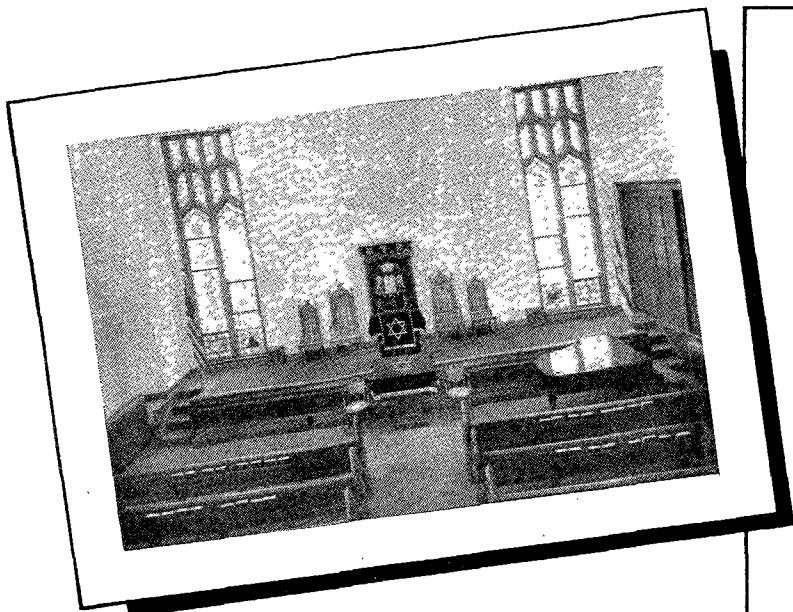


The Advent REVIEW *and Sabbath* HERALD

GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF
THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS



First Hebrew Adventist Congregation

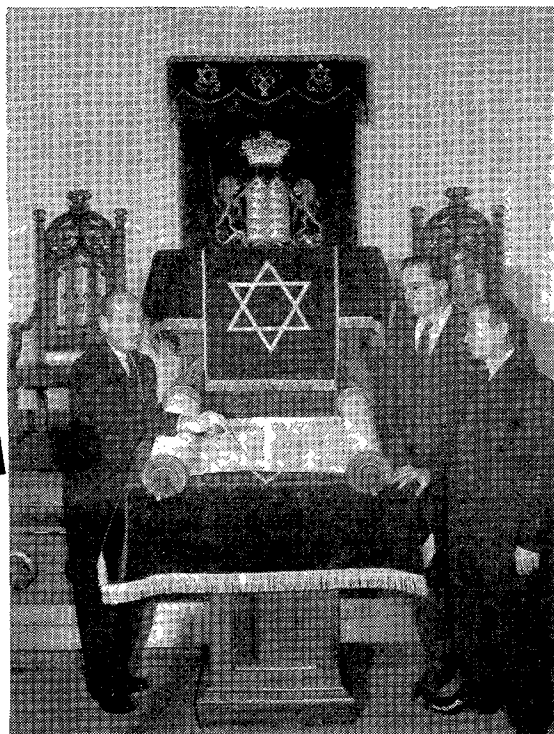
By E. L. BRANSON

President, Greater New York Conference

A permanent home for the first Hebrew Adventist congregation in the world was dedicated free of debt as a large audience assembled in the Bronx Community Temple, New York City, March 6. W. E. Read, field secretary of the General Conference and chairman of the Jewish editorial committee, presented an inspiring study at the morning service. W. B. Ochs, vice-president of the General Conference and chairman of the Jewish literature committee, delivered the dedicatory sermon, followed by the dedicatory prayer offered by L. E. Lenheim, president of the Atlantic Union.

A brief history of the providential guidance in locating and acquiring this beautiful house of worship, a former Dutch Reformed church, was given by E. L. Branson. With only fifteen members in 1949, Jay M. Hoffman and Abraham Potlin raised the purchase price of twenty thousand dollars in a few weeks. But major renovating had to be carried out, costing approximately forty-five thousand dollars. The story of the raising of these funds is a thrilling account of sacrificial giving.

After five years this congregation numbers fifty.



Upper left: Interior of Bronx Community Temple. Above: left to right, Jay M. Hoffman, Gerald Sabes, and Abraham Potlin look over an Old Testament scroll used during services in the new Hebrew temple in New York City.

AMERICAN STUDIO PHOTOS

They have always led the entire conference in per capita giving. Most members pay a second tithe, which meets all local church and denominational obligations.

Elder Lenheim's evening message was an appeal to service, looking toward the establishment of many other Hebrew congregations among the two and a half million Jews of New York City.

Appropriate music was rendered by Bela Urban, concert violinist, and Misses Doris Doree and Jane Jayeson, prominent soloists.

The conclusion of the day's events was a farewell to Elder and Sister Abraham Potlin and their daughter Anna, recently appointed to serve the Hebrew people in Jerusalem, and a welcome for Brother and Sister Gerald Sabes and their two daughters. Brother Sabes is assisting in the Jewish work in New York.

We know that our believers everywhere will rejoice in this auspicious beginning of a larger work among the scattered remnants of the house of Israel. Pray that the blessing of the Lord will attend those who have dedicated their lives to the preaching of the gospel among the Jews.

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The Religious World



[These news items are taken from Religious News Service. We do not necessarily concur in statements made in these items. We publish them simply to give our readers a picture of current religious developments.]

► Chicago Catholics Plan Twelve-Story School

Plans for a new twelve-story educational building with facilities for sixteen hundred elementary and high school students were unveiled in Chicago by Roman Catholic officials. Construction of the combined coeducational schools and a convent will begin in several months, Msgr. Patrick J. Hayes, rector of Holy Name Cathedral, said. He predicted completion of the \$2,500,000 project in September, 1956. The building, to be known as Cathedral Schools and Convent, will be erected adjacent to the cathedral on Chicago's near North Side.

► Army Lifts Liquor Ban at Seventy-nine Bases

The Department of Defense announced that the sale of packaged liquor will be permitted in established messes and officers' clubs at 79 military bases in continental United States. The department said the ban on liquor sales was being lifted for these bases because they are situated, in each case, ten miles or more from the nearest commercial liquor store. At the rest of the nation's 825 military installations, the ban on package sales will remain in effect. This ban was dropped last year by Assistant Secretary of Defense John Hannah but quickly reinstituted after religious and temperance groups made vigorous protests.

► Catholic Digest Contradicts Christian Herald Claim

A survey sponsored by the *Catholic Digest*, national monthly, contradicts the claim of *Christian Herald* magazine that some 4,000,000 Roman Catholics in the United States have been converted to Protestantism in the last ten years, it was announced in New York. The Rev. Paul Bussard, *Digest* editor, said a survey made for his publication in 1952 by a Chicago marketing and public opinion research firm showed that only 1,434,000 Catholics had turned Protestant in the 20 years before the study. It also showed that 1,896,000 Protestants had become Catholics in the same period, he declared. Father Bussard said the study was part of a larger survey on religious beliefs sponsored by the *Catholic Digest*, which is published at St. Paul, Minnesota.

► Colombian Protestants Appeal for Rights

The Evangelical Confederation of Colombia has appealed to the United Nations, the Organization of American States, and Pope Pius XII to safeguard the rights of Protestants in Colombia. The appeals were made in a statement issued by the confederation's executive committee. Citing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the statement requested the UN to use its influence to obtain the liberties of that document for Colombian Protestants. It called upon the Organization of American States to take steps to obtain the free exercise in Colombia "of the human liberties guaranteed by the Charter of Bogotá."

► New Stamp Launched by President, Religious Leaders

President Eisenhower joined Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Jewish clergymen in a ceremony in Washington, D.C., introducing the first regular U.S. postage stamp to bear the motto, "In God We Trust." The President declared that every time an American uses the new eight-cent issue he will be sending a message of faith to the rest of the world. The stamp will be used mostly on overseas mail, for which the one-ounce rate is eight cents. The brief but impressive ceremony was held in the office of Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield.

Leaving Hollywood for Heaven

By Mrs. Ralph Winters (Penny Edwards)
As Told to Donn Thomas

[A few weeks ago the Associated Press carried a story to every part of the country about the conversion of a young actress, Penny Edwards (in private life, Mrs. Ralph Winters). The press gave a rather vivid account of her turning from a most successful stage career to join the Seventh-day Adventist Church. To publicize a convert simply because that convert has been prominently in the public eye, is contrary to the spirit of Christianity. But to publicize the witness that such a convert makes to the deep workings of the Spirit of God is always proper. Brother and Sister Winters were baptized on May 1 at the Hollywood Seventh-day Adventist church by Lawrence B. Schick. The following story speaks for itself. We have never read a more moving testimony to the power and the leading of the Divine Spirit. Thank God that His Spirit still is active in an evil world to transform the lives of men and women.—EDITOR.]

I know what it is to feel the pleading of the Holy Spirit. How else can I explain the miraculous transformation in my life and that of my husband?

The gap between a theatrical career, which began in my early teens, and Seventh-day Adventism is wide, but not too wide for the Lord to bridge with His love and mercy.

I was reared a Catholic. In fact, when I was a little girl my sister and I spent a summer or two living with nuns at a Catholic mission sixty miles north of New York City. But I was fascinated by motion pictures and so intrigued by the beckoning lights of Broadway that I ap-

plied for a job as a specialty dancer in Ziegfield Follies when I was only twelve. I told the director that I was eighteen, and he believed me, or at least pretended that he did. My career in show business had begun.

I have no desire to dwell upon the glittering but hectic years that followed. Recent events are so precious that my husband and I are filled with the wonder of them, and we want to talk about nothing else.

But for the record: I came to Hollywood and soon seemed to fill all the requirements for a promising young actress. I signed my first movie contract with Warner Brothers Studio at the age of seventeen. Other contracts with Universal, Twentieth Century-Fox, and Republic studios followed. I was leading lady for such stars as Tyrone Power, Donald O'Connor, and Roy Rogers. In between there were stage tours and night club appearances. In 1951 I met Ralph Winters, a casting director, and we were married.

Then one February morning in 1953 something strange and beautiful happened to me. I felt a presence in the room, and a feeling of happiness and love which I had never before experienced. I wanted to read the Bible. We didn't have one in the house, and I suppose I had not had a religious thought in my head for years. My only evidence of a remote awareness of religion had been a cross and rosary that I always carried with me during my New York stage appearances. When I came to Hollywood even they were discarded.

Now, suddenly, I had an impulse to search the Scriptures and felt the need for a better way of life. How else can you explain this except that it was the working of the Lord's Spirit?

I waited several

days, and then one afternoon got into my car and drove to a nearby branch library. A little self-consciously I asked for a Bible. As soon as I obtained a copy I went right home and began reading from the first chapter of Genesis.

As I read the Ten Commandments in Exodus I was particularly interested in the fourth one. When my husband came home that evening I casually asked him which was the seventh day. "Saturday, of course," he replied. I said no more.

By now I felt bold enough to tell my aunt, Mrs. Rose Reaser, what I was doing. She is a member of the Alhambra Seventh-day Adventist church. She was amazed to find me, of all people, reading the Bible. Within a few days she gave me a King James Version, which I studied avidly for several months. Then she surprised me on my birthday with a copy of Elder W. H. Branson's *Drama of the Ages*.

I read this book eagerly, and one afternoon got down on my knees and prayed that Ralph would read it too. That evening after dinner I hinted that he might be interested in the volume, which was rather conspicuous on a living-room table. I tried not to make my suggestion sound important. "Sure, I'll look at it," he said cheerfully. Again the Holy Spirit was helping us, and I thanked God.

The book fascinated him. He took it to his office, where he is casting director for a large firm producing films for television, and went through it in a hurry. Then he started to read the Scriptures, and soon all we talked about were the things we were learning from the Bible. One night we literally rushed over to my aunt's house and breathlessly began to fire questions at her. She was wonderfully kind and patient, and happy too, I know. We stayed a long time. When we left we were pretty well loaded down with Adventist booklets. As we drove home we could think only of God's goodness to us.

Not long after that, at my aunt's suggestion, we met with Mrs. Grace Atwood for our first real Bible study. She's a dear woman who lives in Temple City near Los Angeles. How well I remember that evening.

We were as nervous as we had ever been at a Hollywood premier. This was something new, and quite different. After we arrived with my aunt at Mrs. Atwood's neat little home we sang some hymns. Then she suggested that we kneel and pray. I remember that her prayer was beautiful. It was not a short prayer, and I marveled at her ability to memorize it!



BILL OLIPHANT

Ralph Winters, Mrs. Ralph Winters (Penny Edwards), and their daughter Deborah. Not Hollywood, but heaven, now fills their thoughts.

You see, Catholic prayers are recited from memory. As we went back for subsequent Bible studies I wondered how Mrs. Atwood could remember so many prayers. It was something of a surprise, but a happy one, when I learned that they came from her heart.

With the Holy Spirit leading us every step of the way, we rather quickly accepted the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists. We didn't go to Hollywood parties any more, and our gay friends began to drop away. We were zealous and wanted everybody to share our new hope, but it didn't take long for our movie acquaintances to bow out when we suggested Bible studies.

I soon learned that outward adorning is not appropriate for a Christian woman. First to go was a Christmas present from my husband—a lavish pendant of gold and pearls, which I wore frequently. This bit of jewelry fairly blazed with a radiant sunburst and an elegant miniature of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patron saint of Mexico. I continued to wear some of my other jewelry for a short time, but I

realized that this was foolish, and took it off.

After we began to study the Bible together we attended our first Sabbath service at the Hollywood Adventist church, and we've been going there ever since, drinking up the good sermons by Lawrence B. Schick, Elder and Mrs. Schick have been kind and considerate. They have guided us but not pushed us, and we love them for it. We were baptized by Elder Schick on May 1.

Many folks ask us about our future. We don't know. We are just leaving it in God's hands. We know that His Spirit has led us thus far, and we're confident that He will not desert us now.

Both of us are yearning to work for the Lord, but as yet He has not shown us what that work should be. In the meantime we're happier than we have ever been in our whole lives, and we thank God for calling us out of darkness into His glorious light. We firmly believe that Jesus is coming soon, and we, with our little daughter, want to be ready to meet Him.

News of Penzotti's coming often ran ahead of him, and those who hated to see the Bible come among the people lay in waiting to harm the "Bible man," but in spite of every mean trick and abuse he was ever the fearless champion of the Bible for his people. At Cochabamba, Bolivia, he encountered Bishop Granada. The bishop was a fighter. When Penzotti came riding into Cochabamba on his mule, Granada condemned him publicly from the pulpit, calling on clergy and people to crush the heretic. Penzotti, it was advertised, was a peddler of lies and propagated false teachings and distributed false Scriptures. Penzotti heard all about this, but was undisturbed. Straightway he took his Bible and walked to the bishopric and into the bishop's office. He laid down the open Bible on the desk of the startled Granada and insisted, "Be so kind as to prove what you have said."

The clergyman, fighter though he was, had never met such a direct approach before, and was at a complete loss in knowing how to deal with such a situation. He thumbed through the Bible hastily and muttered something about the Bible's being all right, but since it was not approved by the church, he could do nothing. Then he permitted Penzotti to leave unmolested, and the "Bible man" continued to call from door to door.

Recognizing Penzotti's gifts as a Bible salesman, the American Bible Society appointed him agent for South America's Pacific Coast. He and his family moved to Peru—the most difficult of all the fields. They made their headquarters in the city of Callao. Bible preaching among the Spanish-speaking Peruvians was unknown. To gain a handful of listeners at first was nigh impossible, but in time a few came to his preaching service, and then more and more, until some two hundred persons were attending his Bible services. This growing success alarmed the clergy and the fanatical populace. Enemies hurled mud and stones at his home. Torchlighted processions passed his house in the night screaming, "Death to Penzotti!" He was thrown into the Callao jail, where he almost lost his life.

Freed From Prison

At last, through the intervention of foreign friends and foreign governments, Penzotti obtained his freedom. The American Bible Society next appointed him agent for Central America and Panama. So he continued in service for the Master, everywhere distributing the Holy Scriptures. He truly brought the Word of God to Latin America.

One young Seventh-day Adventist missionary, when relating to me his recent prison experience, said, "I remembered Penzotti, thanked God, and took heart." We really do owe much to those who have gone before us.



Those Who Have Gone Before

By Arthur H. Roth

We owe much to those who have gone before us. Young men and young women who have ventured into missionary service are particularly grateful to the missionaries who opened the doors. In the lands of Latin America few men in Protestant missionary history are more honored than Francisco Penzotti. He it was who under God placed thousands of Bibles into the hands of a people who never had read the Scriptures. The people did not even know there was such a book. When they learned that there was a Holy Book, their priests taught them to ignore it. Those who possessed and distributed it were labeled as dangerous heretics worthy of condemnation.

Back in 1876, Penzotti, a young married man of Italian parentage, was living in Montevideo, Uruguay. There he learned for the first time of God's Book. Ever since his early boyhood he had gone to mass and occasionally to confession.

One night a friend invited him to hear a Protestant. Penzotti had already heard something about him because the clergy of the state church had been denouncing the Protestant, but Penzotti was curious, so he went to see and hear. That night he was much impressed with a book the Protestant referred to frequently. Penzotti returned again and again. The day

soon came when for the first time he held an open Bible in his hands and read the pages for himself. Slowly he began to understand the message of the Book. It gripped his heart. He knew it contained exactly what he wanted and needed and what he felt sure thousands of people were longing for. He resolved to give his life to placing the Scriptures in the hands of the people of South America.

Soon Penzotti and a companion from the American Bible Society started across the mountains for Bolivia. They were told that the last man who tried that was murdered and thrown into a river. People urged the two men to turn back for their safety's sake, but they refused. The road was rugged and dangerous, but eventually they reached La Paz, Bolivia, and in time they crossed the South American continent to Chile, where they sold Bibles from Tacna to Antofagasta. On that journey the men distributed more than five thousand Bibles.

That was the start of Penzotti's long service as Bible salesman to Latin America. Through the years that followed he was to encounter hardship and suffering such as few have had to bear. Even to this day his Christian cheerfulness and constancy under adversity serve as an inspiration to Latin American youth.

The Enemies of Health—Part 4

Tobacco

By W. H. Branson

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (3 John 2).

It has ever been the loving desire of God that His people have only that which is best for their welfare. He provides for them only that which is good, for God is good. At least fifteen times in Scripture this description of His character is given. His command is "holy, and just, and good" (Rom. 7:12). His "spirit is good" (Ps. 143:10). He gives "good things to them that ask him" (Matt. 7:11). The psalmist cried, "Thou, Lord, art good" (Ps. 86:5).

The things that are denied His people, then, or against which His people are warned, are not for their good and do not bring benefit either physically, or spiritually. One of these things is tobacco.

Though there has long been debate in our world over just how harmful the use of tobacco is, and in what way, no one, not even its manufacturers, claims that it does anything to improve the health. Says Dr. William Brady, "After a single smoke, particularly a cigarette, mental efficiency is lowered an average of 10 per cent and this is most manifest in imagery, perception, and association—the chief essentials of thinking."

"The human consumption of tobacco," declares Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, distinguished physiologist and educator, "represents the creation of an unnecessary, unnatural, habituated desire for an expensive poison, the use of which injures the blood vessels, the digestive system of many of its habitués, pollutes the air and/or messes up the environment of its users and non-users."

The worldwide impact of recent medical discoveries about the relationship of smoking to cancer has been tremendous. Smokers themselves are becoming frightened. Tobacco sales are beginning to drop—the first significant dip in more than twenty-one years. The medical profession is withdrawing even its tacit support of the tobacco industry. No longer does the American Medical Association carry cigarette advertising in any of its ten publications, declaring in its official explanation of the decision: "The board of trustees decided to confine ads to products which can be declared useful to the physician in his practice or in his personal life." It is truly significant when the A.M.A. officially frowns on its doctors using tobacco personally. If the whole truth

were known, undoubtedly this decision has already caused many hundreds of smokers to quit the habit, for people usually look to their doctors to set a good example.

For many years the health perils of smoking were pointed out by a few persons who braved the epithets of "fad-dist" or "crank." During the past few months, however, the most forthright warnings have come from world-renowned medical authorities and conservative cancer experts.

Tobacco and Lung Cancer

A dozen separate investigations in five countries show definite association between smoking and lung cancer. From England comes the report of Dr. Richard Doll and Prof. A. Bradford Hill that "the association between smoking and carcinoma of the lung is real" and increases "in approximately simple arithmetical proportion with the amount smoked." A Danish authority, Prof. P. N. Bonnevie, declares that people smoking five cigarettes a day over a period of years are most liable to the disease. Dr. Cornelius P. Rhoads, director of the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research, in New York, has this testimony: "We believe that there is a very real relationship between

smoking and occurrence of lung cancer."

Drs. Ernest L. Wynder, of Sloan-Kettering Institute, and Evarts A. Graham, of St. Louis, announced that they produced cancer experimentally in mice by using only tars from tobacco smoke. "This shows conclusively," they said, "that there is something in cigarette smoke which can cause cancer. This is no longer merely a possibility. Our experiments have proved it beyond any doubt." Dr. Morton L. Levin studied seven thousand patients, then reported that more than twice as many smokers develop cancer as non-smokers. After making the study he himself gave up smoking.

Dr. Alton Ochsner, who has been president of both the American College of Surgeons and the American Cancer Society, says: "It is frightening to speculate on the possible number of bronchiogenic cancers that might develop as the result of the tremendous number of cigarettes consumed in the two decades between 1930 to 1950." Just how "tremendous" this number has become is shown by the fact that last year (1953) Americans smoked 394,000,000,000 cigarettes, with the per capita consumption up to 3,719. Fifty years ago the per capita was less than fifty.

Small wonder, therefore, with the glare of publicity full on the health-destroying and deadly properties of its product, that the tobacco industry is frightened. Writes Lee Geist in the *Wall Street Journal*: "Within the tobacco-growing and cigarette-making industries a flaming debate is raging over whether the decline [in cigarette consumption] is due to an ever increasing fear amongst customers that smoking is harmful to their health."

Outwardly and publicly the industry scoffs at the scientific evidence produced so far, linking smoking with cancer. However, it cannot lightly laugh off the amazing increase in the sale of "stop-smoking" pills and preparations, or the skyrocketing sales of such books as *How to Stop Smoking*, or the sales, doubled in one year, of filtered cigarettes, which are supposedly safer to smoke.

The gnawing fear of the tobacco moguls that their profits are being threatened is well summed up by *Fortune* magazine in its December, 1953, issue. "For all its bubbling prosperity, the cigarette industry may be promoting itself toward a dead end. . . . The logical next step—protecting the throat best by not smoking at all—just might become popular."—"The Uproar in Cigarettes," p. 164.

Significance to Adventists

For Seventh-day Adventists this major revolution now under way in one of the world's biggest industries has special significance. For one thing, it affords opportunity for more fervent thanks to God that in His love and concern for His people He long ago accurately told of the true nature of tobacco, and warned His people against it.

Lord of the Garden

By GERALDINE YOUNG PALMER

Our dear Lord loved a garden, and He knew
The names of flowers and the way they grew.
The lilies of the field delighted Him,
The iris growing by the river's brim,

The golden flowering of the mustard seed,
Even the lowly field grass and its need,
The miracle of seeds and of their sowing,
The varied soils that influenced their growing.

When He was weary at the close of day
He went inside a garden wall to pray.
And when He died—Oh! never in the town
But in a garden grave He laid Him down,

And in a garden rose. O Saviour dear,
Here is my little garden! Thou art here!
In every spire of green and every bud
I see the fruitage of Thy precious blood.

And every flower bursting into bloom
Proclaims the resurrection from the tomb.
Faith, patience, love, and glory in accord—
A garden is a letter from our Lord!

"The use of tobacco is an inconvenient, expensive, uncleanly habit."—*Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene*, p. 17.

"Tobacco is a slow, insidious poison."—*Testimonies*, vol. 3, p. 569.

"It affects the brain and benumbs the sensibilities, so that the mind cannot clearly discern spiritual things."—*Counsels on Health*, p. 81.

"Among children and youth the use of tobacco is working untold harm."—*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 328.

The Spirit of prophecy classes tobacco as a narcotic, and therefore it is deadly to health, as are other narcotics. "What shall we say of this evil? It is unclean; it is a narcotic; it stupefies the senses; it chains the will; it holds its victims in the slavery of habits difficult to overcome."—*Temperance*, p. 58.

"When once an appetite for this narcotic has been formed, it takes firm hold of the mind and the will of man."—*Ibid.*, p. 60.

"Nature rebels against the narcotic."—*Ibid.*, p. 278.

Inspiration is clear in classing tobacco and alcohol together as weapons of evil. In fact, in numerous instances it emphasizes that tobacco is a more insidious and subtle poison than is alcohol.

"Its effects are more difficult to cleanse from the system than those of liquor."—*Testimonies*, vol. 3, p. 569.

"Tobacco using is a habit which frequently affects the nervous system in a more powerful manner than does the use of alcohol. It binds the victim in stronger bands of slavery than does the intoxicating cup; the habit is more difficult to overcome. Body and mind are, in many cases, more thoroughly intoxicated with the use of tobacco than with spirituous liquors, for it is a more subtle poison."—*Ibid.*, p. 562.

A Solid Scientific Foundation

With every new discovery concerning the nature and effects of tobacco, it becomes clear that these injunctions and warnings are based on a solid, scientific foundation. No one need feel hesitant about accepting them at full face value today, if indeed he ever felt hesitant. We repeat: God knows what is best for His people. If He gives warning against a thing, it is for good reason, reason that in time will be amply proved by true scientific research. Modern findings on tobacco demonstrate this fact anew.

Moreover, we now have, as never before, an increasing fund of basic factual information that will lend great impetus to an all-out attack on tobacco. "We must bear a clear, decided testimony against the use of intoxicating drinks and the use of tobacco."—*Temperance*, p. 69.

Not only should this testimony feature the scientific findings on the physical nature and results of tobacco, but, more important, the effect on the spiritual life

of an individual. "It is Satan's purpose to palsy the brain and confuse the judgment, so that sacred things shall not be discerned."—*Ibid.*, p. 60.

To "palsy the brain and confuse the judgment" are the primary purposes of the devil's intense desire to increase the use of tobacco everywhere. On the other hand, it is the privilege of God's people—a clean people—to cooperate with heavenly agencies in rescuing souls from the slavery of this vice and helping to clear up their minds and bodies for the reception of the gospel and preparation for heaven.

Because of these considerations the Seventh-day Adventist Church has for many years made the use of tobacco a test of church fellowship. No one who uses it may knowingly be accepted into the

church. Should one acquire the tobacco habit after coming into the church, it becomes the duty of the church leaders and members to point out to the erring one the dangers of his course of action and to earnestly endeavor to lead him to give up this health-destroying habit. Failing to accomplish this desired result, the tobacco user should be dropped from church membership until such time as he may, by God's help, overcome the habit.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is, in many parts of the world, known as the Clean Church. That name was given it because the members refrain from the use of alcoholic beverages, swine's flesh, and tobacco. May God grant that we may always prove worthy of this name.

[Further articles in this series will appear following the General Conference session.—EDITOR.]

Visits to Egypt—5

Aswan and Elephantine in Upper Egypt

The Records of Ezra and Nehemiah Confirmed

By Siegfried H. Horn

A visit to Aswan is a most interesting experience. This city, lying six hundred miles south of Cairo, marks the southern border of ancient Egypt and the ethnic border between the Egyptians and the Nubians. The scenery of this part of the Nile country is most picturesque, because of the existence of the first river cataract and some beautiful islands, among them the island of Philae with one of the best-preserved temples of antiquity.

Aswan has also been famous for its rose-red granite, which was sent not only

to all Egypt but also to other countries to decorate temples and palaces, and as stone for statues or obelisks. In my traveling through the Near East I saw in the ancient ruins of Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon many blocks and columns of beautiful red granite. All this rose-red granite was brought over land and sea from distant Aswan. In some cases columns that had once stood in temples were re-used to beautify churches and mosques, where they can now be seen.

In the Aswan quarries is still lying a



The Island of Elephantine as seen from the city of Aswan in Upper Egypt. Aswan in the foreground; western shore of the River Nile in the background.

tremendous unfinished obelisk, which was abandoned when the stone cutters discovered a flaw in the granite. This great obelisk, almost completed, is 137 feet long and 14 feet wide, and if it had been finished would have weighed 1,168 tons.

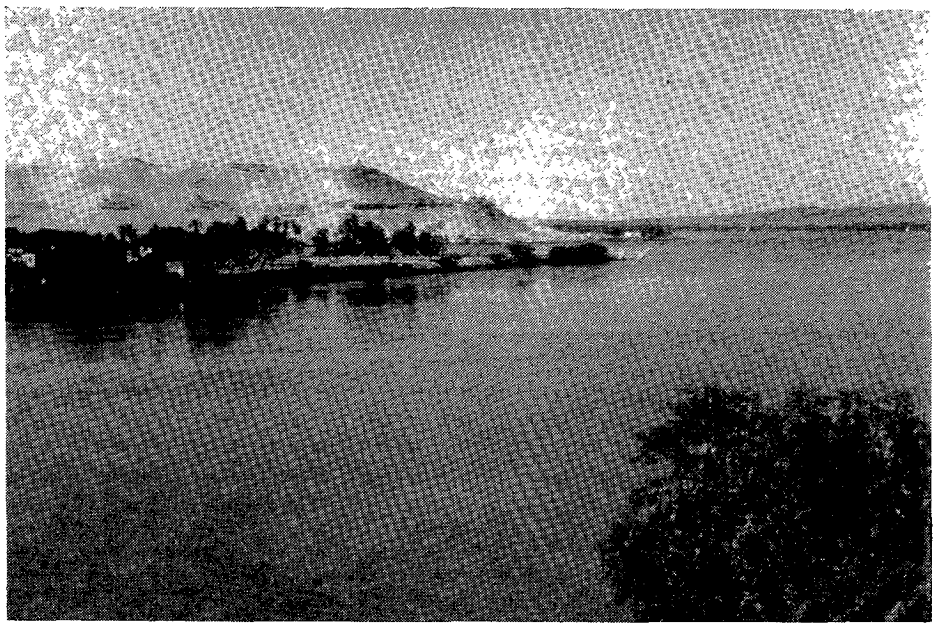
Of great interest also are great rock tombs cut into the cliffs of the western shore in the third millennium B.C. Built by the rulers of this most southern province of Egypt, they depict the life of this town as it existed during the period when the pyramids were built. Harkhuf, one of these noblemen, tells us in his tomb how he had been sent as an expedition leader to Nubia and had returned with ships full of exotic products of Africa—ivory, hides, peacocks, monkeys, and a dwarf from Central Africa. When the king learned of the arrival of this dwarf, he wrote a letter asking the expedition leader to take good care of this creature and bring him to the court. Having thus become the proud recipient of a royal letter, Harkhuf had a copy of it inscribed on the walls of his tomb, so that we can still read how excited the king was when he heard about the dwarf, saying that he desired nothing more keenly in this world than to see this dwarf. Harkhuf's record of his African enterprise reminds one of similar expeditions that Solomon sent out to the land of Ophir (1 Kings 9:26-28; 10:22).

At Aswan is located the mighty dam which was built between the years 1898 and 1912. It has a length of 2,143 yards, and is one of the longest river dams on earth. By regulating the flow of the Nile water, it has tremendously increased the fertility of the country, and has been one of the main factors in the economic growth of Egypt, making it possible to feed twenty million people on an extremely small area of inhabitable land.

The Island of Philae

The archeologist, however, looks with sadness at the island of Philae, which lies right behind the great dam, and is covered for several months each year by the Nile. I was fortunate to visit Aswan at the time of high Nile when the sluices of the dam are open and the water level behind the dam is about the same as it used to be before the dam was built. This enabled me to visit the island of Philae and its marvelously preserved temple of the Ptolemaic age, which is one of the jewels of Egypt.

One is surprised that this great temple, which is almost completely submerged in the water during the greatest part of each year, has stood up so well against the destructive forces of water for more than fifty years now. The colors, in which the scenes and the hieroglyphic inscriptions were once painted, have mostly been lost, and a fine gray layer of Nile mud covers all walls. It gives one a strange feeling to walk through the many halls and rooms of this great temple.



The Nile River at the city of Aswan, Egypt, with western cliffs containing tombs of ancient nobles in the background.

Neither the island of Philae and the great dam, nor the picturesque scenery of that region, was the cause of my visit to Aswan. I was mainly attracted by the Nile island of Elephantine. This island had been a border fortress of ancient Egypt for many centuries and the center of worship of Khnum, a ram-headed god, whose temple has been excavated.

For me the visit to Elephantine meant a strange thrill because of the fact that for some time I had been working on Jewish documents that had come from this island, and that have been of immense importance for the vindication of certain Bible truths. This island has provided us with some documents that have corroborated the authenticity of the books of Ezra and Nehemiah and have provided evidence that the Jews of the time of Nehemiah had a civil calendar that began in the fall, as attested also in the book of Nehemiah. In this way proof has been found for an important date of Bible history, which is also the starting point of the greatest prophetic period of the Bible—the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14.

When fierce battles were raging for and against the authenticity of Ezra and Nehemiah during the latter part of the nineteenth century, the great German historian, Eduard Meyer, came through his penetrating studies of those books with the conclusion that they were genuine, and he wrote at that time that if we ever would find official documents from the Persian period they would be exactly like those that are found in the book of Ezra. His stoutest dreams came true, when a few years later, after the turn of the century, a number of papyri, found on the island of Elephantine, were sold to Sir Robert Mond and Lady William Cecil.

These papyri, published later by Professors Sayce and Cowley, caused a very great sensation in the scholarly world.

Heavy onslaughts were made on their authenticity, and influential scholars believed them to be forgeries. However, a German expedition found a great number of similar papyri in the year 1906, during excavations carried out on the island near the spot of the first find. This discovery proved that all charges made against the authenticity of these documents were false, as well as those made against the books of Ezra and Nehemiah. Since that great discovery a number of smaller finds have been made, which have rounded out the knowledge and information gained through the previously found documents.

First Discoveries Made on Elephantine

Another great and unexpected discovery of Aramaic papyri from Elephantine was made a few years ago here in America. When a trunk, stored away in a New York warehouse for more than fifty years, was opened, a number of papyri were found that had been bought in 1893. These documents, edited by Prof. Emil G. Kraeling, were published a few months ago. Actually they were the first of the great discoveries made on Elephantine. But Mr. Wilbour, the purchaser of these documents, died on his way to America, and his trunk, containing the precious documents, was never opened until it came into the possession of the Brooklyn Museum a few years ago. Had these papyri been brought to the knowledge of scholars at the time when they were first discovered, they would have created an immense sensation. Now they serve as further additions to the wealth of material that is already in our hands.

The documents were written in Aramaic, the language also used by Ezra and Daniel for parts of their books, which was the commonly spoken language during the time of the Persian Empire. These

documents shed much light on the Aramaic parts of the Bible, and show their originality.

We learn from them that a colony of Jewish mercenary soldiers, serving the Egyptian kings, had been stationed on Elephantine probably from the time of the last kings of Judah. They had built a temple for their God Jahu (Jehovah), but also served a number of foreign deities. Their religion closely reflects the one that many Jews had before the Babylonian exile. When Egypt was conquered by Cambyses, most of the temples were destroyed by the Persian invaders. Also the Egyptian temple of Khnum shared this fate. However, the Jewish temple on the same island was spared. The Persian emperor apparently was favorably disposed toward the Jews and their religion, which had a certain attractiveness to the monotheistic Persians.

Between the Jews of that island and their Egyptian neighbors a considerable friction seemed to have existed. Nevertheless, some conversions to Jewry took place. Most of the documents coming from the archives of this colony deal with personal affairs of members of the community. It would lead too far to discuss all these in this article. A few documents, however, are of a different nature and are extremely interesting.

Temple Destroyed and Rebuilt

Through them we learn that the Jewish temple on Elephantine had been destroyed in the year 410 B.C., when the Persian satrap of Egypt was away. Upon his return the Jews experienced the satisfaction that the chief instigators of the crime were punished, but a permit to rebuild the temple was not immediately given. The Persian satrap requested the petitioners to secure the consent of the Jerusalem authorities before he would grant them a permit. Hence the Jews wrote to the high priest Johanan of Jerusalem, requesting him to grant them the required permit. The Jerusalem Jews, who had been in the school of Ezra and Nehemiah, did not look with favor on these Jews of Egypt with their separate temple. Therefore they thought it wise to ignore the letter, and sent no reply.

Three years later the Jews repeated their request, this time to the Persian governor Bigvai of Judea, hinting at the same time that they would join the Samaritans if their request would not be granted. For this reason they had already written to the two sons of Sanballat, the governor of Samaria. This veiled threat did not fail to make an impression on the Jerusalem authorities, who thought it wise therefore to grant the request, but under the condition that no bloody sacrifices would be offered in the temple at Elephantine.

The Jews had hardly rebuilt the temple on the island when an Egyptian rebellion broke out against the Persians

under Artaxerxes II. At that time our documents become silent. We do not know what happened to the Jewish colony after the Egyptians regained their independence. It is possible that the Jews of Elephantine were either massacred or expelled, and their rebuilt temple again destroyed.

These documents have been of immense value by revealing the historicity of some disputed Bible records. They mention not only such well-known personalities as Sanballat, the old enemy of Nehemiah, and Johanan, mentioned repeatedly in the book of Nehemiah, but also give us the information that Sanballat was governor of Samaria. Since he was such a formidable foe, we can understand why Nehemiah's work was made so difficult.

Through the recently discovered papyri that are now in the Brooklyn Museum we also learn that the civil calendar of the Jews of Elephantine began in the autumn. The existence of such a calendar in Judea was known from the book of Nehemiah, but had frequently been disputed by scholars. Its existence in Elephantine during the same fifth century B.C. supports in a remarkable way the statements made by Nehemiah. This evidence has greatly helped to put the date for Ezra's return to Judea in 457 B.C. on a secure basis, a date that forms the

point of beginning of the great prophetic period of Daniel 8:14.

From the brief description of the documents that came from this Upper Egyptian Nile island and their importance for the student of the Bible, the reader can see that a visit to this historical place has its particular interest. To walk through the ruined houses of this old Jewish settlement was a thrill never to be forgotten. On the last evening of my stay in Aswan I stood on the shore of the mighty Nile. The full moon was illuminating the picturesque island, which, with its luxuriant growth of plant life, made idyllic scenery. The present-day village on Elephantine lay in the dark, but one could hear the melodies of Arabian songs coming from that direction, from where 2,400 years ago one could have heard the melodies of Jewish psalms, when Jehovah was worshiped, together with other gods, on this island.

I also meditated about the providential care which had watched over the important documents buried in sand and debris for many centuries, and which now have added their voice to those other witnesses which testify to the accuracy of the Bible records. It is remarkable that this material should come to light in such an out-of-the-way place to do a mighty work for God in our time.

Parents' Fellowship of Prayer

"I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children."—Isaiah 49:25.



"I Was Not the Only One"

A sister in Arkansas, who has been a reader of the REVIEW for many years, is greatly cheered to know that the Parents' Fellowship of Prayer has been organized for fathers and mothers who want to join in united prayer for their children. "Recently I read about a mother's urgent request for prayer," she states. "It helped me to know that I was not the only one having trouble, and I prayed for this mother and her sons. In fact, I decided to write in and request special prayer for my four wayward daughters." This dear sister then describes the situation that is troubling her.

"One of my girls is in a bad condition with a nervous breakdown she suffered a year ago when her husband was found drowned. She was so bad that we had to send her to an institution. Now she is somewhat better, but she has lost out spiritually. She is keeping company with questionable men, drinking, and in a terrible condition.

"I have another daughter with high blood pressure. The doctor tells me her nerves are causing it. I have two other daughters in poor health. They too drink, and I don't know why. I have had so much trouble with alcohol. My people did not use liquor, and I have been in deep grief over this for some time. I need your prayers that my faith will

be strengthened. Pray for my dear daughters, one granddaughter, and two grandsons, all of whom are unsaved. How I long to live closer to Jesus that they may see the Saviour in my life. I am seventy-five years of age and have to live with my children. Surely the evil one has come down in great wrath. How I long to see my loved ones turn to the Lord before it is too late."

In concluding her letter this sister refers to the blessed hope of the Lord's soon coming. Certainly the troubles that have multiplied in her home can only be assuaged by the glorious prospects of deliverance from this present evil world.

Yes, time is short, Jesus is coming soon. So please, dear readers, remember in prayer this sister's four daughters and other young people who are victims of the alcohol and tobacco habits. Our Parents' Fellowship meets every Friday evening wherever Adventists gather for vesper prayers in this country or in other lands. Pray especially at that time for the recovery of our backsliding youth. Ask God in faith, claiming the promise, "I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children." When you have an unusual answer to your prayers, write to the REVIEW and tell us about it.

EDITORIALS



Comments on the Coming General Conference Session—2

Bigness and Personal Accountability

Two weeks ago we discussed the grave danger of our thinking that all is well with the Advent Movement simply because it is now so large. We wish here to explore further the danger that resides in bigness. When the movement was small the workers were few, and, in many instances, known by a considerable part of the membership. The natural result was that these workers possessed a relatively large sense of personal responsibility for the growth and the success of the movement.

Today, in the homeland, and of it we are here speaking, the movement is of such a size that the individual workers are hardly known beyond the confines of their conference or union. This is one of the inevitable results of the very growth that we so earnestly seek to secure. But what is the effect on the worker? Yes, and what is the effect on the lay member, who, like the worker, no longer feels that he is one of a very little company, but rather one of a great host?

Probably the effect is not uniform. Some may find in the great size of the movement a feeling of such exultation, such joy, over the vitality of the cause that they will spontaneously be driven to greater ardor than ever could have been possible in past days. If that were true of all, or even a majority, of our workers and lay members, the movement would enlarge at an ever-increasing rate. But the movement is not thus increasing in the homeland; rather it tends to grow at a slower percentage rate as compared with earlier days, despite better facilities, greater resources, and a much more kindly attitude toward us on the part of the public.

A Wrong Viewpoint

That fact calls for an explanation. Part of the explanation, we believe, is that no small portion of our members, both workers and laity, tend steadily, as the movement grows big, to think of themselves as not being personally significant to the great program. A worker is tempted to think of himself simply in the role of an employee, which can easily be accompanied by the mood, "I just work here." If there is little success in the field where he is located, or if things are not going too well over the country as a whole, he is tempted to shrug his shoulders and place all the blame on "the organization."

The lay member, looking at his own church, which may not have had any membership increase for a time, and no special evangelistic endeavor, may feel to charge all the lack of growth to "the conference," or "the brethren."

Certainly the temptation to think of oneself as being almost unnecessary, or at least not very meaningful, to the progress of the movement will receive a great strengthening in the minds of some as they flock into San Francisco, and are almost lost in the sea of people that will attend the General Conference session. Note that we do not say that this *need* be so. We do say, however, that the very size of the session will produce on some, too many, this feeling that they are not individually significant in determining the direction and the success of the movement.

Now, we thank God that the movement has grown. But unless we constantly are on guard against this insidious temptation just described, our very growth will ultimately produce in the movement a kind of dry rot that will stifle all growth. The very day that a worker, looking out over the large, complicated and efficiently functioning organization, conceives of it as a great machine and himself simply as a small cog in that machine, he has done himself and the movement vast damage.

Godless men, in describing the universe, often speak of it as a great machine, moving endlessly by natural law. The inevitable result of such thinking is that men view themselves as meaningless, tiny wheels in the vast machine, unable in any way to determine the fate of the world. The evils of such thinking about the universe should warn us against the danger of wrong thinking in regard to the great movement of which we are a part.

No mechanical figure rightly describes the Advent Movement. The idea of a machine is woefully inadequate. True, we hope through good organization to maintain proper coordination of the parts and efficient

Others Have Said



True ethics are world-wide. All that is ethical goes back to a single principle of morality, namely the maintenance of life at its highest level, and the furtherance of life.—Albert Schweitzer.

We need to remember that freedom of speech carries with it the responsibility of "fairness of speech."—*Senior Scholastic*.

Prayer should not be a demand for the gratification of our desires; but a resting back, listening in the silence of our hearts for that still, small voice.—C. W. M. Gell.

We have made a discovery that surprises and horrifies us. . . . Sin and guilt are not merely words and empty symbols . . . but terrible matters of fact and reality. . . . Wherefore let us now call ourselves to repentance.—Pastor Martin Niemöller.

It is my conviction that the fundamental trouble with the people of the United States is that they have gotten too far away from . . . God.—Warren G. Harding.

For one young person interested in the atomic age, there are ten thousand or more interested in the comic age.—Charles A. Tonsor.

Again and again I have been tempted to give up the struggle but always the figure of that strange Man hanging upon the Cross has sent me back to my task again.—George Tyrrell.

The only thing more difficult than the introduction of a new, fruitful idea is the banishing of an old, fruitless one.—Ernest Borek.

Those who stand for nothing, easily fall for anything.—James Keller.

A man cannot be educated unless he has an open mind. The greatest library in the world, with unlimited reference works, avails a man little if he persists in consulting only those works which confirm his preconceived opinions.—*Selected*.

functioning. We would soon go to pieces without organization. It was given to us of Heaven. But when we visualize what might be called the smooth operating machinery of our work, let us remember this: The parts that constitute it are not lifeless bits of metal, but sons and daughters of God, who may see visions and dream dreams. No one has ever measured the power that resides in the soul of a man who has seen a vision of God and has sensed truly that he can do mighty exploits for God.

The hope of the great meeting in San Francisco is not that we shall devise or discover some new and magical formula or technique for bringing the message to men's minds and conviction to their hearts. We do not believe that such a discovery will be made, though some have thought they have made it; for example, in the form of this or that mechanical device for proclaiming

the truth. We do not believe any new formula or technique will come forth from the session. Nor should we expect it. The great business of the session is not to formulate resolutions, but to coordinate the convictions and activities of resolute men.

The Want of the World

The want of the world and the want of the movement has ever been and will continue to be the want of men. We are a poor people; we have only a few millions of dollars to spread thinly over a whole world. But speaking in the language of the business world for a moment, we could well afford to spend a million or two if thereby we could hire a Paul or a Peter, men who hazarded their lives for the gospel, and who, with their associates, turned the world upside down. Their qualities of faith, daring, and devotion are the very ones we most need if we are to accomplish our Heaven-assigned task in the world.

The problem we are discussing is basically one of attitudes of mind. If we think we can do nothing significant, distinctive, or creative to advance the work, then indeed we cannot do it. We have paralyzed ourselves at the source. But if we keep our eyes on the holy apostles and remember that untold possibilities reside in ordinary men and women, then we are in an attitude of mind to accomplish great things for God.

Whenever the devil tempts us to feel that because we are ordinary workers with no official title, we have no direct responsibility for pushing out the borders of the work and discovering new and more vigorous ways to advance its interests, then we need to re-examine our thinking to see whether we are not rationalizing our apathy and laziness. We must never forget that not only is the human heart deceitful but human nature is inherently lazy and a bit cowardly. We may find it easier to transfer all accountability to an abstraction called "the organization" than to discipline ourselves to the arduous program required if we display initiative. To exercise initiative means to run counter to both laziness and cowardice, for we must dare something, we must gird ourselves up. To display initiative means to take hours from relaxation and perhaps from sleep, for certainly no man ever made great gains for God on our very modern eight-hour-a-day program.

The Hope of the Movement

Let us never forget that the hope of the Advent Movement rests not simply on the good judgment and wise direction of the leadership; it rests also on the sense of personal responsibility displayed by each worker, whether he is paid by the conference or is a volunteer layman in local church life. If the sense of personal responsibility is strong, the very restlessness that this produces results in action and initiative, perhaps even in audacious deeds for God. If we have really dedicated our lives to this movement, then we have an immense personal stake in it. We are not simply working, drawing a pay check every week, or holding an office in a local church.

The measure of our dedication is the measure of our sense of personal responsibility. The hope of the movement lies in an ever-growing company of men and women, each one of whom feels personally accountable for finishing the work of God on earth. When we go to San Francisco, or when we read the session reports in *THE REVIEW AND HERALD*, let us not keep before our eyes the thousands who are attending, and who provide gratifying proof of the movement's success. Rather, let us keep bringing before our mind's eye the millions of all the earth who still wait to hear the saving message.

F. D. N.

Events of Our Time



Rome Exalts the Virgin Mary

The Roman Catholic Church has defined three dogmas since the Council of Trent (1545-63). Two of these have concerned the Virgin Mary: first, her Immaculate Conception promulgated in 1854, and her Assumption into heaven declared in the year 1950.

The exaltation of the virgin mother of our Lord has not ended by any means. "Last week the Very Rev. John A. Flynn, president of Catholic St. John's University in Brooklyn, told a Marian Year convocation that the Virgin might be due for still further doctrinal recognition within the next 100 years or so. It is 'not unlikely,' he said, that Mary will be 'proclaimed in a definition of doctrine as Co-Redemptrix of the human race, that next the dogma of Mediatrix of all graces may be promulgated, and that finally the definition of her queenship, as participation with her Son in the power of ruling the World, may be proclaimed.'"—*Time*, "Preview," March 22, 1954, p. 67.

This statement by the president of a Catholic university is not unexpected. Rome's emphasis upon the redemptive and intercessory powers of Mary and the saints has developed in inverse proportion to the Catholic apostasy from Bible truth.

But how strange that the Roman Church should exalt Mary after this fashion? Did not St. Peter, "the first pope," once declare concerning Christ, "Neither is there salvation in any other. For there is no other name under heaven given to men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12, Douay Version). And did not St. Paul affirm that "there is one God: and one mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus who gave himself a redemption for all" (1 Tim. 2:5, 6, Douay Version). If there is redemption only in Christ, how can Mary be a "Co-Redemptrix of the human race"? And if there is only "one mediator of God and men," how can Mary be our intercessor with God? And how can Mary participate with her Son as coruler of the world, when Paul declared that "God also hath exalted him [Jesus] and hath given him a name which is above all names: that in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth, and under the earth: and that every tongue should confess that the Lord Jesus Christ is in the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:9-11, Douay Version).

Dr. Flynn suggests that "the importance of Mary in the universe has come more and more to the fore." We share with Roman Catholics in a deep respect for the mother of our Lord. We believe she will be in heaven, but her salvation was secured by faith in Christ. Did not the words of the Saviour at the marriage feast in Cana indicate this: "Woman, what have I to do with thee?" that is, Even though I am your Son, our relationship does not entitle you to any special favor. If you are saved, you must have faith in Me like any other person.

Perhaps we can see more clearly now than we have ever seen before the partial meaning of the words, "Multitudes will be so deluded through their rejection of truth, that they will accept the counterfeit. Humanity is hailed as God."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 365.



News From the World Field

A Cheering Providence in Indonesia

By A. V. Olson
General Vice-President, General Conference

In a letter just received from N. C. Wilson, president of the Indonesian Union, there was enclosed an account of a recent baptism on one of the islands of that great territory. The story was written by H. Pattyranie, one of our ordained ministers in that field. It is a thrilling story worth telling:

"Recently I went to a certain North Celebes village where fourteen candidates for baptism were waiting for me. I arrived there on a Friday evening, in order to examine them prior to the baptism the following day.

"That night the house in which I stayed for the night was stoned. Some of our brethren went out with lamps in search of the culprits. They found out that this evil work was done by the leader of another church in that village and his friends. The next morning at nine o'clock we went to a little stream about a quarter of a mile away for the baptismal ceremony. The banks of this stream are rather steep. As we descended into the water, suddenly the sky began to rain stones. From both sides of the stream, rocks began to fall, some of them so big that they broke the branches of the trees. The candidates were frightened.

The Lord's Protecting Hand

"For a while we thought the stones were going to hit us, but the Lord's protecting hand was over us. Left and right, front and back, of us the stones fell into the water, but none of us were struck by the flying missiles. The only thing that troubled us was the splash from the water that hit our faces as the stones fell. Village people who were standing on a bridge watching the baptism were filled with fear, and when they saw the stones they cried out loudly. As I baptized the candidates I talked courage to them. I told them that we need not fear. We must believe and hope in God. There is a hand that is invisible that is protecting us even from death.

"After I had baptized the fourteen candidates and we were getting ready to come out of the water, a man came down into the water. In his right hand he was holding a dagger and in his left a bottle of strong drink. He was shouting fiercely

as he came toward us. 'I want to kill this monster. I want to kill this evil man,' he shouted, and waved his dagger in the air.

"As he neared me a strange thing happened. A big stone fell between me and him, and he fell backward and disappeared into deep water. When he came to the surface he had forgotten all about me, and hurried out of the stream. And so I too walked out of the stream, unhurt. He tried to cause a commotion among the people at the bridge, but they were surprised that a leader of another

church could do such a disgraceful thing.

"We found out that he was the leader of the group that threw stones on the house the previous evening. The reason why he wanted to kill me is that among the fourteen people baptized was his own son and his daughter-in-law. Some people suggested to me to report this man to the authorities, but I answered them that I had presented his case before God and hoped that somehow God will lead him to the truth and finally save him in heaven.

"During the month following this experience I was again invited to perform a baptism in the same village. I baptized twelve souls. One of them was the daughter of the man who tried to kill me at the earlier baptism and who was now present to witness his daughter's



Springfield, Ohio, Church Dedicated

Dedicatory services for the Springfield, Ohio, church were held March 6, 1954. M. E. Loewen, president of the Ohio Conference, preached the dedicatory sermon. The act of dedication and prayer were given by J. O. McLeod, secretary-treasurer of the Ohio Conference.

The Springfield church was organized December 11, 1878, with fifteen charter members. The present building was purchased a number of years ago, but has now been completely modernized and enlarged. A balcony

seating one hundred persons was provided for. This remodeling project was made necessary by the growth of the church. The building now has a seating capacity of more than three hundred. The present membership is 202. Besides the donated time by the members, a total of more than twenty thousand dollars was raised for this project. The Springfield church members rejoice that they now have a more representative church building.

S. K. LEHNHOFF, *Pastor*

baptism. At this time nothing unpleasant took place. Everyone followed the baptismal ceremony quietly. The Lord is good."

Today, as in ages past, Satan is determined to hold his captives, and he stands ready to make war on anyone who attempts to deliver them out of his cruel bondage. And today, as in days of old, God sends forth His angels to minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation.

The ringleader of the mob was furious at the first baptism, when his son and daughter-in-law were baptized; he was calm and quiet at the second baptism, when his daughter was baptized. It will not surprise us to learn that he is one of the candidates in the next baptismal service.

Advent Movement Sweeping Forward

What a satisfaction it is to know that in spite of all the devil's efforts to hinder and destroy the work of God the Advent Movement is sweeping forward with increasing success. All over the world men and women are forsaking the ranks of sin to follow their Lord and Saviour through the watery grave of baptism into the glorious liberty of the gospel. Last year more than eighty thousand new believers were baptized throughout the world field. The Advent Movement is gaining momentum.

Amateur Radio Station General Conference Session

By D. V. Pond

The Voice of Prophecy, in cooperation with the Radio Department of the General Conference, is planning a rather unusual round-the-world service at the coming General Conference session.

A complete amateur radio station, K6DTT, has been fully approved and will be in operation in the Radio Department office on the second floor of the San Francisco Civic Auditorium. Bob Seamount, of the King's Heralds, will be chief operator, assisted by Bob Edwards, also of the quartet.

The station will be operated day and night during the General Conference session; and with the assistance of Seventh-day Adventist radio "hams" in the four quarters of the earth, messages of general interest will be discussed over the air between station K6DTT and these amateur stations. The messages will be sent out on the main amateur bands, and at these times amateurs and nonamateurs alike may enjoy tuning in to monitor the frequencies for news issuing from the General Conference meetings. This will make possible the immediate giving of news items of greatest interest to our people in all parts of the world.

The Heart of an Adventist Nurse

By M. Carol Hetzell

Time magazine of April 5 told the world the story of a child's desperate need and the ready response it found in the heart of an Adventist nurse.

Ronnie Kim, this popular news magazine states, was found by officials of the Seventh-day Adventist Seoul Sanitarium in June of 1950 lying on the bare floor of an abandoned shack. The starving waif was taken to the sanitarium, where kind hands tried to nurse him back to health. Hope for the small boy brightened when a Korean nurse, Grace Kim, adopted him and put on a campaign to bring him health.

But Ronnie failed to respond, and eventually the diagnosis of an orthopedic surgeon seemed to seal his fate—tuberculosis of the spine. Only a very delicate operation could save him.

In spite of the fact that she herself was not very strong healthwise, Grace Kim

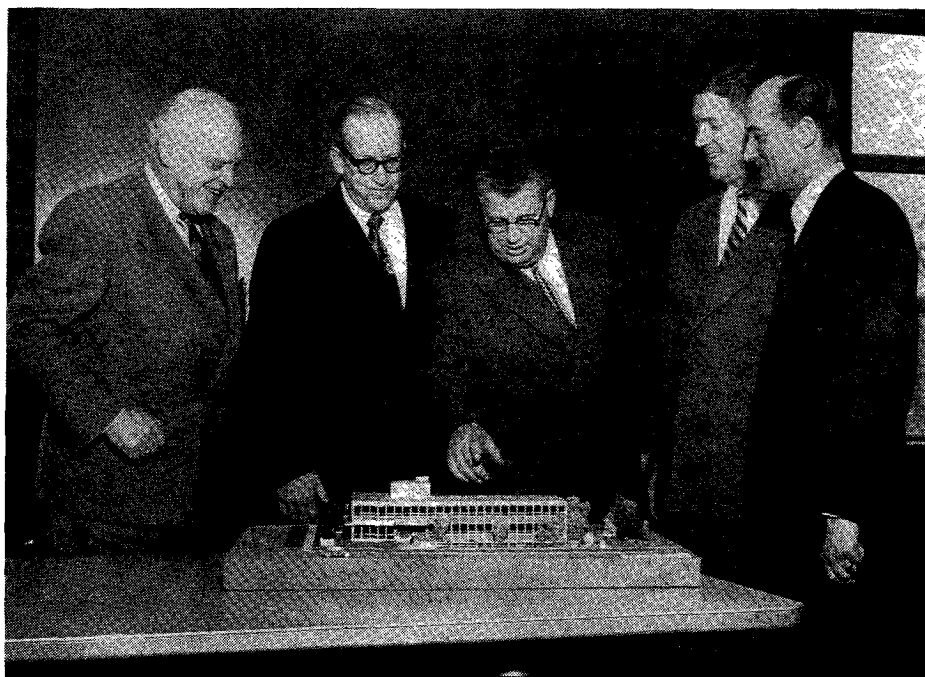
offered bone from her leg to make a bone graft possible. At her instance the doctors consented, and the operation was performed.

"Last week," *Time* reports, "the doctor chipped off a plaster cast that had held Grace Kim prisoner for nearly five months." The little nurse will limp for a time, but it will be with a light heart, for her foster son, though still in a cast, grows stronger every day.

Projector-commissioned Clubs in the Southern Union

By R. H. Wentland

The commissioned laymen throughout the Southern Union and other noncommissioned brethren who own and operate projectors have formed clubs known as the Projector-commissioned Clubs. For the weekend of February 6 the Florida Conference called a limited number of these men and women together at Lees-



New Michigan Conference Building Planned

The first spade of dirt was turned the afternoon of March 9, 1954, in groundbreaking ceremonies for the \$225,000 headquarters office building for the 159 Seventh-day Adventist churches in Michigan.

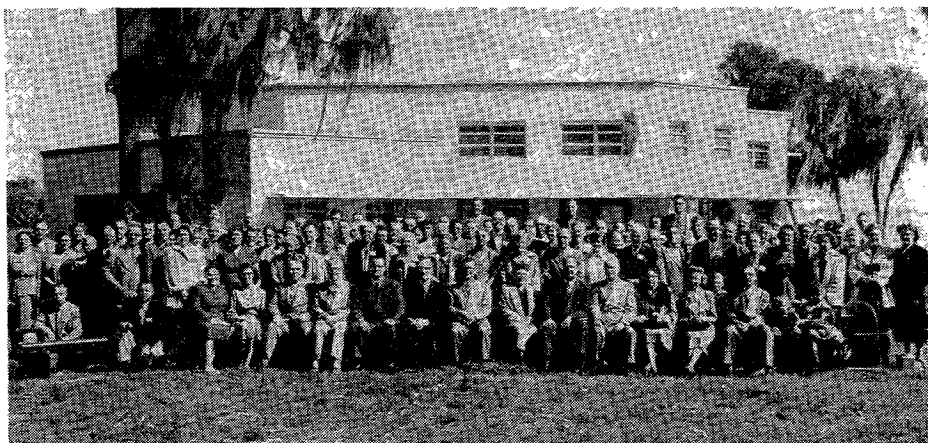
The event, held at the site of the proposed structure, five blocks from the State Capitol building, drew visits from State and city officials, in addition to church leaders of the Lake Union and Michigan conferences. Guests included Governor G. Mennen Williams; Mayor Ralph Crego, Lansing; William Porter, president of the Lansing Chamber of Commerce; and Paul A. Martin, publisher of the *Lansing State Journal*. M. L. Rice and

H. A. Shepard represented the Lake Union Conference. G. E. Hutches, Michigan Conference president, was host for the event.

In addition to the actual ground breaking, ceremonies included brief remarks by Governor Williams and Elder Hutches; musical selections by the Beyond Tomorrow television quartet; and a prayer of invocation by Lawrence Kagels, pastor of the Lansing Seventh-day Adventist church.

In the photograph above Elder Hutches calls the attention of some visitors to a model of the new conference building.

WARREN L. JOHNS
Secretary, Michigan Conference



Members of Florida's active Projector-commissioned Clubs, who gathered recently in Leesburg, Florida, for a laymen's convention.

burg, Florida, for special instruction. T. L. Oswald and C. E. Guenther, of the General Conference, were present and gave valuable help.

We have 893 commissioned laymen in the Southern Union. With few exceptions every one of these dedicated laymen is giving from one to six Bible studies weekly. A total of 13,770 Bible studies were reported from May to December. 63,179 persons attended these studies, resulting in 1,157 new Sabbath school members and 201 baptisms. This represents a report from only about 30 per cent of our commissioned laymen.

We have come to a new day when such a large number of laymen are giving from one to six Bible studies regularly. Pray for these workers who are scattered all over the Southern Union.

Thank You, Sabbath School Members

By F. A. Mote, President
Australasian Division

On behalf of the believers in the Australasian Division let me say a hearty Thank you to every Sabbath school member in the world field who helped to make it possible for our division to have such a large overflow offering for the fourth quarter of 1953. Word has been sent to us from the General Conference Sabbath School Department informing us that the overflow that comes to our division amounted to \$53,738.26. What a blessing this amount of money will be to the mission work in our division field. Already we have received word from several of our European and national missionaries expressing their great joy for the liberal offering that they are to receive.

The overflow offering is to be used to build up our colleges in the Coral Sea and Bismarck-Solomons union missions. Many native young people wait to be trained for service. We have a great work yet before us. Time is short and Jesus is soon to come.

Ministerial Council in West Pakistan

By W. H. McGhee

Approximately fifty workers, including colporteurs, attended an evangelistic council conducted by the West Pakistan Union ministerial department at Lahore, February 23, following the biennial constituency meeting at Chuharkana. The writer, newly elected ministerial department secretary, assisted by Evangelist E. Robert Reynolds, of Karachi, led in a series of discussions and sermons on entering new territory and adapting the gospel to the Moslem mind.

Mrs. A. E. Rawson, of the Voice of Prophecy, gave counsel regarding the Voice of Prophecy work in Pakistan. The entire workers' group pledged to enroll over forty thousand new students in the Voice of Prophecy during 1954. The workers also covenanted before God to win at least three hundred souls during the year.

At the conclusion of the meeting many declared their intention of holding efforts in unentered villages and cities. The workers of the local Punjab Mission have

gone on record to hold two village efforts this spring in unentered villages and two efforts next fall in other villages.

Pray for the work and workers in West Pakistan.

Entering the Army Prepared

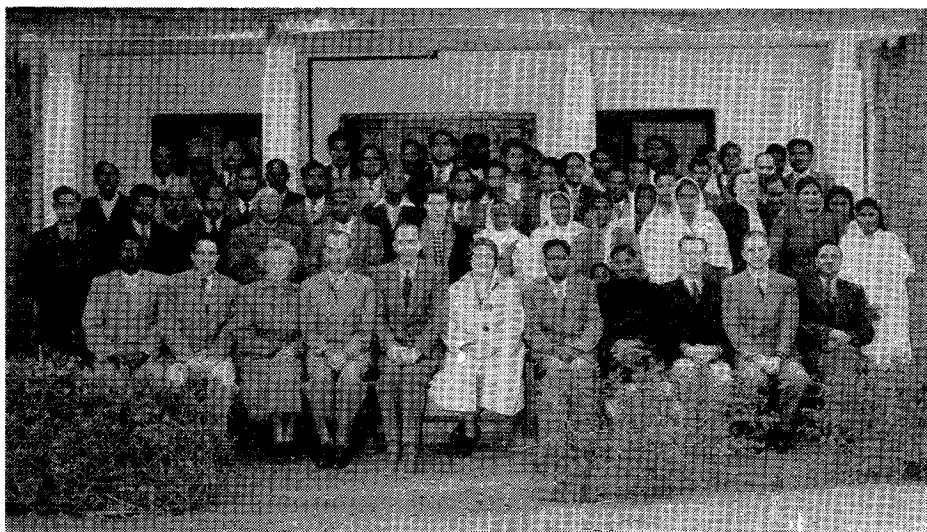
By W. H. Bergherm

In a letter just received from the international service secretary for Inter-America there appeared an interesting report. Certainly Medical Cadet work enjoys a good reputation in the Dominican Republic, and we rejoice with those who have labored so faithfully to merit this favorable position Seventh-day Adventists hold in this section of the field. David Baasch writes as follows:

"Two Adventist boys of the Dominican Republic received the call to go to obligatory military service. At that very same time the MCC camp was to begin, and they had a great desire to go.

"These two boys did not belong to the same church and lived in different parts of the country far from each other. But after having prayed, each one decided to visit the officials in his town and ask permission to postpone induction into the armed services and thus be able to attend the Medical Cadet Corps camp of the Adventists.

"To their great surprise, both young men received the same permission to postpone the induction into the army and go to the camp, because it is well known all through the Dominican Republic that this is a valuable and important camp for youth. The army officers recognize the importance and the necessity of the training given in these camps. Of course these boys will have to go to the army to complete their obligation to their country, but now they will go much better prepared than they would have otherwise."



West Pakistan Union workers who gathered recently at ministerial council in Lahore.

Brief Current News



OVERSEAS

Inter-American Division

● Church membership in the British West Indies Union at the end of 1953 stood at 21,504. All but 690 of these live on the island of Jamaica. A comparison of population figures with church membership figures in Jamaica reveals that there is 1 Seventh-day Adventist for every 69 inhabitants on the island.

● The West Venezuela Mission reports that at the end of December, 1953, the goal of doubling its membership had been reached.

● For every day of 1953 some 28 persons were baptized into church fellowship in the Inter-American Division. The total number of baptisms for the year reached 10,273.

● Many Adventist families that were forced to flee from their homes during the recent persecution in Colombia are now returning to their stripped farms and vacant plots of land. They have returned to their pieces of land with empty hands. The Colombia-Venezuela Union and the Inter-American Division have given these brethren assistance in purchasing a limited quantity of milch cows, oxen with which to plow the land, and wheat seed to plant their crops. When these brethren had to flee they lost virtually all their earthly goods, but they have returned to their former home sites greatly enriched in faith.

NORTH AMERICA

Atlantic Union

● The 20th Century Bible School of the Southern New England Conference has been transferred to the Faith for Today Bible School.

● C. M. Willis, Northeastern Conference publishing department secretary, and his associates—Mrs. Mabel Barber, Mrs. Mary Morrison, and Samuel James—led their colporteur forces in delivering more than \$114,000 worth of books in 1953.

Canadian Union

● On Friday, March 26, G. B. Smith led out in a well-organized Ingathering tag day in St. John, New Brunswick. Amid snow, rain, sleet, and fog more than \$500 was realized as 50 solicitors from Moncton, Riverside, Barnesville, and St. John churches participated.

● D. E. Tinkler reports that 25 new members were added to the Aldergrove and Langley Prairie churches in British Columbia on Sabbath, March 27. These newly baptized members are already sharing their new-found faith in Ingathering, giving Bible studies, and helping others

make decisions for Christ. Another baptism is to follow soon.

● O. J. Ziprick, of Los Angeles, is spending a few weeks holding revival and evangelistic meetings in the Bridgeland church in Calgary, Alberta. Later he will go to Medicine Hat for meetings there. The German believers are greatly appreciating the services of this veteran soul winner.

Central Union

● At present the Kansas laymen are holding 11 meetings with the evangelistic sound films, and have a combined attendance of about 340 each week.

● On Sabbath afternoon, March 27, a child evangelism institute was held in the St. Louis Central church. Mrs. Richard Walden, of Bourbon, Missouri, taught a sample kindergarten Sabbath school class and told Bible stories with visual aids.

● Last October 19 a new convalescent home was opened in Greybull, Wyoming. This is the first such home to open in this State, and is a member of the Association of Self-supporting Institutions of the General Conference.

Columbia Union

● The Eastern States MV Federation of the Allegheny Conference met in Camden, New Jersey, April 3.

● The Ohio Conference led the world in sales of *Life and Health* for the year 1953.

● The Ohio Conference publishing department has announced that colporteurs in that conference reported 22 baptisms in 1953 as a result of their contacts, and enrolled 2,348 persons in the Twentieth Century Bible Course.

● Baptisms in the West Virginia Conference for the first quarter of 1954 were conducted as follows: F. J. Strunk, nine; J. E. Hoffman, seven; T. J. Jenkins, two; H. K. West, four.

● Ground was recently broken for the new Blue Mountain Academy near Hamburg, Pennsylvania, in the East Pennsylvania Conference.

Lake Union

● The first week of the Ingathering campaign in the Lake Union shows a good gain over last year of \$46,524.12, with a per capita of \$8.18. Indiana leads with a per capita of \$10.39.

● As a result of the spearhead meetings that have been conducted in Mattoon, Illinois, by E. D. Nelson, R. W. Link, and A. J. Anders, 23 persons took their stand for the truth in the Sunday evening service, February 7.

● Under the leadership of L. H. Davis, Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Lake Region Conference, an inspira-

tional youth rally was conducted at Indianapolis, Indiana, Sabbath, April 10. J. H. Hancock, who is the youth leader for the Lake Union, spoke at the morning service.

North Pacific Union

● This year's Ingathering goal for the union totals \$280,000. The first report compiled from the local conferences up to April 3 indicates receipts amounting to \$71,253.53, or 25 per cent of the goal in hand. Everyone is working diligently to complete the campaign by May 1, if possible. On April 5 the members of the Bremerton, Washington, church held a tag day, when little yellow flowers with a singing band leaflet were handed to each donor. Despite rainy weather more than \$400 was raised by 27 Ingatherers.

Pacific Union

● Northern California Conference reports 76 baptized during March and 1 added on profession of faith.

● J. L. Shuler recently preached a series of seven night sermons at the Fresno, California, church on the theme, "The Prophetic Basis for Becoming an Adventist and Remaining an Adventist to the End." As a result of these seven night meetings, 27 persons, about 22 of whom were adults, came forward to present themselves for membership.

Southern Union

● During the month of March, 11,776 names were enrolled in the Southern Union School of Bible Prophecy, besides almost 2,000 that were sent to the Voice of Prophecy. Many of these names were secured at county fairs in Florida.

● On April 4 the fifth annual meeting of the doctors of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference was held at Collegedale, Tennessee. Almost 100 of the medical men and their wives were present.

● Georgia-Cumberland reports 45 individuals baptized for the month of March.

● H. J. Carubba, of the Alabama-Mississippi Conference, reports ten baptized in the Jackson district the first quarter.

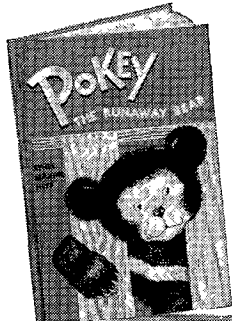
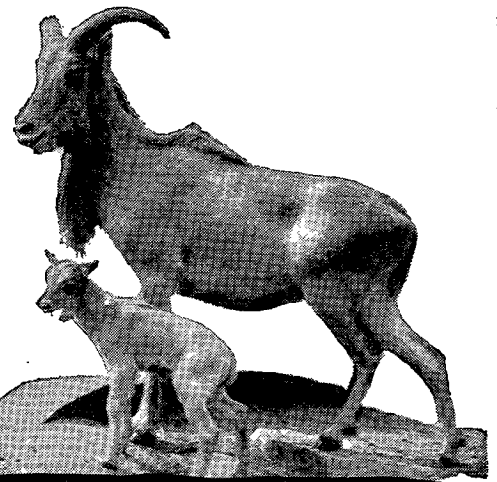
● R. H. Nightingale reports that 124 were baptized in the Florida Conference during the first quarter of this year.

Church Calendar for 1954

May 24-June 5	General Conference Session
June 5	Literature Evangelism
June 19	College of Medical Evangelists Offering
June 26	13th Sabbath Offering (Inter-America)
July 3	Bible Correspondence School
July 10	Midsummer Offering and Service
July 24	Educational Day and Elementary School Off.
Aug. 7	Enlightening Dark Counties
Aug. 28	Riverside Sanitarium Offering
Sept. 4	Colporteur Rally Day
Sept. 11	Missions Extension Day and Offering
Sept. 25	13th Sabbath Offering (Northern Europe)
Oct. 2	Neighborhood Evangelism (Visitation Day)
Oct. 9	Voice of Prophecy Offering
Oct. 16-23	These Times and Message Campaign
Oct. 30	Temperance Day and Offering
Nov. 6	Witnessing Laymen
Nov. 6-27	Review and Herald Campaign
Nov. 13-20	Week of Prayer and Sacrifice
Nov. 20	Week of Sacrifice Offering
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 25	13th Sabbath Offering (Formosa, Hong Kong, and Macao)

Let's Visit the Zoo

Children are always anxious to go to the zoo. Older folks are glad to go, too. Let's accompany them while they visit scores of birds and animals in the more than thousand pages of the following books.

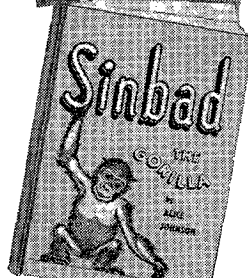


POKEY, THE RUNAWAY BEAR

by Ethel M. Neff

Every child will be interested in the exciting adventures of Pokey, a Himalayan cub bear captured in India and brought to the Fleishhacker Zoo in San Francisco. His escapes cause the keeper of the zoo much anxiety and will give the children much glee.

Price, \$1.50



SINBAD the GORILLA

by Mrs. Alice Johnson

We get to visit more than one zoo on this trip, as we find Sinbad at the Lincoln Park Zoo, in Chicago. This true story of a baby gorilla originated in Africa. All the boys and girls will love his funny antics and peculiar faces.

Price, \$1.50

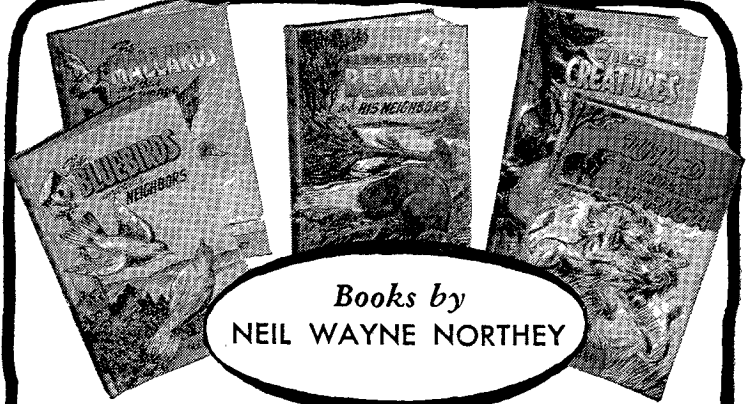


SUSAN AND LITTLE BLACK BOY

by Zetta C. Tate

The last animal to see at the zoo is a pony, named Little Black Boy. His closest companion, Susan, doesn't stay at the zoo, but he would probably like to tell us about the good times they had together on the plains of Nebraska.

Price, \$1.50



Books by NEIL WAYNE NORTHEY

THE BLUEBIRDS and Their NEIGHBORS

The bluebirds come back to the Old Homestead to live during the summer. Many of their feathered and furry neighborhood friends can also be seen when they enter the narrative.

Price, \$2.75

THE MALLARDS and Their NEIGHBORS

It is interesting to watch Lutra the Otter, Trailer the Mink, Billy Coon, Snoop the Weasel, and other furry enemies of the Mallards make their life on the duckpond one of watchful waiting.

Price, \$2.75

PADDLETAIL THE BEAVER and His NEIGHBORS

Paddletail makes his home in the Black Forest near the Old Homestead. He has many neighbors that we won't want to miss, such as Danny Muskrat, Sticker the Porcupine, Lightfoot the Deer, Mephitis the Skunk, and Screecher the Owl.

Price, \$2.75

WILD CREATURES IN WINTER

Winter descends on the zoo while we are there, revealing the secrets of the wild creatures in winter. We will have lots of fun discovering where Growler the Bear lives when the snow is deep, and maybe we can learn how Paddletail the Beaver finds something to eat when his pond is covered with ice.

Price, \$2.75

WILD ANIMALS OF AFRICA

Most of the animals we have seen so far live right here in the wilds of America. No other continent on earth has so many wild animals as has Africa, so we must get acquainted with some of the real personalities in our book zoo of Africa.

Price, \$2.75

ORDER FROM YOUR BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE.

Book and Bible House

Enclosed find \$....., for which please send me the following:

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| ☐ Paddletail the Beaver | 2.75 |
| ☐ Wild Creatures in Winter | 2.75 |
| ☐ Wild Animals of Africa | 2.75 |
| ☐ Pokey, the Runaway Bear | 1.50 |
| ☐ Sinbad the Gorilla | 1.50 |
| ☐ Susan and Little Black Boy | 1.50 |

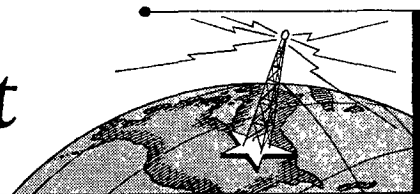
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Prices higher in Canada. Add sales tax where necessary.

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MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA

Items of Special Interest



Nurses to Meet in San Francisco

Seventh-day Adventist nurses will meet for a two-day conference, May 19 and 20, 1954, in a meeting room in Hotel Whitcomb, San Francisco. All Seventh-day Adventist nurses are welcome. This conference will precede the medical departmental meeting which is to be held in San Francisco, May 21 and 23.

D. LOIS BURNETT

Recent Missionary Departures

Mrs. W. T. Collins left Miami, April 1, for Medellin, Colombia, to join her husband, who returned earlier from furlough.

Elder and Mrs. L. C. Shepard, who have spent thirty-four years in Southern Asia, sailed from New York, April 21, on the S.S. *Queen Elizabeth*, returning from furlough to his work in Poona, India.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Schlehuber and their children, LaVerne, Constance, and Shirley Jean, sailed April 28 on the S.S. *Queen Mary*, en route to Africa, returning from furlough. They are to locate in Kenya Colony, East Africa, at the Ranen Mission Station, of which Brother Schlehuber will be the director.

D. E. REBOK

New Fields of Service at CME

The College of Medical Evangelists has been employed for years in the preparation of physicians, nurses, and technicians in various medical specialties. The college is now entering upon new fields of service to the cause. Our budding dental college is now finishing its first year's work, and admissions are being arranged for the second class of dental students to be admitted in the fall of 1954.

One of the newer services rendered by the College of Medical Evangelists is that being done by the School of Tropical and Preventive Medicine. This institution has conducted short courses for our denominational workers in Health and Medical Evangelism each summer for the past three years. This school has also conducted classes in Parasitology and Tropical Hygiene for qualified nurses going to the mission field.

Christian medical missionary endeavor today is being slanted more and more toward public health and health education. We envision that through the School

of Tropical and Preventive Medicine of the College of Medical Evangelists, considerable numbers of our young people with ministerial, educational, or nursing background may be preparing themselves for useful endeavor in this growing field of public health service.

Is it too much to envision that in the not-too-distant future we may see, in addition to the present nurses, dietitians, physicians, dentists, and technicians who are going out from the College of Medical Evangelists, considerable numbers of qualified public health workers imbued with the spirit of medical evangelism, and well trained and prepared to serve the cause?

We have not as yet fully appreciated the significant place to be occupied by the College of Medical Evangelists in the critical days ahead when direct evangelism will be seriously restricted in some parts of the world. T. R. FLAIZ, M.D.

Last Call for General Conference Choir Members

Several hundred singers have already responded to the call for the General Conference massed choir in San Francisco, but there is still room for more. We can take care of 700 singers in the seating arrangement! We have need of *all four voices*, but are particularly in need of more basses and tenors.

The new book, *Choir Melodies*, is now off the press and is being mailed to choir members who have enrolled, together with a detailed letter about the numbers to be used and a special choir ribbon. You should write for the book immediately via *air mail*, and inform us of your desire to participate. Time is short! Address the director, Ben Glanzer, General Conference of S.D.A., Washington 12, D.C.

Servicemen Court-Martialed in Puerto Rico

A few days ago we received a cable from Eloy Acosta, president of the Puerto Rico Mission, informing us that five of their Seventh-day Adventist servicemen in the Puerto Rican Army had been sentenced to six months' confinement and fined \$50 a month for three months. Two of these boys had been sentenced for the first time, three had received sentences for the second time. A sixth was awaiting his first trial. Charges

against all arose from their refusal to do drill work on Sabbath in connection with their basic training. I-AO's from continental U.S. take their basic training at San Antonio, Texas. This is not true of Puerto Ricans.

At our request, the U.S. Army has been preparing a policy that would provide for Puerto Rican Sabbath-keeping servicemen during their basic training. Pending this policy the Department of the Army has notified us today there will be no further prosecution of Adventist servicemen in Puerto Rico. All five servicemen have been released and transferred to other units. WILLIAM H. BERGHERM

Cuban Missionary Volunteers Work for God

In a letter received March 31 from Missionary Volunteer Secretary Valentin Schoen of the Antillian Union we gather the following encouraging report of our youth in Santiago, Cuba:

"During MV Week a short spearhead effort was held by the Missionary Volunteers. Eight meetings were held on consecutive nights. Between four hundred and five hundred attended nightly. All MV's were organized for visitation. Many Bibles were sold. A baptismal class of thirty-six non-Adventist youth was organized." E. W. DUNBAR

Buildings Multiply at North American Academies

During the past four years two new academies have been established in North America, and the following substantial additions to physical plants have been made to those already operating:

- 32 faculty homes
- 17 administration buildings
- 14 vocational arts or shop buildings
- 14 major additions to existing buildings
- 13 auditorium-gymnasiums
- 12 dairy buildings or barns
- 11 girls' dormitories
- 10 boys' dormitories
- 9 grade-school buildings
- 8 garage buildings
- 7 corncribs
- 6 music buildings
- 5 cafeterias or dining halls
- 5 classroom buildings
- 5 industrial factory buildings
- 4 library buildings
- 4 power houses
- 4 science buildings
- 3 store buildings

Even with this unprecedented expansion the total increase in indebtedness is less than \$22,000; while the assets and net worth have each increased by more than \$4,500,000. We are grateful for this fine record. E. E. COSSENTINE