

QUARTERLY REVIEW

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



Years of Progress

By W. R. Beach

President, Southern European Division

Another year's records have been made up and at the same time we have come to the end of a quadrennial period.

Four years have slipped by since the last General Conference session. It hardly seems possible. But 1954 is here. The speeding months have been fraught with far-reaching events and incomparable possibilities for achievement in world evangelism. Above all, and most important, these years have brought us nearer to the great day of our Lord. Surely there can be no doubt now that « our redemption draweth nigh. »

These years of uncertainty and difficulty have revealed a throb of devotion and energy in thousands of hearts in Southern Europe. A thrilling advance has been made. A representative of the Catholic church, in an official statement, calls it « Astounding Progress. » The official reports for 1949-1953 show that 32,941 members were added to the church through baptism and on profession of faith. The church membership stood on December 31, 1953, at 94,700. This means that the Division as a whole, despite four years of East-West separation, made a net gain in baptized membership of nearly 50%. One of our fields, the Angola Union, in its first four years with Southern Europe, did a little better than to double its baptized membership.

The total result is only half way along the road marked out four years ago by the president of the General Conference. However, a lack of access to large sections of the Division field has been a crippling handicap. Our reports are only partial. I suppose the pages of eternity alone will tell the full story. Possibly only then will the leaders of some lands be able to join in the great chorus of praise to God for the exploits of His grace. However, great things have been done and yet greater things are in the offing.

The momentous events of today and the conviction that the end of all things is near at hand have instilled in Southern Europe the high resolve to do quickly the work of God and to attain a baptized membership of 100,000 in the very near future. This is possible with God's blessing. Our Sabbath schools already have a membership beyond 115,000. A large Sabbath school means large baptismal classes. Every department has yoked its forces in a program of integrated evangelism, so that many souls may be saved quickly for the Kingdom.

As I write, hundreds of workers and laymen are engaged in evangelistic efforts. We pray for them and join them in heart and hand. Let us make the message ring out week after week in

Please turn to page 11.

“Tarry Ye” *

By C. W. Bozarth

Assistant treasurer, General Conference

Text: «But they constrained Him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And He went in to tarry with them... But tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high.» Luke 24: 29, 49.

«I wish to study with you this morning the most important thing that this Council ought to think about. I believe it is our greatest need as individual members of the Adventist family, and surely it is the greatest need of the church in all the world. I have in mind the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. For a long time we have been preaching and talking about the day when the Holy Spirit would be poured out in all His power and we would see a great awakening; when the Holy Spirit would take possession of men and women; when the Loud Cry of the Third Angel's Message would be heard. I wish to raise a few questions this morning: why have we waited so long for this outpouring? Why hasn't the Holy Spirit come upon the Church in all His power? Another question is this: Is there anything we as individuals or as a group can do to hasten the time when the Holy Spirit will be poured out in all His power?»

«The message I wish to bring to you this morning is: there is no substitute in all the world for the power and influence of the Holy Spirit. No intellectual preparation, no social culture, no natural ability that we may possess will take the place of the Holy Spirit. All those things are good and necessary, but, brethren and sisters, if we depend solely on education and on culture and on acquired ability, we are going to delay the outpouring of the Spirit of God in all His power. More than this: there is no activity in service, no devotion of our duty to the Church that can meet the need in the life of the individual church member of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

«There are many things we discuss in councils like this to improve our plans, our departments. But what we need is not better plans. We need better men and women executing those plans. And there is only one way I know of to become better: to seek God in prayer and plead with Him for the outpouring of His Holy Spirit.

«I may not look at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the right way. I may not look at it as you do. But as I study the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy, I find this outpouring of God's Spirit will not be a mass movement. It is a personal matter. It ought to start with the workers, and then we ought to lead our churches into a closer fellowship with Jesus. When we as workers are filled with the Spirit of God and can lead our churches to that state, then we shall see what we have all been praying for — a great movement in the world and the work of God closed up quickly. There is only one way to go out and save lost men and women: to go out in the power of the Holy Spirit. 'The preaching of the Word will be of no avail without the continual presence and aid of the Holy Spirit.' — *Desire of Ages*, p. 671. This is the only effectual teacher of divine truth. *It is the only teacher.* Again: 'No amount of education, no advantages,

however great, can make one a channel of light without the co-operation of the Spirit of God.' — *Idem*, p. 672. The Bible and the Spirit of prophecy have made very clear the course of Seventh-day Adventist workers.

«When the Holy Spirit comes in as it should, then we as leaders will be willing to make any sacrifice that God calls for. *Anything*. It means going all the way. It means clearing the King's highway. It may mean that some of us will have to make some things right. It may be that we have not dealt justly with our people in the churches and we may have to straighten some of those things out. Let us be men of God and do it. Clear the King's highway and then let us rededicate ourselves for service. If we will do that here at this meeting, this Council, then we shall see a great inflowing of the church next year. We are promised that, 'Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.' — Zach. 10: 1. That is a promise. Let us claim the promise at this meeting, and let us go out from this Council with a new determination to do a greater work for the Lord.

«Listen: 'When we bring our hearts into unity with Christ, and our lives into harmony with His work, the Spirit that fell on the disciples on the day of Pentecost will fall on us.' — *Testimonies*, Vol. 8, p. 246. That is just as plain and as clear as it could be written. We want the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We have prayed for it. If we bring our hearts into unity with Christ and our lives into harmony with His work, then we have the definite promise that the Spirit that fell on the day of Pentecost will fall on us. May we claim that promise at this time.

«Let Christians put away all dissension, and give themselves to God for the saving of the lost. Let them ask in faith for the promised blessing, and it will come.' — *Testimonies*, Vol. 8, p. 21. Brethren and sisters if we go away from this Council weak men and weak women, it is our own fault. The promise is there. Let us bring our lives into conformity with the message and the promise is sure.

«I saw that none could share the «refreshing» unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action.' — *Early Writings*, p. 71. 'By prayer and confession of sin we must clear the King's highway. As we do this, the power of the Spirit will come to us. We need the pentecostal energy.' — *Gospel Workers*, p. 308. And brethren we do need it. It is our greatest need. You need money, you need more workers, but brethren this is our greatest need: a greater power, a greater inflowing of the Holy Spirit. Personally I am convinced that we have almost reached the limit of our appropriations from the General Conference. But that should not discourage us at all, because the Lord has a thousand ways of finishing His work that we know nothing about. I believe, too, that if we would pray God to show us one or two of those ways during this

Council, we would see great progress in this Division. 'We need the pentecostal energy. This will come; for the Lord has promised to send His Spirit as the all-conquering power.' — *Idem*, p. 308.

« When the leadership, the ministers and workers in God's cause bring their lives into conformity to the life of Christ, when we study His Word and when we seek Him in prayer and daily work to clear the King's highway, then brethren we are going to be new men and new women in Christ Jesus, and we are going out to do a mighty work for God. The only way we are ever going to do the work the Lord has called us to do is for a new consecration to come into the

hearts and lives of the men and women preaching this message. When we have that personal experience, then the Lord will multiply our efforts and He will finish the work through frail human beings. Oh, I want that energizing power of the Holy Spirit in my life. I want to clear the King's highway; and my prayer this morning is that it may be the experience of every worker here in the Southern European Division: that God will take this little group of workers and multiply their energy and their efforts. 'Tarry ye here until ye receive power from on high.' »

* *Résumé of the morning devotional hour by C. W. Bozarth, Division Annual Council, Lausanne, Switzerland, December 11, 1953.*

Our 1953 Division Council

By Marius Fridlin

Secretary, Southern European Division.

Almost three months have passed since the seventy-eight delegates to the 1953 Division Annual Council met in our Lausanne chapel from December 9-15. This meeting was in many respects one of the most important and profitable that we have ever held. From some parts of the field unfortunately no representatives could be present. Before the regular Annual Council, a precouncil was organized by the Educational and Religious Liberty Departments of the Division.

Once again we were favored in having three representatives from our headquarters in Washington, D. C. with us during the Council: R. R. Figuhr, vice-president of the General Conference; C. W. Bozarth, assistant treasurer; and E. E. Cossentine, secretary of the Educational Department. Their daily studies were a source of much encouragement and spiritual help to everyone in attendance, and the wise counsel they gave during the business sessions was highly appreciated.

W. R. Beach, the Division president, gave his inspiring report during the opening meeting. His remarks were based on the parable of the mustard seed, and he compared the present status of our field to that of 1929 when the Southern European Division was organized. At that time we had only 16,511 members. Today the 95,000 mark has been almost reached. Since 1946 the membership of the Division has more than doubled. Tithes and offerings have also increased during the year 1953, which is a proof of the fidelity and spirit of sacrifice of our members everywhere.

A new hall and evangelistic center has been inaugurated in Le Havre, North France. A second evangelistic center and conference office building is under construction in Salzburg, Austria, as well as a chapel in Villach, Austria.

A nice school property has been purchased at Setubal, Portugal, and in the French Cameroun fifty hectares of ground are ready for the installation of the new

seminary with a house for European and native teachers, a dispensary and dormitories for the boys.

The Gland sanitarium is being enlarged so that one hundred beds may be available.

The *Ligue Vie et Santé* is developing into an important channel of light and influence.

With the help of God the closed churches in Italy were re-opened last year.

In his closing remarks Elder Beach sounded the spiritual program for the coming year. 1954 should be above all else a year of sanctification of the whole church. Then the word SOULS should be adopted by every field as the watchword for all forces whether they be purely evangelical, administrative or institutional, so that by co-ordinated efforts greater results may be obtained. Finally our president made the suggestion of adding 6,000 members more during the first part of 1954, so that at the time of the General



Delegates present at Southern European Division Council, Lausanne, December 9-15, 1953.

Conference session in San Francisco, the 100,000 mark will have been reached for the Division.

The secretary's report showed that during the first nine months of 1953, 6,748 members were baptized. A goodly number of missionary families and single workers left Southern Europe during 1953 for Africa and the islands of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans. The complete list of these missionary sailings appears on page 11 of this number.

The treasurer also presented a very good report which was unanimously adopted.

As evangelism always holds the first place in our Division activities, a new call to evangelism was sounded from this Council to all parts of the field. We consider this resolution of sufficient importance to be printed here in full.

EVANGELISM FOR WINTER AND SPRING OF 1953 AND 1954

WHEREAS, There is need for frequent short revival and evangelistic efforts to be held in all our churches, and

WHEREAS, Such combined short revival and evangelistic efforts are a mighty factor in establishing our members in the faith as well as in leading many to a definite decision who have been on the verge of the kingdom but who have not taken a definite stand for Christ, and

WHEREAS, Through this means many backsliders are reclaimed and hundreds of children of Adventists are gathered into the churches,

Be it resolved, 1. That during the coming winter and spring a supreme effort be made to conduct revival and evangelistic meetings of some seven to ten days' duration in every Seventh-day Adventist church throughout the world, in a mighty effort to gather as many as possible into the church during this period.

2. That as far as possible these meetings be launched on Friday night, January 8, 1954, and that this work be carried forward until every church is reached.

3. That wherever possible, church officers and qualified laymen be associated with the ministry to assist in home visitation, Bible work, etc.

4. That where churches are located in remote places making it impossible for a minister to visit during this period, consecrated laymen from larger churches be requested to go two and two to conduct such meetings.

5. That an effort be made to conduct a baptismal service in every church before the close of the meetings.

6. That offerings be taken in the respective churches to defray the expense of these special meetings as far as possible.

Name of Conference or Mission	SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV.																							
	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	
Austrian Union Conference	41	2619	173	7	147	327	84	53	198	395	-8	2611	20	1	5	4	1	9	18	58	41	2916	1955	
Czechoslovakian Union Conf.	14	6174	400	22	187	400	65	35	100	300	300	6474	16	2	2	3	19	9	8	68	160	6000	5400	
France-Belgian	78	3786	144	22	187	353	67	41	211	319	-634	3820	33	3	2	3	19	4	55	184	82	3973	3007	
Hungarian	155	7463	115	115	641	110	41	211	751	636	6827	26	23	4	4	15	35	3	71	90	175	9000	8500	
Jugoslavian	230	7638	750	750	200	223	223	423	423	2250	41140	78	11	2	2	8	22	8	71	360	560	40000	40000	
Rumanian	551	38890	3000	3000	500	250	250	750	2250	2250	41140	78	11	2	2	8	22	8	136	560	40000	40000		
Swiss	59	3197	103	12	139	284	47	61	121	229	25	3222	20	3	4	18	4	5	35	89	57	3161	2141	
Angola Union Mission	30	6077	1215	46	1261	17	9	49	75	1186	7263	23	15	9	2	129	79	41	2	198	194	15691	11152	
French Eq. African U.M.	21	2930	411	5	73	489	79	54	76	209	280	3210	14	14	14	14	14	14	4	234	129	10747	7990	
Indian Ocean Union Mission	63	2458	252	3	68	323	26	21	87	184	189	2647	21	9	1	2	4	4	13	108	93	4797	3432	
Italian	52	1995	155	3	118	323	26	21	87	184	189	2647	21	9	1	2	4	4	13	108	93	4797	3432	
North African	19	723	52	3	31	86	19	14	154	193	2081	17	7	6	1	16	5	5	54	119	35	3000	2640	
Portuguese	23	1771	206	7	88	200	28	19	113	160	141	1912	12	5	5	5	5	5	4	42	35	3000	2640	
Bulgarian Conference	39	3000	200	200	3	3	16	12	28	172	3172	6	1	4	4	10	10	10	2	23	39	2672	2200	
French West Afr. Mission	5	196	8	8	3	3	4	4	28	28	11	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	7	5	215	184	
Greek Mission	6	397	117	117	2	2	119	11	11	91	207	488	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	20	18	2120	1265	
Portuguese East Afr. Mission	14	820	95	95	40	141	1	10	42	53	88	908	6	6	6	6	6	6	3	26	17	1337	909	
Spanish Church	5	196	8	8	3	3	4	4	28	28	11	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	7	5	215	184	
Tangier Mission	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Totals for the year 1953	1501	90141	7397	73	945	8415	1817	915	1124	3856	4559	94700	362	132	33	382	197	243	203	1552	2002	115652	99596	
Totals for the year 1952	1382	84473	7916	126	677	8719	1397	839	815	3051	5668	90141	364	130	93	260	208	206	238	1499	1931	110576	89417	

Statistical Summary of the Southern European Division for the Year 1953

Report of the Publishing Department of the Southern European Division
For the Year 1953

	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.	16	17,033	—	—	Sch	514,466.—	
Danube Conf.	29	28,609	—	—		786,633.—	
	45	45,642	\$ 47,611.61	—	Sch	1,301,099.—	\$ 52,043.95
FRANCO-BELGIAN U.C.							
Belgian Conf.	4	8,661	—	—	FFr	8,180,250.—	
East France Conf.	4	10,852	—	—		7,363,500.—	
North France Conf.	23	32,662	—	—		24,054,731.—	
Southeast France Conf.	16	28,958	—	—		23,946,795.—	
Southwest France Conf.	7	7,620	—	—		6,009,827.—	
	54	88,753	\$ 59,630.90	\$ 138,617.88	FFr	69,555,103.—	\$ 198,248.75
SWISS U.C.							
German Swiss Conf.	23	31,491	—	—	SFr	190,319.—	
Leman Conf.	12	14,976	—	—		137,668.70	
	35	46,467	\$ 41,705.51	\$ 36,870.30	SFr	327,987.70	\$ 77,077.04
ANGOLA UNION MISSION	3	1,565	\$ 8,781.67	—	Ang.	267,264.60	\$ 9,621.51
FR. EQ. AFR. U.M.	4	—	\$ 2,643.71	—	CFr	120,595.—	\$ 2,643.71
INDIAN OCEAN U.M.	13	5,894	\$ 21,416.91	\$ 4,712.34	CFr	4,584,089.50	\$ 26,129.27
ITALIAN U.M.							
Central Italian Miss.	14	16,945	—	—	Lire	12,808,955.—	
North Italian Miss.	27	30,246	—	—		24,195,745.—	
South Italian Miss.	20	28,439	—	—		19,865,625.—	
	61	75,630	\$ 31,456.36	\$ 54,417.86	Lire	56,870,325.—	\$ 93,835.84
NORTH AFRICAN U.M.							
Algerian Miss.	5	5,105	—	—	FFr	4,540,460.—	
Moroccan Miss.	5	5,857	—	—		5,156,043.—	
Tunisian Miss.	2	1,571	—	—		949,051.—	
	12	12,533	\$ 17,107.99	\$ 13,231.65	FFr	10,645,554.—	\$ 30,339.65
PORTUGUESE U.M.	13	16,491	\$ 4,866.04	\$ 6,914.70	Esc	327,234.50	\$ 11,780.44
SPANISH CHURCH	19	18,430	\$ 17,188.63	—	Pes	597,494.—	\$ 14,937.33

RECAPITULATION

Austrian U.C.	45	45,642	\$ 47,611.61	—	Sch	1,301,099.—	\$ 52,043.95
Franco-Belgian U.C.	54	88,753	\$ 59,630.90	\$ 138,617.88	FFr	69,555,103.—	\$ 198,248.75
Swiss U.C.	35	46,467	\$ 41,705.51	\$ 36,870.30	SFr	327,987.70	\$ 77,077.04
Angola Union Mission	3	1,565	\$ 8,781.67	—	Ang.	267,264.60	\$ 9,621.51
Fr. Eq. Afr. U.M.	4	—	\$ 2,643.71	—	CFr	120,595.—	\$ 2,643.71
Indian Ocean U.M.	13	5,894	\$ 21,416.91	\$ 4,712.34	CFr	4,584,089.50	\$ 26,129.27
Italian U.M.	61	75,630	\$ 31,456.36	\$ 54,417.86	Lire	56,870,325.—	\$ 93,835.84
North African U.M.	12	12,533	\$ 17,107.99	\$ 13,231.65	FFr	10,645,554.—	\$ 30,339.65
Portuguese U.M.	13	16,491	\$ 4,866.04	\$ 6,914.70	Esc	327,234.50	\$ 11,780.44
Spanish Church	19	18,430	\$ 17,188.63	—	Pes	597,494.—	\$ 14,937.33
TOTALS	259	311,405	\$ 252,409.33	\$ 254,764.73			\$ 516,657.97

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF S. D. A. FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1953

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 CONF.																								
Danube Conference	22	1521	23	2	12	37	21	8	36	65	-28	1493	3	1	3	4	—	—	10	24	22	1706	1075	
Alpine »	19	1127	6	—	21	27	12	3	21	36	-9	1118	7	1	1	2	4	—	8	23	19	1210	880	
Total :	41	2648	29	2	33	64	33	11	57	101	-37	2611	16	2	5	8	9	—	18	58	41	2916	1955	
CZECHOSLOVAKIAN U. C.																								
Total :	114	6474	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6474	33	3	2	3	19	—	8	68	160	6000	5400	
FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C.																								
Belgian Conference	14	922	9	2	4	15	13	2	—	15	—	922	3	2	1	4	—	—	4	23	16	942	698	
East France »	18	497	1	—	2	3	—	—	4	—	-1	496	5	4	1	8	—	1	4	19	18	551	401	
North France »	18	1215	7	4	26	37	9	4	34	47	-10	1205	6	10	1	6	3	—	23	49	18	1293	1044	
Southeast France »	22	997	1	—	20	21	2	1	21	24	-3	994	7	3	1	9	1	1	16	38	4	942	679	
Southwest France »	6	203	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	203	3	1	—	4	—	—	7	15	6	245	185	
Total :	78	3834	18	6	52	76	24	7	59	90	-14	3820	27	23	4	38	4	3	55	154	82	3973	3007	
HUNGARIAN U. C.																								
Total :	155	6827	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6827	26	10	4	15	35	—	—	90	175	7000	6500	
JUGOSLAVIAN U. C.																								
Total :	230	8265	—	—	—	—	155	145	—	300	-300	7965	28	11	2	8	22	—	—	71	300	9000	8500	
RUMANIAN U. C.																								
Total :	551	41140	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41140	78	11	—	47	—	—	—	136	560	40000	40000	
SWISS U. C.																								
German Swiss Conference	34	1926	19	3	28	50	16	10	41	67	-17	1909	11	1	2	3	—	—	2	24	51	33	1892	1124
Leman »	25	1296	9	3	26	38	5	8	8	21	17	1313	9	2	1	6	2	3	11	34	24	1269	1017	
Total :	59	3222	28	6	54	88	21	18	49	88	—	3222	20	3	4	18	4	5	35	89	57	3161	2141	
ANGOLA UNION MISSION																								
Benguela Mission	1	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	5	—	—	9	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	
Bongo Mission	23	3645	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3645	6	3	—	11	—	35	—	55	—	—	—	
Cuale »	1	380	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	380	2	2	—	3	—	25	—	32	—	—	—	
Lucusse »	1	109	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	109	1	—	—	1	—	4	—	6	—	—	No report	
Luz »	1	638	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	638	4	4	—	3	—	30	—	41	—	—	—	
Namba Mission	1	958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	958	2	—	—	—	—	14	—	16	—	—	—	
Nova Lisboa Mission	2	1489	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1489	2	6	—	1	—	21	2	32	—	—	—	
Total :	30	7263	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7263	23	15	—	29	—	129	2	198	194	15691	11152	
FRENCH EQ. AFR. U.M.																								
Batouri Mission	3	448	12	—	—	12	—	1	—	1	11	459	2	1	1	8	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	
Bertoua »	2	233	60	—	—	60	—	—	—	—	60	293	2	1	—	4	17	6	—	28	22	2560	1840	
Kribi »	3	266	32	2	—	34	4	2	—	6	28	294	3	2	—	6	—	16	—	27	12	390	270	
Maroua »	2	255	34	2	—	36	4	6	—	10	26	281	2	—	—	1	13	2	—	18	21	846	750	
Nanga-Eboko »	6	1335	172	1	—	173	57	28	—	85	88	1423	2	2	—	13	38	33	1	89	41	4182	3160	
Sangmelima »	4	364	16	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	16	380	2	1	—	5	1	17	—	26	9	682	510	
Yaoundé »	1	73	7	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7	80	1	1	1	—	1	4	3	11	6	223	120	
Total :	21	2974	333	5	—	338	65	37	—	102	236	3210	14	9	2	41	79	85	4	234	129	10747	7990	

Report of the Missionary Volunteer Department of the Southern European Division

For the Year 1953

	Austrian U. Conf.	Czechoslovakia. U. C.	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Hungarian U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Yugoslavian U. C.	Angola U. M.	French Eq. African U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Italian U. M.	North African U. M.	Portuguese U. M.	Bulgarian M.	Greek M.	Portuguese East Afr. M.	Spanish Church	Yearly Average and Totals 1953
Number of Senior societies	19	75	33	77	300	17	120	78	13	44	29	10	29	25	4	1	10	884
Number of Junior societies	14	—	13	—	—	14	—	49	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	94
Number of societies reporting	33	—	27	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	22	6	28	—	—	1	8	146
Total membership (Seniors)	300	2000	585	1600	14000	348	7000	2671	3200	934	413	113	868	1000	53	83	291	35459
Total membership (Juniors)	434	—	165	—	—	249	—	2124	—	—	263	55	574	—	—	—	85	3949
Total of Senior and Junior young people baptized, regardless of who labored for them	43	200	43	75	1600	50	325	733	25	40	40	15	65	60	7	55	50	3426
Number baptized whom young peo- ple had a part in winning	3	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	7	4	—	—	—	—	49
Number belonging to missionary bands	119	—	394	—	—	38	—	—	—	—	292	—	117	—	—	—	—	960
REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK :																		
Number of Bible readings or gospel meetings held	903	—	597	—	—	312	—	18715	2011	2023	4513	309	16428	—	—	132	1138	47081
Number of missionary contacts	1868	—	1021	—	35000	666	35000	18921	12524	2258	3322	819	15109	2000	100	268	4633	133509
Number of persons helped	2489	—	322	—	—	187	—	5600	3555	1301	1460	322	5677	—	—	393	2969	23681
Literature distributed	8406	—	37306	—	—	31911	500	9858	1000	1387	28407	7478	61045	—	—	9	1295	188602
DEVOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL:																		
Number observing the Morning Watch	222	—	258	—	—	58	—	4326	2650	280	293	48	281	—	—	83	316	8815
Number completing Bible Year and Character Classics	38	—	40	—	—	14	—	1256	50	77	46	13	138	—	—	—	189	1861
Number taking Reading Course ..	93	—	24	—	—	25	—	301	—	27	141	3	35	—	—	—	65	714
FINANCIAL :																		
Offerings local society work ... \$	327.61	—	206.80	—	—	711.62	—	—	90.56	—	76.71	18.35	—	—	—	—	164.41	1,596.60
Ingathering for Missions	576.20	—	7,458.25	—	—	2,727.80	—	1,080.—	—	—	2,227.70	644.70	1,022.85	—	—	—	—	15,737.50
Offerings special projects	430.89	—	569.80	—	—	600.—	300.—	150.—	150.—	150.—	250.—	150.—	245.66	—	42.—	—	114.04	3,152.39

7. That such subjects as the following be covered :

- The Church Triumphant
- Signs of the Approaching End
- The Hope of the Resurrection
- Righteousness by Faith
- The Perpetuity of the Law
- The Sabbath and Its Meaning
- The New Birth
- The Spirit of Prophecy
- The Second Advent
- The New Earth
- The Judgment

8. That our entire office force in the respective fields, and as far as possible institutional workers, be urged to join our pastors, evangelists and laymen in conducting these meetings.

9. That public efforts be conducted wherever possible in every district during the winter and spring preceding the General Conference session, as may be arranged by the respective committees involved.

10. That we set a goal of gathering 6,000 new members into our churches throughout the Southern European Division during the period between January 1, 1954 and May 1, 1954.

Be it further resolved, That beginning with the first Sunday in January, 1954, a supreme endeavor be made to have an evangelistic sermon preached in every Seventh-day Adventist church throughout our Division where it is possible to hold public meetings and on every Sunday night thereafter.

Very interesting reports were given by the department secretaries of the Division, all stressing progress and the winning of souls.

A message was sent to our workers and believers as well as one to our valiant missionaries in the far-away fields, setting forth the beautiful ideals and standards committed to us by God, and expressing our sincere appreciation of the faithfulness and self-sacrifice of our ministry, laity and missionaries in Africa and the islands of the sea.

It may be that 1954 will be a year of trial and anxiety in some of our fields, but we know that it will also be a year of triumph and glorious victory as every worker and church member stands at his post of duty with deeper and truer consecration. The call has been sounded to advance. Let us then with the help of the Lord go forward in the power of the Spirit, in faith, and with new courage until all the work is done and the kingdom of God ushered in.

A Blessed Ministry

By Marius Fridlin

Secretary of the Radio Department

The Adventist message is now sounding over the waves of forty-five broadcasting stations in the different countries of the Southern European Division. Since the Bible correspondence course was launched in our territory, a little over 66,000 students have been enrolled in the 19 courses organized in 8 languages: French, German, Italian, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, Greek, and Malagasy. During this same period about 6,000 diplomas have been distributed to persons having completed the lessons, and the number of baptisms has exceeded 800.

Cheering reports continue to come to us from every field in the Division. Here, however, I shall mention only one: the great island of Madagascar. On December 2, 1953, Elder Girard, president of the Indian Ocean Union Mission, wrote as follows: « Last week a native Protestant teacher made a trip from Mananakara, 300 kilometers from the capital city of Tananarive, for the express purpose of asking me to send one of our evangelists to this little town where fifteen persons are following the Bible correspondence course lessons. These persons would like to become members of our church and are asking us to organize a group in their locality. Similar requests are coming to us from every corner of the island. Even here in Tananarive the workers cannot find time to visit all the persons found through the radio broadcasts of *La Voix de L'Espérance* (The Voice of Hope).

But it is especially in the south of the island that a mighty interest is being manifested. H. Salzman, our European missionary in the south, is at present at Tuléar, an important center, where the people are

asking us to begin evangelistic work. It is urgent that we have a missionary in this territory if we do not wish to lose the wonderful opportunities that these new openings offer us. If it were possible to send a missionary to that section, I am convinced that many groups could be organized rapidly, there where we have no work for the present. I pray that for the advancement of the work in Madagascar our request will be granted. »

One of our good native evangelists, Brother Raminason, tells of a man who on three consecutive Sabbaths attended the services in our church at Antsirabé. The fourth Sabbath our minister went to him to ask some questions. His surprise and joy were great when he learned that this gentleman had taken the decision to follow the Bible principles which had been revealed to him by the Bible correspondence course of the Voice of Hope. This gentleman is now preparing for baptism. He has created a fine interest in his village where four of his friends are studying the Word of God regularly under his guidance. His wife, whom he has won to the message, attends the Sabbath services with two of her lady friends.

We have every reason to believe in the efficiency of the blessed ministry of the Voice of Hope. In a tormented world, where a growing sense of uncertainty is gripping the hearts of men, our radio program and the Bible correspondence courses are elevating the Christian faith and pointing men and women to the way of peace and hope. The radio work presents limitless possibilities of growth, and we are persuaded

The Army of the Lord

By F. Charpiot

Home Missionary Secretary, Southern European Division

The Church is not only the bride and body of Christ, His family on earth, His vineyard, the flock He tenderly careth for. It is also, and above all, God's army fighting glorious, victorious battles for the establishment of His everlasting kingdom.

Too long and too often in the past, the general staff, have been bearing the brunt of the battle on the front lines, while the rank and file have complacently looked on. It is the aim of the Home Missionary Department to mobilize the *whole army* of the Lord; to enlist every child of God to take his heaven-appointed place in the combat for perishing souls.

The work in the Southern European Division must be carried on under very unusual circumstances. More than half of our members live in the fields which are the most fruitful in soul-winning, but which are inaccessible at present. Yet we know that in spite of the most forbidding circumstances, dangers and difficulties of all kinds, and apparently insurmountable obstacles, the army of the Lord in those perilous areas is valiantly carrying the battle to the very gates of the great adversary. Soul-winning must be carried on largely by the lay-workers' quiet ministry of love, and it brings fruit. We know that in one of these fields alone between two and three thousand souls are won yearly as a result of lay activities.

This work is pleasing to the Lord, and on more than one occasion we have seen Him manifest His miraculous power in behalf of our church members.

Here is one most extraordinary incident: In one of the Balkan countries a sister was living alone in her village, doing her best to let her light shine through

her friendly attitude and loyalty to her Lord. But nothing seemed able to break down the hostility and indifference of the villagers.

This sister made a scanty living by tilling a little garden plot. One day a neighbor woman entered her home with this abrupt greeting: « Now I *know* that you are a witch. » « What makes you think so? » quietly answered our sister. « For a long time we have been watching the rich crops you get from your garden. You always raise the very best vegetables, even when others have nothing or their gardens are eaten up by insects. This morning when I saw your beautiful garden I gathered up a large box of caterpillars and threw them over the hedge into your garden. What do you think I saw? Those caterpillars crawling back into my garden as quickly as they could. Now I *know* you are a witch. » Our sister answered, « I am not a witch. But I am a child of God; and I can read the secret to you from the Bible, » and opening God's Book she read the wonderful promises found in the third chapter of Malachi to those who are faithful in tithes and offerings.

As the neighbor woman listened with wondering awe her heart was touched, and for the first time she was willing to accept our sister's message. She decided right there to study the Bible and to pay tithe to the Lord. She and several other neighbors are now preparing for baptism, and there is a growing interest in this village.

Yes, we thank God for « the army of the Lord » in the Southern European Division, — for these valiant lay-workers who are fighting the Great General's battles and winning souls for His kingdom.

Report of the Home Missionary Department of the Southern European Division For the Year 1953

	Austrian U. C.	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	* Angola U. M.	** Fr. Eq. Afr. U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Italian U. M.	North African U. M.	Portuguese U. M.	Spanish Church	Totals
Number added to union membership since last report as a result of lay members' missionary work	114	26	65	—	44	—	258	27	106	—	640
Number of churches and companies reporting	41	46	51	—	—	35	43	10	23	8	257
Churches holding first Sabbath missionary service	36	32	51	—	—	28	50	11	22	9	239
Churches holding weekly missionary service	33	31	46	—	—	—	50	11	20	—	191
Churches conducting training classes	2	12	14	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	39
Churches with one or more service companies in operation	36	27	51	99	—	—	43	8	13	13	290
Institutes, rallies, and conventions held	6	—	12	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	22
Persons reporting missionary work	3583	1644	2043	250	—	2887	5367	—	2272	—	18046
Bible readings and gospel meetings conducted	9997	5360	4734	1046	11617	10661	35854	3706	50858	3073	136906
Missionary contacts	22052	12246	12542	2840	12651	9786	24556	5177	40817	8646	151313
Pieces missionary literature distributed	52981	234889	204913	214	2273	8100	79713	28984	126676	2463	741206
Persons helped	9742	3206	7574	1500	19944	7528	6665	1964	14416	2002	74541
Enrollments in Bible Correspondence Schools	819	—	—	—	—	—	1735	—	—	—	2554
							* One quarter	—	** three quarters		

YEARS OF PROGRESS

Continued from page 1

The evening of December 30 we were shocked to learn of the sudden death, due to a heart attack, of Louis Vez whose name has been closely connected with the school life of our French seminary for so many years. In fact before he retired some two years ago, Brother Vez had been in charge of the garden of the institution since its foundation in 1921. Under his talented care year after year, the brushwood on the school grounds was transformed into a beautiful park. The muddy paths were replaced by well-built lanes bordered with rocks and flowers. Everyone who visited the seminary during the summer months could not but admire the beautiful adornment of flowers. Brother Vez believed in letting flowers give their lovely message of joy and friendliness during life and not only at the time of death. Several times in the course of Brother Vez's service, the school gardens received a prize from the Department of Agriculture. To the whole Adventist and non-Adventist community, Brother Vez was known not only as an expert gardener, but also as a true Christian, a peace-lover, a man of great kindness and friendliness, always ready to render a service to anyone whom he could help.

Standing by his open grave at the time of his burial, the mayor of the Collonges village spoke these touching words of esteem and sympathy: « If all men had resembled him, we would have peace in the world today. Work was his life. If the seminary possesses a beautiful park and garden, it is because of him. We have always admired the good taste with which he beautified the grounds of your school.»

Brother Vez rests from his labors until the glad resurrection morning, but the slopes of the Salève surrounding the buildings of our seminary, adorned with graceful trees, shrubs and flowers planted by his hands, will stand as a living monument to his life of devoted service until his Master appears in the clouds of heaven. To his bereaved family we here renew the expression of our deepest Christian sympathy.

every church and evangelistic center. Then 1954 will be what the Division Council in Lausanne resolved to make it: a year of sanctification and evangelization.

Allow me to add this word of gratitude and appreciation for the magnificent efforts workers and laymen have put forth during the past four years. It is a marvelous story indeed. May God bless you with joy and success and lead you ever onward to the high heights of spiritual life and achievement.

MISSIONARY SAILINGS
1953

January

Mr. José Augusto Silva, Junior, of Portugal, to Saint Thomas Island (returning).

March

Mr. and Mrs. R. Daellenbach and one child, of Switzerland, to Israel.

April

Mr. and Mrs. R. Devins and one child, of France, to Canada.

May

*Mr. and Mrs. E. Landa and two children, of France, to Tahiti.
Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Baião, of Portugal, to Angola, Portuguese West Africa.*

June

*Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Miguel and two children, of Portugal, to Madeira Island.
Mr. and Mrs. E. Villeneuve and two children, of Switzerland, to Madagascar (returning).
Mr. and Mrs. A. Richli, of Switzerland, to Mauritius.*

July

*Mr. and Mrs. H. Drouault and three children, of France, to Madagascar (returning).
Mr. and Mrs. J. Zurcher and three children, of Switzerland, to Madagascar (returning).
Mr. and Mrs. F. Brennwald, M. D., of Switzerland, to French Cameroun.*

August

*Mr. and Mrs. P. Girard and three children, of Algeria, to Madagascar.
Mr. R. Villeneuve, Junior, of Switzerland, to Madagascar (returning).*

September

*Miss H. Tierce, of France, to French Cameroun.
Mr. and Mrs. M. Francisco Cordas and two children, of Portugal, to Cape Verde Islands (returning).
Mr. and Mrs. M. Radancevic and one child, of Yugoslavia, to French Cameroun.*

October

*Miss H. Devos, of Belgium, to Belgian Congo.
Mr. and Mrs. E. Moretti, M. D., and two children, of Italy, to Angola, Portuguese West Africa.*

November

*Mr. and Mrs. R. Bentz and two children, of France, to French Cameroun (returning).
Mr. and Mrs. M. Bornert and two children, of France, to New Caledonia.
Mr. and Mrs. S. Monnier and two children, of Switzerland, to Martinique.*

December

Miss Magali Cloux, of Switzerland, to Tunis, North Africa.

A BLESSED MINISTRY

Continued from page 9

that it is being carried on in our Division on a much too modest scale. Today is our hour of opportunity. The doors are still wide open, and we must hasten to enter them.

This is why we are appealing once again to our church members and faithful workers to undertake a systematic recruiting campaign for new students to enroll in the Bible correspondence courses. Thus the harvest of souls will be still greater. We should also intensify our propaganda and follow up the interests created in many places by the Voice of Hope. But this demands a large amount of funds. We know that we shall not appeal in vain to the liberality of our members and friends when the time comes for our 1954 annual radio collection. We believe that it will be a record.

* * *
HERE AND THERE
 * * *

A number of General Conference brethren spent some time in our field during the first quarter of 1954. **B. E. Wagner**, associate secretary of the General Conference Publishing Department, attended calporteur institutes in North Africa, Spain, Portugal, Italy and a publishing convention in France in company with F. Charpiat, Division Publishing Department secretary. Then we had short visits from **E. R. Walde**, secretary of the Radio Department of the General Conference; and from **W. R. Scharffenberg** of the International Temperance Association. All of these visits have been very helpful, and we are confident that these personal contacts with our problems will help the brethren to better evaluate our needs.

Our mission fields in Africa and the islands of the sea continue to present unprecedented possibilities of advance. Unfortunately it is not always possible to find the necessary missionaries and funds for opening new work inasmuch as the vacancies left open by permanently returned missionaries or by the death of a faithful worker — as was the case in the tragic accident of R. Hirschy — must be cared for first. We are glad, however, that during the first three months of 1954 some new missionaries could be sent out to the far-distant mission fields. **Elder and Mrs. R. Buyck** and their youngest daughter have left for Mauritius Island where Brother Buyck will serve as president of the Mauritius Mission. The Buyck family left behind them their two eldest children who are continuing their studies at the Collanges seminary in France.

R. Collin, former treasurer of the Belgian Conference, has left with his family for Madagascar. Brother Collin will replace **H. L. Henriksen** as secretary-treasurer of the Indian Ocean Union Mission. The Henriksen family are returning permanently in early spring after having served six additional years in this union. It is certainly a great loss for the Indian Ocean Union Mission to lose the Henriksens,

whose long years of service in this mission field endeared them to workers and members alike. We are glad to welcome them back to Europe for a well-earned furlough.

In our December number we announced that **A. Sanchez** of Tangiers had also accepted a call for general mission work in the North Cameroon. The Sanchez family are already installed in their mission home in North Cameroon.

Another family has left for the mission field: **L. Burkharth** and his wife and child of Alsace, France sailed recently for Madagascar where Brother Burkharth will be in charge of the wood-shop in the Samanandrany seminary. He is an experienced and well-trained carpenter and cabinet-maker.

We are sure that all these families will be a real asset to these mission fields, and we wish them God's richest blessing in their new experience. Once again new and stranger ties bind us to the mission fields.

We are also glad to welcome to our Division **Miss Annice Larson**, an experienced nurse of the United States, who has accepted a call to connect with our Bango hospital in Angola as head nurse. Miss Larson is spending some months in Lisbon, Portugal to learn the Portuguese language before leaving for Angola. We are thankful to have the services of this faithful nurse in the extensive Angola colony.

Sabbath, January 23, a neat, new chapel was dedicated to the Lord in Clarens on the shores of Lake Geneva. The dedicatory sermon was preached by **W. R. Beach**. **A. Meyer** from the Division Ministerial Association Department, immediately launched an evangelistic effort after the opening of this chapel, and we are looking for good results.

On April 8, 1954, the Brussels church witnessed the founding of another Christian home when **Beverly Bert Beach**, the son of our Division president, and **Miss Eliane Palange** were united in marriage. As this happy and talented couple make their home in Florence, where Brother Beach is the president of the Italian training school, our best wishes for their future happiness as they tread life's pathway together, go with them.

A change has been made recently in the leadership of our Bogenhafen seminary in Austria. **F. Pieringer** who served so faithfully as president of this school since it was started in 1949, has resigned his post of responsibility, and the brethren have elected **Paul Steiner** as new president. Elder Pieringer will remain connected with the school as Bible teacher. We thank him for the good work done during his leadership, and wish him God's rich blessing in his teaching. We also extend our best wishes to Elder Steiner who now has to take care of this important school.

Last November, just before our Division Annual Council, we bade good-bye to **Miss Esther Benton**, one of the secretaries of our Division staff and former office editor of the "Quarterly Review".

Miss Benton came as a missionary from the United States in 1946 and gave seven years of efficient, faithful service in our office. There she served appreciated her quiet ways and the rapidity, accuracy and neatness of her work. She was always "at her job," never wasting a moment's precious time in idle talk or trivial service. Miss Benton is surely one of those secretaries whom it is hard to replace. We are consoled, however, at the thought that our loss will be the gain of our fellow-workers in her homeland to which she has returned. Our best wishes and prayers accompany her as she continues her devoted service for the Master.