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Your Appointment With Opportunity

By Pastor E. W. Pedersen

Secretary, Home Missionary Department, Northern European Division

The swiftness with which another Harvest Ingathering Campaign has come upon us is an alarming realization and challenging reality. But it is also a God-given occasion for rejoicing.

It is alarming because it clearly indicates that time is running out, while we are aware that far too little is being accomplished. It is challenging because we know that even at this late hour so much still remains to be done. And it is an occasion for God's people to rejoice, because the swifter the years roll by, the sooner time will reach her own final destiny, and broaden out into the everlasting ages carrying the redeemed from the earth with her into the eternal city of our God.

But the people who love the Lord and His glorious appearing rejoice not only at the rapidly approaching end or in the hope of future bliss. They find joy in knowing that God can use them and that He has something worth while for them to do. They gladly welcome every heaven-sent opportunity of honouring their beloved Master by doing His biddings, such an opportunity for the Advent people is our annual Harvest Ingathering. During the following months we all have an appointment with opportunity and with God in joint, combined soul-saving service. In



Pastor E. W. Pedersen.

that period a special, privileged duty rests upon each and every one of us. Not just money, but precious souls are waiting to be gathered in by *you*. The thrill of it!

Looking towards this singular missionary endeavour, we are filled with great expectations and hopeful anticipations of mighty things for 1954. We have every reason to be grateful for what God has wrought in the past. Yet we have even weightier reasons for expecting far greater things today, for it is in His plans. He has promised it. The world needs it. It is our own great need.

There is an intimate inter-relationship between the world's need of Christ, our own need of a complete sur-

render and full consecration, and the mighty working of the power of the Holy Spirit. We, you and I, hold the centre position. We are the custodians of the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. To us have been committed the oracles of God. That is our unique position. That is our responsibility. O Lord, make us all minute middle men during these weeks of missionary adventure with Thee!

All! It includes everyone, doesn't it? Also you yourself. Old, cripple, infirm? Still you are not excluded. Bed-ridden or propped up in a wheel-chair? All the same you are

one of God's middle men. He needs you. He counts on you also in the Ingathering. You can make yours a prayer campaign. You may pray strength into the weak and courage to the fearful; willingness to the timid and humility to the proud; success to the collector and blessing to the giver. You can be a Moses who with upraised hands prays victory down to fighting Israel on the battle front.

All! Look at it again, and you will surely see yourself in it, able-bodied as you are. If you have physical ability to more than just pray, God expects that more of you. He expects active service of you. And you? You won't let Him down. We believe that every physically fit man and woman in our ranks will turn out and render that whole-hearted, consecrated and sustained service that wrings victory out of possibilities and impossibilities alike—the kind of service that the hosts of heaven cannot but crown with unparalleled success.

Word has just been received that Britain has done it again, that is, they have finished their 1954 Ingathering and have had a resounding success: £42,000 in six weeks or roughly £400 above last year's figure at this time, and the end is not yet. The average donation in Britain is not more than sixpence, and our membership there is about the same as the membership of one of our Scandinavian unions. What a marvellous achievement! and their secret of success? Clever planning and thorough preparation ahead of time; beginning the campaign on time; enthusiastic, faithful working all the time; ending on time. Ingathering is one form of the divine art of soul winning, and God is no respecter of persons. He can do equally great things for us in Iceland and Africa; in Holland and Scandinavia. And He is going to do it, we being ready and willing. May God richly bless each and every one of you.

On behalf of the many thousands who shall find their way to the Saviour through your faithful service in this year's ingathering, I sincerely thank you.

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Gold Coast Mission

President Pastor H. J. Welch

Office Address: P. O. Box 480, Kumasi

Notes from the President

We take this opportunity to bring greetings to all the workers and members of the Mission as we resume our duties upon return from the General Conference. The Conference was indeed a wonderful meeting and a great spiritual feast. I was deeply impressed by the International nature of our denominational work. What a sight it was to see thousands of God's people from every nation, kindred, tribe and tongue gathered there in one great meeting. The theme of the meeting was "The Second coming of Jesus." Truly we were all made to feel that the coming of our Lord is not far away.

I personally enjoyed the fellowship with Pastor C. B. Mensah as we travelled together from London and across America. He was a good traveller. Our brethren overseas greatly enjoyed hearing him speak. He did very well indeed. Pastor Mensah is still in Europe attending camp meetings there. He will be returning to West Africa very soon.

Secondary School Dormitory

Attention Please, every worker and church leader in the Gold Coast. Our Secondary students will have no place to sleep next year unless we get started soon with the dormitory but we must have your help. Funds must come in and that immediately. We cannot wait for the Cocoa season to get these funds. The need is exceedingly urgent. Let us stir every member to do his best now.

Welcome Brother and Sister Sparks

We were very happy to have the privilege on the 6th of July of welcoming Brother A. V. Sparks with his wife and baby daughter to the Gold Coast Mission. They will be connected with the staff of the Seminary at Bekwai. Brother Sparks holds a Masters degree from an American University and has had considerable teaching experience. We are sure that he and his wife will be a real asset to the educational work in the Gold Coast.

We wish them a happy stay with us in this field.

Techiman District

The Techiman district reports an investiture of 60 in the various Missionary Volunteer Classes. Well done Techiman. An M.V. rally was held in July, 9-10 at which Pastor J. C. Vetter and William Ackah M.V. and Asst. M.V. Secretaries of the Gold Coast Mission attended. Plans are under foot to hold a District M.V. Camp.

Bekwai District

An M.V. Camp was held at Kokofu on July 16-18 under the direction of A. B. Dankwah, District M.V. Leader. Its purpose was to bring new M.V. life into the churches of the District.

Kumasi District

A Sabbath School Rally was held at Namong July 23-24. One of its objectives was to arouse more interest in the Children's Division of the Sabbath School. The District also plans to hold another rally at Wioso near the Ivory Coast border. This should be an encouragement to the many new believers in that area.

Agona District

This District held a large rally for the Sabbath School on July 30-31. This will no doubt be a great help in strengthening the Sabbath Schools of the District.

Tithe Promotion

We deeply appreciate the fine way in which many of our Gold Coast workers are encouraging the members to be faithful in returning to God that which is His. Many good sermons have been preached on the subject. Let us all continue the good work that the church might prosper and that all our members may have the joy of being true to God in every way. Remember that God can never place His blessing upon those who rob Him in tithes and offerings.

Congratulations Gold Coast Colporteurs

The colporteurs have broken another record. The largest delivery record for any one month in the history of the Gold Coast colporteur work was made in the month of June, the total delivery was £1,610.

Evangelism in the Gold Coast

By E. B. Akyiano



E. B. Akyiano.

The season is come, when all the farmers are anxious to cultivate and plant their crops. We the Adventists should also prepare to go to the Master's vine-yard. Even though some of us would be as the unemployed labourers, standing lazily in the market places, but fortunately, by the good Master's command, we are commissioned! "Go."

On the 2nd. June, 1954, a co-operative preparation was made to start a 25 mile journey to Ntwumuru on the Eastern section of Gonja. Before our journey, it rained from the mid-night till day-break. You would be surprised how evangelist C. C. Tetteh and I were riding on the wet and swampy road.

At the outskirts of the town of Ntwumuru, when our expectancy of rest was getting sure, we reached a river called Dakar, there was an unfinished bridge. At that moment, our hope turned to despair. Yes, here was a grievous disaster, because the river was in flood. Now should we dare cross the river or return home. Luckily some of the town folks rushed there as they heard the noise of my motor cycle; thinking that it was the foreman of that bridge work.

I begged the people to help me cross the river; they helped and charged me four shillings (4/-). When we crossed to the bank of the river, I gave thanks, and started to



Village chief at Akonundi and new converts.



The Paramount Chief of Nangjari and new converts

converse with them. Luckily again, a young man whom I knew came to greet, then asked me to visit him one day at the village where the paramount chief lives. From that time the people began to regard me, because the young man told them that, I was a teacher to him for some years. Thus I was able to preach to the chief and his people.

Before leaving there, eight souls were won for Christ in the chief's house. We promised to keep the following Sabbath with them.

On the Sabbath we reached there, then started the service with a simple song, a short speech followed, then their interest was aroused for enrolment. After a short break, the chief took counsel with us in his room. He presented to us that his clerk had given a good recommendation of us before he saw us, and has witnessed it as true; so from his own heart he liked our mission, and wished all his people to have been Christians. He further promised to let his people erect a church soon, to prove his sincere adoption of the Mission.

Though many missionaries have been visiting him and his villagers, some even promised to establish schools and provide uniforms and drugs to the children freely, he said he didn't adopt those missionaries, but believes that we are the true missionaries. God desires help to educate these people.

At Akondi

We lodged in a fetish man's house (Tigare bosomfo fie) because the whole village is dominated by fetish. Our land-lord the fetish man led us to the village head-man.

In the evening a sermon was presented, with good attendance. The following day

another good meeting was held. As the petromax light was shining in the eyes, so Christ the real light shone in the hearts of the audience. After the appeal of the sermon some of them followed one another to stand for Christ the Saviour.

The next day we met opposition, which seemed to create a discouragement, but we had patience to stand against it.

The opposition was this:

The devotees of the fetish had a play and dancing which caused a disturbance to our work, but God our wonderful Father touched the fetish man's heart, and so he ordered his people to stop the play and pay attention to our message.

At another meeting the village chief's wife, she also is a fetish woman, stood up and gave herself to Christ. A wonder! The next day the woman brought her juju, talismans and some pieces of wood, "Dwarfs" (Mmoatia) as she called them, and we burned them to ashes.

It is a great joy that a company was formed there and assemble every day in one of the new believer's hut. Each believer felt

Ingathering Time Is Here Again,

Calling You To Labour For Men

Official Ingathering Campaign dates are 4th September to 16th October. Ingathering Rally Day is September 4th.

An interesting message written by Pastor C. D. Henri, President of the Liberian Mission, will be presented in all Adventist churches in West Africa on Ingathering Rally Day.

If a copy of Pastor Henri's message has not reached your church, please contact your District Leader immediately.

**If You Would Help Men,
Heaven to Gain—**

**DO YOUR HONEST PART IN
THIS CAMPAIGN.**

happy as the doctrinal lesson became a real heavenly bread for each one of them.

We ended our efforts with a result of forming two consecutive companies, with an enrolment of thirty-four souls respectively.

Confidently, I can say the "future is bright" also in the North.

We need your earnest prayers too.

Teaching Men To Preach Silently

By R. D. Mawutor,

Assistant Publishing Secretary, Gold Coast Mission

Little did I realize that we were to be in the midst of a political battle when I received the itinerary for the April-May trip which I was to make with Brother D. L. Chappell from the West African Union Publishing Department. Glancing through the programme, I saw that we were scheduled for a busy time, for we were to work with nineteen colporteurs and to conduct eight week-end Sabbath School Rallies. And as it turned out, we visited three prisons besides. Also we attended a ceremony in the yard of our Jasikan, Togoland, Church, where a former Juju priest burned all his Juju paraphernalia.

As we began our work of teaching colporteurs to use "silent preachers" of Christian literature in spreading the gospel, we found that representatives of the political parties in the Gold Coast were canvassing too—for votes. All about us, day after day, we could hear shouts of "Freedom", "104", "Domo", and "Islam" as candidates campaigned for election to the coming "all African" Legislative Assembly. Unmoved, but impressed by their ardour in working for an earthly kingdom, we prayerfully continued our work of campaigning for God's kingdom of eternal freedom.

Throughout the journey of 1,800 miles the Lord wonderfully blessed our efforts, marvellously provided places for us to camp, and granted us interesting experiences which ever reminded us that He watches over His workers.

Our total orders, including £30 in cash sales, amounted to £860. We received £60 in advance payments on the orders. Our best accomplishment was in Ho, Togoland, where we took £171 worth of orders in just 13 hours!

During each Sabbath School rally I was permitted to speak about the colporteur ministry. I used two large posters which read: (1) *CANVASSING—THE FRONT DOOR KEY TO THOUSANDS OF HOMES. LET'S USE THE KEY MORE.* (2) *FOR REACHING THE PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE, COLPORTEUR WORK IS BEST BY FAR.* Two men, brethren J. A. Nartey and Dabla Mensah, responded and they are already canvassing.

The colporteurs in this country are doing marvels for the Lord and I am confident that a rich harvest will be reaped from their labours. Won't you add to your prayer list these great pioneers of the printed page?

Do Come Again, Good Friends

By L. Sarpong-Mensah

For sometime now, the members of the Benevolent Society of the Adventist Church in Kumasi, Gold Coast, has been visiting the sick in the city hospital. During one of such visits, a child patient said, as the group was leaving, "Do come again, good friends." This patient was voicing the sentiment of all the sick people visited by our group, for it is quite evident that we are bringing great blessing to these folks.

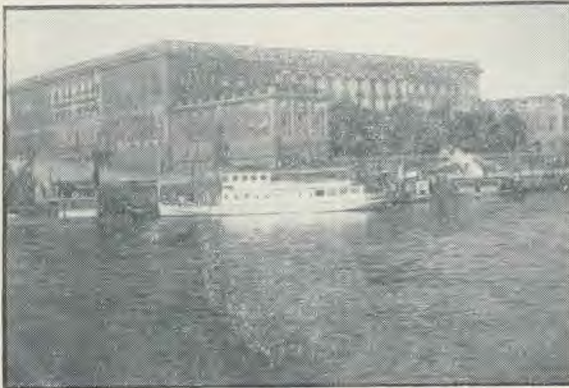
Usually a Sabbath afternoon visit to the hospital consists of the quartette singing songs, some of the group offering prayer, and the presentation of gifts such as fruits, candy, provisions, and clothing to certain of the patients.

It is thrilling to note the results of such visits and we thank God for the way in which He is manifesting His healing power in answer to the prayer of faith. Recently, one patient stated: "I have had many unhappy days since my admittance. Patients have been dying nearby, and I was wondering when my turn would come especially when my fever temperature rose. But thank God, your visits have brought a change. Now I do not fear. No patient has died since your visit. God has shown His tender mercy to us through your prayers."

I encourage other churches to form benevolent societies. God will greatly bless your labour of love for the sick and unfortunate in your community.

Great Division Youth Congress in Sweden, 1955

By D. V. COWIN,
Union M.V. Secretary.



The Royal Palace, Stockholm.

You remember well the "Paris Youths' Congress" of 1951, when five of our West African M.Vs. and your Union M.V. Secretary travelled to France, then to England and back to Paris to join in those never-to-be-forgotten days of Youth Fellowship. Delegates Watson, Harding, Adusei, Makinde, Moses and Cowin held high the torch of youth along the way and many times each day at the congress told the thrilling stories of Youth Activity in this great West African Union. You may be justly proud of the witness given by these young men at the conference. West Africa is still benefitting by what they saw and did both there and here.

The "Youth's Congress" idea and the "Share-Your-Faith" movement still roll on and now our own Northern European Division M.V. Department has arranged to hold a "Great Youths' Congress" in Stockholm, Sweden, from August 2 to 7, 1955. West Africa is planning to send a delegation of its own M.Vs. to that important young peoples' gathering where inspiration, fellowship, sharing, and training will join hands with consecration and dedication. This is something wonderful to look forward to and to work for.

Our Union Committee voted in January of this year to recommend to the missions, the sending of a group of African delegates to this important Youth Gathering. Most of the missions approved of this plan and

following the sending of promotion material to the fields began to lay plans.

This Youths' Congress has been made a *Special M.V. Project* for the years 1954 and 1955. A great effort is to be made to raise money in the M.V. Societies and in the missions, with which to send the delegates. It will probably cost more than £150 to send each one of the delegates. Each delegate (which is to be selected early in 1955) will be asked to give a sum from his own money toward the cost of travelling and other expenses. The mission M.V. Societies will raise a portion of the money and the union will give some assistance.

Delegates will be selected by the missions and the union from our own mature S.D.A. youth, between the age of fourteen to thirty-four years. They will be expected to have attained at least companion or comrade status or be ready to be invested in one of these M.V. classes at the congress. It is even possible that some of our S.D.A. youth may wish to attend the congress wholly on their own, even though they are not appointed as delegates and receive some assistance on their expenses. Such persons must have the approval of their local mission and the West African Union.

To accommodate the more than 2,000 youth expected, the Royal Tennis Hall in beautiful



House of Parliament, Stockholm.

Stockholm has been engaged. This city is called "The Queen of the North" and it is lovely with its many fine buildings, bridges and waterways.

So, Adventist youth, let us work and let us pray for the success of this great congress and let us send as delegates the best that we have.

The Spirit of God at Work

By J. O. Ukegbu

The spirit of God, it is said, will be the only means by which God will cause His work to be finished quickly on the earth. This is evident by the miracles which the spirit of God is performing today in the hearts of men and women in convincing them to give up their evil ways of life and belief for the service of the true God through belief and faith in Jesus Christ.

The same spirit animates the members of the Sabbath School to GO that those sitting in darkness may be brought into the light of the gospel of hope. The work of the spirit has been manifest in our Aba East Nigerian Sabbath School. Hardly a month passes without a new face being welcomed.

Sabbath day 15th of April was another red-letter day in our Sabbath School. There were two new faces in our School, who as usual were invited by our Sabbath School Officers to wait for a special interview. These guests were Micah Nwogu and Monday Wosuagwu. They were both congratulated upon their courage to step out in the right direction in standing for Christ. They in turn expressed their joy for the blessing of the day

and thanked God for directing the feet of His messengers who spoke to them in their homes. After some questions and answers one of these new comers, Monday William, was worried. He was led to reveal his anxiety. He had been an idolater for 16 years and his fetish objects of worship were in his house. These idols had incited fear into him. He trembled to have them still in his house whilst he cherished the new religion of Christianity. After further admonition from the Word of God, Monday had the courage to ask for his idols to be burned. It was the pleasure of the Sabbath School to march to Monday's home to have his gods of wood, shells of eggs, pennies, special leaves, some growing trees, and a host of other things burned.

It was interesting to see Monday conducting our Sabbath School members to the various corners in his house where his objects of worship had been located. When these things were in flames Monday's face was lighted with the radiancy of that satisfying joy which comes as a result of the freedom and hope which a knowledge and acceptance of the word of God alone brings to one who has been under the bondage of Satan for some time.

The occasion was an appropriate one for preaching and appealing to the crowd that gathered as they heard the hymns of praise to God which the Aba Church Choir sang at intervals. Again some seed was sown which was hoped to sprout in due course.

Prayer was offered on behalf of our new convert and all who had the privilege of hearing the word of God that day.

There was no small joy amongst us and certainly amongst the host of heaven over the soul who had turned to look upon the glorious face of Jesus.

Yes, the spirit of God is working. The same spirit is willing to help us to give up those our individual "idols" that we are cherishing even though we profess Christianity.

GOD CLAIMS HIS PORTION OF ALL

"As the Giver of every blessing, God claims a certain portion of all we possess. This is His provision to sustain the preaching of the gospel. And by making this return to God, we are to show our appreciation of His gifts. But if we withhold from Him that which is His own, how can we claim His blessing? If we are unfaithful stewards of earthly things, how can we expect Him to entrust us with the things of heaven? It may be that here is the secret of unanswered prayer."—"Christ's Object Lessons," page 144.

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