

## A Message From the New General Conference President

### GREETINGS!

Dear old Elder Spicer used to say, "The Advent family is a good family to belong to!" A few weeks ago when Mrs. Pierson and I were returning from Africa to the homeland, we spent the Sabbath on four different continents over five weekends. What a blessed privilege it was to meet with God's people in Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America! In each church we felt right at home, for we were with brothers and sisters of the same great family.

This week we find ourselves in the midst of another General Conference session, and I wish to take this opportunity of sending our warmest Christian greetings to the Advent believers around the world. Thousands of you we have known when we labored among you in four different division

fields. I am looking forward with keen anticipation to meeting many, many more in other lands as time and duty permit.

The Lord has called a strong team of dedicated men to lead out in His work in the General Conference during the next quadrennium. It will be a privilege to associate with such men of God as Elders Campbell, Watts, Bland, Carcich, Beach, Emmerson, and all of the other members of our headquarters staff. We all solicit a regular place in your daily devotions.

We live in stirring times—times that demand deeper consecration and great zeal in our work for God. We appeal to you to live and labor earnestly for the finishing of the work. May the Lord bless each and every one of you.

**ROBERT H. PIERSON**

A panoramic view of the large, attentive audience that heard the sermon by the new General Conference president, Robert H. Pierson, Sabbath morning in the Arena. Though the Arena holds only 11,500 people, it is estimated that some 20,000 heard the message, including those in Hall C watching on closed-circuit TV.





# The Day in Detroit

By DONALD E. MANSELL

MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1966

This is not the first General Conference session I have attended, but it is the first one I have attended as a reporter. Since you are perhaps a spectator, or more probably an interested reader who couldn't attend General Conference, I would like to invite you to come with me as I cover Monday's story for the *General Conference Bulletin*.

Monday's story really begins Sunday night. I thought I had better spend some time doing a little preparatory work on my assignment, so Sunday morning I went to visit the booths of the Trans-Africa and Central European divisions that had the program and pageant Sunday evening.

On my way I passed several friends and acquaintances, and stopped briefly to speak to several. Visiting old friends is always a pleasant pastime, but when one has a deadline to meet it can be frustrating—in more ways than one.

I finally arrived at the Trans-Africa booth. Pastor M. P. Mabena, president of the Natal-Swaziland field, was in charge. I asked him to tell me about some of the interesting experiences from his field. Pointing to two rather large photographs mounted on a piece of cardboard at the back of the display booth, he told me that the woman in the picture at the right, who is in the act of being baptized, is the favorite wife of King Sabuza II of Swaziland, and that the person in the photograph at the left is the king himself.

Polygamy is practiced in Swaziland, and King Sabuza is no exception. He has 70 wives and more than 200 children. Several years ago one of our ministers so incensed the people by preaching against polygamy that the royal court fined him two head of cattle and forbade him ever again to preach against plurality of wives. This put the Adventists in a disadvantageous position, but this changed two years ago in the following way.

King Sabuza gives an audience at Easter time each year and invites the ministers of the various Christian denominations to explain the Christian way. Two years ago an Adventist minister explained our beliefs to the king, and at the close of the interview the king remarked, "Now I can see that the Adventists have the truth."

Last fall Pastor Mabena held a series of evangelistic meetings in Swaziland. Among those who attended were the

king and his favorite wife. At the close of the meetings she accepted the Adventist message and was baptized last March. But what about the relationship of the queen to the king now, and what about his attitude toward the church at the close of the meetings?

Pastor Mabena explained that when a man of Swaziland is converted and seeks admission to the Adventist Church he must give up all of his wives except one before he is baptized. However, when a wife of a polygamous marriage is converted and desires membership in the Adventist Church she need not give up her husband if he is willing to live with her. Though King Sabuza has not yet become a Seventh-day Adventist, he is favorably impressed, and it is hoped that before long he will surrender his heart completely to God. At the present time Pastor Mabena has free access to the king, and 27 children of the king are being taught the tenets of our faith.

Pastor Mabena introduced me to R. H. Kent, who related some miraculous ex-

periences of our people in Uganda. For some time there has been unrest between the Bakonjo and the Batoro peoples. Many have lost their lives and hundreds of homes have been burned to the ground by marauding bands. At least one Adventist has lost his life because of this conflict.

On one occasion an Adventist family was surrounded by a group of the enemy who threatened them with death. The father protested their innocence and pleaded for the lives of his family, but in vain. When it became apparent that there was no hope, the parents said, "We are ready to die, but please do not kill us in front of our children." The man in command of the marauders agreed to let the children go, and then ordered his men to make ready to spear the parents who were praying fervently for deliverance. Suddenly the leader changed his mind, ordered his men to leave, and advised the Adventist family to leave the area.

The family decided to stay. One night a group of men from the enemy tribe attacked their home and tried with spears to break down the windows, which were covered with thin boards. Unable to do this, they used hammers, and again tried to break in, but in vain. Finally they tried to burn down the house by igniting the thatching of the roof, but the wind put the fire out each time they tried. Enraged, they set fire to the thatch on the chicken coop and left. The chicken coop burned to the ground, but the Adventist family was saved and praised God for deliverance.

In another incident a group of the enemy surrounded an Adventist family and threatened to kill them. The father of the family tried to reason with the men,



Chatting in front of the colorful booth of the Trans-Africa Division are the following workers (left to right): Pastor J. M. Koko, publishing secretary for Zambia; J. H. Mambala, educational secretary of Malawi; and P. Ndinga, secretary-treasurer of the West Congo field and pastor at Leopoldville, Congo.

but to no avail. Finally one of the men raised his spear to thrust it at our brother's heart, but it shattered in pieces and fell to the ground. After seeing this, the leader left with his band of men, saying, "We can't kill this man."

Because of the unrest in Uganda many of our church members were forced to flee into hiding. One group of church members completely disappeared for two years, but when contact was re-established in December, 1964, it was learned that a lay brother, who could neither read nor write, had held the group together during the months of hiding and had preached to them from texts he had previously memorized. These faithful Adventists not only had continued to hold their services regularly but had even brought in tithes they had accumulated during their two years in hiding.

The Trans-Africa Division booth has many interesting items such as ivory and wood carvings, spears and shields, and miniature replicas of various mission stations. The display is dominated by a lighted color photograph that hangs on the back wall of the booth showing a pride of lions in their native habitat.

Later in the afternoon I went to the Central European exhibit. There I introduced myself to Kurt Pruefer, a minister from West Berlin. Brother Pruefer told me he worked for nine years in East Germany before being called to pastoral work in West Berlin in 1960. I asked him about a shield that hangs on the center of the wall at the back of the booth, and he explained that the black, red, and gold diagonal bars across the shield are the colors of the German flag and the open Bible superimposed on the shield represents our message.

To the left of the flag is a painting of a rural scene on which appears the words "FURCHTET GOTT UND GEBET IHM DIE ERHE," which he translated: "Fear God and give glory to Him." To the right of the shield is a map of the world with various colored cards indicating the number of missionaries sent out from Germany to different parts of the world field. Since the Central European Division has no mission fields under its direct supervision, it sends out missionaries to other divisions.

In the past 40 years 9 missionaries have been sent out from the Central European Division to North America, 8 to Inter-America, 23 to South America, 9 to Northern Europe, 5 to the U.S.S.R., 27 to Southern Europe, 14 to Southern Asia, 40 to the Far East, 9 to Australasia, 25 to the Middle East, and 71 to Trans-Africa, for a grand total of 241 missionaries in four decades.

At 7:30 the evening service began with a rousing song service interspersed with instrumental and vocal numbers. After the preliminaries O. Gmehling, president of the Central European Division, with O. Bremer, treasurer of the division translating, gave an encouraging report on the growth of our work in Germany, where today live more than 40,000 Seventh-day Adventists.

One story Elder Gmehling related impressed me with the simple means God often uses to bring conviction to the human heart. Somewhere in East Ger-

## Partial Report of Nominating Committee

At the sixth business meeting held Monday morning, June 20, the nominating committee placed the following persons in nomination for the offices designated:

### General Conference

Undertreasurer: O. A. Blake.  
Assistant Treasurers: K. F. Ambs, J. C. Kozel, Robert Osborn, W. L. Pascoe, W. E. Phillips, Martin Kemmerer.

Auditor: R. J. Radcliffe.  
Associate Auditors: R. M. Davidson, L. D. Dunn, Werber Johnson.  
Statistical Secretary: J. O. Gibson.  
Secretary, Lay Activities Department: J. E. Edwards.

Secretary, Temperance Department: E. J. Folkenberg.  
Secretary, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department: M. E. Loewen.

Secretary, Public Relations Bureau: E. W. Tarr.  
Secretary, Publishing Department: D. A. McAdams.

Associate Secretaries: W. A. Higgins, C. L. Paddock, Jr.  
Secretary, Sabbath School Department: G. R. Nash.

Associate Secretaries: R. C. Barger, L. B. Reynolds.

### Australasian Division

President: L. C. Naden.

Secretary: R. R. Frame.  
Treasurer: E. W. Howse.  
Education and Religious Liberty: E. E. White.  
Health Foods: W. L. Kilroy.  
Lay Activities and Sabbath School: H. F. Rampton.  
Medical: S. A. Kotz.  
Ministerial: George Burnside.  
Publishing: Herbert White.  
Temperance: R. W. Taylor.  
Missionary Volunteer: R. A. Vince.

### Central European Division

President: O. Gmehling.  
Secretary: K. Fleck.  
Treasurer: O. Bremer.  
Educational: H. Werner.  
Lay Activities and Temperance: St. Woysch.

### Southern Asia Division

President: R. S. Lowry.

### Inter-American Division

President: C. L. Powers.

### Southern European Division

President: Marius Fridlin.  
Secretary: W. A. Wild.  
Treasurer: B. J. Kohler.

At the seventh business meeting held Monday afternoon, June 20, the Nominating Committee placed the following additional persons in nomination for the offices designated:

### General Conference

Vice-President for North America: Neal C. Wilson.

Associate Secretary: W. L. Murrill.

Secretary of MV Department: T. E. Lucas.

Associate Secretaries, Lay Activities Department: A. A. Esteb, C. E. Guenther, V. W. Schoen.

Associate Secretaries, Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty: R. R. Hegstad, Melvin Adams.

### Australasian Division

Auditor: L. J. Stace.

### Northern European Division

President: W. Duncan-Eva.

### Inter-American Division

Treasurer: C. O. Franz.

### Southern Asia Division

Secretary: C. B. Guild.

Treasurer: B. H. Stickle.

### Southern European Division

Education and Temperance: Paul Steiner.

Lay Activities and Public Relations: Samuel Monnier.

Medical and Sabbath School: B. E. Seton.

Ministerial, Radio and TV: P. Lanares.

Publishing: Edouard Naenny.

Missionary Volunteer: Herbert Stoeger.  
Auditor: P. Knudson.

### Central European Division

Medical: G. Femer. Ministerial: O. Gmehling. Public Affairs and Religious Liberty: E. Killian. Publishing: H. Ketzner. Radio and TV: E. Killian. Sabbath School, Welfare, and Temperance: O. Brozio. MV: J. Hildebrand. Auditor: H. Niemann.

The nominations were voted unanimously.

many a Seventh-day Adventist child was attending public school. One day the child's teacher came to visit the parents, as is customary in that country. Only the mother was home, and feeling inadequate to explain our beliefs to the teacher, she simply read the Lord's Prayer. Yet through this simple means memories were

awakened, and the teacher burst into tears as she remembered hearing the Word of God read when she was a child. Now she is interested in our message and is preparing for baptism.

At the close of the report of the Central European Division there was a brief pause in the evening program, then suddenly

my attention was drawn from the notes I was taking to the loud beating of drums. Glancing to the left side of the platform, I saw two men beating a tattoo on African drums. I was told that one of these drums was the royal drum of Uganda and that the costume worn by one of the drum beaters, M. E. Lind, secretary of the division, was the royal robe of the king of Toro. The beating of the drums was accompanied by the organ playing "Onward, Christian Soldiers!"

I knew, of course, that soon the Trans-Africa Division workers would come marching down the aisle and, sure enough, at that moment came a colorful display of flags and costumes. In the lead was a standard-bearer with a placard bearing the name of the division, followed by the division president—now General Conference president—Robert H. Pierson, accompanied by some of his officers, then the flag of Kenya, the Congo, Malawi, Rwanda, and then I lost track. The flags were followed by missionaries and African

workers in colorful dress, which in turn were followed by missionary families in European dress.

Elder Pierson presented a thrilling sound film on the progress of our work in Trans-Africa. Baptisms exceeded 101,000 in the past quadrennium—the largest increase in the world field. His report was punctuated with stories of soul-winning endeavor in his field. I was surprised to learn that the Sabbath schools in the Trans-Africa Division have nearly 500,000 members.

The Monday morning devotional was presented by F. L. Peterson, retiring General Conference vice-president, who stressed the certainty of Christ's coming.

During the morning business session J. E. Edwards, secretary of the Home Missionary Department (now Department of Lay Activities), assisted by various home missionary men from the overseas and home fields, reported on the work in their department. To close the meeting a male chorus composed of home missionary sec-

retaries sang a stirring new arrangement of "Onward, Christian Soldiers!" entitled "Marching With the Message."

At 11:30 W. E. Phillips, president of the "Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service, Inc." (SAWS), reported on the work Adventists have done in disaster areas. He told two stories in which members of SAWS had lost their lives in the line of duty.

At 1:30 P.M. a sound film was shown, titled *Bible School*, which depicted a television Bible school for children. Shortly after 2:00 P.M. K. Fleck introduced a film *Wings Over Central Europe* and told an interesting story concerning the photographer who filmed it. Not wishing to miss the details of this story, I went over and sat by Elder Fleck while the picture was being shown. Here is the story as he told it to me:

Rolf Heclan, a professional photographer, whose wife is a Seventh-day Adventist, was hired to film *Wings Over Central* (Continued on page 20)

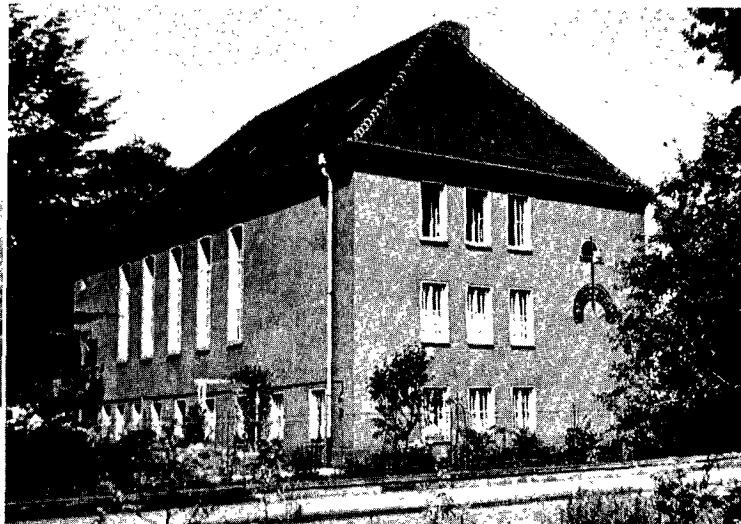
## Two Churches in the Eastern Zone of Germany



The Oranienburg church (left) is situated in the Eastern Sector of the divided capital of Berlin, Germany. Having lost their meeting place during the chaotic time of war, our believers were compelled to change their worship site several times. The last rented hall was an unrepresentative room in a factory. It was not easy to find. To reach it one had to pass two dirty back premises (*Hinterhöfe*) and to climb a steep and dark staircase.

When some faithful believers moved to that district they purchased a piece of real estate on time payments and placed it at the denomination's disposal. In 1964, after two years of negotiation, a building permit was granted, in consideration of the fact that our believers had freely spent their time to restore a Jewish cemetery without remuneration. There were still many difficulties to solve. The church made its problems a matter of earnest prayer lasting several months.

Finally, four sustentees began the bricklaying. Some of our dear believers and friends of the truth, among them some craftsmen, secured material, worked hard, and contributed money to this building. With the help of the Berlin Conference, the church was dedicated after two years of work. This chapel has a seating capacity of 150. In the dedication sermon the congregation gave glory to God with Psalm 126:3: "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."



The Magdeburg church (right) in East Germany is now 70 years old. A man name Klingbeil emigrated to America, and after accepting the truth, returned to Germany in 1893 to proclaim the Advent message in his native Magdeburg. In 1895, as the first fruits of his labors, nine persons accepted the truth and formed the nucleus of the Magdeburg church.

About this time some of our leading brethren visited Magdeburg, because they were interested in some property nearby. They purchased the water mill Pabsdorf, which came to be known as Friedensau.

The Magdeburg church grew steadily until the day, during World War II, when the whole city of Magdeburg was destroyed by bombs, including our chapel. Nearly all our members lost their properties and were scattered; yet, thanks to the Lord all lives were saved. The church rallied, and in September, 1945, the first postwar sermon was preached to our believers in Magdeburg.

In February, 1957, a new chapel was finished. At this time 230 believers belonged to the Magdeburg church. Recently the seventieth anniversary was celebrated with 400 faithful believers in attendance. Today Magdeburg is the headquarters of the Saxony-Anhalt Conference.

O. GMEHLING, President  
Central European Division

# Central European Division

By OTTO GMEHLING, *President*

The Central European Division comprises only Germany—both East and West. It is therefore identical with the Inter-Union Gemeinschaft der Siebenten-Tags-Adventisten (Denomination of Seventh-day Adventists) in Germany, which by the end of this year can look back on 40 years of existence. Our territory has a population of about 74 million people, of whom 18 million live in East Germany and 56 million in West Germany. Even though we are strictly separated politically, we as members of our church are united in the Advent hope.

Evangelical Christians are still in the majority in our country; but Catholic influence in the west and atheistic influence in the east is very strong. Therefore, although religious liberty prevails, it is not always easy to live up to our faith and proclaim the message. But everywhere our church members, including our young people, are loyal to the faith of Jesus and the commandments of God.

In East Germany we have about 15,000 church members. The two unions in West Germany have about 25,000 members. The result is a strong home base of nearly 40,000 members. Unfortunately, we have lost all our mission fields in the Near East, the Far East, and Africa because of the unfavorable political conditions in the first and second world wars. Nevertheless, there are still German missionaries everywhere in the world.

Since the last General Conference, by friendly cooperation with the Trans-Africa Division, we have gladly been sharing the worldwide mission work in their vast fields. Besides many gifts in money and in kind we have been able to send out efficient fellow workers. Among them are Dr. W. Müller, Dr. B. Brozio, Dr. H. Müller-Grotjan, R. Engel, W. Schmutzler, R. D. Strassdowsky, G. Olschewski. Seven more have been in Africa since before the present quadrennium. Our churches, always glad to sacrifice for the work of missions, are sincerely interested in this development. Some of our leading men have been able to visit Africa, and we have, in turn, been visited by our brethren from the Trans-Africa Division.

When the work of the denomination in Germany was organized 40 years ago as the Inter-Union, our three unions had a membership of about 35,000. In those days the German part of Switzerland, Austria, Holland, and East Prussia with Upper Silesia belonged to our unions. After these territories had been incorporated into other divisions and we had suffered heavy losses in human life during the war, the Central European Division was left greatly reduced in size.

The fatal second world war caused the total desolation of a great many towns.

Our church buildings, homes, and institutions were destroyed or heavily damaged. Poverty on all sides and ineffable misery among the refugees prevailed.

Under such conditions, yet trusting in God, we had to begin our work again in 1945 with only a few ministers and about 25,000 church members scattered throughout the country. A great number of missing persons were found again. The churches rallied. Many new converts were won through their faithful co-operation and the work of the ministers and book evangelists and the different departments.

Now after 40 years we number nearly



Otto Gmeuling

40,000 members in about 800 churches, with 400 ministers and 250 book evangelists, in spite of a high percentage of emigrants and a comparatively high death rate. Many chapels have been erected with the magnanimous help of the General Conference. Unfortunately, there are still a great number of churches without homes of their own.

In those days of beginning, while we suffered from outward need, as people in the east still do, there was a hunger for spiritual things. During the past few years, as the result of increasing affluence, spiritual hunger has waned. The more man prospers the less he cares about God and His Word. In spite of these conditions we have been able during the past four years to add to our church 3,911 dear people by baptism and profession of faith. For this we are thankful to God.

Unfortunately, during the same period we lost 1,668 members by apostasy, 3,810 by death, and 137 by emigration. Therefore, at the end of 1965 we had 1,704 fewer members than at the beginning of 1962. It is worthy of note that the loss through apostasy was only half the total in the period from 1958 to 1961. At the same time the figure for deaths doubled. There were 902 fewer members received into the church by baptism and profession of faith.

Altogether in the past 20 years there were about 13,000 deaths. That is a high figure compared with our membership. This is partially an aftereffect of the sufferings of the wartime years, and also the result of a certain arrangement of age groups in our churches. During the decade of 1935-1945 only a small number were won owing to the political situation and war conditions. A whole generation is missing in our churches. We are encouraged to note that in the past four years there has been a slight improvement in soul-winning results. Comparing the last quarter of 1964 with the last quarter of 1965, there is an increase of 53 by baptism and profession of faith. We trust and believe that this slight increase represents a continuing trend.

Sometimes people come in contact with us in an unusual way. A book evangelist canvassing in a town in northern Germany met a student of music, the daughter of a high official. She had read the novel *The New Pamela* in which an American author describes the life of a young Adventist girl in the household of a millionaire. On the strength of what she read in the book she began to live like an Adventist and to keep the Sabbath. At the invitation of the book evangelist she attended our meetings and eagerly prepared for baptism.

In a small township in East Germany a child from an Adventist home had difficulties in school. His young teacher, who took an active interest in the ideology of the regime, visited his parents. She found only the mother at home. She sought a discussion with her about her views on religion and ideology. Perplexed, our sister, who was not very eloquent, opened her Bible. As a statement of her faith she simply read the Lord's Prayer to the young teacher. The girl, remembering her Christian mother, burst into tears. She is quite changed now and is seeking more knowledge of our church.

Throughout these years our tithes and offerings have shown a slow but constant increase, not only in the total but also in per capita, beyond the general rise in wages and prices. This implies a growing loyalty and liberality.

		Tithe	Per capita and weekly
1962	DM	7,345,534.49	5.25
1963	DM	7,758,464.76	5.53
1964	DM	8,422,933.85	6.01
1965	DM	9,588,990.51	6.88
		Offerings	Per capita and weekly
1962	DM	1,651,549.57	1.17
1963	DM	1,757,389.75	1.25
1964	DM	1,869,691.89	1.33
1965	DM	2,142,253.49	1.54

In Eastern Germany as well, where they are entirely dependent on themselves because of a different currency, there was an increase of tithes and offerings of about 5 per cent in the past four years, although wages and prices were not changed to any extent. Thus they manage to maintain their school, their institutions and church buildings, and a sustentation fund of their own.

In all states of the Federal Republic of Western Germany our conferences as local organizations of our denomination have obtained legal recognition as public

law corporations. This recognition was granted to the unions and the division as well. Besides a gain in public esteem there are considerable tax privileges and different advantages connected with this status. Our organization, church members, and fellow workers benefit by this arrangement, as do our mission endeavors. There are no obligations or restrictions of our work rising from it. In view of the political situation, some years ago the division headquarters moved from Berlin to Darmstadt, Marienhoehe.

In Darmstadt we have our Marienhoehe Missionary Seminary with approximately 300 students. Besides a six-year course for ministers, we maintain a well-conducted Gymnasium (high school and junior college) which is state-recognized and leads up to the Abitur (university entrance examination). Many of the graduates become ministers, teachers, and medical doctors. With this fine education they directly or indirectly serve the cause at home and abroad.

In Hamburg we have our publishing house, the Advent-Verlag, which is widely known. Formerly they printed in many languages. Today the house is connected with the "Saatkorn Verlag." From here our German literature goes out into every region of our home country and far beyond our borders into all the world. In past years the printing office, the book-binding department, and other interior accommodations of the publishing house have been improved and equipped with modern machinery to save time and labor. The old buildings were renovated and a new house was added.

Hundreds of successful book evangelists canvass in the homes with our beautiful and valuable books and periodicals and find many who are interested. From 1962 to 1965 they sold literature worth more than 18 million D. Marks, a gain of 3 million D. Marks' worth over the preceding four years. We thank the Lord for this great work of sowing the good seed.

We would like to mention a few of the many books that are published by our publishing house. *The Great Controversy* in a new translation has gone through two editions already. Because of their bearing on present-day problems two chapters from it—"The Apostasy" and "Character and Aims of the Papacy"—were printed as paperbacks. Three volumes of *Testimony Treasures* also were published. They are highly appreciated. It is planned to publish *Christ's Object Lessons* and *Prophets and Kings*.

In addition to a great number of other well-received books dealing with questions of health and young people's problems we endeavor to bring out new editions of books dealing with Daniel, the Revelation, and Matthew 24. Our periodicals include *Der Christliche Hausfreund* (*A Friend for the Christian Home*), *Leben und Gesundheit* (*Life and Health*), *Ruf in die Zeit* (*A Message for Our Time*).

In Hamburg, a city with 1,200 church members, we have our Gesundkostwerk DE-VAU-GE (Health Food Factory). Its health products have been on the market since the turn of the century and are still at the top for good quality. Through

some rearrangements of the Board of Works we moved from our well-established factory, built in 1914, and with the help of the city of Hamburg erected a new and modern factory on another site.

In West Berlin, near the boundary of the Russian sector, we have our Krankenhaus Waldfriede (Berlin Sanitarium) with 200 beds. It represents an important branch of our medical mission. Here the nurses of our Friedensau Schwesternschaft are working under the guidance of Adventist doctors. The sisterhood of nurses dates back to the beginning of this century. Many nurses work in other hospitals, in the East as well as in the West. There are two state-recognized nurses' training schools, one in Berlin and one in Düsseldorf. There is a most urgent need for an extension of the medical work in West Germany.

We have old people's homes in Friedensau, Berlin-Steglitz, Bad Aibling, Bensheim-Auerbach, and Neandertal. Another is planned at Uelzen. A ward for the nursing of old people is to be added to the Waldfriede hospital in Berlin. Our young people's vacation homes in both East and West Germany are very popular.

Though we have about 400 ministers, this number does not at all suffice to supply our needs. The education of ministers having been interrupted from 1935 to 1945 because of the political situation, we are now short approximately 15 graduation classes of men who today would be in the prime of life. We need to make earnest endeavors to interest gifted young men in the ministry in order to fill the gap caused by retirement and death. At present about 50 students in Friedensau and about 100 in Marienhoehe are studying for the ministry. In East Germany training for the ministry is exposed to many a difficulty. Many students follow their calling under great sacrifice and in consecrated faith.

The contents of our preaching and of our mission work is, of course, alike in the west and the east. In outward form, however, it is often quite different. In West Germany every minister can preach the gospel directly in public Bible lectures or in special efforts. Recently, extensive evangelistic efforts were conducted in Hamburg and West Berlin. They were well attended and brought a rich harvest of souls.

For the first time the graduating class of our missionary seminary at Marienhoehe assisted for some weeks in this large-scale effort. The main topics were "The World's Greatest Hour Is Approaching"; "When Christians Unite, God Speaks the Last Word."

In Frankfurt/Main the Five-Day Plan was conducted, with an enrollment of 300. It proved a great success. Television and newspapers reported on it very favorably. Courses in other towns are to follow.

Canvassing campaigns in unentered townships or places with few Adventist members are being conducted by ministers and book evangelists. The church members, still the most successful workers, are actively helping in many ways—by canvassing, by distributing handbills, by Bible Test visiting, by choir singing, and by brass band playing. A union president

who comes from an Adventist home—his father was a church elder—recently said that never before have so many effective plans for soul winning been utilized.

In the east also our ministers and church members are faithful in soul winning. In a middle-sized town with a well-known Adventist church evening services are being held three times a week. As all church members are present and about 200 to 300 guests are brought along by them personally, the usual attendance of those who want to hear God's Word is between 800 and 1,000. Parts of the Bible, especially the four Gospels, are loaned to seekers for truth.

With paper contributed by West German churches we print quarterlies, the readings for the Week of Prayer, and several booklets. The books *Steps to Christ*, *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, and *The Desire of Ages* are published as booklets, as also is a manual of devotion for the year. It is planned to publish *Education* and a paperback edition of *Christ Our Righteousness*. A small Bible correspondence school has been set up. Unfortunately, no delegates from the eastern section are in attendance at the General Conference session.

In West Germany our departments have many possibilities for expansion and development. The young people we gather in young people's and children's camps and Bible study institutes are helping willingly in all phases of evangelism. Baptisms of young people constitute a high percentage of those we baptize. Those eligible for compulsory military service stand up for their faith as non-combatants in the east as well as in the west. Many youth have been trained as Red Cross volunteers.

The Sabbath school is well attended. Our churches take an active interest in public relations work. The Bible correspondence school and the radio department, *The Voice of Hope*, fill a vital role in the work of preaching and soul winning. A tape library for the blind has been established. Bible lectures with color slides are available for enthusiastic church members who want to show them in the homes of interested friends. Our broadcasts from Luxembourg can be heard many miles into the east and even into Russia.

Even in the prisons there are students of our Bible correspondence school. A murderer and robber, the son of an Adventist mother, was converted by the study of our lessons. After asking the widow of the murdered man for pardon, which was granted, his baptism by one of our ministers took place in the prison. Our welfare work, which has been held in high esteem by the public for years, was able to keep up its high standard collections of clothes for Africa.

In spite of all these endeavors and the progress accomplished, the well-known statement of Cecil Rhodes applies to our field: "So little done; so much to do!" However, "our hope . . . is steadfast." That was our motto for 1964. In this hope, which is in its truest sense the Advent hope, we feel united with our brethren all over the world. Let us work on joyfully and trustingly as long as there is time.

# Trans-Africa Division

By ROBERT H. PIERSON, *President*

Africa—what a continent of challenge! No longer the dark continent it once was, Africa is a land where yesterday joins hands with tomorrow, creating a glad, yet ominous today.

Africa is a land of bustling modern cities with well-stocked stores and every modern convenience. Salisbury, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and other large African cities could be set down in any part of America or Europe and be a real credit to the area fortunate enough to have such an addition of enterprise, culture, and beauty.

Trans-Africa is large—sprawling over some 12 million square miles of blue sea, parched sands, snow-clad peaks, pleasing plateaus, and steaming jungles—with every type of terrain and climate in between.

Distances are great. It is more than 4,000 miles from our westernmost church on historic St. Helena Island in the Atlantic to our most easterly church in the palm-studded Seychelles group a thousand miles from Mombasa in the Indian Ocean.

Trans-Africa territory reaches from unentered Tristan de Cunha a thousand miles northward to the borders of Sudan and Ethiopia—a distance greater than from London to the Arabian Sea or from Singapore to Melbourne.

In this fabulous sweeping complex live millions of people from many lands, representing many cultures, speaking many languages, and worshiping many gods.

The people of Trans-Africa are a lovable people—colorful, persevering, responsive—in most instances eager to hear the word of God. What a challenge to the mission-minded church of the remnant!

The Adventist Church in the new Africa is a large, rapidly growing family composed of some 60 nationalities and tribes. Multiplied thousands of Africans, Europeans, Asians, and mixed races speaking 40 languages comprise the body of Christ in our part of this great continent. Workers from 20 near and distant lands have responded to calls from the mission board to serve in Trans-Africa. Here our worker group of some 4,000 is welded into a mighty army of dedicated soldiers of the cross.

## Public and Personal Evangelism

The rallying cry in Trans-Africa is "Evangelism!" This has been the key of our program during the past four years. Our lands have been on fire with evangelism—worker evangelism and lay evangelism, literature evangelism and medical evangelism, educational, institutional, and departmental evangelism.

Our workers and laymen have held all kinds of efforts—large and small, short and long, in our villages and in our cities.

At the close of 1965 there were some 125,000 persons in baptismal classes throughout the division.

This is the hour when every branch of our work exists for but one purpose—to prepare men and women to live for Christ in this present evil world and to live with Christ in that glorious kingdom. He has gone to prepare for those who love Him.

During the past quadrennium more than 98,000 persons have been added to the church in Trans-Africa either by baptism or profession of faith. Thousands more have joined our baptismal classes. This means that on an average for the



Robert H. Pierson

past four years a new church of 67 members has come into existence in our field every 24 hours.

We humbly thank God that this report is possible despite the turbulent times in which we live. We give Him all the glory for what has been accomplished through His grace and power.

## Literature Evangelism

Paul Owour, a humble farmer, was called from the plow into the bookmen's army in the East African Union. Some time ago he felt a great burden to sell literature in a certain community near Lake Victoria. Upon his arrival he found the people very much out of harmony with his plan.

"We don't need you here!" they frankly told him. "The people here are not Christians. They are not interested in your religion. They will not buy your books. You will only starve to death here. Go away!"

But Brother Owour, with the divine imperative resting upon him, felt impressed that he should carry out his plan.

"I will get along all right here," he replied courageously. "The people need my books. You need not fear that I shall starve to death. I have three helpers who

always work with me, and together we shall succeed."

The people looked mystified, for he appeared to be alone.

"Three helpers?" they inquired. "Who are the others?"

"Well, you see," our literature evangelist continued confidently, "God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit have promised to help me. They have never failed me!"

The result? Today in this little heathen community, so hostile at first, there is a fine church organization of 70 baptized members. Brother Owour and his three heavenly Helpers succeeded again.

Our army of intrepid literature evangelists are blazing new trails through the jungle and over the veld of our great sprawling field. Our publishing houses and school presses are turning out literature in 34 languages. But we should be doing much, much more in getting the printed page into the hands of knowledge-hungry sons and daughters of Africa.

We are competing with many ideologies today. Now is our time to place the Advent message in the hands of people who are willing and eager to read. Today is the day for the printed page in Africa.

The past four years have been encouraging ones in our publishing work. The Lord has blessed J. N. Hunt and our literature evangelists in their ministry for Him.

Our total deliveries for the quadrennium ending December 31, 1961, were nearly \$995,000. During the past four years this total has climbed to more than \$1,538,000.

In 1962 we had only 265 regular colporteurs. Today we have an army of more than 400 full-time literature evangelists. These men and women of God are interested in souls as well as in sales. On an average our literature evangelists were responsible for 220 converts every month during the past four years.

## Classroom Evangelism

According to a recent annual report from the General Conference Department of Education, about one fourth of the denomination's schools and students are in the Trans-Africa Division. Never has there been such a determined quest for education as we are witnessing in Africa today. Our schools are more than "bursting at the seams"—they are literally pushing out the walls. In one year we had to turn away more than 10,000 children and young people seeking entrance into our institutions. There were not sufficient funds, facilities, or personnel.

Our schools have not only been imparting head knowledge to the youth of Africa but Christian teachers have made them truly evangelistic agencies as well. During the past four years 11,024 students were baptized.

The Trans-Africa Division is operating two senior colleges. We also operate three junior colleges. Thirteen secondary schools are woefully inadequate for the needs of our field.

Our 1,054 elementary schools should be doubled, as 2,294 teachers seek to cope with the task of instructing more than 86,512 children and youth. Some of our

greatest needs and problems are in the field of education.

### Sabbath School Evangelism

Brother Oneas Gutu works in our division office in Salisbury. Oneas rides his cycle 30 miles to and from work every day. He leaves home at five o'clock in the morning, stops by the railway station to sell magazines to passengers traveling by early morning trains, and then rides on to work.

On Sabbath, Brother Gutu conducts a branch Sabbath school. The first one he started grew until it had 46 members. When the school was well established he turned it over to fellow workers and went to a new location to open another Sabbath school. Today his branch schools have 61 members, and already nine persons have been baptized.

When you think of Sabbath schools in Trans-Africa, however, you usually think in terms of acres rather than numbers. In 1953 we had 221,000 Sabbath school members. In 1957 this number had increased to more than 293,000.

According to the most recent figures available from J. B. Cooks our Sabbath schools have nearly reached the half-million-member mark that we set as our goal last General Conference time. We now have two unions with more than 100,000 Sabbath school members in each of their fields! We believe in the Sabbath school as the gateway to, and the heart of, the church.

In our lands where there is much poverty and disease, medical work plays a most important role in our over-all program. In seeking to follow in the

steps of the Master we have laid emphasis on the medical work.

In Trans-Africa we have ten hospitals, attached to which are five leprosariums. Usually our bed capacity of more than 1,000 is far overtaxed. We also operate 66 clinics and dispensaries scattered strategically throughout our seven unions. Ninety-six doctors and nurses, assisted by nearly 300 helpers carry the burden of this work.

During the past quadrennium much has been done in the way of material improvements at our medical institutions. New wards have been erected. New clinic buildings have gone up. New staff homes have been provided. At Malamulo a completely new, modern leper hospital is now in use. But there are still many more needs to be met in our medical program.

### Financial Blessings

Now a quick glance at the financial side of the picture. Despite war, chaos, and inflation in some fields, and mild economic recession in others, God has wonderfully blessed His people. In the quadrennium ending in 1961 our division tithe income was \$3,460,000. During the past four years the total increased to \$4,612,876.80. For this we are profoundly thankful to the Lord.

Our members want to do their share in helping to finish the work all over the world as well as in our division. Although a high percentage of our believers come from extremely low income areas, their giving has advanced in an encouraging manner during the past four years. For the quadrennium ending at the last Gen-

eral Conference session our gifts to missions totalled \$1,730,669. The past four-year total was \$2,031,318.80.

We have had our heartaches as well as our joys in Trans-Africa. In one week during August of last year two of our stalwart leaders were stricken. P. J. van Eck, principal of Helderberg College in South Africa, and C. T. J. Hyde, field secretary for the Trans-Africa Division in Salisbury, passed to their rest within a few days of each other. With other of their fellow workers who laid down their armor during the past quadrennium they await the call of the great Life-giver on the resurrection morning.

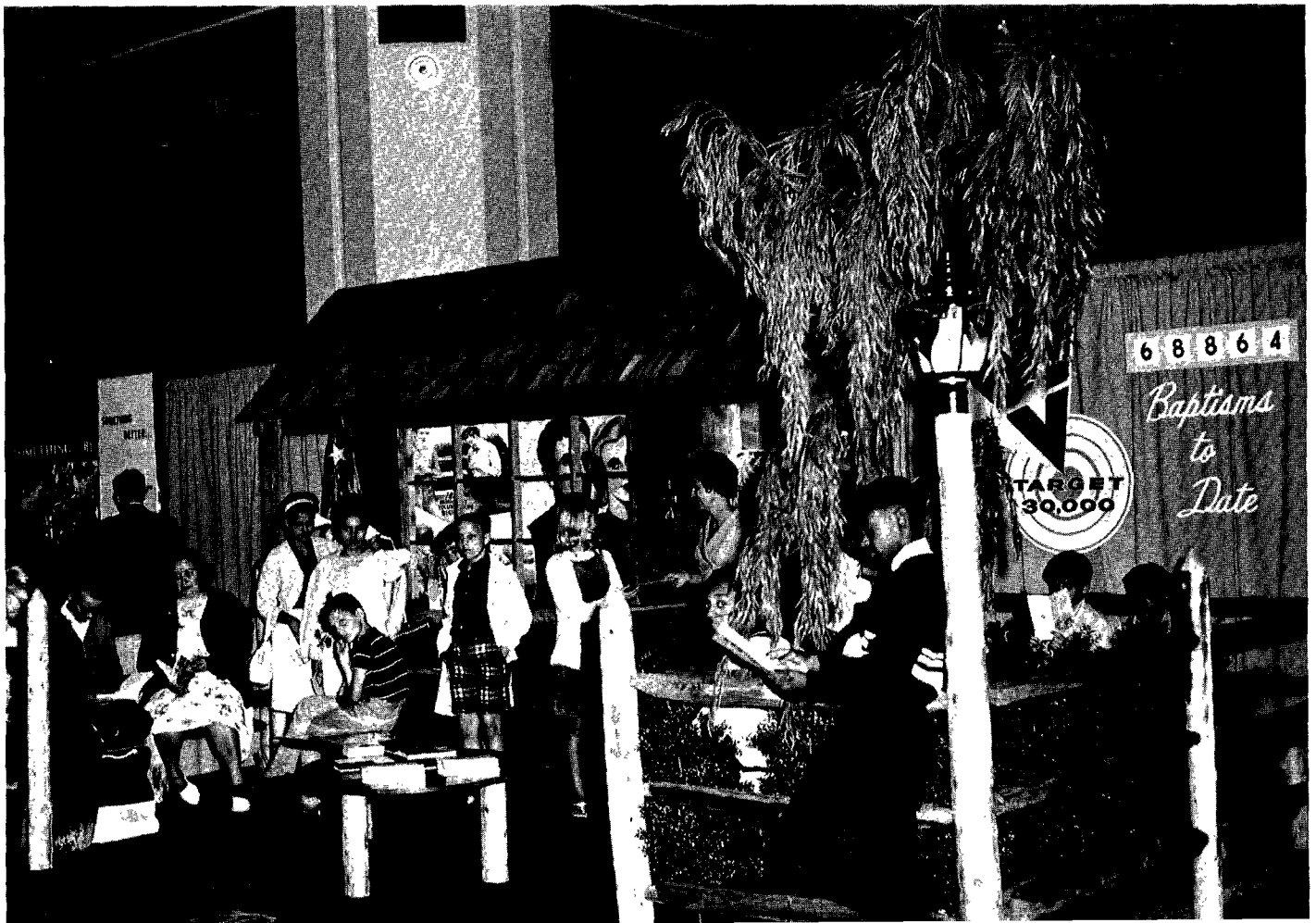
Taking courage and faith from their intrepid example, we who remain to face the challenge of the task in Africa rededicate our lives to the finishing of God's work in this great continent.

With confusion and frustration haunting us almost continuously for the past six years, workers in Trans-Africa have found comfort, courage, and power in prayer.

Our division Fellowship of Prayer has called multiplied thousands of God's people to the throne of grace each morning as we pray for workers and laymen as well as for fields and institutions.

Today as we face the future in Africa we solicit a continued interest in your prayers. We dare not face what lies ahead in our own strength. But through God's plenteous grace and mighty power we have no fear but that the truth will triumph gloriously in challenging emerging Africa in this generation, for "this work was wrought of our God" (Neh. 6:16).

The attractive booth of the Missionary Volunteer Department is well attended by young people eager to hear the taped messages by T. E. Lucas, MV secretary.





# The Witness of the Apostles to the Second Coming of Christ

MORNING SERMON, MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1966, 8:30 A.M.

By F. L. PETERSON

Vice-President of the General Conference

"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him; and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen" (Rev. 1:7).

This is the keynote of the message found in the book of Revelation that was revealed by Jesus Christ to the apostle John when he was exiled by Rome on the Isle of Patmos.

John had fellowshiped with Jesus in Palestine during the three years of His active ministry, and now in his loneliness on Patmos he is brought face to face with a series of uninterrupted events that lead to the climax of human history and to the coming of the city of God.

The return of Jesus is the great polestar toward which the church is still moving. More than nineteen hundred years ago, at Bethany, a little town on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives, near Jerusalem, Jesus with outstretched hands as if in the act of pronouncing a blessing upon His disciples slowly ascended into heaven. The disciples stood gazing heavenward in awesome silence and with breathless suspense. This was the moment of their greatest need of divine help.

"And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:10, 11).

This event marked the beginning of a new hope for mankind, a new realization of the hour when faith shall give way to sight. For many years we have listened to the voice of the poet, who sang of "One far-off divine event, To which the whole creation moves."

Today as we look upon the scenes of fulfilling prophecy we note that the world has moved nearer to that once "far-off divine event" and we can see the lights of the city beckoning us on and can hear the ringing of those golden bells for the last countdown.

The servant of the Lord has said: "The promise of Christ's second coming was ever to be kept fresh in the minds of His disciples. The same Jesus whom they had seen ascending into heaven, would come again, to take to Himself those who here below give themselves to His service. The same voice that had said to them, 'Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end,' would bid them welcome to His presence in the heavenly king-

dom."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 33.

The second coming of Christ is the cardinal doctrine of the church around which every other church doctrine clusters. If you separate this people from the positive belief in the second coming of Christ you will rob them of the joyous expectation of the "blessed hope."

"The doctrine of the second advent," said Ellen G. White, "is the very keynote of the Sacred Scriptures. From the day when the first pair turned their sorrowing steps from Eden, the children of faith have waited the coming of the Promised One to break the destroyer's power and bring them again to the lost Paradise."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 299. Throughout the ages this one great fact has been the hope of the followers of Christ.

Down the corridors of time we can hear the voices of the apostles bearing their witness to this glorious truth. They realized that it is the knowledge of this fact that gives a sweet reality to one's religion.

The apostle Paul, in seeking to bring comfort to all those who are called to stand beside the lifeless form of a loved one, said: "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

Paul is inspiringly adept in the use of comparisons. He knew that the ultimate aim of Christ is to destroy sin and to make life for man secure, so he stated, "As it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: so Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation" (Heb. 9:27, 28).

Paul, "an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God," distinguished for his spiritual excellence and dynamic leadership among both Jews and Gentiles, gave

positive witness to the second coming of his blessed Lord. His many letters to the churches he raised up contained exhortations to holiness of life: "For our conversation [citizenship]," he said, "is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself" (Phil. 3:20, 21).

In his admonition to Timothy, Paul said: "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom" (2 Tim. 4:1). At the time of the second coming of Christ a final separation between sinners and saints will be made. "Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God" (1 Cor. 4:5).

Again in his witness he said: "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:11-14).

At the time of Paul's final stand before Nero, the Roman emperor who pronounced the decision that sent him to a martyr's grave, Paul maintained unwavering confidence in his blessed Lord. In his life he had borne a glowing testimony to the life and work of Christ and at the time of his execution he knew that his sufficiency was not in himself but in the power of God's divine Spirit which had motivated him.

He triumphantly exclaimed, with stouthearted enthusiasm, "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

## The Testimony of James

The apostle James, in his witness, points to the time when God's people would suffer the oppressions and cruelties of the last days. Under the tyrannical hand of compulsion the people of God are to be unresisting in their attitude and long suffering in their endurance. The exhortation of the apostle is, "Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh" (James 5:7, 8).

The apostle James implies that "the

coming of the Lord draweth nigh" during the time when there is a general social and industrial revolution, a time when our whole agricultural society would be altered, at a time when professed Christians in their unrestrained lusts act no differently than the world; a time when "man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God"; and at a time when the "effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

The apostle Peter placed the weight of his apostolic authority behind his positive witness when he said, "We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty" (2 Peter 1:16).

Here Peter is stating that on the Mount of Transfiguration when the glory of Christ was revealed, "I was there; I saw Him with my own eyes and I heard the voice from heaven saying, 'This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'"

It was Peter, James, and John whom Christ took with Him up the winding trail to the top of a mountain and there portrayed in miniature the future kingdom of glory when Christ comes for His church. Peter said, "We . . . were eyewitnesses of his majesty." He stated further: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts."

Peter desires it to be understood that even if we were not "eyewitnesses of his majesty" we have the unerring gift of prophecy making known to the world the glory of the second coming of Christ.

Peter was anxious that the people of God would not be led astray either by any seeming delay of the Saviour's return or regarding any skeptics who might ridicule them because of their belief in the return of Jesus. He reminds them "that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."

Then he very emphatically says, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."

Peter concludes his witness with the vibrations of a cosmic conflagration that destroys the curtain of time and forges out of the wreckage an eternity of triumphant joy. He said, "Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat" (2 Peter 3:12).

Ellen G. White in writing of the upheaval of the earth, the sea, and the formation of our mountain ranges during

the time of the Flood, said: "These mountains speak to us of the desolating wrath of God in vindication of His broken law; for they were heaved up by the stormy convulsions of the flood. They are like mighty waves that at the voice of God stood still—stiffened billows, arrested in their proudest swell."—In *Review and Herald*, Feb. 24, 1885.

"These mountains to me," she states, "are significant. Subterranean fires although concealed in them are burning. . . . There is a sea of fire beneath our feet. There is a furnace of fire in these old rocky mountains. The mountain belching forth its fires tells us the mighty furnace is kindled, waiting for God's word to wrap the earth in flames."—*Manuscript 29*, 1885.

"Seeing then," Peter adds, "that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness" (2 Peter 3:11).

### A Call to Holiness

Today God is calling His church to holiness of life. The time we have left is to be spent in disciplining the mind and in exerting every power of our being in glorifying God and in witnessing for Him before a dying world. God is not asking for a profession of truth, but He is asking for a living, active display of the truth by possession and by our loyalty.

The apostle John, who gave us the theme for this great conference, leads us into a deeper communion with God as he gives us a glimpse of the intimacy that existed between the Father and the Son. There was a Father-Son relationship that was so confidential and devoted that Jesus said, "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30). "I delight to do thy will, O my God; yea, thy law is within my heart" (Ps. 40:8). "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me" (John 6:38).

It is into this family relationship that every son and daughter of Adam is invited to be born. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

John further witnesses to the fact that "now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

This is the moment for which the church now lives and works and waits—the moment when "this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15:53). "And we shall be changed" (verse 52).

Jesus Christ, the Master of life and our High Priest and Mediator, will soon arise from His throne of mediation and will summon all the angelic host of heaven to accompany Him on a return engagement He made with the sons of Adam a little more than 1900 years ago, and also in fulfillment of the revelation of future events made known to John when he was exiled on the Isle of Patmos.

God's church, that spent 1260 years in enforced persecution, will come forth

clothed in her garment of victory, ready to stand with her Lord on Mount Zion. God's church, which dares to enter every stronghold of Satan in every corner of this sin-cursed earth with God's everlasting gospel of salvation, will come forth with trophies of God's redeeming grace to receive her promised inheritance.

The time of tearful eyes is over. All fearfulness is passed. Walls of separation between nations and races and classes have been destroyed forever. The great gathering of the redeemed that shall meet their Lord in the air is composed of representatives from "every nation, kindred, tongue, and people," a small sample of whom are gathered in this great General Conference session today.

Many, many thousands whose eyes and ears have been closed by the icy hand of death for years and centuries will be awakened to new scenes and sounds, new attitudes, and to glorious communion with the resurrected saints. There are among them no high, no low, no rich, and no poor. They are all the sons and daughters of Adam who bravely took their stand with Christ. They were possessed by a burning loyalty to the cause of Christ and spent their energies in building a roadway across barriers of evil and through tunnels of vice back to Him who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

Of the resurrection day Ellen G. White said: "I saw the pious slave rise in victory and triumph, and shake off the chains that bound him."—*Early Writings*, p. 286. He finds himself among peaceful men and beneath a peaceful sky. For the first time in his existence he feels the sense of belonging. He sees a great multitude of people, and they are all clothed in white robes. He too is clothed in white raiment. In this glorious moment of illuminated togetherness as he beholds the faces of the redeemed, the joyous rapture that fills his soul leads him to inquire of his guardian angel, "Who are these?" And the angel replies, "These are they which . . . have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

Brothers and sisters, the little time we have left now is to be spent in washing our robes in the blood of the Lamb. Jesus is longing for the inhabitants of earth to turn over to Him their old filthy garments that have been contaminated by inherited and cultivated tendencies. He desires to take away the stony heart out of our flesh and give us a new heart of flesh, and a new nature, that we may be transformed into new creatures in Christ Jesus. He has broken the power of sin over our lives. He desires us to press forward together as a living, vibrant host of witnesses to the imminent return of our blessed Lord.

Soon the saints of God will raise their voices in the rhythm and rapture of a symphony of praise, singing, "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints" (Rev. 15:3).

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen." His witnessing servants that have been watching and waiting for their Lord's return shall look up and say, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20).

# Home Missionary Department

## Lay Activities Department

By J. ERNEST EDWARDS, *Secretary*

A modern book of Acts has been written during the past four years by the minister-church officer-member partnership in soul winning. The dedicated missionary service of devoted laymen around the world is revealed in the following summary. Every day during the past four years loyal believers have distributed 135,215 tracts, have given 16,123 Bible studies, have helped 22,114 people, and have brought in \$22,419 in Ingathering.

### Health and Welfare Services

Health and welfare services are a major interest to the Home Missionary Department. C. E. Guenther has given strong leadership to this work. Miss Maybelle Vandermark, after an absence of two years for a teaching assignment, recently rejoined the department staff as an assistant secretary. She is now devoting most of her time to the health and welfare program.

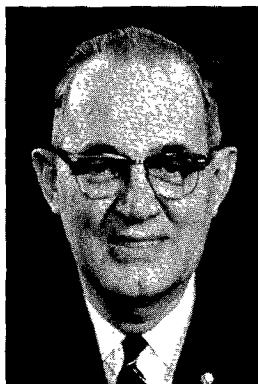
For our health and welfare services we present the most significant developments in our history. A great change is taking place in the emphasis and the nature of our welfare ministry. The focus is on the person in need. The ministry is becoming more personal. Workers are reaching out to find and help not only the poor but other troubled souls—the sick, the lonely, the bereaved. The services combine spiritual and physical ministry and seek to help the whole person. The program enlists workers of all ages, both men and women. In visiting homes, interviewing in our centers, and befriending people, pointing them to Christ through personal witnessing, revival and transformation come to the church accompanied by multiplying conversions.

The exciting change now under way in health and welfare ministry in our church has been initiated by instructional workshops on union, local conference, and church levels in three overseas divisions and in North America, wide distribution of the health and welfare manual, and implementation of Autumn Council recommendations.

Remarkable increases have become the rule in the reports of welfare activities. During this quadrennium the clothing distributed in the world field exceeded 34 million pieces. This is an increase of 10 million pieces, or 45 per cent. Cash expended in welfare services and the value of food surpassed \$44 million. The number of persons reported helped by health and welfare workers is 32,286, 779. If each person had been helped only once, and if these were all residents of the world's four largest cities, it would mean that just about every inhabitant of Tokyo, London, New York, and Shanghai was helped by Adventist health and welfare services.

The largest increase of all reported items is in hours of health and welfare service. The increase is 15,075,845 hours, and the total hours reported exceeded 42 million. This is voluntary service. These hours average 27 for each Seventh-day Adventist church member around the world. Giving themselves to the needy, these wonderful people with their kind, gentle ways are demonstrating to the world the spirit of the Advent message.

In North America 859 courses in first aid were conducted, and all told in the world field 3,623 certificates were issued in junior, standard, and advanced first-aid training. Other courses in health



J. Ernest Edwards

instruction sponsored include medical self-help, cooking, and home nursing.

### Disaster Relief

A world afflicted with increasing disasters of many kinds desperately needs the helping hand of Adventist disaster relief. People and agencies are coming to depend on Seventh-day Adventist wherever and whenever major calamity strikes. More than 1,000 welfare centers, 2,300 units (other welfare rooms), two General Conference and 49 local conference depots, and 267 disaster relief vehicles are equipped to supply instant and continuing aid. When Hurricane Betsy slammed into New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1965 all five conferences of the Southwestern Union dispatched a conference disaster vehicle with workers and supplies.

Distance, national borders, and oceans are all spanned to deliver relief supplies where needed. Medicines, clothing, blankets, tents, vehicles, and even buildings are dispatched by land, sea, and air from one continent to another. Material aid goes out to many nations from the home bases of North America, Australia, New Zealand, and Northern, Central, and Southern Europe. The Home Mission-

ary Department is responsible for distribution of these supplies at the points of greatest need.

The Disaster and Famine Relief Fund supports this increasing flow of international relief supplies. For the past ten years this Department has sponsored the promotion of this offering. Well over half a million dollars was contributed to the fund in the two offerings received during the past quadrennium.

Eight years ago the Department issued the first *Manual of Health and Welfare Services*. In 1963 the South American Division translated this manual into Spanish and Portuguese. During the past 12 months the manual has been revised, updated, and enlarged.

In 1964 the Department arranged for publication of a special edition of the book *Welfare Ministry*, by Ellen G. White, for placement in 10,000 homes. The South American Division has published this volume in the Spanish and Portuguese languages. In the inspired messages of this volume the church has been given the true principles of Christian welfare ministry.

### Visitation Contacts

In addition to serving as editor of *GO*, the Journal for Adventist Laymen, A. A. Esteb has enthusiastically championed the visitation program and the distribution of missionary literature.

During the past four years the personal involvement indicated by missionary contacts made by church members has increased by 13,152,936 over the previous quadrennium. The 1962-1965 total was the highest ever recorded in the Advent Movement—57,425,906, averaging 42 contacts for each Advent believer. It represents a great face-to-face ministry for Christ in all the lands of the world. Reports indicate that during the past four years in every minute around the clock 27 missionary contacts were made for Christ and our church by our dedicated laymen.

The wide distribution of more than 200,000 "Care Enough to Call" booklets has given impetus to the visitation program in North America. The first of the series outlined practical visitation methods and the second listed detailed approaches in the *how* of Bible evangelism. In preparation are five more booklets of the series with helps for these visitation approaches—literature, welfare, Bible correspondence school enrollment, Ingathering follow-up, and invitation to meetings.

The motion picture *Whatever Happened to Bob Brown?* produced in the summer of 1964 contributed much to the 1965-1966 visitation advance. This film, depicting true experiences in a city-wide literature penetration project, has helped to inspire churches around the world to launch a visitation program.

### Missionary Literature

In the visitation program and in other ways laymen have distributed great quantities of missionary literature—almost one million pieces a week. During the past four years 205,219,361 pieces of missionary literature and Bible correspondence course applications were distributed

—a gain of 45,102,078 or 28 per cent over the preceding period.

The training filmstrip *Streams of Light* with the tape was released in 1963; this demonstrates 18 ways to distribute missionary tracts and journals.

The Missionary Literature Guidance Committee for North America, formed in 1965, serves as a clearing house of ideas on missionary and special purpose tracts. The committee has recommended the preparation and distribution of six new-type tracts for a three-year period beginning with 1967. These are for use in an intensified coverage program aimed at reaching every home possible. A number of other world divisions plan a similar outreach literature program encompassing millions of homes.

### Soul Winning Through Ingathering

Ingathering continues to be a success story. In spite of restrictions, political crises, fluctuating exchange rates, and other problems the world divisions have made consistent gains each year, with an increasing number of conferences in North America and in other divisions attaining the Silver Vanguard per capita of \$25. For the first time in 1965 the divisions outside North America passed the \$2,750,000 mark, while North America neared \$6 million.

During the last period Ingathering for the world field totaled \$32,732,939.58—a gain of \$4,203,382.90. During this same period Ingathering from the world divisions, without North America, climbed from \$8,202,013.72 to \$10,035,943.44; in North America from \$20,327,542.96 to \$22,685,996.14. This all-time high represents a 15 per cent gain—\$1 million more each year for Christ and His cause.

Ingathering is not only a program whereby soul-winning dividends come to us by proxy through the missionaries we sponsor, it is also a missionary campaign with soul-winning dividends from contacts made in person. During the past four years four Ingathering recorded tapes were produced with actual soul-winning experiences. The objective—baptisms in every church through Ingathering contacts—has been emphasized by the use of these tapes. Ingathering and Bible evangelism go hand in hand. Every year scores of new converts accept the truth as a result of Ingathering visits.

### Bible Evangelism

With a vision of trained laymen instructing other members in soul-winning methods, V. W. Schoen has initiated a program of every member involvement in lay evangelism. Sixty-two lay instructor schools in Bible evangelism have been conducted in Inter-America, the Far East, Northern Europe, the Middle East, South America, and North America. These schools, attended by more than 5,000 students, implemented the new concept, training laymen to serve as instructors. These instructors in turn held lay evangelistic workshops in hundreds of churches with an attendance nearing 20,000. For text material these schools used the six new leadership booklets.

During the past quadrennium, in every

minute around the clock, 11 Bible studies were given. This is also a new record—a Bible is opened every six seconds to some soul searching for salvation. With a 2,868,769 gain over the previous four years God's people in united action gave 23,539,769 Bible studies.

Special commissioning services for the modern "120," which recognizes the soul-winning exploits of laymen, have given impetus to lay evangelists around the world. At the lay evangelism training institutes in Korea special recognition was given, not only to members who helped win souls but to those also who raised up new companies and churches. There were 111 such in one year.

The new training filmstrip *God's Word in Your Hand*, teaching the *how* of Bible evangelism approaches, has been used extensively.

### Union-wide Laymen's Congresses

For the first time laymen's congresses were held in North America on a union-wide basis. Delegates from almost 3,000 churches in eight unions were inspired and trained in soul-winning techniques in three workshops—Missionary Literature (visitation made easy), Bible Evangelism (take your Bible and serve as a messenger for God), and Health and Welfare (helping the whole man). The practical instruction given and the soul-winning experiences of lay delegates made these congresses memorable.

### Andrews University Course

In 1965 Andrews University invited General Conference leaders in the Home Missionary, Sabbath School, and Missionary Volunteer departments to develop and teach a new course, "Principles in Church Leadership." In this graduate course more than 100 future leaders were introduced to the "practics"

of coordinated evangelism. They received new insights into the soul-winning help available to the pastors through department resources.

### World Visitors' Week

The Home Missionary Department sponsored the first organized visitation program at a General Conference session. This project was designated "World Visitors' Week." During June 20-24, 1966, a North American delegate with an overseas partner called on 4,500 influential leaders in Detroit, Michigan, and Windsor, Ontario, presenting each with the book *A Century of Miracles*. Through this organized missionary crusade the General Conference session became an unusual opportunity for making friends for our world cause.

### Church Missionary Offerings

To carry forward local church missionary projects our members have given during the past four years \$21,341,700.87 in comparison with \$12,805,785.60 for the previous period. More than \$21 million was invested in the local church soul-winning program.

### The Challenge

God has signally blessed the missionary program of His church and the faithful service of His people. We can fervently exclaim, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us" (1 Sam. 7:12). But today's clarion call is "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward."

The hour is late, eternal life is precious, and the call is urgent. Time and talents are to be invested for eternity. Plans should be laid to visit every home with the third angel's message. The world challenge of each Adventist to reach 2,109 persons calls for home-going, face-to-face ministry.



### Literature Evangelists of Africa's Southern Union

Meet the literature evangelists of the Southern Union of Seventh-day Adventists in South Africa. Seated in the center is John G. Kerbs, publishing secretary of the South African Union Conference. This picture was taken before the recent reorganization of territory in this field. The publishing secretary of the Southern Union (formerly South African Union, Group II) is R. E. Appenzeller. These men and women of the printed page represent a part of the large army of almost 5,700 literature evangelists around the world who are sharing their faith the literature way.

D. A. MC ADAMS, Secretary  
General Conference Publishing Department

# Ellen G. White Estate

By ARTHUR L. WHITE, *Secretary*

In the report of the Spirit of Prophecy Committee W. E. Murray told of the ever-widening distribution and study of the E. G. White books and of the field activities of members of the White Estate staff at home and abroad. I wish now to direct your attention to the work in the White Estate Office, which forms the base for these activities.

At the White Estate office in Washington we have the Spirit of Prophecy materials in books, current and out of print; early pamphlets; periodical articles; manuscripts; letters; reports of sermons; interviews; diaries—more than 100,000 pages in all. Indexes and other records cover these materials.

Then in addition to these E. G. White documents, the White Estate archives embody letters from leading Adventist workers through the years, thousands of historical documents as accumulated by James and Ellen White and by the White Estate since, files of pamphlets from various denominational writers, the *Yearbooks*, *General Conference Bulletins*, *Review and Herald*, et cetera, down through the years. These materials too are catalogued for ready reference.

When the messenger of the Lord, through her last will and testament, passed these treasures to the five men she chose to serve as a Board of Trustees, she gave instruction as to their responsibilities. (1) Continuing editions of the books were to appear in the English language. (2) There was to be an ever-enlarging publication of her books in other languages of the world. (3) Compilations from her manuscripts were to be published.

## Recent Publication of Ellen G. White Materials

This has been the work of the Trustees of the White Estate for more than half a century since Ellen White's death. In addition to the many new books published posthumously, they arranged for the republication of the E. G. White *Review and Herald* articles in facsimile form in six large volumes. A layman recently exclaimed, "I'm on volume 5 now. There's never been anything quite like it." With 1,800 sets already purchased, the demand for these has been far beyond our first estimate.

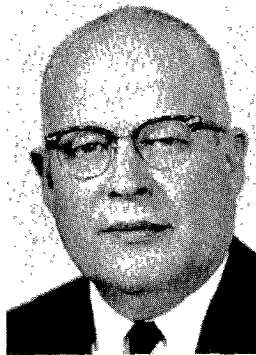
One new E. G. White book was published during the past quadrennium. This was the devotional book for 1965, *That I May Know Him*. Already 56,000 copies have been sold.

A recent production is *The Southern Work*, a long out-of-print historic booklet comprised of E. G. White materials that called into being the concerted work of the church among the colored people of the South.

*Guidelines to Mental Health* has just made its appearance in a limited preliminary edition. Drawn together in this work is the full range of E. G. White counsels of special service to those working in the fields of psychiatry and psychology. The completed edition will be available in 1967, published by the Southern Publishing Association.

The manuscript for the long-awaited compilation *Principles of True Science*, with its contents assembled from the full E. G. White sources, should, before the year ends, be placed with Pacific Press for publication.

Two projects drawing from the rich sources in our vault are now being beamed to the youth of the Advent Movement. *I'd Like to Ask Sister White*



Arthur L. White

is a volume in which Mrs. White answers the questions seemingly put to her by junior youth.

The second stems from the Fall Council action of 1963 and provides materials for use in our church school classrooms for a Spirit of Prophecy Emphasis Week recurring annually. Building on a four-year cycle, a broad field is covered with outlines and story illustrations that have been drawn largely from formerly untapped sources.

Introduced here at the General Conference session is a very valuable volume just published entitled *Through Crisis to Victory*. In this the late Elder A. V. Olson, for many years president of the Board of Trustees of the Ellen G. White Estate, reconstructed from the original sources in the White Estate vault the history of certain crises between 1888 and 1901, through which God providentially led the church.

With the dual objective of safeguarding precious irreplaceable materials and also of broadening access to such rich sources as can rightfully be made available to the authorized researcher, the White Estate has been moving forward

with the development of the files in the White Estate vault in Seminary Hall at Andrews University, and is planning for further enrichment of the files in the Historical Records Library at Loma Linda University. The opening of the White Estate files to qualified men seeking advanced degrees in America and overseas has greatly enriched a number of doctoral dissertations.

The White Estate is opening a field of publishing quite new to the denomination, and that is the issuance of certain E. G. White books in the spoken word by way of slow-playing tapes.

The responsibility of the custody of the Ellen G. White writings is one that does not rest lightly on the shoulders of the nine Trustees who today carry this load. Great care is exercised to safeguard the Spirit of Prophecy materials so precious to the church, and to see that they continue to reach the people in good form and without change. Keeping abreast with the times, they endeavor to make available, when needed, such counsel and encouragement as will serve the church in its advancing ministry. The burden of Ellen White, "to prepare a people to stand in the day of the Lord," is their burden. The Board is presently comprised of F. D. Nichol, president, W. P. Bradley, vice-president, Arthur L. White, secretary, D. A. Delafield, associate secretary, Theodore Carcich, G. A. Huse, W. G. C. Murdoch, R. S. Watts, and Neal C. Wilson.

The routine work in the Washington office of the White Estate is carried by a staff of eight—the secretary, the associate secretary, the assistant secretary, Miss Bessie Mount, and five lady assistants. The hundreds of visitors who call, the workers and laymen who come for research or counsel, the heavy correspondence with the world field directed to our office because of the rich sources of information and counsel in our vault, press hard upon us.

## Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, we see the completion of the manuscript for the devotional book for 1968. Then there is the preparation of a biography of Ellen G. White. Our educational folks are calling for audio-visual materials that will aid in presenting the Spirit of Prophecy to our young people; and in addition, a feature film on the life and work of Ellen G. White has been requested.

It is not anticipated that there will be many new E. G. White compilations, for the fields of instruction have been so well covered, but a growing denominational work will probably call for some. One recently authorized is a compilation on music and voice culture.

Members of the White Estate staff will continue to spend a good deal of time in the field in teaching and assisting at workers' meetings, youth congresses, camp meetings, et cetera, ever keeping the oncoming generation of Adventists well informed.

"We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."—*Life Sketches*, p. 196.

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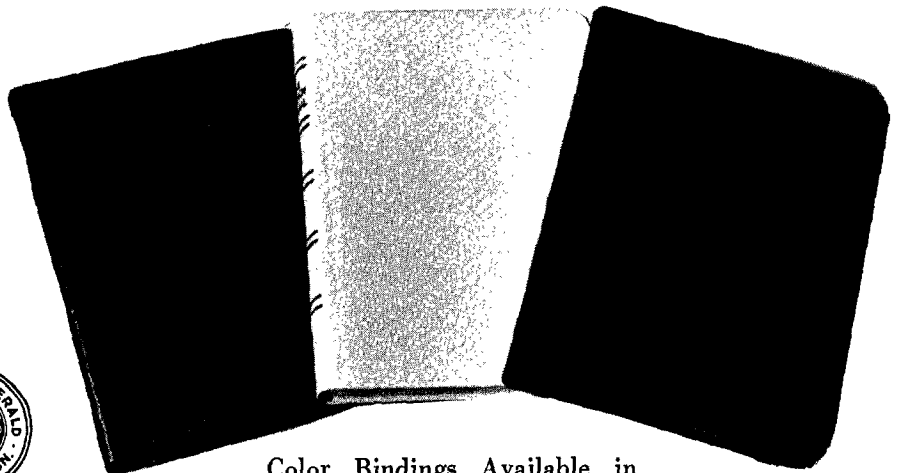
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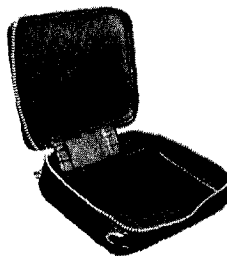
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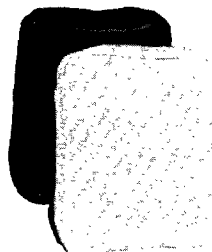
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# Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service

By W. E. PHILLIPS, *President*

The official name for the welfare activities of the Adventist Church is Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service. For an alphabetical designation we call it SAWS. Its role is that of the good Samaritan to the needy—SAWS crosses the road to help.

Whenever news of disasters, tragedies, and human suffering breaks, aid flows to these devastated sections of the globe. A representative of the church is there to lend a helping hand in relieving the stricken.

SAWS is registered with the United States Government as a relief agency, and also with many foreign governments. As a registered and approved welfare agency we are permitted to receive and ship overseas United States Government surplus food. We have sent millions of pounds of powdered milk, flour, corn meal, soybean oil, and other food each year to foreign lands. These countries agree to admit the foods for distribution to the needy without payment of custom duties or any taxes.

In addition to giving large quantities of surplus foods to our SAWS overseas distribution program, the United States Government also pays the ocean freight costs to foreign lands. Supplies are then given to the hungry under the direction and responsibility of our own denominational workers and Dorcas Society leaders. Our annual allotment of freight costs by the United States Government has been more than three quarters of a million dollars. Help is given to refugees, disaster victims, the poor in hospitals, family and school feeding programs, and others. The only restriction placed by the Government is that it must be given to the needy without regard to race, color, or creed—a program wholeheartedly carried on by our workers in every land. Thus SAWS has the opportunity to write on the pages of our time a golden chapter on the brotherhood of man.

When newspapers pick up the path of a killer typhoon, hurricane, tornado, or earthquake, a call for help is not far behind. Usually a cablegram calls for immediate help. It might be blankets, rice, clothing, or even trucks or temporary buildings that are needed. Whatever the request, an effort is made to fill it quickly. Secondary help is sometimes needed for several weeks, or even for a number of years.

## Relief in Korea

SAWS aid to Korea, for instance, has been going on for a decade. Work is continually done in Korea to help cure poverty conditions. It is a major operation with nearly 100,000 recipients consuming more than 20 million pounds of United States Government food annually. Self-help land reclamation is on the increase,

with a total of 23 projects totaling 19,887 acres. More than 8,000 families will be located on farms of two and a half acres each when a dike is completed. One large project recently begun will take five years to complete. Three thousand families will participate, and more than 7,500 acres of rice land will be reclaimed. The total SAWS program in Korea at the present time is worth several million dollars in land, which will all be turned over to the poor people who joined in this project of reclaiming the land.

The entire program of relief in the country of Korea through the Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service is one of helping others to help themselves. This



W. E. Phillips

great objective can and will be reached through thousands of poor but worthy men and women out on the dikes reclaiming land that will eventually be their home.

To help Korea overcome conditions left by war and division, SAWS provided substantial assistance during the four-year period of 1962 to 1965. During this time 435,481 pounds of clothing and bedding were supplied. Food valued at \$1,707,406 and \$168,660 worth of medical supplies and equipment have been sent out.

Among recent SAWS operations, those in Iran, Chile, and the Congo were significant because of the remote or complex and dangerous aspects of the work. In Chile SAWS people distributed food, clothing, and other emergency supplies even while major after-shocks of the great earthquake made the ground roll. To help shelter the homeless a supply of tents was shipped by SAWS. These were delivered by Globemaster planes supplied by the United States Government. Our organization is used as a distribution agency because Adventists operate in 189 countries, and our overseas organizations reach down to the grass roots, where the people are.

In the Congo's Elisabethville a SAWS

official arranged a three-hour cease fire between United Nations and Katanga troops so that 13 carloads of SAWS food could be shunted out of a main rail yard located in the midst of the fighting area. Our representative arranged movement of these foods to a safe area. From there the food was trucked to a camp that held 60,000 Baluba tribesmen, hungry after days without food and threatening to break into Elisabethville and loot it. So perilous was the attitude of the Balubas that many native truck drivers would not enter the camp. Our SAWS representative went along at first to distribute the food. The UN commander credited this action with saving Elisabethville from certain damage.

## Support by Members

To carry out this worldwide welfare program, SAWS must depend upon support from the individual members of the church. It must rely upon them for materials—clothing, blankets, and other items that are necessary for human comfort. From them must come the financial support necessary to place these materials in needy hands, and from them must come the cash that at times is the only solution to an emergency situation.

Our loyal members have responded generously to this task. In 1963 \$234,643.25 was given in North America for the Disaster and Relief Offering. Two years later, when another opportunity was given to participate in helping the suffering, church members in North America responded by giving \$254,769.98—the largest offering ever.

Not far from the wharves that serve the world is a substantial, though not imposing, building labeled "Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service." It is the New York Welfare Center, and it has a companion facility in Watsonville, California. From these buildings flows aid to many poor and devastated sections of the globe. These two centers receive a steady stream of used clothing to be sent to areas where the need is the greatest.

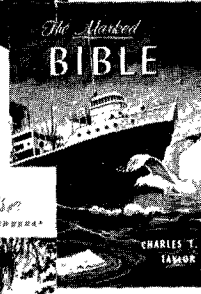
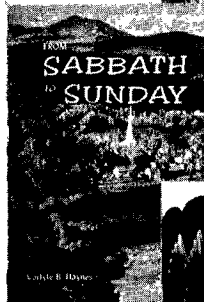
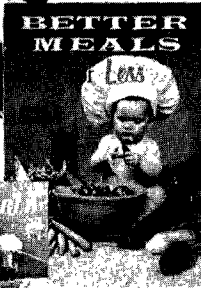
The present New York building was erected in 1963, and these quarters give needed extra space for sorting according to a world code, and bailing the clothing in 150-pound bales. Many people help with the clothing work, and almost all of this is volunteer labor from church members.

In the past few years our New York welfare center has become the focal point for the shipping of donated pharmaceutical supplies. They come from manufacturers in North America. One firm donated \$20,000 worth of antibiotics. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has joined other churches in the Interchurch Medical Assistance program. Pharmaceutical companies in North America donate millions of dollars' worth of drugs annually to this medical program for the needy. These drugs are divided among the church welfare organizations for free distribution. The medicines are a godsend to missionary physicians. The task of sorting and packing medical supplies is no small operation, as the wholesale value of medicines is about \$600,000 a year.

A central African country requested polio vaccine because of an epidemic that

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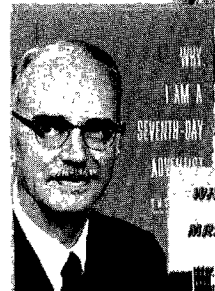
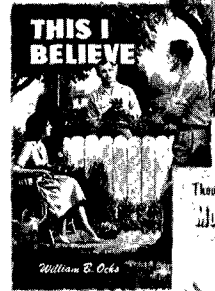
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had reached the emergency state. On receiving this request, our welfare service purchased Salk vaccine and forwarded it by air in time to check the epidemic. This country greatly appreciated this help in time of need. To express their gratitude, the national radio carried a total of 27 news releases. For two successive days it was the second item of news. A free translation of this news release was: "Our beloved Seventh-day Adventists, the people of the Sabbath, have just given us a large amount of medicine that will keep our children from catching the arm and leg sickness. We want to thank them for their love toward us. They have helped us more than any other people."

To give help to the people of a north-

ern city in Brazil, an ambulance was sent last year. It was filled with medical supplies that will greatly aid in the treatment of the sick. Through our SAWS agency a mobile medical unit was sent to serve the people of Guatemala.

Wherever an emergency arises, SAWS stands ready to give a helping hand. During the period of 1962-1965 SAWS distributed nearly two and one-quarter million (2,217,388) pounds of clothing and bedding, and more than 90 million (90,043,288) pounds of food and medical supplies.

SAWS extends hearty thanks to our loyal church members whose generosity makes this large, worldwide humanitarian effort possible.

*The Story of Redemption*, a brief presentation of the Great Controversy story, has been made available to the people of Africa in Swahili.

Five devotional books are now available in English, compiled largely from the periodical articles and manuscripts of Ellen G. White. Every third year one of these books is published in the regular MV devotional book series.

The committee fosters the worldwide Spirit of Prophecy Sabbath and is promoting a special discount sale of the E. G. White books in North America and in the overseas divisions beginning in May, 1965, and to continue until December 31, 1966. Effective effort is being thrown into this project, and a significantly larger volume is reflected in the sales report.

The Spirit of Prophecy Committee fosters the field work of members of the White Estate staff in assignments of special teaching and Spirit of Prophecy emphasis in our institutions around the world. Since 1962 many colleges and academies have been visited by Elders Arthur White and D. A. Delafield, and the Inter-American Division in 1965 had Elder Delafield in their midst for two months. Guided denominational history tours, some of one or two days' and others of ten days' duration have been repeatedly conducted.

An interesting activity within the area of the Spirit of Prophecy and of general church history is the matter of museums where exhibits are maintained on the history of our church and the work of Ellen G. White. Our field organization in Australia maintains one of these museums at Cooranbong, near Avondale College. Sunnyside was one of Sister White's former residences. Elmshaven, Ellen White's last residence, is maintained by the Pacific Union Conference near St. Helena. In 1965 there were 9,000 registered visitors.

Our brethren in Battle Creek, Michigan, have recently acquired the Wood Street home of the Whites, where the first writing of *The Great Controversy* was done in 1858. Steps are now being taken to make a historical museum of this house, to provide exhibit materials, et cetera. These three historic places are not shrines, nor will they be. But denominational history relives in the hearts of those who call as visitors.

In 1960 a correspondence course on the Spirit of Prophecy was prepared and offered to the public under the name Prophetic Guidance Correspondence Course. This course is serviced by the Voice of Prophecy organization in Glendale. By the end of 1965, 60,000 people had enrolled, and already 19,659 had received certificates. In a number of academies this course is making the Spirit of Prophecy more real to the youth of the Advent Movement. The course is available in Spanish and will soon be ready in French and Portuguese. We believe this course is bringing a new meaning to the Spirit of Prophecy for hundreds and possibly thousands of not only mature members of our church but also the youth and those who have come into the church in recent years.

We want to thank all our members for their fine spirit of cooperation during the past quadrennium.

## Spirit of Prophecy Committee

By W. E. MURRAY, *Chairman*

The writings of Ellen G. White had been brought out in 55 books, containing 23,185 pages, by the end of 1965. These publications have been of immense value in giving counsel and guidance to the leaders and laymen of the church. Many of these books have been translated into foreign languages. The work translated in the most languages is *Steps to Christ*, which by the end of 1965 had reached a total of 84. *The Great Controversy* has been translated into 32 languages. *The Story of Jesus*, formerly known as *Christ Our Saviour*, has been translated into 22 languages. These and many others of the 55 have been distributed by the hundreds of thousands across the countries of the world.

The General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Committee, a group of 11, is appointed each quadrennium by the General Conference Executive Committee to give guidance and counsel in the promotion and circulation of the books, to foster the work of special Spirit of Prophecy emphasis as well as certain other matters in connection with the Spirit of Prophecy to be brought to the attention of the church. In all these activities close collaboration is maintained with the Ellen G. White Estate.

One of the main responsibilities of the Committee is to give encouragement in the preparation of editions in the different languages and dialects. Requests for financial aid to cover initial expenses on new language editions are reviewed by this Committee, and the pertinent recommendations are made to the General Conference Committee.

Many editions of these books have been brought out in the past four years. In the Far Eastern Division *Child Guidance*, *The Story of Redemption*, *The Desire of Ages*, and *Counsels for the Church* were brought out in Korea in 1963. *Counsels for the Church* also was added to the list of our church books in 1963 in the Thai language. Work was begun on

the three-volume Japanese edition of *The Desire of Ages* in 1964. These books, volume by volume, are being distributed to the public through the denominational colporteurs. *Steps to Christ* in Vietnamese has been authorized and will soon be on sale.

*Patriarchs and Prophets* has just appeared in Arabic in a beautiful volume, and a subsidy was provided in 1965 for the publishing of *The Desire of Ages* and



W. E. Murray

*Messages to Young People* in this language for the peoples of the Middle East Division. In the Dutch language, *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing* and *The Desire of Ages* were prepared in 1964. In Danish *The Acts of the Apostles* was printed in the same year, as was a new edition of *The Great Controversy* in Norwegian.

*Counsels to the Church* is a small two-volume work planned for people of very limited income in mission areas and is especially beamed to new converts and sold at a popular price to facilitate wide circulation. This valuable work has been made available in Africa, Southern Asia, Australia, the Middle East, and the Far East.

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# North American Missions

By WESLEY AMUNDSEN, Secretary

It was at the twenty-sixth annual session of the General Conference held in Oakland, California, November 13, 1887, that a report of the work of Daniel Thomson, "who had labored among the immigrants as they passed through Chicago . . .," was presented.

Thomson "came to New York City to take up a similar work in a city where as many as 9,500 immigrants passed through Castle Gardens in a single day." He planned to reach the immigrants "as they landed from the steamers or left the railroads." It was said that 50 steamers brought daily cargo of from 100 to 1,000 immigrants into the city. They were then transferred to the six or eight railroads that carried them to their ultimate destination. Brother Thomson distributed packages of foreign language literature to the steerage stewards, who willingly carried them back to Europe and distributed the tracts to immigrants to read on their way to America (from *SDA Yearbook*, 1888, pp. 143, 144).

Immigration to America began when the first English settlers arrived at Jamestown, Virginia, and since that time more than 42 million people from nations of the world have migrated to this land of free people. It has been said to be "the greatest mass movement in recorded history."

Former United States President John F. Kennedy, in his book *A Nation of Immigrants* stated: "This was the secret of America—a nation of people who came eager to build lives for themselves in a country that would allow them to do so. The contributions of immigrants can be seen in every aspect of our national life."

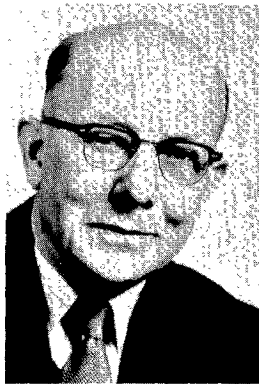
## Migrations Have Continued

The migrations of people seeking a land of greater opportunity and freedom of expression have continued through the decades of time. And these immigrants of more recent times have brought strength to America. Since 1947 one out of three immigrants has brought with him an occupational background, in technical or skilled category. United States Secretary of Labor W. W. Wirtz said: "For the period 1947-1961, some 16 percent were in the professional and technical categories. . . . Similarly, one of every six immigrants was a skilled worker. . . . Most significant during the period 1952-1961, more than 100,000 immigrants in such critical occupation areas as engineering, physics, nursing, and tool and die making entered the country. In engineering alone, the 30,000 immigrants recorded during these years was almost equal to the nation's entire graduating class of engineers. There were in addition, 14,000 physicians, 28,000 nurses, 4,900 chemists, and nearly 1,100 physicists."—Amer-

ican Council for Nationalities Service, New York, Dec. 6, 1962.

Seventh-day Adventists in North America are faced with a great challenge: How shall these people of languages other than English be reached with the message? This linguistic "gold," as one educator economist calls them, must be sought out and brought in touch with God's last message to the world.

Dr. Joshua A. Fishman, director of Languages Resources Project, financed by the United States Government, said: "It is important that we recognize the linguistic gold mines that we have in our midst, and it is particularly important that first, second and third generation



Wesley Amundsen

Americans recognize the value of preserving this precious heritage of their parentage and grandparents. In doing so, they will be helping their country as well as enriching their own lives."—AC Press Release, Jan. 15, 1962.

The pressures of finances and of mass conversions to the truth have developed among us an attitude that seeks to Americanize rather than evangelize, to the detriment of the foreign language churches in communities where there are still thousands of these "other language" people, thereby hindering them from having opportunity to accept the third angel's message.

Would Ellen G. White, if she were alive today, and knew that 30 million people in North America read, speak, think, and write in some language other than English (including the 5 million French-speaking people in the province of Quebec, Canada), be inspired to write: "Wake up, wake up, my brethren and sisters, and enter the fields in America that have never been worked. . . . There is a work to be done in foreign fields, but there is a work to be done in America that is just as important. In the cities of America there are people of almost every language. These need the light that God has

given to His church."—*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 36. We believe the counsel would be the same.

Immigration has not ceased to be an important factor in America. During the ten years from 1953 to 1963 there entered 2,599,349 immigrants into the United States, and a proportionate number entered Canada.

Commercial organizations recognize the tremendous potential that there is among these ethnic people. Recent surveys reveal that 2,550 foreign language broadcasters and program directors are engaged in the business of broadcasting their messages over 863 radio stations in the United States, to a listening public using 40 languages. Foreign language and nationality publications (other than books) are being used by publishers to disseminate news information through the media of 768 publications, also using 40 languages. Apparently "the children [people] of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light" (Luke 16:8).

North American missions comprise four areas—foreign language, Indians, Jews, and deaf-mute peoples.

There has been some positive advance in these four areas in recent years. The Pacific Press Publishing Association publishes literature in 22 languages. The Voice of Prophecy announces Bible correspondence courses in 18 languages. Radio broadcasts are conducted in 10 languages, including the Navaho Indian language, the latter being an entirely new venture. Faith for Today directs the Israelite Heritage Institute Study Guides, prepared especially for reaching Jewish people. Through these facilities the gospel as emphasized in Revelation 14 is being announced among the ethnic population.

The great city of New York with its teeming millions has more foreign language people, possibly, than any other city in the world. There are more than 1.2 million people using the Spanish language alone; about 3 million Jews in this city are without a Messiah and without hope.

The largest SDA Italian church in the world is not in Rome but in Chicago. Greater Los Angeles has more than a million Jews and a million and a half Spanish language people.

In 1964 the total membership of the 150 foreign language churches, including Indian and Eskimo people, was 12,089. There were 839 persons baptized from these peoples during the year. Tithes amounted to \$1,710,125.93; Sabbath school offerings \$236,346.90; Ingathering \$205,603.23; and the total mission offerings were \$454,172.27. There are 139 ministers employed in this work. But what are they among the millions?

## Public Evangelistic Efforts Being Encouraged

Public evangelistic efforts are being encouraged wherever possible. In New York City a theater seating 1,700 people and costing more than \$1 million to construct has been purchased at a price of \$120,000 for use as a Spanish evangelistic center. Albuquerque, New Mexico, has erected a Spanish language center seating

1,000 people. Los Angeles, California, has a Spanish evangelism program calculated to bring in hundreds of new believers. For the first time in history a Spanish language evangelistic series of meetings has been held in the nation's capital, with one of the successful evangelists of South America carrying the main burden of preaching.

The courts and lanes of the great cities in North America still contain millions of people—"strangers in a strange land who are without church relations, and who in their loneliness come to feel that God has forsaken them."

The original Americans, so long neglected by the remnant church, are increasing. Of them one writer says: "It may come as a surprise that there are about as many Indians in the United States today as there were when Columbus discovered America."—*Chicago Sun-Times*, June 11, 1961. They still sit in darkness.

And the deaf hear not the spoken word, nor can they sing audibly the songs of Zion. There are said to be over 600,000 deaf and mute people in North America. Filmed Bible studies are being prepared as one means of reaching the deaf and the mute.

So, too, with the almost 6 million sons and daughters of Abraham in North America who have become skeptical of any spiritual liberation. How shall they be reached?

Never are we to forget that Seventh-day Adventists have the final message for all people, regardless of race, color, language, or church affiliation. Will we give it to these also who wait in darkness?

## The Day in Detroit

(Continued from page 4)

*Europe.* Unlike his wife, he was not an Adventist. In fact, he had resisted every attempt to interest him in our message. But while filming a sermon by R. S. Watts at a union conference meeting in Germany, his heart responded to the pleadings of the Spirit and he was converted.

The pictures Mr. Heclan filmed were in color, with sound, and showed the many aspects of our work in this part of the world. The scenes of the Bavarian Alps were superb.

During the report of the Christian Record Braille Foundation, Mrs. Rosella M. Wolford sang an inspiring song which she had composed, based on Revelation 1:7, "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him," which expressed the hope of all those who have lost their natural sight. Mrs. Wolford has led a full life in spite of her handicap. Blinded at the age of three by an accident, she attended and graduated from the Ohio State School for the Blind. In 1955 she became an Adventist through reading the *Christian Record* and listening to the Voice of Prophecy radio broadcasts. Five years later in 1960 she was invited to join the staff of the *Christian Record* as a proofreader, where she is still employed.

And so another busy day comes to a close for your reporter. But the General Conference goes on, for tonight will bring us another great mission report.

# Partial Report of the Plans Committee

[At the seventh business meeting, 3:00 P.M., June 20, the following plans were submitted to the delegates, and approved unanimously.]

## Christian Education

WHEREAS, The Seventh-day Adventist Church has long recognized the doctrine of Christian education as basic and fundamental and this has resulted in the development of a system of Christian schools around the world in which the church's concept of education as being the development of the whole man has been emphasized and which offers education on all levels from primary school through university; and

WHEREAS, These schools have proved a great blessing to the youth of our church, saving them from the world and training them for service; therefore,

*Resolved*, That in view of these and many other weighty considerations, we as parents, church members, and leaders

1. Reaffirm our confidence in the divine plan of Christian education as presented in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy and developed within our church; and

2. Give our encouragement to those who lead out in the schools, supporting their efforts to operate schools that excel in spiritual influence and in efficiency in promoting the best mental, social, and physical development, and

3. Take the position that nothing must be permitted to compromise the principles of Christian education upon which these schools were founded; nothing must turn us aside to conform, at the expense of our unique denominational standards, to secular and commonly accepted standards in education or its philosophy, and

4. Appeal, in General Conference session, to all members of the church throughout the world to be united in making the blessings of Christian education available to all our children and youth, and, therefore,

5. Pledge our total support of the system of Christian education, including the necessary sacrifice to make these schools even better and more successful. [Voted.]

## Post Office, Cobo Hall

WHEREAS, the post office department has made arrangements for the operation of a branch post office in Cobo Hall for the duration of the session and the meetings preceding it, and this is a great convenience to delegates,

*Recommended*, That we record our appreciation of this courtesy and consideration and request that the secretary convey our thanks in writing to the post office department. [Voted.]

## Radio-TV Department

Recognizing that time is short, that the great gospel commission is urgent, that the church represents but a minority in comparison with the rapidly increasing world population and that mass media of

communication will be playing an increasingly important part in the finishing of the work,

*We recommend*, 1. That continued emphasis be given to denominationally sponsored worldwide radio and television programs, the Voice of Prophecy, Faith for Today, and others.

2. That our colleges be requested to include in their curriculums wherever possible a course or courses which give basic instruction in the preparation and broadcasting of religious programs, and that the Radio-TV Department be asked to prepare suggested syllabuses to cover the instruction offered in these courses.

3. That we encourage more of our pastors having special qualifications to avail themselves of radio and television opportunities in their local areas as may be worked out in agreement with the local conference.

4. That to accomplish this: *a.* The Radio-TV Department in cooperation with the division, union, and local conferences, and colleges, plan and conduct broadcast-telecast workshops to help train men who desire to qualify themselves for this service and to provide refresher training for those who are presently using the media.

*b.* That the General Conference Radio-TV Department also look forward to producing and providing programs that could be used with a local community tie-in to expand the ministry of the pastor and church in the community, and

*c.* That we encourage continued cooperation between college and conferences to expand the functional facilities of college FM stations in order to widen coverage and strengthen the impact of these stations on ever-growing communities.

WHEREAS, The church has a God-given responsibility to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people in a time of exploding population,

*We recommend*, 1. That every possible means be used to promote a 50 per cent increase of our radio and television audiences during the next four years.

2. That we set a goal of 100,000 baptisms for the next quadrennium from this fruitful form of evangelism.

3. That in the interests of reaching this goal each overseas division at its 1966 year-end meeting, and the North American Division at the time of the 1966 Autumn Council, adopt a goal for the next four years for applications for Bible school lessons that will represent an increase of at least 25 per cent over the current number of applications.

WHEREAS, There are many areas of the world that are not being reached by radio-TV witness,

*We recommend*, 1. That we endeavor to proclaim our message in every country of the world and every community where doors of opportunity are open,

2. That we encourage local churches to

promote these programs by the use of logs and other promotional methods in order to foster the interest of the listening audience. [Voted.]

### Sabbath School Objectives for the Ensuing Quadrennium

#### Greater Sabbath School Evangelism

WHEREAS, World conditions indicate that we have come to an hour of unprecedented opportunity, and

WHEREAS, It is being demonstrated in many fields that the Sabbath school can be, as the pen of inspiration has indicated, "one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in bringing souls to Christ," therefore,

We recommend, That the world church take as its Sabbath school objectives for the coming quadrennium:

1. The giving of renewed emphasis to personal Bible study, calling upon our members around the world to greater faithfulness in the daily study of the Sabbath school lesson.

2. That our Sabbath school officers, teachers, and members enter upon a special effort in cooperation with pastors and church officers in winning missing church members to faithful Sabbath school attendance through a regular program of systematic personal visitation.

3. That a strong every-member continuous program of evangelism of inviting neighbors and friends to attend Sabbath school be emphasized.

4. That every effort be put forth to enroll all our Sabbath school teachers in one or more of our three teacher training courses during the next four years.

5. That our teachers be encouraged to regard themselves as soul-winning band leaders and join with other Sabbath school workers in undertaking a strong program of community evangelism, integrating Branch Sabbath School and Vacation Bible School work with the conference plan of evangelism for areas where no Seventh-day Adventist work is established.

6. That Sabbath school members throughout the world be urged to greater personal soul-winning efforts and sacrificial giving in Sabbath school offerings, to hasten the finishing of God's work in this our day of opportunity. [Voted.]

WHEREAS, The various departments of the church recognize the importance of a united front in soul-winning action, and of constantly keeping before the laymen, young and old, all phases of personal evangelism, and

WHEREAS, All departments are dependent for securing missionary reports upon the faithfulness of individual members in reporting their missionary work each week, and

WHEREAS, The Autumn Council recommendation of 1947 provided that the Sabbath school department officers cooperate in a plan whereby each Sabbath school class is considered a reporting band, with the teacher being responsible for taking the report of his class, therefore, it is

Recommended, That the following procedure agreed upon by the Lay Activities, Missionary Volunteer, and Sabbath School departments, and the Ministerial Association be the accepted method of reporting missionary activities:

1. That each Sabbath school teacher

take individual missionary reports in his class, endeavoring to secure a complete report from each class member, such reports to be taken at the beginning of the Sabbath school class period, it being understood that in no case is this reporting time to be used for the promotion of campaigns or for the distribution of home missionary items.

2. That the recommended method of reporting be the use of individual report cards, which provide for activities of personal evangelism adopted and promoted by the various departments. As far as possible, each member should fill out his own report card in order properly to designate statistics for the various age groups.

3. That every church conduct the ten-minute missionary service each Sabbath. [Voted.]

#### Sabbath School Investment Fund Plan

WHEREAS, The Sabbath school Investment plan has brought great spiritual blessings to those who have taken part

in it and has proved to be unusually successful in helping to build up our world mission program, bringing in \$1,414,700.83 in 1965, and a total of \$15,127,083.30 in its 40-year history,

Recommended, 1. That we request the Sabbath School Department to promote the Investment Fund plan, realizing that this plan results in an additional increase in both faith and funds that come through the wonderful prospering hand of God as a direct consequence of investing for Him.

2. That, with encouraging Investment trends in 1966 already apparent, and using the remainder of 1966 to build faith in, and enthusiasm for, the plan, we set 2 million dollars as our world Investment goal for 1967.

3. That we request all conference workers and Sabbath school officers to encourage and to lead the church membership everywhere into a 100 per cent participation in this project of partnership with God in the interest of a speedily finished work. [Voted.]

## WE HAVE THIS HOPE

Theme Song for General Conference Sessions, 1962 and 1966

*♩ = 132 With Vigor*

Words and music by Wayne Hooper

WE HAVE THIS HOPE that burns with-in our hearts, Hope in the

com-ing of the Lord. We have this faith that Christ a-lone im-parts,

*mp With Intensity*  
Faith in the prom-ise of His Word. We be-lieve the time is here,

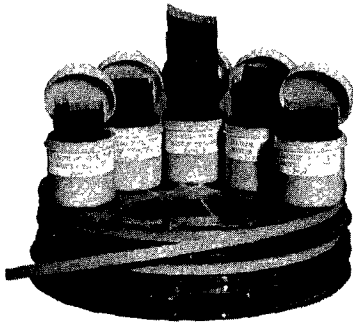
*Crescendo*  
When the na-tions far and near Shall a-wake, and shout, and sing -

*ff Ritard* Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ is King! *f Broad and Majestic* WE HAVE THIS HOPE that

burns with-in our hearts, Hope in the com-ing of the Lord.

# Sabbath School Teachers' Training Course

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There are five filmstrips and three tapes covering the five lessons as follows:

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Frames</i>
<i>The High Calling of Sabbath School Teachers</i> .....	41
<i>Methods of the Master Teacher</i> .....	38
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# Proceedings of the General Conference

Fiftieth Session, June 16-25, 1966

## Sixth Business Meeting

June 20, 1966, 10:00 A.M.

CHAIRMAN: F. L. Peterson.

SONG: "We Have This Hope."

PRAYER: T. L. Oswald.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Come Ye Blessed," by Julia Gerace from Miami Springs, Florida.

[F. L. Peterson introduced recommendations from the committee on constitution and bylaws which had been read the day before. M. V. Campbell explained to delegates the form in which the resolutions were presented and their intent and meaning. He referred especially to the fact that the suggested revision would mean that each delegate would represent 2,000 members rather than 1,650, and that union conferences outside of North America will have the same privilege as the North American Union conferences in choosing their own delegates.]

### Changes in Constitution and Bylaws Manner of Appointment and Number of Regular Delegates

*We recommend*, 1. That in the General Conference Constitution, Article III—Membership—Section 4 be revised as follows [italicized sections represent changes]:

"Sec. 4. Regular delegates shall be appointed in the following manner:

"a. Delegates representing union conferences shall be appointed by the respective unions.

"b. Delegates representing union missions, and local conferences and missions attached to the division but not to any union, shall be appointed by the division committee in consultation with the organization concerned.

"c. Delegates representing union missions, local conferences, and local missions without division affiliation shall be appointed by the General Conference Committee in consultation with the organization concerned."

2. That Section 5 be revised as follows:

"Sec. 5. Regular delegates shall be appointed and accredited on the following basis:

"a. Each union conference and each union mission shall be entitled to one delegate in addition to its president, without regard to number, an additional delegate for each local conference and each regularly organized mission in its territory without regard to number, and an additional delegate for each 2,000, or major fraction thereof, of the membership of the union conference or mission.

"b. Each local conference or local mission directly attached to divisions or to the General Conference, as has been or shall be properly organized and accepted by vote of the General Conference in session, shall be entitled to one delegate without regard to number, and an additional

delegate for each 2,000, or major fraction thereof, of the membership of the local conference or mission.

"c. Calculations for delegate allotments shall be based upon the membership as of December 31 of the year preceding the session."

3. That a new section [6] be added:

"Sec. 6. Credentials to sessions shall be issued by the General Conference to those appointed as provided for in harmony with the provisions of this article."

### Elections at General Conference Sessions

*We recommend*, That in "Article V—Election," Section 1, a. of the constitution, the name of the Home Missionary Department be changed to "Department of Lay Activities"; the term "division auditors" be inserted; the offices of "statistical secretary" and "church development service secretary" be added, so that Section 1 will read:

"Sec. 1. The following shall be elected at each regular session of the conference:

"a. A president, vice-presidents, a secretary, associate secretaries, division secretaries, a treasurer, an undertreasurer, assistant treasurers, division treasurers, general field secretaries, division field secretaries, a secretary and associate secretaries of the Ministerial Association, an auditor and associate auditors, division auditors, statistical secretary, church development service secretary, a secretary and associate secretaries of the Bureau of Public Relations, a secretary and associate secretaries of each duly organized General Conference department, namely: Publishing, Medical, Educational, Sabbath School, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, Young People's Missionary Volunteer, Lay Activities, North American Regional, Radio and Television, Temperance; division departmental secretaries (including the health food departmental secretary of the Australasian Division), division secretaries of the bureau of public relations, and division ministerial association secretaries.

"b. Other persons, not to exceed 25 in number, to serve as members of the Executive Committee."

### Statistical Secretary—Election and Duties

*We recommend*, That the following, Article VII—Statistical secretary, be inserted in the bylaws, the succeeding articles to be renumbered accordingly:

#### Article VII—Statistical Secretary

"At each regular session the conference shall elect a statistical secretary whose duties shall be to compile statistics of the world work, reporting the same under the direction of the Executive Committee.

*We recommend*, The following revisions in Article XIII—Auditors and audits of the bylaws:

"1. That Section 2 assigning the responsibility of compiling statistics of the world work to the General Conference auditor be deleted.

"2. That Section 3 relating to the appointing and work of division auditors be revised and renumbered 2. To read:

"Sec. 2. The division auditor or auditors shall audit the books of such organizations or institutions within their territories as the division committees shall direct."

### General Conference Working Fund

*We recommend*, That in Article XVII—Finance of the bylaws, Sections 1 and 2 be revised as follows:

"Sec. 1. To tide over a possible financial depression and to provide a working fund for the regular operations of the General Conference, the treasurer shall carry in cash and in readily convertible securities a working fund equal to 20 per cent of the regular appropriations voted at the latest Autumn Council, including revertible funds.

"Sec. 2. The basis for computing the amount of the working fund on hand shall be the latest available financial statement. The working fund shall not fall below the amount here specified except on authorization of an Autumn Council of the Executive Committee."

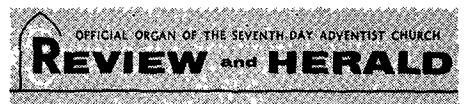
### Basis for Computing Per Capita Funds

*We recommend*, That in Article XVII—Finance, of the Bylaws, Section 5, relating to the computing of per capita goals and funds, be revised as follows:

"Sec. 5. The basis for computing per capita funds shall be the average of the membership of the four consecutive quarters ending on September 30 of the preceding year as published in the General Conference official statistical reports." [Voted.]

F. L. PETERSON: We are now going to listen to the report that we have coming to us this morning. Just a few minutes ago we were going to listen to reports from the Home Missionary Department, but since you have made your motion and you have taken your vote, we are going to listen to the Lay Activities Department as they make their report.

[This report appears on page 11 of this Bulletin. J. E. Edwards was assisted in his report by department staff members and others.]



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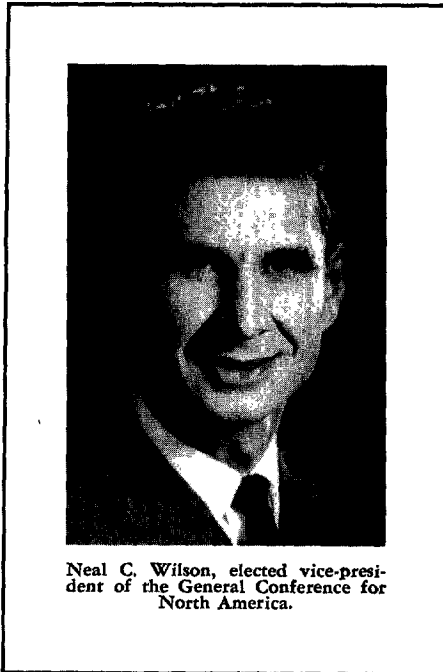
F. L. PETERSON: I am sure that we are all grateful for these enthusiastic reports. I see Elder Bietz here, and I know that he has an announcement.

R. R. BIETZ: We have a further report for you this morning, and I might say that we have a good committee. It is alive. The members speak up. Sometimes we scold ourselves for talking so much and then we forget again! Nevertheless, there is a good spirit. Our report will again be "partial" but, at the same time, "impartial." We try to be impartial in all our actions and deliberations.

Again today some names that have appeared in the past will not be read. Certain individuals have requested to be released of their heavy responsibilities. I am greatly impressed with the statements that these brethren make. Usually it is this: "The Lord has certainly been good to me. The church has been good to me. I have been treated wonderfully fine. I have no complaints to make. I will serve in whatever capacity or in whatever limited way I can." This is a wonderful spirit. We should never suppose that anyone who steps out of office because of advancing years retires from the service of the Lord.

We have already reported on the treasurer, Brother Torrey, who has stepped aside. His dedicated and sincere service is well appreciated. Brother Huse's and Brother W. J. Harris' names will not appear. Brother Huse is well known in our denomination as "Mr. Publishing Man," and Brother Harris as "Mr. Sabbath School Man." They have been in their departments for many years and have made a strong impact.

E. W. Dunbar's name will not be read this morning. What a wonderful service he has rendered to the cause of God—with our young people and in getting missionaries to go to the foreign fields. The name of N. W. Dunn, another of our associate secretaries, also will not appear. We appreciate the wonderful service these brethren have rendered the cause of God.



Neal C. Wilson, elected vice-president of the General Conference for North America.

I am going to ask Brother Hammill to come forward and bring us the report.

[The report of the Nominating Committee appears on page 3 of this Bulletin.]

[The business session was brought to a close by a brief devotional service conducted by W. A. Nelson.]

BENEDICTION: W. A. Nelson.

F. L. PETERSON, *Chairman*.

E. W. DUNBAR, *Secretary*.

W. DUNCAN EVA, *Recording Secretary*.

## Seventh Business Meeting

June 20, 1966, 3:00 P.M.

CHAIRMAN: Theodore Carcich.

HYMN: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

PRAYER: W. G. C. Murdoch.  
SPECIAL MUSIC: "Behold He Cometh With Clouds," by Rosella Wolford, chief Braille proofreader of the *Christian Record*.

THEODORE CARCICH: Three reports will be given to us this afternoon. The first is that of the Ellen G. White Publications, by Arthur White. After this, W. E. Murray will give the report of the Spirit of Prophecy Committee, and Wesley Amundsen will report on the North American Missions. Before we hear the reports we'll ask Elder Tarr, one of the secretaries of the General Conference, to bring us certain items of business.

A. F. TARR: The committee on seating of additional delegates recommends that W. C. Moffett be seated as a delegate at large at the General Conference session, under the 25 per cent provision, as given in the General Conference Constitution, Article III, Section 3, Paragraph b. [Voted.]

A. F. TARR: Brother Chairman, our committee also has to do with additions to the standing committees and we recommend that the following names be added to the committee on plans: R. Elden Ford and Howard Weeks. [Voted.]

[The reports given by Arthur White, W. E. Murray, and Wesley Amundsen appear on pages 13, 17, and 19, respectively, of this Bulletin.]

THEODORE CARCICH: Now we have some recommendations from the Plans Committee.

[The report was presented, and appears on page 20 of this Bulletin.]

THEODORE CARCICH: At this time the Nominating Committee has a further partial report to render, and I call upon R. R. Bietz, the chairman, to bring this to us.

[The report of the Nominating Committee appears on page 3 of this Bulletin.]

BENEDICTION: J. L. Follette.

THEODORE CARCICH, *Chairman*

W. DUNCAN EVA, *Secretary*

