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## Sierra Leone Advancing

By C. V. Anderson

AFTER ten days of ocean travel I was feeling like stretching my legs on *terra firma*. We had had a glorious passage, hardly a ripple on the ocean from Liverpool to Freetown. Of course I was glad of that, but now I was anxious to hear and see all I could and be a blessing to this field, if possible.

What a contrast to London! Everybody is black and they amble about country and town in an easy-going fashion in every state of dress and undress. Only a few seem to be going somewhere. The scenery is glorious. Hills and valleys are verdant with tropical flora. It is hard to believe that in all this beauty there can lurk the poisonous snake, the treacherous little malaria mosquito, as well as germs innumerable which spread havoc, giving this country the reputation of being the white man's grave! My unbelief is shortlived. Only four hours after landing I arrive at the Waterloo Training School, where I find the principal, H. Rasmussen, abed with malaria. He is well again as I write, and I am faithfully taking five grains of quinine each day as a necessary precaution.

Babcock, that God-fearing pioneer's name seems to be on every lip. So it seemed to me as we mingled with the crowd in Waterloo. Evidences of his energetic labours of love appear so often as one moves about the Mission property and elsewhere. I was shown the building in which he started a school and services in Waterloo. It is an ordinary sort of a house, but above the door, facing the street, one reads the

word, "Faith." Yes, our mission programme is built on faith. It is advancing to the ends of the earth by faith. Certainly faith is the foundation upon which Brother Babcock's successors must build.

The Waterloo Training School has an enrolment of 120. Three young men completed the tenth grade at the close of last year. The Mission is looking forward to putting them to work this year, thus answering a few of the calls from a growing work. A faith step is being taken as the new year begins in that the Training School is enrolling forty boys in the boarding school, whereas thirty has been the limit heretofore. Thirty is really the capacity of the dormitory, but the Swedish saying holds good, "Where there is heart room there is always house room." That advance should mean much for Sierra Leone. Most of these students come from Freetown and the coast. We should do more for our own members and the children of our members up country. They are poor and so is the school, but we cannot pass them by very long.

A dire need in Sierra Leone is a girls' school. They had one a few years ago, but for some reason it was closed. Surely God will hold us responsible for neglecting the girls of this great field.

Besides the churches in Freetown and Waterloo, there are thirteen stations in the interior, out in the bush. These stations are manned by African workers, and the word "worker" here means

teacher, preacher, evangelist, pastor, all in one. Every worker has a school varying in enrolment, where he teaches Bible, the three "R's," and English. All are expected to shepherd the flock under their care, and also to carry on evangelistic work, for the purpose of teaching and preaching is to win souls. It was my happy privilege to visit nine of these thirteen stations. Noble men head up the work all round and they are anxious to see it prosper. Meetings were held at most of the places visited and the workers were anxious to have the chief and his counsellors attend. This they did in four instances.

Evangelism is taking hold in this field. A year ago definite plans were made that every worker should conduct a series of meetings with the specific object of winning souls. At the recent workers' meeting your soul would have been stirred had you heard these men tell what God had done. This was the first year that evangelism had been pushed in this way. Concern has long been felt because of the slow progress. Only 400 members have been won after many years' labour. Now 580 people meet regularly every Sabbath as a direct result of evangelism in the villages during 1935. The workers were enthusiastic and pleaded with God to make them more useful. The spirit of advance is in the air in Sierra Leone. To sum up briefly:

1. The Training School is increasing its boarding enrolment by thirty per cent. This will provide more evangelists.

2. The station school enrolment has increased materially.

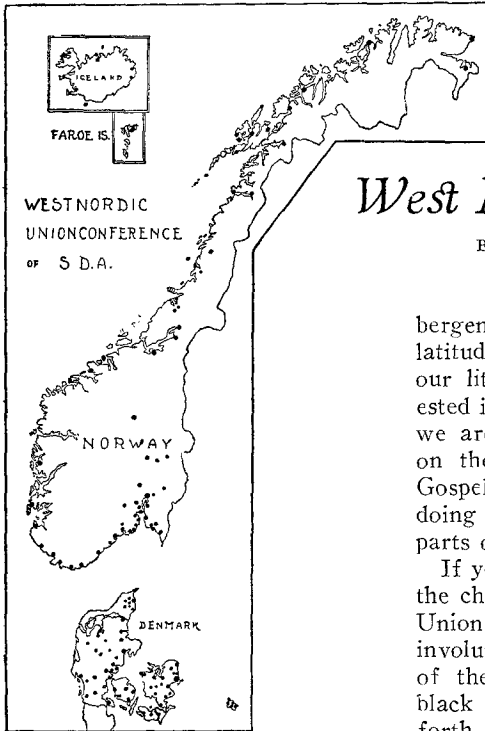
3. Three young graduates from the Training School are being employed.

4. The African workers are eagerly pressing forward in soul-winning.

5. The churches are being organized in Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer service. A young peoples' programme was

conducted in the church at Waterloo during the workers' meeting which inspired several to return home and do likewise.

The workers and membership have given Brother Broberg and family a warm welcome. We solicit the prayers and support of God's people for this needy field, that the power of God's Spirit may be poured out upon every worker and believer in Sierra Leone.



## In the West Nordic Union

BY L. MUDERSPACH

bergen) on the eightieth degree of latitude, there are people who read our literature and who are interested in the truth, and even though we are not allowed to go ashore on these islands and preach the Gospel, the "silent messengers" are doing their work in the uttermost parts of the world.

If you, dear reader, were to visit the churches farthest north in our Union during the winter you would involuntarily think of the statement of the prophet Zechariah: "The black horses which are therein go forth into the north country." Zech. 6:6. The *black* horses remind us of the long dark period in the north land. For several months the sun does not show itself above the horizon, and if you want to read or write or do other work then you must do it by the light of the lamp during the day as well as at night.

### LIGHT OVER NORTH LAND

But during the dark period it seems as though God wants to encourage His people there far up north, so He sends them the beautiful northern lights. The light from the moon is wonderful at that time also, and it seems to us that the stars shine brighter here than anywhere else on the earth. Most wonderful, however, are the northern lights, as, with their indescribable and quickly changing beams of colour, they shine over

the numberless islands, the deep fjords, and the snowclad mountains, over town and country, the camps of the Laplanders and scattered fishers' huts, which are hidden behind mountain peaks all along the coast.

These fascinating northern lights to some degree symbolize the light of truth, which, by God's Word and the help of God's Spirit, has expelled the darkness of error in the hearts of the five hundred or more Adventists who live in Norway north of the Arctic circle. This also reminds us of the words of the prophet: "Behold, these that go toward the north country have quieted My spirit in the north country." Zech. 6:8. Surely the Spirit of God has rested over the north country, because both our literature evangelists as well as those preaching the Word have found it easier to work in this part of the country than anywhere else, and I am sure it is because of the working of the Spirit that so many have accepted the truth in the "north country."

However, it is interesting to note that Zechariah in his prophecy concerning "the black horses" which went forth "into the north country," adds, "and the white go forth after them." Zech. 6:6. If the black horses remind us of the dark period in the north country, then the white horses must lead our thoughts to the bright summer months, when the sun never sets. Those who from other parts of the globe every year travel to the land of the "midnight sun" are very seldom disappointed, because there is a strange feeling of wonder over a landscape illuminated by the sun at midnight.

A similar feeling comes over the meetings of our believers up there—there is a heartier and warmer relation between our believers at their yearly summer meetings than we find almost anywhere else. The longing after the *eternal* coast of sunshine is very strong among our sincere and faithful brethren and sisters.

### MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Well, the north country is only a small part of our extensive Union territory. Only one-thirteenth part

"BEHOLD, these shall come from the north." Isa. 49:12.

When the Lord gathers His waiting people there will also be a company from the north, and there are several references in the prophecies to God's work in the "North Lands." Such statements lead our thoughts to our Union conference, which is the most northerly Union conference in the whole world; that is, we have churches and believers living farther north than any other Union.

In Hammerfest, the world's most northerly town, we have a good church of fifty-two members, and a Sabbath-school with over sixty members; and still farther north—on the seventy-second degree of latitude—we have several small groups of Sabbath-keepers. Even in Greenland and Svalbard (Spitz-

of our members live there. We have 6,677 members in our 132 churches. As you will see from the map on page 2, the churches in Norway are largely located along the coast, while in Denmark they are scattered more evenly over the country. Our believers in Iceland are also more evenly scattered over that part of the island where the people are able to live, which is mostly in the south-western section.

With respect to the preaching of the third angel's message, our field is one of the oldest in the world, outside of America, as Brother Matteson started his efforts in Denmark as far back as 1877. We have therefore many old members in our conferences, and about 100 are laid to rest every year. Last year there were ninety-nine and the previous year 106. Besides this some become tired and leave us, so our net increase is not so large as we would like it to be. Last year we won 466 new souls, but our net increase was only 204 as a result of the above-mentioned factors.

#### THE NEED OF MORE WORKERS

We feel the need of more workers. We have not quite fifty evangelistic workers, about twenty of whom are Bible-workers and most of them are only employed about half the year. We are not able to do more with our income. Many of our workers are old in the service. Some have been working from twenty-five to forty-five years, and a number can about this time celebrate their twenty-five years' jubilee in the work. We are very thankful for the untiring efforts of these faithful workers, who have played a large part in making the Union what it is to-day. But we are made sad because we cannot see the way clear to employ more young workers than we do. There are a number of persons who have gone through our schools who ought to be tried in evangelistic work.

#### PUBLISHING WORK

We also have a brave force of book evangelists, some of whom have worked for a long period of years. Three have served over twenty-five years. The Lord has blessed their efforts so we really can say that our colporteur work is

on a high basis. About eighty colporteurs have been working during the past year, and we have sold literature amounting to Kr.28,600 more this year compared with last.

Our publishing house in Oslo has for nearly half a century done a great work and helped to bring many souls to the truth both in Norway and Denmark through all the good literature which has been sent out from that place. But now the publishing house is confronted with difficulties because of the financial restrictions in Denmark which stop us from printing books for that country. Previously nearly half of the output was sent to Denmark.

#### OUR SCHOOL WORK

We are pleased to say that our two mission schools are progressing well. The Danish school—Vejlebjerg Højskole—is still keeping its enrolment up around the seventy mark. Every year a number of the students take an examination at the university at Copenhagen, and so far they have received excellent marks. The garden and orchard are prospering, and the sale of vegetables is larger year by year. The chicken farm is also progressing well and everything seems to be going forward.

The same is true regarding the Norwegian school—Onsrud Missionsskole—where the enrolment this year has grown to sixty-two, which really is much larger than we have room for. We have therefore started building a new dormitory, which we hope to finish before next school year. This will not only give us more room for the students but also a workshop, bathrooms, laundry, storerooms, etc. We have tried to beautify the school surroundings, and we are also trying to enlarge the garden.

#### OUR MEDICAL WORK

In several respects our medical work is the largest part of the work done by our institutions. At Skodsborg Sanitarium, where about 300 of our people—mostly young people—are employed, a lively work is going on all the year round, and many hundreds of people come in touch with our precious truth, which we try to give to others both by our words

and actions. In the two capitals we have a large clinic, and in towns all over the country we have about fifty private treatment-rooms established by nurses from Skodsborg Sanitarium, and these also have a part in spreading the Gospel message. God surely has blessed the medical work in these countries and made it the "entering wedge," as the Spirit of prophecy has told us it ought to be, as it is able to prepare the way not only for our health principles but also for other truths.

#### OUR FINANCES

The past year has been a good year with regard to our finances. The tithe has increased from Kr.332,700 to Kr.365,300, and our mission offerings have increased from Kr.214,200 to Kr.234,900. This is about 9.7 per cent increase in both cases. We are very thankful for these increases, and regard this as an indication that the economic situation is getting better. It is interesting to note that on an average we now are paying in about Kr.1,000 in tithe every day in the year.

#### OUR PART IN THE MISSION FIELDS

It is also a great joy to us that we have been able to send out a number of our young people to the mission fields during the past year. No less than nine have left the home shores for East and West Africa, and they are still calling for more. We are very pleased about this, because there are many of our young people who would like to work in the Lord's vineyard, and who have qualifications, but we have not been able to give them employment here in the homelands.

Our believers in the Nordic lands stand firm and loyal to our faith, and even though many are poor, yet they are very willing and want to do their utmost to have a part in finishing the Lord's work both in the homelands and in the mission fields.

An article by A. C. Christensen on "Literature Work in the West Nordic Union" is crowded out of this issue. It will appear next month. The June issue will deal largely with conditions in the East Nordic Union.

## The North Norwegian Conference

BY E. BJAANGES

It is dark and cold and bitter up here in the north in the winter time. The winter is long. In many places snow falls in September and will stay until June. But the people have been hardened over many generations. Many of them endure almost incredibly. Their income is small and most of the people are poor. They are easily contented and get on with very little. It is quite natural that these people who have to fight a hard battle against the powers of nature all their lives feel the need for God and a longing after heaven.

I am pleased to be able to tell you that the work is going forward in this field. In many respects 1935 has been the best year we ever had. No less than 109 new members were added to our churches, a good harvest of souls, about as large as the two foregoing years. Our church membership is now 915.

The tithe amounted to Kr.30,231.-76. This is Kr.3,783 or 14.3 per cent more than any previous year. The Sabbath-school offerings have increased by 20.2 per cent, the Harvest Ingathering by 30.6 per cent,

the Week of Prayer offering by 11.7 per cent; the total mission offerings have increased by Kr.4,540, or 23 per cent. We thank God for this progress. It is His work, and all praise belongs to Him.

We have four ministers in this conference, and this winter five public efforts are being conducted. Good interest is manifested at each place. With faith in God we look for a bright future.

To close let me mention one thing that is very much on my heart. A tribe of people is living far up north—the Lapps. There are thousands of them. They have a language which is very different from the other northern tongues. It is about fifteen years since we had an evangelist among them. We have hardly any literature for them, and they live so far apart that colporteurs could not work among them in the way they do in other parts. The Division mission interest is always turned south toward the millions in Africa; please let it also turn toward the thousands of Laplanders in the north!

## The South Norwegian Conference

BY O. S. LIE

"THEN Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

The past years have in many respects been very hard, uncertain, and trying, both for our people and the world at large. Unemployment has deprived millions of their means of existence. Poverty, hunger, and distress have become a common spectacle in civilized countries. The steady increase in social disparity has created a battle between the classes. War, envy, and hatred are what one finds in the world to-day, and the future looks dark indeed. Many attempts have been made to try to find a way out, but unfortunately nothing has come out of it all.

In these confusing days we, who preach the Gospel of truth, can find comfort and guidance from God's Word. Paul says: "Ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness." The preaching of the Gospel of Jesus must be on our hearts. We must not let the time pass by, but work for God's cause as we have never done before, and always remember the seriousness of the situation as the prophecies of the Bible clearly place it before us. The Lord will richly bless our efforts.

While storms have been raging in the great world, the Lord has held His protecting hand over the

northern countries. The conditions up here have on the whole been much better than in the more central countries. The anxiety and hopelessness which is prevailing in so many places are not so much noticeable here in the north.

The year 1935 has in several respects been a very good year, and we note progress in many ways. The tithe has increased from Kr.120,553.24 to Kr.127,238.70, the offerings from Kr.68,601.29 to Kr.73,738.14, the Harvest Ingathering from Kr.29,559.82 to Kr.32,513.68. We are thankful for this progress and hope it will continue during the new year.

## The West

THE West Danish Conference is an old field, where we have been working for fifty years, preaching the Gospel and distributing a large amount of literature. At present there is not a town of over 2,000 inhabitants that has not had a public effort, and in the larger towns, with over 10,000 inhabitants, there have been held from four to twelve public efforts.

However, there are yet tens of thousands of the two million people in the conference who have never heard an Adventist minister, and this is especially true of the farmers living in the countries of Jylland and Fyn.

We have thirty-five churches



Meeting hall and church

God has also blessed our public efforts, and our workers have on the whole had very good attendances at their meetings. During the past four years 797 souls have accepted the truth, and last year we added 168 new members to our church. Several of our lay members have lately held public efforts and have met with good results. Our mission school this year has sixty-two students, which is the largest enrolment in the history of our school. We have a good field of labour here in the north, and with the help of God we will continue our endeavours.

force. At present there are four ordained ministers, three licentiates, and four Bible-workers. During 1935 these workers laboured in ten to twelve different places. The Danish population is, generally speaking, rationalistic and non-religious, and it is difficult to gather many people to meetings. In spite of this our membership grows steadily year by year. Last year 113 new members were added.

The Danish mission school is located in our conference, and from that place a large work is being carried on in the surrounding districts, as well as for the whole of the conference.

By the help of the Lord we shall do our very utmost to bring the Gospel to all living in the little part of the world that has been committed to our charge, and make its influence world-wide.

## The East Danish Conference

BY T. TOBIASSEN

OUR Union president, Brother L. Muderspach, has asked me to write something concerning our work here in the East Danish Conference.

I am very pleased to say that during the past three or four years we have reported increases in nearly all items. This is true in regard to the winning of souls as well as in regard to the income of the conference and all mission offerings.

The East Danish Conference was organized July 1, 1931. At that time the Danish Conference was divided into two—the West and East Danish Conferences. Since that time the church membership in the East Danish Conference has grown from 1,419 to 1,646, an increase of 227 members or sixteen per cent. The membership in the Sabbath-school has, in the same period, grown from 1,205 to 1,485, which is a little larger increase than the church membership, and the attendance in the Sabbath-school has increased from 869 to 1,139.

The tithe has in the same period increased from Kr.112,175 to Kr.129,163. During the past year the tithe increased about Kr.10,000—to be exact, Kr.9,977. The tithe is therefore Kr.19,338 larger in 1935 than in 1932. If the tithe is divided among the members, then we received in 1932 Kr.73.84 and in 1935 Kr.87 per member.

The Harvest Ingathering brought in Kr.23,128 in 1931, while in 1935 it amounted to Kr.27,471. In 1932, which was the first full year the conference was separated, the Sabbath-school

offerings amounted to Kr.22,755 (this included the twelve Sabbaths and the Thirteenth Sabbath offerings). For 1935 these offerings amounted to Kr.25,926. The Week of Prayer offering in 1932 was Kr.7,673; in 1935, Kr.8,903. The Week of Sacrifice in 1931 brought in Kr.3,792, while in 1935 we received Kr.7,218. In Big Week we received in 1932 Kr.2,730, while in 1935 we received Kr.3,172. The total mission offerings for the year 1932 were Kr.44.20 per member and in 1925 Kr. 45.76 per member.

Three years ago we changed our plans for the conducting of the public efforts, and instead of starting the efforts in October or November we did not start until just after the New Year, and by help of the increased income we have been able to increase the public efforts of the conference so that the conference now can employ three licentiates and hold the same number of efforts more than in 1932.

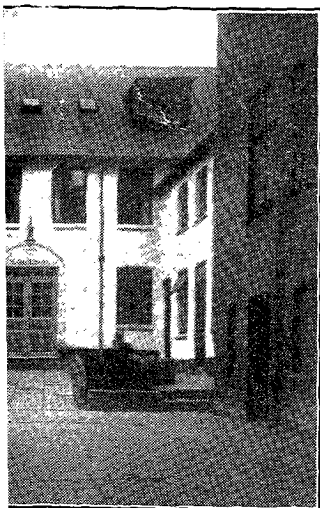
At present we have five ordained ministers, three licentiates, five Bible-workers, a treasurer, and a secretary. The Bible-workers are only employed about half time. The same is true with regard to the secretary.

The working conditions in Denmark are hard. The people are not very religious. In thousands of homes the Bible is not found, and many are ignorant of the most common Bible truths. The working population are non-religious or indifferent to religion. Many of the large newspapers in the country take the same standpoint. It has been proved that it is very difficult to gather people to hear religious

## Conference

and about twelve groups in the comparatively small territory belonging to our conference, but of these only four have over 100 members. Five others have over fifty; the rest are small churches with from ten to forty members. A few of these churches are among the oldest in Europe, having existed over fifty years, as for instance, at Vejle and Jerslev. The last-mentioned church, it claims, has the oldest church school in Europe. The school has been in continuous operation for about forty-five years, and is still going strong. The total membership in the conference is 1,490.

We have but a small working



g, Aarhus, W. Denmark.

subjects, while lectures concerning conditions and happenings in the world can draw large crowds. But the work is nevertheless going forward.

The work of our many clinics here in Denmark is of great importance to us. Talking only of my conference, we have the large Skodsborg Sanitarium where many people have been helped. Then we have the large clinic in Copenhagen. Besides these we have ten to eleven smaller clinics in our territory. The work which is done at these places, and their reputation, has considerable influence. Even though people do not want to accept our doctrine they respect our principles and our people.

Through our publishing house,

which is working for both conferences, we have sold literature to the value of about Kr.86,342 in our conference. On an average thirteen colporteurs have been working in our territory, and they have on an average sold literature to the value of Kr.4,314 each.

We have one mission school for both conferences, this being located in the West Danish Conference.

It is a pleasure to me to say that we as labourers in the East Danish Conference work together well. We are confident that the same God who through us has brought the work so far, will also in the future bless our endeavours and give us the joy of seeing fruits for our labour. His be all glory and power!

collected over Kr.40 each. From the very beginning we felt that there was a special interest in the Harvest Ingathering this year, and we knew that all previous records would be broken. Our first weekly report was more than double what it was the year before. People were much interested in our mission work in Ethiopia, and we were happy to be able to tell them that we had Danish and Norwegian missionaries down there. The final Harvest Ingathering reports showed Kr.100,680,69, which is about Kr.7,000 more than the previous year.

Our lay members have in several places held public efforts. As a result of such endeavours, over 100 souls have been won to the truth during the past few years.

The young people's work also goes forward. In the Union we have fifty-eight societies with over 2,000 members. These young people made over 7,500 missionary visits last year, gave more than 4,000 Bible readings, distributed about 40,000 papers, tracts, and books, and wrote over 1,000 missionary letters. We have our own young people's paper, *Advent-Ungdom*, a sixteen-page monthly magazine. The local young people's conventions show that we have an intensely interested body of young people. We have just closed a very inspiring and blessed convention at Skodsborg with about 500 present.

We are expecting to see still greater results in the future. God is blessing the work and the members are of good courage.

## Departmental Work in the West Nordic Union

BY K. ABRAHAMSEN

LAST year was a year of rich blessing in our work in the West Nordic Union, especially in the departmental work. The seriousness of the times leads God's people to gather around His Word and give themselves to His work more than ever before.

We have 178 Sabbath-schools with 5,883 members. There are still some churchmembers who are not Sabbath-school members, but it is our purpose to get them all enrolled. The Sabbath-school offerings show how the interest is increasing. During 1935 we received Kr.82,459.67 in the Sabbath-school offerings, about Kr.8,400 more than the previous year. We are also pleased to note that the Birthday Offerings and Investment Fund, although small, last year increased about fifty per cent.

The Home Missionary Department shows an increase in all items, a plain proof that our lay members more than ever feel the importance of personal work. During 1934 we reported 5,899 missionary visits; last year the figure was 26,718, an increase of over 400 per cent. About 19,000 more papers were distributed last year. Our lay members, not counting colporteurs, sold, gave or lent about 4,000

more large books than in 1934.

We are very happy to see the growing zeal of our members in the Harvest Ingathering Campaign. More have taken part than ever before, and the result is far beyond past records. The young people in the larger cities have gone out in groups and systematically worked their territory. Even the children in the junior societies have taken an active part. A few of our lay members have collected Kr.600 each. We have over 600 "Minute Men" who have

## The Message of Modern Events

BY L. H. CHRISTIAN

NEVER in all history, not even in the hectic days just prior to the world war, has Europe been in such a state of unrest and tumult as to-day. The war in Ethiopia, the strange happenings in the Far East and in Central Europe, have had a most disquieting effect. We see a determined movement to re-arm and to strengthen military preparations on a scale so stupendous that nothing at all like it was known before. The effectiveness of aerial warfare in Ethiopia has

made the fears more tense. Then, too, men observe that atheism, the new paganism, and the revived Catholicism all seem to favour war. At times it looks as if were it not for the British government and Protestant England, the war cloud would break overnight. Millions to-day are pessimistic and almost in despair. They know not what is at hand. We have never seen the press of Europe writing so ominously as it has this winter. Many are haunted by fears of un-

told disaster. What is the message of this present tumult and trouble to God's people?

(1) The great outstanding thought that should impress every child of God now is that the threatening storm is held back only by the power of God. Truly we see the angels of the Lord holding the winds of death. It is the great miracle of our day, and it should give us faith in God. Armageddon will not come until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. This comforting truth should be made plain to all our people.

(2) Another lesson which ought to shape our lives and inspire our work to-day is the shortness of time. We know not when these days of comparative peace will end. We know that days of trouble such as the world never saw are right upon us. In those days the preaching of the Advent message will become most difficult. We see the beginning of this even now, in the restrictions placed upon our literature, our evangelistic efforts, and other activities.

(3) The evil one has given an object lesson, too, which all mission workers need to study. That is the value of zeal and the overshadowing importance of personality. In several countries we see just one man of humble origin, with the world and at first his own people strongly against him, creating an entirely new order of things, and doing it apparently by his own sincerity and burning zeal. To-day, personality, character, individual determination, and consecration seem more effective than at any time in past ages. We need to apply this lesson in the Advent movement. A new zeal and more settled conviction to preach God's message must come into every heart.

(4) But the great decisive meaning and message of present-day events is a clarion call to a holier and more effective and fruitful service for the Lord. This Advent movement has come along quietly and has gone from strength to strength. God has marvellously preserved it. But the day has dawned when we should see a far

larger and a many times more rapid advance. This will come into the Advent movement as the power of the Holy Spirit comes into our own hearts. As the world gives itself to politics, we must give ourselves to prayer. As men struggle

for their own convictions on their own objectives, we must surrender in an earnest consecration to this blessed Advent truth. Mankind is now in need of a definite warning and a decided call to prepare to meet the Lord.

## Farewell!

It seems fitting that I should address a few words to our believers throughout the field, as I shall soon lay down my work as secretary of the Division. The news of this sudden change in my plans will no doubt come as a surprise to all. A cable from the General Conference calling me to act as president of the Atlantic Union College came as an equal surprise to me. However, after careful consideration of the request and the needs of my family, and having regard to the counsel of my brethren, it seemed clear that I should accept of this new line of work.

In responding to this call to new duties, it is not without really deep regrets that we bring our service in this field to a close. Our few short years spent in this field have been happy years. While learning to share the many problems of the field, we have at the same time enjoyed making acquaintance and friendship with many of our

churchmembers and workers, whose association we shall greatly miss and whose memory will always remain dear.

As secretary of the Division my chief duties have been to encourage and promote the interests of our African missions. While deeply cherishing the friendships found in the home fields and regretting that I perhaps shall not be privileged to meet many of you again, my greatest disappointment in drawing my work in this field to a close is—if I may say so without being misunderstood—in severing my direct contacts with our African missions and our missionaries there. It has given me real pleasure to get acquainted with and, I trust, help to encourage our missionaries and their faithful African workers.

While this change in my work necessitates a separation from this field, I shall nevertheless watch with eager interest the progress of the work of the field and continue

## Report of Church Schools for the Year 1935

PLACE	No. Teachers	Enrollment	Building	Estimated Value of Equipment	Expense of Annual Maintenance
<b>British Union</b>					
Plymouth, North Road	2	43	.....	\$ 243.50	\$ 1,558.40
Stanboro' Park, Watford, Herts.	2	50	.....	730.50	2,191.50
Walthamstow, Grace Road	2	37	.....	487.00	1,582.75
<b>East Nordic Union</b>					
Stockholm, Tunnelgaten 25, Sweden	4	24	.....	396.24	1,526.07
<b>West Nordic Union</b>					
Aarhus, Norre Alle 30, Denmark	2	30	.....	268.82	1,129.03
Frederikshavn, Haabets Alle, Denmark	1	16	.....	161.29	510.75
Jerslev J., Friskolen, Denmark	1	10	.....	134.41	268.82
Kobenhavn, Suomisvej 5, Denmark	2	45	.....	322.58	994.62
Narum, "Concordiavej," Denmark	2	20	.....	268.82	1,344.08
Oslo, Kingsgt 1, Norway	1	38	.....	.....	1,881.72
Vejlefjord, Højskole, Denmark	2	20	.....	.....	645.16
Westmann Islands, Iceland	2	65	444.44	111.11	888.88
<b>Totals 1935</b>					
1934	23	398	\$ 444.44	3,124.27	14,521.79
1933	26	394	\$ 666.67	3,147.83	14,007.28
1932	25	380	\$ 888.88	3,431.61	13,509.25
1931	25	394	\$ 1,400.00	2,405.17	12,914.25



to pray for its larger success.

I would remind all of the sure promise of God: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2:10. Many sore trials and deep perplexities no doubt lie between us and the kingdom, but come what may, let us be true to God.

In returning to America to labour, Mrs. Dick and I bring to a close just twenty-one years of most enjoyable foreign service. These have been happy years indeed. We delight to count our friends in Canada, in Africa, and in Europe. We return to the land of our nativity feeling almost strangers. While assuring you of our great pleasure found in the service of the cause in your midst, and assuring you of our prayers for the Lord's blessing upon you all and His prospering hand over His work, we likewise solicit an interest in your prayers as we pass on to labour in another part of the Lord's vineyard. May He keep us all true to Him until His coming.

Yours in the blessed hope,

E. D. DICK.

\* \* \*

We were anticipating some possible changes in our Division at the time of the General Conference, but it came as an unpleasant shock to learn that Brother E. D. Dick, our secretary, was already called from us to take the presidency of the Atlantic Union College. Brother Dick will not return to us after the General Conference, but is to make all arrangements before his departure and take his family along with him when he sails on May 7th. Brother L. H. Christian will probably be writing something about Brother Dick's work in the Division, which we all feel has been strong and valuable. I will only say now that we who have been closely associated with Brother Dick have greatly appreciated his cordial brotherly nature and feel sincerely sorry that he is going away. We wish him God's richest blessing as he now returns to his school work. Sister Dick will also be deeply missed from our Edgware group.

W. T. BARTLETT.

## At Rest

KARL SAKNIT was born in Latvia, August 8, 1901, and died in St. Gallen, Switzerland, on January 31, 1936, being a little over thirty-four years of age.

The early years of his life were spent in Moscow, Russia, where his parents lived before and during the war. As a young man of seventeen he returned to Riga, Latvia. Not long after his return he learned of the Advent message and accepted the same with youthful enthusiasm and true Christian joy, and later enrolled as a student in our Baltic Union training school near Riga to prepare himself for a place in the work.

Having finished his studies, he took up work in the Baltic Union, and the Lord blessed his efforts especially in the literature work. In the year 1930 a call came to him to connect with the work in the Polish Union as secretary of the Publishing and the Home Missionary Departments. For a time he rendered very valuable and successful service in that capacity in that large field.

His work in Poland, however, was only of short duration. After two years of successful and self-sacrificing ministry he was taken sick on one of his trips, and after a time it developed that he was suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, and it was this malady which after three years ended his life. He fought heroically and hopefully against the sickness during these long years. His oldest son caught the disease and died a year ago. On the advice of a physician in Latvia, he came to Switzerland in September, 1935, in a final endeavour to obtain help. For a time it seemed as though he might recover, but in spite of all that medical skill and loving hands could do, he had to surrender to the cruel enemy. But he went to sleep peacefully and with the full assurance in his heart that he will be raised again to everlasting life at the coming of the Lord.

In the year 1926 he was married to Edith Danze, also of Latvia. She, together with a little son of four years, his aged parents and other relatives, are left to mourn the loss of a faithful companion, a loving father, and devoted son. Sister Saknit shared the last two weeks of his life with him in the hospital in St. Gallen. She is comforted in her great bereavement by the many precious promises of the Word of God concerning those that die in the Lord.

Brother Saknit was a man of strong faith and of a very sunny disposition. One always felt that he was a man who communed with his heavenly Father. His love for God and his fellow-men was warm and genuine. In his battles he never became discouraged. One might ask why God took him away so young, when workers and leaders are so greatly needed in connection with the work. We must believe with the apostle Paul that "all things work together for good to them that love God." Our brother rests from his labours, but his works do follow him.

Shortly before Brother Saknit breathed his last, he said to one of our workers who visited him at the hospital, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

The funeral services were conducted by the writer, assisted by Elder J. Bommer, of St. Gallen, on February 3rd. Interment was in the St. Gallen Cemetery. While our brother sleeps far away from his native land, yet angels of God will know where to seek him when the trumpet shall sound in the glad resurrection day.

STEEN RASMUSSEN.

MINE KATHRINE TOPPENBERG, née Hansen, was born in Daler, Slesvig, Denmark, September 26, 1886. Her father died early and the mother and children left in 1900 for America. Seventeen years old, Sister Toppenberg gave her heart to God and joined the church in Portland, Maine. After preparatory studies in Union College,

Nebraska, she started the nurses' course at the Washington Sanitarium, graduating in 1911. In 1913 she left for Tanganyika, East Africa, to be married to V. E. Toppenberg, who had already been there two years in mission service. When she returned with her husband on furlough in 1917, she was so poorly that doctors feared she had but a few months to live. But after the close of the War, in 1919, she returned with her husband and daughter to Africa.

In 1934 their youngest boy, Robert, was taken very ill in Uganda. The doctors advised an immediate return. Sister Toppenberg brought the two children to Skodsborg in September of that year. Brother Toppenberg, who was superintendent of our Uganda Union Mission, bravely remained in the field and Sister Toppenberg fully intended to return in a short time. However, her resistance was undermined by many serious attacks of malaria in the tropics, and it became evident that she could not return to Africa. She was stricken with the dread disease called the Australian sleeping sickness, contracted out in the mission field. For many months she suffered intensely. Her husband came back to Europe in the summer of 1935 and stayed with her and the children at the Skodsborg Sanitarium. After so long a separation, this was an untold comfort. All that skilful medical help and nursing could do seemed unavailing. To the last, her faith in the love of God held firm. Resigned to the knowledge that she was to be laid to rest, she died the twenty-fourth of February, and in Vedbek Cemetery, where so many of our faithful workers are sleeping, she, too, awaits the call of her blessed Master, who is the resurrection and the life.

Brother and Sister Toppenberg were veterans in the foreign mission work of the Northern European Division. It is twenty-five years since he first went out to Africa. During the war, they suffered much and were finally rescued and helped by the British soldiers. Since then they have laboured with great success in many parts of Africa. They opened up the work in Eritrea after the war. They were also the first Adventist missionaries to Addis Ababa and began our present large work in Ethiopia. That was in 1921. Of recent years they have been labouring in Uganda and God has signally blessed their work. Sister Toppenberg herself was a woman of great faith, a wise and loving mother, a faithful helper to her husband, and a true missionary.

It is a great loss to the family and to the cause that Sister Toppenberg has been taken from us, but we know that she sleeps in Jesus and that He doeth all things well. She leaves a host of friends in America, in Europe, and above all in her beloved Africa. Her husband and two children, now in Denmark, one brother and one sister in America, one sister in South Africa, as well as a foster mother in Washington, D.C., and other relatives mourn their loss. Pastor T. Tobiassen of the West Denmark Conference spoke words of comfort to the many present for the last farewell.

L. H. CHRISTIAN.

### The Advent Survey

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