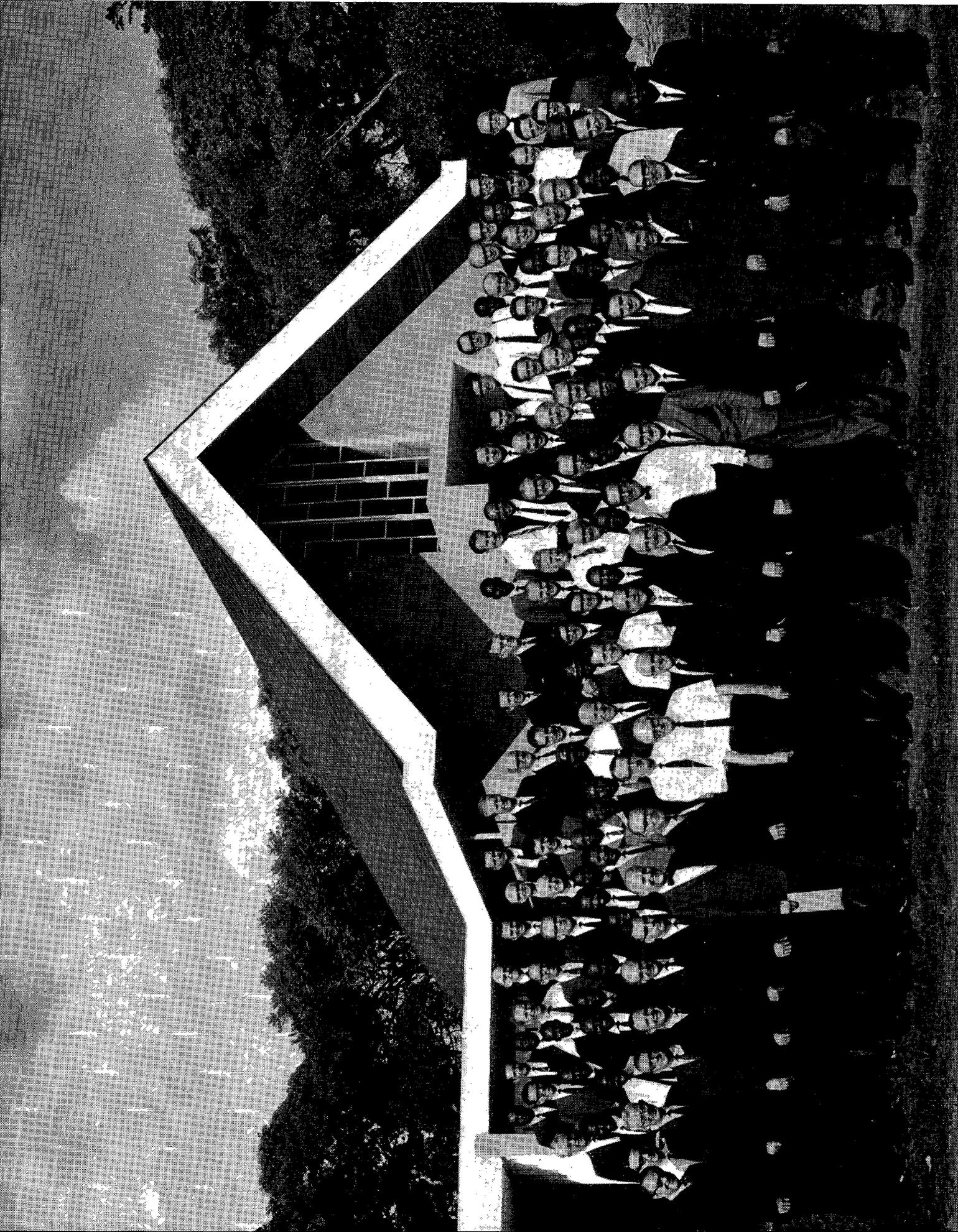




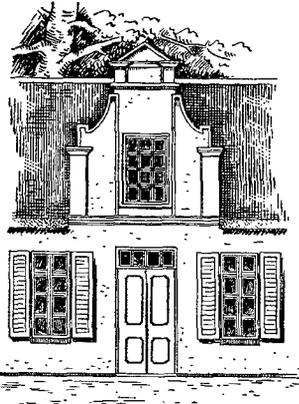
**Trans-Africa Division**  
**OUTLOOK**

Volume LXIX January 15, 1971 No. 1  
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# Ellen G. White and the Wessels Family

By JEAN CRIPPS



Outside the village Father Wessels had a farm called "Pilgrim's Rest."

It was to this river at 11 o'clock at night that a strange little procession made its way.



THIS SCENE is set in the little town of Wellington in the Cape Province, South Africa.

Outside the village Father Wessels had a farm called "Pilgrim's Rest." This was in addition to his farms in the Kimberley district. He had married twice and was blessed with 15 children. At this time three of the older children, John, Hester and Henry, were with him, besides some of the younger members of the family.

People in those days lived close to the land, which they loved dearly. They were invariably of a religious turn of mind. In reading the Bible, Father Wessels had come to the conclusion that he should be baptized by immersion as this was the right way. Who better, he thought, to perform the ceremony than the famous minister of the Dutch Reformed Church, Andrew Murray? So he inspanned and went to the church in Wellington, before which a statue of Andrew Murray stands today.

The Rev. Andrew Murray listened attentively before agreeing that, technically, this was the right method. But he could not jeopardize his position by conducting the service himself. He suggested that the Rev. Buchner, another Dutch Reformed minister, who believed in baptism by immersion, might be willing to assist. This proved to be the case. One condition was imposed: everything must be conducted in secrecy and as inconspicuously as possible so that no dissension among the people would rise.

Many years before, numerous French Huguenots, who had been forced to leave their homeland due to the horrors of the massacre of St Bartholomew's Eve, had sought and found refuge in South Africa. Their farming skills were much appreciated in the countryside served by the Berg River. It was to this river at 11 o'clock at night that a strange little procession made its way. Father Wessels was there with his children John, Hester and Henry. Under cover of darkness all were baptized by immersion. The Rev. Buchner officiated. He did not linger over the ceremony which was quick and secret, as the Rev. Andrew Murray had requested.

Another of Father Wessels's sons, Pieter, had two farms near the family homestead of Benaudheidfontein. News slowly trickled down to Father Wessels

at Wellington that Pieter had turned Jew and was attending church on the wrong day. Much incensed he summoned his son to give an account of himself. He also planned a severe reprimand.

Henry was most interested in this interview and stayed to eavesdrop from Hester's room. Father and mother and son sat around the table, each holding a Bible. Pieter gave a study on the Sabbath question, quoting chapter and verse. Father Wessels had his cane by his side. Henry saw him raise it three times to strike Pieter. But each time it fell to his side without any blow being struck. At last Father Wessels dropped to his knees and thanked God for the light brought to him by his son.

## An Angry Woman

A close neighbour of Pieter's in Kimberley was his brother-in-law, Gert Scholtz, who had married one of Pieter's sisters.

One day when Gert was visiting his brother-in-law, Pieter took the opportunity of presenting the seventh-day Sabbath. Gert argued, grew angry and left for home, only to turn his horses round to continue the argument again. This went on for some time until he had no more arguments left. Full of enthusiasm he hastened back to his own farm to share the good news with his wife. She was not pleased at the turn of events.

"Gert," said she, "if you are going to turn Jew I just cannot stand the disgrace. In fact I won't have you in the house. Get out until you have learned some sense, then you can come back."

"All right," said the genial Gert, "out I will go but I won't give up."

Behind the house rose the Plaatsberg Mountain where Gert sought refuge. Each day a servant toiled up the slopes to the summit with food and a change of clothes. Mrs Scholtz did not venture up to continue the argument nor did she invite her husband to come down. Fourteen days later Gert was still meditating on his mountain top. Mrs Scholtz likewise was studying in the comfort of her home.

At last she sent for her husband to come back. She admitted he was right and promised to stand by him.

Gert Scholtz inspanned his four beautiful horses, pride of his life, and set out

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# Ellen G. White and

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*“Oom Paul, this is the truth of God; no man can refute it without peril to his future.”*



on a round of visits to relatives and friends, of whom he had many. He felt he had personally to spread the good news and share his knowledge.

Gert visited the president of the Free State and convinced him. Next he journeyed to the Transvaal and sat on the stoep with Oom Paul Kruger, telling him about the teachings of the Bible. Oom Paul, a great Bible student and a man of great faith, listened intently. Earnestly and sincerely Gert closed his discussion with the words, “Oom Paul, this is the truth of God; no man can refute it without peril to his future.” These words, spoken so long ago, ring down the years with their message of truth for our day.

### *Friends of Ellen G. White*

The work in its pioneer stages in Africa was unique in many respects. This was particularly true of the Wessels family and of the guidance they received from Ellen G. White. No family in our history was more privileged in receiving as much counsel and instruction. One reason for this was that great wealth always poses special problems. Sister White took a keen interest in all the doings of the family and, with her pen and also in person, constantly guided and admonished them. Mother Wessels visited Sister White while she was in Australia and they became good friends, having much in common.

### *Henry Purchases Furniture*

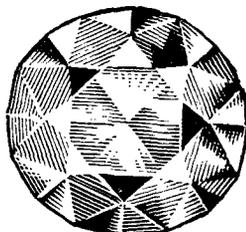
Johanna van Jaarsveld, an orphan girl, lived with the Wessels family. She was Henry's age and he married her. They decided to visit America on their honeymoon. At this time Mrs White was still in Australia.

Henry and Johanna stayed in Michigan. One day he suggested to his wife that they buy some furniture to take home to replace the heavy family pieces. She was delighted, so together they went to the Phoenix Furniture Company to make their purchases. The building had several showrooms. The salesman, a little man, followed them around with a notebook, recording their buys. They chose many fine items. At last they came to a distinctive table at one side of the room. As they stood there Henry had a queer feeling. It was as though someone spoke to him and told him he was spending a lot of money for that which would soon be burned up. He was uneasy and felt there was a better use for his money. He hesitated. He thought of cancelling the whole order. The salesman noticed the change and came to



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*She brought it and they opened it together. Inside was just dust. The prediction of Mrs White had been literally fulfilled.*



# The Wessels Family

him, pressing him to buy. Suddenly, in a fit of recklessness, Henry chose more goods before closing the transaction.

When they compared experiences Henry found that his wife had had a similar impression at exactly the same moment.

In due course Henry and Johanna returned to South Africa. He was at home when the furniture arrived from America and immediately started unpacking it. As he was busy with the task, Mrs A. Druillard, a worker's wife, came in bringing a letter. He sat down at once to read it. The letter was from Australia, written by Mrs White. She said that in vision she had seen Henry and his wife. They were in the Phoenix Furniture Company showroom, which she described. She mentioned, in particular, a table at the side of the room. She saw them stop at this table and a sudden look of anxiety come over Henry's face. She noted the same look on the face of his wife. She saw the man with the notebook and she also saw an angel with a notebook making a record of Henry's purchases. As they stood by the table she saw the angel speak to Henry and say to him, "Why spend all this money for furniture which will be burned up when 'Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard . . . the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.'"

Mrs White saw that the angel's message had reached Johanna as well. She saw Henry hesitate, watched the salesman pressing him to complete the order, and the haste with which the transaction came to a close.

All this Henry lived over again as he read the letter which had been written thousands of miles away in Australia. She told him that the Lord was watching over him and trying to lead him by His Holy Spirit and the ministry of the holy angels. She urged him to be sensitive to these impressions. This experience, naturally, made a profound impression on the young couple.

## *Opals Turned to Dust*

Mother Wessels visited Mrs White in Australia, as we have previously mentioned. Before she left for home she purchased, as a gift for the children, some beautiful opals, for which that country was famous.

One day on the voyage home, Mother Wessels took the opals up on deck to admire their beauty and to decide to whom she would give them. On her arrival she gave one to Henry for his wife. Henry put it in a little leather box, lined

with dark blue, one of the fittings of a dressing case he possessed. He then deposited it safely in his vault. Meanwhile, he had received a letter from Mrs White. She said she saw Mrs Wessels on the deck of the ship, admiring the opals and deciding what she would do with each. Mrs White then said that this money had been wasted as the opals would turn to dust and be worthless. It would have been better to invest the money in eternal riches.

Some time after this, Henry went to town and stopped in at Seales', one of the leading jewellers in Cape Town. He made arrangements for the opal to be set in a brooch. On his return home he told his wife what he had done and asked her to go to the safe and get the box with the opal. She brought it and they opened it together. Inside was just dust. The prediction of Mrs White had been literally fulfilled. Both Henry and his wife were amazed. His first impulse was to catch the next boat to Australia and have an interview with Sister White, but the plan was abandoned. Henry was now a firm believer in the testimonies, and all his subsequent experiences confirmed him in his belief.

The sale of the farm Wesselton to the De Beers Company had left the family extremely rich. Henry and other members of the clan were most liberal to the early church. Among other things they donated the property on which the Roeland Street church, Cape Town, was built. They also provided much of the money for the building itself. The St. John Ambulance Association bought the property in later years. The beautifully carved chairs, made especially for this early church, are still in the possession of the Cape Town congregation.

At this period, everything Henry touched turned to gold. He bought a property one morning for £3,000 (R6,000) and the same evening sold it for £15,000 (R30,000).

## *Henry Saved From Death*

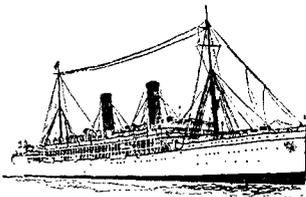
Henry was interested in a number of business enterprises and decided to go to England for the purpose of floating a company. He booked passage on the S.S. *Drummond Castle*. It was planned that, during his absence, his wife would stay at Muizenberg, a seaside resort on the Indian Ocean, a few miles from Cape Town.

His baggage was all packed and he was ready to leave for the docks when he heard a knock at the door. The visitor was his mother. She had driven from her



**Roeland Street Church  
after it was taken over by  
the St. John Ambulance  
Association.**

# Wessels Family



residence in Timor Hall, a distance of four miles, to see him.

"Henry," she said, "I have had an awful dream. You must not go on the boat."

She wept so that she could hardly speak. There was the baggage on the table and Henry was just about to depart for the docks.

"Henry, I saw the *Drummond Castle* quite clearly. It was dark and foggy but the sea was smooth. Suddenly, the current seemed to seize the boat and dash it against a rock. I saw women and children struggling in the water. The boat sank. A voice said to me, 'Don't let Henry go on that boat!'"

Henry was deeply moved but not convinced. A great deal depended on this trip and he could not lightly change his plans. Finally his mother said, "Henry, I command you not to go. That voice came from God and you will lose your life if you disobey."

Reluctantly Henry cancelled his plans.

The *Drummond Castle* left Cape Town on May 28, 1896. Two weeks later she called at Teneriffe. The evening of June 16 was foggy. Captain Pierce was on the bridge but he did not reduce speed for the weather was calm. There was a concert on deck that evening. Shortly before 11 p.m. she struck the reef, known as Pierre Pertes, at the southern entrance to Fronveur Sound, near Ushant lighthouse. He had not realized that his ship was in the grip of a powerful current which would dash it against the reef. She sank like a stone in a few minutes. There was no time for rescue work. Only one of the 245 passengers and two members of the crew survived.

Henry was at Kenilworth, Cape Town, on the Saturday night when he heard the news. It gave him a feeling of solemnity that God had thus miraculously intervened to keep him from death.

## Our Early Institutions

Before we leave this family we must pay tribute to the way in which they poured out their wealth to establish and maintain the early work. Unfortunately, it was all Cape-centred. Sister White gave strong counsel about branching out to other places and warned that the same experience that had befallen the work in Battle Creek in America would be repeated. Her words proved only too true as the church found to its cost.

On February 1, 1893, Union College was opened at Kenilworth, Cape Town. The cost of the building was approximately £7,000 (R14,000). The Wessels money in large measure financed this.

Professor Eli B. Miller was the first principal. Miss Sarah Peck was one of the teachers. Joel Rogers and his wife also taught there as did Mrs A. Druillard. The Sentinel Publishing Association functions on the site today.

The Wessels family had seen the splendid work being done in the Haskell home for orphans in Battle Creek, and thought it would be beneficial to have a similar institution in South Africa. On March 8, 1895, the Plumstead orphanage was opened. Brother P. Smailes and his wife, who was Amy Tarr, were the first superintendent and matron. About 1896, W. C. Walston and his wife, who had had experience of this work in the Haskell home in Battle Creek, came out and took charge.

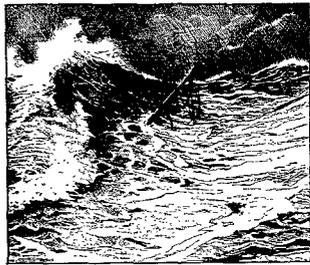
On January 1, 1897, the Claremont Sanitarium was opened. Dr Anthony, the colporteur who came out with the first arrivals from the States, had returned to take a medical course. He was the first medical superintendent of the sanitarium at Plumstead. Mrs A. Druillard was the matron, Miss Webster head nurse, and J. J. Wessels business manager and treasurer. Dr Kate Lindsay was also on the staff. This was a 50-bed institution.

Just before the Boer war broke out, a new wing was built at the sanitarium. The opening was a great occasion with the Governor as guest speaker. A brass band was in attendance and many guests gathered.

War soon broke out and part of the building was taken over by the military. This posed a problem until eventually the sanitarium closed its doors.

About 1904 the old orphanage at Plumstead was converted for the use of a small medical institution. Dr George Thomason came from America to be the medical superintendent and his sister, Miss Ida Thomason, was matron. After a number of years it was closed due to problems of management and finance. So the concentration of work at the Cape gradually diminished and the emphasis moved north. In our next issue we shall deal with our 1820 settler pioneers before dealing with our exodus from South Africa to the north. (For the information contained in this article we are indebted to the late Dr Harry Hankins. He was the son of Pioneer Evangelist Ira J. Hankins who was connected with our early work. The Hankins family have been faithful church members and, through the years, have been active in church and denominational service. Dr Harry Hankins was deeply interested in our history and, besides collecting material methodically, talked personally with Henry Wessels and others associated with that period.—J.D.C.)

(To be continued.)



Union College just after it was taken over by the Sentinel.



War soon broke out and part of the building was taken over by the military. This posed a problem until eventually the sanitarium closed its doors.



# THE OUTLOOK

invites its readers, through its printed pages, to attend the Trans-Africa Division's

**FOURTEENTH QUADRENNIAL COUNCIL**  
held in **BLANTYRE, MALAWI, NOVEMBER 13 - 17, 1970.**



**Council Theme: THE TIME IS AT HAND**



## Our Visitors:



**ROBERT H. PIERSON**  
President of the  
General Conference.



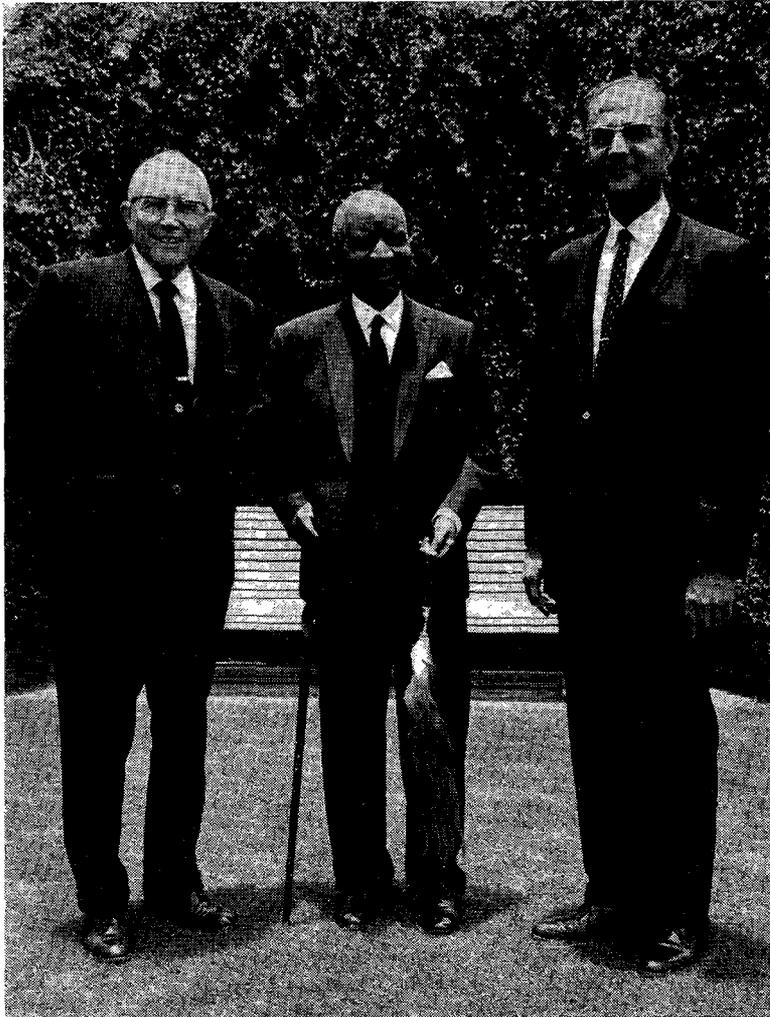
**E. W. PEDERSEN,**  
General Field Secretary,  
General Conference.

**COVER:** Beautiful Lake Malawi at sunrise. (Photo: Courtesy, Malawi Department of Information.

**OPPOSITE:** Representatives to the Council assembled outside the new church building in Blantyre. Centre front can be seen the Division officers with Pastors Robert H. Pierson and E. W. Pedersen. (Photo: Alvin E. Cook)

**PART I**

## President of Malawi Commends Church



His Excellency, the President, Ngwazi Dr H. Kamuzu Banda with church leaders, Robert H. Pierson and Merle L. Mills. (Photo: Malawi News Agency)

Preliminary arrangements for the audience were made by Pastor Fred E. Wilson, president of the South-East Africa Union, and Pastor Albert Bristow of the South Lake Field. After the audience the President permitted photographs of himself with the delegation to be taken in the grounds of State House.

The Minister of State in the President's office, Mr Albert Muwalo, also publicly commended the work done by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Malawi. Mr Muwalo said, "The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a long history and has done tremendous work in the country." Referring to the multiracial representation at the Council the Minister said he was pleased to see delegates from so many countries gathered together around the conference table.

The audience accorded by Dr Banda and the statements made by the Minister of State made front-page news in the Malawi newspapers. The president of the General Conference, Robert H. Pierson, and the Public Relations director, Desmond B. Hills, were interviewed over Radio Malawi.

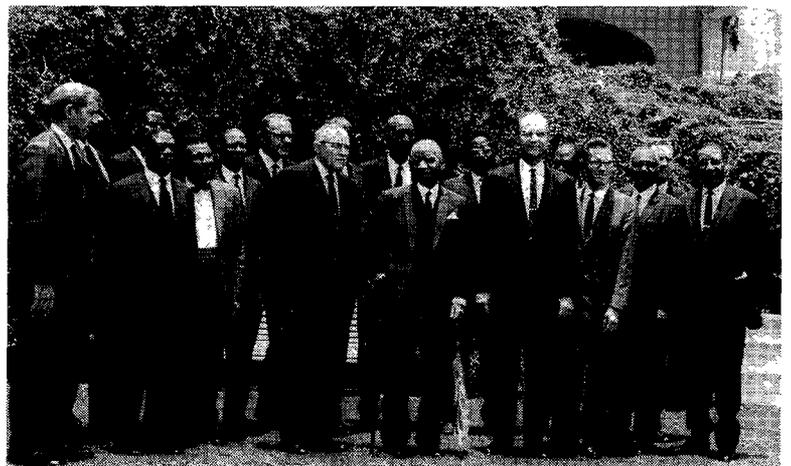
When Pastor Pierson and those accompanying him arrived at the airport to fly out on a mission plane, they were given V.I.P. treatment. A member of the Malawi Parliament was there to greet Pastor Pierson and personally escorted him through the airport terminal to the mission plane on the runway.

—D.B.H.

A delegation of 18 seen with His Excellency in the grounds of State House in Zomba. From left to right, front row: F. E. Wilson, SEAU; S. Shapa, ZU; A. M. Lukele, SU; Robert H. Pierson, GC; His Excellency, the President; Merle L. Mills, TAD; G. L. Cullum, SEAU; H. P. Charles, Indian Field; D. M. Malotle, SU. Back row: P. M. Mabena (partly hidden), SU; E. J. Zintambila, SEAU; D. H. Mogegeh, ZU; P. H. Coetzee, SU; S. Dube, ZU; J. Mbyirukira, TAD; E. Ntakirutimana, CAU; P. Manyori, CAU; and D. G. Theunissen, Good Hope. (Photo: Malawi News Agency)

HIS EXCELLENCY, the President of Malawi, Ngwazi Dr H. Kamuzu Banda gave an audience of over an hour to eighteen Seventh-day Adventist ministers at State House in Zomba during the Fourteenth Quadrennial Division Council. On this occasion Dr Banda commended the Seventh-day Adventist Church for its work in Africa.

Included in the delegation were Pastors Robert H. Pierson and Merle L. Mills, and ministers from Burundi, Congo, Rwanda, Zambia, Rhodesia, Lesotho, Botswana, South-West Africa, South Africa, Malawi and New Zealand.



## RESUMÉ OF EVENTS

DESMOND B. HILLS  
Youth and Public Relations Director



"THIS COUNCIL has given to me an entirely new awareness of the close proximity of the return of our Lord. The workers in our union conference pledge ourselves to do our part in winning at least 50,000 souls in 1971."—Union president.

"With God's help our conference shall have every pastor, every member and every worker engaged in evangelistic endeavours every year of this quinquennium. Total evangelism is our aim."—Conference president.

"I expect that these eyes of mine will see Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven."—General Conference president.

"Now, I really sense the urgency of taking the gospel to Africa in this generation."—School principal.

"All activities of the departments assigned to me in the Trans-Africa Division will be directed to winning souls. I shall personally conduct an evangelistic campaign each year."—Trans-Africa Division Departmental secretary.

These five significant statements were typical of pledges made by representatives to the Fourteenth Quadrennial Council. They were declared publicly in the last business meeting of the Council and were sealed with prayer.

The Fiftieth Anniversary Council of our Division could well be added as another chapter to the book of Acts, for

—the delegates did earnestly plead for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit;

—reports were presented that revealed that 95,896 had been baptized in the past four years;

—plans were laid for completing the task of taking the gospel to Africa in this generation.

The impact of this Council has already penetrated to ten countries, and while there were only 107 representatives in attendance, soon all the 215,347 church members in Trans-

Africa will be challenged to "Tell Africa" about the Saviour and the three angels' messages. The theme of the Council, *THE TIME IS AT HAND*, was superimposed upon a large painting of the second advent, and frequently speakers emphasized the need of finishing the gospel work in this generation.

On Friday evening, November 13, a pageant entitled, "The Days of Our Years" was presented by the use of films, tableaux, and commentaries, and the history of the past eighty-five years of our work in Trans-Africa was unfolded. This program, produced by Pastor A. E. Cook and Mrs Jean Cripps, was interesting and inspirational.

The delegates were indeed pleased that Pastor Robert H. Pierson and E. W. Pedersen of the General Conference honoured us by their presence. It was especially fitting to have our world president preach during divine service when over 1,000 were present. Pastor Pierson's topic, "Why Are We Seventh-day Adventists?" challenged every heart. The Malamulo choir sang during this service and separate programs were conducted simultaneously for the children. A challenging fiftieth anniversary service was conducted on Sabbath afternoon by our president, Pastor Merle L. Mills.

Pioneer missionaries in Africa, Pastor and Mrs A. G. Kohen, Pastor P. Venter, Sen., and Pastor F. H. Thomas were present at the Session. These workers represented an army of dedicated missionaries who yesterday had carried the torch of present truth across the jungles and plains of Africa.

During the Council several new Trans-Africa Division films were screened. One of these films entitled, "Fire and Flood" was the Trans-Africa Division report to the General Conference Session. "Highway '44" took the viewer back to the pioneer days

of the Advent message. It confirmed our faith in God's "leadings in our past history" and reminded all that "we have nothing to fear for the future." A film featuring our JMV Pathfinder activities was also screened. As the delegates followed the children in club meetings, exploration and crafts many wished they were between ten and fifteen years of age again. This film was entitled "Stars to Steer Them By." The Southern Union also screened an interesting and colourful film depicting the work in their territory during the quadrennium. Soon these new Trans-Africa Division films will be widely circulated throughout conferences, fields and institutions.

The closing service of the Council was certainly an inspiring climax to the five-day convocation. All the delegates who were assembled in the fine new Blantyre church celebrated the ordinances of the Lord's house. Pastors Pierson and Mills led ministers, teachers, doctors, office and institutional workers, and laymen in this significant ceremony. Leaders of the Church knelt to wash the feet of fellow-workers while representatives of many nations washed each other's feet. The humble grace of the Lord and the unifying fruit of the Holy Spirit were greatly manifested in these services.

Many important recommendations were adopted at the Council and during the Trans-Africa Division Committee meetings which followed. Undoubtedly the most important of these recommendations was the decision to adopt as a baptismal goal for the quinquennium the figure of 125,000. When our president, Pastor Mills, proposed a goal of 50,000 during this anniversary year, it was unanimously and enthusiastically accepted. Already reports are coming in from pas-

(Continued on page 9)

Friday, November 13, at 7.30 p.m.

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## Golden Anniversary Pageant

### THE DAYS OF OUR YEARS

JOHN G. EVERT *Reporting*

THREE SCREENS, almost three hundred 35mm colour slides, backdrops, three 16mm colour movies, twelve costumed tableaux, depicting characters from our past, live interviews with a roving mike, a running historical commentary—all contributed towards making a great opening program for the Division Council. To a full house in the Kwacha Hall, scenes unfolded before us depicting the development of the work from its inception eighty-five years ago. Our pioneers trekked into the hostile interior by ox-wagon and carried the message of a soon-coming Christ with them. Today our missionaries fly out by plane to carry the gospel of peace and the medical ministry. Our hearts were stirred during this program to continue the task so ably and nobly begun by our pioneers.

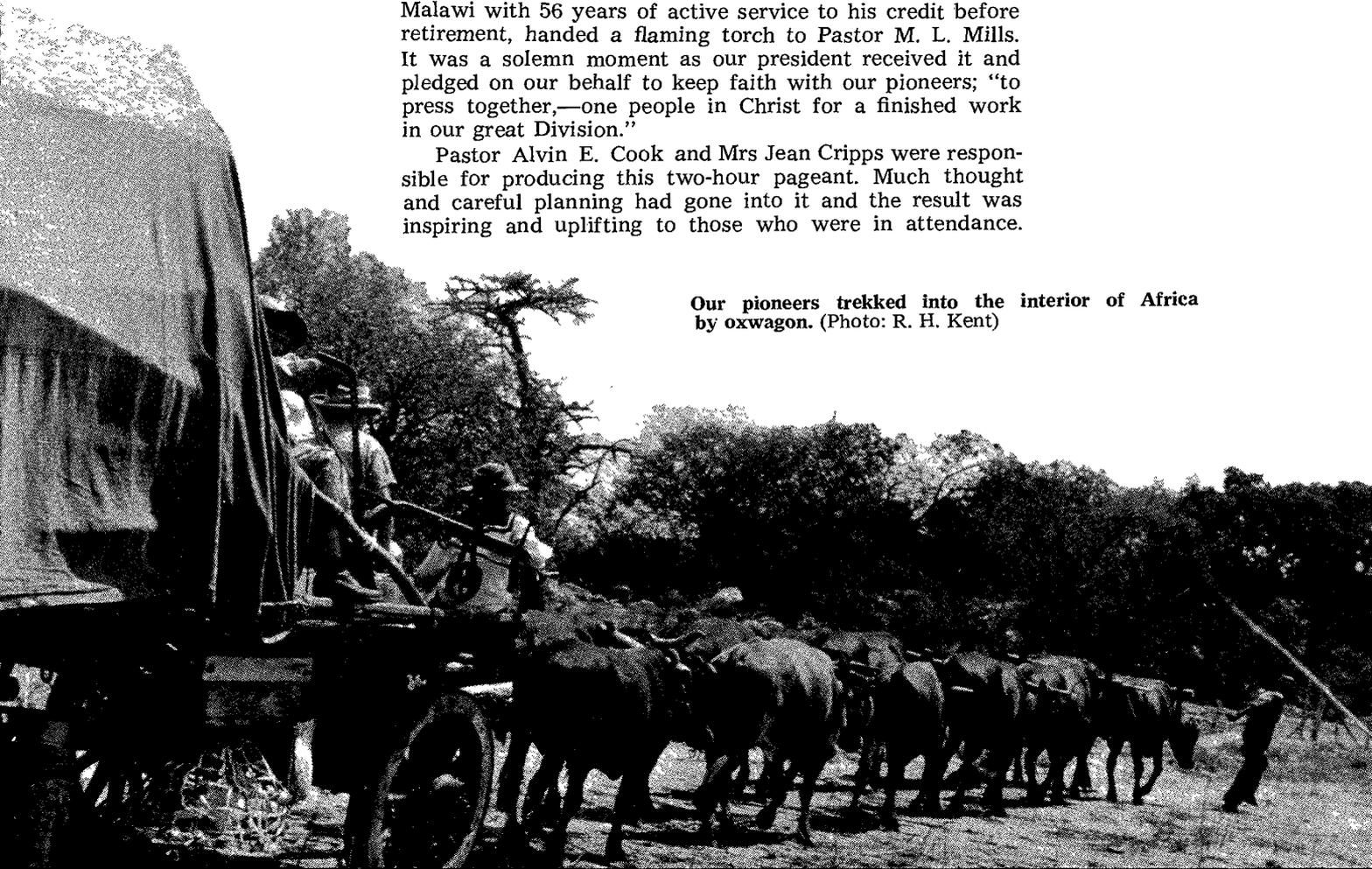
As a prologue to the Fourteenth Quadrennial Council this pageant created a unifying atmosphere among delegates of many nationalities, revealing that men of all nations are one in Christ. From the northern and southern corners of our Division, workers joined in praising God

for what He had been pleased to accomplish through dedicated men. In the closing scene Pastor James Malinki of Malawi with 56 years of active service to his credit before retirement, handed a flaming torch to Pastor M. L. Mills. It was a solemn moment as our president received it and pledged on our behalf to keep faith with our pioneers; "to press together,—one people in Christ for a finished work in our great Division."

Pastor Alvin E. Cook and Mrs Jean Cripps were responsible for producing this two-hour pageant. Much thought and careful planning had gone into it and the result was inspiring and uplifting to those who were in attendance.



Our ministers and doctors fly out by plane to all parts of our Division territory. (Photo: Alvin E. Cook.)



Our pioneers trekked into the interior of Africa by oxwagon. (Photo: R. H. Kent)



The Honourable Minister of State in the President's office, Mr Albert Muwalo, is welcomed by Pastor Albert Bristow to the opening of the Council. Mr Muwalo is also the Administrative Secretary of the Malawi Congress Party and National Chairman of the Malawi Red Cross. Seen also from the left are Pastors Merle L. Mills, Roy E. Clifford, A. W. Austen and David M. Malotle. (Photo: A. E. Cook)

Sabbath, November 14, at 3.00 p.m.

## “THE TIME IS AT HAND”

(Abridged)

by MERLE L. MILLS

*Sermon Presented at the Fourteenth*

*Quadrennial Council, Blantyre, Malawi, November 14, 1970.*

A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY is an event fraught with emotions. It brings great rejoicing for it marks the successful achievement of reaching an enviable and coveted milepost along the road of life. Great satisfaction is derived from reflecting upon the past, for time has a way of dimming the years, that the difficult and unhappy experiences of life may be submerged by memories of the more pleasant and happy events of yesteryear. Thus, sentimentality embellishes the past as the “good old days.”

On the other hand, such an eventful occasion is a time of great solemnity.

Sombre reflections remind one of the fact that the process of degeneration and decay has insidiously and imperceptibly been doing its work. The vigour of youth has waned. The hands of the clock refuse to turn back, nor will they stand still. The present is irresistibly treading on the toes of tomorrow. Contemporary events are pushed into the shadows of recorded history. Sadness mars the occasion with the realization that time is running out and the distance remaining in the journey of life is much shorter than that which existed before.

But anniversaries, involving per-

sonalities or organizations, if rightly commemorated can serve a useful purpose. For this reason our Division has voted to recognize our fiftieth anniversary by appropriate methods during the next twelve-month period. It was inaugurated last night by the presentation of the pageant, “Days of Our Years.” What we heard and saw greatly cheered our hearts. It was thrilling to learn of the various incidents and personalities which made up our early history here in Africa. What a privilege and honour for us to follow in the footprints of the brave men and women who left their homes, crossed oceans, deserts and mountains, faced perils and dangers, and risked life itself in order to bring the message of the everlasting gospel to Africa! What has been accomplished,

especially during the past half century, is a saga of Advent missions which is yet to be told.

As we celebrate our Golden Anniversary we must remember how the Lord has led us, as a people, since our early history. By taking a measure of the past we are able to get a better view of the future and to have the assurance of total victory which our God is waiting to bestow upon His Church.

Since 1920 when we were organized as a division, vast and drastic changes have taken place in the world, so much so that the present bears little similarity to the past. We passed through a war which claimed the lives of millions of people. Colonialism has all but disappeared. There has been a political realignment of national boundaries. New nations have been born. When W. H. Branson was appointed the first president of this Division, then a baby of less than 3,000 members, there were only three African nations in existence: Egypt, Ethiopia and Libya. Today there are 43 independent African states. During these years the stock market crashed and a great depression set in, resulting in millions losing their jobs.

Today our mode of transportation has changed and we travel across Africa by plane almost at the speed of sound. So many new words have been added to our vocabulary that if our brethren in the early days were to hear us speak now they would have difficulty in understanding us. Just to mention a few of these words: nuclear fission, cobalt, electronic computer, radar, sonic boom, penicillin, astronaut, blast off, fall-out, smog, television, jet propulsion, and iron curtain.

It took considerable vision and courage for our brethren in the General Conference to organize a division here in Africa in 1920, for at that time there was only one union conference and one union mission. So few were the organized churches that, if Pastor Branson had preached in one each Sabbath it would have taken him less than a year to meet all of these appointments. If I were to follow a similar schedule today I would be an old man, well past 80 years of age, before I had preached in the last church, for our churches have grown from 44 to 1,520 since that year. We now have three colleges, 50 secondary schools, 1,000 primary schools and 7 hospitals. But the Trans-Africa Division is only one of four administering the work on the continent of Africa. If every Seventh-day Adven-

tist in Africa today were to clasp hands and form a straight line, each one on the average of four feet apart, the line would extend from Blantyre to Salisbury, a distance of 350 miles and the total membership would be in excess of 400,000. What a contrast to the day the General Conference gave birth to the Africa Division. We can only recognize this as God's leading. From a small, humble beginning, with an unpopular message, limited workers and a shortage of finances, the Lord has repeated the miracle of the loaves and fishes so that today you and I can witness with our own eyes what was only dreamed of in the days of our pioneers. Yes, the foundation was laid broad, deep and strong

### RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE TO GOD

"The delegates to the Fourteenth Quadrennial Council unite their hearts in praise and prayers of thanksgiving to God for His guidance and His assurances of love and care for His Church which we know is the object of His supreme regard. We are grateful for the promises we have been given which assure us of victory through the power of Christ and the strength of the Holy Spirit.

"We thank Him for the special counsel of the Spirit of prophecy He has seen fit to give us as a people, instruction which is to prepare the Church for the final conflict and vindication of God's name before the whole universe.

"We thank Him for the material blessings that have attended His people, His institutions and His Church in its heavenly appointed task.

"We thank Him for His call to labour in His name and we testify that we as a people, and as individuals, would commit every talent He has given us to the task of preparing a people for His second coming which we pray will be very soon, to His glory and honour. Amen."

because Jesus Christ was recognized as the Chief Corner-stone. The Church determined that His doctrine and His doctrine alone should form the basis of our beliefs.

\*\*\*\*\*

The unusual events in the world tell us in trumpet tones that we are nearing the end. We do not expect another fifty years to expire before we see the coming of the Lord. His coming is already overdue. He is only waiting for the Church to get ready for this climactic event and fulfil its mission

of bringing the glad tidings to every nation, tongue and people. Our hearts have been made glad by what we have seen and heard of the progress of the message in Africa. We thank God for the evidences of His leadership in the past, but the passing of a half century now calls for revival, repentance, reformation and sacrifice which will prepare us for that great event. This should solemnize our hearts, for Paul states, "Now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." That is why he tells us in Thessalonians "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night." 1 Thess. 5:1, 2. This is the great destiny to which the world is moving. Thank God, you and I need not be in darkness or ignorance concerning this epochal and cataclysmic event. The anniversary we now celebrate gives us confidence and courage for a bright future. As we take a look at the past and see how the Lord has led us there should be no doubt in our minds as to the future, for He will crown His Church with victory. He has told us that He "will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness." We have learned of that good and promised land through the prophets, and our hearts have been made glad. The time is at hand for us to dedicate ourselves to the completion of God's work and the hastening of that day when we may stand at last in the presence of God with our pioneers and the redeemed of all ages to be forever at rest and peace.

### THREE KINDS OF GIVERS

*There are three kinds of givers—the flint, the sponge, and the honeycomb.*

*To get anything out of the flint, you must hammer it, and then you get only chips and sparks.*

*To get water out of a sponge, you must squeeze it, and the more you squeeze, the more you get.*

*But the honeycomb just overflows with its own sweetness.*

*Some people are stingy and hard: they give nothing away if they can help it.*

*Others are good-natured; they yield to pressure, and the more they are pressed, the more they will give.*

*A few delight in giving, without being asked at all; and of these the Bible says, "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."*

# Saturday, November 14, at 7.30p.m.

## OPENING OF COUNCIL

### Seating of Representatives

**GENERAL CONFERENCE**

R. H. Pierson  
E. W. Pedersen

**TRANS-AFRICA DIVISION**

M. L. Mills  
R. E. Clifford  
V. A. Fenn  
A. W. Austen  
G. F. Clifford  
A. E. Cook  
D. B. Hills  
J. T. Mason  
J. Mbyirukira  
H. W. Peterson  
D. E. Robinson  
D. W. Smith

**HELDERBERG COLLEGE**

H. E. Marais  
E. E. Lampson

**SENTINEL PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION**

D. K. Short  
N. G. Webster

**SOLUSI COLLEGE**

T. V. Gorle  
F. Unger  
M. R. Siepman

**CENTRAL AFRICAN UNION**

P. G. Werner  
E. Ntakirutimana  
S. Nzarora  
Z. Mateteri  
S. Baraburiye  
A. K. Phillips  
D. Gutekunst  
E. Ngwije  
P. Muhifira  
S. Ndabanitse  
P. E. Delhove  
M. Mugemancuro  
J. C. Bru  
E. Munyankiko  
G. Schmidl  
P. Mannyori  
M. Graham  
R. A. Carlsen  
D. Bizimana  
Z. Rutwa

**CONGO UNION**

T. W. Staples  
D. M. Ross  
Josiah Baluku  
D. S. Williams  
M. J. Church  
A. Ruhaya  
Th. Pedersen

**SOUTH AFRICAN UNION**

F. Campbell  
K. G. Webster

W. Ruba  
G. J. A. Breedt  
A. O. Coetzee  
R. H. Kent  
E. Armer  
A. E. Birch  
W. H. J. Badenhorst  
E. C. Webster  
H. P. Charles  
J. D. Coetzee  
D. G. Theunissen  
L. K. McDowell  
W. Marais

**SOUTH-EAST AFRICA UNION**

F. E. Wilson  
E. J. Zintambila  
A. Bristow  
N. Y. Kasambara  
F. A. Botomani  
G. L. Cullum  
R. J. Harvey  
S. M. Samuel  
P. A. Parks  
R. A. Forbes

**SOUTHERN UNION**

P. H. Coetzee  
J. M. Stephenson  
P. M. Mabena  
W. M. Sojola  
E. A. Korff  
V. P. Kluzit  
J. G. Evert  
R. G. Pearson  
K. D. Gunston  
S. G. Mkwanzani  
D. M. Malotle  
A. M. Lukele  
A. B. Koopedi

**ZAMBESI UNION**

F. G. Thomas  
H. W. Stevenson  
C. L. Schröder  
S. B. Dube  
W. C. Hewes  
R. R. Ndhlovu  
W. R. Zork  
J. Mutaba Dube  
M. B. Musgrave  
J. B. Cooks  
C. W. Mandikate  
W. M. Cooks  
I. M. Piercey  
H. Kondo  
S. Shapa  
W. C. S. Raitt  
W. M. Cuthbert

**RETIRED WORKERS**

A. G. Kohen  
P. A. Venter, Sen.  
F. H. Thomas  
J. Ngaiyaye  
Mrs J. Ngaiyaye

### REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**Central African Union:**

President — P. G. Werner  
Secretary-Treasurer — E. R. Weisser  
Auditor — P. E. Delhove  
Admin. Secretary — E. Ntakirutimana

**Congo Union:**

President — P. Lemon  
Secretary-Treasurer — T. W. Staples  
Auditor — R. A. Pelley  
(rescinded)

**South-East Africa Union:**

President — F. E. Wilson  
Secretary-Treasurer — G. L. Cullum  
Auditor — G. L. Cullum  
Admin. Secretary — E. J. Zintambila

**Southern Union:**

President — P. H. Coetzee  
Secretary-Treasurer — J. M. Stephenson  
Auditor — E. A. Korff  
Admin. Secretary — P. M. Mabena

**Zambesi Union:**

President — R. L. Osmunson  
(This has since been declined)  
Secretary-Treasurer — M. B. Musgrave  
Auditor — M. B. Musgrave  
Vice-President — H. W. Stevenson

### RESUMÉ OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 5)

tors and laymen who are excited about this action and have wholeheartedly agreed to do their part. This is all the Lord expects of us. We are to do our best; we are to be faithful stewards of our time and talents. Think of it, brethren and sisters, our immediate goal is 50,000 people influenced for the Lord Jesus Christ and the truth for these times. Let's plan to get in step with Christ's remnant church so that the Lord can use us to win more than this number. As Pastor Mills frequently stated during the Council, "There is no more appropriate way to celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary than by doing something special for the Lord." Your Division and union leaders and your representatives at the Council believe that the "something special" is 50,000 or more souls in this Fiftieth Anniversary Year.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MERLE L. MILLS

IT IS my happy privilege and good fortune to welcome you to this historic Fourteenth Quadrennial Council, for our Division has just become 50 years of age. Then known as the African Division, it was organized and commenced its operation at Cape Town, South Africa, in 1920 with W. H. Branson as its first president.

Like anything newly born it was small, frail and dependent. Even though its constituency numbered less than 3,000 members, it gave evidence of survival, for those who were entrusted with its leadership were men of vision and indisputable credibility. Those who composed its membership were imbued with a spirit of dedication, zeal and sacrifice. So, you who are delegates to this Council can tell your children and your grandchildren you were here, that you attended the official celebration of the Golden Anniversary of the Trans-Africa Division.

Fifty years is half a century. This span of time is a long and eventful period in any reckoning of human affairs. Especially is this an occasion of interest to the believers of the Advent family in all the world, for much effort and sacrifice have been expended through the years that the work might be established and progress on what was then known as the Dark Continent.

The soil of Africa did not yield easily to the Advent message. Not until it was watered with blood, sweat and tears did it begin to spring up and bear a fruitful harvest. Prejudice and opposition were encountered, for the enemies of truth were adamant and vindictive. But as in other parts of the world truth could not be stifled nor suppressed, the message took root and began to grow in the hearts of Bible-loving Christians. Let me cite one example which illustrates this point.

Father Wessels, who later became a prominent pioneer layman in our Church in South Africa, had bought a farm in the Cape which he called "Pilgrim's Rest." Pieter, his eldest

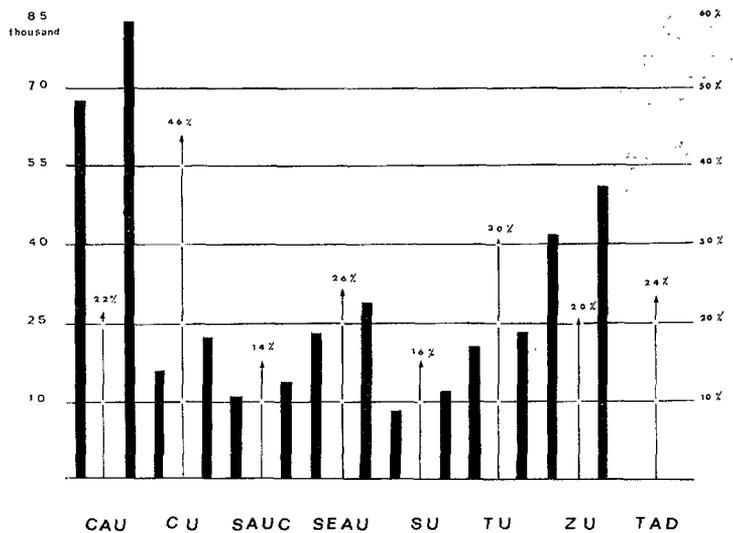
son, had become a Seventh-day Adventist, and Father Wessels sent for him to give an account of the disgrace he had brought on the family. When Henry, another brother, heard that Pieter was coming he made his mother promise she would not turn Jew. He was intensely interested in the interview and listened through the window to see how it would turn out. Father and Mother Wessels and Pieter sat around the living-room table. Pieter had his Bible and his parents had theirs. Pieter gave them a Bible study on the Sabbath question. Father Wessels had his cane by his side and three times Henry saw him lift it as though to strike Pieter. Pieter appeared not to notice this and each time the old man let it fall to his side again. Pieter just went on with his study and his defence of the Sabbath. The third time the cane dropped and Father Wessels dropped to his knees and thanked the Lord for the light his son had brought him. Then Pieter had the joy of seeing his parents unite with him in this Bible truth. In later years they played an important role

in the establishment of our work in South Africa.

Like a delicate plant that sends its roots down deep into the soil in search of nourishment that it may survive the blight of disease, the blast of winds and the storms of hail and flood, so the Trans-Africa Division sent its roots down deep in African soil and grew stronger with each passing year. After 34 years of slow and agonizing growth the General Conference Committee voted in 1920 to establish a division in Africa consisting of 44 churches. The first Division Committee meeting was held on August 22 of that year. In order to secure a quorum of five it was necessary to co-opt two non-members, Brethren Casey and Jenks, to act as proxies in order to transact business. But those of you who knew W. H. Branson will agree that he was a man of action. He was not the type to be frustrated nor restricted by trivialities or red tape in order to get the program moving.

Before many weeks had passed this minority committee made aggressive

*Membership: net gain*



plans for a full year-end meeting to be held in Johannesburg in December of that year. And how long do you suppose this meeting lasted? From December 16 until February 1! And what do you suppose one of the main topics of study was? Evangelism! How to advance the work!

This fledgling organization was short of financial resources but long in vision and courage. The Division budget for 1921 was £35,934, and we find that this amount was cut back to £29,000 in 1923. But these brethren did not allow small budgets or a paucity of workers to dampen or circumscribe their faith. They believed the time had come to go up and possess the land. They had heard the call, "Turn ye northward," and northward they turned, penetrating the hinterland, across deserts and savannah, through jungles and over mountains. It was not long until the African Division was petitioning the General Conference to assign Angola, Mozambique, East Africa and West Africa to their territory. These men had a plan and they knew where they were going. If they were to possess the land and turn northward it was their opinion that political and nationalistic barriers must not impede their progress.

**TABSA**

We are not minimizing nor ignoring the necessity of involving our lay members in our soul-winning program in the Division. For this reason we have undertaken to develop the TABSA program which includes the production of filmstrips of 21 lessons in 17 different languages. An audio-

visual unit has been designed which includes a projector and a recorder to be used in connection with the filmstrips. A printed lesson will be narrated on tape, interspersed with appropriate songs, and this tape will harmonize with the filmstrip. Each Bible study is confined to thirty minutes. Already the contract has been let for this unit, now in production in Johannesburg. The filmstrips are soon to be completed. We are in the process of making tapes for the recorder and these will be put in a cassette, making it unnecessary for them to be handled.

**MISSION AVIATION**

At the end of the quadrennium the Division had five aircraft in operation: one each in Tanzania, Malawi, Botswana, Zambia and the Congo. These planes have been a great asset in providing quick and modern transport for our physicians, dentists, and administrators. All of them have been donated by kind friends in America. We are now negotiating to replace our old 180 CESSNA in the Congo for a 206 CESSNA. This union now has on call an auditor-mechanic-pilot whose services will greatly add to the effectiveness of this plane. The union is also planning at some time in the future to secure another plane for the North Congo in order to better administer the work in the far and distant regions of that area. The Division has made available to Dr Ray Foster a new 185 CESSNA plane which has just been delivered and which will make it possible for him to operate on a much wider basis throughout our Division,

rendering service to at least four of our hospitals which are widely scattered and impossible to reach without such facilities. Dr Foster heads our leprosy rehabilitation program.

**THE FUTURE**

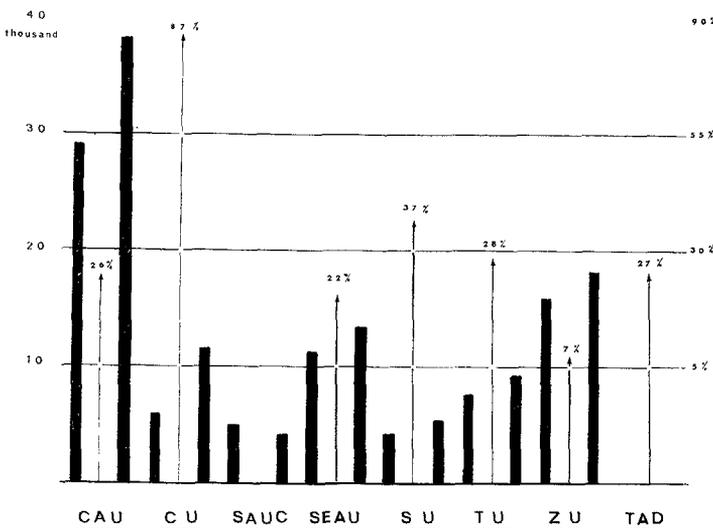
The governments of Africa are still sympathetic and cordial towards the missionary. This presents a favourable climate to propagate the gospel. We are indeed grateful that we enjoy religious freedom and have the privilege of moving about in Africa to carry on our work. Although some ominous clouds are gathering on the horizon we are still in a propitious position in Africa to reach the millions who are yet unwarned and unsaved. We must not be smug in our past accomplishments, for much land remains to be conquered for Christ. From South-West Africa to the Congo there are still vast populated areas to be reached with the gospel.

We need more physicians and nurses for our medical institutions. We should have hospital administrators for our larger medical institutions. Some thought and planning must be given to providing educational facilities on the baccalaureate level once our secondary schools are established in our French-speaking areas. We need to build a stronger program for the training of an indigenous ministry for those who have no hope of obtaining a college education or of going to Solusi. As a Division we must become more self-sufficient, realizing the day may come when we will not be the recipients of the largess of the General Conference to the extent we are today. Already we see the handwriting on the wall and we would do well to take heed to the implication.

We are not unmindful that the progress we have observed and the gains which have characterized our work in Africa during the past half century, and particularly the past quadrennium, have been due to the providential guidance of our heavenly Father. We dare take no credit to ourselves, for it is "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord." It has been good to cast a backward glance and review briefly the past for it reveals how the Lord has led us despite days of hardship, uncertainty and turmoil. But we dare not linger in reflections of the past, for we have only reached one plateau in our journey towards the mountain top. Other peaks must be scaled. More battles must be

*(Continued on page 23)*

*Accessions: net gain*



# SECRETARY'S REPORT

ROY E. CLIFFORD



THE RENOWNED WRITER, Pliny the Elder of the Roman Empire, penned these famous words: "There is always something new from Africa." If ever these words had meaning, they certainly have had meaning during the past decade. Change, both rapid and startling, has been the order of the day. The continent of Africa continues to be one of the major focal points of international interest. The early years of the decade which were ushered in by the birthpangs of the newly emerging nations, with suffering and misery in many places, have fortunately drawn to a close with a reasonable degree of stability.

Some of our workers and members during the past quadrennium have made the supreme sacrifice, while others have toiled on in the midst of trial and tribulation, ever remembering that we are but pilgrims and strangers, and that like Abraham we look "for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb. 11:10). In a solemn tribute we remember those who have gone to their rest and commend them to the care of an ever-loving heavenly Father.

**Membership:** Despite the problems, the difficulties, the uncertainty, the Lord has continued to bless with an increase in membership of 45,095, from 188,087 in 1966 to 233,182 at the end of 1969, a gain of 23.97 per cent, representing an annual increase of 5.99 per cent. A comparison with the two previous quadrennial periods will be of interest:

1958 - '61	3.75 per cent gain per year.
1962 - '65	7.00 per cent gain per year.
1966 - '69	5.99 per cent gain per year.

**Denominational Workers:** At the end of 1969 the total number of workers employed in the Division amounted to 3,647 of all categories, which is an increase from 3,535 in 1966. This increase has been steady, if not spectacular, over the past four years. In 1966 we had one worker for

every 56 church members, and in 1969 one for every 64 members.

**Accessions:** Accessions (baptisms and profession of faith) reached a total of 95,896 for the four-year period under review, as compared with 75,474 for the previous quadrennium, an increase of some twenty thousand, or 27 per cent. To make such a figure more meaningful, this would be the equivalent of adding 96 members every week, or the organizing of a new church of 100 members every seven and a third days. This is indeed an achievement for which we can be most thankful as we consider the difficulties and problems which have beset the Church with increasing intensity.

**Apostasies:** There is cold comfort in the fact that during the present quadrennium a total of 42,175 members were either dropped for apostasy or deleted as "missing members." This is cause for grave concern when it is realized that this figure exceeds the total for the previous quadrennium (31,522) by an amount exceeding 10,000 individuals. Apostasies per year varied from between six to seven thousand members, which is sufficient cause for alarm. The figures for missing members are, however, positively distressing, reaching an all-time high in 1967 of 5,990 with a total of 14,966 for the four years under review or more than double that (7,192) for the period 1962-1965. Has there been a "cleaning up of the books" or a lack of sufficient pastoral care? It would be well to ponder carefully the import of this trend.

**Baptismal Classes:** A high point was reached in 1967 with over

## WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

While prayer was being offered by Pastor R. H. Pierson the delegates stood in silent tribute to the memory of those workers and church members who had laid down their lives during the past quadrennium.

one hundred thousand individuals (101,029) being prepared for membership. Since that time records apparently have no longer been kept of those in the hearers' classes. Is this of any significance when it is observed that the numbers preparing for instruction reached a low point (80,871) in 1969?

**Congregations:** It is interesting that the number of congregations has increased from 1,315 in 1966 to a total of 1,560 in 1969, while at the same time the number of church buildings has increased from 495 to 574 over the same period. This represents an average of just on five new congregations each month of the quadrennium, as compared to somewhat less than an average of two new church properties or buildings each month.

**Territory:** During 1968 the East African Union no longer formed an integral part of our territory, to be followed at the recent 1970 General Conference Session by adjustments to several world divisions resulting in the Tanzania Union, formerly also part and parcel of our Division, being attached to the new Afro-Mideast Division. It is with a sense of loss that we record this change, as ties of friendship and association have been cut asunder. However, we wish our brethren much of the Lord's blessing in their future activities. Even though they are less directly connected with us, yet we are united in the wider circle of the Advent "family."

**Conclusion:** The servant of the Lord in *Testimonies*, vol. 9, page 11, reminds us that "Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones." This is no time for us to be complacent or to slacken our pace. Let us ever remember our gospel commission, and the urgency of our task, and finally, in the words of the poet Tennyson, never forget that

*Our little systems have their day;  
They have their day and cease to be;  
They are but broken lights of Thee,  
And Thou, O Lord, art more than they.*



# TREASURER'S REPORT

VINCENT A. FENN

THE WORD OF GOD is always a wise and safe counsellor, even for those who must give reports. For instance, Moses says, "Thou shalt not present or receive a false report." (Exod. 23:1.) Solomon presents an encouraging note, "A good report maketh the bones fat." Prov. 15:30. And Isaiah asks the searching question, "Who hath believed our report?" Chapter 53 verse 1. Considering all of this good counsel, one is inclined to examine carefully both his own heart and the material he may think to present.

Each year we total our visible gains and losses and compare them with the past. What is perhaps more significant are the unseen, or even unknown, elements contributing to our success or failure.

In the early days of Advent history there was a tremendous sense of urgency. How strange that we who live one hundred and twenty-six years nearer the day of His appearing should seem so complacent, so absorbed with the cares of this life. Sometimes one receives the impression that we are banking on another hundred years to finish our task. Perhaps it is time for us to reassess Paul's ringing admonition to "lay aside

every weight" and "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." The greatest problem, and the most urgent task for Adventist leadership, is to recapture, and help our people to recapture, that early Advent expectancy and urgency.

In preparing a treasury report one is deeply moved by an overwhelming sense of gratitude, firstly to our great God, and secondly to our faithful members around the world. The Central European Division has for the past several years contributed generously to the work in this Division, and the thing that touches my heart deeply is the personal interest of our dear people. One of these individuals is Brother Hans Schwarz who is seventy-eight years of age and lives in a Senior Citizen's Home in West Germany. Recently I sent him a number of pictures of our lepers and the work we are attempting to do for them. He wrote me a letter that warmed my heart.

"Many thanks for your kind letter of February 18 with the beautiful pictures. Our brethren here in the Senior Citizen's Home were glad to see them. I intend to show the many pictures also to the contributors to the patients of LEPRO (leprosy in your territory) . . . Our good Tabitha sister with the name of Brodmeier with her helpers brings every week at least one hundred kilogram (of clothing, new and used) on the way to Africa. This work they are doing with great gladness. Our oldest sister was born in 1871,

now ninety-nine years of age. She is still able to work on covers or coverlets . . . in spite of [the fact] she is almost blind and has to do it by feeling. Another sister of more than eighty years of age is doing crochet work for the children. . . . She expressed her love for the children as follows: 'I love those children so much that I could eat them all!'

"We consider it as a special grace of the Lord to be able to help your poor people there. Your brother in Christ, Hans Schwarz."

You may be interested to know that during 1968, '69 and '70, Brother Schwarz has sent \$1,779.00, and others in Germany \$3,672.00, or a total of \$5,451.00 for our leper work.

Comparative summaries reveal that during the quadrennium under review there was a tithe increase of \$1,631,034.31 and a mission offerings increase of \$500,996.79. This is most encouraging but it is not quite so pleasant to report a loss of \$266,011.93 for Home Missions Offerings.

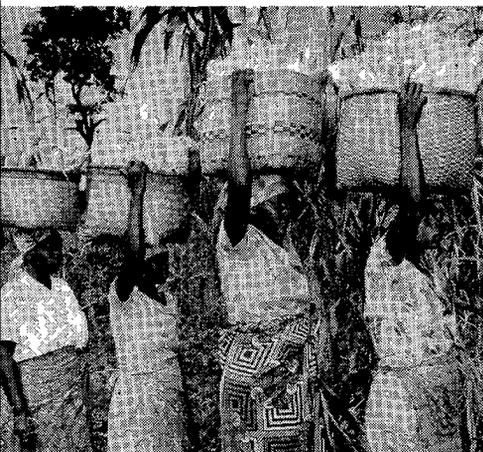
Unexpected circumstances during the quadrennium caused the operating capital of our Division to drop slightly below the required 100 per cent. This now stands at 97.3 per cent. Five unions exceed their required operating capital and two are endeavouring to reach the goal. The operating cash is satisfactory except in three unions where goals have not yet been attained.

The General Conference auditor has examined the records of our Treasury Department and issued a statement that policies and accounting principles have been carefully followed.

Our greatest desire is to witness a completed task. Our prayer is that we may be men of the tribe of Issachar—"that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do." I Chron. 12:32.

NOTE:

All financial reports in the OUTLOOK are given in Rhodesian dollars.



Bringing in the tithe

## APPRECIATION TO ALL WORKERS

A vote was taken to express appreciation to workers on all levels within the Division for their fine spirit and co-operation and support of the work during the past quadrennium.

# Sunday, November 15, at 9.00 a.m.

## DEVOTIONAL

by ROBERT H. PIERSON  
*Synopsis*

The hymn "O Let Me Walk With Thee" was sung to open the devotional service and prayer was offered by Dr D. M. Ross. Pastor C. L. Schröder of the Zambesi Union rendered a special song entitled, "Hear, O Lord, When We Cry."

Robert H. Pierson, president of the General Conference, summarized the goals and objectives for the quinquennium and we were reminded that the leadership of this Division must keep its eyes on these. They are:

1. To *Lift Up Jesus* before the world and church members. We must know the difference between knowing the doctrines and knowing Christ.

2. Keep in sharp focus the MISSION of the Church and its institutions.

3. Re-emphasize revival, repentance and reformation.

4. Give careful and pragmatic thought to the problems facing the Church.

5. Maintain unwavering fidelity to sound fiscal policies in church business.

6. Give unprecedented emphasis to evangelism to bring in 1,000,000 fully converted members around the world during the next four years.

7. Establish some presence in every country, province, city and town.

8. Encourage a spirit of sacrifice among our people and institutions.

9. Devise new methods of giving an impetus to the distribution of our literature.

10. Give an in-depth study to the organization of our Church.

11. Establish a clear identity of our Church.

12. Total commitment and devotion: "This One Thing I Do."

Prayer by Pastor S. B. Dube of the Zambesi Union closed this service.



A. W. Austen, Field Secretary of the Trans-Africa Division.



## HELDERBERG COLLEGE

HENRI E. MARAIS

OVER the past ten years Helderberg College has graduated an average of 17.5 students per year. Of this number, 95 per cent have gone directly into denominational employ. Marriage and further study account for much of the remaining 5 per cent. Helderberg has accepted the challenge to train an "army of youth" to finish the work in the Trans-Africa Division.

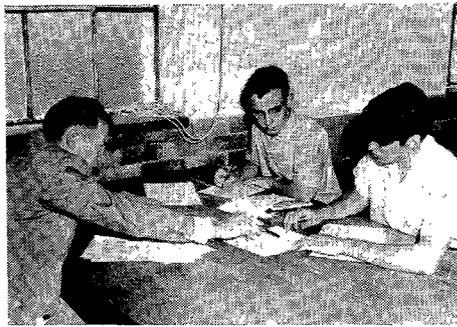
It is to God that we give glory today—and give witness that it is through His guidance and blessing that this College was established and has continued through the years. As a haven of refuge it has protected our youth from much of the corroding influences of evil during some of their

most difficult, formative years—particularly so in this permissive era in which they face such tremendous pressures.

Helderberg could not have carried out its purpose had it not been for the generous material support of the Trans-Africa Division and the conferences of the South African Union Conference. Yet, in addition, we have been blessed with the wise guidance and counsel of a dedicated Board of Managers, the consistent encouragement of the Trans-Africa Division Executive and the willing service of teachers dedicated to the task of training Seventh-day Adventist youth for consecrated service and unselfish labour in the cause of God.

### *Spiritual Activities*

Helderberg has maintained a strong spiritual tone during the past four years. One cannot help but be impressed at the spirit of dedication evidenced at both college and high school levels. Participation in the organized spiritual activities is excellent. On Sabbath afternoons students operate four thriving branch Sabbath-schools with approximately 180 Coloured youngsters in attendance; a much looked-forward-to aspect of this work are the occasions when the Coloured children take part in Sabbath-closing services at the College—singing the songs and quoting the Bible verses they have learned during the year. It would seem that the



**STUDENTS ENROLLING IN THE BUSINESS COURSE**  
 Mr J. J. W. Müller assisting (left to right) Mr Leif Lind and Mr B. Pearson.

**REFRESHMENT BREAK IN THE HELDERBERG SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**  
 From left to right: Mr H. Badenhorst (back to camera) Mr J. Joubert, Dr B. Brozio, instructors. Students: Miss B. Beissner, Miss R. Churms, Miss R. Orsmond and Mr David Hartley.



Coloured folk in the vicinity look with love and appreciation on the activities of the College—notwithstanding the fact that we are inadvertently termed the “Seven Daze”! The Sunshine Band visits the local hospital, and brings cheer to five old-age homes. The Bible in the Hand plan has aroused good interest in the neighbourhood and we look forward to the baptism this week of the members of a family regularly attending church as a result of the work done. The children are enrolled in the primary school.

Once each month the Strand area is blanketed with the Signs, Tekens and VOP cards in preparation for the Theology Department/Cape Conference effort early in 1971. Fifteen families are receiving regular visits at present. Two student efforts under the auspices of the Theology Department are being conducted: the effort in Firgrove has maintained an average attendance of 60 persons, of whom twelve have joined the baptismal class which is being taken over by the Good Hope Conference. The Stellenbosch cottage effort has an average of forty persons in attendance and we look forward to good results in the future.

**Enrolment**

Probably the most encouraging feature of this last quadrennial period has been the steady increase in enrolment. In the 1962-1966 period the enrolment dropped from 320 to 230. The present upward curve is shown below,

the given figures representing the closing enrolments:

1966 -	232
1967 -	293
1968 -	296
1969 -	315
1970 -	324

The steady growth can be attributed to a number of factors: decisive effort to keep out undesirable elements; a contented student body presenting a good image in the field; continued scholastic achievement on both high school and college levels; a strong and concerted program of advertisement to keep Christian education before the constituencies; and finally, through the loyal support of sister institutions such as Sedaven, Hillcrest and Anderson, which encourage their senior pupils to continue their education at Helderberg.

*Academic Standing*

A summary of external results reveals that the subject passes on both Senior Certificate and University level have been most satisfactorily maintained through the years, particularly when one realizes that the failure rate in the first years of study in South African Universities is between 35-45 per cent. The tables below will be of interest to you:

**B.A. - B.Sc. SUBJECT PASSES**

1967 -	66.6 per cent
1968 -	76 per cent
1969 -	73 per cent

**SENIOR CERTIFICATE SUBJECT PASSES**

1967 -	73.2 per cent
1968 -	66.5 per cent
1969 -	75.6 per cent

*Conclusion*

In closing, I wish to assure delegates that the administration and staff of the College fully appreciate the support and interest shown in the field.

We recognize our dependence on God and pledge ourselves once more to dedicated service in the training of our young people. We solicit your prayers and guidance in maintaining a high standard of Christian education.



Andrews University Seminary Extension School convened at Helderberg College from November 25 to January 13. Dr Walter F. Specht (head of the school), Pastor N. R. Dower, and Dr Daniel Walther (lecturers) are seen with those attending this school from all parts of the Division. (Photo: L. K. McDowell)

GERALD F. CLIFFORD



## EDUCATION and

IT IS often hazardous to present statistics, and more so when one considers the experience of David in the numbering of Israel. However, the following observations are presented for your consideration:

During the quadrennium under review 122 primary schools were closed. In the main these were small unfruitful one- or two-teacher schools, a number being the so-called MV schools. A corresponding drop in primary enrolment (1,037) and teachers (102) is noted. In a few cases the schools were taken over by government or other local agencies. It is interesting to note that on the elementary level the number of pupils enrolled in the church schools in this Division is the equivalent of 20 per cent of its church membership. This compares favourably with the North American Division equivalent of 12 per cent.

Much emphasis has been placed on the upgrading in both quality and quantity of the secondary schools. While only two new secondary schools were started during this quadrennium, statistics reveal that 13 of

the 23 either added one or more years of study to the curriculum or provided double streams on existing levels. This meant recruiting 47 new teachers, with corresponding financial implications and provided 921 more student places. Consequently, for every three students previously accepted into a secondary school we are now able to accept five. In 1966 seven schools offered only the first or second year's work of a five- or six-year secondary cycle. Rather than opening additional secondary schools the elevation of these existing schools was planned. The elevation is most noticeable in the French-speaking unions, while in Zambia, Rusangu Secondary School today offers the full five-year cycle with some 470 students in attendance.

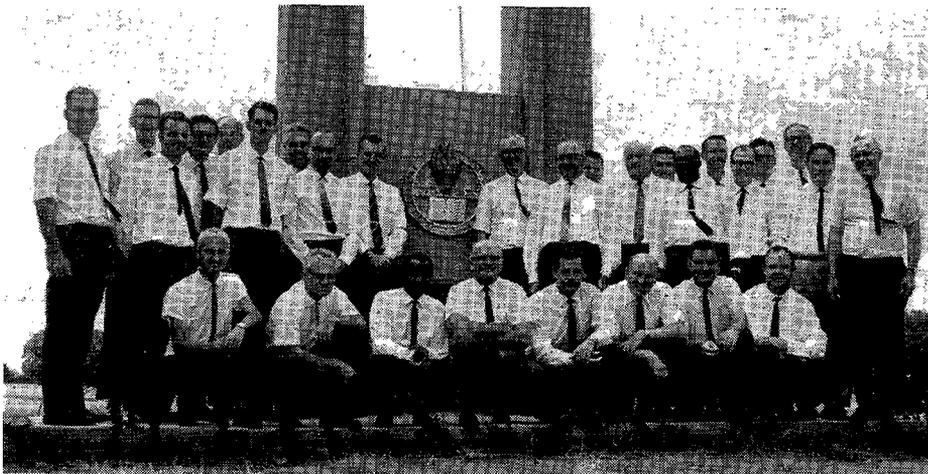
In the area of tertiary education our gains have been less noticeable but nevertheless steady. In the three institutions offering tertiary work there has been an increase of some 20 students with an overall increase of 10 staff members indicating an enrichment of the curriculum. Solusi College has received denominational approval for its undergraduate program. Be-

cause of the nature of the educational system in the Division, much professional training is given on the high school level and in these schools 1,655 students were enrolled over the quadrennium. Of the 353 graduates, 323 entered denominational employment. There is no doubt but that for some time the main burden of God's work in Africa will rest upon the young people trained in these schools.

Support for the educational program has been liberal and during the quadrennium \$300,000.00 has been apportioned by the Trans-Africa Division for the operation of the system in special appropriations. In addition, conferences, unions and fields have given fine local support.

An identifying feature of our Adventist schools system is the strong promotion given to the spiritual welfare of the students. Morning and evening devotions, prayer bands and Missionary Volunteer work all form part of the regular curriculum. Student participation in youth evangelistic endeavour is good. Tangible evidence that the Spirit of God changes lives are the 7,123 students baptized during this quadrennium.

In spite of definite progress, problems continue to beset us, however, and to loom up before us. Our schools are requiring a greater degree of specialization, and local certification requirements are becoming more stringent. More direct control of schools by governments with eventual complete control appears inevitable in our mission unions. Wider subject offerings are required by governments and demanded by students. Contrary to hopes and expectations the three-year service term appears to be a drawback rather than a help to our educational work. Permanent returns after a three-year term seem to be as common as they were after the old five- and six-year terms, and possibly more so. Additional pre- and post-service expenses are proportionately higher on the three-year term.



Delegates to the Council on Education held at Solusi College February 4 - 7, 1970, standing below the bell tower.

Truly, we must work the works of Him that sent us while it is day for the night is rapidly approaching when no man can work. In spite of the problems the Education Department is of good courage and is confident that our heavenly Father works all things out

to fulfil His own good will.

A word of appreciation is due to the many loyal teachers and administrators in our 688 schools, the administrators and officers on field, conference and union levels, the Trans-Africa Division and General Confer-

ence administration for their support, understanding and help. Above all we thank our heavenly Father for granting us the privilege of working in this part of His vineyard. May our prayer be "Lord, give us life till our work is done, and work till our life is done."

## SABBATH SCHOOL

"A GOOD REPORT maketh the bones fat" is the observation of the wise man. The report of the Sabbath School Department meets this requirement. Under the full direction of the Church and blessed by the Holy Spirit, the Sabbath-school goes from strength to strength.

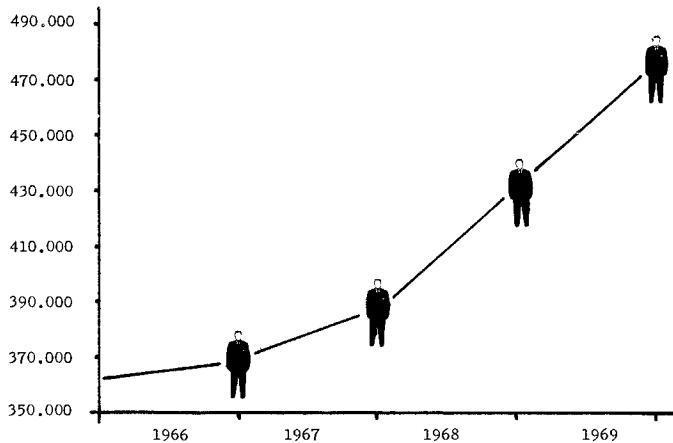
**Membership:** Including the East African Union the quadrennial goal was 500,200 members and if to the 1969 membership figure of 473,506 is added the membership of the East African Union at the time of its re-organization (111,680), it is clear that we have surpassed our goal by some 80,000 members. The following graph depicts the growth in membership:

**Attendance:** It is regretted that, on the average, one out of every four Sabbath-school members is missing each Sabbath. The percentage of absenteeism for the Trans-Africa Division is 28 per cent as compared with a world average of 26 per cent.

**Training Courses:** Emphasis has been placed on the Sabbath-school Officers' Training Course and the various Teachers' Training courses. Just on 1.3 per cent of the total Sabbath-school membership has completed one of the training courses (5,553 persons). Here is much scope for improvement, for successful Sabbath-schools need well-trained officers and teachers.

**Baptisms:** Departmental reports show that an average of 23,000 persons are baptized each year. Undoubtedly these become Sabbath-school members. The Sabbath-school is one of the most fruitful sources of evangelism.

**Offerings:** Offerings as a percentage of tithe continue to hover around the 15 per cent mark (previous quadrennium it was 13 per cent). Under the 3 per cent plan Sabbath-school offerings should approach 30 per cent of tithe. A study of the per capita giving in the Sabbath-school gives evidence that much must be done to encourage faithfulness in both tithing and offerings.



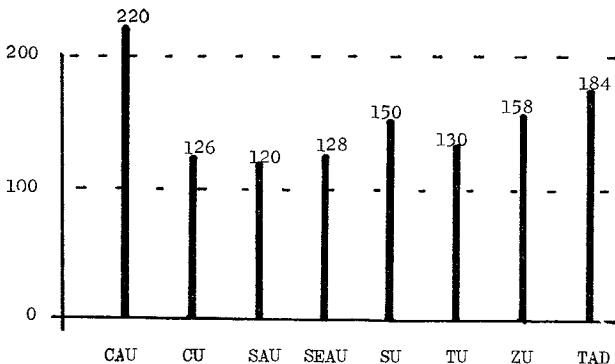
Per Capita Offering, 4th Quarter, 1969.  
(exchange: 1/- = 10 cents.)

CAU 3 cts	SEAU 5 cts	ZU 11 cts
CU 5 cts	SU 16 cts	TAD 13 cts
SAU 227 cts	TU 5 cts	

The Investment plan is gaining ground and is being accepted as one important way in which funds may be raised for the work of God.

1966	1967	1968	1969
\$11,286	\$12,192	\$12,940	\$15,354

The Thirteenth Sabbath offering is well established and the following figures show that our members give willingly and liberally to the various world projects each quarter:



The Sabbath-school membership figures as compared with church membership shows that the Sabbath-school still is a most fruitful field for evangelism.

	Average Weekly Offering	13th Sabbath Offering
1966	\$2,134	\$9,097
1967	\$2,288	\$8,371
1968	\$3,905	\$9,019
1969	\$2,444	\$9,870



## CONGO UNION

**TOM W. STAPLES**  
on behalf of **PRESIDENT**

FIRST and foremost we wish to thank God for the peace and growing stability that is becoming a reality in the Congo today. We also wish to thank our believers for daily intercessions on our behalf. God answers prayers. We can testify again to the remarkable fact that we have not lost one worker or any members of their immediate families by death due to war or rebel activity during the past ten years.



**Pastor Jonas with six of the seven women and two of the men who walked 600 kilometres to Kalehe on Lake Kivu to investigate our message.**

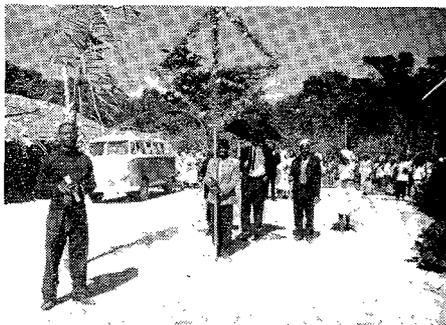
### *Evangelism*

This past quadrennium has seen a very decided build-up in our approach to city evangelism, besides the traditional hundreds of small rural evangelistic campaigns we conduct each year. City efforts in Goma, Bukavu, Kamina, and Lubumbashi have been conducted with real success. We also believe the Lord has shown us in our Shabunda experience another fruitful field that we must not neglect, that we rather should enter with all speed and careful planning.

### *Institutions*

The Kivu Adventist Seminary reopened in September 1969 after having been closed for five years, and this in an area where we have our largest constituency—over 18,000

members. Plans are under way to make this school a full secondary school by September 1971. Our Songa Adventist Secondary School (junior level) has been operating in the Katanga province with only one serious interruption throughout the troubled years. Songa Hospital's fame continues to spread far and wide. Patients come to us from hundreds of miles away. Dr D. M. Ross at present single-handed, is doing four or five surgeries a day. We are glad that the Drs Anderson are on their way from Thailand to help him.



**Pastor Jonas Mbyirukira receives a royal welcome on his arrival in the Shabunda area to visit the newly interested people there.**

### *In conclusion may God grant us:*

1. Our complete secondary school system quickly for the training of our national workers;
2. A stable missionary force to provide the technical and spiritual advice and leadership that we may shoulder to shoulder, together with our national brethren, bear the burdens of finishing the work;
3. The wisdom to deal with the problem of spiritual decadence as is evidenced in the national Protestant revolution to take over all existing Protestant church activities.

The Congo has had its blood bath. We believe God is giving us a time of peace and stability, such as can be

expected in Africa today, to give the trumpet call that "certain sound," that will call and reach the honest in heart, that God's people in the Congo may be ready to meet Him when He comes.

We sincerely believe we are entering a new era in the Congo today. The past ten years are gone. We wish to pay tribute to all our faithful workers, national as well as expatriate, who, during these difficult years, stood by, carried the lamp of truth high, witnessed valiantly, and risked their lives to save the Lord's property. For us to make a list of names would be inappropriate, for many are known only to Him who records all the deeds of men.

**Merle L. Mills greets the Pastors Fred H. and Fred G. Thomas. F. H. Thomas who with Mrs Thomas is on a visit from their home in the States, served in both the Congo and Zambesi Unions. F. G. Thomas who for the past five years has been president of the Zambesi Union, has left for the United States with his family where he will join the staff of the Atlantic Union. Fred Junior has given 26 years of service to Africa. (Photo: A. E. Cook)**

## ZAMBESI UNION

FRED G. THOMAS



DURING the past quadrennium man has achieved his ambition to set foot on the moon. During this same period more than 800 workers in the Zambesi Union have persistently and enthusiastically pursued their aim of preparing men and women to set foot on a far more promising land—a land where the problems of man will not only be solved but where they will no longer exist.

The achievements and successes, the failures and disappointments in any organization can never be attributed to one man, but are the result of the combined efforts of all concerned. The working force of the Zambesi Union has been characterized by a spirit of co-operation and dedication that has been a source of great encouragement. This has been evidenced in the Union office, fields, institutions and districts. Special note should also be taken of the growing awareness of the laity to their responsibilities which has resulted in a much more mature and realistic approach to pro-

blems on all levels of church organization.

Several important developments are worthy of note during the period under review:

1. Mwami Hospital was transferred to the Zambesi Union from the South-East Africa Union in January, 1968.

2. An additional union officer was added to the administrative staff in the person of Pastor H. W. Stevenson as Union vice-president with specific responsibilities in Zambia.

3. The Zambesi General Field was organized and commenced operation in January, 1969.

4. Inyazura Secondary School became a Union institution in January, 1969.

5. An additional Union departmental secretary was elected at the Union Session in February, 1967. Pastor R. Ndhlovu has proved to be a strong leader in the Stewardship and Church Development Department.

Major evangelistic efforts have been held in most of the large centres in-

cluding Salisbury, Bulawayo, Gwelo, Fort Victoria, Gaborones, Serowe, Lusaka, Ndola and Mufulira. In addition, countless rural efforts have been conducted and the aim of at least one effort by each pastor-evangelist has been reached in most cases.

A most encouraging feature of the evangelistic program has been the growing desire of laymen to associate themselves with the workers in efforts and also to take the initiative themselves in active evangelism.

The work of the Solusi evangelistic teams has been greatly appreciated.

The Zambesi Union now operates two flying doctor services—one in Botswana in connection with Kanye Hospital and the other in Zambia as part of the Trans-Africa Leprosy and Rehabilitation Service of Seventh-day Adventists (TALRES). Both planes have been made available through donations from private individuals and the support of the Trans-Africa Division.

In the educational field the secondary school system has continued to expand. Rusangu in Zambia has now reached its full development academically. In Rhodesia, Lower Gwelo has developed double streams in both Forms I and II with the prospect of opening Form III in 1972. With the assistance of generous grants from the Beit Trust, numerous changes have also been made in the physical plant. Likewise Inyazura has become established and a new Junior Secondary School with emphasis in vocational training has been opened at Hanke Mission Station.

Appreciation is expressed to the many workers in the Zambesi Union who have so loyally performed their duties, often under difficult circumstances.





**ORDINATION:** Recently ordained: Pastor M. Malherbe with Mrs Malherbe, Pastor W. H. J. Badenhorst, president of the Transvaal Conference, and Pastor and Mrs F. Steyn. (Photo: A. O. Coetzee)

## MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION



A DIVISION Ministerial secretary could be a lonely man. He heads, not a department of the Church, but an association. In general, all are associates; in particular, there is only one that I know of and he is one of the busiest men in this Division. Contact with the field is not the easiest thing and is mostly a one-way line.

After four years of probing for the feel of things in the Trans-Africa Division, evangelistically and ministerially-wise, it could be that some frank observations may be in order. I mean to speak provocatively. If I can say something that will awaken our administrators at all levels and spark off one or two more streams of living evangelism, the time of this report may not have been wasted.

When we announce 125,000 accessions, automatically a picture is conjured up of mass meetings, campaigns, large gatherings, Spirit-filled preaching, and people streaming to the altar. Would to God this picture was literal. There are shining examples here and there and I suggest they are the stars this Division should be steering by. They are a token only, a promise, not a fulfilment.

As Christians we dare not minimize the value of a single soul—literate or illiterate, rich or poor, small or great, free or bond. All men are equal and of infinite value before God. But, brethren, I dare to point out that these differences do exist; they are real! It would be folly to equate the conver-

sion of Onesimus, the runaway slave, with Saul, the intellectual of Tarsus. Saul, not Onesimus, gave us the Epistles and confronted the ancient world from Caesar's palace to his prison-house, with the gospel.

Our tremendous increases have come largely from rural areas through the faithful witness of our lay people. This is fine. It must be encouraged and expanded. But my concern is for the growing multitudes of educated peoples in the burgeoning cities of the new Africa. Is it possible that, like Rip van Winkle, the Church has slept through a revolution and is unaware of the challenge of this needy and fruitful new world?

It is my conviction that the time has more than come when the emphasis should forever be moved from offices and desks to the field. Would to God there was some way of demagnetizing the office chair and breaking the hypnotic spell of administrative position, desks, minutes, papers and ink, and elevating the prime task of proclaiming the good news, publicly, in all of Africa's cities. Where are the trained, experienced, adequately equipped men to tackle this tremendous task? Would it be asking too much to appeal to every union to select, train, equip and commission at least one preacher with the necessary gifts to spearhead their evangelistic thrust? Is there some way in which these men could be set aside as a kind

of specially ordained group from among the ordained, with a fixed understanding that theirs is a life-long calling—sacrosanct—"This one thing" to do, and continue doing? I deliberately, and without apology, raise the question: How can we elevate the preaching office within our organizational structure? And how can we ever hope to accomplish our task if we do not find a way?

This is the area of our greatest need: men who can and will go out into the cities to gather into the Church multitudes of men and women from the new urban masses and, equally important, we must develop an army of efficient, educated pastors, and somehow inspire them to accept the task of leading and feeding these city congregations, men who will refuse to be diverted from the real work of the Church—evangelistic and pastoral ministry.

I hasten to state that there are shining examples here and there, but add that they are a mere token only, a promise, not a fulfilment. They are stars in the night by which I suggest this Division should steer its course during the forthcoming quinquennium.

As we leave this Council, I pray that it may be with a determination to place the emphasis where it belongs and to lead forth this Church of God—

"Like a mighty army  
Marching as to war!"



“Kapala—the Tenth Leper.”



Baptisms in the Central African Union.

ALVIN E. COOK

## and PUBLIC RELATIONS

WE MAY ASK, What is Public Relations? Like all intangibles it is not the easiest thing to come to grips with. But Public Relations to us is the science of presenting this movement to the public in the most favourable light, of placing our message in the setting which will secure for it the goodwill of the most people. It is a very real, yet an intangible thing.

We fool ourselves if we think that a few inches in a newspaper about our leper work, or the visit of a General Conference secretary, weeds out the resentment and the picture of Adventism cherished by the man who purchased your second-hand car which had been glossed over for sale, and then progressively fell apart; or the man who was threatened with legal proceedings if he didn't honour the order for the *Bible Story* set and pay up forthwith. In other words, a church following the golden rule would scarcely need a Public Relations Department: it would be automatic. The shining face of Moses as he descended from the mount cancelled out his need for a public relations man, apart from the fact that public relations was not invented at that time. The people noticed in the attitude and behaviour of the disciples that they had been with Jesus. A church like that, or like Moses with the glistening countenance, would scarcely need any public relations program. Meanwhile we have done what we could.

### Activities

(1) Photographic services:

- a. Established our own dark room.
- b. Hundreds of pictures have been supplied to the General Conference PR Department, *Review and Herald*, *Outlook*, church papers around the world, appeal magazines. Fifty 20"x16" enlargements were made for the General Conference Trans-Africa Division booth.

(2) Probably publicity has been the area of greatest emphasis rather than straight public relations, and this because of the preferences and convictions of the secretary who believes this to be of more enduring worth to the cause. The publicity booklet for the General Conference is an example. [This was freely distributed at the General Conference session and was received with appreciation.—ED.]

(3) In many unions actual news media coverage of Adventist activities has been meagre. The reasons are:

- a. a lack of outlets
- b. a lack of a literate public

I would like to pay tribute to the wide-awake Public Relations leader in the South African Union, Brother Arthur Coetzee, and some of his successful assistants. Pastor Gideon Breedt and Brother Steve Smit persisted with good success in presenting

Adventist news through the various media in South Africa. In Malawi good work has also been done by the Public Relations men.

I would be remiss in my duty if I failed to pay tribute to my secretary, Mrs Jean Cripps, who in the field of Public Relations has made a valuable contribution by using her considerable talents and keen interest to further this work.

(4) In the movie field we have produced:

- “Kapala—the Tenth Leper”
- “Third Eye on Helderberg”
- “Stars to Steer Them By”
- “Fire and Flood in Africa”
- “Highway '44”
- “Masihambe '70”

At the present time “Holy Unto Him,” a tithe promotion film, is almost ready for release and “The Long Shadow of Livingstone” is almost complete. The publicity film voted for Solusi has been commenced, but is less advanced.

And now but one matter remains. It is my pleasure, even if it were not my prerogative, to formally pass over the activities and future of this department into the experienced and capable hands of my countryman and friend, Pastor Desmond Hills. I pledge without reserve my full support and any assistance I may be capable of rendering to make the Public Relations during this new term

THE BEST YET!

# PUBLISHING



# DEPARTMENT

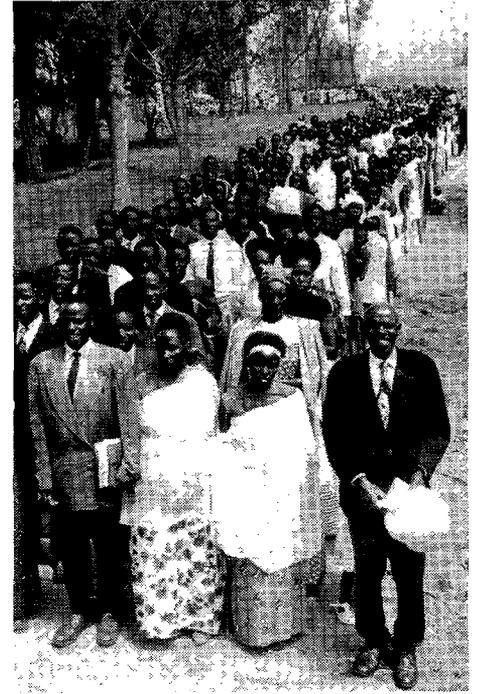
JOHN T. MASON

THE PHILOSOPHY of the Trans-Africa Division Publishing Department during this quadrennium has been more and better trained literature-evangelists; more and better qualified leaders; more and better publications; more SALES and more SOULS!

Literature-evangelists have been sent out as missionaries to unentered areas. Others are assisting ministers and evangelists in special concentrated literature-evangelistic efforts. All are urged wherever they find an interest to start new branch Sabbath-schools, to give Bible studies, to en-

rol people in the correspondence courses, to invite interested people to our churches and to enrol candidates in baptismal classes.

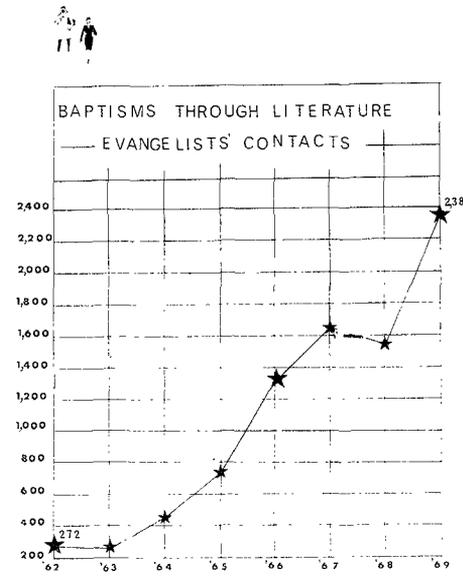
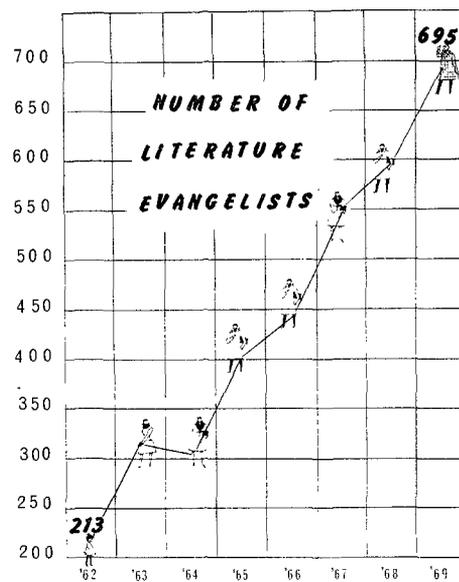
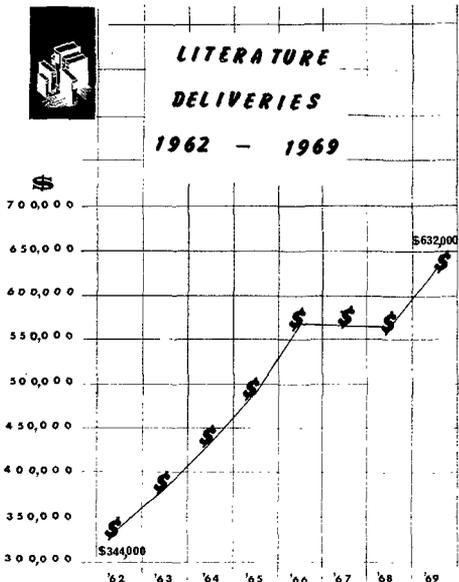
We appreciate the help and assistance given to the department by all our administrators, workers in the H.H.E.S. office and in the Book Distributors, the workers at the publishing houses and all our loyal friends everywhere. We greatly appreciate the work of our faithful publishing department secretaries and especially the literature-evangelists themselves who are out constantly in the firing line knocking on doors and ringing bells for God.



In Rwanda, a literature-evangelist leads the believers to camp-meeting. Many in the group had been brought to Christ through his ministry.



A happy group of literature-evangelists in the South African Union. On the extreme right, centre row, can be seen John T. Mason and Walter Ruba, Publishing Department secretaries of the Trans-Africa Division and South African Union Conference respectively, with Pastor Roy E. Clifford behind them.



**Recommendation:**

**WORLD-WIDE LAYMEN'S YEAR, 1971**

REALIZING that fulfilling of prophecy signals the rapid approach of probation's end and challenges laymen to concerted evangelistic action, and recognizing the urgency of co-ordinated soul winning, we call upon the great army of Adventist laymen in the Trans-Africa Division to unite with the ministry in:

Seeking the Lord for a revival of spiritual life. Praying, studying, planning and working together under God to assure the greatest soul harvest in 1971, designated as World-wide Laymen's Year.

In order to involve every member in service for Christ during World-wide Laymen's Year, 1971, it was

VOTED: 1. That the first Sabbath of 1971 (or a Sabbath as early in 1971 as possible) be designated as commitment Sabbath, that R. H. Pierson's challenge and appeal to Adventist laymen be presented during the Sabbath service, and that all church members be given opportunity to make a commitment of life and of service to Christ.

2. That a Christ-centred revival be conducted in each church early in 1971, during which a call will be made for every member to become involved in personal witness for Christ.

3. That a class be organized in every church to give training in soul-winning methods to all who have committed themselves to service.

4. That during 1971, conferences and fields conduct training classes and seminars for laymen with emphasis on personal witnessing, Gift Bible Evangelism, TABSA, steps in conversion and how to make personal appeals to lead individuals to Christ.

WHEREAS "The ministers and the church members are to unite as one person labouring for the upbuilding and prosperity of the church. . . . Let all press forward shoulder to shoulder."—"Review and Herald" July 9, 1895.

VOTED: 1. That laymen in our churches, in consultation with their pastor and Lay Activities leader, be encouraged to hold public evangelistic meetings during Laymen's Year, 1971.

- a. In our churches where we have no pastors available.
- b. In suitable available locations in inner city areas.
- c. In new areas, cities, towns and villages.

VOTED: further that in launching the Laymen's Year in 1971 consideration be given to the following objectives:

- 1. Plans and programs that have been field tested and ready for use be adapted by Trans-Africa Division unions, conferences and fields.
- 2. The Trans-Africa Division give 117,000 Bible studies per month in its allocated share of the world objective.
- 3. The Gift Bible program be further implemented as a co-ordinated evangelistic thrust, with all departments participating, and with strong emphasis on follow-up.

- 4. The best record in number of missionary pieces of literature distributed in our Division be doubled.
- 5. Renewed emphasis be placed on the spiritual ministry of the Health and Welfare Services in which clients are introduced to Christ.
- 6. Individuals who do Harvest In-gathering keep a record of all donors, visiting them during the year and giving them our literature, Gift Bibles and lessons.
- 7. To meet the unprecedented needs in our Division, and upon the recommendation of the General Conference, we aim toward a 6 per cent overflow during 1971 beyond what was raised in 1970.
- 8. The objective be 50,000 souls whom laymen helped to win.
- 9. Each Adventist family win two souls to Christ during Laymen's Year.

**President's Report**

*(Continued from page 11)*

fought. Much remains to be done. The task is not finished. We must set our faces with confidence and courage towards the future. We must have no illusions about the opposition which will confront us before the work is consummated. The enemy is both formidable and ruthless. His cunning and enmity must not be underestimated. Judged by human standards, our limited budgets and restricted forces do not give much hope of successfully attaining our goal. The immensity of our task is staggering but we dare not retreat nor remain at ease. There is only one way to go, and that is forward!

**Trans-Africa Division OUTLOOK**

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**SUNSET CALENDAR**

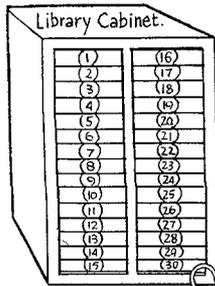
**FEBRUARY 1971**

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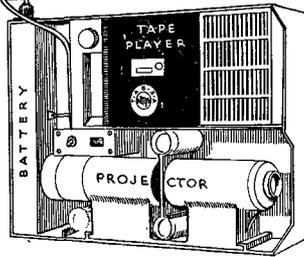
	5	12	19	26		5	12	19	26
Cape Town	7.49	7.42	7.34	7.27	Cape Town	7.18	7.10	7.01	6.49
Johannesburg	6.58	6.53	6.48	6.42	Johannesburg	6.35	6.28	6.21	6.13
East London	7.09	7.02	6.55	6.48	East London	6.40	6.31	6.23	6.11
Port Elizabeth	7.21	7.14	7.06	6.59	Port Elizabeth	6.50	6.42	6.33	6.21
Bloemfontein	7.10	7.05	6.58	6.51	Bloemfontein	6.44	6.37	6.29	6.19
P'maritzburg	6.54	6.49	6.42	6.35	P'maritzburg	6.28	6.20	6.12	6.02
Durban	6.52	6.47	6.40	6.33	Durban	6.26	6.18	6.10	6.00
Windhoek	7.37	7.33	7.28	7.23	Windhoek	7.17	7.10	7.04	6.56
Bulawayo	6.47	6.43	6.39	6.35	Bulawayo	6.29	6.23	6.18	6.11
Salisbury	6.33	6.30	6.26	6.23	Salisbury	6.17	6.11	6.07	6.00
Gwelo	6.40	6.38	6.35	6.32	Gwelo	6.26	6.19	6.08	6.01
Lusaka	6.40	6.39	6.38	6.35	Lusaka	6.30	6.22	6.12	6.06
Blantyre	6.17	6.13	6.09	6.06	Blantyre	6.01	5.57	5.53	5.47
Lubumbashi	6.41	6.37	6.35	6.33	Lubumbashi	6.29	6.27	6.23	6.18
Nairobi	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.49	Nairobi	6.48	6.47	6.46	6.43
Mombasa	6.43	6.41	6.40	6.39	Mombasa	6.38	6.36	6.34	6.27
Kisumu	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	Kisumu	6.58	6.56	6.55	6.52
Kampala	7.08	7.07	7.06	7.06	Kampala	7.05	7.05	7.03	7.00
Dar-es-Salaam	6.49	6.47	6.45	6.44	Dar-es-Salaam	6.42	6.39	6.36	6.30
Tabora	7.12	7.10	7.09	7.09	Tabora	7.07	7.04	7.02	6.59

# 1971

# is LAYMEN'S YEAR



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for Christ.



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YEAR  
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