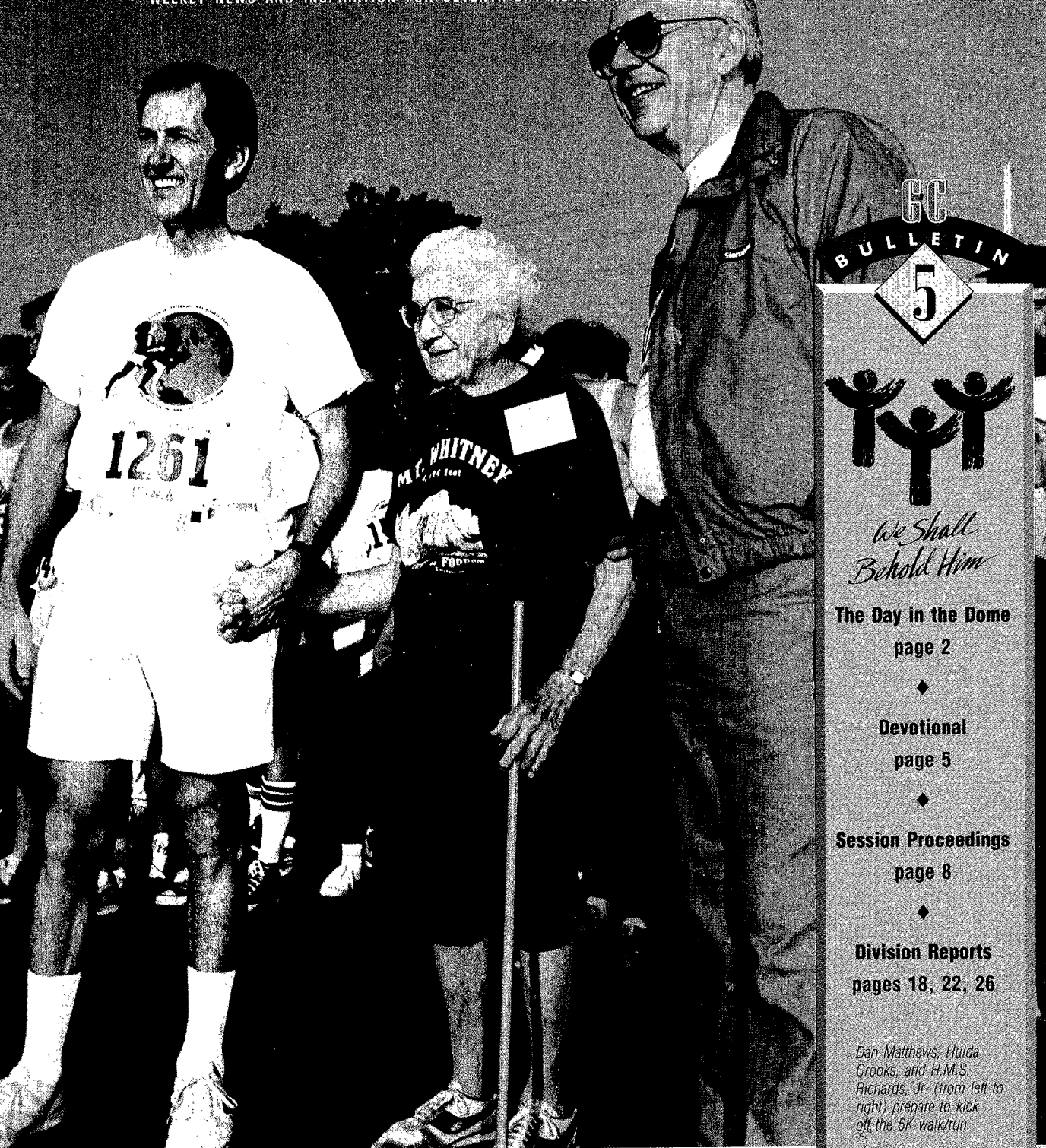


ADVENTIST REVIEW

WEEKLY NEWS AND INSPIRATION FOR SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

JULY 11, 1990



CC
BULLETIN

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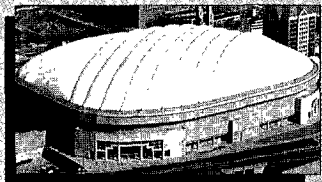
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*Dan Matthews, Hulda
Crooks, and H.M.S.
Richards, Jr. (from left to
right) prepare to kick
off the 5K walk/run.*

The Day IN THE Dome



JULY 10, TUESDAY

Freedom has a way of bringing out the very best in people and in nations, and we are seeing the very best for Adventists.



By John M. Fowler

Associate secretary and educational director of the Southern Asia Division

No words can express, no camera can capture the mystery, the color, the contrast, the unity, and the fascination that is in the air as the fifty-fifth session of the General Conference enters its fifth evening of business. I am not sure if there is another religious denomination that holds an international session of such magnitude to elect officers for its worldwide structure, to debate constitution and bylaws, to plan for global operations, and to approve statements and policies. The delegate area with 5,000 seats is filled each evening with 2,000 delegates and their spouses representing 190 countries, and the stands have at least 10,000 visitors to join in praise of what God wants Adventism to be.

I well remember many conversations I had with friends over Christmas weekend last year about the collapse of Communist regimes in Europe. How often I wondered and talked about the prophetic significance of those historic movements. Well, last night I partially understood the meaning of those shattering events. I watched closely as Elder Edwin Ludescher, reelected president of the Euro-Africa Division, led the delegates onto the stage to render his event-filled report. Twenty-six flags waved in the air as the delegates marched through the aisle and onto the stage, representing 390 million people and more than 300,000 members. Elder Ludescher talked of four challenges the church faces in Euro-Africa: the Muslim population of Europe, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco; the war-torn countries of Angola and Mozambique; the secularized society of Western Europe; and the opening of Eastern Europe.

It is the last one that attracts the attention of everyone; not because the others are of any less importance, but because the latter was so sudden,

so unexpected, so unbelievable even a year ago.

The tearing down of the Berlin Wall is more than an event of history. To us as students of prophecy, it is God saying: "I am in charge." God wants us to realize the momentous times we live in. He is the creator of opportunities. He is the opener of doors hitherto shut. He is the ultimate answer to every obstacle to the proclamation of the gospel. I caught this message in last evening's report of the Euro-Africa Division as I saw delegates from Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and East Germany march up the stage with their flags waving high. For the first time in decades, delegates from Eastern Europe could stand tall, speak of their problems, their achievements, their future—openly. Freedom has a way of bringing out the very best and worst in people and in nations, and we are seeing the very best for Adventists.

The first elected president of the Bulgarian Union since 1949 was on stage tonight, with his delegation. He reports that the Adventist Church, unrecognized since the war, is again on its march. During spring this year, more than 4,000 members held a Sabbath convocation in Sophia, in the Hall of Congress, what was once considered as the exclusive sanctuary of the Communist Party.

Romania is a story of its own. Adventism entered that country 120 years ago. Work has always been difficult, but steady. But for 40 years, the church existed without its essential tools: Bibles, literature, and the freedom to evangelize. But the events over Christmas last year brought about a dramatic new opening. The spirit of Harvest 90 and the spirit of freedom of 1990 combined to produce a baptism of 2,550 on the Sabbath of May 26, 1990.

Earlier in the day I ran into Betty and Frank Holbrook. A smile is Frank's perpetual trademark; cheerfulness is God's gift to Betty. This couple, talented in so many areas, has spent the last years of their 45-year-long ministry in carrying the message of a happy family to the world. As I met them on the floor of the dome, I asked Dr. Holbrook what he was doing now. "Betty and I have just returned from the highest mountain peak we were ever on." I was thinking of the Alps, but

he was meaning Bucharest, Romania.

Six weeks ago the Holbrooks held their family-life seminar in Bucharest in the Hall of Congress that the fallen dictator Ceausescu had built for the glory of Communism and reserved for its meetings. The first meeting to be held in that hall was the Holbrook seminar. More than 6,000 people had jammed the hall. People coming to see the Bible opened, to hear what God had to say about family life—husband, wife, children, love, joy, sharing, preparing for a new home. The Adventist lifestyle is opening doors in Romania.

Part of the wonder of Adventism is how easily you could fall in love with people that you really don't know and have not met. I met one such man today, from Botswana, a part of the Eastern Africa Division. I can't even attempt to pronounce his name: Xiixae Qee. His eyes reflect a radiance that only biblical authors can describe. He is 43, but looks like a teenager: tall, slim, handsome, pleasing, tough, but a babe in Adventism—baptized only last February. He was seriously ill with hepatitis in the bush area of the Kalahari desert. As he lay hopeless, he received a vision. "A clear voice said to me," says Xiixae, "Go to Pastor E. A. Modigah. He lives in a village 100 kilometers away from the hospital." As soon as I got well, I walked to the village, found the pastor, and told him of my vision.

"Tell me," he said to the pastor, "what I should do." And the pastor did. Since becoming an Adventist, Xiixae has shared his faith with others and brought more than 400 people into the truth in four months. Damascus road is still a reality.

"It is people like him who have made Eastern Africa Division the fastest-growing division in the world," says Bekele Heye, president of the division. Here is a man to meet—full of wit and humor, in command of language and the course of events as he presented a strong contingent of the division delegation. Bill and Noelene Johnsson could easily come up with a book—"The Wit and Wisdom of Bekele Heye." He sets the 5,000-person audience roaring in joyful laughter by saying that he could not bring

Mount Kilimanjaro to them, and so he brought a piece of it on his head, with his hair white as snow.

Humor is only a little of the spice in Elder Heye's report. With 36 years of service behind him, he stood at the podium tonight backed by his delegation to announce that the division has doubled its membership during Harvest 90. At the current rate of growth, it is estimated that membership in the year 2000 will be 3.5 million, with as many as 45,000 organized churches in some 10 countries. What a growth! What an objective! Africa is truly ablaze with the gospel. With that thought the fifth evening of the fifty-fifth General Conference session came to an end, and I rushed off to my hotel to begin my writing.

But alas! I found my program booklet with my notes missing. I must have left it on my seat in the dome. Within an hour I was back, but the program sheet was gone. The entire dome, the lobbies, the convention halls, the dining hall—everything was clean, vacuumed, and all ready for another day's work.

As Melchi Ponniah was driving me back to Budgetel Inn on Highway 70 we saw someone waving for a ride; we missed him, and I urged Melchi to go on. "But he looks so much like a delegate,"

said Melchi. "Did you see his plastic bags full of goodies collected from the booths? And he seems to have missed his bus." We made an extra 16 miles to come back to the spot where the man was standing and found that he was going to Illinois. Sorry for not being able to be good Samaritans.

A General Conference session provides opportunity for meeting people—for meeting old friends, for making new acquaintances, for hearing stories of the advance of God's work around the world.

I wish you could meet Monte Church. He is an old classmate of mine. We took seminary classes together in 1966 at Andrews University, and we had not seen each other since then. I remember the first day I talked to him in the Seminary Hall, waiting to see Dean Murdoch. He looked very much like an Indian, and I asked him if he was one. He said he was; only he was a Native American of the United States. I asked him what he was doing in the seminary. His answer was precise: preparing to work for the Native Americans of North America.

Twenty-five years later, I was happy to meet him at the dome and hear his thrilling story, working among the Eskimos, the Indians native to the north-

GC SNAPSHOT



Linda Deleon uses her walkie-talkie in the Session Management Office to communicate with the more than 50 individuals who keep the wheels turning behind the scenes at the General Conference session. Security personnel, top GC officers, and food service workers all rely on her services.

western part of the North American Continent, from Alaska to Idaho. Under his direction, there are 22 churches and 700 members, rejoicing in the good news of the gospel. Does he have any plans right now for expansion? Monte is always obsessed with his mission: he wants to raise funds for a large motor home for a new full-time evangelist who will begin work in August.

It's people like Monte and Emmanuel that keep the church moving and growing.

And meet Emmanuel Kujur. He comes from Hasemara, in the northeastern part of India, tucked above Bangladesh, under the belly of the eastern Himalayas. He accepted the Advent message in 1952, and he is here today in the dome to represent his division. His life is one of confidence in God's grace, a lesson that some of us need to learn daily.

He lives among the Ravas, a fierce animist tribe, very zealous of their traditions. Emmanuel wanted to share his faith with them. The more he shared, the more he suffered. He was beaten many times, imprisoned twice, and threatened much more. But persecution has a way of spurring growth. After years of work he was able to win five people in 1979. But then the promised pentecost happened.

Within four years God used him to win more than 3,000 members. The state government was worried that so many were turning to Christianity, and they sent a team to investigate Emmanuel: Was he pouring in American money to win converts? The investigators found that the members were instead giving their tithe for the church, and new believers were becoming socially responsible—freed from tobacco, alcohol, and stealing. Emmanuel is only a farmer; he works for three months during the monsoon. He says he gets enough to live for the year, and for the rest of the time he is on his evangelistic itinerary.

While the day was full of inspiration, fun, and fellowship, there were a few who seemed a bit worried. This happens in sessions like this in which elections to offices take place, and election means the selection of one and the setting aside of several other names. The democratic process has its winners and losers, and the latter are the ones a bit concerned. I

met one such today and asked him how his day was, and then realized my question was out of place. The usual answer: "Oh, so much politicking. Does God work through all this?"

Yes, He does. Through events. In spite of events. The church is His body, and He knows how to advance its growth, to protect its interests, and to guide His people.

Danger of Confusion

As Roy Adams, an associate editor of the *Adventist Review*, commented on the TV news wrap-up of the evening:

"We have elected, thus far, many leaders to guide the church in the various areas of its operations. We know these leaders. We are acquainted with their weaknesses and shortcomings. And sometimes there is the danger of confusing them with the church.

"But the church is not to be confused with its leaders. One or more of our leaders might fail, but the church is bigger than its leaders. It is not simply a human or political institution. It is a mysterious body, brought into existence by Christ Himself.

"And I believe that, by the grace of God, this church is going through to the kingdom."

Tuesday began with the Word. And Tuesday's speaker was from Ethiopia. Elder Bekele Biri, president of the union, presented "We Shall Behold Him: In the Unity of Believers." He should know what he was speaking about. For the past 15 years, Ethiopia has been going through crisis after crisis—political uncertainty, sociological traumas, economic upheavals, and war.

The church too has deprivations, with its training facilities gone, with restrictions on collections of tithes and offerings. One would wonder, "What will happen to the church?" But the gospel flame cannot be put out that easily. Love cannot be erased. Grace cannot be minimized. And the church in Ethiopia almost doubled its membership during Harvest 90, standing today at 60,000. How did this happen?

Elder Biri gave us the answer in his morning devotional. Whether it is Romania or Angola, Chile or Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia or China, where God's people are united in love and service, the

church is bound to triumph. "We can stand any trial and test," he said, "if we stand together in harmony and unity with each other and with Christ."

I am able to sense clear evidence of that kind of unity in this great convention hall. That's what makes Adventism unique. We debate. We argue. We elect. We throw out recommendations. We bring in amendments. Our business sessions sometimes seem designed to test the patience of the saints. But I cannot forget Enoch Oliveira, a long-time veteran of these meetings, retiring after 42 years of service to the church—his last position being vice president of the General Conference. "The gates of hell shall not prevail against this church," he said.

Jesus said that. And our new General Conference president has already set the tone for unity for the coming quinquennial. In his acceptance speech, he said "The real President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is the Lord Jesus Christ." If we all accept that believe that, we have nothing to fear, nothing to worry about, much to hope for, until we behold Him soon, coming in the eastern sky.

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Seventh-day Adventist Church

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Vol. 167, No. 31.



We Shall Behold Him

In the Unity of Believers

Devotional

message

presented

Tuesday

morning,

July 10, 1990.

I believe the God of faltering Moses will overrule all my shortcomings this morning. I sincerely pray that you will not hear my carnal voice and my imperfect speech, but rather His divine whispers and His perfect communication to your hearts this morning.

The text I chose for today is John 13:34, 35: "A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another" (NIV).

This commandment given to the disciples is just as true for us today as it was for them then, and so will it be for all those who claim to be Christ's disciples till history culminates in His glorious return. We therefore need to heed this commandment carefully, thoughtfully, and prayerfully, as it has something to do with our identity on earth and will have a bearing on our ultimate destiny both as individuals and as a church.

Ellen White tells us about this love that Jesus talks about—what it is *not* and what it is: "Love is not simply an impulse, a transitory emotion, dependent upon circumstances; it is a living principle, a permanent power" (*The SDA Bible Commentary*, Ellen G. White Comments, vol. 5, p. 1140). It is distinctly different and vastly superior to human courtesy or kindness. It is unaffected by time, place, and circumstances and should not, therefore, be mistaken for human sentimentality, which may change with time, place, and conditions.

Emphasizing love's importance and preeminence, Paul writes: "And now abide faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity" (1 Cor. 13:13).

Love is everlasting, impartial, unselfish, sincere, fervent, not very good at calculating difficulties or danger to itself. It works without motive of gain or advantage.

Listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah: "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. . . . He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: . . . with his stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53:4, 5).

God loved you and me with that kind of love.

Jesus wants you and me to love one another with that kind of love.

What Christ says in our opening text is that love is His disciples' badge. A badge is meant to be worn and to be seen by everyone. Love is then the distinguishing mark of God's children. Read in the negative, the text would say: "If we do not love one another, we are not Christ's disciples. If we are not His disciples, we are not Christians. If we claim to be Christians when we actually are not, then we are hypocrites, deceiving ourselves."

It is not sufficient just to be Christ's disciples. Discipleship must be manifested by our devotion to Him, by our love and care for souls, by our separation from the world, by holiness of character and conduct. Our prayer this morning should be: "Lord, let it be known and seen in all aspects of our lives that we are Your disciples. Give us all the graces we need to reflect fully and powerfully the love of our Master."

Not Necessarily

We sometimes think that mere attendance to religious duties—preaching sermons, studying the Sabbath school lessons regularly, paying tithe, establishing prestigious educational and health institutions, operating fine publishing houses, and maintaining solid, neat, sophisticated administrative and organizational machinery is a sign of discipleship.

But all this may be sounding brass, tinkling cymbals, unprofitable and worthless ventures if we, the human element in all these operations, do not love one another as Jesus loved us. A teacher can teach students, a physician can treat patients, a minister can preach to his congregation—all without love. Christian service is not doing something for Christ, but doing those things that He commanded us, and there is a vast difference between the two. His command to you and me this morning is "Love one another as I have loved you."

After I accepted the challenge of speaking this morning, as a matter of sheer curiosity I prepared two statements with room for a true/false response and sent them around one morning to each

by Bekele Biri
President
Ethiopian Union Mission

worker in the Ethiopian Union office:

1. Generally, Seventh-day Adventists love one another more than do members of other churches.

2. Workers in the union office love one another the way they should.

On the top of the question paper were the words of John 13:34, 35.

The result was shocking, alarming, sad. Out of 14 respondents, only six answered in the affirmative to the first question. The response to the second one was even worse. Only three agreed.

It came as a complete surprise to me, since I'd always had the feeling that we

Important for Adventists

The issue of love should be of special interest to Seventh-day Adventists. We claim, and rightly so, to be the Laodicean church of the last days. The main characteristic of the Laodicean church is lukewarmness. We cannot claim the name with the exclusion of this characteristic. Is lukewarmness the main characteristic of our church today? What are the distinct marks of our people? Are we known as a people who do not drink alcoholic beverages or use stimulants, who go to church on Saturdays and are good at interpreting the prophecies? Or does the world know us as people who

Anything short of this constitutes only form of godliness.

The following statement by Ellen White should alert us to the task of evaluating our programs and ourselves in the light of current realities: "Personal religion among us as a people is at a low ebb. There is much form, much machinery, much tongue religion; but something deeper and more solid must be brought into our religious experience" (*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 743). That "something deeper and more solid," I believe, is obedience to God and love for our fellows.

Have you ever tried to mix water and sand? Some of us might have done this when we were small children. As the water is added to the sand and both are mixed, the grains of sand appear to hold together. But this produces merely an appearance. Inside, the grains are still loose and independent. As soon as the wind blows, or the sun shines, or the rains fall upon them, they fall apart. They hold together only if cement is added.

With this addition they not only cleave together, but are also able to bond other materials together. When the cementing elements of God's love is added to each of our lives, it not only bonds us together as a people; it also draws others to the cross of Christ. As someone has put it: "We do not win the favor of God by loving one another; but it is God's favor that enables us to love one another and draw others to Christ."

We can love our fellows only as the Lord generates His love in us. He is the source of true love. He is love. To try to love God at the exclusion of loving one another is a contradiction in terms and an exercise in false religion. "He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now" (1 John 2:9). "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him" (1 John 3:15).

Because of background, upbringing, and experience, some people may find it difficult to love others. My dear brothers and sisters, this morning I want to assure you, standing on His Word, there is no way around the commandment to love one another, for all other commandments

GC SNAPSHOT



Boo! Children play hide and seek at the Pitcairn display in South Pacific Division booth.

had a very cooperative, united group at the office. The results of my informal survey showed a different picture.

Let us search our hearts this morning and see if we truly, honestly, and sincerely love one another. How is our love manifested in our home churches, among the various nationalities, the different colors and races, and the different economic levels in our offices, in our homes, indeed, in all areas of our lives? Is love reflected in our policy guidelines and in our committee actions? Do we wear the badge in all places and at all times?

obey God and love their fellow human beings?

We can have this only to the degree that we love Christ. His love is dynamic and vigorous, and it goes further than mere warm regards and sympathy. It responds to needs in a practical way. It appreciates Christian brothers and sisters and neighbors, not by showing mere empty smiles, but by rendering sincere Christian service. Love reaches out and touches cold hearts, naked bodies, hungry stomachs, and sin-sick, hopeless, wandering, and empty souls on a practical level. It brings relief to sufferers.



New GC president Robert Folkenberg, with his wife, Anita, addresses the session on Sabbath morning.

are wrapped up in the love command. "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God" (1 John 4:7).

The capacity to love our fellowmen is

absolutely dependent upon our staying in the light and warmth of God's love. Are we in that light and warmth, or are we hidden away from the influence and effect of His love?

God's love for each of us is precious and powerful. It has the power to clean all impurities out of our lives and bring about a needed transformation. It changed John, the son of thunder, into an exhibit of a love-filled life. It can do the same with each of us if we are willing to surrender our lives to Jesus. Transformed, our characters become a reflection of Christ's character and our lives become a living epistle to be seen, read, and known by everyone with whom we may come in contact.

Because we are a large family from all around the globe, with different cultures, languages, colors, and widely varying experiences, the only common factor that binds us together is the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. So love must form the basis of our relationship and govern our relationships and interactions in all spheres of endeavor. When we are bound by love and not by personal, car-

nal interests, and when our life is guided and motivated by that love, destructive criticisms, bitter feelings, discontent, dissention, jealousy, partiality, racial prejudice, and greed will all become less visible among us.

My brothers and sisters, we can stand any trial and test if we stand together in harmony and unity with each other and with Christ. The necessity of unity among Christians is emphasized by Christ's prayer for His disciples: "Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are" (John 17:11).

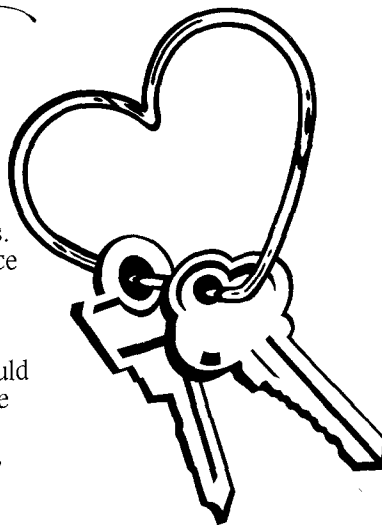
Where there is love, there is unity, oneness of purpose and heart, strength, courage, kindness, patience, understanding, cooperation, sacrifice, and forgiveness. When these, through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit, begin to shine from each of us in glowing brightness, others will be unavoidably attracted to that irresistible love of Jesus Christ.

That we leave this place determined to do just that is my humble prayer this morning.

Zipporah



She was a beautiful Midianite shepherdess. He was an Egyptian prince fleeing for his life. She resisted the attraction between them, as if she already knew what it would cost her to love one of the greatest men in Hebrew history. By Lois Erickson, author of the best-seller *Leah*.



ROOM MATES

A bittersweet story of how two college friends of different religions help each other find God, and what happens when the people they love choose to leave Him behind. Writing with keen sensitivity and incredible insight, Trudy Morgan brilliantly deals with the pressures, demands, and issues bombarding academy and college kids today.

Both 128-page paperbacks are available at your ABC for US\$7.95, Cdn\$9.95.



Sixth business meeting

Fifty-fifth General Conference session, July 9, 1990, 9:30 a.m.

J. MAYER: [Conducted the song service and announced the opening hymn.]

SAHONDRA RAZAKARIVELO: [Opening prayer in Malagasy.]

TED N. C. WILSON: The chairman of this business session is C. B. Rock, vice president of the General Conference.

C. B. ROCK: Welcome, delegates and guests, to this morning's session, which we now call to order.

In this particular segment we are going to deal primarily with two documents that have already been considered but have not been completed.

The first of those two documents is the Sabbath document that we discussed somewhat yesterday, and then we will also deal with the Constitution. But before we do that, B. B. Beach reminds me that there is a word that we must hear from a special guest.

B. B. BEACH: From time to time during our morning and afternoon business sessions we have the opportunity of introducing distinguished church leaders who have come here as observers and guests, and we are happy to welcome them. This morning we have a very distinguished church leader, the general secretary of the World Convention of the Churches of Christ, A. Lee, who is among us. He has attended the past two General Conference sessions as an observer, and we are happy to introduce him again and to give him the opportunity of giving us a few words of greeting.

A. LEE: It is a real pleasure to bring greetings from the World Convention of the Churches of Christ, I am delighted to be a guest at this fifty-fifth session; I was in New Orleans five years ago and in Dallas in 1980. A number of us are in attendance because of the invitation of B. B. Beach, head of your Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty. He is also secretary of a group to which both of us belong, namely, the Secretaries of Christian World Communions. We meet annually in various world capitals to share our faith and have fellowship with one another. It's a joy to be here. I pray God's richest blessings on this great conference, for truly it is good and pleasant to dwell together in unity. God bless you.

C. B. ROCK: Now we will ask F. G. Thomas to bring us up to date on the motion on the floor.

F. G. THOMAS: The motion had been made in harmony with what you read on page 48 [of the agenda and support material] at the very beginning to adopt this document.

C. B. ROCK: The motion is to accept the document that begins on page 48. It was read in its entirety, and those of you who were here were privileged to listen to those inspiring paragraphs through page 62. Now, my list that I have been handed indicates that there are 13 individuals who are waiting to speak on this

issue. Let me recognize them first.

E. GARBI: I would like to say first that I support this document. However, it doesn't contain any statement about the people of Israel. The Sabbath is one of the major points uniting us to the Jewish people, together with the looking forward to the coming of the glorious Messiah.

And now a question about the treating of a specific employment problem, page 61, line 22. "When a member of the church finds it necessary to resign from a position or loses his job because of Sabbath problems, and is reemployed by the denomination in similar work, and where the new job, because of its essential nature, requires the member to work on the Sabbath, the following suggestions are recommended." I would like to ask if it would be possible to have one or two examples.

C. B. ROCK: Thank you. I am going to ask G. W. Reid, the director of our Biblical Research Institute, to respond.

G. W. REID: I am speaking on behalf of this document because I believe it is something that Seventh-day Adventists can heartily support. I'm sure the questions being raised about it must be based upon some misunderstanding of its purpose and possibly even its origin. It is not designed to be a complete statement of where Adventists are on Sabbath observance. It is not designed to be used in any legalistic manner. I would like to dispel that idea. It is a general statement that arose in response to a large number of requests for assistance from several unions in the world field. I hope it will have positive acceptance.

C. B. ROCK: Can you help us with the question concerning page 61? The speaker wanted some specific examples.

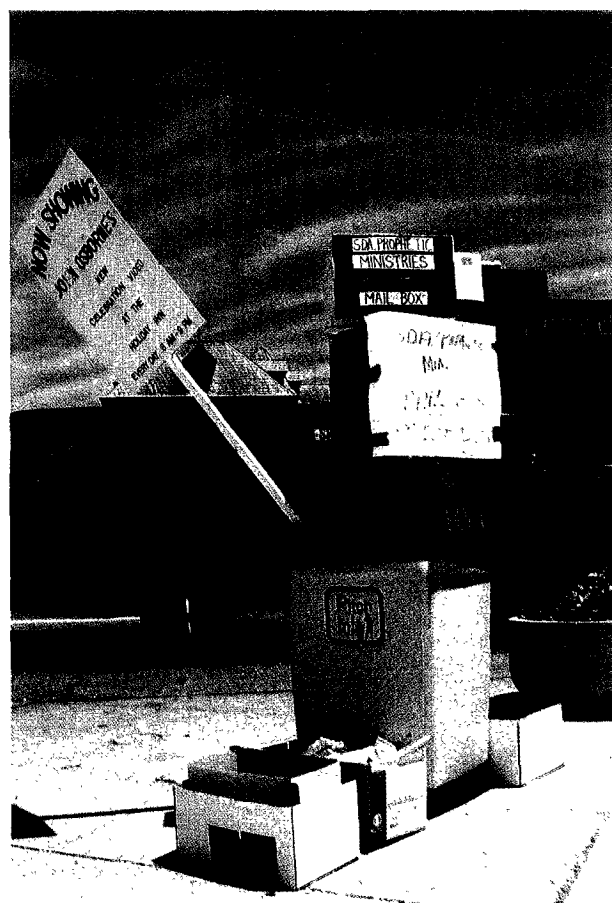
G. W. REID: One of the merits of the document is that it does not become terribly specific, but there are some who know exactly what was in

mind as the committee met. I think F. B. Holbrook could do that for us.

F. B. HOLBROOK: I think a simple example would be someone who was employed as a security officer in a non-Adventist institution becoming an Adventist and then a security officer in an Adventist institution, and accommodation being made to allow him proper Sabbath observance.

C. PERRY: Those of us who are in touch with the general members of the church are asked questions, and these questions sometimes flow upward, as they did when Paul and his colleagues were sent on to Jerusalem. I don't think we should at any time be burdened by regulations, but we have a responsibility to give answers to questions. I move that there be a preamble to this document that will serve to dispel the doubts of those who believe that we are downgrading the effectiveness of Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy. The wording would be as follows: "In keeping with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, the following may serve as guidelines to address certain questions asked in respect to Sabbath observance. These guidelines in no way obviate the individual's right to

GC SNAPSHOT



After the demonstrators go home, an interesting mix of signs and other paraphernalia collects in waste containers outside the Hoosier Dome.

Nominating Committee Report—4

Voted. To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

Africa-Indian Ocean Division

Auditor: Tom Miller
 Church Ministries Director: Carlyle Bayne
 Field Secretary: David Syme
 Health and Temperance Director: Gaspar Colon
 Ministerial Association Secretary: Walton Whaley

Eastern Africa Division

Secretary: L. D. Raelly
 Treasurer: Gary B. DeBoer

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Secretary: Karel C. van Oossanen

follow the dictates of conscience as directed by the Holy Spirit." [The motion was seconded and voted.]

D. BIGGER: I move to strike the words "approve the following amended position statement" on page 48, line 6, and replace them with "to acknowledge receipt of the following document."

C. B. ROCK: Is there a second to this amendment? [Amendment was seconded.]

C. MURRAY: This is a position statement. I cannot understand why the church is so afraid of taking stands and taking positions. If you look at the history of Israel from Egypt through the time of the kings, the problems were Sabbathbreaking and idolatry. We have not changed much. The problems of the last days are Sabbathbreaking, worldliness, and idolatry. Legalism is not our problem. Our problem is a consistent, persistent, incessant, insidious liberalism. There is a mind-set in the church that wants no structure, no rules, no laws, no parameters. Other denominations codify and write and are not afraid to put down their positions. Why should we be afraid to codify this most important of our doctrines and standardize it for the world field?

C. SCRIVEN: We need to have standards, but I also believe that we need to follow the example of Jesus. The whole ministry of Jesus was targeted against pharisaical attempts to codify in great detail what God wants us to enjoy and have as a minimal outline that can keep us all together.

MARIA FERNANDEZ: I think it is a necessity to have this recommendation for the church. This document is based upon the Bible as well as the Spirit of Prophecy.

J. V. STEVENS: In religious liberty work we find a lot of Sabbath problems. We have to defend our Sabbath observance in court and at other levels. We can do that from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, but if the question "Does your church have a statement suggesting guidelines on Sabbath observance?" is asked, we have to say no. "Why, if it is so important, don't you have something?" is the usual response. We are going to have more and more people losing work over the Sabbath. One of these days we are all going to lose our jobs, including those of us on the payroll of the church. We need a document. We need a position statement.

P. BATH: I speak in favor of the amendment, simply in light of the international concern that has been raised, equally the moral and spiritual concerns that have been raised about our attempt to codify and to submit a document that adds to sources of inspiration and direction already recognized in our lives. I speak of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. To add to that is only to invite future debate about Sabbath observance in a worldwide, multicultural, multipolitical church.

C. B. ROCK: Are you now ready to vote on the amendment? All those in favor, please raise your hand. Opposed, the same sign. [The

amendment was carried.]

J. NIKKELS: As a lifelong Seventh-day Adventist I am very much surprised that there was a request for this type of document. The document is well written. There is nothing objectionable. But I have personally practiced everything that is written in this document since my parents became Seventh-day Adventists. They taught me these principles. I was taught these principles in our schools. And as a pastor and leader in our work for many years, personally I have taught people these principles because they are based on the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. So really, I do not see any need for a document like this.

J. M. LONG: These are guidelines, and this is precisely what many of our new people are clamoring for. They want to know how we keep the Sabbath. We tell them when they are baptized into the church, but we cannot possibly be as comprehensive in what we say as this document can. And it's true, they can learn all this from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. However, it may take them months or years to really comprehend what Sabbathkeeping is all about. They have come out of Sundaykeeping, and it's so different. To me, this is valuable, and I appreciate so much the work

the committee has done on this. And I hope that we can soon vote this.

M. L. MILLS: Pluralism is beginning to plague this church today. Also, our sensitivity toward what we call legalism. We don't believe in legalism. Perhaps in the past we made a mistake by overemphasizing keeping the law without Christ being in the heart. We've now gone in the other direction. I think this is a good document. It is based upon the Spirit of Prophecy and the Bible, and it will help to clear the confusion in this church.

M. G. HARDING: I am personally very pleased with this document, and I give it my wholehearted support. I would like to suggest an addition after item 5 on page 56. There is a problem that has not been addressed—elective surgery and convenience surgery that is scheduled on Fridays. I suggest that a statement be made to discourage elective and convenience surgeries on Fridays.

C. B. ROCK: Are you asking us to make some editorial changes?

M. G. HARDING: If it would strengthen the recommendation, I'd like to move it.

C. B. ROCK: It is moved that this document be amended so as to make specific reference to

convenience and elective surgery on Friday with its necessary follow-through care on Sabbath. [The motion was seconded and voted.]

J. V. STEVENS: I think that the material on page 62 under the heading "Sabbath—A Safeguard of Our Relationship With God" is the heart of the principle of Sabbathkeeping. I would like to see that entire section moved to just after line 31 on page 48 because it is the spirit of Sabbath observance rather than the letter. And I think it is extremely important that it take precedence over the letter.

F. B. HOLBROOK: I think that will be all right. It still keeps the spirit of the document.

C. B. ROCK: F. G. Thomas has a comment before we vote.

F. G. THOMAS: It is interesting that this has come about, because that is where this section was originally. But now look at how the document is going to end. At Annual Council we decided to put this at the end as a sort of concluding statement because otherwise the document has no concluding statement.

C. B. ROCK: It will end abruptly. There will be no philosophy or narrative to give a smooth conclusion.

J. V. STEVENS: I would still like to recommend that we put it on page 48 because it sets the entire tone. It is far more important that the section do this than become part of the conclusion. Some other conclusion that will be in harmony with the document can be drafted.

C. B. ROCK: Certainly so. Let us see how the delegation feels. May I call on you to vote here? Those in favor of this motion to take these final four paragraphs on page 96 and move them to page 48, following line 31, would you please let it be known by raising your hands? All those in favor of so amending, would you please raise your hands? Those opposed? The amendment passes clearly. We will do that.

J. V. STEVENS: On line 40 on page 62, which we have just transferred, it says that when God asks us to remember the Sabbath day, He does so because He wants us to remember Him. I don't want to be critical, but that seems a bit narrow and self-serving on the part of God. The devil remembers Him, but he is not doing anything with that remembrance. I would like to suggest that we strike the word *remember* and insert the phrase "fellowship with" because the purpose of Christianity is to fellowship with God and fellowship with man, and that is what we are going to do throughout eternity. And I think it puts a more positive view on it. I so move.

C. B. ROCK: Is there a second? Is there support? There is support. Let us see. We are not going to discuss that? If not, we'll vote. There is a comment on that amendment? We do have a comment.

E. OSBORNE: I am in full support of fellowship, but the fourth commandment is not a fellowship commandment. Thus, saying that the reason that we have remembered the Sabbath day is to have fellowship with God does not seem to be an accurate rendition of the com-

mandment itself. I would eliminate the phrase before trying to make it say what it does not obviously say.

C. B. ROCK: You would rather leave it as "remember"?

E. OSBORNE: I speak against the amendment.

C. B. ROCK: You speak against the amendment. I like that. When you make a comment about the matter, tell us where you stand. The brother speaks against the amendment. That is good and clear and tells us where he stands. Any other comment on this, for or against? If you are for it, tell us—that is, if you think it is important that you tell us. If not, we can vote. Most people probably have their minds made up already. Are you ready to vote? If so, those in favor of the amendment that would change the wording to "fellowship with Him" on page 62, line 40, please let it be known by raising your hands. Thank you. Those against changing it and preferring to leave it as "remember," would you please raise your hands? Thank you. That amendment does not pass.

I see that the Nominating Committee is here.

D. B. HILLS: The General Conference president is going to make a statement on the vice presidents. After that statement, we will call on D. C. Beardsell to lead us through the names one by one.

R. S. FOLKENBERG: The Nominating Committee has carefully reviewed a list of names for vice presidents to serve the world field. We have chosen to expand the number of

vice presidents because the General Conference must be able to have individuals who can govern equally well in institutions and in other types of styles and types of leadership in both North America and other parts of the world. And so the expansion has occurred with representatives from the non-North American territory. I am pleased that we have highly qualified individuals who have demonstrated the skills in maturity and spiritual depth to be able to assume this type of leadership. I am pleased that we are able to bring you this type of report.

D. C. BEARDSSELL: The Nominating Committee has a partial report to present. Vice presidents, General Conference, M. A. Bediako, R. J. Kloosterhuis, K. J. Mittleider, L. S. Ranzolin, C. B. Rock; president, Euro-Africa Division, E. Ludescher; president, North American Division, A. C. McClure; president, South Pacific Division, A. E. Birch; president, Southern Asia Division, M. E. Cherian; director of Archives and Statistics, General Conference, F. D. Yost; undersecretary, General Conference, F. G. Thomas; associate secretaries, General Conference, M. T. Battle, L. R. Colburn, M. Veloso, Ted N. C. Wilson; undertreasurer, General Conference, D. E. Robinson.

E. D. MAGAJI: [Benediction in Hausa language.]

C. B. ROCK, *Chairman*
S. YOUNG, *Secretary*

J. W. BOTHE, C. D. WATSON,
D. A. ROTH, *Proceedings Editors*

Seventh business meeting

Fifty-fifth General Conference session, July 9, 1990, 3:00 p.m.

V. PALA: [Opening prayer in Pidgin English.]

A.D.C. CURRIE: This afternoon Enoch Oliveira will be chairman of our meeting.

ENOCH OLIVEIRA: We are going to discuss our General Conference Constitution and By-

GC SNAPSHOT



A visitor focuses on the action taking place on the floor during a business session.

laws amendments. Mr. Secretary, will you introduce this item?

R. L. DALE: I think we're all ready. This was on the floor the other day, so we are ready to proceed.

R. E. OSBORN: There are some items in the proposed revisions in Article V of the Constitution and Article II of the Bylaws that require additional study. In view of the fact that this session has appointed a standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee, I respectfully move that Article V of the Constitution and Article II of the Bylaws be referred to that committee for further consideration. I also include any other items needing specific attention called to our attention last Friday.

ENOCH OLIVEIRA: We have a motion before us that we refer these items to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. [Motion was seconded. After extensive discussion, the motion was approved by a wide majority.]

Let's discuss Article IV. F. G. Thomas is going to read Article IV.

F. G. THOMAS: [Read Article IV.] Before I move the adoption of this article, I would like to make an explanation that was included in the

notes at the beginning, but just so that we have everything out in the clear, on page 31, lines 8 to 18 [of the agenda and support material], you have what we call the 25 percent provision. At the last General Conference session a specific request—even an instruction, I'll say—was directed to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to codify that section, meaning that perhaps there could be some kind of schedule of how these 25 percent delegates would be allocated and on what basis. Early on and for quite a while in our deliberations as a Constitution and Bylaws Committee we did have such a codification. However, as it progressed, going to the General Conference officers twice and also through the Annual Council, it began to be apparent from discussion that even though there might be some very good reasons to clarify how those 25 percent delegates would be allocated, maybe the best thing, given all the circumstances, would be to leave it as it has been, leaving the General Conference Committee rather free to distribute these names as circumstances indicate. Every division was handled in the way that it requested. I move the adoption of Article IV, General Conference Sessions. [The motion was seconded.]

T. A. MCNEALY: It seems to be clear that we are moving in a direction of lessening the number of delegates at sessions. I am concerned about the fact that we are moving so swiftly in this direction. Recognizing the problems that have emerged, I believe the nature of this meeting is too important for us to sacrifice input from our world field on such a very important scale and level.

ENOCH OLIVEIRA: In reply to your concern, I would like to say that we are a relatively small church and that churches of our size do not have such a large representation at their sessions. Furthermore, we have the problem of financial expenses, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to manage sessions with more than 2,000 delegates.

R. RUPP: I admire very much the democratic style in which we are dealing with the matters before us, and I know very well the importance of our Constitution and Bylaws and other such items. But I think of the time we take just for matters of procedure. I would like to remind ourselves to hasten the business we have before us.

R. NWOSU: In regard to Article IV, it seems to me there is a cut in the number of delegates from outside North America.

F. G. THOMAS: I was the chairman of the revision committee, and I have spent many hours working on this document. One section deals with a 25 percent group of delegates. The 25 percent group as we have it here allows the General Conference Committee to distribute those 25 percent (of whom there were 529 this time), and they were given to the divisions based on the requests that they made. It is no secret, since you are talking about it, that a large proportion of those went to North America.

M. MING: My intention is to speak against the motion. It states that the proposal is to limit the number of delegates to 1,000. My suggestion is that it is not healthy for our growing church to reduce the delegation. I move that the 1,000 number in Article IV, Section 6, Item d, be changed to 2,000. [The motion was later withdrawn and referred to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.]

C. MURRAY: In regard to Article IV, Section 3, I would like to move that all voting be done by show of hands as opposed to voice vote. [Motion was seconded.]

GC SNAPSHOT



A weary, footsore visitor watches the proceedings of the business session on Monday.

ENOCH OLIVEIRA: All in favor of this motion, please raise your hands. [Motion was approved.]

R. REID: [Benediction.]

ENOCH OLIVEIRA, *Chairman*

R. L. DALE, *Secretary*

C. D. WATSON and **D. A. ROTH,**
Proceedings Editors

Session actions

Fifty-fifth General Conference session, July 9, 1990, 3:00 p.m.

Time Limit for Speeches

Voted, To set a time limit of three minutes for speeches made in connection with the proposed amendments to the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws.

General Conference Constitution and Bylaws—Further Study

Voted, To refer Article V of the Constitution and Article II of the Bylaws to the standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee for further study as well as other items in the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws/Amend-

ments, needing additional study as determined on the floor. It is understood that these referred items will be brought back to the floor for consideration.

General Conference Constitution, Article IV—Further Study

Voted, To refer Article IV, Section 6(d) and Section 7(c) of the General Conference Constitution to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for further study.

Method of Voting During the General Conference Session

Voted, To request the chair to ask for the vote on items of business by having delegates raise their hands rather than by viva voce, as it is very difficult to ascertain the vote by the latter method. (This is in harmony with the provisions

of the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Article IX, Section 3.)

Representation of Delegates by Church Entities and Gender

Voted, To request the standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee to give study to providing a satisfactory method whereby delegates of the various church entities may be elected by the constituencies of those entities, rather than appointed, and that study be given to assuring proper gender representation in the delegates thus selected.

Adjourned.

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

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department



By **B. B. Beach**
Director

The year 1989 was a key date in religious liberty history. Looking back, we find that it marked a century of organized Seventh-day Adventist religious liberty work. Looking forward, we see that this year of dramatic political changes in Eastern Europe has signaled a unique religious liberty opportunity for God's church of the remnant. For decades we have believed and foreseen, through the eye of faith, that "the final movements will be rapid ones" (*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 11). We have now witnessed God's hand working with the speed of thought and men reacting with unexpected hurry and flurry.

Champions of Religious Liberty

Seventh-day Adventists have traditionally been champions of religious liberty. It is the church's position that freedom of conscience and religion is that fundamental human right that undergirds all other human rights. Freedom of religion includes the right, alone or in association with others, to manifest one's religion through worship, practice, teaching, giving, and evangelistic witness. This means that every person has the right to propagate his religion, change religion, and endeavor to persuade others of the rightness of his religion. Increasingly, this long-held Adventist religious liberty position is being given credence in national legislation and in international instruments at the United Nations.

Breakthrough in Political Freedom and Pluralism

Coming back to the developments in Eastern Europe, during the past quincentennial gradual improvements took place in the religious liberty situation. However, it was in 1989 that the great breakthrough occurred with regard to po-

litical freedom and pluralism. Heavy yokes of discrimination and control of organized religious life were lifted from the shoulders of millions of believers. The changes were largely peaceful, with the exception of Romania. We thank God for these liberating events. There appears to have been a supernatural element in the dramatic events. Indeed, He "changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings" (RSV).

Changes in Romania and Bulgaria

In Romania the church is in the process of organizing 200 new local churches. For the first time the message is being preached in public halls and on local radio stations. Hundreds of thousands of books and brochures are being printed for missionary activity. It is expected to greatly increase the enrollment at the seminary.

In 1988 the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bulgaria was officially recognized. Prior to this, for the many decades of her existence, the church was only tolerated.

Changes in the U.S.S.R.

Significant changes have been taking place in the U.S.S.R. We now have a seminary for the training of our ministers. This is a first for our church in the Soviet Union. Five unions have been organized, and at this session there is to be a division. We are eagerly awaiting the promulgation of the new religious liberty law, which has been in preparation for a couple years. In the meantime, substantial new property rights have been given to churches and religious communities, including land for agricultural, social, and charitable use. Until now, churches were not permitted to be involved in such activities. A production publishing house with modern equipment is now

being established, and it is hoped it will be in a position to produce, in addition to specifically Adventist literature, Russian Bibles by the end of 1990. In February 1990 the U.S.S.R. Communist Party Plenary Meeting departed from the anti-religious stance of the past and stated that the party will uphold man's free self-determination in the spiritual sphere and freedom of conscience and religion.

Five-Day School Week Comes to East Germany

Freedom of speech, press, and travel were recognized toward the end of 1989 in the German Democratic Republic. The five-day week has been introduced in the schools, thus removing a heavy burden from Adventist parents and students. Civilian service is now available instead of military service. The other side of the freedom medal is the emigration problem. Within the past year, some 500 members have left the country.

Religious Liberty Guarantees in Hungary

The strongest legal guarantees for religious freedom ever enacted in Hungary were promulgated during 1989. The state may not create organs to direct or control the churches. The Free Church Council, set up originally under government auspices, was disbanded.

New Doors of Opportunity

In Poland, where our church has for a number of years enjoyed the respect of the authorities in an overwhelmingly Catholic country, 100 evangelistic campaigns were in progress in the early months of 1990. The new situation has inspired members to move through doors of opportunity. There are increased possibilities to advertise meetings through posters, leaflets, and brochures. Negotiations are now on course for separate legislation dealing with the juridical status of the church in Poland, as has already been done for the Roman Catholic Church.

Church-State Agreements in Italy and Spain

During this quincentennial important church-state agreements have been reached in Italy and Spain. A far-reaching legal agreement between the SDA Church and the Italian state has now become law. It grants the church extensive rights, in-

cluding public and literature evangelism, Sabbath observance (in employment, the schools, and the military), education, and taxation exemptions.

On February 21, 1990, a historic agreement was reached in Spain between the Evangelical churches and the Spanish government. For the first time in history, the Spanish state has reached a positive convention with non-Catholic churches, providing a broad spectrum of religious liberty. Article 13 specifically grants Seventh-day Adventists the right to not work on the Sabbath and to be exempt from school classes and examinations during the Sabbath hours.

Advance and Adversity in Africa

The saga of the SDA Church in Africa is one of great evangelistic advance and institutional development in many countries, but also one of considerable religious liberty violations. Problems arise in various countries regarding employment, examinations, and civic duties. Conventions have been agreed to; God has worked miracles; but in some places rights have been denied. After more than three and a half years of banning, persecution, and imprisonment, the church's legal rights in Burundi have been fully restored, and the new government has promoted a positive, cooperative relationship.

The SDA Church was officially recognized in Niger at the beginning of 1990, giving the church the right to work in a Muslim country. In Brazzaville, Congo, the church remains officially closed, but faithful disciples continue to worship and share their faith.

In Rwanda there have been problems regarding *umuganda* ("community work") and primary school classes on the Sabbath. Some parents were even briefly jailed. Negotiations are proceeding, and in parts of Rwanda, including the capital, Kigali, the community work problem has been solved, the authorities agreeing that Adventists can perform their duty on another day of the week. After much discussion and dialogue, the church has also been exempted from trade union contracts.

IRLA and Religious Liberty Congresses

The International Religious Liberty Association and its sister organization, the Association for the Defense of Reli-

gious Liberty, have continued their work, some of it quietly behind the public scenes. Two important religious liberty congresses were held: an Asia regional congress in New Delhi (1987), and the Third Religious Liberty World Congress in London (1989). Significant international political, judicial, and religious figures attended and spoke at these congresses, especially in London. Useful religious liberty networks were either established or reinforced.

United Nations Activities

In 1985 the General Conference received consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Dr. N. O. Matthews has been looking after the UN relationship in New York. The SDA presence at the UN has helped develop useful relationships with ambassadors, government ministers, and even heads of state. Such problems as medical board examinations in the Philippines, secondary school examinations in Bangladesh, entry into Vietnam and Laos, Sabbath public transportation problems in Bermuda, and visa difficulties in India have either been solved or ameliorated through diplomatic channels thus established.

Editorial Achievements

Liberty, with a circulation of some

250,000, has continued to reach and make an impact on thought leaders, primarily in the United States. The magazine has won a number of journalistic awards. Roland Hegstad has given more than 30 years of competent, brilliant editorship.

Active Congressional Liaison

PARL's congressional liaison functions in Washington, D.C., have involved, among other activities, broadening the coverage of nondiscrimination laws, upholding concepts of church-state separation in the provisions of federally financed child care, and working for the reinstatement of charitable deductions for income tax nonitemizers.

The Muslim Religious Liberty Conundrum

Probably the most serious religious liberty problem faced by the church is the lack of religious liberty in most Muslim countries, especially in the Middle East and North Africa. There are Muslim countries in which no Christian churches or worship are permitted. There is generally no legal right for a Muslim to change his religion, and little, if any, possibility for Christian evangelistic witness. All the more, it is encouraging to note that in Jordan we have been able to negotiate for our students exemptions

GC SNAPSHOT



The Southern Asia Division report on Sunday night featured families in colorful dress.

from Sabbath classes and examinations with help from the royal house. Furthermore, in Kuwait the church has obtained informal recognition.

In Egypt the church has passed through a difficult period, but our secondary school has now been able to appoint an SDA principal and gain the right to observe the Sabbath as the school's holy day. In the Sudan, under the umbrella of ADRA, the church has obtained de facto recognition.

The department has also been involved in various parts of the world in easing unnecessary interdenominational tensions or representing Adventism, following the Petrine principle of being always ready to give an answer regarding the Advent message of hope with humility, respect, and honesty.

A Time of *Kairos*


We are living today in a time of *kairos*, a special divine time of gracious opportunity. Exciting changes have been taking place, but the earthly paradise has not come. Disillusioned people are seeking for hope and meaning. The political god has failed them. People need, as never before, the good news of salvation and our soon-coming Lord.

There is right now new liberty to work. Icy relations between Rome and the Eastern European countries are thawing, and diplomatic relations are being restored. What does this augur for the future? Formerly powerful majority churches in Eastern Europe are again flexing their socio-political muscles. There could be a return to state church domination and restriction of minority churches.

GC SNAPSHOT



Del Delker, longtime Voice of Prophecy soloist, warms the hearts of thousands during a musical program.

Walls have come tumbling down and curtains have been pulled back. This time of religious liberty is a time not only of divine grace, but of divine imperative. Today thousands "are on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in." God expects His church to move forward and advance. Therefore, "purify yourselves, because tomorrow the Lord will perform miracles among you" (Joshua 3:5, TEV). 

GC SNAPSHOT



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Andrews University



By **W. Richard Leshner**
President

The past quinquennium has been a time of growth and stability, consolidation and expansion, stress and progress, for Andrews University.

Since the last General Conference session, more than 3,200 Andrews graduates have taken their place in the work of the church and society. Hundreds more around the world have received Andrews undergraduate and graduate degrees through affiliation agreements.

Andrews University now maintains affiliations with 11 Adventist colleges in other countries. This plays a vital role in advancing the work of the church and saves precious church resources by training workers in their homelands.

Priorities

Finances and the refinement of the university's academic mission have been major priorities during the past five years.

Adventist education, unlike much of American private higher education, is driven strongly by tuition income. But a steadily shrinking educational market has been offset at Andrews by a persistent, strategic expansion of our recruitment efforts, and has produced an essentially stable enrollment. The following chart of head-count enrollment and full-time equivalents in the university's U.S.-based programs tells the story well (these figures do not include non-tuition-generating enrollment at affiliated schools overseas):

Year	Enrollment	FTE
1985	2,816	2,257
1986	2,945	2,367
1987	2,783	2,284
1988	2,858	2,283
1989	2,889	2,318

Operating and plant debt has been re-

duced by more than 13 percent in the past two years, and the university expects to retire all but \$1 million of the current \$6.2 million debt by 1995.

During the same period the university has made significant budget changes to achieve necessary operating gains in the near future. During the present fiscal year, for example, Andrews is operating on a budget that will produce a \$1 million gain.

The stabilization of the university's financial operations has been accomplished while making much-needed improvements in the physical plant. Several key buildings on campus, including the education and the music building, have been renovated.

Chan Shun Hall, the new home for the School of Business, opened in 1989. It is named for Chan Shun—the primary donor—a Seventh-day Adventist clothing manufacturer and philanthropist from Hong Kong. It is the first facility in recent history funded entirely by contributions from outside the university.

This past spring the university began construction on Harrigan Hall, a new facility for the College of Technology. The building is named in honor of the primary donor, Jean Marie Harrigan, and her late husband and son.

Accreditations

Andrews University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The next scheduled accreditation review is set for 1994.

The team that visited the university in April 1989 praised Andrews for its dedicated faculty, its international affiliations, its racially and ethnically diverse student body, and for major improvements to the physical plant. Among its concerns, the association cited unnecessary academic program expansion, ex-

cessive workloads for teachers, low levels of faculty research and salaries, and delayed implementation of a strategic planning process.

Two other important accreditations occurred during the quinquennium. The master's degree program in physical therapy received approval from the American Physical Therapy Association in 1988, and in 1987 the National Architectural Accrediting Board approved Andrews' architecture programs, including the professional Bachelor of Architecture degree.

Other Initiatives

The Single Parent Program was established two years ago to help single parents find the means to complete a college degree while still caring for their families. Last year more than 40 students came from all across the North American Division to work on degrees through this program while having the confidence that they were not sacrificing the health or well-being of their children in the process.

In 1986 Andrews established the Community Service Assistantship Program, which since has supervised Andrews students in performing more than 22,000 hours of service for 20 social service agencies in Benton Harbor, Michigan. In 1989 the university received a major external grant to fund a model substance-abuse peer counseling program for Andrews students.

Andrews sent out more than 120 student missionaries during the five-year period. Hundreds more participated in short-term construction projects in Mexico, Belize, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic through Maranatha Volunteers International.

The influence of Andrews University reaches around the world. During the past quinquennium Andrews ranked among the top 10 institutions in the United States for its proportion of international students. Students come to Berrien Springs, Michigan, from nearly 90 nations of the earth. That internationalism is a powerful tribute to the legacy of John Nevins Andrews, our church's pioneer foreign missionary and the man for whom the university is named. It is to the ideal represented by Andrews' life—the ideal of scholarship for service—that the university remains dedicated.

A WITNESS

By Carlos Medley *News editor, Adventist Review*

More than 2,000 runners, walkers, volunteers, and supporters made a public statement for fitness when they participated in the Adventist International Fitness Event in Indianapolis, Sunday, July 8.

The walk/run was organized by the General Conference Health and Temperance Department in connection with the fifty-fifth General Conference session.

Spurred by the singing of Pastor Wintley Phipps, a long stream of runners and walkers started the 5K (3 miles) walk and run at 7:30 a.m. The colorful multitude included small children as well as senior citizens. Bertha Dewitt, 95, of California, was the oldest participant in the fitness event. After 8:00 a.m. another group of runners started a 10K (6 miles) run.

Several distinguished guests participated in the event, including Mavis Lindgren, 83, who has run in 55 marathons since she turned 70; Hulda Crooks, 94, who many times has climbed Mount Whitney, the highest mountain in the 48 contiguous states of the U.S.; Michelle Bush-Cuke, 28, winner of the one-mile run in the Colgate Women's Games in New York; and Charlotte Hamlin, who has bicycled across the U.S., Europe, and Asia.

Overall male and female winners included Philip Ellis and



People of all ages ran for their lives at Sunday's Fitness Event.



A delegate from Japan participated in the five-kilometer (3-mile) walk.

FOR FITNESS

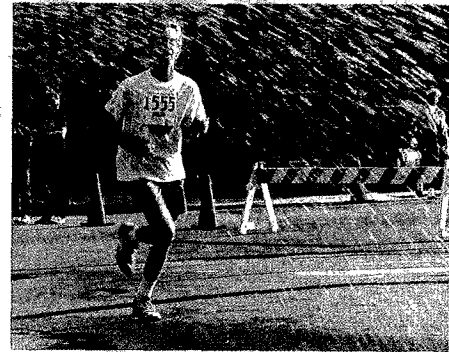
Bush-Cuke (10K run), Bret Neylon and Mary Beth Adams (5K run), and Jerry Lambert and Kelli Ackman (5K walk).

DeWitt Williams, associate director of the General Conference Health and Temperance Department and a race organizer, believes the event was successful. "In sponsoring the race we wanted to make a public statement stressing the benefits of physical fitness. This also gave us an opportunity to make contact with many non-Adventists," he explained. "Of the nearly 1,800 runners participating, about one third were non-Adventists."

The event provided an excellent opportunity to showcase the international makeup of the Adventist Church. Runners from more than 100 countries took part and more than 200 volunteers helped. Participants received T-shirts and a vegetarian brunch as part of their \$10 entry fee. Local community service volunteers provided free weight and blood-pressure checks.

Other features included performances by the Allegheny East Conference Drum and Drill Corps within the Columbia Union, and the SDA Student Association Choir from South Africa.

Many organizations made significant contributions to sponsor the race, including the Adventist Hospital Association, Shawnee Mission Medical Center, Kettering Medical Center, *Vibrant Life* magazine, and Worthington Foods, Inc.



A douse of water helps a runner cool off on a hot day.



One of those taking part in the walk was a blind woman accompanied by a sighted friend.

The Lord on High Is Mighty



By **Edwin Ludescher**
President

There is no doubt that the Euro-Africa Division is a challenging field, with 26 countries and approximately 390 million inhabitants. A visitor to this division would be surprised at its variety of cultures, languages, and mentalities. Indeed, it is a unique organization with tremendous possibilities.

Look at the statistics of our division—with territories in Eastern and Western Europe and on the African continent. (Figures are to September 30, 1989.)

Today we face an unfinished work whose achievement goes beyond human resources. The only solution to our situation is to surrender ourselves to God completely. We must put into His hands our "five loaves, and two fishes" (Matt. 14:16-18), for they are nothing in our own. In His they become food for the multitudes.

Evangelization Our First Priority

At the beginning of this quinquennium we laid plans for a strong evangelistic outreach in all unions, conferences, and institutions. Church growth seminars have been held in all our fields. They have helped our church members become more sensitive to a more direct approach to evangelism, laying the groundwork for an awakening that has taken place in our churches. Maranatha seminars have been conducted everywhere with encouraging results. The new material for the Daniel and Revelation seminars has been translated into the different languages of our division and has been made available to our pastors, evangelists, and church members. Hundreds of Home Bible Circles have been created and are still functioning.

We have set a baptismal goal of 85,000 for the quinquennium. Never before in the history of the Euro-Africa Division have we set such a high objec-

tive. At the beginning of the quinquennium (July 1, 1985) total membership was 248,254. On September 30, 1989, membership stood at 302,039, bringing to 68,322 the accessions made by baptism and profession of faith.

We have entered new territories. In Gibraltar Pastor J. Lozano of Spain held an evangelistic campaign in 1989. Three people from Gibraltar and 35 from the Spanish church at the border were baptized. Twenty more people are receiving Bible studies. The Italian Union was asked to start the work on the island of Malta. Today we have four baptized members there. Three people showing deep interest in our message were baptized in March 1990.

The Swiss Union and the German Swiss Conference started the work in Lichtenstein two years ago. Today this principality has a group of five Adventist believers and 10 to 15 interested people, some of whom are receiving Bible studies.

Mobile Evangelism Institute

The first evangelism institute took place in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany, during the first half of 1986, under Mark Finley's direction. Twenty-five pastors attended the institute, which resulted in 68 baptisms.

Encouraged by this positive experience, the division committee decided to organize its own mobile evangelism institute. It has now been functioning since January 1987 under the leadership of Brad Thorp and his wife, both of whom worked previously at the Chicago-based North American Division Evangelism Institute. So far five institutes have been held: in Vienna, Austria, and Zurich, Switzerland, in 1987; in West Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany, and Marseilles, France, in 1988; and in Porto, Portugal, in 1989. About 150 pas-

tors have attended these institutes, which have resulted in approximately 230 baptisms. Two more institutes will be conducted in 1990: one in Mainz, Federal Republic of Germany, and another in Dresden, German Democratic Republic.

These evangelism institutes are reaching a threefold objective: (1) to train our workers and laity for evangelism and to make them familiar with the principles of church growth; (2) to experience a revival in the churches in which the institute takes place; and (3) to win souls for the kingdom.

We strongly believe that such institutes should continue to function in our division until the Lord comes.

Bible Conferences

Three Bible conferences took place in our division in 1988 with a total attendance of 650 pastors, evangelists, teachers, and other church employees. Lecturers from Andrews University, the General Conference Biblical Research Committee, and the Euro-Africa Division laid emphasis on the three angels' messages. For a strong evangelistic outreach, we must be completely filled with the message to proclaim.

Four Challenges

All four challenges facing the Euro-Africa Division involve evangelism. How to preach the gospel:

- to the Muslims of Western Europe and North Africa,
- in war-torn countries,
- to our secularized society of Western Europe,
- in socialist countries.

Education and Youth

Great attention has been given to our youth. The enrollment in our kindergarten, elementary, secondary, and theological schools increased from 3,500 to 4,000; and 450 students were baptized during the quinquennium. Approximately 35,000 children are enrolled in weekly religious instruction classes during the calendar school year.

National youth congresses have been organized every other year, with the following attendances: Italy, 700; Spain and Portugal, 1,500; France and West Germany, 2,000; Angola, 6,000.

An international youth congress for

he division took place in Barcelona, Spain, July 25-29, 1989. About 5,200 young people from 30 countries attended his big gathering; 17, including two prisoners, were baptized, and 100 decided to prepare for baptism.

In West Germany 1,100 young Adventists established a new world record. They copied the Bible in 57 minutes.

The division Youth Volunteer Service enables 40 young people to serve for one year in denominational institutions in Europe and in Africa.

Our Friedensau Theological Seminary in the German Democratic Republic organized an open-door day; 2,000 people visited the institution.

Publishing Work

During this quinquennium 580 active literature evangelists sold \$44.5 million worth of publications, and 787 people were baptized as a result of their ministry. Of course, we are proud of our world literature champion, Jesus Garcia, of Spain. In 1987 he sold \$231,252 worth of literature, and even more in 1988: \$235,998.

Sabbath School and Lay Activities

An excellent work has been accomplished in the Sabbath school area by training teachers and preparing useful materials. In Romania, Bulgaria, and Czechoslovakia, Sabbath school attendance is equal to 100 percent of our church membership, in Angola it is 200

Area	Countries	Population	Members	Churches
Eastern Europe	4	64,291,000	79,833	1,036
Western Europe	16	247,698,000	60,331	828
Africa	5	77,823,000	161,875	886
	25	389,812,000	302,039	2,750

percent, and in Mozambique, 180 percent!

We believe in lay evangelism. The Maranatha seminars have been very successful. They have been attended by hundreds of members. New material has been produced for the Daniel and Revelation seminars and for the health and stress seminars.

In the South German Union more than 400 Home Bible Circles are functioning, and approximately 2,000 non-Adventists are receiving Bible studies. The Czechoslovakian Union numbers 140 such circles.

In the Franco-Belgian Union a young lady teacher had the joy of meeting a young woman from Algeria and leading her to baptism. Then they both attended a Maranatha seminar and started to evangelize the neighborhood where they live in Paris. Twenty people joined the church as a result of their witnessing. There is a real awakening for evangelism in our churches.

Thousands of evangelistic campaigns take place in our territories every year. We are thankful to our pastors, literature evangelists, medical workers, employ-

ees, and church members for their personal commitment to evangelism.

Health and Temperance

Our beautiful 230-bed Waldfriede Hospital in West Berlin contributes largely to the spreading of our message in this big city. This institution also operates a nursing school with a three-year program in which 60 students are enrolled. In Angola we have dispensaries in Malange, Luena, and Quilengues. The latest one was attacked by UNITA rebels at the beginning of this year and partly destroyed. One of the workers was killed, and several others were severely injured.

According to our statistics, we have approximately 1,000 medical doctors in the division. Many of them contribute to the work of the church by conducting Five-Day Plans and health seminars. Our Adventist medical doctors' organization in France (AMALF) has for many years carried out voluntary missions and services in developing countries. Their work is deeply appreciated.

Public Relations

For our church in Italy, December 29, 1986, was a historical day. On that day the Seventh-day Adventist Church in this strongly Roman Catholic country was given official recognition by the Italian government. In Rome, Bettino Craxi, former president of the Council of Ministers, and Enrico Long, president of the Italian Union, signed the agreement between the government and our church. This document states that Adventists have the right to observe the Sabbath from Friday at sunset to Saturday at sunset. This is a unique document in the world.

ADRA-Europe

This name has become widely known in our division. The 1989 budget for ADRA-Europe amounted to \$2,666,000. After the devastating earth-

GC SNAPSHOT



adies who participated in the SK run/walk fitness event rest after completing the run.

quake in Armenia, we were asked to build a rehabilitation center for 200 children. The total cost was \$1,466,000. Thanks to excellent cooperation between ADRA International, ADRA-Europe, and the Mennonite Church, this project will soon be completed.

ADRA-Europe also is developing an agricultural station on the island of São Tomé. The food and relief program for Mozambique that has been financed by the American government is still going on. It brings considerable help to the population of the Mabote area. We are making plans to open an ADRA office in Luanda, the capital city of Angola. We are amazed at the strong and generous support our church members give to ADRA.

Radio Work

Twenty local radio stations are broadcasting in the Euro-Africa Division. Approximately 50 people joined the church as a result of their outreach. Our Adventist World Radio station in Italy, no longer powerful enough, will in several years be replaced by a more powerful station, which will be financed by the world church and be the recipient of the 1990 General Conference session offering. This station will broadcast our message in Eastern and Western Europe, the Soviet Union, the Middle East, and North Africa. This project also includes two medium-wave stations: one in Italy to reach Albania, and another one on the island of Sicily to cover Tunisia. Tunisia, where the Adventist Church has not been established yet, will receive our very best attention.

Africa

Angola, with 9 million inhabitants, is our fastest growing field. When the Communist revolution began there in 1975, we had 35,000 church members. On September 30, 1989, the total membership was 109,083 and the growing process is accelerating from year to year.

In Mozambique the membership has more than doubled since the Communist revolution in 1975. It stood at 52,757 on September 30, 1989. In the past our Mozambique Adventist Seminary existed only in the yearbook. In 1975 the brethren laid plans to build the seminary. But the revolution broke out that year,

GC SNAPSHOT



Allen and Andrea Steele of Adventist World Radio Asia-Guam join GC treasurer Don Gilbert in a GC offering appeal to support a station that will reach Africa and Europe.

and nothing could be done. Construction work had become impossible as no materials were available.

This unfortunate situation lasted until 1986 when something unbelievable happened. Under the supervision of Dr. H. Stoeger, division health and temperance director, we imported prefabricated units from South Africa and built 10 houses within a short time. In 1989 a chapel with a seating capacity of 600 was built in the same way on the campus of this institution. In the eyes of the government, the population, and of our believers, such a realization was a miracle. Today the seminary in Beira is well equipped and has an enrollment of 45 students in theology and 10 to 15 in agriculture.

MISSERM, our organization that carries out our work among Muslims in Tunisia, Morocco, and France, is under the direction of Jean Kempf. Since its creation in 1982, 35 Muslims have been baptized.

New Opportunities in Eastern Europe

Last year went into history as an extraordinary year. Unexpected events and developments occurred before our eyes. I mention here only the four countries that belong to the division—the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and Romania.

Even today it is difficult for our mem-

bers to realize that what happened is not a dream but reality. "Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty!" (Ps. 93:4, RSV).

A completely new situation now faces our church in these countries. In the past we always asked ourselves what we could accomplish there. Today we wonder what cannot be accomplished.

In Bulgaria we did not have authorization to hold union assemblies with elections for 41 years. Today this is possible, and practically no restrictions exist on the printing of literature. We even believe that it will be possible to organize the work for literature evangelists.

In Czechoslovakia they are building a beautiful publishing house that will be inaugurated next October or November. According to K. Nowak, the new union president, our pastors give religious instruction to non-Adventist students in public schools. Our leaders are now looking for a piece of land on which to establish a seminary. So far, church workers have received their training only through correspondence courses.

Since the revolution broke out in Romania, the union has taken advantage of the new situation to increase the number of students in the seminary from 10 to 30 immediately. Outstanding possibilities also exist for the publishing work and other activities.

The German Democratic Republic Union is experiencing a similar situation, and our brethren are taking full advantage of it. December 3, 1989, was the first Sabbath free for all school-age children. That day the government introduced the five-day week in all schools. An evangelism institute will be organized in Dresden from September to December 1990.

We are also planning to hold evangelism institutes in Czechoslovakia and Romania. Until the recent revolutions in these socialist countries, we could meet and hold evangelistic meetings only in our own church buildings. Today public halls are at our disposal.

We believe the greatest days for our church in Eastern Europe, as well as our entire division, are ahead of us. We are ready to seize these golden opportunities and go forward with courage and confidence.

ELLEN G. WHITE

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A Story of Gratitude and Praise



By Joao Wolff
President

It was on February 16, 1916, in La Plata, Argentina, that the South American Division had its beginning. Like the grain of seed that brought forth good fruit, the good news was scattered widely on the continent, producing fruit that remains to this day. Those pioneers wrote a history of love and sacrifice, of sweat and tears. Before we present the progress report of the fruit that is even now being harvested from the seed they spread abroad, we want to say thank you to them and express our gratitude and praise to God for the way He has led us.

Today the South American Division, based in Brasilia, Brazil, includes Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, the Falkland Islands, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay. Its more than 240 million inhabitants speak mainly Spanish and Portuguese.

At the beginning of the 1985-1990 quinquennium, the division committee approved a plan of action based on the Bible, the Spirit of Prophecy writings, the *Church Manual*, and various General Conference documents. The plan included a harmonious balance of the three phases of activity—sowing, reaping, and keeping, all under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Numbers can be cold and uninteresting, but in a report such as this, they present a graphic means of demonstrating growth. In 1916 we had 5,331 members; today we are nearing the million mark. In 1916, 733 were baptized; in 1989, 94,894. We have grown from 103 to 10,000 congregations since the division was organized.

The territory now includes seven unions, 20 conferences, and 23 missions. And its 1,000 pastoral districts have an average of 10 congregations and 1,000 members each. In one state only, that of São Paulo, Brazil, we have four

conferences and will soon organize the fifth. Eight new local fields were created during these five years, and three missions became conferences. Church employees number 14,000.

In spite of the weak economy, tithe reached more than \$104 million, and we built or completed new office buildings for 13 local fields and two unions. Most encouraging is that apostasy totals decreased by 11 percent during the quinquennium.

Education

This has also been a period of progress in education: 158,779 students are enrolled in our 784 elementary schools, 104 secondary schools, and eight colleges. Increases have been noted in all areas of education; perhaps one of the best is the 33.6 percent increase in students baptized—4,466.

During the first part of Harvest 90, Inca Union University was officially opened. Its enrollment increased from a little more than 400 in 1984 to more than 1,300 in 1989. Now as the Harvest 90 period is closing, the Chilean government has granted authorization for opening Chile Adventist University. No doubt the coming quinquennium will witness the opening of Argentine Adventist University, for which official procedures already have begun, and of Brazil Adventist University, which will open its doors when the first stage of construction has been completed at the new Brazil College.

Besides a vast army of nearly 7,000 teachers, we have a mighty force of ministers of the printed page—more than 7,000 literature evangelists. They have reported 16,920 baptisms as a result of distributing 44 million books and magazines, valued at US\$103 million. Our two publishing houses, one in Argentina

and one in Brazil, continue to provide material in both of the most frequently used languages. They used more than 10,000 tons of paper for publishing purposes during this period.

Church Ministries

One of the advantages resulting from the organization of the Church Ministries Department has been coordination of the programs and materials presented to the local churches. One of those ministries—the Sabbath school—reports nearly 12,000 Sabbath schools with more than 1.1 million members enrolled.

With a clear vision of the importance of ministry through missionary activities, the church has shown an increase in all types of such work. Statistics show that 42,469 lay Bible instructors and 30,195 lay preachers have dedicated themselves to the divinely ordained task of reaching others. Community service organizations have increased over the previous period by 159 percent, for a total of more than 10,000 units.

One of the most challenging goals has been that of reaching every family on the continent with Adventist literature each year. Initial distribution of the book explaining our 27 doctrines has been made among religious leaders, public servants, military and civilian personnel, and community thought leaders.

Approximately 2 million sets of Revelation Seminar lessons have been printed and distributed through an assertive plan. During 1987 the seminar was presented to every church or company by its local leader. In 1988 each Sabbath school class, under the direction of its teacher, was invited to present a seminar to a group of people. During the third year, 1989, each Adventist family was encouraged to present a seminar to a non-Adventist family. More than 40,000 non-Adventist families have been reached through this method, and 20,000 people have been baptized.

Young People

In our division, youth and juniors form a strong, active part of God's army. They make up more than 70 percent of the church!

During the past five years 75,000 young people have been baptized, many at the traditional time in the spring of

each year. More than half of those enrolled in the 9,000 Adventist Youth societies are actively engaged in some kind of missionary endeavor.

Pathfinders in their colorful uniforms are found everywhere and total 52,000 members enrolled in 1,553 clubs. They participate enthusiastically in AY camps and congresses. A division-wide AY congress was held in January of this year in Buenos Aires.

Taking advantage of the interest awakened by the 10,000 young people who attended the congress, evangelistic efforts were held in eight different locations both during the congress and after it. Evangelist Arturo Schmidt of the General Conference Ministerial Association conducted a major campaign in a new church, the first to be constructed in the federal capital since 1938.

Challenging work in the areas of stewardship and attention to the home and family is going forward through meetings, courses, programs, seminars, and congresses conducted by specialized leaders.

Medical Work

From the very beginning one of the church's strong points has been the medical missionary work. Today we have 23 medical institutions with a total of 943 beds, three nursing schools on the college level, and four for education of nurse's aids.

The temperance program has motivated the church to witness courageously to the health principles it practices and teaches. Without the shadow of a doubt, thousands of persons have become acquainted with the church through plans to stop smoking or drinking; stress seminars; oratorical, poetry, and drawing contests; exhibits in public places against the evils of vice and drugs; temperance marches; days set aside for no smoking and no drinking; and many other activities.

More than 600 radio and TV stations broadcast our various church programs, including the *Voice of Prophecy* program in Spanish and Portuguese, each week, and many of them do so daily. More than 800,000 students have finished the Bible correspondence schools, and 116,169 have been baptized.

The Austral Union recently celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the ra-

dio/TV program *Una Luz en al Camino* (A Light in the Way) in a well-publicized program for the public directed by Enrique Chaij, which attracted an audience of approximately 15,000.

The work and influence of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has been of inestimable value in the South American Division countries through the years. Barriers and preconceived ideas have been broken down, thanks to its health, education, and nutrition program, as well as to the distribution of clothing and projects for and with the communities. Investment in the various programs is more than \$70 million, with more than 1 million persons having been helped.

Decided progress has been noted with respect to the work of the Ministerial Association. Recognizing that pastoral care is of high priority, two division-level seminars have been held for the ministerial secretaries to provide orientation. It is interesting to note that the two best years for baptisms followed those events.

Sowing and reaping festivals have had excellent results in the Inca Union as they have united pastors and laypersons in working side by side in evangelism. The Fasting-Prayer-Baptism (JOB) program in the East Brazil Union has revived the church.

During the 1000 Days of Reaping metropolitan campaigns were conducted, with a specific area, city, or state uniting in an evangelistic thrust. Under this plan evangelists usually conducted meetings in the larger centers. These campaigns continued during the current quinquennium, and here are some of the baptismal results: Lima, Peru, more than 1,000; La Paz, Bolivia, more than 800; Tucumán, Argentina, more than 400; Paragominas, Brazil, more than 700; and Brasilia, Brazil, more than 590.

The concept of the metropolitan campaigns broadened with the next step, that of holding large national campaigns. The

GC SNAPSHOT



Adventist Review editor William G. Johnsson, Cornerstone editor Barbara Hall, and Review associate editor Roy Adams sit in the front row of the arena to keep up with events unfolding on the platform.

members and workers of an entire country were involved in simultaneous evangelistic efforts. Three new churches were built in the city of São José do Rio Prêto during Brazil's national campaign, thus doubling the number of congregations there.

Following the national campaigns that took place from 1986 to 1989, the Continental Campaign of Renewal in Christ began in 1990, with our eight countries uniting their efforts.

Rapid Growth

During the Harvest 90 period the South American Division has risen to second place with respect to number of members. The baptismal goal assigned by the General Conference—350,000 baptisms—was reached by September 1989.

The Inca Union was the first in the division and in the world to reach its goal, and it plans to double its goal by the end of Harvest 90 by reaching 180,000 baptisms. During the last part of 1989 three unions and 20 local fields also reached their goals.

We attribute this success to several factors, among them the following: a clear vision of the church's mission on the part of workers and lay members; administrative emphasis at all levels on a continued evangelistic plan that involves everyone; active participation in evangelism by education and medical institutions, publishing houses, industries, and other entities; continuous Bible or baptismal classes in each church and school; regular and frequent baptismal services in each church; major participation by youth; widespread distribution of litera-

ture; Revelation seminars; and the Pioneer Projects, in which a group of members leaves a home church to start a new one.

The Shepherdess organization has been providing care, attention, and information for pastors' wives for the past 10 years in the South American Division. The idea of pastor-wife teamwork continues to be promoted. Branches of the organization are functioning in all the unions and local fields, as well as in four colleges.

Continuing education courses have provided valuable instruction for pastors and laypersons alike. Sponsored by the Latin-American Adventist Theological Seminary, they have been of benefit to more than 15,000 participants. The seminary continues to grow. Besides undergraduate courses in theology being offered in all five of its branches, a master's degree in theology is now being

offered in three of them.

The General Conference Evaluation Committee has visited the seminary to provide orientation for implementing two possible doctoral programs during the next few years.

In spite of the challenging problems resulting from the inflation that exists in many of our countries, the health food industries have been able to confront successfully the crises that have arisen. The four principal industries have 1,099 employees. Sales reached \$83,607,545, and product volume totaled 91,246 tons.

Our report would not be complete without a word of appreciation and recognition for the work so often done in an anonymous and quiet manner by the auditing service workers. Many times their warning signals have helped to avoid difficulties in carrying forward the business of the church.


In 1986 the Annual Council took place

for the first time in South America, in Rio de Janeiro. At the last meeting of that council, former GC president Neal C. Wilson introduced the Global Strategy program, presenting the challenge to finish the task of evangelizing the world.

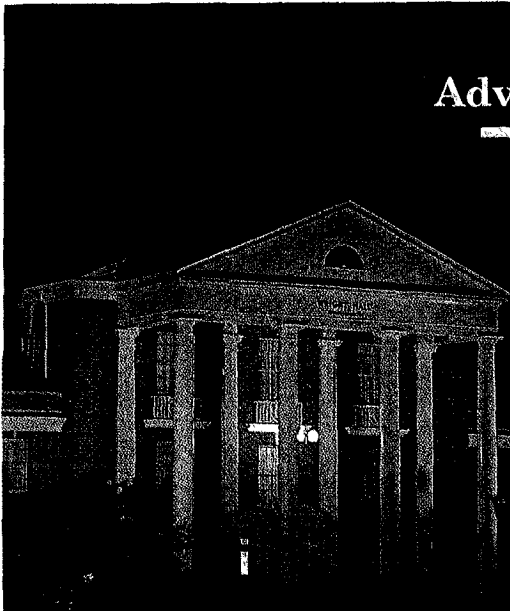
A detailed study of our division territory reveals several interesting facts: In 1988 the ratio between residents and Adventists ranged from as high as 2,000 to 1 in the Falkland Islands to 99 to 1 in Bolivia. Two South American countries appear on the list of 10 countries in the world having the largest number of Adventists: Brazil with 483,065, and Peru with 187,151. By the year 2000, indications are that São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and Buenos Aires will be among the 12 most populous cities in the world.

The Seventh-day Adventist denomination is shown to be in seventh place in size among South American Protestant churches, according to 1982 data. In Bolivia it is the largest denomination, and in Peru, the second largest. Our most pressing priorities are those of Argentina, Ecuador, Paraguay, Uruguay, and the Falkland Islands. Of the 7,099 municipalities (as the basic political units common to all countries are called), the church is present in 41.3 percent. In other words, we have not a single member in 4,169 municipalities. What a tremendous challenge! These municipalities will be distributed by assigning 10 of them to the division, 10 to each union and local field, and 5 to each local church.

At the close of the fifty-fourth General Conference session in New Orleans in 1985, when Elder Wilson gave opportunity to division leaders to present their objectives for the coming quinquennium, we said that our greatest effort would be in preaching the gospel, announcing that Jesus Christ, our Saviour, is soon to return.

We can testify that God has led in a marvelous way. He has granted, either partially or completely, all that we proposed for this quinquennium. Therefore, we are determined, with praise in our hearts and a tribute of gratitude on our lips, to dedicate ourselves anew to His service in obedience to Revelation 10:11: "And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings." 

Adventist Perspective



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To God Be the Glory



By **Bekele Heye**
President

We bring honor and glory to God for the victories achieved in the Eastern Africa Division during Harvest 90. Our prayer objective was somehow to enter the unentered territories of our division with the message of hope—the everlasting gospel—during this past quinquennium; and to accelerate our evangelistic thrust by involving the whole church in reaching the unreached.

The Eastern Africa Division comprises 10 countries, stretching along the eastern section of the great African continent from Ethiopia in the north to Botswana in the south. The territory covers 2 million square miles and includes 150 million people and 442 languages and dialects.

Even though the Lord has given us a beautiful vineyard of natural beauty, the devil is also doing his best to frustrate our efforts and discourage progress. Anti-Christian forces, a resurgence of Islamic beliefs, and a variety of traditional religions and anti-God political ideologies with sophisticated propaganda machinery now batter the church.

Phenomenal Growth

Yet church membership has shown unprecedented growth during this past quinquennium. An example of this is Ethiopia. During the period of the 1000 Days of Reaping and during the first phase of Harvest 90, the country experienced war and disastrous famines. The majority of our churches were closed, travel restrictions were imposed, proclamation of the gospel was prohibited, and collection of tithe was banned. Yet our gallant leaders and believers refused to retreat or give up their faith. As a result, they became the first union of the division to meet their Harvest 90 goal, which they had achieved by June 1989.

How did they do it? They joined their

voices in incessant prayer to the throne of God to intervene on their behalf. Things began to change. God blessed, and lay involvement greatly increased. Even though their membership was only 34,000 after 80 years of hard work, they were able to baptize 23,875 souls in 18 quarters of Harvest 90.

Djibouti and Somalia

Two countries, the republics of Somalia, with 8.5 million residents, and Djibouti, with about 320,000, were absolutely closed to the Seventh-day Adventist message. Both are almost totally populated by Muslims speaking the Cushetic language.

All attempts to enter Djibouti since 1902 have met with failure. Then in early 1986 the hand of God started opening the closed door. The president of Djibouti and the minister of health and social affairs started to show keen interest in our application to establish a Seventh-day Adventist dental clinic in the city of Djibouti, and gave the go-ahead for land and a clinic.

The miracle took place on November 7, 1988, when nearly an acre of land (4,000 square meters) in a prime location was granted. Construction work is expected to be completed by mid-January 1991, and the dental clinic will open its doors shortly after that.

A similar approach was made to the republic of Somalia in 1988, and after serious negotiations we have been allowed to establish a dental clinic along the same line as the one in Djibouti.

Zanzibar

As we go farther south from Somalia we come to the famous island of Zanzibar, known for its export of cloves. This island, inhabited by Muslims, was a sovereign state until it was united with Tan-

ganyika and Pemba in 1964 to form Tanzania. Until this past quinquennium, Zanzibar remained an unentered territory. The Tanzania Union has now placed the first literature evangelist there. From this humble beginning, the first medical clinic and a worker's house have been established. Thirty people have already been baptized, thus establishing on Zanzibar the nucleus for future growth and expansion.

Annual Council

In October 1988 the Eastern Africa Division was graced with the convening of the first-ever Annual Council on the African continent. The council was held at the Jomo Kenyatta Conference Center in Nairobi, Kenya, with a grand celebration at Nyayo National Stadium on Sabbath, October 8. These experiences have brought us unforgettable joy, confidence, and motivation for a finished work.

Zambia and Zambesi

In two unions, Zambia and Zambesi, we were blessed with an evangelistic explosion of Pentecostal proportion during Harvest 90. These two unions met and surpassed their Harvest 90 goals by September 30, 1989!

The work in Zambia began in 1905 with the opening of a school and farm at Rusangu. The work grew steadily, and soon six mission stations operated under one field—a structure it kept until 1972, when a union mission was officially organized with 22,000 members. In 1982 it was reorganized with six fields. The Zambia Union now operates two medical institutions, 10 primary schools, five secondary schools, and one church school.

At the launching of the Harvest 90 program, the Zambia Union had a membership of 60,000. By September 30, 1989, in just 17 quarters of the quinquennium, the membership had more than doubled, with 65,497 baptisms.

How did this happen? It took teamwork among our members and leaders in Zambia, under the leadership of president L. D. Raelly.

By the end of 1989 the total Harvest 90 baptisms in the Zambia Union stood at 74,116, and the union's total membership at 121,368.

The Zambesi Union, where our division is headquartered, is the division's historical center and is where the first Seventh-day Adventist mission in eastern Africa was organized—at Solusi by G. W. Reaser—with a membership of 24. Solusi Mission, the present site of Solusi College, was established in 1894 on 12,000 acres of land granted by Cecil Rhodes, then prime minister of Cape Colony. This mission formed the nucleus for the heralding of the everlasting gospel in southern Africa, and the fire of evangelism has kept on burning brighter and brighter ever since.

In just 17 quarters of Harvest 90 the gallant army of members of the Zambesi Union surpassed their goal of 65,000, thus more than doubling their membership. At the close of 1989 their membership had risen to 136,631.

More than 1,000 efforts were conducted by the workers and the laity during Harvest 90 under the leadership of R. R. Ndhlovu. More than 2,000 lay members conducted Zunde meetings in central Zimbabwe (*Zunde* means "coming together to help the chief"). The result is that 100 new churches, more than 500 companies, and more than 1,000 branch Sabbath schools were organized. Nearly 1,000 Dorcas women in the Western Zimbabwe Field have brought thousands to Christ. The women visited hospital patients, conducted four-day witnessing programs, did house-to-house visitations, gave Bible studies, and helped those in need.

Tanzania

In the Tanzania Union the membership has grown during Harvest 90 from 63,000 to 102,000, an increase of 39,000 as of September 1989. Union president R. W. Taylor led the way in conducting many evangelistic campaigns in a number of major towns, and in raising funds for the distribution of more than 50,000 Bibles. Many church leaders of other denominations even joined with large numbers of their followers.

With the addition of a new printing press at Tanzania Adventist Press, literature sales have gone up from 8 million shillings annually at the beginning of the quinquennium to 29.6 million annually. The literature evangelists were responsible for 4,961 baptisms during the 1000

Days of Reaping, whereas they led 14,917 people to be baptized during Harvest 90. A new literature evangelist seminary is well under construction in Mwanza, on the shore of Lake Victoria.

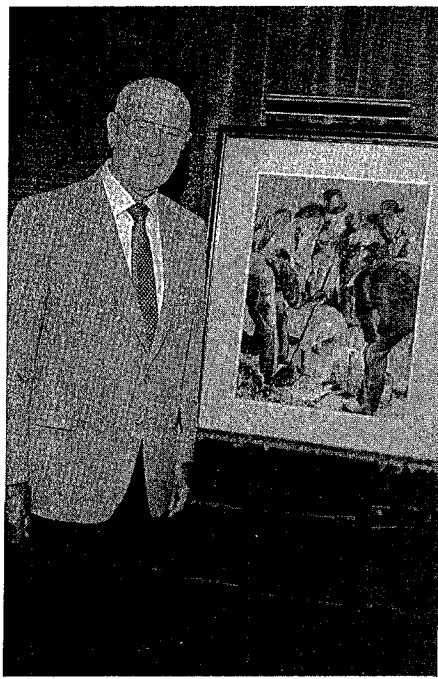
More than 35 new areas were entered with the gospel message during Harvest 90, including Zanzibar. Tithes has increased from 10,832,194 Tanzanian shillings annually at the beginning of Harvest 90 to 42,678,302 shillings in 1989. As a result of this faithful church support, three fields—Mara-Kagera, South Nyanza, and North-East Tanzania—have become conferences.

Botswana

Botswana Region started Harvest 90 with nearly 7,000 members. By September 1989 the membership had risen to 10,500, an increase of 3,500 in that large country of 1.2 million. Among those who joined the remnant church was the former head of the Church of the Assemblies of God in that country. This pastor joined our church as a result of an effort conducted by D. W. B. Chalale, director of Botswana Region.

Due credit goes to our lay members in Botswana who responded to the moving of the Holy Spirit to reach the unreached during Harvest 90.

GC SNAPSHOT



The Ellen G. White Estate booth displays the Vernon Nye collection of paintings, featuring events in the life of Ellen White.

The Botswana Region's fourth quarter 1989 report indicates baptisms of 206.

Uganda

The Uganda Union was another country of our division that for more than 20 years faced political turmoil, civil strife, mass killing, and destruction of properties and infrastructure under the rulership of tyrant oppressors. At the early stage of this period, the Adventist Church was banned, along with 10 other denominations. Yes, extensive damage was caused, but no earthly power can stay the forward march and advance of the church of the true God. Our dedicated workers went underground and continued with the function of the church as if nothing had happened. Our Spirit-led members, under the dynamic leadership of Samson Kisekka, took our church institutions under their protection and arranged for their operation without any interruption.

Peace and tranquillity were restored in Uganda about four years ago when the National Resistance Army liberated the country, and the Right Honorable Prime Minister Dr. Samson Kisekka, a practicing Seventh-day Adventist, is now the head of the government. Once more our church has started operating in the air of freedom and serenity.

The Uganda Union, under the leadership of president Jack Bohannon, accepted the challenge of Harvest 90 by setting itself a goal of 32,500 baptisms. The union started Harvest 90 with a membership of 31,500, and by the end of September 1989 they had registered a membership of 56,500, an increase of 25,000 members.

The KIDAYO (Kampala Inter-District Adventist Youth Organization) in Uganda is one of the many examples of the dedication of Adventist youth in action throughout the Eastern Africa Division. KIDAYO began as a singing group when the church was banned under the rule of Idi Amin. As a choir they were able to witness for the Lord through singing at a time when they were not able to preach.

Kenya

The present East African Union is comprised of two countries, Kenya and Somalia. We are in the process of entering Somalia, as mentioned earlier, and

therefore our work in the union at present is limited to Kenya.

The East African Union is a giant union, not only in the Eastern Africa Division but in the world church. The baptized membership in this union stands as of September 1989 at 286,240.

The work in this union has grown beyond human expectation during Harvest 90. Ron J. Wright, East African Union Ministerial Association secretary, has held many successful evangelistic series. In one of these efforts more than 5,000 people were baptized, and in another more than 4,500.

The freedom to worship and to propagate our message, as afforded us by the Kenya government, and the high value this government attaches to the preaching of the everlasting gospel are among the factors contributing to the fast growth of our church in this famous country.

Malawi

The Harvest 90 program has brought revival and wholistic growth to our church in Malawi. The union began with intensive lay training seminars to mobilize the whole church to meet the challenges of Harvest 90. The South-East Africa Union had a membership of 64,500 when Harvest 90 was introduced; by the end of 1989 membership totaled 96,000, giving them an increase of 31,500. Our workers and lay preachers joined hands and put their resources together to bring the redeeming message to those behind prison bars, and 93 were baptized. They also took the message to the Muslim area of Malawi. We now have two representative churches built in the Namalaka and Makanjira regions where Muslim converts are worshipping.

The Voice of Prophecy school has a record 4,317 students, and 210 of these are already baptized. Teachers at Malamulo Secondary School recently conducted an effort, and 145 people were baptized. Malamulo Publishing House staff raised up a new congregation of 60 baptized members. The union president, W. L. Masoka, and Lake View Seminary students conducted an effort in the central region, and 156 people were baptized, six of whom were from the palace of the Ngoni paramount chief, Gomani III of Lizulu.

At the Eastern Africa Division we attach great importance to our departments and services. This belief has been substantiated beyond any grain of doubt during the period of Harvest 90.

Our highly motivated 2,500 literature evangelists saturated our territory, reaching new heights in sales. Our literature evangelists saw 35,578 people baptized as a direct result of their activities.

The Health and Temperance Department has demonstrated that health is an effective tool for opening doors for the gospel. It was instrumental in opening three areas: the Republic of Djibouti, the Somali Democratic Republic, and the island of Zanzibar, which had not even a single Seventh-day Adventist. Our 10 hospitals and more than 100 clinics throughout the territory of the division continue giving loving service and care to the populations they serve.

The Loma Linda open-heart surgery team was invited by our Health and Temperance Department director, Dr. Saleem Farag, to visit Zimbabwe in 1987 and Kenya in 1988. As a result, an all-national team in Zimbabwe is performing open-heart surgery with excellent success. In Kenya, Kenyatta Medical Center has resumed surgeries suspended because of technical difficulties.

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency of the Eastern Africa Division, under the leadership of Cliff Patterson, was successful in receiving and channeling funds in excess of US\$9 million for 150 institutional projects that ranged in size from US\$5,000 to US\$900,000.

In our Christian education system we have had an overall enrollment growth rate (primary, secondary, teacher training, and college/university) of 76.5 percent. These schools become fertile ground for evangelism. In 1989 alone, more than 10,000 baptisms were reported in our schools, and about 60 percent are from non-SDA homes. The average annual baptisms in our schools for the past five years has been 8,600 students.

We have one university and one senior college where workers are trained. The University of Eastern Africa, established in western Kenya, is now offering 12 majors.

Solusi College, affiliated with Andrews University since late 1984, has experienced rapid expansion in course and program offerings. Solusi is now offering nine majors, as well as minors in agriculture and computer science.

Lay Involvement

All our lay preachers—premiers, members of Parliament, prominent lawyers and magistrates, successful business persons, farmers and traders, professors and instructors, artisans and craftsmen—joined hands in bringing human and material resources together to preach the gospel in their communities.

In some unions of the division, 30 to 50 percent of our Harvest 90 converts were won entirely by the laity. The most pressing need in the work of the division's Church Ministries Department, according to Solomon Wolde-Endreas, director, is not so much to devise ways and methods of attracting people to the church as to train and prepare the members for the influx of new converts by the thousands every year. From Ethiopia in the north to Botswana in the south, it's difficult to find a single empty pew in the churches during Sabbath services. The challenge to the Department of Church Ministries is to organize these huge congregations into manageable sizes to ensure that they grow in knowledge and grace through the systematic study of the Holy Scriptures, using the Sabbath school lessons as prescribed by the world church.

In spite of currency devaluations, which have affected almost every country of the division, systematic giving for church support has been on a steady increase. Only a few years ago the idea of a conference appeared remote, if not unknown, in this area of Africa. But during this quinquennium three of the mission fields in Tanzania and one in Kenya have achieved conference status.

We have seen God's divine blessing and benediction over our humble efforts during Harvest 90. We believe a firm foundation has been laid for more accelerated growth and expansion through an organized global strategy. To God be the glory!

Church Seeks Response to Third World Tobacco Sales



John R. Seffrin, chairman of the American Cancer Society, speaks to the delegates regarding smoking in Third World countries.

How can the Seventh-day Adventist Church make an impact on decreasing the accelerating tobacco sales in developing countries?

That was the challenge posed to the delegates of the fifty-fifth General Conference session on Sunday, July 8.

In a panel discussion organized by the Washington Institute of Contemporary Issues (WICI), John R. Seffrin, chairman of the American Cancer Society, told delegates that "advertising and marketing excesses by U.S.-based transnational tobacco companies" contribute to increased smoking in many developing countries.

"For those of us in countries that have no tobacco advertising on television, it comes as a terrible shock to see the graphic, misleading imagery with which the tobacco industry seeks to attract the young and the vulnerable in the Third World," he said.

Unfortunately U.S. trade policies are aiding the spread of tobacco into developing countries, and exporting an epidemic of tobacco addiction, Seffrin explained. "Countries that try to prevent such advertising are threatened with retaliation against their products in our [U.S.] marketplace," he said.

Dr. Richard Peto, professor of epidemiology at Oxford University, also appeared on the panel. He is regarded as the world's foremost authority on long-term death rates from tobacco, particularly in developing countries.

Peto pointed out that males in China smoked 1.5 trillion cigarettes in 1988 as compared to 500 billion cigarettes in 1978. By the year 2000 it is expected that the rate of increase in cigarette consumption will be higher. He also noted that a great need exists for research in countries such as India, Cuba, Brazil, and Poland.

At the end of the morning discussion, newly elected General Conference president Robert S.

Folkenberg told the delegates that the time had come for the Adventist Church to become more active in the anti-tobacco movement.

In an afternoon seminar, the panelists discussed ways in which the church could help stem the tide of tobacco marketing in developing nations. Dr. Ronald M. Davis, director of the U.S. Office of Smoking and Health at the Centers for Disease Control, said the international nature of the Adventist Church "puts the church in a good position to work with government agencies and other international organizations [like the World Health Organization] to develop coalitions."

Peto said, "It's necessary to go beyond smoking-cessation programs and make a statement of the church's stance on this issue."

At the close of the meeting, WICI officials resolved to compose a statement to submit to church leaders for approval.

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Report presented at the General Conference session.

Pacific Press Publishing Association



By Robert E. Kyte
President

Pacific Press Publishing Association serves the publishing needs of the North American Division and ships many of its products around the world. During the past five years Pacific Press has been enjoying the economies of operating from its Nampa, Idaho, location. Income has now reached more than \$17 million per year. In addition, our Canadian printing subsidiary, Maracle Press, has sales of more than Cdn\$6 million. Pacific Press also operates three Adventist Book Centers serving Idaho and a large portion of the Canadian Union.

All the functions of Pacific Press are designed to accomplish one thing—produce material that will nurture the church and present the good news of Jesus, the Saviour who is coming soon.

Journals

James White founded Pacific Press in 1874 in order to publish a missionary journal on the West Coast of the United

States. That magazine, *Signs of the Times*, is still the North American church's primary missionary outreach periodical in 1990—116 years later. Editor Kenneth J. Holland says, "*Signs* upholds and presents all the fundamental beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists. We invite readers to ask questions, study the Bible by mail, accept Jesus Christ, and unite with God's remnant church."

One member in Ohio wrote, "Over the years, I have entrusted my most precious earthly possessions—my family and my friends—to the ministry of the Holy Spirit and to the *Signs* staff. I have relied on *Signs* to share with them in an inoffensive way the good news of a loving, personal God. I've seen some drawn to the church primarily through this magazine. I was deeply moved when even an atheist friend told me he liked to read it—not always agreeing, but reading."

This is the year that *Our Little Friend* turns 100 years old. It began publication in Oakland, California, on July 4, 1890;

today it reaches more than 60,000 children in North America each Sabbath. A special centennial issue marks this milestone.

Primary Treasure, read by 40,000 boys and girls each Sabbath, will grow to 16 pages in July 1990. Part of the ministry of Aileen Andres Sox, editor of these two magazines, is answering children's letters. She recently shared this one with the workers at Pacific Press: "Dear Mrs. Sox, Today I gave my heart to Jesus. I love Jesus. My name is Rachel."

Pacific Press produces *Listen* magazine for the Health and Temperance Department of the General Conference. *Listen* is designed to give young people positive alternatives to problems arising from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. It is used nationally by many organizations in the fields of drug prevention and rehabilitation.

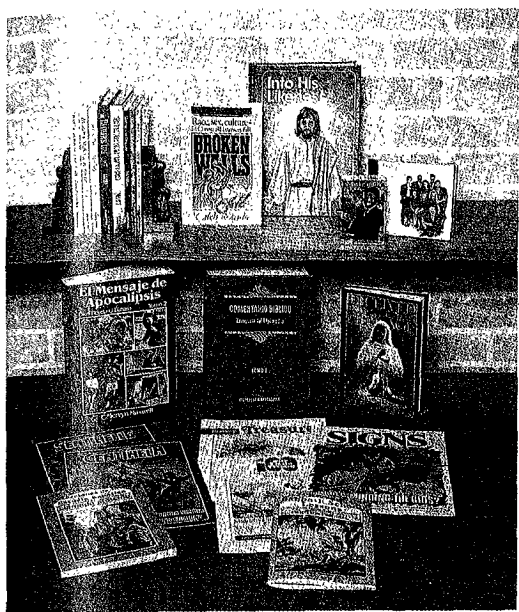
In Many Languages

Pacific Press is the publishing house in North America that prepares materials in languages other than English. Tulio Peverini, editor of *El Centinela*, the church's missionary magazine in Spanish for North America, reports that it has increased its circulation from less than 20,000 in 1985 to 100,000 today. A French counterpart, *La Sentinelle*, is designed for the French-speaking field in North America.

One of Pacific Press's most visible



During the past five years Pacific Press has enjoyed the economies of operating from its Nampa, Idaho, location.



Pacific Press Publishing Association publishes materials in Spanish, French, and English.

products is the adult Sabbath school lesson quarterlies available in three editions in both English and Spanish—standard, teacher's, and large-print. Pacific Press also prints an easy-English edition as well as a collegiate Sabbath school quarterly.

Early in 1990 Pacific Press completed a 10-year project: producing the *SDA Bible Commentary* in Spanish. An adaptation and updating of the English edition, this version will serve Spanish-speaking readers in four divisions: North America, Inter-America, South America, and Euro-Africa.

Pacific Press also supplies books in English, Spanish, French, and other languages to our church's frontline publishing workers, the literature evangelists. With the increase in the Hispanic population in the United States, Pacific Press's distribution of books through our literature evangelists is now split almost evenly between English and Spanish literature.

Books and Educational Materials

Pacific Press produces a wide variety of books each year for church members that are distributed through Adventist Book Centers. The product mix includes such topics as doctrine, health, family life, and positive Christian living. During the past five years Pacific Press has also been establishing a presence in the general Christian book marketplace through advertising and participation in the Christian Bookseller's Association's annual convention.

Educational materials also play a vital role in the product line of Pacific Press. Publications for elementary-, secondary-, and college-level instruction are printed and distributed to church schools throughout North America and around the world.

The Pacific Press looks forward to serving the publishing needs of our church in the future. Our goal is to be responsive to the expanding and changing needs of a dynamic church with products that will assist in finishing the work of God's church on earth.



Alleen Andros Sox, editor of *Our Little Friend*, pays tribute to former editors of the magazine on its 100th birthday.

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