

SOUTH EUROPEAN QUARTERLY REVIEW

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Report of the Winter Council of the Southern European Division

Berne, Switzerland, November 19—26, 1930

Steen Rasmussen

THE annual Winter Council of our division was held this year in the city of Berne, — the quaint and picturesque Swiss capital, through which flows the beautiful River Aar, whose swift and winding current fittingly symbolizes the rapidly advancing work of God throughout our large and populous field.

These annual Council meetings constitute a most important and essential part in the progress of the advent movement. As the work extends, new and larger problems arise. Small in number as we may be, compared with other great religious bodies, our work is spread over the whole earth more extensively than that of any other religious organization. In connection with our Winter Council the detailed needs of all fields comprizing the division are brought before us, and the leaders who attend these gatherings all share in the responsibility of shaping the plans and taking the actions

that govern the carrying forward of the work for the year to come. We recognize the Biblical principle which has been emphasized through the

Spirit of prophecy so many times that "in multitude of counsellors there is safety."

Forty delegates, representing fourteen main languages, were in attendance at this year's Council. All Council sessions, as well as committee meetings, were held in our own commodious, well equipped library and adjoining offices, thus effecting a saving in not having to rent a hall in the city for these meetings.

A well attended Sabbath school convention was held prior to the Council, on Wednesday, November 19, and a number of workers bearing special responsibility for our Sabbath school work attended this convention which dealt with many questions and problems pertaining to this most important and indispensable department of our work.

Turning the Leaf

*T*URNING the leaf that the New Year brings
To the worn old book of life,
Is turning your back on a tired past,
With its fear and distress and strife,
Turning the leaf, you may turn to love,
To brightness and joy and laughter;
But it isn't the turning that counts so much,
As what comes after!

*It's writing that counts in the book of life,
It's the message you pen each day,
It's whether the page be rosy hued
Or touched with a sullen gray.
It's what we may teach as we humbly write,
And what we, please God, may learn;
What really counts, as the New Year dawns,
Is what comes after — the turn!*

— Margaret E. Sangster.

We were greatly privileged in having with us again this year Elder O. Montgomery, vice-president of the General Conference. His deeply spiritual and excellent Bible studies were not only very helpful and greatly appreciated by all, but they served to create in the hearts of all present a better realization of our need of the presence and power of the Lord Jesus Christ in our daily lives; and a new sense of the high responsibility as leaders in the cause of God was brought to our hearts. Elder J. C. Raft shared in the giving of this spiritual instruction, and his studies on sanctification and soul winning added to the deep spiritual tone of the entire Council.

The division president, Elder A. V. Olson, in his introductory message to the council, stated: "The past year has not been a bright one, but rather one of perplexity politically, internationally, as well as religiously; and financially it has been one of the hardest years we have ever experienced. Unemployment has increased everywhere, but in spite of the strain and stress God has blessed and prospered us miraculously throughout our division, and many souls have been won. We should regard this time of depression as a blessing in disguise. The experience through which we are passing should be a stepping-stone to greater things. The coming year may become one of the most blessed and prosperous in our history. The situation demands that we practice the strictest economy in our conferences as well as our institutions, and that we do all we possibly can to increase our own resources. The hard time is God's time, and God's time is our time. We should contemplate the text which says: 'The Lord is with you while he with Him, and if ye seek Him, He will be found of you.' 2 Chron. 15 : 2."

In presenting his report to the Council, the secretary pointed out that figures and facts are inadequate to picture the true progress of a living movement like the advent movement. The reports show that during 1929 there had been 2,484 baptisms in the division, and for the first nine months of the present year 2,000 more had been added through this sacred rite. The number of churches in the division now stands at 637 at the close of the third quarter of the present year, or an increase of 124 new churches since the division began its operation in January 1929. There has been a steady and encouraging growth in membership from quarter to quarter, bringing us up to a total membership at the end of September this year of 17,928.

A statement urging the people of God to go forward in spite of forbidding circumstances was read as follows: "Through most wonderful workings of divine providence, mountains of difficulty will be removed and cast into the sea. The message that means so much to the dwellers upon the earth will be heard and understood. Men will know what

is truth. Onward and still onward the work will advance until the whole earth shall have been warned, and then shall the end come."—"*Prophets and Kings*," pp. 223, 224.

An outstanding feature of the Council was the stirring and enthusiastic reports which were rendered by the union presidents. Never have we heard any that were better. Again and again we were reminded that the latter rain is falling. We saw and heard in these brief messages the hand and the voice of God beckoning us onward, and we realized, as we listened, that God is making bare His holy arm for the finishing of His work.

God forbid that we should accept these marvelous omens of His loving, providential care and sympathy for His children, and the whole human family, merely as a matter of course, or as ordinary daily occurrences! Our hearts were thrilled anew as we listened to the report which came from Rumania, telling of the organization of 57 new churches since last year's Council, and also to the reports which were rendered by our leaders from the Franco-Belgian, Iberian, Italian, Jugoslavian and the North African Unions — all telling of victory and progress. The report recording advancement throughout Switzerland — which is old pioneer ground — also cheered our hearts. The Swiss Union is at present the only self-supporting field in our division, and in addition to caring for its own interests, it is continually rendering liberal support, financially and otherwise, for the upbuilding of the work in other parts of the division.

The treasurer's statement revealed the encouraging fact that, in spite of the financial depression which prevails throughout the world, there had been a good increase in both tithe and offerings for the first nine months of the current year. The appropriations granted the fields, however, had only been made possible by drawing upon every available resource of the General Conference and the division. A special gift of \$ 22,000 had been granted by the General Conference at its recent Autumn Council for the further upbuilding of the educational work in Rumania where our present educational institution is entirely inadequate to care for the training of the many workers needed in that fruitful field.

Considerable time was given during the Council to the framing of an operating and working policy for the division, including a union mission working policy. We consider this a most important step in further strengthening, unifying, and consolidating the work throughout the division. The help which was rendered by Elder O. Montgomery in drafting these policies was highly appreciated.

All the departmental reports rendered showed marked progress. The educational problems of the

division were dwelt upon at considerable length, and as a further step in the extension of the educational work an action was taken looking forward to the establishment of a new mission training school in Jugoslavia, beginning its operation with the school year 1931-32. Urgent pleas were made for the establishment of similar training schools in the Iberian and Italian Unions.

The publishing department report registered an increase in sales for the first nine months of this year of more than 15% over the sales of the corresponding period of 1929. The Sabbath school department reported a striking increase in membership, and also a good increase in offerings. The home missionary, as well as the Missionary Volunteer reports, indicated advance in every line. Most marked increases had been made both in Harvest Ingathering and Big Week, as well as the Week of Sacrifice receipts.

In setting various goals for the coming year, the field leaders expressed as their firm belief and conviction that we could make further increases, and in harmony with these views the Big Week goal for 1931 was set at \$ 7,250, and the Ingathering goal at \$ 45,000, an increase of 30% and 12% respectively over 1930.

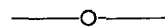
The leaders of our French publishing house and the Gland Sanitarium also brought a cheering word concerning the growth and progress of the work in their institutions. Even though no direct representative was present from any of our foreign mission fields, yet statements were rendered which further emphasized the fact that God is going before us in bringing the message before the millions of precious souls in French Equatorial Africa, Madagascar, and Mauritius.

In his concluding remarks to the Council, Elder Montgomery expressed his sincere appreciation and joy over the spirit of unity and brotherly love which he had found prevailing throughout the entire field, and which he had seen so beautifully manifested in our Council deliberations. He was happy over the note of faith, courage and confidence which had been heard through all the Council proceedings, and his parting words were: "May the leadership of your field be a spiritual leadership, a leadership in the Word of God."

Elder A. V. Olson stated, before the Council closed, that as leaders in the cause of God we must be honest, frank and kind. "Let us always be kind in dealing with our workers, and let us talk courage at all times. Let us be careful in our planning, and let us hold steady in all that we do." He further impressed the importance of giving a stronger evangelistic mould to the work in the year to come. Our evangelists should re-double their efforts. We should plan courageously for the winning of souls and draw upon all of our resources for a stronger soul

winning effort, for greater undertakings, for greater faith and greater courage.

It has become customary perhaps to say that the last meeting which we attend is the best. With us this is no mere form of speech when we think of our recent Council. Certainly this year's Winter Council was a most blessed season of refreshing from the throne of God; and we feel that in these last days of peril and uncertainty we must press together in love, unity, and humility, as workers; and advance, seeking the divine guidance of God in every plan and undertaking.



The Omaha Council

A. V. Olson

THE Autumn Council of the General Conference Committee for this year was held in Omaha, Nebraska, October 24 to November 4. For a number of years the city of Omaha had extended urgent invitations for us to hold one of our Councils there. The city officials, the Chamber of Commerce, and other organizations, as well as the press and the public in general, manifested a spirit of cordiality and kindness. The mayor of the city came in person to convey the welcome of the city, and the governor of the state had planned to do the same on behalf of the state, but being prevented from coming, he sent the lieutenant-governor, who, by the way, is a Seventh-day Adventist.

The meetings of the Council were held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, where in addition to a commodious auditorium, we had at our disposal a number of large committee rooms. In his printed announcements, a pastor of this church said some very kind things about Seventh-day Adventists. Among other things he wrote:

The World Congress of Seventh-day Adventists — October 23-November 5. This church will have the pleasure and honor of entertaining the World Congress of Seventh-day Adventists this week and next. Representatives will be here from nearly every country on the globe.

Adventists an Excellent People. No body of Christians is held in higher respect than these earnest people. They take the prize among denominations for per capita giving. We differ these days in emphasis upon certain doctrines, but recognize the great good accomplished by all Christian churches.

Welcome to Seventh-day Adventist Conference. The First Methodist Church of Omaha extends a hearty welcome to the World Congress of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is a pleasure to turn over our property to this body of Christian people. The citizens of Omaha have been delighted with the presence of these delegates representing nearly every country in the world. May the work of the Kingdom prosper in their hands.

Seventh-day Adventist Sanitariums. The practical side of Christian Truth has never been neglected by this

denomination. Wherever they have gone, sanitariums and hospitals have been established. The whole matter of correct living and physical prudence has been emphasized.

Doctrines of Importance. The Adventists have held to the observance of Saturday as the Lord's Day—also to the soon return of Christ to this present world. While Christians may differ on certain doctrines, the new age demands broad minded recognition of sincerity and Christian service wherever exemplified.

Dr. C. K. Meyers Today. The people of the First Methodist Church will have the privilege of hearing Dr. C. K. Meyers, General Secretary of the Board of Missions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church this morning. Few men are better qualified to speak on world conditions than Dr. Meyers.

From the above it will be seen that the Council met in an atmosphere of friendliness and good will as far as the outside public was concerned. The Council itself was characterized by a spirit of love, unity and earnest seeking after God. From the very beginning, it was evident that all felt the need of drawing nearer to the Lord. The morning devotional hours were seasons of spiritual refreshing. God came graciously near to His servants as they sought Him in unity and contrition of heart. Indeed it was good to be there!

One of the most serious problems that confronted the Council was the one brought on by the financial depression which has been felt throughout the world, and not least in North America. A carefully prepared statement, laid before us by the treasurer of the General Conference, showed that at the present comparison of receipts, the income of the General Conference will show a loss at the end of the year of about half a million dollars. No mission board can sustain a heavy loss from month to month in its regular income over a long period of time without having its mission program seriously effected. Many mission boards both in Europe and in America have been compelled because of shrinking incomes, to recall large numbers of missionaries, and to dismiss hundreds of native workers. Because of the liberal and self-sacrificing support given by our faithful people, the Seventh-day Adventist Mission Board has never been compelled to recall a single missionary because of lack of funds. Contrariwise, it has, even during the most difficult years, been able to send out additional workers; but at the Omaha meeting it seemed that a real crisis had been reached, and that we would have to bring home many missionaries now laboring in already undermanned fields. The thought of such an experience made our hearts sick. In our distress we cried unto God for help, and He heard us. A spirit of liberality swept over the Council. Conference presidents offered to share their meager funds with the Mission Board. Ways and means were also found for turning funds destined for other purposes into the operating fund. In this way

nearly three hundred thousand dollars were made available for meeting workers' salaries, but even after this provision had been made, the estimated income for the year 1931 fell considerably below the appropriations voted for the year 1930. Consequently the budget voted for the coming year shows a reduction in the appropriations to the various fields throughout the world. It is hoped, however, that by practicing strict economy, and by earnest efforts on the part of the divisions to increase their own incomes, that no missionary will have to be sent back to the homeland.

While the financial situation brought perplexity and feelings of anxiety to those assembled in Omaha, it was not allowed to throw the Council into discouragement and despair. It was rather accepted as a challenge to more earnest prayer, to fuller consecration, and to more sincere labor for souls. The clarion call of the Council was for a revival of evangelism. The time has come for us to present the message with mighty power. The hard times through which the world is passing, may be one of God's means for turning the hearts of the indifferent to seek for better things. Even though a shortage of funds makes it impossible to increase our working forces, we believe that with the help and blessing of God the year upon which we are about to enter can be made the best and most prosperous that we have ever known in the point of soul saving.

The Omaha Council will always be remembered for its constructive work, for its note of courage, for its call to fuller consecration, and for its mighty appeal for more aggressive soul-winning work.

Retrospect and Prospect

(Concluded from page 15)

privilege of every worker for God to know what Christ can do through him. Our strength is in God.

Moses could never have led Israel out of Egypt without knowing and trusting in the power of God. David could not have defeated Goliath had he not known what God was able and willing to do through him. Thus it has been with all the servants of God through all ages.

May we all be imbued with a greater fullness of this power in Christ, and may the year upon which we are entering be the very best that we have ever experienced individually as well as laborers together with God. We desire to take this opportunity of expressing to our dear co-laborers our sincere appreciation of the splendid collaboration given us during the past year, and at the same time to extend to our large and scattered circle of readers our best wishes for a most happy and prosperous New Year.

S. R.

From Across the Mediterranean

(We have taken the liberty to translate and adapt the two articles which appeared in a recent number of *Le Messager Nord-Africain* on the annual meetings held this year in the North African Union Mission. We believe our readers will greatly enjoy the local setting of these articles; and, too, that our two superintendents in North Africa will pardon us if we have been indiscreet in reprinting them in the *QUARTERLY REVIEW*. A. M. D.)

hoped. Between sixty and eighty members were present for the Sabbath services. The Southern European Division was represented by J. C. Raft, the veteran field and foreign missions secretary; and F. Charpiot, our congenial publishing department secretary. We can not refrain from saying that their presence contributed in a large measure to the blessings received. All of the workers of the Algerian Mission were present, and all of them brought



Annual Meeting Algerian Mission

The Tlemcen Annual Meeting

Jules Rey

As previously announced in a preceding number of the *Messenger*, our annual meeting for the Algerian Mission was held at Tlemcen, and was a camp-meeting. Those who were present will have taken back with them to their home churches to share with them, the blessings enjoyed at this meeting. We believe, however, we should report through the *Messenger* the great blessings of which we were the participants on this occasion, and also something of the plans laid for the advancement of the work in our field.

The attendance was much larger than we had

cheering reports from their respective fields. The early morning devotional hours and Bible studies by Brethren Raft and Charpiot were most helpful, and were attended by all the members. The special meeting held by Brother Raft for the workers and their wives, Monday morning, was a particularly blessed occasion. We all left that meeting full of new courage and greater zealotness for the work of winning souls for eternity.

The public lectures which were held every evening, and at which from sixty to one hundred strangers were present, were a source of great encouragement for our own brethren and sisters. Brethren Raft, Charpiot, Reynaud, Gissler, E. and J. Rey each in his turn presented the living word

to this large and interested audience. Friday evening when Brother Raft spoke on Preparing for the End, there were many tear-dimmed eyes. A real interest has been awakened at Tlemcen. Pray that all these precious souls may understand the message of final warning, and give themselves to God, and have a part in His great and free salvation.

A pleasing feature of the annual meeting was the musical numbers, which contributed greatly to the success of the meeting. A mixed choir of twenty-five voices directed by Brother Riemens, the organ music by Eva Reynaud, and the special cello and organ numbers by Brother Riemens and E. Rey, were uplifting and brought joy to the brethren and sisters and to the public in general.

If I were to describe our annual meeting in a few short sentences, I would say: We lived near to God during those five days, and for us all it was hard to leave the camp ground. We separated, but with the purpose to meet again next year, God willing.

Reasons for Rejoicing

In his report for the year 1929, Brother J. Rey mentions five reasons for rejoicing during the past year:

1. The increase of sixteen in membership, so that the members in the Algerian Mission now number 106.

2. Increase in the number of workers. June, 1929, there were ten workers in the mission, which is five more than at the same time the preceding year.

3. The encouraging growth in the colporteur work. On an average, ten colporteurs worked in the field during the year, and 150,000 francs' worth of literature were sold.

4. The financial growth. The tithe receipts during the year were 59,000 francs, or 31,000 francs more than for the preceding year. The mission offerings also increased encouragingly, though proportionately less than the tithe.

5. The dispensary work, officially commenced by Sister Pellicer in Rochambeau. The monthly reports rendered by this sister show that in the twelve months, 3,380 persons — the great majority of them Arab women — were treated for various maladies. God wrought many miracles of healing in answer to the prayers of faith — perhaps more than through the treatments and medicaments.

In closing his report, Brother Rey writes: "These are only small, feeble beginnings, but we must think of the words spoken by the prophet Zechariah in the fourth chapter, tenth verse: 'For who hath despised the day of small things.'

"Can we not see the hand of God in the progress already attained, and rejoice in Him for His power and love? Nevertheless, I can not refrain from telling you what I have on my heart: Had we lived nearer to God, as individuals, as workers,

as a people, I am persuaded God would have done still greater things for us, and we would have seen many more souls saved, who today would be rejoicing with us in this glorious message. That is why I feel to humble myself before God today, and pray: O, God, pardon our shortcomings, our failures, our unfaithfulness. Come and pardon and purify Thy people, so that through them Thou canst quickly finish Thy work in the Algerian Mission."

Annual Meeting of the Moroccan Mission

Albert Meyer

Different of our church organs have pictured in glowing and moving detail the large assembly in San Francisco, where about fourteen thousand persons thronged together in the vast Auditorium the last Sabbath of the conference. Surely a grand and inspiring meeting from every point of view! We can easily understand the feelings of the brethren who had had the privilege of attending that meeting when they came to our meeting in Casablanca. How small it must have seemed! But fortunately our brethren know how to adapt themselves to all conditions, and like the apostle Paul, they know "to be in needy circumstances." At any rate they were most indulgent, and we were truly thankful to them.

We who were present at the very first meeting ever held in Casablanca, and who baptized the three first converts, were better able, perhaps, to grasp the reasons we had to offer thanksgiving to God for His goodness and mercy.

Our meeting was held in the pretty and spacious English chapel, September 25—28. The British Consul and the members of the English colony, in a way that bears them honor, very kindly offered us the use of their temple for this occasion. We spent some blessed days together, being privileged to have Brethren Raft, Charpiot, and J. Rey with us.

The different reports presented indicate encouraging progress. . . . The tithe increased from 4,600 francs in 1928 to 19,000 francs in 1929: and the mission offerings from 10,500 in 1928 to 21,700 in 1929. This means an average of approximately eighteen francs per week per member. The pioneer colporteur work in this field has been greatly blessed. Nearly 40,000 francs' worth of books were sold during 1929. Four of our young men who left the field for the Collonges seminary, earned their scholarship through the colporteur work. Brother Riemens, one of the four, is the present field secretary of the North African Union Mission. Another, Brother Fernandez, is a worker in the Moroccan Mission. Brethren Arnone and Douay returned to the school, Brother Douay having been called to be preceptor at the seminary while at the same time continuing his studies. The membership

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Financial Report of the South Europ. Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending Sept. 30, 1930

Name of Conference or Mission	Total Tithe	Weekly Tithe per Capita	Total Offerings (incl. Special)	Weekly Offer's per Capita	Percentage of Offerings to Tithe	Contributions for Home Miss. Work	Contributions for Local Church Work	Colporteur Book Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. SOUTH EUROPEAN DIVISION								
2. FRANCO-BELGIAN UN. CONF.								
3. Belgian Conference	F. Fr. 22,875.50							
4. East France Conference ...	B. Fr. 95,482.30	16.36	15,353.35	2.63	16.1%	371.30	—	120,505.45
5. North » »	F. Fr. 48,171.50	10.90	78,355.10	17.73	162.7%	—	—	81,014.40
6. South » »	F. Fr. 66,578.—	12.22	108,130.15	19.85	162.4%	574.—	—	113,735.10
	F. Fr. 47,638.—	7.13	77,614.25	11.62	162.9%	633.45	—	53,779.50
	F. Fr. 251,627.50	11.24	274,770.05	12.27	109.2%	1,467.35	—	334,087.90
	\$ 9,906.60	— .44	10,817.71	— .48	—	57.77	—	13,160.08
7. JUGOSLAVIAN UNION CONF.								
8. Danube Conference	Dinar 113,534.10	8.65	41,519.25	3.16	36.6%	—	—	77,817.—
9. Sava »	» 52,342.10	10.57	16,691.70	3.37	31.9%	—	—	71,922.—
10. Morava Mission	» 22,343.—	6.01	9,599.75	2.58	43.1%	—	—	47,555.—
	Dinar 188,219.20	8.64	67,810.70	3.11	36.—%	—	—	197,294.—
	\$ 3,347.—	— .15	1,206.05	— .06	—	—	—	3,491.91
11. RUMANIAN UNION CONF.								
12. West Muntenian Conference	Lei 864,935.—	26.81	514,130.25	15.93	59.4%	—	—	275,766.—
13. East »	» 338,230.—	17.48	166,887.30	8.63	49.3%	—	—	172,894.—
14. North Moldavian »	» 261,444.50	13.67	140,026.60	7.32	53.6%	—	—	207,688.—
15. South »	» 179,145.—	14.14	102,052.50	8.06	57.—%	11,795.95	23,813.—	178,359.—
16. Transylvanian »	» 497,005.75	14.32	205,894.50	5.93	41.4%	9,109.80	22,665.75	211,145.—
17. Banat »	» 174,671.50	12.45	72,734.—	5.18	41.6%	2,130.—	18,858.50	162,668.—
	Lei 2,315,431.75	17.52	1,201,725.15	9.09	51.9%	23,035.75	65,337.25	1,208,520.—
	\$ 13,864.90	— .11	7,195.96	— .05	—	137.94	391.24	7,236.61
18. SWISS UNION CONFERENCE								
19. German Swiss Conference ..	Sw. Fr. 36,925.75	2.47	18,812.59	1.26	50.9%	887.80	3,665.20	39,458.—
20. Lemman Conference	» 34,510.—	2.90	23,217.38	1.95	67.3%	1,215.33	—	32,938.35
	Sw. Fr. 71,435.75	2.66	42,029.97	1.57	58.8%	2,103.13	3,665.20	72,396.35
	\$ 13,898.10	— .52	8,177.03	— .30	—	409.17	713.07	14,084.88
21. IBERIAN UNION MISSION ¹⁾								
22. East Spanish Mission	Pesetas 10,097.85	3.90	5,350.55	2.07	53.—%	138.—	378.20	9,133.20
23. West »	» 7,685.95	6.96	4,875.46	4.41	63.4%	60.50	—	12,723.20
24. Portuguese »	Escudos 38,832.07	12.71	13,447.95	4.40	34.6%	—	—	54,584.—
	Pesetas 33,195.50	4.92	15,594.61	2.31	47.—%	198.50	378.20	44,449.65
	\$ 3,735.10	— .55	1,796.02	— .27	—	21.23	40.45	4,651.21
25. ITALIAN UNION MISSION								
26. Central Italian Mission	Lire 9,365.—	5.15	12,949.40	7.11	138.1%	—	158.85	13,643.25
27. North »	» 10,215.05	4.22	10,379.65	4.29	101.6%	306.20	950.25	16,948.95
28. South »	» 4,701.—	2.22	3,990.40	1.88	84.9%	—	—	9,055.20
	Lire 24,281.05	3.82	27,319.45	4.30	112.5%	306.20	1,109.10	39,647.40
	\$ 1,271.30	— .20	1,430.34	— .23	—	16.03	58.07	2,075.77
29. NORTH AFRICAN UN. MISS.								
30. Algerian Mission	F. Fr. 17,979.35	11.72	3,812.85	2.49	21.2%	—	—	4,249.—
31. Moroccan »	» 4,609.95	13.64	750.80	2.22	16.3%	683.95	—	19,165.—
	F. Fr. 22,589.30	12.07	4,563.65	2.44	20.2%	683.95	—	23,414.—
	\$ 889.—	— .48	179.67	— .10	—	26.93	—	921.79
32. EQUATORIAL AFRICAN M. ²⁾	F. Fr. 4,084.50	16.54	2,240.60	9.07	54.9%	—	—	—
	\$ 160.70	— .65	88.22	— .36	—	—	—	—
33. MADAGASCAR MISSION ³⁾	F. Fr. 7,228.—	5.05	2,392.35	1.67	33.1%	—	—	17,941.40
	\$ 284.60	— .20	94.18	— .07	—	—	—	706.34
34. MAURITIUS MISSION ³⁾	Rs. 3,714.50	1.12	841.18	— .26	22.6%	—	—	289.56
	\$ 1,375.70	— .43	311.55	— .10	—	—	—	106.86

RECAPITULATION

1. South European Division								
2. Franco-Belgian Union Conference	\$ 9,906.60	— .44	10,817.71	— .48	109.2%	57.77	—	13,160.08
3. Yugoslavian » »	3,347.—	— .15	1,206.05	— .06	36.—%	—	—	3,491.91
4. Rumanian » »	13,864.90	— .11	7,195.96	— .05	51.9%	137.94	391.24	7,236.61
5. Swiss » »	13,898.10	— .52	8,177.03	— .30	58.8%	409.17	713.07	14,084.88
6. Iberian » Mission ¹⁾	3,735.10	— .55	1,796.02	— .27	47.—%	21.23	40.45	4,651.21
7. Italian » »	1,271.30	— .20	1,430.34	— .23	112.5%	16.03	58.07	2,075.77
8. North African » »	889.—	— .48	179.67	— .10	20.2%	26.93	—	921.79
9. Equatorial African » ²⁾	160.70	— .65	88.22	— .36	54.9%	—	—	—
10. Madagascar » ³⁾	284.60	— .20	94.18	— .07	33.1%	—	—	706.34
11. Mauritius » ³⁾	1,375.70	— .43	311.55	— .10	22.6%	—	—	106.86
TOTALS 3rd Qtr. 1930	\$ 48,733.—	— .22	31,296.73	— .14	64.2%	669.07	1,202.83	46,435.45
» 3rd » 1929	\$ 51,304.60	— .25	28,982.93	— .15	60.—%	1,106.92	1,517.88	43,916.90

¹⁾ Second and third quarters; ²⁾ First and second quarters; ³⁾ Second quarter.

Specification of Mission Offerings (Column No. 4)

	Sabbath School Offerings (exc. 13th Sabbath)	13th Sabbath Offerings	(Relief Fund) Weekly Offerings	Harvest Ingathering	Annual Offerings	Miscellaneous Offerings	Self Denial Offerings	Special Offer.	
								Big Week	Young People's Collection
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.									
2.									
3.	11,622.—	3,629.95	101.40	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	6,683.35	3,346.15	114.90	65,708.70	—	—	708.—	315.—	1,479.—
5.	6,905.20	3,974.75	—	94,045.05	—	—	973.50	1,831.65	400.—
6.	7,232.75	2,737.05	14.50	66,558.85	—	—	1,056.—	15.10	—
	28,898.60	12,580.75	199.85	226,312.60	—	—	2,737.50	2,161.75	1,879.—
	1,137.74	495.31	7.86	8,909.94	—	—	107.77	85.11	73.98
7.									
8.	16,141.25	3,576.75	1,137.—	6,421.50	—	—	10,896.50	2,386.25	960.—
9.	5,687.70	2,422.50	307.50	1,388.—	—	—	6,739.—	6.—	141.—
10.	3,168.50	973.—	168.25	—	—	—	4,272.50	907.—	110.50
	24,997.45	6,972.25	1,612.75	7,809.50	—	—	21,908.—	3,299.25	1,211.50
	444.49	123.53	28.67	138.56	—	—	390.50	58.74	21.56
11.									
12.	135,749.75	38,761.—	12,555.50	76,655.—	1,700.—	14,105.—	186,523.50	40,051.—	8,029.50
13.	70,681.—	13,684.—	5,678.50	5,865.—	—	4,688.80	64,994.—	783.—	513.—
14.	57,810.—	13,746.—	3,797.—	12,533.—	662.50	7,070.60	39,462.50	3,548.—	1,397.—
15.	32,595.50	8,622.—	2,805.50	12,114.—	50.—	2,326.—	39,748.50	3,630.—	161.—
16.	80,912.50	21,572.50	4,368.75	10,109.—	525.—	4,170.—	83,798.75	—	438.—
17.	32,585.50	10,352.50	1,401.50	4,394.—	—	608.—	22,284.50	1,108.—	—
	410,334.25	106,738.—	30,606.75	121,670.—	2,937.50	32,968.40	436,811.75	49,120.—	10,538.50
	2,457.09	639.15	183.27	728.56	17.59	197.42	2,615.64	294.13	63.11
18.									
19.	4,434.39	1,306.35	384.15	12,045.—	—	454.70	—	—	188.—
20.	5,877.12	3,234.52	24.85	13,386.95	—	184.34	69.05	9.35	431.20
	10,311.51	4,540.87	409.—	25,431.95	—	639.04	69.05	9.35	619.20
	2,006.13	883.44	79.57	4,947.85	—	124.32	13.43	1.82	120.47
21.									
22.	2,279.15	806.80	39.25	—	—	—	1,006.45	1,121.50	97.40
23.	1,887.64	702.67	53.—	5.—	—	165.50	871.65	1,111.75	78.25
24.	4,621.20	1,117.40	—	—	—	—	3,725.80	3,983.55	—
	5,994.36	1,966.76	92.25	5.—	—	165.50	3,368.42	3,826.67	175.65
	687.67	217.25	10.76	—53	—	19.36	380.18	459.27	21.—
25.									
26.	1,514.55	367.05	—	10,406.20	—	—	553.80	—	107.80
27.	1,867.60	541.85	—	7,970.20	—	—	—	—	—
28.	985.40	232.20	—	2,639.80	—	16.—	110.—	—	7.—
	4,367.55	1,141.10	—	21,016.20	—	16.—	663.80	—	114.80
	228.67	59.74	—	1,100.32	—	—84	34.76	—	6.01
29.									
30.	2,120.80	307.25	—	—	250.65	—	832.—	302.15	—
31.	501.60	249.20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	2,622.40	556.45	—	—	250.65	—	832.—	302.15	—
	103.23	21.91	—	—	9.87	—	32.76	11.90	—
32.									
	444.30	64.95	—	—	—	276.—	1,351.80	103.55	—
	17.50	2.55	—	—	—	10.87	53.22	4.08	—
33.									
	480.90	214.40	—	1,697.05	—	—	—	—	—
	18.93	8.44	—	66.81	—	—	—	—	—
34.									
	245.02	137.79	—	—	—	—	458.37	—	—
	90.75	51.03	—	—	—	—	169.77	—	—

RECAPITULATION

1.									
2.	1,137.74	495.31	7.86	8,909.94	—	—	107.77	85.11	73.98
3.	444.49	123.53	28.67	138.56	—	—	390.50	58.74	21.56
4.	2,457.09	639.15	183.27	728.56	17.59	197.42	2,615.64	294.13	63.11
5.	2,006.13	883.44	79.57	4,947.85	—	124.32	13.43	1.82	120.47
6.	687.67	217.25	10.76	—53	—	19.36	380.18	459.27	21.—
7.	228.67	59.74	—	1,100.32	—	—84	34.76	—	6.01
8.	103.23	21.91	—	—	9.87	—	32.76	11.90	—
9.	17.50	2.55	—	—	—	10.87	53.22	4.08	—
10.	18.93	8.44	—	66.81	—	—	—	—	—
11.	90.75	51.03	—	—	—	—	169.77	—	—
	7,192.20	2,502.35	310.13	15,892.57	27.46	352.81	3,798.03	915.05	306.13
	6,623.75	1,917.96	374.49	16,084.10	56.96	1,059.85	2,148.76	377.57	339.49

Report of the Home Missionary Department of the South European Division
THIRD QUARTER 1930

	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Jugoslav. U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Iberian U. M. 1)	Italian U. M.	N. African U. M.	Mauritius Mission	Total Third Quarter 1930	Total Third Quarter 1929
No. of Churches and Companies	57	86	391	48	13	23	7	6	631	574
Total number of church members	1,770	1,763	10,695	2,080	535	508	149	298	17,798	16,178
Number of persons reporting	483	954	7,810	1,149	156	296	46	394	11,288	10,222
Percentage of members reporting	27.3%	54.1%	73%	55.2%	29.2%	58.2%	30.9%	132%	63.4%	63.1%
No. doing Bible or Gospel Work	207	736	5,712	282	—	245	38	249	7,469	5,651
No. engaged in medical mission work ..	138	839	5,906	75	—	146	14	—	7,118	4,619
No. engaged in Literature work	223	578	4,257	282	—	249	40	138	5,767	4,075
REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK:										
Missionary Visits	1,848	6,433	57,349	1,716	1,139	3,607	312	790	73,194	72,311
Bible Readings	1,429	14,973	60,624	911	897	2,626	565	1,811	83,836	71,308
No. of Persons taken to Services	112	1,182	15,220	80	209	246	14	37	17,100	9,308
Hours of Christian Help Work	716	14,102	45,295	1,364	890	572	179	976	64,094	50,984
Treatments Given	321	—	7,105	322	320	489	427	753	9,737	6,503
Periodicals distributed	20,602	1,355	11,358	31,555	4319	4,301	686	775	74,951	49,232
Tracts distributed	1,556	2,710	2,317	709	1645	492	84	299	9,812	9,320
New subscriptions to Periodicals	84	—	305	14	52	111	2	7	575	769
Books distributed	496	645	1,214	275	736	422	31	208	4,027	2,875
Missionary Letters written	516	932	2,710	251	267	528	39	51	5,294	4,150
Missionary Letters received	274	551	2,048	211	181	405	6	19	3,695	2,571
Souls Won	26	70	637	1	—	9	—	25	768	836

1) 2nd and 3rd Quarter's reports.

From Across the Mediterranean

(Concluded from page 6)

of the Moroccan Mission, which was thirteen in 1928, is at present thirty. We regret the departure of Brother and Sister Asiano who because of health conditions and the need of workers in Italy, returned to that field during 1929. We have so few members in Morocco, and so few workers!...

We are glad to report that at present definite plans are being laid for opening a treatment room at Fez, where we shall have the collaboration of Sister Madeline Veuthey (née Lavanchy), graduate nurse of the Gland Sanitarium. With the help of God we hope to be able to open this treatment room in the very near future; and we shall be most grateful to receive either small or large donations to assist us in this undertaking. May the Lord bless these small beginnings, while waiting for the arrival of the doctor for whom we can not but persistently importune, and who will be an untold strength in building up the work in this country. Once again we turn with eager eyes to the division brethren, and pray that God will direct them in this matter.

The future of the work in Morocco is most promising, and we face this encouraging outlook with faith and courage, determined to work without ceasing for the advancement of the message in this vast country with its many needs — colporteurs, nurses for the European population, and for the Arabs; but our God is mighty, and He sees all these needs.

We are now looking forward with joy to our next annual meeting, and this thought urges us on to work zealously during the Harvest Ingathering campaign that is just before us, and which we wish

to make a success by the grace of God and for His glory.

With our brethren in Algeria and Tunis, we are determined to work courageously and unitedly for the triumph of the cause of God in North Africa.

Special Days and Campaigns for 1931

In connection with the Winter Council of the division the following recommendation concerning special days, campaigns and offerings was unanimously passed:

Christian Home Day	February 7
Missionary Volunteer Week	March 14—21
Big Week (Missions Extension Fund)	April 11—18
Week of Sacrifice	May 31—June 6
Educational Day	July 4
Harvest Ingathering	Aug. 1—December 1
Publishing Sabbath	October 3
Sabbath School Rally Day	November 14
Week of Prayer	December 5—12

“He who lives in the atmosphere of appreciation surely carries the high credentials to victory
The most pitiable sight on earth is the person who carries a grievance.”

— Dr. Henry Clay Risner.

Report of the Missionary Volunteer Department of the South European Division
THIRD QUARTER 1930

	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Jugoslav. U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Iberian U. M.	Italian U. M.	N. African U. M.	Mauritius Mission	Total Third Quarter 1930	Total Third Quarter 1929
Number of Societies	26	9	144	33	4	12	4	9	241	214
Total Membership of Societies	568	286	3,080	676	49	98	53	175	4,985	4,003
Members reporting	87	224	1,729	400	22	69	11	196	2,738	1,966
Percentage of members reporting	15.3%	78.3%	56.1%	59.2%	44.9%	70.4%	20.8%	112%	54.9%	49.1%
No. observing Morning Watch	192	226	751	130	34	80	—	78	1,491	1,191
No. reading Bible through	35	141	250	18	8	26	1	15	494	371
No. taking Reading Course	80	85	528	—	—	—	—	—	693	400
No. taking St. of Attainment	35	—	501	—	—	—	—	—	536	179
REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK:										
Missionary and Sick Visits	133	716	8,422	132	81	1,454	16	321	11,275	12,088
Bible Readings	111	2,810	10,130	98	49	953	26	421	14,598	13,163
Hours of Christian Help Work	109	2,681	10,927	233	136	204	2	609	14,901	10,472
Treatments Given	24	—	1,098	23	18	58	1	438	1,660	1,309
Subscriptions to Periodicals	8	—	57	—	6	13	—	1	85	140
Papers and Magazines distributed	6,473	419	4,623	5,990	666	1,065	28	89	19,353	14,392
Books distributed	48	216	800	16	48	87	3	57	1,275	833
Tracts distributed	126	862	541	39	300	86	—	69	2,023	2,868
Letters written	85	180	1,290	62	52	180	3	14	1,866	1,329
Letters received	48	120	986	19	32	115	—	4	1,324	917
Souls Won	11	29	131	2	—	2	—	10	185	137

Dates of Annual Conference Sessions 1931

During one of the sessions of our division Winter Council, plans were carefully worked out regarding the time for the holding of the annual conference meetings. Suggestions were also made with reference to visits by General Conference and division workers at these gatherings. Below will be found a list of these annual meetings in the various unions as they have been voted. Though there may be some slight changes and adjustments during the year, in the main the plan adopted will be followed:

Franco-Belgian Union Conference:

- Belgian Conference July 21—26
- North France Conference July 29—Aug. 2
- East France Conference Aug. 4—9
- South France Conference Aug. 11—16

Jugoslavian Union Conference:

- Sava Conference Aug. 12—16
- Danube Conference Aug. 19—23
- Morava Mission Aug. 26—30

Rumanian Union Conference:

- North Moldavian Conf. Sep. 3—6
- South Moldavian Conf. Sep. 10—13
- West Muntenian Conf. Sep. 17—20
- East Muntenian Conf. Sep. 24—27
- Transylvanian Conf. Oct. 1—4
- Banat Conf. Oct. 8—11

Swiss Union Conference:

- Léman Conference July 28—Aug. 2
- German-Swiss Conf. Sep. 29—Oct. 4

Iberian Union Mission:

- Portuguese Mission May 13—17
- West Spanish Mission May 20—24
- East Spanish Mission May 27—31

Italian Union Mission:

- North Italian Mission June 4—7
- South Italian Mission June 11—14
- Central Italian Mission June 18—21

North African Union Mission:

- Algerian Mission Aug. 26—30
- Moroccan Mission Sep. 2—6

He Giveth More Grace

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater,
 He sendeth more strength when the labors increase;
 To added affliction He addeth His mercy,
 To multiplied trials His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
 When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
 When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,
 Our Father's full giving is only begun.

His love has no limit, His grace has no measure,
 His power no boundary known unto men;
 For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
 He giveth and giveth and giveth again.

— *Selected.*

The Responsibility of Leadership

THE thought we shall study this morning is the responsibility of leadership, and particularly the responsibility of a conference president. I have chosen this subject because most of you men here are men bearing definite union or local conference responsibilities. I want to begin our study with the text in the 20th chapter of Acts, verse 28: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood." I wish to emphasize the first part of the text. Paul is here addressing himself to the leaders, to the pastors, of the early church, and he says: "Take heed unto yourselves." That is the first responsibility; that to my mind is the first test, the first thing of importance: "Take heed unto yourselves." Then we are charged: "Take heed unto the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers." And to do what? "To feed the church of God." There is a world of meaning in that text, and I wish it might be our privilege as leaders to grasp it this morning. . . .

1 Cor. 12: 28. I will not stop to dwell on the thought that God has set in the church those who are to minister, to teach; those who are to govern (and if I understand that word "govern" in the right sense, it does not mean to be masters and lords over God's heritage; but to be ministers of His grace, counsellors, helpers, leaders); but I wish you would connect the thought in this text with the whole next chapter. Do you know what that next chapter is? The thirteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians? And how does it happen God throws it in here immediately following the thought that some are called to be apostles, prophets, teachers, etc.? Do you notice that love is the golden thread woven into this whole chapter? And I want to tell you, my dear brethren, that love in a conference president leads him to suffer long and to be kind; love in the heart of a preacher will show itself in humility, meekness, kindness, and consideration of others. That is the whole message of that thirteenth chapter, — one of love, kindness, and consideration of others.

In the book of Ephesians we learn that the gifts were given for the edifying of the church of God. "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors, and teachers." And what for? "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Now why has God called you to your ministry? Why? That the men and women in the churches under your leadership may be perfect in Jesus; that every worker in your fields may, through, your leadership, your counsel, your ministry, your example of holy living, *be made perfect in Jesus*, — be encouraged and helped to be overcomers of every weakness of the flesh. . . .

In John 17: 18, you will remember Jesus said, "As Thou hast sent Me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." And again, chapter twenty, verse 21: "As My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you." There is a text in Matthew where Jesus says: "Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." (Matt. 10: 16.)

We have all heard many eloquent sermons preached about the wolves in this text, . . . but I want to emphasize the thought of the sheep. I had the wonderful privilege of being a shepherd boy on the western plains, or really the central plains, of the United States. That was back forty-five years ago, and I had 2500 sheep to take care of. . . . I wasn't a Christian then, but I thank God every day of my life since becoming a Christian, and especially since becoming a minister of the flock, for the lessons I learned as a shepherd of caring for the sheep. I want you to notice in the text what the Lord Jesus said about sending out his ministers as sheep in the midst of wolves. Now wolves are vicious. They bite and tear and devour. I know what it means to see wolves attack a flock. . . . As ministers of God's grace you are sent out as sheep — not with the characteristics of wolves; not with the spirit of wolves; but with the spirit and the characteristics and the meekness of sheep. And do you know what the symbol used in the Bible is to represent the type of the Son of God? Why, yes, a lamb. Why a lamb? Because a lamb is the meekest creature known. I have seen thousands of sheep slaughtered in the great slaughtering houses of the West, but do you know I have never in my life, in all the thousands of sheep I have seen slaughtered, heard a sheep bleat when it came to the block. I have never seen a sheep fight back at a wolf. I have never seen a sheep try to strike with its hoof at an attacking wolf or any other enemy. They suffer the tearing, the rendering, the devouring, almost without a groan. You are sent out as sheep. What does that mean? What is the lesson in that text? You are sent out with what kind of spirit? "As sheep." God make us like Him in our work as shepherds and leaders!

I want to read here a few things concerning conference presidents.

"The Lord has been pleased to present before me many things in regard to the calling and labor of our ministers, especially those who have been appointed as presidents of conferences

"Those who are thus appointed as overseers of the flock should be men of good repute; men who give evidence that they have not only a knowledge of the Scriptures, but an experience in faith, in patience; that in meekness they may instruct those who oppose the truth. They should be men of

thorough integrity, not novices, but intelligent students of the Word, able to teach others also, bringing from the treasure-house things new and old; men who in character, in words, in deportment, will be an honor to the cause of Christ, teaching the truth, living the truth, growing up to the full stature in Christ Jesus. This means the development and strengthening of every faculty by exercise, that the workers may become qualified to bear larger responsibilities as the work increases." — *"Gospel Workers,"* p. 413.

"If the officers of a conference would bear successfully the burdens laid upon them, they must pray, they must believe, they must trust God to use them as His agents in keeping the churches of the conference in good working order. This is their part of the vineyard to cultivate." — *Idem,* p. 416.

What is then the chief responsibility of the president of a conference? To cultivate, to care for, to instruct, to build up the churches. The work of the minister is to go out as an evangelist, to raise up new churches. The work of a conference president is to take care of the churches already established. . . . The evangelist builds *into* the church, the conference president must build *up* the church.

"Presidents of conferences should be men who can be fully trusted with God's work. They should be men of integrity, unselfish, devoted, working Christians. If they are deficient in these respects, the churches under their care will not prosper." — *Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 379.*

I would like to stop and preach you a whole sermon on this thought of integrity and unselfishness. Much ought to be said. We are told there is altogether too much selfishness in the ministry; altogether too much reasoning from a selfish point of view; too much jealousy concerning one's position, one's reputation. . . . Do you know, my brethren, there isn't anything in this world that grieves me more than to have to deal with a man, with a minister of the gospel in this cause . . . that I can't trust one hundred per cent. . . . Do you ever have to deal with men like that? I hope there are none in the Southern European Division, but I fear there are. Some men feel that when they come into a position of responsibility, whether it be pastor of a church, Sabbath school secretary, conference president, union president, they are justified in being just a little bit scheming. They feel that they will get farther, accomplish more, by being just a little bit dishonest. . . . Shall I tell you what this is called? It is called diplomacy; and do you know it has come to the place among us where many pride themselves on being diplomats: on having the reputation of being a little wiser, just a little bit keener in striking a bargain than their brethren. And that is called diplomacy. I call it dishonesty and lying. And that is what the Lord is speaking of here when

He says workers holding positions of responsibility must be men of integrity. What is integrity? Uprightness of character, honesty of heart, straightforwardness in dealing. Isn't that what it means?

Here is another quotation from "Gospel Workers," page 419: "The president of a conference is, by his manner of dealing, educating the ministers under him." . . . If I could put the responsibility of conference presidents under two heads, I would express it this way: Their first responsibility is the care of the churches; their second, the training of men. . . .

"The man who is fully sensible that he is in the service of Jesus Christ, will aspire for the friendship of God. He will lie low before God, that he may be nothing, and God everything. Such a man is a copartner with Christ, fitted to preside over a conference. — *"Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers,"* p. 328. Now what is the qualification that makes you fit to preside over a conference? Being nothing, that God may be everything. To lie low before God in the greatest humility. "Such a man is a copartner with Christ, fitted to preside over a conference."

"Those who consecrate body, soul, and spirit to God, will constantly receive a new endowment of physical, mental and spiritual power. The inexhaustible supplies of heaven are at their command. Christ gives them the breath of His own Spirit, the life of His own life. The Holy Spirit puts forth His highest energies to work in heart and mind. The grace of God enlarges and multiplies their faculties, and every perfection of the divine nature comes to their assistance in the work of saving souls. Through co-operation with Christ, they are made complete in Him, and in their human weakness they are enabled to do the deeds of Omnipotence." — *"Gospel Workers,"* pp. 112, 113.

Here is one further quotation directed especially to the ministry: "I looked to see the humility of soul that should ever sit as a fitting garment upon our ministers, but it was not upon them. I looked for the deep love for souls that the Master said they should possess, but they had it not. I listened for the earnest prayers offered with tears and anguish of soul because of the impenitent and unbelieving in their own homes and in the church, but heard them not. I listened for the appeals made in the demonstration of the Spirit, but these were missing. . . . A few earnest, humble ones were seeking the Lord. . . . But a large majority of the ministers had no more sense of the sacredness of their work than children." — *"Testimonies,"* Vol. 5, pp. 165, 166.

That is speaking of our ministry, brethren; and the reason I read it here is to lay upon your hearts as union conference, local conference presidents, mission superintendents, and workers in every other branch, the burden that such a solemn message

imposes, and to appeal to you that you, under God, may be the leaders in His name that He wants you to be in the field that you supervise. . . . Oh, my friends, God calls us as leaders to lead our ministry into that experience that their preaching may be crowned with power, and that they may be successful in doing for God a work that the church of God is in great need of today!

In closing I wish to read this invitation: "To our ministers, physicians, teachers, and all others engaged in any line of service for the Master, I

have a message to bear. The Lord bids you to come up higher, to reach a holier standard. You must have an experience much deeper than you have ever thought of having."

I am glad for that blessed invitation God invites us as His ministers to come up higher: to be holier, to be holier still. We have seen but the twilight of His grace and power. He wants us to come into the full noontide of it, and know it in all its fulness.

— O. Montgomery.

Entering Unoccupied Territory — the Seychelles

"Surely the isles shall wait for me." Often we have repeated that old promise of Isaiah 60, but how it takes on new meaning every time we see the prophecy actually being fulfilled before our very eyes! And thus it is, once again other unoccupied territory has been entered — the Seychelles.

We print here a very interesting personal letter from Brother A. J. Girou, superintendent of the Mauritius Mission, written October 13, the day after he returned from the Seychelles, where he had gone to introduce and locate Brother and Sister D. Ignace, the first Seventh-day Adventist missionary family to that group of islands. It may help us get a clearer mental picture of the country just entered to first review in our minds something of the location and history of this interesting archipelago.

The Seychelles, ninety islands in all, lie 934 miles N. N. W. of Mauritius, and 600 miles N. E. of the northernmost point of Madagascar. "Mahé, the largest and most central island, . . . is seventeen miles long, and from four to seven broad, and of highly irregular shape, with an area of about 55 sq. m. There are small areas of lowlands, chiefly at the mouths of the river valleys, but most of the island is mountainous, and in general the hills rise abruptly from the sea. There are ten heights between 1000 and 2000 feet, and seven over 2000 feet. . . . The main ridge runs north and south along the line of the greatest diameter, and from the heights descend many torrents, the whole island being well watered. The principal harbor, Port Victoria, is on the north-east coast. . . . It is approached by a deep channel through the coral reef which fringes the entire eastern side of the island. . . . Many of the houses of Port Victoria (or Mahé) are built of massive coral, *Porites gaimardi*, hewn into square building blocks which at a distance glisten like white marble." — *The Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Volumes 23—24, pages 751, 752.

When workers enter unexplored territory, and particularly tropical countries, one of the

first things that concerns us is the climate, for the health of our faithful missionaries is in no small degree effected by the climate. "The climate of the Seychelles is healthy and equable, and for a tropical country the temperature is moderate. It varies on the coast from about 68° to 88° F., falling at night in the higher regions to 60° or 55° F. The mean coast temperature slightly exceeds 79° F. The south-east monsoon blows from May to October, which is the dry season, and the west-north-west monsoon from December to March. During April and November the winds are variable. The average annual rainfall on the coast is 100.8 in.; it increases to about 120 in. at a height of 600 ft. and at heights exceeding 2000 ft. is about 150 in. The Seychelles lie outside the track of the hurricanes which occasionally devastate Réunion and Mauritius, and are also immune from earthquakes. The public health is good, and fevers and plague are unknown." — *Idem*, p. 752.

"Inhabitants. — Like Mauritius, Réunion and Rodriguez, the Seychelles were uninhabited when first visited by Europeans; . . . the islands were colonized by Mauritian and Bourbon creoles; the white element, still prevailingly French, has been strengthened by the settlement of several British families. The first planters introduced slaves from Mauritius, and the negro element has been increased by the introduction of freed slaves from East Africa. There has been also an immigration of Chinese and, in larger numbers, of Indians (mainly from the Malabar Coast). An official report issued in 1910 stated that the greater part of the valuable town property had passed into the hands of Indians, and that Indians and Chinese had the bulk of the retail trade. Of the colored population those born in the Seychelles of negro, or negro-Indian blood are known as '*enfants des îles*.' They speak a rude creole patois, based on French but with a large admixture of Indian, Banto and English words. The Seychellois are of fine physique, and are excellent and fearless sailors. . . . The population on December 31st, 1909 was officially estimated at 22,409, or 149.59 persons per sq. m. The pure white

population is about 600. About two-thirds of the inhabitants are Roman Catholics." — *Idem*, p. 752.

"The general aspect of the islands is one of great beauty and fertility, and in the opinion of General C. G. Gordon, they formed the Garden of Eden." Brother Girou seems to be of this same opinion, as is evident in his letter, from which we quote:

"The reasons that made me decide to go to the Seychelles are these: There are only sailing boats between Mauritius and those ninety islands, and they refuse to take little children or babies on these sailing boats, because there is no medical help for them. When I applied to the company for passage for Brother and Sister Ignace and their eight months' old baby, I was told that they could not accept them except I accompanied them. Poor people! I went, but if they had been in need of my help, they would have been disappointed, because I was in my bed for five days without taking any food, and as usual! . . . (Left to the reader's imagination!) Brother and Sister Ignace were worse off than I, but for the baby, it was all right. Only the second captain was trying to help the baby by giving him beer to drink and ham to eat. We were on sea fifteen long days, and I can assure you that we were happy when we could jump out of that sailing boat. I came back another way. It cost me a little more, but it would have been impossible to spend from twenty to thirty days more on that awfully moving boat.

"Another reason why I went to the Seychelles was to introduce our worker to the local authorities. You know, I am sure, that the colored people are not held in the highest respect by the officials, especially when the officials are Europeans. So I visited the Governor, the Chief of Police, and the chief doctor. This last took me around his hospital, and in every room, when he would meet a nun, he would say: 'Let me introduce you to Doctor Girou, the bishop of a new religion.' Thus we had not been on the island more than twenty-four hours, when it was known over Mahé that a new priest had come, and that we were offering fifty rupies with a bag of rice to everyone who wished to become a church member. Next day visitors came to my hotel to inquire about the rumor. I was quite embarrassed, but finally I just told them that I was not the man, and that they would have to go to Mr. Ignace, he being our representative for the work there. It may be that this reception will help Brother Ignace to obtain addresses, and access to the homes of the people. Let us pray for the success of the work in that new field.

"I could stay only seven days there because there is but one boat every month, and I could not miss the first one passing through.

"There are other interesting things I might tell about that new field, but I will not write more today. Only I wish to say this: it is the most beautiful country I have ever seen in my life; and at the same time it is a healthy place."

Although many miles separate us from our brethren in Mauritius and Madagascar, we are none

the less interested in them, and the progress of the work in their missions. We believe we can assure Brother Girou that the believers in Southern Europe *will* pray for the success of the work in the Seychelles; and is it not beautiful to know that it is in God's plan that our contrite prayers can contribute towards the salvation of souls in that far-away field?

— A. M. Dickey.

Retrospect and Prospect

Another year has passed into eternity. Its records are all made up. We now face a new year with all its manifold privileges and opportunities. We know what the old year brought us of blessings and victories. We cannot tell what the year before us will bring forth. It is probably also well that we can not foresee what will take place. The future we must leave in the hands of our Heavenly Father. His interest in His work and in each one of His children is just as warm and genuine for the coming year as it has been during the year that has passed.

We should, however, be tremendously concerned with the present. What we do today, the relation we bear to present duties and responsibilities, has a very direct bearing on the future of the cause of God. Common tasks, small deeds of kindness, as well as the larger duties, performed faithfully and unselfishly, will open doors of great opportunity in the days to come. The performance of our daily tasks may have eternal consequences.

To be permitted to live in this generation of the world's history, is in itself an opportunity; and to be numbered with the people and the servants of God at such a time, is a great privilege. Do we prize this great privilege as we ought?

While the year before us may look forbidding when we focus our attention on the human element of life, yet when we lift up our eyes and behold Christ our Great Friend and Master, then the year radiates the brightness of divine promises.

Our strength and success for the coming year, as co-workers together with God, depend upon our daily connection with Christ. "Of mine own self I can do nothing," the Son of God declared, but He was also conscious of the fact that the works which He had been sent to perform He could do when He was one with the Father.

While it is true that in our own strength we can do nothing, yet the Apostle Paul adds these immortal words: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Paul never lost sight of what Christ could do through him. Thus it is the

(Concluded on page 4)



GENERAL NEWS ITEMS



In a Sabbath afternoon symposium held during the Winter Council, Elder D. N. Wall mentioned that since the annual meetings in Rumania, at which time fifty-seven new churches were accepted into conference membership, seven more have been organized in one local conference, and in twenty-four other places in the same conference they are waiting to organize churches.



The Iberian Union, which has been so impoverished for workers, recently welcomed two new recruits. O. C. Barrett has already begun his work as secretary-treasurer for the Union, and O. Succar will engage in evangelistic work.



In order to better serve the growing educational interests of the work in Rumania, plans have been laid to move the school to a more favorable location. Building sites around Brasov have been investigated, and it is hoped that the school can be moved in time to accommodate the students next school year. The recent Fall Council in America most generously appropriated \$ 22,000 for this enterprise, in addition to what had been provided on previous occasions.



During our Winter Council in Berne, it was voted to start a small school in Jugoslavia beginning with the school year 1931—32.



The winter evangelistic efforts throughout the division are opening with good attendances. Word has come to us that 462 tickets were sold for Dr. J. Nussbaum's first lecture in the city of Paris, — the admittance fee being from three to ten francs. Pastor W. R. Beach reports that five hundred persons were present at his first lecture in Brussels; and Pastor W. Edener, who has rented a large hall

in Zürich, has also a capacity attendance at his lectures.



According to recent news the final contracts for the Basel chapel have been signed. Excavation work has begun, and as soon as milder weather sets in, the foundation will be laid, and the actual building started. It is expected that the chapel will be finished some time next autumn.



The attendance at our Collonges Seminary has now reached one hundred fifty-nine.



February 6, Pastors A. V. Olson and Steen Rasmussen will sail from Marseille on board the S. S. "Bernardin de St. Pierre," for our missions in Madagascar and Mauritius. This long trip will take them away from division headquarters practically four months. Our prayers and good wishes for a safe and *bon voyage* accompany them.

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A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS