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EXCERPTS FROM

The 1954 Autumn Council of the General Conference

D. A. DELAFIELD

AT 9 P.M., Thursday, October 21, 1954, the first meeting of the 1954 Autumn Council came to a close, but the meeting was a good start for what was destined to be a fruitful council. . . .

R. R. Figuhr, president of the General Conference, reminded his alert audience that "our people in all the world look upon this Fall Council with respect and even reverence. They know that decisions will be made here that will effect the progress of the work in all the world."

With considerable feeling Elder Figuhr stated that "our work is a serious work, and we should come to it in a serious frame of mind." He reminded us of troubled conditions in the world and the prospects of great difficulties that lie ahead when sudden and terrible death may fall upon large populations and threaten our civilization. The spiritual needs of the church in the face of these awesome prospects should demand from every Adventist minister sober thoughts and deep consecration.

The General Conference president asked all voluntarily to put themselves under the control of the Spirit of God, that in the deliberations of the council we might all be divinely led in our thinking as well as in the expression of our ideas and in com-

mittee work. What he said was appropriate. Leaders in the Advent faith cannot come in a light frame of mind or a jocular mood to budget and plans committees and wrestle with the heavy financial problems that face them there. . . .

The Scripture lesson for the evening was read by L. K. Dickson—Isaiah 52:1-12. These words especially attracted us: "Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean."

Here is the promise of God that there would be a great ingathering of truly converted souls who would know the Lord and be clothed in His righteousness. We were impressed that this scripture had been read to the delegation as a forceful reminder that the Fall Council would have no significance to the church or the world unless a fruitful harvest of souls would be gathered in as the result of plans laid at these meetings.

A GREAT INGATHERING OF SOULS

There were indications everywhere that a great ingathering of souls is even now taking place. H. W. Klaser, statistical secretary, in a brief report

stated that "the largest number of converts in the history of the denomination was reported for 1953, and as reports come from the far corners of the earth, we feel that our faithful people truly are preaching the gospel to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." . . .

But there is need that our people awake, for a large work remains. "Think for a moment of our task," reminded Brother Klaser. "In the world, with approximately 2,400,000,000—about 1,000,000 of whom are Seventh-day Adventists—there are 2,400 persons for each member of the church. . . .

"The church membership," said Brother Klaser, "now stands at 924,822, and we are anxiously praying and hoping that we shall reach the one-million mark during 1954. . . .

A BRIEF TREASURER'S REPORT

In presenting a brief report for the treasury, C. L. Torrey summoned to his aid W. H. Williams, who has served the General Conference for many years as under-treasurer. . . . For twenty-five years Brother Williams has been working on mission budgets and preparing them for Fall Councils, where these budgets are carefully and prayerfully dis-

cussed and finally voted. The members of the Budget Committee must decide just how much can be allocated to each division field. Brother Williams reminded us that if we had raised money for missions in 1953 as we did back in 1930, we would have received \$19,000,000 for missions during 1953 instead of \$9,000,000. But "when we consider that a total of over \$60,000,000 for all purposes was contributed to the work of God in 1953, we are greatly encouraged," he said. . . .

W. H. Branson spoke at the devotional hour Friday morning, October 22. Taking as his text Revelation 14: 6, 7, he referred to the beginning of the judgment in 1844 and reminded us that "one hundred and ten years ago this text became present truth." "We lack just ten years now," he stated soberly, "of that period which was given to Noah to preach the judgment that would come." While not implying that the Advent Movement has been allotted a span of exactly twelve decades to complete its work, the former General Conference president nevertheless found an interesting comparison that should challenge us to redeem the time, for "the days are evil."

"The entire work of the Seventh-day Adventist people has been done while the judgment has been in session in heaven," said Elder Branson.

The judgment of God has been in progress while the nations of the earth were angry and fighting against one another and while persecution against the church of God has been waged in many lands. We shall see much more of these sorrows before the end.

Appealing to the ministers present to live a holy life, Elder Branson remarked, "I am aware that I am talking to a group of ministers, but sin is sin, no matter in whose life it is found. Surely we ministers ought to walk circumspectly before God. If a minister has committed sin, it is just as imperative for him to confess his sin to God as for the weakest layman. There is one thing nearer to us today, brethren, than the second coming of Christ, and that is the judgment of God." A season of prayer followed, in which there was much heart searching and humbling of the soul. . . .

SABBATH DAY SERVICES

Sabbath morning Elder Figuhr addressed many of the delegates who gathered in the Sligo church, while Elder Beach spoke to a packed audi-



WHAT WILL IT BE?

DOROTHY E. WALTER

What will it be to behold Him
When life's setting sun has gone
down;

When earth and the sea are all still-
ness,

And God shall come forth with His
crown!

What will it be to behold Him—

No sorrow or tears in our eyes!

With wings like the angels we'll travel
Beyond the blue dome of the skies.

What will it be to be sinless,

No wayward retreat to design!

The frowns of our souls will be kind-
ness,

And in our dim hearts God will
shine;

No harsh word will then e'er be
spoken

To bring to another bleak tears;

No home then will ever be broken,

But joy will roll on as the years.

What will it be to see Jesus

When life's setting sun has been set;

When millions awake to behold Him

And loved ones again have been
met!

What will it be to behold Him,

To be ready for that blessed day!

Will hearts then be washed of their
blackness?

Will sins then be all wiped away?



ence in the Takoma Park church.

Using as his text 1 Thessalonians 1:9, 10, Elder Beach emphasized the words, "Ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; and to wait for His Son from heaven." The church at Thessalonica was a model church. The soul-winning endeavours of this congregation were "ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia."

It is significant that in many places of the world our Adventist people have distinguished themselves for their missionary zeal. "In France a few years ago," said Brother Beach, "we had a typical experience of the unmeasured outreach of this cause. At that time we had just a small beginning work. The brethren had to go to the bishop to get certain authorization, or rather, recommendations. He said he could not consent to their request.

"This is the only request," said our brethren. "We are just a small

group. We shall not be back again often." "Oh, no," replied the bishop, "you will be back again. I know your numbers. Adventists already number more than 100,000 in this area." With a smile, Brother Beach informed his audience, "We had in that area one preacher, four colporteurs, and seventy-five members! That was all."

"Perhaps," concluded Brother Beach, "a hundred thousand people had been touched in their hearts. Who knows, someday they may march into the blazing glory of God's character."

A joint meeting in the Sligo church was held at three-thirty Sabbath afternoon. At this time V. T. Armstrong, former president of the Far Eastern Division, rendered a most thrilling report of progress in those distant lands. "The prophecy of Isaiah 52:10—"The Lord hath made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God"—is being literally fulfilled in the Far East today," declared Elder Armstrong. The large and growing membership in that division field represents an entirely different situation from that which Elder Armstrong found when he sailed to Japan as a missionary many years ago. He recalled speaking with W. A. Spicer about the question of our growing membership just before the death of our esteemed brother. "If I had not joined the church fifty years ago, I certainly would today," said Brother Spicer. Those of us who have observed the providential growth of the movement share these feelings. This is certainly God's church, and we have evidence of His presence with us.

Elder Armstrong reminded us that up to 1844 God measured time by months and years, but "since 1844 God has been measuring time by a task. It is for us to remember that that task is not completed. To those who suggest that many more years will be required to finish the work, Elder Armstrong replies, "I don't believe it, but I do believe that the task is more nearly finished than we think, even though there is a net increase in the world's population amounting to sixty thousand people every day." . . .

Elder Armstrong observed that the opportunities for preaching the gospel in the Far East are greater now than ever before. The war in Korea, instead of stopping our work, has created a demand for our missionaries. During the war years in Korea there

was a net gain in membership of 71 per cent. "No, it is not a matter of years any more, but the matter of a task, that separates us from the return of our Lord," Elder Armstrong said in conclusion. . . .

SUNDAY MORNING DEVOTIONAL

Sunday morning at nine o'clock F. L. Peterson, associate secretary of the General Conference, spoke during the devotional hour. Using as his text Matthew 16:13-18, Elder Peterson, until recently president of Oakwood College, encouraged the hearts of the delegates with his spirited remarks concerning the church. "Of all the established institutions in the world, this is the only one established by God Himself. It is the one institution of God's special love and care," he said.

Elder Peterson reported briefly on his recent visit to Northern Europe, where he attended meetings in England, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Holland.

"There was only one barrier between us as we visited our people in these lands," remarked Brother Peterson. "It was the language barrier," he said. "Certainly the truth of God is being manifested in the lives of our believers in those countries. I couldn't understand their language. They couldn't understand mine, but there was one single heart-beat. 'We welcome you into our homes and into our churches,' they said to me. One little Finnish girl who knew I couldn't speak Finnish pointed to me and said, 'I like that man, but he can't talk.'"

Why did she like him? Because of the love of the message and the love of Christ in her heart. Why did Brother Peterson love this Finnish child? Because the love of Christ was in his heart. "The truth of God makes us love everybody," remarked Brother Peterson. The tie that binds other organizations together in the world may be broken, but the church of Christ on earth is one. He appealed to the church to keep the love of God alive and active in its midst. . . .

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Budget Committee met, as did the large Plans Committee, during much of the time Sunday. I dropped in on the Budget Committee and listened to members of this large group as they struggled over the urgent requests from representatives of our world divisions. C. P. Sorensen, secretary of the Far Eastern Division, was standing before this committee appealing for help when I entered the back door of this com-

mittee room. I heard him request money for radio work in Japan, for new buildings at the Philippine Union College in Manila, and for the new college on Mindanao. Especially touching was his request for "just one missionary family to enter Cambodia. We would like so much to enter that land," he said. "I plead for just one missionary family."

The money available to meet such requests is meagre indeed compared with the overwhelming needs. The brethren do the best they can with the funds available. How urgently we need to consider the question of our responsibility to Jesus Christ in the light of His supreme sacrifice for our redemption.

A look to the cross of Calvary will inspire larger gifts for these men who must look to committees for money to carry on the work. As we near the end of time, can we not all dig a little deeper into our pocket-books? Perhaps we can wear suits and dresses a little longer and drive our cars a little farther and gather in a little bit more for missions.

GRATITUDE AND CONSECRATION

WHEREAS, During the past year we have had the joy and satisfaction of witnessing unnumbered evidences of God's constant and loving care and protection over His church and many demonstrations of His power in holding in check the powers of evil which are constantly striving to thwart the purpose that He would accomplish through His church and in advancing the work which His people have been commissioned to do in all the earth; and,

WHEREAS, The past year has been another year of remarkable growth and developments, and of triumphs and achievements in the onward march of the church, and has been marked by a great influx of new members into the ranks of God's remnant people, be it therefore

Resolved, That we express to God our deep and heart-felt gratitude for His matchless love and His countless mercies and blessings to His people, especially for the gift of the Holy Spirit, which has enabled them to accomplish for Him that which cannot be achieved through human strength and material resources alone. Further, that we go forth from this council with renewed courage and a clearer vision of our divinely appointed task, with a fuller dedication and a more intense devotion to the service of God, and with a determination to lead our fellow believers by love, zeal, and example in a mighty endeavour quickly to finish His work and to hasten the coming of our blessed Lord in power and great glory.—
Action taken at Autumn Council.

May God's people bestir themselves to enter into a covenant with Him by sacrifice. Can we not dispense with luxuries as long as there is one soul unwarned and unsaved in all the world? . . .

Tuesday morning J. L. McElhany, General Conference president from 1936 to 1950, spoke to the delegates on the subject "The Certainty of Christ's Coming." Referring to Peter's prophecy that "there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of His coming?" Elder McElhany remarked that there are many evidences about us that indicate the fulfilment of this prediction.

We are all aware of the failure of the World Council at Evanston to bring forth any clear-cut statement of hope or expectation regarding the return of Jesus. Many prominent Christian theologians hope that the doctrine of the Second Advent will take its place way out on the periphery of our ideas. But there will never be an excuse for the Seventh-day Adventist Church to lose sight of the imminence of our Lord's return. If we are indeed to be the *Advent Movement*, we must ever be alert to impress men's minds with the nearness of that great event toward which the whole creation moves."

I dropped over to the Review office for a few moments after the devotional hour and met W. E. Read, field secretary of the General Conference. He stopped me at the drinking fountain and remarked with conviction, "This is a very well-organized conference. Have you noticed how smoothly the meetings are moving along, and with what dispatch the business is being conducted?" It was an excellent observation with which many would agree.

As the business of the council drew to a close the chairman, Elder Figuhr, called upon C. L. Torrey, the treasurer, to present the long-awaited budget recommendations. This five-page document was distributed to the delegates, and the treasurer proceeded to make a brief explanation. Then Brother Blake, under-treasurer, went through the budget "line upon line." Once again Elder Torrey spoke to the point, and the chairman called for the vote.

As hands were being raised I wondered whether everyone fully understood the import of the event now taking place. I knew that my own comprehension of what was involved in this large appropriation was small

(Continued on p. 7.)

BURMA UNION MISSION

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MORE GOOD NEWS FROM THE CHIN HILLS

P. A. PARKER

SABBATH, October 16, was another high day in the Chin Hills. For many weeks the workers and believers had been looking forward to the visit of Pastor O. O. Mattison, our Division president. On that Sabbath not only was Pastor Mattison there to lead out in the Sabbath morning service, but in the afternoon a baptism was held. At a very beautiful service seventeen adults were baptized into the Remnant Church. This brought the total to thirty-one since the arrival of Brother and Sister A. E. Anderson to the Chin Hills in December 1953.

Five different villages were represented by this baptism. Some of them were the results of the follow-up work in Tiddim. However, the majority were the first fruits of interests from other villages who came in especially for the baptismal service.

These seventeen are only a small part of the number who are planning to be baptized soon. In one village from which three were baptized we have our only school operated in the Chin Hills. Lalkhuma, the teacher, reports that seventeen adults are keeping the Sabbath in that village and many others are interested. In another village nearby there is a large group waiting for instruction so that they can become members of our church. They are already holding their own Sabbath school every Sabbath. At still another village, from which two were baptized, the village headman sent word that his whole family along with a large group of others had decided to become members of our church and were waiting for someone to come and instruct them further.

Brother Anderson and his small staff of workers have a very hard time keeping up with the interests that are springing up in these villages. I am sure that our membership will increase many fold in this very fruitful field in the near future. Brother Anderson would appreciate the prayers of God's people as he

leads out in pioneering the work in this very fruitful field.

We all have appreciated the visit of Pastor Mattison to Burma. As he has toured the field he has not only seen the work but has given some good counsel to us concerning our many problems.

MINUTE MEDITATIONS

God's Excellence

in the

Desert

HARRY M. TIPETT

"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. . . . They shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God." Isa. 35:1, 2.

God's excellence in all created things is a constant source of marvel to the contemplative mind. Especially does the beauty of desert flowers in spring offer a study in contrast with their surroundings that affords a rich comparison to what Christ can do for the human life. Like the myriads of desert flowers of the Syrian and Transjordan deserts, many varieties of which have never been classified, there are countless thousands of unheralded people in the common paths of duty who live lives radiant with loving service for the Master.

What a joy it is when travelling through the arid lands of our Western American deserts in May or June to see a flowering cactus. With no leaf or stem, its chalice of petals in bril-

liant and varying hues growing on the body of a plant that in all its other features has a forbidding aspect, strikes the beholder like a note of triumph out of threatened defeat. These beautiful blossoms, wresting sustenance out of shifting sands and flinty rock, give accent to the pathless solitudes in which they spring forth. Thomas Gray was more of an artist with words than he was an observer of truth when he wrote: "Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

For in God's sight no fragrance or beauty, whether it be an aspect of nature or some virtue in human life, is ever wasted. He takes delight in the works of His hands, and His eye "seeth every precious thing." His excellence in all His created works testifies to the beauty of His holiness.

Untouched by God's grace, human life is arid and unproductive and bleak. The prophet Isaiah, identifying Christ with humanity, said that He would grow "as a root out of a dry ground," and that as He appeared among men He would have "no beauty that we should desire Him." But divinity was in Him, and when it flashed forth, the beauty of the Eternal rested upon His brow, and people cried, "Truly this was the Son of God." Matt. 27:54. The excellency of heaven in the Saviour made Him master of the temporal and spiritual problems that plagued His generation. Those who identify themselves with Him in these latter days share in the ministry of His excellence, who was called "the Rose of Sharon" and "the Lily of the Valley."

One of our American cities in a Western State boasts of being the gambling capital of the world. Its luxurious hotels, its flashing neon lights, its round-the-clock blare of music from the casinos, its gaudy show of surfeiting and opulence, are all in startling contrast with the arid deserts that stretch in endless miles from its very doors. Its artificial splendour is symbolic of what man's ingenuity and self-indulgence can build out of a seemingly sterile environment. But how pathetic and futile is its fitful brilliance in contrast with the lustre God imparts to His everlasting stars, which, out of reach of the city's raucous revelry, keep nightly tryst with the blooming cacti of the desert. They mutely testify that there is no life so drear but that it may become radiant with the excellency of the glory in the face of Jesus Christ.—*Review and Herald.*



WE LOVE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

FORDYCE DETAMORE

WE LOVE our young people and we want to make the church a happy place for them. Sometimes we make our young people feel out of place in our churches. We tell them how worldly they are and how hopeless the youth of today seem to be. I am wondering if that really helps them.

Young people today are facing greater temptations than any group of young people that ever lived on the face of the earth. This is a great day in which to be living; but it is also a hard day in which to be living. Therefore we ought to put forth a special effort in our churches to let the young people know that we love them, and that we have confidence in them. This is no time to be looking for faults and to be picking them to pieces.

There are some who think that young people should be perfectly satisfied to sit quietly and relax, with no desire for social activity. Others insist that if there is enough missionary activity, they will have no desire for social life. However, I cannot agree with this. I believe that we owe it to our young people to try to help them to find a happy social life within the church itself.

Look at it this way. A young person takes his stand for Jesus Christ and is baptized Sabbath morning, Saturday night, Tuesday night, Thursday night, almost any night of the week the problem comes up, "How shall I spend the evening?" The church should find some sort of social activity for the young people to guide them in their social life. It

is easy for a pastor to become so involved with promotion and evangelism and church cares that he has little time for the young people and their social needs. I have always recommended to our ministers that they plan at least two social evenings a month for the young people to enjoy: one night for young people only and one for the church as a whole. This at least will be a start.

Besides that, persons should be chosen who can plan outings for the young people such as boat trips, hiking trips, or perhaps ball games of some sort. These will bind the young people together and help to tie them to the church.

The pastor and each church officer should watch carefully for visiting young people. When they drop into our churches, they have been sent there of the Lord, and we owe it to them to take a personal interest in each one. Take time to invite juniors to the Sabbath school room and introduce them to other juniors. Do not just place them in a group of juniors and hope they will find their way around. This is always embarrassing to children. Take pains to introduce them to others of their own age. The same applies to older young people. Do not merely point in the general direction of the young people's Sabbath school, but rather take them to that department and introduce them to the teachers and other young people, so that they may become personally acquainted. They will never forget this little kindness.

There is something else that weighs on my heart. We should watch for the spiritual needs of the children and youth. The pastor and older members of the church should keep in mind every junior and young person who is not yet in the fold. Seek them out and talk to them alone. Don't talk about a young person's spiritual duties in the presence of other juniors or youth. Do not put him "on the spot" so that he will feel that he is being pinned down. Come to the point quickly. Do not assume a preacher tone, or a pious, condescending attitude, but in a conversational tone approach him.

When young people realize that you really do care about them and are concerned with their welfare, they will open their hearts to you and talk freely and frankly. But one thing is important: Never act shocked by anything a young person tells you. Always take it in a matter-of-fact way, and then you can help him to bind up the loose ends of his life

and find a way out. If you act shocked or terrified at something he confides to you, you will close his heart and find it difficult to be of any spiritual help to him.

Let the young people know that you are not going to high-pressure them into the church, but that you will simply stand by to help them at any time they may need help. Let them know that you are interested in their welfare, but that you realize they have their own lives to live.

It is absolutely vital in trying to save our young people to get them into our own schools. As shepherds of the fold we should do everything in our power to accomplish this, for herein lies our greatest hope of saving them and showing them a better way of life.

There is one neglect of which we are often guilty. We sometimes fail to offer the hand of help to worthy young people by not getting them in our own schools. Many a young person could be relieved by just a little bit of financial assistance, especially during his first and second year in school. We owe a great debt to the young people in our midst. Oh, how I wish that the members of the church could take upon their hearts the burden of seeing that each young person in the church has an opportunity to get into one of our own schools.

Let us be ever alert, ever on guard, ever watchful to seek out and save the lambs and the young sheep to the fold of Jesus Christ.—*Review and Herald.*

WHY?

ANNA MAE LOVINGOOD

Why dwell among the shadows
When there's glorious light around,
Just waiting for the seeking,
That in your life it may abound?

Why live down in the valley
When the hilltop is so green
With spreading trees and flowers sweet,
And in everything God's love is seen?

Why be satisfied with crumbs
When heavenly manna may be had?
It can be found by looking up,
And will make your starved heart glad.

Why thirst for cooling waters
While the living fountain flows?
You can drink to life eternal,
As God's love within you grows.

God's voice to you is calling,
Come out of shadow, vale, and tears,
To dwell with Him forever,
Throughout eternity of years.

NORTHEAST INDIA UNION MISSION

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THE CIRCULATION OF OUR LITERATURE

A Letter Written from Nepal

J. JAPAGNANAM

Dear Fellow-Reader,

I write this letter from a cool ridge of the Himalayas, Khatmandu, the Nepalese metropolis. I am now looking down upon the hot plains of India, where I have been seeking not in vain for interested readers of our books and magazines. It is Sunday morning, and from this point where grass is green and skies are blue, and one can clearly think, I wish that each reader of the SOUTHERN ASIA TIDINGS might look with me over this vast empire spread out in panorama. Away it stretches, a thousand miles to the east, a thousand miles to the west, and two thousand miles to the south. Here are over one hundred and fifty languages and dialects of one-fifth of the human family. How is the printed page, as a chief agency, to keep the leaven of truth working throughout this great field?

We look at the field growing larger every year, and then turn to our little handful of colporteurs. Humanly speaking, the task is impossible. We urgently need more canvassers in all our Union fields. Surely, the situation calls for the unreserved consecration of every available talent, and earnest prayer to God, that He will increase our little store of loaves and fishes until the whole multitude is fed. Let us pray that His Spirit may impress honest hearts everywhere and prepare them for the messengers of truth. Let us also pray that the Lord of the harvest will raise up many more spirit-filled literature evangelists to *advance* to every nook and corner of our field. The time has come for us to taste the apostolic experiences.

Today is October 31, and I have got an appointment to meet His Excellency, M. P. Koirala, the Prime Minister of Nepal, regarding our work in Nepal. In my own work, I am almost daily made to realize that without the Lord I can do nothing; that, unaided, my best endeavours are powerless to save souls. On the

other hand, I am greatly cheered by the manifest presence of Him who has said, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." I have been greatly encouraged by what I have experienced in Nepal. The Lord will surely bless these humble efforts in a special way and care for the tracts and papers sent forth in faith and love with many prayers.

In view of past victories and the unmistakable evidence that God is leading, and that He has unlimited resources at His command, I am of good courage and confident of final victory. Let us press on together in prayer and service to the glorious consummation.

HITHER AND THITHER— IN ASSAM MISSION

M. D. SPICER

THE month of October was a busy month for us here in the Assam Mission office, Shillong—busy in committee meetings, busy in our office work, busy with our Uplift programme, and busy in visiting our churches around the field. On November 7, 1954, it was our happy privilege to meet with Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Prasada Rao who had come up to Shillong. Mr. Prasada Rao had come to do his year-end work on our Local Mission books and the Assam Training School books and so we had a heavy programme that week.

Mr. and Mrs. Prasada Rao were very keen to visit a few of our churches around Shillong, so we planned to visit the church and school at Cherrapunji, the place where the rainfall is the greatest on the earth. On the morning of November 11 we set out with Pastor W. C. Rick, our Mission president, in his car to this place. The State of Assam is hilly and roads are always dangerous to travel on but we reached Cherrapunji at 10:30 a.m. we have a school there with Mrs. Mary Konghat as its headmistress. About twenty-five children attend this school and their singing and orderly way appealed to us greatly. Sister Mary is very enthusiastic in her duties. She is conducting two branch Sabbath schools near this place besides her

own church school. This is an encouragement for us here in the Mission. Very recently our sister was asked by the local Municipal Board to lead out in a campaign to solicit funds for the flood victims around this place. Yes, even the government authorities are looking to us for good leadership and they have confidence in our women folk. Yes, Sister Mary is heavily burdened but she is happy to serve and witness for the Lord in Cherrapunji.

Sabbath, November 13, at about 7 a.m. we started out on a journey through the jungles of the Khāsi Hills to meet with our dear people in Sohryngkham church. We reached the place about 10:30 a.m. Brother Kyiepsingh Kharbteng, our worker there, received us and took us to the Sabbath school. Brother Prasada Rao preached the morning sermon appealing to every Adventist to hasten the Lord's coming by doing His will and sharing our faith with others. Besides his church duties Brother Kyiepsingh has a Primary school to look after but he is full of courage for the Lord. As we had to make a three-hour walk back through the jungles we decided to return early and we reached Shillong at 7 p. m.

Our next stop was at the Assam Training School, Jowai. We left Shillong on the morning of November 15 on a public bus which took us to the school. Mr. B. J. Williams, the principal of the school, was in Shillong at this time and he decided that he would go back with us to the school. While there we saw that the school children were getting ready for their year-end examinations. Brother Williams, Brother H. D. Erickson, Miss M. V. Broderson and all their staff members were busy reviewing the lessons with the students. Mr. Williams has led out in a commendable way and students and teachers are of good courage. It is of interest to know that this school is good spiritually as well as scholastically. Each day the students send out bundles of *Signs of the Times* to others who do not yet know this precious truth.

Our last stop during this week was at Rajasimla, Garo Hills. We in the Assam Mission thank the Lord for this place and for the believers that we now have there. At the beginning of this year, we had no members in this village but Brother Gayen, with the blessing of God, has been able to gather in a large number of souls to

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SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL AUTUMN COUNCIL ACTIONS

Call to Evangelistic Advance and Ministerial Education.—This is a call from the Autumn Council to our conference workers throughout the world field to dedicate themselves more fully to the work of the ministry and especially soul-winning work. It is a re-affirmation of "the great call to evangelism that was sounded at the recent General Conference session." A work of preparation is suggested, which calls for a great revival of Bible study and of the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy on the part of our ministers. There is a strong appeal for a united "fellowship of prayer for the final outpouring of the Spirit of God." All of this implied "an integration of the excellent and comprehensive recommendations on evangelism that were passed by the 1952 Autumn Council."

Organization of the College of Medical Evangelists.—This action recommended a fuller employment of college facilities in training graduate students for medical missionary work. The action urged "that the additional potential of the College of Medical Evangelists be more fully utilized in the direction of a wider graduate programme to include areas in which our present faculty are prepared to serve the denomination more nearly to capacity." Other recommendations largely concerned the realization of spiritual objectives in the training of C. M. E. students.

Qualifications for the Ordination of Ministers.—This is a full statement adopted as a guide to the church in the ordination of ministers. The action intended to point up the high calling of the minister, the qualifications essential for ordination as a gospel minister, and the high standards of character required in every man upon whom the hands of ordination are laid. Sister White once said that "a man can have no greater honour than to be accepted by God as an able minister of the gospel."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 328. A portion of the recommendation reads as follows: "Before hands of ordination are laid upon him, he should have given proof of (a) experience in various types of ministerial responsibility; (b) definite call to the ministry as a lifework; (c) entire consecration of the body, soul, and spirit . . . ; (a) fruitage in souls won

to Christ." Other proofs of his ministerial call are cited.

The Missionary's Responsibility to the Homeland.—This is a recommendation intended to utilize to the fullest the experience of the foreign missionary in bringing to the home field (from which he was sent) the benefits of his foreign service. It calls for the services of the missionary on furlough in his homeland and ties the missionary closer to the home base through the frequent appearance in our church papers of missionary experiences.

Bible Instructor Training Programme.—The purpose of this recommendation is to encourage the training of women in our churches who give promise of developing into full-time Bible instructors. The action suggests that conferences employ these women as "evangelistic workers connected with evangelistic companies for service, and that such workers who have demonstrated their ability be directed to the Theological Seminary for short courses of training." This recommendation also envisages a special public service of dedication when and if the worker gives evidence of qualifying for the post of a full-fledged Bible instructor.

Sabbath School Missions Quarterly for Children.—This recommendation authorizes the publication each quarter of "a 10,000 issue of special missions quarterlies for the children's divisions of the Sabbath school." This action was a result of a general feeling that the regular *Missions Quarterly* did not contain stories within the range of the children's minds, and that if we were to instil the mission spirit in the children, we should not neglect them, but prepare a special mission story for them every Sabbath.

Unprecedented Distribution of Missionary Edition of "The Great Controversy."—Here is a call "upon all English-reading Seventh-day Adventists during the two closing months of 1954, while a special one-dollar missionary edition of the book is available, to unite in adding to the already unprecedented distribution of *The Great Controversy* a still wider use, giving it a circulation that has been given to no other denominational book up to this time."

—Review and Herald.

AUTUMN COUNCIL 1954

(Continued from p. 3.)

indeed. I noted on page 1 a significant line, which seemed to stand out above all the others: "Total estimated income and available funds for 1955—\$20,298,182.71." On page 5 appeared another significant line: "Total appropriations for 1955—\$20,298,182.71." This—though not the largest budget voted by an Autumn Council—is one of the largest. A. V. Olson, general vice-president, rose to his feet and remarked: "Brethren, we have much to praise God for here tonight. Let our hearts be glad. I recall that when at the early councils of the church we were able to plan for a budget of \$300,000, the hearts of the brethren overflowed and they wept for joy. Everyone got up and sang, 'Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow.' It was a great moment. But now we vote a budget of over \$20,000,000. Here is evidence of how the work has grown. Let us all thank God."

As every hand went up in approval there was a large feeling of gladness in our hearts. The chairman called upon Elder McElhany, former president of the General Conference, to lead us in prayer—and his indeed was a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the mercies that He has bestowed upon His church. At the conclusion of his prayer, some heart touched by the circumstances of the moment overflowed and burst forth into singing. Every heart joined in the chorus of thanksgiving, "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow."

With this the important business of the council was over, but one resolution remained. It was a special tribute of praise to God in the form of a resolution.

As the meeting broke up and the delegates separated to return to their fields, I began to think of the text, "Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, saith the Lord." The Autumn Council was over, but the work of God is still unfinished. One thing is needed in the work more than anything else. It is the vitalizing presence of the Holy Spirit in every Adventist heart. Actions of Autumn Councils can do nothing about this. The action must come from the individual heart crying out for "more, still more, O God, of Thee." Let this prayer arise to heaven from a million consecrated hearts, and God will set the world on fire and finish His work through His dedicated people.

DO YOU like secrets? Can you keep one? Yes, we all like secrets—but not many people can keep them. I am going to let you in on a great secret that you do not have to keep to yourself—the secret of a successful life. You can tell it to everyone. Ah, yes, you say, that is just what I want to know.

We are all interested in the person who has made a success of something. It matters not what his profession may be—whether he be a doctor, missionary, farmer, or student—if he has achieved success, we admire him and are interested in the secret of his success.

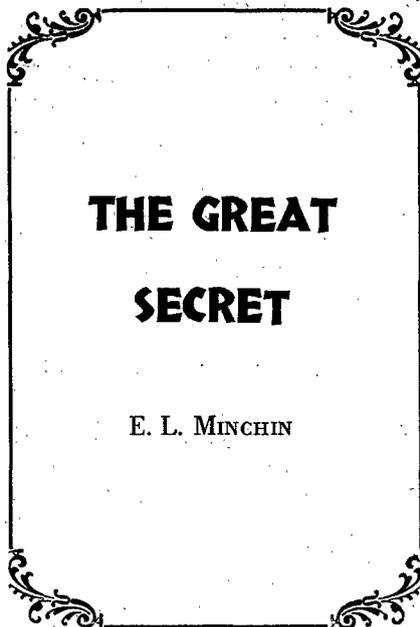
The greatest of all professions is the Christian profession. The science of Christianity will be the song of the redeemed throughout the eternal ages. Young friend, of more importance than your vocation in life is your profession as a Christian.

Who was the most outstanding and successful Christian in the New Testament? Paul, you say. Yes, and in one verse he lets us into the secret of his success. It is a four-fold secret. "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:13, 14.

"THIS ONE THING I DO"

First let us notice that Paul was a specialist. "This one thing I do." Paul was always a specialist, even when he served Satan. When he became a Christian, he decided to be a Christian specialist. He had one ruling passion, one great purpose that dominated his whole life. "For me to live is Christ," he cries. Here, then, is the first great secret of his amazing life. For some people to live is money, fame, or position, but for Paul to live was Christ. He was no half-hearted Christian. A little boy was asked what religion his father professed. "Oh, he is a Christian, I think, but he does not work very hard at it these days."

O Christian youth, we have been too half-hearted, we have never specialized. We have not been able to say with Paul, "This one thing I do." We have walked with one foot in the church and one in the world. There is no joy or power in such a life. This is the reason for the failure of so many Christians. They have not served God with a whole heart and



THE GREAT SECRET

E. L. MINCHIN

a single eye. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with *all* thy heart, and with *all* thy soul, and with *all* thy mind." This is God's call for specialists.

Second, Paul turned his back on the past. "Forgetting those things which are behind." This is a secret not learned by many. Some professing Christians cannot forget the past. Paul had many things in his life that he could well afford to forget. The scarlet memories of his past would have ruined him if he had dwelt upon them.

WHAT SHALL WE FORGET?

What are some of things we should forget? The first is our sins. Has not God forgiven them and cast them into the depth of the sea? How could we face Him and our fellow Christians if we did not have the blessed assurance in our hearts of sins forgiven? But Satan taunts many with their past. He says, "You think you are a Christian. Look what you did back there. You are only a hypocrite," and he brings our past before us to discourage us. It was Luther, who, when Satan reminded him of his sins, said, "Yes, but Jesus Christ came to save sinners." Satan persisted in his effort to discourage Luther, who finally picked up the inkwell and threw it at him. Ah, to know your sins are forgiven—that is peace and joy!

A young woman attended a series of youth meetings. Night after night she saw the young people enter into a new experience of blessing, but her own heart was heavy and full of guilt. She could not enter into peace. The

last night in the song service the youth sang—

"Calvary covers it all,
My past with its sin and shame,
My guilt and despair,
Jesus took on Him there,
Calvary covers it all."

I saw the young woman weeping. At the close of the meeting she remained behind and spoke to me. "Pastor," she said, "my heart has been heavy all the week because of my past life of sin. I did not think God could ever forgive me—my sins have been so great—but tonight when I heard the young people singing that chorus, I believe that Calvary could cover my sin too." And she entered into peace.

Then we must forget life's sorrows. Away over in New Guinea, during a battle in the recent war, a lad was wounded and lost the sight of both his eyes. His companions were carrying him back to the first-aid station, when a bomb fell nearby, and as a result he was further mutilated and lost both legs and both arms. He was taken to a Sydney hospital and propped up in bed. He had been brought up in a Christian home. He called for a nurse to write a letter for him to a Christian minister.

She wrote: "Sir, ten years ago I gave my heart to God. They have been the happiest ten years of my life. Now I have no legs and I have no arms and I have no eyes, but I praise God I still have a nose. Would you please find a Bible for me written in Braille, so that I can learn to read it with my nose?"

A Braille Bible was found, and propped up in front of him. Morning by morning you could see that boy, with his face bent right over that Sacred Book, learning to read it with his nose. The matron said that it was a tonic to be near him, and he was one of the happiest, brightest patients in the hospital. If this unfortunate boy could turn his back on his sorrows, so can we. This is a great secret.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE GOAL

Now for the third factor in his success. Paul never took his eyes off the goal. What was the mark? It was Christlikeness, for that is the high calling that comes to every one of us. "When He shall appear, we shall be like Him." Oh, what a goal for all of us to reach! A Christlike Christian is the most powerful of all arguments in favour of Christianity and what is the prize? Eternal life, granted to all who run with patience the race set before them. Young friend, keep

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SOUTH INDIA UNION MISSION*President:* E. L. Sorensen*Secretary:* I. K. Moses*Treasurer:* S. John (Acting)*Office Address:* 9 Cunningham Road, Bangalore**VOICE OF PROPHECY
LECTURES IN NAGAPATTINAM**

A. MANUEL

DURING the South Tamil Mission Constituency meetings an action was taken to send two men to start new work in two un-entered towns. So Porayar and Nagapattinam in the Tanjore District were chosen and Brother D. Gnanasundram was sent to Porayar and the writer to Nagapattinam. In these places we have a good number of V. O. P. students from the English and Tamil schools.

Searching for an ideal place to put up the pandal or the shed was a great problem in this town because many thought we belonged to the Pentecostal Mission. But we approached a Hindu gentleman who is a banker and merchant and asked for the use of his desirable compound which was in the centre of the town. We explained that we were workers of the V. O. P. department and he told us to call the following morning for his reply. The following morning he said he was not in favour of giving us the compound for Christian propaganda. We left him sad at heart because we did not know what to do next. We prayed to God for further guidance. Two days later a letter came from our mission president, Pastor D. David, telling us that Pastor C. Moses, the Union V. O. P. secretary, was coming to head up the effort. I was very happy to get such news and thanked the Lord wholeheartedly.

Soon after Pastor Moses arrived we decided to approach the Hindu gentleman again regarding his compound. Before we stepped out of my home we all knelt down and prayed. After some consultation the gentleman told us that he wanted to discuss the matter with his friends and he would give us word the next morning. So we went home and prayed in the night and in the morning before we saw him again. When we met him he agreed to our request and told us we could use the compound for three months.

Soon a fine shed was erected and the handbills were distributed. The

first lecture on October 3, was about Armageddon and this attracted the curiosity and attention of the public. The pandal was packed to capacity by an attentive crowd. Mr. E. L. Rollins, our E. D. Thomas Memorial High School principal, was present at the opening meeting and his introductory speech was appreciated by all. Brethren W. Muller, Isaac, D. A. John, D. Ambrose, and the writer and his wife are connected with this effort.

On Sunday, October 17, a musical programme was arranged by Pastor E. L. Sorensen, our Union President, and the shed was over-crowded.

Then on October 28 we had a Temperance programme. Mr. O. S. Matthews, our Union Temperance secretary, delivered a lecture on temperance and related many instances of the evils of alcohol. The local Sub-Divisional-Magistrate, Mr. A. V. Nayagam, B.A., B.L., presided over the meeting. He remarked that alcohol was the first enemy of humanity and if we did not educate the public about the evils of drinking we would be an enemy of our nation. The chairman of the meeting expressed his desire to become the first member of the Temperance society in this town. In this meeting many Government officials were present and we feel this Temperance meeting has created a good impression in this town.

A good class of educated people are attending the meetings regularly. The last warning message is being given plainly and distinctly by Pastor Moses. At this writing six weeks have passed and the meetings are going on nicely. We request earnest prayers that we may reap a good harvest of souls.

**SABBATH SCHOOL RALLY
DAY IN TRIVANDRUM**

STANLEY N. DAVID

ON SABBATH, October 16, about five hundred Sabbath school members from the Trivandrum district met at Karamana, to celebrate the Sabbath School Rally Day.

The programme commenced with a song service which inspired the audience with the solemnity of the occasion. The Sabbath school started at 9:30 a. m. sharp and the various

items on the programme had been carefully planned and were well presented. Regular items such as the report, the missions reading, and the review were both interesting and impressive. The programme included two special songs which were enjoyed by all.

Present for the occasion was Pastor V. D. Koilpillai, acting superintendent of the Kerala Mission. He was the speaker for the morning and his subject was "The Seven Lamps of a Christian."

A special programme was conducted from three to four in the afternoon when dialogues, songs, and action songs were presented to teach the leaders of the various Sabbath schools in the district how to improve their Sabbath schools. Special reference was made to the importance of the Birthday offering and the Investment fund.

Toward the close of the programme Pastor S. N. David, a pioneer worker, expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large gathering of believers. Like a farmer he was delighted with such a good harvest. Tears rolled down his cheeks as he urged the members to accept the challenge of the pioneers to go out and win more souls through the Sabbath school.

To close the day's programme Pastor Wilson thanked his fellow workers for their co-operation and then he pronounced the benediction. And we are sure the people went away with a greater determination than ever to work harder for the Master.

THE GREAT SECRET*(Continued from p. 8.)*

your eyes on the goal, turn not to the right hand or to the left. A thousand temptations will beckon you this way and that, but keep right on, keep the heavenly vision before you, and victory will be yours.

Fourth, Paul put his might in the race. I press on, he said. That word "press" is taken from one of the strongest of Greek words. It indicates intense earnestness. It pictures a racer in the Olympic games just about to reach the goal. Perspiration trickles down his face, his muscles stand out from his body, he dares not look this way or that as with intensity he presses on to the goal. Such earnestness is called for today. It is another of the great secrets of success for Christian living. Enthusiasm belongs in a special way to youth. With such earnest enthusiasm

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THE MOTIVES IN SERVICE

FREDERICK LEE

UPON the mind and the heart of every Christian should be written indelibly the words, "Not I, but Christ." Then their only motives in every activity of life would be to glorify God and to bless others.

In such service we find little room for thoughts of self or personal reward such as Peter revealed when he said to Christ, "We have forsaken all . . . ; what shall we have therefore?"

This question of Peter's represented an immature attitude. Only when we come to the point where self is lost in Christ and where rewards are not uppermost in our thoughts have we reached Christian maturity such as Paul revealed when he wrote, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me."

When Paul's experience is our experience we will serve Christ, not for reward, but because we love Him and have joy in service. Indeed, we then would serve Him even if there were no reward. Job had reached such a state when he was able to say: "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him." Job 13:15.

NOT FOR REWARD

The Pharisees served God for a different reason. They thought of the merit they would gain and the honour of men they would receive. Christ warned the disciples:

"Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. . . . They have their reward." Matt. 6:1, 2.

Of this we read:

"Their [the Pharisees'] spirit and motives and methods were the opposite of His [Christ's]. While they claimed to be very jealous for the honour of the law, self-glory was the real object which they sought; and Christ would make it manifest to them that the lover of self is a transgressor of the law. . . .

"In the days of Christ the Pharisees were continually trying to earn the favour of Heaven, in order to secure the worldly honour and prosperity which they regarded as the reward of virtue. At the same time they paraded their acts of charity before the people in order to attract their attention, and gain a reputation for sanctity."—*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, pp. 119, 120.

One of the ways to miss heaven, it seems, is by consciously working to get there. No people worked harder to get there than the meticulous, self-centred, pious-appearing scribes and Pharisees.

The development of a Christian character that will fit us for the heavenly abode is like the growth of a healthy child. It comes unconsciously and naturally. In describing the new birth to questioning Nicodemus, Jesus said, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth." John 3:8.

NATURAL AND UNCONSCIOUS GROWTH

In illustrating the growth of the Christian, Christ spoke of the growing seed. After the sower has placed the seed in the ground he can do little more than await the result. Christ said of the seed that it would spring forth and grow even while the sower was asleep, and that he would not know how it did so (Mark 4:26, 27).

Thus it is in Christian experience. Let the seed of truth be sown in the life. Let a man be receptive toward it. Let the dews of heaven water it, and one will naturally grow into Christian maturity.

It is in forgetfulness of self in service to God and man that one gradually and unconsciously is changed into the likeness of Christ and is made ready for fellowship with God and the angels.

Motives reveal what manner of person we are. Thus we should ever be considering what our actual motives are in the service that we are rendering to God and our fellow men.

The definition given for the word "motive" is "that within the individual rather than without which incites him to action." We might call it the spring of action. Paul explained it when he said, "The love of Christ constraineth us." 2 Cor. 5:14.

We should often ask ourselves, What is it that prompts me in my religious activities? in my service for others? in the keeping of the commandments? Am I doing all this as a means of salvation? Am I doing it that I might receive some honour of men, or for fear I might receive a rebuke if I did not follow some definite pattern of activity?

EXAMINE THE MOTIVES

This is a subject that all should carefully consider, not in relation to someone else, but in relation to one's own daily experience. If we did as Paul asked the church to do, "Examine yourselves," we might be surprised at the motives that often prompt us in our Christian activities.

"By a close scrutiny of their daily life under all circumstances they would know their own motives, the principles which actuate them. This daily review of our acts, to see whether conscience approves or condemns, is necessary for all who wish to arrive at the perfection of Christian character. Many acts which pass for good works, even deeds of benevolence, will, when closely investigated, be found to be prompted by wrong motives. Many receive applause for virtues which they do not possess. *The Searcher of hearts inspects motives, and often the deeds which are highly applauded by men are recorded by Him as springing from selfish motives and base hypocrisy. Every act of our lives, whether excellent and praiseworthy or deserving of censure, is judged by the Searcher of hearts according to the motives which prompted it.*"—*Testimonies*, Vol. 2, p. 512. (Italics supplied.)—*Review and Herald*.

"A pretty good thing to remember (and a better thing to do)—is to work with the construction gang, and not with the wrecking crew."

NEWS FROM

THE WORLD FIELD

NEW SANITARIUM TAKES
SHAPE ON ISLAND OF
FORMOSA

E. L. LONGWAY

THE Taiwan Sanitarium-Hospital, for two years only a dream in the minds of our brethren in the South China Island Union Mission, was authorized by the General Conference early in the year 1954. C. H. Davis, director of the union, with Dr. H. W. Miller, H. C. Currie, and others, worked long and hard to find a suitable site for this new institution. Eventually a centrally located piece of land was selected, comprising about ten acres just outside the city of Taipeh, on the main road leading to the port city of Keelung and the Sungshan airport. After protracted negotiations with the owners, the new sanitarium site was purchased.

Among the Chinese people on the island of Formosa are several million who evacuated from the mainland some years ago. Most of these people have had contact with our medical work in China during the past years, and they have displayed a lively interest in the project of establishing a new medical unit in Taiwan. To take advantage of this interest and to gain the favourable publicity so much needed to launch our solicitation campaign, it was decided to hold a public cornerstone-laying ceremony.

The United States ambassador to Nationalist China, the Honourable Mr. Karl Rankin, who has known our medical work in China and other lands, consented to be the guest of honour, and to deliver a speech as part of the programme. The Honourable Mr. O. K. Yui, newly appointed premier of Nationalist China, responded enthusiastically to the request that he be present, lay the cornerstone, and give a short speech of congratulations and good will.

The cornerstone-laying ceremony was held on the morning of June 11. Usually there is little or no rain in Taipeh during the month of June, but it did rain that morning. Dai Ming, our building supervisor, had taken

the last-minute precaution of erecting a temporary shelter over the rostrum and the two hundred seats that had been provided for the visitors. So, in spite of the rain, the programme went off smoothly. Some two hundred friends and well-wishers, among them many influential persons, attended the ceremony.

After a brief invocation, given by Hwang Tien-doh, of the Taiwan Training Institute, the school choir sang that good Adventist hymn, "Lift up the trumpet, and loud let it ring, Jesus is coming again." The chairman introduced the Honourable Mr. Rankin, whose speech was given in English and interpreted in Chinese. He spoke favourably of the work of medical missionaries and congratulated the Seventh-day Adventist mission on this new undertaking, which he said would bring much blessing and hope to the sick and suffering.

He said he was pleased to learn that a nurses' training school will be established in connection with this sanitarium-hospital, where many young people may be trained to care for the sick and needy throughout the Island of Formosa.

The premier, Mr. Yui, in his preliminary remarks preparatory to laying the cornerstone, noted that it had been his pleasure to be present and represent the mayor of Shanghai at the laying of the cornerstone of the Shanghai Sanitarium. He spoke with deep feeling of the appreciation of the Chinese people for the medical missionary work done by our institutions in China during the years past, and gave this new sanitarium-hospital a hearty welcome to Taiwan. He also assured the denomination of his own personal support, and the support of the Chinese people, in every possible way to assure the success of the institution.

The architect, S. S. Kwan, who is famous throughout China for the many excellent buildings he has designed, made a few remarks to the effect that he had never before worked with men who were so insistent that every possible economy be effected and that every inch of space be utilized. He assured the pub-

lic that the funds they would contribute toward the building project would not be wasted. He also congratulated us on the speedy progress of the construction work (the foundations and first-floor walls of the main sanitarium building are already completed.) He then handed a little silver trowel to the premier, who deftly applied mortar, setting the cornerstone in the wall. The architect then presented Mr. Yui with the silver trowel as a memento of the occasion.

The benediction was offered by H. C. Currie, director of the Taiwan Mission. One of the visitors remarked that this benediction, so earnestly pleading for God's continued blessing to rest upon the institution, was in fact a prophecy of what could be expected to follow when the sanitarium should open its doors.

Since the laying of the cornerstone the building of the sanitarium, with its full set of auxiliary buildings, including a modern and model nurses' training school and dormitory, has continued apace. D. H. W. Miller, who began our medical missionary work with Dr. and Mrs. A. C. Selmon in Honan Province so many years ago, is now with us in the field, and will have part in the opening and directing of the work of the institution. Miss Muriel Howe, who studied nursing in the Shanghai Sanitarium, and has since served in several places in China and South Africa, will soon be joining us to help with the nurses' training school and nursing service.

Dr. and Mrs. Brooks are under appointment to the institution, and we expect them to be in the field and ready to serve when the sanitarium opens its doors to the public, possibly late in December of this year. A fine group of students is being gathered from both the Taiwan and Hong Kong-Macao missions, and the first year of the nurses' course will soon begin, using the facilities of the Taiwan Training Institute until the new buildings are completed.

We ask your earnest prayers for God's special blessing upon this new medical work, that it may play its part in the finishing of God's cause here in this needy field. The thirteenth Sabbath overflow for the last quarter of this year is for the work of the South China Island Union Mission, and a large offering is needed to supplement the liberal appropriation already provided by the General Conference and the funds to be raised in the field, so that the sanitarium can be fully equipped to give the best of modern medical care to those who will come to us for help.

THE LAKE TITICACA TRAINING SCHOOL

P. G. WERNER

THE Lake Titicaca Training School at Juliaca, Peru, is probably at a higher geographical level than any other institution for secondary education in our denomination. Situated not far from the western tip of Lake Titicaca at an altitude of more than 12,500 feet, it serves a thickly populated territory in the highlands of southern Peru.

These wind-swept heights and plains north and south of Lake Titicaca are the home of many thousands of Aymara and Quechua Indians. Scattered among them live about ten thousand Adventist believers who look to the Lake Titicaca Training School as the centre for advanced education for their sons and daughters. In the earlier years hundreds of them crowded the school each year. Five years ago the government officially recognized the school, and a new upsurge began. Each successive year has brought an increased number of students, and this current year we have enrolled 254 students in the secondary courses, with 54 more in the primary.

The year 1954 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Lake Titicaca Training School. During this time the school has become widely known and, indeed, a landmark of Adventism in the Lake Titicaca field. More than six thousand students have passed through its halls in those years. Many of them have served as elementary teachers in the numerous Adventist schools scattered throughout the altiplano (highlands). A good many of them are also serving the field as Bible instructors and mission directors. In fact, all the stations in this field are now entirely manned by Indian pastors and directors who earlier received their training in this school.

Among its students we find today the sons and grandsons of the noble men who in the early years helped F. A. Stahl establish the work in this region. Not long ago a white-haired man told us how, as a lawyer, many years ago he rode on horseback out to old Plateria Mission in order to help Elder Stahl meet his opponents. Now this same man has brought his grandson to our school.

About two months ago the school choir was invited by the inspector of education to present a choir number in the assembly hall of the municipality. There were present the au-

thorities of the province, together with many teachers, who had come in for a special programme. It seems the public was favourably impressed by the presentation of the choir, and the colonel in charge of the local military was heard to say, "How in all the world can these Indian boys and girls be taught to sing that way!"

During the last summer about twelve of our students went out colporteur. Three of them earned full scholarships. All the students also took an active part in this year's Ingathering campaign. The end of the field day saw two-thirds of the goal reached. Even the non-Adventist boys and girls in the school participated in this campaign.

We are greatly cheered that the thirtieth anniversary will also mark a great improvement in the physical facilities of the institution. A much-needed telephone line will bring the school into closer contact with the town of Juliaca this year. A small printing press, also to be installed, will form the nucleus of a new industry for the students. Best of all, however, is the construction of a new and spacious dining room, well exposed to the warmth of the sun. It is hoped that it will be under a roof in a few weeks' time, before the heavy rains come and do serious damage to our construction work.

Thirty years of labour and struggle have brought marked signs of growth here in the highland plains of Peru. —*Review and Herald.*

OUR SABBATH SCHOOLS IN THE LAND OF THE PHARAOS

E. B. HARE

Associate Secretary, Sabbath School Department, General Conference

THE inhabitable part of Egypt is one of the most luxurious and most densely inhabited countries I have ever seen. Twenty million people are crowded into the Nile Valley, about seven hundred miles long and from three to twenty miles wide. A complex system of water canals and countless wells irrigate a garden land that produces two and sometimes three crops a year. Wheat, corn, kaffir corn, cotton, sugar cane, beans, onions, and melons make a picture that looks from the air like a rich green carpet.

The visitor is impressed with thousands of villages and towns that appear to be only a half mile to a mile apart throughout the river land. No

wonder Jacob's sons came to buy corn in Egypt! No wonder the children of Israel were homesick for the cucumbers and melons as they journeyed through the wilderness!

I was invited to attend the Gebel Asfar camp meeting with G. J. Appel, Middle East Division president, and we landed in Cairo on September 10, with a few days to spend among the Sabbath schools in the country.

We first took train to Asyut, where we were to spend the week-end. Asyut is a large city in Upper Egypt, and it was around this part of the country that Elder George Keough, a missionary from England, spent most of his thirty years in Egypt. At nine o'clock we had a church service for the eighty-eight Sabbath school members in Asyut. Then C. V. Brauer took us by car along the village roads filled with people, laden donkeys, and camels, to Tatalia, a Sabbath school with ninety-eight members. We were in time for their midday church service, and greatly enjoyed meeting with them in their sun-dried brick church.

It was a little strange to see the women and children partitioned off, after the custom of the Coptic Christians, but they seemed to enjoy it better that way. The dear old patriarch, Brother Butros, nearly ninety years old, spoke to us warmly of the early work of Elder Keough here, and how he was one of the earliest converts.

By two o'clock we were on a local train travelling a short distance to East Zewack, not very far away. Here we found another Sabbath school of ninety-eight members eager for an afternoon meeting. By six o'clock that evening we were in the Adventist auditorium at Sohag, where Brother Fikry Mikhail is enthusiastically holding meetings. There are fifty-one Sabbath school members in this place.

Here we met a young man who had been hired by enemies of the truth to break up Brother Fikry's meetings. He was a physical culture champion, and he was to cut the electric wires and break the lights. Then the mob outside was to rush in and disperse the worshippers. But he was so impressed with the preaching of the Word of God and the singing that he said, "I won't do it tonight; maybe tomorrow night." But the next night he was still more impressed, and he said to those who hired him, "No, I will never break up those meetings, and anyone who tries will have to reckon with me." He was the first to be baptized in this series of meetings, and is a great help to Brother Fikry.

On Friday evening, just the evening before our meeting at Sohag, a farmer came to Brother Moussad, an expert mechanic, and offered him a few dollars to repair his irrigation pump. "If you wait until the sun sets tomorrow," said Brother Moussad, "I'll repair it for you." The farmer was indignant and said he would get someone else. And Brother Moussad's wife, who is not an Adventist, was furious. "You're going to let us starve," she scolded. "We need money to buy food with right now." But Brother Moussad was firm.

On Sabbath morning the farmer came again. He tried to put the money in Brother Moussad's hand, and pleaded with him to come. "If you wait until the sun sets, I'll work for you all night," he replied. And the man again went away furious. Then Brother Moussad's wife went into the street and began to scream. A group of neighbours quickly gathered, and they all joined in scolding and condemning him and calling him names. But Brother Moussad kept calm, went to Sabbath school and church service, and stayed until the evening service. I saw him there—his face was shining. After the meeting the farmer was still waiting with his money, so Brother Moussad went to work all night. He is a faithful man, typical of our zealous and loyal Egyptian believers.

The next morning we took the train farther south to Farshut. Here we were welcomed by Brother Farag, an influential cloth merchant, who is the elder of the church at Dahsa, about three miles away. He took us to his home, and we had many more than the regular twenty-seven Sabbath school members at the afternoon meeting. Brother Farag himself accepted the truth under Elder Keough, and has been used of God to win a number of others to the truth which he loves.

THE WINTER CAPITAL OF THE PHARAOHS

That night we arrived in Luxor, the old winter capital of the Pharaohs. On the western bank of the Nile are the famous tombs of the ancient kings. Our young evangelist in this place, Abadir Abdel Messih, is having encouraging success in opening up the work in this place. Already there is a Sabbath school of twelve, but about sixty-five crowded into two rooms for our evening meeting the next day. It was hard to get away in time to take the train back to Cairo.

The next afternoon we flew over the delta to Alexandria, the home town of Apollos (Acts 18:24), and had two meetings there that evening, one in the Arabic church and one in the Sporting church. For many years we have had work in this town among the Europeans, but just recently Brother Williams has started work for the Arabic-speaking people. We have seventy-six Sabbath school members in the Arabic Sabbath school, but there were more than one hundred present, and we were delighted with the faith and the enthusiasm of the workers there.

Although there are only twenty-six Sabbath school members in the Sporting Sabbath School, more than forty were present. P. E. M. Beach, the worker in charge of the work in Alexandria, is very enthusiastic about the possibility of having a medical launch on the waters of the Nile Delta. There are literally thousands of towns and villages that could be reached by river.

CAMP MEETINGS IN THE LAND OF GOSHEN

Thursday evening, September 16, we all went out to our new college grounds about ten miles northeast of Heliopolis. This place is on the border of the land of Goshen, where the sons of Jacob lived, and is indeed a well-watered land. We have about thirty-three acres of land here, about half of which is planted in mangoes, oranges, guavas, and dates. There were thirty-nine army tents erected near the college building to accommodate 180 members who stayed through the entire camp. But our Sabbath meetings and the night meetings brought the attendance to more than two hundred.

The special meetings and the departmental reports were all wonderful, but the Sabbath school report, showing good progress in membership since 1951, of course, was most interesting to me.

Surely a new day has come to the work in Egypt. Let us pray for the work and the workers in this interesting old country.—*Review and Herald*.

NORTHERN RHODESIA MISSION FIELD

EDWARD A. TRUMPER, *President*

IT IS increasingly noticeable that the African in Northern Rhodesia is becoming more and more concerned with the general troubled turn of events in the world at large.

These Africans are afraid of the things they know are happening around them. They know for example, about the Mau Mau troubles in Kenya Colony, and the knowledge is upsetting to their thinking. Many of them are turning to African political groups as a means of uniting to settle their perplexities. Yet these very African political groups are often some of the most upsetting influences on African life today.

The Africans are afraid of the new moves to combine and strengthen colonial administration. This is not because these moves have touched their lives in any harmful way, but because they fear anything new—it might lose for them something good from the old life with which they are better acquainted.

It is a fact that, in general, the African's heart is failing him for fear. He is perplexed. He seeks a way out of his perplexity. Yet he does not know where to turn.

Many of the mission societies have made the fatal mistake of becoming merely educating agencies rather than evangelizing agencies. When this happens, God's power is largely lost. From this trend many Africans have been led to believe that education, for its own sake, is the answer to their problems. Then they wonder why the increased education facilities that have already been provided have only left them more forlorn than they were before.

We are unceasingly thankful to God to have the *one* message that will certainly serve to quiet the distress of any troubled people. I am pleased to be able to report how the Lord is reaching the hearts of some of the African people in this area in these times of their increasing trouble and perplexity. Quite a number of fine African people are finding rest for their souls in the knowledge that God is still in control of events in the world and that Jesus is soon coming to end this period of distress for them.

Northern Rhodesia has a large African population. Not counting Barotseland, which, although geographically a part of Northern Rhodesia, is a mission field separate from Northern Rhodesia Mission Field, we have a population of 1,599,000. There are said to be over seventy tribes, and there are more than forty languages and dialects in which work should be done to meet effectively the needs of these people. The large number of dialects makes

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BELIEVE IT OR NOT!



O. A. SKAU

IT WOULD be hard for any of our old workers who have not been connected with this Division in recent years to appreciate what we now see. Habakkuk says: "Look, faithless creatures, gaze and be aghast! for a deed is to be done in your day, that you would not believe, if you were told it." Hab. 1:5. (Moffatt.) (Italics supplied.)

Yes, dear reader, God is at work today in a marvellous way. Below are a few facts for your encouragement.

This year, 1954, a young Bengali worker, P. K. Gayen, son of Pastor P. C. Gayen, was asked by the North-east Union Committee to do evangelistic work among the Garo Hill tribe people in the Assam Mission. Brother Gayen went to work in the Rajasimla village in the Goalpara District in Assam. He built a humble bamboo mat pandal shed and began his meetings. From the very first meeting a keen interest was manifested. For many weeks the meetings continued. Home and baptismal class studies were conducted. Many prepared for baptism and when the mission president came, thirty-five were baptized and the first church in the Garo hills was organized. In the second baptism fifty were buried with the Lord in a glorious baptismal service.

Brother Gayen was not only interested in the spiritual welfare of his members, but also in their physical well being. He plunged into the work of helping all members and others to clean up their houses, yards, and the roads in the village. Brother Gayen believes that cleanliness is next to godliness. His village has become a model of cleanliness. He has now moved his family to the village and is living among his members.

On August 19, Brother Gayen wrote that he was starting another effort and was branching out into other villages. In September he planned for another baptism of thirty souls. A visit from the union president was expected at that time.

All this was really too much for the devil and he stirred up trouble. While Brother Gayen was away for a short time some people went to the District Council of the Garo Hills

stating that Brother Gayen had come in bringing trouble to the village. As a result of this our worker was ordered to close the school he had started. Some nominal Christians opposed him and persuaded their missionary to come and drive the Adventists out. The missionary came and conducted meetings for three days. Then he called on Brother Gayen and spent a Sabbath afternoon in our worker's home. "He tried to find fault with some of my teaching which had caused trouble and misunderstanding," writes Brother Gayen. But after he had been told what we preach and what we were doing for the village people the missionary began to think that perhaps the trouble lay with his own members. The missionary went back to his church and preached to his members about developing Christian character and living in brotherly love and Christian fellowship. After this he had lunch with Brother and Sister Gayen. He told them that his members did not appreciate this second part of his preaching. Before this, this American missionary had written a booklet against the Adventists. This experience with Brother Gayen and our believers has changed his attitude and he seems now to be a real friend of our worker.

Writing under the date of November 16, Brother Gayen says, "You will be glad to know that about two weeks ago we had *another baptismal service* here at which time the Lord gave us *another twenty-one souls*. Now this makes a total of 106 baptisms in the *Garo Hills this year*." Aside from this there are another twenty ready in the baptismal class and these will be baptized before the end of the year. Isn't this a wonderful experience? This must be what the Lord had in mind when He prompted the prophet Habakkuk to write what he did. Surely it is hard to believe such a wonderful report. I can remember the day when a whole union did not baptize that number in one year.

This is the end and God is working in a wonderful way in many places in this land. The harvest is ripe, but the labourers are few.

Northern Rhodesia Mission Field*(Continued from p. 14.)*

the work of reaching this tremendous number of African people an extensive problem in nearly every way.

To meet these needs, we have 19 European missionaries, 12 African ordained ministers, 7 African licensed ministers, 179 African teachers, and 13 African colporteurs. That makes nearly 8,000 Africans for each one of our 211 African workers. If we take away from our worker group the teachers, who are largely confined to the school-room, it figures out that we have about fifty thousand African prospects for each one of our thirty-two African evangelistic workers!

Despite our limited number of workers to meet this great challenge, we can report progress all along the line.

As one of the truly bright spots in our work, we mention the work at Kasama, in the far north. A coloured woman there has worked practically alone, and has raised up a small company of believers, some of whom would have been baptized before now except that there was not sufficient

*(Continued on p. 16.)***Southern Asia Tidings**

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Miscellany

● DR. and Mrs. S. L. Wilkinson and their three children arrived in Karachi on November 3. Dr. Wilkinson is joining the medical staff of the Karachi hospital. We know he will be kept busy there and we wish him every success in his ministry to the sick.

● ON NOVEMBER 21 Pastor and Mrs. D. S. Laursen and family arrived in Calcutta after their furlough in the U. S. A. Brother Laursen will engage in evangelistic work in Khunti and Mrs. Laursen will teach in the mission school. May the Lord bless their labours in Southern Asia.

● ALTHOUGH on furlough, Pastor M. E. Kemmerer landed in Bombay on December 2 in time to attend the Division committee meetings.

● ANOTHER worker, Pastor T. R. Torkelson, has cut his furlough period short in order to attend these important committee meetings. Brother Torkelson is taking over the responsibility of the Northwestern India Union.

● AFTER an interesting tour to Pakistan, Burma and the Northeast in the interests of Sabbath School and Home Commission work, Pastor and Mrs. W. L. Barclay are now in Poona.

● THE Division committee meetings began December 7. We are happy to see so many of our brethren from the various fields anxious to plan wisely for the extending of God's kingdom in Southern Asia and thus to hasten His coming.

—J. I. W.

ATTENTION!

If you are a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and can read English you should be receiving a "Southern Asia Tidings" every two weeks. One is allotted to each family. If you have not been receiving the magazine just inform your Union secretary and he will notify us.

Please do not send your requests to the Publishing House. We cannot put your name on the mailing list unless it comes to us through your Union secretary. —Editor.

HITHER AND THITHER IN ASSAM

(Continued from p. 6.)

God's church since March of this year to the end of October. Brother Gayen was waiting to receive us when we came off the bus and then we walked through paddy fields and reserve forests until at 5 p. m. we reached this Adventist village and were greeted by a crowd of people who had waited for hours to meet with us. The work in this place has an interesting beginning and is mentioned in another article in this issue of TIDINGS. Brother Gayen is staying right in the village with his family, cut off from the civilization of the world. Malaria is very rampant in this locality and our brother and his family often suffer from this dreadful disease and yet he is happy to stay there to do the Lord's work. Besides caring for the church of ninety-five members Brother Gayen conducts a church school which takes students up to the 6th standard and has an enrolment of sixty-five of our own children. He is now conducting three efforts in three big villages. We thank the Lord for such a faithful worker and for his helpers. They are a treasure for the Lord.

Brother Prasada Rao spoke on three different occasions and gave encouraging messages which should enable all to keep firm in the faith. Mrs. Prasada Rao spoke to the women folk and this help was much appreciated by all present. We spent the Sabbath with the believers in Rajasimla and returned to Shillong on Sunday. Our work in the Garo Hills is on the march. The Lord is coming very soon. The message has reached almost everywhere. Let us prepare ourselves now to meet Him.

NORTHERN RHODESIA MISSION FIELD

(Continued from p. 15.)

water available at the time a minister was present to baptize. These will be baptized shortly. These people have erected a church building. Unfortunately, a veld fire burned off the thatch roof almost immediately after the completion of construction, but these people went right to work again and replaced the burned roof with a new one.

This preliminary work was all done without the help of an evangelist and without financial assistance. We have since stationed a senior evangelist there for a short time to consolidate

MEET OUR WORKERS



PASTOR R. S. LOWRY was born in Bangalore and took some of his education at Vincent Hill College in Mussoorie. He entered denominational work in 1938 in the capacity of desk clerk and assistant in accounts in the St. Helena Sanitarium, California. In 1940 he came back to India and was made principal of our High School at Lasalgaon. Then he became principal of the High School Department of Spicer College, and College teacher in Education and Religion in 1943. From 1944-'46 he was educational secretary for the Western India Union and during the last year of this period and in the absence of the Union President he acted as president of the Central Marathi Mission until his furlough in 1947. On his return to India from furlough he took over the principalship of the Lowry Memorial High School, Bangalore, but was called from there in 1951 to his present responsibility—Division Educational Secretary.

their efforts, and have now sent another evangelist, who will remain at the place to foster the work.

The Voice of Prophecy Bible School helps us in our evangelistic programme. It reaches people in many of the most remote parts, where we have no extensive work. In fact we are often embarrassed because the Bible school constantly turns up more genuine interest than we have workers to assign to care for the necessary follow-up.

As we continue through 1954 we do so with a trust in God and His leading. We know that with the vast opportunities there are grave problems before us, but we also know that God has an answer for each problem if we will but wait for Him to work out His way with us and our work.

Will you not pray that He will work through us, that we may be productive for the greatest good in the work placed upon us? We hope to make 1954 a banner year in spiritual advancement in Northern Rhodesia Mission Field, and we are well on our way.—*Review and Herald*.