

WEST AFRICAN ADVENT

# MESSENGER

VOICE OF THE WEST AFRICAN UNION

MISSION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

VOL. 11.

AUGUST 1957

No. 8.

## AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT AT KWAHU

By Lionel Acton-Hubbard, Director of Nursing, Kwahu Hospital

"We are to labour both for the health of the body and for the saving of the soul. Our Mission is the same as that of our Master, of whom it is written that He went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed by Satan." Acts 10:38. *Testimonies*, Vol. 6, No. 34.

The rain descended in torrents as several young men leapt from the taxi, hastily gathered their loads and came into the shelter of the hospital verandah.

A glance was sufficient to tell that these young men were not all Ghanaians, the familiar tribal markings of Nigeria and Sierra Leone, the so obviously "French" appearance of the man from Dakar, and of course the ear detected the different dialects.

Here in fact was a group, very representative of this wonderful African continent, a representative group from our evangelistic training centre at Bekwai. The group were not paying a courtesy call as so many do—that was obvious

from the loads each carried. No, they had come to Kwahu Hospital to spend three precious vacation weeks in intensive study—studying how better to be of service to humanity, how better to follow in His steps.

Students, in whatever profession have something in common and it was not long before the young men from Bekwai were settled in the boys dormitory. Welcome rang through the building and they were "the strangers" no longer.

In a moment it seemed the group was absorbed into the working of the hospital, complete with gowas, regular stations of duty, and of course lecture periods under the direction of Dr. J. Ashford-Hyde, Mrs.

Hubbard, and the writer. First Aid handbooks and notebooks were in use continuously it seemed and at times a group could be observed labouring together over some point; possibly not completely understood by all.

The student group from Bekwai not only attended lectures but helped on the



Evangelistic Students Studying Health and First Aid at Kwahu.

wards, in the outpatients department and at least three were in attendance during major operations.

The Sabbath morning Bible studies prepared by Dr. Hyde were composed with the thought of the completeness of the work of God's remnant people. He pointed out most vividly the tragic results of over specialization and counselled us to look to the Master for our guide in living and working. I am sure the three studies will live long in the memories of our Evangelist friends even as in the minds of those who continue to labour at Kwahu. A medical evangelist work has always been near to the hearts of Seventh day Adventists and as the point was re-emphasized we were heartened to "press together".

The group also gave us encouragement as we heard various voices lifted up in prayer, praise and singing as individuals took an active part in our Young peoples' society, prayer meeting and Sabbath School.

All too quickly the three weeks passed, -- stretchers made from such materials as could be found in the bush, mock patients lying upon red blankets, bandaged and splinted, told that the end of course examination was in progress. Instructors and students awaited the result. It was a splendid result and I am sure all were heartened by it.

In a short time those who attended will receive their Red Cross Certificates and badges in Practical First Aid. As these young men returned to Bekwai our prayers went with them. Prayers that God would use them mightily in saving souls and saving life. "Again and again I have been instructed that the medical missionary work is to bear the same relation to the work of the third Angel's message that the arm and the hand bear to the body. Under the direction of the divine head they are to work unitedly in preparing the way for the coming of Christ." *Ibid.*

The gospel ministry is needed to give permanence and stability to the medical missionary work; and the ministry needs the medical missionary work to demonstrate the practical working of the gospel—neither part of the work is complete without the other.

Such a programme as the one completed at Kwahu Hospital shows clearly the accuracy of these statements penned by Mrs. White. We trust that it will not be too long before we are able to hold such a course again.

## The Art of Application (For Sabbath School Teachers)

By H. J. Welch, President, West African Union Mission

It is easy for teachers and preachers to talk in general terms but fail to make the Truth practical by applying it to life's problems. Too many are like the preacher who held forth with great oratory for an hour. When some one asked a member of the congregation what the sermon was about he answered "Well if I rightly remember he preached about sin." "What did he say about sin the questioner asked." Back came the answer, "Well I don't remember much but I gained the impression he was against it."

Every lesson taught should lead to action. Before you go before your class, say to yourself "what do I want the members of my class to do about the truth in this lesson? What change do I want to make in them by my teaching?" This attitude will help you to make the lesson concrete and practical. The members of your class live in a world of problems. They have temptations, sorrows and worries, just like you and me. They need the guiding, saving, encouraging truths of God's word applied directly to their specific problems.

How can we make this practical application of the lesson? First of all we must spend enough time in thinking and praying about the lesson to apply it to our own souls need. We cannot give others what we have not got ourselves. A theoretical knowledge of the lesson on the part of the teacher is not enough. It must live and grow in his own heart and mind. Application may be either direct or indirect. The teacher may directly point out the moral of the lesson and tell his pupils what they ought to do about it. This method has its place but also its dangers. To preach at people is offensive to some. To use this method you must know your members very well.

Usually a much better method is what we may call the indirect method. Nathan used both methods to apply spiritual truth to King David's sinful heart. His story of the man who took another's only lamb was an indirect method of approach. By it David was led to condemn himself, then Nathan used the direct approach and said, "Thou art the man." Illustrations from every day life are always excellent for

driving home the lesson. The question method is one of the best. Draw out the class by means of questions so that they make their own applications. Do not depend only on the questions in the quarterly but by skilful well thought out questions bring home the lesson to the minds and consciences of your class members. Avoid lecturing your class. They will remember better and accept more willingly the truths they discover for themselves as a result of your guidance through questions.

Sabbath school teachers make your lessons live, first in your own heart and then in your pupils hearts. This is the art of application. An art worth learning.

## Ghana Bookmen's Fellowship

By F. C. Barfoot, Union Publishing Department Secretary.

May 6-12 was a week of fellowship and instruction for eighteen of our Ghana Literature Evangelists, who were ably led by Mr. R. Mawutor and I. Ampofo, their publishing leaders. There is much wisdom in Solomon's words, "take fast hold of instruction, let her not go: keep her, for she is thy life."—Proverbs 4:13.

Pastor W. Newman, the Mission President, welcomed our bookmen at the opening night, and in his devotional address, compared our citizenship in Ghana to that of our Heavenly Father's Kingdom. We all felt that we "were no longer strangers, and foreigners, but fellow citizens, with the Saints and of the household of God."

During the ensuing week, our spiritual replenishing was cared for by the following officers: Pastor E. Keslake, Home Missionary Secretary, who spoke in the office of the Holy Spirit, and gave a lecture on Sabbath afternoon on Temperance. Mr. Rigby, our treasurer, magnified the blessing of "Time". Brethren Opam and Akah, also added food for thought. By the way of a diversion, Mrs. Barfoot gave an interesting exposition on "English Homes", which was enlightening to all.

On Sabbath morning, a new experiment was tried with success. Three groups of colporteurs, under the leadership of Brethren, Mawutor, Ampofo and Clerk, were despatched to three of our larger churches, where they conducted the morning service in the form of symposiums. These workers were

happy to share their faith, and the listening church groups were loath to let them depart. At Kumasi, a large congregation was assembled, and their thoughts were directed to the call of Literature Evangelism by the writer.

On Sunday evening, our fellowship came to a happy conclusion with a colporteur social. Brother Boye-Doe, our Book and Bible House manager, was a star performer. A vote of thanks was then rendered to Pastor and Mrs. Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Rigby, for making our enjoyment a success.

The following three weeks, were joyfully spent in field work with seven of our bookmen, and the Lord blessed our efforts with £293 of orders for "The Bible Speaks", and "The Family Bible Set". Our Ghana bookmen are a happy family, they love the Lord Jesus, and find joy and adventure in serving their Master day by day.

Dear readers, there is a great work to be done, *now*, today, in hastening the spreading of the gospel story to all men, before Jesus comes. What of your service for God? Has our Heavenly Father spoken to you through the "Still small voice" to "come and follow me?" Jesus is looking for men and women who will lay self interests aside, and step out whilst the opportunity lingers, and work for Him in His Literature Army. Please read carefully the following statement:

"Service to God includes personal ministry. By personal effort, we are to co-operate with Him for the saving of the world. Christ's commission "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature", is spoken to everyone of His followers".—C.O.L. 300.

Please pray for our bookmen, and pray that God will guide you into the ranks of His service.



Ghana Bookmen and Mission Leaders

# MORE TROPHIES FOR CHRIST

By Pastor E. E. Hulbert, Mission Evangelist, East Nigerian Mission.

The Cross river, at Oron, was the scene of an inspiring baptism on Sunday, 7th April, as two more precious souls were buried with their Lord. This was the climax of four weeks of spearhead evangelism in Oron, and two weeks in Okopedi, ten miles away. Of course, these two souls were not won in these campaigns. One of them is the result of colporteur work, and the other of personal lay evangelism. Let me tell you their stories, as far as is possible.

Mrs. Elijah, who is a teacher bought "Bible Readings" from colporteur Achor about two years ago. She read about the Sabbath, and kept it. She read about Health Reform, and left all unclean meats and fish. She read about tithe, and kept it at home for a long time before she knew what to do with it. In spite of opposition, and even some persecution, Mrs. Elijah has steadily, and without urging, witnessed for Jesus in her home, in her school, and even in her former church. So thoroughly had she taught herself the truth that examination showed her to be thoroughly prepared for baptism. We are happy for this noble trophy of the colporteur work and the Spirit of God who now rejoices with the Advent believers in the hope of the soon coming of Jesus.

Paul Ekpendu an earnest young man was from a Seventh-day Adventist family, but while trading in Oron he neglected the Sabbath until after about a year he rented a room from an old lady. He noticed that this old lady was always studying her Bible. One day she asked him why it is that today people do not keep Saturday, the seventh-day of the week, Paul remembered



The Company at Oron Nigeria.

his old teachings, explained it to her, and together they began keeping the Sabbath. He was baptized December 1955, the old lady still has some problems to overcome, but we pray she will one day take her full stand.

Meanwhile Paul had interested some other people in the message. The first-fruits of his work were seen in the baptism of Brother Asuquo, and others are preparing, under the tutelage of Brother Awuloha, our evangelist in Oron.

It was a delight, on the day preceding the baptism, to welcome six new members to our Sabbath School. Others have shown a decided interest in the truth, and we believe that there will yet be further results from the spearhead campaign held there in Oron. We pray for our single evangelist there that he may be able to lead many of them over the line of decision for Christ. Will you also join your prayers with ours?



New Members at Oron

## Be Ye Also Ready

By B. C. Bamfo Debra, Accra District Leader, Ghana.

"Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God." Psalm 68:31. Africa, frequently represented in the Bible by Ethiopia, is today literally stretching out "her hands unto God."

Truly, this prophecy from the Patriarch David is most significant today as we watch the tremendous political and religious strides here in Africa. Yes, this dark continent

is now wide awake and with grim determination, she is racing hard to come abreast with the more advanced sister continents. Here in the Gold Coast, the spirit of nationalism is burning in the heart of every citizen.

It is self determination, they say—and there is nothing wrong in that, if constitutional methods are applied. Religious bodies are springing up here and there as never before; thousands are seeking after the true God. Most people like the Bereans of old, (Acts 17:10, 11) are searching the scriptures daily for the truth, but the devil is taking the initiative to lead them to think to worship God at the dictates of their own "intuition." The danger of it! and what a challenge to the leaders of religious denominations.

The time has come when truth should be presented with more zeal and courage, regardless of consequences; knowing very well that many professed Christians, as well as heathens today are still "in the valley of decision" as foretold by the prophet Joel many many years ago: "Let the heathen be wakened. . . Multitudes; multitudes in the valley of decision: for the Day of the Lord is near "in the valley of decision." Joel 3:12, 14.

Yes, the day of the Lord is near and cannot be avoided. Fear grips many as they contemplate news from far and near: News about the Atom Bomb; news about the Hydrogen Bomb, etc.

Most thinking people are painfully aware that something dreadful and decisive will soon engulf this world. No wonder, scientists are now trembling at the sight of their own inventions. Sincere Christians on the other hand believe that this world will never be destroyed by human power. The second coming of Jesus Christ will be the crowning event of this world's history.

Dr. Martin Luther the great protestant Reformer wrote, "I ardently hope that amidst these internal dissensions on earth, Jesus Christ will hasten the day of His coming".

Listen to the promise of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: "I go to prepare a place for you". . . "I will come again." John 14: 1-3. "Since Christ is the central and authoritative figure of Christianity, therefore upon the reliability or unreliability of His recorded promise to come again Christianity stands or falls".

Believe it or not, Jesus is coming again to redeem His people. Are you ready to meet Jesus? Or are you still "in the valley of decision?" Decide now before it is "Too Late." I am reminded of an incident which occurred at the Dunkwa Railway Station in August

1949. The time was 3 p.m. the Sekondi-Kumasi train had arrived. Other passengers like myself were climbing aboard. I found a seat beside a window where I could enjoy the best view on the way. I started reading until the train gave a long whistle,—a green flag from the guard,—and puff, puff, the train started rolling. Looking up, I saw a man running at top speed with his ticket held high toward the station master. The man wanted to get on the train but his look of pain and pleading availed nothing. I saw his lips formed the words, "my wife is on that train." The station master shook his head and shrugged his shoulders. The man was too late—yes, too late!

---

## Youth Who Are Faithful Unto Life

By A. Gordon Zytoskee.

The history of Christianity is replete with stories of courageous men and women, many of them youth, who under persecution refused to give up their religious convictions. Even in the face of flame, hunger, and the guillotine, they found supernatural courage to remain true until death.

The church today also has its heroes and heroines. We cannot forget those who have been faithful unto death. God has used their sacrifices to glorify His name. However, let us not be unmindful of the many youth of our church who would find death a welcome door of escape from their sufferings. God has not granted this, but instead has allowed them to suffer for the truth's sake in order to prove that His children can be faithful unto life—life with the loss of friends, loved ones, and worldly homes. To die in a hostile atmosphere is noble but merciful. To live according to the principles of the everlasting gospel in such an atmosphere takes all of the strength and devotion of manhood and womanhood combined with infinite grace.

It is a most trying experience for our young people to accept the truth in the lands of the Middle East. There are customs and traditions that, like millstones around the neck of a swimmer, make the life of a young person who is convicted of the truth most miserable. He must be willing to give up home, inheritance, and many

of the normal things of life. For such an experience he must exercise implicit trust and courageous faith in God.

If you could visit our churches and schools here in the Middle East, you would be greatly inspired by interviews with many of our youth who know what it means to live faithful lives in the midst of severe persecution. These young men and women have been threatened with death, but when their persecutors found this to be ineffective they turned to other methods more heartless and more difficult to endure.

I would like you to meet several of these youth. First, here is a girl whom we shall call Samira. She is a very attractive and talented young woman. During a series of meetings held by one of our national brethren she became convicted of the truth and accepted it. After her baptism her family became filled with hatred toward her. They tried physically to force her to work upon the Sabbath day. They unmercifully beat her until she was unconscious, then they dragged her by the hair to her room. She remained locked in her room for several days. Then they repeated the treatment; but though weak and suffering, she maintained her conviction and refused to deny her Lord.

Boulos is a likable young man. He is very pleasant and always seems to be happy. He comes from a fairly rich family. After Boulos was baptized he went home to tell his folks of the thrilling message that had changed his life. His father immediately expelled him from the house, giving him neither clothing nor money. Seventy-five thousand dollars that belonged to him was given to one of his brothers.

Now, Boulos is in training at Middle East College, preparing for service in the cause of God. Is Boulos ever downhearted? No. He is always happy and full of smiles. Friends and loved ones have forsaken him, but he has found the peace that passeth all understanding.

I would like to have you meet another young man. We will call him Boutros. He had a very fine position as editor of an outstanding newspaper. His father was well recognized in society, and the entire family was respected as well as feared. Boutros attended some evangelistic services in order to cause a disturbance and then publish in his paper uncomplimentary reports regarding the pastor and his message. Although he did not believe in Jesus, the di-

vine Son of God who could save him from his sins, when the pastor spoke of this saving power, a strange feeling came into his heart. Never before had he felt such an influence. Night after night he went to the meetings and felt the work of the Holy Spirit upon his life.

One night Boutros came to the pastor and said, "When I began attending the meetings I was determined not to be influenced, but rather to influence the public in such a way that you would have to close down. Now I would like to be baptized." After a little more study the pastor baptized Boutros. Now he is preparing himself to go back to his country and preach the message that has brought him so much happiness.

As soon as the news spread concerning his baptism, Boutros faced a hostile community. Like Jesus, "he came unto his own and his own received him not" (John 1: 11.) Friends, loved ones, and the whole press syndicate rejected him. Without home and friends he turned to find new friends among the children of truth. He has dedicated his talents and energy to the completion of a mighty task—taking the gospel to the millions of his own people who know not that Jesus is coming soon.

"What did you find was your greatest enemy and agent of discouragement after you were baptized?" Boutros was asked one day. "Loneliness," he said, "was my greatest enemy. But I am determined to walk in the footsteps of my lonely Saviour."

Next I want to introduce you to Elias Nashed, who through the Voice of Prophecy and our school accepted the truth. He was beaten and sent from home. Today he is one of our most promising workers. Next meet Fuad, who learned the truth through the Bible correspondence school. He took his stand for the truth and was severely persecuted by his brother. He was banished from home for a year. During that time he suffered hunger and other privations. Both of these boys are outstanding colporteur evangelists.

Speaking of colporteur evangelists, here are a couple of young men who were persecuted while canvassing. Nabi Nassar was flogged and thrown into prison for spreading our literature. As soon as he was set free he went into a neighbouring territory and continued. Look at his smile! It takes a courageous smile to canvass in the midst of such hostility.

Here is Angely Mina, who was tempted

to pass by a certain home, but remembered that faithful colporteurs never miss a house. In the house he found a group of young men who were determined to dispose of all Seventh-day Adventists in the country. They took Angely and beat him unmercifully. Then they tore his books to pieces. But the Lord was with Angely. When the police learned of the story they made these young men pay for all the literature they had destroyed.

Before we conclude our visit to the various countries here in the Middle East I would like to have you meet Hosmik. This young lady has a beautiful voice and has dedicated it to the Lord. Several years ago some friends persuaded her to come along with them to some religious meetings. Night after night she and her friends attended. There was something about the preacher and his message that was different from anything they had heard before. Finally it was announced that the minister would speak on "The Sabbath."

Hosmik and her friends consulted with one another and decided they would stop attending the lectures. They must keep their father's religion, and must not become interested in other churches.

But Hosmik was not happy. A few hours before the lecture on the Sabbath she got in touch with one of her best girl friends. They finally agreed that they would go but would refuse to accept what they heard.

As they entered the room where the lecture was to be given, Hosmik felt a strange power come into her soul. She grasped every word that came from the mouth of God's messenger. Little did she realize that the Holy Spirit was convicting her with a power that would be hard to ignore.

After a few weeks the pastor who was conducting the meetings learned from Hosmik that she was keeping the Sabbath.

After more Bible study and preparation she was baptized. This marked the beginning of a new life for her.

With overwhelming joy she told her parents about the beautiful experience the Lord had given her. But amid a shower of curses and with physical abuse they immediately compelled her to leave home. Hosmik fled to some of her relatives, but they too joined in the persecution.

Provisionally Hosmik was able to secure a passport. She had heard about Middle East College, and there she is today.

When the other young people prepare to go to their homes at the end of the school year, Hosmik looks a little sad and feels more than ever her homeless condition. Yet, she has a home; Jesus is preparing it for her. She is trying to be faithful not only unto death but also unto life.

The stories of the faithful young people in the countries of the Middle East would fill a book. God has His loyal, stalwart youth in this division who are ready to die rather than compromise the principles of right.

From Review and Herald, March 21, 1957.

---

## Harvest Ingathering In Accra

By E. B. Olaore.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord," said the Psalmist, "and to sing praises unto His holy name." I find it very interesting to say something about the past Harvest Ingathering Campaign in Accra. It was in the month of September when we started making preparations. The church was divided into five bands. Every band was appointed a leader. Each band was assigned its territory. I want to tell about band number one which was formed chiefly of members of the Advent Press Staff.

What a wonderful time we had together. The leader of band number one (the writer of this article) with the help of Brother Barfoot went out together visiting the well-known firms and in only two hours realized about seven guineas, this gave us courage to attempt soliciting on our own, in all we realized about £10 in that day which went to swell the church total collection. We had many experiences which have increased our courage. Although we went out to solicit for funds in furtherance of the Lord's work, yet we were able to plant seeds of truth in the hearts of many, which we earnestly pray, will in the near future bring forth good fruits. Already we have been able to open Bible Study Classes in two places.

Let us show the world that we have the message of salvation. We should also show a friendly spirit so that the next time we approach the people they will be willing to give, and also be willing to prepare themselves for the coming King.

## News Notes

- ✘ We are happy to welcome Miss Kathleen Freeth who arrived by B.O.A.C. from England on July 8. She is to be connected with the Kwahu Hospital as a nursing sister.
- ✘ Congratulation to Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Hubbard on the birth of twin girls, Cheryl and Paula, born 1st July at Kwahu Hospital.
- ✘ The mid-year meeting of the full West African Union Committee was held July 16-23. Many problems relating to the future work in West Africa were on the agenda.
- ✘ Friends in West Africa will all be happy to know that Pasfon and Mrs. N. B. Nielsen returned to Accra on July 1. Pastor Nielsen says that he is feeling fit and that he and Mrs. Nielsen deeply appreciate the prayers of the brethren in West Africa.
- ✘ Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Harju and their two children, Timo and Johani, flew from Accra on July 9 to Sierra Leone where he will act as Secretary-Treasurer in the absence of Brother Muderspach. He will also give some assistance to the Liberian Mission in the absence of their Secretary-Treasurer.
- ✘ Among those leaving West Africa for furlough are Miss Ruth Smith who has served both at Bekwai Training College and in the Academy at Konola, Liberia. Also Mr. and Mrs. Ian Wolfe from Ihie who are returning on furlough to Scotland.
- ✘ Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Jordan and their two children are arriving early this month. He is to be acting principal of the S. D. A. Seminary, Bekwai, Ghana.
- ✘ The Sierra Leone Mission announces that Pastor J. B. Leigh is to be stationed at Freetown as resident Pastor of that Church. He will be happy to meet any of our workers passing through that city.

### *The Advent Messenger*

Official Organ of the  
West African Union Mission of  
Seventh-Day Adventists.

P. O. Box 1016, Accra, Ghana

Editor - - - - - H. J. WELCH  
Assoc. Editor - - - - - H. S. PEARCE

## NEWS ITEMS FROM WEST NIGERIA

*Teachers Institute*—Over 80 trained teachers were together for four days to listen to the good counsel of Pastors Rasmussen, Simonson and Welch, General Conference, Division and Union Educational Secretaries respectively. After the Institute these visiting brethren visited Otun and Ife in the interest of our educational work.

The Film Martin Luther was shown by Dr. S. A. Nagel to a full church in Ibadan as part of the Teachers' Institute programme. Many non-Adventists from other Missions as well as some from the Educational Department were present to enjoy this film.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Roberts and Janine have returned from furlough. He has taken up his responsibilities again at our Otun training school.

A tutor's house is now under construction at Otun. We could very well make use of two or three more.

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Christie and their two daughters have returned to East Nigeria. We appreciated very much their three months stay at Otun, during which time they established themselves in the hearts of both staff and students. We wish them a pleasant stay at Ihie.

Four new school buildings are under construction in the Northern Region of the West Nigerian Mission. Two new buildings are replacing former school buildings that were in bad condition while two buildings are being built for new schools that are beginning as classes for Religious Instruction. Nearly all the cost of constructing these buildings has been borne by the church members.

Three colleges in Ibadan have kindly given permission to any of our teachers wishing to sit for an entrance examination to take this examination after the Sabbath has passed under supervision of the Mission Authorities. We are grateful for this consideration from these colleges.

The tithe in our Lagos Church has almost doubled under the leadership of Pastor Henri.

Brother Hope Oriaku, our Publishing Secretary, is recovering from an accident he had while riding his motor-cycle in which he suffered four fractures of the left foot.