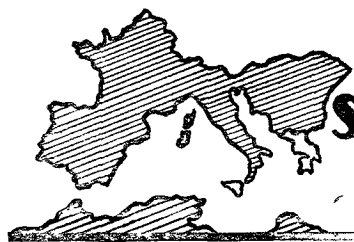


# QUARTERLY REVIEW



ORGAN OF THE  
**SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION**  
of the General Conference of S.D.A.



VOL. 10

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NUMBER 4

## A Message from the Winter Council

Dear fellow believers in the Advent Message :  
Greetings !

The annual Council of the Southern European Division, in session at Lausanne, Switzerland, devoted much time to a consideration of the spiritual needs of both our ministers and our people.

We are facing today conditions that are giving mankind the deepest concern. Men's hearts are failing them for fear for looking after those things that are coming on the earth. Only those who are studying God's word in the light of the prophecies are able to give a clear answer to the question: "What do these things mean?" Speaking of our time, the angel said to the prophet Daniel, "Many shall be purified and made white and true: but the wicked shall do wickedly and none of the wicked shall understand: but the wise shall understand." The special need for this time is for a deeper experience in the things of God, a whole-hearted turning away from every sin, and receiving into our hearts the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

A great work is to be done in all our churches in setting before our people the need of soul-cleansing. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (1 John 3 : 2-3). Let us live close to God's holy word, for there is power in that word to break the grip of sin upon our lives. The writings of the Spirit of prophecy should be given earnest attention, as those writings were given to God's remnant people to instruct them regarding the things that are shortly to come to pass. A revival of true godliness is to be seen in all our churches, and it is time for this to come to pass.

We also need to be on our guard against the dangers of which our Saviour spoke when telling His disciples about the conditions that would prevail in the last days: "And take heed to yourselves lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with drunkenness, and care of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares" (Luke 21: 34). "And be-

cause iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold" (Matt. 24: 12). Again we are warned against manifestations that "if it were possible would deceive the very elect" (Matt. 24: 24). Satan's most successful way of deceiving God's people is by sending among them those who make a high profession of holiness, but who sow the seeds of doubt in the church concerning the ministry and their fellow believers. Thus he plans to bring in division and prevent the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer that His disciples might be one as He and the Father are one. In this way he plans to cause weakness where the church should be strong and united. Against all these dangers we should be on our guard. Anyone who sows the seeds of division in the church is working with the powers of darkness, no matter what pretensions he may make to piety and to spiritual leadership.

Our hearts have been greatly cheered as we have listened to the reports of progress which the work of God is making even in lands where bitter persecution is the lot of the believers. The Spirit of God is at work upon human hearts, and souls are coming to the light in great numbers. At the same time we have been very unhappy to find that the funds at our command do not enable us to help the needy mission fields during 1939 as we would like to; but the money at our disposal has been distributed in the best way possible, and we are confident that in the months to come the Lord of the harvest will impress men and women with means to remember God's cause in a special way while their gifts may be used for the salvation of souls. We believe our people will rally in a strong way to provide the necessary means for quickly finishing the work committed into our hands by our Saviour.

May the rich blessing of Heaven rest upon all our faithful people, and may we be kept true to God during the storm that is soon to break.

Faithfully your brethren,

A.V. OLSON, President.

W.R. BEACH, Secretary.

## Winter Council of the Southern European Division

The Léman Conference offices and the Lausanne church chapel, both under the same roof, offered very convenient quarters in which to hold the eleventh Winter Council of the Southern European Division, November 22 - 29, 1938.

This important meeting brought delegates together from our vast territory to the number of 47, including a representative from the General Conference, the Division staff and several Conference workers who reside in Lausanne. Continental European fields and the North African Union were duly represented as heretofore. In addition to these regular delegates, the Council was privileged to have in attendance Brother and Sister Z. Yéretzian, on furlough from the Batouri station in the Cameroon, and Brother R. Erdmann, under appointment to Madagascar, where he is to serve as secretary-treasurer of the Indian Ocean Union. The presence of these workers connected with the far-away fields of labor was a constant reminder to our leaders in council of the mighty mission task committed unto the churches of Southern Europe.

M. N. Campbell, who represented the General Conference, gave excellent help, especially at the daily devotional hour. His five Bible studies, so inspiring by the optimistic appeal they contained for a genuine, Spirit-filled leadership, were appreciated by all the delegates. We believe the devotional hours conducted by Brother Campbell contributed in a large measure to the success of the session.

The Council was well planned, and a vast range of interests and problems vital to the welfare of the church received due consideration. Under the chairmanship of A. V. Olson, president of the Southern European Division, the business items were taken care of with orderly dispatch and in our traditional spirit of confidence and mutual understanding. The meetings organized for the Lausanne church each evening and on the Sabbath were very well attended. Judging from reports that have come to us since the Council was held, these occasions brought courage and joy to the believers. Hearts were visibly stirred as the inspiring recital of what God is doing throughout the length and breadth of the Division was continued night after night by the different speakers. Sabbath, of course, was the "great day of the feast." One of its most solemn moments was the ordination of Brother Yéretzian to the gospel ministry. This touching ceremony was, in the minds of all present, a fitting recognition by the church of the successful labor accomplished during the past ten years of over-

seas service by our missionary brother and his devoted wife, and their further determination to continue valiantly at their post of service.

The space allotted to this article does not permit to speak at great length of the Council. We do want, however, to share with fellow workers and believers desirous of keeping abreast with the message, a number of facts and figures culled from the different reports rendered. The statistical report, for instance, showed a very encouraging gain in membership for 1937. This, in spite of trials and difficulties untold. The last two years have been trying ones for Southern Europe. As never before the enemy has endeavored to hinder, even destroy our work. Churches have been closed, workers and members imprisoned and tortured, and many vexatious measures have been taken against us. In several countries, government decrees have been issued with the aim of making impossible the preaching of the message God has entrusted to us for the world.

Notwithstanding all this, the united labors of all have produced a fruitage of souls unequaled in past times. Yes, 1937 was a banner year, making the largest advance in membership of any single year in the history of the Division. The records show that 3,195 souls were won to God, leaving a net gain in membership of 1,878. This was 12.8% of the world net gain for the same period, while the membership of Southern Europe only represented 6.6% of the world membership. And 1938 promises a similar success. Judging from the results attained during the first three quarters, we have come definitely to a time of more fruitful endeavor in practically all lands composing this Division.

The report presented by our Division treasurer gave further reason for encouragement. Financial totals showed with what courage workers and believers have continued to stand by the cause during these times of closed churches and depreciated currencies. There has been no letting down in Southern Europe. In fact, tithes and offerings made a sharp increase during 1937, and so far in 1938 they are fully abreast of those in 1937.

Though all our fields have been remarkably faithful in their financial support of the work, Switzerland really deserves special mention. The Swiss Union is entirely self-supporting, sending on to the Division treasury all its mission funds, without receiving any appropriation for local conference work. Last year this little union, with



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## Financial Report of the Southern European Division of S. D. A for the Quarter Ending September 30, 1938

Name of Conference or Mission	Total Tithe	Total Offerings (incl. Specials)	Contributions for Home Miss. Work	Contributions for Local Church Work	Colporteur Book Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>1. SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION</b>					
<b>2. FRANCO-BELGIAN UNION CONF</b>					
3. Belgian Conference	F. Fr. 76,659.--	41,270.35	273.15	1,024.--	71,060.80
4. East France Conference	» » 57,810.50	58,412.70	271.50	35.50	47,785.50
5. North » »	» » 115,787.--	134,511.35	2,366.25	3,820.50	87,079.--
6. South » »	» » 70,052.--	60,018.52	1,786.45	468.--	67,849.80
	F. Fr. 320,308.50	302,212.92	4,697.35	5,348.--	273,775.10
	\$ 12,652.20	11,937.40	185.54	211.24	10,814.12
<b>7. JUGOSLAVIAN UNION CONF.</b>					
8. Danube Conference	Dinar 123,485.--	46,974.--	--	--	61,754.--
9. Sava »	» 69,887.20	24,509.49	--	--	54,980.--
10. Morava »	» 58,662.70	29,795.38	--	--	60,632.--
	Dinar 252,034.90	101,278.87	--	--	177,366.--
	\$ 5,418.70	2,177.48	--	--	3,813.37
<b>11. RUMANIAN UNION CONFERENCE</b>					
12. West Muntenian Conference	Lei 1,279,695.--	313,967.50	--	--	216,803.--
13. East »	» 414,534.40	120,025.80	--	--	102,981.--
14. North Moldavian »	» 376,728.50	114,641.50	--	--	99,471.--
15. South »	» 261,701.--	106,965.50	--	--	64,956.--
16. Transylvanian »	» 459,162.--	117,556.25	--	--	139,253.--
17. Banat »	» 221,943.--	73,365.--	--	--	75,251.--
	Lei 3,013,763.90	846,521.55	--	--	697,715.--
	\$ 22,603.20	6,348.92	--	--	5,232.86
<b>18. SWISS UNION CONFERENCE</b>					
19. German Swiss Conf.	Sw. Fr. 33,410.--	22,613.--	2,340.60	5,822.15	32,880.--
20. Leman Conference	» » 25,300.50	12,771.28	1,223.15	3,427.79	22,054.70
	Sw. Fr. 58,710.50	35,384.28	3,563.75	9,249.94	54,934.70
	\$ 13,503.40	8,138.40	819.66	2,127.48	12,634.98
<b>21. IBERIAN UNION MISSION.</b>					
22. Spanish Mission	Pesetas --	--	--	--	--
23. Portuguese Conference	» 6,974.--	11,679.15	112.05	577.51	7,539.75
24. Madeira Mission	» 2,244.40	617.03	33.04	95.90	--
25. Azores »	» --	--	--	--	--
	Pesetas 9,218.40	12,296.18	145.09	673.41	7,539.75
	737.50	983.69	11.60	53.87	603.18
<b>26. ITALIAN UNION MISSION</b>					
27. North Italian Mission	Lire 28,622.30	26,081.10	--	--	27,815.90
28. South »	» 15,365.50	16,089.55	--	--	15,086.60
29. Ethiopian Mission	» 10,147.30	3,076.25	--	--	--
	Lire 54,135.10	45,246.90	--	--	42,902.50
	2,850.30	2,382.25	--	--	2,258.81
<b>30. NORTH AFRICAN UNION MISSION.</b>					
31. Algerian Mission	F. Fr. 34,938.--	13,965.05	118.--	1,202.25	18,652.85
32. Moroccan »	» » 9,560.--	1,213.80	--	--	4,641.--
33. Tunis »	» » 9,235.--	776.30	200.--	477.25	2,101.50
	F. Fr. 53,733.--	15,955.15	318.--	1,679.50	25,395.35
	2,123.--	630.24	12.56	66.34	1,003.10
<b>34. INDIAN OCEAN UNION MISS. *)</b>					
35. Madagascar Mission	F. Fr. 14,325.--	15,722.55	--	--	7,879.--
36. Mauritius »	» » 41,419.--	5,178.60	--	--	--
37. Seychelles »	» » 2,075.--	808.20	55.25	13.80	--
38. La Reunion »	» » 2,141.--	590.75	560.--	332.15	--
	F. Fr. 59,960.--	22,300.10	615.25	345.95	7,879.--
	2,368.--	880.86	24.30	13.66	311.22
<b>39. EQ. AFRICAN MISSION *)</b>	F. Fr. 4,320.30	2,492.50	--	--	--
	170.70	98.46	--	--	--
<b>40. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS MISSION *)</b>	Es. 676.40	528.--	--	--	--
	\$ 30.40	23.76	--	--	--
<b>41. ST. THOMAS MISSION*)</b>	Es. 670.40	35.80	--	--	--
	\$ 30.20	1.63	--	--	--

## RECAPITULATION

1. Southern European Division	\$	12,652.20	11,937.40	185.54	211.24	10,814.12
2. Franco-Belgian Union Conference	\$	5,418.70	2,177.48	--	--	3,813.37
3. Jugoslavian » »	\$	22,603.20	6,348.92	--	--	5,232.86
4. Rumanian » »	\$	13,503.40	8,138.40	819.66	2,127.48	12,634.98
5. Swiss » »	\$	737.50	983.69	11.60	53.87	603.18
6. Iberian » Mission	\$	2,850.30	2,382.25	--	--	2,558.81
7. Italian » »	\$	2,123.--	630.24	12.56	66.34	1,003.10
8. North African » »	\$	2,368.--	880.86	24.30	13.66	311.22
9. Indian Ocean » » *)	\$	170.70	98.46	--	--	--
10. Eq. African » » *)	\$	30.40	23.76	--	--	--
11. Cape Verde Islands » *)	\$	30.20	1.63	--	--	--
12. St. Thomas » *)	\$					
Totals 3rd quarter 1938	\$	62,487.60	33,603.09	1,053.66	2,472.59	36,671.64
» 3rd » 1937	\$	55,375.50	33,575.15	1,009.74	2,447.37	37,763.79

\*)Report for the 2nd quarter 1938

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Specification of Mission Offerings (Column No. 3)

	Sabbath School Offerings (exc. 13th Sabbath)	18th Sabbath Offering	Harvest Ingathering	Annual Offerings	Miscellaneous Offerings	Self-Denial Offerings	Special Offer.		
							Big Week	Young People's Collection	(Relief Fund) Weekly Offerings
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.									
2.									
3.	9,677.15	2,067.05	27,221.75	---	---	502.60	1,287.--	514.80	---
4.	7,488.30	2,554.85	47,903.30	---	---	---	---	400.--	66.25
5.	11,030.35	3,024.45	117,992.25	---	5.--	2,013.35	445.95	---	---
6.	8,160.90	2,772.90	55,557.72	---	---	378.--	1,149.--	---	---
	36,356.70	10,419.25	248,675.02	---	5.--	2,893.95	2,881.95	914.80	66.25
	1,436.09	411.56	9,822.66	---	--20	114.31	113.84	36.13	2.61
7.									
8.	12,786.25	2,611.25	26,938.75	48.--	17.50	2,317.50	999.75	808.25	446.75
9.	7,980.--	1,828.25	10,340.75	---	35.--	2,785.25	963.75	183.25	393.24
10.	8,758.50	1,683.25	16,407.25	1.--	20.--	1,701.50	459.--	382.75	382.13
	29,524.75	6,122.75	53,686.75	49.--	72.50	6,804.25	2,422.50	1,374.25	1,222.12
	634.78	131.63	1,154.27	1.05	1.56	146.30	52.08	29.54	26.27
11.									
12.	130,515.25	26,987.50	102,144.--	5,844.--	---	14,778.--	21,583.50	3,440.--	8,675.25
13.	59,335.50	12,496.--	29,905.--	---	---	8,481.--	4,855.--	554.--	4,399.30
14.	50,098.--	13,093.--	46,738.--	---	---	105.--	2,600.--	190.--	1,817.50
15.	36,615.--	11,020.--	48,481.--	---	---	5,900.--	1,228.--	1,349.--	2,372.50
16.	51,101.75	13,952.--	34,982.50	15.--	---	13,498.--	1,519.--	746.--	1,742.--
17.	29,091.--	7,999.--	28,204.--	---	---	5,440.--	1,739.--	10.--	882.--
	356,756.50	85,547.50	290,454.50	5,859.--	---	48,202.--	33,524.50	6,289.--	19,888.55
	2,675.67	641.61	2,178.41	43.94	---	361.52	251.44	47.17	149.16
18.									
19.	5,199.--	1,050.--	15,020.--	---	128.--	---	1,000.--	143.--	73.--
20.	5,518.94	1,640.97	4,728.35	---	234.45	99.--	7.60	527.87	14.10
	10,717.94	2,690.97	19,748.35	---	362.45	99.--	1,007.60	670.87	87.10
	2,465.14	618.92	4,542.12	---	83.36	22.77	231.75	154.30	20.04
21.									
22.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
23.	1,314.88	733.70	9,248.12	---	---	204.81	---	177.64	---
24.	306.39	80.72	---	---	---	---	229.92	---	---
25.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	1,621.27	814.42	9,248.12	---	---	204.81	229.92	177.64	---
	129.71	65.15	739.85	---	---	16.38	18.39	14.21	---
26.									
27.	3,849.10	1,235.90	20,164.25	---	---	802.--	---	---	---
28.	3,124.25	851.05	11,357.25	---	---	652.--	---	105.--	29.85
29.	2,281.40	794.85	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	9,254.75	2,881.80	31,521.50	---	---	1,454.--	---	105.--	29.85
	487.26	151.73	1,659.61	---	---	76.55	---	5.53	1.57
30.									
31.	3,516.40	903.85	8,757.--	---	---	405.80	382.--	---	---
32.	577.45	175.--	---	---	---	437.--	24.35	---	---
33.	643.30	125.--	---	---	---	8.--	---	---	---
	4,737.15	1,203.85	8,757.--	---	---	850.80	406.35	---	---
	187.12	47.56	345.90	---	---	33.61	16.05	---	---
34.									
35.	2,464.25	832.65	12,309.85	---	---	115.80	---	---	---
36.	2,823.10	1,489.55	---	---	---	---	865.95	---	---
37.	503.50	---	---	---	---	---	304.70	---	---
38.	270.65	170.10	---	---	---	150.--	---	---	---
	6,061.50	2,492.30	12,309.85	---	---	265.80	1,170.65	---	---
	239.43	98.45	486.24	---	---	10.50	46.24	---	---
39.									
	665.05	56.60	---	---	173.85	1,597.--	---	---	---
	26.27	2.24	---	---	6.87	63.08	---	---	---
40.									
	98.75	19.25	---	---	---	410.--	---	---	---
	4.44	--.87	---	---	---	18.45	---	---	---
41.									
	22.40	8.40	5.--	---	---	---	---	---	---
	1.01	--.39	--.23	---	---	---	---	---	---

RECAPITULATION

1.									
2.	1,436.09	411.56	9,822.66	---	--20	114.31	113.84	36.13	2.61
3.	634.78	131.63	1,154.27	1.05	1.56	146.30	52.08	29.54	26.27
4.	2,675.67	641.61	2,178.41	43.94	---	361.52	251.44	47.17	149.16
5.	2,465.14	618.92	4,542.12	---	83.36	22.77	231.75	154.30	20.04
6.	129.71	65.15	739.85	---	---	16.38	18.39	14.21	---
7.	487.26	151.73	1,659.61	---	---	76.55	---	5.53	1.57
8.	187.12	47.56	345.90	---	---	33.61	16.05	---	---
9.	239.43	98.45	486.24	---	---	10.50	46.24	---	---
10.	26.27	2.24	---	---	6.87	63.08	---	---	---
11.	4.44	--.87	---	---	---	18.45	---	---	---
12.	1.01	--.39	--.23	---	---	---	---	---	---
	8,286.92	2,170.11	20,929.29	44.99	91.99	863.47	729.79	286.88	199.65
	7,374.67	2,106.24	21,780.62	123.62	230.79	1,102.99	483.07	207.34	165.81

## The Spirit of Prophecy Writings

Through His servants of old, God gave clear and positive promises that He would place the gift of the Spirit of prophecy in His remnant church. This promise He has fulfilled to us. At the very beginning of this Advent Movement — a movement which itself arose in fulfillment of prophecy — God raised up a young woman to be His messenger. To her, the same as to Samuel, Isaiah, Daniel, John and others in Bible times, he revealed Himself in visions and dreams. The light and truth thus unfolded to her she was told to communicate to His people. In obedience to the heavenly command, she traveled from city to city, and from one country to another declaring to individuals, to groups, to churches and to larger gatherings the messages sent from God to them. From her indefatigable and divinely inspired pen there also flowed a steady stream of heaven-sent messages for the people of the remnant church.

The faithful messenger is now at rest in her tomb, but her writings are still with us. In His infinite love and mercy, God has given the light contained in these books to enlighten, strengthen, inspire and direct us in our service for Him. Next to the Bible, these writings should be given first place in our daily study and meditation. No one can read them prayerfully without being drawn nearer to God, and filled with holy zeal for His work.

We fear that many of our people do not fully sense the value and the importance of the writings of the Spirit of prophecy. It is true that a large number of our members have purchased Sister White's books and are studying them carefully, but there are others who do not have them in their possession, or who if they do have them, do not use them. Those who neglect these inspired writings are depriving themselves of a great blessing. There is danger that many will be lost because they have failed to receive and heed the light and instruction sent to them by the Lord through this channel.

During the Division Winter Council held in Lausanne, November 22 to 29, consideration was given to this important question, and the following resolutions were adopted:

*Whereas*, The writings of the Spirit of prophecy have been given to this people for a special purpose, and are of inestimable value in fortifying the minds of our people against the inroads of skepticism and doubt so abundant in these perilous times and in deepening their faith in the word of God and their confidence in the message,

*We recommend*, 1. That each union and detached mission in our Division give consideration, during a suitable period early in the year 1939, to stressing the importance to our people of a faithful study of the writings of the Spirit of prophecy, and also to enlarging their circulation and use.

2. That our pastors, other workers, and church elders devote at least one Sabbath early in 1939 to emphasizing in the church service the value of the Spirit of prophecy to the church at large and to its individual members.

3. That our union presidents prepare one or more articles for our church papers on the place, purpose and value of the Spirit of prophecy in the church of God.

4. That our publishing houses unite in this special effort to extend the circulation and use of the writings of the Spirit of prophecy, and that where possible special price discounts be offered for a certain time.

5. That our union committees and publishing house boards give earnest consideration to the important question of translating and printing more of Sister White's works and writings.

We appeal to all concerned to act faithfully their part in carrying out the above resolutions. We also appeal to all who read these lines to study faithfully and prayerfully the writings of the Spirit of prophecy. They have been given to us by God Himself for our good. We must not neglect them. A. V. OLSON.

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### Winter Council

*of the Southern European Division*

(Continued from page 2)

a membership of 2,445, gave about \$35,000 for missions. We felt, as R. Gerber, president of the Union, gave his report, to thank God in a special way for what Switzerland has done in the past, and is doing today for the expansion of the cause in Southern Europe and also in countries outside the Division. Not only have means been given generously, but men as well. Brother Gerber gave an impressive list of Swiss workers who throughout the years have been sent to the four corners of the earth in the service of the Advent Movement. An ever widening stream of men and means has flowed out from this little country. Truly it was in the providence of God that the work in Europe found its first foothold in Switzerland.

One of the major items of business at a Council is to make provision for the operation of the work the following year. This task is entrusted to a budget committee which, after

listening to the needs of all the fields as presented by their responsible leaders, submits to the Council a budget by which appropriations are granted for the year as the prospects for future income seem to justify. The budget presented for 1939 provided for the appropriation of \$318,550, not including special appropriations to the amount of \$39,810.97 from church extension, missions extension, educational, relief, and other special funds. This seems like a magnificent sum, and indeed it is in troublous times like ours. Yet, when it is divided up among four union conferences, four union missions, three detached missions and sixty-six institutions, it is not large enough to make any provision whatsoever for increased base appropriations — addition of new workers — in these fields where millions are still in the wilderness of sin, and only means a small percentage of the numerous requests that had been lodged with the budget committee in favor of very worthy special enterprises.

As we came to the Council, one request for funds to open up new work weighed heavily on our hearts. This request had come from the island of Reunion. The work has developed nicely on this island since it was begun a little over two years ago, much better than our fondest hopes permitted us to expect. In fact, for some time it has become evident that a second worker is indispensable. Repeatedly Brother Girard has told us that he can no longer take care of the work alone, and that from certain appearances, soon doors now wide open in this stronghold of Catholicism may close for ever. My visit to Reunion last May gave me the conviction that the strategic hour had come, and that something had to be done immediately which would permit me to take advantage of the opening providence of God.

We came to the Council with this definite conviction, but, as the budget committee met and did its work, the bitter reality of inadequate funds had to be faced. A budget was prepared which made no provision for an additional missionary for Reunion. This situation was mentioned during one of the public meetings, without making any special appeal for funds, and, we are happy to say, God put it in the heart of a good brother and his wife, members of the Lausanne church, to come to the help of Reunion. Before the Council closed, this couple made it known that they had decided to be responsible for the salary of a new worker in Reunion during a period of two years. The sum promised really provides for the salary of a worker for more than two years. In any case, this special gift has made it possible for the Division committee to make provision in the Reunion budget for the salary and expense of the needed worker, and we trust a family can soon be placed under

appointment for that island. The entire Council, by a standing vote, expressed gratitude to God and to the liberal givers for this splendid help for Reunion.

The Council closed with a strong note of courage. True, the future is foreboding with uncertainty for the world. Dark war clouds hang low on the horizon, and persecution seems to be the promised lot of many of our brethren. All expressed faith, however, that the protecting providence of God will continue to hover over the churches, that workers and believers in all lands will be kept as in the hallow of His hand. The leaders in Southern Europe know that the Majesty of Heaven still has His hand on the wheel and that the concerns of the church are in His own charge. They believe that Heaven still stays the pent-up winds of strife, as doors swing open and new interests signal for advance, in order that the church may address herself anew to the task with more aggressiveness and intensity than in the past. As they scattered for another year, they felt grateful to God for the further time of peace He has granted in which to finish the task in their fields, and resolved to rise up in thankfulness to do the work committed unto them, in the spirit of the Master when He said: I must do the works of Him that sent me while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work."

We are sure God will continue to bless these God-fearing men, according to the riches of His mercy and grace, as they go forward for Him during 1939 in the spirit of this new determination.

W. R. BEACH Secretary  
Southern European Division.

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W. R. Beach . . . . . Editor

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## INTERESTING ITEMS

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During the past quarter, six missionaries in the employ of the Southern European Division have passed through Marseilles going to and returning from overseas fields of labor. October 29, Miss A. Lind arrived on the s.s. "General Metzinger" from Ethiopia, en route for Sweden where she will spend her furlough. Miss Lind has been connected with our hospital in Addis Ababa as nurse. November 3, Balle Nielsen sailed on the s. s. "Bernardin de St. Pierre," returning to Ethiopia as secretary-treasurer of the mission. And the s.s. "Banfora," arriving in Marseilles November 4, brought home on furlough two missionary families from the Cameroon: Mr. and Mrs. Z. Yéretzian and two children, and Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Sallée. Brother and Sister Yéretzian will return to their field about May 1, while Brother and Sister Sallée, after eight years of faithful service, are returning permanently to France. The French Equatorial African field is being deprived of a valiant missionary couple, but Sister Sallée's health is such that another term of service cannot be considered for them. Brother and Sister Sallée are making their home in Montpellier, France, where, we trust, they will be able, after a little time of rest, to be of help to the surrounding groups and churches.

\*

After receiving through the years men and means from the American home base, today Southern Europe is happy to be able to begin at least partial repayment of debt. Two of our promising workers have been called during the past months to connect with the General Conference Bureau of Home Missions for work among French and Rumanian-speaking populations of America. André Lecoultre, formerly an evangelist in Belgium, has been placed in charge of the French work in Montreal, and I. Florea, of Rumania, is to work for the Rumanians in and about Chicago. These two young men, as well as Mrs. Lecoultre (née Ruth Olson), and Mrs. Florea, were trained for service in our French and Rumanian

training schools respectively. As they leave us for the fair shores of America, we wish to assure them that their labors will be followed with deep interest by their many friends in the homeland.

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At the Lausanne Winter Council, considerable attention was given to the necessity of maintaining the unity of the Advent Movement as it reaches out into all countries with the last message. At no time in the history of humanity has there been so great a need of harmony and confidence among God's professed people as in this closing momentous hour. In the midst of rising tides of racialism and nationalism, it is necessary for us to press together as at no time hitherto. There is danger that, disregarding the need of world unity, we divide up into national segments. This would certainly not be in the order of Heaven, and with a view to avoiding such a tendency, a suitable statement on the unity of the Advent Movement was spread upon the minutes of the Council to serve as a policy for the Division in the future. This statement, which really is a definite program of action, will be communicated to the fields, and we feel certain that as the principles it contains are accepted and the program it provides for is worked out, the work of God in our various countries will be knitted together in still closer bonds of faith, and Christ's prayer for the unity of His church will never cease to be a reality with His remnant people.

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In opening the Winter Council, A.V. Olson made the following statement as a summary of what God has done for His people in Southern Europe during the past ten years:

"The end of 1938 will make the close of the first ten-year period in the history of the Southern European Division. As we look back over these ten years, we cannot but exclaim: 'Behold what God hath wrought.' The membership, which at the beginning of

1929 stood at 14,750, has now passed 31,000, with more than 42,000 in our Sabbath schools. During these ten years, the work has been opened up in the Seychelles Islands, Reunion, Madeira, the Azores, the Cape Verde Islands, in Saint Thomas, Sardinia and Corsica. In Madagascar and Cameroon where the work had just been started ten years ago, a strong work has been built up. In every field, both at home and out in the missions, encouraging progress has been made. More than 200 chapels have been built, headquarters buildings and institutions have been provided. For all this we give glory to God. We do have reason to be happy and of good courage."

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The report to the Winter Council for Italy was presented by L. Beer, superintendent of the Italian Union Mission. After bringing the greetings of our people in Italy, as expressed in Heb. 13:24, Brother Beer gave us a message of victory through difficulties. Italy is a land of contrasts: light and darkness, knowledge and ignorance. The message encounters much superstition among the millions of this land, but God nevertheless has done a great work. We now have 845 members in Italy. More than one hundred will have been baptized in 1938. However, there are still twenty-one provinces in the country where we do not yet have a single member. An item of encouragement as reported was the fact that a small beginning has now been made on the island of Sardinia.

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"'Watch ye therefore... lest coming suddenly He find you sleeping.' Perilous is the condition of those who, growing weary of their watch, turn to the attractions of the world. While the man of business is absorbed in the pursuit of gain, while the pleasure lover is seeking indulgence, while the daughter of fashion is arranging her adornments, it may be in that hour the Judge of all the earth will pronounce the sentence, 'Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.'"  
— (The Great Controversy, p. 491.)