bechuanaland's day has come. We need your prayers and your support to help us meet the challenge.

The Man in White

By A. P. Constantino
Publishing Department Secretary
South-Central Luzon Mission

"Where is your companion, the man in white?" These were the words uttered by the customers of Sister Garcia, our veteran colporteur in the South-Central Luzon Mission, Philippine Islands. She is sixty-five years old and has served this mission for a long time.

"Oh, no; I do not have any companion with me!" our colporteur replied.

"Yes, you have! You left him downstairs. Where is he now? Where is the man in white?" This was the insistent question of the people of the town of Mabini, Batangas.

After a few more months passed by, we sent to that same place a group of men colporteurs under the leadership of Moises Flores. As he went around the town the people told him about the old woman who had sold the same kind of book some time before and who had been accompanied by a man in white. Brother Flores knew who this man in white represented, and it became an encourage-

ment to him. He knew that if Mrs. Garcia could have as a companion a man in white, he too could be supplied with such a companion. So he and his friends continued on working and were very much encouraged.

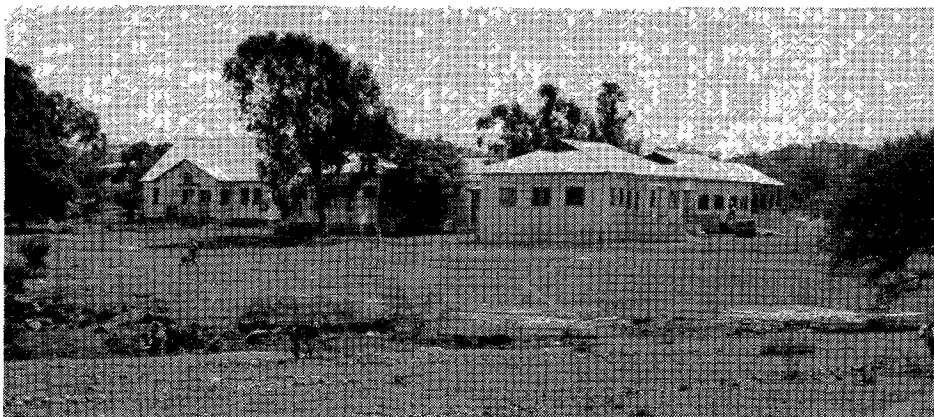
The time came when an interest was aroused, and we had nightly meetings in the house. The meetings became so large that we had to go downstairs in order to accommodate the people who came to listen. One evening while I was speaking on the second coming of Christ, one old man took his bolo (a big sharp knife) and began to threaten me. But some of the people quieted him and told him that if he did not want to believe in what was being preached, he had better hold his peace and go home. Harming someone else would not help him, but would even place him in more trouble. So, heeding their counsel, the man stayed and listened to the preaching.

After a month of these meetings the man who had threatened me with his bolo came back and was one of those attending the Sabbath meeting. He had decided to accept Christ and to keep the Sabbath. When the church was organized he was elected elder of the church. Seven were baptized as a result of those small meetings by our colporteurs. Now another eight have been baptized recently. One of them is a teacher, and her brother is at our college taking the premedical course. At the present time there are thirty members in the Sabbath school.

I am sure this is the result of the angel of the Lord who is going along with our colporteurs. He may not always be visible, but he is always there to help our colporteurs sell books and win souls.

Church Calendar for 1953

Feb. 7	Christian Home Day (Family Altar Day)
Feb. 14-21	Signs of the Times Campaign
Feb. 28	Television Offering
Mar. 7	Dorcas Welfare and Visitation Evangelism
Mar. 14-21	Missionary Volunteer Week of Prayer
Mar. 28	13th Sabbath Offering (Far East)
Apr. 4	Ingathering Day
Apr. 4-May 16	Ingathering Campaign
May 2	Medical Missionary Day
May 23	College of Medical Evangelists Offering
June 6	Literature Evangelism
June 20	Literature for Service Men Offering
June 27	13th Sabbath Offering (Southern Europe)
July 4	Bible Correspondence School
July 11	Midsummer Offering
July 25	Educational Day and Elem. School Offering
Aug. 1	Enlightening Dark Counties
Aug. 29	Riverside San. Offering (colored churches)
Sept. 5	Neighborhood Evangelism
Sept. 12	Missions Extension Offering
Sept. 26	Sabbath School Rally Day
Sept. 26	13th Sabbath Offering (Southern Africa)
Oct. 3	Colporteur Rally
Oct. 10	Voice of Prophecy Offering
Oct. 17-24	These Times Campaign
Oct. 17-24	Message Campaign
Oct. 31	Temperance Offering
Nov. 7	Witnessing Laymen and Home Visitation Day
Nov. 7-28	Review and Herald Campaign
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 28-Dec. 5	Week of Prayer and Sacrifice
Dec. 5	Week of Sacrifice Offering
Dec. 26	13th Sab. Off. (Australasian Inter-Union)



Medical institution in Bechuanaland, South Africa.

GOOD NEWS FROM AFAR

Busy Hospitals in South Africa

By W. P. BRADLEY

Speaking of our medical work in one part of Africa, one of our leaders reports how busy the hospitals have been. The number of patients treated and the number of major and minor operations are quite surprising. And at several of the mission stations there are sizable leper colonies. The report concludes with this statement:

"I do not know how many there are who have not been able to get in. They are like the people at the pool of Bethesda; they lie around and wait until someone either moves away, goes home, or dies, and then they can move in."

In the eleven Adventist hospitals and in the clinics that do not quite rank as hospitals a marvelous service is being rendered in South Africa. People may be asked to pay a small fee for this, but they are glad to come to our institutions even though there may be medical services provided by the government not far away, for which they pay nothing.

One who lives in Africa learns to maintain a constant vigil against disease. The harmful parasites and bacteria are air-borne, water-borne, and land-borne. Malaria and other diseases are carried by the mosquitoes. The tsetse fly brings sleeping sickness, and



Loving medical ministry to the sons and daughters of Africa is opening the way for the gospel light to shine through.

the common fly is the carrier of several others. In the pools of water one is in danger of getting the Bilharzia parasite. There are areas in Africa that are hardly habitable by Europeans because of the prevalence of dangerous disease.

The witness and service of our medical institutions is one of the outstanding features of the work in Africa.



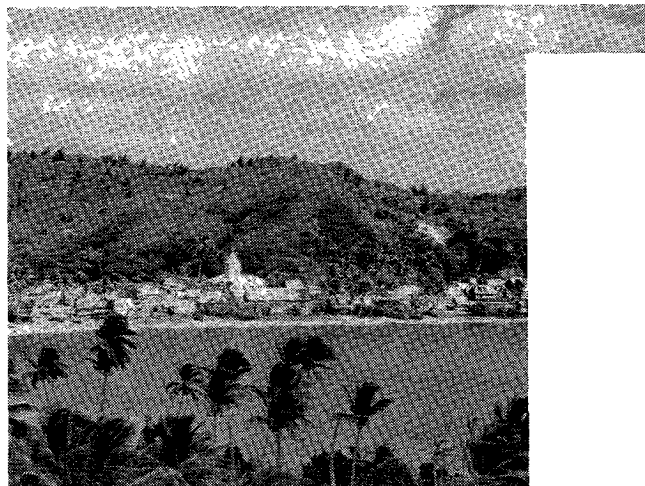
The Far Eastern Island Mission

By V. T. ARMSTRONG

Recently I stopped five days in Guam, headquarters of the Far Eastern Island Mission. E. A. Hamlin and his family arrived in Guam in January, 1952, and very soon afterward he assumed the responsibility of acting president of the field. Mrs. Hamlin has been acting treasurer, since C. G. Oliver and his family were on furlough. They have just returned from a profitable leave and are glad to be back in Guam.

The work in the island field is growing. J. L. Bowers, in the Palau group of islands in the western part of the territory, reports baptisms and expansion during the year. Interests on the island of Saipan are being followed up by G. Flores. Church schools are being conducted on Guam and Palau.

There is a promising opening for medical work in this field. The teaching staff must be strengthened and a wider distribution of literature be planned on these islands. That this may be accomplished, calls have been passed on to the General Conference for a doctor. A second call is for a colporteur whose wife could teach. These calls no doubt will soon be filled. This addition to the working staff will strengthen the limited number of workers and assure a greater advance into all the islands of this mission.



On the islands of Guam and Palau our mission work has made a strong beginning.