

A WEEK OF SACRIFICE



THE Advent movement was born through sacrifice, and through sacrifice will its work be finished.

Those who are to be glorified with Him must first suffer with Him.

God calls for a fast when His people will deal out their bread (their very living, not merely something from their surplus) to the hungry.

Today entire nations are hungry; yea, starving for the Bread of Life, while we live in comparative ease and plenty under the full glare of the Gospel light.

God commands us, "Give ye them to eat." Like the disciples, we may have a scant supply to give—only two loaves and three small fishes—but it is our part to do the giving and His to multiply the gift that the multitudes may be fed.

Today, a hundred new fields are open to God's message. The Macedonian call is sounding everywhere. These fields are white all ready to harvest.

But the Mission Board has no funds to advance further. These fields must wait on and other millions must perish—unless God's people increase the supply.

This calls for a real sacrifice as they are already giving liberally. But it is sacrifice for which He calls. He is not willing that those who sit in darkness should perish, while His people could, through sacrifice, send them the light.

Therefore, a very special fast has been proclaimed by the General Conference committee for February 22-28. All our people throughout the world, regardless of race or colour are urged to observe it, though the date may vary a bit in different countries.

During this week, we are asked to give our very

living to make possible the sending of the Third Angel's Message to unentered fields. Our leaders feel that the time has come for a mighty advance to be made in unentered heathen lands. The funds gathered by this week of sacrifice will be used to that end.

The plan is that on Sabbath, the 28th, all our people shall bring their entire week's earnings or its equivalent to the church and put it into the offering that shall be taken up that day. Some can give more and all such are urged to do so. But let all give at least a full week's income. This does not mean a week's savings, after living expenses are deducted, but a full week's earnings.

All isolated members should send their offerings direct to their conference or mission field office.

This is a solemn fast. Let none say he is too poor to observe it for it is through sacrifice that we are to be marked for the kingdom.

"The mighty God, even the Lord hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.

Out of Zion the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.

Our God shall come and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him.

He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge his people.

Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." Ps. 50:1-5.

W. H. Branson.

Recruits for the Fields

It was the privilege of the writer to attend the Autumn Council of the General Conference committee held at Des Moins, Iowa, U. S. A., last October. This is said to have been one of the greatest foreign mission conferences ever held by our people and far reaching plans were laid for the rapid extension of our work in all parts of the earth. Because of the increase in gifts made by our people, it was possible for the Mission Board to add 15% to the amount granted for 1924 to the financial grants to the various mission fields for This was a great encouragement to all the 1925. About one hundred and twenty new recruits were placed under appointment for foreign work and many of these have already gone forward.

The amount of funds granted to the African Division for 1925 is £49,793-0-0. This, of course, is in addition to the tithe raised in the field. This splendid grant has made it possible for us to arrange for several new recruits to enter the field and these are being placed as follows:

*Elder and Mrs. W. E. Straw to the Zambesi Union -Elder Straw to become the Union Superintendent. Elder and Mrs. S. M. Konigmacher to the Kalimbesi Mission, Caprivi Strip.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Cadwallader to the Malamulo Mission, Nyasaland.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Sharman to the Malamulo

Mission, Nyasaland. Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Ladd to the South African

Native Training School, Butterworth, Transkei. Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Hanson to the Spion Kop

College. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffner to the Katanga Training

School, Elizabethville, Belgian Congo.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Mason of the Spion Kop Col-

lege to Lusaka Mission, North Rhodesia. Elder and Mrs. J. F. Wright to the Cape Conference-Elder Wright to take the conference presidency filling the vacancy created through Elder U. Bender's acceptance of the call to the Spion Kop College as Bible teacher.

Professor G. R. Fattic to the South African Union Conference as Educational and Young People's secretary and Mrs. Fattic to the Spion Kop College as English teacher.

Elder and Mrs. Moffitt to the Natal-Transvaal Conference for work in Johannesburg.

Elder and Mrs. Edwards to the Natal-Transvaal

Conference for Native work in Zululand. Dr. and Mrs. A. N. Tong to Angola for medical

missionary work at the Benguella Mission.
Dr. and Mrs. Pew to the Songa Mission, Belgian Congo for medical missionary work.

Mr. and Mrs. Belg of Brazil to the Benguella Mission, Angola.

Mr. Laggar of France to the Belgian Congo.

Elder and Mrs. D. P. Harder to Angola to establish a new mission.

Elder and Mrs. N. C. Wilson to the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

O. R. Shreve to connect with the African Division as superintendent of construction of churches, schools and mission homes.

O. U. Giddings for work in the Belgian Congo. Miss Thresh Fernandes to Angola.

Invitations have been extended to a few South African young people whose acceptance we have not yet received and we are therefore not free to publish

This list, of course, does not include those who have accepted work as church school teachers for 1925, since their salary is provided by the local and the union conferences.

In addition to these, mention should also be made of Elder and Mrs. B. M. Heald and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Nelson who came forward just before the General Conference Council meeting for work in the Natal-Transvaal Conference—Elder Heald as president and Brother Nelson as secretary-treasurer.

While some workers are dropping out on account of failing health, furloughs, etc., yet these new recruits will make a splendid addition to our labouring force and our work should be greatly strengthened as a result.

During the past four years, the membership of the African Division has a little more than doubled and it seems to us that with this addition to our labouring force and with the additional consecration which should come with each succeeding year as we draw nearer the end, we should see even greater progress in the future.

Brethren and fellow workers, let us all take courage

and go forward.

Educational Week

Even with the increase in appropriation, many of the fields will feel pressed and greatly hampered for lack of funds, but let us trust God, and believe that He will supply all our needs according to His riches in glory. He can still feed the multitude with three loaves and two fishes and rout the hosts of the enemy with only Jonathan and his armour bearer. May He grant that the New Year upon which we have now entered shall mark the greatest advance ever witnessed in the work of God in the African continent.

W. H. Branson.

January 18-24



Special Days and Campaigns for 1925

AT a recent meeting of the African Division committee the following dates were set for special campaigns and days for the New Year:

Educational Day January 24 Week of Sacrifice February 22-28 March 1-7 March 14, June 13, Sept. 12, Nov. 28 "Signs of the Times" Campaign Missions Rally Sabbaths Home Missionary Day May 16 Missionary Volunteer Day Pub. Dept. Big Week Campaign Sabbath School Rally July 11 August 1-8 August 22 Sept. 1 - Oct. 15 Oct. 24 - Nov. 21 Harvest Ingathering Campaign Review and Herald Campaign Week of Prayer December 5-12 Annual Offering December 12

We trust that all our churches and isolated believers will enter heartily into these various campaigns during the year, and that every such endeavour may be signally blessed of God. W. H. Branson.

Save the Youth

"EITHER what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?" Luke 15:8. The parable of the lost coin has a special significance to the parents of this denomination. As we face the closing days of earth's history and realize that many of the children whom God has given us will be lost forever unless some special effort is made on their behalf, a solemness and sense of our responsibility ought to take a strong hold on us. The woman in the parable of the lost coin did not give up in her work for the recovery of the coin until she had found So with us, we should never give up in our endeavours on behalf of our own children and the children in our churches until every child in this denomination has been won to God.

Many of the youth in our homes and churches are lost, many are depending on their parents' experiences to bring them to the kingdom, and the sad part of it all is that so many are lost and like the coin do not know that they are last. In that lost condition they must remain till the last trump shall sound unless we search them out. We must endeavour to help their unsaved condition, and help bring them back to the fold of God.

We must do this by taking a greater interest in our children than in anything else in the world. We must show a greater interest in them at the family altar, in the Young People's societies, in the doctrines of this Message, and in the social conditions with which they are surrounded. This social condition will never be put on an absolutely safe basis until an endeavour is made to have every Seventh-day Adventist child in one of our schools.

The Christian educational system of this denomination is one of the safeguards for our youth today. There are many lost coins in Seventh-day Adventist homes who, if they do not get a change of environment and have an opportunity of Christian associates, will be forever shut out from the kingdom of God. Realising this, a condition must come into our ranks where we shall pray more for our institutions than we ever have in the past. We must pray that the patronage of our schools may be increased and then we must help answer our prayers by doing more than we have ever done liberally to support them.

The appeal that God has sent to us on page 45 of "Counsels to Teachers" should be remembered:

"As a church, as individuals, if we would stand clear in the judgment we must make more liberal effort for the training of our young people that they may be better fitted for the various branches of the work committed to our hands."

"The church should take in the situation and by their influence and means seek to bring about this much desired end. Let a fund be created by generous contribution for the establishment of schools and for the advancement of educational work."

J. W. MacNeil.

Notice

THE P.O. address of Pastor W. S. Hyatt and members of his family is for the present No. 1 Oak Villa, Flower St., Cape Town.

A Visit from the General Conference President

I FEEL sure that all our brethren and sisters throughout the African Division will be pleased to learn that Elder W. A. Spicer, the president of our General Conference is planning to visit this field during this year. He will be accompanied by Elder J. W. Mace of the Review and Herald Publishing Association, who comes to give special help along the lines of the publishing work in this country.

Those who wish to meet these brethren and hear the message they will bring to Africa should begin now to plan definitely to attend the camp-meetings held in their respective conferences and mission fields.

It is expected that they will arrive at Cape Town about March 23, and after spending a few days in counsel will proceed to Johannesburg where they will attend the Natal-Transvaal camp-meeting, March 30-April 5. They will also attend the following camp-meetings in the Union of South Africa:

Basutoland, April 9-12.

Orange River Conference, Bloemfontein, April 13-19. Cape Conference, Port Elizabeth, April 20-26.

Kafirland, April 20-26.

At the close of the meetings in South Africa these General brethren will proceed to the Zambesi Union Mission, where they will attend the native campmeetings in South Rhodesia, Nyasaland, and North Rhodesia, as well as the Division Biennial Council to be held in Bulawayo June 23-30. It is hoped that at least one of them can also visit our work in the Congo and Angola.

Let all begin now to plan to attend the camp-meetings. They should be the largest meetings we have ever held in Africa.

W. H. Branson.



Practical Exhortations

Romans 12th Chapter, Weymouth's Translation or Modern Speech New Testament

SELF-SURRENDER TO THE LOVE OF GOD

I PLEAD with you therefore, brethren, by the compassions of God, to present all your faculties to Him as a living and holy sacrifice acceptable to Him. This with you will be an act of reasonable worship. And do not follow the customs of the present age, but be transformed by the entire renewal of your minds, so that you may learn by experience what God's will is—that will which is good and beautiful and perfect.

UNION WITH THE ONE CHRIST FORBIDS PRIDE

For through the authority graciously given to me I warn every individual among you not to value himself unduly, but to cultivate sobriety of judgment in accordance with the amount of faith which God has allotted to each one. For just as there are in the human body many parts, and these parts have not all the same function; so collectively we form one body in Christ, while individually we are linked to one another as its members. But since we have special gifts which differ in accordance with the diversified work graciously entrusted to us, if it is prophecy, let the prophet speak in exact proportion to his faith; if it is the gift of administration, let the administrator exercise a

sound judgment in his duties. The teacher must do the same in his teaching; and he who exhorts others, in his exhortation. He who gives should be liberal; he who is in authority should be energetic and alert; and he who succours the afflicted should do it cheerfully.

BROTHERLY LOVE AND BROTHERLY CONDUCT

Let your love be perfectly sincere. Regard with horror what is evil; cling to what is right. As for brotherly love, be affectionate to one another; in matters of worldly honour, yield to one another. Do not be indolent when zeal is required. Be thoroughly warm-hearted, the Lord's own servants, full of joyful hope, patient under persecution, earnest and persistent in prayer. Relieve the necessities of God's people; always practise hospitality. Invoke blessings on your persecutors—blessings, not curses. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Have full sympathy with one another. Do not give your mind to high things, but let humble ways content you. DO NOT BE WISE IN YOUR OWN CONCEITS. (Prov. 3:7.

Pay back no man evil for evil. TAKE THOUGHT FOR WHAT IS RIGHT AND SEEMLY IN EVERY ONE'S ESTEEM. (Prov. 3: 4.) If you can, so far as it depends on you, live at peace with all the world. Do not be revengeful, my dear friends, but give way before anger; for it is written, "'REVENGE BELONGS TO ME: I WILL PAY BACK," says the Lord." (Deut. 32: 35.) On the contrary, therefore, IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY GIVE HIM FOOD; IF HE IS THIRSTY QUENCH HIS THIRST. FOR BY DOING THIS YOU WILL BE HEAPING COALS UPON HIS HEAD. (Prov. 25: 21, 22.) Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome the evil with goodness.

The Wedding Ring

A Word to Our Missionaries

The writer is frequently asked by some missionary's wife (especially those from abroad) what attitude she should take toward the matter of wearing a wedding ring. In countries such as America, where the custom of wearing the wedding ring is not so much in vogue as it is in South Africa, very few of our workers or people adopt it. But, when coming to a country where customs are different, the question naturally arises in the minds of our missionaries' wives. "What should we do about it?" "Should we not put on the ring to avoid misunderstanding?

To all such as may be thus troubled over the matter, we heartly recommend the following clear-cut statement from the Spirit of Prophecy:

"Some have had a burden in regard to the wearing of a marriage ring, feeling that the wives of our ministers should conform to this custom. All this is unnecessary. Let the ministers' wives have the golden link which binds their souls to Jesus Christ, a pure and holy character, the true love and meekness and godliness that are the fruit borne upon the Christian tree, and their influence will be secure anywhere. The fact that a disregard of the custom occasions remark, is no good reason for adopting it. Americans

can make their position understood by plainly stating that the custom is not regarded as obligatory in our country. We need not wear the sign, for we are not untrue to our marriage vow, and the wearing of the ring would be no evidence that we were true. I feel deeply over this leavening process which seems to be going on among us, in the conformity to custom and fashion. Not one penny should be spent for a circlet of gold to testify that we are married. In countries where the custom is imperative, we have no burden to condemn those who have their marriage ring; let them wear it if they can do so conscientiously; but let not our missionaries feel that the wearing of the ring will increase their influence one jot or tittle. If they are Christians, it will be manifest in their Christlikeness of character, in their words, in their works, in the home, in association with others; it will be evinced by their patience and long-suffering and kindness. They will manifest the spirit of the Master, they will possess His beauty of character, His lovliness of disposition, His sympathetic heart."-"Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers," pp. 180, 181.

W. H. Branson.

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The Sabbath School Work in Europe

THE Sabbath school work in the European Division presents one of the most interesting problems in the world-wide work of Seventh-day Adventists. It is no small task for our publishing houses to supply the field with Sabbath school lessons in the many languages in which our work is now being conducted. We print lesson pamphlets in 16 languages, and import pamphlets in 6 others. The lessons are brought out on the typewriter in still 6 others. One of these last six, however, is the Russian, which is typewritten for use in Russia: for Russian speaking believers outside of Russia we can get the pamphlets printed at Brookfield. It was interesting to me to see a copy of these Russian Sabbath school lessons that are used in Russia. Our brethren there had gotten hold of a German lesson pamphlet of 1908, translated it into Russian, typewritten it, and thus supplied their field as far as possible. Let us pray that better times may come for our Sabbath school work in that interesting field.

Thus we have the lessons for adults in 27 languages. As far as we have been able to learn, nothing has been done to put the lessons in the 35 or 40 other languages in which we are working in this division. The childrens' lessons we have in only 13 languages. Thus much remains to be done for the children.

The Sabbath school membership stood at 78,098 at the close of the third quarter. This is 3,513 more than the church membership, which was 74,585 at the close of the same quarter. If, however, we add to the church membership the number of children in the Sabbath school and compare this total with the Sabbath school membership, there are only 19 local fields in the whole division that have reached or exceeded the goal. These are all in the fields outside of Europe proper, except the following two conferences and four missions: Transylvanian Conference, Sisesia-Galician Conference, Warsaw Mission, Slovakian Mission, Jugoslavian Mission and Greek Mission. Thus much re-

mains to be done in an effort to get all our church members to share with us in the blessings of the Sabbath school.

The Sabbath school offerings continue to grow, showing an increase of £206-5-9 for the third quarter over the second. This is the more remarkable in view of the fact that the Week of Sacrifice, the Jubilee Sabbath, and other occasions of special offerings fell in the third quarter in many fields. Some progress is being made on reaching the goal of an amount in the Sabbath school offerings equaling 25% of the tithe. Taking the average quarterly tithe for the first three quarters of 1924 and comparing this with the Sabbath school offerings, we find that only six fields have reached and exceeded this goal: Posanian Conference, Silesia - Galician Conference, Swedish Conference, Thuringian Conference, South France Conference, and the Spanish Mission. I count it a special honour to have had the privilege of spending two weeks in the only field to reach both goals.

The Polish Union as a whole is deserving special mention. It is the only union to reach, as a union, the financial goal, and it lacked only 19 of reaching the membership goal. Yet Poland is not an easy field nor are our members there rich in this world's goods. Brother Isaac writes: "The local authorities are beginning to cause our people more and more trouble in Volyhnia and in the north east section of the old Russian territory. They are forbidding religious meetings of every kind, unless there are 50 signatures to a petition for such meetings." Again he writes: "Sometimes when I visit our people and see their poverty in earthly things, my heart bleeds. Some of them are sometimes giving more than they are able, but their love for this movement enables them to do what is almost impossible. A sister, sending in her tithe and Sabbath school offerings, made the following statement: "We are sending the tithe and Sabbath school offerings, but we are sorry that we cannot send a donation for the church extension fund, which you mention in the circular to the churches, but we are not able. Some days we do not have our daily bread, but we trust in God, knowing that He will not forsake us." Of their poverty, our dear brethren and sisters in Poland are giving as much in proportion to their tithe as do our members in other parts. Pray for the believers in Poland as well as for other difficult fields in this great European Division.

L. L. CAVINESS.



Keep at Your Work

"The Lord has given to every man his work. It is his business to do it, and the devil's business to hinder him if he can. So sure as God has given you a work to do, Satan will try to hinder you. He may throw you from it; he may present other things more promising. He may allure you by worldly prospects, he may assault you with slander, torment you with false accusations, set you at work defending your character, employ pious persons to lie about you, editors to assail you, officials to accuse you, and excellent men to slander you. You may have Pilate and Herod, Annanias and Caiphas all combined against you, and Judas standing by you ready to sell you for thirty

pieces of silver; and you may wonder why all these things come upon you. Can you not see that the whole thing is brought about through the craft of the devil, to draw you off from your work and hinder your obedience to God?

"Keep about your work. Do not flinch because the lion roars; do not stop to stone the devil's dogs; do not fool away your time chasing the devil's rabbits. Do your work. Let liars lie, let sectarians quarrel, let corporations resolve, let editors publish, let the devil do his worst; but see to it that nothing hinders you from fulfilling the work that God has given you.

"He has not sent you to make money. He has not commanded you to get rich. He has never bidden you defend your character. He has not set you at work to contradict falsehood which Satan and his servants may start to peddle. If you do these things, you will do nothing else; you will be at work for yourself and not for the Lord.

"Keep about your work. Let your aim be as steady as a star. Let the world brawl and bubble. You may be assaulted, wronged, insulted, slandered, wounded and rejected; you may be abused by foes, forsaken by friends, and despised and rejected of men, but see to it with steadfast determination, with unfaltering zeal, that you pursue the great purpose of your life and object of your being until at last you can say, 'I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do.'"

Mrs. W. C. Gehman.



"Parents should keep ever before their minds the object to be gained—the perfection of the character of their children."—Spion Kop College is ordained of God to cooperate with our parents in this great work.

School opens February 12. For full information address,

The Principal,
Spion Kop College,
Ladysmith, Natal

CAPE CONFERENCE

U. Bender, President, Miss. O. M. Willmore, Secy.-Treas Address: P. O. Box 378, Port Elizabeth, C. P.

Work on the Peninsula

As we look back over the year 1924, we are profoundly convinced that God has been doing great things for His cause here on the Peninsula. He has richly blessed the work and our churches have increased in membership. During this past year there has been an addition of a new church at Wynberg.

There were three public efforts held last year, one by Elder French, and two by the writer. The last one of these was held at Mowbray, and lasted for eight weeks. The closing meeting was held on Sunday night, December 7, with a large number in attendance. We encountered many obstacles during this effort at Mowbray. The weather was very unfavourable to tent work. However, the Lord blessed

in the presentation of His Truth, and many were convinced. Thus far twenty-five dear souls have been baptized. Others are keeping the Sabbath and continuing to study and we trust they will soon join with us in church fellowship.

As the result of the Wynberg and Mowbray efforts, both of which were held during the year 1924, there have been one hundred and five members baptized and added to the church. The church committee studied the register very carefully at the close of the year and found that of this large number there were only five names which had to be dropped. We are very thankful for the faithfulness which is being manifested by these new members.

The Wynberg church when organised early last year had a membership of 70. Though five were dropped, we are pleased to report that the membership now stands at 79. The Sabbath school membership is 107. During the past eight months since this church was organised, it has raised an aggregate sum of £826. All lines of church work are being faithfully carried forward.

Those who may have visited the Cape Town church a few years ago would be greatly surprised to see the large attendance which we now have at our Sabbath services. The work has been greatly strengthened along all lines. The offerings for missions averaged a little more than 3/7 per week per member.

Our membership on the Peninsula is over three hundred. God has richly blessed the work during the past year, and there is a general spirit of enquiry of the Truth on the part of the public.

W. LEROY HYATT.

The Salt River Church

A REVIEW of the activities of the Salt River church during the past year shows a period of real progress in the different departments of the church; and at the time of the quarterly church business meeting the members were greatly cheered and encouraged by the splendid reports which were read.

The interest of every member at the time of the Harvst Ingathering campaign was shown in active work, and the goal set by the Conference was doubled.

Sunday night services were held in the church in the intervals between the regular evangelistic efforts, and all phases of the Truth were presented. These meetings were well attended, and resulted in the baptism of four persons who had been impressed with the Truth for some time. On Sabbath, December 20, the little church was crowded with an audience of one hundred and twenty as these brethren and sisters made a public acknowledgement of their faith by baptism.

The members of the Salt River church are poor, and the offerings given from week to week represent a real sacrifice. During the year 1924, the sum of £343-7-4 was given by the members in tithes and offerings. Of this amount, £31-2-0 was used in the expenses of the church, leaving a balance of £312-5-4 handed over to the conference.

Twenty-three new members have been added during the year, mainly by baptism.

We publish this report in the hope that it will bring

courage and cheer to our other coloured members in the field. We praise God for the rich experiences He has given us in the past and desire to press forward until the work is finished. Francis G. Clifford.



The latter part of November, I received a call from the Cape Conference to visit the Dutch speaking believers in the Eastern Province. I responded to the request, and left the Free State December 2 for Port Elizabeth en route to Lang Kloof, on the Avontuur line. Here I found quite a large company of believers—about 40 baptized members. A few were not in attendance because of living some distance away, and were not informed in time of the meetings. Nearly sixty, including youth and children were in attendance.

I spent 10 days with this company, holding 21 meetings. I found here, as wherever I go, the people need instruction. How often we are made to realize the force of the scripture,—"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Hosea 4:6. One great need, among others, I found to be instructions on the principles of healthful living. The Lord greatly blessed in the efforts to help the people, and nearly all gladly responded and covenanted with God to walk in the light and make sure work for the kingdom.

As we studied together the instruction given through the Spirit of Prophecy, the closing work, and the preparation needed to share in the "Latter Rain," the Holy Spirit came very near, and the last Sabbath was a day not to be forgotten as all reconsecrated themselves to God. Everyone seemed to gain new courage to press on to victory. The key-note of all the meetings was Isa. 8: 20 and Rev. 12: 17.

From Lang Kloof, I proceeded to Miller Station and was met by Brother Welman, and taken to his fatherin-law's farm, about an hour's drive from the station. On the three farms visited, I found a baptized membership of 10, besides children. I spent a week with these believers, holding the services alternately on each of the farms. In all I held 14 meetings. Here also the Lord greatly blessed in the efforts to instruct the people. I then returned to Port Elizabeth, spending a day en route with the few believers at Uitenhage, visiting during the day and holding a service in the evening. Arriving in Port Elizabeth Friday morning, I was kindly entertained by Brother and Sister Jubber, and had the privilege of speaking on Sabbath to the European believers. On Sunday evening, just before taking train for Grahamstown, I spoke to the European and coloured believers in a union meeting, on the Closing work, and the Latter Rain.'

At present, I am spending a few days with relatives near Grahamstown. I hope to spend a few days with the believers at Rokeby Park before proceeding north to visit other Dutch speaking believers in the Cape Conference.

I esteem it a great privilege to be a co-worker with the Lord of heaven and earth in finishing His work on earth. It is a wonderful condescension on His part, for it is a work worthy of angels.

In a little while the faithful will be sealed and the work will close up. Then we shall go home.

G. W. SHONE.

Port Elizabeth Church

Tuesday, December 23, was indeed a red letter day for the Port Elizabeth church, for we saw the foundation stone of our little church building laid by the Mayor of the town, Mr. A. Linton.

We were favoured with beautiful weather, and an assembly of about one hundred and fifty persons witnessed the ceremony: although most of those present were our own people, there was a good sprinkling of the public and friends among the company.

About ten minutes before the appointed hour, 4 P. M., the Mayor arrived and was welcomed by Brother Jeffrey as elder of the Port Elizabeth church. A very neat and nicely decorated platform had been erected for the occasion. In the absence of the president of the conference, Mrs. Bender took her seat on the platform and was introduced to the Mayor by the church elder, who then opened the proceedings.

After prayer had been offered, Brother Jeffrey introduced the Mayor. Mr. Linton upon rising said "Pastor Jeffrey, ladies and gentlemen, it affords me great pleasure to be here in your midst this afternoon and to lay the foundation stone of your church. The Seventh-day Adventist people and work are not a new thing to Port Elizabeth. I well remember your first meetings held in a room up in Whitlock Street; and have watched your work since and have been struck by the humble and quiet spirit in which it is performed. You have, I understand, been labouring in this city for nearly a quarter of a century. Pastor Hankins began the work and was followed by Pastor and Mrs. Edmed, who laboured faithfully for some years in this community and gathered out a little company. Many of those present will remember the good work done by Pastor and Mrs. Tarr, who laboured faithfully for your cause in this city. Specially will you remember Nurse Tarr, as Mrs. Tarr was called, being one of the inauguration members of the Ministering League for consumptives. Mrs. Tarr did faithful work as the district nurse. The League is still doing good work today.

"As a people your principles stand for some distinctive and high ideals. You believe in the soon coming of the Lord, even in this generation, and in preparation for this event you hold up a return to the purity of the Gospel; you advocate healthful living and a clean body as an incentive to a purity of Christian life. Along this line, your health work in the city has been well represented by Mr. and Mrs. Jubber for the past fifteen years. Not only have they carried this work forward successfully, but to the great blessing and benefit of others.

"I wish you every blessing and prosperity and now that you have your own church you will have much to encourage you."

In the absence of the president of the conference, Sister Bender then spoke a few words, and in requesting the Mayor to lay the stone asked him to accept, as a memento of the occasion a silver trowel suitably inscribed, also a copy of a morroco bound "Our Day in the Light of Prophecy." Accepting the book from Mrs. Bender, the Mayor promised that he would read it. Accepting the trowel from Miss June Bender, Mr. Linton then proceeded to lay the stone and when

finished he declared the stone "well and properly laid."

Brother Jeffrey then thanked the Mayor on behalf of the Seventh-day Adventist church in Port Elizabeth.

L. B. Westaway, Church clerk.

NATAL-TRANSVAAL CONFERENCE

B. M. Heald, President A. E. Nelson, Secy.-Treas. Office Address: 8 Stranack St., Maritzburg, Natal.

Just a Word

THE year 1924 is closed. Its records are ended. All our cutting, caustic sayings and sarcasms are recorded. Our good deeds and bad are sealed for eternity. Now is the time for us to forget those things which are behind, and reach forward to those things which are before us in the New Year. While we may have made mistakes and tarnished the Old Year, let us remember that we have a bright, clean future.

As we enter the New Year let us seek to promote kindness, efficiency and service in our homes and conference by carrying good news,-not bad; encouraging the brethren,—not criticising them; helping,—not hindering; and above all seeking for a closer fellowship with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. The Week of Prayer has proven a great help to all who participated. The writer has received word from many who were specially blessed during that week. We now call upon our people everywhere in our field to continue in prayer. Pray for your newly-elected church officers; pray for the Sabbath school; pray that God will give you liberality in your free-will offerings for Him; pray for more faithfulness in tithing; pray that a more progressive work be carried on in reaching all people with the Third Angel's Message. We endeavour to make the conference office a prayer room, for we believe prayer solves problems; and we unite with our people in seeking God more earnestly as the days go by.

During the last few weeks, the writer has spent his time with the Durban, Maritzburg and Sweetwaters churches, and is endeavouring to carry on an educational series of meetings for our church officers. We find our church officers very desirous of becoming better acquainted with their duties and responsibilities, and we desire to meet their need by carrying on a constructive educational propaganda for their special benefit.

We are indeed glad to report a very successful summer thus far among our student colporteur evangelists. The reports are very encouraging and we should continue to pray that these young men will all reach their scholarships, and be ready for the new school year, when it opens.

B. M. Heald.

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Johannesburg

My work in this city for the past two years has, on the whole, been very pleasant. Although, at times, difficulties and trials have arisen, the church has been loyal, and the members in their hearty co-operation

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have been a strong support, enabling us to surmount obstacles.

When differences have arisen, we have, for the most part, after consultation and prayer been able to place the interests of God's great cause above that of personal feelings, and a blessing has come to us as the result.

The Sabbath school, due to the earnest efforts of the superintendent, Brother Hegter, has made steady advancement in daily study, spirituality, and increased offerings.

Our Missionary Volunteer society has likewise been a real inspiration. We have greatly appreciated the untiring devotion of Sister Cameron in her work as leader.

The finances of the church are in a healthy condition. During the past year, £2,814 have been raised. The tithe for December alone amounted to £137-3-2, Annual offering £55-8-11, and the 13th Sabbath offering £19-14-4.

As the result of Bible studies, a number of earnest persons have accepted the Truth and united with the church. In addition to these, six others requested to be baptized the beginning of January.

Still we are not satisfied but look for greater things this coming year in seeing a surrender and consecration to God and His work that will result in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain.

D. F. TARR.



A Report from the Durban Church

On the 20th of December, we had the pleasure of receiving by baptism into the fellowship of the Durban church, six dear souls. Thus two brethren and four sisters have fully identified themselves with us in our onward march to the kingdom. During several months while they have been under instruction and attending our services, our members have become pleasantly acquainted with these and together we rejoice to be united in church membership. Two of the new members are children of Seventh-day Adventist believers, while the others have recently received the faith. May the rich blessing of God be with each of them as they unite their lives in the blessed fellowship of the remnant church.

J. C. ROGERS.

Our Prophetic News Paper

The Signs of the Times is Africa's Bible prophetic newspaper. There is no other magazine like it in the field. It fills an honoured position among African publications, and is reaching the hearts of all who read it. It answers the popular question, "What do these things mean?" It is a great soul-winning magazine in the Cause of God today; for the publishers receive testimonials from its converts in other parts of the globe. The writer has had some remarkable experiences with readers of the Signs who have accepted the Truth. He believes in this paper, and he knows from experience that it is our most effective soul-winning publication.

Our people should take advantage of this house-to-house preacher, and use it in every way possible. The Signs enters homes that are closed to the living preacher. It strikes conviction home to the hearts of those who read it, and now is our opportunity to spread this monthly prophetic newspaper as the leaves of autumn all about our neighbourhoods. Let us bestir ourselves to the situation, and take the matter up in our churches, and place our order for a large number at once.

B. M. Heald.

Obituaries

NTSIKENI.—Rabecca Rubetta, age 18 months, passed away on the 31st December, 1924.

Rabecca was the youngest child of Brother Douglas Ntsikeni, and is the second child which our brother has lost recently.

Choice.—Harriet Campkin was born at Nottingale, London, in November, 1866. In 1887, she came to South Africa, and a year after was married to Thomas W. Choice. Largely through the friendship and influence of Sister Wilkins, of Claremont, Sister Choice accepted the faith of the Seventh-day Adventists, and became a member of the Rustica church, where she retained her membership till the transfer of this company to the new Wynberg church. Sister Choice suffered for about three months, and on the morning of January 8, she underwent an operation in a Cape Town hospital. A few hours later the heart ceased its action, and she passed away suddenly. She is survived by her husband, a daughter, and one son. We laid her to rest in the Plumstead cemetery with assurance that soon she will be called forth by the great Lifegiver.

D. E. Robinson.

CHRISTIAN.—Martha was left an orphan about six years ago. Since that time, with her two brothers and two sisters, she has been cared for by her mother's sisters at the Old Japtha Home, Uitenhage.

Martha has always been taught the Truth which she loved. A few months ago she became secretary of the Uitenhage Coloured Sabbath school.

The cause of her death was enteric fever. She fell asleep just at the close of Sabbath, January 17th, 1925. She had almost reached her fourteenth birthday and was taking her part in the active duties of life. We may not understand all the reasons for these experiences, but we can trust the Lord who knoweth best. 1 Thess. 4:13-18 is the comfort of the sorrowing family.

U. Bender.