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The Spirit of Prophecy

By W. E. READ

WHEN Jesus ascended to heaven, He "gave gifts unto men." Eph. 4:8. These gifts were distributed in abundant measure, not only on the day of Pentecost, but during the years which followed, as the members of the apostolic church bore a faithful witness for the truth as it is in Jesus.

Quite a number of gifts are enumerated in Paul's letter to the Corinthians. In the first epistle, and the twelfth chapter, we read that the Spirit of God distributed these for definite service in building up the body of Christ. One of them was the gift of prophecy. (1 Cor. 12:10.) We read also in the apostle's letter to the church at Ephesus that "He gave some, apostles, and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." Eph. 4:11. Hence it was the purpose of God that the gift of prophecy was to be seen in the ranks of the people of God.

As we come to the time of the gathering of the remnant church, we find that one of the distinguishing characteristics of God's people is, that they "have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev. 12:17. This is interpreted in Revelation 19:10. There we read: "The testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy."

In the reference to the spiritual gifts, as found in the book of Ephesians, we find at least two things particularly emphasized:

1. *The Duration of the Gifts.*—We are assured that apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and

teachers are to be in the church "till we all come in the unity of the faith." Eph. 4:13. Until the church of God is united, until the prayer of Jesus that "they all may be one" is fulfilled, these gifts are to be seen among the people of God. They are to be there until we come "unto a perfect man," and "unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

2. *The Purpose of the Gifts.*—God has bestowed these gifts for the benefit and blessing of His children. They are placed in the church "for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Hence they are to strengthen the members of the church, and guide them in their growth and development, and lead them on to the perfection that is in Christ Jesus.

Let us think of at least four things that enter into God's purpose in the gift of the Spirit of prophecy:

(a) *To lead to the study of the Bible.* "The Word of God abounds in general principles for the formation of correct habits of living, and the Testimonies, general and personal, have been calculated to call their attention more especially to these principles."—*Vol. 5, pages 663, 664.* "The written testimonies

are not to give new light, but to impress vividly upon the heart the truths of inspiration already revealed. . . . The Testimonies are not to belittle the Word of God, but to exalt it, and attract minds to it, that the beautiful simplicity of truth may impress all."—*Id., page 665.*

(b) *To maintain unity.* "God designs that His people shall be a unit; that they shall see eye to eye, and be of the same mind and of the same judgment. This cannot be accomplished without a clear, pointed, living testimony in the church. The prayer of Christ was that His disciples might be one as He was, one with His Father."—*Vol. 3, page 361.*

(c) *To speak to His people.* "In His providence the Lord has seen fit to teach and warn His people in various ways. By direct command, by the sacred writings, and by the Spirit of prophecy, has He made known unto them His will."—*Vol. 4, pages 12, 13.* "In ancient times God spoke to men by the mouth of prophets and apostles. In these days He speaks to them by the Testimonies of His Spirit. There was never a time when God instructed His people more earnestly than He instructs them now concerning His will, and the course that He would have them pursue. But will they profit by His teachings? Will they receive His reproofs and heed His warnings? God will accept of no partial obedi-

ence; He will sanction no compromise with self."—*Id.*, page 148.

(d) *To give counsel.* As a people we can surely be grateful to God for the gift of the Spirit of prophecy which has been among this people since its beginning. The counsel which has come to us has been invaluable, and has meant much to the building up of the work of God in all the world.

The counsel of the *Testimonies* is so varied. The minister can find helpful instruction not only as to his spiritual needs, but as to methods and plans of labour. The same is true of the physicians, and the teachers in our educational institutions. The leaders in our publish-

ing work can find helpful inspiration and counsel. In the *Testimonies* is to be found guidance for domestic affairs, in caring for the children, in matters of diet, and the general health of the family, the activities of the church, and the work of the conferences, as well as the work in the far-flung mission fields. Helpful counsel on all these and other matters is to be found in the volumes of the Spirit of prophecy.

Let us heed the counsel of Jehoshaphat, king of the people of Israel in ancient days: "Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." 2 Chron. 20: 20.

Two Missionary Volunteer Congresses

BY W. T. BARTLETT

THE thirtieth anniversary of the organization of the Missionary Volunteer Department has found two suitable commemorations in our Division. In both the West and East Nordic Unions large gatherings of our youth have been held. Brother C. Lester Bond was present from the Missionary Volunteer Department of the General Conference, and his presence, as well as his great store of experience, contributed very materially to the outstanding success of the gatherings. Those of our people who met Brother Bond at various conferences during the summer will easily understand this.

The West Nordic Congress met at Vejle fjord, August 10th to 15th. About 450 members came from all parts of the Union. Sympathetic friends were present throughout in large numbers, and these included a goodly proportion of the workers of the Union. A group came from Germany. The school gymnasium, which was a beautiful sight with its flags and decorations, was crowded from the start, and on Sabbath the meeting overflowed into other buildings. There must have been 900 present on that day, in spite of rainy weather, and the servings of each meal had to be increased from two to four. But the organizers rose to the occasion and all went off happily.

The tone of the congress was strongly evangelistic throughout. There was discussion of standards, but a desire after the highest. The congress agreed that there was to be no lowering of the standard in respect of Sabbath-keeping, relations between the sexes, marrying unbelievers, and making the Missionary Volunteer objective a spiritual, soul-winning one. Forty-two of the young people gave their hearts for the first time to the Lord, and many others united in a definite reconsecration. God's blessing rested signally on the congress from first to last. Brother P. G. Nelson, who leaves the departmental work to become president of the West Denmark Conference, led out in the congress, having been responsible for the planning.

Two excursions added materially to the enjoyment of the congress. One day the party went by thirteen motor-buses to the Himmelbjerg, spending about seven hours on the trip. On this hill is a famous open-air auditorium, from whose wooden pulpit historic orations have been made to assembled multitudes. Now our Missionary Volunteer movement has added another memorable occasion. On the next day an equally large party went by steamer along the Vejle Fjord to view one of the greatest engineering feats

of modern times, the bridge that spans the Little Belt. It was a suitable opportunity for community singing, of which we made good use.

The East Nordic Union held its Youths' Congress at Toivonlinna, where the Finnish school is located. Visitors from Sweden crowded the evening steamer from Stockholm to Abo. There were so many third-class passengers that the whole available space was given by the Company to our girls, while the boys were given sleeping quarters in the second class. On arrival at Abo we found a host who had preceded us, and together we spent the opening day of the congress in viewing some of the places of historic interest, among them the Holy Well, where the first Finnish converts were baptized, and where those who preferred paganism were butchered by the "saintly" Swedish king. Later in the afternoon we travelled by bus to Toivonlinna, where we found great preparations for our welcome. Open-air kitchen, army boilers, improvised dormitories, workshops converted into post office, book-rooms, and writing rooms, and, most wonderful of all, the barn changed into a beautiful auditorium, with brand new seating for over 400 people, walls and roof decorated with branches of fir. Occasionally for a change the congress climbed a near-by hill and held a session among the mossy rocks. Here we were out of the world, surrounded by the beauties of nature, where the woods sloped steeply down to the sparkling waters of the fjord, in the midst of the school orchards, which also extended to us a hearty welcome, a healthy, happy crowd of Finnish and Swedish young people. No one who was privileged to be there will ever forget the gathering. God's blessing rested on us; many of the young people gave themselves to the Lord; and there was a general reconsecration. As one speaker in the final testimony meeting put it, it was the most wonderful and glorious sight that human eyes could look upon, to see souls giving themselves to God and being welcomed into the arms of love.

Brother R. W. Engstrom, of

course, presided at the sessions of the congress, in his keen and thorough way. With such a leader the Missionary Volunteers of the East Nordic Union can and will do great things.

One night Brother G. A. Lind-say showed his missionary film, originally begun with his own visit to East Africa, but steadily growing as he receives further instalments from the fields. He has earned considerable sums by showing this film, and, indeed, it was very impressive in its revelation of Africa's deep need.

All the meetings were crowded. Interest never flagged. The high standards of the Missionary Volunteer organization were acclaimed. Young people want the highest standards. The question box was too full. Many queries were left for the youths' paper, whose editor was on the look-out for copy. There was abundance of really good music.

Both of the congresses gave a strong impetus to more definite effort for the juniors. Brother Bond urged the adoption of the progressive classes for the juniors, and appealed to seniors to qualify themselves for conducting such classes. As he illustrated the character of the progressive classes, and what they had done for others, there was a hearty response. Sweden has already translated and published the *Junior Manual*, and over a hundred ordered the English edition.

Brother Bond held in both congresses some special meetings for youth of each sex, and gave earnest, practical talks on vital problems of physical, social, and moral development.

Both the congresses involved a vast amount of labour for the administration of the two schools, and much of the success was due to the tireless activities of the school principals and their helpers.

Our youth in the two Nordic unions can render great service in the advancement of the cause. From the youth God expects a contribution that they are specially gifted to render. Their vigour and enthusiasm are needed to-day. One of the strong impressions gathered at the congresses was that in the body of youth present there was

the making of that strong army which the Spirit of prophecy has envisaged as coming to the aid of the church in the final crisis. There is a growing willingness to attempt greater things, a decided response to spiritual appeals. With faithful, wise, courageous leadership in

every society, we need set no limit to the usefulness of our young people. We greatly need the special qualities that God has bestowed in full measure on the Advent youth. Let us unite every element of strength in our ranks for a forward move.

Polish Union Home Missionary Report

BY M. WASIDLOW

WE have at present in 148 churches and groups, 3,295 members in five conferences. According to the last report, fifty-three per cent of our members reported weekly, and glorified the name of the Lord in 16,984 Bible readings. We have in many churches members who have learned the truth in their old age. These can neither read nor write. However, they bear their witness to the truth in every possible way. We have in Pinsk a deaf brother who lost his hearing in the war, and later received the truth. He gives Bible studies and is well beloved by his neighbours. Another illiterate brother, who is entirely deaf and dumb, has been for many years a good example in Bible instruction to other members.

Mission work in our union makes progress everywhere where the

people get some training from the preachers and Bible-workers. Our people are willing to work, but are often unable to leave home in bad weather because of bad clothing and shoes. Yet in the first quarter of this year they have made 6,055 visits, distributed 14,061 pieces of literature, and written 674 missionary letters.

The best experiences are often in the Big Week and Harvest Ingathering. It is a joyful experience to go with the members from house to house to receive the Harvest Ingathering money, where the outward appearance of the houses speaks of the deepest need. Many say good-bye to our members with tears in their eyes, who in the beginning did not wish to hear a word from them. Every Sunday the priests warn from the pulpit against our mission literature. Often we are denounced as spreading communistic literature, and handed over to the police. In one conference two young sisters were put in prison for circulating the Ingathering literature. They rejoiced in the prison that they could suffer for the Lord's sake, and sang songs together. Other women in an adjoining room, who had been arrested as criminals, heard their singing. These bored a hole in the wall in order to get into communication with the singers. Thus it became possible to tell them about the truth. Through the hole our sisters sent missionary letters. The other women said: "We are here because we have stolen, and committed other crimes, but good people like you should be free, so that you can sell more literature and sing more of such beautiful songs." After two days our sisters were acquitted.

This year, because of spreading



"Sang songs together" in prison.

Big Week literature, two young sisters were arrested by the police, and condemned to pay a fine of Zl.100, but such experiences cannot drive our people back. They feel a burden for the multitudes lying in darkness, and look forward to the day when the Lord will return and make an end of unrighteousness.

Last year 129 souls were won for the truth by lay efforts. The field is great and the harvest is ripe. Our force of Bible-workers and preachers is small, and so through the brethren and sisters we must do a large part of the soul-winning work. Our brethren and sisters are often called upon to suffer because the priests come unexpectedly to the meetings and take particulars of the proceedings, saying that the owner of the house and all our brethren must pay a fine. In some districts the control is so rigorous that it is forbidden to hold Sabbath-school. However,

the members hold to the truth in spite of all.

Our children in many places get into difficulty over the Sabbath and absence from school. Many of the teachers are such fanatical Catholics that on no account will they give the children Sabbath freedom. However, the higher school authorities are more liberal, and after long waiting, the children are sometimes permitted to come to the Sabbath-school. Many of the parents have to pay fines because their children do not go to the school on the Sabbath.

Our members often say that they are ready to go to prison, but they will always be true to God, and train their children for Him. That is the spirit of our people in the Polish Union. We beg you, dear members of the SURVEY family, to remember us in your prayers, that we may all meet as victors in the kingdom of God.

The Publishing Work in Poland

BY ST. KWIECINSKI

IN 1934 we changed the name of our publishing house from "Polyglot" to "Polish." The new name, under existing conditions in Poland, makes a favourable impression, and helps our work. Living in a Catholic country, with its Catholic priests, we have to contend with difficulties. At the present time Poland is on the eve of a great religious struggle, instigated by the Catholic priesthood, and supported by influential citizens. Lately difficulties have increased for us through the organization, "Catholic Action."

The desire for religious literature is not keen in Poland. The "Catholic Action" party is entering the colporteur work with their propaganda literature. There is also a good deal of sensational literature in circulation, and we must put forth more energy to contend with these evils and secure a wide reading for our truth-filled books and papers.

In view of these conditions it is the more important to give our literature an attractive appearance; to provide pictures taken from na-

ture and political life; and not to allow the titles of the articles to betray too soon their real character.

Our colporteurs engage in the work with courage. Many of them have gained rich experiences. In the cities our workers have learned to enter the larger houses. We have three sisters in Warszawa who sell half of our output, and this impresses us with the need for more sisters to take up this line of work.

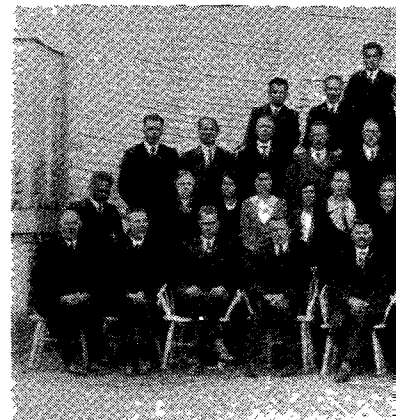
In recent years we have published books in the Russian, as well as Polish. We publish monthly two church papers, the Sabbath-school lessons, and other propagandist literature. In order to help our Sabbath-school teachers to do better work, we have translated and published an edition of *Testimonies on Sabbath-school Work*.

The adoption of a cash policy during the past two years has greatly helped us financially. The output has not been diminished, the workers are better off, and now the house is in a position to meet all its obligations.

The Baltic

For some time past it has been the earnest desire of the Division to get the workers of the Baltic Union together for a renewal of spiritual fellowship, and study of the Bible on the principles underlying our organization and world work. Difficulties that have lately beset us in those parts have for over a year prevented such a gathering, but it proved possible in the month of September to assemble in a convenient centre. Almost every worker in the three fields of the Union came. Brother T. T. Babienco, acting president, was in the chair, and Brother Read and the writer were also present.

It was an agreeable surprise to find that the brethren of the Estonian Conference had been able to make such excellent arrangements for the comfort of their guests. We had all meals together and for five days lived in the closest contact. There was ample opportunity for exchanging personal experiences and views. From day to day the fellowship grew closer and closer, and culminated during the last two days in a spirit of fraternal unity that came upon us like an outpouring from above. All were intensely thankful for the manifest blessing of God on our assembly, and a flow of heart-felt testimony told our gratitude and joy. Words truly fail to express the happiness with which all realized that God had indeed visited us and had made us one in Christ.



Workers

It renewed in us all a strong purpose to work together with our full strength for the advancement of the Advent message. The common wish was that such a gathering might be repeated next year.

The meeting had been convened under the title of a *Freundschaft-zusammenkunft* (a Gathering for Friendship). It was not, said Brother Read, a council or a committee. No resolutions were passed. It might be described as a "retreat." Its purpose was to seek a much-needed reviving. There was a full agenda of subjects that needed to be dealt with, and the treatment was almost entirely by chosen speakers. Few were omitted from the list of contributors. There was, of course, a Question Box. Brethren Read and Babienco went very fully into the principles and policies that have shaped our denominational organization, and it was obvious that the clear exposition brought not only light but also courage to the body of workers. All instruction was highly practical, and all the Bible studies helped toward the main object of the meeting.

There are some welcome indications that the clouds which have rested on the Baltic Union from a combination of causes are, if not actually rolled away, distinctly tinged with silver. Courage is high in the face of embarrassments. The Lord is teaching many lessons. Government officials, through

necessary contacts, are better informed concerning the truth and the spirit of our membership, and sometimes confess themselves enlightened and touched. It becomes

more clear that no weapon can be formed to destroy God's cause. The truth is mighty, and we prove its power when we allow our lives to be sanctified through the truth.

Colporteur Work in the Polish Union

BY M. WASIDLOW

THE second largest land in our Division is Poland, with its thirty-four millions of population. Most of these are agriculturists. The farms employ twenty-five millions. In the 636 cities dwell the other nine millions. While the field is great, the colporteurs are few, numbering at present forty-nine persons.

For our loyal book evangelists the work is attended by many difficulties, more so than in any other field of our Division. There are many different tongues, and also many different kinds of religion. The greatest hindrance of all is the opposition of the Roman Catholic Church, with its army of 14,000 priests. They have great influence over the officials. Many times it has seemed that our colporteurs would be killed by the uneducated peasantry, stirred up by the priests. After such treatment, our colporteurs sometimes have to spend days in prison until a more enlightened judge sets them free. Often, because of the influence of the priests over the judges, we are compelled to employ legal aid. So far the Lord has protected our colporteurs, so that none of them have been compelled to spend many days in prison. However, the evil influence of the priests is at work among the villagers, and if they learn that a Protestant colporteur is at work distributing his literature, then must the colporteur fly quickly or suffer the worst consequences.

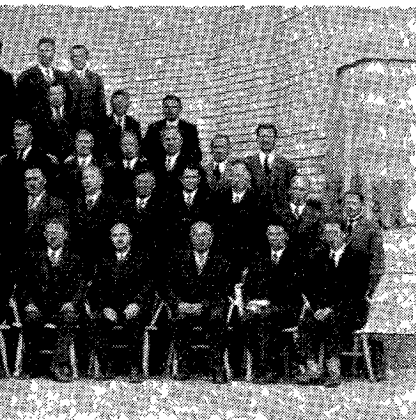
The second cause why the book work is much hindered is the great percentage of illiteracy, especially in the east, north, and south. At the present time we have over seven million illiterate people, and the sad thing is that even the children who are going to village schools are not sufficiently grounded, and after a few years forget all that they have learned. Government statistics show that

children of ten years of age are in some places illiterate in the proportion of seventy-five to eighty-five per cent. Such conditions furnish favourable soil for the spread of communism, which the authorities endeavour to combat by rigorous police action. In such districts our colporteurs are often ignorantly supposed to be communistic agents, and their work is held up.

In spite of these unfavourable conditions our work is carried on. The colporteurs meet with deep poverty. Children are often without clothes, and in the early months of the year all material for the making of bread is exhausted. In spite of all, our colporteurs have such favour with the people that often books are bought by those who cannot read, in the hope that their young children will grow up better educated, and one day be able to read the books to them.

In our colporteur institutes we teach our canvassers to render first aid in cases of sickness. They meet many sick people, and then they are able to help with free treatment and advice. It is with joy that the village people see some of our colporteurs come to visit them. Because these have in the past helped them to find health, they welcome them as among their best friends, and give them the best hospitality within their power. Such canvassing work, of course, prepares the way for the preacher. In many villages where formerly it was impossible to sell even small literature there are now many books and even interested souls.

We are planning to introduce these methods into other parts, being convinced that in many places where our colporteurs meet with great difficulties and are unable to earn the barest necessities they will soon be praising the Lord for His guidance with their loyal comrades.



Union.

Our deepest desire is that the readers of the ADVENT SURVEY will remember us in their prayers before the throne of grace, that we

may soon see the work finished and meet in the kingdom of God, with many souls who have been won through our labours.

ourselves to God's overruling providence, and are confident that He will never fail us.

The East Polish Conference

BY J. ZIELINSKI

TEN years have passed since the organization of our conference. In all these years the work has gone forward. At present we have 1,200 members in fifty-two churches. Two of our three provinces border on Soviet Russia, and in this portion we have six millions of Poles, Russians, Jews, and Germans, with only nine workers. Till now our work has been mainly carried on in the villages. Our work is made difficult by the many languages and also by the prevailing illiteracy; on the other hand the people love to hear the Word. They can listen to it all day long and not feel tired. We never see anyone going out while the preaching is in progress.

Travel in these fields, especially in the villages, is very wearing, especially in the autumn. There are very few surfaced roads, and on those we have there is so much mire that both men and women go out in long-legged boots. This looks odd to a new arrival, but when he becomes better acquainted with conditions, he soon buys similar footwear for himself. There are many swamps in the district, and this makes long, round-about journeys necessary when we go from place to place. Often a worker must go twenty kilometres on foot because there are no conveyances, and the mud makes the roads impassable.

Lately I was visiting the churches. A brother drove me in his wagon. We had a distance of twenty kilometres to go. We had done five kilometres when the horses and the wagon sank deep into the mire. We had to unharness the horses, but were only able to extricate them from the mire with great labour. Then we took the wagon to pieces and carried the portions to a place where the road was firm. I had to tell my driver to return home, because the journey proved impossible for a wagon, while I marched the remaining

fifteen kilometres on foot. At the best, travel is uncomfortable. A seat in a wagon without springs for five or more hours is not a pleasure. However, the workers are happy if they can help the people and present the truth to interested souls.

In the whole field we only possess four meeting-houses of our own. This means that six only of the churches can gather in suitable buildings; the remaining forty-eight churches gather in small, low huts. A tiny kitchen sometimes answers the purpose. When a preacher visits a church, the room is more than full. Many stand in the windows and behind the doors in order to catch at least a little of the message. The members exert themselves to get the best rooms in the village, but the government does not allow meetings to be held in private homes. Here and there our workers meet still greater difficulties because enemies are always seeking to disturb the preaching of the message. In one place three enemies came to the preaching. They threatened the worker with knives and abused his wife in the vilest fashion. The worker declared, however, that he was ready to die if necessary, and would not leave the place until he had won at least some souls. At last he got the glad word that several had accepted the truth and were desirous of baptism. Everywhere the prospects are good for a harvest of souls. The workers and the churches do their best, and the Lord blesses their efforts.

Our members are poor in earthly goods, but they love God's Word and are thankful that with what they possess they can do something to advance His cause. We need more workers and more church buildings, but still more we need prayers for the success of the cause in our field. We commend

Reminded about the Sabbath by Mohammedans

BY J. B. TERRY

IN a Mendi town called Gbambama (Sierra Leone) there lived an old woman who was a faithful Seventh-Day Adventist. She had been an enthusiastic leader in the Bondo society for about fifty years; but at her conversion she resigned her position as leader and abandoned the society. Though she was an illiterate peasant and could not tell the months of the year or even the days of the week, yet she always knew when the Sabbath approached and was always ready to welcome the blessed day. She was almost a hundred years old, and her home was so far from the church that she could not attend the services. But she had a special white dress (made after the native style), which she wore every Sabbath eve, and throughout the day.

Whenever I visited her just before sunset on Friday afternoons, I always met her in this clean, white dress, quite prepared to open the Sabbath. I was curious to know how, at such an age, she kept a straight account of the Sabbath in a town which is so far from civilization, and where, apart from a few Mohammedans, most of the people were pagans. So I questioned her how she arrived at the right day. After a hearty laugh over the question she said: "Master, this house opposite mine is a mosque, and the Mohammedans congregate in it every Friday afternoon. Whenever I hear them in prayer, and the sound of their 'taboulay' (the drum calling them to prayer), I always know that the Sabbath is fast behind and commences at sunset. I usually have my bath ready and then prepare to welcome my Lord's day."

"REAL religion does not turn down any lights of life; it puts a new splendour upon everything."

The Gold Coast

BY G. E. NORD

COULD our pioneer missionaries of the Gold Coast, who more than thirty years ago came and laid the foundation, arise to-day and see what God has wrought in this and other West African fields, they would surely exclaim, "What hath God wrought!"

Those early pioneers knew little or nothing of present-day comforts and improvements. Now there are highways and fine auto roads everywhere, railroads, and even air conveyances to take them to their destinations. A comfortable house takes the place of the mud hut. There is protection from the many dangers that lurk from within and without, the mosquito net to sleep under, quinine, and other remedies against the dreaded malaria. There is no need any longer of trying to live on the native foods alone. Thank God for all these improved conditions that have saved so many from going down to an early grave, as did some of the early missionaries.

With all this, however, there is danger that the heroic spirit and self-sacrificing love which actuated the pioneers should wane. With all these present-day improvements and opportunities for advancement, there is also great danger of depending more upon mission boards, appropriations, balanced budgets, etc., than on the mighty power and providence of God.

Encouraging advance and improvement along all lines of missionary endeavour can, however, be seen in our own work in all these trying West African fields. Hundreds and thousands are now burning their superstitious symbols, idols, and ju-ju houses; chapels are now being built that are filled with earnest seekers after God.

The Gold Coast is one of the richest colonies in West Africa for its size and population. From here is exported yearly more than half or two-thirds of the cocoa consumed in the world. One of the largest gold mines is found here. Rubber, ground nuts, and cola are exported in large quantities. They have the best railroads in West

Africa, and fine highways and roads throughout the country.

At our headquarters at Bekwai, and at Agona, our oldest station in the Ashanti province, are springing up a large number of believers, and many are in the baptismal classes. At present there are more than a thousand in these classes, and nearly a thousand baptized members. Last year close on 200 were baptized, and already a large number have been baptized this year. Sixty-nine were baptized at our recent camp meeting held at Agona, February 12th to 17th.

More than eighty church elders and leaders had been called in for a five-day institute. Marvellous providences were revealed by the reports and testimonies of these men. In one far-away district the people were driven out of the town by the heathens and the chief. They had to build up new homes and a little Christian village outside of the town, actually going without the camp, bearing the reproach.

One young girl had been shamefully treated by her relatives because she had become a Christian. They had stripped her clothes from her body and were trying to force her back into heathenism, but she stood firm, even though she was thrown out of the home. She had come to our camp meeting at

Agona and while there was cared for. The elders of the church interviewed the chief and the relatives. In answer to earnest prayer and effort, the girl has been given her liberty. Sixteen others on the same day decided to become Christians and were not hindered. Remembering that only a few months before, the chief and his people severely persecuted all our believers and tried to drive them from the district, we can see what prayer and faith in God accomplishes.

Some church leaders told how they go out to village after village, singing, preaching, and praying, and sometimes tarrying for days until one or more had taken their stand for God. New interests are springing up everywhere.

This meeting closed with two of the most inspiring and interesting testimony meetings that I have ever attended. Heaven came very near to our hearts.

There are already a number of large, well-built churches, and more to be built and paid for by the African believers themselves. These buildings have cost upward of £500.

Brethren J. Clifford, F. Stokes, and T. H. Fielding, together with their faithful companions and loyal native workers, have all reason to be strong and of good courage, doing mighty exploits through God for the finishing of the work so hopefully begun.

Northern Nigeria

BY G. E. NORD

ON my way to the Northern Cameroons I spent a day or two at our Jengre mission station where Brother J. J. Hyde and wife and son are located. They have worked hard in their small dispensary, in preaching and teaching, trying to win their way to the hearts of the pagans in this distant area.

On my return from the Northern Cameroons I spent the week-end there. On Friday evening, fourteen strong, fine-looking men and women gathered with the rest of the believers in their unique little mission chapel for a devotional meeting, and for the examination of the

candidates for baptism who had come in from the villages around—a wonderful revelation of the power of the everlasting Gospel to transform. On my former visit three years ago they knew nothing about Jesus Christ and the only true God and His power to save degraded sinners. Instead of presenting themselves almost naked, they now sat down neatly clothed, and with the mind of Christ. They had become real, whole-hearted, earnest Christians.

On the Sabbath we met them again with a large number of others who are becoming inter-

ested, living far away on and around these mountains. In the valley between some high mountains and the stream flowing below, a fine little chapel had been built by these people alone, with some supervision by the superintendent. As it was the Thirteenth Sabbath nearly all of the new candidates took some part. All, young and old, could repeat from memory every one of the memory verses for the whole first quarter of this year, the ten commandments, and the Lord's prayer. They all took part in the offering, and beamed with joy when the result was announced. After another meeting in the afternoon we followed these

former heathens, now happy children of God, to the little stream where six couples, besides a young man and woman, were baptized into Christ. It was a solemn but happy occasion for all, and made a deep impression on the many who had come to witness the service. It must have brought rejoicing in heaven, too, and made the angels join in the happy songs that echoed from the mountains as all joined in singing while wending their way back to the church.

We believe there is a bright future for the work in this field, and hope that soon the work may extend to many other of the heathen and Mohammedan tribes.

with a very different set of opponents. Later we will give some reasons for writing thus.

Just Published

ELDER L. H. CHRISTIAN'S new book, entitled *Pioneers and Builders of the Advent Cause in Europe*, is now off the press. Elder Christian traces the rapid advance of the Advent movement in Europe and shows how God has miraculously guided the work step by step in face of insurmountable obstacles and national barriers. Many of the stirring stories of courage under persecution are given in this extremely interesting volume. It is a most useful book in preparing stirring sermons and talks. Every worker and many lay members should avail themselves of this unique book. It contains 164 pages, well bound in durable cloth binding. It is published by the Pacific Press Publishing Association, Mountain View, California. The price is \$1.25 from America and five shillings from The Stanborough Press. L.A.V.

Calendar Reform Defeat

BY W. T. BARTLETT

SUPPORTERS of the Calendar Reform agitation have been busy this year at Geneva and, because of their pressure, the Council of the League sent out inquiries to sixty-nine governments, asking that their attitude be definitely taken concerning the Reform. The reason for this urgency was submitted by the Reformers in the fact that 1939 would begin on a Sunday. This fact would make it possible for the new proposed calendar to begin that year without any noticeable clash with the present calendar. The governments were asked to reply by a given date, and when their replies had been received, the Council was to meet and report on the position.

Such a meeting has been convened in connection with the present session of the League of Nations. Being informed that the Calendar Reform was on the agenda for the proposed September 9th meeting, the men whom the General Conference had asked to represent them on this matter went to Geneva. At the time of writing the report of the committee has not been read to the Council of the League of Nations. The report, however, is complete, and a copy has been placed in the hands of our representatives. The report is unanimous, and there is little prospect that it will be seriously debated when it is presented in the course of the next few days.

According to this report, of the sixty-nine states consulted only thirty-two have sent replies. Of these, only five are definitely prepared to commit themselves in favour of carrying out the Calendar Reform. Eleven are as definitely opposed, and sixteen have made non-committal replies, indicating that their course would depend on the action taken by other states. In view of this lack of enthusiasm for the reform of the calendar, the committee in its report takes the view that it would be useless to proceed further with the proposals, which under present circumstances would seem to have no chance of being accepted. They suggest that the whole subject be removed until further notice from the agenda.

This seems to be a decisive defeat for the Calendar Reform campaign. We would do well, however, to remember that in 1931 the Reform seemed to suffer a defeat, but that it was able to gather itself together, and since then has won over to its side a number of powerful friends. The forces behind the campaign are not likely to sit down in despair and confess themselves beaten. The whole agitation is a warning to us that our time to do our work is limited. There are some indications in the report that the question will come up again, and when it next takes the field we may find ourselves face to face

ONE of our ministers in the Baltic Union, who is able to read English, would like a used set of the *Testimonies*. If anyone has a set to dispose of, would he please write, giving particulars, to W. T. Bartlett, 41 Hazel Gardens, Edgware, Middlx.

IN the current issue of the SURVEY we are very glad to give a brief report from one of our Sierra Leone workers. We should be pleased to receive contributions from English-speaking African workers in other fields of the Division.

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Editor: W. T. Bartlett

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