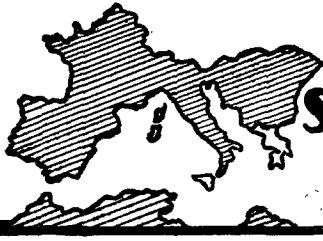


QUARTERLY REVIEW



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



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No Idle Hands

by W. R. Beach

A prominent statesman of our day recently said that the vital weapon of any nation is the spirit of its people. And further: "Ours has been tried and tempered in the furnace. It has not been found wanting. The refusal to accept defeat is the guarantee of final victory."

Likewise it is the spirit of God's people that counts above all in the battle for truth. This is very clear in the record of the past. Indeed, how often bitter failure attended efforts put forth in a wrong spirit, while men and women were able to conquer insurmountable obstacles when led and strengthened by the right spirit - the spirit that "cometh down from the Father of lights." We read furthermore that Christ, animated by His Father's Spirit, refused to accept defeat. He did not yield to the enemy, neither in the wilderness nor in the garden, but fought through to victory.

Today we need a double portion of the Spirit from above. The reality of this hour demands sacrificial devotion, intensely hard, willing work on the part of every one. There must be an inner spiritual conviction that we are called of God to finish His work through grim trial. We shall not be found wanting. We have carried the gospel banner afar, from victory to victory, because there has been no letting down through the years, because every difficulty, every obstacle has been accepted not as a possibility for defeat, but as a challenge to greater achievement. Our spirit, too, has been "tried and tempered in the furnace," and is a sure guarantee for final victory.

Now we are before the 1941 Harvest Ingathering campaign. Surely every church stands ready to do faithfully and fully its task in making the effort a success. Our boys and girls are out on the frontline positions. We have but little information from them, but we do know that they are counting confidently on our support. We are informed, moreover, that funds sent out to them have been received. Cablegrams have come in indicating that large remittances made by our treasurer have arrived and are now at the disposal of the missions. Steps have been taken also to insure regular remittances to other far-away fields. In fact, ways have been found to care for all our missions, and that in spite of disrupted communications and unsettled colonial conditions. Truly, God has blessed us.

Ah, is it not wonderful to be able to carry on in this dreadful hour, to stand by our missionaries as they push forward with all their might? The night hastens on, no doubt, when such shall no longer be our privilege. But the light of day still streams down from God's heaven upon the harvest field, and the Master is still calling to service. Then let us be up and doing. And may there be no idle hands among us.

Let us have courage

by Robert GERBER

The apostle Paul is an example of courage for us. In his ministry he constantly clashed against obstacles of every kind. He had to face stubborn opposition unceasingly. We can clearly see this as we study his missionary voyages in the book of Acts. He speaks of his difficulties in his second epistle to the Corinthians (2 Cor. 4: 8-11; 11: 23-33). In the midst of all these trials, however, Paul was able to say: "Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not . . . For which we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day (2 Cor. 4: 1, 16).

At present, when distress surrounds us, when spiritual values are at their lowest ebb, and it seems as if the forces of evil must triumph, it is precisely the moment to keep all courage intact. We must be able to say with the apostle Paul: "We faint not." As he, we have many reasons not to become discouraged. Even the obstacles that rose up in his pathway were sources of encouragement. For him they were simply additional reasons for holding fast his confidence. The fact that the enemy fought so fiercely against him was for him a proof that the work he was doing was from God, and that it would triumph.

Christ tells us: "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16: 33.) The victory of Christ is the earnest that we will obtain the victory. Let us then never lose our assurance. Let us then go courageously forward surmounting all obstacles. Audacity is one phase of courage, and it, too, is needed in the Christian life. It is written: "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent taketh it by force." (Matt. 11: 12.)

To be victorious in our Christian life and in the work of God, we must have courage, and decision of character. A discouraged man is not of much value. He has no strength, conforming with these words: "If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small." (Prov. 24: 10.) Discouragement is fatal for oneself, and exerts a depressing influence on others. A discouraged soul is surrounded by darkness which repels the light of God and casts gloom on the pathway of others.

Let us always seek the bright side of everything, never believing, and much less accepting, that there is nothing to be done, that all is lost. If reverses seem to have cast us into the slough of despair, let us not remain there, but make haste to come up out of it. Let us be like the cork stopper from which Charles Wagner draws a lesson. Floating on the current of a brook, a cork stopper was brought into a small lake where a group of youngsters were

having sport. The cork was greeted with unanimous cries of glee.

"A struggle took place in which the cork was the pawn. Conquered and taken, it passed from hand to hand amid frantic yells, pushing and shoving, and whirling water. Finally the battle calmed down a little and it was decided to make a game of seeing who could sink the cork. The boys armed themselves with clubs, and each one in his turn dealt heavy blows upon the cork. At each blow the cork dived and disappeared, but only to reappear a little farther away. Then it was decided to use stones. The strong boys massed huge rocks and with raised arms let them fall heavily on the cork. It would finally sink, they claimed. Under the avalanche of stones the water became rough and the swimming pool was transformed into a mud hole; the grass and flowers on the banks of the stream were trampled down and crushed by the weary boys. But the cork, having been sunk over and over, ever bobbed up again. At last the young demons gave up, went away and left the cork to continue its voyage in the evening light toward silvery streams and golden rivers, onward ever toward the great sea, often disturbed but never stopped."

Let us be ever as the cork, and never give up the struggle. This will also be to follow the example of the countless Christians who sealed their faith with their blood and their courage. To be worthy of them we must live an optimistic, courageous life.

Our attitude ought to be a source of encouragement to our neighbors. In words and actions we should all live according to Isaiah 41: 6: "They helped every one his neighbor; and every one said to his brother, be of good courage."

Doubt and incredulity produce discouragement, but the courage of a Christian is the fruit of a firm faith. The heroes of faith have been always courageous men, conquerors. If we cultivate faith we strengthen at the same time our courage and render better service to God. His cause will soon triumph, and it will be the courageous who will have part in this triumph.

"Be strong and of a good courage." (Deut. 31: 6.)

"A man's real limitations are not the things he wants to do, but cannot; they are the things he ought to do, but does not."

Statistical Summary of the Southern European Division for the Year 1940

Name of Conference or Mission	Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter	Total Losses	Net Gain	Present Membership	Ord. Ministers	Lic. Ministers	Licentiates	Teacher	Evangelists	Average No. of Canvassers	Other Workers	Total Workers	Number of Sab. Schools	Sab. School Membership	Average Attendance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1. SOUTHERN EUROP. DIV..														6	6	8	-	-	-	20			
2. Franco-Belgian Un. Confer..	70	2494	64	5	48	117	34	18	112	164	-47	2447		22	18	27	-	17	-	84	48	1200	1006
3. Jugoslavian » »	146	3791	379	25	181	585	267	60	189	516	69	3863		17	5	8	-	70	2	102	164	4651	3610
4. Rumanian » »	373	19379	867	191	537	1595	332	148	7336	7816	-6221	13158		61	8	16	-	49	8	142	380	16047	10053
5. Swiss » »	56	2407	112	7	69	188	60	36	48	144	44	2451		18	5	9	-	34	4	70	62	2072	1508
6. Portuguese Union Miss.....	11	622	67	4	14	85	17	7	15	39	46	668		5	4	10	2	6	4	31	12	558	536
7. Italian » »	39	1314	80	6	60	146	27	9	79	115	31	1345		16	6	14	-	19	-	55	40	1225	1034
8. North African » »	14	388	25	4	31	60	22	4	36	62	-2	386		7	5	7	-	5	-	24	18	394	366
9. Indian Ocean » »	36	1160	33	-	17	50	12	9	6	27	23	1183		9	8	24	2	4	-	47	47	2169	1656
10. Hungarian » Confer.	-	-	-	-	5819	5819	-	-	-	-	-	5819		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Spanish Mission	10	300	8	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	8	308		4	1	6	-	-	-	11	12	300	200
12. Equatorial African Mission	3	322	44	-	2	46	1	2	2	5	41	363		3	2	14	34	-	-	53	50	4036	4068
Totals for the year 1940	758	32180	1679	242	6778	8699	772	293	7823	8888	-189	31991	168	68	143	38	204		18	639	833	32652	2403
Totals for the year 1939	934	31298	2427	282	1137	3846	1052	412	1500	2964	882	32180	192	73	152	37	275		1	730	1038	44096	29967

A Year of War

The statistical report now has been made up for 1940. The report is final; unfortunately, however, it is not complete.

The extension of hostilities to the Mediterranean and Red Seas made postal communications with the overseas mission fields very difficult, and following the collapse of France in the month of June, they were completely interrupted. For all practical purposes, they have remained in this state ever since. Our last report, in fact, from the Equatorial African Mission is for the first quarter 1940, while the Indian Ocean Union did manage to get a subsequent report through to the Division office for the second quarter.

It also has been very difficult to have definite reports from occupied French territories and from Belgium. Needless to say, Bessarabia and North Bucovina in the east, and the East France Conference in the west, are entirely out of the picture since their occupation by the U. R. S. S. and Germany respectively. There are also other omissions, many of considerable importance, due to awkward international relations.

It must also be taken into account in considering the different statistical tables that only partial reports have been available through the year from certain countries because of internal conditions. In Hungary, for instance, the churches were closed most of the time, making anything like a complete report quite impossible. A similar difficulty has been encountered in Spain.

The result of this inadequate reporting is most apparent, we believe, in the columns marking additions to church membership by baptism and vote. The total for last year stands at 1,921, against 2,709 for 1939. The drop is considerable, but in the 1940 figure there is nothing for the Ethiopian Mission for the entire year, nothing for the Equatorial African Mission for the last three quarters of the year,

nothing for the Indian Ocean Union for the last two quarters, and nothing for Bessarabia and North Bucovina, nor for Transylvania, for the same period. Furthermore, there is nothing in the baptism column for the Hungarian Union, exclusive of Transylvania, for the year. This territory was transferred to the Southern European Division in the fourth quarter, and no report is available to date. Therefore, although the work of evangelization undoubtedly was greatly disorganized and handicapped by war operations and other unfavorable circumstances, we feel confident that the results really attained even might have been surprisingly encouraging had it been possible to obtain full reports from all fields.

The net loss in Division membership is due to a shifting of the national boundary lines and a consequent transfer of membership to other fields. The Rumanian Union, as reported in the third quarter, lost 6,420 members to Russia, Hungary, and Bulgaria (this figure includes also a certain number of members belonging to the German minority in Rumania which was repatriated according to agreement with Germany), while the Hungarian Union, which was transferred to the Southern European Division in the fourth quarter by General Conference decision, only counted, including the Transylvanian Conference, 5,819 members. The loss in membership due to the cession of territories and the transfer of populations was therefore 601, to cover the net loss of 189.

The financial report, however, despite the special conditions alluded to above, presents an altogether different picture. The tithe receipts, amounting to \$ 270,725.90, show an increase in 1940 of \$ 33,152.40 over the preceding year. And the fact that there was a drop in the gold value of certain currencies, a depreciation of 11.4% for the fields of French currency, lends additional importance to this splendid result. The principal increases were in the Rumanian, Jugo-

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Statistical Report of the Southern Europ. Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending December 31, 1940

Name of Conference or Mission	Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter	Total Losses	Net Gain	Present Membership	Ord. Ministers	Lic. Ministers	Miss. Licentiates	Teacher Evangelists	Canvassers	Other Workers	Total Workers	Number of Sab. Schools	Sab. School Membership	Average Attendance	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1. SOUTHERN EUR. DIV.													6	6	8				20				
2. FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C.																							
3. Belgian Conference	15	590	31	2	16	49	1	7	7	15	34	624	5	3	6				14				
4. East France >	15	438										438	4	3	6				13				
5. North >	15	768	19	1	14	34	23	9	6	88	-4	764	4	4	5				13				
6. South >	25	668	6		5	11	2		56	58	-47	621	4	2	6		2		14	27	540	458	
	70	2464	56	3	35	94	26	16	69	111	-17	2447	22	18	27		2		69	48	1200	1006	
7. JUGOSLAVIAN UNION CONF.													2	2				2	6				
8. Danube Conference	67	1763	13	2	8	23	12	7	3	22	1	1764	6	1	3		19		29	71	2240	1776	
9. Sava >	48	1038	16		7	23	12		8	20	3	1041	5	1	2		23		31	51	1035	792	
10. Morava >	31	1057	20	6	2	28	15	4	8	27	1	1058	4	1	3		20		28	42	1376	1042	
	146	3858	49	8	17	74	39	11	19	69	5	3863	17	5	8		62	2	94	164	4651	3610	
11. RUMANIAN UNION CONF. *)													6	1	5				12				
12. Bucegi-Marea Conf.	146	6609	87	27	26	140	35	12	82	129	11	6620	18	3	3		18	2	44	140	7741	5201	
13. Suceava-Prut >	53	1848	32	3	36	71	7	2	111	120	-49	1799	8	2	2		6	1	19	60	1858	1270	
14. Somes-Mures >	56	1385	27	6	15	48	2	5	146	159	-105	1280	8		1		13	1	24	55	1994	642	
15. Timis-Olt >	83	2313	57	9	63	129	38	15	128	181	-52	2261	13	1	3		6	1	24	42	1540	524	
16. Danarea-Nistru >	35	1192	8	3	10	21	6	1	8	15	6	1198	8	1	2		4	3	18	83	2910	2416	
	373	13347	211	48	150	409	88	35	475	598	-189	13158	61	8	16		47	8	140	380	16047	10053	
17. SWISS UNION CONFERENCE.													3	1					4				
18. German Swiss Conference	36	1406	19		1	20	13	4	2	19	1	1407	8	2	6		18	4	35	36	1312	907	
19. Léman >	20	1045	2		5	7		3	5	8	-1	1044	7	2	3		13		25	26	760	601	
	56	2451	21		6	27	13	7	7	27		2451	18	5	9		31	4	67	62	2072	1508	
20. PORTUGUESE UNION MISSION													1	1					2				
21. Portuguese Conference	7	493	16	2	2	20	2	2	3	7	13	506	1	3	5				15	7	422	393	
22. Madeira Mission	1	86					1		1	2	-2	84	1	1					2	1			
23. Cape Verde Islands Mission	1	29										29	1	1					2	2	40	52	
24. Azores Mission	1	33										33	1	1					2	1	54	49	
25. Saint Thomas Mission	1	13	3			3					3	16		1	1	2		2	6	1	42	42	
	11	654	19	2	2	23	3	2	4	9	14	668	5	4	10		2	4	4	29	12	558	536
26. ITALIAN UNION MISSION													2	1	4				7				
27. North Italian Mission	14	500	4	2	6	12	7	3	15	25	-13	487	6	3	2				18	20	615	457	
28. South >	17	424	15	1	14	30	2	4	13	19	11	435	7	1	4			7		21	20	606	577
29. Ethiopian >	8	423										423	1	1	4				6				
	39	1347	19	3	20	42	9	7	28	44	-2	1345	16	6	14			16		52	40	1225	1034
30. NORTH AFRICAN UNION MISSION													1	1					2				
31. Algerian Mission	9	253										253	5	2	4				14	12	258	242	
32. Moroccan >	4	95	3		6	9	7	1	4	12	-3	92	1	2	1				4	4	96	95	
33. Tunis >	1	44			1				4	4	-3	41		1	1				2	2	40	29	
	14	392	3		7	10	7	1	8	16	-6	386	7	5	7			3		22	18	394	366
34. INDIAN OCEAN UNION MISSION													1	1	5				7				
35. Madagascar Mission	21	466										466	4	4	9		2	4	23	23	1229	963	
36. Mauritius >	11	619										619	2	3	5				10	20	797	577	
37. Seychelles >	2	61										61	1	3					4	2	76	62	
38. Réunion >	2	37										37	1	2					3	2	67	54	
	36	1183										1183	9	8	24		2	4	47	47	2169	1656	
39. HUNGARIAN UNION CONF. **						5819	5819				5819	5819											
40. SPANISH MISSION	10	300	8			8					8	308	4	1	6				11	12	300	200	
41. EQUAT. AFRIC. MISSION	3	363										363	3	2	14	34			59	50	4036	4068	

RECAPITULATION

1. Southern European Division	70	2464	56	3	35	94	26	16	69	111	-17	2447	22	18	27				20				
2. Franco-Belgian Union Conference	146	3858	49	8	17	74	39	11	19	69	5	3863	17	5	8			2	69	48	1200	1006	
3. Jugoslavian >	146	3858	49	8	17	74	39	11	19	69	5	3863	17	5	8			2	69	48	1200	1006	
4. Rumanian >	373	13347	211	48	150	409	88	35	475	598	-189	13158	61	8	16			47	8	140	380	16047	10053
5. Swiss >	56	2451	21		6	27	13	7	7	27		2451	18	5	9			31	4	67	62	2072	1508
6. Portuguese Mission	11	654	19	2	2	23	3	2	4	9	14	668	5	4	10		2	4	4	29	12	558	536
7. Italian >	39	1347	19	3	20	42	9	7	28	44	-2	1345	16	6	14			16		52	40	1225	1034
8. North African >	14	392	3		7	10	7	1	8	16	-6	386	7	5	7			3		22	18	394	366
9. Indian Ocean >	36	1183										1183	9	8	24		2	4	47	47	2169	1656	
10. Hungarian > Conference						5819	5819				5819	5819											
11. Spanish Mission	10	300	8			8					8	308	4	1	6				11	12	300	200	
12. Equat. African >	3	363										363	3	2	14	34			59	50	4036	4068	
Totals for the 4th quarter 1940:	758	26359	386	64	6056	6506	185	79	610	874	5632	31991	168	68	143	38	169	18	604	833	32652	24037	
> > > 4th > 1939:	934	32246	557	124	302	983	383	146	520	1049	-66	32180	192	73	152	37	218	1	673	1038	44096	9967	

*) The totals indicated for the Rumanian Union do not include reports from Transylvania, Bessarabia and Dobruđa, territories which were transferred to Hungary, Russia and Bulgaria in the third quarter of 1940 through a change of national boundary lines. The membership of the ceded territories was 6,420.

** The Hungarian Union was made a part of Southern European Division territory by General Conference decision in the fourth quarter, 1940.

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Financial Report of the Southern European Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending December 31, 1940

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
1. SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION.					
2. FRANCO-BELGIAN UNION CONF.					
3. Belgian Conference	F. Fr. 378,338.50	54,318.75	—	—	—
4. East France Conference	» » 31,114.—	34,879.40	—	—	—
5. North » »	» » 283,045.50	167,107.—	—	—	—
6. South » »	» » 178,358.50	189,736.15	—	—	4,053.—
	F. Fr. 870,856.50	440,041.30	—	—	4,053.—
	\$ 21,771.40	11,001.04	—	—	101.32
7. JUGOSLAVIAN UNION CONF.					
8. Danube Conference	Dinar 197,652.50	69,611.75	—	—	60,549.—
9. Sava »	» 128,283.10	48,495.—	—	—	72,410.—
10. Morava »	» 132,915.20	44,212.62	—	—	73,784.—
	Dinar 458,850.80	162,319.37	—	—	206,743.—
	\$ 9,865.20	3,489.89	—	—	4,444.94
11. RUMANIAN UNION CONFERENCE					
12. Bucegi-Marea Conference	Lei 2,782,519.—	737,095.—	—	—	601,370.—
13. Suceava-Prut »	» 487,324.—	104,956.—	—	—	52,289.—
14. Somes-Mures »	» 358,740.—	99,012.—	—	—	156,781.—
15. Timis-Olt »	» 605,141.—	113,024.25	—	—	99,710.—
16. Dunarea-Nistru »	» 327,944.—	73,113.—	—	—	85,802.—
	Lei 4,561,668.—	1,127,200.25	—	—	945,952.—
	\$ 34,212.50	8,454.03	—	—	7,094.62
17. SWISS UNION CONFERENCE					
18. German Swiss Conf.	Sw. Fr. 39,751.—	35,990.45	1,808.25	6,021.40	24,829.—
19. Léman Conference	» » 36,933.70	26,373.40	2,605.77	4,027.99	22,602.85
	Sw. Fr. 76,684.70	62,363.85	4,414.02	10,049.39	47,431.85
	\$ 17,637.50	14,343.70	1,015.22	2,311.35	10,909.30
20. PORTUGUESE UNION MISSION.					
21. Portuguese Conference	Es. 15,448.20	15,478.45	142.—	867.—	3,204.—
22. Madeira Mission	» 2,951.80	1,543.85	124.50	547.85	—
23. Cape Verde Islands Mission	» 1,159.30	719.40	—	—	—
24. Azores Mission	» 1,684.30	1,605.65	—	—	—
25. Saint Thomas Mission	» 404.60	848.40	—	—	—
	Es. 21,648.20	20,195.75	266.50	1,414.85	3,204.—
	\$ 865.80	807.82	10.66	56.39	128.16
26. ITALIAN UNION MISSION					
27. North Italian Mission	Lire 36,407.50	22,723.85	—	2,195.85	12,202.80
28. South »	» 25,464.60	15,196.95	—	1,161.45	11,189.90
29. Ethiopian »	» —	—	—	—	—
	Lire 61,872.10	37,920.80	—	3,357.30	23,392.70
	\$ 3,257.50	1,996.54	—	176.76	1,231.60
30. NORTH AFRICAN UNION MISSION :					
31. Algerian Mission	F. Fr. 57,303.—	14,734.20	951.—	—	18,289.95
32. Moroccan »	» 12,467.—	31,691.30	—	—	2,141.50
33. Tunis »	» 5,493.—	835.—	—	—	—
	F. Fr. 75,263.—	47,260.50	951.—	—	20,431.45
	\$ 1,881.—	1,181.50	23.77	—	510.78
34. INDIAN OCEAN UNION MISS. *)					
35. Madagascar Mission	F. Fr. 35,202.50	30,750.45	—	—	—
36. Mauritius »	» 57,547.—	8,101.55	—	—	—
37. Seychelles »	» 942.—	350.55	—	—	—
38. Reunion »	» 9,748.50	2,128.40	—	—	—
	F. Fr. 103,440.—	41,330.95	—	—	—
	\$ 2,586.—	1,033.28	—	—	—
39. SPANISH MISSION					
	Pes. 14,899.50	2,913.90	—	—	10,504.40
	\$ 1,639.—	320.54	—	—	262.63
40. EQ. AFRICAN MISSION					
	F. Fr. —	—	No Report	—	—
	\$ —	—	—	—	—

RECAPITULATION

1. Southern European Division	\$	21,771.40	11,001.04	—	—	101.32
2. Franco-Belgian Union Conference	\$	9,865.20	3,489.89	—	—	4,444.94
3. Jugoslavian »	\$	34,212.50	8,454.03	—	—	7,094.62
4. Rumanian »	\$	17,637.50	14,343.70	1,015.22	2,311.35	10,909.30
5. Swiss »	\$	865.80	807.82	10.66	56.39	128.16
6. Portuguese Mission	\$	3,257.50	1,996.54	—	176.76	1,231.60
7. Italian »	\$	1,881.—	1,181.50	23.77	—	510.78
8. North African »	\$	2,586.—	1,033.28	—	—	—
9. Indian Ocean »	\$	1,639.—	320.54	—	—	262.63
10. Spanish »	\$	—	—	—	—	—
11. Eq. African »	\$	—	—	—	—	—
Totals 4th quarter 1940	\$	93,715.90	42,628.34	1,049.65	2,544.50	24,683.35
» 4th » 1939	\$	69,440.80	34,104.19	1,169.05	3,628.54	27,841.37

*) Report for the 3rd quarter 1930.

A Great Company of Evangelists

The word of the Lord as found in Ps. 68:11 is an encouragement to all those who take an interest in the work of God and its triumphant completion. Have we not often felt - like Elijah of old - that we bear the burdens alone? This thought consumed Elijah's strength, and yet we know that 7,000 others in Israel were refusing at the same time to bend their knees before Baal.

In the day of the primitive Christian church, in later apostolic times, and then preceding the reformation period and following it, "great was the company of those that published" the glad tidings. Even today no Evangelical or Catholic body fails to recognize the part laymen can and ought to take in the preaching of the word. First of all, hastening time urges modern religious leaders to train those of their faith in such a way as to prepare them to cooperate in carrying out the evangelistic program. The aim of these leaders is to inculcate in the mind and heart of every member these meaningful words: "Success depends on each and every one."

The fact that 1257 souls were added to our Southern European Division membership in 1940 as the result of lay activity goes far to prove that our members are coming to understand more fully than ever before the task of the hour. The other items in the yearly report emphasize further this fact. In 283 churches out of a total 752 in the Division, a Bible Service Training Course, conducted by the local worker, has become a regular feature in the work of preparing members for efficient soul winning. Every reader of the Quarterly Review will rejoice in learning of the growing success of this plan.

From statements made in the Spirit of prophecy writings we gather that the Advent message will not be preached with less force in the last days than it was in the early days. What we need today is a "great company" of evangelists who, like Aquila and Priscilla, will find time, despite the cares of daily life, to cooperate with the regular salaried force in proclaiming the message. The training of such helpers in efficient methods of endeavor should become the foremost aim of every church and evangelistic laborer. The importance and the meaning of such training is illustrated by the following:

No doubt the transfer of North Bucovina and Bessarabia to Russia brought sadness to many hearts. With the cession of these territories the Rumanian Union lost more than 3,000 members, and these people are now confronted with an uncertain fate. But the fact that they can fulfill a God-given mission in their new country, should somewhat alleviate our anxiety concerning them. Inasmuch as it has been impossible to send missionaries into this land, God has opened another way. Just as persecution at the time of the apostolic church was a means of spreading the gospel into new areas, so the cession of the above mentioned territories has perhaps become God's way to offer Russia another opportunity of hearing His last message of salvation to the world. Thus the Rumanian Union can feel a certain satisfaction now that neither

time nor means were spared in preparing church members for the task that lay ahead of them. The splendid lay workers of North Bucovina and Bessarabia now have a wonderful field of opportunity before them.

Such opportunities will not come to every part of the Division field, but everywhere there is much to be done, and the whole church must be enrolled to do it. Let us therefore as a Division field accept as our aim and goal, with greater enthusiasm and energy than ever, the training of every church member as a systematic, successful soul winner.

H. Struve.



Sabbath School and Missionary Volunteer Departments

It is impossible at the present time to receive complete reports from all the fields. The Sabbath School and Missionary Volunteer department summaries for the year 1940 are therefore incomplete. In spite of this, they show a very encouraging picture of the situation for these troubled times.

As far as the Sabbath school is concerned, the number of schools and the membership are naturally lower than at the end of 1939, because of the fact that certain territories were transferred during 1940 to other divisions. The membership in the fields not affected by such transfers has remained more or less the same. In some cases we have had to apply the figures of former reports, recent reports not having been received regularly due to the present disruption of postal services. We know, however, that in such fields the work is onward and that the Sabbath school membership is probably higher than what actually appears in the reports.

The Sabbath school offerings were splendid during 1940. They were actually higher than in 1939. Who could have thought such a thing possible under the present circumstances? But God is not limited by human situations. Nothing can hinder Him in the carrying out of His will, - He can make the desert to blossom as the rose. Moreover, the results would be still better if all the reports had been received. Most fields show encouraging progress in this matter. To God, from whom all blessings flow, be all the glory.

Thus the Sabbath school is, as ever, advancing from victory to victory. Nothing is being neglected to build it up, especially in matters pertaining to the fundamental principles it stands for. The daily study and meditation of the word of God, as a means of providing spiritual nourishment for the individual Christian so as to make him healthy and victorious and ready to meet God, are promoted with special emphasis.

Turning now to the Missionary Volunteer department, we recognize, of course, that its report is affected by the same adverse factors as the Sabbath school report. The figures are not complete. The number of societies and the membership have decreased on account of transfers to other divisions.

Report of the Home Missionary Department of the Southern European Division
For the year 1940

	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Jugoslav. U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Portuguese U. M.	Italian U. M.	N. African U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Eq. Afr. Miss.	Spanish Mission	Totals for the Year 1940	Totals for the Year 1939
No. added to the union membership since last report as the result of missionary work of lay members.	13	276	870	64	6	66	15	6	5	—	1321	1186
No. of churches and companies.....	28	153	391	62	11	47	18	52	—	—	762	970
Total church membership of union..	2447	3863	13158	2451	668	1345	386	1183	363	308	—	32180
No. of churches and companies sending in a report.....	2	3	5	2	4	2	3	3	—	—	24	30
No. of conferences sending in a report	19	122	207	47	9	43	14	22	—	—	483	744
No. of churches holding first Sabbath missionary service.....	14	153	212	21	7	34	—	14	—	—	455	752
No. of churches holding 15-minute missionary service.....	—	153	212	2	7	30	—	—	—	—	404	689
No. of churches organized into working bands.....	8	153	97	32	6	30	—	10	—	—	336	724
How many of the following classes and special bands are operating in your U.?												
Bible Training.....	—	146	93	9	1	34	—	—	—	—	253	534
Medical.....	—	—	61	—	1	4	2	—	—	—	68	133
Dorcas.....	—	—	25	29	5	14	5	—	—	—	78	369
Welfare.....	—	145	—	—	4	8	2	—	—	—	159	157
Literature.....	—	168	78	12	6	18	—	—	—	—	282	513
Total amount of offerings during the year for local missionary work incl. Missionary Volunteer.....	\$ 135.—	—	—	586.19	78.12	691.54	24.18	31.37	1.96	—	1,548.36	5,200.75
No. of persons reporting missionary work.....	263	3189	7504	973	274	694	191	516	—	—	13604	19201
REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK :												
No. of Bible readings or gospel meetings	2429	125858	335182	5996	12350	30854	5444	8044	179	—	546336	523274
» » missionary visits.....	3022	32503	128466	10866	32884	14270	3037	7474	876	—	233398	272819
» » persons taken to S. S. or other services.....	467	15030	55196	788	2208	3107	918	1405	2634	—	81753	93509
No. of persons given needed help.....	981	74189	275087	3456	5702	7596	1476	3940	452	—	372879	370928
» » treatments given.....	654	12894	58106	325	2720	4098	3051	1334	2887	—	86069	90076
» » hours of Christian help work.....	—	19860	—	—	3866	6904	451	—	—	—	31081	18570
» » articles of clothing.....	1808	4856	14945	4714	2298	2792	780	748	32	—	32973	35856
» » food baskets, bouquets.....	—	40339	—	—	4005	2088	—	—	—	—	46432	14647
No. of books, missionary periodicals, or tracts distributed.....	19486	36656	52050	102840	34073	18800	9033	5840	155	—	278933	305921
No. of missionary letters written.....	1419	3926	8080	3092	1763	3611	779	418	130	—	23218	21333
Missionary expenditures.....	—	—	—	—	\$45.48	\$59.59	—	—	—	—	\$ 105.07	\$ 31.98

Report of the Missionary Volunteer Department of the Southern European Division
For the year 1940

	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Jugoslav. U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Iberian U. M.	Italian U. M.	N. African U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Det. Missions	Yearly Average and Totals 1940	Yearly Average and Totals 1939	
Number of Societies.....	22	39	162	18	7	20	5	17	4	294	477	
Number of Societies reporting.....	10	29	152	15	7	17	5	—	4	239	329	
Total Membership (Including Associate and Junior Members).....	365	602	3350	382	248	350	41	267	654	6259	8823	
Number reporting.....	—	397	2306	138	106	205	23	—	—	3175	3702	
Total of Senior and Junior young people baptized, regardless of who labored for them.....	—	101	121	2	14	20	2	—	—	260	177	
Number baptized whom young people had a part in winning.....	—	26	79	—	2	6	—	—	—	113	191	
Number belonging to missionary bands	—	40	1320	—	15	158	—	—	—	1533	2191	
REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK:												
Number of Bible readings or gospel meetings held.....	95	13572	66546	427	3546	8069	746	145	29	93175	95859	
Number of missionary visits.....	78	3501	27477	5654	19374	3678	449	178	162	60551	56871	
Number of persons taken to S. S. or other services.....	14	2169	15427	110	813	905	184	18	670	20310	20385	
Number of persons given needed help	59	12796	73887	569	1016	1300	189	97	164	90077	83397	
Number of treatments given.....	6	1716	9936	1	1007	1153	231	54	356	14460	18288	
Number of articles of clothing given to the needy.....	20	423	3265	75	667	789	55	67	—	5361	6579	
Number of books, missionary periodicals or tracts distributed.....	1500	5714	10298	18135	15099	6015	3469	117	46	60393	53297	
Number of missionary letters written	226	482	1971	341	781	1139	68	3	66	5077	4777	
DEVOTIONAL and EDUCATIONAL :												
Number observing the Morning Watch	110	307	1311	51	53	136	10	—	—	1978	3616	
Number systematically reading Bible through.....	20	232	458	—	48	45	6	—	—	2787	1525	
Number taking Reading Course.....	8	124	845	—	51	29	—	—	—	1057	357	
No. studying for Stand. of Attainment	—	142	1639	—	—	—	—	—	—	1781	936	
FINANCIAL :												
Offerings local society work.....	—	—	3.99	164.74	4.72	79.—	4.48	1.97	1.96	260.86	236.19	
Offerings foreign missions.....	30.48	183.15	232.16	380.46	46.93	69.59	1.87	8.31	—	952.95	888.85	
Harvest Ingathering.....	—	—	23.—	631.22	444.05	165.42	—	105.—	—	1,368.69	1,029.50	
Big Week.....	—	—	—	160.72	100.12	234.04	—	—	—	494.88	431.61	

QUARTERLY REVIEW

Report of the Publishing Department of the Southern European Division
For the Year 1940

	Average Number of Colporteurs	Number of Hours	Val. of Books in Dollars	Value of Periodicals in Dollars	Average No. of Hrs. P. week	Grand Total Value of Sales Local Currency	Grand Totals in Dollars 1940	Grand Totals in Dollars 1939
1. FRANCO-BELGIAN UN. CONF.								
2. Belgian Conference.....	3	450			2.8	13,129.— F. F.	328.23	8,063.91
3. East France ".....	2	243			2.3	4,228.50 "	105.71	3,721.75
4. North " ".....	11	2232			3.9	53,122.80 "	1,328.07	7,344.63
5. South " ".....	1	1598			30.7	30,773.30 "	769.33	5,328.94
Totals 1940.....	17	4523	659.46	1,871.87	5.1	101,253.60 F. F.	2,531.33	
Totals 1939.....	51	35408	6,465.26	17,993.97	13.4	878,250.30 "		24,459.23
6. JUGOSLAVIAN UN. CONF.								
7. Danube Conference.....	23	25872			21.6	230,227.— Din.	6,024.86	5,922.13
8. Sava ".....	25	22561			17.3	311,968.— "	6,707.29	7,382.49
9. Morava ".....	22	25971			22.7	327,090.— "	7,032.41	6,130.90
Totals 1940.....	70	74404	10,557.61	9,206.94	20.4	919,285.— Din.	19,764.56	
Totals 1939.....	77	89852	8,960.94	10,474.58	22.4	903,977.— "		19,435.52
10. RUMANIAN UN. CONF.								
11. Bucegi-Marea Conference ..	17	22477			25.4	1,346,400.— Lei	10,097.99	5,802.25
12. Suceava-Prut ".....	6	8298			26.5	234,797.— "	1,760.96	1,355.98
13. Somes-Mures ".....	5	5889			22.6	250,687.— "	1,880.15	2,496.84
14. Timis-Olt ".....	6	7070			22.6	360,156.— "	2,701.15	2,033.84
15. Dunarea-Nistru ".....	6	8446			27.	211,025.— "	1,582.69	2,144.51
16. School.....	9	4566			9.7	196,369.— "	1,472.77	1,058.07
Totals 1940.....	49	56746	9,130.56	10,365.19	22.2	2,599,434.— Lei	19,495.73	
Totals 1939.....	60	55036	7,310.88	7,530.58	17.6	1,985,528.— "		14,891.46
17. SWISS UNION CONFERENCE								
18. German Swiss Conference.....	20	30091			28.9	113,088. S. F.	26,010.24	26,093.33
19. Léman ".....	14	18359			25.2	82,282.55 "	18,924.95	18,551.18
Totals 1940.....	34	48450	24,750.20	20,184.98	27.4	195,370.55 S. F.	44,935.19	
Totals 1939.....	35	49800	21,383.47	23,266.04	27.3	194,128.35 "		44,649.51
20. PORTUGUESE UNION MISSION								
Totals 1940.....	6	6511	1,406.43	—	20.8	27,469.—	1,106.43	5,087.66
Totals 1939.....	13	14774	5,087.66	—	21.8	113,059.— Esc.		
21. SPANISH MISSION								
Totals 1940.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals 1939.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. ITALIAN UNION MISSION								
23. North Italian Mission.....	12	13147			21.	97,102.85 Lire	5,112.44	8,381.03
24. South ".....	7	7281			20.	54,677.80 "	2,878.77	3,218.72
Totals 1940.....	19	20428	7,991.21	—	20.6	151,780.65 Lire	7,991.21	
Totals 1939.....	25	27947	11,599.75	—	21.5	220,317.95 "		11,599.75
25. NORTH AFRICAN UNION MISS.								
26. Algerian Mission.....	4	2762			13.2	95,367.45 F. F.	2,384.16	1,613.65
27. Moroccan ".....	1	753			14.4	14,440.50 "	360.99	426.93
28. Tunis ".....	—	—			—	—	—	—
Totals 1940.....	5	3515	1,661.34	1,083.81	13.5	109,807.95 F. F.	2,745.15	
Totals 1939.....	9	4526	842.41	1,198.17	9.7	173,270.— "		2,040.58
29. INDIAN OCEAN UN. MISSION.								
Totals 1940.....	4	5328	572.34	136.90	25.6	28,370.70 F. F.	709.25	
Totals 1939.....	5	2181	240.31	132.51	8.4	13,386.65 "		372.82

RECAPITULATION

1. Franco-Belgian Union Conference	17	4523	659.46	1,871.87	5.1		2,531.33	24,459.23
2. Jugoslavian " ".....	70	74404	10,557.61	9,206.94	20.4		19,764.56	19,435.52
3. Rumanian " ".....	49	56746	9,130.56	10,365.19	22.2		19,495.73	14,891.46
4. Swiss " ".....	34	48450	24,750.20	20,184.98	27.4		44,935.19	44,649.51
5. Portuguese " Mission	6	6511	1,406.43	—	20.8		1,106.43	5,087.66
6. Spanish " Mission.....	—	—	—	—	—		—	—
7. Italian " Union ".....	19	20428	7,991.21	—	20.6		7,991.21	11,599.75
8. North African " ".....	5	3515	1,661.34	1,083.81	13.5		2,745.15	2,040.58
9. Indian Ocean " ".....	4	5328	572.35	136.90	25.6		709.25	372.82
Totals 1940.....	204	219905	56,429.16	42,849.69	19.7		99,278.85	
Totals 1939.....	275	279524	61,890.68	60,645.85	19.5			122,536.53
Loss.....	71	59618	5,461.53	17,796.16			23,257.68	

But we still have an army of more than six thousand boys and girls enrolled in our senior and junior societies, and, as far as the missionary work done is concerned, they have reported in general as much as, and in some cases more than, the nearly nine thousand members in 1939. This indicates a revival among our young people, for which we thank God.

We have many evidences of this new turning to God on the part of our youth. The present world distress is no doubt one reason for it. We have decidedly come amid the perils of the last days. Our young people are in great danger. Many realize it and find their refuge and their salvation in Christ. Naturally this experience revives also their activity in behalf of the salvation of others.

In 1940 there was an increase over 1939 in the Missionary Volunteer offerings for foreign missions. This was made possible through the splendid results obtained in Switzerland where the young people put forth special efforts to support their countryman, K. Sturzenegger, who is our missionary in the Seychelles Islands, the field chosen as the 1940 project. Several other countries of the Division also showed an increase. Such results at the present time are certainly remarkable, and they speak eloquently both of God's blessings and of the faithfulness of our young people.

This year our Missionary Volunteers are invited to help the work in the Azores Islands. It is with great interest that some have already started to work, and we trust that good results will again reward the efforts put forth.

We are thankful for the splendid young people scattered throughout the vast territory of our Division. Let us take a new interest in them, praying and laboring earnestly to deepen their Christian experience and to encourage them to work for others. Let us remember in a special way those boys and girls among us who are still unconverted, that they also may be brought to Christ and salvation in this last hour of the world's history.

Robert Gerber.



Publishing News

Recently Brother Charpiot, our Division Publishing Department secretary, brought to my desk the January sales report from the Rumanian Union Conference. With a radiant face and a triumphant voice, Brother Charpiot declared that as far as our records go, this is by far the largest monthly sales report that has ever come to us from Rumania. And this despite the fact that some months ago the Rumanian Union has recently lost, through territorial adjustments, one third of its membership—including a proportionate number of workers, colporteurs, etc.

Last year our colporteur force in this large,

important union was well-nigh annihilated when all the colporteur leaders and nearly all the colporteurs were called into the army. With admirable courage and determination, the brethren have worked to build up a new force. God has blessed their persistent efforts. Some of the former men have returned, and new ones have been enlisted so that today there is a good army of book evangelists again at work carrying the printed page from home to home.

The above mentioned report reveals that the blessing of God is attending the labors of these colporteurs, and it indicates that there is a hunger and thirst in the hearts of many persons for the word of God.

In France, Belgium, and North Africa, where the colporteur work was completely paralyzed last year as a result of the war, the lines are being reformed, and there are evidences of new life and activity. For reasons that we shall not attempt to enumerate here, it has been no simple or easy task to bring our colporteur work in these fields back to life. But, thank God, it is being done, and soon we hope to see it prosper as never before.

We solicit the prayers of our people in behalf of the colporteur work in all the lands of the Southern European Division.

A. V. OLSON.

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W. R. Beach Editor

* * *
INTERESTING ITEMS
* * *

The Portuguese Conference held its annual session in Lisbon February 18-23. Elder W. R. Beach, of the Division, was at the meeting, which was one of the most encouraging in the history of the conference. Reports presented both for soul winning results and for tithes and offerings marked the success that has attended the work in Portugal during the past years. Tithe receipts in 1940 showed nigh onto a 10% increase over the preceding year. Additions to the church by baptism and vote numbered 62, which brought the conference membership to 506. Since 1934 our membership in Portugal has therefore nearly been doubled. Plans were laid during the session not only to insure aggressive work but to meet a number of legal problems.

*

In connection with the meeting in Portugal, the Portuguese Union committee met for an important session. In fact, extensive changes in the leadership of the union and the local missions were brought about. After many months of unsuccessful effort, Elder A. J. Girou had found it impossible to obtain permission to reside in Portugal and had returned to France, where he is residing at present in occupied territory. Thus for several months the Portuguese Union had been without permanent leadership. In considering this situation, the Division committee felt that the only possible solution at present was to release Elder Girou from the superintendency of the Portuguese Union and to assign him to the North France Conference for evangelistic work. To replace him in Portugal, Elder A. D. Gomes was called to union leadership. This plan was readily accepted by the Portuguese Union committee. Elder Gomes for eight years has served as the president of the Portuguese Conference, and the session elected E. V. Hermanson, director since 1934 of the Madeira Mission, as his successor.

*

The Portuguese Union committee took advantage of these two major changes to make, at a time when

a number of furloughs from the islands are due, a general redistribution of laborers. Elder A. F. Raposo, who has spent six years in the Cape Verde Islands, was appointed director of the Madeira Mission. Elder E. P. Mansell, at present on furlough in America, was called to lead out in the Cape Verde Mission on his return to the Southern European Division. Elder Mansell was the director of the Azores Mission before leaving on furlough, and was replaced temporarily by M. Lourinho. Brother Lourinho is now to continue definitely as director of the Azores Mission. A change was also made in the leadership of the Saint Thomas Mission. J. Freire, whose furlough home to Portugal is due, was elected secretary of the Home Missionary and Publishing Departments for the Portuguese Union and the Portuguese Conference. His successor will be Brother J. Grave, who for more than two years has been the colporteur leader in the Portuguese Conference. Elder Gomes will carry the responsibility of the M. V., Educational and Religious Liberty Departments, while P. Ribeiro continues as secretary of the Sabbath School Department, and, of course, as secretary-treasurer of the Portuguese Union and the Portuguese Conference.

*

In addition to J. Grave's appointment to Saint Thomas, two other young workers were called to labor in the island fields. Brother and Sister M. Miguel were asked to take up labor in the Madeira Mission, and Brother and Sister J. Esteves, who labored for more than two years in Angola, were appointed to the Cape Verde Mission for work on the island of Brava. These young people are now located in their respective fields and are hard at work.

Our hearts have been deeply saddened by a cablegram from the General Conference office announcing the sudden death of Elder Steen Rasmussen, which occurred in Washington, D.C. on March 5, 1941. Funeral services were held at headquarters two days

later. Thus another prince has fallen in Israel, and the loss of this noble friend and worker will be keenly felt throughout the world field. This will be especially so in Europe, where Elder Rasmussen gave unstintingly of his strength to the cause of God for over a quarter of a century before taking up, in 1936, his post of duty at the head of the General Conference Home Missionary Department. During twelve consecutive years, from 1924 to 1936, he was connected with the Berne office, and before 1924, he labored successfully for many years in Denmark and the Scandinavian Union. His activity through the years was principally in behalf of Advent youth, and Europe owes him a special debt of gratitude for the results attained under his leadership in the Missionary Volunteer Department. Young people everywhere responded readily to his call to service. His inspiring example and untiring enthusiasm are still, and will long remain, a cherished memory in their midst. But Brother Rasmussen was a source of encouragement to all branches of denominational endeavor. He labored unceasingly to build up all phases of the work he loved unto the death. True to principle and duty, he never failed in the accomplishment of every assigned task. Though handicapped somewhat in the last years by failing health, he carried on courageously to the brink of the grave. The end found him in the midst of extensive planning for the triumph of the great lay movement. Yes, the valiant life of this Christian warrior, who has been forced to lay down his arms unexpectedly in his fifty-second year, stands for all that is pure and heroic in the Advent cause. And while the denomination is mourning his untimely loss, we would voice at the same time the gratitude and grief of Southern Europe. Our hearts go out to his family in this hour of cruel bereavement, and we ask them to find in these lines a sincere expression of sympathy and Christian fellowship from the Division office, the Berne church, and the Southern European field.