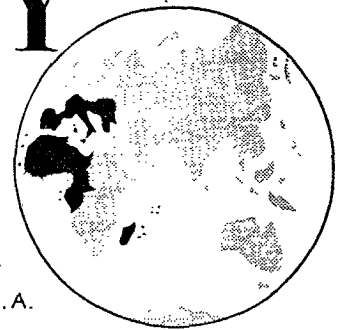


# QUARTERLY REVIEW

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



VOL. 17

MARCH 1950

NUMBER 1

## Annual Division Council

By M. Fridlin

Secretary, Southern European Division

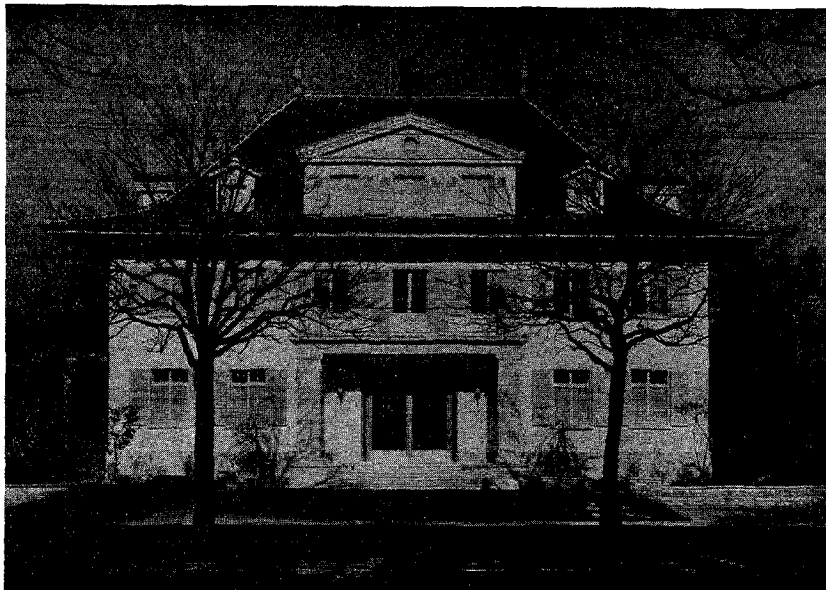
Preceded by a Publishing Department council and a Missionary Volunteer secretaries' convention, the sixteenth Annual Council of the Southern European Division convened in the lower hall of the new chapel building in Berne, Switzerland, on the evening of December 7, 1949.

The pastor of the Berne church, H. Erzberger, expressed the pleasure felt by the church in greeting so many members of the great family to which we all belong. K. Sturzenegger, president of the German-Swiss Conference, joined in welcoming the delegates and spoke of the bond which unites us, the love of God. A. Meyer on behalf of the Swiss Union acknowledged the honor and privilege accorded to Switzerland in that it has been host to the Division Council three times in the past four years. He extended a cordial greeting to all the delegates from other

countries of the Division as well as from the General Conference.

W. R. Beach, responding to these welcoming speeches, expressed his pleasure at the presence of so many delegates, as well as regret that others were unable to attend the Council. He then introduced the representatives present from the General Conference: W. H. Williams, undertreasurer (accompanied by Mrs. Williams); E. E. Franklin, associate Publishing Department secretary; and L. A. Skinner, associate Missionary Volunteer Department secretary. (It was also stated that M.

V. Campbell, president of the Central Union in North America, would arrive later, that H. M. S. Richards of the Voice of Prophecy, passing through Berne, would spend some time at the Council, and that Paul Wickman, secretary of the General Conference Radio Department, would attend the radio work-



*Front entrance of Berne chapel building (dedicated December 10, 1949)  
in which the Council meetings were held.*

shop on December 12.) C. A. Edwards, Publishing Department secretary of the Northern European Division, and E. L. Minchin, Y. P. M. V. Department secretary of the British Union, were also introduced, as well as Brother and Sister W. A. Wild of the Inter-American Division who are spending their furlough in Switzerland.

A number of veteran workers had been invited to attend the Council. Among those introduced were: H. F. Schuberth, J. Robert, J. Vuilleumier, U. Augsburg, J. Rey, R. Bähler, and P. Schilstra.

Approximately eighty delegates were present for this important session. This year as last, we regretted the absence of delegates from our eastern fields.

The following is a summary of the report given by the Division president, W. R. Beach:

« In confronting the task to be accomplished in this Division, we must realize the immensity of the territory, which is divided into three sections: the European section, extending from the Azores to the Black Sea and including all the countries of Southern Europe, divided in its turn into East and West; the African section, taking in North Africa, French West and Equatorial Africa, Spanish Guinea, and the Portuguese territories and islands; and the Indian Ocean Union, comprising Madagascar, Mauritius, the Seychelles, Réunion, and neighboring islands.

« In all, our Division includes a population of some 300 million, of differing races, religions, and ideologies. This often creates complex problems, among them that of Islam. Among the 1,345 churches in our Division, we have 1,364 workers, including colporteurs — one worker for every 250,000 inhabitants. And since 1946 each worker in the Division has won an average of 31 souls, as compared with an average of 12 for the denomination as a whole. It is the day of opportunity for evangelism in Europe. Our membership, now more than 60,000, would undoubtedly reach 65,000 if we could get reports from all parts of the field. I wish to pay tribute to all of the workers in the Division.

« It was in Switzerland that the work began in Europe in 1874. In 1945, as a result of 71 years of devoted and untiring labor, there were 32,000 members in the Division. In four years this figure has almost doubled. It is truly a miracle of God's grace. A new spirit has taken possession of our workers, and new materials and methods have been put to use.

« A number of schools have been opened during the past few years, at Florence, Portalegre, Prague, and the two newest, one on Mauritius Island and the other at Bogenhofen, Austria. A few young people are also being trained through special courses given at Madrid and at Budapest.

« Our publishing houses have expanded. The Paris radio studio was dedicated May 7. The Bible Correspondence courses, in which more than 19,000 have enrolled, have won 113 souls to the truth. More than forty evangelistic centers have been opened.

« During 1949 chapels have been dedicated at Liège, Bienne, Messina, Naples, Mulhouse, Ferryville, Bruges, Valence, Trieste, and Madrid. The dedication of the Berne chapel will take place this next Sabbath. Within a few weeks, chapels will be dedicated at Athens and Rome.

« The year has been a fruitful one for the Religious

Liberty Department. The greatest success, of course, was the defeat of calendar reform at the United Nations Assembly in New York.

« For the future, three problems present themselves:

« 1. To advance all along the line. The advent movement is mankind's only hope.

« 2. To emphasize the unity of the Adventist faith. Methods change, means are multiplied, but the message and the principles of the advent movement remain the same. We must maintain a solid front.

« 3. Evangelism. The year 1950 should be for us truly a 'holy year' under the banner of evangelism, through our homes, our Missionary Volunteer societies, our churches, our institutions, our whole organization.

« With the support of all our workers in the future as in the past, we can move confidently toward 1950.»

The secretary's report showed 8,744 members added to the church during 1948 by baptism and profession of faith. A total of 2,723 baptisms was reported for the first nine months of 1949. Unfortunately, no reports were received from some of the largest fields in the Division; if they had come in, we feel sure that there would be 3,000 to 3,500 more. During 1948 and the first three quarters of 1949, apostasies amounted to 14.7 % of the number of members added by baptism and profession of faith.

The total membership for the Division at the close of September, 1949, was 60,381. If all reports were in, we would no doubt have reached the 65,000 mark by the close of the year. The number of churches at the end of the third quarter was 1,345.

Thirty-nine missionaries sailed from Southern Europe to the various island missions as well as to the African territories during the year 1949, six returning from furlough and the others going out for the first time.

The Division treasurer gave a good financial report. The standing vote by which the delegates adopted this report also signified their appreciation to the General Conference for the funds so generously provided.

A few of the high points from the department reports are given below.

**Department of Education.** Religious instruction for all our children is the newest project sponsored by this department, according to O. Schuberth, secretary. A plan has been adopted and textbooks are being prepared. A new church school is to be established in Berne, Switzerland. While enrollments are lower in some of the advanced training schools, the reports in general are good, and Bogenhofen seminary in Austria was opened at the end of November. The schools in the mission fields are flourishing.

Mrs. Arabella Moore Williams, office secretary of the General Conference Department of Education, presented the subject of Parent and Home Education. Her remarks were much appreciated by the delegates.

**Home Missionary Department.** The report of missionary work done during 1948 by the church members in the Division, although incomplete, was impressive. Some of the totals given were:

<i>Bible readings given</i>	178,895
<i>Missionary contacts</i>	169,411
<i>Literature distributed</i>	343,631
<i>Souls won by laymen</i>	1,105

ingathering and Big Week receipts, reported in local currencies, represented in most unions a sizable increase over the previous year.

F. Charpiot, secretary of the department, comparing the unused talents of our lay members to the untapped resources of the Rhône river which are soon to be exploited for commercial purposes, quoted from the *Testimonies*, Vol. VII, p. 14, «Let the gospel message ring through our churches, summoning them to universal action.»

**Medical Department.** Dr. H. Müller emphasized the necessity of making available funds for enlarging «La Lignière» and opening a surgical and obstetrical clinic at Lausanne, Switzerland. The policlinic recently opened at Bordeaux, France, under the direction of Dr. Süssmann was mentioned, as well as «Vie et Santé» at Algiers, North Africa, the Tunis dispensary, and the children's dispensary on Réunion Island.

**Ministerial Association.** Regional workers' conventions in Italy, Austria, France, Belgium, Switzerland, and North Africa had been sponsored by the Association during the past year, according to its secretary, A. Meyer. A bulletin in French and in German is being sent regularly to each worker. The internship plan has been introduced in several fields. Ministerial reading course enrollments were as follows: English, 161; French, 210, German, 73. The *Ministry* has 315 subscribers.

**Publishing Department.** C. G. Cross reported that during the first nine months of 1949, 408 colporteurs had delivered literature amounting to almost \$75,000 more than during the same period the preceding year. The outstanding projects were the union and local colporteur institutes and the centennial celebration of the publishing work. At the close of 1949, more than \$500,000 worth of literature had been sold, in spite of the fact that in most countries the local currency has been devaluated.

**Sabbath School Department.** O. Schubert gave a number of interesting statistics. While the reported

Sabbath school membership for 1948 is about 5,000 less than that for 1947, due to the inability of some fields to send in reports, the offerings increased \$14,401, or more than 18 %, for the same period. Reports for the first nine months of 1949 show Sabbath school offerings amounting to 11.2 % of the tithe and a Sabbath school membership representing 121.8 % of the church membership.

## MISSIONARY DEPARTURES

1949

### JANUARY

*Mr. and Mrs. Samuel José-Graca, of Portugal, to Portuguese East Africa, Southern African Division.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. R. Hirschy and three children, of Switzerland, to French Cameroun (returning).*

### FEBRUARY

*Mrs. D. Malan, of France, to Algeria.*  
*José Augusto, Jr., of Portugal, to St. Thomas Island.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. C. Dudragne, of France, to Algeria.*

### MARCH

*Mr. and Mrs. Claude Maeder and one child, of Switzerland, to Ivory Coast, West African Union Mission.*

### MAY

*Mr. and Mrs. E. Vervoort, of Belgium, to Madagascar.*  
*Mr. Joao de Mendonca, of Portugal, to Cape Verde Islands.*

### JUNE

*Mr. and Mrs. J. A. de Caenel, of France, to French Cameroun.*  
*Miss Hermine Roth, of France, to French Cameroun.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. K. Scheidegger and two children, of Switzerland, to French Cameroun.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. J. Curmatureau and two children, of France, to French Cameroun.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. P. Gilson, of Belgium, to French Morocco.*

### JULY

*Emile Haran, of France, to Algeria.*  
*Miss F. Decrouy, of France, to Algeria.*

### SEPTEMBER

*Mr. and Mrs. H. Tierce, of France, to Algeria.*

### OCTOBER

*Mr. and Mrs. F. Cordas and two children, of Portugal, to Cape Verde Islands.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. Joao Esteves and two children, of Portugal, to Azores Islands.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. Armando Pires, of Portugal, to Angola, Southern African Division.*

### NOVEMBER

*Mr. and Mrs. R. Villeneuve, of Switzerland to Madagascar.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. P. Bernard, of France to French Cameroun.*  
*Miss Gilberte Mahieux, of Belgium, to Belgian Congo, Southern African Division.*

### DECEMBER

*Mr. and Mrs. M. Duplouy, of France, to Gold Coast, West African Union Mission (returning).*

### Y. P. M. V. Department.

The report presented by J. J. Aitken was one of progress. A total of 22,121 young people belong to the 749 Missionary Volunteer societies, and increases in society membership are noted in most fields. The «Share Your Faith» program has been put into practice, and it is estimated that some five hundred young people have been won to the truth in this way. Youth evangelism was stressed in connection with the camps which were held during the past summer in at least seven countries of the Division. Public youth meetings have also been carried on during the fall and winter.

**Radio Department.** Monday, December 12, was set aside for a radio workshop, directed by Paul Wickman, secretary of the General Conference Radio Department. At the beginning of the workshop, M. Fridlin, secretary of the Radio Department of the Division, presented his report.

A total of 19,515 enrollments were reported for the Bible Correspondence schools, and 7,687 are taking the course regularly. One hundred and thirteen baptisms have resulted from these courses.

The Paris studio has been kept busy preparing programs for our Division as well as for the Northern European Division and other fields. The French radio quartet has assisted in evangelistic efforts and

constitutes a powerful attraction for those who listen to «La Voix de l'Espérance.»

The following programs are being broadcast from the Southern European Division:

French National Education and Sunday 9:00 - 9:05 A. M.  
 Network Christian home

Statistical Summary of the Southern European Division for the Year 1949

Name of Conference or Mission	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV. ...	37	2390	222	11	268	501	48	41	287	376	125	2515	15	2	4	23	3	—	—	—	44	36	2726	1947
Austrian Union Conference ...	114	5021	500	26	394	500	—	35	423	535	500	5521	17	1	3	5	3	19	8	8	68	160	5445	5200
Czechoslovakian Union Conf. ...	77	3352	213	42	1762	633	77	35	423	535	98	3450	28	26	2	29	19	3	128	233	68	2327	1817	
Franco-Belgian »	155	5482	870	600	2674	600	131	39	1774	1955	719	6201	26	10	4	13	35	—	82	172	155	6068	4310	
Hungarian »	157	5729	600	—	—	600	40	39	—	79	521	6250	12	5	4	13	—	—	—	—	30	177	6200	4500
Jugoslavian »	551	25000	5000	—	—	5000	—	—	—	—	5000	30000	78	11	—	47	—	—	—	—	136	560	32500	29800
Rumanian »	57	3048	122	17	98	237	79	53	130	262	—25	3023	22	5	3	13	6	3	42	94	56	2738	2272	
Swiss »	8	1463	428	15	150	593	50	60	150	260	333	1796	6	5	1	17	66	96	—	191	157	9701	10809	
French West & Eq. African U.M.	51	1629	321	16	69	406	93	69	159	321	85	1714	21	7	12	18	1	14	4	77	54	2877	2481	
Indian Ocean Union Mission ..	46	1510	247	13	88	348	48	12	116	176	172	1682	18	2	6	22	3	—	48	99	58	2042	1908	
Italian »	16	591	35	37	72	72	15	11	43	69	3	594	10	4	1	22	—	—	19	56	21	525	418	
North African »	26	1263	210	7	44	261	19	14	41	74	187	1450	12	5	—	6	2	4	7	36	27	1817	1490	
Portuguese »	39	1751	100	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	100	100	9	4	—	10	—	—	—	—	23	29	901	718
Bulgarian Conference .....	5	158	6	—	—	9	—	1	—	—	8	166	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	10	30	13	668	685
Grecian Mission .....	10	627	62	—	—	86	14	7	32	53	33	660	5	—	—	2	11	1	—	1	30	13	668	685
Spanish »	10	627	62	—	—	86	14	7	32	53	33	660	5	—	—	2	11	1	—	1	30	13	668	685
Totals for the year 1949 :	1349	59014*	8986	147	2937	12020	614	392	3155	4161	7659	66873	314	91	39	254	156	121	869	1344	1576	76685	68485	
Totals for the year 1948 :	1309	50830	8532	212	1087	9381	1216	805	1089	3110	6721	57551	291	100	39	208	72	14	434	1158	1367	59883	49523	

\* Including 1,463 membership of French West and Equatorial African Union Mission.

Radio Luxembourg	French program	Friday	2:45 - 3:00 P. M.
	German program	Wednesday	11:45 - 12:00 A. M.
	English program	Tuesday	4:00 - 4:15 P. M.
	Danish program	Thursday	11:45 - 12:00 A. M.
Radio Monte Carlo	French program	Saturday	6:45 - 7:00 P. M.
	Religious Liberty program (French)	Tuesday	6:45 - 7:00 P. M.
Radio Tangier	French program	Saturday	3:45 - 4:00 P. M.
R. Tananarive	French program	Saturday	1:45 - 2:00 P. M.
Madagascar	Malagasy program	Saturday	12:00 - 12:15 P. M.
Radio Bologna	Italian program	Every fourth Sunday	7:45 - 8:00 A. M.
Italy			
Radio Cagliari	Italian program	Saturday	8:10 - 8:25 A. M.
Sardinia			

Radio Mauritius Occasional broadcasts

Programs in Dutch, Italian, Spanish, and Arabic are in preparation.

The Committee on Plans and the one on Finance, Policy, and Organization presented ninety-one recommendations and resolutions, which space does not permit us to print here. The most important was undoubtedly that entitled «1950: A Special Year of Evangelism,» the text of which follows:

WHEREAS, On the one hand, the world is more and more turning away from Christianity, and, on the other hand, God has entrusted to the Adventist Church the immense task of preaching to a lost world the only message for the present hour which can yet save those who are seeking salvation; and

WHEREAS, The year 1950 will mark the middle of the century,

We solemnly urge all our leaders to take whatever measures are necessary and appropriate to make this year a special year of evangelism, putting into effect the following program:

- (1) Special efforts to be made by all our leaders, pastors, and evangelists, the personnel of our institutions and our mission schools.
- (2) Distribution by our colporteurs of as many religious works as possible.
- (3) Adoption of measures by the Home Missionary, Y. P. M. V., Sabbath School, and Medical departments, providing for the participation of all our church members, old and young, by every possible means, in making this special year of evangelism a success.
- (4) Maximum utilization of the radio and the press.
- (5) Exploitation of all centers we now possess (halls and chapels) as instruments for the full success of this campaign, thus fulfilling the precise object for which they were erected: the salvation of souls and the hastening of the establishment of God's kingdom.

This resolution was unanimously adopted by the delegates, who at the same time renewed their consecration and determined to do everything in their power to make 1950 an outstanding year in soul winning.

Sabbath, December 10, was the date set for the dedication of the Berne chapel. The spacious main hall, beautiful in its simplicity, was even more lovely with the masses of flowers which adorned it for the occasion. W. R. Beach gave the dedicatory sermon, using the text «Mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.» In the afternoon the official inauguration was held, the program being prepared by the Swiss Union. The presence of the choir from Basel, Switzerland, added to the pleasure of the many who attended the dedication services.

The morning devotional hours of the Council were made interesting by the Bible studies and experiences given by the General Conference delegates. W. H. Berghern, a chaplain in the United States Army, gave an inspirational study one morning during his visit to the Council.



## RECAPITULATION

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	Credentialed Missionaries	Licensed Missionaries	Bible Instr.	Elem. School Teachers	Canvassers	Total Laborers	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	24	
1. SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV. . .													15	2	4	23					44			
2. Austrian Union Conference	37	2513	29	—	44	73	16	8	47	71	2	2515	17	1	3	5	3	—	20	49	36	2726	1947	
3. Czechoslovakian » »	114	5021	500	—	—	500	—	—	—	—	500	5521	33	3	2	3	19	—	8	68	160	5445	5200	
4. Franco-Belgian » »	77	3378	113	11	347	471	42	10	347	399	72	3450	28	26	—	29	19	3	128	233	68	2327	1817	
5. Hungarian » »	155	6061	140	—	—	140	—	—	—	—	140	6201	26	10	4	15	35	—	82	172	155	6058	4310	
6. Jugoslavian » »	157	6000	250	—	—	250	—	—	—	—	250	6250	12	5	—	13	—	—	—	30	177	6200	4500	
7. Rumanian » »	551	25000	5000	—	—	5000	—	—	—	—	5000	30000	78	11	—	47	—	—	—	136	560	32500	29800	
8. Swiss » »	57	3049	20	6	44	70	27	11	58	96	26	3023	22	5	3	13	6	3	42	94	56	2738	2272	
9. French West and Eq. Afr. U. M.	8	1463	168	15	150	333	—	—	—	—	333	1796	6	5	1	17	66	96	—	191	157	9701	10809	
10. Indian Ocean Union Mission . . . .	51	1663	60	9	10	79	6	12	10	28	51	1714	21	7	12	18	1	14	4	77	54	2877	2481	
11. Italian » » . . . .	46	1681	28	4	30	62	24	3	34	61	1	1682	18	2	6	22	3	—	48	99	58	2042	1908	
12. North African » » . . . .	16	588	10	—	17	27	2	6	13	21	6	594	10	4	1	22	—	—	19	56	21	525	418	
13. Portuguese » » . . . .	26	1403	56	1	9	66	9	1	9	19	47	1450	12	5	—	6	2	4	7	36	27	1817	1490	
14. Bulgarian Conference . . . . .	39	1751	100	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	100	1851	9	4	—	10	—	—	—	23	29	901	718	
15. Grecian Mission . . . . .	5	164	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	166	2	1	1	—	1	—	1	6	5	160	180	
16. Spanish Mission . . . . .	10	646	17	—	10	27	3	—	10	13	14	660	5	—	2	11	1	1	10	30	13	668	635	
TOTALS FOR 4th QUARTER, 1949 :	1349	60381	6493	46	661	7200	129	51	528	708	6492	66873	314	91	39	254	156	121	369	1344	1576	76685	68485	
TOTALS FOR 4th QUARTER, 1948 :	1309	56359	1416	48	308	1772	166	81	333	580	1192	57551	291	100	39	208	72	14	434	1158	1367	59383	49523	

## Where Two Worlds Meet

By F. Charpiot

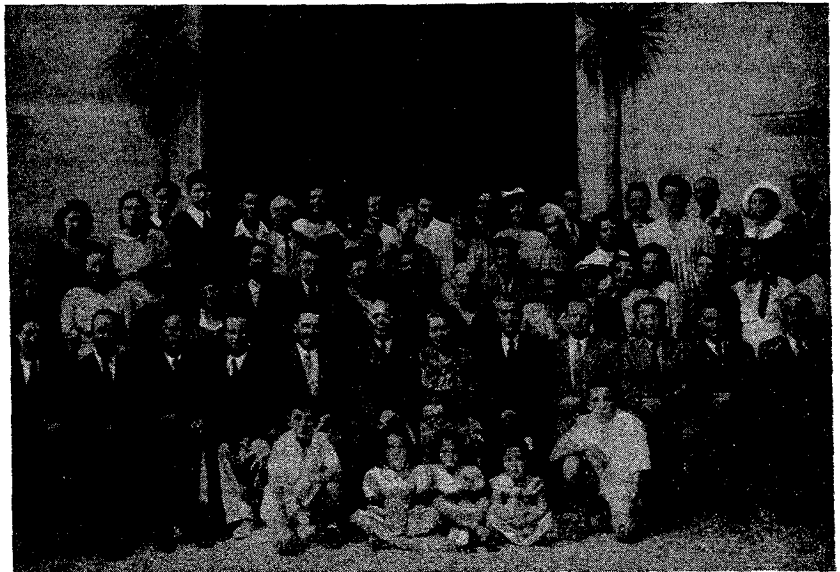
Field and Home Missionary Secretary, Southern European Division

The vast territory of the North African Union Mission stretches from Tunis to Morocco, more than two thousand miles from east to west, and an unmeasured distance from north to south, from the Mediterranean coast deep into the Sahara Desert. It is populated by approximately 2,500,000 Europeans and 13,500,000 Arabs. Witness of many civilizations, North Africa was in olden times colonized by the Phoenicians, who founded Carthage many centuries before Christ. This great city became the seat of a mighty empire which threatened for many years the very existence of Rome. It had an almost perfect climate and a most wonderful location on the hills overlooking on one side the bay, on the other the interior lake of the modern Tunis.

After the victory of the Romans over the Carthaginians, North Africa became one of the richest provinces of the Roman Empire and one of the most important wheat garnerers of the ancient world. The triumph of the gospel over heathenism opened the way for a thriving Christian church, and for a time the bishopric of Carthage wielded an influence equal to that of Rome and Alexandria.

When the fifth trumpet sounded, in the seventh century, North

Africa became the prey of the Arab invaders. It was the end of the proud city of Carthage, the ruins of which still remain on the hills by the sea, witness to a glorious past and to the judgments of God upon apostate Christianity. The conquerors imposed the religion of Mohammed on the populations that survived the invasion. They created a new civilization which reached the peak of its glory during the Middle Ages.



*Annual meeting held in Casablanca, Morocco, September 16-19, 1949.*

Unhappily, the Arabs, being enemies of the tree, destroyed most of the beautiful forests. The country has still many beauty spots, but large sections are dry and barren which would otherwise be green and pleasant. Nevertheless, North Africa is still a rich section of the world with a fine system of railways, modern roads, and irrigation plants developed under French colonization. It enjoys a pleasant, semi-tropical climate.

From the most modern European section of a North African city, one passes through a magnificent old gate by side the finest Arab style into the ancient Arab town with its strange houses, narrow, winding streets, queer, dingy business places, and old-fashioned workshops. Suddenly one is transported back through the centuries to Bible times.

Two civilizations, two ages, two worlds meet in North Africa. They walk and work, live and strive side by side. They elbow each other, but they do not mix. The age-old prophecy about the sons of Ishmael is still being fulfilled today. It is most interesting to watch these two worlds, to observe their contrasts, and to study the finer aspects and the peculiarities of the Arab soul and life.

It was my privilege last September and October to spend five weeks itinerating in this section of the world in the pleasant company of Elder and Mrs. A. Meyer, who for fifteen years were pioneer missionaries in North Africa. The actual membership of the union is just above six hundred, nearly all European settlers, with some thirty baptized Jewish believers. The work has grown slowly in that difficult field. It is still the time of small beginnings in most sections. However, we now have churches and groups spread all over the country, from which the light of the last gospel message is shining forth with ever-increasing brightness.

Our visit began in the west, in Morocco. There, in the beautiful modern city of Casablanca, with a population of one million souls, we met in a hall placed at our disposal by the municipality, our own church hall being entirely too small to accommodate all the delegates of the Moroccan Mission. We found W. Fuchs, a former missionary to the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius, and his associates of good courage. The Lord blessed abundantly in the meetings that were held over the week end for more than one hundred members and friends. On our way east through Morocco, we stopped over at Rabat, Meknès, and Fez, holding evening meetings with the members at the two latter places.

Our second district meeting, for the membership of the western part of the Algerian Mission, took place in our own church hall in Oran. It was in this section that the message first found its way into North Africa more than sixty years ago by means of some papers sent from Basel, Switzerland. At that time the first members were baptized in the town of Relizane, about one hundred miles east of the port of Oran. During our meeting there we learned of the death of old Sister Simon, last survivor of that first group of advent believers in North Africa, who had faithfully held the torch of present truth for more than sixty years. Her granddaughter is the wife of Pastor P. Girard, formerly our pioneer missionary in the island

of Réunion, Indian Ocean, now president of the North African Union Mission. A very fine spirit of earnestness and consecration united the hearts of some 120 believers in attendance at the Oran session. On Sabbath afternoon J. Colomar, pastor of the Oran church, conducted a baptismal service.

We then turned our steps toward Algiers, headquarters of the union and of the Algerian Mission. Algiers is a fine seaport and the most important city in that province, with one million inhabitants. There we have a church of 150 members, the largest in the union. The little medical institution on the hill overlooking the sea is doing its work quietly. It has exerted an excellent influence and has gained much sympathy for our cause in the course of its eighteen years of existence. We have in Algiers the beginnings of our educational work in the union. For the present it is only a church school, but a great work could be done if we could extend this phase of our activities.

More than two hundred people gathered for the week end in Algiers. Again we enjoyed the blessings of Christian fellowship under the sweet presence of God's Holy Spirit. Every free moment during our six-day stop at headquarters was occupied with committee meetings, consultations on various problems, personal talks with leaders, workers, and members, and visits and Bible studies to interested persons. It was a full program. But there is no joy greater than such association with the members of the family of God and with the interests of this great advent movement.

Driving east again, we spent a day in Constantine, a city built on a high rock and founded many centuries ago by the famous Roman emperor who gave it his name. We spent a pleasant evening hour with thirty members and visitors in the friendly little hall of the Constantine church.

On Thursday of that week we made our way over many mountains and valleys through a wild and beautiful country to Tunis, where we were to spend ten days before reembarking for France and the Division headquarters. The Tunisian Mission is the youngest child in the union, with three churches and just over sixty members. We found the very best and most friendly entertainment in the home of Raymond Meyer, mission director and son of my fellow travelers. It was just like home, even to the games and good times with chubby little children.

The district meeting was held in the newly dedicated chapel at Ferryville, forty miles north of Tunis. It was the smallest of the four meetings, with an average attendance of sixty people. But the presence of the Lord was manifested in a very special way and cheered the hearts of everyone.

On Sabbath afternoon, Pastor R. Meyer baptized three men, one of them a fine young Arab who was himself won to the message under very peculiar providences of God by our first Arab convert in the Tunis Mission, Brother Khalbous. This is a great victory, for the young man was a devoted and fanatical Moslem. After his baptism he gave one of the finest testimonies to the saving power of Jesus that I have ever heard anywhere. And the following Sabbath in Tunis, he brought another Arab, one of his friends,

**Report of the Home Missionary Department of the Southern European Division**  
For the Year 1949.

	Austrian U. C.	Czechoslovakia U. C.	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Hungarian U. C.	Jugoslavian U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	French West & Eq. African U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Italian U. M.	North African U. M.	Portuguese U. M.	Bulgarian Mission	Grecian Mission	Spanish Mission	Totals
No. added to the union membership since last report as the result of missionary work of lay members	167	—	59	343	—	—	45	64	—	258	—	—	—	—	—	936
Total church membership in union	2515	5521	3450	6201	6250	30000	3023	1796	1714	1682	594	1450	1851	166	660	668373
No. of persons reporting missionary work	764	—	1090	3244	—	—	636	—	394	1081	233	590	—	—	435	8467
No. of churches and companies	37	114	77	155	157	551	57	8	51	46	16	26	39	5	10	1349
No. of churches and companies reporting	35	—	35	131	—	—	50	3	38	37	13	14	—	—	4	360
No. holding first Sabbath missionary service	35	—	16	111	—	—	42	—	25	54	—	14	—	—	10	307
No. holding weekly missionary service	33	—	10	89	—	—	52	—	4	55	—	14	—	—	10	267
No. of churches conducting training classes	12	—	11	86	—	—	3	—	2	15	—	9	—	—	—	138
No. churches with one or more service companies in operation	31	—	21	78	—	—	50	—	—	39	—	9	—	—	10	238
No. institutes, rallies and conventions held	7	—	5	3	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26
<b>REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK :</b>																
Bible readings and gospel meetings conducted	17146	—	3934	71976	—	—	5094	752	10521	32692	5682	27228	—	—	575	175600
Missionary contacts	26933	—	4306	84254	—	—	10364	293	13292	21225	4581	18487	—	—	2125	185860
Pieces missionary literature distributed	42234	—	112646	28529	—	—	97384	75	12633	41232	18659	31494	—	—	373	385259
Number persons helped	20460	—	1863	4267	—	—	6108	1327	7057	9431	4165	10437	—	—	375	65490
Enrolments Bible Correspondence Schools	1775	—	262	—	—	—	828	80	606	749	98	—	—	—	—	4398

## Medical Department of the General Conference

By T. R. Flaiz, M. D.

Secretary, General Conference Medical Department

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, brought into being nearly one hundred years ago, was a very simple organization. The total membership was approximately that of a small conference today. The working staff consisted of but a handful of hardy pioneering self-sacrificing ministers. These ministers were all front-line, aggressive evangelists. We had no educational work, no medical work, no young people's work as such. Neither had the Sabbath school work taken shape. The direction and promotion of what is now the departmental phase of our work, so far as it was promoted, was all done by these hard-working ministers.

With the rapid growth of our work came the establishment of our schools, colleges, sanitariums, publishing houses, and our far-flung Sabbath schools. These interests could not, without some special direction and integration, be directed into the most useful paths. Thus was made apparent the need for specialists in these various fields to foster and guide them into the greatest degree of cooperation and fruitfulness.

Out of an immediate need was born our Medical Department of the General Conference. At the turn of the century there was confusion among those interested in medical evangelism. There were faddists, extremists, well-intentioned but ill-advised health promoters. There was an epidemic of diet extremists who threatened to bring the health work of the denomination into disrepute. There were many health institutions being promoted by those whose motives were commercial, and by those ill-prepared to assume the direction of such an important task. Not that any one man could correct these undesirable trends in our denominational medical work, but that there might be someone to counsel on such matters, one who would devote his energies to the promotion of a balanced medical and health program, a secretary was appointed to foster this important phase of our work in the General Conference. In like manner at later dates secretaries have been appointed in the various divisions, unions, and many local conferences. It is the duty of these secretaries and their associates to study existing medical and health activities, to be prepared to give



counsel, and to coordinate interests. It is their duty to study possible new fields of usefulness for medical work both in the home fields and abroad, and to direct as far as consistent in the promotion and development of such work.

While the results of this program have not been all that could be wished, there has developed through the cooperation of the Medical Department with our denominational administrators around the world, a very helpful system of medical institutions, dedicated to the revelation of God's love through medical ministry. We have in North America sixteen well-established sanitariums and a large and growing number of well-administered private institutions, some of them comparable to our better denominational sanitariums. In northern Europe we have four sanitariums and upwards of one hundred privately operated treatment rooms, each one the center of an Adventist church community. We have a sanitarium in England and one in Switzerland. We have two good sanitariums in Australia besides some smaller private projects. In the various mission fields of South America, Africa, the Orient, and the South Seas, we have more than fifty mission hospitals, each an active center of evangelism.

The Seventh-day Adventist denomination conducts an excellent College of Medical Evangelists, graduating a hundred well-qualified physicians annually. Our

thirty-two schools of nursing turn out more than three hundred graduate nurses each year. Besides the graduates of our denominational medical college, there are young men and women graduating from medicine in England, Europe, South Africa, India, China, South America, the Philippine Islands, and Australia. These men and women from other countries are joining our medical and nursing graduates from America in staffing the far-flung mission field institutions.

As our schools and colleges are centers of training for denominational workers, so our medical college and schools of nursing are maintained for just one purpose — to prepare workers for the cause of God. Our many hospitals and sanitariums are for but one purpose, to bring to the sick and unfortunate a knowledge of the love of God through medical ministry.

In order that these medical interests throughout the world might develop harmoniously and according to a given pattern, and that every medical effort might be closely integrated with and made an effective part of our world evangelistic program, the General Conference has made provision for a staff of medical advisers to serve in such capacity.

The Medical Department of the General Conference is to the best of its ability serving for the accomplishment of the highest degree of effectiveness of our world program of medical ministry.

Report of the Missionary Volunteer Department of the Southern European Division  
For the Year 1949.

	Austrian Conf.	Czechoslovakia: U. C.	Franco-Belgic U. C.	Hungarian U. C.	Jugoslavian U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	French West & Eq. African U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Italian U. M.	North African U. M.	Portuguese U. M.	Bulgarian M.	Grecian M.	Spanish M.	Yearly Average and Totals 1949
Number of societies	25	75	39	77	75	300	22	4	39	33	9	18	—	3	7	726
Number of societies reporting	18	—	25	—	—	—	17	—	21	25	7	—	—	—	—	113
Total membership (all classes)	357	1700	682	1597	1500	11000	456	200	592	530	128	1016	—	50	257	20065
Number reporting	135	—	171	—	—	—	110	—	—	338	—	251	—	—	—	1005
Total of Senior and Junior young people baptized, regardless of who labored for them	58	—	21	146	—	—	44	—	—	72	1	19	—	—	—	361
Number baptized whom young people had a part in winning	35	—	11	104	—	—	2	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	162
Number belonging to missionary bands	71	—	92	662	—	—	126	—	—	61	—	—	—	—	—	1012
<b>REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK :</b>																
Number of Bible readings or gospel meetings held	1437	—	557	4236	—	—	475	234	3016	5079	468	16762	—	—	—	32254
Number of missionary contacts	2607	—	1834	4640	—	—	1137	48	5072	3559	544	37362	—	—	—	56803
Number of persons helped	1606	—	712	1174	—	—	323	191	3752	1592	940	5221	—	—	—	15511
Literature distributed	7829	—	40036	5812	—	—	35321	—	4747	21065	4414	63991	—	—	—	183215
<b>DEVOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL:</b>																
Number observing the Morning Watch	169	—	175	692	—	—	201	—	209	224	19	261	—	—	—	1950
Number completing Bible Year and Character Classics	11	—	126	170	—	—	33	—	7	55	6	127	—	—	—	535
Number taking Reading Course	30	—	28	43	—	—	52	—	—	—	4	34	—	—	—	191
<b>FINANCIAL :</b>																
Offerings local society work	\$ 395.81	—	36,04	1503,07	—	—	88,54	1,80	20,80	21,53	—	116,70	—	—	—	2184,29
Harvest Ingathering	\$ 789.06	—	3080,86	—	—	—	3641,06	—	1016,40	1249,69	—	1746,71	—	—	—	11523,78
Offerings special projects	\$ 101,18	—	470,54	187,15	—	—	1892,04	—	—	2,63	66,—	308,18	—	—	—	3027,72

Report of the Publishing Department of the Southern European Division  
For the Year 1949.

	Average Number of Colporteurs	Number of Hours	Val. of Books in Dollars	Value of Periodicals in Dollars		Grand Total Value of Sales Local Currency	Grand Totals in Dollars
AUSTRIAN U.C.							
Alpine Conf. ....	4	6.080			Sch.	86,400,—	8,640,—
Danube Conf. ....	12	12,349			Sch.	181,085,—	18,108,50
	16	18,429	26,575,—	173,50	Sch.	267,485,—	26,748,50
FRANCO-BELGIAN U.C.							
Belgian Conf. ....	12	6,212			FFr.	4,083,590,—	13,475,82
East France Conf. ....	13	9,386			FFr.	6,133,625,—	20,240,95
North France Conf. ....	47	39,573			FFr.	20,700,722,—	68,312,37
South France Conf. ....	58	37,440			FFr.	23,082,462.75	76,172,10
	130	92,611	73,897,43	104,303,81	FFr.	54,000,398.75	178,201,24
HUNGARIAN U.C.	78	78,546	20,756,91	32,328,65	Ft.	617,274,80	53,085,56
JUGOSLAVIAN U.C.							
RUMANIAN U.C.							
SWISS U.C.							
Leman Conf. ....	13	17,714			SFr.	163,036,50	38,325,47
German Swiss Conf. ....	27	37,954			SFr.	231,892,—	54,512,74
	40	55,668	58,425,49	34,412,72	SFr.	394,928,50	92,838,21
FR. WEST & EQ. AFR. U.M.			1,046,67		C.Fr.	158,585,50	1,046,67
INDIAN OCEAN U.M.	8	1,625	3,140,12	480,85	C.Fr.	560,091,00	3,620,97
ITALIAN U.M.							
Central Italian Miss. ....	13	14,338			Lire	7,915,375,—	13,851,93
North Italian Miss. ....	30	29,281			Lire	19,083,822,—	33,396,94
South Italian Miss. ....	20	22,941			Lire	9,288,565,—	16,254,96
	63	66,560	63,503,83		Lire	36,287,762,—	63,503,83
NORTH AFRICAN U.M.							
Algerian Miss. ....	10	10,961			FFr.	5,739,483,—	18,940,28
Moroccan Miss. ....	9	8,821			FFr.	5,375,701,—	17,739,79
Tunisian Miss. ....	5	3,509			FFr.	1,513,812,—	4,995,56
	24	23,291	20,785,05	20,890,58	FFr.	12,628,996,—	41,675,63
PORTUGUESE U.M.	10	8,893	5,678,81	2,691,62	Esc.	207,189,50	8,370,43
BULGARIAN MISS.							
GRECIAN MISS.	1	828	726,84		Dr.	6,607,700,—	726,84
SPANISH MISS.	14	17,158	42,777,23		Pes.	728,587,50	42,777,23

## RECAPITULATION

Austrian U.C. ....	16	18,429	26,575,—	173,50		26,748,50
Franco-Belgian U.C. ....	130	92,611	73,897,43	104,303,81		178,201,24
Hungarian U.C. ....	78	78,546	20,756,91	32,328,65		53,085,56
Jugoslavian U.C. ....						
Rumanian U.C. ....						
Swiss U.C. ....	40	55,668	58,425,49	34,412,72		92,838,21
Fr. West & Eq. Afr. U.M. ....			1,046,67			1,046,67
Indian Ocean U.M. ....	8	1,625	3,140,12	480,85		3,620,97
Italian U.M. ....	63	66,560	63,503,83			63,503,83
North African U. M. ....	24	23,291	20,785,05	20,890,58		41,675,63
Portuguese U.M. ....	10	8,893	5,678,81	2,691,62		8,370,43
Bulgarian Miss. ....						
Greecian Miss. ....	1	828	726,84			726,84
Spanish Miss. ....	14	17,158	42,777,23			42,777,23
TOTALS	384	363,609	317,313,38	195,281,73		512,595,11

**S.O.S. – MISSION PICTURES – S.O.S.**

The photographic library of the General Conference needs black-and-white, clear-cut, glossy pictures to illustrate publications and promotional material. There is likewise need of 35-mm. color shots and also 16-mm. movie films portraying our mission fields. Action pictures of service being rendered, treating the sick, teaching, student scenes, human interest pictures, showing the work in your division are in demand. Closeups of missionaries in action are needed — not large groups standing or sitting in rows, but pictures that tell a story.

Notations giving detailed information concerning places, persons, service being depicted should accompany each photograph. A story written about a picture will make a heart appeal to the one viewing it. Script to be prepared for mission fields will be based upon the stories furnished.

If you are coming to the General Conference session, bring your photographs which can be used here in the homeland to stimulate greater interest in missions and inspire sacrificial giving. If you are not coming, contact the delegates from your division and let them bring photographs that tell a story and make an appeal. The General Conference will pay for those acceptable for use in promotional work.

Kindly contact a representative of the Home Missionary Department at the booth in the reception hall at the General Conference session. Your cooperation will make possible a vivid presentation of the mission needs of your division and a more effective Ingathering magazine.

The General Conference has practically exhausted its supply of photographs. Hence, this S. O. S. Please plan to bring to the General Conference session good action pictures.

Thank you for answering this S. O. S.

The General Conference  
Home Missionary Department.

**Where Two Worlds Meet**

*Continued from page 7*

to the service. We had three more young Arabs attending the meetings at Ferryville. In our first meeting at Casablanca we had met a young Arab who had been sent away from his home because of his interest in Christianity. And we have among the students at our French seminary another Arab who was baptized in Morocco. These are omens of a new day. For many years the Moslem world has seemed to be an impregnable fortress, resisting every assault. Now we see signs of a change. The walls of this modern Jericho are crumbling at the sound of the Lord's trumpet.

The plan for the four district meetings in the North African Union was a profitable one. It afforded direct contact with nearly the entire membership of the union, besides many young people and friends of the message. All the workers and colporteurs were present. Incidentally, our faithful army of colporteurs is doing wonders in North Africa under the enthusiastic leadership of R. Dunkel. They have to battle against

difficult odds, but they hope to sell twelve million francs' worth of literature this year, as compared to eight million last year, which was already an achievement.

In concert with Pastor Girard and his fellow workers in the union, we gave special emphasis to the salvation of souls, A. Meyer leading out as secretary of the Division Ministerial Association and the writer carrying the responsibility of the Home Missionary Department.

During the Sabbath and Sunday meetings we stressed the various phases of church missionary activities. Each subject was introduced by a different speaker during fifteen minutes, and the general discussion which followed brought great interest and inspiration.

At each place, Monday was set apart for a workers' meeting which offered an excellent opportunity to give special study to the workers' responsibilities in connection with soul winning, church leadership, and the tremendous program of missionary activities by the whole church, to give the whole message to the whole world, and thus hasten the finishing of the work and the return of our beloved Master.

As the boat cut its way through the blue waters of the Bay of Tunis and we bade goodbye to the African shore, we felt that we had left a good part of our heart with our fellow believers and with the people of that interesting field. And we also felt greatly encouraged by the fine spirit of devotion and courage shown all through this vast union and by the cheering prospects of swifter progress and greater victories in North Africa.

**Annual Division Council**

*Continued from page 4*

The evening meetings were devoted to reports of successful activity in various parts of our territory, different fields being represented each evening.

On Wednesday, December 14, the meeting closed on a note of courage from the Division president: «Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a draught.» Appreciation was expressed to the Berne church, the German-Swiss Conference, and the Swiss Union, as well as to all those who had worked to make the Council a success. At the same time the delegates united in renewing their consecration to the cause of God and joined in the closing prayer offered by W. R. Beach.

Echoes from the Council indicate a feeling on the part of those present that it was truly the best in the history of the Southern European Division.

S O U T H E R N E U R O P E A N  
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M. Fridlin . . . . . Editor  
Esther Benton . . . . . Editorial Secretary

\* \* \*  
**HERE AND THERE**  
 \* \* \*

The time has again come for the Division leaders to visit the far distant mission fields. W. R. Beach and J. J. Aitken have been asked to visit the French West and Equatorial African Union and especially the French Cameroun. Elder Beach left by plane at the end of February, stopping on the way at Algiers to attend the auditing meeting of the North African Union Mission. Elder Aitken left Marseille on the S. S. **Banfora** February 27.

M. Fridlin and O. Schuberth have been asked to visit the Indian Ocean Union Mission, comprising Madagascar, Réunion, and Mauritius Islands, the farthest distant of our mission fields. They left Marseille on the S. S. **Compiègne** on February 14 and should reach Tananarive, Madagascar, on March 14.

A. Nion and family, missionaries to the French Cameroun, reached Bordeaux, France, on December 28 to spend a three-month furlough at Colonges-sous-Salève. Elder Nion is now on permanent return for family reasons, after having spent two periods of service in the northern and southern Cameroun. Following his furlough, he is to take up evangelistic work at Roanne, in the South France Conference. We thank Brother and Sister Nion for their faithful service in the mission field and wish them much of God's blessing in their new work in the homeland.

A. Matton of the South France Conference has accepted a call to the French Cameroun, where he will occupy the Dogba mission station in the north, left vacant by A. Nion. Brother and Sister Matton with their two children left Marseille on the S. S. **Banfora** February 27. We wish them a good trip to their new field of labor and much success in their work among the heathen tribes of the northern Cameroun.

About three years ago we were asked by the Australasian Inter-Union Conference to provide a worker of French nationality to serve as superintendent of the Society Islands Mission

in the Pacific Ocean. In response to this request, a call was finally addressed to Brother and Sister P. Nouan of the North France Conference, who have accepted and will probably sail for their new field in April or early May. There are at present two churches already organized in the Society Islands, with 163 members. Brother and Sister Nouan's ready response to this call gives proof that the missionary spirit is still alive among our workers.

Dr. T. R. Flaiz, secretary of the General Conference Medical Department, visited us early in January on his trip back to the United States from South and West Africa. Together with W. H. Williams, who had attended the Division Council, Doctor Flaiz spent three days at Gland, Switzerland, studying with the brethren the most urgent problems of the sanitarium there. We were happy to have his counsel and help in laying solid plans for the development of the institution.

Since the beginning of January, a five-minute weekly program on the Christian home and education, under the auspices of « La Voix de l'Espérance », has been broadcast over the French National Network, relayed by twenty-one of the largest French stations. The program is heard by an estimated twenty million people each Sunday from 9:00 to 9:05 A. M. M. Tièche, educational secretary of the Franco-Belgian Union, is the speaker. He reports that a good number of letters come in after each broadcast. We feel sure that this new radio program will bear rich fruit.

A new chapel, with a seating capacity of 150, was dedicated at La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, on January 21. W. R. Beach spoke at the dedication service, and the official inauguration took place on Sabbath afternoon, at which time an address was given by the mayor.

F. D. Nichol, editor of the **Review and Herald**, at present on a world

tour, will arrive in Lisbon the middle of March to spend some time in our Division, visiting Portugal, France, and Switzerland.

A four-story building has been purchased in the center of Winterthur in German Switzerland. The ground floor will be remodeled to serve as a chapel for the Winterthur church, with a seating capacity of about one hundred. The entire cost is being paid from German-Swiss Conference funds. We are happy that our members in Winterthur are to have their own church at last, after having met for so many years in a restaurant.

E. E. Cassentine, secretary of the General Conference Department of Education, spent a few weeks in our field in February, visiting our most important schools.

Since publishing in our last issue an item concerning baptisms in the French Cameroun, we have received word from J. A. de Caenel, president of that field, that during 1949 a total of 428 natives were baptized. This is a great victory for mission work. The 1950 evangelistic campaigns have been launched, and there is reason to hope that this year will set a new record in the history of the Cameroun.

Good news has been received from tiny Réunion Island, where two missionary families, aided by a native worker, are giving faithful service. Forty baptisms took place during 1949 on this strongly Catholic island. The medical work started some time ago by Mrs. Sylvain Meyer, wife of the mission director, is steadily growing, and plans must be laid soon to send a full-time nurse.

The Southern European Division is to be the recipient of the Thirteenth Sabbath offering overflow for the second quarter of this year. Among the many urgent projects in our various fields, the committee has selected the construction of a hospital unit in the French West and Equatorial African Union Mission.