



Southern Asia TIDINGS

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What Is A Literature Evangelist?

R. L. VAUGHAN

A LITERATURE evangelist is a self-supporting missionary with one main object in mind—to finish the work God has called him to do.

He has many fears: that he may be late to an appointment, that he may miss a prospect, that he may be misunderstood, that he may not do his best, that he may displease a customer, a colleague, or his Maker.

A literature evangelist is bold, forward, and aggressive; yet kind, courteous and compassionate.

He greets more people than a politician, preaches more sermons than ten evangelists, he has converts who never saw him, and customers who never learned his name.

He does the job that man can't do, wins the people who can't be seen, and sells to people who never buy.

He loves the unlovely, prays with the unholy, and teaches those who are more unlearned than himself. He brings courage to the downcast, hope to the outcast, and joy to the off-cast. He carries a burden on his heart, a smile on his face, and peace in his mind. An ideal literature evangelist is

immune to discouragement, slothfulness, and laziness. He is a member of a life craft in the storm-twisted billows of a mighty ocean. He urges men to abandon ship and accept the safety of God's lifeboat. He is a fireman compelling men to use the fire escape; a watchman on the walls of Zion giving the proper cry when the lion roars. He is the arm God is outstretching to our exploding world.

A literature evangelist is a child of God on his knees with a book in his hand and a prospect on his heart.

May God send us more just like him. There is no spot on earth where he is not needed.



Why Tarriest Thou?

If

M. M. MATTISON

J. A. SOULE

"WHY TARRIEST THOU?" asked Ananias of Paul on that eventful day when he visited the penitent persecutor in Damascus. Paul had been sitting in darkness and uncertainty for three days—days of deep heart searching. Never before had he come to such a decisive point in his life. But now the tarrying was ended. The days of following his own plans and preferences gave way to something much greater. The Lord's purpose of sending Paul, the converted Jew, far hence unto the Gentiles was about to be fulfilled.

It is good to know that Paul tarried no longer. He arose, was baptized, and, as he said later, began to follow "the heavenly vision." He gave his life in ministering for the infant church. After many long years, when he came to the end of his life's journey, he declared his satisfaction with the decision he had first made. He had no regrets. He was satisfied to end his days while in God's service.

The question "Why tarriest thou?" comes to many Seventh-day Adventist church members today. A vast field of opportunity and service awaits them. We have excellently equipped printing plants with highly skilled workmen and capable, dedicated writers. They are producing books and magazines that are attractive and appealing. The urgent need is for literature evangelists. Many men and women who are now successfully following other lines of activity could not only make a good living as literature evangelists but could at the same time have a definite and important part in God's work in these closing days.

The call is for successful people to enter this important line of work in God's cause. We are glad for those who have closed their stores,

left their profession, or dropped their tools to respond to this high calling. They had decided to tarry no longer. God is blessing and prospering them.

But more are needed. It is doubtful that there is a single church in the Southern Asia Division, no matter how small, that does not have in it one or more who could, with training, become a successful literature evangelist. I have been informed of a ten-year-old lad and a man over 70 who both have recently made outstanding records in selling our literature. Age seems to make no difference in this work.

At the final end of the journey, where the wisdom of all choices will be truly evaluated, the dedicated literature evangelist will, as did Paul, declare his satisfaction with the choice he made. Then he can look forward confidently to receiving the crown reserved for all of God's faithful labourers.

The great pyramids of Egypt are a classic example of misused effort and personal interest. Roads would have been a blessing to the whole nation, the pyramids merely exalted the rulers who built them. Road builders work with others in mind; pyramids and monuments reflect only self.

Paul built no pyramids, but he travelled the highways of the world to carry the gospel. Thousands of others today are following his example and traversing the highways of the nations with the gospel invitation in printed form. Perhaps God wants you to join them as a literature evangelist. "Why tarriest thou?"

"If you want your neighbour to know what Christ will be for him, let the neighbour see what Christ has done for you."—FRANK S. MEAD in *Tarbell's Teacher's Guide* for 1964.

Written 44 years ago in the Eastern Tidings of Oct. 15, 1922.

IF I were to receive the command from God to warn India in ten years' time, I am sure I should be greatly worried and anxious. Still from the study of the prophecies of the Bible we believe that the coming of the Lord is at the door, and in view of what the Bible teaches on this subject, every Seventh-day Adventist should be as diligent in helping people to get ready for this event as though he had not more than ten years in which to do the work.

In the Bible we read of a man who received a command from God to warn the world of its coming destruction, and he had one hundred and twenty years in which to do it. The Bible also says that this man was a "Preacher," so evidently the method he used was that of preaching. In many ways Noah's task was not as hard as mine would be as a preacher. There was only one language in those days, so he did not have to spend any time and worry about language examinations before he began his task. If Noah had had to study as many languages as there are main languages in India before he could preach to all the world, it would have taken him several hundred years to do the work. From Noah's experience I know that I couldn't warn India in ten years by preaching.

The medical work alone, as a quick means, is out of the question. A missionary doctor is generally too sympathetic to leave off treating the sick and teaching the people so long as there are any sick people around. I judge there are enough sick people in the Meerut

had ten years to warn India, What method would I choose?

district alone to keep any doctor busy for more than ten years. No, I couldn't do it through the medical work.

It takes at least ten years for boys to go through school and get ready for taking any kind of responsibility, so the school work seems impracticable.

This is a day of factories, machinery and the selling of goods—a commercial age. I think I would do this: The first two years I would spend with one hundred young men from different parts of India, twenty-five from each Union mission of the Division, in a good training school. I would teach three subjects in their training school,—Bible, English and canvassing, or colporteur work. This would be an industrial training school, each student being required to do two hours work per day in building and equipping a great publishing house. At the end of two years I would send eighty of these graduates into the field, twenty canvassers to each Union mission. The remaining twenty-five from each Union would run the presses and fill the orders for supplies from the Tamil, Marathi, Burmese, Hindustani, Bengali, Punjabi and other colporteurs, keeping the presses running off the words of warning truth from early morning till late at night.

The most efficient of the colporteurs would be made leaders and assistant leaders in the literature work in their respective Unions and local missions, and these leaders would be men who would sell books with other canvassers, not office men. I would forbid any of them to have an office.

The best man at the publishing house would have charge of the factory, and occasionally visits would be made to each Union, during the year, at least in the duller season, to hold institutes and encourage all the colporteurs.

We would print small books and large ones, cheap books and expensive ones, and free literature. Large notices about the Lord's coming and the judgment could be posted up in the villages, and every village and city would be visited by our men with the message. The two, four or six men in each village who can read would soon be found and left some literature, and in the evenings, they would read to their neighbours the contents of the books, tracts or notices.

I would reserve the Bombay Presidency (for the publishing house would be in Poona) to be the field for the publishing house staff and myself. We would have eleven "Big Weeks" in a year and December would be a "Big Month." All or part of the publishing house staff would observe these Big Weeks very religiously and faithfully, and in the eight years the Bombay Presidency would be warned. Naturally all the publish-

ing house people would take a great interest in these Big Weeks. The experience gained and the example set would be such a help to the whole field.

God has prepared the way in India for the colporteur. A good postal and telegraph system, and one of the best systems of railways travel in the world are at his service. Up and down these streams of travel the colporteur can sell his books and tracts which are carried into the remotest villages and there be read. The Indian seldom if ever destroys anything he buys.

Yes, if I were given the command from God to warn India in ten years, it would stagger me; but by His Spirit's help I would do my best, and the method I would choose with the greatest hope of success would be that by which a small denomination has already accomplished wonders in the world during the last few years: the publishing and colporteur work.

A letter just received by J. A. Soule from Arthur H. Roth, assistant to the General Conference President, says that Elder R. H. Pierson when he recently studied the literature sales summary throughout the world noticed that the Southern Asia Division has the highest gain percentage-wise of any Division in the world field.

This is a splendid record, Elder Pierson observes, and he wishes to express his appreciation and deep admiration for the loyalty and devotion of the Division, Union, and Section leaders and individual literature evangelists here in Southern Asia.

Cut out and send to your Section or Union

Please send me immediately more information regarding the literature work. I am especially interested in using

Books

Magazines

Name

Address

City District State.....

Literature Ministry Has

RECORD YEAR IN SOUTH INDIA

J. M. CURNOW

LITERATURE EVANGELISM is on the march in South India. Big advances are being made, and with sales 18% ahead of last year, all seems set for 1966 to be a record year. In our monthly report for August we were able to report two literature evangelists with sales of over Rs. 3,000 each, two literature evangelists with sales of over Rs. 2,000 each, and three brethren with sales of over Rs. 1,000. Yes, just seven ministers of the Gospel page made total sales in just one month of over Rs. 15,500!

But literature evangelism is more than just selling books, even large quantities of books. It certainly embraces the influence our books are having on purchasers and readers.

When visiting Literature Evangelist J. Mathuranayagam in the south Tamil Nad, he told me how several local priests of the Roman Catholic Church subscribe to "*Our Times*" magazine and use many of the articles as a basis for their sermons. Certainly times are rapidly changing and Roman Catholic institutions are becoming some of the biggest purchasers of our literature. If I am experiencing difficulty in disposing off a religious book I have in my bag, I have only to visit a Roman Catholic priest and I am sure of finding a ready customer.

During this summer, student Literature Evangelist Timothy Jonahs and I introduced *Footprints of Jesus* to a Roman Catholic priest in Karur. He was greatly impressed by this beautiful life of Christ series imported from England and readily purchased a set. Just recently I received a letter from this priest in which he wrote, "I do appreciate well the service you do in supplying sets of books such as *Footprints of Jesus*. They are really very good, both their pictures and matter. I make use

of them for Sunday Bible classes."

Not only are our religious books and papers influencing people, but our health literature is, too. When canvassing with student Literature Evangelist William Selveraj this summer in the small town of Arupukottai, we had our mid-day meal in a small restaurant. I was introduced to the proprietor who enthusiastically told me he had been a regular subscriber to our health journal for over 20 years and gave credit to this magazine in helping him personally and in running his business. Yes, it is not a coincidence that his restaurant is the cleanest and neatest small-town restaurant I have yet been in! Our health publications are exerting a powerful influence as they help people to turn away from harmful health habits.

Yes, literature evangelism embraces the influence our books and journals have on the readers. But it also is more than that, it also embraces the influence the faithful literature minister has upon those he visits and upon the community in which he labours.

Literature Evangelist P. Noah began his ministry 17 years ago in an unentered place in Andhra Pradesh called Balijipeta. At first he met with opposition, but as Brother Noah says, "Anyway, God gave me courage to work among them. Finally 12 people took baptism."

Balijipeta is one of the many places around the world where the work was pioneered by a faithful colporteur-evangelist. Brother Noah had the joy of seeing a fine church built there, and today we also have in Balijipeta a school with 40 students, and the work is expanding there as they conduct three or four branch Sabbath schools each week.

Brother Noah has since transferred to the most north-easterly

district of Andhra, again to pioneer the work. Is he having success? For several years Brother Noah had supplied the Telugu health magazine to a staunch Hindu of the Kshathriya caste in the small town of Cheepurapally. Let Brother Noah continue his story: "When I went there for the renewal order of *Margadarsi* magazine, I found a Bible on his table. I asked him why he was keeping the Bible. He said that he had accepted Christ as his personal Saviour and was ready to take baptism into the . . . (a non-Adventist) church." Being a soul-seeking literature evangelist, Brother Noah promptly gave him a Bible study on the Sabbath. Brother Noah continues, "Then he asked me to stay with him for two days. I stayed with him and told him about the Sabbath, the tithe, and other doctrines. He accepted the seventh-day as the Sabbath, and I conducted Sabbath school there every week. Later he came with his family to the constituency meetings at Narsapur. After more studies with P. S. P. Rao and V. Rao he and his family were baptized. Now he is doing a wonderful work by distributing our truth-filled literature. Through him many people are becoming interested in the truth." We understand that two more families are preparing for baptism.

Literature evangelism also offers a unique opportunity to our youth as it assists them in the furtherance of their education, both in supplying the necessary funds and also in giving them forever-to-be-remembered experiences which strengthen and develop their characters and personalities.

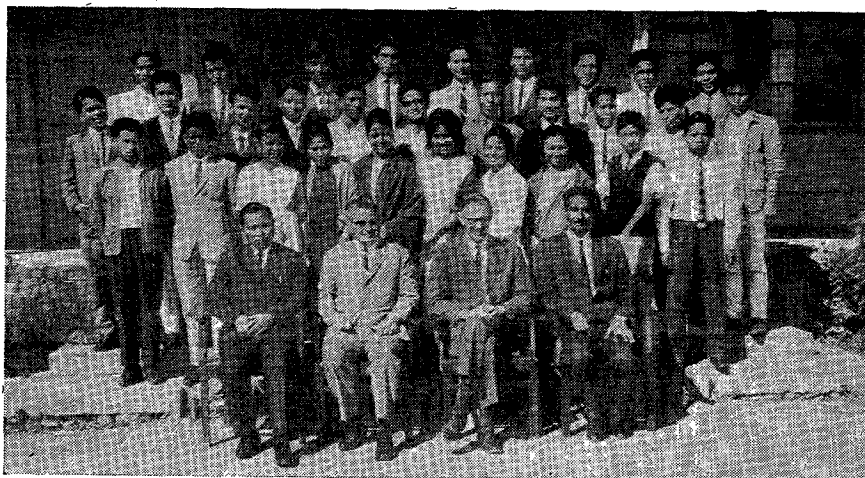
Student Literature Evangelist Thomas K. Joseph relates: "After the completion of my first year at Spicer College, I determined to go for canvassing for the first time. I

tried for a "good" territory in some other part of India, but was finally sent to my own state of Kerala where few were willing to go. Calicut had been thoroughly worked out by several men. The first week of my work there was really a battle-front to me. But with firm determination and full trust in God I worked there to the best of my ability until the fruit of my hard work has been paraded before my eyes.

"Hard work, punctuality, and above all earnest prayer and faithful tithing were the factors which determined my success. The canvassing work brought me many thrilling and memorable experiences which inspired me a great deal spiritually and physically. Many times I met men and women who were eager to know about the Saviour. I met many young people who were searching for peace and truth. I met people who were anxious to know more about Adventists, and many people who wanted me to pray with them. Really it is a great work which has to be experienced."

Yes, literature evangelism is a "great work which has to be experienced," Brother Thomas K. Joseph also had the satisfaction of earning a super-scholarship in his first experience at canvassing, and thus being South India Union's star student literature evangelist for 1966. Will not other students heed his challenge? "I challenge all young people who are studying in our college, high schools or wherever they are, to engage in this great work and thus develop their personalities. They will earn and learn spiritually and educationally."

"The Lord has given to literature evangelists capabilities and talents with which they are to do the work of God. There are souls to be saved. The work must extend from city to city, from country to country, from nation to nation, ever moving onward and upward," says Brother Noah. He has already opened up the work in two new areas. Won't you, dear reader, join with our faithful band of literature evangelists in hastening the soon-coming of the Lord?



Students and leaders at the institute.

Assam Students Study Canvassing

J. A. SOULE

A LITERATURE evangelists institute was held in Assam Training School from September 23 to 27. Thirty students underwent training under the leadership of J. A. Soule, M. C. Lall and L. K. Neitham.

Of the group of students, 11 were Khasi, 8 were Garo, six Naga, three Lushai, one Bihari, and one

was Kuki. Six in the group were girls.

The students of A. T. S. will canvass from December 5 to February 5 as their vacation is during the winter months. All thirty of them will not be permitted to canvass for lack of sufficient territory and no one but Brother Neitham to assist them.

Four Colporteurs in Pakistan

J. MALELU

"THE END is near. Already much time is lost, when these books should have been in circulation. Sell them far and near. Scatter them like the leaves of autumn. This work is to continue without the forbiddings of anyone. Souls are perishing out of Christ. Let them be warned of His soon appearing in the clouds of heaven."—*Colporteur Ministry*, p. 25.

Last year the subcontinent was in a state of war and our work seemed as if it was at a standstill. The Union publishing secretary had to leave for overseas, for obvious reasons. When everywhere there was fear and gloom, our colporteurs faithfully stood by their posts and kept fulfilling their duties to the best of their abilities.

We have only four literature

evangelists in West Pakistan: John Mall, J. M. Khan, A. S. Khan, and Sardar Jackson, each of them tackling the important cities of Karachi, Lahore, Rawalpindi and Peshawar. They remain faithful to their task. Whenever their work is seriously hampered, they are not discouraged; they go about their work with a prayer on their lips.

"When His labourers do the very best they can, God does for them that which they cannot do themselves; but no one need expect to succeed independently and by his own exertions. There must be activity united with firm trust in God."—*Colporteur Ministry*, p. 147.

Time alone will tell the good that is done by the faithfulness of our literature evangelists labouring in Pakistan.

Northwest Bookmen Share Burden for Souls

L. D. PAUL

LITERATURE EVANGELISM is one of the most important branches of the Lord's work. It gives the gospel message to those people who may not ever be reached by the minister. As a colporteur goes about saving souls through the silent messenger, he must realize that he is engaged in a work second to none, and his duty includes that of living up to the calling he has received from God.

We are happy that the literature evangelists in our Union have this burden for souls and are answering the Master's call.

E. M. Dass, the only worker in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, lets his light shine in that vast area by going out every Sabbath to Sopore, a town 30 miles from Srinagar, and conducting a Sabbath school there. Brother Dass, who has been selling a number of copies of *The Life of Christ* hopes there will be some people ready for baptism before too long.

Mrs. G. S. Dass, wife of faithful Layman S. M. Dass, has been canvassing in the city of Amritsar. She writes that while working in Majitha Road, she went into a house which had Bible verses written all over the walls. Upon enquiring she found that one of the boys there was very much interested in Christianity. She talked with the young man and found that in spite of opposition from the other members of his Sikh family, he was determined to be a Christian. He is now attending our church regularly, has enrolled over two hundred students in the Voice of Prophecy, and is planning for baptism.

J. M. Bagga writes from Patiala that he is conducting a Sabbath school there for eight members. He has also helped start a Sabbath school in Kartarpur this year. He hopes for some baptisms soon,

Vinod Singh is one of our student literature evangelists. This year, in spite of his attending the summer school for half the summer he sold over Rs. 3,300 which was the highest among students.

H. M. Simon, senior literature evangelist in Delhi, met a gentleman at Kashmiri Gate one day and sold him some books. The next time he saw him, the man asked Brother Simon to meet his daughter, a B.A. student in Delhi University. When Brother Simon went to see the young lady the next day, she said that she liked the books her father purchased, and she bought *Courage for the Crisis*, *Love Unlimited* and *The Life of Christ*. He left some copies of *Our Times* for her to read. Here is a letter she wrote after reading the books and magazines:

"I request you to send me the magazine *Our Times*. I would like to take it as I like it very much. I read all three issues that you left with me. So I kindly request you to send the magazine regularly. I have read the other books too and I like them. I passed them on to my friend who is reading them. He is also interested in taking the magazine. I must thank you for

giving me such wonderful literature."—Miss Usha Parti.

Top ranking salesman in our Union is Davis Massey. Last year his sales reached Rs. 23,000. He also does his part in missionary work by distributing *Signs of the Times* to his customers.

While working in the Simla Hills, Brother Massey met a gentleman who asked him, "Why do you Christians boast of your religion?" In answer Brother Massey told him how Christ was different from all other prophets and religious leaders, a God of love in human form. After his brief Bible study on the uniqueness of Christ, Brother Massey offered his customer *The Life of Christ*.

Going into the most interior places of the hills where travel is often dangerous and where perhaps no preacher will ever go, Brother Massey has sold several copies of *The Life of Christ*. We hope and pray that to those who have purchased this book, Christ will some day become real and personal.

Our literature evangelists are doing dedicated mission work. They are fulfilling the purpose for which they have been called. We are ever reminded of this statement from the Spirit of Prophecy: "The canvassing work properly conducted is missionary work of the highest order," and we pray that God will bless our literature evangelists to live up to this high calling.

LATE NEWS

E. R. Reynolds family express their sincere appreciation for the prayers of God's children. We are happy to report a gradual improvement. Pastor Reynolds has now been moved from Lahore to our Karachi hospital. He is very weak, but plans have been made to move him to the United States of America in a week or so.

We would request your continued prayers on his behalf.

—George W. Maywald, Acting Secretary

(See earlier report on page 20)

LITERATURE EVANGELISM AND POPULATION EXPLOSION

ACROSS THE WORLD, three babies are born each second. The world population is increasing at the rate of about 45 million a year. The United States has to create 60,000 new jobs each week to meet the demands of new workers plunging into the labour market.

India's population increases annually by an amount equal to the population of Texas. Even if you have never done baby-sitting, the prospect of two million new babies a week across the world is pretty staggering. Discussion of the population problem has almost become noisier than the explosion itself as experts predict what will happen to the world's masses in decades to come. One sociologist states that by the year 2,560 each inhabitant of the earth will have one square yard to live on.

Contrary to popular opinion the population explosion isn't caused

so much by an increasing birth-rate as the decreasing death-rate. Thanks to drugs and germ killers developed during the last war the death-rate in many areas of the world is rapidly declining. Ceylon has cut its death-rate one-third simple by spraying germicides on the heavy malarial areas. A baby born in India a generation ago anticipated 23 years of life, while today his life expectancy is 48. Nearly half of the world's population is under twenty years of age. The *United Nations Review* predicts that by 1975, one and one-third billion people in the world

will be fifteen years old or younger. People are being born faster than Christians can evangelize them. The increase is coming in the non-Christian segments of the world; two-thirds of the births are in Asia alone.

I thank God for the exciting tools we have for getting the gospel out: highspeed printing presses, radio, TV and jet planes. But there is no machine that can take the place of a dedicated Christian who wants to be part of the answer, not a part of the problems of the world. The need has never been greater for consecrated men and women to become literature evangelists.

You, too, can help evangelize the world through literature evangelism.

Our Hindi Magazine

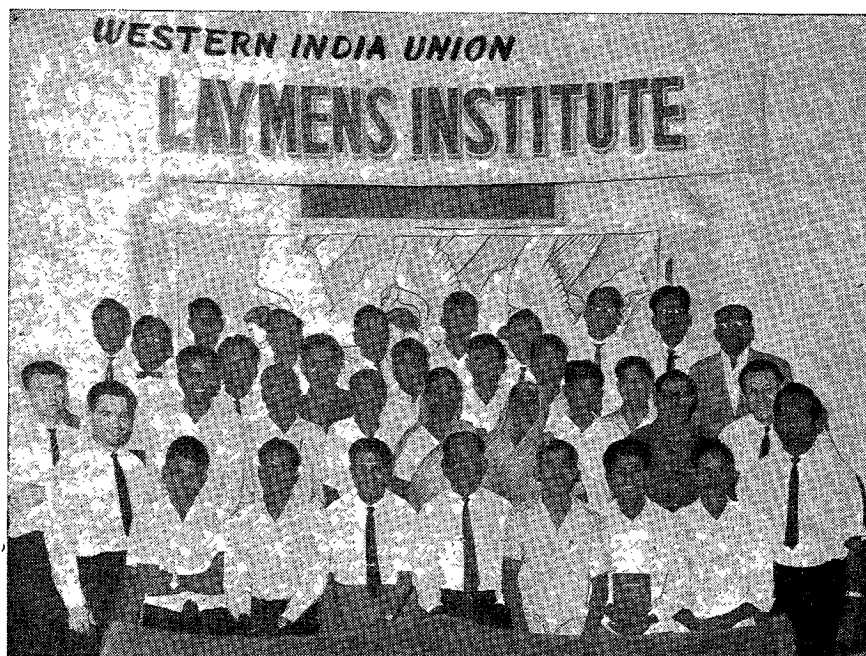
A. K. KACHCHHAP

SEVENTEEN YEARS AGO the Hindi monthly health magazine, *Swasthya Aur Jeewan*, was sent into the field as a journal that bore the stamp of our activities and as a symbol of our belief in and practices of good health.

Life and health are complementary. One cannot exist in an abundant way without the other. To have life, or "a full life," means that one has not only physical well-being but the best of mental and spiritual health. This is the basic philosophy of the editors of this magazine. We promote physical, mental and spiritual health.

Our goal is to teach the principles of healthful living and point to the people of India that our body is the temple of God.

We hope that *Swasthya Aur Jeewan* will continue to bring joy and peace to the home and hearts of many people in India.



WESTERN INDIA LAYMEN'S
INSTITUTE

WESTERN INDIA UNION held its first lay preachers' institute in Poona city from September 23 to October 1. Thirty laymen from all parts of the Union attended it.

Instruction was given in Bible doctrines, methods of lay evangelism, sermon preparation, the art of getting decisions, and on the divine blueprint for evangelism. G. W. Maywald, J. B. Trim, and E. G. Conley were the teachers. Apart from listening to instructions, each

layman also preached a fifteen-minute sermon.

The institute was rated an outstanding success by the laymen, who have gone back to their businesses, farms, or other places of work, with the fire of greater service for God burning within them. A great upsurge in lay soul-winning is anticipated as the result of this ten-day institute.

Pastor Trim announced at the institute the inauguration of Layman of the Year Award in Western India, a special recognition to go to the most outstanding layman, each year.

Sales High Despite Lack of Literature

D. RAJU

THE PUBLISHING work in Andhra is continuing to make rapid growth. At present we have ten regular and probationary literature evangelists. These men are working hard and the Lord has blessed their efforts in a wonderful way.

Last year our total sales were more than Rs. 1,00,000. This year we are expecting an increase.

Our sales might have been much higher if only we had more literature in the Telugu language. We have already translated the complete set of *Story Time* as well as *All About the Baby* which are now in the hands of our reading committee. We wish that these books would be made available to our literature evangelists within the next six months. We also feel the need of a suitable religious subscription book for sale by our colporteurs.

Literature workers in Andhra are taking keen interest in soul-winning activities.

One of our colporteurs, P. Noah, who has been working for 27 years has won 25 people to the message.

While canvassing this year, Brother Noah met a Hindu man who was a subscriber of our *Health* magazine. As a reader of *Health* for many years he is quite known to Brother Noah. This gentleman told him that he had learned so many good qualities from our brother and was eager to know more about Jesus, and requested for a Bible.

Brother Noah gave him regular Bible studies every Saturday at his home. This man was recently baptized and is trying to bring his family into the truth.

K. Simon, another of our regular literature evangelists who is now located in Vijayawada, takes care of Sabbath services of a large church. He has brought ten non-Christians into the truth, and this year he has prepared another four people for baptism.

Literature evangelists can be said to be the advance guard of the Adventist working force. Those in Andhra are certainly busy preparing the way for the coming of the full-time minister with the Advent message.

ments on certain Bible verses. As a Christian it gives me satisfaction to know that non-Christian readers of the magazine receive these messages."—A welder.

"*Margadarsi* is a welcome visitor to our home. All of us family members read and enjoy its contents. Its presence creates an atmosphere of purity in our home. We wish your magazine success."—V. V. Achary.

"Today I bought a copy of *Margadarsi* and read it. I did not know that there is such a useful magazine in circulation. As soon as you receive this letter please enrol me as a subscriber and supply me with the back copies from March to August."—Raju.

WE SHALL MEET THE CHALLENGE

S. M. ISAAC

FOR a spiritually dark time as ours is, God has ordained the literature ministry to bring peace to millions of troubled hearts. "The world is to receive the light of truth through an evangelizing ministry of the word in our books and periodicals," said Mrs. White (*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 61).

Though we are but a few in the Western India Union, we are going forward in faith like Gideon of old and it is our hope that God will bless our efforts abundantly. All our literature evangelists are giving the message of the saving power of our Lord through the sale of religious books, distribution of religious magazines and tracts, and enrolling people in the Voice of Prophecy. All are on fire for God.

The Moral Influence of Our Health Journals

CH. B. WILLIAMS

EVER SINCE *Margadarsi* was born in November 1948, it has been promoting health and religious truths in the Andhra community. Though publication of religious articles in the magazine has been discontinued for several years, health articles continue to direct the reader to God as the source of all good health and healing. God-fearing Adventist doctors who contribute to the magazine make sure that somewhere in their articles man's need of God for his health

and happiness is expressed. It is not the general habit of non-Adventist doctor-writers to connect health with religion. This explains why we publish more articles from our own writers.

From time to time, we receive many letters of appreciation from our readers. They testify to the moral influence *Margadarsi* exerts in their homes. Here are a few:

"I enjoy reading your editorials. They contain morals explained in simple language. Some are com-

PHONE NORTHEAST

A telephone has been installed at the office of the Northeast Union of Seventh-day Adventists, Karmatar, S. P., Bihar. The exchange town is Madhupur and the phone number is 30.

I Share the Message On Road, In Bus, In Train

K. M. J. A. FERNANDO

It was 10 a.m. one Sunday in July last year. The clouds, hitherto dark and heavy, now burst open releasing their burden in torrents. Life doubled its pace suddenly at the Negombo bus stand as unprotected people rushed for shelter. I watched it all standing in the portico of a gas station. If I got out, it would be a jolly good bath, but the books! I thought.

A gentleman was rushing to catch the Colombo-bound bus. He was a lawyer, an old friend with whom I had been studying the Bible. I dashed after him and took my seat next to him in the bus. He was happy to travel with me and I was happier to continue my study with him.

Engrossed in Bible themes we were quite oblivious to our surroundings when someone seated in front of us intruded. "How can you say that the large . . . church with the best of intellectuals in it is under a deception?" he asked.

This was Mr. Handunge. He had been listening to our discussions, all the way from Negombo. Now he asked me a number of questions which I tried my best to answer. When we approached Kandaria which was his destination I too decided to get off the bus with him although I had yet a distance to go. I was keen not to lose him and he too was happy that I got down. I walked home with him and continued to study the word of God over some refreshments. Before we parted I sold him a copy of *Dimensions in Salvation*.

We met each other from time to time and he has become a regular visitor to our church.

Mr. Handunge introduced me to two young men, Devadason and

Jayasingh, sons of a friend. These two along with another young man, Turin Lowe, have since been baptized at Diganwela by Pastor Dias and are now studying at Lakpahana Training School.

Mrs. E. Karunaratne is a good old staunch Roman Catholic friend of mine. I persuaded Mrs. Karunaratne to send her children to the V.B.S. at Negombo and subsequently the whole family began attending meetings held at the Town Hall in April by D. M. Fernando. Later she was baptized along with a son and a daughter at the Kandaria church. Now two of her children are students at Lakpahana.

From my childhood at the Good Shepherd Convent in Negombo I had been anxious to serve God. But there was no one to help or direct me. I finished college and while teaching at Bandarawela I decided to join the Jesuit Seminary and study for priesthood. While studying philosophy doubts arose in my mind regarding eternal suffering in hell with a merciful God watching it all. I continued to probe and search the scriptures. After eighteen years of deep study I was baptized by E. C. Beck at the Shiloh Church, end of 1964.

Ever since it has been my endeavour to give the message to whoever I meet on the road, in bus, or in train.

I am now studying the Word with a number of my old priest-friends, strangers, nuns and brothers. There are some already convinced of the truth but have not the courage to face public opinion and step out. I am trying my best to help them to respond to the call of Rev. 18:4. But my efforts alone are very feeble. Therefore, dear reader, please pray for the grace of God to help me in my literature evangelism.

Young Lady Prepares Seven Souls

D. R. WATTS

ON A RECENT SUNDAY MORNING at the Trivandrum church, I had the privilege of baptizing 53 souls, 22 of whom were the first-fruits of an effort in Kakamoola by M. A. James and A. M. Johnson, and 21 were a second group to be baptized by John Gabriel of Kachani.

One young lady was especially happy that morning as she saw seven of her neighbours baptized. G. Selvi is 19 and expects to be married in a few weeks. She and her family came into the truth six years ago through an effort conducted by W. G. Townend and P. S. Johnson. Selvi has been very active in her own Sabbath school, and has had a special spiritual burden for her neighbours.

When asked how she won these seven neighbours to the truth, G. Selvi says that it was through personal visitation, Bible studies, and doing deeds of kindness. These seven were not the only ones that Selvi has brought in. One other lady was baptized earlier as a result of her influence. She loves winning people to Christ. When an effort was conducted two miles from her home sometime ago, she and her friends walked four miles to and fro each evening.

She expects more of her friends to be baptized in a few weeks. What an example and inspiration she is for the rest of us in working for our neighbours through deeds of kindness and Bible studies at their homes!

QUARTERLY STATISTICAL REPORT OF

NAME OF SECTION	Number of Churches	Church Membership at Beginning of Quarter	Members added during the period				Members dropped during the period				Total Church Membership at Close of Quarter	TITHE		WORLD MISSIONS		HOME AND LOCAL	
			By Baptism	By Profession of Faith	By Letter	By Letter	By Death	By Apostasy	Missing	Total Tithe Receipts		Tithe per Capita	Total Offerings for World Missions, Including Sabbath School Offerings	Mission Offerings Per Capita	Total Contributions for Home Mission Work	Total Contributions for Local Church Work	
																	4a
PURMA UNION:																	
Central & Upper Burma Section ..	38	1,061	44	—	—	—	—	—	1,105	8,899.18	8.05	4,706.59	4.26	112.50	220.15		
Delta Section ..	18	1,225	—	—	6	—	—	—	1,231	6,072.05	4.93	3,555.30	2.88	176.00	2,570.00		
Rangoon Area ..	4	458	9	4	—	9	—	—	462	17,058.98	36.92	6,788.56	14.69	161.79	1,217.35		
Tenasserim Section ..	14	734	13	—	9	2	1	6	743	4,998.35	6.73	3,704.85	4.99	352.00	504.13		
TOTALS ..	74	3,478	66	4	15	11	1	6	4	3,541	37,028.56	10.46	18,755.30	5.29	802.29	4,511.63	
CEYLON UNION:																	
..	15	777	69	—	37	2	—	—	881	26,950.97	30.59	5,427.98	6.16	36.30	3,034.47		
NORTHEAST UNION:																	
Assam Section ..	35	2,002	51	—	—	—	—	—	2,053	3,071.57	1.49	2,724.76	1.33	753.60	859.96		
East India Section ..	36	1,882	—	3	8	6	3	7	1,827	9,346.65	5.11	14,491.81	7.93	31.30	1,053.34		
Union & Union Institutions ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,131.29	—	—	—		
TOTALS ..	71	3,884	51	3	8	6	3	7	50	3,880	12,418.22	3.20	21,347.86	5.50	784.90	1,913.30	
NORTHWESTERN INDIA UNION:																	
Central India Section ..	1	62	—	—	—	—	—	—	62	1,693.24	27.31	2,900.46	46.78	6.02	67.24		
North India Section ..	9	997	38	—	—	—	3	3	1,029	3,575.68	3.47	2,504.73	2.43	33.62	421.30		
Upper Ganges Section ..	15	1,075	15	8	—	2	—	—	1,095	12,849.78	11.73	10,218.37	9.33	—	1,662.26		
TOTALS ..	25	2,134	53	8	—	2	3	3	1	2,186	18,118.70	8.28	15,623.56	7.15	39.64	2,150.80	
PAKISTAN UNION:																	
East Pakistan Section ..	19	942	11	—	—	2	1	—	950	1,960.45	2.06	761.11	0.80	—	—		
Punjab Section ..	22	1,983	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,983	1,764.06	0.89	1,468.65	0.74	—	—		
Union Administration ..	4	276	—	—	—	—	—	—	276	4,779.00	17.31	1,719.04	6.22	—	—		
TOTALS ..	45	3,201	11	—	—	2	1	—	3,209	8,503.51	2.64	3,948.80	1.23	—	—		
SOUTH INDIA UNION:																	
Andhra Section ..	65	6,240	70	16	3	4	3	—	6,322	18,133.45	2.86	10,427.04	1.64	242.56	1,473.69		
Kannada Section ..	9	1,099	11	—	3	5	1	—	1,107	13,838.71	12.50	22,449.86	20.28	25.86	1,261.67		
Kerala Section ..	50	5,294	171	—	10	11	—	3	5,461	10,345.53	1.89	2,438.09	4.46	—	406.07		
Tamil Section ..	52	4,560	57	1	—	2	2	—	4,610	18,649.35	4.05	9,084.61	1.97	12.95	1,699.76		
Union & Union Institutions ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,619.42	—	—	—		
TOTALS ..	176	17,193	309	17	16	22	6	3	4	17,500	60,967.04	3.48	57,019.02	3.26	281.37	4,841.19	
WESTERN INDIA UNION:																	
North Maharashtra Section ..	10	634	—	—	1	—	1	—	634	2,064.38	3.25	919.51	1.45	—	13.93		
Union Administration ..	17	1,423	1	—	4	6	1	—	1,421	15,595.42	10.97	18,080.20	12.72	—	11.57		
TOTALS ..	27	2,057	1	—	5	6	2	—	2,055	17,659.80	8.59	18,999.71	9.24	—	25.50		
GRAND TOTALS ..																	
433	32,724	560	32	81	51	16	19	59	33,252	181,646.80	5.46	141,122.23	4.24	1,944.50	16,476.89		

THE SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 1966.

11 12 13 14 15 16

WORK		SABBATH SCHOOLS			YPMV SOCIETIES																		
Contributions	Home and Local Contributions Per Capita	No. of Sabbath Schools	Sabbath School Membership	Total Sabbath School Offerings for World Missions	No. of YPMV Societies	Young Peoples MV Society Membership	Contributions for Local YPMV Society Work	Ordained Ministers		Credentialed Missionaries				Credentialed Bible Instructors				Licensed Ministers					
								Active	Honorary	Active	Honorary	Active	Honorary	Active	Honorary	Active	Honorary	Active	Honorary				
F	NF	F	NF	F	NF	F	NF	F	NF	F	NF	F	NF	F	NF	F	NF	F	NF	F			
32.65	0.30	33	1,437	2,882.94	—	—	—	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	
46.00	2.23	32	1,295	2,402.00	13	565	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	
79.14	2.98	9	375	4,495.56	33	140	175.65	4	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
56.13	1.15	17	1,094	1,892.45	14	394	73.45	4	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	
8.92	1.50	91	4,201	11,672.95	30	1,099	249.10	—	18	—	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	3	
70.77	3.48	15	1,251	4,968.13	5	290	87.50	3	5	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	
13.56	0.79	66	—	855.18	28	700	118.77	2	5	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	
84.64	0.59	51	—	1,989.63	36	778	178.98	2	6	—	7	—	3	6	—	1	—	—	—	14	—	4	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
98.20	0.69	117	6,386	2,844.81	64	1,478	297.75	7	15	—	7	3	9	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	20	—	4
73.26	1.18	2	84	167.46	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
54.92	0.44	41	1,657	1,319.48	11	—	17.05	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	
62.26	1.52	21	814	3,684.27	12	—	303.86	5	10	—	4	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	
90.44	0.99	64	2,555	5,171.21	23	905	320.91	7	14	—	4	—	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	10	—	—	
—	—	—	—	759.11	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
—	—	—	—	1,287.83	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	
—	—	—	—	1,714.04	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
—	—	102	9,073	3,760.98	—	—	—	6	9	—	4	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	
16.25	0.27	93	6,856	4,172.05	45	1,703	135.65	—	17	—	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	4	
87.53	1.16	9	1,404	3,020.16	6	174	13.92	—	6	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	
106.07	0.07	116	7,097	2,370.10	57	1,254	—	—	16	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	
12.71	0.37	78	4,283	3,550.87	75	906	275.60	—	24	—	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	1	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	9	—	—	6	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	
22.56	0.29	296	19,640	13,113.18	183	4,037	425.17	5	72	—	14	6	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	—	6
13.93	—	25	—	591.76	13	334	3.77	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	
11.57	—	27	—	6,594.03	12	689	—	3	7	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	
25.50	—	52	3,277	7,185.79	25	1,023	3.77	3	9	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	10	—	—	8	9	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	3	
RECAPITULATION																							
313.92	1.50	91	4,201	11,672.95	30	1,099	249.10	—	18	—	4	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	3
70.77	3.48	15	1,251	4,968.13	5	290	87.50	3	5	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
598.20	0.69	117	6,386	2,844.81	64	1,478	297.75	7	15	—	7	3	9	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	20	—	4
90.44	0.99	64	2,555	5,171.21	23	905	320.91	7	14	—	4	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	7
—	—	102	9,073	3,760.98	—	—	—	6	9	—	4	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—
122.56	0.29	296	19,640	13,113.18	183	4,037	425.17	5	72	—	14	6	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	—
25.50	—	52	3,277	7,185.79	25	1,023	3.77	3	9	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	10	—	—	8	9	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	3
421.39	0.55	737	46,383	48,717.05	330	8,832	1,384.20	46	152	—	34	20	66	—	3	—	1	—	—	9	100	—	15



Greetings

to our believers in
Southern Asia

G. R. NASH, Secretary,
General Conference Sabbath School Department

ON BEHALF OF the General Conference Sabbath School Department I wish to extend cordial Christian greetings. Tuesday, November 1, I am scheduled to arrive in Karachi, Pakistan, to start my itinerary with W. F. Storz. We are to conduct Sabbath School institutes in the different Unions of the Southern Asia Division. It will be most interesting to visit the different Union territories of your Division and to become acquainted with God's people in Southern Asia.

We are living in changing times. Fast-fulfilling prophecy proclaims that the end is upon us. A mighty challenge confronts the church in this sunset hour! It is the challenge of an unfinished task. Thank God we are not engaged in an impossible task! It is one which will come to a full fruition. It cannot fail. We are not doomed to disappointment. We have not followed cunningly devised fables. A divine hand has been upon the wheel. God will yet bring all His promises to pass. He will gather from the world a beloved people who will serve Him in righteousness. Nevertheless, the fact that the task is unfinished faces us at present.

What can be the trouble? Why is the task unfinished? Why has not the "latter rain" fallen in all its fullness?

Of one thing we may be assured, the failure to finish the work has not been God's. The fault, then, must lie at the door of the church. We have been told that we might have been in the kingdom ere this, had the church performed her allotted task. That is certainly a striking reproof. Evidently, the plans of man have not kept pace with the movements of God.

Now as to wherein the fault rests, Mr. Lovell Murray, in *His Call to a World Task*, makes this rather illuminating statement: "We have not possessed our possessions. While the years of the Christian Era have gone by, God has been waiting to be honoured by the faith of a generation that would call upon Him for really large outpourings of His power. *Our fault has been that we have limited God by the trifling dimensions of our undertakings*, by our failure to appropriate more than a meagre supply of the superhuman resources that are unlocked to the faith of human agents, and by our unreadiness to throw ourselves into the ministry of intercession in the world's behalf."—Page 155.

Surely this declaration needs little, if any, comment. It is indeed provocative of deep thinking. Do you catch the significance of this startling pronouncement? It is, *We have not possessed our possessions*. If we had, the task would have been achieved, the servants of God

would have been in the kingdom with their sheaves.

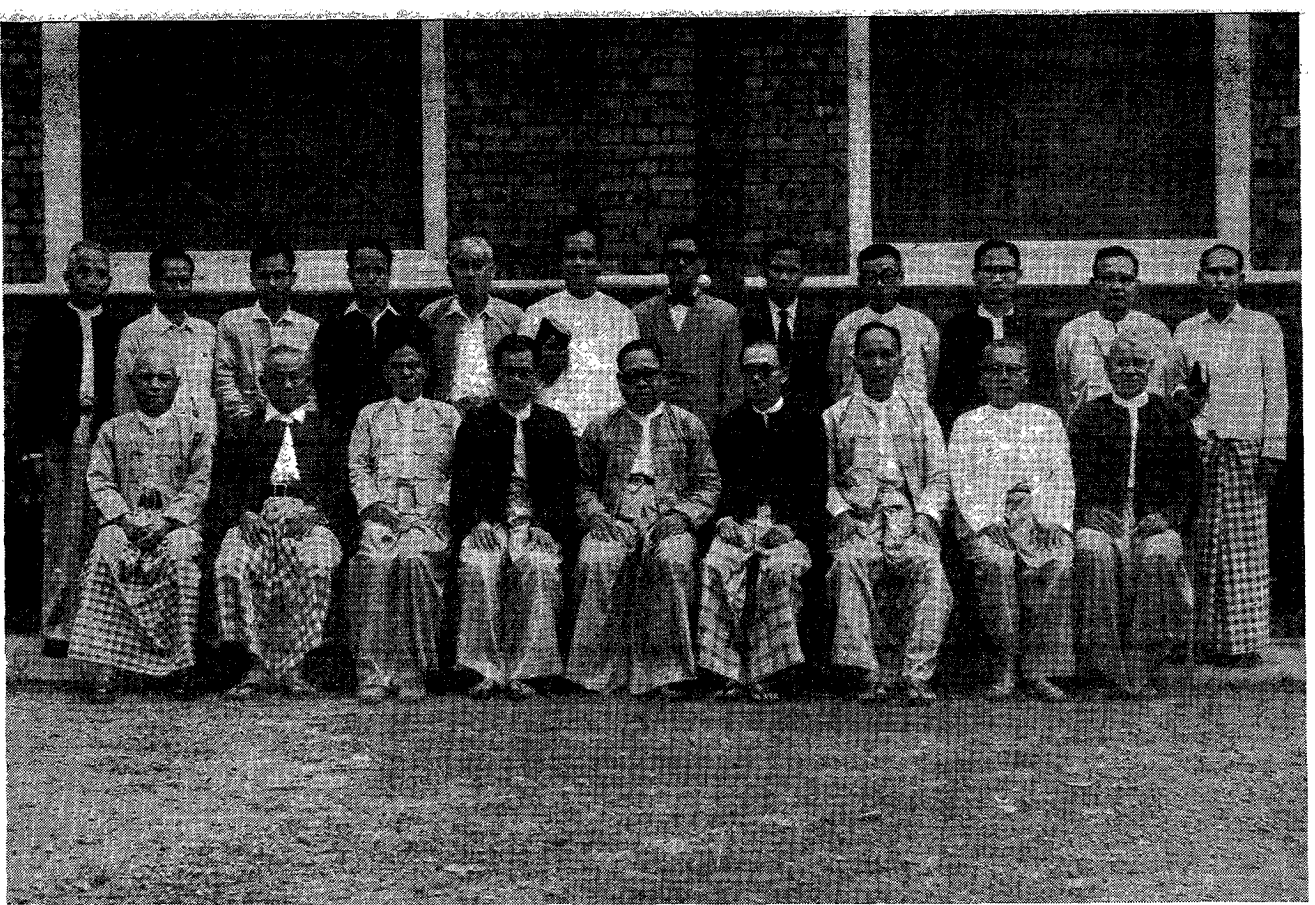
We have now come to the darkest period of mankind. What are our marching orders? They are: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." The church is to shine her brightest in the darkest hour of human events.

"In the hour of deepest apostasy, when Satan's supreme effort is made to cause 'all' . . . to receive, under penalty of death, the sign of allegiance to a false rest-day, these faithful ones . . . will 'shine as lights in the world.' Phil. 2:15. The darker the night, the more brilliantly will they shine."—*Prophets and Kings*, p. 189.

The master delusions of the devil have not come in all of their overwhelming power. The hour of deepest apostasy, when he shall transform himself into an angel of light, has not yet arrived, though we must admit that the day is hastening apace when this will come. When that hour comes, it will then be the time for the firmament of chosen ones whom God has in reserve to shine forth in all their brightness amidst the gross and utter darkness engulfing the world.

This being true, brethren and sisters, the dawn of the brightest day of the church must be just before us. It will not be the easiest day, for what we have failed to do in time of peace will needs be achieved under more adverse circumstances; but of this one thing we can be certain, the terrible conditions now overtaking the world will awaken men as they have never before been awakened. The judgments of God in the earth will shock men, will shake them, will mightily stir them concerning what these things mean. Such will bring to the church her golden opportunity for a mighty forward evangelism, a mighty winning of lost men and women for the kingdom.

Then our task must be a great forward advance. The present hour is a mighty challenge to go forward in faith and confidence. We cannot, and we dare not, transfer our task to a future generation. "This generation of Christians must not



Some workers of Burma who came together for a committee meeting in Rangoon recently.

their visit. When the Halden family knew that these two men were preachers they were very happy. Fortunately our two men were carrying some *Signs of the Times*. Mr. Halden was very happy to receive them as he had not anything to read for a long time.

Following this brief visit, our preachers saw the family often and studied with them. The literature they left behind was read from cover to cover, and Mr. Halden asked many questions about our message. The man and his daughter soon joined the church by baptism. His wife is not yet ready, but I believe that she too will join her family soon. Surely, the Lord must have misled these two evangelists so that His children who were hungry for the truth would be fed.

Buddhist Priest Reached

One day, about two years ago, a young Buddhist priest sat quietly in his room in a monastery in Sagain town. He was reciting his scriptural lessons for the day. Presently an older priest entered his room and handed him a Voice of Prophecy card. He read the

message on the card and his interest was aroused. The next day he wrote for the lessons and began to study them. As he studied the lessons a great interest was kindled in the life of Jesus. He learned that Jesus is the Saviour of the world. Buddhism expresses no need for a saviour, and the priest was thrilled at the discovery and began to enroll other priests in the VOP.

When he moved to his home village he told the people of what he had learned from the Voice of Prophecy and enrolled more people in the courses. In his correspondence with the school he requested that a Voice of Prophecy representative be sent to visit them. Elisha Paul, accordingly visited and studied with them. Many villagers joined the Bible studies and asked our worker to teach them more. Brother Elisha promised them that he would return in March to hold more meetings there. So in March 1966, Brother Elisha and two other workers held an effort, and as the result, seven were baptized.

The interest did not end there. We sent a worker, Ba Khin, to continue teaching others who had

requested for studies. Last August, Pein Gyi and I visited this place and we were very happy to have the privilege of baptizing seven more into the truth. Among the new group baptized is an aged religious leader who is an influential man in the community. He has offered us land for a teachers' quarters and a church building. We are sure that through this man's influence, many of his friends in this area will come out of darkness and receive the Gospel light.

We now have an evangelist and a lady Bible worker labouring with them. I am sure that before this year ends we are going to have another baptism here. We plan to build a worker's house soon. A church is also needed for this group of believers. Many of them are longing for the light. What a joy it is to all of us when we see all this resulting through the handing out of a single VOP card!

God's Way Is The Best Way

Nationalization of our Rangoon Hospital on July 5, 1965 was the first blow that hit our denomina-

tional work in Burma. When hospital workers were asked by the authorities to continue working the majority of them refused, even though they wanted very much to co-operate with the government. Main reason for this was their unwillingness to work on the Sabbath.

When questioned, they told the officers that they could not break the Sabbath and that they would rather lose their jobs than do something which was against their conscience. Consequently, they were released from employment. We are happy that our workers have stood firmly and faithfully for the Truth.

Some of our student nurses continued their training in government institutions since they were promised that there would be no Sabbath problems. When examination results came out, fifty out of fifty-one of our candidates had passed. Soon they were posted to various places and now they are scattered all over Burma. But

though they are far away from us, they are not completely isolated from us. We keep in touch with them from the headquarters office here in Rangoon. Local ministers are also endeavouring to keep in touch with them. We receive letters from these nurses from time to time. Many of them are the only Seventh-day Adventists in the places they are in. They request for *Signs of the Times*, *Our Times*, *Youth's Instructor*, literature, tracts, Bibles and other religious books so that they can share their faith effectively.

God has many ways of finishing His work. The hour is short. The harvest time has come and labourers are greatly needed here in the Burma Union. We believe that God is sending out our nurses to remote areas so that His work may be finished soon. There are many who are hungry for the truth and are ready to accept it if we approach them the right way.

The workers in Burma are doing well and are of good courage.

28 Refuse to Break Sabbath

Since our mission schools were nationalized in Burma our students have been studying in non-Adventist Schools.

Twenty-eight students attending one of the state high schools in Paan, Burma, were tested on their faith a few days ago.

One of their mid-year examinations fell on the Sabbath. The Adventist students decided not to sit for it. The principal and teachers were surprised to see their unity and strong determination not to break the Sabbath day. Many prayers ascended from our believers asking God to open a way for them.

Saya Aung Win, who was the principal of our middle school at Paan before it was nationalized, made an appeal to the principal of the state high school to let the youth sit for the examination after sunset. Following much discussion the principal of the school agreed to let them answer the



Adventist youth of Paan state high school who were recently locked up in a girls' hostel so they could appear for their mid-year examination after sundown on Sabbath.



Laymen of Burma who recently came together for an institute at Myaungmya.

paper after sundown.

Consequently on Sabbath, October 8, at 11:00 a.m. while their schoolmates were in the examination halls, our students were locked up in one of the rooms in the girls' dormitory. Saya Aung Win was given the responsibility of carefully watching our young people. He was told to see that they do not speak to each other or to anyone outside the room.

For their lunch each were given a package of fried koukswe to eat. The expense for it was taken from the fund specially set aside for all Paan youth. Their relatives brought supper.

At 6:30 p.m., after sunset, the students were taken out of the room to sit for the three-hour examination. The state high school principal and his assistants took charge from then on.

We are thankful to the Lord for our youth who let their lights shine before men. Many outstanding people in Paan now know about the Seventh-day Adventists and their observance of the Sabbath.

By visiting people and giving out literature our youth at Paan are sharing their faith.

A laymen's institute was held in Myaungmya about the last week of September which was attended by 54 people. Fourteen of these were seminary students and the rest represented laymen from all the main tribes and nationals of Burma. Most of them were farmers, some were retired soldiers and army officers, a few were businessmen, and one was a practising lawyer. Instructions were given on "The Story of the Advent Movement," "Denominational History," "The Message We Believe In," "How to Give Bible Studies to Non-Christians and Christians," and "Church Organization."

Those who attended expressed gratitude for this wonderful opportunity given them for learning more about how to share the Advent message with others.

EVANGELISTIC ACTIVITIES IN BURMA UNION

TUN SEIN

THE evangelistic campaign at Ok-taik-kone village in Wunthe area of Burma ended with the baptism of seven by U Baw

Dee. This was the first baptism held here and many people witnessed the beautiful ceremony. These people had never seen a Christian in their village. We are very happy that now there are seven who will continue to witness for God among them.

Since many more were interested in the message, Section President U Baw Dee left another evangelist, Saya Ba Khin, to work here and in neighbouring Pein-gan village. As the result, another seven persons were baptized by U Pein Kyi in Pein-gan during the month of August. Plans have already been made to erect a small church building here. Saya Ba Khin is at present preparing another group of young people for baptism.

Evangelist Saw E Dwe commenced another effort on October 1 in Nam-Ti, a small town about thirty miles south of Myit-kyi-na. The pandal has been erected in a suitable place. We hope to see many people make a definite decision to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

Many more efforts are being held in Burma during these last months of the year. Please remember them in your prayers.

First of its kind

The Pastors' Retreat in Mahabaleshwar

I. KANAGARAYAN MOSES

THE POONA PASTORS' retreat, first of its kind ever to be held in Southern Asia, took place from October 14 to 16 in that beautiful highland called Mahabaleshwar, hill-station of Western India about 75 miles from Poona. The organizers, W. H. Mattison and E. G. Conley, the president and secretary respectively of the Pastors' Association, Poona Circle, did an excellent job in both the selection of the location and in making arrangements for the Retreat.

The exact spot was the estate owned by the American Presbyterian Church called "Green Hills," an ideal place for quiet meditation and study. This is located on a high plateau overlooking beautiful valleys and a distant picturesque spread of farmlands and villages. The participants came by car, bus and motor-cycles. Twenty-three families were represented at the Retreat, which included about 16 pastors, most of whom brought their wives and children.

One of the objectives of the Retreat was to help ministers to examine themselves, to be self-critical, and to spend more time in morning and evening meditation.

Opening meeting was the vesper service on Friday. W. H. Mattison, Division Ministerial secretary, was the speaker at this hour. His subject was, "The Cross of Christ", a study of the cross Christ had to bear as He laboured with humanity.

Sabbath morning found all members gathered for the Sabbath school enjoying the chirping of the insects, the singing of the birds, and the soft, bustling sound of the cool breeze. A lively song-service preceded the Sabbath school session conducted by W. F. Storz. The lesson was taught with much fervour and earnestness by W. G.

Johnsson of Spicer College. Many aspects of the temperance issue, the subject of the lesson, such as self-control of both body and mind, a positive approach to life, self-denial, etc., as they relate to a Seventh-day Adventist minister, were discussed and studied with much profit.

The sermon at the divine service was given by Elder G. S. Glass, who is currently visiting us from Africa. His gripping experiences of self-sacrifice on the part of the workers of Africa kept the children and the grown-ups spell-bound.

After lunch, the participants once again gathered to listen to a lively and instructive discussion by Dr. M. E. Cherian on "The Pastor and his Devotional Life." He drew out from his own personal experience the challenge that presents itself to a devoted minister, pastor, and husband.

An exhilarating nature walk was conducted towards evening by R. L. Rowe who brought out from his own study and experience the wonderful mysteries of plant-, insect- and bird-life as they portray to us the greatness and the infinite wisdom of God.

The campfire, the last item of the day, was looked forward to with eagerness by one and all, especially the younger set. After some lively singing, interesting and daring stories of men who went through dangerous experiences with wild animals and wild men were narrated by G. S. Glass, W. F. Storz, and V. Raju.

Sunday morning found us out again under green trees and clear cool skies to listen to T. A. Davis on "The Minister and his Realm." He stressed the importance of the minister's reading habit and the improvement that should come as a consequence of a definite, planned programme.

The next hour was spent in

listening to a talk by Dr. George Jenson on the subject, "Our Approach to Hinduism." This was a very interesting subject and elicited much discussion. He told us that Hindus were also the objects of God's grace, mercy and salvation, and, therefore, to intelligently understand them and their religion so as to approach them with the message of Christ, ministers should inform themselves sufficiently about their ways of life and beliefs. Dr. Cherian, acting as the moderator of the discussion, which included such subjects as the seeming parallel there is between Hinduism and Christianity in the matter of the Trinity, the meaning of the atonement as understood by us, also brought out salient points to be observed in approaching our Hindu friends. The last item, a short devotional message by the writer, brought the Retreat to a successful end.

A very satisfied group of people, who thoroughly enjoyed the two-day retreat, then packed up their belongings and made their way back to Poona. I hope this is the beginning of several retreats for ministers throughout the Division. They will pay rich dividends in bringing out a more dedicated and spiritual ministry. We commend the organizers on this very successful venture.

OBITUARIES

S. N. DAVID

Born in 1895, S. N. David finished his high school and went into military service under the British in the Middle East during World War I.

He accepted the third angel's message while attending a series of meetings held by Elder Knight at Pulikottukonam (present Adventpuram). Since he was more educated than others of his village he was used as an interpreter by the local people and missionaries.

The '67 MV Bookclubs

Later, he went to the South India Training School after which he was encouraged by Elder G. G. Lowry to join our work in the Malayalam field. That was the beginning of a lifetime of rich and dedicated ministry as evangelist, church pastor, treasurer and field secretary. Pastor David rendered yeoman service in the establishment of many churches in the south and north of the former State of Travancore.

In the doctrines and principles he held, Pastor David was a "workman that needeth not to be ashamed." He was firm in convictions and his conclusions, based on the eternal principles of the Word of God, were unalterable. He was a remarkably keen Bible student and as he preached many times he faced bitter opposition and arguments. In proclaiming God's truth, he was firm and did not retrace his steps even when it was tactful for him to do so. At times his own life was in danger, but Pastor David pushed on. This quality shone well and God used him to establish some of the finest churches in Kerala.

Since his retirement in 1950, he has translated several books in Malayalam. He also prepared manuscripts, "Health and Healing," "When God Splits the Atom," "Selected Messages," "An Interpretation of the Books of Daniel and Revelation," are some of the books with which he worked.

Pastor S. N. David's life was a living testimony to the blessings that would come to a man who loved and obeyed God all his life. He became an orphan when he was forty days old, and he lived to see his children and grandchildren. For him and his family bread and water was sure.

Pastor David passed away on October 6. Funeral services were conducted by P. C. Mathew in Adventpuram attended by R. D. Riches and a host of ministers of Kerala Section. He rests a few yards from the spot where Pastor Knight found him listening to the message of the second coming of Christ. He awaits the grand day of resurrection.

CAMERON RASAMMAH STORER born in Uduvil, Jaffna, in 1887, died at Chilaw on September 3, 1966. She was educated at the American Mission School at Uduvil; married a lawyer of Jaffna, Storer James Thambipillai, in 1908. In 1916, she accepted our message brought to her by a lay-preacher of South India, T. S. Nayagam. She and her husband were baptized by G. G. Lowry, and were the first Ceylonese couple to become members of our church.

Ever since then, the Storer home became the meeting place of Sabbath-keepers in the Jaffna peninsula until the family moved to Rajakadalawa in 1927. She was a faithful tithe-payer and all her children were educated in the mission schools. Her faith in the triumph of the Advent message was strong to the last.

Survivors are her husband; three sons: Arunasalam, Subramaniam, and Thillanathan; three daughters: Mrs. A. M. Jesudawson, Nallamah, and Nesamah; 20 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by E. C. Beck, B. Pinghe, P. P. Dias and R. S. Fernando.

EACH YEAR the Missionary Volunteer Department is a bit more discriminating in its choice of manuscripts for book club use, the net result being that the clubs herein listed are, without doubt, the best we have ever had.

Listed below are the Missionary Volunteer Book Club selections for 1967.

SENIOR

THE BOOK AND THE QUEST, by Margit Strom Heppenstall

This tender love story of a young Bulgarian couple, their marriage, their search for a Bible, and the influence of its teachings upon their lives and on their family, all moulded together in a delightful literary style, will make this one of the outstanding selections of this year's book club. Rs. 22.13.

THE STORY OF DIAMONDOLA, by Mildred Olson

That God has His chosen ones in crucial times is fully demonstrated in this lively and dramatic account of the beginnings of Adventist evangelism in Greece, Turkey, and Armenia. The principal figure throughout is the frail girl whose name decided the title for the book. With scanty education, Diamondola at thirteen became a translator for a pioneer worker, Elder AcMoody. She journeyed with him over bandit-ridden roads, her only remuneration being the bare necessities of existence. AcMoody sent her to school for a year in gratitude for her labours. And that is only the beginning of a story that follows Diamondola through years of hardship, imprisonment, persecution, and almost unbelievable escapades in her witness for Christ. Rs. 37.13.

THESE WATCHED HIM DIE, by Leslie Hardinge

About the cross at Calvary when the Saviour died were several distinctly diversified groups of people. Among them and most personally concerned were Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus. His disciples were in the background, all except John. There were sympathetic as well as heartless members of the Sanhedrin in the crowd. There were Romans and anonymous rabble. What were they all thinking? Which group would we have been in? Not in many a day has a new book in homiletics offered as much reading interest and excitement as this. Rs. 29.63.

THE ROMAN, by Gwynne Dalrymple

An imaginative portrayal of a boy's attitude toward Lawton Academy, an Adventist school of a generation ago, written in the form of calendar entries of his observations, presents the typical metamorphosis of a teen-ager who thinks the atmosphere and requirements of a religious school are not for him. The entire book is quite entertaining. The triumphant conclusion—a life dedicated to God—makes this delightfully conceived book a rewarding piece of reading. Rs. 29.63.

ON BEING SWEETHEARTS, by Harold Shryock, M.D.

In no area of human adjustment is there more need for wise counsel than in the love life of young people. Here is a treasure-trove of wisdom for young people who would make their choice of a life companion a conquest of intelligence, self-control, and Christian consecration over impulse, blind devotion, and trial-and-error experiences. Rs. 37.13.

JUNIOR

SASA RORE—"LITTLE WARRIOR", by Ursula M. Hedges

Rescued from his burning Solomon Island home after his mother Tumu had been shot down by hostile invaders, this orphan of the jungle seemed to live a charmed life. Under the protection of Divine Providence this boy's emergence from a head-hunting tribe into a life of usefulness, and later of distinguished service, provides a narrative of marvel and inspiration. Rs. 26.25.

UP FROM THE SIDEWALK, by Elsie Lewis Rawson

Thousands of people are born, dwell, and die on the sidewalks of the teeming cities of India. Here is a gripping life story of one of these unfortunates as he might tell it himself in the first person. Rs. 26.25.

CHAMPIONS ALL, by Leroy Brown

This is a book of twenty-two thumbnail biographies of men and women who carved their names high on the world's record of courageous and memorable careers. Ida Scudder, Sammy Morris, Faraday, Fanny Crosby, Bob LeTourneau, Ann Judson, Gypsy Smith, David Brainerd, Hudson Taylor, Philip Bliss, John Eliot, Daddy Hall, and Ira Sankey all make quick impact on the interest of even the browsing reader. Rs. 26.25.

THE RESTLESS MISSIONARY, by Virgil Robinson

This amazing life of Joseph Wolff, a young Jew converted to Catholicism and then to Protestantism and finally to a belief in the prophecies that brought forth the Advent Movement, is one of astonishing revelations. His militant preaching of Christ led him from country to country, and from city to city. The beatings, robberies, imprisonments, and hazardous adventures he endured for his faith are without parallel in modern times. Rs. 26.25.

STEVE'S NIGHT OF SILENCE AND OTHER STORIES, by Ernie Holyer.

This second book of stories published by Mrs. Holyer has twenty stories that every junior boy and girl will find much pleasure in reading. Rs. 29.63.

Turn over for Primary

PRIMARY

A NEW FRIEND FOR KELLY, by Lois M. Parker

Here is a happy little story of an unusual kind of pet: Jenny, a mother burro, and Jack, her newborn son. How Kelly made himself popular with his burro family, his dogs and cat, his horses and little red rooster, will delight every youngster. Dialogue is scaled down to the colloquial level of small children. Rs. 22.13.

SKIPPER COONS SECURITY, by Betty Nickless

The adventures of Mike, Tim, and Tam with their pet racoon. Rs. 22.13.

A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD Bertha Crow

Story of life in a farm situated in a primitive back country with panthers, wild hogs, and other creatures of the forest. Rs. 29.63.

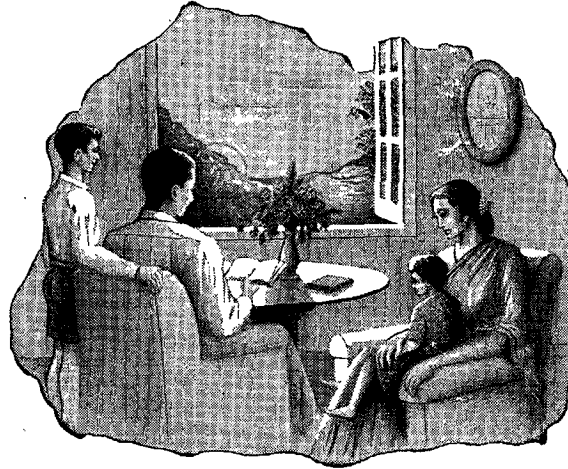
MY BIBLE FRIENDS, Vol. 8, by Etta B. DeGering

The newest of this increasingly popular series of Bible stories for primary children tells the story of Noah and the great flood, and the prophet Elisha and the borrowed ax. Rs. 29.63.

WONDER TALES OF THE BIBLE Vol. 4, by Arthur W. Spalding

The final volume of the beautiful stories of the Bible written by this unexcelled master of Scripture narrative. It begins with the Bethlehem story and deals throughout with incidents in the life of Christ: the miracle of the wine at Cana, the feeding of the multitude with a boy's slender basket of bread and fish, the wonder of that night Jesus walked on the water, the curing of the cripple by Bethesda's pool, the transfiguration, and the resurrection. Rs. 28.12.

Why Is Every Day Important ?

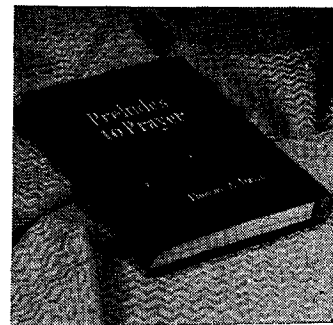


BECAUSE IT BEGINS WITH A MORNING

And every day will be full of achievements and success for you and your family if every morning begins with a prayer.

PRELUDES TO PRAYER is your aid for morning devotions in 1967. The 365 readings on practical and inspirational subjects will enrich your day and help you toward better living.

This book is especially significant in that it is written for the world field by one of our workers of the Southern Asia Division, Thomas A. Davis, Editor of the Oriental Watchman Publishing House. Bound in attractive, durable plastic cloth, the book sells for Rs 5 each copy.



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Dear Sirs:

I desire (copy/copies) of *Preludes to Prayer*, at Rs. 5.00 each.

I am sending a money order for Rs.

Name:

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● Education Secretary Tidwell observes that the new girls' dorm at Raymond Memorial Training School, Falakata, is the best one we have in India. In appearance and layout the dormitory seems to be better than even Spicer College women's dorm.

● Jesudas Hiria, the watchman of the mission property at Kotagiri, has prepared four persons for baptism. M. D. Kodan reports that this man has a real burden for souls. He is a good singer and has a set of musical instruments which he uses in his preaching services in villages and market-places.

● It is with sadness that we announce that a thief broke into the house of Elder E. R. Reynolds at the Chuharkhana High School and shot at him, critically wounding him. The bullet which has lodged in his brain has caused paralysis of the right side of his body. Prayers on his behalf have ascended to God from around the field and the latest word is that he is making steady progress.

● Failure of monsoons have caused drying up of paddy fields in Khunti School. All of the fields at Khunti are cultivated, some with paddy and the rest with other crops.

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