



“Let Your Light Shine.”



By Erwin E. Roenfelt

On every hand today we see the fast fulfilling signs of the second coming of Christ. The events of these days and the conditions that obtain in every phase of human life indicate that we are living in the time of which Jesus spoke when He said, “when ye shall see all these things, know that it (my coming) is near, even at the doors.” Matthew 24 : 33.

The chief concern of every child of God, therefore, should be to be ready for that great event. Jesus said, “Be ye also ready : for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh.” Matthew 24 : 44.

To be ready for the return of Christ means more than the personal preparation of our hearts and lives for His coming. It involves also our having done all that lay within the reach of our possibilities in carrying God’s message to our fellowmen, and in endeavour-

ing to win them to Christ so that they with us might be ready for His appearing.

This is very clearly set forth by Jesus Himself. In connection with the admonition that He gave that we should be ready for His return, He said “who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.” Matthew 24 : 45-46

By the expression, “meat in due season”, Jesus referred to God’s last message of grace and mercy to men, to that which in Matthew 24 : 14, He called “the gospel of the kingdom.” It is the three-fold message of Revelation 14 which we generally speak of as the Advent message. It is the message we have been commissioned to proclaim to every nation, and kindred, and tongue and people. Doing our utmost to share this message with our fellowmen is a part of the personal and individual preparation that we must make if we would be ready for the return of our Lord.

Inasmuch as there are today so many ways and means, many of them amazingly simple, by which we can convey God’s message to men, not one of us has a legitimate

excuse for not having a part in this grand and glorious work. Some of us can preach the message, others can teach it. Some can engage in Christian medical ministry and others in the sale of gospel literature. All of us can distribute tracts and papers among our neighbours and friends and the people of our community and invite them to enroll in the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School or to listen to our radio broadcasts, and all of us can proclaim the message in the most effective way in which it can be preached, namely, through the testimony of our daily lives. A quiet, calm, consistent, upright, Christlike life is the most eloquent and unanswerable sermon that can be preached, and if we will permit Him to do so, Christ will preach such a sermon through each one of us, and He will do so constantly.

Jesus declared of Himself, “I am the light of the world.” John 8 : 12. While He was upon earth and men saw Him, they saw the light. He gave them a revelation of God and of His saving grace and power. To His followers, He says, “Ye are the light of the world.” Matthew 5 : 14. Our mission to the world, then, is the same as was His, namely, to impart to men and women spiritual light. There is only one way in which we can do this, and that is by permitting Christ to reveal

Let Your Light Shine

— continued from page 1

Himself in and through us. Jesus is the source of light; we can put be reflectors of it. But to this high privilege and responsibility every follower of Christ has been called.

This is what the Master meant when He said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father, which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16. The command is not, "Shine!" but it is, "Let your light shine." Jesus will do the shining, our part is to let Him shine through us. It is only as, through repentance and confession of sin, we turn to Christ for forgiveness and cleansing, as we live victoriously over sin through His grace and power, and as we yield ourselves to Him, that He is able to manifest Himself — His life and character — through us. The more fully we choose His will for us and yield ourselves to it, the more fully will He make His glory to be seen in us and the more brilliantly will we shine for Him.

The apostle John in his gospel, chapter 1, verse 1, speaks of Jesus as "the Word", and then declares that "the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. . . full of grace and truth." Verse 14. Christ translated the Word of God into life and gave men a living revelation of it; a revelation "full of grace and truth." That is the kind of mission to which He calls each one of us. Through His Spirit He desires to dwell in us and to translate His truth into our every-day experience so that those who behold us will be able to read the message of God in our lives.

It is that kind of a witness to God and his truth that the world needs today, and it is that kind of a testimony that is the most effective means of conveying the message of God's love, grace, and salvation to men. Only through that kind of witnessing can the work of God be finished in the Middle East Division, and in every part of the world.

To us has been committed the task of completing God's work in the earth. In view of this, how applicable to us are the words of the apostle Paul found in Philippians 2:4-16: "Do all things without murmurings and disputings: that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life"! That is the kind of service to which we have been called in these last days, and in which each one of us must engage if we are to be ready for the coming of Christ.

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

Instead of sending out greeting cards this year end to only a comparatively few of our workers and people, as is usual, we wish to send a message of love and courage to all who are connected with God's people throughout the world.

By the grace of God we have grown into a large and widely scattered family. In practically every nation of earth men and women, hearing the mighty judgment-hour message, have responded to God's call and have united themselves with His people.

Thus we have all become brethren. We are of the household of God. Many, many have found the ties of church fellowship to be much stronger than those of nature. As with Jesus, it is often true also of His followers that they stick closer together than brothers in the flesh.

We therefore count you all to be our brothers and sisters and greet you as fellow members of God's family upon earth.

We have now come to the beginning of a new year. The page that made up the record of 1952 has been turned, and a new page is before us. The record of the past year is made up. What we have written, we have written.

But what of the new year? Its possibilities lie spread out before us. If, in our service for God, we have failed in any particular during the past year, shall we continue such failure this new year, or shall we arise in God's strength and write a record of success on the new page?

Never since the fall of Adam and Eve in Eden has the church been faced with such a tremendous task! The world is coming to an end. Probationary time is running out and yet all around us are legions of people who are unsaved. We meet them on the streets. We associate with them in our work. We pass them in the market places and on the great lines of travel. We pass many of their homes every day. But what are we doing to bring them into God's family before the curtain falls? Soon, very soon, it will be too late.

As the year opens, the hours of probation still linger. Whether that shall be true throughout the entire year only God knows. If not during this new year, then some year soon the plan of saving men will be forever over and our work will be done.

The words of Jesus come ringing down through the years with peculiar emphasis at this time-- "Work while it is called today; the night cometh when no man can work."

The church today is engaged in a mighty effort to double its membership in four years. Three years of this time are now past. Only one year remains. Two or three of our great Divisions report that they have strong hopes of reaching the goal. What a victory that will be! It will, however, require a miracle if it is to be a universal accomplishment. In some Divisions the task is much more difficult than in others.

But yet the task is not impossible in any section of the world field. It really is so very simple. All that is required for our entire membership to be doubled by the end of 1953 is for each church member to bring one new person into the church.

One convert in a whole year! Does that sound impossible?

With God's blessing and earnest effort on our part it can still be accomplished. We appeal to our workers and people everywhere to make this new year 1953 a year of very special effort in soul-winning.

Thousands of our laymen should lay down their usual vocations and go forth as colporteurs this year to sell our truth laden books to the people. They should be scattered like the leaves of autumn. Scores of thousands should go to those in their neighborhoods and distribute tracts and periodicals and give or lend our books to the people.

Our institutional workers should make special plans for bringing the message to the direct attention of all who come to them.

Most people will not come voluntarily to the church. We must go into the streets and lanes, into the byways and hedges, and compel them, through love, to come in.

Why would it not be well for our church leaders to call a very special business meeting in January or February of this year for the purpose of considering this all-important matter of doubling our church membership? Every member should be urged to take a part. This is our God-given task. Nothing else is so important.

May God lead and bless us as we all join hands to accomplish it in His strength and name.

Again we greet you in the name of the Lord.

Yours for a year of unusual service and blessing,
W. H. and Elisabeth Branson

Iraq Report

By Alvin W. Fiedler

The Adventist message in that enchanted land that lies between the Tigris and the Euphrates rivers is awakening to a new day. Long centuries have come and gone; king have arisen and fallen; wars and famines have often raked the land; and the glory of the Chaldee's excellency has long since faded into oblivion; but the message of a soon-coming Saviour has its roots in deep soil. The Three Angels' Messages must go—indeed, are going—into even the byways of this ancient Bible land.

Our work in Iraq during the past months has shown a slow but definite improvement. In the months that lie ahead, we have courage to hope that still greater things will be done.

Even as this report is written, plans are under way to enter every county, or district, of Iraq, to carry the torch of present truth into places that have never heard that history's climax is soon upon the world. It is planned by the mission president and several of his fellow-workers to make an extensive missionary journey by car across the desert roads from village to village and city to city, "prospecting" for the cause of Christ, surveying the field for future evangelism, selling health books, distributing tracts, and making ingathering contacts. Such a journey will supply us with a wealth of information on the needs and possibilities of our field.

Far to the north in this country, above Mosul, are many Christian villages where the Message of the Hour should find receptive hearts; and it is included in the plans to open work in these villages in some way in the near future.

So much for tomorrow. Let us turn to look at yesterday and its achievements.

About a year ago the Division Home Missionary Department graciously sent us help, and Iraq Mission launched into its first big-scale ingathering campaign. The results

were entirely out of proportion with our expectations. Where we expected to get only tens, the Lord blessed us with hundreds. We thank God for the opportunity of service in this line, and for the abundant means that we were thus enabled to add to the Lord's treasury.

Evangelism—the public preaching of God's word—finds its opportunities also in this land. In the Spring of this year, it was the writer's privilege to bring the message to the people in Mosul; and we rejoice that three souls were added to the kingdom. Interest is still good in the place where Jonah preached, and prospects are still bright for more harvest there.

In Kirkuk our work is holding its own for lack of a worker to send. The people there like the Adventist workers and their message. An incident occurred there that makes our workers so much appreciated. This is what happened: Three of our workers had just finished making a missionary visit in a home in Kirkuk, and were getting into the car to proceed to the next place. It was mid-afternoon.

The driver of the car was occupied in getting under way, and paid little attention to a small group of people gathered in the

doorway of a near-by home. But one of the other workers was alert for missionary possibilities, and cried to the driver: "Stop! We must do something to help." A quick glance revealed that a small child of two years had just drowned in the open ditch that flowed by the house. A man standing in the doorway, was holding the child upside-down by the feet, trying to shake the water out of the lungs. A look of helpless bewilderment was on the faces of the people. But our workers had training and experience in things like this, and without hesitation, took the child from the man and began to give artificial respiration in the proper manner. Of course, quick silent prayers ascended to heaven and angels stood by these workers as they labored for the life of the little boy. The little arms and face were deathly blue, and there was no pulse to be felt. Breathing had, of course, stopped. But the work of of reviving continued for several forgotten moments. Meanwhile, scores of people gathered around to offer futile bits of advice. While the workers were busy with the boy, the mother came up and uttered one long scream of horror and had to be led away, hysterical, by still other kind hands.

After a few minutes—no one troubled to count them—the little body showed signs of life. The little boy gasped for air in deep, starving breaths. And in another moment he began to cry, and the workers knew that their prayers and efforts had not been in vain. In another three minutes the boy was cuddled in his mother's grateful arms, breathing normally, and apparently none the worse for the experience.

Our workers returned quietly to the car and went on to their next visit; but they left behind

Continued, page 6 —

The Baghdad School



The First Biennial Council of the Middle East Division was held in Beirut, October 17 to 27, 1952. Representatives from nearly all sections of the Middle East were present, including the Iran Mission, the East Mediterranean Union, the Nile Union, the Dar El Salaam Hospital, and Middle East College. In addition to the regular members of the Division Committee, the following brethren were present for the Council: Elder Gordon Zytoskee, Brother Hilmy Barbawy, and Brother Hakim Abadir from Egypt; Brother Behnam Arshat from Mosul, Iraq; and Brethren E. J. Green and C. L. Gemmell from Iran. For the last part of the Council Elder A. W. Fiedler from Iraq and Elder R. S. Darnell from Jordan were present. We were sorry that Brother Ramses Mina, who is a member of the committee, was unable to attend due to an important business trip to Europe on behalf of the Egyptian government.

Elder E. E. Roenfelt, of the General Conference Secretarial Department, and Brother W. H. Williams, of the General Conference Treasury Department, were in attendance throughout the Council. Over the last weekend Elder E. W. Dunbar, of the General Conference Missionary Volunteer Department, and Elder W. H. Bergherm, of the General Conference Service Commission, were present. We greatly appreciated the very faithful services of the brethren who were with us from the General Conference. It was a real source of inspiration to have the benefit of their valued counsel and helpful instruction.

The morning devotional services of the Council were conducted by Brethren Williams and Roenfelt. The evening meetings, which were given over to reports from the fields and division institutions, were held at the Middle East College chapel, and the students at the college had the opportunity of attending these evening services. The morning and afternoon periods were given over to the business of the session. A number of committees were formed in order to expedite the work, and the time was occupied to the full in studying and planning for the

First Biennial Council

By C. C. Morris

work in the Middle East for the ensuing year.

On the first Sabbath afternoon of the Council a Voice of Prophecy Rally was conducted, and it was indeed inspiring to hear the report of the remarkable work that is being done by the Voice of Prophecy in these Moslem lands. The last Sabbath afternoon a Missionary Volunteer Rally was conducted under the leadership of Brethren Dunbar and Geraty

At the time of the General Conference Autumn Council liberal provisions were granted to the Middle East for the financial needs of the work for the coming year. A slight increase was given in the regular base appropriations, together with a generous amount of special appropriations. One phase of the work of the Council was to distribute these funds, and we believe that the committee dealing with this item of business rendered a report which will result in the most possible good being accomplished from the funds made available to us. A part of the special appropriations from the General Conference were designated for the establishment of division headquarters here in Beirut. Building

plans have been studied and are being prepared, and the work of building will be undertaken in the near future. Funds were provided for the erection of a number of church buildings in various places in the division, and also for the headquarters building in Heliopolis and for more land for the Adventist Institute near Cairo.

There were a few important changes made in the leadership of the departments. Elder A. R. Mazat requested that he be relieved of the responsibilities of the Publishing Department, and this resignation the committee on nominations very reluctantly accepted. It was very difficult for the committee to find someone to take this responsible position, and only temporary arrangements were made at the time of the session. Since then it has been arranged for Brother Wadie Farag to carry the work of the Publishing Department Secretary along with his other duties. We believe Brother Farag will be able to carry this work very acceptably, and we wish him every success as he leads out in this important department of our work.

Professor C. L. Gemmell was invited to connect with Middle East College, and he and his family will be locating in Beirut. Professor Gemmell has been located in Iran



New site of the Adventist Institute near Cairo

and has had charge of our educational work there. Since we are unable to proceed with plans for the training school in Iran at the present time, it was felt that Brother Gemmell could render a real service to the Middle East College, particularly to the students who are in attendance from Iran. While we recognize that it was a loss to the Iran Mission to make this transfer, yet we feel that Brother Gemmell's services at the college will contribute much towards the training of the young men and women there, and that those in attendance from Iran will receive a preparation and training for future work in their own field by being able to attend Middle East College.

R. C. Skinner was elected president of the Iran Mission and Y. O. Sangerloo was elected secretary-treasurer for the same field. Brother E. J. Green is to remain in Iran and serve as division counselor in the secretarial and treasury departments for the time being.

The Plans Committee brought in a series of recommendations pertaining to the advancement of the work along all lines. Special mention should be made of one recommendation which emphasizes the importance of lay evangelism. Those who had the privilege of attending the General Conference Fall Council remember very vividly the many reports of the activities of lay evangelism in many sections of the world field. Those reports revealed that many thousands of people have come into this message within the past year as the result of work done by our lay members. We believe that much can be done in the Middle East along this line, and we commend this recommendation on lay evangelism to our evangelistic leaders throughout the territory, as a most effective method of soul-winning.

Large plans were laid for the promotion of the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence School work. This is proving to be a very effective method of placing our message in the homes of the people. The work of the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence Schools was reorganized, and we feel certain that a very promising future awaits this line of endeavor.

We believe that the inspiration implanted in the hearts of our workers as a result of this Biennial Council will be felt in all sections of our territory, and will resound to the accomplishment of much good during the coming year.

A CALL TO EVANGELISM

BY
GEO. J. APPEL



*"Go ye"
even unto
Libya and
the Sudan*

Some time before the recent Fall Council and Bible Conference which were held in Washington, a large representative committee was appointed to bring in a recommendation calling our evangelistic forces to a greater effort in evangelism in 1953. There is not space here to quote all of the recommendation, but there are several paragraphs which we wish you would give your careful and prayerful consideration. We also trust that in your planning for the evangelistic program for the coming year that you will, in the light of this recommendation, plan for a greater advance than ever before. A part of the "Call to Evangelism" as passed by the General Conference Fall Council is as follows:

"Now is the time for the last warning to be given. . . . All are now deciding their eternal destiny. . . . Decided efforts should be made to bring the message for this time prominently before the people. The third angel is to go

forth with great power.' — Vol 6 p. 16.

"Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices all over the earth, the warning will be given.' — *Great Controversy*, pp. 611, 612.

"WHEREAS, This call to evangelism brings the Advent Movement face to face with God's last summons to universal action; . . .

"We recommend, . . . That division, union and local field committees proceed immediately to survey their territories and to marshal their forces with a view to organizing an overall program of integrated evangelism by which the total strength of the ministry, the activities of every department and the resources of every institution shall be focused on soul-winning fruitage. . . .

"That when and where practic-

Continued on page 7 -

— From page 3

scores of people who were saying that here indeed were real missionaries who were ready and able to save a life when need be. And the people knew that these were Seventh-day Adventist workers. We must send some one to reap the harvest of this good work.

The Americans in Point 4 positions here have felt a need for spiritual outlet, and in Baghdad there has been started a branch Sunday School. A good group of young children and juniors attend, as well as some adults. We are thankful for this, another opportunity, for witnessing for Christ.

Down at the southern tip of the Iraq Mission territory lies the little sand-locked country of Kuwait. This is the place where all the drinking water is taken from the ocean and purified by huge boilers and evaporators. One of the engineers working on these boilers is a faithful Seventh-day Adventist. Recently, a great test came to him in regard to the Sabbath. The managers of the water-making plant had decided to promote our brother to a position of greater responsibility, with, of course, a good increase in pay. But to accept this new position meant to work on the Sabbath. Of course our brother refused the promotion, preferring to remain in the lesser work at less pay, but with the opportunity for keeping the commandments of God. The managers of the plant could not understand why a man should refuse increase in position and pay for the sake of a "day," but our brother remained faithful in spite of all the scorn and abuse placed upon him. Incidentally, in the course of various interviews with the superior officers at this plant, questions were raised by them as to the reasons for such "peculiar" belief, and in the end, one of the plant superintendents was happy to enroll in the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence Course so that he could learn more about our message. We are grateful to our lay brother in Kuwait for his faithful witnessing. Let us remember to pray for him, his wife and his family, that they will be blessed of God with strength to meet every trial that may come.

The work of God is ever onward in Iraq. True, there are many discouraging problems that present themselves, as in every field, but the courage of the workers is good and the torch of truth burns brightly in all our hearts. Please pray for us that we may find strength to take advantage of every opportunity for planting that torch in new places so that others might find their way by its light. When the Lord of the harvest comes, we want to be found faithful at our posts.

IN OTHER LANDS

"The Place Is Too Strait."

By O. O. Mattison
South India Union

When our educational work in the great Tamiland section of our South India Union started some 35 years ago, a three acre plot of land was made available for the erection of a school. At that time this seemed ample, and with faith and joy a unit of buildings was constructed that has served the field in a remarkable way. From it have come some of our strongest leaders, not only of this Union but of the great Southern Asia Division field as well.

But for some years now we have felt very much like the young men who appealed to Elisha when they said, "The place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us. Let us go, we pray thee, and let us make a place where we may dwell." 2 Kings 6:1,2. For soon after building the James High School the village grew into a town which completely surrounded the school. Each time however, that the Directors felt they should go elsewhere and reestablish this school as the prophets, the question arose as to where they should go.

The school has grown so much in recent years that we have been forced to look beyond its present horizon for a definite location lest it grow backward instead of in a normal way. First we searched in the vicinity, but nothing presented itself that would fill our need. We began to search around Trichinopoly which offered everything but the right kind of land and good water supply. We then went into the great rice-basket of the Tamil field, the Kumbakonam and Tanjore Districts. Also certain places that seemed ideal were plagued with Elephantiasis.

But the Lord kept leading us, and finally after much searching we were led to a rich landlord

seven miles out of Tanjore. We approached him with many misgivings in our hearts as the landlords of India do not like to part with their lands which have come down to them for many generations. This was a spot of land through which a railway line ran; the main highway also ran along the southern border of the land, and a large irrigation canal would supply us an abundance of water for eight months of the year. It also had a never-failing deep well right at the spot where we would want to build the school, and looking south we could see the high-tension electric line which would supply us with all the electric power for our needs.

It so happened when we approached him that he was standing for election, but little did we realize that that would have anything to do with getting us the land. He needed ready cash, though, and we needed this plot of land. He named his price and we just did not have the money for it. We prayed some more and again approached him for the portion above the railway land, which was 40 acres. Yes, he was then quite willing for us to take the 40 acres, as it would give him just enough money to see his campaign through. It didn't take us long to close the deal with him. He had his money for his campaign and we had our land for the school.

We are appealing to you to plan now for the finest Thirteenth Sabbath Offering you have ever given, to come with us and build this new school. We want everyone of you to have a part in it. We ask you to make it one of your special Christmas presents of the year, so that the youth of Tamiland may enter into the Master's service.

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH OFFERINGS

Regular Monthly Offerings

- 1st Sabbath . . . Local Church Evangelism
- 2nd Sabbath . . . Church Expense
- 3rd Sabbath . . . Education (Local School)
- 4th Sabbath . . . Church Expense
- 5th Sabbath . . . Poor Fund

Special Offerings

- January 24 . . . Religious Liberty
- February 14 . . . Free Church Literature
- March 7 . . . Middle East College

Special Notice

To Church Officers and Leaders :

We are very happy to learn of the progress that the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School is making throughout our world-wide field. This department has grown until we now have 981 broadcasts throughout the world. The Bible Correspondence School lessons are now available in 41 languages. Many, many hundreds of thousands of students have enrolled for these lessons, and more than 323,300 have graduated from the course. Here in the Middle East Division, where our work in this line is comparatively new, we have some 100,000 enrollees taking these lessons in one of the five languages in which they are available here, and already we have had over 700 graduates. No doubt there will be several hundred more graduates before the end of another year. Many of these interested people will be coming in contact with our churches. We trust that when they come to our meetings that they will have a favorable impression of the work and beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, and that they will find there the courtesies that should come to those who attend our church services. Following are two letters received from Bible Correspondence School students who attended our churches, but who were unfavorably impressed because of the attitude of the church members and leadership toward visitors.

"I went to your church and was very much surprised at the people. As I had studied your lessons, I was so happy because I had found the right church, and I told my friends all about it. But I do not find the spirit in the church that is displayed in your work at the Voice of Prophecy. The spirit I find in your lessons and your letters is different. Your work is what I love. My friends made fun of me for going to the Adventist church. When I found the condition there, I was bewildered and did not know what to do. My husband is not a Christian, but he told me that if I believe the Adventist way, I should go to their church no matter what I found there. I have settled down to do this. Please continue to pray for me that I may ever do what is right."

"I have been going to the Sabbath church for about one year—that is off and on, as I am not happy over what I find there. Recently I took one of my roomers with me. She had said that she believes all that Adventists teach and was anxious to get in touch with this church. Not one soul spoke to her. She was hurt and says that she will not go back again."

We trust that you, as leaders and members of our churches in the Middle East, will put forth a real effort to extend every courtesy to any visitors to our churches, that they may feel that they are welcome to attend Sabbath school and the other services.

Geo. J. Appel

Evangelism

— Continued from page 5

able, executive committees and boards arrange the duties of all credentialed and licensed workers so that they conduct, or be associated with, at least one public effort yearly.

"That every Seventh-day Adventist church be organized as an evangelistic center in which a year-round program of public evangelism is carried forward by either the conference worker or trained laymen.

"That the responsible leaders in local, union, and division fields keep this program of expanding evangelism constantly before their committees, workers and churches, informing them of progress made in achieving the objective.

"WHEREAS, The best ministerial talent of the church must be encouraged to think evangelism, plan evangelism, and remain in public evangelism as a life work.

"We recommend, . . . That yearly workers' meetings be organized in such a way that a definite part of such meetings shall be reserved for a planned consideration of public evangelism and its problems.

"That the program of public evangelism be kept before the church as the essential activity to which all other activities must be contributory, lest it be overshadowed by other denominational undertakings or programs"

Let us think evangelism, talk evangelism and pray evangelism until our entire working force in the Middle East, together with our church members, will make this great work first in all their planning and endeavor during 1953.

CHURCH CALENDAR

First Quarter, 1953

Date	Special Days
January 3	Local Church Evangelism (Family Altar Day)
January 10	Day of Fasting and Prayer
January 24	Religious Liberty Day
February 7	Home Visitation Day
February 14	Literature Ministry
February 21	Local Church Evangelism
March 7	Christian Education
March 14	Missionary Volunteer Day
March 14 — 21	M. V. Week of Prayer
March 21 — April 4	"Hope" Campaign

DIVISION DIRECTORY

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Secretary-Treasurer	C. C. Morris
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Educational & Y.P.M.V.	T. S. Geraty
Home Missionary	A. R. Mazat
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Temperance	C. C. Morris

MIDDLE EAST MESSENGER

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HERE and THERE

● Mrs. Rosalie Wainer arrived in Beirut in October, and after a short stay here, proceeded on to Amman, where she will be spending some time in studying the the Arabic language. Mrs. Wainer is a Bible worker for the East Mediterranean Union.

● Recent visitors to Division headquarters included Elder W. L. Pascoe, Treasurer of the Australasian Division; Elder and Mrs. H. H. Morse of Hong Kong, who were returning from the Fall Council; and Elder R. L. Odom, who was going on furlough from his post of duty in the Philippines. We were happy to have Elder E. E. Roenfelt and Brother W. H. Williams present for the entire time of the recent Biennial Council. These General Conference brethren were then able to make some visits in the field. Elders E. W. Dunbar and W. H. Bergherm were also present from the General Conference for the last portion of the meetings.

● We were happy to welcome Mrs. E. J. Green and Mrs. C. L. Gemmell and their families to Beirut recently. They accompanied their husbands on the trip to the Biennial Council.

● **Middle East College** — Middle East College has two newly-weds on its faculty this year. Mr. Nourhan Ouzounian, science instructor, married Miss Virgine Pappazian in Istanbul on September 7. They are now residing in the new cottage on the hill behind the girls' dormitory. Mr. Hilal Doss, religion instructor, married Miss Sabah Hasso in September. The wedding was held on the radio recording studio lawn at the college. They are now living in Mousseithe.

● In deepest sympathy we express our condolences to Mr. Nourhan Ouzounian and Miss Shahin Ouzounian on the death of their mother, Mrs. Shoushan Ouzounian on October 11.

● The college reached its Ingathering goal of L. L. 2,500 in two days, raising L. L. 2,600. A remark-

able spirit of cooperation attended the campaign, with all the students participating.

● Mr. Salvador Arnita, composer and conductor, concert pianist and organist, currently head of the music department at the American University of Beirut, gave the opening recital of the Hammond organ for the Voice of Prophecy Radio Department, Saturday night, November 22. The recital was held in the assembly hall of the college.

● **Lebanon — Syria** — Dorcas welfare societies are active in Beirut. The Armenian Society is planning to buy a new sewing machine. Mrs. Keough, at the Arabic church, reports distribution of clothing, medicine, literature, and some cash to the needy. Plans are now under way for holiday gifts to the poor.

● Evangelistic efforts held by Pastor Olson and his associates, by Brother Manoug Nazirian, and by Brother Fred Veltman are being well attended.

● Ingathering success has been very satisfactory. We thank the Division for the good help of Pastor Mazat and Brother Wadie Farag in this work.

● School enrollment is the highest in history for all schools in Lebanon. Room space for the pupils has been taxed beyond limit.

● **Jordania** — Sabbath school goals for Jordania are optimistic, but we are expecting that they will be reached. They aim at ten schools by the end of this year, with an enrollment of 185. This will mean doubling their past attainments.

● Missions schools also are well attended. We are thankful for Ibrahim and Naim from the college who have joined the staff here.

● Mrs. Rosalie Wainer, the new union Bible instructor, is now in Amman. We welcome her to our field.

● **Iraq** — Ingathering results have been reported that sound encouraging. The three mission schools have large enrollments again this year. Miss Nowell is enjoying her Bible instructor work and is doing well. Munsif Fargo is also carrying his new responsibilities well.

● **Nile Union** — November 9 was the opening date of the effort in Sohag. There were two hundred present. This is the first project of the newly organized evangelistic company consisting of Brethren Fikry Michael, Fakhry Nageeb and Abateer Abdul Meseeh under the leadership of Pastor Brauer. An evangelistic series of Sunday evening meetings is also being held in the Adventist Auditorium in Heliopolis. Pastor Neal Wilson is leading out in this series. A good interest was indicated on the opening night, November 16.

● **Congratulations!** Mr. Hanna Watson and Mrs. Narguis Farag Watson are happy to present the new member of their family, a son, Salim, born in October. James Brauer came to join his mother and father, Elder and Mrs. Carol Brauer, and brother, Bobby, in Assuit, during October. Mr. and Mrs. Yacoub Nashed are happy with their new baby girl, Sohah, who was born in Beirut. It's a boy, born on November 26, to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Klein.

● We welcome Pastor Shafeek Srour and his family to the Nile Union. It is a pleasure to have them with us, and we are confident God will bless their ministry.

● The Ingathering campaign has started with real strides now that Elder Mazat has joined us. We have a goal of Leg. 600 for Egypt, and we are planning not to stop till we've gone over the top.

● A new school has been started in Mataria. Brother Hanna Watson is in charge. Miss Futna Basta, Miss Bedoura Farag and Miss Ruth Nashed are associating with him.

● **Iran** — The enrollment of the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence School in Iran has reached a high of 11,000, and of these nearly 1400 are continuing their lessons regularly. Certificates have been issued to 85 who have finished these lessons. The lessons are offered in three languages, Armenian, Farsi, and English. Every day letters are received revealing the great spiritual lift which the Voice of Prophecy has brought.

● Dr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Lesovsky, who have been connected with the Arak Hospital here in Iran are leaving to connect with the medical work in the country of Iraq. Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Gemmell and daughter have left Iran to connect with Middle East College. We trust that God's rich blessings will attend these workers in their new fields of labor.