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WEST AFRICAN ADVENT

# MESSENGER

VOICE OF THE WEST AFRICAN UNION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

VOL. 6.

FEBRUARY, 1952.

No. 1.

## First Union Wide Evangelistic Institute and Constituency Meeting

Accra, January 1-7, 1952

The first Union Constituency meeting was held in Accra on January 4th-7th. A number of the reports given at the meetings appear in this issue of the "Messenger". Further reports will follow in ensuing issues.

Pastor R. R. Figuhr and C. E. Moseley were in attendance from the General Conference, and Pastor A.F. Tarr and T. J. Bradley from the Northern European Division. Their splendid counsel was greatly appreciated.

The Constituency meeting was preceded by a two-day Evangelistic Institute, ably conducted by Pastor T. J. Bradley. It is anticipated that Pastor Bradley will visit all of the missions in the West African Union, and conduct institutes.

Brother and Sister H. Logan have recently arrived in Aba from England. Brother Logan has been appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the East Nigerian Mission, and we cordially welcome him and his

wife to the West African Union Mission Family.

Pastor Tarr, President of the Northern European Division, left Accra by air on January 17th to visit our missions in Ethiopia, before returning to Division Headquarters in London.

Pastor R. R. Figuhr, after attending the Constituency meeting, and visiting in Gold Coast and Nigeria, left Accra on January 20th to return to Washington.



Delegates attending the session held in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Accra. Eighty representatives were present from Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Gold Coast, East, West and North Nigeria.

## West Nigerian Mission

President - - - - - J. J. HYDE  
Secretary - Treasurer - - - - - D. J. CLARKE

### Annual Report of The West Nigerian Mission

Year Ending 31st December, 1951

During the year just ended, God has poured out His blessings on every sphere of activity in the West Nigerian Field, and we wish to give the honour and glory due to His Name. "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord," and truly God can take the weakest vessels and make them mighty for Him.

#### Evangelism

The greater part of the evangelistic effort of the Field has been in the form of village evangelism, and doubtless this is where the greater number of conversions occur, and for possibly the least expenditure, however two city efforts were run again this year, one in Lagos, and one at Ibadan.

The Lagos effort was conducted by Pastor J. M. Akin Adeoye in the church building and was well attended throughout. A goodly number are continuing to study and we are confident that there will be a harvest of souls from this effort. This is not the first effort that has been run in the church by any means, meetings have been held there almost continually for the past two years, and as a result of this previous work, four (4) precious souls were added to the church this year. We have already planned to run a series of meetings in one of the largest halls in Lagos during the months of February, March and April of this year.

The effort in Ibadan was somewhat of an experiment. The mission tennis-court was made into an open-air church. Many hundreds of people attended the meetings conducted by Pastor J. J. Hyde. Our Division President, Pastor Tarr, addressed a mid-week meeting at which about one thousand five hundred (1,500) people were present. Meetings were

held on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Only the coming of the rains made us bring the meetings to a close. A goodly number have joined the Baptismal Class. It is planned to run another series as soon as we return from these meetings.

There has been a good increase in Baptisms throughout the Field this year and the last two months have been busy ones endeavouring to arrange Baptismal Services for the many candidates that have been presented. In all two hundred and twenty-five (225) have been baptized and two accepted by vote, this represents an increase of one hundred and thirty (130) over the previous year. We have a further three hundred and ten (310) in the Hearers Class and two hundred and twenty (220) in the Baptismal Class. We thank God for these interested ones and pray that His Holy Spirit may be with them as they study His Message and lead them to fully accept the truth.

#### Tithes and Offerings

The servant of the Lord has told us repeatedly that if all were faithful in the giving of their tithes and offerings there would be no shortage of funds in the Mission Treasuries. We sincerely believe these statements to be true and throughout the year have sought to bring these matters before our members. The response has been gratifying and all offerings show a good increase.

Tithe	£ 1,667	Inc	£ 392
S. S. O.	2,009	"	70
13th S. S. O.	506	"	20
Week of Sacrifice	84	"	37

#### Harvest Ingathering

We have great cause for gratitude to God in respect of the success of our Harvest Ingathering Campaign. In the past our people have been very reluctant to take part in a house to house solicitation Campaign. It was said by many that "it cannot be done." This year

has proved these people to be wrong. Led by a vigorous campaign by the Ife Church, the people have caught a glimpse of the wonderful possibilities and many have felt the thrill of successful solicitation. Brother Chappell again campaigned in Lagos and Ibadan from the business houses and professional men and brought in the amazing sum of three hundred and four pounds (£304). We greatly appreciate his untiring efforts in this Field.

In order to present this report our books were closed on December 15th and so there are still some monies to come in; however, our Harvest Ingathering total to date is eight hundred and nine pounds (£809) an increase of three hundred and sixty-five pounds (£365) over that of last year.

#### Education

The outlook for our Education work in West Nigeria is indeed very encouraging. We are now beginning to reap the full benefits of the work of the Nigerian Training College at Ihe. This year we receive back to our schools five (5) teachers who have completed their Higher Elementary training as well as a number who have completed their Elementary Teacher Class training.

We are happy to report the re-opening of the Preliminary Training Course for 1952 which had to be suspended during 1951 due to staff shortages. This has been proved in the past to be a good opportunity to ascertain the pupil's possibility as a future teacher, and to give further instruction in denominational teaching. We trust that ere long the serious break experienced in the educational programme by the absence of a secondary school will be overcome and the supply of well educated young men and young women will be sufficient for the needs of all branches of the work.

The great need of our Field is for educated, consecrated men to respond to the call of the Ministry. The harvest is ripening, the calls are coming in from all parts of the Field, and we are unable to supply the needs. We have only three (3) ordained ministers in West

## Colporteur Report for Year 1951

Nigeria at the present time. The response to the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School Lessons is encouraging to say the least, but many that have asked for visitation so that they may unite with the church are still waiting for that visit because we have no worker to send. The challenge is great, may God show us the way to influence the right men to become His loyal harvesters.

We close this report by again thanking our Heavenly Father for His guidance and blessing during the year that has passed and pledging anew our services to Him that by our united efforts and His unlimited power and grace the work may be finished and His Kingdom established in the earth made new.

H. S. Pearce.

### The Lord Giveth the Increase

By D. K. Omoleye

Indeed, Paul may sow, and Apolos may water the seed, but yet it is the Lord who giveth the increase. Unquestionably God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform.

When the clock of the Prophecy struck the appointed hour, the Remnant Church of God existed and took up her rightful and correct place in the world. Since then (1844) she (the Church) has been discharging her appropriate works among the teeming millions of earth's population. God has been guiding the Church in all her multifarious enterprises through the agency of the Spirit of Prophecy.

#### Branch Sabbath-Schools

Within the last one or two years, the Church was made to realize that, "One of the best methods of increasing rapidly the Sabbath-School membership is by way of operating Branch Sabbath-Schools everywhere possible." By this very method, thousands of souls are being reached with the light of the third Angel's message, and everywhere many are taking their stand with the Remnant Church of God.

At Ife (Nigeria) the little Hospital church is operating several Branch Sabbath-Schools in the township, and in the nearby neighbouring

(Continued on page 8.)

Name	Hours	Orders	Deliveries
<b>East Nigerian Mission, E. L. Brown, P.D.S.</b>			
Achumba, N. A.	23	25 13 0	
Agomo, M. W.	470	65 2 6	16 10 0
Ananaba, N. A.	9	1 15 5	
Anucha, S. A.	117	5 7 6	3 15 0
Dogo, A. T. (Student)	323	114 15 0	19 16 0
Ebere, Samuel (Student)	109	16 18 0	
Erondu, Israel	503	66 0 0	16 1 0
Erondu, J. I.	427	135 2 9	25 1 7
Ikpeazu, J. W. (Student)	176	9 0 0	
Jiakpo, J. E.	196	80 16 0	32 1 0
Njoku, C. U.	914	122 14 6	24 8 9
Ogbonna, W.	900	119 11 0	9 10 9
Ogbonna, M.	253	31 15 3	
Okata, E. (Student)	155	22 2 0	1 7 0
Onuoha, J. O.	782	112 7 6	32 2 6
Onwubere N. M.	1490	598 17 0	385 9 6
Onwukwe, J. E.	51	3 0 0	1 5 6
Osarobey, A. G.	1289	143 1 0	77 10 6
Otuokere, E. A.	247	75 14 3	21 18 0
Owuala, N.	469	72 13 6	3 15 0
Ubani, A. A.	525	461 15 6	184 19 10
Ubani, M. (Student)	132	13 5 3	1 3 0
Ugboaja, J.	876	607 8 0	315 15 0
Uko, E. A. (Student)	98	9 10 0	
Ukonwa, D. O.	181	1 9 9	2 6
Wabara, A. A. (Student)	87	3 18 0	3 18 0
Wogwugwu, Monday	3	2 3 0	2 3 0
Wosu, C. W.	4		11 0
Wosu, A. A. (Student)	200	4 3 0	1 6
Miscellaneous	172	132 2 8	36 5 6
East Nigeria's Totals	12,181	3,058 0 5	1,217 16 5
<b>Gold Coast Mission, L. H. Davidson, P.D.S.</b>			
Abbey, N. K.	1312	1189 5 0	770 3 7
Acquah, N. Y.	113	8 0 0	9 4 0
Achampong, A.	303	58 8 0	32 14 6
Adgepong, G. K.	40	8 1 3	4 0 0
Adu, A.	61	21 15 0	
Adjei, J. K.	245	41 5 3	2 19 9
Agyei, D.	600	50 9 3	21 4 9
Agyakwa, E. A.	240	86 0 9	11 16 9
Amoah, Agraw	1169	802 10 0	551 5 9
Ampim, J. K.	664	261 5 0	312 7 9
Aperkue, W. O.	19	10 6 0	1 15 0
Arkun, K.	247	44 7 0	30 8 9
Arthur, H. G.	426	110 14 4	109 19 10
Brown, E. L.	825	788 12 0	411 19 0
Bush, F.	222	30 2 0	30 2 0
Clerk, C. A.	1798	564 9 1	336 10 11
Coumoah, J. J.	917	96 6 0	71 4 5
Daitey, A. N.	1714	689 16 0	511 4 6
Daitey, John	457	145 13 2	56 11
Enim, M. A.	1510	1093 6 9	485 9 11
Giagidi, A. K.	90	9 16 0	6 14 0
Glover, V. K.	601	347 12	227 18 0
Gyabak, E. I.	89	27 1 6	11 6 0
Gyebie, J.	239	44 10 6	39 19 0
Greere, M.	9	1 17 6	2 2 5
Kontoh, J.	759	7 3 0	5 19 0
Kwarnin, J.	62	10 3 3	14 0 0
Kyei-Nimakofa	81	145 10 3	47 13 9
Mawutor, R. D.	43	9 8 0	2 10 0
Mensah, A. F.	559	153 10 0	95 0 3
Mensah, H. A.	228	32 7 9	28 1 3
Nkansah, E. D.	908	292 0 0	104 10 6
Odiabene, E. Y.	542	231 17 6	121 0 6
Ofori, S.	624	266 13 9	236 16 0
Oppong, K.	20	1 9 0	1 9 0
Owusu, S. K.	674	540 1 10	172 2 9
Quarten, J. A.	1423	467 4 3	426 12 11
Seraku, J. O.	1220	369 7 9	305 3 0
Vandj, E.	71	12 4 0	12 4 0
Miscellaneous	83	162 7 0	148 5 0
Gold Coast's Totals	21,107	9,232 17 2	5,770 10 3

## Colporteur Report for Year 1951

(Continued from page 3)

<b>Liberian Mission</b>					
Bonal, John	186	132	14	1	85 3 0
Newman, John	42	17	3	0	17 3 0
Stephens, Jonathan	99	100	14	5	33 0 4
Liberia's Totals	327	250	11	6	135 6 4
<b>Sierra Leone Mission</b>					
Bangura Simon	142	13	15	0	5 11 0
During, J. E.	24	26	5	0	1 5 0
Myers, John	44	7	10	0	
Sierra Leone's Totals	210	47	0	0	6 16 0
<b>West Nigerian Mission</b>					
Ajomale, J. O.	55	35	5	0	9 0 0
Iheanacho, Josiah (Student)	221	171	19	3	44 9 4
Nwaogu, James	460	90	16	0	57 0 4
Nwaojigba, S. O. (Student)	18	170	2	0	18 17 0
Olubolade, John	287	45	0	0	19 19 0
Onwukwe, N. W. (Student)	231	198	12	0	18 0 0
Wigwe, George (Student)	260	152	17	0	11 9 6
West Nigeria's Totals	1732	864	11	3	148 15 2
W.A. Union Totals for 1951	35,557	£ 13,453	10	4	7,279 4 2
W.A. Union Totals for 1950	18,246	6,146	2	5	4,222 17 6
Increase in 1951	17,311	7,307	7	11	3,056 6 8

## An Inspiring Occasion

By Pastor A. F. Tarr

It has been good to be back in West Africa again, and especially on such an inspiring occasion as the first Union-wide Constituency meeting. With so many of the leading workers, both African and European, gathered together in one place we have all enjoyed a most wonderful time of spiritual refreshing and fellowship.

The occasion has been made the more profitable by the presence with us of Pastor R. R. Figuhr, Vice-President of the General Conference, Pastor C. E. Moseley, Associate Secretary of the Coloured Department, both of Washington, D. C., and Pastor T. J. Bradley, Ministerial Association Secretary from our own Division headquarters in Edgware. Solemn and soul-stirring messages were brought to us by all of these men, and their helpful counsel was a great factor in solving the many problems confronting us both at the Constituency Meeting and at the Union Committee that followed. It was appropriate that all had had a brief opportunity of seeing something of the field before the meetings began. Their counsel was therefore the more valuable.

Great inspiration came to our gathering by the report presented from all the fields comprising

the Union, and from all of the main institutions. The large number of baptisms, and the spiritual work done both in the institutions and in the fields brought special cheer to all. The recommendation also of a goal of 3,150 baptisms and of 8,400 converts for 1952 was likewise most encouraging.

One of the advance steps taken by the session was the election of two African brethren to membership on the Union committee. Pastor H. Wilson of Sierra Leone was on-

and Pastor A. J. Dickay of East Nigeria was the other. Two African brethren were also appointed to the Board of the Nigerian Training School, and another two to the Board of Ife Hospital. We believe that these appointments will bring added strength to the respective organisations and a greater sense of responsibility to the African constituency.

No important phase of our great programme in West Africa seems to have been overlooked in the Constituency's discussions, and every plan laid will, we are confident, bring added strength in the coming days. Many of the actions setting forth these plans will be appearing in this or coming issues of the West African Messenger.

In the closing moments of the Council, and before the final prayer was offered, all of the delegates linked hand in hand and sang together that grand old hymn, "Blest Be the Tie that Binds Our Hearts in Christian Love." It was a scene I shall never forget.

This second visit of mine to West Africa has been a greatly appreciated privilege. I shall always remember the blessing we have enjoyed together and our very happy association one with the other. May God continue to bless you all both in your homes and in your churches, and may He enable you during 1952 to win to your spiritual fellowship many thousands more of your fellow West Africans.

## THE VOICE OF PROPHECY BROADCASTS

from Radio Ceylon  
every Sunday  
at 5.15 p.m. G.M.T.

## Wave Length:

13 metre band 21.62 mc/cycles.

25 metre band 11.975 mc/cycles.

# East Nigerian Mission

President - - - - - W. J. Newman  
 Secretary-Treasurer - - - - - H. Logan

## Annual Report of East Nigerian Mission, 1951

### Evangelism

During the past ten years our Baptisms have centred around the 400 mark. I am happy to say that this year has shown a baptism of 846. Our policy no doubt has hindered many more being baptized. 1952 looks bright for new souls. Three churches were organized. Many more are ready.

The month of August the worst month of the year was chosen for our 32 Spear-Head Evangelistic efforts. Most of our school teachers joined in the work as well as our lay members. One man once a Christian burnt his juju and idols and together with his wife surrendered himself to Christ. The experience has established an interest in the minds of many in that new area. I am glad that he and his wife attended the Camp Meeting 20 miles away. One group of our members travelled 100 miles, another group travelled 130 miles to strengthen the work in these two areas. "Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power." Yes, our people are willing.

We were happy to have Pastor Cowin with us to attend some of our Camp Meetings. Our aim was "Go! Win One for Jesus." Our baptized members pledged themselves to win one for Jesus in 1952.

### M. V. Department

East Nigeria has made *world history* in holding the Largest M. V. Investiture ever held. A total of 1004 M. V's. were invested in one day at Aba.

### Education

We have struggled on without an Educational Secretary. However, Mr. J. Ukegbu as travelling teacher, has helped us during this critical time.

The news of Mr. Fitcher's coming has given us hope.

Mrs. Meade as Principal of the

P. T. C. has rendered service the value of which can not be estimated in pounds, shillings and pence. The conducting of a P. T. Class has filled a much needed gap in our Educational set up.

Although we were not able to conduct a Teachers' Institute we did hold a one-day Teachers' gathering when Dr. Hamilton and Pastor Cowin were present.

### Literature Ministry

With the advent of Brother E. L. Brown from Jamaica, the future of our book-work is very much brighter. A colporteur institute was held with Pastor G. King and Brother Chappell leading out.

The students from Ihie who have gone out into the field are doing well.

### Publicity

Pastor Dickay and Mr. Ukegbu, his assistant have done their best to keep before the public the activities of the Advent Church. Pictures have been taken and sent to Accra, one of which has entered every Adventist Church throughout the world.

### Finance

Adventists throughout the world are known for their giving. East Nigeria is no exception. Pastor Meade has certainly stimulated the spirit of giving in our Sabbath-schools. Some have now reached a weekly goal of 3d per capita. This is remarkable when one considers the thousands of pounds that have come in for our Secondary School.

### Future Evangelists

For 1952 we plan to conduct an Evangelistic class in conjunction with our P. T. Class. From this we hope to train evangelists for the future.

In closing we must say thank you to the Union, Division and General Conference for all they have done to help forward the work in East Nigeria. All glory and praise be unto our Maker for whom we labour with willing spirit.

## A Clock that Preaches

In a store in Miami, in America, there is a large clock that warns people of the shortness of time. On its face these words are printed. "Time Ends and then Eternity." —Faithful Words.

## Tithe and Offerings

					Increase		
Tithe	1950	3,009.	0.	5	237.	11.	9
	1951	3,245.	12.	2			
S. S. O.	1950	894.	3.	1	237.	7.	3
	1951	1,167.	10.	4			
13th S. S. O.	1950	99.	16.	1	93.	3.	5
	1951	192.	19.	6			
W. O.	1950	72.	14.	1	115.	9.	8
	1951	188.	3.	9			
Ingathering	1950	606.	3.	5	801.	15.	8
	1951	1,407.	19.	1			

Total given per capita (Baptized Members) for 1951-£1. 8. 5.

# Nigerian Training College

Principal ----- L. DOWNING

## Principal's Report for 1951

November 11 marked a great day in the experience of the Nigerian Training College. Sixteen two-year training evangelists were sent forth, trained in the science of soul-winning. Nine Higher Elementary candidates climaxed their studies which prelude their work as leaders of Standards V and VI schools. Nineteen Elementary candidates filled with the enthusiasm of youth went forth to help bridge the gap of untrained teachers in our primary school system.

The Evangelist two and Higher Elementary classes were taught for the first time this past year. We felt grateful to the Lord when we heard from the Chief Inspector of Education that he considered the Higher Elementary group above average in their practical teaching examination as compared with other schools in the Eastern Provinces. Unlike the carpenter, the teacher knows not the result of his labour until the years prove the success of these students. Their training has only begun. You men as leaders in the local fields have the privilege of directing them.

### Spiritual Life

Two memorable Weeks of Prayer made their imprint upon the spiritual life of the school. Dr. J. A. Hyde conducted a very practical series of studies at the early part of the school year. Dr. Hamilton's quiet leadership in the last series paved the way for the Holy Spirit to speak to every heart.

Just before Mr. Downing's leave a number of old-fashioned testimony meetings stirred our hearts. Where God works the strongest, Satan will cast in his greatest army. We have seen this struggle and know that the greater strength is in the hands of God.

### Building Programme

The Missionary Volunteer rally day for the college district was the first occasion for using our new

church. Well over 800 people were comfortably seated that Sabbath morning as Mr. M. A. Moses brought inspiring stories from the Paris congress.

The church is nearly finished. The small details that remain will take but a short time to complete. We feel our debt of gratitude to Dr. Forsythe for the generosity bestowed for us. We understand that her health is very poor. We know that long after she is gone her memory will live in West Africa.

By the time of reading this Pastor Bartlett should have moved over into the new house. This completes the last of the building projects for which money is held. Our compound has undergone a marvellous change since two and one half years ago when we first saw it. Expressions of commendation have come from the Ngwa Native Administration for the wonderful things done at Ihie.

### Girls' School

No department of the School has suffered this year more than the Girls' School. The bright phase of the work there appeared in the person of Miss Nuka. Many will forget the things undone by the accomplishments of those last few months of training under her care. The enrollment of only 19 girls this year has challenged us to do all in our power to increase the number and a strong training programme in their behalf.

### Staffing

The year 1951 began as a faith venture. The shortage of staff caused by the addition of two new classes which we were asked to accept laid an extra load on every staff member. The addition of Pastor Bartlett and Brother Dare were most appreciated.

The college expresses its gratitude to the local field and to the Union for sending Mr. Moses to Europe. The widening view which this visit gave him has been of inestimable help.

As each year passes we learn to appreciate more and more the efforts of each staff member. God has blessed the relationships on our compound. Through trials and tests common probably to every station the love of Jesus binds our hearts with a hope that we shall soon live, side by side, in eternal glory. Your prayers are appreciated.

## The West African Colporteurs Did It Again

By D. L. Chappell, Union P. D. S.

Under the blessing of God during 1951 our loyal colporteur evangelists in West Africa delivered £7,279. 4. 2. worth of books and journals which proclaim the message of the three angels of Revelation 14. This was a seventy-five per cent increase over the 1950 delivery of £4,222. 17. 6. We praise God for this marked advance in our literature evangelism. We are now setting our goal to deliver at least £10,000 worth of our good books during 1952.

We solicit a sincere interest in the prayers of our members in behalf of our colporteur evangelists. Pray not alone for the colporteurs, but pray also for the people who buy the books that they may accept the message they read. Then pray that God will impress more and more of our capable church members to enter the colporteur ministry. We Need More Colporteur Evangelists—We Need Them Now!

## QUOTES

"Upon books the collective education of the race depends; they are the sole instruments of registering, perpetuating and transmitting thought."—H. Rogers.

"Books have an unexpected way of drifting to those hidden places where the soul of man walks alone."—Amy Carmichael.

# West African Union

President ----- J. O. GIBSON  
 Secretary-Treasurer ----- G. L. ANNISS

## West African Union Mission Secretary- Treasurer's Report

This is the first West African Union Constituency Meeting, also my first privilege to present a report. If I should give you all the statistics that pass through our office, it would duplicate a lot of details that will be given to you by the field leaders and departmental secretaries. Therefore I have looked over our record for the past four years and have extracted various figures which I feel sure will be of interest to you. These show from the statistical point of view the growth of our work in the West African Union.

The figures quoted are for the four years 1947-50. The nine month figures for 1951 give the various totals for the respective missions.

I would remind you that all of the monies used in the propagation of our work does not go through my books, as only one tenth of the African tithe comes to the Union. Then, in addition there are all the school fees and grants, of which I have no record. I think, however, that at this time I should draw your attention to the very generous help that the West African Union receives from the overseas home bases.

In addition to the income which each mission receives within its own field, the operating funds of the local missions have been supplemented during the last four years by the following amounts, from overseas:

1948	£15,150
1949	£16,215
1950	£20,173
1951	£23,600

Added to this there has been capital investment from overseas, during the past four years of over £70,000, plus another £10,000 specifically for church extension.

Over and above all of this our

overseas brethren and sisters have maintained all of our overseas missionaries.

An item of interest is the composition of our overseas staff which consists of  
 31 families (including 41 children)  
 4 families under appointment  
 8 young ladies.

I think we would do well at this time to pay tribute to a number who have served West Africa for many years, away from their homes and friends. I think of:

Pastor J. J. Hyde	26 years
Pastor W. G. Till	29 "
Pastor W. J. Newman	14 "
Pastor C. A. Bartlett	21 "
Miss A. S. Nuka	20 "
Miss R. Muderspach	13 "

And of course we should not forget the wives of the first four mentioned who have also rendered loyal service. We should pay tribute to:

Pastor and Mrs. W. McClements  
 Pastor and Mrs. J. Clifford, Brother and Sister M. Duplouy, who have returned to their home-lands after over 20 years service here on the West Coast.

I feel we would be very much remiss, if we failed to recognise the long service of these workers, some of whom I am sure we are glad to have still with us, and regret that it has been necessary for others to return home to a more favourable climate.

We should not be unmindful of the fact that many African workers have also given long and faithful service, but I will leave their field leaders to pay tribute where this is due.

We have had a number of new missionaries arrive this year whom I am sure we all welcome very cordially.

Pastor and Mrs. Mustard and two sons, Gold Coast. Mr. and Mrs. Cone and two daughters, Gold Coast. Miss K. Grant to Union Office. Mr. and Mrs. J. Buzenet and child to Ivory Coast.

Reference should also be made to the visitors we have had

## Membership and Workers' Report

Year	No. of Churches	Members Added	Members Dropped	Total Membership Dec. 31.	Increase on Previous Year
1947	160	1,267	546	8,743	72
1948	68	949	327	9,365	722
1949	60	1,084	574	8,408	510
1950	91	1,848	422	9,834	1,426.

x Transfer of Members from Cameroons.

## Tithes and Offering

(Local Fields)

Year	Tithe to Union	Tithe Retained by Mission	Total Tithe
1947	£579	£5,211	£5,790
1948	762	6,768	7,530
1949	1,029	9,261	10,290
1950	1,039	9,351	10,390

Sabbath School Offering	13th S. S. Offering	Missions Extension	Harvest Invathering	Week of Sacrifice & Annual Off.
£1,831	£213	£45	£2,891	£482
2,016	325	163	3,517	564
2,314	353	140	3,379	528
2,748	476	88	4,204	584

during 1951. From the Northern European Division:

Pastor A. F. Tarr, Pastor G. A. Lindsay, Pastor G. D. King, and Dr. L. M. Hamilton

From the General Conference auditing department, Brother H. W. Barrows

I am sure that their ministry was appreciated, wheresoever it was possible for them to visit.

## Ivory Coast Mission Baptism

By D. V. Cowin. Departmental Secretary, W. A. Union

Gathered together on the eighth of December at the pretty little native S. D. A. church at Yoroporia in the Ivory Coast Mission were several hundred Adventists. The men, women and children had come from the churches and companies in the whole field by foot, by cycle and by lorry. Thus they were joined together in their annual five day camp meeting. It was a blessed occasion and a time of spiritual feasting and fellowshiping with each other.

On Sabbath afternoon the programme was climaxed with the baptism of twenty-five faithful men and women. A long line of persons led by the pastors and the candidates, wended their way from the camp meeting booth through the tall forest to the village water hole. All were singing hymns as they walked along. Several days before, the church leader Jock had dammed up the small stream in order to make ready a place for this most important church activity. It was an inspiring sight to see the believers standing in reverence around this fount.

Pastor G. M. Ellstrom, the Mission Superintendent, led the way down into the water, and there where the rays of the sun shone through the trees upon him he stood. One by one the men and women came down to be buried in a watery grave. Softly, the large group of natives sang in their own tongues the hymn which are so appropriate on an occasion like this.

It was fitting that the entire group returned to the small church where the newly baptised persons were voted into the church and where the right hand of fellowship was extended to them.

## Editorial

Undoubtedly many are wondering what changes are taking place after the recent Constituency Meeting, and will be awaiting news, from the delegates when they return.

The administration has undergone very little change. The Sabbath-School Department has been transferred from Brother D. V. Cowin to Brother D. L. Chappell. Also the Editorship of the "Messenger" has been transferred to the Union Secretary-Treasurer.

Your new Editor would therefore like to pay tribute to Pastor D. V. Cowin, for the good work he has put into the "Messenger" during the past two years.

The "Messenger" must carry news of the field, and we are dependent on you for this information. Interesting reports from your field will be welcome, and we would appreciate receiving them through your local field superintendent. All reports received will, as far as possible, be included in the first available issue of the "Messenger", but we would remind you that space is limited, and it may be necessary, to shorten some items, or even hold them over for a month or two.

With the co-operation of all fields, we are sure that the "Messenger" can continue its good work, and become a very important factor in making our West African Union a united field.

## The Lord Giveth the Increase

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towns and villages, truly many are very much interested.

### An Aged Man of Seventy Five

One bright Sabbath morning as one of the Schools was in progress, in came an old man of at least seventy-five years of age. He had served under the Nigerian Government for almost thirty years. Interrupting the service he said, "Of a truth this people teach the way of God correctly. The seventh day of the week (Saturday) is the Sabbath of the Lord as was written and read in the Holy Book." "Peoples of the world," he continued, "had made for themselves a counterfeit sabbath day (Sunday), the first day of each new week. God has no hand in it; Jesus and the Apostles knew nothing about the change from Saturday to Sunday." The speaker continued, "If anyone desires to please God let him serve and worship Him conscientiously on the seventh day, Saturday."

Surely the seed of truth sown by now-a-day Pauls' and watered by now-a-day Appolos' will in Gods' own good time yield precious fruits.

## Service

God loves the world; and if we are to be like Him, we too must love the world of sinning, sorrowing, suffering, aspiring, but frustrated humanity—regardless of colour, nationality, or creed. All are alike precious in His sight. Those who are the most needy are those we should seek to help most gladly. If we are to have and to exhibit the spirit of Christ, we will, if asked, respond to the call of greatest need and go to the place of greatest appeal. It is not to secure a position, but to fill a post of needed service, that is the most important thing in the world. It is not steppingstones to advancement and honour that we should seek, but places of greatest need that we have the talent to fill. The ambition to advance has been the ruin of many a worker. Its remedy is self-renunciation and a willingness to be expendable. He who gives his life in service is the one who really saves. These are vital principles. We are safe only if we are where God wants us to be. Then there is genuine joy within and true success without.

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