

QUARTERLY REVIEW

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



1951 DIVISION COUNCIL

By M. Fridlin

Secretary, Southern European Division

The Annual Council of the Southern European Division was held in the Berne chapel, December 5-11, 1951. It was preceded by a precouncil attended by union and local conference and mission presidents, as well as institution directors. During this precouncil helpful studies were given, followed by lively discussions, and a new vision took possession of our field and institution leaders.

The opening meeting of the Council on Wednesday evening, December 5, was attended by sixty-eight of the seventy-four delegates invited, representing sixteen countries and colonies, together with many of the Berne church members and their friends. We were favored this year in having with us E. D. Dick, secretary of the General Conference, and R. R. Figuhr, one of the general vice-presidents. Our French and Portuguese mission fields were unusually well represented. Special mention should also be made here of the six delegates from Yugoslavia, a country which for twelve years had not been represented at the Division Council.

The keynote of the session was sounded by W. R. Beach, Division president, in his report. Among other things, he said :

« Jesus invited His disciples to lift up their eyes and look on the fields ; 'for,' He added, 'they are white already to harvest.' The field

and the harvest are our twofold concern. The field is ready. The harvest — the end of the world — is fast approaching. We are anxious to prepare a rich harvest among the millions in the Southern European Division.

« Since our last Division Council we have tried to carry out a well-balanced, complete program, with evangelism in the forefront. Most of the workers have participated directly in evangelistic efforts. The French evangelistic team voted at last year's Council was organized soon afterward and has been at work in Algiers since June. But evangelism has been carried on even by the departments, with the result that, on the average, each of the 1,500 workers (including colporteurs) has won eleven souls since the General Conference session.

« The workers' meeting sponsored by the Ministerial Association gave a powerful stimulus to the evangelistic work in the Division, and we join heartily in the world-wide effort to double our membership, which now stands at 83,019, as compared with 32,000 six years ago.

« The Y. P. M. V. Department is not only endeavoring to hold our own young people in the church but is training them to win other youth. The European Youth's Congress held in Paris was certainly the outstanding event of the year. Courses

have also been organized preparing our young men to serve their country in the medical corps.

« The Rome Council marked the beginning of an offensive in behalf of health reform. Headquarters for the 'Ligue Vie et Santé' have been established at Paris. The policlinic at Bordeaux is in operation. The Tunis dispensary now has an Adventist physician. Bongo hospital in Angola will soon have another doctor and two more nurses. In French Africa the concession for a hospital has been obtained. The Institute Vie et Santé at Algiers manifests growth and improvement. Pur Aliment, our Paris food factory, is doing well. A program of development is also planned for our older institutions.

« The progress of the publishing work is uninterrupted. Today there are 347 credentialed colporteurs in the accessible countries of the Division. The print shop in Madagascar has been set up, and the presses are rolling. Italy is now printing its own books. Angola has ordered printing machinery which is on the way. In Spain, after years of silence, we are about to publish a book of our own, and we hope to obtain permission for a health journal similar to the one Italy is now printing. The French Publishing

university, the school of sanctification. It is one of the most important factors in increasing our membership.

« The Home Missionary Department is the church militant, mobilized to fight the forces of evil. An authentic lay movement is spreading through all our fields. In certain places the Ingathering campaign has made a leap forward.

« The treasurer has had no easy task since the war. During the past four years more construction has been done than in the entire preceding time. Rising costs have made most of these projects more expensive than planned, so that 1952 will be devoted to paying for what has already been built rather than to undertaking many new projects.

« From the viewpoint of work yet to be done, there are millions to be warned, both in Europe and in the mission fields — 3,313 for each Adventist. Our program for the next year must include :

« 1. Intensive evangelism. Evangelize, evangelize, evangelize !

« 2. Continuation of the health reform offensive, under the direction of a Medical Department secretary.



Delegates to the Annual Council of the Division, held in Berne, Dec. 5-11, 1951.

House this year reports a turnover of 100 million francs.

« The attendance at our schools has increased. Collonges has 177 students. The French radio is broadcasting our parent education program each Sunday. Religious instruction is being organized for our children who cannot attend church schools.

« The Press and Radio Department has done its share. The press work in connection with the Youth's Congress was outstanding. A Spanish radio program is now being broadcast over Radio Tangier. Our only hindrance to further development is the fact that the radio offering has so far been inadequate to permit expansion.

« The Sabbath school is the Adventist people's

« 3. More emphasis on religious liberty work, with a full-time secretary in each country, so far as possible.

« 4. A real effort for the Mohammedans in North Africa.

« 5. Establishment of a mission station in French West Africa, with at least one missionary family. »

Each morning at eight o'clock one of the two General Conference officers led in the devotional exercises. These timely and serious studies were extremely helpful and will be long remembered by everyone present.

The Division secretary in his report stated that the number of baptisms in 1950 was equivalent to a new church with 178 members founded each week of

the year. During the first nine months of 1951, 6,780 baptisms have taken place, bringing the total membership in the Division to 83,019 at the close of the third quarter, with 1,472 churches. A total of 1,545 workers was reported. Thirty-four missionaries left Southern Europe for mission fields during 1951. During the same period two workers were laid to rest: F. Lubschina of Austria, and D. Lecoultre of Switzerland.

Space permits us only to summarize a few of the department reports.

Department of Education. O. Schuberth presented an encouraging report. Enrollments in our European schools have reached a new high; Collonges reports more than 170 students, and the Austrian and Italian seminaries have about fifty each. In the mission fields also, the schools are doing well. The following figures were given:

Primary schools: 198 schools, 260 teachers, 7,258 pupils.

Intermediate and advanced: 8 schools, 80 teachers, 950 students.

Home Missionary Department. F. Charpiot began his report with an interesting account of the North American Laymen's Congress, which he had recently attended. The members in Southern Europe had continued and increased their activity in missionary work during 1950. The following totals were given: Bible readings, 90,528; missionary contacts, 108,790; literature distributed, 495,434. Ingathering and Big Week goals had been far exceeded in most unions.

Ministerial Association. The year 1951 witnessed the realization of a long-cherished dream, the Southern European Division workers' meeting held July 16-21 in Paris. Some 350 workers with their wives were assembled from almost all countries of the Division. The contribution of the General Conference representatives present as well as of the other delegates made the convention very much worth while. A spirit of unity was revealed in spite of language differences.

Evangelistic efforts are being carried on in all the unions, local conferences, and missions of the Division. The workers are taking their task seriously to heart, and we look for excellent results. A. Meyer, secretary of the Association, ended his report by suggesting that, while 1950 was the year of evangelism and 1951 the year of revival, 1952 might be called the year of harvest.

Press and Radio Department. M. Fridlin, secretary of this Department, spoke of the excellent cooperation he had received in the press work. The Youth's Congress showed what can be done by this means. A strip fifteen meters long, covered with clippings of published Youth's Congress reports, was displayed.

The report of the radio work included a list of the various broadcasts now scheduled as well as the Spanish « Voz del Hogar » program which is to begin on January 5, 1952, over the Tangier international radio station. The Bible correspondence schools continue to achieve good results, although much more could be accomplished with closer cooperation from field workers.

With more means at our disposal, the radio work could be extended. Requests have been made

for a radio program in Morocco, the Portuguese territories, Yugoslavia, and Austria.

Publishing Department. F. Charpiot compared the colporteur army to those spoken of by Micah who « have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it. » The forces of evil are firmly entrenched in this world, and men are needed who are willing to storm the fortress. During the first nine months of this year, \$363,040.83 worth of literature was delivered by 282 colporteurs. While this total is slightly less than last year's, the difference is more than accounted for by the fact that Hungary has dropped out of the report this year.

Sabbath School Department. The report of this department was presented by A. D. Gomes, who gave full credit to his thousands of coworkers in the 2,266 Sabbath schools of the Division. Even where our churches have been closed, Elder Gomes related, the Sabbath school continues to function. The membership has increased during the past year from 75,573 to 98,302, at which rate we shall double our membership in six years. In order to arrive at this result sooner, we must increase our efforts. The total offerings for the first nine months of 1951 amounted to \$49,898.41, or 13.4 % of the tithe.

Temperance Department. F. Charpiot called attention to the fact that it has been voted to organize a branch of the International Temperance Association for this Division. The Swiss Union has already organized a national society. Temperance is one of the aspects of our medical missionary work and constitutes a means of making the denomination favorably known.

Y. P. M. V. Department. Among the mileposts of progress cited by J. J. Aitken, the European Youth's Congress held in Paris was outstanding. Prominent also was the Medical Corps training plan for non-combatant military service. Another encouraging feature of the work is the spread of the Share-Your-Faith movement to the mission fields. The present Missionary Volunteer society membership of 30,445 represents a substantial increase over last year, and during 1951 2,781 young people were baptized.

The evening meetings were devoted to reports from union and field leaders, showing the steady progress of the work in Southern Europe.

The funds made available to the Division by the General Conference Autumn Council were distributed among the various fields. We felt ourselves fortunate in receiving a substantial increase in the basic appropriation, as well as in the special allowances. This was particularly welcome in view of the rising cost of living in almost all of our territories, which has created serious problems for our leaders.

Most of the special allowances went to complete projects already begun. A certain amount was set aside for starting new work in the unentered territories of French West Africa, and particularly for setting up headquarters in Dakar.

The delegates returned to their fields with fresh courage and hope, determined that all the plans laid for the development of the work during 1952 shall be carried out, so that 1952 will truly be the year of harvest. May God help us to reach the goals set during this important 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		
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV.																									
Austrian Union Conference	40	2629	22	4	29	55	18	9	40	67	-12	2617	15	3	5	8	3	—	—	54	66	40	2824	2056	
Czechoslovakian »	114	5994	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5994	33	3	2	3	19	—	—	32	66	40	2824	2056	
Franco-Belgian »	78	3594	65	9	88	162	39	12	84	135	27	3621	28	29	31	9	—	—	—	3	54	154	75	3739	2776
Hungarian »	155	7325	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7325	26	10	4	15	35	—	—	—	—	90	175	7000	6500
Jugoslavian »	230	7060	300	—	—	300	37	35	—	72	228	7288	12	5	—	13	—	—	—	—	30	300	9000	8000	
Rumanian »	551	36000	1000	—	—	1000	115	95	—	210	790	36790	73	11	—	47	—	—	—	—	136	560	36000	31000	
Swiss »	57	3139	32	2	25	59	13	13	21	47	12	3151	20	6	3	14	5	4	37	89	56	2842	2341		
Angola Mission	29	5041	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8	5049	18	3	—	17	—	101	1	140	161	10880	8831		
French West and Eq. Afr. U.M.	18	2464	204	3	214	421	8	3	210	221	200	2664	12	7	2	13	94	68	2	198	98	9181	7500		
Indian Ocean Union Mission	55	2120	127	1	16	144	2	5	17	24	120	2240	19	6	11	24	3	16	11	90	65	3369	2108		
Italian »	48	1891	42	5	30	77	23	6	41	70	7	1898	19	9	2	22	9	—	—	35	96	61	2181	1877	
North African »	17	670	29	1	26	56	6	2	29	37	19	689	8	6	1	11	3	—	—	20	49	22	698	509	
Portuguese »	26	1612	52	2	16	70	11	4	21	36	34	1646	11	4	1	11	12	6	13	58	46	2480	2116		
Bulgarian Conference	39	2201	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2201	9	4	—	10	—	—	—	23	39	2000	1500		
Grecian Mission	5	190	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	193	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	6	5	203	164	
Portuguese East Afr. Mission	2	340	7	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	347	1	—	2	9	—	—	1	14	6	1604	1200	
Spanish Mission	11	745	16	—	7	23	3	1	8	12	11	756	6	—	2	11	1	1	15	36	13	873	727		
Tangier Mission	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	4	4		
TOTALS FOR 4th QUARTER, 1951	1475	83019	1907	27	451	2385	275	185	471	931	1454	84473	336	110	71	260	194	199	229	1399	1883	100723	84609		
TOTALS FOR 4th QUARTER, 1950	1395	76743	1821	36	260	2117	232	202	259	693	1424	78167	332	111	47	247	208	206	381	1532	1775	86545	74547		

Angola

By R. Gerber

Treasurer, Southern European Division

Early in September of last year, it was my privilege to make a short visit to some of the more important centers of our work in the Portuguese colony of Angola, West Africa.

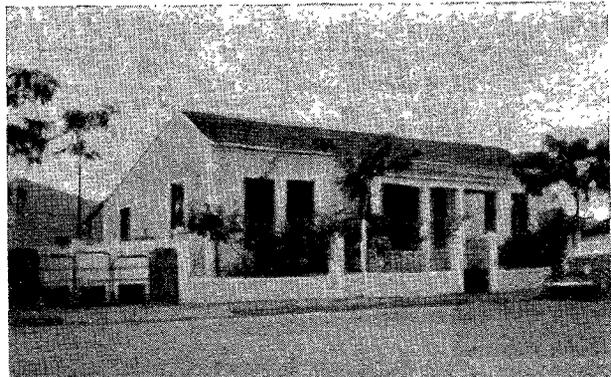
Luanda, the capital, lies on the Atlantic Coast. It is a modern and rapidly growing city. We have as yet no organized church in Luanda. It is only a short while since a missionary was sent there to work especially among the Europeans, of whom there are many in the city. From the first, his experience was most encouraging, as some twenty to thirty persons gathered in his home for Bible studies. Since then, a new building has been rented and furnished as a lecture hall.

The Angola Union Mission has its headquarters in Nova Lisboa, an inland city, some three hundred kilometers east of the port of Lobito. Our property there includes the union offices, living quarters for three missionary families, treatment rooms, and a chapel.

Our largest mission station, however, is at Bongo, about seventy kilometers from Nova Lisboa. Medical work has been solidly established, with a hospital and treatment rooms, and we also have a school at Bongo which has a large enrollment.

Dr. R. B. Parsons, besides being the founder, is the soul of Bongo Hospital. Twenty years ago I met him in Lisbon on his way to Angola for the first time. Since then he has fulfilled the mission of an apostle in that colony. The work was undertaken with extremely limited resources and with only the simplest of equipment,

but Doctor Parsons and his wife never shrank from any sacrifice. Little by little, they have built up a real medical center in the midst of the bush. There is much, however, that is still quite primitive, and a great deal remains to be done before our plans for medical work there can be completely realized. Doctor and Mrs. Parsons and their coworkers are giving unreservedly of their strength for the many sick who need their help. And not only the natives come to Bongo. The doctor's reputation is such that Europeans throughout the colony avail themselves of his skill. The government has even laid out a landing field in the vicinity so as to make it possible for the sick to reach Bongo without delay.



Building recently rented at Luanda, Angola.

Evangelistic work is also actively carried on, both directly and through the school in Bongo, where we have a large church. On Sabbath at least 1,500 persons were present at the meetings, which were



Taking the offering.

held in the open air. From all directions one could see them coming through the bush, along the roads and paths leading to the mission. At the close of the Sabbath school, some brought their offerings in the form of corn, which was poured into empty gasoline cans. A few minutes are set apart during the church service for receiving the tithe. Those having tithe are invited to bring the envelope forward and place it in the collection. This method of public tithepaying, introduced only recently in Angola, seems outstandingly successful as a spur for the dilatory. Judging from the amount of tithe paid in, many of the natives seem to be prospering financially.

On Sabbath afternoon an extremely interesting young people's meeting took place. At least, it seemed so to me, although I understood very little, as everyone spoke in the local dialect. However, it must have been of general interest, for the audience was almost as large as that of the morning. After all, there is one language understood by everyone, music and pantomime. There were at least two well-trained mixed choirs, as well as a men's chorus, and the performances were such as to do honor to the singers. Their whole soul was in their song, and there was an indefinable quality, between nostalgia and melancholy, which awoke within the hearers a deeper longing for the eternal realities.

However, my most vivid recollection of this youth meeting is of three Biblical or religious scenes portrayed by the natives. One represented conversion; another the story of the prodigal son; and the third the experience of Gideon and his little army, with which he was victorious over the Midianites. Naturally, the three hundred men of Gideon's band were represented by one young man. A basin of water was the river from which the « army » must drink. Gideon wore a richly colored uniform of singular design. In spite of all this, these grown-up children seemed to comprehend the whole thing clearly. The representation of these incidents will not soon sink into oblivion.

Just as I left Angola, T. E. Lucas of the General Conference Y. P. M. V. Department arrived to stay for a few weeks. Elder Lucas was most enthusiastic about his findings there, and reports that the most thrilling moment of his life was when he saw 314 baptisms performed in a little over an hour at Bongo.

And so God's work goes forward in Angola, where five thousand church members and ten thousand Sabbath school members are joining their efforts with yours for the final triumph of the advent movement.

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“Business in Great Waters”

By Hans Salzmann

Former President, Seychelles Islands Mission

The Seychelles Islands, ninety-two in number, lie in the Indian Ocean, north of Mauritius and Madagascar and a little less than a thousand miles from Mombasa. The principal island, Mahé, on which the capital is located, contains in its fifty-five square miles 29,000 of the 35,000 inhabitants of the archipelago. Mahé is surrounded by a number of lesser islands; some, twenty-three miles to the northeast, Praslin and others form a second group, with a population of 4,500. Many of these islands are privately owned, and their coconut palms are just now proving a source of handsome profit to the proprietors, due to the high price of copra.

The larger islands are formed of granite, while others, some as far as six hundred miles from Mahé, are of coral. In spite of the nearness to the equator, the climate is quite agreeable and healthy. Moreover, the total absence of malaria gives the Seychelles a decided advantage over the other colonies of the Indian Ocean. Mahé and its nearest neighbors are also fortunate in being off the normal path of cyclones.

In October, 1950, due to the kindness of the Seychelles Trading Company director, I had opportunity to visit the islands of Farquhar, Astove, and Marie-Louise, as well as to see a number of others in passing.

It was the *Charles Edouard*, a boat about twenty-five meters long, on which the voyage was made. Its 120-horse-power motor made possible a speed of five or six knots per hour, and it could carry about sixty tons of merchandise. Two masts with sails gave it a certain stability when in motion.

Farquhar, 420 miles from Mahé, hove in sight after a pleasant voyage of almost three days. Try as I might, I could not distinguish the island on the horizon; nevertheless, our brother, Captain Celtel, declared positively that it was there. It was not until later that I was able to see the flat band a little darker than the ocean; then, little by little, the island took shape before our eyes.

Life on Farquhar is uneventful and not unpleasant. The 120 inhabitants are for the most part workers

engaged for a period of eighteen months to three years, with food and lodging provided. Often they return after a short holiday on Mahé, where their savings are usually squandered in a few days.

Some vegetables can be raised during the season of southeast winds, but as fish are less trouble to find, they constitute the main article of diet, supplemented of course by rice and, since the war, corn. The island, which rises only a few feet above sea level, is bordered with filao trees which form a sort of screen protecting the coconut groves. But the cyclone of December, 1950, spared nothing; it is estimated that one third of the devastated island will produce nothing for several years yet.

Intellectual and spiritual life on Farquhar depends on the visits of the boat from Mahé, which brings provisions, mail, and sometimes visitors. On the previous passage of the *Charles Edouard*, the priest had come to visit his distant parishioners. This time it was the «Badaut pastor» (Adventists are known in the islands by the name of our pioneer missionary) who in the evening showed Kodachrome pictures of Mahé and Praslin as well as the life of Christ to those courageous enough to come.

The French language is often too complicated in the Seychelles; Creole is predominant. That is why we should have a native evangelist, perhaps trained at our school in Mauritius, who would be thoroughly familiar with the language and customs.

The trip to Astove, two hundred miles from Farquhar, was made on the *Floreal*, a Mauritian steamer. Not far from Farquhar we were able, with the aid of binoculars, to distinguish among the reefs the rusting hulks of vessels which had foundered on the rocks. Our captain was extremely cautious; it was not long since his last ship had sunk off Réunion Island as the result of an explosion.

After twenty-four hours of smooth sailing, we reached Astove. Since the ship was to take on some six hundred tons of guano, we had ample time to vis-

it the atoll. Its inhabitants proved to be the young workmen who were just then loading the ship at top speed so as to save coal. During the intervals between ships, the guano is extracted from natural basins found throughout the island.

Here too, during the time of prevailing southeast winds, vegetables can be raised, especially melons. Corn is also planted. There are only a few coconut trees. On all these islands, water is drawn from wells, but it has a peculiar taste and is used mainly for washing. Rain water, carefully collected in cisterns and filtered, serves for drinking.

A Bible remains at Astove as a souvenir of my passage. May the reading of its pages prepare souls for eternal life.

We returned to Farquhar amid dreadful weather; even in our cabins we were drenched by giant waves, some of them two decks high. Oh for terra firma!

From Farquhar the *Charles Edouard* took us back toward Mahé, stopping at Marie-Louise. The sea had calmed down, making life aboard ship somewhat more bearable. The captain climbed to the top of the mast in order to verify his calculations, according to which the islands St. François and Bijoutier should appear on the horizon. Sure enough, our brother descended with a smile of satisfaction. «I see them,» he told me. Curious to see for myself, I climbed in my turn, but it was only by a great stretch of the imagination that I could make out the two islands in the distance. Toward evening, however, we passed them, bathed in pure moonlight. Later we arrived at Alphonse Island, where we dropped anchor and had our supper quietly. Fresh fish instead of salted made a welcome change in the menu.

Later that same night we again set sail so as to reach the island of Desnœufs the next morning. Every year birds' eggs are collected here for the Mahé markets. It was not the nesting season when we passed, but even so the sky was full of birds. I

Report of the Home Missionary Department of the Southern European Division
For the Year 1951

	Austrian U. C.	Franco-Belgian 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.	Portuguese East Afr. Mission	Spanish Mission	Totals
Number added to union membership since last report as a result of lay members' missionary work	103	55	50	325	103	192	59			65	952
Number of churches and companies reporting	41	50	55		40	37	11	16			250
Churches holding first Sabbath missionary service	37	43	52		38	36	12	14			232
Churches holding weekly missionary service	34	27	44		6	36	12	12			171
Churches conducting training classes	2	2	2			10		4			20
Churches with one or more service companies in operation	35	28	51		24	38	6	10			192
Institutes, rallies, and conventions held	7	4	9			33	4				57
Persons reporting missionary work	572	368	718		510	1037					3205
Bible readings and gospel meetings conducted	15365	4747	5393	12894	11141	38672	5990	43905	1138	5674	144919
Missionary contacts	28743	10441	12812	12542	11838	29152	5120	24519	1071	8595	144833
Pieces missionary literature distributed	53110	235843	235114	3268	11867	125429	51630	35291	129	3572	755253
Persons helped	13793	2477	6188	13084	10602	10059	2626	12342	1023	3206	75400
Enrollments in Bible Correspondence Schools	2220				54	3322					5596

was told, however, that this was nothing in comparison with the height of the season, when the birds literally hide the sun.

At Marie-Louise we stopped to unload provisions and take back some of the workers. The island is well known for the difficulty of launching a canoe from its beaches. The swell comes from two directions simultaneously, and it is sometimes impossible to get merchandise ashore. What happens then? The boat simply leaves and comes back a few months later. Hard, yes, but there is no arguing with facts. This time, however, the weather was extremely favorable; we went ashore without difficulty and feasted on papayas, which grow here in abundance. The tiny island produces only a little copra; in times

past, guano was collected, and even today it gives the soil a certain fertility.

A few hours later the *Charles Edouard* continued on its course, for we were still 180 miles from Mahé. At one time the motor seemed about to stop; fortunately, it soon picked up, and we were spared the prospect of a voyage under sail. The next day we caught our first glimpse of Mahé in seventeen days, ten of which had been spent on the ocean.

I was able to leave some literature as well as a Bible and a subscription to « *Vie et Santé* » on this short cruise among the Seychelles. But there are many other islands to which we must carry our message. May God help us to reach these people while it is yet day.

Colporteur Work in West Africa

By Jean Kempf
Colporteur, French West Africa

Only a year ago, French West Africa knew practically nothing about Adventists. In this immense territory, nine times as large as France, there was not a single mission station, except for the Abidjan Mission on the Ivory Coast.

Now, however, things are beginning to happen. Three French colporteurs have joined forces, with a definite evangelistic goal in view. One, Jacky Hervé, decided to remain in Dakar, the great African metropolis, with 200,000 inhabitants. He hopes to arouse an interest and thus to win souls to Christ. The two others chose to work in the bush.

The reader in civilized countries can hardly form an adequate idea of a colporteur's work in dark Africa. The possibilities are unlimited; he is not only a colporteur, but also an evangelist, educator, and nurse — to say nothing of occasions when he must also double as mechanic, cook, or laundryman.

Driving a jeep across the bush, over mountains and through tropical forests, surprising wild animals in their native haunts, moving among aboriginal races — all this adds a flavor of adventure to the work of the colporteur and makes it irresistibly attractive.

The population of French West Africa comprises three distinct elements. First, there are the native peoples. Among the multitude of tribes scattered from Timbuctoo to Abidjan and from Dakar to Lake Chad, there is such a diversity of racial types that the difference between some is as marked as that between a Laplander and a Spaniard. To the north, in the regions of the Sahara, live the Moors and the Tuaregs, white or Semitic races. Farther south are the Sudanese, a pure-blooded, intelligent race. In the forests of French Guinea and the Ivory Coast one finds the more primitive forest tribes.

The Lebanese and the Syrians constitute the second largest element. These natives of the Middle East have a monopoly on commerce in French West Africa. There is no village, however isolated, without its bearded Syrian or Lebanese squatting behind a counter. The Lebanese are orthodox Catholics, Mohammedans, or even Druses, while the Syrians in general hold to the Moslem religion.

Finally, there is the European population, of which the majority are French — technicians, government officials, military personnel, or planters.

In view of the diversity of the population, the colporteur in French West Africa must have an unusual degree of adaptability. He must be able to vary his presentation to suit the needs of each race. This makes the work immensely interesting.

Thirty-five to forty per cent of the natives are Mohammedans. Besides their local dialects, they speak and read Arabic. This gives them a tremendous advantage over their animistic countrymen, whose lack of a written language is a handicap to the colporteur. The French government has, however, gone to a great deal of effort to educate the population, and many of the young people speak and read French and are therefore good prospects for our literature. These natives, while avid readers, are unfortunately improvident in the extreme; a few days after payday they have no money left and are obliged to borrow the price of the coveted book.

Usually, when we arrive in a community, the news makes the rounds immediately. First we are besieged by schoolboys asking for textbooks and helps. Those a little older want the technical and classical works, while the old men would like to have Mohammedan devotional books. This gives us a chance to present the advantages of our own books to an interested audience, and thus we have been able to sell many copies of « *Vivre*, » « *Nous et nos enfants*, » « *Votre santé*, » and « *Où allons-nous?* » to the young people, as well as Bibles and the book « *Prophètes et croyants* » to the older ones.

We have been agreeably surprised by the deep interest of the African in serious and instructive subjects. There is very little demand for novels or other frivolous reading. After having bought our books, the native goes away with a new light in his eyes, happy to have met Europeans who are interested in his spiritual welfare. Some of the more advanced natives shake hands with us warmly and beg us to do something for the moral uplift of their country. They ask that we study the native mentality and establish schools adapted to the needs of the population. And it

is true that one of the main problems in Africa is to help the native to understand European life in its true aspect, for as yet he has seen only its most vulgar form. We realize the full implications of our task when the old men, shaking their heads gravely, tell us that they have seen very few white men selling religious books in their country.

The negro, especially the Mohammedan, is very pious. A reverent mention of the Lord's name will induce him to purchase a Bible or a good book. I shall never forget the Moorish chieftain whom I met in southern Sudan, I had ceremoniously presented him with a gospel in Arabic. Immediately he assembled his suite and, with evident satisfaction, read aloud two chapters of this wonderful little work.

Visiting the chiefs of the various tribes is not the least of our activities. These chiefs exercise absolute power and enjoy great prestige in their little kingdoms. They are thus able to open many doors for us. Up to the present we have been received with spontaneous friendliness. The fact that young white men are traveling about the country with no other object than the welfare of the natives inspires them with astonishment and gratitude. They are extremely susceptible to marks of affection, especially coming from a white man, for they can discern a man's true motives, and instinctively they will show more respect for an upright person, even a simple private individual, than for the most powerful administrator if he is corrupt.

This fact was demonstrated with particular force

in Upper Guinea, where we had the privilege of meeting an Adventist brother of Liberian origin who is rendering a wonderful testimony throughout the You Koun Koun region to the transforming power of the gospel. As supervisor of several dozen road repair gangs, he occupies a position not usually entrusted to a native. We visited the tribal chiefs in that section, and we soon realized that the influence exerted by this brother is greater than that of the European commanding officer in that region, so far as Mani Viobita, chief of the Cognaguis, is concerned. The latter has promised to send his people to the Adventist mission if one is established at You Koun Koun.

Thus little by little we have won the friendship of the chiefs, and several have taken a definite interest in our work. They made us promise to maintain correspondence with them and to keep them in touch with the progress of our work in Africa.

As for the Lebanese, the Syrians, and the Europeans, they are sometimes quite happy for a visit from white men, and they are easily persuaded to buy a few books. The Lebanese manifest a special interest; being deeply religious, they like to read « Le Christ revient » and « Vers Jésus. »

And so, day after day, the gospel is penetrating the deepest recesses of the African bush. In the evening, as the colporteur, seated in front of a hut, is treating the sick or talking about Jesus to the as-

Please turn to page 11

Report of the Missionary Volunteer Department of the Southern European Division
For the Year 1951

	Austrian U. Conf.	Czechoslovakia U. C.	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Hungarian U. C.	Jugoslavian U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Angola U. M.	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 1951	
Number of Senior societies	26	75	40	77	120	300	20	100	12	38	34	8	24	25	3	7	909	
Number of Junior societies	—	—	2	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	23	
Number of societies reporting	18	—	29	—	—	—	—	95	10	24	21	11	23	—	—	—	231	
Total membership (Seniors)	386	1700	601	1597	2000	11000	363	2199	3000	966	376	110	693	500	50	171	25712	
Total membership (Juniors)	344	—	333	—	1200	—	276	—	—	—	243	56	546	—	—	200	3198	
Total of Senior and Junior young people baptized, regardless of who labored for them	53	—	17	—	—	—	60	401	140	87	34	18	52	—	—	32	884	
Number baptized whom young people had a part in winning	15	—	14	—	225	—	—	—	—	177	13	2	41	—	—	15	502	
Number belonging to missionary bands	82	—	438	—	3200	—	160	1715	—	—	209	—	245	—	—	371	6420	
REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK :																		
Number of Bible readings or gospel meetings held	1360	—	722	—	—	—	509	14765	3672	2683	2838	609	14283	—	—	—	1097	42538
Number of missionary contacts	3990	—	2339	—	30000	—	641	21566	3350	4258	4266	481	17611	—	—	—	3009	91511
Number of persons helped	1204	—	437	—	500	—	236	10250	3945	5392	1556	424	6700	—	—	—	657	21801
Literature distributed	10060	—	60219	—	—	—	24381	2511	1323	3914	38774	51741	48432	—	—	—	463	241818
DEVOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL:																		
Number observing the Morning Watch	247	—	182	—	3000	—	155	1907	2050	288	349	90	361	—	—	—	224	8853
Number completing Bible Year and Character Classics	43	—	53	—	2000	—	33	1206	100	152	134	10	185	—	—	—	170	4080
Number taking Reading Course	54	—	41	—	—	—	49	300	—	65	37	18	27	—	—	—	175	766
FINANCIAL :																		
Offerings local society work	\$ 81	—	334	—	—	—	—	—	10	47	71	1	13	—	—	—	60	617
Ingathering for Missions	\$ 438	—	3042	—	—	—	3169	—	—	—	1582	542	374	—	—	—	—	9147
Offerings special projects	\$ 294	—	331	—	—	—	658	110	72	69	471	31	298	—	—	—	159	2493

Report of the Publishing Department of the Southern European Division

For the Year 1951

	Average Number of Colporteurs	Number of Hours	Value 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.	15	18733			Sch	458,296.—	\$ 19,408.90
Danube Conf.	18	22502				520,495.—	22,085.36
	33	41235	\$ 41,494.26		Sch	978,791.—	\$ 41,494.26
FRANCO-BELGIAN U.C.							
Belgian Conf.	10	8461			FFr	7,606,341.50	\$ 22,818.94
East France Conf.	8	10847				7,169,245.—	21,507.67
North France Conf.	25	38641				25,995,397.—	77,986.11
Southeast France Conf.	30	32778				26,004,476.—	78,013.33
Southwest France Conf.	7	6775				4,683,970.—	14,051.87
	80	97502	\$ 71,233.25	\$ 143,144.67	FFr	71,459,429.50	\$ 214,377.92
SWISS U.C.							
German Swiss Conf.	23	32790			SFr	192,457.—	\$ 45,227.37
Leman Conf.	15	16654				142,306.30	33,441.91
	38	49444	\$ 44,732.96	\$ 33,936.32	SFr	334,763.30	\$ 78,669.28
ANGOLA UNION MISSION	1	150	\$ 4,419.25		Ang.	12,275.15	\$ 4,419.25
FR. WEST & EQ. AFR. U.M.	2		\$ 1,918.68	\$ 55.08	CFr	2,709.67	\$ 1,973.76
INDIAN OCEAN U.M.	11	7703	\$ 10,932.66	\$ 6,084.75	CFr	2,836,241.50	\$ 17,017.41
ITALIAN U.M.							
Central Italian Miss.	10	12486			Lire	9,314,868.—	\$ 15,369.49
North Italian Miss.	20	23100				16,623,016.—	27,427.92
South Italian Miss.	12	17474				10,530,489.—	17,375.26
	42	53060	\$ 60,172.67		Lire	36,468,373.—	\$ 60,172.67
NORTH AFRICAN U.M.							
Algerian Miss.	14	9728			FFr	6,144,876.—	\$ 18,434.57
Moroccan Miss.	6	6954				4,920,067.—	14,760.14
Tunisian Miss.	5	4016				2,312,979.—	6,938.89
	25	20698	\$ 19,851.66	\$ 20,281.94	FFr	13,377,922.—	\$ 40,133.60
PORTUGUESE U.M.	10	14310	\$ 5,202.17	\$ 2,527.70	Esc	214,719.—	\$ 7,729.87
GRECIAN MISS.	2	349	\$ 210.09		Dr	3,341,800.—	\$ 210.09
PORT. EAST AFR. MISSION	1	178	\$ 699.30		Esc	19,425.—	\$ 699.30
SPANISH MISS.	15	16492	\$ 23,945.40		Pes	796,062.—	\$ 23,945.40

RECAPITULATION

Austrian U.C.	33	41235	\$ 41,494.26	\$	Sch	978,791.—	\$ 41,494.26
Franco-Belgian U.C.	80	97502	71,233.25	143,144.67	FFr	71,459,429.50	214,377.92
Swiss U.C.	38	49444	44,732.96	33,936.32	SFr	334,763.30	78,669.28
Angola Union Mission	1	150	4,419.25		Ang.	12,275.15	4,419.25
Fr. West & Eq. Afr. U.M.	2		1,918.68	55.08	CFr	2,709.67	1,973.76
Indian Ocean U.M.	11	7703	10,932.66	6,084.75	CFr	2,836,241.50	17,017.41
Italian U.M.	42	53060	60,172.67		Lire	36,468,373.—	60,172.67
North African U.M.	25	20698	19,851.66	20,281.94	FFr	13,377,922.—	40,133.60
Portuguese U.M.	10	14310	5,202.17	2,527.70	Esc	214,719.—	7,729.87
Greecian Miss.	2	349	210.09		Dr	3,341,800.—	210.09
Port. East Afr. Mission	1	178	699.30		Esc	19,425.—	699.30
Spanish Miss.	15	16492	23,945.40		Pes	796,062.—	23,945.40
TOTALS	260	301121	284,812.35	\$ 206,030.46			\$ 490,842.81

SOUTHERN EUROPEAN
QUARTERLY REVIEW

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M. Fridlin Editor
Esther Benton Editorial Secretary

MISSIONARY SAILINGS
1951

January

Mr. M. Lourinho, of Portugal, to Angola, Portuguese West Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Sanchez and one child, of France, to Tangier, North Africa.

March

Mr. and Mrs. J. Surel and one child, of France, to Réunion Island, Indian Ocean.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Miranda, of Portugal, to Angola, Portuguese West Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Abella and one child, of Portugal, to Saint Thomas Island.

May

Mrs. M. Lourinho and one child, of Portugal, to Angola, Portuguese West Africa.

August

Mr. and Mrs. F. Hügli and one child, of Switzerland, to French Cameroun.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Landa and two children, of France, to Israel, Palestine.

Dr. and Mrs. W. Lesovsky, of Austria, to Iran, Middle East.
Miss Ester dos Santos, of Portugal, to Angola, Portuguese West Africa.

Mr. José S. Carrilho, of Portugal, to Mozambique, Portuguese East Africa.

September

Mr. and Mrs. J. Bureaud, of France, to Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Ruf and two children, of Switzerland, to Algiers, North Africa (returning).

Mr. and Mrs. W. Fuchs and two children, of Switzerland, to French Morocco, North Africa (returning).

October

Dr. and Mrs. M. Charreyron, of France, to Tunis, North Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Mauch, of Switzerland, to Seychelles Islands, Indian Ocean.

November

Mr. and Mrs. E. Long, of Italy, to Madagascar, Indian Ocean.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Bergström, of Sweden, to French Cameroun (returning).

Mr. and Mrs. R. Vertallier and two children, of France, to Algiers, North Africa.

Colporteur Work in West Africa

Continued from page 9

sembled natives, it seems to him that there is nothing finer on earth than to work for the Lord in Africa.

Our hope is that other young men and women will settle here in this part of Africa, where by their lives and example they can preach Jesus Christ and help to save souls and to guide the development of a people which, for lack of disinterested leaders, is about to sink hopelessly into spiritual darkness.

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	
		Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter	Total Losses	Net Gains	Present Membership	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	Credentialed Missionaries	Licensed Missionaries	Bible Instructors	Elem. School Teachers	Canvassers	Total Laborers	Number of Sab. Schools	Sab. School Membership	Average Attendance	
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV.	40	2552	187	8	78	273	69	39	100	208	65	2617	15	3	2	5	8	3	19	3	32	66	40	2824	2056
Austrian Union Conference	114	5694	400	41	400	443	35	65	255	1000	300	5994	33	3	2	9	9	3	19	8	8	160	5845	5400	
Czechoslovakian Union Conf.	78	3566	227	175	700	443	75	58	255	388	53	3621	28	29	31	4	15	35	3	54	154	175	3739	2776	
France-Belgian	155	6800	700	700	700	700	110	65	—	175	538	7325	26	10	4	15	13	—	—	30	300	9000	7000	6500	
Hungarian	230	6750	700	—	—	700	97	65	—	162	538	7288	12	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8000	
Jugoslavian	551	35750	4000	—	—	4000	615	345	—	960	3040	36790	78	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31000	
Rumanian	57	3088	146	10	113	269	54	50	102	206	63	3151	20	2	3	14	5	—	—	4	37	89	56	2842	2341
Swiss	29	4426	962	—	—	3162	297	19	102	3501	623	5049	18	3	3	7	2	17	101	1	140	161	10880	8831	
Angola Union Mission	18	2365	325	3	217	545	19	17	47	246	289	2664	12	7	2	13	94	68	2	198	98	9181	7500	2108	
French West & Eq. African U.M.	55	1989	283	4	44	331	12	21	21	80	251	2240	19	6	11	11	11	11	3	16	11	90	65	3369	2187
Indian Ocean Union Mission	48	1799	181	11	69	261	12	24	85	162	99	1898	19	9	9	2	22	9	—	—	35	20	49	61	2181
Italian	17	1557	85	2	59	146	12	7	49	98	89	1646	11	4	1	1	11	12	3	6	13	58	46	2480	2116
North African	26	2051	148	6	33	200	20	16	45	50	150	1898	8	6	6	6	4	—	—	—	23	25	49	62	698
Portuguese	39	1573	200	—	—	200	20	30	—	50	20	2201	11	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2108
Bulgarian Conference	5	173	17	—	—	20	20	—	—	3	56	193	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1500
Grecian Mission	2	291	59	—	—	59	—	—	—	3	31	347	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	164
Portuguese East Afr. Mission	11	705	67	3	12	82	3	6	—	—	5	756	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1200
Spanish Mission	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	727
Tangier	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Totals for the year 1951	1475	78167	8687	88	3969	12744	1516	848	4074	6438	6306	54473	336	110	71	260	194	199	229	3399	1883	100723	84609		
Totals for the year 1950	1395	71537	8538	116	719	9433	1164	831	808	2803	6630	48167	332	111	47	247	208	206	381	1532	1775	86545	74547		

Statistical Summary of the Southern European Division for the Year 1951

* * *
HERE AND THERE
 * * *

We are sad to report the death on November 15 of Miss **Mathilde Gerber**, head nurse of the sanitarium at Gland, Switzerland. Returning from an Ingathering tour on her bicycle, she was struck by an automobile and died a few days later. For twenty-seven years Sister Mathilde had given of her best for the sick, and the administration, personnel, and patients of La Lignière will never forget her faithful and unselfish service. Although the ways of the Lord are sometimes difficult to understand, we know that He loves His children and always acts for their good.

G. Cupertino, who for twelve years has served as principal of our workers' training school in Florence, Italy, has been called to the Division staff to assist A. Meyer in the Ministerial Association. In addition to his work at the school, Elder Cupertino, a successful evangelist, has given unsparringly of his time for public lectures. We feel that he will add strength to the Division staff, particularly in the field of evangelism, and we welcome him heartily.

The spirit of missions is the spirit of our Master: the very genius of His religion. A diffusive philanthropy is Christianity itself. It requires perpetual propagation to attest its genuineness. **David Livingstone**, Last Journals.

On January 25, **A. Cosendai** and family sailed from Marseille on the **S. S. Foch**, returning to their former field of labor after a furlough in Switzerland. Elder Cosendai, who has spent almost fifteen years as a missionary in the French Cameroun, returns as president of the French West and Equatorial African Union Mission. He replaces **J. A. de Caenel** who was obliged to leave the Cameroun for health reasons and is now president of the Southwest France Conference.

Dr. **M. Charreyron** has accepted a call to go to Tunis with his young wife and is now at work there. He will undoubtedly add strength to our dispensary in that city.

Also on the **S. S. Foch** were **R. Hirschy**, his wife, and three children. He is also returning to the Cameroun from furlough, to continue the leadership of the Batouri Mission where, with his good wife, Brother Hirschy has for a number of years done successful work. This time they were obliged to leave their two older children behind at Collonges to continue their education. We appreciate particularly the spirit of sacrifice displayed by these missionaries.

Late in 1951 Elder and Mrs. **R. Bergström** also returned to the Cameroun after having spent their furlough in France, Switzerland, and their homeland, Sweden. Elder Bergström is our valiant pioneer missionary in the North Cameroun. Although the Bergströms have given more than twenty years of service in this trying field, they went back with real enthusiasm to their beloved Kirdis, for whom they have worked so successfully.

Charles Monnier, who has for more than five years directed the work in the Mauritius Mission, has now been appointed chaplain of the Gland sanitarium and will also be in charge of evangelistic work in the Gland district. Elder Monnier has already begun his new work with enthusiasm. We feel sure he will be a real spiritual leader in the institution.

A Spanish program, « Voz del Hogar, » has been broadcast weekly over Radio Internationale in Tangier, North Africa, since the beginning of the year.

A change of leadership has taken place in the Seychelles Mission, our most isolated mission field. **H. Salzmänn**, who has served in these islands for a number of years, has been replaced by **René Mauch**, a young missionary from Switzerland who with his wife left Europe several months ago. The Salzmänn family, after spending their

furlough in Switzerland, sailed for Madagascar, where Elder Salzmänn will have charge of the Antsirabé Mission.

On the same boat as Brother and Sister **E. Long**, under appointment for educational work in Tananarive, Madagascar. Brother Long formerly served as a teacher at our school in Florence, Italy, but his field of labor will not be new to him, due to the fact that he was born in Madagascar and spent eighteen years there with his parents. We wish these young missionaries and their wives God's blessing in their new activities.

Our German radio program, « Die Stimme der Hoffnung, » is not only doing a good work within the borders of our Division but is benefiting our German neighbors. **M. Busch**, radio secretary of the Central European Division, writes that during the first quarter alone of 1951, 35 listeners to the program were baptized.

Almost 22,000 persons have enrolled in the various Bible schools of the Division. During the first nine months of 1951, 114 baptisms were reported as a result of these courses. Undoubtedly, during the entire year, more than 150 members were added to the church through the radio and Bible correspondence school work.

Next spring and summer, it will be our privilege to have with us several representatives of the General Conference: **N. W. Dunn**, associate secretary; **Adlai Esteb**, associate secretary of the Home Missionary Department; and possibly **E. D. Dick**, secretary, who attended our Annual Council and would be welcomed back to our Division.

The **Quarterly Review** regrets that no issues were published for September and December of 1951, due to the absence of its editorial secretary.