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ON NOVEMBER 20, 1958, a dream long planned, prayed and worked for, became reality. The Konola Academy administration building was dedicated to the glory of God, the training of Liberia's youth for christian leadership, and the finishing of God's work in West Africa. The work of Seventh-day Adventists in Liberia has the admiration, respect, and cooperation of the people of Liberia. This was exemplified again when, at the request of Professor T. Cantrell, President W. V. S. Tubman accepted the invitation to be the speaker at the dedication of this building. At the appointed hour, an extended visit by a foreign dignitary prevented the President from attending, but his written message was read to the large audience by Gen. F. N. Brewer, his senior aid-de-camp.

President Tubman's message spoke very highly of the work of Seventh-day Adventists in evangelistic and educational endeavour. He praised the work of missionaries and laymen alike, who contributed to what he termed, "the highest type of education—Christian education." He also said that our contribution to the spiritual, moral, and educational improvement of Liberia would always command the cooperation and assistance of the government.

The act of dedication was led by Pastor M. T. Battle, President of the Liberian Mission and C. D. Henri prayed the dedicatory prayer. Special music was rendered by the choir of the Monrovia church and the Konola Academy Chorus.

A delicious luncheon was served after the ceremonies.

The new administration building has accommodations for offices for the principal and business manager, library, science laboratory, book store, typing room, and six class rooms. It is a modern one storey concrete wing type building, fully utilizing the beauty of Liberian architecture. With the completion of this building, the Liberian Mission has the basic physical plant to operate a first class secondary school.

The Liberian Mission and the people of Liberia are grateful to the West African Union, the Northern European Division, and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for their generous contribution of the funds to erect this greatly needed building.

Preceding the dedicatory service, another dream became reality, when three young men, dressed in academic caps and gowns, stepped up to the platform to be presented high school diplomas—the first ever given in the history of our mission work in Liberia. It was a great and momentous occasion. The Honourable Dr. Jones, United States Ambassador to Liberia, gave an eloquent and inspiring commencement address.

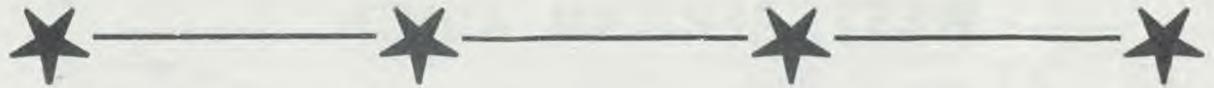
The guests included the Chief of Police of the Liberian Government, Hon. Thomas Bernard, the Chaplain of the Liberian Armed Forces, Dr. Steady, a former secretary of War, the commissioner and chief of the Kakafa District, and many other distinguished visitors.

Konola Academy now takes its place among the other great training centres for the training of Adventist youth in West Africa, dedicated to the task of educating our young people for the finishing of God's work in West Africa in this generation.

DREAMS BECOME REALITY

IN L I B E R I A

Pastor C. D. Henri



Adventist Student Honoured

Taken from the British Advent Messenger

WHEN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE remain true to their ideals and convictions under circumstances of great difficulty, it is not unreasonable for them to expect to have Royal approval, since we believe that the "Prince of the kings of the earth" marks their actions.

To Noreen Young, however, a student of the University of North Staffordshire and a loyal Missionary Volunteer, came the "well done" also from one of the most charming and gracious ladies in the land, H.R.H. Princess Margaret. It was one of the proudest moments in Noreen's life as she received from her royal College President the diploma: B.A. Honours first class, in History and Political Institutions, but that is not the whole story, not by any means!

Noreen embarked on her four-year University course expecting to find difficulty with lectures or examinations being held on Sabbath, and was rather surprised when for the first three years no serious difficulties were encountered. At the end of the third year, however, a Sabbath examination cropped up in a subsidiary subject, but one which vitally affected qualification for her degree. Should she take it this once?

The professor was an atheist. He could have made things very difficult for the absentee; but with an understanding tolerance for convictions he did not share, he permitted Noreen to take a second week-day examination later in the year.

Now it was plain sailing for the final examinations. But as the weeks hurried past there seemed to be less and less possibility that all the examinations would be on week-days. A chill of apprehension started down the under-graduate's spine as she was made to understand quite definitely that if any papers were set on Saturdays, there could be no alternative examination. Four years work wasted, four years of working extra hard to make up for Saturday lectures missed—all to no avail? Now she prayed as

never before that in the providence of God the unprecedented might happen—no Sabbath final examinations in her subjects.

With beating heart she pushed her way through the crowd of students milling around the examination schedules. It couldn't be! She glanced down the list again, the type by now was a grey blur. Forcing her eyes to focus, she saw that it was no wild surmise—her first look; God had marvelously answered her prayers, all her examinations were on week-days, something which had never happened before in Finals.

Out of 140 students, eight succeeded in gaining first-class honours, of which, you have already heard, one was a Sabbath-keeper. A literal fulfilment you will say of the promise: "Him who honours Me, I will honour." Noreen's cup of happiness was nigh to overflowing when word came that she was also to receive the Wedgewood Memorial prize for the best essay on a historical subject.

Before the prize-giving, at the Princess's request, she met the eight "first-class" students at an informal party. When he presented Noreen to the vivacious Princess, the College Principal, Sir George Barnes, introduced her as a young lady with "a great achievement," having gained a first-class degree without doing any lectures or study on Saturdays. Her Royal Highness was greatly interested, and spent some time chatting to her.

To hundreds of Adventist youth in this country the same test comes. To know the truth and to stand for it is to take with you the strongest possible Ally, and live in the smile of His approval. Are you known in your school, hospital, factory, or office, as a Sabbath-keeper—as a young person of conviction, with ideals and principles unashamed? Unquestionably God works on behalf of those who make use of His great reserves of faith and courage. Make sure it will be first-class honours in these two subjects for you at the end of the road!

S. D. A. MISSION

P. O. BOX 201,

CALABAR - EAST NIGERIA

December 17th, 1958.

Dear Friends,

GREETINGS FROM CALABAR, lone outpost of Eastern Nigeria. This is the Eastern extremity of our work in West Africa, and represents a great challenge to our work. In an area about the size of Ireland we have only two workers who can speak the Efik language, and no literature besides the Bible and Baptismal Manual in the vernacular. Such are the basic problems in this area, problems which are by no means unique. We are able to preach the word of life to many people, but who is to follow up the interests so aroused.

However, we do not wish to write to you of the problems, (you no doubt have plenty of your own!)—but of the great opportunities which await us in this “land of opportunities”. If ever the words of Jesus “Behold the fields white and ready for harvest” were true of any place, they are certainly true of Eastern Nigeria today. The first S.D.A. missionary to Nigeria landed in Lagos in 1914, yet today in Eastern Nigeria alone we have over 8,000 baptized members. This is indeed evidence of advance. Yet we could double our worker force, and scarcely fill half of the needs of this area. Doors long closed to the Advent Message are now bursting open to receive us. Men and women, life-long opponents of our teachings, are surrendering their lives to a Power greater than their own.

It was our privilege recently to attend the Camp Meeting at Aba, our Eastern Nigeria Headquarters. With a crowd estimated at over 5,000, this was indeed an inspiration. We wish we had time and space to tell you of all we saw. To us the greatest moment was when some of the converted ju-ju priests gave their testimonies to the power of God. Among them was a white-haired blind old man who had been a priest of darkness all his life, his face lined with the signs of evil, yet a light shining through which transformed those wrinkles into an evidence of deliverance. As he gave his testimony, a figure threaded its way through the crowd, and we were thrilled beyond description as this man, a ju-ju priest who had come out of curiosity, declared he would join with

these men and burn those things which linked him with his past service of the Evil One. One such experience rewards all the toil, disappointments, and inconveniences that many missionaries less fortunately situated than ourselves, often face.

One young church member, with no living relatives, lost his wife, the only companion that he had. Grief stricken, he wandered from village to village seeking to find consolation in forgetfulness. At last he settled at about forty miles from Calabar. One day we heard from him, “We have many here keeping the Sabbath; please send us help.” We have visited him several times. He is not wonderfully endowed with talents, but if he, with little talent, can raise such an interest, what could a consecrated, trained worker do? Our last message from him was “We are now renting a place of worship. We have Sabbath Schools in two villages. When can you send us a teacher?”—and we have no one to send! This to me is the hardest thing I have found in missionary work, to have to say no to such calls for help.

Come with us to a little bush village that needs our help. Despite 50 miles of tarred road, the 79 miles takes us 5 hours. (We will leave the other 29 to your imagination!) Our few members have adapted the little mud church to be our home while we are there, so we live in conditions which make home camping seem a luxury! In the evenings we hold Bible Lectures with the aid of a projector run off a car battery, from an open air platform which threatens to collapse with each step you take, and with the vestry being a space between the rear of the platform and a rotten calf's head which marks a sacred shrine! What joy we feel as at the end of our short campaign 40 people sign their decisions to keep the true Sabbath, and to join with God's people, and several backsliders return to their former allegiance.

Around us, thousands of such villages are waiting for the truth of the Gospel. The only way we can reach them is through the laymen of the church. To do this we need plenty

(Continued on page 6)



With Christ We Shine

Theme of West African Union Conference

By H. J. Welch

President,

West African Union Mission

DELEGATES AND CHURCH WORKERS from every part of the great West African Union met at Ihie, Nigeria, January 12 to 15 to study and plan for the finishing of God's work in this land of an awakening Africa. Resolutely they faced up to the tremendous challenge of a West Africa 'ready unto harvest;' A West Africa filled with problems to the church but also with numerous and marvellous opportunities for evangelism. The delegates were inspired with the slogan 'With Christ We Shine in Nineteen Fifty Nine' and enthusiastically voted to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, God has laid upon His church in West Africa, including the Ministry and Laity alike, the tremendous responsibility for giving the Advent message to the nearly fifty million souls in this part of the great continent of Africa; and

WHEREAS, the year 1959 holds unprecedented opportunities for soul-winning and doors are now open to the message that may soon close for ever, and

WHEREAS, we fully believe that the time has come to 'Arise and shine for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is arisen upon thee,' Isa. 60:1;

We therefore, as the constituent assembly of the Seventh-day Adventist church in West Africa earnestly resolve that under the power and guidance of God we will press forward in this year of our Lord 1959 in a determined and coordinated evangelistic programme taking as our slogan 'With Christ We Shine in Nineteen Fifty Nine.' That in every possible place and by all possible means we will call men to a knowledge of God's truth and to acceptance of His message for this day.'

The delegates pledged themselves to put into operation in every church, company and institution a co-ordinated plan of Evangelism to be known as the 'Let Your Light Shine Programme.' To the end that soul winning may become the paramount interest of every department of the church, the plan as voted, aims to harness every activity of the church and every worker and member into a great soul winning campaign. Every church will hold a 'Let your Light Shine' rally as soon as possible and enlist every member including both old and young into well planned evangelistic efforts. The goal is to win twice as many souls to Christ in 1959 as

in Nineteen Fifty Nine

ency Session

in any previous year, and thus make it possible to baptize at least 2,500 souls in the following year. It was clear to all that God is calling us to much greater achievements than have been accomplished heretofore. By God's grace and under the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit, God's people are determined to stir West Africa, even as the world was stirred by the little band of disciples in the days of Pentecost.

The theme song of the meeting asked the challenging question 'Are you Christ's Light bearer, of His joy a sharer?' As the delegates return home singing this stirring message and with hearts aglow for the master, we believe they will inspire the churches and start a revival throughout West Africa. In every church and company we expect to be ringing out the challenge of the theme song and from every consecrated member will no doubt come the response, 'We Will let our light shine in fifty nine.'

*(Late News from the Constituency
See Page 8)*

Is Your Lamp Burning?

*Are you Christ's light-bearer?
Of His joy a sharer?
Is this dark world fairer
For your cheering ray?
Is your beacon lighted?
Guiding souls benighted
To the land of perfect day?*

Refrain:

*O Brother!
is your lamp trimmed and burning?
Is the world made fairer
by its cheering ray?
Are you waiting, yearning
for your Lord's returning?
Are you watching day by day?
Keep your altars burning
Wait your Lord's returning
While your heart's deep yearning
Draws Him ever near:
With His radiance splendid
Shall your light be blended
When His glory shall appear*

Note to Reader:

If you don't know the tune, ask your delegate to the meeting to teach it to you, then sing it everywhere.

LETTER FROM CALABAR

(Continued from page 3)

of literature, and for this we depend on you, our good friends at home; and let me thank you most sincerely for the wonderful response we have received to our requests for help. But, wonderful as the response has been, the demand still exceeds the supply.

Do not imagine it is always easy for an African to take his stand for the message. The demand for trained workers, (typists, accountants, etc.) is far below the number who have these qualifications, so if they wish to keep Sabbath, they are dismissed for someone who will be glad of employment. City work here is much the same as at home, and the sacrifice is often greater here than it would be in England.

Our great need in the Calabar area is for a Mission Hospital, with a staff of Christian nurses and doctors. It is tragic to see people dying from wrong diagnosis, carelessness, or even indifference in the Government hospitals, where nurses prefer to keep the patient's medicine and sell it to a private customer. The people here are traveling many miles to the nearest Mission hospital, (a Methodist Hospital), involving a two hour ferry crossing and 30 miles by lorry, rather than have the treatment of the local Government Hospital. Were it not for spoiling your Christmas, we could tell you tragic stories of things we have witnessed, even among our own members—lives that would not have been lost if we had only a trained nurse here. As you take part in your Christmas festivities, be thankful for good doctors and good nurses. (And yes, even the National Health Service).

Once more, thank you for your magazines, and Lesson Quarterlies, especially Primary), and for Sabbath School Workers. Above all, we thank you for your prayers and interest on our behalf, and of all missionary enterprise.

May your Christmas joy be fuller in the knowledge that *your* gifts, *your* prayers, *your* magazines, have helped some soul to experience the birth of Christ into their hearts; and in the expectation of meeting them in the near future in our heavenly home.

Sincerest Greetings to you all, from the church at Calabar, and especially from,

M. M. & R. E. Hulbert

PRIVILEGES IN LIBERIA

By Pastor C. D. Henri

In the early morning of November 21, 1958, at 8 00 a.m. to be exact, brethren M. T. Battle and C. D. Henri were ushered into the private suite of the President of Liberia. Understanding that their business was urgent, President Tubman graciously received them. Their business? To ask for the use of the beautiful, modern Centennial Memorial Pavilion with a sitting capacity of 1,500, piano, consulting room, and radio station for the Cleveland Evangelistic Campaign. Their request was granted rent free, with electricity and custodian service included.

Is there anywhere else in West Africa where such a privilege would be granted to Seventh-day Adventists? We thank God for the splendid cordial relationship existing between our brethren in Liberia and the Government of Liberia.

Then to further assure Brethren Battle and Henri of his personal interest in and appreciation for the work of Adventists, President Tubman handed Pastor Battle, fifteen new twenty dollar bills—£107. 5. 0 for Ingathering.

Missionary Volunteer Campers at Ikun

By J. D. Awoniyi

West Nigeria

The evening of 30th October 1958, found many children and teachers from various schools at Ikun five miles from our Otun Training School. Though they all had a wet welcome, the late arrivals getting completely soaked, no one's spirit seemed somewhat dampened.

No sooner had they come than they were told what to do. "Camp is not a bed of roses", they were told and so they must get ready to cook their own food. Then, it was about 7 p.m. The stream which would furnish us with plenty of water was near at hand which made water carrying an easy task. Despite the wet wood, our yams got cooked through the resourcefulness of our

Camp Directors and we had a good meal before retiring for the night. For some time after all had gone to bed, singing and laughter could be heard from all sides. Then followed a dead silence as tired bodies succumbed to sleep.

Very early the next morning, in fact at 4:15 a.m., Mr. Adewusi, the camp director, blew the rising whistle. Why so early? The reason: one of the tent groups was singing and Mr. Adewusi thought he had over-slept, so he jumped up and blew the whistle. He was soon set right and quietness reigned for another hour and a half.

The following day, Friday, was full of activities. After the devotions came the camp duties followed by the inspection. The awarding of marks for cleanliness was not a surprise "You and your surroundings should be very clean" the counsellors said, "for marks will be given". The campers watched attentively as the marks were called, "Tent 1, 23; Tent 2, 26; . . . Tent 8, 29. The Modern School boys from Otun shouted triumphantly for they knew they had that "29". Yes, they took the first lead and had therefore, the privilege of raising the flag. They continued to do well, for throughout the camp they were never lower than second place. After a day filled with activities we welcomed the Sabbath in our evening worship conducted by Chief Onikun himself. His message was still ringing in our ears and hearts as we woke up in the morning of the Sabbath, the 1st of November. Choruses, like an angelic symphony, were heard from all corners of the camp. With the help of the counsellors who were Sabbath School Teachers, an interesting Sabbath-School was conducted. "The melody of praise is the atmosphere of heaven", and certainly we felt this heavenly atmosphere during the song festival that will long be remembered, directed by J. D. Awoniyi.

During the Sabbath school period we listened to the explanation of the two witnesses, the opened book, the forty-two-week period etc. After the Sabbath School was over Pastor Olomojobi gave an inspiring sermon and we were all interested as he used the Yoruba word *Mogo mogo* and simultaneously with this gave a pictorial illustration of the crucified Christ as the passover Lamb.

Sabbath afternoon found us again under the booth while about two hundred of us were to be invested. To all the invested was read the words "Thou art a good and faithful Servant." Matthew 25:14-30. We were

all convinced that we should use our talents to the fullest capacity. We closed the evening with worship.

As we opened our eyes to the bright morning of Sunday, we realized that our statutory duty first of all was to do track and trail. This was both tedious and tiring but very much fun. Six people among our counsellors went out to lay the trail and leave instructions for us to follow while we enjoyed watching a football match between the Secondary Modern School girls and the selected boys in the primary schools.

No sooner had the match ended than we heard the song "Onward Christian Soldiers" sung by the counsellors who had gone to the bush: Now we should follow the tracks in groups and part of the instructions was to bring a stick of wood. As a result firewood was pouring in on the field until we had a mountain of wood to make our camp fire.

Sunday night was the time when everything came to a climax as well as to an end. If you had witnessed all the events in the camp and missed the camp-fire you would surely have missed a lot.

In the centre of the field was a heap of burning firewood around which forms were arranged. Then we sang many choruses under the leadership of Miss Oriola, our song leader. We heard a "Negro Spiritual" from a group of students from the Modern School and then the principal of the Elementary Training College, Otun gave us a story of an American boy who believed that Jesus in the heart controls the hands.

Then different dramatizations followed. The boys acted many plays while the girls gave some rhythmic dancing songs. The plays were so interesting, so dramatic, and so spontaneous that a thousand spectators from the town were kept in rapt attention until about 11 p.m.

Achievement: During the course of the camp we marched round the town and several shillings were given as presents by the town chiefs. We showed to the people by our public preaching that Jesus will soon come and take his people home as campers to remain eternally round the everlasting throne. The children had come to know themselves and were made to realize that they have other legions of comrades all over the world. Out of the 303 campers, about two hundred were invested as friends, companions, and guides, so the camp was enjoyable and profitable, a blessing to the campers and the community.

Late News from The Constituency Meeting

✱ As this issue of the *Messenger* goes to press, members of the West African Union Constituency are meeting in Ihie, East Nigeria. Elder V. G. Anderson and Elder E. B. Hare of the General Conference are attending the meetings and later will be visiting the field. Elder A. F. Tarr, our Division President and Elder M. E. Lind Division Departmental Secretary are present at the meetings. They will spend sometime in the Union attending institutes and other meetings.

Officers chosen by the Constituency are as follows:

UNION DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARIES

Educational: J. B. Fridley
 Missionary Volunteer:
 Home Missionary:
 Temperance: M. T. Battle
 Public Relations:
 Publishing: F. C. Barfoot
 Sabbath School:
 Radio and Voice of Prophecy: D. H. Hughes
 Ministerial: C. D. Henri
 Medical: Dr. S. A. Nagel
 Religious Liberty: H. J. Welch

MISSION OFFICERS

SIERRA LEONE

President: A. M. Moyer
 Secretary-Treasurer: J. Muderspach

LIBERIA

President: L. E. Daniels
 Secretary-Treasurer: T. Cantrell

IVORY COAST

President and Secretary-Treasurer: H. Kempf

GHANA

President: C. B. Mensah
 Secretary-Treasurer: J. Rigby

WEST NIGERIA

President: G. M. Ellstrom
 Vice President: J. A. Adeogun
 Secretary-Treasurer: S. Gustavsson

EAST NIGERIA

President: A. J. Dickay
 Secretary-Treasurer: P. W. Simons

NORTH NIGERIA

President and Secretary-Treasurer: B. A. Roberts

INSTITUTIONS

KWAHU HOSPITAL

Medical Director: J. A. Hyde
 Acting Medical Director: P. A. Lowe

IFE HOSPITAL

Medical Director: S. A. Nagel

ADVENT PRESS

Manager: C. G. Meredith
 Assistant Manager: A. C. Berger
 Editor-Advent Messenger: Mrs N. B. Nielsen

JENGRE HOSPITAL

Medical Director: Dr. D. I. Peterson

VOICE OF PROPHECY

Principal: D. H. Hughes
 Vice Principal: J. M. A. Adeoye

NIGERIAN TRAINING COLLEGE

Principal-Manager: E. B. Christie

✱ We were sad to learn that Brother C. Karmo, a delegate from Sierra Leone sustained injuries and a broken bone in a car accident in Liberia while enroute to Nigeria, and was forced to give up going and return home.

✱ Brother A. O. Kennick, who was called back from Ihie by a cable telling of the serious illness of his wife, passed through Accra on his way to Sierra Leone.