

ADVENTIST REVIEW

WEEKLY NEWS AND INSPIRATION FOR SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

JULY 10, 1990



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BULLETIN

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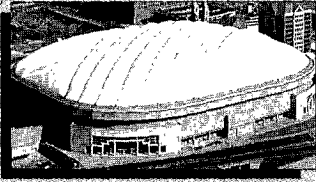
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*GC secretary G. Ralph
Thompson (right) and GC
treasurer Donald F. Gilbert
were reelected Sunday, July 8.*

The Day IN THE Dome



JULY 9, MONDAY

KHW: When the late Francis D. Nichol was editor of the *Review*, and I was associate editor, a publisher issued a book that carried two names—joint authors. Elder Nichol looked at the book, then huffed, “How do two people hold a single pencil?” I had no answer, but, deferring to my “chief,” I meekly agreed that it was impossible. Now, many years later, I am attempting to do what I once said was impossible.

When the current editor asked Miriam and me to report jointly on one day’s activities at the General Conference session, I said, “We’ll try.” So here we go. To help you know who is holding the pencil at any given moment, we shall put our initials (KHW or MW) at the appropriate places.

MW: Sugar-cream pie. That’s what I think of when I see or hear the name *Indianapolis*. If that seems an unlikely juxtaposition of ideas, let me explain. Years ago KHW and I were crossing the United States to visit a number of camp meetings. We arrived in Indianapolis just at noon and were ravenously hungry. There was only one tiny restaurant in sight; not a prepossessing restaurant, but, as we assured each other, “It’s bound to have something we can eat!”

What a surprise when we opened the door, for every table and booth was full; obviously it was a popular eatery. After we had eaten a delicious lunch, the waitress asked if we’d like some “sugar-cream pie.” When I meekly acknowledged that I had never even heard of it, she declared that this gap in my experience must be taken care of immediately. “Everyone in Indiana knows about sugar-cream pie,” she declared rather loftily.

I wish I could describe adequately the almost celestial delicacy she served us. I could have put my feet next to it and growled, and I almost licked

my plate to be sure I got every crumb. I assumed I could buy a cookbook with the recipe somewhere in Indiana, so wasn’t concerned when they said I couldn’t get it from the chef, who had the day off. However, I wasn’t able to find a recipe book, nor have I ever found a friend who knows the recipe, and it looks as if I never will. (Dietitians, be brave. Even if I find the recipe, I promise not to eat a piece of the pie more than twice a year.)

KHW: I attended a General Conference session the first time in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1926 (64 years ago!). Both my parents were delegates as missionaries from China. Though I was only 8 years old, the meeting made a profound impression on me. What a privilege it was to see leaders such as A. G. Daniells, W. A. Spicer, I. H. Evans, L. H. Christian, W. C. White, W. W. Prescott, E. B. Hare, and W. H. Branson! To me, of course, the most colorful delegate was Ratu Meli, a converted Fiji chief who walked Milwaukee’s streets barefoot and occasionally, to create added interest, brandished a war club!

The present session may be the last I attend inasmuch as the next one is scheduled for Europe in Utrecht, Holland, in 1995; so before coming to Indianapolis I reviewed the daily *Bulletins* of 1926, thinking that I might want to make some comparisons. And now that I am here, indeed I do!

Some contrasts are great. In 1926 world membership of the church was only 250,988; today it is more than 6 million—an increase of 2,400 percent. Baptisms in the four years before 1926 totaled fewer than 100,000; today that number is equaled in about 64 days. Attendance on the last Sabbath of the session in Milwaukee was 2,622; attendance here is expected to reach at least 35,000 next Sabbath.

MW: You really owe it to yourself to attend at least one GC session, if for no other reason than to hear the glorious, abundant, and inspiring special sacred music. Every night for at least half an hour a mini-concert precedes the featured program of sermon. On Monday evening, among other specials, we listened to a chorale from Auburn Academy in Washington state; Dwain Williams, baritone, who is a recording artist; and a medley of



By Kenneth H. Wood and Miriam Wood

He is chairman of the Ellen G. White Estate Board, and she is a columnist for the *Adventist Review* and an author.

hymns by everyone's favorite contralto, Del Delker, who was a soloist with the Voice of Prophecy for so many years I lost count. But her voice is as rich, young, and full as ever. We also enjoyed the Ukrainian choir and Bandura orchestra, with their beautiful costumes. Many of the musicians at the session are young people of our church, and just listening to them and looking at them makes one feel not only happy and alive but secure about the future of the church in their strong, young hands.

KHW: A few days before the General Conference session began, a Seventh-day Adventist was featured in the nationally circulated *Parade* magazine. Under the title "His Love Affair With Lady Liberty," the magazine told the story of 42-year-old Charlie DeLeo, who for 18 years has kept the torch burning brightly in New York Harbor's Statue of Liberty. The article said, in part: "DeLeo, a Seventh-day Adventist, donates most of his \$25,000-a-year salary to his church, numerous charities, and foster-care programs." Through this article, readers of *Parade* in Indianapolis thus received a "Candid Camera" glimpse of the kind of people doing business for God in the Hoosier Dome this week.

MW and KHW: Seen and Heard at the Hoosier Dome:

□ Our new "first lady," Anita Emerson Folkenberg—tall, slender, poised, and gracious. She holds a B.S.

degree in nursing and is also a computer expert.

□ An anguished remark, floating above the hurrying crowds, "My feet are never going to forgive me!" I isolated the speaker as a lady carrying, not wearing, her shoes.

□ Milton Lee, longtime missionary to China, who currently broadcasts to China over our radio station on Guam. It seems more than coincidental that I should see him here inasmuch as the 1926 General Conference *Bulletin* contains a picture of "Three Little Missionaries" in Yencheng, Honan, China, and one of the "missionaries" is Elder Lee as an infant.

□ Helium balloons are not permitted in the vicinity of the Hoosier Dome, because if they escape and rise to the canvas ceiling, they will stay there "forever." Since a layer of helium holds up the dome, equilibrium would be maintained with the pressure inside the balloon, and the balloon would stay inflated indefinitely.

MW: A fascinating innovation at this session is the makeup room behind the platform, presided over by Mrs. Carolyn Thompson of Loma Linda, an expert in this field. The enormous screens (my guess: 18' x 25') at each side of the platform, on which the speakers and singers are pictured live in action, hardly flatter a person. One simply cannot "let it all hang out" if he/she has enormous

bags under the eyes, or facial blemishes.

Mrs. Thompson's skill makes most of us look better than we actually do—and who can quarrel with such a blessing? Don't forget that much of the session is being televised live all over North America, a further reason for putting one's best foot (face) forward.

But Mrs. Thompson is also witnessing for the Lord during the time she prepares non-SDA celebrities for guest appearances at the session. Tactfully she shares with them the aspects of our work that she thinks will be most helpful and interesting, and they listen, fascinated. When she had made up a particularly famous man backstage, he thanked her for the insight into our church and then said, "Let me tell you, Mrs. Thompson, I have appeared on many network talk shows, and the makeup people were not nearly as skillful as you are."

MW and KHW: In a small auditorium that opens off the main hall, we spent 13 beautiful minutes watching a 20-projector, multi-image, wide-screen production entitled "The Source of Living Water." This is a capsule presentation of the life of our Lord and the story of the plan of salvation. It is sponsored by the Quiet Hour. The presentation gave us a spiritual lift—a refreshing change from the ceaseless ebb and flow of the sea of humanity in the halls and exhibit areas of the dome.

MW: The emotional climate of the

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Music at the session takes many forms. The Trans-European Division report began with a bagpiper marching down the aisle, mobbed by photographers all the way. Grace Chin, age 12, of Fresno, California, electrified the audience on Sabbath evening with her rendition of the "Hallelujah Chorus" on the grand piano.

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vast Hoosier Dome changes recognizably during the day, depending upon the platform activity. During the devotionals each morning the delegates and visitors are quiet, subdued, serious, and very attentive. During the business sessions there is a barely suppressed excitement, a wondering "how the vote will go" tension, and small groups of delegates around the periphery talking to one another with obviously firm opinions. But at night, during the superb world division reports, made up of videos, dialogues, and music, the mood is one of sheer exuberance and total appreciation.

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The Andrews University Seminary Chorus performs for the Sabbath afternoon program.

KHW: During the afternoon business session (July 8) a 15-page document on Sabbath observance was read to the delegates. I was particularly interested in the document because I was a member of the original committee that met in St. Albans, England, in 1984, to create the first draft. In the past six years the document has been studied, revised, and approved by at least 15 groups, including the General Conference officers, the North American Division union presidents, and two Annual Councils.

After the document was read, the chairman opened the floor for discussion. Almost immediately a dozen delegates stood to offer comments, some opposed, some in favor.

After only 10 people had spoken, the chairman stated that discussion would be interrupted by a report from the Nominating Committee. Inasmuch as the former chairman of the committee had been elected president of the General Conference, members of the committee had "upgraded" the vice chairman to chairman—Desmond Hills, president of

the Trans-Australian Union Conference. He asked the secretary, Ben Reaves, president of Oakwood College, to read the report. G. Ralph Thompson and Don F. Gilbert were reelected secretary and treasurer, respectively, of the General Conference. (The full report appears elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.)

After the report had been accepted, the meeting was closed, with the chairman promising that discussion of the Sabbath document would continue Monday morning.

The promise was fulfilled. In fact, the discussion—rather spirited at times—occupied the entire morning. Eventually the document was accepted in principle but not as an official action of the session.

Before that, though, Enoch Oliveira, a general vice president, who is retiring at this session, stirred the delegates with his sermon at the devotional hour. Under the title "We Shall Behold Him: In the Fulfillment of Prophecy," Elder Oliveira gave a strong message of hope and affirmation. At one point in his sermon the audience was startled as David

Dennis, representing James White, came walking down the center aisle singing an early Advent hymn. Elder Oliveira declared: "In this, my last sermon as a General Conference vice president, I want to express my unconditional confidence in the inspired ministry of Ellen G. White." The delegates applauded.

Here at Indianapolis I have been impressed that some things have changed little in the 64 years since Milwaukee. The church has critics today; it had them 64 years ago. Responding to them years ago, O. Montgomery, then vice president of the General Conference for North America, said: "There are plenty of Sanballats in the country who would call us down or aside to study their proposition to take counsel together, to consider their claims or teachings, but like Nehemiah of old, we say, We are 'doing a great work, so that [we] cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst we leave it, and come down to you?'" F. M. Wilcox, then editor of the *Review*, added: "We have no sympathy with the charge made by opponents of this move-

ment that God has forsaken His people. We have no sympathy with the statement that this movement is to be supplanted by another."

Then there is the need for economy and sacrifice, a subject much discussed before and during the present session. Obviously God's people in every generation need to be reminded to invest in Heaven's treasury, for in 1926 W. A. Spicer, then president, declared: "In the 1922 [Annual] Council of Milwaukee, a keynote was greater economy and simplicity in our lives as workers and people, and in all our denominational outlay and planning. So shall means thus saved be turned to the missionary advance. In an age of extravagance and easy spending we must stand for Puritan plainness and simplicity, or the world will never believe us when we tell them the end is at hand." Good words then, and much more important words now!

KHW and MW: We close this report with the words of W. A. Spicer, which express well the views of these writers and the session here in Indianapolis: "Courage in the Lord, brethren, courage in the Lord. He is leading the Advent movement, and the work is going from strength to strength. We will follow our Leader."

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Fourth business meeting

Fifty-fifth General Conference session, July 8, 1990, 10:00 a.m.

G. HENDERSON: [Music.]

JEAN LANTRY: [Solo—"All in the Name of the Lord."]

K. J. MITTLEIDER: I'm going to ask M. T. Battle to introduce a special item.

M. T. BATTLE: On Friday, July 6, this session voted a new General Conference president, R. S. Folkenberg. Elder Folkenberg was a duly elected member of the Nominating Committee. Therefore a vacancy has arisen. The Southern Union would like to place in nomination the name of C. Shankel, president of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, to take the seat vacated by R. S. Folkenberg as a member of the Nominating Committee. I would like to move this recommendation. [The motion was seconded and voted.]

L. L. BOCK: I speak for a group of very special people now seated in the galleries who were once with us as General Conference officers, General Conference personnel, General Conference Committee members. I think it would be appropriate if we pay special tribute to these people. We have former General Conference vice presidents and former division leaders who are attending this session. I move that these former General Conference officers and committee members be provided floor credentials. [The motion was seconded and voted.]

K. J. MITTLEIDER: This morning we have a special program that has been planned for several months by the Special Committee on Adventist Incentives to Resist Tobacco. M. T. Battle will introduce the program.

[After introductory remarks, M. T. Battle introduced the guests, who participated in a discussion of the announced subject. The guest panelists were as follows: J. Seffrin, chairman of the American Cancer Society; R. Peto, director of Cancer Studies Unit, University of Oxford, England, and chairman, World Health Organization consultative group on statistical aspects of tobacco mortality; G. Connolly, director of the Office of Nonsmoking and Health, Department of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; R. Davis, director of the Office of Tobacco and Health, United States Public Health Service; R. Branson, senior research fellow of the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University, and a member of the program council of the Washington Institute of Contemporary Issues. Presentations were made by each participant on the panel, which included graphs and slides. At the conclusion of the panel the moderator, Roy Branson, called on the newly elected General Conference president, R. S. Folkenberg, who made a statement to the delegates.]

R. S. FOLKENBERG: My uncle, E. Folkenberg, along with J. W. McFarland, founded the Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking, by which means multiplied millions around the earth have

conquered this vicious habit. I always believed in the Five-Day Plan and feel just as strongly that the successor, the Breathe-Free program, is exactly the kind of program that we can use to its maximum. When you consider that 2.5 million people are dying every year as a result of this pernicious habit, you recognize that we as a church must do everything humanly possible to restrict the distribution of this killing weed. I am pleased that the church has the opportunity to lend its support to a statement that will have a direct impact on various countries around the world to reduce their consumption of tobacco. Isaiah 58 deals with God's requiring us to loose the fetters of injustice and to untie the knots of that yoke that binds. When big tobacco companies are making fortunes on the pain, suffering, and death of multiplied millions, we have no option but to speak out. [Applause.]

Our Lord frequently used the latter chapters of Isaiah. He talked about announcing good news to the poor. Can you think of any better news than life-giving victory over tobacco?

I believe that we really have no moral option but to do everything we can to help tobacco companies recognize that it is unacceptable for them to target the women and children of Third World countries in the interest of economic growth. [Applause.] It's time once again for us to take our stand and bear witness to unscrupulous marketing of tobacco around the world. As a church we have been fairly cautious historically in dealing with social issues. But something that takes human life as tobacco does involves a total commingling of a social issue and a fundamental—the sanctity of life.

So I would submit to you today that as a church we need to join with a struggle that will lead to victory and life around the world. It will be an adventure. We're not accustomed to this, but I would submit that it's time to speak out and speak up, for the alternative is death, destruction, and a guilty conscience.

JUDITH SIMNETT-PRATT: [Benediction.]

K. J. MITTLEIDER, *Chairman*
R. L. DALE, *Secretary*
C. D. WATSON and D. A. ROTH,
Proceedings Editors

Correction: The newly commissioned painting presented by Walter Scragg, South Pacific Division president, to the Ellen G. White Estate was of the *Sunnyside* Australian home of Ellen White, not her Elms-haven home in California (*Bulletin* No. 2, p. 30).

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Nominating Committee members began another long session on Sunday night, July 8.

Session actions

Fifty-fifth General Conference session, July 8, 1990, 10:00 a.m.

Nominating Committee—Membership Adjustment

Voted. To approve Clinton Shankel, president of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, to serve as a member of the Nominating Committee in place of Robert S. Folkenberg, newly elected president of the General Conference.

Guest Badges for Former General Conference Executive Committee Members

Voted. To provide guest badges to former General Conference Officers and General Conference Executive Committee members in order to permit access to the main floor. Guest badges will also be provided for their spouses.

Adjourned.

KENNETH J. MITTLEIDER, *Chairman*
ROBERT L. DALE, *Secretary*
FRED G. THOMAS, *Actions Editor*
ROWENA J. MOORE, *Recording Secretary*

Fifth business meeting

Fifty-fifth General Conference session, July 8, 1990, 3:15 p.m.

J. H. HARRIS: [Called the meeting to order.]
VIRGINIA SMITH: [Announced the opening song.]

T. SHIRAIISHI: [Opening prayer in the Japanese language.]

J. H. HARRIS: B. B. Beach, who handles all of our protocol activities for the General Conference, has a very special guest he would like to introduce to us at this time.

B. B. BEACH: One of the organizations that has honored us by being represented here by an observer-guest is the World Council of Churches, which represents more than 300 churches and denominations scattered over all the continents of the world. We received a fax yesterday from the general secretary of the World Council of Churches, E. Castro, in which he extends greetings. This afternoon I am happy to be able to introduce to you Joan Campbell, a minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) who is the director of the United States office of the World Council of Churches and who will give us a message of greeting.

JOAN CAMPBELL: It is my pleasure to be with you again, this time in Indianapolis. For me, that is almost like being at home, since this is where my own church has its headquarters. So in one sense, I suppose I can welcome you on behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to Indianapolis. I bring you the warmest of greetings from the World Council of Churches and from all our member churches around the world. You are a beautiful group of people, young and old, many colors, many cultures, and yes, many languages. Your church is

one of the few in which the mix of people is truly remarkable. When I was at your worship service yesterday, it seemed as though it was my own time of worship, as well as yours. And it said to me that there are many things that we hold in common—that there is, in fact, one Lord, one God and Father of us all.

So as fellow Christians, like those Pentecost people in the earliest of days, we look at one another and we say that we hold all things in common [see Acts 2:44].

J. H. HARRIS: C. E. Bradford, president of the North American Division, is chairman of this business session.

C. E. BRADFORD: Today we want to begin with a document entitled “Sabbath Observance—Position Statement.”

You can see that this document on Sabbath observance has been discussed rather widely, carefully, and prayerfully. There are sections of the world field that have requested counsel as to Sabbath observance in their particular geographical area. I am a firm believer in reading the document together—the secretary reading audibly, and all of us following along carefully and silently.

M. C. VAN PUTTEN: [Read the “Sabbath Observance” document.]

F. G. THOMAS: [Completed the reading of the “Sabbath Observance” document.]

M. C. VAN PUTTEN: I move the acceptance of this document. [The motion was seconded.]

C. E. BRADFORD: We are seeing today the culmination of six or seven years of study and counsel together, and the document as I read it is helpful to me. I have been helped by reviewing

the principles. It's been like a sermon to me. We are not writing commandments here. The Ten Commandments are already written by the finger of God. We also know that we are not trying to take the place of the Holy Spirit, who speaks to each believer and will guide us into all truth. What are we doing here? We are trying as brothers and sisters in this wonderful worldwide fellowship to assist each other and to respond to parts of the field who have asked for counsel. The document is theologically correct. The biblical statements are clear. The principles are laid down. It speaks about home and family life. It contains practical suggestions about recreation, weddings, and funerals. It talks to us who are engaged in medical and health-care and educational work. Then it appeals to each one of us as members to make those moral decisions we are called upon to make almost daily in light of the biblical counsel. It is good content that is well balanced, well written, and comprehensive.

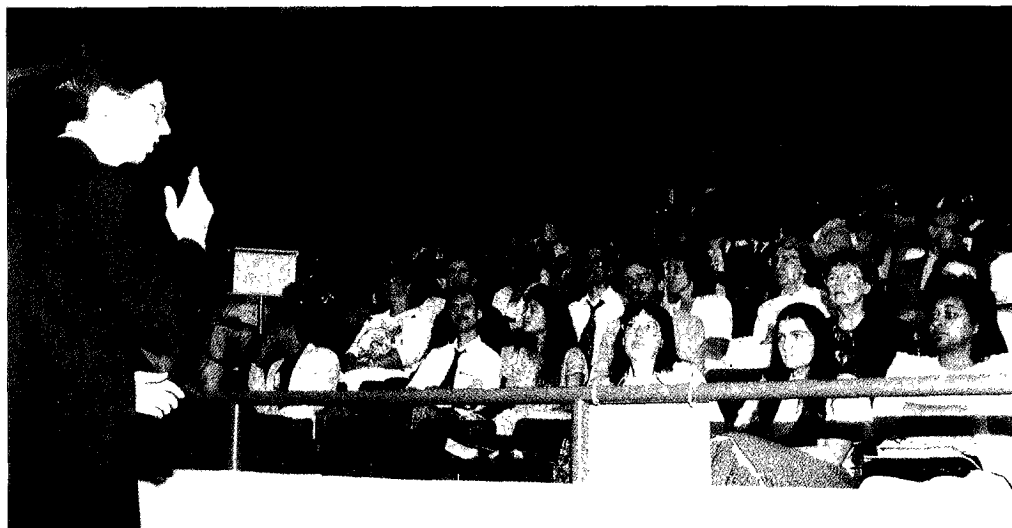
R. R. STANDISH: This document is an excellent document. I want to say how proud I am to hear the standard that has been placed before us for our medical work, and I praise God for that. Having made these preliminary statements, I want to urge every one of our delegates here to reject this document as a statement of our belief in the Sabbath. You might wonder why I would suggest this. Our faith is based upon something that is unchangeable—the Bible and the Bible alone. Now it is true that this statement is Bible-based and Spirit of Prophecy-based, but if fallible men and women such as we are able to vote this document, which will by that very vote become a standard within our church, then other delegates at subsequent General Conference sessions will be at liberty to amend it. I would urge that this group of delegates, believing every word that was in that document, nevertheless reject it because of the inherent dangers in placing something as a standard with the authority of all these delegates, who are fallible men and women, behind it.

F. ECKHOFF: I find this document very good in many respects, but I must say that I have the same reaction as the former speaker. It is recommended as a position statement. It will be regarded as the church's say on what is Sabbath observance.

K. PIPIM: My concern is on the principles and theology of Sabbath observance. Many religions recognize God as Creator, but they argue about how He created the world and how long it took Him to create it. This document is conspicuously silent on whether God created the world in six days. It is also conspicuously silent in identifying the Sabbath as Saturday. May I know the reasons?

C. E. BRADFORD: We will have an answer for you when we

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Donald Griffith signs to a group of hearing-impaired attendees during the July 7 Sabbath worship service.

can obtain the services of a representative of the Biblical Research Institute.

E. UGARTE: In general, the document appears to me to be a good document. I think it has to do with the first part of the fourth commandment. It says "Remember the Sabbath day to sanctify it." Sanctify, meaning to separate for a special use. The danger of this document is legalism or perhaps making regulations of a commandment.

M. T. BASCOM: It has been very helpful for us to read through this document. My suggestion is that perhaps we need to strengthen the document, at least in one area—Sabbath attendance at public schools in some countries of the world. Generally I believe this document will be a help for us to understand what Sabbath observance is all about. It is very soft, but it lays down some principles to guide a new believer, and to guide some of us who have been in the church and keeping Sabbath for many years, and so I personally feel comfortable in supporting it.

D. R. BLYTHE: I wholeheartedly agree with the text and content of this document. It is excellent. I find nothing wrong with the content of this statement. However, I also urge that we reject this document. I think it would be a dangerous thing to set a precedent here today for this body to vote something that can at a later time be amended or changed. We should uphold what is in the document, but we should do it upon the basis of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

R. RIZZO: I am surprised by two elements in this debate. The first is that all those against this document say that the document is a good one. The second is that we don't distinguish between something that goes into the *Church Manual* and an opinion of the church that regulates some aspects of life. It seems to me that this document presents an answer to many problems. It is not a rule. It is not listed among the rules. It expresses a general opinion of the church.

C. R. PRITCHETT: There are occasions when individuals ask questions about what should or should not be appropriate Sabbath observance. I especially appreciate having a document or something in my hand, prepared by my church, that I can give to these people, rather than just to share my own personal opinion.

There are those who feel that perhaps it is not the proper thing to attend graduations on Sabbath. I am speaking of non-Adventist schools. If this document is adopted, I would like to see something added giving counsel on this matter.

J. ZURCHER: I support this document. I think it's very good. I was a member of the commission that worked on this document. We studied it, and I support it. I hope it will be voted.

C. E. BRADFORD: We're going to be interrupted now by the Nominating Committee.

R. S. FOLKENBERG: We have a wonderful Nominating Committee. They have manifested a loving and gracious spirit. The Holy Spirit has been present. The committee's first order of

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The 226-member Nominating Committee is comprised of representatives from every union conference in the world church. Its members are cloistered as they evaluate potential candidates for church leadership positions.

business this morning was to elect a new chairman.

I am pleased that the committee will be able to bring you a partial report of the work of the day. And I'd like to introduce to you the new chairman of the Nominating Committee, D. B. Hills, president of the Trans-Australian Union Conference.

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As the Sunday business session considers constitution and bylaw amendments, one delegate who was listening to a translation of the proceedings takes a short nap.

D. B. HILLS: I would like to reemphasize what the president has said, that there's indeed been a wonderful working spirit within the Nominating Committee. It's said that the Adventist family is a wonderful family to belong to, and this is true. The secretary of the Nominating Committee, B. Reaves, will bring to you a report for the office of secretary, followed by the office of treasurer, and then a report concerning seven of the division presidents.

B. REAVES: The Nominating Committee submits the following partial report: Recommended, to elect the following persons to occupy the positions indicated: secretary, General Conference, G. Ralph Thompson; treasurer, General Conference, D. F. Gilbert. I move the approval of these recommendations. [Motion was seconded and voted.]

R. S. FOLKENBERG: It is my privilege to introduce to you your new General Conference secretary and his lovely wife, Imogene, and the new General Conference treasurer and his wife, Irene. [Applause.]

G. RALPH THOMPSON: As General Conference secretary it will be my privilege and pleasure to work with the new General Conference president. I've always felt that as a member of a team, I should support that team. Elder Folkenberg, I want to pledge to you before this group my support as you undertake the heavy responsibilities of president of the General Conference. We will be a team together, and we will work for the glory of God on behalf of His church. And I believe the greatest days of the Advent movement are just ahead. [Applause.]

D. F. GILBERT: To serve this church and to serve the Lord is a tremendous privilege. As we

look forward to His coming, we have a great deal of work to do, and it will be an exciting time. We don't have all the answers, but God does. I solicit on behalf of each of you your prayers for my wife and me. Be assured that you're remembered daily in our prayers, for we love you, and our greatest hope is to prepare God's people for His soon coming, which I believe is very, very soon. We look forward to that day when Jesus will come and when some of these challenges that we're not sure quite

how to confront will all be history and we'll look back and say, Lord, You were so wonderful to lead us through those days. [Applause.]

B. REAVES: The following are recommended to fill the positions indicated: president, Africa-Indian Ocean Division, J. J. Nortey; president, Eastern Africa Division, B. Heye; president, Far Eastern Division, O. C. Edwards; president, Inter-American Division, G. W. Brown; president, South American Di-

vision, J. Wolff; president, Trans-European Division, J. Paulsen; president, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Division, M. P. Kulakov. I move that we approve these recommendations. [Motion was seconded and voted.]

D. CLARK: [Benediction.]

C. E. BRADFORD, *Chairman*
M. C. VAN PUTTEN, *Secretary*
C. D. WATSON and D. A. ROTH,
Proceedings Editors

Nominating Committee Report—3

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We Shall Behold Him

In the Fulfillment of Prophecy

Devotional

message

presented

Monday

morning,

July 9.

Marilyn has committed suicide! Marilyn has committed suicide!" Shocked by the tragic news, people were flocking to buy copies of the *San Francisco Chronicle*. It was in the early-morning hours of August 6, 1962, while going through the main door of a hotel in San Francisco, California, that I heard paperboys shouting the headline news.

In spite of a large income, physical beauty, and great popularity, Marilyn Monroe never enjoyed inner peace. She was able to rest at night only by taking tranquilizers, and she used stimulants to give her the energy needed to carry out the day's tasks. But the happiness for which she had searched so diligently can be found only in Christ.

How alone Marilyn must have felt on that last night! When we feel alone and afflicted, living through cloudy days of sadness or dark nights of anxiety, we should remember that we can trust the promise "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20).

We know that not only will Christ be at our side to help us deal with our daily problems and disappointments, but that He will soon return to this world to establish His kingdom. Then all the anxieties of life will be forgotten, and perplexities will vanish. Our most cherished hope will be fulfilled, and our dreams will be converted into reality.

This hope does not rest upon some church dogma or tradition, but upon the authoritative word of Jesus, the angels, and the apostles. Addressing His disciples in a somber moment laden with tensions and fears, Jesus said: "Let not your hearts be troubled. . . . I will come again" (John 14:1-3).

With contagious conviction the angels at Christ's ascension announced: "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11).

Paul, the apostle to the nations, proclaimed: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven . . . 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" (1 Thess. 4:16, 17).

From Peter, with his keen sense of the future, we have the following exhortation: "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you" (Acts 3:19, 20).

And what about John, the beloved disciple? Did he believe in it? "Behold," he said, "he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him" (Rev. 1:7).

The Promise Through the Ages

So vitally important was this message—"the Lord is coming"—that the preachers of the first century were able to electrify the Roman world with their vibrant proclamation.

Prison, torture, and even martyrdom were not sufficient to restrain their enthusiasm and fervor. With amazing determination they went from place to place, inspired by two Aramaic words, which for them were like a war cry: *Marana tha* ("The Lord is coming").

With the passing of the years, however, the "blessed hope" lost its prominence. Theological speculations and allegorical interpretations worked against Adventist fervor, and religious darkness descended over the nations. Clouds covered the world. The lamp of prophecy ceased to shine, and the prospect of Christ's return lost its appeal.

Centuries later the Reformation rekindled the flame of hope in our Lord's return. With convincing power and unshakable confidence, Luther and his associates turned the medieval structure upside down by proclaiming righteousness by faith and their hope in the Lord's return.

But in the eighteenth century many scholars were seduced by the "golden era" expectation. In place of biblical eschatology they taught the idea of a millennium in this world, in which peace, prosperity, and social justice would rule. And with this utopia the flame of Adventist hope flickered once again and almost went out.



By Enoch Oliveira

Vice President
General Conference

The Advent Awakening

The first part of the nineteenth century was characterized by an interconfessional religious revival, inspired by the ideals of the "blessed hope." The effects of the cruelties perpetrated during the stormy days of the French Revolution and the devastation of the Napoleonic wars still rocked the world, paving the way for a great Advent awakening.

Out of that revival of the last century came the Seventh-day Adventist Church with its apocalyptic proclamation in the setting of the third angel's message.

In fact, after the Great Disappointment of 1844 and the regrettable fragmentation of the Millerites, God extended His hand full of grace and power. As the divine Potter, He picked up the pieces and reshaped His church body, enlightening it with new revelations of His will. And with the power of His arm, He guided it to "every nation, tribe, language and people" (Rev. 14:6, NIV) in order to light the world with the glory of His message.

In spite of opposition, mockery, and disdain, James and Ellen White, Joseph Bates, Hiram Edson, John Andrews, and a host of other faithful preachers, galvanized by an overpowering conviction, transformed the disaster of 1844 into a powerful movement known for its remarkable sense of mission and destiny.

They succeeded in their missionary enterprises because they did not preach "cunningly devised fables" (2 Peter 1:16), but preached the "sure word of prophecy" (verse 19).

Nevertheless, after 146 years, are we still proclaiming the imminence of Christ's second coming with the same zeal and ardor as our forefathers? Are we preparing ourselves for the stupendous events about to break upon the world? Or are we becoming careless, worldly, self-satisfied, and so acquainted with our prophetic preaching that it has lost its meaning for us?

The alarming succession of recent events brings to our minds the strong conviction that Christ is about to initiate His triumphal return to this world. The lash of war, the sinister presence of poverty and starvation, the intensification of natural disasters, the urban explosion, ecological suicide, religious decline, the growing laxity on moral issues, and

*After 146 years, are we still
proclaiming the imminence
of Christ's second coming
with the same zeal and
ardor as our forefathers?*

many other signs point to the nearness of that shining consummation.

"Even So, Come, Lord Jesus"

Our generation is witnessing insanity spreading like wildfire in our society. A tornado of violence is sweeping upon the world. A growing tide of delinquency is sapping the foundations of our social structure. This frightening reality leads us to repeat the apocalyptic supplication: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20).

We cannot ignore that in the world today masses of people are imprisoned within the merciless grip of hunger. In fact, more than 500 million people—men, women, and children—this morning are holding empty plates with

trembling hands. They are symbols of the misery that threatens social peace in the world. This moving situation compels us to lift up our voices, praying: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

According to health authorities, there are now 1 million people in the United States alone infected with the AIDS virus. Among them thousands will die during the next five years under the most distressing circumstances. Oh, how meaningful are the words "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

The world outlook is gloomy, the future of civilization is dark, the nature of man corrupted, the professing churches powerless, the philosophical systems still inadequate, the human heart still unbelieving. Looking at the world despair, we cannot help crying again, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

As we look over the present religious panorama, we can understand the question posed by Jesus: "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on earth?" (Luke 18:8). Multitudes of Christian people today are just wearing the garments of religion. They have religious profession but no spiritual possession. They have religious formality without devotional vitality. They have the crucifix without a caring Saviour. They have the altar without the loving Great High Priest. How fitting are the words of John, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Describing our days Ellen White stated: "The coming of the Lord is nearer

GC SNAPSHOT



Adult Sabbath school on July 7 featured a skit in which two Adventists found themselves in heaven meeting church pioneers. Here Vivian Barron and Bob Grady meet "Ellen White" and an "angel."

than when we first believed. The great controversy is nearing its end. Every report of calamity by sea or land is a testimony to the fact that the end of all things is at hand. . . . Is there a Christian whose pulse does not beat with quickened action as he anticipates the great events opening before us?

“The Lord is coming. We hear the footsteps of an approaching God, as He comes to punish the world for its iniquity” (*Evangelism*, p. 219). Knowing that the day of the Lord is at hand, believers around the world unite their voices with apostle John in a joyful prayer: “Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”

Formidable Task

We must watch for the coming of the kingdom; we must proclaim the breaking day. Sometimes we say too much about the night and too little about the morning; too much about the darkness that covers the world, and too little about the growing splendor of the day.

Jesus said, “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world . . . ; and then shall the end come” (Matt. 24:14). The proclamation activity of the church is eschatological because it helps to prepare the world for the final consummation. So there is a clear connection between Christian mission and the eschaton.

My father was one of the first believers in my country, Brazil. He was baptized at the beginning of this century. He was a farmer without college training, but when he accepted this message, he decided to dedicate his life to proclaim our blessed hope and became a literature evangelist. For 48 years he was totally involved in the publishing work.

Twelve years ago I was visiting him (he was then 87 years old), and with tears in his eyes he expressed the fears of his heart that he would die without seeing the second coming of Jesus. With his feeble voice he mentioned his disappointment that we still have a task to finish. After a short visit I went back to my regular duties.

Seven months later I was engaged in an evangelistic campaign when I received a long-distance call. My older brother called to tell me that my father had died. I took a plane to pay my last tribute to my father, a man who loved

this message with all his heart and gave all his energies to spreading the message of our hope. Now he rests as a brave soldier, awaiting in his grave Christ’s return to set up His kingdom.

Fellow workers, church leaders, and believers in the blessed hope, God has called us as the last prophetic movement to proclaim to the world the message that there is no hope except in the crucified, risen, and coming Lord.

For many the great tragedy that characterizes our days is not found in the increase of crime, in moral decline, or even in the possibility of a nuclear holocaust, but rather in the absence of all hope. Herbert Norman, a Canadian ambassador, committed suicide, leaving the following note: “I have no other alternative. I must commit suicide, for I cannot live without hope.”

The hour is late. Days of trouble long foretold are just ahead of us. The eternal day soon will dawn. What we do must be done quickly. If we lose this sense of immediacy, we will lose the very essence of Adventism.

We cannot postpone the fulfillment of the great commission entrusted to us. Now is the time! Let us put ourselves, our lives, and our means in God’s powerful hand, and our eyes will see the miracles of evangelism. This is the most glorious moment for Seventh-day Adventists. Thousands of souls will be converted in one day. I am not dreaming. I am talking about realities. Triumphs never before known in our history will be seen by our generation. I am not talking about utopias. I am talking about tangible realities. The Lord’s messenger said: “I saw that this message will close with power and strength far exceeding the midnight cry” (*Early Writings*, p. 278).

I believe in this promise of God. Yes, I believe that our message is going to close with a great manifestation of God’s power. Like wildfire, the great hope will be spread from heart to heart, from house to house, from city to city, and from nation to nation. The entire world will be illuminated by the splendor, brilliance, and glory of our hope. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

May God in His mercy awaken us to a new vision and send us from this place to proclaim with blazing conviction the hope that burns within our hearts. ☸



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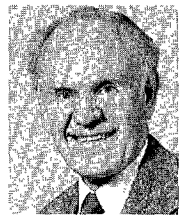
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PERISHABLES

Report presented at the General Conference session.

Health and Temperance Department



By G. Gordon Hadley
Director

Not long ago the General Conference coined the phrase "Global Strategy" to designate the church's efforts to share Christ with untouched parts of the world.

"Health and Temperance forms an important part of Global Strategy planning by opening the way for ministerial work," says physician Albert Whiting, Health and Temperance Department associate director for medical affairs. "During the past five years the Health and Temperance Department has been instrumental in furthering contacts in four areas: China, the Middle East, India, and the U.S.S.R."

Health and Temperance recently created the International Adventist Health-Care Council to assess the needs of health-care institutions worldwide. Division representatives have begun long-term strategic planning and will recommend external funding if available. Health and Temperance has also begun active recruitment to encourage medical personnel to work in missions.

"The fact that dentistry was the first work to enter Djibouti and Somalia is, I think, the most significant thing that we have accomplished in the past five years," says Eldon Carman, an orthodontist and associate director for dental affairs, speaking of the two clinics built in these East African countries. Djibouti's government donated land for a clinic and a dentist's home.

An orthodontic clinic in Harare, Zimbabwe, marks another first. Started by Dr. Lothar Guttschuss, it is now directed by Dr. Milford Anholm. "It's the only ortho clinic overseas, and the demand for orthodontics is tremendous," Carman reports.

Raymond Damazo of Seattle, Washington, donated \$100,000 to remodel a clinic in Nairobi and to purchase a mo-

bile dental unit. Dr. Clifford Gene Munce and Dr. Marlin Meharry operate the clinic.

Newly expanded and remodeled, the clinic in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, may soon have a satellite office in nearby Islamabad. Run by Dr. Alexander Lijkendijk, this is the first clinic to extend dental services to Afghan refugees in Peshawar, near the Pakistan/Afghanistan border.

In the Far Eastern Division, the Palau SDA Clinic is being established and will operate under the direction of our Guam clinic. In the Africa-Indian Ocean Division, the newly developed Kigali SDA Dental Clinic in Rwanda already has plans for an expansion program under the direction of Dr. Howard Munson.

Optometry and Ophthalmology

"All our clinics operate very well financially," says Dr. Clarence Omans, health and temperance consultant for vision affairs, citing Swazi Eye Services in Manzini, Swaziland, as an example. "Dr. and Mrs. Val Franklin came two years ago, and in the first eight months

grossed more than in the previous 12 months."

Dr. Wilma Boulieris, president of Guam's optometric board, Dr. Dennis J. Hanson, and Dr. Dallas Lighthouse operate a clinic on Guam. They also rotate two clinics in Palau and Saipan, spending one week per month at each.

Dr. Luz L. Romero plans to open an eye clinic in Kigali. As of this writing, she was waiting for equipment to arrive.

The SDA Health Centre in Lilongwe, Malawi, was built and equipped, but stood empty for five years before Dr. Garrick Peterson arrived about a year ago.

"It's difficult to fill many calls because we can't use just any individual. We must have someone certified in diagnostic and therapeutic drugs," Omans says. "Among SDA optometrists and ophthalmologists, not more than 60 percent are certified."

AIDS Update

Dr. Elvin Adams, former Health and Temperance Department associate director, founded and chaired the General Conference AIDS Committee, which consists of interdepartmental and non-GC professionals and AIDS experts. The committee, now directed by Iris Hayden Stober, associate director of Health and Temperance, works to promote AIDS education and awareness worldwide.

Stober reports that the Seventh-day Adventist Church has responded to AIDS with educational efforts, such as a curriculum and manual authored by



Doctors and staff gather outside Los Angeles Adventist Clinic in Los Angeles, Chile. The 23-bed clinic first opened in 1983.

Joyce Hopp of Loma Linda University for teaching about AIDS in elementary schools, an issue of *Message* magazine devoted to AIDS, an AIDS-oriented PREACH seminar, editor Sharon Tobing's newsletter *AIDS Concerns*, and audiovisual and educational materials from Narcotics Education, Inc.

Outside the United States most Health and Temperance AIDS work focuses on Africa. In November 1989 about 250,000 youth, Pathfinders, church members, and others marched in simultaneous Prevention of AIDS and Alcoholism rallies in cities and towns in the Eastern Africa Division. Dr. Saleem A. Farag, division health and temperance director, organized these rallies with the assistance of the Education and Publishing departments. Participants distributed more than 1 million AIDS- and alcoholism-education pamphlets while youth competed for prizes for the best speeches and posters about AIDS and alcoholism prevention.

Nursing and Health Education

"My goals have been met," says Iris Stober, explaining her desire to refocus nursing education from hospital- to school-based training. Kenya's University of Eastern Africa recently opened a four-year B.S./R.N. program and held its first capping for the 1988-1989 class.

"Around the world, nursing has moved toward college and university rather than hospital education, and this has now been accomplished in East Africa," she explains. The Far Eastern, South American, Inter-American, and North American divisions also use school-based programs.

Stober and physician Barry H. Wecker, former health and temperance director in the Africa-Indian Ocean Division, coauthored *The Church Health Educator*, a guidebook published in 1989 for health educators at mission and church schools, community health projects, and hospitals. Complimentary copies were distributed to every division health and temperance department and are already providing sound, up-to-date instruction in health education.

Chemical Dependency

The Study Commission on Chemical Dependency in the Church recommended



Gaspar Colon (right), director of Health and Temperance for the Africa-Indian Ocean Division, and doctors at the 9-year-old Jengre Seventh-day Adventist Hospital in Nigeria discuss plans for the future of the 70-bed health-care facility.

a survey of the use of alcohol and other drugs among Seventh-day Adventists. Funded and commissioned by the North American Division Health and Temperance Department, the survey was conducted by the Institute of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency at Andrews University.

"This generated an awareness of the problem of chemical dependency within the church and a greater emphasis on temperance," says Albert Whiting. "We woke up the church."

Study results, presented at the 1987 Annual Council, spawned 90 recommendations for dealing with substance abuse. In education alone these recommendations led to a new drug prevention and awareness curriculum for grades K through 12. By February 1989 all SDA colleges in North America had implemented chemical dependency programs.

In response to the commission's request for stronger prevention measures, the Health and Temperance Department

initiated Adventist Youth to Youth (AY2Y). "Adventist Youth to Youth provides a positive peer pressure program that empowers youth to work on behalf of their friends and siblings to promote an anti-drug lifestyle," states Barbara Wetherell, assistant Health/Temperance Department director and director of AY2Y.

No Smoking

"The Five-Day Plan, begun in 1959, wasn't revised until we introduced the Breathe-Free Plan to Stop Smoking at the last quinquennium session," reports Stoy Proctor, director of Breathe-Free and of the Health and Temperance Department of the North American Division.

"We have evaluated the new plan with committees of health professionals and have spent thousands of dollars on research by Loma Linda University, which verified the effectiveness of the basic Breathe-Free concepts and suggested minor refinements. This second edition of Breathe-Free will premiere at the 1990 GC session," Proctor adds.

The Five-Day Plan advocated quitting smoking "cold turkey" and was the first program to utilize group support methods. Breathe-Free recommends an eight-day program, which the revision will lengthen to 10 days.

GC Fitness Program

In November 1989 DeWitt Williams, associate director of Health and Temperance, launched a corporate fitness plan to encourage General Conference employees to run, swim, walk, etc., the equivalent of 10 miles a week. "Workers will feel good, look good, lose weight, have less sick time, and be more energetic," Williams believes. "We hope that after a year people will have developed exercise habits they will keep for life."



Saipan Adventist Clinic in the Marianas Islands was dedicated January 2, 1990. The clinic serves more than 6,000 patients and offers both dental and optometric care.

Abortion

The Christian View of Human Life Committee was set up to "deal with is-

sues in modern life that impinge upon the dignity and value of human life," says Albert Whiting. "Abortion is a moral issue that the church should address because we are a moral body." Church leaders will review documents concerning a church abortion consensus and guidelines for pregnancy termination at SDA health-care institutions.

Publications

Listen magazine, a 43-year-old anti-

drug publication for teens, edited by Health and Temperance associate director Gary B. Swanson, won two awards during the past quinquennium from *Print* magazine, a graphic arts trade journal. The designs appeared in the top 5 percent of those selected from a field of more than 40,000.

The Winner, also published by Narcotics Education, Inc. (NEI), is a drug prevention magazine designed especially for grade school students. Its cir-

ulation nearly tripled during the past five years. "We've improved it and thereby encouraged drug prevention programs in the schools," says Leilani Proctor, director of development and marketing for NEI.

Regeneration, written by Hal Gates, a recovering alcoholic and drug user who is now an SDA pastor, offers guidelines for ministering to chemically dependent people.

NEI also publishes *The Health Connection*, a four-color catalog offering anti-drug videos, movies, books, and pamphlets, plus colorful T-shirts, buttons, and specialty items for children and teens.

Our newest publication, *HT Today*, a bimonthly newsletter, contains the latest scientific research on nutrition, health care, fitness, tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. Each division health and temperance leader receives a copy.

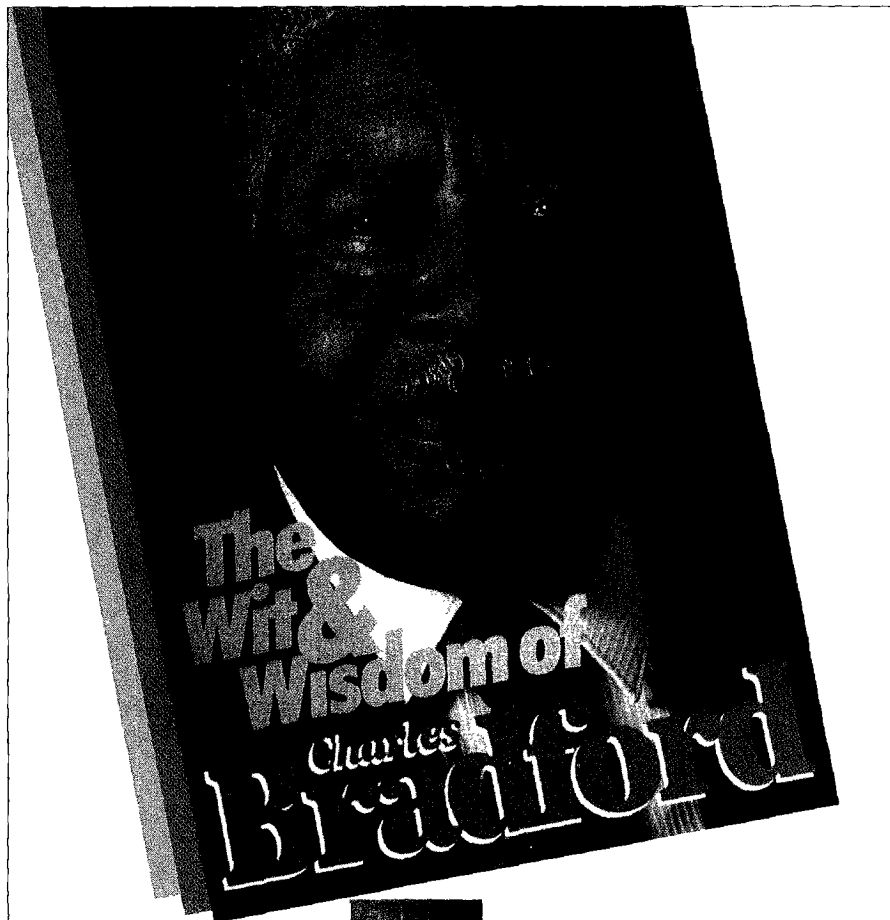
Good News Travels

In September 1989 education and law-enforcement journals from Africa, the Far East, the Middle East, and South America began publishing drug-related articles provided by Thomas R. Neslund, Health and Temperance Department associate director and executive director of the International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency. The articles are translated into 10 languages. Sixteen government-sponsored teacher/education journals in 14 countries publish them bimonthly.

Statistics

Figures from Ray Pelton, associate director for international health-care administration, show how health-care facilities have changed in number since 1985 (in parenthesis). Hospitals and sanitariums—171 (155); nursing homes and retirement centers—82 (67); orphanages and children's homes—8 (7); clinics—272 (276); and airplanes/medical launches—26 (29).

Statistics, however, don't show how health and temperance work opens the way for communication of the gospel. "Where there is no Adventist presence, the Health and Temperance Department is the entering wedge," says Albert Whiting.



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Reaching Southern Asia's Millions



By Gerald G. Christo
President

How does one describe the countries of Southern Asia? How can one forcefully present the challenge of these lands? How does one respond to the needs of her peoples?

India with her rich heritage of ancient civilization, yet faction-ridden with her diversity of culture, language, and religion. Nepal and Bhutan, landlocked monarchies whose rulers resist all attempts at change and suppress the influence of the gospel. The Islamic republic of the Maldives desiring to reap the benefits of democracy and free enterprise, yet afraid to do so in the event that these attempts may weaken the hold of Islam on her people.

Covering only about 2.5 percent of the total land area of the world, the territory of the Southern Asia Division is home to 15 percent of its population. In these lands were born some of the world's greatest religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. In addition to approximately 725 million adherents to these religions, there are 90 million Muslims and 25 million Christians. Interspersed between these main religious groups are hundreds of animistic tribes.

Another formidable challenge to the spread of the gospel is the multiplicity of languages. India recognizes 15 official languages, but the 1971 census listed 1,962 languages as mother tongues spoken. Here abject poverty vies with vulgar ostentation for attention. The power of sophisticated philosophy is neutralized by mass illiteracy and crude superstition.

Southern Asia—intriguing because of its ancient traditions, its industrial growth, its warmhearted people, and its spectacular pageantry, yet infuriating because of its indiscipline, the delays of transportation, lack of facilities, and myriads of other inconveniences. And yet, in spite of these glaring contradic-

tions, Southern Asia casts a spell not only upon those who live in its territories but also upon those who even casually come into contact with her peoples.

How does the church address these needs? Where does one find the wherewithal to feed the 40 percent of the population who are under the poverty level? Where are the facilities to provide education for 50 percent of the world's illiterates who will inhabit these countries by the turn of the century? Where does Southern Asia receive strength to free the unfortunates who are bonded to a life of slavery? Where does it find the capacity to provide adequate health services for those suffering from malnutrition and diseases of ignorance? Is the filling of these basic needs a part of the mission of the church? Christ's example in ministry would suggest that it is.

The Power of Influence

The leadership of the church recognizes that its resources of manpower and finances cannot, humanly speaking, fill these needs. But the leadership also recognizes that each of the 165,000 members scattered in 1,000 centers, made aware of his/her potential through the power of the Holy Spirit, could become an influence of change whose ripples could touch lives beyond their immediate neighborhoods.

The Church Ministries Department took the initiative in launching PROCEED—a program to rally organized churches for effective evangelism and discipleship. The department also developed the church growth index, a tool for the local church to use for self-analysis and planning. Church pastors and field leaders have used these programs for monitoring the progress of churches in which PROCEED has been introduced. The division has also voted to accept the

Comprehensive Stewardship Plan, a plan that enables the local church to bear most or all of the financial responsibility for its growth programs and community witness.

Lakhendro Basumasary, a fisherman in Assam, faithfully tithed his income. In 1980 political agitation forced him to leave his home and vocation to find work as a daily laborer earning Rs48 (US\$3) per week. He rented a room for Rs8 per week and rationalized that he was too poor to pay tithes.

One Sabbath a visiting pastor explained that God had given His people the tithing principle. Lakhendro was convinced, but confronted the pastor with these words: "How does God expect me to live on just Rs35.20 a week?" The pastor explained that God would make up the amount paid as tithes.

Several weeks later the pastor received a letter from Lakhendro in which he said, "My neighbors in the tea estate are very good to me. They bring me vegetables and grain, and even take care of my children so that my wife can work. Since I started paying tithes, I am better off." A few weeks later Lakhendro was promoted to supervisor, with a salary five times that which he was receiving.

Intensive stewardship promotion resulted in an increase of 45 percent in tithes received. The Mizo Section in the Northeast India Union is 96 percent self-supporting and looks forward to being organized into the division's first conference during the next quinquennium. Even though the division receives generous appropriations, the march toward self-support is steady.

The appointment of an associate to promote the home and family activities of the Church Ministries Department has strengthened its ministry to the homes within the division. World Marriage Day is celebrated each year. Family togetherness programs and premarriage seminars have helped many to find a new quality of life.

Highlights for youth ministry include union-wide youth congresses—the Northern Union in 1987 and the South India Union in 1988. After 25 years the third division-wide youth congress was held at Spicer Memorial College. One thousand young people gathered for this celebration.

Harvest 90

Baptisms during the quinquennium totaled close to 45,000, short of the Harvest 90 objective. But baptisms each year have remained about the same as the previous quinquennium even though the territory of the division has been reduced. A set of six introductory video programs were prepared by the Ministerial Association.

The division appointed a coordinator for Shepherdess International in 1986. There are now 14 local chapters. Shepherdess International has conducted seminars, and publishes a quarterly bulletin for ministers' wives.

Ingathering receipts have more than doubled during the quinquennium, reaching a total of Rs16 million.

"I didn't know what God was like until I came to the Adventist school," says Jaya Sudha, a student in Madras, India. To Jaya, God was a distant, impersonal, vengeful, angry being. All her life she was used to a tradition of appeasing the great idol that reigned in her temple. To her, worship was a way of preserving that tradition. But in the Adventist school that she had joined in the eighth grade, a special discovery awaited her. The Bible teacher talked of a God of love—so great a love that He gave everything for her. The concept that God is a personal being of love and care, so involved in life, shook Jaya out of her

tradition. Jesus became a friend. In a move that was brave and risky, Jaya stepped out of her old beliefs to accept Jesus as a personal Saviour.

Seventh-day Adventist schools in Southern Asia attempt to mediate God's love and care to thousands of children. This is just one of the hundreds of stories that illustrate the mission of the Adventist school in Southern Asia: to create an awareness of Christian character and concern; to impart quality education that develops academic excellence in children; and to bring the saving grace of God to thousands of children who pass through the Adventist classroom.

The division school system currently employs nearly 3,000 teachers, as compared to 2,493 in 1985. Of these, 23 percent are non-SDA, hired mostly on a contract basis to care for such subjects as language, science, and mathematics, for which qualified Adventist teachers are not available.

The church has entered into agreements with three distinguished medical schools in India to prepare medical and paramedical workers for its medical work. The relationship with Christian Medical College in Vellore is nearly 40 years old; during the five-year-old relationship with Kasturba Medical College in Manipal, 25 doctors have been trained; last year an agreement was

signed with Christian Medical College, in Ludhiana, northern India, which will facilitate the training of additional medical personnel.

The main higher educational training center in Southern Asia continues to be Spicer Memorial College. Its commitment is threefold: to develop academic excellence in content areas of human knowledge; to build effective leadership for the church; and to provide for research and development.

Ten Little Candles

Dotted very sparsely among the giant populations of the subcontinent are 10 little candles in Banepa (Nepal), Jalandhar, Shmila, Hapur, Ranchi, Surat, Pune, Nuzvid, Bangalore, and Ottappalam (all in India) to whose small and at times flickering flame have swarmed more than 800,000 patients in the past five years seeking relief and hope. Badly understaffed and ill-equipped, the flames have nevertheless burned bravely through 72,000 surgeries, 18,000 deliveries, 2 million lab tests, and 140,000 inpatient admissions.

The Scheer Memorial Hospital in Nepal has developed from a 36-bed rural hospital to a well-staffed, well-equipped 70-bed hospital (visited by various embassy personnel as well as dignitaries of the Himalayan kingdom), thanks to substantial help from EZE

(West Germany), CBM (West Germany), and ADRA (U.S.A.). An Australian heart team led by Doctor Gale brought succor to the doorsteps of many hopeless individuals and much benefit to the hospital via the equipment left behind.

From an outdoor clinic in Hapur has grown the 15-bed Mattison Memorial Hospital with a lab, a new X-ray machine, and an ECG machine (courtesy of Dr. Peter Jaggi, Switzerland).

The hospital in Ranchi has started a practical nurses' training program, a community health program, a water-supply

GC SNAPSHOT



Eleanor Scale from Australia (left), Joan Tonge of the Central California Conference (center), and Jacqueline Wosinski from Rwanda (right) were among the handful of women on the Nominating Committee.

system (courtesy of ADRA), and a free ophthalmic service (courtesy of CBM).

The Surat Hospital has changed dramatically from a "mission" hospital to a well-equipped urban unit with urology, orthopedics, neurology, cardiology, neurosurgery, and pediatric surgery, among the newly added departments. In 1989 the nursing school was judged the outstanding nursing school in the state of Gujarat.

A new hospital has been undertaken at Kohlvad (15 miles away), where the land was donated by Muslims, the physical plant built by Hindus, and the operation handed over to the Adventists to operate.

Pune Adventist Hospital has broken through on two new frontiers. It has established a rehabilitation center for drug and alcohol addicts and in 1990 inaugurated a Better Living center featuring a gymnasium, a demonstration kitchen and educational services in nutrition, counseling, preventive health, stop-smoking programs, and lifestyle changes.

A new wing is under construction in Ottappalam. An endoscope, an ultrasound unit, and upgraded lab equipment have been added.

The Bangalore hospital is about to change location to be housed in a new building that is now under construction in the heart of the city of Bangalore.

The temperance message appeals to the people of Southern Asia and is presented each year to thousands of people in cities and small towns, resulting in many influential persons opting to live the better life. The first division-wide temperance contest was held in November 1989 during the youth congress at SMC. The health message has proved to be an entering wedge for the gospel.

Paul Dulhunty's response to Her Majesty the queen of Nepal's challenge has changed the lives of the inmates of the Khokana Leprosy Commune. The tearing down of a 125-year-old four-story building was the culmination of many months of hard work by Paul and his associates. Donations by an Adventist businessman and government agencies have resulted in 30 individual homes for noninfected families. This witness of loving concern by the church, through ADRA, was brought to the notice of the king of Bhutan, who recently invited Paul to discuss plans for a similar rehabilitation program for Bhutan's shunned people.

ADRA has also assisted with disaster and relief projects in many parts of the division, and has recently drilled several wells in drought-prone areas.

Magazines for Mass Distribution

The Oriental Watchman Publishing House, with its new equipment and desktop publishing facilities, is poised to prepare tracts and message magazines for mass distribution. Manuscripts are being prepared to introduce the gospel to

non-Christians. A new series of six friendship tracts have been published in English, and plans are to translate these into the major languages of the division.

Sales by the 208 literature evangelists have doubled during the quinquennium. One of the division's greatest needs is to quadruple the number of literature evangelists whereby there would be at least one literature evangelist for every million people.

The influence and witness of the Communication Department has been enlarged as a result of the broadcasts over AWR-Asia. At present, broadcasts for Southern Asia are prepared in five languages, and it is expected that at least another two will be added in 1990. Close to 12,000 responses have been received from listeners all over Asia and from many parts of Africa. The Voice of Prophecy schools enrolled 1 million new students during the quinquennium, of which 85,000 graduated. Of these, 2,430 were baptized.

The concept of Global Strategy has been enthusiastically received. Southern Asia is grateful that she finds a special place in the Global Strategy plans of the world church. Each union and section has planned its training, nurturing, and witnessing program for the decade.

Thus the church continues to study, experiment, and pray that God's Spirit will lead in the advance of the gospel commission. The mission of Jesus is being fulfilled as "the blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor" (Matt. 11:5, NIV).

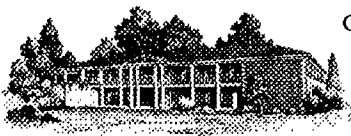
During this decade the church in Southern Asia will be celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the first Adventist missionary on India's shores. The challenge before the church today is greater than 100 years ago: nearly 1 billion people; more than 300 population segments of a million without an Adventist presence; non-Christian religions that are hostile to the gospel.

Humanly speaking, the task seems insurmountable, but with God there are no impossibilities. His firmament of chosen ones will include jewels from Nepal, Bhutan, the Maldives, India, and the myriads of isles of the seas.

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Our People on the March



By J. J. Nortey
President

The Africa-Indian Ocean Division (AID) has been quick to recognize that people are the catalysts for change. In order to benefit from the best the Adventist world can offer, the AID has maintained an international outlook in its worker force.

Leon and Alice Burkarth have served the church in Madagascar for 35 years. Leon, who came to Madagascar to teach industrial arts at Soamanandrany Adventist Secondary School, manufactures fine furniture for local markets and roof support lumber for churches from trees he planted soon after his arrival. Under those same trees, six days each week, Alice Burkarth feeds a vitamin meal to 100 poor children.

Recently in Yaoundé, Cameroon, I renewed acquaintance with veteran missionary Aime Cosendai and his dear wife, true pioneers who first came to Africa in 1937. He is alleged to have retired in 1982, but remains active. I salute all my overseas colleagues who labor in Africa with us.

Our officers come from no less than seven world divisions. But in Abidjan, as in every one of our seven unions and their local fields, the largest proportion of leaders originate from the continent.

This is not without problems, but interdivision budgets have made it possible for expansion into previously unentered areas.

In an effort to heal the devastating effects of clannish and sectional feelings—one of the woes of this region of the world—a number of workers have moved to other regions in their countries to work. The intermission and interunion policies of the division have helped to provide needed leadership, inspire and challenge local talent, and narrow the gap of suspicion. A more tightly knit division is emerging. Six workers from

the AID are engaged in interdivision service.

Our youth and other laypeople are united in the great task of evangelism—this includes our women. Be she the district auditing service director, Victoria Aryee, who heads an all-male team of experts; Birgitta Kazen, an ADRA director; Emilienne Rasamoely, a union education director; or Doris Jorgenson, a union assistant treasurer, a great job is being done and a new path laid for other women to follow.

Entering New Areas

Driven by a determination to take the gospel to every nation in the division during this quinquennium, new countries and areas previously unentered have been added.

“I know how hardy souls are wooed and won,” says an old hymn. Nowhere is it more true than in the lands of the sub-Sahara region, where the five-times-daily call to prayer sounds from the minaret. In other unions we have had giant baptisms associated with such names as Calvin Rock, Lynn Martell, Lyndon De Witt, and the Quiet Hour.

Just as great a thrill was the news from Niamey about a happening in the great River Niger on Sabbath, June 11, 1988. Niamey is the capital city of Niger. This republic was effectively entered for the first time by the church in 1986, when an ADRA office opened in Niamey. On that June day, Daniel Cordas, former president of the Sahel Union, led nine candidates into the river. In February 1989 the Seventh-day Adventist Church became an officially recognized organization. Each Sabbath about 40 people meet in the capital city.

Paulo Leitao, the new Sahel Union president, reports that the church in Benin has tripled its membership. And

where the Cape Verde islanders cling to their volcanic rocks, the church, despite frequent emigrations, has grown from 935 to 1,210. The Sahel Union has added 3,197 to the division total—the smallest union total in our division, but in Muslim lands, a glorious triumph!

Returned With Thanks

For many years Ile-Ife Adventist Hospital was one of the two best hospitals in Nigeria. Fourteen years ago it was taken over by the government. After 12 years this grand old hospital was returned to us and, though greatly dilapidated, is slowly gaining ground. Rejuvenation of its water supply through ADRA-Canada has been a major benefit.

A new name has appeared on our division roster of hospitals. The West African Union acquired the Cooper Clinic in the Liberian capital.

Siegfried Mayr, Indian Ocean Union president, worried that evangelism in his union was regarded as a pastoral exclusive. Until less than three years ago no layperson had ever presented a full evangelistic campaign on the big island of Madagascar. Mayr encouraged the laymen to preach and the pastors to let them. AID church ministries men Carlyle Bayne and Marenus De Paula ran courses for lay evangelists and campaigns to demonstrate techniques.

As a result, on an October Sabbath in 1988, more than 1,000 people joined the church, which had never happened before. In the capital, Tananarive, the only place large enough to accommodate all the new candidates was the military swimming pool near the city center. Drawn by the unusual spectacle, 8,000 city dwellers witnessed the service. They were joined by a TV camera team, and the whole nation became aware of Bible baptism. The Indian Ocean Union contributed 142,274 to the division baptismal total.

During the quinquennium, a greatly expanded work has been done among two groups—the Pygmies and the Muslims. Now we have congregations of Pygmy Seventh-day Adventists in several locations in Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi, Cameroon, and the Central African Republic. Division field secretary N. Ruhaya monitors the work among the Pygmies in addition to coordinating re-

tire activities. Recently the Burundi minister of social affairs praised the church's efforts in reaching the Pygmies and requested an increased effort to help them improve their way of life.

With the help of AWR-Africa and Adventist programs on national radio, the Advent message is penetrating the stronghold of Islam in the Sahel Union. Daniel Grisier reports that all West African countries within the target area

record very good reception. Listener feedback is also received from such countries as Germany, France, Italy, Holland, and Japan, as well as Asia, North America, and the Soviet Union. Our office in Abidjan receives an average of 101 letters a month from Africa and 12 from outside Africa.

In addition to the daily one-hour French language programs broadcast to central and western Africa from Africa

No. 1, a commercial station in Gabon, we now have an hour per week English language program from the same station. Programs in local languages give the message on several nation stations. Hundreds of thousands of listeners are studying the message through correspondence courses.

In Liberia the Adventist *Breath of Life* is the most popular religious TV program. Its main sponsor, Mildred Taylor, is a member of Monrovia's Better Living church, which was the inaugurator of the division's first Revelation Seminar.

Stewardship in Difficult Times

In practically every one of our countries, drought, crop failure, and unstable political systems cause ever-widening economic problems that have given rise to unemployment, inflation, hard currency shortages, and devaluation.

In spite of the fact that every one of the 18 currencies suffered devaluation resulting in massive exchange losses, division treasurer P. N. Onwere reports

that our members have continued to show noteworthy faithfulness in returning tithes and offerings.

Most countries have greatly improved their percentage of self-support. Two more fields attained conference status during the quinquennium: the South Ghana Conference in 1987 and the West Nigeria Conference in 1989, bringing to five the number of local conferences in the division.

GC SNAPSHOT



Isaac Owuso (left) and Joseph K. Donkor attended the GC session as delegates from the North Ghana Mission in the Africa-Indian Ocean Division.

Total tithes for the quinquennium amounted to \$18,670,403.

Between 1980 and 1986 our division operated from rented quarters, but we now have a gracious building in a quiet suburb of Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, which houses not only our international staff but also the studios of Adventist World Radio Africa and the offices of the Africa Literature Ministry Coordinating Board.

Phenomenal Growth

From its earliest days, AID has been among the fastest-growing world divisions. Ted N. C. Wilson, our division secretary, lists the baptismal figures for the quinquennium as going from 67,019 in 1985 to 90,003 in 1989—an increase of 75 percent.

Our membership has increased by 374,000, elevating our present membership to well over 800,000.

The Rwanda Union, in one of Africa's smallest countries, has an Adventist

membership of 205,316, making our church the country's second-largest denomination. Union president Robert Peck reports an increase of 108 new churches and a baptismal total of 99,786. One young man gave Bible studies and held some evangelistic series that resulted in 620 baptisms. Literature evangelist Inias Yokoba has won 843 souls in the past six years. Rwanda farmer Onesphol Ndtuye is well on the way to his first 1,000 souls, with more than 800 won to Christ.

Zaire Union's Tshuka Kabongo, a university professor of the Kasai region, has also won more than 800. Zaire leads the division in accessions, with union president N. Mwema reporting 115,405 baptized during the quinquennium.

Despite their fear of water, during the quinquennium 150 Pygmies have been baptized in Zaire, and 400 are attending Sabbath services in 29 forest locations. Forty laypersons have been trained for evangelism among the Pygmies.

Caleb Adeogun presides over the Nigerian Union, which has had thrilling results from visiting evangelists. U.S. evangelist Jos Jones baptized 313 new converts in—where else—Jos, northern Nigeria! Roy Patterson baptized 205 in Abu, eastern Nigeria. Veteran health evangelist Dr. Sherman Nage teamed with Amazing Facts' Jack Dubosque to reap 700 new members in Lagos. The Nigerian Union has added 32,551 new members during the quinquennium.

Solid Gains in Education

In education, plans include beginning postgraduate programs at Adventist University of Central Africa (M.A. in religion, M.B.A.) and at Adventist Seminary of West Africa (M.A. in religion), and upgrading Valley View College to a senior college as facilities become available.

Technical and vocational education has continued to receive attention. Enrollment has about doubled in the three institutions at Lukanga (Zaire), Techiman (Ghana) and Bazega (Burkina Faso).

A. A. Alalade, president of Adventist Seminary of West Africa, reports that after 30 years the institution now has a church complex that will enhance the training of ministers. Rector Elton Wallace indicates that with the investment of

5 million, the halfway mark in the development of the Adventist University of Central Africa has been reached. Student enrollment, which was 63 at the start of the five-year period, has swelled to 317 university students coming from 16 African countries. With three graduating classes having sent 130 qualified workers into the field, we thank God that our large investment of money and manpower is beginning to pay rich dividends.

Central Africa Union is proud of its College Adventiste de Yaounde, whose magnificent facilities were declared open after a dedicatory prayer by Neal C. Wilson in March of this year. Union president Roland Joachim believes that this school project, which attracted the attention of the population and even the head of state, contributed to helping the Central African Union become the first to achieve its Harvest 90 baptismal goal.

Like most of his division departmental colleagues, Phenias Bahimba has run, in addition to his Education Department responsibilities, evangelistic campaigns in a variety of locations during the quinquennium. He rejoices in the 2,380 students baptized in the division's schools and colleges.

AID publishing director Dale Thomas, who has, with massive overseas support, established eight Literature Ministry Seminaries (LMS), reports gains in literature sales for the first year of LMS ranging between 19 and 187 percent. Baptisms from literature evangelist contacts in the same year were 1,463, more than double the average for the previous years of the period. These contacts resulted in 12,378 baptisms in five years. E. C. Tetteh, who took over the leadership of the division publishing house in Accra, Ghana, has brought the assurance of continuity in the supply of books for the publishing ministry.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) programs are bringing church workers into contact with people who need the gospel as well as pure water and dry-season vegetables. ADRA is now established in 20 division countries, 12 more than in 1985. This past March, ADRA-Guinea was selected to administer international aid to the many Liberian refugees in that country. ADRA-Guinea also has a thriving dry-season vegetable project under way and another on the

former penal settlement of Fokuba.

Bazega in Burkina Faso is a green oasis in an arid landscape. Thirteen years ago the church established a 125-acre (50-hectare) Horticultural Training School, which enjoys a country-wide reputation. It became the subject of an award from the international organization Bank Aid for its exemplary role in famine prevention.

In Togo for the past five months Jim Rankin has been raising eyebrows as well as succulent vegetables. Observers are amazed at what he has produced from an inhospitable patch of ground near Lomé, the capital. David Syme, who administers AID's massive ADRA program, tells me that our ADRA is ministering to 65 percent of Black Africa and that assistance during the period exceeded \$10 million.


Implications of Harvest 90

The division seems to be marching inexorably toward its first million members. Can you imagine the impact of so many new converts upon our denominational infrastructure?

Few of our churches are adequate, and most are swamped by the influx of members. Many groups are homeless, meeting under trees in the forest. Imagine the effect anywhere in the world when a local church suddenly doubles its membership but the new members do not have

the means to build a church twice as big.

Division ministerial secretary and Harvest 90 coordinator Walton Whaley reports that the membership increase affects our supply of pastors to instruct the flock. If we would begin to train enough pastors, the seminary and qualified instructors do not currently exist to do the job. I must point out the dangers in having a high percentage of the membership not fully instructed in Bible truth. The underlying question of the financial resources required to strengthen the church and motivate its membership will not go away.

On October 24, 1987, the new president of the third republic in Burundi, Pierre Buyoya, invited Burundi Mission president Silas Senkomo to join him on the podium while he proclaimed that the Seventh-day Adventist Church was free to worship once again. For four long, dark years pastors had been chased from their home, church doors locked, funds frozen, and office buildings confiscated. All has been restored, and the church itself is rejuvenated: not the buildings—many are in ruins—but the people. The church set its Harvest 90 goal at 20,000, double the 1984 membership, even though half of the time was already past. When public worship ceased in Burundi, Adventists had entered only six of the country's 15 provinces. Now churches flourish in every province. 

Bold Leadership for Today

Church Leadership: A Call to Virtue

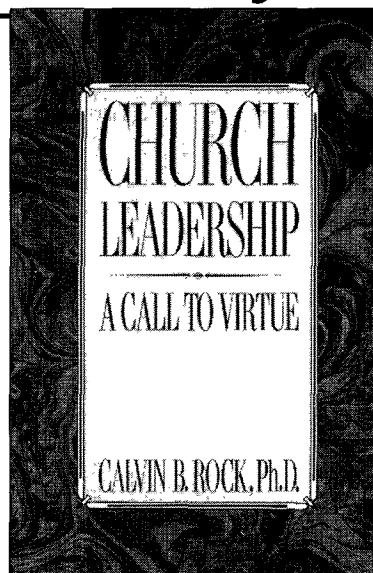
by Calvin B. Rock, Ph.D.

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Church Ministries Department



By **George Knowles**
Director

In 1986 Felix Aduviri, a pastor in Bolivia with 30 churches and companies in his district, attended an eight-day Lay Evangelists' Training Seminar in Chile conducted by a member of our General Conference Department of Church Ministries staff and his division counterpart. When Pastor Aduviri returned to his district, he called together the officers of all his congregations and conducted a similar seminar for them. They returned to their towns and villages and did the same for their members. Then all went to work putting into practice what they had learned. The result: 1,029 baptisms in a 12-month period!

When Department of Church Ministries personnel travel to the world divisions, they are fulfilling the commission of the Master to make disciples. They are doing what Paul told Timothy to do—teach faithful men and women who will teach others to teach others until the instruction reaches the individual church member (see 2 Tim. 2:2). This is how disciples are made. And under the Holy Spirit's power, this is how the work will be finished.

The Department of Church Ministries was formed as the result of an action voted at the 1985 General Conference session. It replaces the Sabbath School, Lay Activities, Youth, and Stewardship and Development departments, and the Home and Family Service.

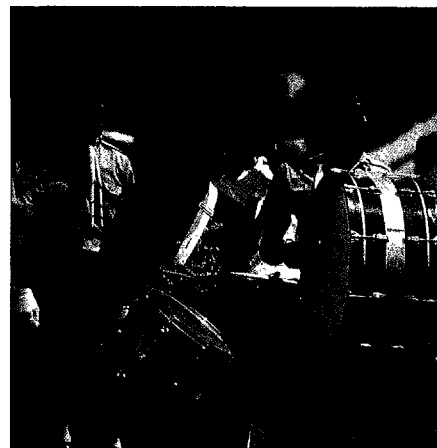
Dr. Delmer Holbrook was elected to lead the new department. Upon his retirement in June 1988, George Knowles was elected to assume the directorship. Church Ministries is responsible for those activities that impact upon the local church members in the congregation from week to week.

Learning to coordinate the various functions within Church Ministries has encouraged a spirit of reaching out to other departments of the church in joint ventures. Church Ministries cooperates with the Department of Education in youth involvement in community service and with the Publishing Department in the Quinquennium of Missionary Literature, to mention two examples. The departments of the church are all inter-related and interdependent, and the work of the church is strengthened

when we coordinate our efforts.

Martha led the primary Sabbath school division a long time before she married. She and her husband started a neighborhood Bible club. With the addition of two baby girls to the family, a move to cradle roll leadership seemed natural. The years have passed quickly. Martha's oldest girl is 8 and has just made her decision for baptism. Martha is making disciples in a significant way—discipling her own children. Indeed, the family is God's primary center for disciple making.

Martha is church ministries personified. As we review her experience, can we say this is outreach, this is family life, this is Sabbath school, this is steward-



This drum corps performed at the Columbia Union Friendship Pathfinder Camporee held in Pennsylvania, August 7-12, 1989.

ship, this is youth? Perhaps we could dissect and segmentize, but it's natural to see it all together as church ministries.

Ingathering

A few sentences from a letter written by the 88-year-old widow of a conference president reveal the spirit of making disciples in relation to Ingathering. "After my husband died, I asked one of our church members to drive me to my business contacts. As the years passed and it became harder for me to get out of the car, I asked her to take my place. Her initial reaction was 'I could never do that!' But she did, and is still doing it."

"I kept back six businesses to contact by mail. Each year I send the Ingathering literature, and I get \$1,000 every fall."

Multiplied stories could be told of Ingathering exploits worldwide involving the entire spectrum of our membership from children to retirees. Not only the



A Sabbath school class meets in the Plojesti church in Romania, where for the first time in recent years members are allowed to divide into small groups for lesson study.

accomplishments of individual members, but the achievements of world divisions deserve special mention. For example, the consistently strong ingathering emphasis in the Trans-European Division, and the fact that positive leadership in the South Pacific Division managed to reverse a declining trend in ingathering in that division.

During this quinquennium, ingathering funds have totaled \$66,930,100. In territories annually covered by the same solicitor, many friends of the church have their donation set aside, waiting for the call of the visitor. The future of ingathering depends upon the discipling principle—that those who are presently active in this form of outreach train others who will eventually take their place.

Statistical Statistics

This report has a fourfold objective: (1) to give factual and useful information, (2) to stimulate ideas, (3) to inspire, and (4) to do all this to the glory of God. First, consider the following information based on available reports. One hundred years ago the church had 33,937 Sabbath school members, compared with 1,506,485 today. A new class member is added every 69 seconds!

The church today has 64,449 Sabbath schools, with a new one added every four hours. Branch Sabbath schools number 52,731, and a new one is started every 18 hours. During the past five years, 728,910 children from non-Adventist families have attended our Vacation Bible Schools. Sabbath school offerings for the five-year period total \$170,934,460.

From a small beginning in 1949, Pathfinders has grown to 40,000 clubs and 50,000 members on its fortieth anniversary. Pathfinder classes—including friend, Companion, Explorer, Voyager, and Guide—help young people develop a balanced Christian experience. They learn about nature, knots, and handicrafts, how to use a compass, first aid, and survival. They camp out and learn to experience the outdoors.

Pathfinders learn about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs, and the benefits of a fitness program. They come to appreciate their church heritage, but above all, they are led to find and share Christ as their personal Saviour.

The home Bible circles of the South German Union have attracted more than 1,000 nonmembers to study God's Word. Homes of Hope in the Oregon Conference and home Bible fellowships worldwide are taking advantage of the present interest in small group activities in a home atmosphere.

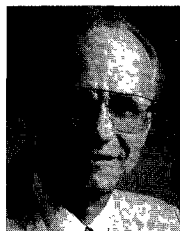
In the Bulgarian Union, Evangelistic Days attract many to our churches for special evening services during the festive seasons of Christmas and Easter.

Similarly, in the South American and Inter-American divisions Holy Week evangelism reaches people at a time of high receptivity.

From one division alone—the South American—the five-year report shows 45,885,151 pieces of literature distributed, 15,839,025 Bible studies given, and 157,727 evangelistic meetings held by laypersons.

Church Ministries has been deeply involved in Harvest 90—both in terms of

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Church Ministries Department is responsible for coordinating materials used in Sabbath schools around the world at all levels—from cradle roll to adult.

outreach and nurture. The majority of those baptized during Harvest 90 are trophies of lay workers. This great influx of new believers calls for family life ministries to guide new members in adopting the Adventist lifestyle and strengthening their families.

With our dramatic increases in membership, there must also come a deepening sense of stewardship commitment and individual member responsibility. The expertise of our stewardship and development specialists assists fields in long-range strategic planning as they move toward greater financial self-sufficiency.

Music ministries is a component of this department inasmuch as music is an integral part of the life and work of the church. The late C. L. Brooks played a part in the development of three new songbooks since 1985: *Sing for Joy*, for primaries; *He Is Our Song*, for youth; and *Let There Be Praise*, for evangelism. Elder Brooks also launched the Hymn of the Month project to serve as an introduction to the new *Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal*.

Publications

Church Ministries production manager Laurell Peterson is responsible for coordinating the production of 30 publications used in Sabbath schools around the world, including lessons, teaching aids, and program helps for each of eight age levels from cradle roll to adult. The adult quarterly alone is translated into 115 languages.

Typical of the sentiments of appreciation for our Sabbath school quarterlies are these words in a letter from a pro-

fessor in one of our colleges: "As I have studied [the Sabbath School quarterly] day by day, I have found my daily needs supplied."

Church members in Ghana gather at 5:00 a.m. each weekday to study their lesson together. In Haiti our members meet in their homes at sunrise to study the Sabbath school lesson. They invite their neighbors to join them, and baptisms regularly result from this custom.

In many parts of the world the Sabbath school quarterly doubles as missionary literature. Twelve persons were baptized in Uganda as a direct result of distributing quarterlies yellow with age. A church in North America advertised their Sabbath school in the local newspaper, billing it as a Saturday morning class on the book of Leviticus, and at least one convert resulted.

In addition to publications for Sabbath school, the Department of Church Ministries produces materials in its seven focus areas as needs become evident. Productions during this quinquennium include the Christian Life Management Series, with separate volumes for beginners, elementary age, and teens to teach the stewardship of time, talent, treasure, and the body temple. Certitudes, an audiovisual Bible study series in the French language, has been completed.

Video productions of the new department during the past five years include: a new video-based parent education resource entitled *Growing Kids*, featuring well-known Adventist educator and child psychologist Dr. Ruth Murdoch; 18 hours of the cream of an eight-day lay

evangelists' training seminar featuring Samuel Monnier; and the Sabbath school lesson on video.

Now a regular quarterly production of the Sabbath school lessons on video are available in Adventist Book Centers and are used, among other ways, for family worships, teachers' meetings, starters for class discussion, and as service to shut-ins and isolated members.

Personnel

Early in the quinquennium Leo Ranzolin accepted a call to serve in the General Conference Secretariat. To fill the vacancy created, Malcolm Allen was called from the Trans-Tasman Union of the South Pacific Division. When Richard E. Barron accepted the presidency of the Southwest Region conference, Israel Leito was called to the General Conference from the Inter-American Division. Virginia L. Smith, a doctoral candidate at Michigan State University with a rich background of service in Africa and the Far East, was elected to head children's ministries when Helen Craig retired.

Death claimed two of our staff members. First, Sheila Matthews, a dedicated secretary who worked with Adventist Youth Service, and then on December 23, 1989, C. L. Brooks—beloved around the world as "the sweet singer of modern Israel"—who served as associate director of Sabbath school teacher training and church music.

Department of Church Ministries staff at the General Conference includes associate directors Malcolm Allen, junior youth ministries; Maurice T. Bascom, Ph.D., outreach and Community Services; Gilbert J. Bertochini, Sabbath school ministries for juniors, earliteens, and youth, plus statistics and reporting; Donald E. Crane, stewardship and development; Karen Flowers, family life plus women's ministries; Ron Flowers, family life and travel coordinator; Robert B. Grady, adult Sabbath school ministries, branch Sabbath schools, and child preachers; Israel Leito, senior youth campus and singles ministries; Samuel F. Monnier, outreach and Bible evangelism; Paul G. Smith, stewardship and development; Virginia L. Smith, children's ministries; and Mike Stevenson, Adventist Youth Service.

Editors and other special assignments include: Graham Bingham, editor, *Co-*

giate Quarterly and Church Ministries Worker; Lyndelle Chiomenti, associate editor, adult Sabbath school lesson quarterly (previously editor, Sabbath school quarterlies for children, youth, and easy English); Robert L. Cunningham, copy editor; Donna Goh, desktop publishing; Erwin Gane, Ph.D., editor, adult Sabbath school quarterly and senior editor; Patricia A. Habada, Ph.D., curriculum specialist (on temporary assignment); Charlotte Ishkanian, assistant editor, adult Sabbath school quarterly; Janet Kangas, Ph.D., editor, adult and junior mission quarterlies; James Joiner, treasurer, historian, and editor; and Laurel Peterson, production manager. A competent group of secretaries, coordinated by administrative secretary Dolly Weber, serve the needs of the department. The Department of Church Ministries provides tools and services for the laity of the Adventist movement who serve for the most part as volunteers. The numbers of youth volunteering for service follows the church growth curve. They perform volunteer service in the local church alongside older members. They partici-

pate in church building projects and Adventist Youth Service, formerly known as the student missionary program. The Far Eastern Division alone staffs 34 English language schools with AYS volunteers who teach 11,000 students, includ-




Church Ministries coordinates the Pathfinder program, which involves youth like Mauro Regil. Regil, an active Pathfinder leader, is a Master Guide who won 43 souls to Christ in 1988 and 1989.

ing corporate executives and government leaders. Other AYS volunteers work on ADRA projects.

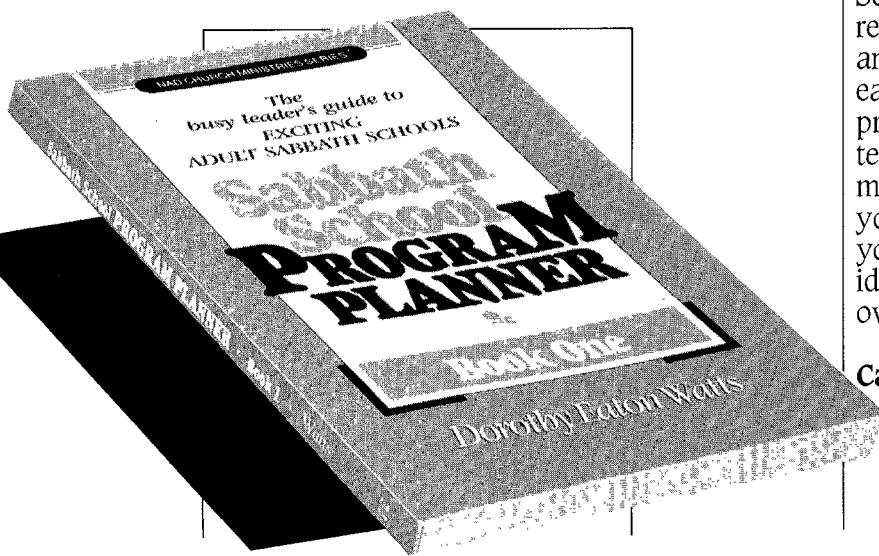
Volunteerism isn't limited to youth. Retirees Dr. Harold and Nelma Drake, of Boise, Idaho, have donated their time and paid their expenses to accompany Karen and Ron Flowers and assist them in their presentations in seven divisions. Dr. and Mrs. Delmer Holbrook, following their retirement, are assisting the work of family ministries in the Euro-Africa Division.

Ethel Randall, who has worked as a secretary at the General Conference for 27 years, donated a year of full-time service. Former truck driver Art Swaningson and his wife, Margo, discovered their gift of evangelism through a lay evangelists' training seminar. They began conducting Revelation seminars as volunteers and had such success that they have now served two conferences and have been blessed with some 250 baptisms. They became disciples, and now they are making disciples of others.

This is the type of chain reaction that is encouraged and facilitated by the Department of Church Ministries. 

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Report presented at the
General Conference session.

Ministerial Association



By **Floyd Bresee**
Secretary

At the beginning of the quinquennium, the Ministerial Association developed the following mission statement:

“The General Conference Ministerial Association, which includes the division ministerial secretaries, is to serve the global church through ministry to its ministers and their spouses. It gives priority to the following items and provides resources for their implementation.

“**Personal Growth:** Leading ministers and their families to a deeper, more vibrant relationship with the Lord; motivating them to an exemplary lifestyle; improving pastoral self-worth.

“**Evangelism and Pastoral Care:** Facilitating successful soul winning and fostering nurture and training; persuasively communicating the Seventh-day Adventist message to non-Adventist ministers.

“**Professional Development:** Promoting professional growth; strengthening the minister’s faith in times of conflict and doctrinal challenge.

“**Minister’s Representative:** Upholding the role of the field ministerial secretary as the minister’s minister, representative, and friend; representing ministers’ interests at the General Conference; enhancing the image of the pastoral ministry in the view of the church; attracting qualified persons to the ministry.

“The ultimate goal of our association is to promote the worldwide spread of the gospel in the context of the three angels’ messages by reviving and strengthening the ministry.”

Project 27

The association set nine objectives to be achieved by the seven subsections of the association. However, a new goal developed that resulted in the publishing

of *Seventh-day Adventists Believe . . .*, one of the most significant accomplishments of the association to date. This volume of 392 pages expands and expounds upon the 27 fundamental doctrines that make up Adventist belief. More than 450,000 copies have been distributed. Nearly 200,000 of this number were used in phase 1—sending a copy to non-Adventist ministers receiving *Ministry*. The second phase involves sending a copy to every major library in the world. The third phase consists of mailing a copy to the editorial office of every major newspaper and media headquarters in the world.

Private individuals contributed \$600,000 toward the cost of \$850,000, with the General Conference and individual divisions making up the balance.

Harvest 90

Harvest 90, with one of its goals the baptizing of 2 million people, succeeded the One Thousand Days of Reaping. The world church reached the baptismal goal in September 1989, nine months ahead of schedule. Another 350,000 persons are expected to join the Adventist Church by the beginning of the General Conference session in July 1990.

Carlos E. Aeschlimann gave enthusiastic direction to this great evangelistic emphasis. Here are the numbers of persons joining the church each year: 1985—406,613; 1986—430,257; 1987—464,500; 1988—499,050; and 1989—522,841 (estimated figure).

During Harvest 90, church leaders tried new methods, such as the gigantic national evangelistic campaigns in Brazil (45,000 baptisms) and the Philippines (40,000). The national campaign in Spain was the first of its kind in Europe. Papua New Guinea celebrated a mass baptism of 4,450 in one day.

United metropolitan campaigns such as the one in New York in 1986 resulted in 1,450 baptisms—a 40 percent increase over the previous year; and the Mega-Mexico '89 campaign produced 3,260 baptisms—a 260 percent increase over the year before—and 15 new churches.

Harvest 90 kept the focus on the Great Commission to evangelize the world. Administrators and local field departmental leaders have placed evangelism as a priority on their agendas. The churches have served as centers of evangelism, and thousands of pastors have been transformed into able evangelists. Tens of thousands of laypeople have instructed hundreds of thousands of baptismal candidates. The church has united in the common objective of preparing the world for Christ’s second coming.

Ministry Magazine

Ministry editors yearned for more articles by pastors. They set a goal of 30 percent of articles to be written by practicing pastors and their spouses. By the end of 1990 they will have achieved 30 percent.

However, the editors have now set an even more ambitious goal of 60 percent of all articles to be contributed by pastors and their spouses.

To accomplish this goal, the editors are initiating a talent search for pastoral writers. They will model the search on the just-concluded campaign to find authors outside North America. This campaign produced almost 160 manuscripts from 48 countries and resulted in 40 acceptances from 21 countries.

Ministry, a monthly magazine, recently reduced the cost of its subscriptions to the Third World. The new price of \$8 (including postage) is a 67 percent reduction from the rate for last year.

The following persons edited *Ministry* this past quinquennium: J. Robert Spangler, editor; J. David Newman, executive editor; David C. Jarnes, assistant editor; Kenneth R. Wade, assistant editor. Just before the end of the quinquennium, J. Robert Spangler retired after 20 years as *Ministry* editor. J. David Newman was appointed to succeed him as editor, and David Jarnes and Kenneth Wade were promoted to associate editor positions.

PREACH

Closely associated with *Ministry* is the Program for Reaching Every Active Clergy Home (PREACH). The General Conference, in cooperation with most of the divisions, pays for the sending of bimonthly copies of *Ministry* to ministers of other faiths. Almost 50,000 non-Adventist ministers receive this complimentary subscription in North America, and nearly 20,000 receive it in other divisions.

Each year the church conducts seminars for these non-Adventist readers of *Ministry*. During the past year inaugural PREACH seminars were conducted in the cities of Pretoria and Johannesburg, South Africa; Norwich and Manchester, England; Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth, Australia; Auckland, New Zealand; Bangkok, Thailand; Kuching, Malaysia; and Padang, Indonesia.

PREACH director Rex D. Edwards reports that on average, one non-SDA pastor has been baptized per month since the program began. Ellen White's forecast that "many ministers . . . will be called out from these churches and will gladly receive the truth" (*Early Writings*, p. 261) is already finding fulfillment.

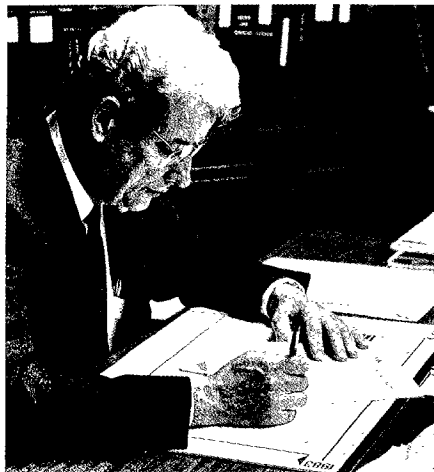
Continuing Education for Ministry

The increasing complexity of the world requires a better educated minister. He or she is expected to be an effective leader, both as a theologian and practitioner of ministry. Since learning and growing are lifelong endeavors, the minister's personal and professional growth must continue after the formal training is completed. During the past quinquennium each of the 10 world divisions has established a Center of Continuing Education for Ministers, with a set of guidelines adapted from the "World Guidelines for the Continuing Education of SDA Ministers" produced by the General Conference Ministerial Association.

The Ministerial Association acts as coordinator in helping and encouraging each division to offer professional growth opportunities for its ministers, enabling them to meet the required 20 clock hours of continuing education each year. It also processes group events, develops self-study courses, and produces video programs. Eighteen self-study

courses are offered in evangelism, counseling, preaching and worship, and theology, and consist of study guides, textbooks, and audiocassettes. The seven video programs are designed for group discussion and include a textbook, videocassette, and facilitator's guide.

Rex Edwards, continuing education director, reports the establishing of two yearly Holy Land study tours. These offer continuing credit in conjunction with



J. Robert Spangler retired after 24 years as *Ministry* editor.

the Biblical Research Institute and the Jerusalem Center.

Ministry Tape-of-the-Month

This club provides monthly resources for the continuing education and professional growth of Adventist pastors and lay leaders. Materials include selected sermons, lectures, and interviews, as well as recordings of important presentations from Annual Councils and Bible conferences. The tape club also makes available in narrated form the Week of Prayer readings for both children and adults.

Club director J. Robert Spangler, assisted by Pastor Lyndon McDowell, reports that a loyal group of 425 subscribers keeps the club's finances above water level.

Shepherdess International

In 1984 Marie Spangler and Ellen Bresee launched Shepherdess International. They worked together until Marie retired in 1987. In 1988 the General Conference officers voted to make Shepherdess International a regular entity within the Ministerial Association. They asked Ellen Bresee to become coordinator and

Sally Streib to become assistant coordinator.

In 1987 Shepherdess International, with help from Andrews University, conducted a felt-needs survey to discover the feelings, attitudes, and needs of ministers' wives around the world. Most of the women supported their husbands and their churches. However, the survey indicated several areas in which the spouses need help and greater encouragement.


Shepherdess International fosters the development of Shepherdess organizations in conferences and missions around the world, prepares a quarterly resource bulletin as an aid for local Shepherdess groups, produces home-based continuing education courses, solicits materials of interest to the minister's wife for *Ministry* magazine, and promotes women's meetings at Annual Council and General Conference sessions.

Ministerial Supply Center

The Ministerial Supply Center is a new area within the Ministerial Association that equips ministers with reasonably priced soul-winning tools.

Don Gray, recently retired ministerial secretary of the Michigan Conference, and his wife, Marjorie, donated to the Ministerial Association their library of 100,000 slides and ownership rights of the Good News for Today Bible study series. This series of 29 audiovisual programs may be purchased in video, slide, or filmstrip format. It is also available in Spanish, Chinese, French, Indonesian, Yugoslavian, and four Philippine dialects.

The Ministerial Supply Center carries slide sets on Creation and the Flood. It stocks baptismal and ordination certificates, and various manuals for ministers. The Ministerial Supply Center also supplies inexpensive battery-operated slide/filmstrip projectors. The newest catalog item is a computer software package for church membership directories.

The Ministerial Association holds a unique spot in the church. Unlike a department, it does not focus on a particular aspect of ministry. It crosses all departmental lines as it seeks to equip the minister with both spiritual and physical resources so that he or she might be an effective soul winner for God. 

Report presented at the General Conference session.

Adventist World Purchasing and Services



By John M. Stephenson
Director

Since 1985 the department has grown from a purchasing agency to include the former Central Department Services (which supplied departmental materials to the conferences and institutions in North America and to the world divisions), the General Conference mail service, and office supplies (caring for the stationery needs of the General Conference complex). As one director heads this enlarged department, two budgets have been saved, thus assisting in the General Conference plan to conserve funds where possible. These various functions are now grouped together on the lower level of the new General Conference office building.

The Purchasing Department continues to emphasize the export area so that it can meet the needs of our missionary workers for equipment and material needs of those overseas divisions and institutions requiring these items from North America. These needs are many and varied.

For overseas use, Adventist World Purchasing and Services (AWPS) has purchased hospital beds, forklifts, portable above-ground pools for use as baptistries, hip waders, oximeters, swamp coolers, motorcycles, phone systems, 12-passenger diesel vans, BMX bikes, satellite receivers, controlled drugs (through the State Department), domestic appliances of every type, office equipment, parts for various types of equipment, etc. During 1989, AWPS served 179 missionaries and their families, and made purchases on behalf of every overseas division and attached field, as well as dealing directly with 16 major overseas institutions. Our major overseas customers are the Africa-Indian Ocean and the Eastern Africa divisions. However, considerable business is conducted also with the Far Eastern, South American, South Pacific, and Inter-

American divisions. Export sales for the five years 1985-1990 totaled \$5,094,937, compared to \$3,280,139 for the period 1980-1985.

On the domestic scene the Purchasing Department continues to provide a service for the conferences and institutions in North America. We served 40 local and union conferences, 88 churches, 24 elementary schools, 12 academies, and 30 other institutions, as well as many denominational workers. Sales in North America for the five years 1985-1990 totaled \$3,804,170. We continue to provide access to some 30 national contracts; details and updates of these are mailed out quarterly to denominational organizations. We also work with the Purchasing Department of the Adventist Health System; as a result, some of their national contracts are available for non-health-care organizations to use and vice versa. National contract sales directly between the vendor and the denominational organization exceeded \$6 million for 1989.

Taking into account the direct sales through AWPS and national contracts, the savings to the denomination have

been considerable and more than offset the operating costs of the department. We encourage the denominational organizations in North America to use the national contracts wherever possible and to contact AWPS to compare prices when planning the purchase of computers as well as office equipment and supplies.

Departmental materials for the various sections of the Church Ministries, Communication, Education, the Ministerial Association (including the Ministerial Supply Center and Ministerial Continuing Education), Publishing, Trust Services, the White Estate, and other departments are stocked in the AWPS warehouse. Auditing manuals, biblical research publications, GC policy books and the *SDA Yearbook* are also part of our inventory. For the five years 1985-1990 we handled 37,997 orders for departmental materials and shipped 85,261 packages weighing 555 tons. Total value of billings to customers was \$6,669,414. This is in addition to the total sales of the Purchasing Department mentioned earlier, which was \$8,899,107 (export and domestic combined). Compared with the quinquennium 1980-1985, when we shipped 78,433 packages of departmental materials weighing 477 tons, with a dollar value of \$5,138,332, we have experienced a growing demand for services.

Since 1920, in one form or another, AWPS has served the denomination. Besides making it possible to save financially in the purchasing area, it also continues to be a source for equipment and materials not readily available in many overseas areas.

GC SNAPSHOT



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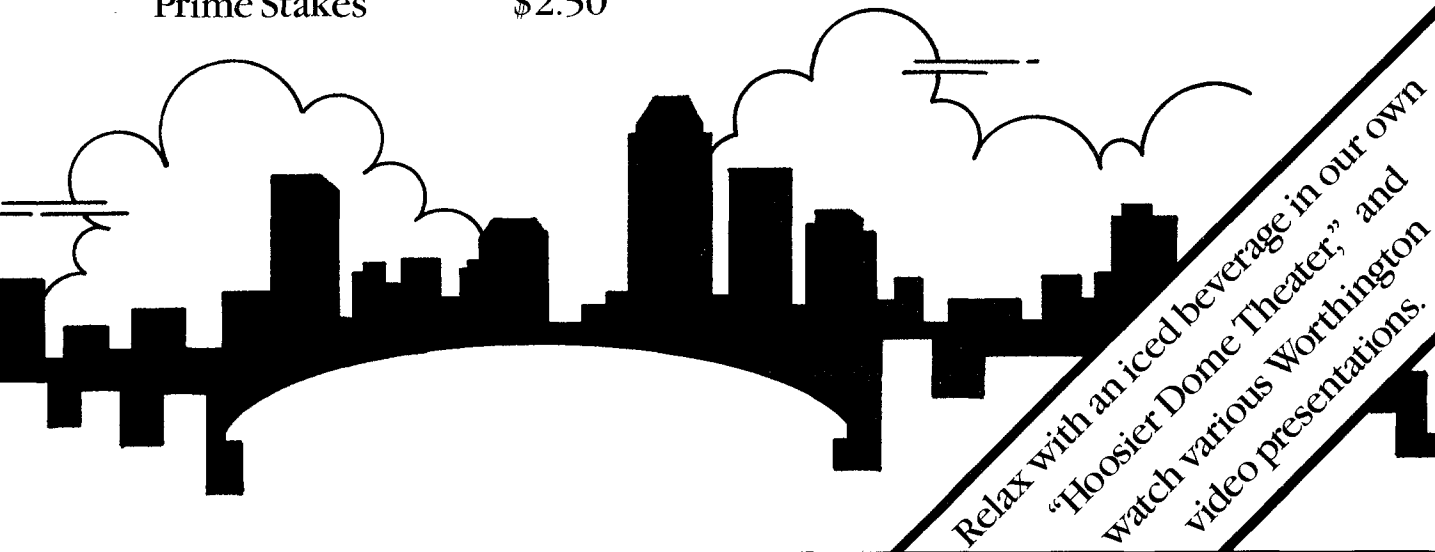
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