

*The Advent*  
**REVIEW** *and Sabbath*  
**HERALD**  
GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF  
THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS



Three presidents stand together beside the great revolving globe that shows, by different lights, the main denominational centers over the world. Left to right: W. H. Branson, president, 1950-54; R. R. Figuhr, newly elected president; J. L. McElhany, president, 1936-50.

# HIGH LIGHTS of the DAY

Our Reporter's Story for Thursday, June 3

By H. M. TIPPETT

With hands outstretched to the audience C. A. Christoforides repeated the Macedonian call last night in the Greek tongue just as Paul must have heard it in his memorable vision nineteen hundred years ago. The appeal came with the greetings of the churches in the Greek Mission, of which he is president.

And even as Paul, responding to the call, raised up churches in Philippi and Thessalonica, so today churches are springing up to carry the message of the Advent in the very shadow of the ruins of the Acropolis. W. R. Beach, long president of the Southern European Division, compressed the report of his vast area comprising seven union conferences and five union missions into an evening packed with interest for the large audience.

The polyglot nature of the thirty-two languages of this division, which takes in vast mission areas in Africa as well as the sunswept countries of France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, and Slavic Europe, was suggested in the solos and group songs that were interspersed through the program. But whether in Slovakian or French or German or Italian, the songs and addresses had the hope of the Advent Movement in them. As one speaker of the evening said, even as the birds of America sing the same melodies, so Advent believers on both sides of the Atlantic sing the same story of salvation.

The beautiful colored slides that were shown of the European field at the five o'clock hour were an excellent introduction to the messages brought by the dozen or so workers who spoke during the presentation at the night service. They covered regions from the glistening heights of the Matterhorn in the Alps to the steaming jungle of French Equatorial Africa, and from the historic land of Savonarola to the pygmy land of the Cameroons, Lucerne, Tyrol, Sicily, and the hills of Tuscany—what names these are to stimulate the romantic mood. In what contrast they stand to the mood of wonder at such place names as Angola, Mozambique, and Madagascar. These all took new meaning last evening, however, as spot pictures of their people were shown on the screen.

Among the special personages presented in the pictures, the one that perhaps captured the most attention was Teseira, the man who accompanied Stan-

ley on the memorable journey to Africa to find Livingstone.

How it would have cheered the heart of J. N. Andrews, our first foreign missionary, sent to Bern in 1874, if he could have seen the scores of representatives from the Southern European Division file upon the platform last evening. Among them was A. V. Olson, with twenty-six years of service to his credit in that field. There was E. Ferreira, president of the Portuguese Union, once a Catholic priest. There was Dr. J. Nussbaum, stalwart defender of liberty of conscience before high tribunals. And there was Dr. R. B. Parsons, who has been called by the people of the African bush the saint of Angola land.

As in all the missions programs thus far given, gaily colored costumes were accented by the spotlight played upon them. Their brilliant primary colors were har-

## Telegram From President Eisenhower

At the eighteenth meeting of the session held 10:00 A.M., June 3, 1954, at which time civil defense was considered, the following telegram from President Eisenhower was read:

"My warm greetings to all delegates to the World Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists for their valuable contributions in the field of civil defense. I am particularly glad to send congratulations to those delegates from United States. To delegates from foreign lands, I extend best wishes for an enjoyable visit of these shores."

monized with the artistry of ingenious designing.

One after another the leaders of the various areas were called to the microphone, most of them speaking in the language of their own country. Bert Beach, son of the division president, did a creditable job of interpreting their message into English. No geographical, political, or language barrier can hinder the advance of God's truth or sever the

tie of love that binds the Advent believers in a common brotherhood.

L. Beer, president of the Italian Union Mission, said: "During the past year a great storm hit Rome, and a part of the walls of the Vatican fell. Our aim is not that the physical walls may fall but that the wall of spiritual darkness may be overthrown, so that the message may reach forty-eight million Italians." He concluded his remarks by pointing to Hebrews 13:24 in the Interpreter's English Bible, "They of Italy salute you."

The 1950 General Conference sounded the challenge, "Double your membership," as an aim for the four-year period just ending. The Angola Mission was one of the fields that accomplished this objective. M. Lourinho, president of the union, reported more than seven thousand believers in Portuguese West Africa and its affiliated districts. Dr. Roy Parsons, working in the Bongo Hospital, two hundred miles inland from the coast, reported having treated more than twelve thousand patients last year among the nations of the African bush.

Problems arise in this division from which we of America are free—opposition by state churches, conflicts with the police, and age-old superstitions and customs. But the Voice of Hope and the Voice of Prophecy broadcasts are having their influence over there. F. Lavanchy, president of the Franco-Belgian Union, said that a Dominican priest told him that the whole Catholic Church was passing through a revival. He asked, "What are you giving the Catholics so that they will become Adventists?"

After one of our radio broadcasts a Catholic priest preached the second coming of Christ in his church and wrote to the director of our radio correspondence school: "I am still wearing a cassock on my back, but for how long? I must think things over only a little longer before I make my decision." Another priest after seventeen years in Catholic missions in Africa and while on furlough in France found the Advent faith, and will be baptized next month.

That many places are ripe for evangelism was shown in the report of E. Ferreira of the Portuguese Union. He said that they had only 200 baptized members on the Island of St. Thomas, but that 953 persons recently declared themselves Adventists.

Not only in these lands of Old World culture, but also in its mission unions, the light of the gospel is reaching, even to the cannibals of the Cameroons. To see the light of the love of Christ shining on the face of a man who once ate human flesh was a privilege of A. Casendai, president of the French Equatorial African Union.

Evangelism is carried on under heavy restrictions in Spain. A little humor was introduced by D. Sanz of the Spanish Mission, when the president of the field, David Rose, asked him how he publicized his meetings, since handbills were forbidden. He said with a smile, "Well, I

tell the deacons, the deacons tell their wives, and in that way the word is spread." And so the work is onward in Austria, in Yugoslavia, in Romania, in Portuguese East Africa, and in Madagascar out there in the Indian Ocean.

To close the inspiring service Elder Beach called his successor, M. V. Campbell, to the desk to wish him God's blessing in his new responsibility. Then with a hearty handshake he relinquished his leadership after twenty-eight years of service. He was elected at this session to be secretary of the General Conference.

This morning a large audience was in attendance in the arena for the devotional hour at which L. K. Dickson was the speaker. His earnest appeal for a definite preparation to meet the urgent demands upon the faith and fortitude of every believer in the final conflict drawing so ominously near was impressed upon the audience by several pointed quotations from *Testimonies to the Church*. One of these of special emphasis was to the effect that "nearly all who profess to believe present truth are unprepared to understand the work of preparation for this time."—Volume 1, p. 466.

Wesley Amundsen, secretary of the Association of Self-supporting Institutions, presented a remarkable story of soul-winning results of the small hospitals and nursing homes and schools conducted as self-supporting enterprises by consecrated physicians, nurses, and educators. Notable conversions of liquor dealers, drug addicts, and hardened criminals were reported. Rural living and small-scale farming as a possible missionary opportunity for city-dwelling members of the church were given impetus by the report of 122 baptisms in 1953 by these small centers of influence throughout the country.

Later in the morning meeting, pictures of various Central American countries were projected on the screen by the Inter-American Division, with L. F. Bohner, treasurer of the division, as narrator. A land of earthquakes and volcanoes and rugged scenery, of fertile valleys and fruitful plains, of old churches and ruined fortifications, these countries present studies in contrast. Not only are their customs and ways of life in sharp variance with our own, but within their own territory modern transportation and convenience vie with the ancient oxcart, the wooden plow, and the adobe house. The superstitions of the people are a strange mixture of ancient culture and the teachings of the Catholic Church. To show how confused the people of these countries are in regard to religion, a slide was shown depicting natives paying their respects and offerings to devil priests in the market, and then going to the church to worship as their fathers were taught to do by the early Catholic missionaries.

Although more than thirteen hundred Adventist churches are reported in this division, about six hundred of them are only grass-covered booths that shelter the worshipers from the sun and the rain. One such rude hut was shown on the screen. Brother Bohner suggested how great the need becomes when we remember that if fifty churches are built, while

eighty-five are being organized, it leaves thirty-five of them without adequate housing! Yet there is progress, for schools and quarters for our missionaries are multiplying, and even in backward Haiti there are eleven thousand baptized believers.

That the Advent cause is truly a movement in which men and women are called from places of responsibility to fill the peculiar needs that are constantly arising was shown in a partial report of the Committee on Distribution of Labor. Workers were moved from Australia to Ethiopia, from Carolina to the Congo, and from the Columbia River country to the Nile.

One of the unusual actions of the business session this morning was a resolution passed calling upon church officers to promote the erection of luminous signs on highway approaches to our cities, publicizing the location of our churches and the time of services. This recommendation was in harmony with the evangelism goal set for the world field during the four-year period from January 1, 1954, to December 31, 1957. It calls for a major emphasis on soulsaving on the part of both the ministry and the laity in all the world. It was strongly emphasized, however, that, following the ideal of the early church, only those should be counted as accessions who were soundly converted and thoroughly indoctrinated.

The audience rose in respect to Civil Defense officials who were introduced by Carlyle B. Haynes, secretary of the General Conference Department of War Services and Industrial Relations. Rear

## Final Report of the Nominating Committee

At the nineteenth meeting of the session held 3:00 P.M., June 3, 1954, the Nominating Committee submitted their final report, which was duly voted:

### Division Appointments

In harmony with the request of the Southern Asia Division delegates, and in full accordance with those directly concerned, it was

**Voted, To recommend the release of A. E. Rawson from the secretaryship of the Ministerial Association of the Southern Asia Division.**

### Southern Asia Division

#### Departmental Secretaries

Radio and Bible Correspondence School, A. E. Rawson.

Ministerial Association and Missionary Volunteer, J. F. Ashlock.

### Far Eastern Division

#### Departmental Secretaries

Medical, C. E. Randolph, M.D.

Religious Liberty, C. P. Sorensen.

Publishing Department, C. L. Finney.

**Voted, To refer all remaining unfilled positions to the General Conference Committee for appropriate action.**

Admiral A. G. Cook, U.S.N. (retired), director of Disaster Council and Corps of the San Francisco area, spoke briefly of the aims of the civil defense work of the government. He commended the outstanding work of the Tacoma, Washington, church for their civil defense activities, and particularly the Disaster Kit designed by D. S. Osgood of the Washington Conference. It consists of a three-gallon pail plainly marked and filled with bandages, splints, antiseptic ointments, and other material vital for first aid in times of disaster. When all of the audience were asked to stand who had taken medical aid, first aid, or home nursing courses, more than 75 per cent of the people stood. Harry Stoops, regional director of the Disaster Council and Corps in this area, also spoke briefly of the aims of the Civil Defense organization.

When Elder Haynes read the telegram from Val Peterson, national civil defense administrator of Washington, D.C., and later from Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States, the audience rose and applauded as a mark of their appreciation.

The moving pictures of missions shown at this great meeting have been remarkable. One was presented after lunch hour today, bringing the peoples and barbaric customs of the disease-shattered natives of South Africa vividly to our attention. To wean them away from their fantastic rituals, their ceremonial dances, and their terrible superstitions is the first work of the gospel. They must be taught, like children, how to clothe themselves, how to eat, how to read and write, and something of simple treatments for illnesses. When more advanced, they even learn to run presses and manage the more complicated problems of our Western civilization. The end result of such training was graphically portrayed by the procession of graduates in white cap and gown at one of our advanced mission schools.

The music of this 1954 conference has contributed to the enjoyment and inspiration of the meetings. Last evening Del Delker and the Emmanuel Missionary College quartet sang "My Shepherd." Dr. George Wargo, of Washington Missionary College Music Department, played a beautiful viola number, and the Newbury Park Academy Chorus, under Margaret Moran Baldwin, sang "Oh Be Joyful in the Lord," and "This Is My Father's House." At this morning's devotional a string quartet, composed of Dr. George Wargo, Prof. Alfred Walters, Curtis Johnson, and Prof. John Hafner, played "The Lord Is Mindful of His Own." Armen Johnson, radio evangelist of the North Pacific Union, sang at the close of the morning devotional hour.

W. A. Scharffenberg and the temperance secretaries of the International Temperance Association held another enthusiastic rally in the main auditorium, and as this account is being telephoned to Washington, A. L. Bietz, director of the division of religion at the College of Medical Evangelists, is addressing a vital message on the problems in the home to a special five o'clock meeting in the arena.

# The Hope of the Resurrection

DEVOTIONAL STUDY, JUNE 2, 1954, 8:30 A.M.

By W. G. C. MURDOCH

"Thus saith the Lord; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy. And there is hope in thine end, saith the Lord, that thy children shall come again to their own border" (Jer. 31:16, 17).

Hope—what a wealth of meaning in a single word! To mortals toiling in this world of perplexity, sorrow, and death, how important to have the anchor (Heb. 6:18) of hope to steady our bark, threatened as it is on every hand with destruction amid the rocks and shoals of sin and sorrow.

Hope dispels darkness and drives away discouragement. It is the great solace for life's sorrows. It is our consolation in bereavement. This hope robs death of its terror and the grave of its gloom.

The world's greatest philosophers have ever been in doubt and uncertainty about the ultimate end of life. On approaching the great abyss, each in turn has admitted that he has no knowledge of what is beyond. Listen to the despairing wail of a man who is considered to be one of the greatest philosophers, but who has rejected the Christian hope for the despair of evolution:

"Brief and powerless is man's life; on him and all his race the slow, sure doom falls pitiless and dark. . . . The life of man is a long march through the night, surrounded by invisible foes, tortured by weariness and pain, towards a goal that few can hope to reach, and where none may tarry long. One by one, as they march, our comrades vanish from our sight, seized by the silent orders of omnipotent Death."—BERTRAND RUSSELL, *Mysticism and Logic*, p. 56.

In striking contrast, the Christian looks forward with confidence to a joyous future. His faith pierces beyond the darkness of the tomb to the glorious land of light beyond.

The hope of all the ages is centered in the second coming of Christ and the resurrection of the righteous. At that time those who have been laid to rest and have left us lonely here will respond to the call of the Life-giver and, together with us, will join our Saviour in the clouds.

## The Disaster of Death

Our loving heavenly Father, in the beginning of this fair earth, planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He placed our first parents, Adam and Eve (Gen. 2:8). Their spirits were buoyant with the vigor of innocent youth, and all their surroundings were such as to bring continual pleasure and perfect peace to their souls. The beauty all around them was beyond description.

But alas, there came a day of bitter woe. They chose to disobey God and to

follow the suggestions of the great adversary of all good. Sin entered this world, and the dire consequence of death fell upon all the human race. Thus, down through the centuries, for well-nigh six thousand years, the world has been saddened by the knell of death.

The devil succeeded in causing man to fall by the subtle suggestion that was calculated to minimize the dreadful consequences of sin. As the messenger of the Lord comments: "The tempter intimated that the divine warning was not to be actually fulfilled: it was designed merely to intimidate them."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 54. "And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die" (Gen. 3:4). "After the fall, Satan bade his angels make a special effort to inculcate the belief in man's natural immortality."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 534.

This delusion has persisted in the almost universal doctrine of the never-dying soul. Such a teaching, however, is clearly un-Scriptural and is a delusive error of the arch-enemy. It is believed by millions today. They hold to the first great lie and teach that "at death life begins."

"True," say they, "the body may die, but the soul as a separate entity continues to live on in some other realm."

## The Night of Weeping

We are living in a world continually darkened by death. There are no homes that sooner or later this enemy does not invade and take away some loved one, leaving hearts broken and spirits sad. Truly, the valley of death is dark, even for the Christian. But how utterly hopeless it must be for the unbeliever!

The Master Himself, having taken our sin upon Him, entered the portals of death on that memorable Friday nearly two thousand years ago, and He was laid to rest in Joseph's new tomb. God knows what it is to be bereaved. He had the awful experience of looking on the lifeless form of His only-begotten Son, He who died not for His own sins but voluntarily offered Himself for your sins and mine. Jesus knows what death is. He who wept at the grave of Lazarus stands beside every mourner's bier today.

"Though He was the Son of God, yet He had taken human nature upon Him, and He was moved by human sorrow. His tender, pitying heart is ever awakened to sympathy by suffering. He weeps with those that weep. . . .

"But it was not only because of His human sympathy with Mary and Martha that Jesus wept. In His tears there was a sorrow as high above human sorrow as the heavens are higher than the earth. . . .

"The weight of the grief of ages was upon Him. . . . The woes of the sinful race were heavy upon His soul, and the fountain of His tears was broken up as

He longed to relieve all their distress."—*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 533, 534.

"And every pang that rends the heart,  
The Man of Sorrows has a part,  
He sympathizes with our grief  
And to the sufferer sends relief."

"Christ represents death as a sleep to His believing children. Their life is hid with Christ in God, and until the last trumpet shall sound, those who die will sleep in Him."—*Ibid.*, p. 527.

## Death a Sleep

What a comforting thought is this! Our loved ones are not in heaven, where their enjoyment of that land of glory and delight would be marred as they behold the miseries of earth; nor are they, as some suppose, in a place of eternal torment, where through unending ages they suffer excruciating pain. Oh, no!

"Asleep in Jesus! blessed sleep,  
From which none ever wake to weep."

They are waiting for the dawning of the day, when the shadows will flee away, when they will obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing will be no more. The waiting period may be a year or a millennium; to the sleeping ones, it will be but a night. Their last conscious moment upon earth will be followed immediately by the resurrection morning, when they will behold Jesus coming in the clouds, in power and great glory, to take them to their blessed home. The martyr who in his last moment of consciousness felt the flames leaping round his suffering body, will rise to look upon the benign face of the angel beckoning him to come and meet his blessed Lord.

The writer of the book of Hebrews, speaking of those mighty heroes of faith, declares that they have not yet received their reward, but will obtain it at the same time as we: "These all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect" (Heb. 11:39, 40). It is evident that the righteous dead are not now in heaven, but are resting in their graves awaiting the glorious day of the resurrection.

## Christ's Crowning Miracle

Have you ever wondered why Jesus allowed His dear friend Lazarus to die? Even after He received the news of his sickness, He still tarried two days before going to the beloved home in Bethany (John 11:16). Although not there in person, Jesus beheld all that was taking place, and inspiration tells us that the bereaved Martha and Mary were being upheld by His grace.

"Jesus witnessed the sorrow of their rent hearts, as their brother wrestled with his strong foe, death. He felt every pang of anguish, as He said to His disciples, 'Lazarus is dead.' But Christ had not only the loved ones at Bethany to think of; He had the training of His disciples to consider. They were to be His representatives to the world, that the Father's blessing might embrace all. For their sake He permitted Lazarus to die. Had He restored him from illness to health, the miracle that is the most positive evidence of His divine character would not have been performed. . . .



"This crowning miracle, the raising of Lazarus, was to set the seal of God on His work and on His claim to divinity. . .

"The miracle which Christ was about to perform, in raising Lazarus from the dead, would represent the resurrection of all the righteous dead."—*Desire of Ages*, pp. 528-530.

### The Pledge of the Resurrection

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Peter 1:3-5).

"The resurrection and ascension of our Lord is a sure evidence of the triumph of the saints of God over death and the grave, and a pledge that heaven is open to those who wash their robes of character and make them white in the blood of the Lamb."—*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 286.

The life that man lost in the beginning is recoverable as a gift from God, and that gift is made available to man through Christ, "who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" (Rom. 5:17, 18; 2 Tim. 1:10).

The great purpose of Christ's coming down to this earth is stated in the Gospel according to John: "I am come," says Jesus, "that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). The servant of the Lord declares further: "In our Saviour the life that was lost through sin is restored; for He has life in Himself to quicken whom He will. He is invested with the right to give immortality."—*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 786, 787. "And only through Christ can immortality be obtained."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 533.

The gates of death will swing back at His command, as Christ Himself declared: "I am Alpha and Omega. . . I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death" (Rev. 1:11, 18).

I stood in old Jerusalem, in the garden tomb, not so long ago, and as I was gazing at the place where the Master is supposed to have rested over the Sabbath until the first day of the week, my eyes caught sight of the two Greek letters upon the wall, Alpha and Omega. Immediately my mind went to the text I have just quoted. Christ has the keys. He can open the tomb.

If Christ be not raised, then the dead rise not and we are yet in our sins. But, thank God, He is not now in Joseph's new tomb. We worship a risen Saviour. Not only did He Himself come forth from the tomb, but all who believe on His resurrecting power, though dead, yet shall they live.

Without the resurrection of Christ, there would be no value in worship, no object of faith, no source of salvation. Preaching would be of no avail and all men would be yet in their sins (1 Cor. 15:13-22). The resurrection changed the

## Reverence

By FRED COCHRAN

I sat in church one Sabbath day,  
The members talked so loud  
And showed as little reverence  
As any worldly crowd.

Again I sat in that same church,  
But all was quiet now,  
For in a casket up in front  
Lay one with pallid brow.

And then I thought how strange it is  
That we so oft accord  
More reverence to a man that's dead  
Than to our living Lord.

If we could see with mortal eye  
Bright angels there each day,  
Our words would cease; then all could hear  
What Jesus had to say.

It has been said that "fools rush in  
Where angels fear to tread;"  
We say we come to worship God,  
But visit friends instead.

Oh, why not show more reverence  
In this, God's house of prayer,  
And try to act as Christians should  
When we assemble there?

cross from tragedy to triumph. Satan was defeated, and the ultimate success of the plan of salvation was assured (1 Peter 1:18-21; Rom. 6:3-8).

Those who came from the tomb at Christ's resurrection ascended with Him to heaven as trophies of His victory over death and the grave. No longer were they captives of Satan. Their bands had been loosed by the great Deliverer, and now they become the first fruits of all those sleeping. They are the pledge, the earnest of all who will follow. Christ ascended with them as a conqueror and presented them to His Father as trophies of His conquest.

Today we have faith not only in a Christ who lived but in a Christ who ever liveth to make intercession for us (Heb. 7:25).

### The Morning of the Resurrection

What good news we have to take to the world! What glad tidings! What unspeakable joy! "The golden morning is fast approaching; Jesus soon will come." "The mossy old graves where the pilgrims sleep

Shall be open as wide as before,  
And the millions that sleep in the mighty deep  
Shall live on this earth once more."

We said "Good night" to our loved ones here, but it will be "Good morning" over there. We can say with the psalmist, "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."

Here is hope for all. Soon families will be reunited, nevermore to part. Soon those aged ones whom we have laid away, their bodies having been racked with pain, will be restored to us again, not as we last saw them, but now clad in the youthful garb of glorious immortality.

"As Jesus arose from the dead, so those who sleep in Him are to rise again. We shall know our friends, even as the dis-

ciples knew Jesus. They may have been deformed, diseased, or disfigured, in this mortal life, and they rise in perfect health and symmetry; yet in the glorified body their identity will be perfectly preserved. Then shall we know even as also we are known. In the face radiant with the light shining from the face of Jesus, we shall recognize the lineaments of those we love."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 804.

Very soon those little ones who were taken from our midst, leaving such deep scars upon our hearts, will be carried back to us, borne on angels' wings. Those fair flowers who seemed so ruthlessly plucked from our gardens will be raised in the full bloom and fragrance of never-ending life.

### The Hope of the Ages

It was the hope of the resurrection that comforted Adam and Eve as they looked upon their dead son, who had been so cruelly murdered by his brother.

This same hope was reiterated by the patriarch Job when expressing his confidence in the resurrection. "For," said he, "I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me" (Job 19:25-27).

David also sang of that blessed day, "As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness" (Ps. 17:15). We, with the psalmist, will be abundantly satisfied with our future reward.

Isaiah calls on all who must sleep in death to join in the great chorus of deliverance from the tomb, "Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead" (Isa. 26:19).

Ezekiel looked forward to the time when the graves would be opened and the redeemed of the Lord would come forth (Eze. 37:13), while through the prophet Hosea God foretold the final end of death and portrayed the righteous being ransomed "from the power of the grave" (Hosea 13:14).

When with broken hearts we tenderly commit our dearest on earth to the grave and hear the sad words "Dust to dust" pronounced over their last resting place, we can look up with assurance through the mist of our tears to the One who declared by the prophet Daniel that those righteous dead who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake to everlasting life (Daniel 12:2).

While our study is concerned primarily with the hope of the first resurrection, we ought to keep in mind that there is also a second resurrection, when the wicked of all the ages will be raised, not to immortality, but to the second death.

The apostle Paul, speaking of the first resurrection, refers to those who were raised as coming "from among" the dead, thus indicating that the "rest of the dead" would be raised later to appear before the judgment bar of God. The revelator brings clearly to view that it is only the blessed and holy who have a part in the

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# Radio and Television Department

By ELMER WALDE, *Secretary*

Proclaiming the gospel is a global urgent operation, as indicated by the words of Jesus, "This gospel . . . shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations." The urgency of the task is indicated by the rest of the verse—"and then shall the end come." To help in the accomplishment of this gigantic task has come two modern miracles—radio and television. Radio recognizes no barriers. It goes everywhere. It cannot be shut out by iron curtain, bamboo curtain, prison walls, territorial boundaries. It knows no discrimination against race, religion, or creed. No matter how hard evil forces may try, they cannot control the air waves. Radio wings the gospel message over all barriers.

We cannot by graphs or charts or slide rule, measure the impact of Adventist radio on the hearts and lives of listeners. Churches and companies are being raised up in many parts of the world where no worker has ever gone. For twelve years the Voice of Prophecy coast-to-coast broadcast has been declaring the good news of the gospel. In 1942 it began on 85 stations, and now its messages go out each week over 800 stations in 19 languages.

In North America the program is heard on 512 stations. H. M. S. Richards, speaker of the Voice of Prophecy program; I. E. Gillis, manager; the members of the quartet, together with the other 115 employees, work untiringly to keep up with the demands of this growing work. An average of 11,000 letters come each week to Box 55. One letter in four contains a gift, averaging \$1.20, to support the program. During the last six months 100,000 listeners have written in. Up to date 150,000 students have graduated from the Bible school.

## Bible Correspondence School

Hand in hand with the radio broadcast goes the Bible correspondence school, strengthening the spoken message with a personal study of the Bible, where the Holy Spirit is teacher. Around the world there are 107 Voice of Prophecy Bible correspondence schools, conducted in 54 languages, with an enrollment of 1,766,768 students.

## Australasian Division

The Australasian Division celebrated its tenth anniversary of network broadcasting in November, 1953. It started on a network of 24 stations, and now 62 stations, including Fiji, Radio Tahiti, and New Caledonia, are sending out the third angel's message to every corner of this far-flung field. N. C. Naden, speaker of the Voice of Prophecy program in Australia, says of their beginning, "It was truly a venture in faith." During the years it has been encouraging to note the gradual breaking down of prejudice on the part of radio stations. On the occasion of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of broadcasting, many letters were re-

ceived from station managers expressing appreciation for the high standard of the program and stating that it has given a new approach to the religious angle that has proved effective.

The impact of the radio on the work in Australia is summed up by one of the division officials: "The Voice of Prophecy prepares the path for evangelism by breaking down prejudice, creating good will, and stimulating interest. The results are seen in every branch of our work."



Elmer Walde

The Australasian Division has made a special project of following up the Voice of Prophecy interests. Several ministers devote their entire time to this phase of the work, and this has proved to be a most fruitful operation. It is heartening to note that nearly three times as many Voice of Prophecy interests were baptized in 1953 as in 1950, or 1,265 reported souls won through the radio arm of the message during the last four years.

Along with the broadcasts the division conducts Bible correspondence schools. Since the last General Conference session, Bible lessons have been translated into three new languages—Fijian, Samoan, and Tongan. In 1953, 15,545 requested the course, and 1,045 graduated.

## Far East

In the Far Eastern Division the Voice of Prophecy programs are broadcast over twelve stations, seven of these in Japan. The Bible schools are conducted in eleven languages. Up to the end of December, 1953, around 35,000 had graduated.

## Inter-America

The first Seventh-day Adventist broadcast on foreign soil was in the Inter-Amer-

ican Division in 1942. Since that historic day in October, the number of stations carrying the Spanish Voice of Prophecy program has increased to forty-four. In Mexico, where religious broadcasting is not permitted, the Home and Health program is broadcast on fifty outlets, making ninety-four stations in all throughout the division. Lloyd Reile, radio secretary for the division, writes: "The radio work is definitely winning souls in our division."

Along with the radio work twenty-five Bible schools are operated—English, French, Spanish, and Papiamentto. In the last three years more than 1,000,000 test papers have been corrected in these Bible schools and 31,583 have graduated. Follow-up of the Bible school interests is proving very fruitful. Twelve days spent in four towns where there were no baptized members but Bible school interests resulted in three Sabbath schools being organized, a number of people baptized, with others preparing for baptism.

## Middle East

Throughout the Middle East Division territory a great stir has been caused as the result of the thousands of Voice of Prophecy lessons that are sent out from the four Bible correspondence schools operating in six languages—English, Armenian, Arabic, French, Farsi, Greek. From the most obscure villages word comes that the Voice of Prophecy message has been heard. It has penetrated through walls of opposition and has reached homes and communities that would otherwise be impossible to touch with the Advent message. One of the division officials says that thus far the Voice of Prophecy Bible School is the most successful endeavor in that division.

In the well-equipped radio studio two radio programs are produced, Arabic and Farsi. Since no commercial broadcasting is allowed in these countries, the programs are aired over the powerful station of Radio Ceylon. A new Bible school has just opened on the island of Cyprus, operating in the Greek language. At present there are over ten thousand active students in the different Bible schools.

## South America

During the last four years the radio work in the South American Division has been carried on with enthusiasm and initiative by union radio secretaries. The programs are now being broadcast over seventy-three stations, an increase of thirty-three stations in one year. Our people believe in the program and are willing to support it. One conference president says that of the thirteen stations carrying the Voice of Prophecy in his territory, time on twelve is paid for by our members.

The Bible correspondence school work is being carried on from three centers. These schools have done excellent work in helping to make the radio effective in definite results in soul winning. At the end of 1953 there were 21,000 active students.

W. E. Murray writes: "We thank the Lord that we are once more allowed to broadcast the message in the great country of Argentina. Late in February of this year a group of workers were received by

President Peron in the government palace. During the interview the matter of our going on the air again with the Voice of Prophecy programs was brought up. President Peron received the request sympathetically and immediately set about to help. As a result, the Voice of Prophecy went on the air over Radio Excelsior in Buenos Aires on March 7, 1954."

#### South Africa

We are happy to report that South Africa is no longer a division without a radio broadcast, for beginning with January of 1954 the Voice of Prophecy program in English is being carried by Radio Lourenço Marques. This division fosters a very flourishing Bible correspondence school work under the direction of W. R. Vail. The school offers courses in seven languages—English, German, French, Afrikaans, Sesuto, Xhosa, and Zulu. Just recently two new Bible schools have been opened, one in Nyasaland and the other in East Africa for the Kikuyus—the tribe of the Mau Mau. Here again the Bible school proves to be wings over barriers, for in this way the brethren in East Africa are trying to reach a class of people that cannot be reached by conventional evangelistic methods. The workers report that this past year has been the best in the history of the Voice of Prophecy. The number of students baptized this year was double that of the preceding year, and in the Union of South Africa they constituted one in seven of the total baptisms.

#### Southern Asia

Radio and the Bible schools play a very telling part in the preaching of the gospel in Southern Asia Division. Each week from Radio Ceylon—heard in practically every country of the world—go six releases of the English Voice of Prophecy program, and in addition Voice of Prophecy broadcasts in Tamil and Hindustani have recently been added.

Radio secretary A. E. Rawson has recently added two new programs carried by Radio Ceylon—Your Radio Doctor, produced by Dr. Clifford Anderson; and Your Story Hour, produced by a group of laymen in Berrien Springs, Michigan, programs originating in North America but also released in several divisions.

At present the division operates one English school, which covers the whole division, and eight vernacular branch schools—Burmese, Chinese, Tamil, Hindi, Urdu, Singhalese, Malayalam. A new Bible correspondence course in story form for young people from sixteen to twenty has just been completed. Two more languages have been added to the branch school in Rangoon—Burmese and Chinese.

#### Central, Northern, and Southern European Divisions

Strong radio and Bible correspondence school work is fostered by the European divisions. In Southern European Division the radio work is under the direction of M. Fridlin, and at the last General Conference session radio programs in this division were broadcast over twelve stations. At the end of 1953 the Advent message was being broadcast over forty-five stations in the different territories of this great

division. The Voice of Prophecy program—usually called the Voice of Hope in this field—is being broadcast in French over eight stations. Then there are religious programs in German, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, Malagasy. The religious liberty program, under the direction of Dr. J. Nussbaum, is heard over two stations. A much-appreciated educational program prepared by Maurice Tieche goes out over twenty-eight stations. The Paris studio also furnishes programs regularly to fields outside the division—New Caledonia, Tahiti, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Haiti, Madagascar. A home and health program is broadcast over Radio Tangier.

One of the latest radio ventures of this division began late December, 1953, with the airing of the Spanish Voice of Prophecy program beamed into Spain from Radio Africa Mahgreb. It has met with most extraordinary results, and hundreds of letters are coming in from all parts of Spain and from Portugal, France, Gibraltar and the northern part of Africa. Many are enrolling in the Bible school.

Nineteen Bible correspondence schools offer courses in eight languages in this division. Since last General Conference 704 (reported) have been baptized through the work of the Bible correspondence courses. At present a new course is being prepared for the Moslems in French Africa.

There is a well-equipped studio in Paris. Southern Europe is the only division that can boast of more than one quartet—French and Italian. The studio last year produced three sets of records, hymns by the different radio quartets, for the public market, and over four thousand records have been sold.

The Northern European Division operates nine Bible schools in seven languages. The programs in English and Dutch are carried by Radio Luxembourg. Unusual success has come to the Bible school in Britain, under the direction of C. R. Bonney, who reports that in the last two

years they have witnessed the doubling of enrollments, graduates, and baptisms over the first half of the quadrennial period. Broadcasts are prepared in the well-equipped radio studio in Stanborough Park, which are aired over Radio Luxembourg.

M. Busch, radio secretary of the Central European Division, produces radio programs that are beamed to this territory from Radio Luxembourg. In connection with the radio work a Bible correspondence school is operated in Germany. During the last four years 1,117 students have graduated and 339 have been baptized. The daily mail is filled with letters in which the Bible students ask for further information concerning Bible truth.

#### Network Television

Television, the most recent miracle medium for mass communication, sends the speaker's voice and picture through closed doors and into the living rooms and hearts of the viewers! Seventh-day Adventists were quick to see the possibilities of gospel telecasting, and became the first denomination to sponsor a network program. Faith for Today telecast was started on a single New York outlet in May, 1950, by W. A. Fagal. The American Broadcasting Company now carries it live on eleven stations, which time is paid for by Seventh-day Adventists, but ninety-three other stations carry it on kinescope as a public service. In addition, one powerful television station in the Midwest carries the program live, on a sustaining basis.

The Faith for Today Bible Correspondence School is an effective adjunct to the telecast. The first telecast brought a response of sixty-six letters, and now the responses run between four and five thousand letters a week, cared for by a staff of forty. Approximately 100,000 individuals have written in, 63,400 of these requested the Bible course. Most cheering of all are reports of souls won.

Radio, rightly used, is a tool in the  
(Continued on page 217)



Pastor W. A. Fagal interviewed on the TV program Penny Edwards (Mrs. Ralph Winters) and her husband, recently converted from the show business in Hollywood. (See story in REVIEW, May 13.)

# The Southern European Division

By W. R. BEACH, *President*

We bring you fraternal greetings from the faithful believers of the Advent fellowship in Southern Europe.

The great circle in which they live embraces more than 260,000,000 people speaking thirty-one basic languages. These people form forty-five political units and profess all the major religious and philosophical systems of earth. The great civilizations, both ancient and modern, have seats of influence here. Such an imposing array of conditions constitutes, as we lay plans to encompass the earth, one of the chief evangelistic challenges facing the Advent Movement.

The field presents two major sections: the European territory—East and West—with its great cities counting one to five million inhabitants. Then, beyond Europe's troubled shores, a great expanse of mission territory: the Portuguese and Spanish islands of the Atlantic and the Gulf of Guinea; French, Spanish and Portuguese West, Equatorial and East Africa, and a spray of islands, including the subcontinent of Madagascar, in the Indian Ocean.

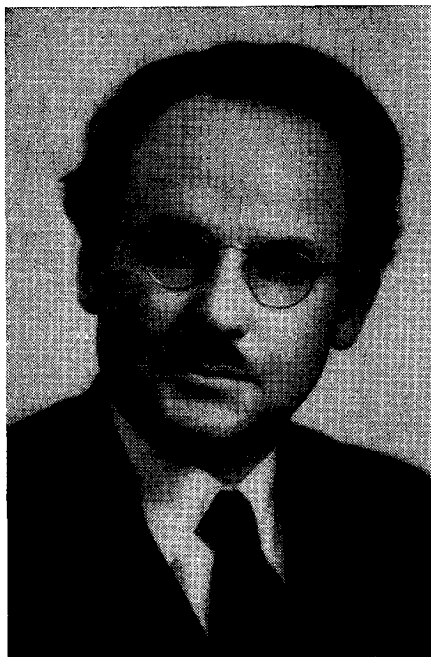
## A New Day in Europe

In these vast areas the forces of the Advent Movement are pressing the battle to the enemy's gates. They are organized into 1,497 churches, 7 union conferences, 5 union missions, and 4 detached missions. On December 31, 1953, 1,545 laborers, in addition to a goodly number of noncredentialed workers in the division's 28 institutions, were leading these forces in what must be considered to be a shining example of devotion and achievement. We humbly recognize the mighty workings of God in their behalf and rejoice that despite obstacles untold the message of good news is bringing tens of thousands into the light of salvation.

Through decades on end—for nearly three quarters of a century in some lands—the barrenness of Southern Europe's fields chilled the hearts of workers. We must not forget that it was to Switzerland, in Southern Europe, that the first overseas messenger, J. N. Andrews, set out in 1874. Since that memorable day hundreds of pioneers—some of the finest men and women this denomination has produced—have labored untiringly against a mighty array of adverse forces. However, a global war with its tragic sequence of hardship and disillusionment wrought a profound change. Incredible as it might sound to the ears of the pioneers, thousands now meet weekly in our European evangelistic centers to listen to the presentation of God's last warning message. Thousands more long for this privilege. Across the Mediterranean light is piercing the encircling gloom of Moslem's night. Africa's fetishists by tens of thousands are casting away their idols. From the cities and countrysides of Europe, from the islands of the seas, from the deserts, savannas, and forest stretches of

Africa, blood-bought souls are marching into the ranks of the Advent Movement.

A few figures for the past quadrennial period will help us to visualize what is taking place. Unfortunately, they must be given as a partial report. I suppose only the pages of eternity will tell the full story. Possibly only then will the leaders of some lands be able to join in the great chorus of praise to God for the exploits of His grace. Nevertheless, the official reports for 1949-1953 show that 32,941 members were added to the church in



W. R. Beach

Southern Europe through baptism and on profession of faith. The church membership stood, on December 31, 1953, at 94,700. This means that the division as a whole, in four years of East-West separation and in the teeth of untold difficulties, made a net gain in baptized membership of nearly 50 per cent. One field, the Angola Union, in its first four years with Southern Europe, did a little better than double its baptized membership.

The total result is only halfway along the road of achievement marked out four years ago so courageously by the president of the General Conference. However, had the division staff continued to have access to all sections of the division field as was the case during the first four postwar years, the denominational objective, I feel confident, would have been reached in Southern Europe despite adverse circumstances without name and number. A very significant indication is that the Sabbath schools of Southern Europe, at the close of four years of inspiring leadership, are fast approaching a total membership of 120,000. This means that during the last quadrennial period our Sabbath school

membership almost doubled the baptized church membership of December 31, 1949. And a large Sabbath school means a large baptismal class.

In order to set a correct pattern for the field, the division budget has been set up to include a large evangelistic fund for the operation of evangelistic teams and to subsidize in a practical way special evangelistic campaigns. The Ministerial Association secretaries lead out, on the division level, in fostering and organizing this activity. These efforts strike at the more formidable citadels and help the local fields to get started.

Typical of this activity was the campaign launched by a French team in Algiers, North Africa, immediately following the last General Conference session. The campaign coincided with the dedication of a large evangelistic center in that capital of French North Africa. More than sixty people were baptized into the Algiers church and interests in near-by towns were developed into groups.

## Soul Winning Object of All Work

It is clear that the measure of success that has attended the work in Southern Europe has been the achievement of all. Through the leadership of the Home Missionary Department a throb of energy and devotion has stirred the hearts of our laymen. In many lands our church activity is, in point of fact, a great laymen's movement. It is both social and spiritual. Seventh-day Adventist solidarity has revealed itself a thing of beauty in helping provide for the needy. But the salvation of souls for eternal life has remained the supreme objective. The reports show for the four-year period 6,844 souls brought to baptism by the work of laymen.

At the same time Ingathering results have approximately doubled in dollars over those of 1949. This despite the fact that Ingathering is either forbidden by law or restricted, in a year, to a few days—at the most three weeks—in all our countries save one. A local field, the Moroccan Mission, set a world record for Ingathering in 1953 by raising an average of forty dollars for each of its 150 members.

A thousand thrilling stories could be told, would space permit, of the labor of love of which our laymen give so pure an example. In an eastern field of the Southern European Division a group of 150 laymen met to lay plans for the future. All had won from five to sixty-two souls the preceding year. There, as elsewhere in Southern Europe, "We Seek Our Brethren," is a motto that causes the message to go forth "as a lamp that burneth" in the spiritual gloom of the present world.

This spirit of evangelism finds unmatched expression in the ministry of the printed page. A sharp increase in literature sales during the four-year period has brought the importance of the printed page to the forefront of denominational activities. True, exceptional economic organization and government regulations have practically eliminated the work of the colporteur evangelists in large areas of Southern Europe. The 600 regular colporteurs that served the printed page in Southern Europe to the eve of World War



II now number only 280. But they count among the finest in the world, and they are piling up records in sales and souls.

One of them worked from house to house in Gmuend, on the Austro-Slovakian frontier. He interested forty people in the truth. Each Tuesday evening twenty-five of these people come together to listen to a lecture on one of our doctrines. A regular Sabbath school was organized. Another, in the eastern area, sold eighteen *Wir und Unsere Kinder* ("We and Our Children") in thirty minutes. Yet another, working in a country farther east, said, weeping, "I have no books to sell, but I am still a colporteur. I go from home to home and give Bible studies. I am winning souls for the kingdom."

We must pay tribute to the work of these men and women of God. One of them, a veteran of mark, was laid to rest during the past four years. He was Colporteur Evangelist Nitelet, of Belgium. In the course of twenty years he brought forty-one persons to baptism.

Another colporteur evangelist, in North Africa, A. Garsia, has won forty souls in his seven years of work. Such is the wonderful story of the ministry of the printed page. All together, these men and women of God have won yearly approximately 250 souls to the message. Year after year they come, their faces aglow, bringing new trophies to the feet of the Master.

The past four years have witnessed considerable expansion on the production end of the publishing department. The publishing house in Italy was one of the early mission extension projects follow-

ing World War I. After twenty years the machinery for a full-fledged print shop was purchased through publishing rehabilitation and has been installed. This plant is now operating with some very fine equipment.

A new publishing house and print shop is now operating in Madagascar. It is on the mission concession, just outside Tananarive. The house has its own electrical production plant and is one of the well-equipped printing establishments in Madagascar. Across Africa, in Angola, a publishing house and print shop are being installed at Nova Lisboa. The equipment purchased in America through publishing rehabilitation is on the ground, and the building program is well on the way to completion.

Nor can we forget the expansion of the French publishing house, near Paris. Considerable new equipment has been installed, and at the present time two thousand square feet of plant space is under construction. A modern three-color press has been received and will be put to work as soon as the new pressroom has been finished.

The Advent Movement has a rich treasure in the youth of Southern Europe. The last figure available for their number is 39,233. The number has practically doubled during the four-year period under survey. During this time 11,809 Missionary Volunteers have been baptized into the Advent faith. Twenty youth camps and congresses have been held. In 1950 the Missionary Volunteer organization made spectacular advance in the heart of Africa. There, approximately three thousand Missionary Volunteers have been regularly organized into societies and are carrying the banner of truth very successfully to villages where the message is yet unknown. The Angola Union deserves special distinction in this chapter, since 733 baptisms in that field have been credited to the youth activities.

The year 1951 deserves special mention in the history of our Missionary Volunteers in Europe because of the first international youth congress, which was held that year in Paris, France. That congress, which I suppose, was the greatest single event in the history of our work in Southern Europe, gave impetus to youth evangelism beyond possibilities of measurement. The young people (about seven thousand) who gath-

ered there went out to the ends of our division with a resolve to do public evangelism as a definite part of the Missionary Volunteer program. A fund was set up in the division and field budgets for youth evangelism. The results have been encouraging, so much so that the plan has been extended and developed constantly.

Each year our Missionary Volunteer Societies have taken a special financial goal for a foreign mission project. They have gathered for this goal more than \$10,000 in four years. This in addition to their regular contribution in Ingathering, which has been estimated at \$100,000.

During the past four years the Missionary Volunteer department has carried the responsibility of our Medical Corps work (Groupes Sanitaires Adventistes). This activity has been one of the great developments of the postwar period. In several lands Medical Cadet courses are organized regularly with the sympathetic approval of military authorities. Our young men are finding their way much easier into conscientious cooperation in discharging their national duties. Approximately two hundred young people yearly have been under instruction.

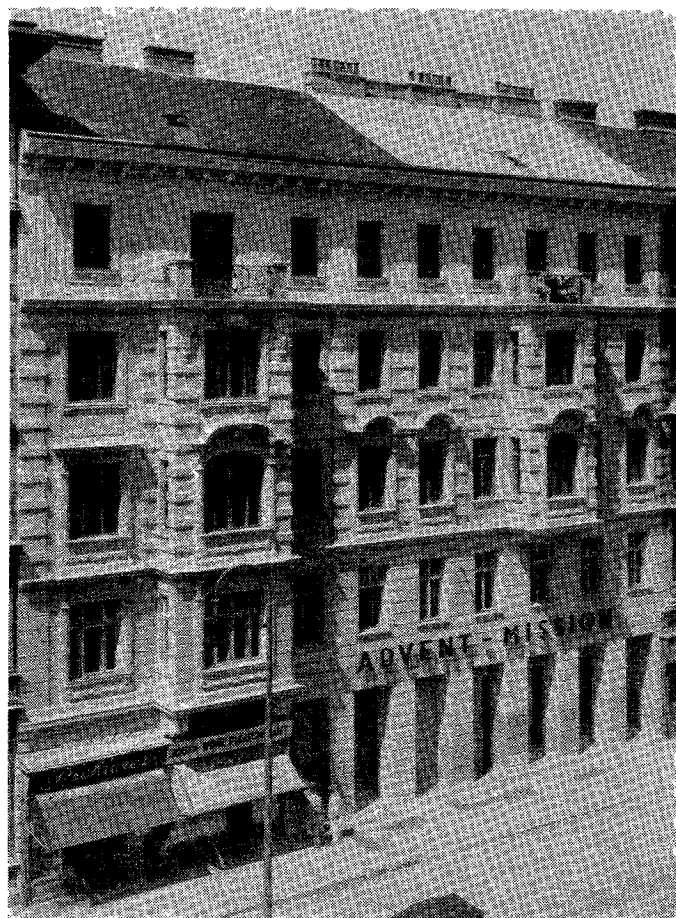
### The Educational Department

The educational department has kept step with Southern Europe's advance in the past four years. Growth and development have come as the department worked faithfully to rebuild and extend educational facilities.

Our division seminary at Collonges-sous-Salève, Haute-Savoie, France, has grown to an average attendance of two hundred. The school has also been accredited with the French Government as a regular college preparing for the Bachelor of Arts degree. The division's second school in size, in Europe, is the Istituto Avventista di Cultura Biblica, on the outskirts of Florence, Italy. This is a property of approximately fifty acres, with some good farmland and suitable buildings. The seminary at Schloss Bogenhofen, Austria, which was established five years ago, has grown into the training center for the German language area of our division. The Madrid secondary school is doing a marvelous work for Spain. The majority of our workers now in this country have been prepared at this little institution.

The last addition to our advanced schools in Europe is the Portuguese training school. For a number of years this school was operated in an old monastery. One day the authorities suddenly closed this institution, basing their action on a law forbidding coeducation. For two long years we were unable to operate anything like a training center. A few months ago, after careful search, we found a beautiful property about twenty-five miles from Lisbon, at Setubal. A nice house, which will serve perfectly as a dormitory, is on the property, which is surrounded by a magnificent orange grove. An administration and classroom building will have to be erected before recognition of this school can be obtained. We have high hopes for the Portuguese training school.

Our schools in the mission fields have been particularly blessed in their constant development. Several new adminis-



The Adventhaus in Vienna, Austria.

tration buildings have been constructed on mission stations in Angola, the Cameroons, Mauritius, and Madagascar. At Soamanandrany, near Tananarive, the Madagascar training school is adding a chapel and a classroom building.

Church school work must cope with great difficulties in Southern Europe because of governmental regulations. However, despite this, three church schools have been added to our small list. One of them, the church school in Berne, Switzerland, is, in our opinion, a model in its field.

A special educational feature we have developed in Southern Europe concerns organized religious instruction for our children in the churches where there is no church school. Thus the children who are obliged to attend public schools are influenced and instructed in the truth by Christian teachers outside of, and along with, their regular school work. A few months ago a Bible textbook of 365 pages was published in French to be used in this general religious instruction as well as in our church and intermediate schools. This textbook will shortly appear in other languages.

A high light in the department of education activities during the past four years was the educational convention held in 1953 at Schloss Bogenhofen, Austria. Forty delegates were in attendance from our advanced schools all over the division. Then, last year a seminary extension course, fostered by the educational department, was held at the French college. Three teachers from the Washington General Conference Seminary gave valuable instruction. Sixty-seven teachers, preachers, editors, and other workers from various parts of the division took this course.

### The Medical Ministry

The right arm of the message made laudable progress. The Lake Geneva Sanitarium, which through long decades was our lone medical light, beams brighter than ever for the healing of soul and body. Right now this institution is in the midst of a remodeling and extension program that will make it a modern institution with approximately one hundred beds.

In Europe and overseas we are witnessing an encouraging extension of our medical program. The Bongo hospital, in Angola, has followed a construction program of no mean importance. A second doctor has now taken up service in this medical unit. During the past four years the institution recorded 1,791 operations. Other medical work was proportionate, as was the activity of the Angola field dispensaries.

In Equatorial Africa construction is beginning on a new hospital at Koza, North Cameroons. The project requires approximately \$80,000. A doctor from the United States and additional medical personnel are now on the ground. The first unit to operate will be a dispensary. The hospital proper will follow as quickly as construction work can go forward. Meanwhile a number of station dispensaries are operating with growing success.

During the four-year period a dispensary began operations at Madrid, Spain, as did a polyclinic at Bordeaux, France.

A similar plan is under development for Lisbon, Portugal.

A very special project of the past years has been the construction and launching of a medical evangelistic boat for service along the inland waterways of East Madagascar. Funds for this enterprise were raised by our Missionary Volunteers.

Beyond this growing institutional activity the medical department cooperates in producing health literature. Medical journals are published in several languages. Then the department fosters and directs what we call the Life and Health Association. This organization is really the medical department in working clothes. It carries to the millions of our lands a program of health education.

### Broadcasting the Message

New brightness and strength have been added to the message as the beams of radio flash out over land and sea. In Southern Europe the message is on the air over forty-five broadcasting stations. We have programs in French, German, Italian, Flemish, Portuguese, and Malagasy. Recently a new program began broadcasting over Radio-Africa-Maghreb, from Tangier. Two of our programs, those over Radio-Madagascar and Radio-Dakar, are without cost for broadcasting time.

At the end of 1953 some 66,000 students had been enrolled in the 19 Bible courses organized in 8 languages of our division. More than 6,000 diplomas were issued at the end of these courses. Among this number, 800 received the rite of baptism. Recently at Tananarive, a ceremony was organized for the granting, at our headquarters, of 80 diplomas to radio students.

Our first convention of radio and correspondence school workers was organized the past year in Paris. Forty-five delegates came together under the direction of our secretary for radio and correspondence school work and a representative from the General Conference department.

Our completely equipped studio in Paris, is the chief center of our radio work activity. Now commercial records of music produced by our radio artists are manufactured and sold to the public. Last year, 4,000 records were sold, and the net profit was a large item in the Paris studio budget.

Our Sabbath schools in Southern Europe are centers of evangelism. They are a fundamental institution in Southern Europe's foreign mission program. It is in the Sabbath school that our members consider from week to week the stupendous task confronting the church.

### Foreign Mission Advance

Mission advance has followed on the heels of increased Sabbath school offerings and Ingathering victories. In Algeria a new venture in evangelism in behalf of the Arab population has started. A workshop and instructional center for girls is operating at Mostaganem. Approximately twenty youthful Arabs are in attendance. A Sabbath school operates in connection with this little institution. A book written for Moslems has been published under the title *Prophets and Believers*. It is being distributed by the colporteurs suc-

cessfully. Sabbath school overflow funds are in hand to launch a mission station for the Moslems. A worker reared and educated through the university in North Africa has been employed in connection with this activity.

Farther afield a mission work has been started in Sénégal, at Dakar. The first Moslem of that vast territory has been baptized. Yet larger interests are developing inland, while in Equatorial Africa a station has been opened in Oubangui-Chari. This new territory is yielding good results. Unhappily, the mission leader there was struck down a few months ago by a fatal accident. Workers of his caliber and experience require years of preparation.

In Angola a new central station is being built at Quilengues, in the southwest. This large territory is being opened up to mission work. Throughout Portuguese West Africa four new mission concessions have been obtained from the government. In Portuguese East Africa properties are now in our hands to start a large station with outlying interests in the central area of Beira. Across the Mozambique Channel, in Madagascar, a completely new area is being developed around the central station of Befandriana. This station was built last year, and magnificent possibilities are before us for work among the Tsimietis.

Needless to say, the buildings and equipment mentioned in this report have cost vast sums of money. Churches and evangelistic centers have been provided in large numbers, both in Europe and overseas. In Yugoslavia alone twenty-four meeting halls were built in four years. In Switzerland nine meeting places were bought or built. In Greece, Athens, Thessalonika, and Piraeus have been provided for. In Spain four cities, including Barcelona, got evangelistic centers, two of which, however, still remain without government authorization to operate. Five new chapels and evangelistic centers were built in Italy. In the Indian Ocean Union thirty-three churches and stations were built at a total cost, there alone, of \$110,000. Austria received the Advent-Haus, in Vienna, a new church in Villach, and this year will occupy the new church and conference headquarters in Salzburg. Square on the equator, Sao Tomé has had a new school and a new church. In all, more than a hundred new centers and institutions have been developed. Southern Europe has done much to help the denomination in achieving this success. The funds provided so generously by the General Conference have, in most cases, been matched by those gathered by the division and the local fields. Many times they have been doubled. This is an achievement a united effort has written in shining letters for eternity.

This aggressive program of work and advance has had the guidance and support of the religious liberty department. In some instances a completely new working basis has had to be set up with governments. In other cases the department has had to find its way through mazes of restriction and state planning. Often it is difficult to find a legal basis for the purchase and possession of church properties.

(Continued on page 255)

# A Morning Hour With the South China Island Union Mission

May 30, 1954, 11 A.M.

W. P. BRADLEY: Up to the year 1903 Seventh-day Adventists had sent no missionaries to the mainland of China, but in that year—fifty-one years ago—Dr. Harry Miller was sent to China. He is with us today, and will lead us in the morning prayer. [Prayer was offered.]

This must be a restricted report, brethren and sisters, because the events of the last few years brought a change of government in China. The former government has fled to the island of Formosa, and the new one is not favorable to the entrance and operation of Christian missions. We are now able to labor in the island of Formosa, in the British crown colony of Hong Kong, and in the Portuguese colony of Macao. Now the program will follow.

JOSEPH WONG: We bring you greetings from the South China Island Union Mission this morning. I want the whole audience to learn in one minute the Chinese characters held by the men beside me on the platform by reading them with me. [Reads the characters. The audience repeats after him.]

Now the literal meaning is, "Christ's second coming, Sabbath day, denomination, South China Island Union Mission." When we put it into English it is "Seventh-day Adventist, South China Island Union Mission." If you follow me, you can learn Chinese characters easily, one syllable to each character. Now everybody repeat what I say. [Reads a phrase at a time in Chinese, with congregation repeating the phrase.] You are certainly good students!

C. H. DAVIS: The characters you just learned give the name of the South China Island Union Mission. Most of our report this morning will be on the work in

the island union. Before we begin that report, however, I wish to bring you greetings from the China mainland, just received. I am not going to say who has sent these greetings. "When you meet our old friends at General Conference time, be sure to give them our regards. Tell them that although we cannot work as we would like, we are endeavoring to do something constructive for the spiritual needs of the church. We are all well."

[See report on p. 177, June 2 Bulletin.]

MILTON LEE: Matthew records that when Jesus "saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd" (Matt. 9:36). I am sure that were Christ to visit the large cities of the South China Island Union today, His compassionate heart would again be deeply moved. Crowded into these cities are a million or more refugees from the mainland of China, homeless and friendless, without hope and without God in the world. Many are from divided families. Parents have escaped to the island territory, leaving children behind. Children have escaped, leaving crippled parents behind.

A wonderful opportunity has opened for the Christian evangelist in this island union today. And we have some zealous evangelists there. Pastor Meng, formerly the secretary of the Ministerial Association of the China Division, is on the Kowloon side of Hong Kong, conducting a continuous program of evangelism in the Mandarin dialect. It is a great experience to stand at the gateway and watch the people file in. I have never seen a better class of Chinese attend any service in China. These are the intelligentsia. Many have high educational degrees. They have learned that gold cannot solve

their problem, and now that they are without material resources, they are coming for a security that is more than the material. They are looking for spiritual security, and the hope that is in Jesus Christ alone.

It doesn't take high-powered advertising methods to attract them. I remember a recent effort we conducted in the city of Taipeh, the capital of Formosa. Our first subject was announced in just four Chinese characters: *Pu yao hai pao* ("Don't Be Afraid"). A thousand people filed into the hall that night!

Our work is not confined to the refugee class. The inhabitants of Hong Kong and Macao are chiefly Cantonese. The natives of Formosa speak the Amoyese dialect. Pastor Chue Tin Ming, to my right here, is the pastor of the Happy Valley church in Hong Kong, and maintains a continuous program of evangelism. Every Sunday morning Chinese, Cantonese, and Mandarin-speaking people attend his meetings. Then there is Pastor Chung on the Kowloon side, in the beautiful Boundary Street church; and there is also a continuous program carried on in the city of Macao. Pastor Lee Tien Che, our able Amoyese evangelist, is conducting meetings on the island of Formosa.

Let me tell you the story of Mr. Ku. He was formerly a Shanghaiese, and at first was very anti-Christian. But his bosom companion was a Christian. One Sunday morning this Christian friend said, "Ku, come with me to a Sunday service." They went to the gospel hall, but what the preacher said, as Mr. Ku confessed later, "went in the east ear and out the west." He couldn't comprehend anything. The pastor shook hands with him and gave him a Chinese New Testament. Mr. Ku took it home. Now I must tell you first that Mr. Ku was an inveterate smoker, but he was a poor man, and could not afford cigarettes, so rolled his own. He began fingering the thin pages of the Testament and thought to himself, "Hmm, pretty good paper for my tobacco." He opened the book to Mat-



An interesting phase in the China program. Joseph Wong conducting a class in Chinese. Read it if you can.

threw, chapter one. He tore that page out, rolled his tobacco, and smoked it away. It didn't take long for Matthew to go up in smoke. He came to the Gospel of Mark and soon that had been smoked away. Then Dr. Luke's Gospel went up in smoke as well. When he got to John, he thought to himself, "Perhaps I had better read a little." So he began reading. [The speaker read, in Chinese, John 1:1:] "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." He couldn't understand about the Word, but he continued to read. He finished the first chapter, rolled his tobacco, and smoked another cigarette. Then he read chapter 2, and soon it was gone likewise. He came to John the third chapter, and as he read that chapter something in the midst of it caused him to stop and think—the sixteenth verse. [The speaker read, in Chinese, John 3:16:] "God so loved the world . . ." Could there be a God who loved? He had thought of deities as beings to be appeased. He had seen his mother go to the temple and knock her head against the ground before an ugly idol, and burn incense before it. Surely that was not a God of love. The Chinese believe in a supreme ruler, but they stand in fear of him. They think that he is waiting to execute a severe sentence in case of disobedience. But here was a God who loved not only Chinese but the entire world, and the thought stopped him from smoking any more. He returned to that pastor and sheepishly said, "Do you have another New Testament?" "Why?" the pastor asked. "What happened to that book I gave you?" He showed him those burned pages and told his story. The pastor gave him another New Testament. Mr. Ku went home and read it from cover to cover. He became a Christian. He evacuated to the Island of Formosa, and during one of our evangelistic campaigns, attended faithfully every night. Today he is a loyal Seventh-day Adventist.

Sometimes the sheep who have heard the voice have wandered away. Today they are coming back on Formosa. Over twenty years ago a man by the name of Mr. Beh attended some of my father's meetings in the city of Nanking. Not many months ago this Mr. Beh attended a few meetings I was conducting in Formosa's southern city of Goashoa. He accepted the message of the remnant church and today is rejoicing in present truth. Our duty as missionaries today is to assist in the training of energetic young nationals to shoulder the responsibilities of pastoring their own flocks. We do not know what the future has in store, but we do know that if we train these young people, the work will go on whether the foreign missionary is there or not.

It is worth while to invest in young men—men who are willing to spend three days in jail for refusal to drill on the Sabbath day. We have such men on Formosa. It is worth while to instruct and train young women, and I think of one who every week suffers terrific abuse from her father-in-law for attending Sabbath services. May God richly bless these young people as they uphold the torch of truth. Pray for them.

During the past few months we have



A delightful song sung in Chinese by Lorna and Beverly Cole, whose parents are missionaries in Formosa.

been preparing recorded programs at the Voice of Prophecy which we hope to broadcast to the South China Island Union Mission. These dear young men [the King's Heralds gather around him] have been helping me in the music. They have been learning Chinese, and I have asked them to present, "I Sing the Mighty Power of God," in the Mandarin dialect. [Voice of Prophecy quartet sings.]

D. E. REBOK: It took some of us two or three years before we could pronounce the language as do those four men!

MRS. THELMA SMITH: Jesus is working in the island of Formosa. Mrs. Djou is one of the many thousands of refugees from the mainland of China. One day she picked up from her doorstep a handbill which said, "So Little Time." She had never attended a Christian meeting, but she wanted to go. She was there the first night, the second, and the third. About that time I noticed her. She was not an attractive woman—very thin, a sad face, hair straight and long and gray. I visited her in her home. As usual I went on a bicycle. I found that she was very interested. She was taking the Bible lessons of the Voice of Prophecy and had finished a number of them. I prayed with her, and she continued to come to the meetings.

But I had noticed on my first visit that she was a tobacco smoker. One night Pastor Milton Lee had a special aftermeeting for those who wanted to get the victory over tobacco. Mrs. Djao stayed. When Elder Lee called for those who were determined to get the victory right away, she held up her hand. I was so happy. The next time I visited her I taught her the little song, "Only believe, all things are possible, only believe." She said, "I will learn it and I will sing it." She did. But it was hard to sing and pray in her small home, because she was living with her stepfather and family, and there was no privacy. So, she told me, she would go outside by the wall where

there was a quiet place. "I bow my head when the urge comes to smoke," she said, and I sing. [Mrs. Smith sang in Chinese, "All things are possible, only believe."] As she told me the story her face lighted up. "When I sing and pray, God gives me the victory," she said. Today she is a faithful Christian.

MISS ABBIE DUNN: [Sings.] This is a sample of the language of Taiwan. None of us foreign missionaries speak it, but more and more of our young people new in the faith can, and are able to work for their people.

Miss Lee, one of our Bible instructors, learned of a woman who less than a year before had possessed a very happy home, with a husband and two children. She was beautiful, but a serpent had come into the home in the form of another beautiful woman, and the once-loving husband had become a demon, determined to oust his wife to make room for the new woman. The first wife did not see any reason for leaving, so he poured boiling water over her head and chest, scalding her horribly. She was so ashamed of her appearance now that she closed the windows. She couldn't eat, and finally her mind was affected. When Miss Lee found her, she was in a darkened room, dirty, and so forlorn that when Miss Lee talked about Jesus it had little effect. Miss Lee has a beautiful voice, and she sang, "What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear; what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer." Every day she would go and clean up the woman's home and bring a bouquet of flowers. Young women would go every Sabbath and sing gospel songs. She began to have hope. Her mind began to return. She came to one of the meetings. The first time she had to be supported between two women, but the last Sabbath before we left, when some of the girls came to our home to sing, this afflicted woman stood out in front and led the song she had learned to love. At the baptismal service that day the call was given to those who would like to join the baptismal class and be baptized, and this woman stood.

[A dialogue followed between Joseph Wong and Doyle Barnett.]

JOSEPH WONG: Statistics show that Voice of Prophecy students of the South China Island Union Mission, from January to December, numbered 5,008.

DOYLE BARNETT: Are you sure that's right, Mr. Wong?

JOSEPH WONG: Yes, sir, 5,008. [Shows by adding on his abacus.]

DOYLE BARNETT: Five thousand and eight! Can you make a mistake on this gadget?

JOSEPH WONG: No. This is improved, even better than an American adding machine.

DOYLE BARNETT: Is that right?

JOSEPH WONG: It's faster too.

DOYLE BARNETT: Isn't that wonderful! Over five thousand Bible correspondence school students for the first year of our Bible school work on the island of Formosa. God is hastening the day when Jesus will come. It means 417 graduates for every month of the year, or just about 17 for each day. From them are coming many new church members. Friends, this



is a miracle of grace. These people have never studied their Bibles before. Many of them had never even seen inside a Bible.

One man wrote: "Before I studied your Bible course, I didn't even know who God is. I had only read His name in a history book, along with the great men of the world. Now I know He is the only true God, my Saviour, and my Lord."

Many of our Bible school students start the lessons, not knowing a thing about Christianity or Christ. They ask many questions. One wrote: "In our lessons we find the following words: Matthew, Mark, John, Genesis, Job, Romans. Kindly explain them for me. I cannot find them in my English dictionary." This isn't a hopeless student. He had never seen a Bible before. A little later he added to one of his letters a postscript: "You will be happy to know that yesterday I was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist church in Taipei."

From small beginnings God is gathering a great people who are preparing for the second coming of Jesus Christ. These lessons have found their way throughout the whole island of Taiwan. Because of language difficulties, these people are not able to attend our services, but we send them our Japanese Bible lessons. And these messengers have been doing such a work that now sixteen of these young people are in our training institute. We ask them what they are going to do when they return to their homes, and they give this reply, "We are going back to tell our relatives and friends about the faith which means so much to us."

There is an eleven-year-old girl on the island of Hong Kong who attended Pastor Detamore's meetings just a few years ago. She was one of the most earnest, sincere young girls I have ever seen.

It was not long until she had finished the Bible course, and was requesting baptism. After she was baptized she continued reading and studying. She finished every Bible course we had to offer—eight of them. She became a leader in Sabbath school and young people's work. A little later her parents became alarmed because she was devoting her whole life to the Lord, and forbade her to attend any of the church services, until she could not go at all to the church. Many lonely, sad months passed, during which she was persecuted, but she maintained her faith in God. Since that time she has come to the States to study in our schools here. Her parents forbade her to go to any of our schools, and today the battle is still raging. She is holding on firm, taking the premedical course, and hopes to finish at the College of Medical Evangelists.

There was in one of the seminaries a certain teacher, Mr. Lin, who enrolled in our Bible correspondence school. He studied the lessons and became convinced that Saturday was the day he should keep. He didn't at that time take his stand for keeping the Sabbath, but determined to continue his study of the Bible. He went into the mountains and preached, promoting the Bible school with earnest zeal. His wife gave Bible studies, and they raised up two churches. As these groups studied more and more of the Bible lessons, the Sabbath question became a matter of real discussion among them. The mission headquarters learned about it and sent a minister to study with them and to try to convince them that they should continue to keep Sunday, "the Lord's day." They were not convinced, however. Even threats did not disturb them. But they set a day, February 4, 1954, to decide on Sabbath observance. They had no contact with Sabbathkeep-

ing people, but were seeking guidance directly from God. As they gathered for this important meeting they were greatly surprised to discover that a minister from their mission headquarters was present. He assumed leadership of the gathering, and tried to explain away the Sabbath day. When he had finished, Mr. Lin arose and said, "What shall we do about it? Shall we take a vote?" Some members said, "Let's ballot secretly." Another member stood up and said, "We shouldn't be ashamed of what we believe." So they voted by a show of hands. It was unanimous in favor of Sabbathkeeping. And now not only members of these two churches but members of other churches in that district are accepting the increasing light. This is just a little foretaste of the work the Lord will do in the future.

W. P. BRADLEY: Thank you very much. And now the Cole sisters are going to sing. They are the daughters of H. W. Cole, who has been in charge of industries in our Taiwan Theological Training Institute.

[Cole sisters sang in Chinese.]

[Pastor T. M. Chu enters and talks to W. A. Hilliard.]

W. A. HILLIARD: Please tell these folks where you come from.

T. M. CHU: From Hong Kong Pioneer Memorial church.

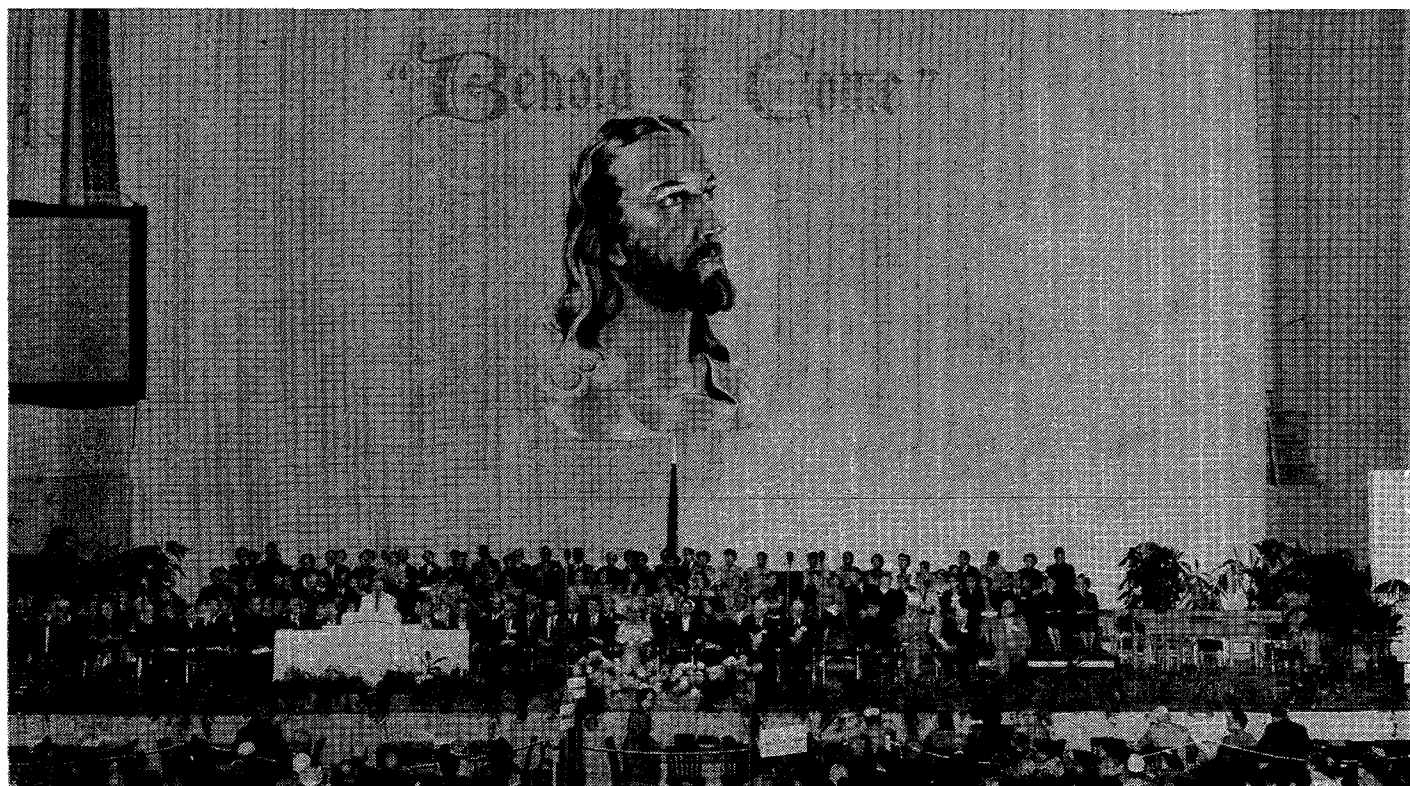
W. A. HILLIARD: The Pioneer Memorial church—that sounds interesting. What is it a memorial to?

T. M. CHU: Abram La Rue, the first missionary to China.

W. A. HILLIARD: When did he come to China, Pastor Chu?

T. M. CHU: In 1889 he sailed into Hong Kong Harbor, where he worked for several years.

(Continued on page 244)



The entire rostrum seated with missionaries who have served and are serving the China Division.

# Our Final Preparation

DEVOTIONAL STUDY, JUNE 3, 1954, 8:30 A.M.

By LOUIS K. DICKSON

"And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" (Luke 1:17). Prepared to meet God—what does it mean? What steps must I take in order to be ready?

When the angel of the Lord announced the coming of John the Baptist to "make ready a people prepared for the Lord," and declared that he would come in the spirit and power of Elias, Jesus said, "If ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come" (Matt. 11:14).

The work of making ready a people prepared for the Lord in those days was only a partial fulfillment of the prophecy of Malachi, "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord." This is the hour that calls for the complete fulfillment of this great prophecy by the coming, figuratively speaking, of Elias the prophet, for the final preparation of a people to meet God.

Nahum the prophet speaks of this time as the "day of his preparation." The prophet Amos, as the mouthpiece of God, commands, "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel," and Jesus, the greatest prophet of them all, in giving consideration to the complete fulfillment of His prophecies concerning His return commanded, "Be ye also ready."

It is high time the church recognized the seriousness of the present hour. Soberness has laid hold of the minds of many leading thinkers out over the world concerning this crucial time. New and more serious interest by all religious bodies is rising in the great theme of the second coming of Christ. Others are looking at the destructive weapons in men's hands, and do not look for time to continue long.

We who have declared these things for more than a century, we who have been leaders in preaching the second coming of Christ, must not fail to be ready for the return of our Lord. How strongly the apostle Peter impresses this upon our minds in the third chapter of Second Peter when he declares, "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of God."

"Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. . . . Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:14, 17, 18).

Let us analyze this matter of our final preparation by thinking through the following three considerations:

1. The Urgency of the Need
2. The Preparation—How Can It Come?
3. The Results of This Preparation

## The Urgency of the Need

If the true significance of what we know about the times would be allowed to penetrate our minds, it would bring about a great revival in the lives of each one of us.

"Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 69.

"We do not realize how untiring are Satan's efforts to sap our spirituality. He is working mightily that the people of God may be only half converted. Then self will swell to large proportions, and there will be no revelation to the world of the transforming power of God. If this power does not rest upon God's people and move them to sanctified action, they cannot do the work in the earth that has been shown us must be done. Without this power, they will not realize their responsibility as his representatives in a world of unbelief."—Mrs. E. G. WHITE, quoted in *General Conference Bulletin*, June 9, 1913, p. 323.

The danger of only half conversion is upon us. This almost-but-not-quite condition in our lives thwarts the power of God and brings a feebleness to our efforts that is not only fruitless but paralyzing to those who look on. The true condition as seen by the Lord is very dim in our eyes. Listen to what God has said:

"I was shown that a most solemn work is before us. Its importance and magnitude are not realized. As I marked the indifference which was everywhere apparent, I was alarmed for ministers and people. There seemed to be a paralysis upon the cause of truth. The work of God seemed stayed. Ministers and people are unprepared for the time in which they live, and nearly all who profess to believe present truth are *unprepared to understand the work of preparation* for this time. . . . They are wholly unfitted to receive the latter rain."—*Testimonies*, vol. 1, p. 466. (Italics supplied.)

"Unprepared to understand the work of preparation"—what a tragedy! This, we are told, is true of "nearly all who profess to believe present truth." God help us! God be merciful to us! "Unprepared to understand the work of preparation" in an hour when Jesus has commanded, "Be ye also ready"! With what urgency we should face this great need of the church.

When considered in the light of this urgency, these days are sobering in the

extreme. They are primarily days of final preparation, days when our souls must be fortified and made ready to meet God. Therefore this is a time of crisis and peril for every child of God.

Because the spirit of worldly ambition and a lack of true and complete consecration have robbed the soul of that fitness required of God, the latter rain is withheld, and many are making shipwreck of their faith. Satan has come down in great wrath, seeking by every means to keep us from this important preparation. Seductive influences in every phase of our lives have been allowed to draw us away from the things of God and from seeking after Him. All of this has resulted in darkening our understanding of our own need of preparation and thus making us "unprepared to understand the work of preparation." To the extent that this state of the church is allowed to continue, true advancement toward the finishing of the work is greatly retarded.

## Erect a Standard of Truth

The growing magnitude, the ceaseless activity, and the ingenuity of the forces of evil—their constant and downward tug, like that of gravitation—are everywhere manifest, and should constantly impress us with the urgency of being ready at all times for the end of all things.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has been called of God to erect in the midst of the prevailing iniquity of this degenerate age a perfect standard of truth and purity and of Christian fortitude, which will prove mightier than every obstacle arrayed against it. We must now meet the impact of these untoward and unholy conditions and influences, and "reflect the image of Jesus fully." (*Early Writings*, p. 71.)

The reason we are "unprepared to understand the work of preparation" needed now is because we have not yet given ourselves to our final preparation. We are still putting it off, looking for a more convenient season. The urgency of the need of preparation now is more apparent when we sense the fact that so many of us lead too meager a Christian life. We have scarcely enough faith with which to hold on as we contend with horses; how then can we face the swelling of the Jordan, which is just before us? (Jer. 12:5).

How few today in our churches are enjoying a life in Christ that might be described as life more abundant? In order to overcome, we must be eating of the hidden manna. Hidden resources of power must now be tapped by us all if we would be prepared for the conflict. We must have increased capacity to hold on. We must be receiving strengthening and sustaining food if we would be prepared to stand in the fighting lines against all the wiles of the enemy. Nothing distinguishes the prepared soul apart from all others as this staying power.

What resources have we upon which we can draw that will calm the soul and give us serene assurance in these days of uncertainty just ahead? What hidden power do we have to help us through the dark days just before us? That is the deciding question!

How long can we move forward in an

atmosphere of discouragement, ingratitude, apparent ineffectiveness, or open contempt? That is the test! Here is where the urgency of needed preparation is made clear.

The apostles were "more than conquerors," while we falter and quail before infinitesimal trials and temptations as compared with the horrors they met. Jesus, our divine Example, our Master and Lord, knew the urgency of these things, and He made provision for them in His perfect life. Said He, "I have meat to eat ye know not of" (John 4:32).

### Prepare for Testing Time

The apostle Paul knew what it was to have the "inward man renewed day by day" (2 Cor. 4:16), and to "be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man" (Eph. 3:16). Hear this great apostle again saying, "But none of these things move me" (Acts 20:24).

How often the Lord, through His messenger, has reminded us of this urgency of preparation for what is just before us. Throughout the Spirit of prophecy writings we have been admonished to prepare for this testing hour that is so soon to come upon the remnant people of God. But how neglectful and indifferent we have been. We must now examine what is lacking in our lives and fill up that which is behind in our preparation to meet God.

"In that day, all time-servers, all who have not the genuine work of grace in their heart, will be found wanting. It will require the firmest trust, the most heroic purpose, to hold fast the faith once delivered to the saints."—*Sketches From the Life of Paul* (1883 ed.), p. 252.

"As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position, and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 608.

"Those who delay a preparation for the day of God cannot obtain it in the time of trouble, or at any subsequent time. The case of all such is hopeless."—*Ibid.*, p. 620.

Oh, yes, this preparation is of the greatest urgency now. At this very hour there should go forth to our dear people over the face of the whole earth a mighty call to prepare. We read: "I saw that the remnant was not prepared for what is coming upon the earth. Stupidity, like lethargy, seemed to hang upon the minds of most of those who profess to believe that we are having the last message. My accompanying angel cried out with awful solemnity, 'Get ready! get ready! get ready! for the fierce anger of the Lord is soon to come. His wrath is to be poured out, unmixed with mercy, and ye are not ready. Rend the heart, and not the garment. A great work must be done for the remnant!'"—*Early Writings*, p. 119.

The refreshing that God has promised just before Christ comes cannot come to

those who are unprepared for that great experience. A cleansing must take place quickly. All sin and filthiness of the flesh and spirit must be taken away.

Beside the very personal side of this urgency in preparation, there looms up before us another great emergency; namely, the fact that because of our failure to enter earnestly into this experience, the cause of God has been thwarted. "The Lord does not now work to bring many souls into the truth, because of the church members who have never been converted and those who were once converted but who have backslidden."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 371.

We need to be impressed anew with the urgency of preparing our people for this final hour, that God's work may be finished in all the world. That comes first, not second, in urgency and importance. Much of our effort and labor will be of no avail in the winning of souls until our church members come up on higher ground. Too long have we neglected this work. The converting power of God must come upon all who are members of the remnant church, both ministry and people. The winning of a soul in this cause is increasing in cost constantly. Then let us not waste our efforts. Let us begin where God says to begin, with a converted church.

If we will but pause and consider, it will be very evident that many in our churches who profess to be followers of Christ are living far below their privileges. This must change. Mighty and new chapters of repentance must come into the experience of us all. A fuller realization of the urgency of our need must lay hold upon us.

"Our position in the world is not what it should be. We are far from where we should have been had our Christian experience been in harmony with the light and the opportunities given us, had we from the beginning constantly pressed onward and upward. . . . But many of those who have had special light are so conformed to the world that they can scarcely be distinguished from worldlings. They do not stand forth as God's peculiar people, chosen and precious. . . .

"In the balances of the sanctuary the Seventh-day Adventist church is to be weighed. She will be judged by the privileges and advantages that she has had. If her spiritual experience does not correspond to the advantages that Christ, at infinite cost, has bestowed on her, if the blessings conferred have not qualified her to do the work entrusted to her, on her will be pronounced the sentence: 'Found wanting.'"—*Ibid.*, vol. 8, p. 247.

Preparation to meet the Lord can best be understood when we sense the fact that such preparation is identical with that which precedes the sealing of the servants of God in their foreheads. Likewise preparation for the loud cry and for the latter rain are all identical. Of that needed preparation the Lord's servant says:

"God's people are not prepared for the loud cry of the third angel. They have a work to do for themselves which they should not leave for God to do for them. He has left this work for them to do. It is an individual work; one cannot do it for another."—*Ibid.*, vol. 1, p. 486.

This work that the remnant people must do for themselves is amplified a bit more in this further word from the pen of God's messenger:

"For forty years did unbelief, murmuring, and rebellion shut out ancient Israel from the land of Canaan. The same sins have delayed the entrance of modern Israel into the heavenly Canaan. In neither case were the promises of God at fault. It is the unbelief, the worldliness, unconsecration, and strife among the Lord's professed people that have kept us in this world of sin and sorrow so many years."—Quoted in F. M. Wilcox, *The Testimony of Jesus*, p. 100.

By neglecting these things we are failing to prepare for the reception of His Holy Spirit in latter rain proportions and to enter into the loud cry of the third angel. Says the servant of God:

"If we have any regard for our soul's salvation, we must make a decided change. We must seek the Lord with true penitence; we must with deep contrition of soul confess our sins, that they may be blotted out. We must no longer remain upon the enchanted ground."—*The Review and Herald*, March 22, 1887.

### Changes Must Be Made

We have not been left in darkness concerning the preparation we need to make. Line upon line has been given to us in the Word and through the Spirit of prophecy by which we may put our finger upon the changes that must now be wrought in our lives.

We may catch a glimpse of the preparation needed by reading God's counsel to Moses when He was about to meet with Israel at Sinai, as given in Exodus 19:9-11. The Lord said to Moses: "Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee" (verse 9). He then admonished them through His servant to make a certain preparation to stand in His presence: "And the Lord said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes, and be ready against the third day: for the third day the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai" (verses 10, 11). He further admonished them not to touch certain things, lest they die. They were to wait for the sound of the trumpet and be ready momentarily for it.

Following this we read, "And Moses went down from the mount unto the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their clothes. And he said unto the people, Be ready against the third day" (verses 14, 15). Of this time of preparation the messenger of the Lord has told us:

"During these intervening days, all were to occupy the time in solemn preparation to appear before God. Their person and their clothing must be freed from impurity. And as Moses should point out their sins, they were to devote themselves to humiliation, fasting, and prayer, that their hearts might be cleansed from iniquity."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 304.

How earnestly has God spoken to this people concerning the needed preparation to meet the Lord! "Leaving the first love is represented as a spiritual fall.

Many have fallen thus. In every church in our land, there is needed confession, repentance, and reconversion. The disappointment of Christ is beyond description. Unless those who have sinned speedily repent, the deceptions of the last days will overtake them. Some, though they do not realize it, are preparing to be overtaken. God calls for repentance without delay. . . . Christ is humiliated in His people. The first love is gone, the faith is weak, there is need of a thorough transformation."—Mrs. E. G. WHITE in *The Review and Herald*, Dec. 15, 1904.

The reason men do not repent is because they do not see anything for which to repent. Self-sufficiency is a most dangerous sin. The Laodicean message given through John the revelator portrays this condition. It is said of the people pictured there that they knew not their needs.

"I also saw that many do not realize what they must be in order to live in the sight of the Lord without a high priest in the sanctuary, through the time of trouble. Those who receive the seal of the living God, and are protected in the time of trouble, must reflect the image of Jesus fully. . . . I saw that none could share the 'refreshing,' unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action. We should, therefore, be drawing nearer and nearer to the Lord, and be earnestly seeking that preparation necessary to enable us to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord."—*Early Writings*, p. 71.

#### Study Light Given Us

In order to be prepared for the great day of the Lord we must carefully and sincerely scrutinize all the light God has given to us. In this instruction he has given us no nonessentials. "Those who come up to every point, and stand every test, and overcome, be the price what it may, have heeded the counsel of the True Witness, and they will receive the latter rain, and thus be fitted for translation."—*Testimonies*, vol. 1, p. 187.

"To-day you are to give yourselves to God, that He may make you vessels unto honor, and meet for His service. Today you are to give yourselves to God that you may be emptied of self, emptied of envy, jealousy, evil-surmising, strife, everything that shall be dishonoring to God. . . . It is our work today to yield our souls to Christ, that we may be fitted for the time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord—fitted for the baptism of the Holy Spirit."—Mrs. E. G. WHITE in *The Review and Herald*, March 22, 1892.

Our duty in this day of preparation is here made clear. Let us not turn from such counsel feeling that it does not apply to our lives. We must remember that the Laodicean condition is an unconscious condition. Let us acknowledge that we do not fully sense our need and seek God to reveal it to us.

The preparation called for is a life of godliness, whatever that may involve in terms of change in our lives. It calls for a life of walking by a faith "that will not shrink." It calls for a prayer life that is continuous, that is importunate and possesses power.

Such preparation calls for a full and complete disinterested and sacrificial service for Christ.

#### A Change Must Come

No casual apathetic interest in the things of God and His church will suffice now. Our desires toward God must be enlarged. Our expectations have been too low. We must no longer boast of the few accomplishments we have achieved, measuring ourselves by other peoples, other churches, or those who are not our guides.

This preparation, when rightly faced, will revive love in our hearts, loyalty in our representation of Christ, a deep love for lost men and women, and a piety and devotion that will measure with apostolic times. It means the perfecting of our characters. To accomplish this, some definite corners must be turned in our lives. We will seek for the removal of our defects, and the cure for our infirmities. Our tempers and dispositions will be brought under control of the Divine One.

When the Lord comes those who are holy will be holy still. Those who have brought under their bodies and their motives in holiness and who have been sanctified will then be made immortal. In the present hours of probation this work must not only start but be completed. Just now this work is to be done for us. "Be ye ready," says our Lord and Master.

The church and the cause of God face multitudinous and heart-breaking problems. Great difficulty is stalking those who are fulfilling Christ's great commission. We need much of the favor of God if we are to find the spiritual fitness necessary for our mighty task.

Nothing but a return to primitive godliness will answer. The forces against us are too great for us to meet successfully with the meager power we now possess. A return to the Saviour, to the Word of God, to the family altar, to personal devotion and prayers of faith, will prepare us for scaling the last barriers set up by the enemy against a finished work for God.

There must come into our lives a determination to put away forever a purposeless spiritual program. Superficiality must be banished. Compromise must cease. Criticism, complacency, slothfulness toward God's service, must be put away. We need a new visitation of God's convicting power to come upon us.

Our ordinary religious programs will not bring about this change. Our everyday rush, even in the service of God, will not bring it about. Our usual evangelistic campaigns or any other campaign will not suffice. We need the holy fire of God to come into our lives and burn out of our hearts every vestige of sin and self. We need an experience now like that on Mount Carmel. We need the disciples' preparation for Pentecost until every heart and life is right with God, right with the brethren, and totally and finally laid upon God's altar of service. A mighty reformation is called for—let us no longer fear it—let us seek for it with all our hearts.

Shall we not begin to pursue this course today? There are two things that are needed in your life and mine. We must return unto the Lord, and we must follow

on to know the Lord. There is much spiritual territory yet for us to possess.

We must return unto the Lord for revival. This should be the cry of every person, every church, and every pulpit among us. This is our first work. This cry should come from our hearts in our prayer closets, in our church services; everywhere let us retrace our steps and return unto the Lord. Let us face our God, face His revealed will, face these great issues, and ask Him to show us every secret evil and fault in our souls, every hidden recess of self, every step we should take. Let us promise Him that we shall declare unceasing, unending war against Satan and all the hosts of hell.

Regardless of costs or consequences, regardless of pains or penalties, let us beseech God to strip us of every idol, no matter how near or how dear to our hearts it may be, that stands between us and the fullness of God's presence. When the heart, the soul, the mind, the hands, the feet, all mean what our lips say, God will mark His approval by the manifestation of His power. After returning to the Lord in penitence and in prayer, in order to be prepared for the Lord, we must follow on in devoted, sacrificial obedience and service. We must constantly seek new heights in spiritual attainment.

#### Unbelief Hinders Preparation

The way is clear. The messages from God are unmistakable, but has there not been an indifference on the part of many to the counsel so graciously given to us by God? Says the Lord's chosen messenger: "I have been shown that unbelief in the testimonies has been steadily increasing as the people backslide from God. It is all through our ranks, all over the field. But few know what our churches are to experience. I saw that at present we are under divine forbearance, but no one can say how long this will continue. No one knows how great the mercy that has been exercised toward us. But few are heartily devoted to God. There are only a few who, like the stars in a tempestuous night, shine here and there among the clouds."—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 76.

We have unmistakably come to the time when our only safety is to seek to know the counsel of the Lord concerning our needed preparation. To do this, our faith and belief in what God has told this people must be strengthened and put into practice, so that we do not miss the way. Strong faith can now be developed if we will step out upon the promises of God. We may establish our faith sufficiently to carry us through if we will but order our lives along lines of living faith and obedience. We have been told by God's servant:

"The season of distress and anguish before us will require a faith that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger,—a faith that will not faint, though severely tried. The period of probation is granted to all to prepare for that time. . . . All who will lay hold of God's promises, as he [Jacob] did, and be as earnest and persevering as he was, will succeed as he succeeded. Those who are unwilling to deny self, to agonize before God, to pray long and earnestly for His blessing, will not obtain it. Wrestling with God—how few



know what it is! How few have ever had their souls drawn out after God with intensity of desire until every power is on the stretch. When waves of despair which no language can express sweep over the suppliant, how few cling with unyielding faith to the promises of God.

"Those who exercise but little faith now, are in the greatest danger of falling under the power of satanic delusions and the decree to compel the conscience. And even if they endure the test, they will be plunged into deeper distress and anguish in the time of trouble, because they have never made it a habit to trust in God. The lessons of faith which they have neglected, they will be forced to learn under a terrible pressure of discouragement. We should now acquaint ourselves with God by proving His promises."—*The Great Controversy*, pp. 621, 622.

Yes, we need to prepare by forming the habit of trusting in God. That is living by faith, the faith of Jesus. How few really walk by faith, live by faith alone! Oh, there must arise out of the midst of the people of God giants of faith, giants of power, giants of prayer.

Long has God waited for His people to awaken and seek Him with the whole heart. That we have long passed the time when such earnest devotion and seeking after God is due, need not be argued here. We are all conscious to some degree that this is true. The preparation so needful has been too long postponed.

#### The Results of This Preparation

Little do we appreciate what would be the results of such a preparation on the part of God's people. Little do we understand what would happen if a million Seventh-day Adventists today would, in all parts of the world, begin to seek God with all their hearts and give themselves to prayer and heart searching such as the church has never entered into.

Some of the results of such a preparation work are revealed to us. There can be no doubt but that in our lives every besetment would be met and overthrown by the power of God. All pride, selfishness, and love of worldly ways would vanish from our lives and from our work. The trends toward the world would cease from among us. Without this preparation none can share in the experience of refreshing that will be enjoyed by God's triumphant remnant people.

Besides this, the work in all parts of the world would immediately become more effective, and thousands and thousands of souls would pour into the church. Our churches could not hold them. Our institutions of learning would be too small. The pastoral problem would be immense, and the organization of our program would be greatly complicated. We would face problems of expansion never before dreamed of by this people. Miracles would be wrought; our evangelistic plans would have to be enlarged. Multitudes would flock to see what was going on in our churches and under our preaching. There they would find a fervency of love among the brethren unsurpassed in church history. There would be an absence of strife for supremacy and bitterness of feeling among the members of the church.

Prayer, powerful prayer, would be heard, and the answers would be evident, thus witnessing to God's marked favor upon His people. All the benefits of grace under the promised blessings of the former rain and the latter rain would be realized. The church would again, as not before in modern times, go forth conquering and to conquer. Middle walls of partition would crash and crumble. The truth would be carried not so much by argument as by powerful, spirit-filled declaration.

Complacency would be banished from our churches. An earnestness born of the realization of the awful seriousness of the times would replace negligence and indifference to the things of God, and a new apostolic age would dawn in the midst of the gathering clouds of last-day wickedness.

#### Possession of Soul-winning Power

If the needed preparation was truly made, God's people would be walking by faith indeed. Great and marvelous deeds would be wrought in the spirit and power of Elijah. Spiritual fire in the hearts of God's people would burn out all the dross, and deeds of omnipotence would take place under the most trying circumstances. Our hands would no longer be spiritually feeble and emaciated as we feed the multitudes. Our lives no longer would fail to witness to the possession of the power of which we preach.

Persecution will come upon the church as this preparation to meet the Lord is entered into by God's people. Because of the renewal of past efforts against the church on the part of Satan, many who are lukewarm will drop out and a great shaking will take place.

The revival brought about by the preparation of the remnant for the end of things earthly will undoubtedly arouse Satan to renewed activity in order to hold under his influence those in the nominal churches who would rejoice to hear the truth. Great movements among the Protestant churches will take place, and a semblance of the truth will be shown by them. Satan will attempt to influence many to believe that God is in the midst of these revivals. Some of this sort of planning is already being seen, and we may well expect such efforts to multiply so that men's vision as to what is truth may be blurred.

We are yet to see tremendous change and growth in spirituality in the remnant church. Preparation for this hour must of necessity bring this result to the church. As the whole armor of God is put on by the remnant people, the truth will stand forth and be revealed in all its glory. We have been told that "both separation and unity will be seen in our ranks. . . . Those who have had great light and precious privileges, but have not improved them, will, under one pretext or another, go out from us. . . .

"But, on the other hand, when the storm of persecution really breaks upon us, the true sheep will hear the true Shepherd's voice. Self-denying efforts will be put forth to save the lost, and many who have strayed from the fold will come back to follow the great Shepherd. The people of God will draw together and present to

the enemy a united front. In view of the common peril, strife for supremacy will cease; there will be no disputing as to who shall be accounted greatest. . . . The love of Christ, the love of our brethren will testify to the world that we have been with Jesus and learned of Him. Then will the message of the third angel swell to a loud cry, and the whole earth will be lightened with the glory of the Lord."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, pp. 400, 401.

We must now deny self, and learn to seek God until we find the fulfillment of His rich promises. We need to be much in prayer and to pray more earnestly, pressing our petitions in faith, believing that what He has promised is ours for the asking. We need to learn the lessons to be obtained by clinging with unyielding faith to the promises of God. How few know what this means. How many are strangers to the practical results of faith in God and importunate supplication. All these we must conclude are in dreadful danger—danger of falling under the power and influence of Satan.

Not to understand how to trust in God before every little trial, disqualifies us to stand in the midst of the approaching hour of anguish soon to fall upon the church. It will be difficult to make the preparation of faith most needful when we stand in the midst of the most terrible pressure of discouragement yet to come.

This is the day of preparation—but how many are ignoring it! We must become acquainted with God by proving His great promises in our daily lives. God is seeking to arouse His people. "The angels of God are going from church to church, doing their duty; and Christ is knocking at the door of your hearts for entrance. But the means that God has devised to awaken the church to a sense of their spiritual destitution have not been regarded. The voice of the True Witness has been heard in reproof, but has not been obeyed. Men have chosen to follow their own way instead of God's way because self was not crucified in them."—*Ibid.*, vol. 5, pp. 719, 720.

The Laodicean message does not specify that works are lacking. "I know thy works," says the Lord. But what is lacking in our works is what God strikes at. Works that are simply activity are not acceptable to God. Zealous works, spiritually performed in prayer and living faith, are here enjoined. It is altogether possible that when the counsel of the True Witness is fully and devotedly heeded some things that we do will be dropped. It is not the multiplication of "things" that will give the loud cry of the third angel, but rather the heeding of the counsel of the True Witness.

In conclusion let us remember that the deepest need of this hour is spiritual fitness—godliness—holiness. The strength of our church, it must be recognized, consists not merely in its organization, its institutions, its fine church buildings, its unsurpassed records, but in the vitality of her teachings in the lives of her people—their character, their victorious lives, their spiritual fitness. Without these qualities the strongest organization, the most elaborate plans, the greatest activity will be unable to accomplish God's work in the earth.

# Proceedings of the General Conference

Forty-seventh Session, May 24-June 5, 1954

## Fifteenth Meeting

June 1, 1954, 3:00 P.M.

CHAIRMAN: H. L. Rudy.

HYMN: "Jesus Is Coming Again," to open the meeting.

PRAYER: George D. King, publishing department secretary of the Northern European Division.

H. L. RUDY: We have another very fine program for this afternoon. We will have the report from the Radio Department of the General Conference. This will be followed immediately by a Voice of Prophecy broadcast. We will now turn the time over to Elder Walde, the secretary of our General Conference Radio and Television Department.

[The Radio and Television report appears on page 230. Following Elder Walde's report the Voice of Prophecy radio group transcribed a program with missionaries from foreign fields participating. This broadcast will be released on networks later.]

H. L. RUDY: When we hear these wonderful reports, we almost forget that we are in session. The Nominating Committee has another partial report. Elder Dick, the chairman of the Nominating Committee is coming to the microphone now.

E. D. DICK: We have a further report from the Nominating Committee. I hope that it is a semifinal report. It is necessary for us to have a further meeting.

I would like to make this statement: Your Nominating Committee has worked smoothly and unitedly with the best of good will.

Elder Bauer will read the further report.

C. L. BAUER: Your Nominating Committee wishes to recommend for your consideration the following partial report:

[See p. 171, June 2 Bulletin, for report as voted.]

Meeting adjourned.

BENEDICTION: R. M. Rabello.

H. L. RUDY, *Chairman*.

N. W. DUNN, *Secretary*.

## Sixteenth Meeting

June 2, 1954, 10:00 A.M.

CHAIRMAN: L. K. Dickson.

HYMN: No. 162, "Lead On, O King Eternal."

PRAYER: M. E. Kern, first president of the Theological Seminary.

SPECIAL MUSIC: The Chapel Trio.

L. K. DICKSON: The first part of the program for this session will be the report of the Theological Seminary. E. D. Dick, president of the Seminary, will be in charge.

E. D. DICK: We are highly privileged to have with us on the platform this morning two of the former presidents of the Theological Seminary, D. E. Rebok, and M. E. Kern. In addition to these there are here the members of the cur-

rent full-time faculty. Beside those present, we have a large number of guest professors and instructors.

[Elder Dick then read the report on the Theological Seminary, which appears on page 248.]

L. K. DICKSON: I am sure that it is not necessary for me to impress upon you the importance of the work of the Theological Seminary, after this fine report by Elder Dick. We are proud of our Seminary. We are glad to see its continual growth and improvement and to hear of the large plans that are being laid for its development.

At this time we should like to call for the presentation of the statement entitled "Call to Prepare to Meet God."

[The secretary read the appeal as follows:]

### Call to Believers for Preparation to Meet God

We, the delegates to the 1954 session of the General Conference assembled in San Francisco, count ourselves highly privileged to serve as representatives of our fellow believers throughout the world. We eagerly desire to share with you the blessings of this great gathering and to bring you what impresses us as the particular word of counsel which God has for the remnant church in this solemn hour.

As we hear the reports of progress from all our world divisions, a sense of profound gratitude has come to us for what God has already done for His people and for what He is now doing through them. His prospering care has been over us from the beginning. It is His Holy Spirit of power that has multiplied our meager resources, energized our feeble efforts, until this gospel of the kingdom has been carried into nearly every land, and that will continue to go before us as we push on into the remaining unentered parts of the earth.

We are now well within the time of the end of human history. A solemn urgency is upon us not only to arise and finish the grand work of proclaiming the judgment-hour message to the world, but also unitedly and diligently to heed the summons of heaven which comes to the church through the prophet Amos: "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel."

These words are not new to us. They are familiar, yet momentous and timely. Their tremendous significance in the light of present-day occurrences should stir us to a renewed zeal in purposefully and intelligently preparing to meet the Lord of hosts.

Every person who believes that God exists and that His Word is true knows that the time of this event is inevitably near. With Bible prophecy in the last stages of final fulfillment, with the modern devices for war and the engines of annihilation that terrorize the hearts of men; with the daily happenings around

us, spread before our eyes in every newspaper, sounding in our ears in every newscast, it is plain that we are moving steadily, irresistibly and with great rapidity toward that sublime event which will forever settle the destiny of men and nations and which will provide the grand climax of all human experience.

Even now all heaven is astir in preparation for our Lord's soon return to this earth. All of earth's developments in every aspect of human life are shaping to that end. All events converge toward the long foretold consummation of God's purposes. All the plans laid by divine wisdom are swiftly approaching completion. We do well to prepare to meet our God.

We claim to have a message for this very time; a message that is the culmination of the gospel; that gives the only true explanation of present-day conditions; that provides the only remedy for a desperate and ruined world; that supplies every need of fallen man; that is the solution of all our ills, and that is the very fullness of the salvation of God. But the message we have is more than a list of doctrines, more than a code of laws, more than a set of rules. It is a message that calls for a distinctive kind of life, the life which is in Christ Jesus. Those who live such lives will witness powerfully and effectively to the great truths of the threefold message. They will be the agencies God will use to set before the world the most convincing evidence of the nearness of the Lord's return. Then will Isaiah 8:18 be fulfilled, and the Advent people will become the greatest signs of the times in which we live.

It is our earnest conviction therefore that this work of preparation to meet our God should be entered upon anew by every Seventh-day Adventist around the world and carried forward with a persistent and holy determination. Full provision for success is available to us in what Christ has done for us and what He is willing to do in us. The Bible sets forth in comprehensive detail what our blessed Lord has accomplished for us by His death. Meditate on these vital words:

He died that He might take away our sin. 1 Peter 2:24.

He died that we might die to sin and live in Him. Gal. 2:20.

He died that we might become righteous in Him. 2 Cor. 5:21.

He died that we might no longer live unto ourselves. 2 Cor. 5:15.

He died that we might be delivered from the world. Gal. 1:4.

He died that we might become the sons of God. Gal. 4:4, 5.

He died that we might be sanctified unto Himself. Eph. 5:25-27.

He died that we might become His own possession. Titus 2:14.

He died that we might receive the Holy Spirit. Gal. 3:13, 14.

He died that He might take us back to God. 1 Peter 3:18.

With all these glorious things done for us, with all these provisions and enableings placed at our disposal, what should hinder us from obtaining an adequate preparation? With Christ as our all in all, should we not know that every

sin is forgiven, that all things are clear between us and Heaven?

It is our privilege to rest in the abiding assurance that Christ *for* us is our atoning sacrifice; that Christ *in* us is our living power; that Christ *under* us is our sure foundation; that Christ *around* us is our wall of fire; that Christ *beside* us is our perfect pattern; and that Christ *before* us is our everlasting heritage.

With the very fullness of the Godhead thus made available to us in Jesus Christ, should we not, without further delay, enter into the revival of true godliness and that reformation called for by God's messenger? What should hinder us from upholding in our lives and conduct every high standard of Christian life and teaching?

In the light of the wonderful provision made for us, and this earnest appeal to prepare to meet our Lord, shall we not make full and complete surrender of our lives to God? This will bring victory and joy to our own hearts, and increased fervor and decision to carry the message of truth to our relatives, our neighbors, into unentered villages, towns, cities, counties, and countries, until "this gospel of the kingdom" reaches all the world, "and then shall the end come."

These are the considerations which prompt us, as we are gathered here in this great assembly, to ask our fellow believers in all the world to join us in response to the gracious and urgent invitation, "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel."

W. H. BRANSON [praying]: O Lord, our loving heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus Christ Thy Son and our Saviour, we come to Thee this morning with hearts made humble by the consideration of the fact that we are living near the time for the coming of Jesus. For a long time we have been preaching this to the world. We have been announcing the fact of His coming and have been urging men to prepare. But it is possible, O Lord, that while we have preached to others, our own faith and our own love for Thee may have grown cold. In this document that has been read to us we find the call to reconsecration, to earnest effort to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord Jesus. Dear Lord, we pray earnestly this morning that Thou wilt help us to know how to respond fullheartedly to this earnest appeal. We pray that Thou wilt take sin out of our hearts—all sin and worldliness, and those things, Lord, which Thou hast told us will separate between Thee and Thy children. Help us to turn away from all things that are ungodly. May the backsliders among us return to the fold. May they find a new source of love from the heart of God pouring into their hearts and their lives in preparation for this great event.

We know, dear Lord, the coming of our Saviour is to bring the fruition of the hopes of our people through all generations. Long has the church looked and waited for Thee. O Lord, forbid that when Jesus comes, soon, any of us should not be ready. Help us all to get ready now and to be ready continuously until the hour when Thou shalt appear. Help not only those of us who stand before



Here is shown one of the popular singers, Ben Glanzer, as he leads the great audience in singing.

Thee this morning making these vows in consecration to Thee, but every member of the church in every land, under all conditions and circumstances under which they serve and worship Thee. We pray that Thou wilt be with them and stir their hearts with ours to a deeper consecration.

O Lord, not only are we interested in our own salvation when Thou shalt come, but we think of the great multitude of those who are unsaved. We think of the members of our own families, some of whom are wandering in the ways of sin. We think of our neighbors. We think of the millions in the great heathen world and all about us, even in these lands. O Lord, we pray that quickly Thy Spirit may be sent forth to touch the hearts of all these who are not of Christ, and to turn back to God every one that can be reached with Thy love and Thy message, that they will be prepared quickly for Thy coming. Thus we pray that Thou wilt now fill us all with Thy love, and that Thou wilt continue with us throughout this service, throughout this great conference, and be with us especially as we return to our fields and our homes. We pray that we may remember that every hour we are living on borrowed time and that the greatest consideration before each of us as individuals and before all of us as a church is to make our calling and election sure with God. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

L. K. DICKSON: Now at this time we are to hear a report from the Harris Pine Mills. The chairman of the board, Elder Branson, will present the matter to us.

W. H. BRANSON: I think that most of our delegates and believers who are present have heard about the wonderful gift that came to the church since the last session of the General Conference—an industrial plant known to us as the Harris Pine Mills, which got its name from its founders. Brother Clyde Harris and Sister Mary Harris, his wife, under the blessing of God, had built up a large business in lumber and furniture in the State of Oregon. It had become a multi-million dollar organization, and they felt that they would like to see this plant doing work for the cause of God and placed in a situation where the church could control it and reap the benefits of its profits.

Brother and Sister Harris therefore turned this entire organization over to the General Conference some two or three years ago, entirely separating them-

selves from it so far as profits are concerned. We are very happy that Brother Harris, the founder of the institution, was willing to continue as our general manager for a time and also as the vice-president of the organization. We felt that his knowledge of the work and workings of the institution would be invaluable to the board, since we were not too well acquainted with this kind of work.

Then Charles Nagele, who was the treasurer of the North Pacific Union Conference, was chosen to act as assistant general manager under Brother Harris's supervision, and also as vice-president of the organization.

Some of our people have asked the question whether or not the church has found it possible to operate this large industry without loss. I am glad to tell you that up to the present time the organization is going forward with great strength and energy. I believe the report that will be read to you this morning will reveal the fact that it is in a stronger position than ever before. Those of you who have attended our Autumn Councils will know that already some large sums taken from the profits of this organization have gone into our world work. Brother and Sister Harris made the stipulation that all the profits that are not needed in the work itself should go to the General Conference for its world program. We are very happy to have Brother and Sister Harris with us as delegates at this session. Charles Nagele, assistant general manager of the Harris Pine Mills, will at this time bring a brief report of the work of this organization during the past year.

[Charles Nagele presented a report on the operation of the Harris Pine Mills for the year 1953. It was an encouraging report and revealed that the business is being operated in a strong way. Steady, large sums of money have been paid into the mission treasury of the church, and the prospects are that even greater amounts will be earned for the cause of God in the future.]

W. H. BRANSON: I am sure we all want to join in thanking the Lord for such a good report on this large enterprise. We want to thank the Lord, too, for putting it into the hearts of Brother and Sister Harris to turn this over to the denomination so that it might help us in our world work.

Now the other day Brother Harris spoke to us briefly, and I am going to ask him if he has a few more words for us at this time.

[Clyde Harris spent a few moments in setting forth some interesting details in connection with the operation of the Harris Pine Mills.]

L. K. DICKSON: We appreciate very much what Brother Harris has told us, and also the report that Brother Nagele has presented. And we rejoice that the Lord has made it possible for this wonderful Harris Pine Mills plant to become a denominational enterprise.

Now I will ask the secretary to read the next recommendations.

[The secretary read the following recommendations:]

## Health Evangelism

WHEREAS, Medical missionary work is to play an ever-increasing role of importance in the work of the church, and

WHEREAS, The Bible and the Spirit of prophecy make it clear that in the uniting of medical and ministerial work a rich harvest of souls will result, therefore

We recommend, 1. That all medical and ministerial workers be asked to unite in a new and forward step in health evangelism; and

2. That the General Conference Committee set up a committee on Health Evangelism which shall include representation from the Ministerial Association and the Medical and Home Missionary departments of the General Conference, together with field representation, whose duties shall be to:

a. Foster and promote health evangelism in our medical institutions at home and abroad.

b. Lay plans for the training of physicians and ministers in the specific field of health evangelism to unite with our evangelists in our large city efforts.

c. Prepare appropriate material for workers' meetings and medical ministerial meetings on the theme of health evangelism.

d. Call all our workers and lay members alike to rededicate their lives to the great principles of healthful living as found in the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy.

[The recommendations were adopted.]

L. K. DICKSON: The next series, please.

[The secretary read the following recommendations:]

## Circulation of Religious and Medical Books

WHEREAS, God has ordained the literature ministry as a great soul-winning agency, and the church has developed literature covering all the phases of its message; and

WHEREAS, It is of utmost importance to give proper emphasis to religious and health literature; therefore

We recommend, 1. That all publishing houses supply the division, union, and local publishing secretaries at regular intervals—if possible every quarter—a complete list of the titles and quantities of books sold in their respective fields; and

2. That more emphasis be placed upon selling books in sets, combining religious and health literature.

3. That the above classifications of books be promoted in a strong way, but that no one particular group be promoted to the disadvantage of another, thus holding to the ratio as set forth in the Spring Council action of 1944 appearing on page 91 of the *Publishing Department Policies* which reads as follows:

"Voted: That our health literature be not neglected, but that care be exercised to maintain a well-balanced program, suggesting as a distribution standard the ratio of one third medical to two thirds religious books."

[The recommendations were adopted.]

L. K. DICKSON: Now there is another series to be presented.

(Continued on page 256)

## China Island Mission

(Continued from page 237)

W. A. HILLIARD: His grave is in Hong Kong, across the valley from the beautiful Pioneer Memorial church, of which Elder Chu is the pastor. How many members are there in the Hong Kong—Macao Mission, Pastor Chu?

T. M. CHU: Seven hundred and fifty.

W. A. HILLIARD: Tell us something about the laymen there.

T. M. CHU: The laity are doing much to support the mission, some by their financial help, others by going from door to door. Our consecrated doctors are giving active leadership; the Dorcas Societies are caring for many poor and needy. One active member contributed thousands of books for free distribution in our evangelistic meetings.

W. A. HILLIARD: Pastor Chu, what is the main line of work that the mission is doing in Hong Kong and Macao?

T. M. CHU: Educational. The mission operates two elementary mission schools, with an enrollment of six hundred. A small mission school was opened in the Portuguese colony of Macao last year, and another one is to be opened this coming September in our newest church in Un Long. Then there is our South China Training Institute, which gives all the academy work and is beginning to give advanced training in ministerial and educational lines. Pastors S. H. Lindt and Delbert Curry are in charge of this school.

W. A. HILLIARD: We hope that soon we can start a clinic or hospital in Hong Kong. Pastor Chu, do you do any Ingathering in Hong Kong?

T. M. CHU: Oh, yes, yes. Each year our churches work hard to raise their goals. This year our goal was raised 50 per cent higher than it had been before, but letters received since this conference began, tell of success in nearly every church in the mission. The field day in the South China Training Institute brought in \$3,500, and they have nearly reached their goal of \$5,000.

W. A. HILLIARD: We want to thank every one of the loyal Adventists who are here today for the Ingathering that you have raised to help our work in Hong Kong and Macao.



The General Conference brings many unique persons together. Here are shown two outstanding scholars in their field, Dr. Siegfried Horn, Professor of Archeology at the Theological Seminary, warmly shaking hands with Prof. George McCready Price, veteran biologist and writer.

Now, Pastor Chu, what have you heard from our work in China?

T. M. CHU: The Lord has not forgotten His children. The church of China is being tested. But the genuine Christians have remained true to God. Pastors David Lin and Hsu Wha were misunderstood in the beginning, but now they are all right. Ministers and preachers in China are now doing self-supporting gospel work. Our institutions are all run by the government, so our workers use their whole strength to preach the gospel. It is said that last year there were many more young people attending our services in Canton than in any previous year. And in Shanghai, two of our many churches report an attendance of from five to six hundred. Church members are still loyal in paying their tithes, so that the financial situation of some churches is not really bad. Troubles are, of course, everywhere. But if we support the church and pray for our brethren, God's church will never fail and His work will be finished.

W. A. HILLIARD: And now a word about our evangelism in Hong Kong.

T. M. CHU: The Lord is blessing. Our people are active. Last year the pastor of our Kowloon church, Pastor Chung, held an effort in his church. The mission could give him almost no help, though he had a large territory. So he called on the laymen to join him. A group of ten met together to study plans. They set a goal of fifty baptisms—five for each of them. With the blessing of the Lord, on the last Sabbath of last year, forty were baptized, and in the weeks that have followed, the number has gone to over fifty. This year Pastor Milton Lee is preparing a series of evangelistic lessons on slides for our laity. Ninety-five in Hong Kong and Macao have ordered the set and paid a deposit. Brethren and sisters, it is the day of opportunity in the Orient. Pray for us and for those who are there that the work may be finished and we may all go home.

[Betty Liu sang, "In the Hour of Trial."]

MILTON LEE: The prophet Isaiah foresaw a great influx of the Gentiles into the church of this latter hour. In the sixteenth chapter of Isaiah, we read: "Surely the isles shall wait for me." I thank God that the isles of the sea need wait no longer for the gospel of Christ. God has given us a start on Formosa. Pray for the evangelistic program there. Today a sanitarium is being prepared, near the capital city of Taipei. The groundwork has been laid, the foundation has been built, and soon a beautiful sanitarium will be there. It will be a center for a great medical evangelistic program for the eight million of that island. But the Formosa sanitarium building needs forty thousand dollars. We hope to receive it from the 1954, fourth quarter, Thirteenth Sabbath Offering overflow. We trust that you will give liberally.

A. L. HAM: I am sure we are all greatly stirred by this report and thankful to God that the work is progressing so rapidly.

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."



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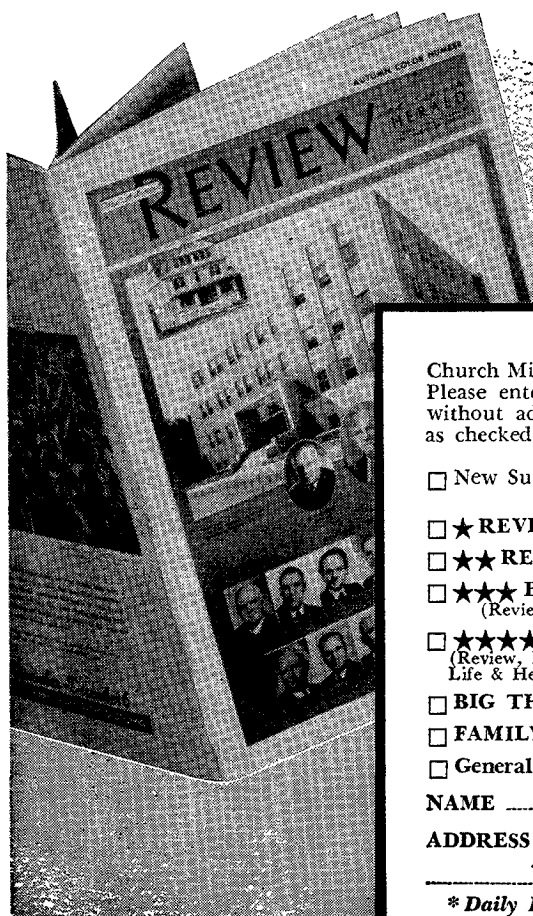
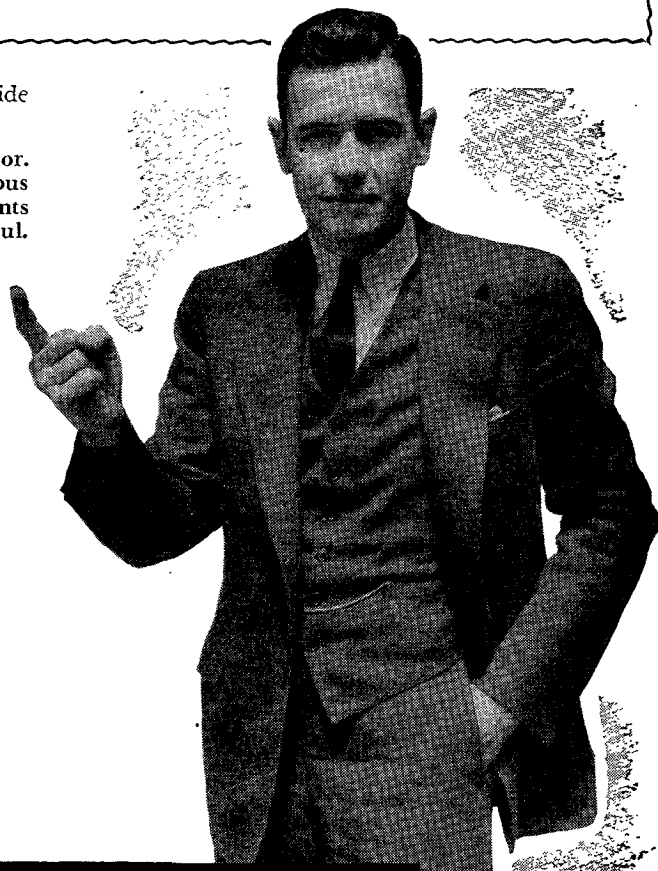
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# The Ellen G. White Publications

By ARTHUR L. WHITE, *Secretary*

A few years before Ellen G. White laid down her pen in 1915 she wrote assuredly: "Whether or not my life is spared, my writings will constantly speak, and their work will go forward as long as time shall last."—*Writing and Sending Out of the Testimonies to the Church*, pp. 13, 14. A few months before this she had written: "Time and trial have not made void the instruction given. . . . The instruction that was given in the early days of the message is to be held as safe instruction to follow in these its closing days."—*The Review and Herald*, July 18, 1907.

To ensure to the church that the writings would continue to speak as long as time should last, Mrs. White created a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees, made up of leading men of long experience to whom she gave the custody of these writings. This board was charged with the responsibility of arranging for the publication of the E. G. White books throughout the world. Its stewardship extended not only to the twenty E. G. White volumes in current circulation in 1915 but to the proper care and use of the 4,500 articles published in the journals of the denomination and the 50,000 pages of E. G. White manuscripts. It also included many pamphlets and a number of out-of-print books. These combined, carefully indexed sources comprise the Spirit of prophecy message to the church and to the world. It is these writings that are to "do their work as long as time shall last." It is to report on this stewardship that the trustees today bring you this summary of activity.

## Custody of the Manuscripts and Articles

To meet the needs of an enlarging and broadening denominational work, Mrs. White, in clause five of her will, in specifying the work of the trustees, authorized "the printing of compilations from my manuscripts." Earlier she had written of her contributions to our journals: "These articles are to be gathered together, reprinted in book form, and placed before believers and unbelievers."—*Letter 73*, 1903.

In harmony with these provisions, twenty-one new volumes have been issued since Mrs. White's death in 1915, five of which have been published during the past four years. These are comprised largely of out-of-print and manuscript materials:

*Welfare Ministry*, a veritable handbook on neighborhood missionary service.

*My Life Today*, the devotional book for 1953.

*Colporteur Ministry*, a rearranged and enlarged presentation of counsel to our colporteur evangelists.

*The Adventist Home*, counsels for "Christian parents."

*Child Guidance*, a companion volume

emphasizing proper discipline and character building.

These titles are found to be in the higher brackets of Seventh-day Adventist trade-book circulation, with *The Adventist Home* proving one of the most sought-after books of the E. G. White counsels. *Child Guidance*, just released, is destined, we believe, to have fully as wide a circulation.

Very valuable materials have also ap-



Arthur L. White

peared as the Supplement to the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, Volumes I and II.

But it is not alone in the widely circulated printed page that the E. G. White messages constantly speak with instruction safe "to follow in these closing days." In the administration of the work of the denomination the officers of the General Conference frequently turn to the trustees for the Spirit of prophecy instruction sent to administrators of earlier years. In response to such requests pertinent counsel, often drawn from the manuscript files, is assembled and made available to the leaders of the Advent Movement. During the past few months requests dealing with matters of major importance have led the trustees to assemble materials furnished in mimeographed form in five documents ranging from twenty pages to over two hundred pages, aggregating over four hundred pages in all. We present one case illustrating the influence of the Spirit of prophecy counsels provided in this form.

When, in the spring and summer of 1953, it was seen that far-reaching plans needed to be developed for the continuing work of the College of Medical

Evangelists, and there was serious question as to the best location for the institution, decision was delayed until careful study could be given to all the E. G. White counsels bearing on the matter. At the request of the leading officers of the church, the trustees furnished in a 220-page, mimeographed document the Spirit of prophecy statements which originally guided in the inception and development of the medical college at Loma Linda and Los Angeles. To ensure the maximum value of the E. G. White utterances and the accuracy of their application, they were placed in a full historical setting.

With this in hand, recommendation was made which took into account "the importance of searching out and heeding the counsels given by Ellen G. White concerning the development of this institution," and the deciding action taken on the location of our medical school was prefaced with the significant words:

"Recognizing and acting in harmony with the guiding principles in Christian education set forth in her writings for the benefit of the church."

## Are We Justified in Using Manuscripts?

It is at times suggested that inasmuch as Mrs. White had opportunity to publish in books while she was living the messages God had entrusted to her, it may be out of place to make reference to or use counsels found in her manuscripts, as has been done in the books and mimeographed documents just referred to. The answer is found first in the specific provisions made by Mrs. White herself for the care and use of her writings, creating a Board of Trustees for this purpose. It is found in frequent handwritten notations on unpublished manuscripts, indicating her understanding that those manuscripts would be of distinct service at some future time. It is found in the practical manner in which these formerly unpublished counsels are now serving the denomination. Is it not significant that God gave instruction and light to His servant many decades ago which proves to be of such practical application now?

That the value and the place of these counsels is understood by the leaders of the church is indicated by the fact that a large part of the unpublished material recently printed has been released at the specific and urgent request of responsible leaders of the Advent Movement. Those serving as trustees are all members of the General Conference Committee, and are men of about the same caliber as those chosen originally by Mrs. White. They are: A. V. Olson, W. P. Elliott, M. E. Kern, J. L. McElhany, F. D. Nichol, J. I. Robison, and A. L. White. Alternate trustees are G. A. Huse, T. H. Jemison, and F. H. Yost.

## Overseas Publication of the E. G. White Books

Mrs. White also charged her trustees with the responsibility of "securing and printing of new translations" of her books. The worldwide church can be strong only as the counsels which have nurtured and encouraged its English-

reading members are made available to the larger proportion of the church membership who do not read the English language. While Mrs. White lived, she began to arrange for the publication of her books in the world's leading languages. This work has been faithfully continued as the growing membership has indicated and available resources have permitted. Financial assistance is given in most cases to hold the selling price of the books within the financial reach of the peoples being served.

Within the past decade financial grants have been made to assist in eighty-four projects. We find in the overseas fields the committees moving forward with faith and courage in the publication of the Spirit of prophecy volumes. When the books now in process of preparation are completed, *Steps to Christ* will have been published in no less than seventy-two languages, and *Great Controversy* in twenty-eight. *Testimony Treasures*, Volume I, and in some cases the full three volumes, are available in six languages, and work is going forward on nine more. Other volumes of vital importance included in the "Introductory Spirit of Prophecy Library" are pouring from our presses around the world and are reaching the homes of our believers.

We rejoice in what has been accomplished in other lands. At the same time, we know not how long we shall be able to work with the freedom we now enjoy, and the trustees appeal to the delegates at this conference, representing the work of the church throughout the world, to forge ahead without delay in the production of the Spirit of prophecy literature for the peoples you represent. You will find the trustees and the General Conference Committee eager to give every encouragement and reasonable financial assistance.

#### New Editions of Long-used Books

In enumerating the tasks to be performed in the custody of her writings, the messenger of the Lord made provision for the "administering," "publishing and selling" of her books, and the "improvement of the books." This embodies whatever is required to keep her books available to the reading public in attractive form. In the books sold by our colporteurs it has meant the recent resetting and reillustrating of *The Great Controversy*, *The Desire of Ages*, *Christ Our Saviour* under the title of *Story of Jesus*, and *Christ's Object Lessons* as *Highways to Heaven*. The publishers are to be commended in their painstaking effort to keep these volumes attractive to the general public.

To add incentive to an increased distribution of the large E. G. White books by our colporteurs, both *The Desire of Ages* and *The Great Controversy* have been divided, each into three attractive, modest-sized books. These, combined with *The Bible Speaks*, have been issued as a nine-volume set bearing the general title of *Treasures of Life*. The enthusiastic reception accorded by the general public to this outstanding set confirms the publishers and the trustees in the conviction that the time is ripe for the is-

suance of all five of the Conflict of the Ages books, *Patriarchs and Prophets* to *The Great Controversy*, appropriately divided, as a set of colporteur books that might be given very wide distribution as a Spirit of prophecy commentary on the Bible story.

Within the past ten years twenty of the E. G. White books have been published in the popular compact and inexpensive Christian Home Library form. This has greatly increased their circulation. Among the most recent of such editions is *The Great Controversy*, issued in this form and available just now at one dollar a copy. As the missionary book of the year, it is anticipated that as our church members throughout the English-reading world catch a glimpse of the unique opportunity of using this volume in missionary work (at the lowest cost in its seventy-year history), it will enter no less than half a million homes.

The *Testimonies for the Church*, first issued as single volumes of some weight and size, and then later bound in four books, may now be had as single, lightweight books, and in this form they are proving very popular. All of these works are on display at the Ellen G. White Publications exhibit on the second-floor corridor and at the bookstand in Larkin Hall.

#### Keeping the Spirit of Prophecy Before the Public

With the passage of the thirty-nine years since the servant of the Lord lived and worked among us, we must not overlook the fact that the large part of our church membership now comprises men and women whose only acquaintance with Ellen G. White is through what they have heard or read. We must plan carefully to follow such a course that the time shall not come when it can be said of Seventh-day Adventists, as it was of Israel of old: "The people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the Lord, that he did for Israel" (Judges 2:7).

The White trustees count it within their responsibilities, not only to keep the Spirit of prophecy writings before the church and the world, but also to keep vivid and accurate concepts of Mrs. White's life and ministry before our new converts and oncoming generation of workers. To accomplish this, both the printed page and the oral presentation are employed. Added last year to the many volumes on Mrs. White and her work which have served so valiantly, is the A. W. Spalding book, *There Shines a Light*, giving us a new and beautiful work designed to introduce Mrs. White to those studying the message or others who may inquire. The issuance in 1951 of *Ellen G. White and Her Critics*, by F. D. Nichol, makes available to all, but of service primarily to Seventh-day Adventist workers, the backgrounds and the facts as they relate to the several charges and criticisms brought against Mrs. White by those who would undermine confidence in the Spirit of prophecy.

The sending into the field of representatives from our office to fill appoint-

ments in our educational institutions and churches, and to conduct Spirit of prophecy institutes, proves helpful. Spirit of prophecy courses presented at the Theological Seminary and the Seminary Extension Schools, taught by members of our office staff, are well attended. The secretary of our board visited six overseas divisions during the past quadrennium, filling appointments in bringing a fuller knowledge of Mrs. White and her work to the workers and members of those fields. In such intensive work, from twenty to twenty-five meetings a week are usually held.

Rapidly increasing church memberships at home and abroad call for intensified efforts, first in instructing new believers and establishing in their hearts a firm confidence in the Spirit of prophecy, and then in leading to a careful study of the counsels and a faithful regard for the instruction. To this end the trustees enlist the active support of every Seventh-day Adventist worker and church member.

"We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us and His teaching in our past history."—*Life Sketches*, p. 196.

#### Radio and Television Department

(Continued from page 231)

hand of the local pastor-evangelist which greatly strengthens his work. We are thankful for the work of more than one hundred ministers who have utilized the modern miracle of radio to proclaim the gospel, and for our conference executives and committees who, with vision, have stood by our local broadcasters.

One of the Radio Department's projects in 1953 was the production of thirteen authentic Seventh-day Adventist mission stories, dramatized for broadcast purposes, to be used especially at the time of the Ingathering appeal. Reports indicate these records, where used on radio stations, have drawn much favorable comment. Eight of these stories have been released over three hundred stations on the National Council of Churches "Let There Be Light" series.

At this point we wish to acknowledge the valuable service rendered the denomination by Paul Wickman, who, prior to his resignation in 1953, served as secretary of the Radio Department for over eight years. His vision of the unfinished work, his untiring efforts, and his outstanding promotional abilities have helped to make this what we believe to be a truly encouraging report of progress.

In October, 1953, James E. Chase responded to a call from the General Conference Committee to connect with the department as associate secretary. His past years of radio and Bible correspondence school experience have already served to greatly strengthen our worldwide endeavors.

We face these uncertain times with undaunted courage and believe that radio and television will do their part in making great conquests for the Lord in the days ahead.

# The Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary

By E. D. DICK, *President*

With the closing of our spring quarter, May 11, at which time twenty-two were graduated, our Theological Seminary rounded out twenty years of service. During this time it has made a broad and effective contribution to our world work. It is a privilege to report on its accomplishments of the past and of the plans for its larger service in days to come.

The Seminary began as an advanced Bible school in the summer of 1934 on the campus of Pacific Union College, being the fruitage of a deep conviction in the hearts of the denomination's leaders that provision should be made for the training of Bible teachers, editors, and other types of workers beyond the work offered in our senior colleges.

To M. E. Kern must be given much of the credit for the beginnings and early guidance of this institution, then new in the Seventh-day Adventist educational program. With vision and conviction born of God, and with the persistent spirit of the rugged American pioneer, he nurtured this new undertaking with unstinted, parental devotion. Often did the midnight oil burn in his, the president's office. He served as its president for nine years. D. E. Rebok did much for the up-building of the institution during the eight years in which he served as its president.

By action of the 1936 Autumn Council, the school was moved to Washington to be in close proximity to the denomination's headquarters. Here it was operated for a time in inadequate quarters. Later funds were provided, and a single administration, library, and classroom building was erected. This was dedicated in 1941. It is here that the work of the Seminary is now carried forward.

The establishment of a school for advanced study was entered upon with considerable trepidation on the part of many. With even greater misgivings did others assent to the naming of this newest educational undertaking, The Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. The word "seminary" was a new word in the Seventh-day Adventist's vocabulary, and "theology" was viewed with questionable connotations by many.

The wisdom of the launching of the institution, its location at the denomination's headquarters, the choice of its name, and the scope of its work have in the years that have since intervened, been amply demonstrated. God has richly blessed its work in the past, and we can confidently expect that in days to come, under His continued guidance, it will make an ever-increasing contribution to the ever expanding work of the denomination.

The success of any seminary is not measured in terms of a large enrollment, but rather by the spiritual tone that pervades its halls and its classrooms, the clarity of

the spiritual vision of its instructors, the degree of commitment to the purposes of God revealed in the hearts and lives of its students, and their increased effectiveness in labor in the cause of God, which they later serve. In these we believe the Seminary has not failed. The uniform expressions of appreciation for the blessings received while in attendance, and for deeper satisfaction and greater successes in labor following, help us to believe that



E. D. Dick

attendance at the Seminary is a treasured and worth-while experience.

The enrollment by quarters during the past quadrennium was as seen in box in the next column.

This represents the following number of students by years:

1950-51	219
1951-52	195
1952-53	220
1953-54	219

In the main, the student body is made up of missionaries on furlough or under appointment, ministerial workers already in service, college and academy Bible teachers, recent graduates from senior colleges not attached to the work, and local institutional workers.

Work is offered leading to three degrees: The Master of Arts, Master of Arts in Religion, both of which require not less than four quarters' work, and the Bachelor of Divinity, which normally requires ten quarters beyond the B.A. degree. Since the establishment of the institution, 264 have been graduated. During the past quadrennium degrees have been granted as seen at the bottom of this page.

"From all the world to all the world," seems a fitting slogan for our Seminary. During the last four years we have enrolled students from forty-eight countries. By years 1950-51, 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54 we have had students from twenty-five, twenty-five, twenty-four, and twenty-five countries respectively. We are truly a "United Nations Assembly." Many of these have come under sponsorships of our overseas divisions; others, at their own expense. Most of these have returned to the work in their homelands.

The work of the Seminary is not confined to those who are privileged to enter its classrooms in Washington. Through the generosity of the General Conference it has been made possible to bring some of the benefits of the Seminary to large numbers of our workers in other divisions by conducting what we have chosen to call extension schools. Five such schools have been conducted in the following areas:

England, for the Northern European Division—Summer 1948

Uruguay, for the South American Division—Winter 1949-50

Mexico, for Spanish-speaking workers in the Inter-American Division—Summer 1952

South Africa, for European workers in the Southern African Division—Winter 1952-53

France, for Southern Europe—Summer 1953

## Enrollment by Quarters During Past Four Years

Summer 1950	104
Autumn 1950	97
Winter 1950-51	96
Spring 1951	86
Summer 1951	83
Autumn 1951	97
Winter 1951-52	95
Spring 1952	84
Summer 1952	80
Autumn 1952	89
Winter 1952-53	104
Spring 1953	71
Summer 1953	90
Autumn 1953	81
Winter 1953-54	120
Spring 1954	86

## Degrees Issued During Past Four Years

1950	M.A.	18	M.A. Religion	16	B.D.	3	Total	37
1951	M.A.	25	M.A. Religion	17	B.D.	2	Total	44
1952	M.A.	19	M.A. Religion	19	B.D.	1	Total	39
1953	M.A.	10	M.A. Religion	17	B.D.	4	Total	31
		72		69		10		151



It is to be noted that three of these schools have been conducted during the last four years. Others are planned to be held in Jamaica and Trinidad in the months of June, July, and August of this year for the English-speaking national workers of the Inter-American Division. These schools have proved to be a rich blessing to our workers in our outlying fields, who have so few opportunities for stimulating study such as these extension schools provide.

It seems in order to intimate another plan being developed, which we believe will be of immense interest and blessing to our Bible teachers. In the summer of 1955 it is planned by the Seminary to conduct a guided tour to Europe, Egypt, and the Bible lands for a period of one quarter; that is, from June 8 to August 16. This is being offered primarily for Bible teachers of experience in our colleges and academies, and the Bible teachers of lesser experience who give outstanding promise of becoming successful teachers in this line, and who have dedicated their lives to this work. We believe this will prove to be an immeasurable blessing to teachers of the Bible, helping them to vitalize their subject matter in the classrooms. It may also lead many to make Bible teaching their life-work. We hope to have a group of thirty participate from this and other lands. Dr. Siegfried Horn, head of our Department of Archeology, will serve as guide for this tour. A quarter's seminary credit will be given those who participate.

It is difficult for any group or class of workers to rightly evaluate their own needs. It is also true that seldom do we seek to attain standards in training beyond those which are required. These facts no doubt have developed the need for accrediting bodies to measure the standards of equipment and the quality of teaching done in the literary and professional schools of the land. In order to meet the requirements set out by the respective accrediting bodies, the training offered in our medical, nurses' training, and general literary courses have been continually raised, with the result that our students finishing these courses compare favorably with and often excel the graduates of like courses in other schools. This is as it should be. "We should be the head and not the tail."

For good reasons no examining bodies have fixed the standards of training which a minister must attain before he takes up his work. This does not mean that we are without guidance in this matter. In both the Bible and in the writings of Mrs. E. G. White, whose instruction has meant so much to this movement, a great deal has been indicated. We recall only a few statements which point the way to thorough preparation of the ministerial worker. From the Scriptures we read, "Study to shew thyself *approved unto God*, a workman that *needeth not to be ashamed*, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15). "That the *man of God may be perfect*, thoroughly furnished unto all good works," or "complete, perfectly equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:17). "Now then we are *ambassadors for Christ*, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you *in Christ's*

*stead*, be ye reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:20).

And condensed in only one book from the pen of Mrs. E. G. White we find the following practical counsel:

"The work of the Christian laborer is not light or unimportant. He has a *high vocation*, from which his whole future must take its mould and coloring. . . . *He should aim high*; he will never reach a higher standard than that which he seeks to attain. . . . He must be a learner before he can have sufficient wisdom and experience to become a teacher, able to open the Scriptures to those who are in darkness."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 73.

"The cause of God needs efficient men; it needs men who are trained to do service as teachers and preachers."—*Ibid.*, p. 92.

"Very much has been lost to the cause by the defective labors of men who possess

## Golden Grain

By FAITH BURCH PERRY

The fields are white, the reapers few,  
The grain will waste for lack of care—  
Christian, does God depend on you?  
Speak to the Lord in humble prayer.

Ask Him to send forth harvesters  
To reap the fields that waiting lie;  
And if He answers, calling you,  
His call you must not then deny.

Or if His choice fall on your son,  
Or on your daughter, still rejoice,  
For honor great is given those  
Who glad obey that loving voice.

Oh, high will be the wages earned  
By those who reap the waiting grain;  
The joy of their Lord is theirs,  
Eternal life shall they obtain.

ability, but who have not had the proper training."—*Ibid.*, p. 78.

"Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for his children. . . . Before the student there is opened a path of continual progress. He has an object to achieve, a standard to attain, that includes everything good, and pure, and noble. He will advance as fast and as far as possible in every branch of knowledge."—*Ibid.*, p. 95.

The primary work of the evangelist, the teacher in our schools, the missionary in the field, is that of winning souls. Emphasis on the need of thorough training is best understood against the background of the statement, "One soul is of infinite value. Calvary speaks its worth."

Unfortunately, even among our own ministry there has grown up a mistaken concept of our present ministerial training program as compared with the training required for the ministry by other church groups. Many have understood that ours was equal to if not superior to the training received by the ministers of other denominations. Such is not the case. It is true that our ministers generally have a better understanding of the Scriptures, of the meanings of the times in which we live, et cetera, but often come far

short in qualities so much desired, which are reflected by more adequate training.

For many years the pattern of training for our ministers in North America has been the completion of the theological course in one of our senior colleges. The training required by the stronger denominations for their ministry is the completion of the B.A. degree in an accredited college, *plus three years of Seminary training*. It will be seen, therefore, that we conclude our ministerial training where other church groups begin.

Our pattern for ministerial training was adopted many years ago, and except for the general strengthening of the work given in our senior colleges since that time, no change has been made. Conditions which the minister meets on the field, however, have changed greatly.

Briefly a few of these are:

1. The advancing levels of education on the part of the populace for whom the Christian worker labors.

2. The mounting pressures of secularism. Keeping the mind of judgment-bound men and women engrossed in the cares of this life to the exclusion of eternal considerations.

3. The sagging standards of morality, increase of criminality, broken homes, divided homes, child delinquency, and other deteriorating influences.

4. In general the younger age level of the current college graduate as compared with those graduating a number of years ago.

5. The greatly intensified program of the church.

6. The absorbing competitive forces of radio, television, glamorous amusements, and enticing recreations, including the modern automobile, the theater, et cetera, making attention to spiritual values of seeming lesser importance.

These facts have caused the leadership of the denomination to feel that the time was overdue when steps should be taken to provide for a more adequately trained ministry. These steps were taken by the 1953 Autumn Council.

The plans adopted in that meeting relating to ministerial training provide that the accepted pattern for training of our ministers in North America shall be an integrated course of five years, four of which shall be taken in one of our senior colleges and the fifth year in the Seminary. This will qualify one who is successful to receive the degree of Master of Arts in Religion.

This action brings great responsibilities to the Seminary board and faculty. It calls for an enlarged physical plant, an increased faculty, and an enriched curriculum. Already we have been giving earnest study to these problems and hope to be able to meet the demands called for by these actions when they become effective at the opening of the autumn quarter of 1955.

Obviously it will be impossible to provide a well-rounded, complete ministerial training in the one additional year. No doubt many will in time wish to take the full three-year course leading to the Bachelor of Divinity degree. We believe, however, that the plans adopted are wise, and when implemented will greatly

(Continued on page 255)

# An Evening With Central Europe

May 31, 1954, 8:00 P.M.

H. L. RUDY: This evening we have the joy of listening to the leaders and representatives of the Central European Division. Our hearts rejoice to know that these brethren and sisters can be with us to bring a report of the work that is done in that great field. Elder W. Mueller, president of the Central European Division, is in charge of the program.

W. MUELLER: Thank you. The opening hymn will be announced by the secretary of our division, O. Schildhauer.

O. SCHILDHAUER: Let us sing hymn No. 90, "Higher Ground."

[W. B. Ochs led in prayer.]

[W. Mueller presented the division report, which appears on p. 200, June 3 Bulletin.]

A. MINCK: From the East German region behind the iron curtain one hears very little that is good. Tonight I bring to this great congregation a very fine message from over there. I give this report in addition to that of our president, Elder Mueller. In the last nine years we have baptized in the East German Union 12,900 members. That is the biggest proof that the message can go on in complete liberty. I have spent several weeks in the churches of this district, traveling and speaking with all the freedom necessary. There is one word all men love, and that is the word, "Peace." On a railway station in one of the cities is found the inscription, "We love peace." And I said, "Amen."

In the East German Union, after the war, 52 chapels and churches were built, and in addition 133 prayer rooms. These should be a good influence for this district. Our members in this zone are of good courage in spite of their experiences. They are firm in the faith. And our children, because of the indulgence of the government, may have the Sabbath off from school. Our brethren and sisters who are working in places of business are also granted Sabbath freedom. So we may say of this district, up until this time, the Lord hath been our strength.

W. MUELLER: Now we shall hear something about the West, from Otto Gmehling, president of the West German Union.

O. GMEHLING: Thirteen thousand members of the West German Union send you their greetings, and also 120 ministers and workers. I would like that at least some of them could have had the privilege of visiting here in person, in order that they might be encouraged by meeting with a large congregation such as this. Our ministers in the western part of Germany have a difficult work to do. It is remarkable how quickly the time of adversity and need has passed from their memories, and how many people's hearts have become hardened in spite of the adversity they went through a few years ago.

As a result of their labors 2,161 souls were baptized in our union. Especially instrumental in winning these souls were our colporteurs, and our lay members have also had a real part in this harvest.

They go with our literature regularly from house to house. Every member of the church has been assigned a certain street. From month to month each member goes to the same people with his literature, making note of names of people. And so after ten months of this work he knows very well who lives on these various streets.

It was a great inspiration for our ministers when George Vandeman, of the General Conference, met with us in our conference in Hannover. We live in a time when we sow more than we seem to harvest. We pray the Lord that the seeds being sown will someday come to fruition. Our members in Western Germany find it difficult to obtain work and have the Sabbaths off. The official employment bureau of the government is not too charitable toward our members. If a member who applies for work refuses to work on the Sabbath, he cannot in many instances receive unemployment insurance. Many experience a testing of their faith in this way. Many a sacrifice is thus made for the Lord of which no one knows anything.

One of our young sisters near Hamburg lost her unemployment insurance. We made an official protest to the government, and when the hearing took place, there was among the judges a lay judge who said in the midst of the hearing, "This young lady may work for me, and she can certainly have the Sabbath off." So if one puts his faith to the test, and is true, he is rewarded.

A minister from another city tells this experience: A brother who works for the post office had had his Sabbaths off. But his superior said he could no longer have this privilege. "If you don't come to work next Sabbath, your work is finished," he was told. But he did not go to work. His superior said, "I will give you one more chance, but if you do not come to work, you are dismissed."

This brother had a family of four children. So during this week the entire church met and prayed for him. The church council met, and before this church council the brother confessed his sins. He confessed that there were things in his heart and in his family that should not be as they were. The following Sabbath, instead of going to work, he went to church. He went to work the following Monday, and he was told that he had been transferred to a different division of the post office. As he came to this other division, his new superior said to him, "I have been looking a long time for a man who would work on Sunday, and just by chance I heard you were to be dismissed for not working on your Sabbath. I am happy to know that I have found a man who will work on Sunday."

A sister who is taking literature from house to house in a city in the Rhineland came one day into the waiting room of the railway station. There at a table she noticed a woman who was crying. She seated herself next to this woman, and asked the cause of her sorrow. The woman replied, "You are the first person to ask

me." She had lost her husband and her child, and so she had intended to go to the Rhine River and drown herself. Because of this contact that woman is today rejoicing in the truth.

I am happy to tell you that our members are standing firm for the truth. Because of the generous help of the General Conference we have been able to reconstruct a number of our churches since the war, and have given certain names to these buildings. Some of them are called the "House of the Advent Hope." These chapels stand as stone monuments to our faith. Over our rostrums we have the declaration of our faith, for the words of Christ are written there, "Behold, I Come Quickly." And the prayer of the church is, "Amen, yes, Come, Lord Jesus."

W. MUELLER: Brother Gmehling knows the English, but he preferred to talk in German. And Paul Wipperman, educational secretary of the Northern California Conference, translated for him.

But now we have the opportunity to hear Mrs. Gerlach. She will sing for us. Prof. Alfred Walters, from La Sierra College, will play the violin obbligato.

[Mrs. Gerlach sang.]

W. MUELLER: Brother Dettmar, president of the South German Union, will report for his field.

R. DETTMAR: [Paul Wipperman translating]: Four years ago during the General Conference session here in San Francisco a certain declaration of Jesus became vital to me. It was that this gospel of the kingdom should be preached in all the world, and then the end would come. Every single member of the church, no matter where he is, belongs to this great movement of the Advent Church. The 11,333 members of my Southern German Union belong to this worldwide work.

In the last four years we have baptized over eighteen hundred members in the Southern German Union. Among these are four hundred youth. The youth of our union have had over forty youth-evangelism crusades in the last four years, bringing in more than two thousand other youth. What has been said of the other German unions and the distribution of literature can also be said of my union conference. The distribution of literature is our layman evangelistic program.

During the last four years we were able to build eighteen new churches. We are thankful that during this time we were able to rehabilitate thirty-three other churches. Not only are our ministers evangelists; they have to be masters of building.

Three things remind us, of America: The first is our undying thanks for the wonderful help you rendered during our time of need. The second is the joy we have of meeting your sons of the American forces in the American zone. The third thing we remember fondly is the fact that the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering of 1952 went for the purpose of rebuilding our church in Frankfurt. This church consequently has become a symbol of our union with you. While we are assembled here in such a large audience, Sabbath school conventions have been conducted in Southern Germany. I have received good reports from these conventions.

Brother Mueller this afternoon introduced a brother who was over eighty years old. During the Ingathering every year this elderly brother has sold over fifteen hundred pieces of literature. We have in Munich a sister who worked as a caretaker of one of our churches. Every year during the Ingathering campaign she sells more than twelve hundred pieces of literature. You will find a marvelous spirit of missionary endeavor in our churches.

Geographically speaking, the Southern German region is one of the most beautiful of Germany. As far as the inhabitants are concerned, however, we are predominantly among Catholic people. In many places in South Germany the local priests are able to prevent public meetings of our churches.

A special thing in our section is the church days of the established church. During one of these church days I met three persons from the East German Zone. I invited them home to dinner. One of these placed a little sign on the table, "Pray with me." It means something in Germany if one offers a prayer before eating in a public eating place. To these three persons I was able to bring a report of our work. They mentioned to me that in their state church on these annual days, a main topic is the political situation. At the end of one of these days they made it known that they thought that the most important thing had not been discussed during that day. By this they meant that they would have liked to hear something about the coming of Christ. I am very happy tonight that our world conference is taking place under the motto, "Behold, I come." We are on the right road. May the Lord bless us until the day of our Lord.

W. MUELLER: We have won in the last four years 8,124 souls. Many of these people emigrate—church elders, deacons, sometimes full churches. The men go to Canada, to the United States, Australia, to other lands. And I want only here to ask you to take care of all these immigrants. Don't forget that sometimes they

do not know the language of the land they come to, but it would be good to have some German services for them. While we have 428 ministers, we all realize that Mrs. White was right when she said that there is a great work to do in Europe. I can tell you that our ministers and church members love the work.

Now, we did not bring with us the choir, but we did one thing, we brought a record so you can hear the Berlin choir singing. [The record by the choir presented the words of 1 John 4:16, and also Luther's "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."]

Brother Christoffers will report on the publishing house and book evangelization.

S. CHRISTOFFERS: It was the printed page, the printing press, that in the days of Martin Luther led the Reformation to victory, and I think it will be the printing press that will lead the Advent message to victory in our day. I bring the greetings from 165 employees from one of the large publishing houses of our denomination. It occupies third place now in number of employees, and I bring you the greetings of the 230 faithful literature evangelists who in sunshine and rain climb up and down stairs in apartment houses in the great cities and travel the lonely countryside of Germany. I bring you greetings from the Hamburg Publishing House. These workers take a leading part in building up our work in Germany and in all of Europe. At one time we published literature in twenty-five languages, and sent books and magazines to Vladivostok in Siberia, and South Africa. You have heard the story of how our publishing house was marvelously saved in the time of crisis when it was heavily bombed, and when everything was destroyed but the machinery, which was marvelously preserved.

The development of our publishing work has been a hard, uphill fight during these last years. Six years ago we did not have a single paper; we had no paper to print on, we did not have any printer's ink, we had hardly any metal for the

type. We lacked rooms, lacked skilled personnel. How could one run a publishing house under such conditions! But the Lord helped us marvelously. We are thankful, also, for the generosity of the General Conference and of the American constituency, which rallied around us and helped us.

Publishing has been an act of faith always. We had no license to publish. For one year we went to the authorities, the occupation authorities, to ask for a license. They did not want to give it. Finally we decided to act in faith. We sent a circular to our people that a paper would be published the fourth of January, 1949. We prepared everything for the first printing, and still we didn't have the license. Then everything was ready to be sent out to the people. It was the Week of Prayer, on the first Sabbath, when the letter came to our hand which gave us the license for publishing this paper. Yes, we had to move in faith.

We cannot send literature into the Eastern Zone. Our brethren there publish on a small scale. But something marvelous has happened. The manuscript they print has to be sent to the authorities for censorship, and much is deleted. Our *Sabbath School Quarterlies* are edited, and many sentences—whole passages—are deleted. When we decided to print the book *Steps to Christ* for the Russian occupied zone, the manuscript was handed to the authorities. When it came back not one word had been deleted. This book could be printed as it came from the pen of the Spirit of prophecy. And this is how God works for our literature ministry in Germany.

I do not have sufficient time to tell you about the lay literature evangelists. One time we had a thousand, but the organization completely broke down during the war. In 1947 we started again on a small scale, and by 1950 we had one hundred book evangelists. Now again we have 230, and what a wonderful spirit we have.

We are sure that the best days of our book evangelism are still ahead. The sixty-five million in Germany cannot be reached alone by the word of the living preacher or by radio, but they will be reached by the printed page.

While it is true that we cannot send literature into the East, who knows how the seed is going that was sown many years ago? We are sure that the time will come when the East will open up again to us. We pray for it, and we believe in it. We still have the Russian type in our publishing house, and we hope and pray the day will come when we will use it to bring the Advent message to the Russian people. We have a house of long tradition. We believe in the power of the printed page that contains the word of God.

W. MUELLER: Thank you, Brother Christoffers. I ask your prayers. The future is not bright, humanly speaking, but we know that behind the darkness of our time comes eternity, rest and peace.

BEN GLANZER: Our German brethren tonight have asked me to sing the German version of "Under His Wings." Translated, instead of "Under His Wings," it is "In God's Hand."

BENEDICTION: S. H. Horn.



Three stalwart leaders of the Central European Division, with a map of their territory in the background. Left to right: A. Minck; Wilhelm Mueller, president; Otto Schildhauer.

# International Temperance Association

By W. A. SCHARFFENBERG, *Executive Secretary*

The International Temperance Association, launched at the 1947 Autumn Council, has two major objectives—

a. The organization of a regional temperance society in every division, and a national temperance society in every country that would launch a revival of the temperance issue among us as a people, and invite every Seventh-day Adventist to renew his temperance vows, sign the pledge, and become an active member of the association.

b. The launching of a worldwide educational program in behalf of total abstinence.

We have been greatly encouraged with the progress that has been made since the association was organized in 1947. One new regional or national temperance society has, on the average, been organized each quarter. A regional society serves a number of countries; a national society serves but one country. Nine regional societies and eighteen national societies have been voted into active membership of the International Temperance Association.

## Alert

The first major project of the International Temperance Association was the launching of *Alert*, which serves as the voice of the International Temperance Association. It is sent to all contributing, sustaining, and life members of the association, as well as to outstanding statesmen, educators, clergymen, physicians, and other influential persons in all parts of the world.

## Activities

When the *Church Officers' Gazette* was discontinued we were confronted with a major problem—a medium for the promotion of our various activities among our church leaders, especially our church temperance secretaries. After due consideration it was voted to authorize the publication of *Activities*. It outlines the duties and responsibilities of the church temperance secretary, suggests ways and means of promoting the annual pledge-signing campaign and membership drive, the World Temperance Day program and offering, and the launching of an aggressive program in behalf of total abstinence in every community.

## Division Organizations

The Southern African Division of the International Temperance Association, under the able leadership of Dr. C. Paul Bringle, has, through the publication of an eight-page quarterly bulletin entitled *Think*, brought Seventh-day Adventists into the forefront of the temperance reform movement in South Africa.

Southern Asia, under the leadership of Chad B. Israel, has launched the National Temperance Society of India. The publication of an Indian edition of *Alert* was started, and the society is moving

forward with an aggressive pledge-signing campaign and membership drive. Among the list of members will be found the names of many government officials, top educators, and other prominent men.

The Southern European Division has organized two national societies, one in France, with headquarters in Paris; and the other in Switzerland, with headquarters in Bern. Steps have also been taken for the organization of a national



W. A. Scharffenberg

society in Austria, which should be voted into membership of the International Temperance Association at this session. A French edition of *Alert* has been launched, with Charles Gerber as editor. It is being circulated in the French-speaking territories of the division.

M. Fridlin and Dr. W. Mueller are giving the temperance work in the Southern European Division excellent leadership.

Under the leadership of W. J. Hackett the temperance work in the Far Eastern Division is receiving a new impetus. The Philippine Temperance Society was the first national society to be organized. Two life members have already been secured. The Indonesia Temperance Society was the next society to be organized; Japan followed suit, and we understand that the Malayan Temperance Society is requesting membership in the International Temperance Association at this meeting.

The Middle East Division, under the leadership of C. C. Morris, has organized societies in the East Mediterranean and the Nile Union Missions. A chapter has been organized in our Middle East College.

J. C. Culpepper, the temperance secretary of the Inter-American Division, re-

ports that there is an active group of Seventh-day Adventists in Costa Rica who are conducting a series of temperance programs over the radio.

In Nicaragua a colonel of the army was so favorably impressed while listening to a temperance program presented by our members that he is now studying our message. As a result of these programs a number of men decided to give up their cigarettes. "We have quit smoking," said these men. "Won't you pray for God to help us overcome this vice?"

The constitution of the German Temperance Society was formally adopted at a meeting of the Central European Division Committee on June 26, 1953.

Temperance secretaries have been appointed in all their unions and in the seventeen conferences. The German Temperance Society, under the aggressive leadership of Otto Brozio, bids soon to become an active force in Germany.

"The temperance cause," reports E. W. Pedersen, newly elected temperance secretary for the Northern European Division, "among the Advent people of the Northern European Division is as strong and as greatly appreciated as it is among genuine Seventh-day Adventists anywhere, even though a special temperance departmental organization as such is not yet functioning in every land of our division.

"We feel confident that when our people realize the temperance work is an integral part of the third angel's message, that when they see it is a means of helping prepare a people ready to meet God, they will rally to the temperance cause with all the ardent zeal so characteristic of the Advent Church."

The South American Division, under the leadership of L. H. Olson, has organized societies in Brazil, Argentina, and Peru. The outstanding contribution of the South American Division to the temperance cause was the launching of *Escute*, a sixteen-page quarterly in Portuguese, and *Piense*, a sixteen-page quarterly in Spanish. *Escute* serves as the voice of the Brazilian Temperance Society, and *Piense* serves the Spanish-speaking section of South America.

The Canadian Temperance Society, under the able leadership of H. E. McClure, is promoting the annual pledge-signing campaign and membership drive in a very efficient manner and is now moving into the forefront of the temperance reform movement in Canada.

Temperance became a major issue recently in Newfoundland when the premier suggested that the churches get together and combat the evils of alcoholism. The premier, who is a regular reader of *Listen*, offered to help a united effort of this nature to the amount of \$25,000.

When the churches got together to organize, they selected a graduate of the Loma Linda Institute of Scientific Studies for the Prevention of Alcoholism to head up their Temperance Educational program. This man, in turn, recommended a graduate of Oshawa Missionary College to serve as secretary of the organization.

## American Temperance Society

Our local and union conference temperance secretaries have been vigorously promoting the annual pledge-signing cam-



paign and membership drive, the Temperance Day program and offering, the circulation of *Listen* magazine, and have taken an active part in many local option campaigns and other community projects.

### National Convention

The second national convention of the American Temperance Society was held in Washington, January 20-26, 1953. Our denominational principles, as well as our working policies, were carefully reviewed and re-endorsed at this convention. One major public meeting was held in Constitution Hall. Governor McKeldin, of Maryland, a nonsmoker and a non-drinker, was our guest speaker. The newspapers referred to the meeting as a post-inaugural mass meeting to impress upon the new administration the importance of cleaning up the mess in Washington and cutting down on the cocktail parties. The meeting received international publicity. Over 250 press reports from various parts of the world were received.

President Eisenhower has advised religious leaders that he does not approve the serving or consumption of alcoholic beverages in the White House. There is a very definite reaction setting in against the liquor traffic. Now is our opportunity to strike and drive the temperance issue home to the hilt.

### Listen

*Listen* magazine is recognized as the outstanding temperance journal in the field today.

"This is the finest publication," writes Major W. C. Young, of Nashville, Tennessee, "on the subject of alcoholism I have yet seen."

The president of the Georgia WCTU, Mrs. Luther Dent, writes as follows: "I would like to express my appreciation of your magazine *Listen*. To me it is by far the most attractive and interesting for all groups of any temperance magazine on the market."

From Fred D. L. Squires, of the American Business Men's Research Foundation, comes the following word: "*Listen* magazine, which we do not hesitate to say, is the most beautiful de luxe publication ever created in the field of the temperance movement. It should have a million circulation, no less."

Judge J. J. Quillin of the Portland Municipal Court receives a club of fifty *Listen* magazines each quarter. As he deals with cases involving the use of liquor he encourages those convicted to study the helpful contents of *Listen* as part of his judicial counsel.

Our educational director, Winton H. Beaven, reports that chapters of the American Temperance Society have been organized in all of our colleges and in most of our seventy boarding academies. Membership in several schools has reached 100 per cent of the student body. The most notable achievement during the past year has been made by the Canadian Union College, which enrolled the entire staff and student body of 273 in the Temperance Society. Several of the academies in the United States likewise reported 100 per cent student membership, with most of the others enrolling an overwhelming majority of their students.

*Chapter Exchange*, the official informational organ beaming to our colleges and academies, now has a circulation of 15,000. It carries reports of the activities of students around the world, and serves as a coordinating agent in the entire youth-temperance program.

The Central California Conference, the Michigan Conference, the Indiana Conference, and the Chesapeake Conference were the first conferences to hold conference-wide church temperance secretaries' councils. The New York, Illinois, Wisconsin, Arkansas-Louisiana, and a number of other conferences arranged a series of regional councils. All day sessions were usually planned. In the majority of cases the conference president, general, union, and local conference temperance secretaries, as well as district leaders and local pastors, took an active part in these councils.

We believe that the conducting of district, regional, or conference-wide church temperance secretaries' councils will do more to revive the temperance work and develop local leadership in every church than anything we have yet attempted.

### Financial Report

The International Temperance Association, as well as the regional and national temperance societies, affiliated with it are financed through (a) membership fees, (b) Temperance Day offerings, and (c) volunteer contributions.

The division committees in consultation with the regional or national temperance society officials fix the membership dues and determine the basis on which the funds are to be divided, with the understanding that 10 per cent of the funds received by national or regional societies shall be remitted through the respective organizations to the International Temperance Association.

The income of the American Temperance Society during the last quadrennial period indicates a gain of \$191,418.92 over the previous quadrennial period, which is very encouraging.

### Funds Raised for Temperance Work

Union	1946-1949	1950-1953	Totals
Atlantic	\$ 8,900.22	\$ 19,913.00	\$ 28,813.22
Central	10,472.32	17,510.73	27,983.05
Columbia	21,439.48	47,337.83	68,777.31
Lake	8,389.14	21,398.76	29,787.90
Northern	6,984.46	12,943.27	19,927.73
North Pacific	19,178.14	37,290.99	56,469.13
Pacific	45,302.07	93,087.79	138,389.86
Southern	7,840.99	25,876.23	33,717.22
Southwestern	5,962.72	16,274.60	22,237.32
Miscellaneous	9,332.29	43,587.55	52,919.84
Grand Totals	\$143,801.83	\$335,220.75	\$479,022.58

Of temperance funds raised, 25 per cent was retained by the churches; 25 per cent by the conferences; and 50 per cent was forwarded on to the General Conference. The International Temperance Association was credited with 10 per cent of the funds for the promotion of our temperance work throughout the world field.

The first part of this report had to do primarily with our own denominational church program. This section deals specifically with the International Commission, the National Committee, and the Institute of Scientific Studies for the Prevention of Alcoholism, organizations that we have launched, endorsed, and supported.

### International Commission

The setting up of the International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism is an effort to enlist the support of outstanding men and women of all walks of life and in all lands who stand with us on the platform of total abstinence, and who will join us in launching a worldwide educational program in behalf of total abstinence.

The commission will consist of approximately 150 outstanding men and women from all countries of the world. The number of representatives to be selected from each country will be based on the population.

The setting up of this commission has given us an opportunity to discuss our temperance message with kings and presidents, with prime ministers and cabinet officials, with members of parliament and governors of provinces; and like Paul of old, we have reasoned with them of righteousness, of temperance, and of judgment to come.

The International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism will in no way compete with the International Temperance Association, with any regional or national temperance society affiliated with the International Temperance Association, or with any other temperance organization. It will have but two major objectives—the conducting of Institutes of Scientific Studies for the Prevention of Alcoholism in strategic centers and the preparing and publishing of authoritative materials for teachers and professional temperance workers for their classroom lectures and general educational work. The commission will not suggest, project, or endeavor to influence the policies or programs of any temperance organization.

### National Committee

The National Committee for the Prevention of Alcoholism was incorporated on February 12, 1954. It will concentrate its efforts in conducting an aggressive educational program in behalf of total abstinence in the United States.

### Institute of Scientific Studies

The Institute of Scientific Studies for the Prevention of Alcoholism is conducted under the auspices of the National Committee, and as its name implies, is dedicated to the prevention of alcoholism through scientific studies, research, and education.

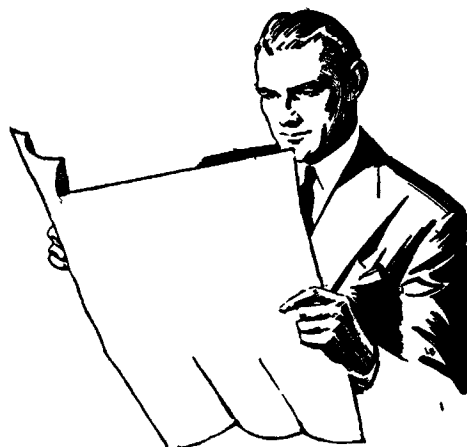
The institute will put the spotlight of science on the false teachings of the alcoholic beverage industry and will unmask the deceit and sophistry of those who condone social drinking and are fostering a program of moderation. Total abstinence is the only final, ultimate, and scientific solution to the alcohol problem, for total abstinence is the only known and proved way to prevent alcoholism.

The executive director of the International Bureau Against Alcoholism, after having attended a session of the Institute, proposed the launching of a similar program for all Europe. We are recommending that favorable consideration be given to conducting the first session of an all-European Institute of Scientific Studies for the Prevention of Alcoholism in Geneva, August 14-27, 1955.

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ASSOCIATION, TAKOMA PARK, WASHINGTON 12, D.C.

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## The Theological Seminary

(Continued from page 249)

strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of our worker group.

It is also planned in the future for Bible teachers in training to have classroom practice teaching on the academy level. Arrangements have been agreed upon for the facilities of the Takoma Academy to be used for this purpose. We believe this will greatly strengthen the training program and enable the teacher to go forth in service with greater confidence and assurance of success.

Still another service that I feel the Seminary should be asked to render the denomination in a more definite way than has been done hitherto, is the providing of courses in orientation and related subjects for all missionary appointees.

No doubt greater care might well be given in the selection of missionary candidates through probationary appointments. This we believe would result in mission service as a dedication for life. Our new mission appointees need and should receive instruction beyond that which they generally possess before proceeding to their field of appointment. The developing anti-Christian, anti-Western attitudes in many areas make such training imperative. I hope that this General Conference session will give some positive, enabling action that will lead to our institution serving as a Foreign Missions as well as a Theological Seminary. This matter needs the united and earnest consideration of every member of the General Conference Committee, which is responsible for the strengthening and extension of our work in our overseas divisions. Plans for this important development should not be long delayed.

With a renewed dedication for the training of a working force that may, under the blessing of God, through the outpouring of His Spirit, result in the triumph of our message and the return of Christ, this report is submitted.

### Southern European Division

(Continued from page 234)

Then, when these properties have been purchased and buildings erected, permissions have to be obtained for the occupancy and use of these facilities. Add to this the difficult situation in many lands as regards the conscientious accomplishment of military duties and the obligatory attendance of children and youth at public schools, and you have the situation facing Southern Europe year on end.

Thus have all means and methods, old and new, been harnessed for the work of the Lord in Southern Europe. Even the public press has now been brought into action in our favor. Today the newspapers in most of our lands give relatively good publicity to our evangelistic efforts. Church news finds its way into the most conservative of our papers, even into those of Switzerland. The international youth congress at Paris got a special edi-

tion of *France-Soir* devoted to the meeting and its activities. The press clippings on this congress, put end to end, reach more than forty feet. Press bulletins are issued to newspapers and journals by the press department.

Truly, our press work has come to a new day. Further successes are on the horizon since the press bureau meeting of 1953. Sixty delegates from the division were present for this convention, and definite plans were laid which already are bearing appreciable fruit.

Brethren, the message is onward in Southern Europe. We think it wonderful to be able to move forward to victory at this mighty moment of earth's history. What a privilege to be able to live and to love and to sacrifice in view of the great day when, dressed in the shining white of God's glory and character, we shall from all lands mount up the triumphant stairs to the home above. That day hastens on apace.

It is in anticipation of the great and glorious event, when time shall become eternity, that we labor on, believing in victory, planning for victory, and resolved, under God, to live victoriously. And may that day be hastened.

### Hope of the Resurrection

(Continued from page 229)

first resurrection at Christ's coming, but that the resurrection of the wicked will take place at the close of the millennium.

#### The Hope of the Second Advent

The hope of the second coming of Christ should keep us from being discouraged while passing through this wilderness of woe. It should remove all doubt from our minds, because doubt does not live in the presence of hope. It should purify our hearts, that we might be ready to join with that glorious, blood-washed throng who will rise to meet their Lord in the air and be forever with Him. This hope should lighten up the darkest valleys through which we are called upon to pass in this old world of sin and sorrow. It should be a guiding star, ever going before to cheer us with its clear shining.

Soon the shout of victory over death will reverberate throughout this old world, and from the valleys and from the mountains will come forth those who have been sleeping in earth's bosom.

Imagination holds a mirror to catch a reflection of that day. The generations of Noah will mingle with the contemporaries of Peter, and they with the latest converts from the Solomon Islands or from the teeming millions of Indonesia.

In Gloucester, England, there is a marble monument in the cathedral depicting a mother and her children being drawn from the sea, in which their ship had foundered, to link hands with father and husband. What reunions! "From earth's wide bounds, and ocean's farthest coast" they come, and into the city of God there enters a countless host.

"Oh, then what raptured greetings,

On Canaan's happy shore,

What knitting severed friendships up

Where partings are no more.  
Then eyes with joy shall sparkle  
That dimmed with tears of late,  
Orphans no longer fatherless  
Nor widows desolate."

#### We Must Be There to Meet Them

What a tragedy it would be not to be among that glorious throng! How terrible to look around with anxious gaze for some dear loved one and find that he is missing, and to know that he is lost, and lost forever. How heartbreaking for the one who is saved, but how terribly tragic for the one who is lost!

Now is the time for us to prepare. Today is the day of our salvation. This gift of life is freely offered to us now. Not only is Jesus holding out this gift, but He is imploring us to receive it from His gracious hand. Shall we not this morning renew our consecration pledge and say that by God's grace we will accept the provision Heaven has made for our salvation; that from henceforth we will appropriate to ourselves the life of Christ; that "whether we wake or sleep," it will be our privilege to receive the crown of immortality and thus share in the joys of unending life with our blessed Lord in paradise.

THE conditions of obtaining mercy of God are simple and just and reasonable. The Lord does not require us to do some grievous thing in order that we may have the forgiveness of sin. We need not make long and wearisome pilgrimages, or perform painful penances, to commend our souls to the God of heaven or to expiate our transgression; but he that confesseth and forsaketh his sin shall have mercy.—*Steps to Christ*, p. 37.

## THE ADVENT REVIEW AND HERALD

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## Proceedings of the General Conference

(Continued from page 244)

[The secretary read the following recommendations:]

### Health Education and Ministry of Healing

WHEREAS, The purpose of our great gospel medical missionary program has been set forth clearly in the following words:

"In teaching health principles, keep before the mind the great object of reform—that its purpose is to secure the highest development of body and mind and soul. Show that the laws of nature, being the laws of God, are designed for our good; that obedience to them promotes happiness in this life, and aids in the preparation for the life to come."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 146.

WHEREAS, The Lord's messenger points out the importance of the book, *Ministry of Healing*, by stating, "This book contains the wisdom of the Great Physician" (*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 71); therefore,

We recommend, 1. That we call upon all our church members around the world to reread and study the book *Ministry of Healing*; and,

2. That we suggest they use in their study the newly revised booklet "Twelve Outline Studies for the Ministry of Healing"; and,

3. That our conference, mission, and church leadership study the plan now being followed in some of our churches, of having a monthly prayer meeting night set aside for the study of our great health principles as found in the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy.

[The recommendations were adopted.]

L. K. DICKSON: The next series of recommendations deal also with our medical work.

[The secretary read the following:]

### Medical Secretaries

WHEREAS, The various branches of our denominational work prosper and make their best growth under the direct fostering care of departmental secretaries in the divisions, conferences, and missions, who devote their full time and energy to promoting them; and,

WHEREAS, Our medical work, to the extent that it has been fostered, has served to break down prejudice and to strengthen our evangelistic objectives; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That our division, union, and local conference leadership give favorable study to properly staffing the Medical Department in their respective fields, headed, if possible, by a physician or nurse who preferably would be employed as a regular full-time conference worker.

2. That where a nurse or physician is not available for full-time employment, some one of the conference staff be named to fill the position of medical secretary, to promote the interests of health education in the field.

[The recommendations were adopted.]

L. K. DICKSON: One more item of business.

[The secretary read the following recommendations:]

### Sabbath School Offerings

In view of our ever-expanding mission work with its increasing pressure for needed funds in this late hour, with still so large a worldwide unfinished task before us,

We recommend, 1. That every effort be put forth to encourage all our Sabbath schools to achieve the splendid objectives of a definite weekly per capita goal for missions through our Sabbath school offerings, the goal for North America being set at fifty cents, with appropriate goals for other parts of the world field set by the committees concerned.

2. That each Sabbath school set a specific over-all offering goal, and by appropriate methods such as the use of charts or devices keep the offering achievements before the school week by week and thus enable all the members to know the status and progress.

3. That specific funds such as Birthday-Thank Offerings, Investment Offerings, and Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings be recorded separately, and the school be specifically informed as to the amounts in these various offerings, and that care be taken to keep each offering separate.

4. That we reaffirm our action of the year 1909, "That our Sabbath schools give all their donations to missions, providing for their expenses in other ways," and that these funds be held as a sacred trust, never to be used for any purpose whatsoever except as foreign mission offerings, and that church treasurers faithfully pass all Sabbath school mission offerings on to the local mission and conference treasurers.

[At this point in the meeting the governor of California entered and was seated on the platform.]

L. K. DICKSON: A very interesting and unique fact about this General Conference session is that it is being held in the fastest growing State in the Union. I am told that it is growing at the rate of over a half a million a year. Such immense growth means the multiplication of all the problems of government, as we can well understand. It brings tremendous administrative problems, and challenges the most able statesmen and executives. We have a distinguished guest with us today who not only has recognized these great responsibilities but has demonstrated the ability to carry them courageously and meet them successfully. Ladies and gentlemen, I am greatly honored in the privilege of presenting to you His Excellency, the governor of this great State of California, the Honorable Goodwin J. Knight.

[The governor's address will appear later.]

L. K. DICKSON: Governor Knight, we greatly appreciate the principles of which you have spoken. They are principles which Seventh-day Adventists believe in thoroughly, wherever you may find them in all parts of the world. We are greatly enjoying the friendship and hospitality for which California is so famous. The sunshine and flowers of sunny California are always here and are tempting many of us, I am sure, to make our homes within its borders. May we extend to you, Your Excellency, and to the people of your great State our best wishes, and our prayers for prosperity and for still greater success in meeting the uncertainties and perplexities of government that must be faced in these strange times.

[Audience stood and applauded as the governor made his exit.]

Meeting adjourned.

BENEDICTION: R. R. Figuhr.

A. V. OLSON,

L. K. DICKSON, *Chairmen*.

J. I. ROBISON, *Secretary*.



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