



No. 2.

March

1948

## VISITING CYPRUS AND EGYPT

by **E. L. BRANSON**

*Superintendent, Middle East Union Mission*

Having heard so much about the lovely Isle of Cyprus, it was with real interest that I boarded a Mistr plane on February 2nd, with Brother L. J. Norris and one hour later we arrived at the Aerodrome outside the Capital city of Nicosia. The view of the island from the air gave us the impression of a very fertile central plateau surrounded by quite high mountains. At this season of the year the fields are all green but the people told us that in the heat of the summer, the grass turns brown and dry.

The customs and health officers took so long inspecting passports that it was evening before we were able to find the location of the radio shop operated by Brother Leontides. The shop was closed and not having any other address to go to, we retired to our hotel room for the night. Early the next morning we walked across town noting the very interesting ancient wall and moat which surrounded the old city and this time we found

our brother in his shop and had a very pleasant visit with him and his sister-in-law who is the sister of Miss Verta, assistant matron at our Middle East College. We had a visit that same morning with Brother Barlos, our Greek worker who came to Cyprus a little over a year ago from Istanbul, and then made an appointment with Brother Leontides to take us in the afternoon to Kyrenia, on the north coast of the island about 16 miles away, where Brother and Sister Greaves, our veteran retired missionaries, are now living.

As we went over the mountain pass through groves of olive and Kharoob trees, we saw before us a glorious panorama of rolling farm land, the white beach, and beyond, the beautiful blue Mediterranean. Then as we looked a little higher we could see very distinctly the rugged outline of the Taurus Mountains on the mainland of Turkey 50 miles northward.

Brother and sister Greaves did not look

any older than they did nine years ago at the Division meeting in Cairo. They have been living for a number of years in Cyprus and have had the privilege of seeing a group of splendid people accept this truth as a result of their witness. Now that they have moved to a new location, they are making many friends there and no doubt in the near future there will be another Sabbath School organized in that part of the island.

The next evening we had the privilege of conducting the services in the meeting place which our members have recently rented and furnished very attractively. They have 50 new chairs in this little chapel and Brother Norris plans to conduct evangelistic meetings there for the present time.

Thursday the 5th. I took the plane to Egypt where I spent a very pleasant week visiting with the workers and believers in Cairo and Fayoum and attending a meeting of the Egypt Mission Committee. I was happy to notice in visiting the school at Seila, Fayoum, that the fruit trees are coming along nicely and they had plenty of tomatoes and some other vegetables in the garden. They had just finished their well for drinking water near the buildings and will not have to have their drinking water carried from a distance much longer. Brother and Sister Rowe and the teachers at the school are doing very well and the students are enjoying their school year.

The church school in Heliopolis is a real credit to our work in Cairo. Miss Euphemia Bryne has recently arrived in Egypt to serve as Principal of the school and we appreciate having her services in this field. It was with real pleasure that I visited the Adventist Mercy Home in Mataria, a suburb of Cairo. Sister Erna Kruger is in charge of this or-

phanage where twenty-two bright boys and girls are now living. It was remarkable to see how well behaved and well trained they were after just a few months in the home. They sang a number of songs for us and we were very thankful for this work that this new institution is accomplishing. On Sabbath afternoon, as they attended Sabbath School, the children from the orphans' home took their places on the two front rows in the church and sat very quietly and attentively through the services. They wear very neat uniforms and make quite an impression on all who attend the services. I also had the privilege of visiting the church in Shubra where six new believers were recently baptized by Elder Zytkoskee. Elder Grin reported a number of new interests in Alexandria for which we are very thankful. Elder Nashed Yacoub and Brother Wilson Basta brought encouraging reports from Upper Egypt, so the work is progressing in the Egypt Mission and we thank Him for all His mercies and blessings in spite of the many trials and difficulties from time to time.

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### CONGRATULATIONS !

Professor and Mrs. R. L. Mole have been made happy by the arrival of Roberta Lee to their home, February 27. Annette thinks the baby is "pretty wonderful", and so do all those who have seen her. Hearty congratulations !



## EDITORIAL



"I did not know that before", said someone after reading a news item in *Middle East Messenger*. It is really surprising how little we do know about the many important things that happen around us. A baby is born, a new recruit comes to a mission field, a convert is baptized, a minister is ordained to the Gospel ministry, the message is being printed in a new language, these and many other events are taking place all the time. Yet, only too often, it is a very small circle that knows anything about them.

One of the blessings of the *Middle East Messenger* is that it widens the circle of acquaintance. The worker in some lonely spot, the friend in a distant land, the interested relative, and many others pick up the news items and the joy or the challenge of the events is passed on to them. None of us writes enough letters to enough people. It is a good thing that our Union paper can fill up the lack to a certain extent.

It is our plan that every English reading member in our churches throughout the territories of the Middle East Union receive a copy of the Union paper free of charge. We are especially anxious that every church officer receive a copy, for there will always be items in the *Middle East Messenger* that deal with church activities, whether in the Missionary Volunteer, the Sabbath School, Educational, or Home Missionary Departments. Will you please help us see to it that everyone entitled to a copy receives it according to schedule? We shall appreciate your co-operation in this matter very much indeed.

Now there are doubtless many of you who

would like to have the *Middle East Messenger* sent to your relatives or friends. We shall be happy to do this for you if you will send us their names and addresses. At the same time we have thought that it would be only fair to make a charge for such a service. It has therefore been decided to make a nominal subscription rate of \$1.00 a year for every name and address. When placing your order please send us the cash or authorize us to charge your account with the sum involved? Many thanks!

By the way, I hope that this issue of the *Middle East Messenger* reminds you that you should send me a report. Why not post it today?

P.S. You may mail that report if you prefer!

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### MINISTERIAL SEMINAR

To offer opportunity for experience in speaking before an audience of the doctrines which we hold dear, the Ministerial Seminar is held each Friday night, before the Vespers Hour. Topics are presented by various students, and the speaker may benefit by the kindly criticism given by older workers. The young women, as well as the young men, participate in this activity, and the thoughts may be presented in either Arabic or English.

A definite interest in this phase of the school life is being manifested, and the students eagerly take part, some of them even asking for the opportunity to speak. It is our hope and prayer that from this small beginning, better-trained workers may be prepared for active service in the Middle East Union, and that a better understanding of our doctrines may result from this weekly meeting of the Ministerial Seminar.

*Salim Majeed.*

## The Privilege of being a Master Comrade \*

By Miss Edith C. Davis

*Dean of Women, Middle East College*

When my friends knew that I was to speak on this subject, they made many helpful suggestions. One suggested that it was the right to wear the uniform that was the privilege; another that the attending of the Master Comrade Club was the real privilege. Now it is true that these privileges do come to us. It is true that there is a certain satisfaction in wearing a uniform that you have worked for. Last year the members of the Master Comrade Club certainly seemed to enjoy attending the Club. Yet I am certain that there are greater privileges.

I believe the text found in 1 John 2:14 applies to Master Comrades. "I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one." The Master Comrade movement is essentially a movement of young people.

Young people are strong. They have the strength and energy that is needed to carry the gospel to all the world in this generation. John also says that he has written to the young men because the word of God abideth in them. This is especially true of the Master Comrade. Each morning he is adding to his knowledge of God's word as he "keeps the morning watch". He has read his Bible year at least once and probably will continue to do so. He has passed a test in Bible Doctrines.

I remember reading once of a young man who was called into army service. On Friday he sent to his commanding officer to ask for the Sabbath free. The officer was not very friendly. He asked the young man: "Does the Bible say that you should keep Sabbath?"

"Yes, Sir", replied the young soldier.

"Where?" the officer snapped.

"In—in—I think in Luke, Sir. I'm not certain, Sir". That young man couldn't have been a Master Comrade. If he had been, he would have learned the commandments, and known that they were found in Exodus 20.

But to my mind there is even a greater privilege for Master Comrades. Our aim is the "Advent message to all the world in this generation". There are many ways of carrying the gospel. The minister may do it through evangelism. The colporteur may bring man the printed page, or the Voice of Prophecy may bring it directly into the homes of people. Most of these methods reach adults. Much of their life is behind them. The Master Comrade usually wins the Juniors. That means a lifetime of service.

I know that the Juniors who are present will forgive me if I tell this story on myself. When I was teaching school in America, the Pastor of the church told me that the board had nominated me as Sabbath School Superintendent of the Junior Division. I told him that I would not accept it. I had the young people work, and what was more, I didn't like Juniors. Give me children or young

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\* *Abstract of a talk given by Miss Davis at an Investiture Service held at the Lebanon-Syria Camp Meetings.*

people or adults, but not Juniors! However, he was a wise man. He insisted that my work would be much more effective if I learned to work with Juniors. Finally I accepted. I found that Juniors were the most interesting people anywhere to work with. As a matter of fact I soon became known throughout the conference as a Junior worker.

This summer I had a very enjoyable time with the Juniors who were in Beit-Mery. We organized a Junior Sabbath School and they led out themselves. We had picnics together. We learned to tie knots, and prepared Thirteenth Sabbath programs. As a matter of fact the expression on the faces of the parents, when the program was presented, was reward enough for any work involved.

My appeal to the Master Comrades is work for the Juniors. You will find them in the church, the school or in your neighbourhood. Gather them in and start the progressive class work. You will find it the greatest privilege of all.

## **STUDENTS TAKE OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE COLLEGE FOR A DAY**

Wednesday, March 3, was a special day for the students of Middle East College. The regular faculty of the college, from the President down, took leave of absence and the students assumed the responsibilities of administration and teaching.

It all began with a suggestion from the President. How would the College manage if the students were left on their own? Would the students like to choose their own president, appoint their own administrators, and run their own affairs for a day?

The proposal met with a ready response from the student body. It came as somewhat of a surprise to them and they hardly believed that the experiment would be tried, but they welcomed the opportunity to show that they could be trusted to shoulder responsibilities and carry them well.

The first thing to do was to elect a President. An election by secret ballot revealed that Adeeb Fargo was voted to be College President for the day. Teachers for the classes and supervisors for the departments and cafeteria were appointed by the regular faculty. The organization was in readiness for the all important day, and the members of the regular faculty were invited to stay out of the way.

Wednesday morning dawned bright with prospects of a spring-like day. The president took over his office; the dean of men took over his duties; so did the dean of women; the one in charge of the cafeteria began to supervise in the regular way; the teachers were prepared with their lesson outlines to fill the shoes of their former professors; the students went about their duties as though nothing had happened except that now they were on their mettle and they could show that the seriousness of their purpose in their coming to Middle East College was just as operative today as every day. You might have caught a glimpse of a smile here and there, for after all, this was something new, and some things could strike one as a little funny, but there was no spirit of taking the experience lightly. Bells were rung to time, meals were taken as usual, classes were held in the normal way. There was not a hitch in the programme from morning till night.

Was the experiment a success? It was the privilege of the writer to spend a number of hours on the College campus, observing

and talking with the president and a number of the students and faculty. It was his impression that the students revealed their wonted steadiness of purpose, seriousness of outlook, consecration of talent, and sense of responsibility that makes one proud of the youth of the Middle East. "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!"

The students thought that the experiment was well worth while. The teachers did very well in their classes and everyone profited. Of course they recognized that no student-teacher could possibly take the place of his professor, even for one day, but there was no waste of time. When it came to the more administrative jobs they thought they were able to do these, if not as well as their former administrators, at least very nearly as well. They did not feel they could guarantee success in their new ventures, but they would like to try their hand at leadership with responsibility.

A game of football (soccer) was played by the boys on the campus in the afternoon with great gusto. Half time saw the oranges come out in proper style. The game being over everybody went to his work in the wood-work shop, or on the farm, or elsewhere. The day had its fun and good times as well as its opportunities for serious endeavour.

The students were asked whether they would like another day like this and they said they would. Asked whether they thought the administration could continue for more than a day, they said they thought that it would, but three days was about the limit of its possibilities!

One bright student suggested that the experiment be reversed, that the students be

granted leave of absence and the faculty carry on the school. It was then concluded that a school might possibly exist without the faculty, but it would disintegrate rather rapidly without the students.

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## MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

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### DRESSER CAMPAIGN

The President of the College and three students walked on to the platform for a chapel exercise a short time ago. But the strange part of it was that two of the students were carrying something all wrapped up in a blanket. We could hardly wait for the opening song and the prayer to be over. At last the President stood, and before starting to speak motioned to one of the students to unwrap that article which had aroused our curiosity so fully. He pulled down the blanket and there appeared a beautiful and shining dresser.

"Well", said the President, "wouldn't you like to have such a nice dresser in your room?"

"Sure, of course, why not" were the answers.

"But" he continued, "we can only furnish your rooms with such dressers if you work hard in writing letters to raise the money for them."

This was the beginning of our first campaign. It was the same afternoon that I went to the library and asked for some stamps, but the librarian told me that there wasn't a single stamp nor a single envelope in the whole school.

Yes, we all worked hard and wrote as many as 30-35 letters each. We were all very anxious to send the letters out so that the money might come in. Every housekeeper will agree with us that it is impossible to keep the rooms neat and orderly without any place in which to put the clothes.

In order to put a dresser in each room it will be necessary for us to raise I.L. 2,600. This amount was divided equally between the boys and the girls. At the report in chapel this morning the total amount was I.L. 1,111.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have helped us to reach this much of our goal, and perhaps to ask the rest of you: do you still have an unanswered letter in our possession?

*Shahin Ouzounian.*

#### MEN OF MIGHT CLUB

The young men of Middle East College have organized themselves into a club taking the name, "Men of Might". This name, denoting a splendid co-ordination both of physical fitness and moral courage, was chosen by the young men to represent their quest for a nobler life.

Nationalities, we have many; tongues, we have many; opinions, we have many; yet all these are blending into a club which each of the boys can call his own.

At the time of organization, the following items, in addition to a constitution, were selected and accepted by the club members:

Aim: "Unto a perfect man."  
Motto: "Heights beckon us."  
Colors: Red and Grey.

During the first quarter, the officers were: President, Mousa Ghazel; Vice-President,

George Rafoul; Secretary-Treasurer, Naim Boulus, and Chaplain, Yusif Fargo. During the second quarter, those serving were: President, Farris B. Bishai; Vice-President, Fuad Fernainy and Secretary, Fuad Nowfal.

A bright new flag and a banner, in the club colors, lends added interest to the club meetings. The successful presentation of the reception to the girls is the latest achievement of the club.

The members of the Men of Might Club are continually striving to move forward to a still higher standard.

*George Yared.*

#### TRUE COMRADES IN SERVICE CLUB

For the past three years, the young women of Middle East College have been organized into a club which bears the name, "True Comrades in Service". This club endeavors to foster a spirit of unity and service, and cares for the cultural and spiritual development of its members.

During the present school year, the young ladies have been active in raising funds for their parlor. As a result of their energy, and enthusiasm, they have made curtains, and by securing some discarded furniture, have arranged their parlor in a clever way. Various entertainments have been held in the parlor already this year, and this room has become a place of which the young women are proud.

Feeling very thankful to be in their new home, the members of the T. C. S. Club entertained the Faculty, and young men of the college on March 14, at "Open House." This was the first time that "Open House" had been held at the college, and it proved very interesting to the guests, who had the privilege of visiting the rooms of those living

in the Young Women's Dormitory. The unfinished walls and floors were almost forgotten in the atmosphere of order, and originality of arrangement. The girls have indeed demonstrated their ability to "keep house." A buffet supper was served in the parlor, and a program prepared by the club members followed in the chapel.

Each quarter new officers are elected. Those who served as officers during the first quarter were :

President—Shahin Ouzounian  
 Vice-President—Adeeba Isaac  
 Sec.-Treasurer—Phoebe Beythoun

In the second quarter the officers were :

President—Madeleine Grin  
 Vice-President—Mareen Saaty  
 Sec.-Treasurer—Mary Nasimian

This quarter the officers have been elected as follows :

President—Beatrice Wakil  
 Vice-President—Sabah Hasso  
 Sec.-Treasurer—Samia Ayoub

May the spirit of this club continue to bring enjoyment and benefit, not only to its own members, but to its many friends.

*Mrs. C. H. Russell.*

#### MEDICAL CADET UNIT

The first Medical Cadet unit of the Middle East Union has been created on the campus of Middle East College.

In harmony with the standards set throughout the denomination, it is earnestly desired to prepare the Adventist youth of the Middle East Union to play their loyal part in case of any time of war or distress. The same high type of discipline and behaviour, which attends the Adventist Medical Cadet Units throughout the world is being

adhered to, and the local young people are showing their interest and zeal for this type of training. Non-combatancy, Sabbath observance in war time, army procedure, first aid, stretcher-bearing, drill, physical training, and organized group movements are parts of the program being offered.

Under the direction of Mr. R. L. Mole, and Mr. J. S. Russell, all the young people of the school have been formed into a large company, commanded by Wilson James, who spent some time with the British Forces in the Middle East. The company is further divided, for practical purposes, into squads of eight each, under the leadership of a corporal.

While as a church we hope and pray for peace among nations, we cannot but face the world situation, and wisely make careful preparation for the trying experiences facing us. It is to prepare our Young People to stand loyally for God through even the most trying experiences that the Medical Cadet organization has been launched.

*Mousa Ghuzal.*



#### ARMENIAN CHURCH CHOIR

The Beirut Armenian Church has started a choir under the leadership of Brother Aram Aghassian, Junior College graduate of Middle East College. The Sponsor is Dr. Garo and the organist is Miss Rebekka Aghassian. The Choir is making a valuable contribution to the music life of the church and many new hymns are being learned by the congregation as a result.



## Beirut Arabic Junior Academy

By Miss HANA JUBRAN

*Principal, Beirut Junior Academy*

On the corner of our building used as a church and school in Moussaitbeh, Beirut, you will find a marble plaque which has on it : "Ecole Adventiste, fondée en 1929". This tells all passers-by that our elementary school for Lebanese children was started nearly nineteen years ago.

If you were to look up our files you would find that Brother Stanley Bull was the one who first made the application to the French authorities to open the school. You would find a long list of names of those who have taught in the school, and then notice that there was one who began the school as its head teacher and has continued ever since, Miss Hana Jubran.

The school began in temporary quarters not far from where it is at present. It was a one-teacher school with about five grades and a kindergarten. When the present site was purchased and a building was erected it moved into its new quarters, although, at the time, the building was not quite completed. Since then it has grown until today it has a staff of six teachers and an enrolment of over one hundred and fifty boys and girls. It teaches all the usual elementary subjects and offers three years of secondary school work.

Children of the school come from parents of many religious faiths. There are Mohammedans of the Sunnite and Shiite group, Druze, Maronites, Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, and members of other religious persuasions. What a field of opportunity for missionary work on the part of our teachers !

As is the practice in all our schools, Bible Lessons are given every day in addition to the morning devotional period. No one is exempt from these religious exercises. When the children come to years of accountability and begin to ask about the meaning of life they take a great interest in the study of the Bible and they are anxious to know the truth for themselves. It has been a joy to see a number decide to be baptized and to join our church in spite of opposition from parents and relatives.

The school is held in high esteem throughout the neighbourhood, for the children maintain a high standard of character and conduct. They always look neat in their blue smock uniform and white collars.

Not the least important are the school's extra-curricular activities. There is an active Junior Missionary Volunteer Society that holds meeting every week. The Juniors are all working hard at their Progressive class requirements. Every Friday morning the school remembers to invite the children to Sabbath School. About ninety children come on the Sabbath and follow their Bible Lessons with interest. They make little booklets to receive their memory verse cards, and take them home proudly at the end of the quarter. Then there are the special programmes : once a year there is a drill display to which all the parents and friends are invited. Christmas and Easter have appropriate activities planned in which the parents see how well their children can recite, sing songs, and act in little playlets.

The teachers at the school are always kept very busy. They are : Mr. Naim Aweis, Miss Evelyn Dikran, Miss Rose Dikran, Miss Aida Ghazal, Miss Minerva Nowfel. They visit the parents from time to time and their efforts for the children are very much appreciated. We pray that God may continue to bless them in their important work of teaching and training the young people in the way that they should go.

The school has a number of needs, among them a need for a library. As the science department grows it needs laboratory equipment. It needs at least one more teacher. We hope that it will not be long before these needs can be supplied. Financially the school is doing well. Academically it is maintaining proper standards. Spiritually, under the blessing of God, it is proving a centre of truth and light whereby the young people of Mousseitbeh may come to a knowledge of the truth and be saved.

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The next important date is April 3, *Elementary School Day*. It would be well for the Church Pastor or Elder to draw attention to the good work done by our elementary schools in training the children to walk in paths of righteousness. Our children are a precious heritage that must be given every

care lest they be caught by the temptations of the world and be lost. Let us pray for them on this day, and for our teachers who have the responsibility of training them. Our offering needs to be generous in order to make our schools more efficient in the matter of educational supplies. Also there are places where new schools ought to be opened and existing schools need to have their facilities extended.

## **ELDER MONDICS REPORTS FOR LEBANON AND SYRIA**

### **Distribution of Literature**

The Beirut Armenian Church is distributing the Shuler Bible Lessons each week, and on Sabbath during the missionary service they tell of their experiences. Although this work has just recently started many people are requesting Bible studies in their homes. This work has kept the church busy in the work of winning others to this truth, and it has been a source of help to each member.

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### **New Interests in Tripoli**

In the town of Shekka, Lebanon, the people are showing a decided interest in the meetings which Brother Olson is conducting there. The people are requesting us to open a school there so their children may learn about the truths of the Bible. The Sheik has offered us a nice plot of ground free if we will build a school. In Tripoli five young men have given up smoking as the result of Brother Olson's meetings there, and a small group meet for Sabbath school each week.

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*K. Oster with  
the First  
Convert in  
Shiraz  
Province,  
Iran*

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## L. J. Norris Ordained at Middle East College Church

Reported by Elder G. M. KRICK

Sabbath, March 17, was a high day in the history of the Middle East College Church. Nine ministers lined the platform for the ordination service of Brother Leslie Norris. An unaccompanied male quartet made up of ordained ministers sang, "Remember me O Mighty One." Elder E. L. Branson delivered the sermon, adapting it to the occasion of Brother Norris' leaving to Cyprus as Paul and Barnabus in the early days of the church were ordained to carry the gospel to the

Gentiles and then set out for Cyprus. Elder G. D. Keough offered the consecration prayer and the hands of the ministry were laid upon Brother Norris, setting him apart to the Gospel ministry. The charge was read by Elder G. M. Krick, and the welcome into the ranks of the ministry was given by Elder F. E. J. Harder. It is the sincere wish of everyone that the Lord will richly bless Elder Norris and his family in their ministry for the people of Cyprus and for the church at large.

## ELDER NORRIS LEAVES FOR CYPRUS

Early Thursday morning, March 11, Elder and Mrs. L. J. Norris and family left Beirut for Cyprus. Elder Norris, Superintendent of Palestine—Trans-Jordan Mission has had to leave Jerusalem, where he was stationed, because of the constant danger to life there. An Arab graphically summed up the situation in Palestine as follows: "A ton of human flesh is worth one Mill (one-half cent American currency) in that country!" Cyprus being part of the territory of the Palestine-Trans-Jordan Mission and affording good opportunities for evangelistic work will now be the centre of Brother Norris's activities until the situation in Palestine clears up.

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL WORKERS AND CHURCH OFFICERS . . .

Will church officers throughout the Middle East Union and especially Pastors, Local Elders, Church Treasurers, and Sabbath School Superintendents please note that, according to action of the Union Committee (reported in the *Middle East Messenger* No. 1, p. 16), the offering taken up in the church on the third Sabbath of the second month of each quarter is to be devoted to the purchase of supplies for the local Sabbath School. The church treasurer ought to inform the Sabbath School Superintendent of the sum collected so that he knows what funds are available for Sabbath School Expense. But the money is to be reported to the Mission treasurer as Sabbath School Expense offering and turned over to him in the same way as the tithe and other offerings, since all Sabbath School supplies are ordered and paid for through the Mission accounts.

## GREETINGS FROM NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE!

*Middle East Messenger* is being sent to the Headquarters of those Union Conferences in the States which are represented by missionaries in the Middle East Union. From North Pacific Union Conference comes a kind letter which will be of interest to a good many, and is therefore quoted in full.

154 S. E. Hawthorne Blvd.,  
Portland 14, Oregon

March 10, 1948.

Elder G. Arthur Keough,  
Box 1011, Beirut, Lebanon  
Dear Brother:

Your letter came in yesterday afternoon's mail—just nine days after it was written. The world doesn't seem so big as it used to.

Yes we shall surely be glad to receive your paper, the "*Middle East Messenger*." I see by looking over the year book that you have a number of North Pacific Union people over there. And the Johnsons finally got there after having their boat bombed and having to return home. They weren't the kind to let anything like that discourage them. And I see the Norris family is there also.

I am having the name of your mission entered on our mailing list, and hope you will soon be receiving news from the North Pacific Union.

With greetings and best wishes for all our North Pacific folks out there, as well as the other workers, and assuring you of our prayers for the success of the work in the Bible Lands, I am

Sincerely yours,  
(Signed) Pearl Cook

Cashier.

North Pacific Union Conference.

## EMMANUEL MISSIONARY COLLEGE SENIOR CLASS OF 1948 MAKES A CLASS GIFT TO MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE: LETTER FROM THE CLASS PRESIDENT.

Dear Brother Harder :

*I am writing you this letter on behalf of the Senior class of 1948.*

*We have a plan whereby each Senior class, upon its graduation, gives its Alma Mater a gift. This is called a class gift. It is given in a spirit of appreciation to the school for the training received.*

*In contemplating what our gift should be for this year, we were impressed with the fact that not only do we have Emmanuel Missionary College as a school, but we have a "spirit of E. M. C." that is carried on in the lives of those who have left this campus and have gone out to serve the Lord in giving this wonderful message to those who know it not.*

*Therefore we propose to dedicate our class gift to the "spirit of E. M. C." We would like to use the money that ordinarily would be spent in purchasing a gift for this school, and give it to your school, with the purpose of securing books for your library. The great needs of your school have been presented to us by Brother Wadie Farag, who is a member of our class, and one whom we have all learned to love.*

*The class has asked me to get in touch with you and secure a list of the books that we can purchase in this country and mail to you. There will be some books that can be purchased by you that we would not be able to secure here. We want to co-operate with you in getting them in the best way possible. We will have about \$500.00 to use in the purchase of these books.*

*President Alvin W. Johnson, of our school, will be visiting you early in June and he will be glad to present the gift at that time.*

*The Senior class of Emmanuel Missionary College would be very happy to hear from you regarding our proposal.*

*May the Lord's richest blessings attend you and the work at the Middle East Training College.*

*Sincerely yours,*

*Arthur John Anders,*

*President.*

## FROM HERE AND THERE

### **Dr. & Mrs. Schilt arrive in the Middle East**

Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Schilt, Mildred, Walter, Eric, and Enid, arrived at Beirut on Sabbath, March 6, on their way to Iraq where Dr. Schilt will take up the duties of Medical Director of the Dar es-Salaam Hospital, Bagdad. The family spent a few days in Beirut making preparations to leave for Bagdad by road. They left on Wednesday March 10 planning to visit Baalbeck on their way.

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### **R. A. Anderson to visit the Middle East and hold workers' meetings in Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, conduct Middle East College week of Prayer.**

We are very happy to hear that Elder R. A. Anderson, Associate Secretary of the Ministerial Association of the General Conference, will spend three weeks in the Middle East on his way to South Africa. He will lead out in Middle East College Week of Prayer, April 2-10, and then go on to Bagdad where he will hold meetings with our workers, April 14-19. His next series of meetings will be for the workers in Egypt, April 21-26. We look forward to Elder Anderson's visit and we are sure that it will result in blessing to the workers in the field.

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### **Training School day, March 6**

Did you remember our Training schools on this day and take up a good offering for them? Your offering will go towards building up the training school in your area and helping worthy students to fit themselves for service in various lines of Christian endeavour. *Do not forget to report the sum you collected to your Mission Treasurer.*

### **Daniel Hasso arrives from States**

Mr. Daniel Hasso, son of Mr. Bashir Hasso of Bagdad, Iraq, arrived in Beirut on Sabbath, March 6, after a number of years' study in the States. He was met at the boat by his two sisters, Sabah and Samira, and his cousin Dolla, as well as a number of missionaries and Adeeb Fargo. He joined Dr. Schilt to cross the Syrian desert by station wagon, leaving Beirut on March 10.

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### **G. C. Auditor arrives**

Brother F. Brennwald, Associate auditor of the General Conference, arrived in Beirut by plane on Sunday, March 7. He plans to spend about a month in the Middle East, auditing the Union books. He expects to visit Bagdad before leaving for Ethiopia, South Africa, and the West Coast. This is the second visit that Brother Brennwald makes to the Middle East Union and we are very happy to welcome him.

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### **Publishing now in Syriac.**

As a result of the work of Pastor Philip Dos in Iraq a number of people who use the Syriac language have been interested in the Advent Message. Recently arrangements have been made for some tracts dealing with the signs of the times, the second coming of Christ, the law, sabbath observance, and Sunday, to be printed in Syriac. The work of the Middle East Union is already being conducted in seven languages: Arabic, Armenian, French, Greek, Pharsee, Russian, and Turkish. We are more than happy to welcome another language, for this Gospel of the kingdom, said Jesus, must go to every kindred, *tongue*, and people.

It is interesting to note that Syriac is a dialect of Aramaic, the language spoken in

Palestine when Jesus was on earth. It was the language of Christian writers east of Antioch and at Edessa, the centre of Christianity in the last third of the second century. A number of versions of the Bible have been written in it. Since the fifth century it has been the language used by Nestorians and Jacobites, two forms existing, an Eastern and a Western. Classical Syriac is nowhere spoken, but Nestorians of the Tigris Valley use a modern dialect akin to the old Eastern Syriac.

### Did you notice this challenge?

Writing in the *Review and Herald* of January 22, 1948, Claude Conard, Statistical Secretary of the General Conference, stated: "If each Seventh-day Adventist member were given an equal share in the world's mission service, his responsibility would entail the proclaiming of the glad tidings of his Lord's return to 3,626 persons."

Making further comparisons Brother Conard says: "In China, with almost one fourth of the world's population, the responsibility is nearly four times that of its Far Eastern neighbor, with 23,026 individuals for each single Adventist believer. And just to the south and west of China, the multitudes of India plead salvation with 46,619 needy souls—more than twice that of China—to every Seventh-day Adventist in the great Southern Asia field."

On the same principle of reckoning, if the members in the Middle East Union were to undertake a personal quota of those in the Middle East Union territories to whom the Advent Message must be taken, each member would have to preach to over 72,000 persons.

As Brother Conard concludes: "This

stupendous task can be accomplished, 'not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts,' co-operating in the active endeavors of His faithful people on the earth."

### From Among the Yazidis:

Word has reached us recently that a young man from the Yezidi sect has accepted Christianity and made contact with Principal Robert K. Hasso of our Mosul Academy. He is anxious to study our doctrines and to prepare himself to teach Christianity to the people of his tribe and sect. Negotiations are now in progress for him to come to Middle East College so that he may receive the necessary training.

### College Senior Class Organizes

Those present in chapel on Friday, March 12, were made very conscious of the fact that Middle East College has now reached to Senior College status, by the appearance on the platform of the first graduating class, composed of two members. Miss Shahin Ouzounian, and Mr. Adeb Fargu, hold the honor of being the first young people to graduate from senior college level.

Accompanying the class members on the platform, were Mr. Harder, the advisor of

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### MIDDLE EAST MESSENGER

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the class, and the members of the Academic Standards Committee, Elder Arthur Keough, Elder G. M. Krick, and Miss E. Davis.

The class has chosen as their colors, green and white; their motto is, "Who falls for the love of God shall rise a star," while their aim is indicated by the words, "Ad astra per aspera—To the stars through difficulties."

These two graduates, so similar to the early graduating classes of our other colleges in years past, offer a challenge to all other young people of the Union to climb higher on the scholastic ladder that they may become more efficient workmen for God in this part of His vineyard.

### **A BAPTISM IN AMMAN**

It was the privilege of the Union Educational Secretary to accompany Brother L. J. Norris on a visit to the church and school at Amman, Trans-Jordan. Amman was formerly called Philadelphia, city of Brotherly Love, and it was encouraging to find the brethren united in a desire to see the Advent Message spread throughout their land by the work of the preacher and teacher. They urged that we send them all the help we can. The work of Miss Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Shafeek Farag, as well as the work of the teachers in the elementary school is greatly appreciated, and it is only regretted that Brother Shafeek is not continuing in Amman. He has decided to take up the study of Medicine and so has been released for this purpose.

The week-end services of February 21 were very well attended and resulted in blessing to all. The opportunity was taken to baptize three candidates: Brother Yacoub and his wife, Laurice, and Miss Tamam, a teacher in the school.

On the way back to Beirut a brief visit

was paid to Brother Musa Azer at El Husn. It was a delight to see him looking so well and to know that he was doing a good work in the school and church that we have in that town. It was unfortunate that the limit of time made it impossible to visit some of the members there.

### **ELDER A. G. ZYTKOSKEE REPORTS FOR THE EGYPT MISSION:**

It was indeed a pleasant surprise to have Elder M. L. Andreason, one of the field secretaries of the General Conference, spend a few hours with us in Cairo between planes. His message to our church in Heliopolis at our regular prayer meeting service was one that will long be remembered. Elder Andreason spoke of the surety and reasonableness of our message. His message brought steadfastness and courage to all those who had the privilege of hearing him.

Another baptismal class is being organized in the Shoubra district. There are also several looking forward to baptism in Heliopolis. We thank God for these fruits for His kingdom that have come in as a result of His Spirit working through public efforts and cottage meetings. Throughout Egypt there is a growing interest in the Advent message. It is time to reap the harvest. May God make His workers worthy of the task that is before them.

We deeply regret to report the recent deaths of the wives of Habeeb Ghaly of our training school in Scila, and Nageeb Mousaad who is in charge of our work in Tatalia; also the father of Hannah Watson, who teaches in the Mataria Mercy Home, passed away recently. May God bless these Brethren as they sustain the loss of such dear loved ones.