

West African Advent

# messenger

*Voice of The West African Union Mission of Seventh-Day Adventists*

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## First Prize Giving Ceremony

at

KWAHU HOSPITAL,  
GHANA

*By L. Acton-Hubbard,*  
Director of Nursing Services

SUNDAY, JULY 19th was another notable day in the history of the Kwahu Hospital. It was to be the first prize giving and graduation ceremony ever to be held in the hospital.

Contrary to expectations, it did not rain although the local weather forecast predicted heavy storms. The compound and the students' assembly hall was well prepared for the occasion. The assembly hall, lately decorated in Jonquil and furnished with 200 red and cream chairs looked very smart and imposing. The red, gold and green flag of Ghana with its single black star draped the whole wall behind the speakers rostrum.

At 2.30 p.m. the guests began to arrive, dignitaries from government offices, heads of departments and local government and leaders from other mission institutions. They made their way through the pleasant, almost park-like campus of the hospital to the assembly.

The students to be graduated and awarded prizes, made their way to the seats prepared for them and were closely followed by the platform party which included Pastor H. J. Welch, chairman of the hospital boards, Dr. P. A. Lowe, secretary and acting medical director, the newly appointed District Commissioner, the Honourable Benjamin Asamoah; the Honourable Srahar, government agent; Pastor G. D. King, secretary to the Northern European Division and senior members of the hospital nursing staff. We were also pleased to have with us at this time Pastor C. B. Mensah, the President of the Ghana Mission and Brother J. Fridley, Educational Secretary to the West African Union. Dr. P. A. Lowe introduced the special guests and platform party.



Pastor G. D. King gave a stirring and challenging address which was much appreciated by the graduating class and the friends and guests present. He reminded us, not without a touch of humour, of the early days of the Adventist medical work in Ghana, then Gold Coast, and spoke of the part which he played in it some thirty-six years ago.

At the invitation of the Director of Nursing Services, the District Commissioner heartily agreed to present the graduates with their certificates and badges, and the prize-winners with their trophies.

In the recent examination held by the Nurses Board of Ghana, our entrants were 100% successful and in the finalist group two distinctions were awarded. Two further distinctions went to the preliminary group. This was of course a cause of much rejoicing on the part of the staff, guests and relatives present, not to mention the graduates themselves.

The silver hospital badge with bar, the hospital's highest award was presented to Mr. I. W. Boateng, Q.R.N., and Mr. K. W. Oduro, Q.R.N. Others receiving badges and certificates were Miss E. Konadu, Q.R.N., Mr. I. T. Koduah, Q.R.N., Mr. A. A. Mensah, Q.R.N., Mr. R. H. Fosuhene, Q.R.N.

The following prizes were also awarded: First Year Prize Mr. I. K. Amofah, Second Year Prize Mr. S. Aboagye, Final Year Prize Mr. I. T. Koduah, Q.R.N. The Director of Nursing Services prize for the all-round best practical nurse of the year went to Miss D. Apenteng.

The awarding of prizes completed, Sister Amy Horder Director of the School of Nursing rose to propose a vote of thanks, not only to the special guests and distinguished visitors but to all who had co-operated and helped to make possible this auspicious occasion. The vote of thanks was seconded by Mr. I. W. Boateng, Q.R.N., a recent graduate of the school. "Now thank we all our God" was the warm response of the assembled company as the first graduation and prize giving ceremony came to an end.

Following the ceremony, the hospital was opened for inspection and light refreshments were served to the visitors.

I am sure that every reader will add his or her personal prayer to that of the writer, for the continued success of this hospital and training school which God has so richly blessed and for the continued faithful service of those who have graduated and taken their places as senior members of the hospital community.

## To God be the Glory

By A. A. Nzotta

Home Missionary Secretary, East Nigerian Mission



To God be the glory, that in these days when men and women are engaged in the pursuit for worldly gain that there are also men and women whose hearts deeply yearn for the salvation of their fellowmen. This picture is example of what has been taking place in our districts in East Nigeria.

The Pastors have each trained an average of forty laymen; and in turn have taken them out in public evangelism. This calls to my mind the wonderful statement made by the servant of God so many years ago: "The work of God on this Earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts and with those of ministers and church officers."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 117.

As one looks carefully at the picture one can see the ministers and the church members (right-hand side) who held their hands and worked together, and the results are these precious souls on the left-hand side of the picture. This is our objective — soul saving.

Would to God that every minister and laity rally to the finishing of the task entrusted to us.

# History

## OF THE ADVENTIST MISSION

in

## GHANA

By Pastor C. B. Mensah, President of Ghana Mission



**GHANA (GOLD COAST) MISSION:** Our first representatives to the Gold Coast, in West Africa, were Brethren R. G. Rudolph and E. L. Sanford, who were sent out in 1894, in response to calls for help from a few Sabbath-keepers in this region. These had learned the truth through reading-matter furnished by the International Tract Society. They reached Apam, February 22, where they found some Sabbath-keepers. Cape Coast Castle was chosen as headquarters for a mission station. In a few months Brother Sanford was driven from the field because of frequent attacks of fever. In October 1895, Elder D. U. Hale, Brother and Sister G. T. Kerr (nurses), and G. P. Riggs (canvasser) arrived at Cape Coast Castle.

For a time much success attended the medical work, and many came from adjacent towns and villages to receive treatment. But our workers were soon made to realize that they were in a country which had been properly termed "The white man's grave." Twenty days had not passed after their arrival before Elder Hale was stricken very low with the fever. From that time on, the letters written by our Gold Coast missionaries contained sad accounts of sickness, suffering and death.

The two children of Brother and Sister Kerr soon lay sleeping in the grave. Brother Riggs, after faithfully scattering the printed page for eight months, was obliged to leave the field. He died in Liverpool, from disease contracted in (here) Africa. Because of ill health, Brother and Sister Kerr went to Cape Town, South Africa, and in the latter part of 1897 Elder Hale returned home. A few Sabbath-keepers on the Gold Coast remained faithful, and continued to call for missionaries. Early in 1903 Elder

D. U. Hale returned to the Gold Coast, with his family. Brother and Sister J. M. Hyatt accompanied them. In less than a year Brother Hale and his family had to hasten away to save his life. After the General Conference in 1905 Elder D. C. Babcock and wife of British Guiana, were appointed to West Africa.

The little work on the Gold Coast was left to local workers largely, being too far from Sierra Leone for the few missionaries to visit often. In December, 1910, T. M. French, of Sierra Leone, went to the Gold Coast to settle, but Mrs. French died of fever within a few weeks. Brother French also suffered from attacks of fever, and came to America on furlough. Thus the Gold Coast, with a few believers, continued with no resident missionary. In the general meeting at Sierra Leone in 1913 W. H. Lewis was assigned to the Field. First he and his family were ordered to the Canary Island health base to get rid of fever. After a few months there, he went over to the Gold Coast, in September 1914, having word that a "false prophet" had appeared, frightening the chiefs with denunciation of our work, and scattering the few believers clinging to us without a shepherd. Leaving his family in the Canaries, Brother Lewis landed at Secondee, the port from which the railway runs to Coomassie. He visited the places where believers were located, Axim and Kickam, accompanied by a Sierra Leone helper J. A. Davis who had been assigned to the Coast. Many had turned from the truth, and the work was demoralized. Others rallied, however, and backsliders were reclaimed, the helper, J. A. Davies, was placed in charge, and Elder Lewis pushed on to Coomassie to search for permanent headquarters. November 6, 1914, he reported

(Turn to page 6.)

**T**HE CLEAR scriptural teaching that first called us out and made us a separate people was the imminence of our Lord's return to this earth in power and majesty. Our pioneers believed it fervently. To their faith they testified by consistent living. We today cherish this same hope and must defend it with equal fervour. Never must we betray it by inconsistent living. *Adventists* we must be, not only in word but in very life. This fundamental doctrine is thus most effectively defended. . . .

The Sabbath, a distinguishing Adventist teaching, is likewise guarded, not merely in

ly appreciated even by our own people. Through a fuller comprehension of it, the preciousness of our Lord, as well as our own personal relationship to Him, will be greatly clarified and enhanced.

The nature of man, as set forth in the Scriptures, and God's final dealing with him, the blotting out of evil forever from the earth, and the bringing in of everlasting righteousness, is a cardinal point of the Advent message. It is a timely message for these days of spirit deception and supernatural manifestations, and must be vigorously defended and clearly set forth.

#### *Dedication To Our Task*

What a wonderful system of truth has been committed to this people to defend in their lives and proclaim to the world—wonderful in its simplicity, marvellous in its



## CARDINAL FEATURES

word but more convincingly in the life. The Sabbath, today more than ever, is a great bulwark against rampart materialism. We dare not betray this treasure of truth by carelessness, by compromise, by permitting unholy practices to engage our time and attention during the hours that God has blessed and set apart for a holy purpose. We are called to repair the breach made in God's law by the attempted down-grading of the fourth commandment. The warning against the worship of the beast and receiving his mark, is to be clearly sounded. . . .

The sole hope of our salvation, Christ, His atoning sacrifice on Calvary, the final phase of His atoning ministry now going on in the heavenly sanctuary, must by word and voice be clearly proclaimed to the world so that people will understand and appreciate this fundamental Biblical teaching. The sacrifice and ministry of our Lord and Saviour have not been too clearly understood, nor as deep-

scope! The three angels' messages graphically and forcefully sum up our great truths—the judgment-hour message, the call for separation from all the compromising elements in the world, and the awful announcements and stern warnings to the wilful transgressors of God's law, especially calling attention to the down-trodden and neglected fourth commandment. We recognize our obligation to proclaim these mighty truths to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. To the accomplishment of this task we must be dedicated as were our pioneers whom God raised up to first sound this message to the world. In sounding these truths to the world, let us understand clearly what these messages are designed to accomplish in the individual life of him who accepts them. Verse 12 of Revelation 14: "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." . . .

The faith committed to God's people in these last days is to result in a great revival and a mighty reformation. "Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth, there will be, among the people of the Lord,

such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. The spirit and power of God will be poured out upon His children."—*The Great Controversy*, page 464. This revival of primitive godliness will result in a great ingathering of souls. What a glorious day that will be! Why has it not taken place? Note: "Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 69. . . .

In some lands of earth during the last decade or two, our people have suffered severely in defence of the faith. One who recently visited a certain country with which there had been little contact for some years, reports that the devotion and loyalty of the

## FOUR MESSAGE

believers there under all circumstances is deeply moving. Some 1,600 were won in a single year. . . . When asked how they accounted for the progress of the work under such circumstances, they pointed to Zechariah 4, verse 6, 'Not by might, nor by power but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.' . . .

Here is a people earnestly preparing for heaven. The world has lost its allurements . . . They willingly pay any price to be reckoned among God's faithful people, and seldom does anyone turn back because of the hardness of the way. What a work of grace God is doing upon these hearts! . . . From the experience of these faithful ones, there comes to us a new realization of sanctification through the truth, that should result in an unreserved dedication of ourselves and our all to God.

The great obstacle to the finishing of God's work is not lack of material resources and facilities. We have not yet sold all to buy that single pearl of great price. Is it not time to do so now? Should we not at this time cast our lot unreservedly with God and His cause?

## Baptist Church of 75 Members Studying Adventist Message

By L. E. Daniels

AFTER PASTOR CLEVELAND left Liberia for Accra, Ghana, an African Pastor by the name of Paul came into my office and stated that he had attended the evangelistic meetings in the Pavilion and was convinced of the truth. He further expressed his desire to give his little white concrete block church building and his congregation of one hundred native members to our mission. After a brief conversation and prayer, an appointment was made to visit his church. On Monday evening May 11, at 7.30, Pastor Cantrell and I went to the church located on Cooper Farm, a section of Monrovia, and found about 75 native believers singing praises to God in their dialect (Kru). We were introduced to the congregation and began a short service with sermon and pictures on the screen. At the conclusion of the sermon, they sang the only song they knew in English, "I am so glad that Jesus loves me." We judged from their warm greetings and hearty hand shakes that they appreciated our presence and the service. Plans were immediately made to indoctrinate them weekly. It is our desire to prepare them for baptism by the end of the year.

We solicit your continued prayers as we proclaim the gospel of Christ throughout Liberia.

## COLPORTEUR CRUSADE

By F. C. Barfoot Union Publishing Secretary

It is said that it is not difficult to succeed, it's more difficult to fail. Since February this year, Brother J. K. Dankwah, an Ashanti bookman has been a front-line crusader for Christ in Sierra Leone. Considering that our good brother has been the lone worker in this vast field, his achievements have been remarkable.

In seven months his sales have almost reached £500. His personal witness is an example to us all. At the present time there are 75 people taking Bible Studies as a result of his personal evangelism.

Let us pray for the success of our crusader Dankwah, and for the souls who are yielding to the call of the third angel's messages.

having travelled about 800 miles, mostly on foot, and that he had found favourable locations for two stations. The designed headquarters for the station are near Agona, 22 miles northeast of Coomassie. (Capital of a chiefdom). There was found an old European rest house in Agona, not with the best surroundings, but passable, which the chief offered until a station could be erected. The plan is to build at a sub-town, Wuamasie, near Agona, 13 miles from the main road, but more healthfully situated than Agona. Elder Lewis felt providentially guided to it, a local headman showing him a hill, with a clear fountain gushing from it, saying, "Fine place for white man house. I dash it." (Meaning, "I give it.") In 1914, 45 members were listed for the Gold Coast, and three native workers were assisting Elder Lewis. They started to build the two houses there with the help of the chief and his people. A school too was started and Brethren A. F. Langford, Thomas Baker and J. Clifford were sent to help in the flourishing work. Outstations like Wuamasie, Ntonso and Assamang were opened, but later on the Headquarters was moved to Kumasi and school was started in temporal quarters at Asafo in 1920 with H. Kirby Munson as one of the teachers. Owing to the cost of rentage and other unfavourable conditions the headquarters was moved back to Agona.

One of the General Conference men (Lewis or Dick) came and suggested a move of the headquarters to a more central place, would properly serve the field and it was moved to Bekwai in 1932, at that time also an Evangelistic class was started which was the birth of our Bekwai Seminary now.

It was changed to Teacher Training Institute in 1939 because our schools were growing and also to meet the demand of Government for better trained teachers. Mr. Bartlett was the first principal of the College. Though a Teacher Training College yet Evangelistic Course was never discarded but has been incorporated using the same teachers.

Another rulestone was reached when the Secondary School was started by Mr. Maberley.

Today we have 230 churches, 6511 baptized and Sabbath school membership of 16,158, 72 Schools, 15 Pastors, 24 Evangelists, 14 District Leaders, 224 Teachers. Enrolment 7,550 excluding Secondary and Teacher Training. When we look back we can say, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

## *District Evangelistic Effort* **EAST NIGERIA**

*By Pastor Z. N. Imo,*  
District Leader, Umuocha District

With five of my evangelists, we entered this large village of Amato, which is strongly dominated by another mission. After conducting six intensive series of meetings, we organized a Sabbath School with over 75 members. Our laymen took an active part and served as our choir.

At the close of the effort, many were enrolled in the baptismal classes and many idols were destroyed. The Sabbath School is growing larger and larger. We hope to have many from that group ready for baptism later in the year.

Nbutu-Ichi is a small village of strong hearted people. For over fifteen years, we have been trying to get in there, but all in vain. Really, man's extremity is God's opportunity.

We entered this village with 42 laymen. We held 12 nights series of Bible studies. The laymen did many remarkable works. They repaired houses for widows, cleaned compounds and streets, and visited many needy people with articles of clothing provided by the effort. They marched like soldiers singing whenever they went to their various assigned duties.

One interesting thing was that the church agent of another dominant mission, with his committee members, went to some of his members and made them many promises if they would stay at home and not attend any meetings. In case these promises should fail, he promised ex-communication to any members who attended. His laws and threats only increased the interest and attendance at the meetings.

The Word of God, presented in a clear way, and attended by practical works, shook the whole village. A church was immediately erected by the people, and five idols were destroyed. During our series of studies, over 20 adults joined the Sabbath School. Some were from another church and some were from heathenism.

When God raises up His mighty hand to work, no man can pull it down. This is the time, I believe, when God is ready to use His men to finish the proclamation of the gospel message. I solicit your prayers for these two villages and others they represent. Pray that Satan may not put his detaining finger there.

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Editor: Pastor C. D. HENRI



## NEWS NOTES

- ✘ Mr. A. B. Sesay of Sierra Leone, and just recently one of our nurses at Kwahu Hospital, is now in England studying Nursing. He left Accra airport on the 29th of July for a two weeks visit in Sierra Leone. On August 12, he flew from Lungi airport, Sierra Leone, for U.K. He is studying at St Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill, Nr. Folkestone, Kent, England.
- ✘ Mr. K. A. Olarinmoye left Lagos airport on the 8th of September for Bradford, England, where he will work on his Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. Mr. Olarinmoye was the Visiting Teacher of Schools for the West Nigerian Mission.
- ✘ Mr. J. Wigwe, one of our teachers in the Adventist High School at Ihie, East Nigeria, left Lagos airport on the 26th of September for North-western Polytechnic, London, where he will take further studies. Mr. Wigwe is working toward his B.A. degree.
- ✘ Mrs. D. T. Agboola joined her husband at the Newbold Missionary College on the 5th of October, 1959. Mr. Agboola is taking classes both at Newbold and Reading Technical College and is working toward his B.A. degree.
- ✘ Mr. S. N. Wosu has been accepted for entry to the University of Reading in October for a B.A. degree course.
- ✘ Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Oyelakin are sailing from Liverpool, England, on the 15th of October, 1959, for Lagos, and will arrive at Lagos on the 28th. Mr. Oyelakin has been in England since 1955, taking further studies. We welcome back Mr. and Mrs. Oyelakin to West Nigeria.
- ✘ Brother Glynn Meredith, Manager of the Advent Press is in Liberia to conduct the Week of Prayer for the Konola Academy. He will also visit the Mission Headquarters in Bo, Sierra Leone in the interest of the Press.
- ✘ Brother T. J. Karkkainen, Acting Treasurer of the Union left Accra on October 6th for a short auditing and accounting trip to the Ivory Coast.
- ✘ Sabbath, September 19, was a "High Day" in the Yaba, Nigeria Church. After an unusually well executed Sabbath School programme; the membership marched in procession through the streets of Yaba where twelve new converts were baptized by Pastor Omoleye in an impressive and inspirational service. Returning to the Church, Pastor Gordon Ellstrom, President of the West Nigerian Mission, led out in extending to the new members the right hand of fellowship. Pastor Ellstrom, then led the church in celebrating the Ordinance of Humility and the Lord's supper.
- ✘ Dr. and Mrs. V. McKinley Wiles, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S., Diplomat American Board of Urology and devoted layman of New York City, spent their annual holiday in West Africa. While here Dr. Wiles performed many special surgical operations in Liberia, Ghana and at the Ile-Ife S. D. A. Hospital. In America he would have received hundreds of pounds for such services — he performed them free of charge in all West Africa. His Godly influence as an Adventist among the professional people of West Africa will have far-reaching beneficial results.
- ✘ Sabbath, July 4, seven new believers were baptized into the Church at the Ile-Ife Hospital. Dr. Sherman Nagel, the Pastor of the Church performed the sacred rite.
- ✘ Pastor and Mrs. E. E. Cleveland, need our prayers. Mrs. Cleveland is hospitalized with an arthritic condition and little Earl, their only son has a broken arm.
- ✘ Miss Kathleen Freeth, nursing sister at the Kwahu Hospital in Ghana, left for furlough in England on October 8, via the Winneba, an Elder Dempster Line ship.
- ✘ Sister L. E. Daniels, wife of Pastor Daniels, President of the Liberian Mission was flown home to America on September 18, on account of illness. Pastor Daniels will join Mrs. Daniels and the children early in the year when his furlough becomes due. We sympathize with them and pray that Mrs. Daniels may soon be in good health again.
- ✘ We welcome Dr. and Mrs. D. H. Barham to our West African family. They arrived on September 26, and will serve at Kwahu Hospital.
- ✘ Miss C. V. Lewis has recently arrived to teach English at Ihie. Miss Lewis holds a masters degree and has much experience as a successful teacher. The College is fortunate in obtaining her services.
- ✘ S. Adusei-Poku, graduate teacher at Bekwai was the fortunate recipient of a scholarship award enabling him to study for a year at the "New College of Social Studies" in New York City. He writes from New York that he is settled in the school and has had pleasant contacts with the brethren at the Adventist Evangelistic Center there. We wish Brother Adusei-Poku a pleasant and profitable stay in America.
- ✘ Our medical Institutions in Nigeria are fortunate in obtaining during recent months several new missionary families. To Ife has gone Dr. K. Gard, Dr. L. D. Longo and D. E. Courser, Laboratory and X-Ray Technician. To Ahoada has gone Dr. A.G. Goude, Dr. A.M. Owens, the latest arrival will go to Jengre Hospital. For years our medical Institutions have been very short of staff. We therefore rejoice in the coming of these new medical missionaries.
- ✘ West Nigeria welcomes Pastor W. Eyekelenboom and family to Ibadan. He has taken up duties there as Secretary-Treasurer of the West Nigerian Mission. They come from the Netherlands.

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### IMPORTANT

- ✘ Prices on all the Review and Herald periodicals will be increased. But if you send your order in the ordinary way through your Book and Bible House and your order reaches Review and Herald before the end of this year, you will get all periodicals at the present prices.
-