

# QUARTERLY REVIEW

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



## The Southern European Division Annual Council

By M. Fridlin

Secretary, Southern European Division

The twenty-first Annual Council of the Southern European Division is already a thing of the past. This year it convened from December 8-14 in the capital of Austria. The spacious headquarters of the Austrian Union at *Adventhaus*, Vienna, were very convenient for this meeting, and the union leaders left nothing undone to make the 58 delegates feel at home in this charming old historical city. Even the smallest details for their comfort had been planned for, and all present greatly appreciated this hospitality.

Besides the two representatives from the General Conference — H. L. Rudy, general vice-president and N. F. Brewer, one of the field secretaries — and the Division staff members, delegates were present from the Austrian, Franco-Belgian, Italian, North African, Portuguese, Swiss and Yugoslavian Unions, from the Greek and Spanish Missions, the Collonges seminary, the French publishing house, and the Gland sanitarium. As no delegates from the African and Indian Ocean mission fields were on furlough at this time, these fields were not represented at the Council.

The daily devotional hours held by Brethren Rudy and Brewer brought real spiritual uplift into the session. Their earnest and timely messages were greatly appreciated by all the delegates and also by the members of the Vienna churches who

filled the hall every morning and evening until the very last seat was occupied. Surely the studies of these brethren contributed largely to the success of the Council.

During the Session a number of interests and problems so important for the progress of God's work in our Division were given careful study. Under the direction of Elder M. V. Campbell, the new president of the Southern European Division, all business matters were dispatched with perfect order, and a spirit of absolute confidence and mutual comprehension reigned. He stressed in particular the necessity of better prepared and more competent leaders in our churches and for the responsible positions of the work. He did not fail to emphasize the sacred duties of a worker in God's cause.

One of the great burdens was the increase in members. When we consider the important number of workers, as well as the loyal churches standing back of these workers, we should be able to report more baptisms. Closer co-operation between workers and members is therefore necessary.

Every evening, as well as on Sabbath afternoon, the leaders gave interesting reports of the progress of the work in their respective fields, and the hearts of the listeners were cheered and aroused as they heard of the marvelous workings of God's Spirit in our Division.

On Sabbath the large hall in *Adventhaus* could not hold the delegates and members who had come from Vienna and near-by churches. Consequently all the Sabbath services (the Sabbath of an Annual Council is always a high day) were held in a modern and pleasant hall in the Vienna Exhibition Palace.

We would be happy to give a detailed report of this Council, but space is limited. We shall mention only a few interesting points concerning the expansion of the message, which we have culled from the different reports.

The statistical report shows a very encouraging increase in church membership, although the past year has not been without its difficulties and limitations. During 1953 7,470 persons were brought into the church by baptism and vote. For the first nine months of 1954 6,505 precious souls decided to walk with their Lord. We are convinced that when the reports for the fourth quarter of 1954 come in, the number of baptisms for the year will be as high or even higher than for 1953. When we think of the great opposition in different lands of our field to make the proclamation of the message very difficult, not to say impossible, we can thank God and rejoice for the results obtained. On the 30th of September, 1954 the Division numbered 96,330 members. These members are in our 1,535 churches. We have a total of 1,640 workers in the different fields.

Special mention should be made of the good number of missionaries who left Southern European shores in 1954 to take up mission work in foreign lands, or to resume their responsibilities after having spent a well-earned furlough in the homeland. There were thirty-eight in all: two to French Morocco, two to Senegal, twelve to the French Cameroun, seven to Angola, one to Portuguese East Africa, nine to different fields in the Indian Ocean, three to the Belgian Congo, and two to New Caledonia. We wish to take this occasion to thank the fathers and mothers of Europe who have considered it a privilege to give their sons and daughters to the mission fields.

Interesting reports from our departmental secretaries were very welcome, and showed progress all along the line.

The secretary for the Department of Education reported 282 schools with 429 teachers and 11,199 pupils.

W. A. Wild, newly-elected secretary for the Home Missionary Department, gave a very good report, which however might have been still better had *all* the church members faithfully reported their missionary activities. The Harvest Ingathering for 1953 brought a total of \$ 116,120.- into the treasury as compared to \$ 107,427.- in 1952. The Big Week returns in 1953 were about \$ 10,000.- — a few hundred dollars more than in 1952. We wish to express our thanks to our faithful workers and members who have made this increase possible.

The Ministerial Association reported that in the course of the year 18 young workers were ordained to the gospel ministry: 3 in Belgium, 6 in France, 6 in Italy, one in North Africa, and two in Spain. Evangelistic efforts were organized in all the fields of the Division last autumn, and all available ministers are announcing God's last message in cities and villages.

F. Charpiot, our enthusiastic Publishing Department secretary, announced that 252 colporteurs sold books and papers amounting to \$ 516,657.33 during 1953. The sales for the first nine months of 1954 showed an increase over the same period of 1953 of \$ 17,000.-. So the year 1954 will be a victorious one in this important department.

The Public Relations Department also reported progress. The number of press secretaries has increased, and they are endeavoring to bring before the public in an ever more favorable light the activities of the Advent Movement.

Unfortunately A. D. Gomes, secretary for the Sabbath School Department, was not able to attend this meeting and present his report because of his illness. At the end of September 1953, the number of Sabbath schools in the Division was 115,705, and at the end of the third quarter of this year there were 120,371.

The Young People's Department reported 996 Young People's societies with a membership of 39,298. When we consider such an imposing number of young people, many of whom will surely answer the call of God to proclaim the last message of grace, we do not need to fear for the future of the work.

The Radio Department could again be enriched with another new program. Since last October a Portuguese religious program of one-half hour is being broadcast over Radio-Africa-Mahgreb, which can be heard all over Portugal. The different Bible correspondence courses report 71,295 enrolled students. In the course of the first nine months of 1954 114 of these were baptized. 954 have been baptized since the beginning of the radio work in our Division.

The different committees were extremely busy during this meeting. A number of new resolutions were presented which will contribute to hasten the finishing of God's work. In spite of the many difficulties and problems — particularly financial — the delegates faced the future with courage and joy. We do not know what the coming year will bring, but everyone is confident that the Lord will protect and keep His workers and churches in all lands as He has done in the past. The leaders of the Southern European Division are convinced that God is at the head of this work, and that the greatest days of the Advent Movement are before us. May God bless all His faithful servants who have now gone back to their fields of labor to lead on the church of God from victory to victory with renewed consecration and love.

## GOOD NEWS!

By J. De Caenel

President, Southwest France Conference

"If this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it!" Gamaliel was right. No thought of God's can be hindered, and His work marches on triumphantly in spite of difficulties, obstacles, and opposition. Elder Spicer, one of the esteemed pioneers of this Movement, used to say: "Our enemies have prophesied that the work of Adventists will go to pieces. The Lord be praised! Indeed, it has gone to pieces, and the pieces are scattered all over the earth!" Today more than ever in the past these "pieces" are continuing to fall here and there. During the past year a number of them have fallen in the territory of the Southwest France Conference.

We had the joy of opening four new Sabbath schools the last quarter of 1954: one of fifteen members — six of whom have already been baptized — has been organized by Brother Médard at *Agen (Lot and Garonne)*. Brother MacDougall has just founded another at *Périgueux (Dordogne)* with seven members. A third new Sabbath school is reported by H. Tierce at *Angoulême (Charente)*, and the fourth is at *La Rochelle in Charente-Maritime*.

This last-mentioned school is rather special, and has a little story back of it. A young girl in this city, where the truth has never been preached publicly, went to England to perfect her knowledge of the English language. She was taken into an Adventist dentist's home, where she heard the message. Returning to *La Rochelle* she enrolled in the Voice of Hope Bible correspondence course. Then we visited her. She was converted and baptized in Bordeaux.

Sister Sarlandie, for that is her name, with her ardent nature and on fire with her first love of the message, set to work to look for souls. *La Rochelle* is a great maritime base for the United States army, and this young convert worked in one of the American offices in this city. She went to the chaplain to learn whether there were any young Adventists among the soldiers. A place of worship was put at her disposal, and from six to eight young American Adventists meet with her every Sabbath. So this is how the fourth Sabbath school was born in a city

where until now we have never held an evangelistic effort. Such good news rejoices us greatly. We know that God is watching over these new lights that He has lit in the dark corners of earth.

We would encourage other brethren and sisters to follow this example. In *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 9, pages 28 and 29, Sister White writes: "I saw jets of light shining from cities and villages, and from the high places and the low places of the earth. God's word was obeyed, and as a result there were memorials for Him in every city and village. His truth was proclaimed throughout the world."

Let us create small centers of light where the Bible is studied in our dispersed and isolated families. In time these groups will become churches.

Sister Sarlandie has just sent us some quite recent news about the work in *La Rochelle*. We are taking the liberty to quote from her letter the following lines: "First I want to tell you right away that I am happy in my Christian experience. Of course we meet every Sabbath, God has heaped His blessings upon us. Every week our group is growing. Just think of it, we were sixteen last week! We have a portable organ, and a charming American sister who arrived with her husband after Christmas, can accompany our singing. I wish you could meet Brother Bunch. He is really the president of our group. He was sent to France in the T. I. N. I. services, and his wife and children will arrive soon. He is at *Fontenet*, and now that he has an *Arronde* (a French car) he comes every Sabbath. Most members of the group come from outside of town, so we can meet only in the afternoon. We meet at *Aufrédy* in the chaplain's office at three o'clock. . . . The person who is in the sanitarium will be able to come out soon. This man can then ask the questions that are troubling him, and receive the necessary enlightenment. He has already made great progress spiritually and his health is all the better for it. He will also attend our Sabbath afternoon meeting."

We wish to thank Sister Sarlandie for this good news. We know that our brethren and sisters rejoice with us to see God's work progressing.

"Four things, O my God, I offer Thee which, Thou hast not in Thy treasury — my nothingness, my wants, my sin, and my repentance."

— From a Persian poem.

# Indispensible Tools for S. D. A. Students and Workers

The *Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers* set—with Volume IV just off the presses and on its way out to the ends of the earth—gives us the over-all view of prophecy, enabling the diligent reader to master the entire field of interpretative backgrounds. This strengthens our hands by showing that every distinctive position on prophecy that we as Adventists hold—the great time periods, the second beast of Revelation 13, the three angels of Revelation 14, etc.—were all introduced long ago by great and godly scholars, but abandoned by their successors. Hence we do not stand alone, unsupported by scholarly precedents.

To us has been given the happy role of being restorers of lost prophetic truths, coupled to that of continuators and consummators of all sound interpretation of the past. By being aware of the fallacies and departures that have marred the centuries, we are enabled to avoid the pitfalls of today, current in much of modern interpretation. We thus become authoritative watchman, heralding the truth while warning against specious errors.

The mastery of such backgrounds enables us to undermine objections by showing, for instance, the origin and fundamental fallacy of Futurism and its gap theory, of postmillennialism and its world conversion fantasy, and the pagan origin of the Antiochus Epiphanes quibble. Thus we take our rightful place as champions of truth while exposing the subtleties of error.

The historical approach here employed is the sound and logical way to undertake the study of prophecy. The gradual unfolding of true interpretation, and the paralleling appearance of the foibles of false exposition stand out in sharp contrast, so the reader may choose the true and be on guard against the false. Our rightful relationship to past scholarship is thus established and the certainties of truth are made more firm.

While each volume in the *Prophetic Faith* series has been complete in its own area, Volume IV gathers up and crystallizes the basic evidence of the set. It is therefore the key volume of the series, and is of paramount interest and importance to Seventh-day Adventists, as it constitutes the first documented history of our own denominational beginnings based upon the complete sources.

It is impressively illustrated, with reproductions of rare title pages and key extracts from former expositors. It contains the likenesses of the foremost interpreters of the past, and has graphic illustrations of the crucial scenes and episodes in the development of interpretation. Priceless tabular and diagrammatic charts summarize the teachings of the

Statistical Summary of the Southern European Division for the Year 1954

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	
<b>SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV.</b>	40	2611	127	5	109	241	57	39	120	216	25	2636	25	1	5	29	2	—	—	23	60	40	2882	1927
Austrian Union Conference	14	6474	300	—	—	300	100	150	—	50	50	6624	33	3	2	7	19	—	—	8	63	160	6000	5400
Czechoslovakian Union Conf.	79	3820	199	62	106	367	64	38	167	269	98	3918	35	17	5	30	5	3	46	90	141	86	4050	3049
France-Belgian	155	6827	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6827	28	10	4	15	35	—	—	—	71	300	7000	6500
Hungarian	230	7965	400	—	—	400	100	50	557	707	307	7658	26	10	4	15	35	—	—	—	71	300	9000	8500
Jugoslavian	551	41140	2500	—	—	2500	1250	1100	—	250	150	41290	78	11	2	47	22	—	—	136	560	40000	40000	40000
Rumanian	59	3222	135	12	148	315	59	61	129	249	66	3288	19	3	4	20	3	—	—	90	90	57	560	40000
Angola Union Mission	52	7263	1552	106	44	1702	532	90	167	789	913	8176	24	27	9	31	140	—	—	14	223	340	21453	16213
French Eq. African U.M.	22	3210	702	1	24	727	5	11	24	40	687	3897	14	9	1	24	97	105	—	14	254	125	10910	8614
Indian Ocean Union Mission	72	2647	214	14	106	331	68	14	114	196	135	2782	22	7	1	45	4	30	—	14	123	5135	4653	
Italian	54	2081	134	12	272	418	68	29	289	386	32	2113	20	12	3	34	4	—	—	57	130	31	2308	1946
North African	19	743	68	6	71	145	4	4	91	102	111	786	6	6	1	18	—	—	—	36	20	35	708	553
Portuguese	24	1912	173	9	31	200	41	31	39	142	102	2014	11	5	—	15	4	—	—	5	52	39	2672	2200
Bulgarian Conference	39	3172	200	—	—	200	100	75	—	175	25	3197	9	4	—	10	—	—	—	2	23	39	2672	2200
French West Afr. Mission	1	207	6	—	—	6	3	—	—	3	3	206	9	1	1	1	—	—	—	4	4	5	217	184
Greek Mission	5	488	133	—	—	133	19	—	—	115	—	603	3	3	—	5	—	—	—	2	22	14	2284	2005
Portuguese East Afr. Mission	6	488	133	—	—	133	19	—	—	115	—	603	3	3	—	5	—	—	—	2	22	14	2284	2005
Spanish Church	15	908	109	—	—	109	14	—	—	87	—	995	8	4	—	8	—	—	—	5	7	18	1384	861
Tangier Mission	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals for the year 1954 :	1537	94700	6969	228	970	8167	2481	1709	1758	5948	2219	96919	379	142	36	352	209	293	211	1622	2151	122263	107314	
Totals for the year 1953 :	1501	90141	7397	73	945	8315	1817	915	1124	3856	4559	94700	362	132	33	382	197	243	203	1552	2002	115652	99596	

Report of the Publishing Department of the Southern European Division

For the Year 1954

	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
<b>AUSTRIAN U.C.</b>							
Alpine Conf. ....	13	18,294		—	Sch.	611,193.—	
Danube Conf. ....	23	31,981		—		919,983.—	
	36	50,275	\$ 55,792.44		Sch.	1,531,176.—	\$ 61,247.04
<b>FRANCO-BELGIAN U.C.</b>							
Belgian Conf. ....	4	11,092		—	FFr.	7,974,433.—	
East France Conf. ....	5	10,271		—		7,514,880.—	
North France Conf. ....	21	32,221		—		23,228,940.—	
Southeast France Conf. ....	16	27,906		—		22,382,344.—	
Southwest France Conf. ....	5	8,892		—		6,787,375.—	
	51	90,382	\$ 60,236.18	\$ 133,243.97	FFr.	67,887,972.—	\$ 193,480.15
<b>SWISS U.C.</b>							
German Swiss Conf. ....	23	28,940		—	SFr.	193,763.—	
Leman Conf. ....	14	18,174		—		156,958.75	
	37	47,114	\$ 45,020.44	\$ 38,996.61	SFr.	350,721.75	\$ 82,419.49
<b>ANGOLA UNION MISSION</b> .....	3	639	\$ 3,871.32	—	Ang.	107,536.95	\$ 3,871.32
<b>FR. EQ. AFR. U.M.</b> .....	4	—	\$ 1,016.88	—	CFr.	178,400.—	\$ 1,016.88
<b>INDIAN OCEAN U.M.</b> .....	32	20,582	\$ 38,166.40	\$ 797.54	CFr.	6,835,784.—	\$ 38,963.94
<b>ITALIAN U.M.</b>							
Central Italian Miss. ....	15	17,657		—	Lire	14,254,610.—	
North Italian Miss. ....	27	30,517		—		24,726,334.—	
South Italian Miss. ....	19	24,512		—		16,489,342.—	
	61	72,686	\$ 40,032.91	\$ 51,492.73	Lire	55,470,286.—	\$ 91,525.64
<b>NORTH AFRICAN U.M.</b>							
Algerian Miss. ....	6	7,264		—	FFr.	4,200,011.—	
Moroccan Miss. ....	6	6,342		—		5,140,270.—	
Tunisian Miss. ....	2	875		—		699,218.—	
	14	14,481	\$ 13,409.31	\$ 15,202.92	FFr.	10,039,499.—	\$ 28,612.23
<b>PORTUGUESE U.M.</b> .....	12	14,044	\$ 6,786.47	\$ 3,759.92	Esc.	292,956.50	\$ 10,546.39
<b>SPANISH CHURCH</b> .....	22	34,853	\$ 31,642.42	—	Pes.	1,136,557.50	\$ 28,413.93
<b>RECAPITULATION</b>							
Austrian U.C. ....	36	50,275	\$ 55,792.44	—	Sch.	1,531,176.—	\$ 61,247.04
Franco-Belgian U.C. ....	51	90,382	\$ 60,236.18	\$ 133,243.97	FFr.	67,887,972.—	\$ 193,480.15
Swiss U.C. ....	37	47,114	\$ 45,020.44	\$ 38,996.61	SFr.	350,721.75	\$ 82,419.49
Angola Union Mission .....	3	639	\$ 3,871.32	—	Ang.	107,536.95	\$ 3,871.32
Fr. Eq. Afr. U.M. ....	4	—	\$ 1,016.88	—	CFr.	178,400.—	\$ 1,016.88
Indian Ocean U.M. ....	32	20,582	\$ 38,166.40	\$ 797.54	CFr.	6,835,784.—	\$ 38,963.94
Italian U.M. ....	61	72,686	\$ 40,032.91	\$ 51,492.73	Lire	55,470,286.—	\$ 91,525.64
North African U.M. ....	14	14,481	\$ 13,409.31	\$ 15,202.92	FFr.	10,039,499.—	\$ 28,612.23
Portuguese U.M. ....	12	14,044	\$ 6,786.47	\$ 3,759.92	Esc.	292,956.50	\$ 10,546.39
Spanish Church .....	22	34,853	\$ 31,642.42	—	Pes.	1,136,557.50	\$ 28,413.93
<b>TOTALS</b> .....	272	345,056	\$ 295,974.77	\$ 243,493.69	—	—	\$ 540,097.01

**STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF S. D. A. FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1954**

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	Cauvassers	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
<b>SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV.</b>																							
<b>AUSTRIAN UNION CONF.</b>																							
Danube Conference	21	1506	5	—	21	26	11	7	22	40	-14	1492	3	1	3	4	—	—	—	11	21	1632	1005
Alpine »	19	1141	9	1	24	34	10	3	18	31	3	1144	6	4	1	2	1	—	15	29	19	1250	922
Total :	40	2647	14	1	45	60	21	10	40	71	-11	2636	16	9	6	7	2	—	23	63	40	2882	1927
<b>CZECHOSLOVAKIAN U. C.</b>																							
Total :	114	6524	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6524	33	3	2	3	19	—	8	68	160	6000	5400
<b>FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C.</b>																							
Belgian Conference	14	934	19	—	9	28	16	3	15	34	-6	928	5	1	—	4	—	—	—	10	14	944	639
East France »	18	511	8	—	5	13	1	2	5	8	5	516	4	1	1	6	—	1	—	13	16	527	372
North France »	18	1251	6	8	13	27	1	2	17	20	7	1258	10	6	1	9	3	—	20	49	18	1288	1026
Southeast France »	22	996	1	2	5	8	—	—	6	6	2	998	7	3	1	4	2	1	16	34	27	979	774
Southwest France »	7	218	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	218	2	1	1	7	—	—	5	16	11	312	244
Total :	79	3910	34	10	32	76	18	7	43	68	8	3918	35	17	5	30	5	3	46	141	86	4050	3049
<b>HUNGARIAN U. C.</b>																							
Total :	155	6827	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6827	26	10	4	15	35	—	—	90	175	7000	6500
<b>JUGOSLAVIAN U. C.</b>																							
Total :	230	7658	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7658	28	11	2	8	22	—	—	71	300	9000	8500
<b>RUMANIAN U. C.</b>																							
Total :	551	41290	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41290	78	11	—	47	—	—	—	136	560	40000	40000
<b>SWISS U. C.</b>																							
German Swiss Conference	34	1903	26	1	43	70	7	7	35	49	21	1924	11	1	2	10	2	4	21	51	33	1831	1139
Leman »	25	1363	4	3	13	20	2	8	9	19	1	1364	8	2	1	7	1	3	13	35	24	1333	1077
Total :	59	3266	30	4	56	90	9	15	44	68	22	3288	19	3	4	20	3	7	34	90	57	3164	2216
<b>ANGOLA UNION MISSION</b>																							
Benguela Mission	23	4108	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4108	5	3	—	8	—	—	—	16	104	6929	5219
Bongo Mission	1	522	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	522	7	11	—	16	—	32	—	66	59	4886	2678
Cuale »	1	125	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	129	1	1	—	1	—	10	—	13	19	664	389
Lucusse »	1	611	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	611	3	3	—	3	—	25	—	34	26	1376	1053
Luz »	1	1061	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1061	2	1	—	—	—	14	—	17	39	2012	1314
Namba »	25	1745	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1745	3	7	—	—	—	37	1	48	93	5586	4560
Nova Lisboa Mission	52	8172	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	8176	24	27	—	31	—	140	1	223	340	21453	16213
Total :	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>FRENCH EQ. AFR. U. M.</b>																							
Batouri Mission	3	531	47	—	—	47	—	2	—	2	45	576	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Bertoua »	2	303	44	—	—	44	—	—	—	—	44	347	1	1	—	2	21	12	1	38	—	2116	1500
Kribi »	3	305	20	1	—	21	—	—	—	—	21	326	2	1	—	1	5	17	—	26	—	760	660
Maroua »	2	281	26	—	—	26	—	—	—	—	26	307	1	1	—	1	13	2	—	18	—	975	337
Nanga-Eboko »	6	1511	235	—	—	235	—	—	13	13	272	1783	1	3	—	13	38	40	1	96	—	4088	3531
Sangmelima »	4	427	23	—	—	23	—	—	—	—	23	450	4	—	—	2	7	17	—	30	—	768	620
Yaoundé »	2	91	4	—	13	17	—	—	—	—	17	108	1	1	—	—	—	6	2	10	—	325	314
Total :	22	3449	449	1	13	463	—	2	13	15	448	3897	14	9	1	24	97	105	4	254	125	10910	8614



## Report of the Missionary Volunteer Department of the Southern European Division

For the Year 1954

	Austrian U. Conf.	Czecho- slovakian U. C.	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Hungarian U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Yugoslavian U. C.	Angola U. M.	French Eg. 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 1954
Number of Senior societies .....	20	75	30	77	300	23	120	85	13	42	34	6	29	25	4	1	9	893
Number of Junior societies .....	14	—	14	—	—	15	—	77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	123
Number of societies reporting .....	33	—	—	—	—	17	—	130	—	28	20	4	23	—	—	1	—	261
Total membership (Seniors) .....	303	2000	691	1600	14000	365	7000	2820	3200	352	741	71	770	1000	53	152	294	35412
Total membership (Juniors) .....	432	—	247	—	—	151	—	2663	—	—	—	30	511	—	—	—	31	4065
Total of Senior and Junior young people baptized, regardless of who labored for them .....	29	120	54	—	1000	72	160	764	60	81	21	25	91	60	1	24	23	2585
Number baptized whom young peo- ple had a part in winning .....	3	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	21	5	15	33	—	—	—	2	82
Number belonging to missionary bands .....	116	—	459	—	—	218	—	4321	—	—	59	48	218	—	—	—	48	5487
<b>REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK :</b>																		
Number of Bible readings or gospel meetings held .....	413	—	371	—	—	157	—	29192	—	2456	4886	848	16578	—	—	837	1618	57356
Number of missionary contacts .....	1403	—	148	—	—	467	—	26506	—	4856	4322	653	20865	—	—	1289	4074	64583
Number of persons helped .....	1268	—	292	—	—	110	—	19130	—	4401	2104	380	5481	—	—	840	1138	35144
Literature distributed .....	4911	—	14880	—	—	24558	—	15490	—	12972	50630	10514	66067	—	—	336	1254	201612
<b>DEVOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL:</b>																		
Number observing the Morning Watch .....	234	—	339	—	—	61	—	5480	—	180	90	50	468	—	—	152	281	7335
Number completing Bible Year and Character Classics .....	32	—	82	—	—	19	—	429	—	85	14	15	150	—	—	—	125	951
Number taking Reading Course ..	110	—	79	—	—	46	—	371	—	20	6	—	113	—	—	—	73	818
<b>FINANCIAL :</b>																		
Offerings local society work ... \$	289.75	—	55.70	—	—	59.15	—	181.65	—	337.30	25.—	18.70	—	—	—	—	73.13	1040.38
Ingathering for Missions .....	\$ 754.66	—	1512.25	—	—	2047.35	—	97.20	—	1553.30	1089.80	2047.30	1167.80	—	—	—	—	10269.66
Offerings special projects .....	\$ 238.45	—	500.—	—	—	737.20	300.—	251.40	150.—	183.70	239.60	150.—	283.65	—	—	—	—	3034.—



leading expositors and their principal positions within each major epoch. They provide a bird's-eye view of the exposition of any given century, geographical area, or national group. Thus the complete teaching of any individual or group is available at a glance in that given period or area. This enables the reader to trace chronologically, across the centuries, any given point, principle, or application of prophecy.

These volumes therefore constitute indispensable tools for theological students in training, as well as for preachers, teachers, and Bible instructors already in service. They will also appeal to our informed laity. They bring about a new understanding

of our historic backgrounds and the origin of our prophetic interpretations. We are thus made more sure of the present by the pioneering light of the past.

As noted, the historical approach employed is the sound and scholarly method for compassing the larger understanding of prophetic interpretation. Because of this, the series provides the successful approach to the trained mind, and creates a favorable attitude toward Adventism on the part of non-Adventist religious leaders and molders of thought. This has been demonstrated in scores of instances. This set is consequently a unique contribution to the Adventist cause.

## God's Spirit at Work in Mission Lands

By M. Fridlin

In the days of the apostles the zeal of the gospel messengers, the ardent participation of the early church in missionary work, and the fervent prayers of the members were such that through them God could work wonders. The facts related by Luke in the Book of Acts prove that a few decades sufficed to evangelize the then-known world, and to win glorious victories over paganism and false doctrines of all kinds.

The Adventist people have been called to write a modern Acts of the Apostles. The God who worked miracles in apostolic days is still the same God, and is again ready to ensure the triumphant expansion of the gospel in all the world. He is only waiting for our obedience, our fidelity, to manifest the same power, and even greater, than in that far-distant period. The Spirit that transformed the ancient world is at work today, and under His influence God's people are going forward from victory to victory, and doors are opening before them in a providential manner. The Holy Spirit, the source of power and life, is at our disposal, and by Him the proclamation of the last message of grace will rapidly spread to the very ends of the earth. We believe that the readers of the QUARTERLY REVIEW will be interested to learn of the joys and battles of our courageous missionaries. For this reason we are glad to give them some recent news concerning the progress made with the help of the Lord in mission lands, with the hope that it will serve to keep alive the missionary spirit in the hearts of our valiant workers and devoted members, and to encourage them to intercede in favor of the divine cause. May it also awaken in the hearts of all of us a spirit of more generous giving for missions in heathen lands.

From the group in the Seychelles Islands comes this encouraging news: this group of islands

is certainly the mission field in our Division which is the farthest removed from the home base, and the most isolated. The population of 35,000 is spread out over the five inhabited islands. The work is anything but easy, and the enemy is using all his power to create vigorous resistance. E. Vervoort, the mission president, was able, however, to baptize four persons during the first quarter of 1954, and since then there has been another baptismal service. A small mission boat, which was given the beautiful name of "*Maranatha*", was constructed on the spot, and has been navigating for several months now among the different islands. Thus Brother Vervoort could visit a leper on the island of *Curieuse* on a number of occasions, and has helped him to overcome the tobacco habit — the last obstacle in the way of his baptism. This sailboat will surely play an important part in evangelizing the islands of the Indian Ocean.

Recently Brother Vervoort wrote: "I returned yesterday from a trip with the boat. The southeast trade winds were so strong that sometimes, even with all the sails flying, the starboard of the boat was turned on its side to the level of the water. It is in such weather that our boat is put to the test. But I can assure you that we go on board as calmly as if we were boarding a Transatlantic liner, — although my wife cannot swim!"

These few lines help us to understand that we do not always have a true picture of the dangers to which our missionaries are exposed. Let us not forget to seek God for their protection.

A church school has also been organized at Victoria, the capital of Mahé, the principal island of the group. Such schools are an absolute necessity in our mission fields. Unfortunately we are not always as willing to admit their necessity in the home fields.

Writing of this church school in a recent letter, Brother Vervoort says: "I am not afraid to say that our teaching compares favorably with that of any other school on the island. This is largely due to the head-mistress, Sister Hermance Calais who not only instructs the children but who has two monitors under her direction."

The news which comes to us from Reunion Island is none the less heartening. Jean Surel, who with Mrs. Surel will soon return to France for their furlough, sends us the following lines: "I am happy to tell you that in answer to many prayers our fourth annual M. V. Camp was a great success. Eighty-nine young people attended — twice as many as in 1951 when Mrs. Surel and I organized this work for the youth. This is a great encouragement to us. Eight were baptized. Six of these were young M. V. boys."

This beautiful ceremony was not the only one during the year, for more than 60 persons were baptized on Reunion Island in 1954.

A church school organized by Brother Surel, and the Voice of Hope broadcasts have proved very helpful in evangelizing this small island. One of the first students enrolled in the Bible correspondence course is now a member of the church, as well as nine members of his family whom he won to the truth, not to mention other interested persons because of his missionary work.

The new mission station at Befandriana in the north of Madagascar is developing nicely. H. Long is doing a good work there in the educational branch. The primary school is running exceptionally well, and among others nineteen

interns are taking the Bible and secondary course in order to prepare to serve the Master. Three teachers with diplomas, chosen from among the most capable, are helping Brother Long in the educational work. Five out-schools with 300 pupils have been organized in this same sector. Wherever a school has been established in connection with the preaching of the message, the work is advancing rapidly, and the missionaries are sure to be following the divine program.

It is not easy, however, to evangelize the small centers in this region, for this means reaching a heathen tribe — the Tsimhety people. Notwithstanding, the Lord has helped our workers win and baptize 30 of this tribe. E. Villeneuve who is responsible for the work in this part of the island writes that not one of the 70 baptized from among the Tsimhety tribe during the last four years has left the truth. All have remained faithful, which rejoices us greatly.

As on the island of Reunion, the Voice of Hope is much appreciated on the great "Red Island" of Madagascar. The two radio programs — one in French and one in Malagasy — are attracting many people at present. There is no part of the island of Madagascar that has not been reached by these broadcasts, and where we do not have students enrolled in the Bible correspondence course. In a few years 133 persons have been baptized as a result of the influence of the Voice of Hope. In the southwest of the island, particularly in the neighborhood of Tuléar, where until now we have had no European missionary nor native evangelist, three groups of believers have been organized.

Report of the Home Missionary Department of the Southern European Division  
For the Year 1954

	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.	Port. East. Afr. U. M.	Spanish Church	Division
Number added to union membership since last report as a result of lay members' missionary work	80	26	115	718			103	7	102		108	1259
Number of churches and companies reporting	42	43	51	165		34	43	13			10	401
Churches holding first Sabbath missionary service	38	36	49			26	41	13	21		10	234
Churches holding weekly missionary service	37	36	46			20	127	13	20			299
Churches conducting training classes		12	3				12					27
Churches with one or more service companies in operation	37	30	55			32	30		9	16	9	218
Institutes, rallies, and conventions held	18		6				3					27
Persons reporting missionary work	758	260	2279	7821		685	1093	765	1605	402	976	16644
Bible readings and gospel meetings conducted	8191	5685	4744	23406		8149	23098	5608	38049	4829	5809	127568
Missionary contacts	22538	10190	11937	20310		32333	14662	5275	34150	7510	11009	169914
Pieces missionary literature distributed	63512	227930	222041	11209		13404	72506	31235	85069	1230	4631	732767
Persons helped	7618	2897	7060	10530		8508	5015	2585	17282	6703	5673	73871
Enrollments in Bible Correspondence Schools	601						1484					2085

\* 2 quarters

\*\* 3 quarters

Progress can also be reported in the French Cameroun. About a year ago Dr. F. Brennwald began medical missionary work in the north of the Cameroun. Although the hospital has not yet been constructed, Dr. Brennwald set to work in temporary quarters. He is assisted by Mrs. Brennwald, an American graduate nurse, and by Miss Huguette Tierce, a French state nurse. The first month 330 patients were treated in these temporary quarters; the second month, 440; the third, 680; the fourth, 960; the fifth, 1,200, and 1,490 the sixth month. This regular increase gives a picture of the rapidity with which the medical work is developing in this part of the country, and the good reputation it has made for itself within a few months.

90 % of those treated belong to the Matakams of the great Kirdi population who have settled in the mountainous regions of the northern point of the Cameroun. They are very primitive, almost naked heathen. Only 10 % of those treated wear clothing. We are convinced that because of the medical work the whole missionary program will advance rapidly in this part of the country. There have been hundreds of baptisms in the Cameroun during 1954. Recently one of our faithful African workers, Brother Antoine Mpfoumi, baptized 50 persons in the Niamvoudou sector, where we plan to open a mission center before long.

At Nanga-Eboko P. Bernard, while at the same time caring for the primary school where there are often nearly 500 pupils, has had to carry on alone to direct the intermediary school with a hundred pupils, of whom 60 are boarders. He has waited courageously for someone to help him, and today has the great joy of an assistant in Albert Simon who arrived in the Cameroun a few months ago. Not only does this school give general instruction to many students, and prepares others for teaching and preaching, but it is also a powerful means for evangelisation. Brother Bernard reports that 15 pupils of the intermediary course were baptized last May, and 30 in other courses. Nearly all have already spent two or three years at the school. They come from non-Adventist families where the message has not yet penetrated. There has been a good spirit in this institution throughout the entire year, and Brother Bernard asks, "Could one wish for better results?" At the beginning of 1954 an advanced school was opened at Nanga-Eboko. It is directed by Sylvain Meyer.

In the Portuguese territory of Angola on the west coast of Africa, and south of French Equatorial Africa, God's work has marked rapid advancement. This is our most fruitful mission field at present. During the third quarter of 1954 1,531 natives were baptized. Thousands of others are enrolled in the baptismal classes preparing for this sacred rite. A small printing-plant has been established recently in this union where the educational and medical work are already well developed. Dr. Parsons has

most efficiently directed the medical work in this mission for many years. His renown reaches far beyond the boundaries of Angola. Hundreds of Europeans as well as natives come to the Bongo hospital where they are sure to find relief for their ills.

May this good news inspire all of us to set to work energetically to finish the sacred task entrusted to us, and to face the duties of the present hour with the faith, prayer, and sacrifice demanded by the cause of missions in far-away lands.

**SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION  
MISSIONARY SAILINGS**

**1954**

**January**

*Mrs. Maria Amelia Sommer and two children, of Portugal, to Portuguese East Africa.*  
*Mr. and Mrs. A. Paradis, of North Africa, to Madagascar.*

*Mr. and Mrs. A. Sanchez and one child, of France, to French Cameroun.*

**March**

*Mr. and Mrs. R. Buyck and one child, of France, to Mauritius.*

*Mr. and Mrs. R. Collin and two children, of Belgium, to Madagascar.*

*Mr. and Mrs. L. Burkarth and two children, of France, to Madagascar.*

**May**

*Miss Gilberte Mahieux, of Belgium, to Belgian Congo (returning).*

**July**

*Miss Lydie Girard, of France, to Madagascar.*

**August**

*Miss Benvinda Marques, of Portugal, to Angola (returning).*

**October**

*Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Graça and one child, of Portugal, to Portuguese East Africa (returning).*

*Mr. and Mrs. F. Hugli and one child, of Switzerland, to French Cameroun (returning).*

*Mr. Joao de Mendonça, of Portugal, to Cape Verde Islands (returning).*

*Miss Lucilia Ferreira, of Portugal, to Cape Verde Islands (returning).*

**November**

*Mr. and Mrs. R. Erdmann and two children, of France, to Senegal (returning).*

*Mr. and Mrs. S. Meyer and two children, of Switzerland, to French Cameroun (returning).*

*Mr. A. Cosendai, of Switzerland, to French Cameroun (returning).*

*Mr. and Mrs. P. Nouan, of France, to New Caledonia (returning).*

*Mr. A. Simon, of France, to French Cameroun.*

*Mr. and Mrs. José da Silva and two children, of Portugal, to Angola.*

**December**

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Curmatureanu and two children, of France, to French Cameroun (returning).*

*Mr. and Mrs. M. Fayard and three children, of France, to French Cameroun.*

*Dr. and Mrs. M. Hantson, of Belgium, to Belgian Congo, Africa.*

*Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Cornaz, of Switzerland, to French Morocco, Africa.*

## Here and There

M. V. Campbell and M. Fridlin will leave the Division office during the first part of March for an extended trip to our mission fields in Africa and the Indian Ocean. Their first visit will be in the French Cameroun. From there they will travel on to Angola, Portuguese East Africa (Mozambique), Mauritius, Reunion Island, and Madagascar. They hope to return to headquarters early in June.



An institute of scientific studies for the prevention of alcoholism, etc. is to be organized this year by the General Conference Temperance Department in co-operation with the International Bureau against Alcoholism, with headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland. This institute will be held in the buildings of the university of Geneva, Switzerland, from August 7-19. Dr. H. Müller will be the chairman. Delegates from the Division staff, as well as from some of our unions, will attend this important institute.



A Harvest Ingathering paper in the native Bulu language will be published this year for the first time by the French Equatorial African Union Mission. An edition of 3,000 copies will be printed at our small printing-plant at the union headquarters at Yaoundé, French Cameroun. Certainly this paper will contribute greatly to the success of the Harvest Ingathering campaign among the natives of southern Cameroun.



449 baptisms took place in the French Cameroun during the fourth quarter of 1954. During the whole year 702 natives were baptized in this field. This is certainly a record, and a proof of the faithfulness of our devoted missionaries and their native helpers. The total membership of this union at the end of 1954 was 3,897.

R. Villeneuve, who served faithfully for a term as head of the printshop of the Malagasy publishing house at Soamanandrany, Tananarive, Madagascar, will return permanently to the homeland in early spring because of Mrs. Villeneuve's health. We hope that Mrs. Villeneuve will soon recover under the better climatic conditions in Europe.

Marc Hecketsweiler of the French publishing house will replace R. Villeneuve in the mission field, and will leave for Madagascar probably in May 1955.



Elder H. Pichot, president of the North African Union Mission, writes in the news bulletin of this union, under date of February 1955, as follows:

**"Work for Arabs:** Mostaganem: The work for the Arabs now seems to have taken shape. The workshop for girls, which has been supervised until recently by Sister Barthelemy, has just been organized as a center for teaching family housekeeping. At present fifteen little Arab girls — and we believe in the future still many more — receive primary instruction mornings, and afternoons practical teaching: sewing, knitting, ironing, hygiene, rearing of children, etc. Our young sister Lydie Alaminos is in charge of this first school for young Moslem girls. Relizane: Ten miles north of Relizane, at the foot of a chain of mountains peopled by Arabs, we have just bought from Brother J. Alaminos seventeen acres of orchard. . . . This ground is to be used to found an Adventist station among the Moslems. With this in mind, a plan with estimate costs is being prepared. For the beginning the station will be limited to two primary schools — one for boys, and one for girls, with a house for the personnel, and the necessary out-buildings.

We hope that this school can begin its work next October. We solicit your prayers and your encouragement as we undertake this enterprise."

The North African Mission has been able to purchase a house in one of the best parts of the city of Constantine, Algeria, where for long years our church members have had no respectable meeting-place. The ground floor of this new house will be transformed into a hall with floor space of about three hundred square feet, and there will be space left — probably for a church school. The pastor and evangelist, Elder J. Coiomar, and his family will have their apartment on the second floor of this house.



Mrs. A. Cosendai with her little daughter left Europe on March 6, after a period of furlough, in order to join her husband, the president of the French Equatorial African Union Mission, who returned to his field of labor from Switzerland already last November.

We are sad to report the death of Elder Jean Reynaud, a faithful worker of the North African Union Mission, who passed away in our institution *Vie et santé*, Algiers, on February 21, 1955. Elder Reynaud will be remembered by those who knew him as a real Christian gentleman. He took a special interest in the work for the Moslems, and in recent years wrote a book, *Prophètes et Croiyants*, particularly adapted to their religion. One of his last enterprises was to open a class in practical housekeeping instruction for young Arab girls in the city of Mostaganem, organizing at the same time a little Sabbath school for them.

Elder Reynaud's passing away is a real loss to the North African Union Mission. We express herewith our heartfelt sympathy to his bereaved widow in this hour of sorrow.