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“SERVE JESUS NOW”

By John Farrell

“Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.” These words were the spoken and unspoken thoughts of each worker of the Ghana Mission as he took part in the Workers’ Conference held at the Seminary, Bekwai, from 24th-30th April.

The duty of each worker is that of service to God and to our fellow men. Our motto proclaimed just that “Serve Jesus Now”. Pastor W. J. Newman, our President, opened the session by reminding us of the attributes that are required of us in our service. We should be (1) Willing. (2) Co-operative

(3) Finishing the work
(4) Humble
(5) Giving individual service
(6) Giving joyful service.

We can do nothing in our own strength, so we began each day aright by seeking the Lord for strength, wisdom, power and understanding, in our prayer bands. Preceding each prayer session, our

minds were directed to God through a short morning message.

Breakfast followed—the temporal needs of the workers being satisfied by Brother E. G. Asamoah and his kitchen staff.

Each morning, except Sabbath, before Pastor E. Keslake, Home Missionary and Temperance Secretary of West African Union started his training “Light Bearers” course (a special report on it is found elsewhere) we had a devotional hour. The message given by various brethren, was an uplift to our soul and an inspiration to go

forward with vigour and zeal to help finish the work that God has appointed us to do.

In the business session, ways and means were discussed by which we may do a better service for the Master. Very favourable reports showed that the work of God is on the march. But what a great work



Workers attending the conference held at Bekwai

lies before us undone! "Serve Jesus Now". Such topics as "Reverence in the House of God", "Discipline in the Church", "Camp Meetings" etc. were profitably discussed. Where there is unity there is strength. The result of these sessions was to unite us as one big family with one aim to help finish the work in this new born land. The next which faced us in the assembly hall during the Conference was Romans 9:28, "For He will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth." It was brought to our attention by Pastor Rasmussen, Associate Educational Secretary of General Conference who was with us on the last day, that our text says "He will finish the work", not we will finish it. We must be fully prepared to meet our God when he comes. We must have oil in our lamps, we must have the Holy Spirit within our hearts. When that is so "He will finish the work."

The Bekwai Sabbath School and church members united with us at the College on the Sabbath. Brother Twum-Antwi, the Bekwai Sabbath School Superintendent conducted the Sabbath School with the help of some of the field evangelists.

There is joy service for the Master. Pastor Keslake spoke of that joy in the Divine service which followed. His address was summarised in the European ladies trio "Oh what a joy in serving Jesus."

That joy was put into practice in the afternoon. House to house visitation was conducted in Bekwai. Papers and tracts were distributed, Bible studies were given, great joy was experienced.

On the 29th Pastor R. Coon, Principal of the Voice of Prophecy paid a fleeting visit. As well as guiding our thoughts on the things of God in a devotional hour, he portrayed frankly but kindly the great need for us as workers to promote the Voice of Prophecy. Greater still, he pointed out, is the need for us to follow up unceasingly and study with the students. By so doing we create the personal touch in evangelism which greatly adds to the winning of souls. He brought with him the technicolour film "One in twenty thousand" which we viewed and appreciated so much. Pastor Simonsen, Educational Secretary, for Northern European Division who arrived just before the viewing brought us the silent film of the Stockholm Youth Congress 1955. Brother Aekah who represented the Gold Coast then at the Congress kindly commented for us.

The climax to the few days of active discussion and spiritual uplift was the communion service held on the last evening.

Pastor Simonsen brought us to the foot of the cross in his short message. With solemnity and humbleness of heart we did as Jesus commanded us to do "wash one another's feet." Pastor Newman conducted the holy communion. We separated from that solemn occasion with the closing theme song on our lips "Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me".

M. V. Golden Anniversary Celebration in Ghana

By W. B. Aekah M. V. Secretary, Ghana

There comes a time in the life of a people, a period peculiar to them in their history. The year 1957 is a very unique year in the history of the new nation of Ghana for it is the year that this native land became independent. To all Adventist youth scattered around the world the year 1907 is very important; for the prosperity of the Advent youth today can be attributed to the decision that was taken by the wayside by two faithful young men on their knees in that year. The youth of Ghana today have cause to be proud of the year 1957 for it brings us right away from the time that the seven-youth formed the first M.V. Society to today when the Ghana youth are among the 400,000 Advent youth around the world. As we look back over the period of 50 years we can see how the Lord has led and directed us in the Missionary Volunteer Department.

At a recent meeting of the executive Committee of the Ghana Advent youth society of Missionary Volunteers a decision was taken to celebrate the M.V. Golden Anniversary in a befitting manner. The following items were listed to form part of the celebration activities in each district:- campfires, youth dinners or parties, excursions, route marches, youth evangelistic crusades and "Share Your Faith" activities.

The months of June to August inclusive have been designated as the youth crusade months. Plans have been made for the youth in each district to share their faith in a special way. An evangelistic effort for one week is to be conducted at the end of which a big youth rally will be held in the village

or town where the youth evangelistic crusade was conducted. The programme of the rally will include route marches and youth parties. Important personalities will be invited to attend (District M.V. Leaders are asked to bring to the notice of the church members these Golden Anniversary celebrations.)

As a climax of the Ghana M.V. Golden Anniversary celebration a Youth Congress will be held in Kumasi at the Prempeh Assembly Hall on 22nd September. All youth in Ghana are invited to attend this Congress. Admission to the hall will be strictly based on M.V. Uniform and membership cards. A route march of Ghana Advent Youth in Uniform through the city of Kumasi will form a very important item of our Congress programme. To close our Congress the Bekwai College will render a cantata at Prempeh Hall to which important personalities in Kumasi will be invited.

We should praise God for sparing our lives to be able to take part in this great march of Advent Youth to the City of God. The Ghana Advent Youth are also deeply convinced that when we reach the fulfilment of our destiny the youth around the world who march with us may also have the privilege of looking up and with joy say "Lo this is our God we have waited for Him", let us go home with Thee.

Urge them to come out of "Babylon" so that they be not partakers of her sins and her plagues. Revelation 18:4.

If we should be loyal to our Lord, then every member of the Church, whatever his or her occupation, rank and talent, is required by the Saviour to do a part of the work.

"A serious and perhaps unsuspected hindrance to the success of the truth is to be found in our churches (Church-members) themselves. When an effort is made to present our faith to unbelievers, the members of the church too often stand back, as if they were not an interested party. . . ." *Gospel workers*, page 196.

Indeed, should every member of the church realize his or her responsibility for the salvation of the unbelievers, the light of the truth might have reached the darkest country, people, and tongues.

Let us release the brakes of indolence and accelerate the work of preaching and teaching of the truth which has been revealed to us. For Jesus will not come until we have kindled the whole dark earth with the light which is the truth of God.

Lift up the trumpet and loud let it ring;
Jesus is coming again! Cheer up, ye pilgrims,
be joyful and sing, Jesus is coming again!

Refrain: Coming again, Coming again,
Jesus is coming again!

Attention, Church Members!

By Friedolin A. Afarie Student Evangelist, Bekwai

It is quite evident that the time of trouble spoken of in the Bible is fast approaching; and that the inhabitants of the world will soon meet their fate. And yet, many thousand people are still in the darkness of error. They are in complete ignorance of the "third Angel's message", and the true church of God.

What should we do to get all these people informed of the soon coming Saviour? Can the mere tithe we pay do the work for our Lord? I have observed that, many ardent church-members pay their tithes faithfully for the promotion of the work of God. This is but a step towards perfection. Actually, Jesus knows that we are faithful tithe payers before He commands us to "preach the gospel to every creature". And so, "go—ye and teach" your brothers, your friends, enemies, and the unfamiliar ones.

"I Believe in Your God"

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burn all of them! I am now seeking refuge, health, salvation and protection from your own God and I believe He will not reject me. I believe in your God."

My dear brethren and sisters, how I wished you were with us to hear the serene voice of this grand old lady speaking and repudiating her gods, and the singing of our members who were so happy on this occasion. All those gods were really burnt to ashes, and with a brief word of counsel and encouragement from the writer of this article, the service was closed with prayer. Pray for this new convert. She stands in the centre of the group in the picture on page 4 her daughter looks on.

Big Qua Evangelism—Calabar

By A. T. Dogo, Evangelist, East Nigerian Mission

Sunday night of the 24th of February this year, found the writer and five trained laymen who had completed the Training Light-bearer Course under our Pastor, E. E. Hulbert, in the Big Qua Town Hall, Calabar.

With the help of these lay men and other enthusiastic members of the Calabar Church, handbills announcing the first two meetings had been given out about a week previous. Large posters were placarded at every conspicuous place in the town on the morning of the Sunday on which the meetings were to begin.

Our preparatory work in the Big Qua Town began just at the time when the political bodies were campaigning for election at every corner. Some of the native friends as well as strangers had asked our people as they went about distributing the handbills—"Are you campaigning for the election?" And "No" our members answered, "we are campaigning for the kingdom of Christ." The Town Hall being almost in the centre of the town, and the beautiful pictures which we were showing, all added to the fact that on the first Sunday evening the crowd was so great that those standing outside the hall almost equalled those sitting inside. Rascals did their worst to disturb from the outside but they were soon silenced.

Throughout the eight meetings held the attendance continued with an average of a hundred people, but as is always the case the attendance dropped when the testing truths were given—the Sabbath truth and other testing messages. Only the really interested ones and the children remained, most of whom the pictures attracted, however, there were honest ones among them.

We now have a Branch Sabbath School comprising nine regular adults and about seventeen children most of whom are juniors. Three of them (two boys and a girl) have covenanted before the people that they have determined not only to keep the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, but to join the baptismal class so as to prepare to enter into God's remnant church.

We have just come to the end of the main series of the meetings, but the follow-up work to keep the interest going and growing in the faith is always more important.

Those still halting between two opinions must be led to a place of decision, where they will take a firm stand in the faith. So please pray for us as we follow up the new interest, that God may water and cause to grow the seed sown, and result in the saving of souls into His kingdom.

"I Believe in Your God"

By A. W. Ogbonna, Evangelist, East Nigeria.

The Sabbath of April 28 was a very happy one to Diobu Church, While we were singing in the church at about 8.30 a.m. I saw an aged woman entering the house of God with a bright, smiling face. I recognized her, yes, she was a woman to whom I had taught the word of God more than a year ago. She was warmly received and made welcome.



The next Sabbath day found our members singing their beautiful choruses and marching towards the home of this old lady for she had renounced her juju and wanted them to be burned. "In my life I have suffered from diverse sicknesses, have sought remedies both from native fetish doctors, salvation from my gods, and just of recent I have had eye trouble and yet my gods are hanging above my head day and night, but they cannot offer the least help to me. Therefore, I am convinced beyond all doubt that these gods and their vain agents can not be of any help to me as far as life, health and salvation are concerned. So

(Continued on Page 3)

The Sabbath School Teacher

By M. E. Lind

The statement found on page 151 of the Sabbath School Manual is right. It reads: "The object of the Sabbath school should not be lost sight of in mechanical arrangements."

How well it is for us to ponder this thought. Many, too many, take it for granted that because the Sabbath school as an institution is more than a hundred years old, it should be able to run on indefinitely "by itself." There are the usual opening exercises: The report, the review, the lesson, the missions appeal, . . . all good and interesting items, but the Sabbath school is much more than some interesting features. It is vastly more than a mere introduction to the eleven o' clock service. It is a recurrent opportunity which, rightly used, will prove to be one of the most efficient soul-saving and soul-preserving agencies ever given to the church.

Right in the centre of this opportunity stands the most important person:- The Sabbath school teacher.

How does he relate himself to the great opportunity given him? Is he indifferent to it? Does he strive to evade such a pitfall which Sister White so eloquently speaks of when she says: "Teachers in the Sabbath school have a missionary field given them to teach the Scriptures, *not parrot-like* to repeat over that which they have taken no pains to understand." *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 18.

As teachers, it is our duty and our privilege to improve ourselves and our teaching. Paul said to young Timothy: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God." 2 Timothy 2:15. In order to become good Sabbath school teachers, we must work hard and follow certain principles that apply to teaching in a general way and to Sabbath school teaching in a more specific manner.

The man who expects a harvest of wheat, must obey certain laws. He knows that should he try, out of defiance or ignorance to violate those laws, he will be utterly defeated. The one who *knows how* will obtain good results.

We believe that the following three items of advice will materially benefit the teacher:

1. Know what you teach.
2. Know whom you teach.
3. Know who taught you.

As to item number one,—"*Know what you teach*," we wish to point out that the least we must expect from a Sabbath school teacher is, that when he stands before his class, that he *know* the lesson. Not infrequently does it seem that the teacher has but a scanty knowledge of the lesson. Too often does it become apparent that he is "skimming the surface" because he himself has paid but little attention to the contents of the lesson. His teaching becomes dull. His students lose confidence in him as a teacher and often in what he tries to teach them. Even when it is an old and "experienced" man who may be teaching the lesson, does he rely upon his "experience" as a teacher, rather than upon the fresh supplies of interesting and helpful material pertaining to the lesson for the day. We believe that such teachers would do well to contemplate the example given us by young David prior to his battle against the giant. It says in the Scriptures that he took from the brook five smooth stones and went to fight Goliath. How many stones did he use to finish off the giant? Only one! Although David was well experienced in the use of the sling, he provided himself with five stones, and it says that the stones were smooth! Indeed, he was well prepared for the battle. To all Sabbath school teachers we say: Go thou forth and prepare likewise.

"*Know whom you teach*"—A Sabbath school teacher should definitely know his students. He should not be satisfied with just knowing his *class*, that is, that his class consists of such and such a number of students. No, he should take pains to learn to know each individual in his class. But you say, that will take time. Of course it will. Not only time, but determination, and above all, love. The teacher should prepare the "daily lesson study" in light of the individual needs of his students. But in order to be able to do so, he must definitely *know* his students. Know their homes, their families, their problems, their joys and their sorrows. In other words, the teacher is to be much more than a mere teacher of Scripture. He is to be a Shepherd teacher.

Now in regard to point number three: The teacher should *know who taught him*. That means, he should know his Saviour. Without a personal knowledge of Jesus, all our teaching becomes like an empty shell. The students will soon find out whether their teacher has himself been taught by the Master Teacher. It is a well known fact

that the teachings of secular teachers is mostly based upon *what they know*. The teachings of a Sabbath school teacher, however, is based upon, not only what he knows, but upon *what he is*. The one who *knows* the Master Teacher, will Himself impart to His students that knowledge, without which, they will starve a spiritual death.

In closing we wish to recommend the following statement from Sister White: "Teachers should be constantly learning and striving for a more thorough understanding, a right judgment in the things of God. There is danger of the teachers becoming self-confident, and so filled with self-esteem that they will not realize their own deficiencies, that there is with them a narrowness of ideas, and they do not broaden or expand."

Sabbath school teachers, you, are one of the most important factors in the church. Much depends upon you. God bless you!

During The Workers' Conference

By D. K. Amponsah, Evangelist, Ghana

The evangelists and pastors of the Ghana Mission were greatly benefited by the workers' meeting held in Bekwai, 24-30 April 1957. It was during these meetings that Pastor Edgar Keslake, the West African Union Home Missionary and Temperance Secretary, gave a comprehensive and continuous study on "Training Light Bearers" with elaborate and specific techniques in giving Bible Readings in the home.

He told of the historical background of Bible Readings for the home (which is question-and answer method of giving Bible studies) started by Elder S. N. Haskell in a California Camp meeting in 1882. This way of studying the Bible was endorsed by Mrs. E. G. White and carried forward by Mr. A. I. Robinson (the first Bible writer) in 1891.

The Bible worker, Pastor Keslake taught, should be fully consecrated, efficient, faithful, humble, genuine, polite, simple, sympathetic, tactful. All true doctrine, should centre in Christ for the transformation and redemption of the hearers or Bible students.

He also said that the Bible worker should endeavour to acquire a practical background knowledge concerning his own Church history, beliefs, the testing time awaiting every Church member and the po-

pular beliefs of all religious bodies including Mohammedanism.

The Bible worker, should follow Christ's methods, making friendly contacts in the homes of his friends and neighbours, to pave the way for Bible Readings, which should be based solely on the Holy Bible. All the studies should meet the needs of the hearers and suit the occasion. Moreover the Bible worker will find valuable a Reference Bible, a Concordance, Spirit of Prophecy books and Index and some scriptural tracts as helps in preparing the Bible studies.

Finally, we were taught that the truth must be presented harmoniously. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the subject and order of presentation will be determined by the hearers. The Bible studies should be started with non-controversial subjects dealing with man's salvation. Controversial doctrinal subjects follow, concluding with decisive subjects to lead the hearers to decide for Christ by the end of the studies.

In giving Bible Readings, we learned, the Bible should be its own expositor, comparing scripture with scripture. One should never interpret the Bible according to his personal thinking. To bring the hearers through the "Valley of Decision" with full interest in the studies and a deep conviction leading to a final decision to serve God according to His will, despite the implications involved in the decision, is the ultimate goal of Bible studies: that the reader may have hope of being redeemed for the glorious Kingdom of Christ.

Who Is Christ?

By Joseph Sarpong Dwumoh Evangelist Ghana

Christ is the centre of our message as well as our sustainer, mediator and our all. Without Him we can do nothing of ourselves. Without Him we are lost in our sin forever and ever. He is able to redeem us from our sins if only we shall believe in Him.

There are many kinds of vocations in this world, and while men and women are engaged in such business they often times forget that Christ is present with them. What is your present occupation, do you work in the night or only in the day time? Remember Christ, Christ in all your work you do.

If you are a baker, read the following text, "I am the Bread of Life." John 6:48. Before man got to know how to bake bread, Christ was already the bread of Life. Dare not forget whenever you are baking bread.

If you are a physician, remember that before you became a doctor Christ was already a Divine healer. "Physician heal thyself." Luke 4:23. Never forget Christ while you are examining a patient or whenever you are making an operation.

If you are a builder before you lay your foundation stone, remember Christ who is the "Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold I lay in Zion a chief Corner Stone, elect, precious: And he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded." 1 Peter 2:6.

Are you a carpenter if so read and meditate upon this text, "I am the Door of the sheep." John 10:7. If a man enters into a room and passes not through the door but through a window he is classified as a thief. Christ is the door through which if you pass into a room you would be welcome. He was the first carpenter even before the creation of the world.

You may probably be a banker, but brother or sister do you often remember when you are counting your money, that Christ also is the Hidden treasure, the bank itself in which you are keeping your money. "In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Colossians 2:3.

If you are a biologist, you have chosen a good job. I have much interest in the same, but let us pause and ask ourselves who made all these living and non-living things in this world? People go beyond to say all things came by themselves and not created by God; Is it true—dear biologist? I personally do not believe in this theory which is not practical. Christ said, "I am the way, the truth and the Life." John 14:6. This proves that Christ is the creator of all things and sustains them at the same time.

How often do you stop to look at beautiful huge buildings. Even in that, Christ is the Foundation of it. "For other foundation can no man lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 3:11.

If someone is a judge he becomes well known to all people in the world. Mr. Judge, do you know that Christ is the righteous

judge? "And he commanded us to preach unto the people and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the judge of the quick and the dead." Acts 10:42. Be a good and faithful judge, take a keen interest in it and pray for divine guidance.

Are you a statesman, a leader of nations? Before you came into that office Christ had already taken that stand. "Who would not fear thee, O King of Nations, for to thee doth it appertain, for as-much-as among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like unto thee." Jeremiah 10:7.

Do you have a degree in philosophy? If so believe in Christ for He is the source of it. "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and man." Luke 2:52.

Many people delight in seeing images of stone made by sculptors, what about God who wrote on two tables of stone with His finger, isn't that wonderful? In all sides of work in this world Christ is the Chief.

"Men in business, in positions, men with large inventive faculties, and scientific insight, men of genius are to be among the first to hear the gospel call." *Councils on Stewardship*, p. 139.

"Every man, of whatever trade or profession, should make the cause of God his first interest; he should not only exercise his talents to advance the Lord's work, but should cultivate his ability to this end. Many a man devotes months and years to the acquirement of a trade or profession that he may become a successful worker in the world; and yet he makes no special effort to cultivate those talents which would render him a successful labourer in the vineyard of the Lord. He has perverted his powers, misused his talents. He has shown disrespect to his heavenly Master. This is the great sin of the professed people of God." *Councils on Stewardship*, p. 124.

Dear readers, as you read this article, I pray that the Lord may give you a true and divine wisdom of the vocation that you are engaged in at this time and do things in order as the *Father* wants you to do.

Have a full faith in God be sure that it is the Lord that has entrusted into your hands the work that you are doing to see if you will make it to His Glory. Whatever you do, do it to the Glory of God.

News Notes

✘ The West African Union has recently been favoured by a visit from Pastor L. R. Rasmussen, Associate Secretary for the Education Department of the General Conference and Pastor J. A. Simonsen, Educational Secretary of the Northern European Division. These brethren have just completed a tour of all the fields in the West African Union Mission, examining schools and conducting Teacher's Institutes. Their work has been greatly appreciated and we trust that as a result of the study in this field their recommendations will mean real advancement to the Educational work of the Mission.

✘ Readers will be happy to know that word comes from Pastor and Mrs. N. B. Nielsen that his health is greatly improved and that they are expecting to return from Denmark very soon to their duties in Accra.

✘ Pastor G. D. King is making a visit to the West African Union beginning in North Nigeria and travelling through West Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Ghana. He will also be attending the Committee Meeting to be held in July. We are indeed grateful for the services of Pastor King.

✘ Pastor and Mrs. D. H. Hughes and children will be returning this month to their station at Bassa, Liberia. They have been assisting Pastor Henri with his evangelistic effort in Lagos and also with the effort held in Ile. Their services have been greatly appreciated by the brethren in Nigeria.

✘ Word has come that an official opening will be held of the Kwahu Hospital on July 11. While the hospital has been in full operation for some time it was impossible at the time of the beginning of its operation to hold an official opening because of the political situation. It is expected that the Minister of Health and other prominent members of the Ghana Government will be present. Pastor G. D. King of the Northern European Division will also participate.

✘ Plans are under way to open a special Physio-therapy department at Kwahu Hospital. This has been approved by the Ghana Ministry of Health and the Board of the In-

stitution. Through the kindness of Skodsborg Sanitarium in Denmark, Kwahu has been able to obtain the services of Brother M. Henriksen to train the personnel of the hospital in the techniques of physiotherapy and to assist them in getting their new department set-up. This kind service from our sister institution in Denmark is greatly appreciated.

✘ Word has just come that Bekwai Secondary School is now approved by the Ghana Education Department for Government Grant. This means that they will now be able to use teachers approved and bonded by the Government and also to accept scholarship students. Ibie Training College and Secondary School in Nigeria has also been placed on the fully approved list for Government assistance.

✘ Mr. and Mrs. John Farrell with their son Ian and baby daughter Fiona have just spent two weeks at Accra taking their local leave and enjoying a much needed rest.

✘ Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Glynne Meredith on the birth of a baby son Jon Maxwell born at Watford, England. Friends in West Africa are anxiously awaiting their arrival on the M.V. Aureol on July 9.

✘ Travelling on the same boat with the Meredith family will be Miss Matejisik who is coming to act as an office secretary for the West African Union. We welcome Miss Matejisik to this field.

✘ Pastor C. B. Mensah of the Ghana Mission and Pastor A. Nzotta of the East Nigerian Mission who have been studying at Newbold for the past year will also be arriving on July 9. We welcome them back to the family of West African Mission workers.

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