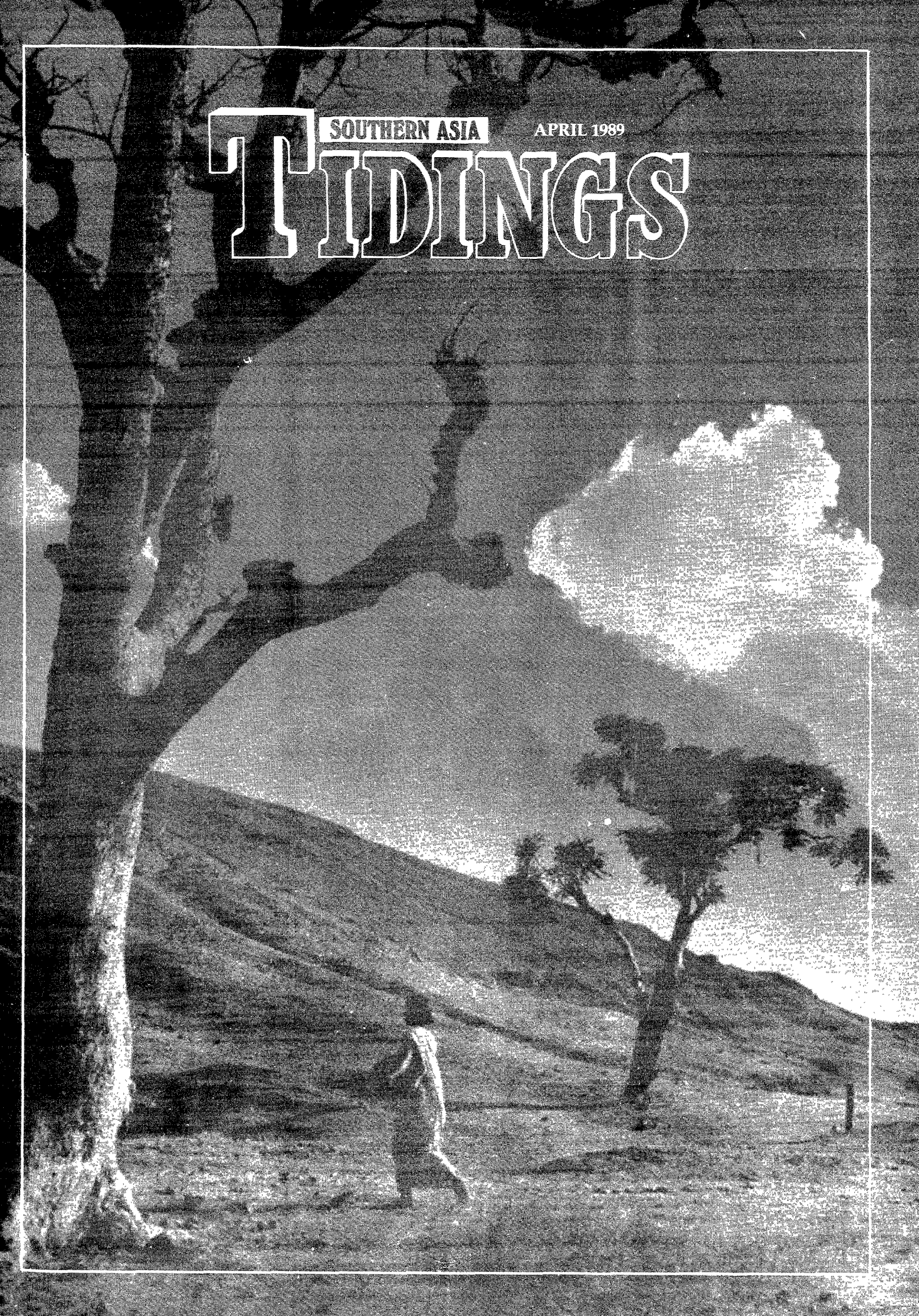


TIDINGS

SOUTHERN ASIA

APRIL 1989



IN GOD

WE TRUST—SOMETIMES

An ancient prophets's message for today

BY LEONARD P. TOLHURST

Some of the most sublime words of the Old Testament are found in Habakkuk 3:17: "Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation."

These verses speak to us of contentment and joy in the face of great calamity and loss. Are they the words of someone out of touch with reality? No, they come from a man who wrestled with doubt, who argued with and even challenged God, yet in the end found faith and trust.

Habakkuk had been called to speak for God, but he had a problem understanding the message God gave him. At a time of great apostasy, probably around 630 B.C., the prophet could not understand why God allowed the sins of Judah to go unchecked. "O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! even cry unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!" (Hab. 1:2).

God responded that He would send the Chaldeans to punish Judah for her sins. This raised a problem in Habakkuk's mind: how could God use a nation more wicked than Judah to punish her? The prophet proceeds to argue this question with God (verses 12-17).

But then he appears to realize that he has gone too far in thus challenging God, for in chapter 2:1 he awaits God's reproof: "I will stand upon my watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproofed."

When God answered Habakkuk, He assured him that all would be well (verses 2-4). God knew what He was doing in using the Babylonians to punish Judah. He urged Habakkuk to have faith and trust Him.

This exchange between Habakkuk and God gives us interesting insight into God's nature. He was willing to enter into a dialogue with a human being about His plans.

God then referred to some of Babylon's sins (verses 5-19). He was not unmindful of them, and in due time the Chaldeans too would meet with divine retribution. God adds a gentle rebuke for the prophet: "But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keeps silence before him" (verse 20).

The third chapter opens with Habakkuk repenting of questioning God, and pleading that His justice be mixed with mercy (verses 1, 2). Finally the prophet shows that he is resigned to God's will and prepared to trust Him (verses 17-19).

Judah had an agricultural economy. Destruction of vines, fig trees, olive trees, grain crops, and cattle meant a most severe affliction. All these losses were sustained in the Babylonian invasion and captivity that followed.

Yet, despite the severity of these judgments, Habakkuk responded by praising God. It appears he had grown in faith.

His joy came not because of the coming destruction, but in spite of it He knew God reminded in control and could safely be trusted.

Sooner or later the faith of every believer will be tried. Things do not always go well, even for Christians.

Lessons for Today

Have you ever asked, Why did God allow this to happen to me? Have you been tempted to doubt His goodness and love when you or a loved one was stricken with severe illness? Have you questioned God when well-made plans collapsed or you suffered severe financial loss? All too often we have been guilty of yielding to this temptation.

The Bible has valuable promises and counsel for such times of trial "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor

his seed begging bread" (Ps. 37:25). "Take no (anxious) thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink: or, Where-withal shall we be clothed? . . . But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:31-33). "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet" (Hab. 3:18,19).

The deer, or hind, is a very sure-footed animal as it climbs among the rocky heights of the mountains. It is also swift. So God's people will be empowered to pass safely through the trials that come upon them.

Remember, when tempted to complain, the words of the Lord to Habakkuk: "The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him" (Hab. 2:20).

Many Bible passages have more than one fulfillment or application in history, and this is certainly true of Habakkuk 3:17, 18. Ellen White applies these verses to the last days. "In the last great conflicts of the controversy with Satan those who are loyal to God will see every earthly support cut off. Because they refuse to break His law in obedience to earthly powers, they will be forbidden to buy or sell. It will finally be decreed that they shall be put to death. See Rev. 13:11-17. . . . To that time of distress the prophet Habakkuk looked forward, and his words express the faith of the church: Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. Hab. 3:17, 18" (*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 121,122).

Lessons for the Last Days

God's people will not escape suffering. They endure hardship and suffer hunger but are not left to perish. God has a thousand ways to provide for our needs of which we know nothing! Years ago He cared for Elijah by commanding the ravens to feed him.

I heard some time ago of an elderly Chinese man who decided to become a Christian despite the opposition of his son, with whom he lived. The son declared that if his father became a Christian, he would not feed him. The father

replied that God would not let him starve. In anger the son put a padlock on the food cupboard in the house and went to work. During the day some raven flew over the backyard of the family home. In the beak of one was a lump of meat stolen from the open-air market nearby. As the birds flew over the house, the one carrying the meat was forced by another to drop it, and the old man picked it up, washed it, and put into a pot.

When the son returned, he smelled the meat cooking and became very angry, thinking his father had broken into the cupboard. When he checked it and found it still locked, he demanded an explanation. Upon hearing the facts, he was so impressed that he decided to do his duty as a son and care for his father.

As we face the crisis of the last days we need to trust more in God. He is able to supply all our needs. "The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places" (Hab. 3:19). Here is the promise of ultimate triumph. We are to dwell securely upon the heights of salvation.

"If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?" (Jer. 12:5).

We must daily learn lessons of trust in God's dealings with us, so that we may know how to stand in any greater trials that lie ahead.

MADELINE

by Daphne Cox

Slowly Table Mountain receded into the distance as the passenger liner sailed toward England. I stood looking at that beloved sight, wondering if I would ever see it again.

With my emotions churning like the white water being thrashed by the propellers, I longed to remain in that beautiful country, my birthplace. But I knew I could not.

During the war I married a British soldier, and a couple of months later, we went to England. There, the cold weather made me thoroughly miserable. And having to do my own housework didn't help. Suddenly I saw what a drudgery a servant's life must be in my homeland—and realised they were grossly underpaid.

On our return to South Africa, with my husband now a civilian, I for the first time saw my country as a foreigner might view it. Apartheid, a word I heard during the war, denoted something ugly.

Carefully, so as not to anger officialdom—or my neighbours—I tried to get to know coloured, black and Indian people as individuals, to learn their problems, to understand their thoughts.

It was not an easy task. And we found ourselves increasingly ignoring the prohibitions relating to "separate living," thus risking arrest.

The turmoil I was going through surprised me. I, like my white compatriots, had been brought up with a colour bar, without realising it. Now I was beginning to see it for what it was. After five years of intense emotional conflict, I could stand it no longer. To speak out was dangerous—I had small children to think of—and to keep silent any longer was impossible. We made the painful decision to return to England.

Soon after we sailed I saw a young coloured woman on the boat. Smiling at her, I asked how she was enjoying the voyage. Obviously surprised, she answered, "It's very nice." Then she seemed at a loss for words.

Madeline, I soon learned had been a waitress in Cape Town. She told me she had saved all her tips for years so she could make this voyage.

Now, because of the limited number of passengers, we found ourselves on a one-class ship. Madeline was overawed. No wonder she was so shy when we first met. No wonder she always kept her eyes downcast when we spoke.

I suggested to Madeline that we go to the same accommodation in London so we could show her the city sights. She accepted, and we found a modest boarding house in Bayswater.

Each night we planned the next day's

itinerary. Then one night I said casually, "We'll be going to church tomorrow morning." We only recently had become Seventh-day Adventists.

"May I come to church with you?" she responded quickly.

"Certainly," I said.

So it was that we found ourselves in church—and there in front was the table set for Communion.

Realising that Madeline would find foot-washing a completely new experience, I quietly explained that in the Adventist Church we believe in following the example of Jesus of doing all that He commanded.

"I would be very pleased if you would like to take part in this service Madeline—I'll wash your feet, I said.

She stared downward. Then, wordlessly, she grabbed her bag and fled the building.

She probably thinks we are a bunch of crazy fanatics, I mused as I waited for the service to begin. I wondered if she would still be at the boarding house when we returned.

Silently, for what seemed to be an eternity, I prayed for this young woman who was in a completely foreign world.

How would she survive in this predominantly white society?

Suddenly, I felt a movement at my side and opened my eyes. Madeline had come back. Tears streamed down her cheeks.

"Would you really wash my feet?" she asked, hesitantly. "I'd be happy to—very HAPPY," I replied, with a surge of relief. "But you're white!" The words were out. I took her hand in both of mine.

"Just do as I do—just do as Jesus did," I told her. And together we entered the anteroom with the other women. Basins and towels were set out beside a circle of chairs. We prayed and sang a hymn. Then we paired off to serve each other.

Kneeling, I washed and dried the two brown feet in front of me, explaining that this was like a miniature baptism washing away all things we'd done wrong.

Then Madeline's hands tenderly washed and dried my feet—white feet. Rising together, I did what I always had done at such services: I embraced and kissed her.

Madeline smiled, and for the first time she looked me full in the eyes. Then she turned and walked back into the church.

THE INDWELLING CHRIST

by Ken R. Low

There are so many wonderful things to be found in John 14 one wonders where to start and where to end.

The 14th chapter of John contains the priceless promise: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:1-3.

The chapter also contains Jesus' self-description, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (verse 6), and our obligation to Him, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Verse 15.

There are so many wonderful things to be found in this chapter one wonders where to start and where to end. No wonder it is the favourite Bible chapter of so many Christians.

The words "Let not your heart be troubled" were spoken by a troubled Person to some very troubled people. Jesus knew that He would be unjustly tried, flogged, rejected by His people, crucified and buried. He knew it all. He went to Gethsemane and sweated great drops of blood as He agonised.

Amazingly, in the upper room Jesus put aside His personal troubles to minister to His disciples. He knew they also were troubled and would be completely devastated before the day was done. So Jesus started by saying, "Let not your heart be troubled," Verse 27.

The disciples were troubled because Jesus had told them that before the day was over He would leave them and be-

fore then one would betray Him, one would deny Him, and they would all be offended because of Him. The English word "scandalise" is derived from the Greek word for "offended." Jesus' disciples were going to be scandalised by what would happen to Him before the night was over.

These men loved Jesus. Already they had given up much for His cause—fathers, mothers, friends, homes, their futures. Already they had suffered trials and persecutions—but it didn't matter because Jesus was there. But now He said He was going away.

However, even at that stage they could not imagine the fearful events that were going to happen. When Jesus died on the cross their world fell around them. Every ambition and hope was taken from them. They tasted the bitter cup of failure to its last dregs. And it appeared that even Jesus could not help them.

Jesus knew all this was going to take place. So He spoke His last words to them, knowing they would be remembered. "Let not your heart be troubled," He said, "In my Father's house are many mansions." Here is the promise of heaven that bridges the gulf of death—the promise that there is room and room to spare for all who believe in Him.

The disciples were just a sampling of those for whom there will be room: For doubters like Thomas, for sons of thunder like James and John, for those who speak before they think like Peter, for fiery insurgents like Simon, for practical and cautious men like Andrew. Maybe we can find our own

description among some of those disciples.

Then we read the promise that He will come again: "I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again." That promise has lived through the centuries and has been read, reread, recited and sung. It has thrilled the hearts of believers. What does it matter what happens to us if Jesus is going to come?

But that promise was not enough to cheer the disciples. Jesus had told them He was going and would return. But He did not tell them *when* He would return. It might be a long time. It might even be something like 2,000 years. So Jesus added: "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." Verse 23. Jesus promised that He and the Father would come and live with us, not in heaven, but here on earth. Not in the future, but here and now. And the number of mansions that are being prepared in heaven is the same as the number of hearts where the Father and Son can lodge now in this world.

But this was all new to the disciples and they couldn't comprehend it. They must have thought to themselves, *How can this be? How can the Father and Son come and lodge in our hearts?* But Jesus explained it to them: "I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Verses 16, 17.

The word "Comforter" is derived from the Greek word *Parakletos*. To translate this word as "Comforter" fits this passage beautifully. If Jesus could have put His arms around them and supported them He would have done so.

But having said all this, "Comforter" is not the best translation. The literal meaning of the word *parakletos* is "someone who is called in." If you are involved in a court case and need someone to witness on your behalf, you will call in a friend—a *parakletos*. In other parts of the Scriptures the word *parakletos* is translated "advocate." A person called in for any reason at all is a *parakletos*. If you require the advice of an expert on any problem, you turn to a *parakletos*.

A BOLD PLAN TO CULMINATE HARVEST 90

John Wycliffe, the first man to translate the Bible into English, was also the first person to use the word "Comforter." His only source material was the Latin Vulgate, which used the word *confortare*—an extension of *fortis*, meaning "brave." A comforter was someone who encouraged people to be brave—a "fortifier" who would lift people above fear, reinforce them, and give them triumph in battle. When God spoke to Joshua He said, "Only be thou strong and very courageous" or, as the Septuagint (LXX) has it, "play the man."

Isaiah uses the word *confortare* the same way: "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee." Isaiah 41:10. And isn't this what Paul had in mind when he prayed, "That he would grant you. . . to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man"? Ephesians 3:16.

In John 14 Jesus was saying: It does not matter what is going to take place over the next 24 hours. It will not be the end, only the beginning. You are going to do greater works than I have done (verse 12). You are going to remember all that I have said to you (verse 26). I will not leave you comfortless (or orphaned)—I will come to you (verse 18). When I come to you, I will strengthen you by My Spirit. These promises are also for us today.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you," Jesus said. "Let not your heart be troubled." Matthew Henry wrote regarding this passage: "When Christ was about to leave the world he made his will. His soul he committed to his Father; his body he bequeathed to Joseph, to be decently interred; his clothes fell to the soldiers; his mother he left to the care of John: but what should he leave to his poor disciples, that had left all for him?"

Silver and gold he had none; but he left them that which was definitely better, *his peace*." Not the peace of ease, but peace in struggle. Not in self-content, but in self-sacrifice. Not in yielding to evil, but in conflict with it. A strange paradox—peace in conflict. Poverty cannot destroy it, sickness cannot mar it, persecution cannot ruin it.

How can this peace be ours? "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee." Let us keep our minds stayed on our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

An Interview with Carlos Aeschlimann, Coordinator of Harvest 90

1. *What is your evaluation of the impact and the results of Harvest 90 to the present moment?*

Until now (December 1988), Harvest 90 has been a success. It has united the world church in a common evangelistic thrust. It has inspired creativity for new effective methods to win souls. It has encouraged a spirit of revival. It has produced a tremendous mobilization, and above all, it has demonstrated the gigantic potential of using the laity to preach the gospel. We already have more than one and one-half million baptisms. Eight divisions have kept up with their quarterly goals and at least 21 local fields have gone over their total Harvest 90 goal. General Conference President Neal C. Wilson says, "Harvest 90 has become the priority item on most agendas and is accomplishing the soul winning and spiritual objectives originally envisioned. We thank the Lord and our

church members for many great victories already achieved."

2. *Which of the world fields lead the way?*

The South and Inter-American Divisions are in the lead followed by the two divisions in Africa and the Far Eastern Division. The two divisions in Europe are experiencing an extraordinary evangelistic revival. Four local fields in the South Pacific Division have reached the total Harvest 90 goal and the division is headed to victory. The following unions have already reached their total goals: Middle East, Inca, and Cuba.

3. *What are the plans for 1989?*

National Evangelistic Campaigns will be held in Brazil, Philippines, Indonesia, Korea, Haiti, and Spain. The Multiple Metropolitan Mega-Mexico '89 will have 1,500 centres for simultaneous preaching. The Euro-Africa Division plans to organize a second Evangelism Institute in Germany. The Trans-European Division will train 25 pastors who will later conduct evangelistic campaigns in each of the principal cities of the division. In the North American Division, 1989 is designated as the Year of Evangelism. Special emphasis is being placed on reclaiming ex-Adventists and increasing the number of Revelation Seminars held.

4. *How much time remains to finish the Harvest 90 programme?*

Counting from January 1989, Harvest 90 will end in one and one-half years, which is six quarters, 18 months, or 550 days.

5. *What are the possibilities of reaching the Harvest 90 goals?*

The possibilities are excellent; however, time is short. Therefore, it is necessary to involve the entire church in order to produce a great evangelistic explosion. Now is the time to accelerate our efforts to the maximum. Now is the time to give evangelism the absolute priority. Now is the time to make great and daring plans. Now is the time to allocate more funds for evangelism. Now is the time to produce a gigantic mobilization of all the forces of the church. Now is the time to launch a total evangelistic offensive. I believe

At the end of the week of prayer at Raymond Memorial Training School three students were baptized by Dr. Kobiakka.



that the church will obtain a great victory if it unites in a permanent programme of evangelism and soul winning. Annual Council voted: "To challenge the church to launch a massive evangelistic movement that will produce the most glorious results in the history of our church with the total participation of all church members, pastors, departmental directors, institutions, and administrators."

6. *What strategy will be conducive to gaining the victory?*

First, nothing less than victory should be the goal of every division, union, and local field. Second, plan to reach the total Harvest 90 goal by the end of 1989. This means large baptismal results are needed during this year. Third, outline daring plans for a global evangelistic explosion that will carry us to victory in the last year of Harvest 90.

7. *What plan is suggested to culminate Harvest 90?*

Annual Council recommended the following plan, "To launch a Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign from July 1989 to June 1990."

8. *How would you explain this campaign?*

The action taken at Annual Council explains, "This gigantic global programme of total and permanent evangelism would use all the forces of the church in order to obtain the greatest harvest of souls in the history of the Adventist Church.

- Invite all local fields to participate in this campaign implementing an aggressive plan of permanent and total evangelism.
- Challenge all churches to have permanent programmes of evangelism and soul winning during the Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign, including reclamation of inactive members and emphasis on maximizing church attendance.
- Recommend that every pastor actively participate in evangelism.
- Recruit and train one million lay persons to participate in direct soul-winning activities.
- Invite all departmental leaders to promote a vigorous soul-winning programme in their departments.
- Recommend that the personnel of the General Conference, divisions, unions, and local fields be invited to participate in some evangelistic activity and thus inspire others to follow their example.

- Urge each division to formulate its own plans for the Harvest 90 Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign."

Elder Wilson challenges the church: "We recommend the church to enter the last year of Harvest 90 in a bold and daring Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign, in which every local field and every church of the world field will implement a permanent programme of evangelism and harvest. This will necessitate the mobilization of all pastors, half a million homes, every Adventist family, and a million lay persons to become involved in direct soul-winning activities and nurture."

9. *How will each local field participate in the Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign?*

They will participate by mobilizing all the resources of the local field including each administrator and departmental head, each pastor, each home, and each church member with the goal of achieving an unprecedented harvest of souls, using several successful methods of soul winning.

Some practical suggestions:

- All the local field administrators and departmental directors should set an example by participating in at least two evangelistic events.
- Allocate extra funds to evangelism.
- Prepare abundant, economic materials for soul winning.
- Challenge each church in the local field to implement a permanent programme of evangelism and harvesting.
- Mobilize and train 20% of church members to be soul winners.

Eight people who had studied the VOP course were baptized by Dr. Willmott at the VOP rally held at Totitorin.



- Organize a big evangelistic campaign in the largest city of the local field.

10. *What is the pastor expected to do?*

He is to be a dynamic leader of evangelism in his district or church.

And it is recommended that he:

- Personally conduct at least two evangelistic events.
- Make plans with the church board to have a permanent programme of evangelism.
- Challenge the church to become a centre of evangelism in order to reach each home in the community with the message.
- Recruit and train 20% of church members to win souls and train the remaining 80% in general missionary activities.

11. *What is the role of the church in the Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign?*

We expect that each church in the world will become a centre of evangelism and implement a permanent programme of soul winning by involving the pastor, officers, and each church member in some kind of missionary activity and make definite plans to have the best year in baptisms in the history of the church.

1) Recommended permanent missionary activities to be held all year long:

- Bible studies to interested people by pastors and laity
- Baptismal classes for adults, teenagers, and special groups
- Programmes and activities to attract people to the church
- Reclamation of ex-Adventists

2) Recommended evangelistic activities to be held during the year:

- a. Pastor or lay preacher holds an evangelistic campaign in the church; church members are asked to bring visitors.
- b. Conduct an evangelistic campaign in a new territory in order to organize a new congregation.
- c. Revelation seminars
- d. Other seminars to attract people to the church
- e. House to house visitation
- f. Other methods

3) Use 25% of church members' homes as centres of evangelism and organize the following: Revelation Seminars, Bible courses, Bible studies, prayer meetings, and Branch Sabbath Schools. Invite church members living nearby to



These ten ladies were baptized at Salisbury Park English Church in December.

12. How are the laity involved?

Annual Council recommended: "Recruit and train one million lay persons to participate in direct soul-winning activities" such as:

- * Lay preachers conducting evangelistic campaigns
- * Lay Bible instructors preparing candidates for baptism
- * Lay baptismal class teachers
- * Lay Revelation Seminar teachers
- * Families winning relatives
- * Lay people conducting home meetings

Encourage the other church members to participate in some type of missionary activity such as:

- * Bringing people to public meetings
- * Bringing people to church
- * Door-to-door visitation
- * Distributing leaflets
- * Witnessing

13. What about baptisms?

Each church should hold monthly baptisms, make a call for decisions at each ceremony, obtain the names of the non-Adventists, and do immediate follow-up. The following dates are suggested for worldwide baptismal ceremonies.

- 1) Sabbath, September 30, 1989
- 2) Sabbath, December 23, 1989
- 3) Sabbath, March 31, 1990
- 4) Harvest 90 Victory Baptism, May 26, 1990
- 5) Harvest 90 Final Baptism, June 30, 1990

14. What is the faith goal for the Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign?

The Harvest 90 Statement recommends: "To set a faith goal of 600,000

baptisms for the Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign." This means 1,645 baptisms per day.

15. What spiritual preparation is needed?

Elder Wilson says, "As we enter the last phase of Harvest 90, I appeal to the world church and to each member to discover the joy of genuine spiritual renewal and revival based on reading of the Bible, intercessory prayer, and personal and public witnessing."

The Harvest 90 Statement recommends: "Holding a special Week of Prayer and Revival at the beginning of the Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign with each division choosing the most suitable date."

16. What will be the secret of success of the Worldwide Evangelistic Campaign?

The secret of success is the entire church working together to produce a global evangelistic explosion. This will take place, as Elder Wilson said, "... through the miracle-working grace of our Lord and Saviour and the ministry of the Holy Spirit." The Harvest 90 Statement says, "We encourage every believer to join hands with us in making Harvest 90 a milestone toward a finished work." "It is harvest time. The work is to be finished in a blaze of glory and power that will astonish the world. God's ministers and people will become a flame of fire for Him" (Elder George Brown, Inter-American Division president). May our motto be: Everyone a conqueror in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Thanga are lay member of Nisrihtlang Church, Aizawl, Mizoram. For the fourth quarter of 1988 they paid Rupees five lakhs as their tithe to the Mizo section. They are owners of Mizo Fruits Preservation Industries. They are seen with their son.

bring their relatives, friends, and neighbours.

4) Encourage each Adventist family to win one family member, one friend, or neighbour for Christ during the year.

SOUTH INDIA UNION-WIDE TEMPERANCE CONTEST



A temperance march was taken through the streets of the town before the contest.

North Karnataka Region hosted the Union-wide Temperance Contest held on November 15 & 16 at Hubli. It was organized by region director Pastor I. Kumar. The Division Temperance director R. N. Baird was the chief guest.

Prior to the contest, a rally was taken out starting from the contest venue, Idga Maidan, and it moved to the mayor's office and back to the maidan. Hundreds of people watched the impressive procession.

After the return of the rally, a temperance torch was brought to the contest venue by six student-runners on relay, and Pastor Baird received it and declared the contest open. Many citizens of Hubli were present at the contest.

Mr. Buddial Mat, a social worker, pledged to labour for total prohibition in the State. Mr. Magdi, a Gandhian, in his 80's was another guest of honour who lauded the temperance programme and our church's stand.

Around 150 government officials were given a copy of Mrs. White's counsel to governments on temperate lifestyle.

—Communication Dept.



Mrs. Christo cut the ribbon to inaugurate the girls dormitory of the Elim Home in Hyderabad.



GIRLS' DORMITORY OPENED

The Elim Home for orphan children has been doing commendable work for destitute children in Hyderabad. This home, situated on the North Andhra Section office compound, is financed by Asian Aid of Australia. The facilities though good were not adequate for the growing number of children.

On December 28, 1988 a new dormitory for girls of this home was inaugurated by Mrs. G. J. Christo. Also present for the function were Elder G. J. Christo, Dr. K. J. Moses and Pastor K. Christopher.

The guests were welcomed at the home by children with flowers. In return the girls were presented with beautiful dresses specially stitched for them by Mrs. Christo. The boys were presented with towels, toothpaste, brushes and combs. The children were very excited with their gifts.

The inaugural function was presided over by Dr. K. J. Moses, and Pastor G. J. Christo offered the dedicatory prayer.

—Mrs. Pansy A. R.

EYE CAMP IN PUNJAB

For a long time Punjab has been in the national news. Sometimes back the State was devastated by floods. Lakhs of people suffered and many were rendered homeless. There was a great loss to paddy crops in the State. Help was given by the Centre to set the State agricultural economy back on its feet. Many charitable societies came out to help the victims of this flood. Many medical agencies in Punjab have helped these people with medicines and treatment.

Ruby Nelson Memorial Hospital was one of these agencies which took up the responsibility to conduct an eye camp from October 13-20, 1988 in Nakodar in Jalandhar District. These camps were organised under the leaderships of Dr. George Kurian and Dr. Loomba who is in charge of the eye camp department.

For the opening ceremonies of the camp dignitaries were invited and they pledged their full support. They were grateful to the hospital authorities for this kind gesture to help the people of their area. In the opening ceremony of the camp, Pastor J. M. Lall and Pastor S. J. Sibil presented to them the greatest Healer who can heal all kinds of diseases. Prayer was offered and the team started attending to the patients. The eye camp team included Dr. Rajesh Loomba, Mr. Solomon Raj, Mr. S. Kate, Mrs. S. Kate, Mr. Ulfat Masih, Mrs. Ulfat Masih and Mr. Emmanuel Masih. There were 1160 O P D cases attended to and treated. Of these 126 patients were operated on. This is a very large number for opthalmic cases. God was very kind to bless the hard work of these people.

—I. M. Lall, Church Pastor
Jalandhar



The Ruby Nelson Hospital, Jalandhar, as part of their community project, conducted an eye camp in a nearby village.

GOD LEAD ME TO THIS SCHOOL

"God led me to this school," says brother Francis, who was recently baptized at a Youth Camp in Dimapur, Nagaland.

The eldest of nine children, Francis lost his father when he was young. The responsibility of caring for the family thus fell on him. But it was hard, especially when he had to support himself through college.

The only job he could do was that of a teacher. So he came to Nagaland looking for an opening as a teacher. He applied in three schools. He got through the interview at all the places but when they knew that he was only 19 years old they refused to employ him. Disappointed and discouraged he tried the last school, Sunbeam English School at Kohima.

Sunbeam school is run by an Adventist layman, Brother Simon. When he heard Brother Francis' story, he employed him. This was his first contact with Protestants, especially Adventists. He could not comprehend their beliefs and way of life. But when he came to live in the school compound he began to study the Bible.

Living in the same building was

Mr. N. Pheirim, a literature evangelist. He began to study the Bible with Brother Francis every evening. He asked a lot of questions. They were patiently answered by Mr. Pheirim. Sometimes they would sit together late into night. He slowly accepted the Sabbath truth but kept postponing his baptism. He wanted to return to his village and first tell his family members about the truth.

One Sabbath Mr. Pheirim preached of God's love and the need for us to seek His forgiveness. This touched the heart of Brother Francis. He gave his heart fully to the Lord and asked for baptism so that he could be in peace with His Lord. On October 22, 1988 he was baptized by the Section President Pastor Y. D. Luikham.

His Joy in this new life has led him to give Bible studies to some of his friends. He also wants to return to his village and tell his family and friends of the Lord and how he found his Saviour when he was led to our school.

—N. Pheirim
Literature Evangelist
Nagaland

FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT INAUGURATES TEMPERANCE CONTEST

November 10, 1988 was a great day in the history of H. A. L. School, Bangalore. The Karnataka Section-wide Temperance Contest was held on this day at this school for the year 1988-89. The school was privileged to have three State dignitaries for this grand occasion. Former Vice-President of India Sri B. D. Jatti gave the inaugural address and declared the contest open. In his inaugural address he stressed that temperate life is the basis to keep up the moral of a person, the society and the nation. He also quoted from Gandhiji, "It is a shameful thing to educate our children with the revenue that the Government gets from liquor."

Mr. Lawrence Fernandes, the Mayor of Bangalore City, was the chief guest and Sri. R. N. Lakshminpathy, the Karnataka State Temperance Board Chairman, presided over the function. In their addresses, they urged that education should help students to withstand the temptations of alcohol, smoking and drugs. Dr. John Willmott, the President of South India Union, gave the keynote address. Many Union and Section officers were also present for the occasion.

The Principal of H. A. L. School, Mr. M. Ravindra Shankar, presented a very comprehensive report about the Seventh-day Adventist organization and the International Temperance Association. In his report he urged the Government to pass the necessary bills to control these social problems. A copy of the report was presented to Sri. B. D. Jatti and other state dignitaries.

A temperance rally was organized on the same day. Around 300 students of H. A. L. School took part in this rally. This rally was inaugurated by Sri. Lawrence Fernandes, the Mayor of Bangalore



Sri B. D. Jatti, former vice-president of India was the chief guest at the state-wide temperance contest.

city corporation.

Around 3,000 handbills, health magazines, health cards and other literature were distributed to the public on this grand occasion.

Many press reporters were present for this programme and prominently published it in their newspapers the next day.

—Temperance Sponsor

SEMINAR ON DRUG ABUSE

A seminar and exhibition on various aspects of drug abuse and drug enforcement was organised by the Customs and Central Excise Collectorate, Pune, with a view to enlightening the masses about the menace and also seek their help in controlling it.

A plea to ban rock music which was not worthy of the dignity and personality of the young Indian generation was made by Dr. Martin Kobialka, dean, health education and professor of Philosophy, Spicer Memorial College.

Delivering the keynote address at a seminar-cum-exhibition on "Drug abuse and enforcement" organised by the Customs and Central Board of Excise, Pune on October 31, Dr. Kobialka said that rock music not only resulted in the loss of self-esteem and respectabil-

ity, but also created nihilistic tendency and fostered increase in the rate of suicide among the youth.

Earlier inaugurating the seminar, Mr. B. V. Kumar, member Central Board of Excise and Customs (anti-smuggling and narcotics) and director general of Narcotics Control Bureau, gave exhaustive details of how India formed the transit point for smuggling of drugs from the Golden Crescent of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan and now on an increasing level from the 1000 km long mostly unguarded Indo-Burmese border.

Mr. John Brown, representative of Drug Enforcement Agency of the U.S.A. who also spoke on the occasion said that the law and educational enforcement agencies all over the world would have to work harder to tackle this menace on

three planks—enforcement, education and eradication.

Earlier Mr. D. S. Solanki, collector of Customs and Central Ex-

cise, Pune welcoming the guests, said that no amount of enforcement and legislation would help solve the problem, unless "we

created social awareness among the masses against the ill-effects of drug abuse on our younger generation."

FROM THE GOLDEN LEAVES OF THE PAST

SPICER COLLEGE CLOSING EXERCISES—1939

L. C. SHEPHERD

THE closing exercises at Spicer College took place on Friday and Sabbath, March 10 and 11, 1939. On Sabbath evening twenty-four young men and one young woman were graduated from the Junior College Course. The exercise began with a Consecration Service conducted by Pastor E. W. Polhman, the Principal, who spoke on the subject of "The Messenger and His Message." The lesson was drawn from the experience of Ahimaz and Cush. The class pastor, P. B. Rajasingham, responded on behalf of the class.

On Sabbath morning the Baccalaureate Sermon was delivered by the writer, who spoke on the importance of bearing responsibility. The class day programme in the evening was given before a large and appreciative audience. Many friends came out from Bangalore. Every part was rendered in a way that reflected credit upon the teachers and particularly upon the class sponsors—Mr. M. S. Prasada Rao and Sister E. L. Gardner. Under the guidance of Sister Gardner the chapel had been very tastefully decorated.

As I looked into the faces of this fine group of consecrated young people, every one of whom is entering the work in some capacity, my faith in the future of the work in Southern Asia was greatly strengthened. Four Unions were represented in the class; three came from Northwest India, two came from Burma, one from Western India, and eighteen were from South India. One member of the class, William Sharalaya, is the first student from the Kanarese field to complete the course of study at Spicer

College, and the president of the class, Brother Daniel Kodan, is the first fruit from the Toda community in the Nilgiris.

Others officers of the class were Miss Nallammah Storer of Ceylon, Secretary; P. B. Rajasingham, also of Ceylon, Valedictorian; and P. M. Thomas, of Travancore, Treasurer.

Brother Pohlman, speaking of the work of the school during the past year, said that it had been one of the best in the history of the institution.

GRADUATION EXERCISES AT SPICER COLLEGE

MARCH 11, 1939, was a great day at Spicer College. I wish the readers of the TIDINGS had been with us to share the joy that was ours when the largest number so far graduated from that junior college.

The chapel was all done up in maroon and white. Mrs. Gardner made some nice bouquets of some of the prettiest asters, and decorated the place very simple and attractively.

It was Pastor Pohlman who spoke in the Consecration service. He made a stirring appeal to the graduates to consecrate themselves to the Lord. The burden of his talk was, What if the messenger had no message. It surely did one's heart good when all the twenty-five responded unanimously, and yet individually, by giving themselves to God. These twenty-five were made up of twenty-four young men and one young lady.

It was our privilege to have Pastor Shepherd meet with at this time and give the Baccalaureate address. Brother Shepherd in his talk pointed out to us in a kindly way

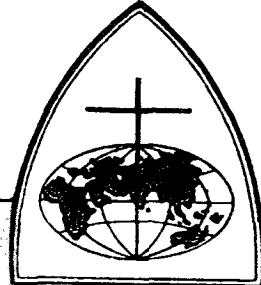
some of the definite mistakes the Indian recruits make, thus bringing the message nearer home. It was much appreciated.

The eventful evening arrived at last. Everybody was pleasantly excited. Our friends who reside in Bangalore arrived at the campus by motor cars and train. More seats were brought in to accomodate everybody in the chapel. Promptly at 8 P. M., when Mrs. Pohlman played the processional, two juniors dressed in white came marching in, leading the seniors. The seniors were dressed in white *dhooties*, or pants, with dark coats. They came in single file, then branched off, two by two, and took their respective places on the rostrum. The entire service was very impressive and unique.

The seniors left with us a copy of their photographs as a souvenir. We were very happy they chose to give us this instead of something else.

After the diplomas were given out by Pastor Pohlman, and the benediction offered by Pastor Rawson, the seniors marched out to the roadside in front and lined up. The proud teachers were the first one to congratulate the graduates, followed by the visiting friends and the students. The teachers have cause to be proud of these graduates. However, we do not feel that our goal is realized or that our ambition is fulfilled, but we believe this merely the beginning of great things in Southern Asia through Spicer College. Our sincere prayers follow these dear young people as they go forth into the battle-field to fight for the great King. May God crown their efforts.

—Mrs. Grace Prasada Rao



LLU HOLDS HISTORIC ABORTION CONFERENCE

More than 60 Adventists from around the world attended a landmark conference on abortion held November 14-16 at Loma Linda University (LLU).

Thirty-five Adventist speakers presented papers on various aspects of abortion during the three-day conference, reports Patti Guthrie, LLU special projects editor. The overwhelming majority of the papers backed pro-life positions.

The Loma Linda University Center for Bioethics, who sponsored the conference, will use the papers to compile a book of resource materials on the subject.

HOMES OF HOPE UPDATE

About 700 new converts have joined the Adventist church as a result of Oregon Conference's Homes of hope small-group evangelistic thrust, reports Jay Prall, conference communication director. About 800 groups began the Homes of Hope curriculum in February, and approximately 2,500 people attended Revelation seminars in 1987 and Homes of Hope Bible studies this year.

MADAGASCAR MAKES EVANGELISTIC HISTORY

An evangelistic effort held in Madagascar's capital city of tababarivo resulted in the country's largest baptisms ever, reports Antananarivo resulted in the country's largest baptism ever, reports Siegfried Mayr, Indian Ocean Union President.

More than 300 new converts were baptized on October 1 at the City's largest swimming pool. Among the new converts were 48 prison inmates, who accepted the Adventist message through the church's prison ministry. The new converts were part of the more than 1,000 people who joined the Madagascar church during the first two weeks in October.

IIW TO BROADCAST GREAT CONTROVERSY SERIES

In a new It Is Written (IIW) television ministries entitled *Empires in Collision*, which begins January 22, speakers George Vandeman explores themes from *The Great Controversy*, by Ellen G. White.

The weekly telecasts portray Satan's master plan for control of mankind, exposing the many strategies and deceptions used throughout history, reports David L. Jones, IIW executive producer.

TALBOT SHAW HEADS UP SHAW UNIVERSITY

Talbot Shaw, a Seventh-day Adventist who has held administrative positions at Oakwood College, State University, was inaugurated as president of Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina on November 18. Shaw University, a historically Black institution, has an enrollment of 1,500 students.

PHILIPPINE SDA HEADS NATIONAL SCHOOL GROUP

Dr. Gerundio U. Ellacer, who ad-lege's School of Graduate Studies in Silang, Cavite, Philippines, was recently elected president of the Association of Christian Schools and Colleges.

This is the first time that an Adventist as occupied the top position in this national organization, says Herbert T. Mamoa, associate editor of *Silang Views and News*. In his new post, Ellacer will participate in discussions with legislators and governmental officials.

ENROLLMENT CLIMBS AT MONTEMORELOS

Student enrollment at Montemorelos University in Montemorelos, Mexico, reached 1,480 for the 1988-1989 school year—a 7.6 percent increase over the last year, according to the Inter-American Division.

PANAMA CRUSADE BRINGS 218 CONVERTS

An evangelistic crusade in Panama City, Panama, resulted in 218 new persons joining the Adventist Church, reports Rochester A. Jolly, Panama Conference secretary and Communication director.

The reaping campaign, held December 3-17 at the Metropolitan Adventist Academy, received wide coverage in the local newspaper, Jolly says.

ANGOLA UNION ECLIPSES THE 100,000 MARK

The Angola Union Mission recently became the first union in the Euro-Africa Division to reach the 100,000-member mark, reports Vasco Cubenda, union secretary. The Adventist Church is one of 13 Christian denominations recognized in Angola.

According to Cubenda, Angola became the twenty-first union to reach the 100,000-member mark.

AUSTRALIAN SOY PRODUCT AWARDED GOLD OSCAR

So Good, a nondairy soy drink produced by the Sanitarium Health Food Company in Australia, recently won international acclaim in Paris as one of the best new food products anywhere in the world, reports Eric Fehlberg, director of the International Health Food Association at the General Conference.

So Good was honoured at the 1988 AIDA-SIAL International Food Oscars ceremony held recently in Paris. As one of only five products representing Australia, So Good won a Gold Oscar in the nonalcoholic beverages category. Sixteen countries participated in the competition.

EURO-AFRICA GETS THIS QUARTER'S OFFERING

Imagine going to school in a 500-year-old mansion, built before Columbus discovered the New World! Although it may be regarded a privilege to study in a cultural masterpiece, the villa which has housed Adventist students for more than 40 years is no longer adequate. The school does not meet government requirements now, especially in the science and chemistry classroom, nor can it serve the growing students load.

In Italy, where 99 percent of the people are Roman Catholics, 10 new churches have been established in the past five years, an increase of 12 percent. This growth means that the Junior College, often called *Villa Aurora*, is overflowing. The school also houses a high school and theological school.

The name *Villa Aurora* is regarded as especially appropriate for an Adventist school since *Villa* means "house" and *Aurora* means "dawn" or "light". The school, then, is *Villa Aurora*, House of Light.

Elder Rolando Rizzo, now Adventist Youth and Sabbath School director for the Italian Union, tells what this House of Light meant to him when at 13 years old he left behind a poor, unhappy childhood, an aggressive family, and a violent home atmosphere. Elder Rizzo says that upon arrival at *Villa Aurora*, "My only wealth was a baptismal certificate, which made me a member of the Adventist family." Your eagerly-anticipated Thirteenth Sabbath offering next quarter will help build a new classroom block at this Italian House of Light.

Also to be featured for next quarter's special offering is another country that has experienced phenomenal growth in the last five years. In spite of guerilla warfare and a disrupted economy, the church membership



Children of Mozambique look to you for help this quarter.

in Mozambique, Africa has increased from 26,000 to 40,000, (50 percent increase), and from 104 churches to 401 churches. Yet another one is needed. The believers in Quelimane, where the average yearly income is \$150, or \$12.50 a month, are looking to you so they can begin construction of their

IAD PLANS AN EXPLOSIVE FINISH TO HARVEST 90

During the Inter-American Division year-end meeting in Coral Gables, Florida, October 31-November 2, church leaders laid plans for an evangelism marathon in 1989 that will climax the division's five-year Harvest 90 campaign.

For 1989, church leaders set an unprecedented goal of 120,000 baptisms, an increase of approximately 10% of the division membership. As of September 30, the division witnessed 282,691 accessions for the first 13 quarters of Harvest 90. Under the voted plan, IAD will complete its Harvest 90 objective of 400,000 baptisms by December 31, 1989 and launch an overflow goal of baptizing 50,000 new converts between January and

chapel.

Ponder for a moment, the poverty of this war-torn country. More than two million are homeless, and some sleep in railroad cars. Some wear sacks for clothing and some live on berries or roots. Children are dying of Kwashiorkor, malaria, and tuberculosis. The people of Mozambique are willing to explore a message that offers hope. This was the best expressed by a woman, who, with her two small children, were surrounded by guerilla gunmen: "Oh God! You're our only help. Please save us!" she cried. (He did.)

In spite of the warfare the churches in Mozambique are left alone, free to evangelize. In the country of 15 million people there are 14 unreached people groups yet to hear the gospel.

Twenty-five percent of your Thirteenth Sabbath offering on June 24 is designated to these two projects: a new classroom block at the *Aurora Villa Junior College* in Florence, Italy, and a worship chapel at Quelimane, Mozambique. In the meantime, *Mission* offers three suggestions for the work in Euro-Africa. They are *pray, pray, pray*.

June 1990 when the Harvest 90 campaign officially culminates at the General Conference session in Indianapolis, Indiana.

To launch next year's evangelism thrust, church leaders set aside Sabbath, January 7, as a special day of prayer and fasting throughout the division. May 26, 1990 also was set as Harvest 90 Victory Day, reports Adalgiza Archbold, editor of the *Adventist Review's* Inter-American edition.

IAD's rapid growth has led to the division of two union missions. The Colombia-Venezuela Union Mission will be split into two fields: the Venezuela-Netherlands Antilles Union Mission, with headquarters in

Caracas, Venezuela (comprising Venezuela and the Caribbean islands of Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao); and the Colombia Union Mission, with headquarters in Medellin.

And the Franco-Haitian Union Mission will be split into two fields: the French Caribbean Union Mission, with headquarters in Martinique (including Martinique, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, and the French section of St. Martin island); and the Haitian Union Mission, with headquarters in Port-au-Prince.

LLF INFANT FORMULA DIVISION MAY BE SOLD

In an era of business buyout and mergers, the General Conference has received two unsolicited offers to buy the soy-based Infant Formula Division of Loma Linda Foods Company based in Riverside, California.

The best offer comes from Netherlands-based N. V. Verenigde Bedrijven Nutricia, the second largest European producer of milk-based infant formula. Nutricia offers to buy patent rights for LLF's infant formula and all production facilities in both Mount Vernon, Ohio, and Riverside, California.

Boards of both Loma Linda Foods and the General Conference Corporation currently are studying Nutricia's bid and will make a decision to sell or not to sell at the corporation's December 20 board meeting, according to William Murrill, General Conference under-treasurer and Loma Linda Foods board chairman.

Murrill says that if the Infant Formula Division is sold, Loma Linda Foods would still continue to produce its full line of meat analogs and soy-milk products.

Loma Linda Foods has been a pioneer in the soy-based infant formula, meat analog, and soy milk fields in the United States and has been operating since 1907.

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE AT AWR-ASIA

On November 6, 1988, Adventist World Radio-Asia not only began a new broadcast schedule, but inaugurated its second antenna system, officially ending the construction period for the radio station. "We are glad to have the second antenna system operational," says Don Myers, AWR-Asia chief engineer, "and we look forward to spending time on improvements and maintenance to make our operation top notch."

The number two antenna system, comprised of 6-11 and 9-17 megahertz antennas, is already improving service to the more northern sections of AWR-Asia's target area, specifically Japan, Korea and China.

"The D-88 schedule (November 6 through March 26) takes full advantage of this new flexibility," says Greg Scott, programme director. "And we have made some other changes to improve transmitter use," he continued, "while increasing our total weekly hours to 224."

There are a few changes in the actual programming, Mr. Scott says. The Indonesian language is now heard twice a day, and the Mandarin programming now begins at 2000 instead of 2200 UTC. "Chinese programmes make up more than half our total broadcasts," said Mr. Scott, "117 hours a week."

ADVENTIST DEDICATE NEW SOVIET HEADQUARTERS

A structure housing a Theological Seminary, Church Headquarters, and Editorial Office was dedicated in the Soviet Union December 5, 1988.

Nearly 400 people, twice the number it was designed for, crowded into the centre's chapel for dedicatory services. Among the well-wishers were Konstantin Kharchew and other government officials. Kharchew chairs the Soviet Council on Religious Affairs.

Rebuilding a three-story burned out school given them by officials nearly two years ago, Soviet Adventist artisans refurnished the brick and stucco building and crafted accent concrete around the windows and four marble-covered columns at the entryway.

Craftsmen also laid parquet floors, plasters moldings, and stenciled designs on painted walls and ceilings. Latvian brothers crafted the windows and doors.

Also on the campus are staff

housing, (eight apartments) and maintenance building. Cost to Soviet Adventists who financed their own project was 2.5 million rubles (Rs. 37,000,000).

A brass cross near the roofline identifies the building as a religious organization, and a sign on the roadway near Tula in the village of Zaosky points to the "Administrative Headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Seminary."

In its second year of operation, the Seminary began providing theological training of the Soviet Union's 400 ministers even during construction. During the first year 16 were enrolled, while this year's second contains 28 pastors in the three-year curriculum.

The full-time teaching staff of six includes only one with formal theological training. All have graduate degrees but in areas other than theology. For example, the Spirit of Prophecy professor is a

pediatrician who is also an ordained minister.

Representing the Church at opening ceremonies were Elder and Mrs. Neal C. Wilson; Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Zirkle, Loma Linda, California; Elder and Mrs. Robert Folkenberg, Charlotte, North Carolina; Elder and Mrs. Harold Otis, Hagerstown, Maryland; and Garwin McNeilus, Dodge Centre, Minnesota. Dr. Zirkle is a senior vice-president at Loma Linda University; Elder Folkenberg, president of the Carolina Conference; Elder Otis, assistant to President Wilson for Special Projects; and Mr. McNeilus, an ASI businessman.

More than 30 correspondents, many from outside the USSR, were on hand for the event, which was publicized in the Soviet new agency TASS and in the Government's *Izvestia*.

TILL HE COMES



William L. Sharalaya was born on May 3, 1920 in the beautiful Coorg district of Karnataka and died after a brief illness at Salisbury Park, Pune on March 4, 1989.

Born amidst the scenic beauty of Mercara, Mr. Sharalaya grew to love nature and its beauty. When he completed his schooling, the Three Angels' Message was brought to his town by Pastor A. E. Rawson. It touched his heart. He accepted Christ, left his home, family and friends to follow His Lord all the way.

This brought him to Krishnarajapuram to study at Spicer College. He completed his Junior College in 1939 and was immediately employed as a secretary in the Division

Education department. Except for two years as Western India Book Depot Manager, and from 1966 to 1972 as Spicer Memorial College Business Manager, Mr. Sharalaya served in the Division Office. He was the cashier/accountant for 13 years, assistant treasurer and secretary of India Financial Association from 1962-'66; assistant treasurer from 1973 to 1976 and Sudac office and estate manager till his retirement in June 1982 after 43 years of service.

He met Rajamma, the daughter of Pastor M. P. Daniel, in college. They were married on May 15, 1944 and their home was blest with a daughter, Premkumari, and a son, Louie.

He never went back to school but he never stopped studying. He loved reading and studying. While in service he completed his B.Com. He became a Fellow of the International Society of Commerce, London (F.I.S.C.) in 1954 and a Fellow of the Society of Auditors and Accountants, India (F.S.A.A.). Even after he retired he continued to study and received a degree in Journalism from the University of London.

His love of books encouraged him to write. And he wrote. He wrote on almost every topic. His articles were short, witty and humorous. His last article appeared in the January 1989 issue of *Our Times*. All this brought him honour. He was cited as an outstanding leader in the business field and his name appeared in the "1980 Commonwealth Who's Who".

He is mourned by his wife, Rajamma; children, Premy and Louie; three grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.

His faith and hope in the Lord Jesus Christ is the same hope that will sustain his family, relatives and friends till that glad resurrection morning when our Saviour returns to claim His faithful children.

Jeyapaul Thomas, born February 3, 1962 in Rajapalayam, Tamil Nadu, died in a tragic road accident near Spicer College.

In 1982, he accepted the Adventist message and was baptized and in the same year joined Spicer for studies. Jeyapaul did not receive any financial help from his family and remained as a self-supporting student throughout his college life. He took Economics as his major line and Management as minor. This semester he wrote his final comprehensive exams. A diligent and responsible student, he was anxiously waiting for his final exam results.

On the evening of February 10, 1989, Jeyapaul went for a quiet walk after all the weeks' duties were completed, and on his way back was hit by a motorbike and thrown down the road. He immediately fell into coma and despite the best efforts of doctors, he passed away on February 11, 1989 at the Ruby Hall Nursing Home.

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News Flash

*Six churches in Madhya Bharat Section were chosen for stewardship training. These churches are Ajmer, Bhilwara, Udaipur, Indore, Jabalpur and Bhopal. Church members were encouraged to ask questions to clear any doubt they had. Many members brought their tithes and also promised to continue to remain faithful.

*The week of prayer at the KGF high school was conducted by Pastor M. R. Satyavadi, the union Church Ministries director, from October 31 to November 5, 1988. Every morning more than 800 students heard him and in the evening church members living round the school joined the students. On Sabbath they all met at a place called Betheamangala and at the end of the sermon pledged to follow "Christ the Matchless."

*The earthquake in Armenia, Russia left a trail of death and misery. It also reminded many of the last days of our earth. But it also kindled a desire among the students of our school at Praghaspuram to do something to help. They organised a musical programme with the support of the school principal and Pastor Paul Edison and send Rs. 2400/-, the amount collected, to the Prime Minister's Armenian Relief Fund.

*For three years the state of Gujarat suffered from a severe drought. But last year it was floods that washed away houses in towns and villages. Responding to this calamity a team of helpers from the union, region and Surat Hospital distributed clothes, blankets, foodgrains and money for some of the victims of the flood. Mr. Skau, the union treasurer is seen giving cash to one of the flood victims.



*The second week of spiritual emphasis for the students of Lowry Junior College was held from January 22 to 28, 1989. The students and staff were blessed by the timely messages that were brought every morning and evening by Pastor Shadrach Samuel. He illustrated his topic 'Faith is the Victory' with stories from the Bible

*A circle-wide temperance contest was conducted at Tambaram. The programme was arranged by Pastor D. M. David and the gifts and certificates were given by the Lions Club of Tambaram. A 'People for Better Living' club was also organised and the officers elected. The Lions Club, Alcoholic Anonymous and Sanga Smithra Educational Trust have joined together to help the community.

*The eldest daughter of the youth director of Samtlang church in Mizoram, Lalangzami, stood first in the Middle School Leaving Certificate Examinations 1988 of the state of Mizoram. She has been awarded a merit scholarship and is a student of the Helen Lowry School, Aizawl, Mizoram.

*On November 12, 1988 the pathfinders of KGF high school took part in the Sabbath services and put a very inspiring programme. The pathfinders who marched into the church, were escorted by a mini band playing music.

Applications are invited from girls aged 17 years and above for admission into the school of Nursing at Surat Hospital Trust Association. Students should have passed plus-two or its equivalent, preferably in the science stream. Last date for receiving applications is April 20, 1989. Applications and prospectus can be had on receipt of Rs. 20.00 by writing to:

Medical Director
SDA Hospital
P O Box 10
Surat 395 001

Applications are invited from candidates for General Nursing and Midwifery course under the auspices of Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI). The requirements for the course are as follows:

1. Qualification
Plus Two/Higher Secondary/Pre-degree/PDC/ Intermediate/or equivalent from any recognized university. A pass in not more than two attempts with science and a good knowledge of English is required.
2. Single lady candidates between 17 and 25 years of age. The application form can be had from
The Director
School of Nursing
Giffard Memorial Hospital
Nuzvid 521202
Krishna Dist.
Andhra Pradesh

on payment of Rs. 20/-. The duly filled in form should reach the office by June 1, 1989.

N.B.: The course will begin ONLY on the approval of the CMAI board.