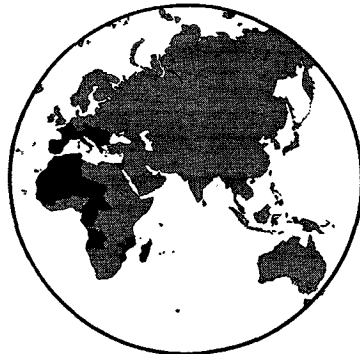

QUARTERLY REVIEW



ORGAN OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF S.D.A.

Vol. XXV

March 1958

Number 1

ECHOES From the DIVISION WINTER COUNCIL

By M. Fridlin,

Secretary, Southern European Division

It was our friendly medical institution, "La Lignière", situated on the banks of Lake Geneva at Gland, Switzerland, which entertained so hospitably the eighty delegates who attended the quadrennial Council of the Southern European Division. The date of this assembly was December 4-10, 1957.

The delegates represented twenty-two fields and organizations of our Division. We were particularly happy to have with us one of the general vice-presidents of the General Conference, H. L. Rudy; and one of the associate secretaries, J. I. Robison. Both of these brethren contributed greatly to the success of the session by their convincing and timely messages and judicious counsel.

It was also a special pleasure to welcome among the delegates the presidents of the Hungarian and Czechoslovakian Unions, and the seven brethren from Jugoslavia. All those who took part in the Council were conscious of the nearness of God's Presence, and we believe that the work entrusted to us in the vast Southern European Division has received a new impelling power through this gathering.

Debt liquidation has been one of the most urgent problems in our territory since the Division Council held in Vienna, Austria, in December 1954.

Encouraging progress has been made in reducing our debts, and we hope to see them liquidated totally in one or two years.

Evangelism is and will remain the all-important purpose in our organization. Despite the serious financial restrictions which most of the fields have had to accept during these past four years, the number of baptisms and admissions by vote has increased. This is true particularly for 1957. In 1955, 4922 new converts were added to the churches in our Division; in 1956, 4828; and during the first nine months of 1957, 7114. The total number of baptized members in our Division now stands at 97,306. The percentage net gain in membership for the first nine months of 1957 is more than the double of the whole gain for 1956. These figures indicate the exact number of baptisms and admissions by vote that have been reported by the different fields. We have not made any estimate of the baptisms that have taken place in the countries of Eastern Europe from which we are not able to receive reports.

If an appreciable gain was made in baptisms in 1957, it is due largely to the results obtained in our African territories. In most of our Western European countries, with the exception of Spain, the number of baptisms has remained stationary, or, in some instances, has even decreased during these

past four years. Since the metropolitan countries are called upon to furnish missionaries and funds to support the work in mission lands, it is imperative that important gains in baptisms be made in the homelands.

Evangelism is the first duty of every worker and of every church member. We must advance continuously to "make disciples for Christ of the nations." So let us watch over our churches that they may be wide awake. A church that is alive is a powerful church, but any dormant church or any idle Christian is an obstacle to the progress of God's holy cause, and retards the setting up of His eternal kingdom.

A spiritual revival amongst us is our great need. This revival, which we long for, demands, primarily, undeviating loyalty to our doctrines and principles on the part of our working force; and then entire and deep-rooted integrity in their own personal lives. Are we, like the foolish virgins, holding lamps without oil in our hands? Let us shake off our drowsiness and arise to proclaim this message with divine power and authority. May our preaching be more than indulgent, flattering words, pleasing perhaps to our hearers, but lacking the ring of the true message. Let us preach

repentance, conversion, and a preparation for the soon return of Jesus. And let us not be content with a meager harvest — or no harvest at all. Is it not pathetic to note that the increase in the population of our world is proportionally greater than the missionary progress of our Movement? Lost souls make up an overwhelming multitude, and we dare not slacken our pace. Shall we not seek the Lord in deep humility and contrition and consecrate ourselves anew to Him Who in His unspeakable grace has called us to this ministry of reconciliation? The time has come to thrust in the sickle and reap the harvest. Our work — the work of the hour — is to reap the harvest.

May the Holy Spirit cleanse us of everything that might stand in the way of our advancement. May He grant us power to spend ourselves with renewed ardor for the salvation of the lost. If our ambitions are holy, if in sincerity we are resolved to attain to perfection in our service for the Lord, if our faith is unswerving, and our activity untiring; soon we shall be qualified to repeat the words of those first ministers of the gospel: "Thanks be to God Who always causeth us to triumph in Christ Jesus."

CHURCH DEDICATION CASABLANCA, MOROCCO

By **Charles Cornaz,**

President Moroccan Mission

For more than twenty years the leaders of the Adventist Church have felt the need of a fitting place of worship in the city of Casablanca.

In 1925 a sister from Algeria moved to Morocco, and through her faithful witnessing set the landmarks of the church. A. Meyer was sent to baptize four persons. Later J. Reynaud settled in Casablanca, and progressively the small group increased in numbers.

When we arrived in Casablanca, we found an urgent need to build. A combination of circumstances seemed to indicate that the time was favorable. The church was in a good financial condition. W. Fuchs had set aside the Harvest Ingathering Come Back — a reserve of two and one half million French francs — in view of this project. Contributions by our own brethren and sisters, and further Ingathering Come-Backs augmented the little store of savings to 5,000,000 francs in the summer of 1956.

A well-located building lot was purchased, and an appeal was sent to the responsible committees of the work. The Big Week receipts for 1956 were

set apart for this project. Additional appropriations were granted by the Union and the Division, and plans began to take shape.

Brother Rebsomen, the elder of the Casablanca church, and who is a building designer, consented to draw up plans, which were enthusiastically agreed upon at first sight. A miniature model of the proposed building was made by J. J. Hecketsweiler, treasurer of the Moroccan Mission, and was sent across the Mediterranean. It reached the right destination — the Division Winter Council, December 1956. This "toy" wielded its charm to such an extent that a year later the Casablanca church was a reality. Well may we trust wholly in God, and believe that He leads His people!

Thanks to the benevolent work of our devoted architect, many millions of francs were economized. In April, 1957, we were given authorization to build. . . .

Detailed plans, offers, and contracts were studied and signed within a very few weeks. Building began on the 15th of May. Not one unfortunate

incident interrupted the smooth running of the undertaking. There was not the slightest storm, nor did one drop of rain fall while the foundations were being laid. It was a pleasure to observe the construction of that building, where there was neither boisterousness nor clash. All of the workers, Moslems included, seemed to feel that it was an honor to erect this temple for God.

The plans provided for a basement with a young people's hall, two rooms for the Dorcas Society, two offices and an apartment. On the raised ground floor there is a large hall with the pastor's office on the left, and a mothers' room with loud speaker. The main auditorium is spacious, well-lighted, and seats 200 persons. There is room for an additional one hundred on the broad gallery. The baptistry is on each side of the pulpit.

The communion table was donated by the building contractor, and the rostrum by the joiner. The stained-glass window, designed by Mrs. Cornaz, presents a most beautiful ensemble. . . . The garden arrangement was graciously donated by his Excellency the Governor. The work and plants represent a value of more than 150,000 francs. And what a privilege to offer this temple to God free from debt !

The dedication services were held on the weekend of January 10-12, 1958. Already on Friday evening a large audience assembled to listen to the sermon by H. Pichot, president of the North African Union Mission. Sabbath morning M. V. Campbell, president of the Southern European Division, was given the privilege of opening the large auditorium door. A charming little girl presented him with the key. Beneath a beautiful "cascade" of registered chimes, the members and guests entered the church and took their places for Sabbath school. . . .

The dedicatory sermon, delivered by Pastor M. V. Campbell, made a profound impression upon the assembly. "This place of worship," he said, "is to be a foretaste of the heavenly temple where God will gather His children in glory. It is to be a door leading to the treasures of divine grace, a place where we shall meet our Heavenly Father and His people. . . ."

H. Pichot offered a fervent prayer of dedication and consecration. Following the benediction the members withdrew, their hearts filled with thanksgiving to God. Truly we can say with the Psalmist, "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand" (Psa. 84 : 10).



Recently dedicated Casablanca, Morocco Church.

Sabbath afternoon the pastors of the Moroccan Mission took their places on the rostrum to tell what God has done through their ministry. The work has advanced during this past year. True, there have been departures, some deaths as well, but the Spirit of God has moved upon the hearts of others to fill in the breach.

A great spiritual fête had been prepared for Sunday morning. Sixteen persons testified to their covenant with God by baptism. The carefully-planned organization of the ceremony contributed to its harmonious solemnity. The assembly, deeply moved, took part in the singing. The sermon by the undersigned emphasized the importance of this rite. . . . Appropriate organ music accompanied the whole service. The choir, directed by G. Hermans, rendered a beautiful number — a touching song of appeal. Twenty persons responded to the call and are preparing for future baptism. Almost all sectors of the field were represented by these new members. Meknès, Rabat, Kouribga, and Casablanca brought their "sheaves."

The official ceremony took place in the afternoon. His Excellency the Governor of the city, sent his representative. The Consuls of France and Switzerland were present in person. The Protestant pastors excused themselves, but sent a delegation of their councillors. Our esteemed brother Albert Meyer could not be with us because of illness. His name is closely connected with the development of the work in Casablanca.

In possession of such a sanctuary, we are resolved to proclaim mightily the grand news of salvation. May God qualify His people so that this edifice may be a place where repentant sinners will find their Saviour — a haven where the peace of God will fill many hearts.

Our deepest gratitude is extended to all those who assisted us in this project: to the members of the different committees, to the many and anonymous donors, and above all to God Who is willing to accept our service.



Rostrum and pulpit Casablanca Church.

Million-Dollar Mission Offering

By C. L. Torrey,

Treasurer, General Conference

There is a deep feeling of urgency on the part of our leadership right around the world field that the message must advance more rapidly, for time is fast running out and soon the opportunity to warn the world of its impending doom will be forever ended.

With the servant of the Lord, these brethren believe that "we have no time to lose. The end is near. The passage from place to place to spread the truth will soon be hedged with dangers on the right hand and on the left. Everything will be placed to obstruct the way of the Lord's messengers, so that they will not be able to do that which it is possible for them to do now. We must look our work fairly in the face, and advance as fast as possible in aggressive warfare.

"From the light given me of God I know that the powers of darkness are working with intense energy from beneath, and with stealthy tread Satan is advancing to take those who are now asleep, as a wolf taking his prey. We have warnings now which we may give, a work now which we may do; but soon it will be more difficult than we can imagine. God help us to keep in the channel of light, to work with our eyes fastened on Jesus our Leader, and patiently, perseveringly press on to gain the victory." *Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 22.

And further she says, "The spirit of war is stirring the nations from one end of the earth to the other." *Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 17. "The days in which we live are solemn and important. The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth." *Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 11.

In view of this we must arise and with greater zeal and sacrifice and in the power of the Holy Spirit go forth to finish the task while there is still time, for says Sister White, "Everywhere the light of truth is to shine forth, that hearts now in the sleep of ignorance may be awakened and converted. In all countries and cities the gospel is to be proclaimed. . . ." *Evangelism*, p. 19. And again, "From town to town, from city to city, from country to country, the warning message is to be proclaimed. . . ." *Evangelism*, p. 19.

These are days of opportunity; indeed it is a new day in many parts of the world. The Spirit of God is brooding over the hearts of men and women in all lands of earth and it is believed that there will soon be a recurrence of the Nestorian movement when the church will be ablaze and aflame for God, and when multitudes, many of whom have been secret believers in the message, will arise and take their stand for the truth. We see the power of God at work in the earth. Larger and larger numbers are being added to the church by baptism and tens of thousands are in baptismal classes awaiting the day when they too can become members.

As I travel from country to country carrying out my appointments, I rejoice to see what is taking place. In India, so long known as the Gibraltar of heathenism, the gospel is being proclaimed with power and baptisms are continuing to increase. Africa, once called the dark continent, has been lightened with the glory of God. Our membership, as of December 31, 1956, had reached 152,838 and there are 100,000 persons in the baptismal classes. In South America, referred to as the land of opportunity, God has raised up His church 85,581 strong and it is rapidly growing. In Inter-America the membership is growing so rapidly that it has become impossible to provide the members with church homes and some companies are having to meet out under the trees. While in the Australasian Division, I visited the highlands of New Guinea where only a short time ago our missionaries moved in among a wild and turbulent people, many of them head-hunters. Today from 1200 to 2000 people are being baptized annually. In the Philippines and Indonesia and other countries of the Far East, people are joining the church in ever-increasing numbers, our membership in the Philippines being 54,625 as of December 31, 1956. We are greatly encouraged with the growth of the work in Europe and America, as well as in China, Russia, and the Balkan countries. Indeed right around the circle, sincere and honest seekers after truth are finding God.

While the work is going forward most encouragingly, yet think of the multitudes who are still

without Christ and without hope ! The task before us is tremendous. It is true that we are working in nearly every country of earth, yet there are so many within those countries who have not so much as heard the gospel story of Christ's redeeming love. It is to these dear souls for whom Christ died that we must bring the message. Brethren and sisters, with greater consecration on our part and a dedication of our hearts and money to the task which lies ahead, I believe that we can win hundreds of souls where we are now winning them by tens.

In view of the seriousness of the times in which we live, the nearness of the end, the urgency of our God-given task and the unprecedented opportunities

before us, the General Conference Committee has voted, after very careful and prayerful consideration of the need for greater urgency in finishing our work, to invite our people throughout the world field to give a sacrificial offering for evangelism on June 7. We have confidence to believe that they will respond with willing hearts and contribute the largest sacrificial offering for worldwide evangelism ever to be received from our believers. I am sure each one will rally to this call in order that the work of God may go forward with greater dispatch. May our heavenly Father indicate to each member the amount he should give to this most worthy cause which we all love, and thus help finish our task in power and great glory.

Experiences Taken From a Union Publishing Bulletin

By A. Petit

I have had the pleasure of visiting some of our faithful literature evangelists in East France, and to mingle with the hard-working population of Alsace. The two sisters Lehmann have been serving the Master in the literature ministry for twenty-five years. They won a young man to the truth who, in turn, became a literature evangelist.

The day I visited Brother Lindemann, it was exactly ten years to a day that he had entered the colporteur work. Recently he won a whole family to the truth.

It is now eleven years that Brother Bolis has been canvassing in the Vosges mountains. His great desire is to see an Adventist group raised up in this *département* of France where he has interested about twenty persons.

The last person I visited in Eastern France was Brother Canet. We spent a wonderful day together in the Vosges — a territory that he works jointly with Brother Bolis. Besides other literature, we had the privilege of leaving three copies of *The Return of Christ* in the homes. Brother Canet has a small motor car, and he takes along with him a record-player. In certain families he asks whether they would like to listen to some records of *The Voice of Hope*. These beautiful songs touch the hearts of the listeners, and I find this method to be an excellent one. When I left Brother Canet, I asked, "Are you happy in the work you have undertaken?" He replied, "One is always happy when working for the Master." May all of us have this satisfaction at our daily task.

Brother Castello writes from Corsica about the wonderful possibilities to sell religious books on that beautiful island. One of his first prospects was a lawyer who was very courteous. Brother Castello spoke to him about the message. This gentleman congratulated our brother on his work, and wished

him success in it. He ordered a Bible, *Revelation*, and *Great Controversy*. At the close of the conversation he said, "I would rather listen to you than to the priest."

Brother Hostalier had been a literature evangelist for many years, but took up other work. Recently he re-entered the literature ministry, which he loves with his whole heart. How could it be otherwise, when he has won more than twenty persons to the truth through the printed page?

While he was canvassing in a village in the *département* of the Gard, southern France, he was given the address of a man who lived three kilometers farther away. This distance Brother Hostalier had to walk, but he was well repaid for his trouble. He sold six religious books to the gentleman whose address had been given him, and held a Bible study. That day Brother Hostalier sold seventeen books. The following week he returned to the same territory, and sold still two more books to the gentleman who had bought six. One of them was *Great Controversy*. He was invited to return in the afternoon to hold a second Bible study. This lasted longer than Brother Hostalier had planned, and so he missed the autobus for Nimes. The gentleman took his car and drove our brother back to his home. That day this literature evangelist sold sixteen books and took two subscriptions for our health magazine. He concluded his experience with these words: "The Lord has blessed me abundantly. Let us be willing to be lead by God's Spirit, knowing that without Him we can do nothing."

Do these experiences not rejoice our hearts? May God grant similar encouragement to all of our literature evangelists, so that the souls that are hungering and thirsting for His Word may be placed upon our pathway and receive the Bread and Water of **Life** before it is too late.

**Report of the Publishing Department of the Southern European Division
For the Year 1957**

	Average Number of Colporteurs	Number of Hours	Value of Books in Dollars	Value of Periodicals in Dollars		Grand Totals Value of Sales Local Currency	Grand Total in Dollars
AUSTRIAN U. C.							
Alpine Conf.	12	15,325			Sch.	622,964.—	
Danube Conf.	24	28,149			—	1,217,348.—	
	36	43,474	\$ 78,467.44	—	Sch.	1,840,312.—	\$ 80,365.80
FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C.							
Belgian Conf.	4	5,246			FFr.	5,279,563.—	
French Conference	38	65,817			—	65,104,902.—	
	42	71,063	\$ 72,644.84	\$ 127,950.68	FFr.	70,384,465.—	\$ 200,595.52
SWISS U. C.							
German Conf.	20	26,179			SFr.	283,696.—	
Leman Conf.	16	16,255			—	160,755.10	
	36	42,434	\$ 65,823.07	\$ 40,977.51	SFr.	444,450.10	\$ 104,445.67
FR. EQ. AFR. U. M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
INDIAN OCEAN U. M.	—	25,990	\$ 16,134.67	\$ —	Cfr.	2,830,646.80	\$ 16,134.67
ITALIAN U. M.	51	61,454	\$ 42,977.67	\$ 37,121.57	Lire	50,062,040.—	\$ 80,099.24
NORTH AFRICAN U. M.							
Algerian Miss.	4	4,561			FFr.	3,967,542.—	
Moroccan Miss.	3	4,507			—	3,949,545.—	
	7	9,068	\$ 8,685.41	\$ 13,878.03	FFr.	7,917,087.—	\$ 22,563.44
PORTUGUESE AFR. U. M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
PORTUGUESE U. M.	17	18,953	\$ 5,224.97	\$ 12,148.35	Esc.	482,593.—	\$ 17,373.32
SPANISH CHURCH	16	19,605	\$ 40,248.74	\$ —	Pes.	1,559,296.—	\$ 38,982.40
RECAPITULATION							
Austrian U. C.	36	43,474	\$ 78,467.44	\$ —	Sch.	1,840,312.—	\$ 80,365.80
Franco-Belgian U. C.	42	71,063	\$ 72,644.84	\$ 127,950.68	FFr.	70,384,465.—	\$ 200,595.52
Swiss U. C.	36	42,434	\$ 65,823.07	\$ 40,977.51	SFr.	444,450.10	\$ 104,445.67
Fr. Eq. Afr. U. M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Indian Ocean U. M.	—	25,990	\$ 16,134.67	\$ —	Cfr.	2,830,646.80	\$ 16,134.67
Italian U. M.	51	61,454	\$ 42,977.67	\$ 37,121.57	Lire	50,062,040.—	\$ 80,099.24
North African U. M.	7	9,068	\$ 8,685.41	\$ 13,878.03	FFr.	7,917,087.—	\$ 22,563.44
Portuguese Afr. U. M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portuguese U. M.	17	18,953	\$ 5,224.97	\$ 12,148.35	Esc.	482,593.—	\$ 17,373.32
Spanish Church	16	19,605	\$ 40,248.74	\$ —	Pes.	1,559,296.—	\$ 38,982.40
TOTALS	205	292,041	\$ 328,206.51	\$ 232,076.14			\$ 560,560.06

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF S. D. A. FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1957

Name of Conference or Mission	Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter	Missing Members	Total Losses	Net Gain	Present Membership	Ord. Ministers	Credentialed Missionaries	Lic. Ministers	Licensed Missionaries	Bible Instr.	Elem. School Teachers	Colporteurs	All other Regular workers	Total workers	Number of Sab. Schools	Sab. School Membership	Average Attendance		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV.																											
AUSTRIAN UNION CONF.																											
Alpine Conference	19	1194	16	—	15	31	3	7	35	—	45	- 14	1180	3	4	—	7	1	—	—	—	9	24	—	—	—	
Danube " "	21	1515	20	—	32	52	7	16	31	—	54	- 2	1513	7	1	1	1	1	—	14	—	—	21	19	1268	869	
Total	40	2709	36	—	47	83	10	23	66	—	99	- 16	2693	17	7	3	9	4	—	21	9	70	40	2898	1812		
CZECHOSLOVAKIAN U. C.																											
Total	114	7124	523	—	—	523	122	84	—	—	206	317	7441	33	2	3	3	19	—	8	—	68	160	6000	5400		
FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C.																											
Belgian Conference	15	975	8	—	1	9	4	2	11	—	17	- 8	967	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	14	—	—	—		
French " "	64	3246	45	4	60	109	24	10	69	—	103	6	3252	30	2	17	8	3	1	44	3	108	72	2793	2177		
Total	79	4221	53	4	61	118	28	12	80	—	120	- 2	4219	43	3	20	9	3	1	48	12	139	90	3788	2900		
HUNGARIAN U. C.																											
Total	257	6710	—	—	—	No Report					—	—	6710	40	3	12	12	7	—	—	—	74	175	7000	6500		
RUMANIAN U. C.																											
Total	551	33261	608	—	—	608	105	81	—	—	186	422	33683	108	—	35	87	—	—	—	40	270	500	51986	45000		
SWISS U. C.																											
French Swiss Conference	27	1437	10	2	20	32	5	3	9	—	17	15	1452	11	1	3	4	1	3	14	—	37	28	1304	1043		
German Swiss " "	32	1976	17	—	37	54	5	4	25	—	34	20	1996	11	1	6	3	3	3	19	—	46	32	1893	1308		
Total	59	3413	27	2	57	86	10	7	34	—	51	35	3448	23	2	9	7	4	6	33	—	84	60	3197	2351		
JUGOSLAVIAN U. C.																											
Total	230	8114	70	—	—	70	—	—	—	—	—	70	8184	33	1	11	5	11	—	—	—	61	300	9000	8500		
FRENCH EQ. AFR. U. M.																											
Batouri Mission	1	716	94	—	—	94	30	—	—	—	30	64	780	3	—	2	14	—	4	—	—	23	—	—	—		
Bertoua " "	3	460	54	—	—	54	20	—	—	—	20	34	494	2	—	1	—	16	12	—	—	31	35	2155	1851		
Kribi " "	5	355	15	—	—	15	3	2	2	—	7	8	363	3	—	1	—	8	21	—	—	33	18	972	653		
Nanga-Eboko " "	5	1999	182	—	—	182	12	18	—	—	30	152	2151	2	—	5	—	26	32	—	—	65	123	5297	2268		
North Cameroun " "	2	361	28	—	—	28	32	26	—	—	58	- 30	331	2	—	—	—	15	3	—	—	20	19	906	670		
Sangmelima " "	2	364	31	—	2	33	10	—	—	—	10	23	387	3	—	1	—	9	22	—	—	35	8	894	492		
Yaoundé " "	6	801	56	—	—	56	2	5	—	—	7	49	850	1	—	3	—	17	33	—	—	54	27	2553	1889		
Total	24	5056	460	—	2	462	109	51	2	—	162	300	5356	17	—	15	14	109	138	—	—	293	255	14117	8804		
INDIAN OCEAN U. MISSION																											
Diego-Suarez Mission	1	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	4	2	—	8	—	—	—	1	15	—	—	—		
Fianarantsoa " "	10	405	10	—	1	11	6	1	—	—	7	4	409	3	—	4	3	—	3	1	—	14	25	633	426		
Majunga " "	9	220	41	—	14	55	3	1	15	—	19	36	256	2	—	1	3	—	8	2	—	16	13	808	705		
Mauritius " "	13	1041	17	—	—	17	—	1	—	—	1	16	1057	6	—	—	11	—	11	4	—	32	15	920	770		
Réunion " "	8	347	10	—	—	10	8	4	—	—	12	- 2	345	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	5	9	590	406		
Seychelles " "	1	94	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	94	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	1	96	63		
Tamatave " "	1	134	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	- 4	130	3	—	—	1	—	5	2	—	11	8	300	210		
Tananarive " "	25	1252	23	—	—	23	—	3	—	—	3	20	1272	4	—	1	3	—	31	5	24	68	37	3414	2150		
Total	68	3517	101	—	15	116	17	10	19	—	46	70	3587	24	2	9	30	—	62	15	25	167	112	6926	4835		
ITALIAN UNION MISSION																											
Italian Mission	55	2375	39	1	34	74	6	9	40	—	55	19	2394	9	1	3	10	3	—	—	—	26	—	—	—		
Sardinia Mission Station	2	45	2	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	2	—	45	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	40	40		
Total	57	2420	41	1	34	76	7	9	41	—	57	19	2439	21	1	19	25	3	—	45	—	114	90	2710	2625		

Report of the Missionary Volunteer Department of the Southern European Division

For the Year 1957

	Austrian U. C.	Czecho- slovakian U. C.	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Hugarian U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Jugoslavian U. C.	French Eq. African U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Italian U. M.	North African U. M.	Portuguese U. M.	Portuguese Afr. U. M.	Bulgarian M.	Greek M.	Spanish Church	S. E. D. Yearly	Totals 1957
Number of Senior societies	13	49	27	77	—	23	94	1	42	42	8	29	170	25	5	15	620	
Number of Junior societies	—	—	16	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	3	142	
Number of societies reporting	16	—	25	—	—	18	—	—	10	33	7	29	235	—	—	10	383	
Total membership (Seniors)	215	2000	530	2000	14000	338	4339	100	600	890	86	400	3160	1000	—	356	29944	
Total membership (Juniors)	162	—	200	—	—	170	—	300	—	—	45	300	2000	—	—	—	3177	
Total of Senior and Junior young people baptized, regardless of who labored for them	56	—	38	—	—	65	—	—	48	55	—	62	597	—	—	5	926	
Number baptized whom young peo- ple had a part in winning	5	—	34	—	—	3	—	—	2	10	—	21	164	—	—	2	241	
Number belonging to a missionary band	70	—	108	—	—	142	—	—	—	—	—	230	4000	—	—	—	4550	
REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK :																		
Number of Bible readings or gospel meetings held	558	—	60	—	—	182	—	—	2000	6947	400	8550	43336	—	—	416	62449	
Number of missionary contacts	1152	—	400	—	—	488	—	—	3364	5835	100	12567	55878	—	—	2086	81870	
Number of persons helped	936	—	200	—	—	34	—	100	430	2554	50	2862	24695	—	—	343	32204	
Literature distributed	7903	—	—	—	—	19118	—	100	2621	25210	5000	27370	22769	—	—	207	110298	
DEVOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL:																		
Number observing the Morning Watch	150	—	300	—	—	137	—	700	300	335	150	200	4529	—	—	250	7051	
Number completing Bible Year and Character Classics	30	—	64	—	—	42	—	10	100	117	15	100	2453	—	—	111	3042	
Number taking Reading Course	40	—	30	—	—	147	—	—	—	—	—	30	660	—	—	20	927	
FINANCIAL :																		
Offerings local society work	\$ 143.99	—	235.18	—	—	20.80	—	1.43	37.22	64.91	—	95.37	142.42	—	—	23.96	765.28	
Ingathering for Missions	\$ 93.40	—	—	—	—	4787.50	—	—	38.70	177.60	986.54	350.06	—	—	—	—	6433.80	
Offerings special projects	\$ 255.22	—	17.20	—	—	960.48	—	—	—	7.20	—	261.27	216.34	—	—	23 15	1740.86	

Dawn Breaks Over North Cameroun

By. E. Ludescher

The Dogba Mission Station was founded by R. Bergström twenty-seven years ago. It is situated 80 kilometers (50 miles) from the Koza station where our hospital is to be found. About a year ago we arrived in Douala, and travelled to North Cameroun where we have been working at Dogba since last March. Today the main station and its ten out-stations have a total of 300 members.

Those who are acquainted with conditions in North Cameroun know what difficulties we must encounter here. The ruling class of the population — the Fulben — are Mohammedans, and are hard to reach with God's last message. The remaining population are heathen. Many of them live in the mountains. There, too, we have our out-stations.

The Kirdies (heathen) are rather friendly to the gospel. Truly they are a people of nature, almost totally untouched by civilization, and their customs are extremely interesting. Their principal food is millet, which is planted at the beginning of the rainy season. If you were to climb one of the many mountains, you would find it sown with millet to the highest point. Peanuts are grown, and in the flat countries cotton is raised.

The little round huts of the natives, with pointed straw roofs, are very intriguing. They are to be found everywhere in the mountains. Often many members of the same family live in one such hut, and even their goats and sheep find shelter therein. During the rainy season stone walls connect the huts for protection from panthers, hyaenas and wild dogs.

There is great poverty amongst the natives. Because of the lack of hygiene they succumb to many diseases. The death rate among children is appalling. Once I met a young woman at one of our out-stations. She had come for treatment. I learned that she had had seven children, all of whom died between three and four years of age. Her husband blamed his wife for this tragedy, and used it as an excuse to take a second wife.

Another mother brought me her three-months-old baby. It was a pitiful sight — just a little bundle of skin and bones. Why? The mother could not nurse her child, and so the poor infant went without food. I wanted to take mother and child with me to Dogba, and try to save the baby's life with powdered milk, but the members of the family were not

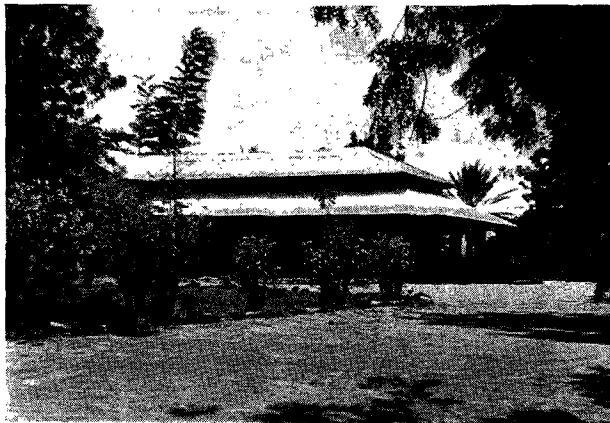
agreed. When I visited the station ten days later, the child was already dead.

Every day hundreds die in the mountains of North Cameroun. Over and over again one hears the funeral-knell, which reminds us that we must hasten on with the good news of the gospel. A gigantic task awaits us here.

Our native evangelists work with much ardor among their own people. A few weeks ago I visited several of our out-stations to examine the candidates for baptism. As the roads were not open because of the heavy rains, I had to ride horseback through the bush to reach the out-stations. It was with real pleasure that I discovered that a large number of the candidates were well instructed, and expressed their sincere wish to be baptized and become members of God's family. Not long ago we had the great joy of baptizing three native women and sixteen men. Many members from the out-stations took part in this fête. May the Lord richly bless our new brethren and sisters, and may they grow in faith.



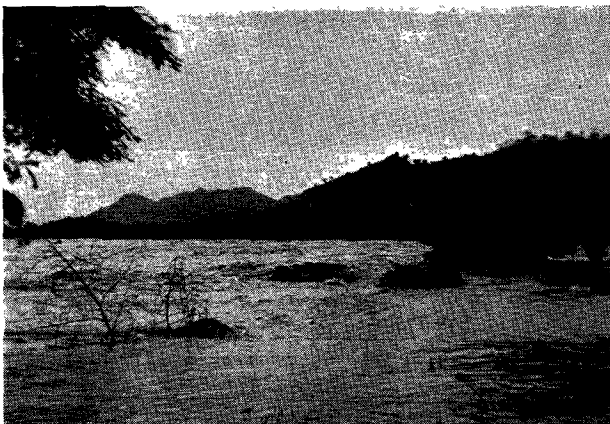
Patients at the Dogba Mission treatment rooms.



Missionary's home, Dogba Station.



Student carriers fording swollen river, Dogba.



Flooded area, Dogba.

We have treatment rooms and a school at our Dogba station. Sister Jaqueline Vuillecard, a French nurse, works in the treatment rooms. A daily average of sixty to seventy natives come to be treated. On Sundays often as many as 200 come — many of them from a long distance. Unfortunately, they come when the disease is too far advanced. Snake bites are cases that occur daily. People come who

have tumors that have already eaten away a part of the bones. During the cooler weather (the nights in December and January are very cool), there are many cases of pneumonia and burned children.

The natives find it very cold during these two months. They have no other way to warm themselves than to keep a fire burning all night. The entire family sleeps around the fire. Small children are laid nearest the fire, because they are more apt to catch cold. So it often happens that the children turn over in their sleep and roll into the fire. The burns caused in this way are horrible to see.

During the rainy season, and even now, many bandits are abroad. Natives who have been badly treated by them are brought to us with most gruesome wounds. Week before last, about eight o'clock in the evening, a wounded shepherd was brought to us. He had been attacked by bandits. He was suffering from wounds caused by three poisoned arrows. One arrow was still stabbed into his abdomen. As the man was unconscious, we had to take him immediately to the hospital in Maroua. Two days ago another shepherd was brought to us. The bandits had waylaid him and robbed him of thirty-five cows and oxen. He had been severely beaten with cudgels. Through our Samaritan medical service we have made contacts with the people which are a wonderful help to the evangelistic work.

We are especially thankful to the Lord for His blessing upon our school. We enrolled ninety pupils at the beginning of the new school year. Three teachers are teaching three classes, and the pupils in the highest class are prepared to pass the state "*Certificat*" examination. The student in possession of this "*Certificat*" may find employment as a teacher.

The pupils come mostly from our out-stations. Eleven tribes are represented among them. Five are Fulben — Mohammedans. They, too, take part in the classes on religion. Forty-five per cent of the ninety pupils live on the station. More than thirty are enrolled in the baptismal class. This year we started a course for future evangelists. Fifteen pupils asked to be enrolled in it. Later they will be employed in evangelistic work.

Our greatest need here in North Cameroun is the need of qualified evangelists to open up new out-stations. In one of the villages at the foot of a lofty mountain, the chief begged me to send them an evangelist this coming year. Such pleas for teachers come to us repeatedly. Unhappily, the needed workers are lacking. However, we face the future with confidence, for we have a number of promising young men who are preparing for evangelistic work. "He who wins the youth, wins the world." May the Lord help us to win the youth of North Cameroun to Christ, so that the work He has entrusted to us may be finished.

"We were already communicant members of the church that observes the first day of the week ; but now that we know about the truth, we no longer attend those services. We do not want to drink of the cup of the wrath of God. We are among those who, with plaintive voice, cry, 'Come over into Macedonia and help us.' We sigh for the heavenly Canaan. . . ."

This student is baptized now. He, his wife, and eldest daughter were the charter members of the little Adventist group "bezanozano" (a Malagasy tribe of the region) thanks to "Ny Feon'ny Faminianiana." Since this brother enrolled in the course, he has sent enrolments for more than 70 persons to our office at Soamanandrarinny. One of the students he interested writes in these words : "We have decided to follow what the lessons teach. We are firmly convinced that Saturday is the true Sabbath, and we refrain from doing any work on that day. We have only one regret — there is no Adventist church here."

On Sabbath, January 19, 1957, a group of 20 members was organized at that place. Although there was no worker there, three months later this modest group became 40. September 14 six new members entered the church, and another six are preparing for baptism.

"In 1951 I was working with a comrade on a building, for we are masons. One day the postman gave him a letter. Immediately he opened it and

began to read. I said nothing. Then he called, 'Come and see what I have just received.' I looked closely to see what it was — a lesson for a correspondence course entitled, 'Ny Feon'ny Faminianiana.' I decided to follow the lessons too, and asked my friend to enroll me that same day. What a great joy it was when I received the first lesson ! Every lesson impressed my conscience so much that I could not dismiss it from my mind. More than that ! The lessons *broke up the ground of my soul.*

"I left that place to work in the town of Fianarantsoa, 270 kilometers (about 170 miles) from home. While I was there I decided that when I returned to Antsirabé, my home town, I would tell my wife about what was going on in my soul. My plan was that we would join the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

"However, when I returned home I kept silent. The first Sabbath I left home as if I were going to the market. Instead I went to the Adventist Church. This went on for four Sabbaths. The fifth Sabbath I unburdened my heart to my wife, and asked her if she would not like to attend services at a church that Saturday. I didn't expect that she would accept so readily. So for the first time in our lives we went to the Adventist Church together, and we have continued to go to it ever since. I shall never forget the warm welcome accorded us by the Adventist members. It is particularly the visits of Pastor

Report of the Home Missionary Department of the Southern European Division

For the Year 1957

	Austrian U. C.	Franco-Belgian U. C.	Hungarian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Fr. Eq. Afr. U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Italian U. M.	North African U. M.	Portuguese U. M.	Portuguese Afr. U. M.	Spanish Church	Division
Number added to union membership since last report as a result of lay members' missionary work	79	43	—	60	—	38	122	32	75	—	113	562
Number of churches and companies reporting	41	60	149	56	—	58	54	17	28	—	17	480
Churches holding first Sabbath missionary service	39	45	—	49	—	30	47	16	24	—	19	269
Churches holding weekly missionary service	36	36	—	37	—	10	49	14	32	—	17	231
Churches conducting training classes	3	8	—	2	—	—	10	—	—	—	8	31
Churches with one or more service companies in operation	38	30	—	57	—	23	18	16	18	—	12	211
Institutes, rallies, and conventions held	—	—	46	1	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	54
Persons reporting missionary work	1554	402	—	677	—	640	1443	500	1520	—	—	6734
Bible readings and gospel meetings conducted	5193	9539	45983	4601	12225	13873	43593	7166	30508	—	9745	182421
Missionary contacts	20581	20650	29720	11591	14007	16100	43098	8252	44462	—	27209	235674
Pieces missionary literature distributed	90642	266348	10740	189150	47892	11081	75895	34958	76048	1013	5001	808764
Persons helped	11830	4573	—	7416	15930	2541	8214	5526	20675	—	8975	85684

Minason Rakotonirainy in our home that decided us to accept baptism. We were baptized on June 27th, 1953 — the great day of the dedication of the Adventist Church in Antsirabé. Our gratitude and our praise ascend to God and to the Bible correspondence course leaders who brought us out of Babylon."

And we could go on multiplying these testimonies. They have not remained "dead letters", for those who wrote them have become faithful servants of the living God. They have abandoned their evil ways. They have severed family ties and friendships. They have been misunderstood, sometimes jeered, despised, and even rejected; but they continue to follow faithfully the example of Him Who said, "Lo, I come quickly." From the depths of their hearts, and by their transformed lives they witness to the power of God to save the lost. May God make of them the first-fruits of a still more abundant harvest of souls on our great island of Madagascar.

«BLESSED ARE THEY....»

During the session of the Division Council in Gland, the sad news reached us of the passing away of Mrs. A. Richli in a Geneva hospital on December 7. Sister Richli was buried in the Collonges cemetery on Tuesday, December 10. She was the faithful wife of Elder A. Richli and worked at his side when he was an evangelist in Switzerland. Later she accompanied her husband to Mauritius where he was in charge of the Phoenix Mission School. It was in Mauritius, after the birth of her child, that Mrs. Richli was stricken with an incurable disease. After the permanent return of these missionaries. Mrs. Richli spent the last weeks of her life with her husband at the Collonges Seminary where he is now employed as a teacher. May the Great Comforter sustain Brother Richli in his bereavement.

We are sad to report still another death in our Division, that of Joseph Doubravsky in Prague the first week of February, 1958. Brother Doubravsky had always been a faithful servant of the Lord in Czechoslovakia. He entered the work in 1919, and served for four years as a minister of the gospel. From 1923 to 1935 he was president of two local conferences, and from 1935 until he retired from the work he was president of the Czechoslovakian Union Conference.

We know that Brother Doubravsky will be among those who will receive the eternal heritage from our dear Lord when He comes in the clouds of heaven. To his bereaved family we extend our heartfelt Christian sympathy.

MISSIONARY DEPARTURES, 1957

March

Mr. and Mrs. H. Evard, of Switzerland, to Mauritius, Indian Ocean (returning).
Mr. and Mrs. José Augusto da Silva Junior and child, of Portugal, to Saint Thomas Island (returning).

**

June

Mr. and Mrs. Long and two children, of Italy, to Madagascar, Indian Ocean (returning).

**

July

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Gutekunst, of France, to Belgian Congo.

**

August

Miss Huguette Tierce, of France, to French Cameroun (returning).

**

September

Mr. and Mrs. M. Grisiér and two children, of France, to Madagascar, Indian Ocean.
Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Lourinho and child, of Portugal, to Mozambique.
Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Fernando Narciso, of Portugal, to Angola.

**

October

Mr. and Mrs. M. Fayard and three children, of France, to French Cameroun (returning).
Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Cordas and two children, of Portugal, to Cape Verde Islands (returning).
Miss Maria Haseneder, of Switzerland, to Belgian Congo.

**

December

Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto Ferreira and child, of Portugal, to Angola.

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M. Fridlin Editor
..... Editorial Secretary

Here and There

Baptisms: M. Lourinho, president of the **Mozambique Mission**, Portuguese East Africa, reports 121 new converts baptized in Mozambique in 1957.

E. Vervoort, who is in charge of the **Majunga Mission** in Madagascar, reports forty-one baptisms in 1957.

L. Beer, president of the **Italian Union Mission**, writes that thirty-five people were baptized in Italy during the last quarter of 1957. A new church will be organized soon at Terrinca near Pisa.

On December 14, 1957, Pastor Minason Rakotonirainy, who is in charge of the Malagasy Bible correspondence course in Tananarive, Madagascar, baptized six new members at Mandialaza in the eastern part of the island. The interest in that locality was created by a nurse who heard our radio program and enrolled later in the Bible correspondence course. Other interested persons are preparing for baptism in this village through the witness of these new believers.

★

R. A. Wilcox, president of the East Brazil Union Mission of the South American Division, has accepted the call of the **Portuguese Union Mission** to become their president. He will replace E. Ferreira who has been appointed president of the **Angola Union Mission**. Pastor Wilcox plans to leave Brazil about May 15th for his homeland, the United States. After the General Conference Session he will assume his new duties in Lisbon, Portugal, the headquarters of the Portuguese Union Mission

★

Our **French Seminary** at Collonges-sous-Salève has an enrolment of 183 students this year which is twenty-four more students than in 1956-57. About twenty nationalities are represented. Twelve students are from the United States. They are enjoying their stay at the Seminary.

★

The students prepared at the **Ankazambo school** for government examinations have all been successful. A three-classroom school building has been completed in Diego-Suarez in the northern corner of Madagascar.

Territorial adjustments: According to an action by the Division committee, the former Portuguese African Union Mission has been divided again into two organizations: The Angola Union Mission, Portuguese West Africa, with E. Ferreira as president; and the Mozambique Mission, Portuguese East Africa, which is again a detached field, will be supervised directly by the Division. M. Lourinho is in charge of it.

The formerly international city and territory of Tangier, which was a part of the Spanish Church, has been attached to the Moroccan Mission of the North African Union Mission The Canary Islands, Rio de Oro (Spanish West Africa), Spanish Guinea and the island of Fernando Po have been attached to the Spanish Church.

★

Paul Nouan, who has been a missionary on the islands of Tahiti and New Caledonia of the Australasian Division for a number of years, will return to France permanently this spring, and take up work as pastor and evangelist in the French Conference. **Leon Hilaire**, a young evangelist in Le Havre, has been called by the Australasian Division to replace Brother Nouan in New Caledonia. We welcome Brother Nouan back to our Division, and wish Brother Hilaire much of the Lord's blessing in his new work.

★

P. Heise, an evangelist in Strasbourg, France, and who has been pastor of the French church in this same city, has been invited to connect with the **French West African Mission**. Mr. and Mrs. Heise will be located at Dakar, Senegal, where they will start educational work and participate in evangelistic activities.

★

Miss Janine Brossillon, a church school teacher at our Collonges Seminary, has accepted a call to serve as preceptress at the Soamandrarinny school in Tananarive, Madagascar. She will leave for her new post at the close of the present school year. **Miss Viviane Ducret** will replace her at the seminary primary school.

May the Lord bless these outgoing missionaries and give them good health and much joy and success in their future service.

Charles Rochat, a former student of the **Collonges Seminary**, has been invited to serve as a teacher on the faculty of this institution beginning with the school year 1958-1959. Brother Rochat went to the United States some years ago. He taught foreign languages at Pacific Union College during the absence of Professor George Caviness in Australia. At present Brother Rochat is preparing his M.A. degree, which he hopes to receive next August.

★

Miss Magali Cloux, who in recent years was a faithful nurse at the **Vie et Santé** institute in Algiers, North Africa, has had to return to her homeland, Switzerland, because of failing health. We hope that Miss Cloux will recuperate before long, and be able to take up work again in our Gland Sanitarium.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of **Adolf Wegener**, at the age of seventy, which occurred at Gratz, Austria, on November 18, 1957, following a brain hemorrhage. Brother Wegener was still a very active worker. Two days before his death he was in Vienna after a trip through the Tyrol and Vorarlberg where he visited isolated churches and groups to hold the Lord's Supper.

Brother Wegener entered the employ of the Seventh-day Adventist organization in 1908. He was a Bible worker in Germany and Hungary for four years. In November 1912 he was ordained to the gospel ministry at Klausenburg, Hungary. From 1921 to 1925 he served as president of the Transylvanian Conference. Later he came to Austria, and was district leader in Steiermark until his death.

Elder Wegener was one of our good, old-time ministers, always ready to preach the Word. He contributed regularly to **The Advent Echo**, and his articles were very much appreciated. We know that this faithful servant rests from his labors until the resurrection morning when he will come forth to meet his Lord. To Mrs. Wegener we extend our deepest, Christian sympathy.