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The Annual Meetings in Norway

BY L. MUDERSPACH

ABOUT eighty representatives gathered together in Oslo, Norway, from July 7th to 13th, to celebrate the festival which we have only once every fourth year, namely, the Union conference. It was in old "Bethel" that the conference workers and other delegates from the five conferences in Denmark, Norway, and Iceland met to study the Bible and counsel together. Earnest prayer and warm thanks were given to the Almighty after the wonderful Bible studies which were given every day.

Half the time was set aside for workers' meetings and the rest of the time for Union conference meetings. Our new Division president, Brother W. E. Read, and Brethren Meade MacGuire from the General Conference, S. G. Maxwell from East Africa, H. Wilson from Sierra Leone, and Dr. Erling Tobiassen from Skodsborg, led out in most of the meetings, while the conference presidents and Union members introduced the many interesting topics found on the agenda. Most of the questions discussed had been sent in by conference workers and dealt with different parts of the minister's work, church life, our institutions, and various topics of our work, as well as the preaching of certain points in our faith.

A good spirit prevailed in all the business sessions. There was manifested a desire to get to the bottom of the subjects, but at the same time they tried to get to a good understanding of the many problems.

The same thing was true about our Union conference meetings, where seventeen different recommendations were brought forth for discussion. Among these we ought to mention a recommendation to start work again among the Laplanders, possibly in connection with the East Nordic Union Conference. It was voted that we hold a meeting at Skodsborg Sanitarium at New Year for the leaders of the different health institutions. In the recommendation concerning education the importance was emphasized of starting a six years' course as soon as possible at our mission schools, and that we recommend the school at Newbold, England, as a continuation school.

The president and secretary-treasurer were re-elected. Brother P. G. Nelsen was elected as departmental secretary, while Brother K. Abrahamson is going to take over the editorial work of *Tidens Tale*. The number of the committee members was increased from thirteen to fifteen.

The president's report told of the good increase in membership during the past four-year period. The net increase was 987, which was more than the net increase of the whole Scandinavian Union during the four years before it was divided in 1931. The church membership is now 6,677. The tithe had brought in about Kr.1,500,000 and mission offerings over Kr.900,000.

In connection with the Union

meeting we also held the general meeting for the publishing work. Brother Leif Nielsen gave a report of the work of the publishing house in Oslo during the past four years. From this we noted that during this period about three million books, papers, and tracts had been sold. We adopted a recommendation for new policies for the Skandinavisk Bogforlag, as well as working rules for the whole publishing work. In accordance with these the Union conference committee is the head committee for our publishing work.

Immediately following the Union meeting the

SOUTH NORWAY CONFERENCE

held its annual meeting in Stavanger, where about 300 members gathered together in the old well-known temperance hall, "Totalen." During the first three days Dr. Carl Ottosen and his wife were present. They were eager to take part in our discussions, and gave us good help in giving Bible studies and lectures. The believers were also very pleased with the splendid Bible studies which Brother Bartlett gave, and with great interest they listened to our African brother from Sierra Leone, Pastor Wilson, as he told of the great things God had done for him and his people in West Africa. The truth had totally changed the lives of the natives and brought light and happiness to their sin-darkened existence.

Most of the recommendations from the Union conference were discussed and adopted here also. The greatest interest centred in the sanitarium question, and it was decided with great eagerness that all should start to collect means in order to open a sanitarium in Norway. At the session where this recommendation was adopted, we received promises for an amount of Kr.5,000, and the collecting will continue in all the churches. Brother Lie was re-elected as president, and very few changes were made in the various committees.

During some meetings of the combined Union and Norwegian committees, we decided to start to build a small church building in Thorshavn on the Faroe Islands, which form a part of the Iceland Conference. Brother O. J. Olsen was elected president of this conference, while Brother G. Gudmundsen was elected principal of the Onsrud Mission School. Brother Frenning was called to the school as accountant and farm manager.

The following week, July 21st to 26th, the

NORTH NORWAY CONFERENCE

held its annual meeting in Trondheim. They had rented the Good Templars' Hall, located very beautifully on the shores of the river Ilen, which flows through the city. Here also Brethren Bartlett and Wilson made the meetings very interesting and blessed. Here, just as in Stavanger, the sanitarium question was very prominent, but of still greater interest was the question of building a church and clinic in Trondheim. After several committee meetings we decided to continue negotiations with the architect and builders, and the prospects are that we can start the building this summer, even though the estimates are higher than we reckoned with.

Brother J. A. Tillgren was elected as president of the conference. The annual meeting closed with a lively testimony meeting on Sunday, July 26th, and the visiting brethren left the same evening for the annual meetings in Denmark.

The East Nordic Union Session

BY G. A. LINDSAY

THE East Nordic Union Conference session convened in Stockholm, July 16th to 21st. It was a high feast before the face of the Lord, and all who were privileged to attend were indeed refreshed. Practically a full delegation from Finland and Sweden attended. Likewise a number of workers from our several institutions. The churches were not so well represented, inasmuch as they were sending their delegates to the combined annual meeting of the two conferences in Sweden which was to follow the Union meeting. But then the Stockholm Church, with its membership of over 300, in whose church the conference was held, attended most faithfully and enjoyed all the meetings.

It was a special joy to us at this time to welcome to our Union, Pastor W. E. Read as president of our Division. Brother Read was not new among us, for he made several visits to our field while secretary of the Division, and his messages from the Word of God have always been greatly appreciated by all. We were also glad to have Pastors Meade MacGuire and F. C. Gilbert with us. These brethren led out in the Bible studies and preaching in a very strong way. The Spirit of God spoke to every one present. We felt that we were sitting in heavenly places while they preached to us from the Word of Life.

The reports rendered for the four-year period of the Union were most encouraging in every detail. God has indeed blessed the humble efforts that His workmen in every department of activity have put forth. The evangelistic efforts have

had good success and the gain in membership has given cause for much rejoicing. When we take into consideration the small force of workers in Finland and Sweden, we fully realize that the praise and honour for the 1,929 new members that have joined us through baptism or profession of faith belong to God. The net gain for the four years, after we have deducted losses through death, apostasy, or moving to other countries, is 1,107. This gain is larger than the gain of the combined East and West Nordic Union during the previous four years. The total membership in the East Nordic Union at the close of 1935 was 4,888, but we have already passed the 5,000 mark.

The report of the treasurer was interesting. While the tithe—because of the years of depression—was reduced from Kr.727,387 to Kr.723,182, the mission offerings increased from Kr.491,782 to Kr.588,814. In other words, the mission offerings brought in an amount equal to four-fifths of the tithe. We thank God for the excellent spirit of missionary endeavour manifested by our membership.

The various departments were also able to bring reports of marked success. In spite of the several changes that of necessity have come in the departmental leadership, nothing really vital has been neglected.

The entire Union staff was re-elected, with one minor exception, and the East Nordic Union constituency looks to the future with the fullest confidence in God that He is able and willing to lead us successfully through every experience.

East and West Danish Conferences

BY W. T. BARTLETT

THE annual conferences in East and West Denmark were occasions of much blessing, and in both places the members rejoiced in the consciousness of God's presence in their midst. The East Danish

Conference had the joy of welcoming four new churches. Their meetings were well attended and the large hall taken for the Sabbath services was full. Brother T. Tobiassen was again elected presi-

dent, and Brother Emmanuel Pedersen, under appointment for Uganda, was elected departmental secretary. He, with another evangelist, I. W. Christiansen, were ordained on the Sabbath afternoon. Ejnar Nielsen and wife were home on furlough from Sierra Leone, and he helped in the services. The young people gave an excellent programme at the close of the Sabbath, and collected about Kr.500 toward their goal.

The West Danish Conference was held at the High School at Daugaard. There was a good attendance throughout the meeting, and all the available sleeping accommodation was needed. On Sabbath the attendance broke the record. Seven hundred adults packed the gymnasium building to the limit. Outside on the lawn about one hundred young people attended a special meeting held for them, and in the dining-room about one hundred children had another meeting. Fortunately the sun shone on this occasion. In the afternoon there was a baptism at the shore, and six were buried with Christ. Among these was the wife of a former priest of the Greek Catholic Church. She had been led into the truth by observing the consistent life of a humble sister. Ten large omnibuses brought large companies of people from various districts, and there were about forty private cars, most of them overloaded.

The grounds presented a beautiful and thriving appearance, and the dining arrangements were all that could be desired. In every way the gathering was pronounced to be the best annual meeting in the history of the West Denmark Conference. Brother Varmer was re-elected president. Dr. Ottosen was present for the Sabbath and spoke on Friday evening. Brother T. Tobiassen was also present from the sister conference, and helped greatly by his addresses. The Union departmental secretary, Brother P. G. Nelson, was present at both conferences, and of course the president, L. Munderspach, took a strong part throughout.

In the background, with untiring vigilance, the school principal, Brother H. M. Johnson, attended to everything that concerned our

well-being. The school workers made Daugaard a happy home for the Advent family, and one and all enjoyed the social atmosphere.

There was a general feeling that the conference ought to meet periodically under such pleasant conditions.

The Lithuanian Mission

BY W. STROHL

THE past year has brought many rich experiences to the work of God for which we feel very grateful to Him. We wish, of course, that the increase in souls won could have been greater, but we believe that God is going to do mightier things for Lithuania in days to come.

When we think of our small force of evangelistic workers, five in all, two of whom are labouring in the Memel area, we feel greatly encouraged by the fact that two new churches have been established during the past year.

Lithuania is a hard field; the enemy is ever on the alert seeking to place every possible hindrance in the way. Early in the year two of our older workers, ordained ministers, but non-Lithuanian subjects, were refused permission to continue their work in the country. This would have meant a great loss to the work, had the intervening hand of God not enabled us to retain these workers, and now because of His intervention we are all able to work together unitedly in an effort to place the work on a surer foundation.

Our one great and urgent need is for earnest, consecrated, God-fearing men to go out as evangelists and to shepherd the churches, thus helping in our God-given task to finish the work in this part of His vineyard. Our opponents are working hard against us in an effort to hinder our evangelistic work, but we have faith to believe that the Lord will continue to bless us and help us in gathering the sincere and honest-hearted under His banner.

In spite of the many difficulties we continually encounter, we have had many blessed experiences. These encourage us to believe that there are many souls in Lithuania who are really hungering and thirsting after righteousness, who

are seeking after truth, and are ready and willing to accept it.

One lady who had heard something of the message learned that there were Adventists in a neighbouring town some twenty kilometres away, and although she had no further information than that, she set out with the determination to find them. Her efforts were not in vain, for after long searching she was successful in finding our meeting-place, and there had the joy of listening to the Advent message. She returned to her home with a supply of Adventist literature and with a joyful heart, because she had found what she had longed for. We believe there are many such seekers after truth scattered throughout the towns and villages of Lithuania, and we pray the Lord that He will give us more colporteurs and workers, that these may be reached with the joyful message which we have been called to proclaim.

During the Harvest Ingathering campaign one of our workers came in contact with a salesman who happened to be in possession of several of our books and papers, and who apparently had been waiting to hear more of the truth about which he had read. He had long hoped that he would meet someone who could explain things more fully to him. His interest in the truth was so great that he asked for a worker to visit him. A few weeks later both the salesman and his wife began to observe the Sabbath, and are gradually accepting all the principles of the truth we represent, and proving to be faithful and true witnesses of God to their neighbours and friends. How many such hungering souls must there be in our corner of the Lord's vineyard? May the Lord provide us with men and means to enable us to find them.

I think of a young lady in one

The Work

Teachers and children of the Sunday-school at Riga First Church, Latvia.

of the larger cities of our country who visited our meetings, became interested in the truth, and was preparing for baptism. Upon hearing of this her husband and father were greatly angered, and made all sorts of threats if she would not discontinue attending the meetings and give up her new-found faith. The father was particularly angry and threatened to kill her if she changed her religion, saying that he himself was old and did not fear for his own life. Shortly after this threat the old man, who was still strong and very seldom ailed anything, had three consecutive attacks of hæmorrhage which left him so weak that he had to be taken to hospital. Little hope of his recovery was given.

When the daughter heard of this and saw her father's condition, she could but be impressed with the thought that God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform. It was the father's intention that her blood should be shed, instead of which he was called upon to lose his own.

This experience served to strengthen the young lady's faith in God, and it was not long before she was baptized. Now the husband, who was also much opposed to her accepting the truth, is attending our meetings. Truly God works in a mysterious way! He stands ever ready to help the sincere and honest of heart to victory. It is such experiences that help our ministers

and other workers to surmount the difficulties that are ever towering as great mountains before them. Often their lives are threatened, but the Lord watches over His own.

We have a faithful, loyal, and self-sacrificing people, who readily support the work of God by their tithes and offerings. This is fully manifested by the fact that during the time of the general economic and financial depression we succeeded in reaching the goals set for our various mission projects, such as Harvest Ingathering, Big Week, etc., as well as tithe.

We feel very grateful to the Division leaders for the help they have given us both spiritually and financially, and believe that the day will soon dawn when many, many more souls in Lithuania will be brought out of sin's darkest night into the light of God's glorious truth.



BROTHER J. I. ROBISON, who succeeds Brother Dick as secretary of the Division, has arrived in England with his wife and daughter. The latter goes to Newbold when the College reopens. Brother Robison has in recent years served as secretary-treasurer of Zambesi Union Mission.

Brother G. E. Nord is expected to arrive by the end of August to take over the Home Missionary Department.

In recent years Europe has experienced great changes, nationally, politically, and economically, and little Latvia is no exception to this. For two years now we have had an authoritative government under the presidency of Dr. K. Ulmanis. As in all new forms of government, one does not fail to see the changes that have been wrought in our own little country. Not only from a political standpoint but also religiously things have changed considerably. The things that were common-place two years ago have passed out of existence. These experiences serve to remind us that the things of this world are by no means lasting. There is only one thing which will last for ever, and that is the everlasting Gospel, contained in the third angel's message which is being preached to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.

Under the banner of this Advent message are gathered 3,300 precious souls, among which five different nations are represented, but which, nevertheless, form a united body of believers, members of the Latvian Church.

When we consider that the Advent message has been preached in the Latvia of to-day for the past forty years, and that the population of the whole country is only 1,900,045, it is no mean success with which the work of God has met, and especially in recent years when no less than 200 have been won to the message annually. There is no place in all Latvia where Adventists and Adventist preachers are not known, and we are looked upon with favour both by the people and by those in government circles.

In 1935 we had a net gain of fifty-six in membership. Our force of workers was thirty and we had fifty-nine organized churches, one German and three Russian churches among them. So far as finances are concerned, 1935 was one of our best years, and we are hopeful that in the future, too, tithes and offerings will flow freely into the treasury.

The Home Missionary, Young

d in Latvia

People's, Sabbath-school, and Welfare phases of our work are a great asset to us in helping to reach the people. Especially is this true of our welfare work. Through the large work we are doing along welfare lines, we have become known and are recognized in the highest government circles as well as municipal councils.

It is not my purpose to place a lot of figures before you, but I would emphasize that it is only through the large welfare work we are conducting that we are able to engage in Harvest Ingathering work. In the magazines we get out for this campaign our welfare work at home is represented in the same way as the work that is being conducted in the mission fields of Africa. In the 1936 Harvest Ingathering magazine we have made a special feature of what has been accomplished during the past fifteen years by the Welfare Department of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church and the State in Latvia. In this connection the Director of the Ministry of Welfare has contributed a very fine article accompanied by a photograph of himself and the Minister of Welfare. Some of our own leaders in Latvia have furnished us with other articles dealing with this phase of our work, telling what has been accomplished by our believers.

During the winter months we conduct a special afternoon school for needy children, and in this way minister to both body and soul. Already twelve of the young people from this school have been baptized. In addition to this work we provide hot dinners free every day during the winter to 200 different families. The Ministry of Welfare provides the food-stuffs and the town of Riga is responsible for the wages of two of our sisters who prepare and serve the meals.

During the summer months we conduct a Holiday Home for poor and needy children. This is registered with the Ministry of Welfare and has been instrumental in getting us fully recognized by the

State officials as a mission society.

Our Mission School is also doing its best in the education of our youth, and we hope that a goodly number of young people will find their way to Suschenhof for the coming school year.

The publishing and colporteur work are experiencing good success, and our books and magazines are being widely distributed. We also print and circulate a monthly magazine, *Musu Laikmets*. There are 8,000 regular subscribers to this paper.

Truly God is abundantly blessing every phase of the work in little Latvia, and our hearts go up to Him in praise and gratitude.

We are working and praying that through the last warning message Latvia may be won to Christ, and that when the great day of salvation is ended there may be many from Latvia who will join with those who shall be gathered from the four corners of the earth, and will be able to sing the song that was sung at the General Conference, "No, never part again."

Camp Meetings in Bo

BY H. WILSON

[The writer of this article was our African representative at the General Conference. He is an ordained minister in the Sierra Leone Mission.]

DURING our last workers' meeting, which was one of the best we have ever had, it was arranged that we should have a camp meeting in different centres of the field. As these were to be the first of the kind, everybody was anxiously looking forward to the time and wondering what it would be like.

As soon as we returned from the workers' meeting we started making preparations. Here in Bo we put up a bamboo and palm shed eighty by thirty-five feet. Our fellow-workers in the nearby stations encouraged their believers to attend. We did not expect many people for three reasons: (1) It was at the time when most people were busy preparing the fields for

their rice farms; (2) it was a new thing in the field, and as a rule the people are slow in accepting new ideas; and (3) the notice was short, so they had very little time to prepare for a three days' absence from home and work.

But we worked on in faith and asked the Lord to touch the hearts of the people and make them responsive to the call. On the day appointed we were happily surprised to see so many coming, each teacher bringing in his group.

On Friday morning we had our first meeting with an attendance of 256, the largest gathering of Adventists we had seen in this field. The meetings lasted three full days and we met three times each day. Elder S. Broberg and Brother Rasmussen were with us, and we all received much spiritual help



Children, staff, and visitors at the Summer Home for needy children in Latvia, 1936.

Report of the Northern European Division

Name of Conference or Mission	No. Churches	Baptism and Vote	Apostasy	Death	Net Gain	Present Membership	Evangelistic Workers	Colporteurs	No. Sabbath-Schools	Membership	Average Attendance	Tithe	Tithe per capita	Sabbath-School Offerings	Weekly Offerings
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
N. E. Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Baltic Union	1	110	196	35	21	141	5,562	64	45	165	5,718	4,048	\$ 1,392.00	0.02	339.19
British	2	82	106	42	12	40	5,385	104	72	155	5,480	4,037	\$ 32,721.10	0.47	6,427.98
E. Nordic	3	97	200	26	19	154	4,957	61	92	183	4,165	3,279	\$ 11,831.40	0.19	2,780.27
Polish	4	150	143	49	6	79	3,330	55	47	162	4,016	2,785	\$ 2,255.40	0.05	583.02
W. Nordic	5	133	203	26	30	154	6,804	64	71	179	5,900	4,661	\$ 21,127.10	0.24	4,778.36
Union Tls. 2nd qtr. 1936	572	853	178	88	53	26,038	380	327	844	25,279	18,810	\$ 69,387.00	0.21	14,908.82	13.45
E. Afr'n Union Miss.	6	32	24	26	4	-13	3,870	8	...	176	10,750	9,859	\$ 896.50	0.02	1,052.63
Ethiopian	7	7	...	...	...	...	321	23	...	9	418	358	\$ NO REPORT	...	...
Gold Coast	8	7	119	12	24	83	811	3	...	56	3,403	2,380	\$ 659.90	0.07	177.04
Nigerian	9	4	160	...	4	156	1,694	16	...	120	9,731	8,084	\$ 768.40	0.04	390.07
Upper Nile	10	3	26	2	2	27	225	7	...	24	523	427	\$ 176.50	0.07	70.53
Fren h Equa.	11	...	...	...	...	...	14	4	...	1	84	118	\$ 48.30	0.27	21.30
Liberian	12	2	1	...	...	1	44	1	...	12	159	511	\$	...	7.14
Sierra Leone	13	2	...	...	4	-4	365	4	...	25	1,062	772	\$ 388.00	0.08	166.48
Mis's Tls. 1st qtr. 1936	57	310	40	38	250	7,344	66	...	423	26,130	22,509	\$ 2,937.60	0.03	1,885.19	0.73
Grand Tls. 2nd qtr. 1936	629	1,133	218	123	818	33,382	426	327	1,267	51,409	41,319	\$ 72,324.60	0.17	16,794.01	14.18

from the soul-stirring sermons they delivered.

On Sabbath morning we had Sabbath-school and a sermon. The offerings amounted to a little over twenty-one shillings and about ten shillings more came in the next day. This may appear small, but it represents sacrifice on the part of many.

In the afternoon of the same day we had a Missionary Volunteer demonstration. The programme consisted of songs, recitations, and an address by Elder Broberg.

The last meeting was on Sunday evening, and was held in the chief's compound, so that those who would not come to the Mission compound might also hear the message. A procession was formed from the church building, and we marched through the principal centres of the town singing hymns and negro spirituals under the direction of Teacher A. T. Gibson. This attracted a large number of people, and by the time we got to the place of meeting we had a gathering of over 300 composed of heathen, Moslems, and some members of other Protestant churches.

Elder Broberg made a very powerful appeal based on Joshua's last charge to Israel: "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." He spoke of the privilege of choice, and how much is involved in choosing, either for Christ or for

Satan. Thus our first camp meeting came to a close. The meetings were all well attended, the average attendance being not below 200.

This gathering was helpful in many ways. The believers from the different parts of the country got to know one another and told their experiences to one another. Thus the sense of brotherhood and unity in the faith was greatly enhanced.

Many who were prejudiced against us had to admit that we were doing a great work among the people, and from some of these we obtained the loan of lights for the evening meetings and the use of an organ for the Sabbath-school and the Missionary Volunteer meetings.

Since these meetings a good number have joined our Sabbath-school and Hearers' class. We are doing all we can to follow up the interest created by this camp meeting.

Our believers went home praising God and feeling much refreshed spiritually. If such meetings are held annually in this field, I am sure they will do much toward strengthening faith and bringing in souls.

As I looked into the happy faces of our believers in that gathering and thought of the fact that a few years back they were all wild heathen who knew nothing of the love of Jesus, my heart went up in praise and gratitude to God for His saving grace. I thought also of that glorious time when the saints of all ages shall be gathered from every nation, kindred, tongue, and people in the earth made new to sing the praises of Jehovah throughout the countless ages of eternity.

Oh, what a glorious time that will be! We want to be more faithful in spreading this message, and thus hasten the coming of our blessed Saviour.

Dedication of the Paitfu Church

BY J. S. MYERS

IN this corner of the Master's vineyard lives a good old chief, Bai Simra by name, who, though not a Christian, yet favours us and is greatly interested in our work.

When we first entered this village, we found things rather hard;

but, by and by, the chief grew to like us and our work. To show his love for our work, he has put up a church building covered with corrugated iron sheets and furnished with sixteen benches.

On March 23rd the superin-

for the Quarter Ended June 30, 1936

Harvest Ingathering	Annual Offering	Miscellaneous Offerings	Week of Sacrifice	Young People's Offerings	Big Week	Total Offerings	Total Offerings per capita	Percentage of Offerings to Title	Total Contributions for Home Missionary Work	Total Contributions for Local Church Work	Colporteur Sales
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
13.25	3.03	3.11	6.56	..	..	365.29	0.01	26.2	101.73	1,299.73	5,297.79
2,947.95	..	46.53	101.90	227.93	1,702.45	11,454.74	0.16	35.0	193.64	4,817.87	22,586.37
43.83	2.94	14.89	2,197.20	0.26	1,057.78	6,102.88	0.10	51.3	1,414.12	1,068.52	21,936.85
22.44	0.32	..	356.57	18.68	358.49	1,399.52	0.03	59.4	34.89	10.10	1,173.57
66.41	11.06	32.75	2,800.71	15.59	1,193.11	8,907.73	0.10	42.1	475.16	1,695.69	25,642.86
3,093.88	17.40	97.28	5,463.04	262.46	4,309.83	28,166.16	0.09	40.6	2,219.54	8,891.91	76,637.44
12.15	21.83	..	34.09	..	..	1,120.70	0.02	125.0	..	..	235.95
12.66	..	..	..	..	68.16	257.86	0.03	39.1	..	..	394.71
146.83	29.97	..	0.37	..	12.18	579.42	0.03	75.4	..	..	1,792.42
111.24	0.85	..	110.63	..	..	293.25	0.11	166.1	..	..	610.03
..	..	..	..	..	..	21.30	0.12	44.1	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	7.87	0.01	..	..	..	..
80.70	4.55	..	100.14	..	0.43	352.35	0.07	90.8	..	..	..
363.58	57.20	..	245.23	..	80.82	2,632.75	0.03	89.6	..	..	3,033.11
3,457.46	74.60	97.28	5,733.27	232.46	4,330.65	31,798.91	0.07	42.6	2,219.54	8,891.91	79,670.55

tendent and the principal visited us for the purpose of dedicating this building, on which occasion the chief invited all the big men in his chiefdom. The dedication took place on the afternoon of the same day, under the following procedure.

We had the building locked up and asked the chief and some of his big men to open the door and windows. This they gladly did with some gifts as offerings. The chief opened the door with a gift of one pound, and each of the ten windows was opened by appointed sub-chiefs with a gift of four shillings each. These gifts, with the plate collection, amounted to £3. 10s. 11½d. Besides this, the chief gave a bull and a bushel of rice to feed those who came to witness the dedication. The attendance that day was 250.

After the singing and prayer, we had short speeches by the prin-

cipal, one of our pastors, and the teacher in charge of the station. Before the dedication prayer, the chief gave a speech in which he said to his people: "I do not know book, and am too old to learn. But we have strangers in our midst who have come to tell us about God, and to teach our children book. I have therefore, for their and our good, put up this building, which I am now handing over to them for holy use. May we all bring our children to get wisdom from this place."

After his speech, the superintendent gave one, and in closing thanked the chief and his people for what they had done. Following this speech was the dedication prayer, offered by Pastor S. M. Williams.

With the singing of another hymn the meeting came to a close. In your prayers, remember us in this corner.

ted are made to swallow bad medicines, just to enable them to do many evils—such as to influence others to join them, to poison anybody who would offend them, to influence their husbands to love them, and to do many other things. Bondoism is devil worship in disguise. This society at 7 p.m. on April 7, 1935, at Songo Town, entered the Mission compound and took away my daughter, about the age of sixteen years. My wife and I were frantic at the moment and all the neighbours were horror-stricken and greatly terrified. What should I do? Immediately the voice said to me, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the heathen; I will be exalted in the earth."

Having all confidence in the Lord I took my Bible and lantern and pursued hard after them, until I got right into the bush where they were singing and dancing and praising their devil. All around were baskets of bad medicine, etc. I made a violent effort and demanded my child unhurt. They took my hat and with many threats threatened to punish me with a horrible sickness, known as elephantiasis of the private parts. I had to go about without a hat on for over a month; and up till now their devil is still keeping my hat. When they found that all their charms, swearings, cursings, and even their devil could do me no

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Bondoism versus Christianity

BY T. H. NICOL

THE Bondo Society is the most dreadful of all women societies in Sierra Leone. Its practices are crude, cruel, vile, and devilish; but all of our native women in the Protectorate feel it their bounden duty to school their female children in this particular society before they become fit to marry. Such is the system and custom in the Pro-

tectorate; but it is quite the reverse in the Colony.

It is shameful to say that such an institution exists in this our land of Bibles. It is shameful to speak of its initiations which are altogether brutal. To tell the truth, this institution stands for circumcising women, an inhuman cruelty. Candidates after being thus initia-

An African Minister

BROTHER W. T. B. HYDE has sent us the following particulars of one of our African ordained ministers in Nigeria, Pastor A. I. Balogun :

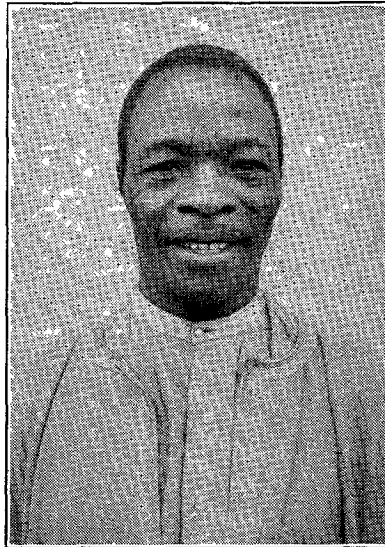
"He was, until middle life, a farmer and sawyer living in a town far from the railway and European influences, and noted for his independence of thought. When Christianity came to his town, he accepted the Gospel story, and learned to know and love his Bible. Later, he was convinced by a remarkable dream that the use of tobacco, though countenanced by his church, was displeasing to God, and he forsook it at once.

"For such a man to hear the third angel's message was to accept, and soon after they had met our pioneer missionary to Nigeria, Pastor Babcock, he and a fellow-sawyer spread the good tidings to all their friends. A deputation was sent to ask the missionary to come to teach them more, and soon a large company of believers were meeting Sabbath by Sabbath in the building they had erected. Years later he was sent as a pioneer to a town twelve miles from his home. In this place, where he worked ten years, the local king exercised unlimited power before British rule was established. Even after that time there was little to check his malevolence toward any unfortunate who offended him. In his mad rages he would leap from his chair of state and trample on the prostrate bodies of his victims, stamping with his raw-hide sandals upon their upturned faces. Yet in this dark and cruel mind there grew a trust and a liking for Brother Balogun, who often succeeded in calming his wrath.

"As Brother Balogun's struggles with the English language began to meet with success, he started to read through the 'Conflict of the Ages' series, finding much that was directly applicable to his own problems. The teachers and preachers of other denominations feared to enter into conflict with him and his Bible. The plain and pointed texts that he was so ready to turn to took all desire for religious argu-

ment from those who feared the cross.

"The death of the old king made it possible for the loyal worker, now pastor, to be transferred. He is in charge of the young church in Ibadan, a town of 173,000 inhabitants, and a very difficult field of labour. Although his work there is broken up by his being sent on frequent tours to visit established churches and to foster new interests in other towns, it is



Pastor A. I. Balogun of Nigeria.

bearing fruit, and the church is steadily growing.

"This faithful worker is one of many in Africa who, having enthroned Christ in their hearts, are living the Gospel before their fellows. Bubbling over with the water of life, they refresh all whom they meet, and green shoots spring up to the glory of God wherever they have been."

Bondoism versus Christianity

(Continued from page 7.)

harm, they said: We have never seen a man like this. No man ever entered the Bondo Bush and lived for three days.

The Lord has promised that He will never leave us, nor forsake us. "I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." His promise is as true to-day as when it was

uttered two thousand years ago. The Lord also said that He would lead His children in the right path, to a city of habitation; but the right path is full of thorns, thistles, oppositions, sickness, death, troubles, sorrows, hills and valleys, yet it is the right path.

Farewell

You have already heard something about the many changes that took place in our world-wide work at the time of the General Conference.

Mrs. Anderson and I, together with our two daughters, came over to Europe in February, 1921. Our son was born during our sojourn in Sweden. Four years ago we took up our duties in connection with the Northern European Division. These last years have slipped by as weeks. We have enjoyed our work immensely, and it is a struggle to let go the many friendships formed during these past years. We are now returning to our homeland in response to an invitation to head up the Home Missionary Department in the South-western Union.

We wish to thank all of you for your hearty friendship and willing co-operation in the work of God. We say, God bless you, dear young people whom it has been our joy to lead. May we meet when partings are o'er. We shall miss you, but we shall pray for you always. Remember us at the throne of grace as we take up our duties in a new environment. It would greatly please us to hear from any of you from time to time. Our address now is Box 128, Keene, Texas, U.S.A.

We wish you heaven's richest blessing.

C. V. ANDERSON AND FAMILY.

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