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## *From the Past to the Future*

BY L. H. CHRISTIAN

WE were coming across the Atlantic. The ocean was perfect, the best we ever saw it in November. Such restful days give time for thought; to count up the many mercies of the past and to take stock of future events now looming on the horizon. These thoughts are helpful because they are hopeful. We wonder what this new year may bring—will it be peace or war to the world—will it be life or death—health or disease—joy or sorrow to ourselves and our dear ones? Will it be spiritual advance, or will it be decline and defeat for the cause? We must not be blind to actual conditions. Yet we are never to fear the coming ordeals. A gloomy outlook means a discouraged heart.

The past year has been the biggest since the war. As never in earlier years we have seen the forces of light and darkness lining up and arming for the last final struggle. The new Paganism in Germany and elsewhere is a major sign of our day. Events in Japan, China, and Russia have come with sudden rapidity. The League of Nations has had a resurrection to new life and strength. The armed peace of the past seventeen years has threatened to grow into actual warfare. The world, now experimenting, is trying a new method to end war. The old word "sanctions" meaning to ratify, now means to compel. In the meantime one large power has sent over 2,000 miles away, and to another continent, a larger army than fought on both sides of the Battle of Waterloo,

and another power, a small one, has called to the fray more soldiers than Napoleon commanded at any time. In doing so the drum-beats of war which have sounded may awaken millions of black people in all Africa. We little know what people think of their hopes and hatreds in that continent of mystery. This new year we are glad that we do not know the future. The face of the world has an ugly look, yet we still hope that the expected battles which hitherto have not come in Ethiopia may not come at all.

But in other ways even more fateful things have happened. During 1935, millions of precious souls died without Christ. Many of them had never even heard His name. How far must we answer for this in the judgment? That question presses for an answer. In our own ranks a large number of humble, earnest believers, earnest supporters of the cause, and several strong leaders for God have passed away. We think of the loss to the Advent cause in the death of our beloved Brother A. G. Daniells. Some tell us that "the days of the giants" of the Advent movement have passed. We rather believe that the spirit of Elijah will rest upon Elisha. We see hosts of younger men of large faith, unselfish service, and broad vision taking on responsibility in many fields. The future of this Advent movement is largely in the hands of

these men, some of them as yet but little known. But let all remember that when true men pick their harness, they choose the heavy load rather than the front load.

We feel most grateful for the spiritual blessings God gave us the past year. We found a new love with many of our people. We have seen a greater zeal and a desire to be burden-bearers on the part of our union and conference leaders and workers. There is a growing realization of our great need of the Spirit of God. It is true godliness, it is experience in divine things, it is personal victory in our own lives that we, above everything else, should seek for. We pray that in this year to come we may have a larger endowment of spiritual power than ever in the past. The year that is just closing has brought its sorrows, disappointments, and suffering. Some have gone through experiences that were most trying. But God has come near to bring comfort and hope, and a sweet assurance that the Lord is leading and that all is well. These experiences burn selfishness out of the heart, make us more understanding of others, and lead to what we all seek for, a deeper consecration to the Master's service.

When we look at the results of our activities we have great cause for gratitude. At the Autumn Council of the General Conference this year we were told that the membership of the Advent Church is now over 404,000. During the last six years our net gain

of membership is 119,216. In 1934 alone the gain was over 20,000. This work is carried on throughout the world by twelve divisions, comprising seventy union conferences, 144 local conferences, 318 missions—a total of 544 evangelistic organizations. A total of 23,753 labourers are actively employed, or one for every seventeen churchmembers.

In mission income, too, the results are cheering. We can only give figures for the year 1934. Our tithes and offerings that year showed an increase over 1933 of \$1,250,562. The total amount of tithes and offerings for 1934 was \$9,863,214. Of this there was raised outside of North America \$3,650,658. We are now carrying on work in 325 countries and in 539 languages and dialects. When we look upon the work in our own Division the results, too, are most cheering. During the first nine months of this year we baptized 2,762, and our total number of Sabbath-school members is 48,092. Thus far, too, this year we see a very cheering increase in our mission income. The complete report will come later.

But there is yet a large work to be done. We think of the unentered fields such as French West Africa, or the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan; of the many cities of the British Isles, and the many other sections even in the homelands to which the message has never gone. We are grateful that in spite of the disturbance of war our work in Ethiopia is holding steady. We wish also to express our deep appreciation of the faithfulness of our missionaries there who, in spite of danger and difficulty, have held to their posts and endeavoured to build up the work of God. Just now we read of a new outrage—the bombing of Dessie. We desire to express our gratitude to brave Nurse Høvig for her heroic work and our deep sympathy with her in her affliction.

A New Year is like a bridge from the past to the future. We may cross this bridge with courage, knowing that the same Lord who has helped us hitherto will guide and keep His children and His work in the year to come. We ex-

tend to all our fellow-workers and all our believers throughout the Division our heartiest wishes for a

blessed New Year. May this year, above all, lead us closer to God and nearer to the rest in heaven.

## In Ethiopia

BY E. D. DICK

WHEN concluding a most enjoyable visit in Uganda I received a cabled request from the General Conference Committee asking that I go to Ethiopia at once for counsel. To meet this request meant to change my plans drastically, for the camp meetings in the East African Union were appointed to begin the next week and it was planned that I should attend these. It was a real disappointment for me not to join with the brethren in these meetings, but in view of the urgency of the request I changed my plans and hurried on to Ethiopia as quickly as I could.

Finding that I had a few days before the departure of the first boat I made a flying visit to all but one of our stations in the Kavirondo country. On my way up-country I had visited our coast mission at Mombasa and spent just a little time at our Central Kenya Station near Nairobi, but had looked forward to longer visits following the camps. Hurrying on to Mombasa I caught a boat proceeding to Djibouti, French Somaliland, the port city of the French-Ethiopian railway leading to Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. Distances are great along Africa's sultry shores and travel is not so rapid as in northern climes. Including a stop at Aden where our ship took fresh water and fuel, the trip from Mombasa to Djibouti requires six full days.

As we travelled up the coast we were reminded often of the impending conflict between Italy and Ethiopia and saw evidences of international tension. At Mombasa huge stacks of supplies for transshipment to Mogadiscio, Somaliland, as well as hundreds of cattle, were being loaded for the same port. At Aden we saw a squadron of the British fleet standing by awaiting international developments. At Djibouti were two French gunboats in the harbour,

while on shore hundreds of soldiers hurried here and there in army trucks, seemingly intent upon making preparations for contingencies of the future. These changing scenes, while detracting from the monotony of the trip, greatly added to my anxiety to get to Addis Ababa before the outbreak of hostilities.

While one is usually glad to come to the end of an ocean voyage, there is but little to give one a thrill when arriving at this sultry port. Djibouti is said to be the hottest place in the world. The mean average temperature in July is eighty-nine deg. Fahr. and that of January seventy-nine deg. Fahr. The rainfall scarcely exceeds four inches per year. Hemmed in on every side by rocky desert wastes, the air becomes like a furnace.

While this condition is scarcely endurable it does enhance the one industry of the community, the salt works. In the flats adjoining the city are large shallow basins where sea water is entrapped and evaporated and salt recovered in huge quantities. Great piles of salt awaiting shipment stand out against the horizon, giving the appearance of an army encamped in tents.

Besides the salt the two other exports are coffee and hides, which come largely from Ethiopia. One of the most pitiful and yet most common sights in the city is the heavy labour imposed upon the Somali peasants. Practically all the carting of their export produce, building materials, luggage, etc., is done with small wagons drawn by men. On these wagons are piled huge loads quite large enough for a team of horses. These are pulled through the streets by four or five frail men. In their effort to pull these loads they lie almost parallel with the ground, and they strain and struggle till their muscles stand out like whipcords. Needless

to say in this oven heat they perspire most profusely. One cannot but feel his heart rise up in sympathetic rebellion against such drudgery, for certainly such work is suited for donkeys rather than men. They receive only a pittance for their work and all they have to look forward to is another day of toil to-morrow.

There is a regular bi-weekly passenger service between Djibouti and Addis Ababa. Ordinarily, as was the case when I went up, the train runs only in the daytime, stopping at night at stations where there are fairly comfortable hotels. Some have said the reason for this practice is that the nomadic tribesmen of Ethiopia often remove the rails at night so that travelling is made dangerous. Another reason advanced is that on account of the great change in altitude from the coast to Addis Ababa—9,000 feet—it is much easier on the newcomer to make the trip by stages. I rather believe that neither of these are valid reasons, for on the return trip we made the journey in twenty-four hours. Having spent a number of years in other parts of Africa, I am inclined to believe that the soundest reason is that "it is their custom."

I was quite disappointed with the country of Ethiopia as I travelled up. Instead of striking a fertile country soon after leaving the coastal area I found that for almost two whole days we travelled through an arid, stony, barren wilderness, over which scattered tribes of natives roam in search of pasture and water for their flocks of goats and sheep. One also occasionally sees a train of camels and donkeys which have come in from districts remote from the railway, bearing their loads of sheep and goat skins.

Beginning with the morning of the third day, however, the train penetrates a beautiful high, healthy, and productive country, and fellow-passengers who knew the country well exclaim, "Ah! This is Ethiopia!"

Arriving at the station I was met by the Union workers and the medical staff of the hospital at Addis Ababa. Though my stay in the field was of necessity brief, it was easy to see that our work and

workers are highly esteemed by the government, the European population, and by the Ethiopians. As one passed down the street with Dr. Bergman or Dr. Nicola it seemed that every person greeted them with a smile and outstretched hand. It was easy to see that the medical work had entrenched itself in the hearts of the people of Addis Ababa. It was also cheering to see the good spirit of fellowship which prevailed among the workers and which no doubt goes far toward the high esteem with which our work is generally held.

Our work in Ethiopia centres around seven stations. Inasmuch as the attention of our people is particularly upon Ethiopia at this time, I will list these in detail:

1. Our head-quarters office and Girls' School at Kabana is located rather on the outskirts of Addis Ababa. Here are located Brother and Sister Sorenson, Brother Balle Nielsen, the Union superintendent and treasurer, and Miss Matthews now on furlough, who has had charge of the Girls' School.

2. Our Zauditu Memorial Hospital near the Emperor's palace. Here Doctors Bergman and Nicola with their families, together with Nurses Bergman, Hofstad, and Halvorsen, constitute the European staff.

3. Forty miles west of Addis Ababa is our Boys' School at Addis Alem directed by Brother and Sister Herbert Hanson.

4. Some twelve days by mule back from Addis Alem, near Gimbie, Brother and Sister Jensen and Nurse Lind operate a school and dispensary.

5. At Dessie, some ten days by mule back to the north-east of Addis Ababa, Dr. and Mrs. Stadin and Nurse Høvig operate a very successful hospital.

6. To the west and north of Dessie is Debre Marcos, where Brother Hessel has under construction a medical unit, funds for which were provided by the Ras of that area.

7. Still farther north at Debre Tabor we have a medical unit. Here Brother and Sister Palm are directing work in a very needy area.

The particular purpose in my hurrying to Ethiopia was to study

with our brethren the problems arising out of the threatening prospects of war. Months prior to this the government legations responsible for the protection of our missionaries had been urging their withdrawal. Since a large part of our mission activity is medical work, it seemed rather incongruous for us to withdraw our workers when prospects pointed to their being needed more in the immediate future than at any time in the past. Balanced against this was the uncertainty of conditions in the country with the outbreak and continuance of war.

Addis Ababa at the time of my arrival was in a state of feverish excitement. An unusually large number of chiefs from remote sections of the country were in the city. They were to be seen hurrying about the streets on their gaily saddled and bridled mules followed by troops of barefoot servants bearing guns. The streets were filled with people, some apparently hurrying here and there on business, while most were ambling about without purpose or objective.

The city was the gossip storm centre of the world. Not less than 150 special press correspondents, journalists, press photographers, movie film operators from the world's most famous newspapers and press organizations were there. These grasped at every rumour in an effort to supply their organizations with news. In their time of leisure and sometimes need, many found their way down to our hospital and were greatly pleased with what they saw. A number who previously had been unsympathetic toward missions expressed their change of viewpoint. It was helpful.

In official circles counsels were numerous. The Emperor with his advisers held frequent interviews with the legation representatives. Early upon arriving we got in touch with the legations responsible for the protection of our missionaries. We found them friendly and sympathetic toward our viewpoint and problem. As the result of these interviews and the day-to-day developments, our workers in prayerful study arrived at several conclusions; first, that at all costs, we should keep our medical work

intact; second, that owing to the uncertainties and dangers which might arise in times of either military reverses or successes, the mothers and children should leave the country to a safety zone and there remain until possible dangers were over; and third, that Brother and Sister Jensen, whose furlough is due in January, leave as soon as hostilities broke out, and that Miss Lind should come to Addis Ababa. The first two decisions meant the separation of four families, the sending away of their wives and their little ones, and the leaving of their husbands and fathers in a land of war where racial animosities are not unknown. These were hard decisions to make. My heart went out in great sympathy for these families as they approached the time of separation. Our workers and their dear wives and little ones were brave. God was their personal help and stay.

It seemed evident that they should leave at once, and arrangements were made to leave on the Tuesday morning train. On the previous Thursday morning the Emperor's mobilization order was read from the platform in front of the palace. Some 15,000 native warriors listened attentively to his call to arms which concluded by stating that hostilities had already begun in the north. When this order was concluded, this quiet audience broke into a wild riot, brandishing their swords and gnashing their teeth, declaring their purpose to fight until death for their king and country. These developments made clear to the brethren that right decisions had been made and that the mothers and children should leave at once.

Careful study was given as to where these mothers and children should go, and it was finally agreed that Mrs. Sorenson and Mrs. Bergman with their children go to Egypt, and that since Mrs. Hessel and Mrs. Nicola had tiny babies, they go to their homes in Germany and America. On the Tuesday morning, the day of departure, the railway was a scene of riot and it seemed for a time that the train was not to leave. Finally the wild scene subsided and the train departed.

It was a terrible struggle for

these families to separate from their dear ones. The element of uncertainty and the time of separation made their leave-taking hard indeed. I was glad I could be of some assistance to these as we travelled to the coast, in embarkation, and later in locating the mothers and children at Cairo.

Our worker in Cairo, Brother Nils Zerne, whose family is now on furlough, has kindly opened his home, the mission compound, to these families and they are comfortably settled awaiting the early termination of the war when they can return to their loved ones and field of labour. Mrs. Hessel and Mrs. Nicola with their little ones are on the waters proceeding homeward.

Careful study was also given to the adjustment of the working force in the field and precautions for their safety. It was unanimously agreed that all other workers should remain in the field and keep our work intact. While it doubtless will not be possible to

operate either the boys' or girls' training school in this time of stress, it has been arranged for these workers to assist in the medical work where they will no doubt find much to do.

Our hospitals have been registered with the League of Nations as Red Cross units. Large red crosses have been painted on the roof of each building and it is to be hoped that these may be protected in times of probable air raids. Our brethren and sisters who remain are confident of God's protection and care. They feel that they have followed the call of God in going to Ethiopia and must not desert her in her time of greatest need.

Shall we not, as their fellow-brethren in the homeland, pray unitedly that God may keep these workers and His work from harm and danger in this time of peril, and bring an early end to the cruel war which is now raging, that His work can go forward in that land of need?

## Reports from the Winter Council Held at Stockholm, December 12 to 18, 1935

### The Secretary's Report

THE following extracts are taken from the secretary's report:

No feature is of greater interest than facts concerning our membership; first, their spirit of love and loyalty to God, and secondly, their numbers. While one great objective and urge of our movement is to carry the Gospel to every kindred, nation, tongue, and people, the purpose of this activity is to prepare a people to meet Him in peace at His coming. The spiritual experience of our people and their own individual preparation to meet Jesus is therefore of first importance. The accumulated reports gathered from our workers in the annual conferences and other visitations, as well as our contacts with the field through correspondence, lead us to believe that our people are filled with zeal and courage for the work of the Lord. We believe, too, that God through His Spirit is calling His people to a deeper spiritual experience to

which our church membership is gladly responding.

As to our numbers, these show growth though not so much as we would like to see. At the close of 1933 the membership of the Division stood at 29,986. Just one year later our membership had risen to 31,111. This represents a net gain for the year of 1,125, the least gain we have experienced since the formation of the Division. In order to help us realize this more clearly, the numbers are set out in detail:

	Home Fields	Gains	Mission Fields	Gains
1928	19223	.....	3197	.....
1929	20026	803	4202	1005
1930	20761	735	4860	658
1931	21754	993	5747	887
1932	23080	1326	6443	696
1933	23882	802	6104	585
1934	24635	753	6476	372
	<b>Total Membership</b>		<b>Gains</b>	
1928	22420		.....	
1929	24228		1808	
1930	25621		1393	
1931	27501		1880	
1932	29523		2022	
1933	29986		1387	
1934	31111		1125	
Average gain	1929-1933		1698	
Gain	1934		1125	

Short of previous five-year average 573

There were added in 1934 by baptism and vote 2,952. These were shared by the home and mission fields as follows: 2,054 and 898. These figures since the organization of the Division are:

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
Home	1748	1826	2048	2530	2194	2054
Mission	1906	876	1179	1065	1098	898
Totals	3654	2702	3227	3595	3292	2952

The decreased figures of accessions are disappointing, but the record of losses by apostasy is more distressing, for we are saddened to see that while the number does not exceed previous figures a great deal, it is in fact the largest in our history, namely 1,355. These for the past six years are:

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
	706	744	1048	1101	1321	1355

Believing that these figures should challenge most earnest study by us as responsible leaders, the losses by fields for the past two years are given:

	1933	1934
Baltic	155	155
British	204	212
Polish	408	296
E. Nordic	102	154
W. Nordic	131	126
E. African Union	289	318
Gold Coast	16	45
Ethiopian	...	4
Nigerian	13	39
Sierra Leone	1	...
Upper Nile	2	6
Northern Cameroons	...	...
	1321	1355

Just one further feature having an indirect relation to our growth in membership, accessions, and apostasies need be mentioned, and that is the working force. It is interesting to note that while the number of workers in each class in the unions has changed slightly from the previous year, and the numbers in the unions vary somewhat, the total is exactly the same as was reported last year. The number by unions is as follows:

	Increase since 1933	Decrease since 1933
Baltic	108	3
British	174	...
Polish	98	...
E. Nordic	144	8
W. Nordic	111	...
	635	11

Before leaving this section of the report it perhaps should be said that from reports for the first

three quarters of this year and more recent correspondence from the fields, it would appear that the present year promises to be one of our best in the number of baptisms, and that there may be substantially reduced numbers of apostasies.

It is a pleasure to be able to again report some material gains in our missions. For many years we have talked of the opening of a Girls' School in the populous Ibo country of South-east Nigeria. At the time of my visit to Nigeria this year definite plans were laid for the opening of this work at our Aba Station. A girls' dormitory and home for the lady teacher have since been built, and Miss R. Raitt, who has given years of service to girls' training in East Africa, has gone forward to lead out in this work. We believe this will be a means of greatly strengthening our work in the Ibo country. Funds were provided last year for the erection of a new church. We learn from recent correspondence that this is now taking shape and we hope will soon be completed. The walls are being made of concrete blocks and the roof of corrugated iron. It will greatly add to the service and dignity of our head-quarters station in South-east Nigeria.

The Upper Nile Union has added to its mission properties during 1934. In June, 1934, permission was secured from the Uganda Government for a station on the plains some fourteen miles northwest of Mbale. Union Superintendent Toppenberg and Brother Rye Anderson lost no time in setting about to clear the ground and build the mission home. At the time of my visit to the station I was surprised to see the progress which had been made at the station in the space of fifteen months. A very comfortable house was completed, a permanent dispensary, temporary church, and teachers' houses and other out-buildings had been erected. A wide variety of trees and shrubbery had already been set out, thus giving the appearance of a station much older than it really is.

Our mission assets have also been increased in the East African

Union by our providing head-quarters for our Coast Mission. A very acceptable property in a good location has been secured by part payment of the agreed price. The property is on an elevation overlooking the harbour of Kilindini, some six miles from Mombasa. On the place is a fairly good house and out-buildings. The style of house and the elevation enables one living there to get the advantage of every breeze, which certainly is needed, for it can be very warm much of the time on that section of Africa's Coast.

Another station is being added to our work in the Ethiopian Union. Just prior to our last Council Ras Jimerou, in the Godjam area, one of the richest provinces of Ethiopia, offered us land, timber, stone, and funds with which to build a new medical station. One of our workers has already made a good beginning on these buildings. A small dispensary has been opened and a number of patients are receiving treatment there daily. Up to the time of my visit to Ethiopia, in spite of the threatened outbreak of hostilities, the Ras had met his obligations in the erection of the buildings.

Steps have been taken to strengthen the work in the Sierra Leone Union. In accordance with plans outlined at our last Council for the transfer of the head-quarters of the North Liberian Mission from our Liiwa Station, six days' walk into the interior from Monrovia, to a more accessible place, a site for this new station was selected. This is on the motor road sixty-five miles from Monrovia. Recent word tells that the government has granted the request for the place selected and Brother Noltze is now beginning the work of clearing the ground in preparation for building at the beginning of the new year.

While reporting our gains in the material assets, it is also in order to mention our losses. When surveying this new property mentioned above, and Sister Noltze was on the waters on her way home, Brother Noltze received a message saying his house at Liiwa in which were all their belongings

was destroyed by fire—nothing was saved. We regret to learn of this loss to Brother and Sister Noltze, and of mission property.

Two other interests have benefited by additional facilities during the year. In response to an earnest appeal, and through assistance of interested doctors in Southern California and in England, we were able to supply our Zauditu Memorial Hospital at Addis Ababa with a modern first-class X-ray. This has been installed and is doing excellent work to the great pleasure and satisfaction of the doctors and their many patients.

Additional equipment was also supplied to our Kendu Hospital in the East African Union.

But few changes have taken place in our mission forces during the past year.

We have fifty-seven in the field and under appointment, or an increase of one over the previous report.

What has threatened to be our greatest disturbance in our mission activities is found in Ethiopia, due to the war. For a time it seemed that because of imminent dangers, many of our missionaries would have to leave. After further consideration and negotiations with the governments responsible for the protection of our missionaries, we have been able to arrange for our work to be carried on with the least possible disturbance. It seemed best to have one family return on early furlough and the mothers and children of four other families to leave the country to places of greater safety. The husbands of these families, together with all the other workers, unanimously decided to stay by their posts of duty and if possible keep our work intact. Let us continue to pray earnestly that God may hold His hand over His work in that needy land, and bring an early end to the cruel war.

As a Division committee responsible for the planning for the finishing of the work in our great populace and extending missions *we must do more*. We must do more to strengthen the hands of our altogether too few missionaries. We must do more to build up our institutions—our training

schools and medical interests, as well as our literature work, all of which have proved to be the foundations of larger work among primitive peoples.

As we turn to a consideration of our entered countries, we cannot say that any one field is adequately staffed nor has institutions to cope with the demands.

Despite the fact that many of our missionaries are handicapped by limited facilities, they are of good courage and labouring earnestly for the furtherance of the work. They greatly appreciate the deep interest taken in missions by our brethren and sisters in the homeland. They speak often of the sacrifices made by our conference leaders in accepting reductions in appropriations to their own fields. We have a loyal band of missionaries who are doing a noble work for God. Let us not grow weary in the support of their good work nor forget to pray earnestly for their highest success.



### Work Among the Young

THE missionary report prepared by C. V. Anderson contained much interesting matter. We take the following from it.

The Young People's work is a work of ever beginning again, and the report for the first nine months of 1935 becomes of necessity partly an appeal as well as a recital of the accomplishments of our youth in this vast Division: My appeal is for broadminded, sympathetic co-operation on behalf of the salvation of our youth. As I have had the privilege of coming in contact with leaders and church elders in the different conferences, I have found a loyal interest in the work we are endeavouring to do for their young people. On the other hand many secretaries seem overwhelmed with the enormity of the task. Some of them feel their responsibility: others see the great possibilities in this work, but most of them are so burdened with the work of other departments, and evangelistic efforts, that very little time is left for the cause of youth.

During the year 1935 a census has been taken in the home unions of children and young people be-

tween the ages of six and twenty-five. This reveals that in our home unions alone there are 7,772 young people between the ages of six and twenty-five. Of this number 2,335 are baptized members, leaving 5,437 outside of church membership. There are 1,910 seniors in our Seventh-Day Adventist homes who are not yet won to this truth, and 1,930 juniors whom we must yet bring under the Christian influence of our junior society leaders. These two groups total the enormous number of 3,840 who are not being influenced by the work done by the Missionary Volunteer Department. This should be a mighty challenge to the churches and to conference presidents everywhere to place Missionary Volunteer secretaries on the trail of these young people and win them. Why not give the secretaries an opportunity to evangelize the children of our own Seventh-Day Adventist homes?

Missionary Volunteer Week is becoming an established institution among us. It is a week fraught with real blessings for our young people, when a definite interest is taken in them, and definite results achieved. Practically every conference co-operates nicely with departmental suggestions and assigns ministers and young people's workers different churches to visit during this week. Many interesting reports of souls won and others reclaimed have come to my desk. I would heartily recommend a stronger planning of evangelism among our youth during this Missionary Volunteer week.

During the year a long list of Youths' Congresses have been held in the various unions. It seems that these youths' meetings have come to stay. Where they have been tried out they have certainly proved a great blessing, and we recommend the holding of such meetings as often as possible.



### British Union

(Taken from Brother W. E. Read's Report.)

I AM glad to bring you greetings from the brethren and sisters in the British Union and to assure you that our hearts are with you

in the finishing of the work of God. It is a privilege to represent a country which is the mother of parliaments, which has played such a prominent part in missionary effort through the years and within whose borders one of the first Bible Societies was formed.

We are glad also that as believers in this Advent message we have a small part in proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom to the uttermost parts of the earth. This is true not only in our offerings, but also in the gift of our sons and daughters. During the years our work has been established in Britain we have sent out about 250 of our young men and women to the "regions beyond."

Our field, with a population of about forty-nine millions, has about as many inhabitants as the rest of the European part of the Northern European Division. Yet to warn this vast concourse of people, we have but ninety-five conference workers; and this includes not only ministers and Bible-workers, but also office secretaries. In the other forty-nine millions in the European section of the Division, there are about 250 workers—one worker to every 200,000; whereas in the British Isles there is one worker to every 515,000. With the many large cities, there being five of over a million inhabitants and more than 1,250 with a population of five thousand and more, there is a remarkable opportunity to present the message of the glorious advent of Christ.

We are encouraged by the increase in membership, although we wish it were larger. During the last quadrennium we received by baptism and vote 1,278, and showed a net gain of 197. Thus far, during the present quadrennium, with three months yet to go, we have received by baptism and vote 1,594, and show a net gain of 580.

Notwithstanding the difficulties with budgets and financial operations generally, we have been able to plan for a larger number of evangelistic efforts this winter than for a number of years. Whereas in 1933-4 we conducted twenty-one efforts, in 1934-5 we conducted thirty, and in 1935-6 we have in

progress thirty-three special campaigns. At the public meetings on a recent Sunday night, about 12,000 people were present to listen to the message.

The largest baptisms held this year have been at London and Middlesbrough. In West London, Brother R. A. Anderson baptized sixty-five and in Middlesbrough, Brother S. Joyce led forty-five souls through the watery grave. We are pleased to report that at last we have opened up work in the Free State, outside the city of Dublin. Not many months ago Brother J. A. McMillan, assisted by Brother Erich Zins of Germany, located in the city of Cork. After considerable difficulty they found a small hall and started work. Opposition has been forthcoming from religionists of all classes, but even so, about forty to fifty persons are coming to the meetings and showing a deep interest.

For the first time in the history of our work in the British Isles we are able to report having reached the goal of £10,000 in the Ingathering campaign. Our headquarters at Watford together with the College at Newbold collected over £1,000 between them. Our mission offerings for the first ten months of the year show an increase of ten and a half per cent over the corresponding period of last year. For the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering for the third quarter we set our goal at an increase of twenty per cent, but are glad to report that we received a twenty-four per cent increase.

Not long ago one of our evangelists entered a city where we had never before conducted an effort. Apart from him and his two young workers, there were no members. At the commencement of their work they prayed for sixty souls and a church building. The Lord certainly honoured their faith, for when the time of the baptism came around, they led forward in this solemn service no less than sixty-six souls. Before this they had secured their church building with everything paid for. Not only so, but about seven miles away, another church building was erected free of all cost to the organization,

and there are good prospects of a number of new believers being added to the church in this place.

A good deal of opposition confronts our ministers in many places. Even in London, not long ago, one of our evangelists found a number of posters round his place of meeting, warning the people that we were Adventists. Furthermore men paraded the streets, crying, "These are Seventh-Day Adventists; you have been warned." Notwithstanding all this, the work progressed and forty-five souls were won to Christ and baptized.

The day of miracles is certainly not passed. Some time ago, two ladies, mother and daughter, came to our meetings. The mother was a Christian, but the daughter was not; but earnestly desired to be a Christian. The mother was greatly burdened for her daughter and after the evening meeting asked the minister to pray with them. During that prayer the daughter yielded her heart to God and found peace and joy in Christ. She in turn became burdened for her husband who happened to be in Scotland on business. He was a drunkard and a gambler. Again they prayed and prayed earnestly that God would touch the heart of the husband. About three weeks elapsed, then word came one morning from the husband telling how troubled he had been for about three weeks. He could not sleep, so disturbed was he about his soul's salvation. Finally he yielded to the Saviour. The letter brought the happy news to wife and mother. All three are now members of the church.

We are glad for a part in this closing work and look forward to its speedy triumph. May the Lord bless our workers and believers everywhere and hasten His coming Kingdom.



### The West Nordic Union Conference

We take a few paragraphs from Brother L. Muderspach's report:

During the first ten months of this year we have organized three new churches (132 in all), and our membership is now 6,702. In our

179 Sabbath-schools we have 5,852 members. We have fifty-four Missionary Volunteer societies with 2,060 members.

We have eighteen ordained ministers, seven licenced ministers, and eighteen Bible-workers. We have nine other workers, or fifty-two workers in all. We have baptized and taken into church fellowship 416 new members the first three quarters of this year, with a net gain so far of 229.

Our literature work is Kr.6,083 better in Norway and Kr.13,557 better in Denmark than last year. Especially our papers have done better this year.

Our two schools have more students than last year. The Norwegian school had a remarkable growth. We have sixty-two students there this year and our capacity is not more than thirty-five to forty. We have therefore been forced to begin the erection of a dormitory for boys. The teachers and students do all the work.

The income in tithe has gone up in the ten months a little more than Kr.10,000. The offerings for missions are more than Kr.16,000 over last year. We have worked hard to reach the fifteen per cent which was given us as the goal at our last Division meeting, but we have not come higher than twelve per cent yet—perhaps it will be a little higher at the end of the year.

We have had many good experiences in the Harvest Ingathering work. The editor of our paper *Tidens Tale* received, for instance, Kr.30 from a lady of influence in Norway. The biggest newspaper in Oslo has written about our efforts in Africa and the Norwegian people know now better what part we take in the mission work in foreign countries.

This old field stands loyal to the cause and wants to do its part to fulfil the work in the homeland and in foreign lands. We have had the joy of sending out nine new missionaries to West and East Africa since August, 1934, and we are decided upon doing our best to hasten the great day.

\* \* \*

"WHEREVER the life of God is in the hearts of men, it will flow out to others in love and blessing."

## Ten Months in Poland

T. T. BABIENCO

To the glory of God to Whom all honour and praise belong, we are able to say that He has wonderfully helped us and granted us many blessings. All our workers have stood faithful to their tasks. The colporteurs truly in many fields have passed through sore experiences, but in it all we are grateful for God's help and protection. Our churches stand firm and are zealous in the cause. They have in every branch of the work played a fruitful part. Our youth are consecrated and industrious in their share of the labour, and at the school we rejoice over sturdy, loyal young people. Poland stands to-day better than it has ever stood.

Up to November this year we recorded 308 souls won for the truth. They are rejoicing in the Lord and have entered into a new

and fruitful life. The churches take an active part in the welfare work and many needy ones have been helped with clothing, provisions, and money. Sick are visited and cared for.

Tribulation has come to some of our members. Many have lost their entire harvest through hail-storms and others have seen their little all go up in smoke. But by God's help we have been able to come to the assistance of these stricken brethren.

As we glance over the last ten months we bow in humble gratitude before God and offer Him our sincere thanks for all He has done for Poland. Our desire is that God would give us true hearts to do more for the needy multitudes, that they may be helped in their spiritual and temporal necessities.

## The Triumph of Faith

BY H. W. LOWE

A YEAR ago the Home Missionary Department reported in the SURVEY as follows:

"The unheard-of deed has been done. The Northern European Division reports her full [Ingathering] goal reached at the time of the Winter Council." This year (1935) we reported our Ingathering goal reached in eight weeks, or by November 6th—five weeks before the Winter Council.

At the time of writing (November 29th), we have the following figures:

Baltic Union .....	103%
British Union .....	104%
East Nordic Union .....	104%
Polish Union .....	118%
West Nordic Union .....	102%
Missions .....	108%
Division .....	104%

No field has yet ceased working, so the final figures should be even more encouraging than at present indicated.

This gratifying triumph has been accomplished by the courageous faith of our Advent people. There have been forbidding circumstances of unusual nature in Poland and in the Baltic, and in all other fields

there have been the increasing difficulties of these times. However, faith and courage grow in God's people as troubles multiply. More difficulty, greater triumph! Greater tasks, deeper devotion! Fiercer opposition, more consecrated persistence! That is the story of our 1935 Ingathering Campaign.

There has been loyal co-operation from all sources. Enthusiasm, faith, and courage have run high in our working forces.

More about the campaign when we publish our final figures. Meanwhile, our warmest thanks to all loyal helpers, and deep gratitude to God for these larger results in our soul-winning endeavours.

### The Advent Survey

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