

Messenger

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Division Leaders, Section Presidents at Annual Meeting Set Goal to Triple the Church Membership in Four Years



Elder Webster is seen introducing the goal of tripling the church membership within a quadrennium at the close of a symposium of reports by the Section presidents, November 5, in the Beirut Center church.

The leaders of the Middle East Division, its institutions and sections, met in committee, November 6 to 10, at the Division headquarters and voted the most ambitious goals ever set by an annual meeting in the history of the Middle East. At the top of the list was the decision to triple the church membership in the coming quadrennium.

Church membership goals were adopted for each quarter from September, 1966, through March, 1970, with progressive increases calculated on the anticipated membership growth. The program calls for tripling the membership during the period. Goals for the close of 1967 propose a division membership of 3,469. Membership at the close of September, 1966, was 2,527. This was calculated to be one person for every 51,755 of the area's population.

Lorenson Conducts Health Week in Amman

Reuben Lorenson, health educator in the Jordan Section and physical therapist at the Jerusalem center, conducted a public health emphasis week the last of September in the Amman Girls' School auditorium. Attendance reached as high as 200, it was reported by the Amman church pastor, Elder W. A. Potter.

The topics presented included nutrition, weight control, tobacco, alcoholic drinks and mental health. The films, "One in Twenty Thousand" and "Verdict at One Thirty-two," were shown. Other features used to develop interest were the temperance puzzle of five pieces, the "magic chair," selection of the mother of the youngest baby, and the presentation of gift books.

Promotion of the public meetings was chiefly by handbill and personal invitation. The handbill capitalized on the

interest developed by the health correspondence course by announcing the meetings in the name of the health school. Brother Lorenson, a graduate of the school of public health at Loma Linda University, was identified as a specialist in public health. He and Elder Potter used the week as an occasion to call on the leaders at the various municipal offices and present them with a complimentary copy of the health magazine in Arabic.

The children and youth of the Amman Adventist school heard Lorenson give talks for young people in a special morning session at the school. Parents of the children were invited to the evening meetings.

Commenting on the series of meetings, the first of its kind in Jordan,

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It is planned that baptismal services will be held in each church at least once a quarter. The committee suggested the following dates for 1967: March 18, June 17, September 23, and December 16.

Comprehensive recommendations on evangelism involving all the departments of the church were considered by the committee and voted, providing strong guidelines for activity aimed at reaching the goals. Frequently members of the committee employed the word, "breakthrough," as they discussed the relations of the Seventh-day Adventist church with the populations of the Middle East and laid plans for reaching larger numbers of people and entering new territories.

At a symposium, November 5, in the Beirut Center church, presidents of the various local sections recalled recent providences which demonstrate the

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TALKING TOGETHER

Recently I read the story of a man who placed on the top of his garage a weather vane to indicate the direction of the wind. Being a religious man he lettered on it neatly the words "God is Love".

One day while the pastor was visiting in the man's home he chided him saying, "I noticed the words written on your weather vane. Don't you think that they are rather inappropriate words for a weather vane? Do you think that God's love is as changeable as the wind?" "No", he replied, "that wasn't what I was thinking about when I wrote those words on the weather vane. I was thinking that whichever way the wind blows, God is love."

Since reading this little story I have thought of the truth contained in those words. It is often quite easy for us to believe that "God Is Love" and that He is watching carefully over us when the gentle and temperate winds blow, and we are able to do easily and freely that which we ourselves choose to do. When our brethren praise our work and our associates and church members see things as we see them and agree with our point of view we feel that we are bathed in God's love. Sometimes, however, it becomes difficult for us to recognize that God loves us with the same warmth, and that His arm is just as surely around us. when things go hard and when rough and tempestuous winds blow. Some feel that neither God nor their brethren love them when the opinions of their associates differ from those of their own, or when someone else may be treated with what may be considered preferential treatment.

God often uses these experiences that we call difficult, to express to us His greatest love for us. As we look back on the life of Joseph and his seeming unjustified descent to the pit, to slavery, and to long imprisonment we can see God's plan as it unfolded, and we can see God's love for His people and for Joseph especially.

Ellen G. White penned some words in the *Review and Herald* of June 8, 1897, that have been of great courage to me, and have helped me to see more clearly how I should relate myself to seeming weaknesses in others. "All who will gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their defections, and loyalty from their treason, will triumph with the Third Angel's message." May we take this pathway of triumph to the city of God.

A. C. Webster

Goals Voted

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leadership of the Holy Spirit in the work. In a dramatic climax to the program, Elder F. C. Webster, the division president, announced the proposal to triple the membership. Later during a business meeting of the annual committee the proposal was adopted unanimously by an enthusiastic vote. All the members of the committee dedicated themselves toward fulfilling the goal.

The goals for 1967 by Sections are as follows showing church membership at the close of September, 1966:

Section	Membership	Goal
Cyprus	15	26
Egypt	1,069	1,500
Iran	259	325
Iraq	179	265
Jordan	153	225
Lebanon	552	700
Libya	50	70
Sudan	3	3
Syria	188	275
Turkey	59	80

The publishing department recommended a sales goal for the regular and student literature evangelists which will set a new high in the division. It was voted to aim at sales of books worth

\$35,000 during 1967. It is anticipated that 1966 sales will top \$31,000.

The Ingathering goal for the campaign beginning in 1967 was raised to LL 35,000. The goal for the current campaign is LL 30,000.

It is planned to add 45 new branch Sabbath schools during 1967. At the close of June, 1966, there were 66 branch Sabbath schools in the division being conducted by 63 regular Sabbath schools. The Sabbath school department operated 21 vacation Bible schools in the summer of 1966 and aims at 32 during the summer of 1967.

Other goals adopted include \$3,000 for Sabbath School investment and \$1,850 for Birthday-thank offerings.

Health Week

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Elder Potter said, "It is hard to know just yet what the results will be, but we know that in one week we had contact with more non-Seventh-day Adventists than we have had all year, altogether close to 800 persons."

Elder W. J. Clemons, the president of the Jordan Section, expressed hopes that similar series of meetings can be held soon in other cities of Jordan.

Publishing Report Shows Student Sales Up 25 % over 1965

Thirty-six student literature evangelists from the Middle East Division returned to their schools this fall having earned whole or partial scholarships during the summer, according to the report of Elder D. L. Chappell, the division publishing department leader.

Student sales increased 25 per cent over sales for 1965. A total of 58 students canvassed in the field this summer, an increase of five over the previous year. The total student sales in 1966 amounted to \$14,955.62, divided among the Sections as shown below:

Section	Students	Sales
Egypt	20	\$ 2,318.64
Iran	8	2,264.37
Iraq	3	1,593.48
Jordan	4	1,599.31
Lebanon	16	3,909.37
Syria	7	3,270.45
Total	58	14,955.62

The sales of the top student in each Section were announced as follows: Zahir Hilmy Berbawy, Egypt, \$139.37; Ahmad Farnoody, Iran, \$802.20; Raymond Williams, Iraq, \$1,224.16; Emile Haddad, Jordan, \$648.49; Francois Matouk, Lebanon, \$511.53; and Najeeb Nakhle, Syria, \$522.98.

"Now that the summer is past," Elder Chappell pointed out, "these young men and women can better understand what Mrs. E. G. White meant when she wrote in the year 1900, that 'the very best education young men can obtain is by entering the canvassing field and working from house to house. The education obtained in this practical way may properly be termed higher education.'" (Reference from *Colporteur Ministry*, page 33.)

Total sales for the Division for the ten-month period ending October 31 amounted to \$31,546.09, a 33 per cent gain over the same period in 1965.

Sales for the corresponding ten-month period in 1965 were \$23,759.13 Magazine sales reported so far in 1966 show a 23 per cent increase over 1965. Religious literature sales, a category which includes *Bedtime Stories*, made a gain of 75 per cent. A dramatic percentage gain in sales has been made in Cyprus where the collection plan began this year.



Doctor Kenneth Vine (right), president of Middle East College, welcomes back to school the top student literature evangelist from each country: (left to right) Ahmed Farnoody, Iran; Francois Matouk, Lebanon; Raymond William, Iraq; Emile Haddad, Jordan; and Najeeb Nakhle, Syria.

269 Children Join Sabbath School After Summer VBS

After attending vacation Bible schools this summer, 269 boys and girls of the Middle East have enrolled in Division Sabbath schools, according to a report of the Division Sabbath school department. Of these 185 enrolled in regular Sabbath schools and 84 in branch schools. Another 32 persons, parents or relatives of the children, have started attending Sabbath school as a result of the vacation Bible school influence.

Twenty of the vacation students now attend a Seventh-day Adventist day school and 53 are studying Adventist correspondence courses.

A total of 1,439 children attended the vacation schools. Of these approximately a third were in each of three age groups: kindergarten, primary, and junior. One hundred teachers conducted classes, 45 of whom were volunteer lay workers. Less than four per cent of the students were from non-Christian homes.

There were 21 schools: Egypt, 8; Iran, 4; Lebanon, 3; Iraq and Jordan, 2 each; and Syria and Turkey, 1 each. New schools were held for the first time in Madaba and Irbid, Jordan; the Center and Bourj Hammoud churches in Beirut, Lebanon, and in Mosul, Iraq. Plans are being made, says Division Department Secretary Derwood Chappell, to open 11 more schools next summer.

Over 10,000 See Adventist Exhibit At 12th Cyprus International Fair

By Moses Elmadjian

"To the operation!" "To the cancer show!" Husbands and wives, children, grandparents, students, priests, policemen, teachers, nurses, even doctors, hastened to the booth to see the film, "One in Twenty Thousand." Many considered it the most interesting pavilion at the 12th Cyprus International Fair. And imagine, only last year the same site was used by a cigarette agency to offer free cigarettes.

Some fainted and were led out by their obliging friends. Others came out pale and perspiring. "Who dares to smoke any more," they murmured, casting a glance at the big colored sign of the hand smashing the cigarettes. Half-finished butts were strewn on the ground.

These were the more than 10,000 persons who saw the film. It was shown eight times every night for 22 days to approximately 75 persons at a showing. The "cinema" section had 60 seats, but often two persons shared the same seat. Many waited in line through three showings in order to get in. Some watched through louvers in the wall of the booth. In the beginning we permitted some to stand, but when we saw that these were especially subject to fainting, we stopped allowing it.

The booth was 66 square meters. In the front section was a display about our world-wide health and welfare

work, the familiar poster showing the hand crushing the cigarette, and an exhibit of health magazines and books in English, Greek, and Armenian. The back section was the "cinema."

During the fair we sold \$400 worth of medical books. Still more books are being sold as a result of the publicity. Each visitor received the tract, "How to Stop Smoking," which had been edited for Greeks. A total of 13,000 temperance leaflets were handed out.

A special goal of the exhibit was to get enrollments for the health correspondence course being offered in Greek, English, or Armenian. Among the 4,662 enrollees were teachers, nurses, businessmen, government officials, and priests.

This was the second time we participated in the fair. The first time was 13 years ago, when Elder Fred Veltman was president of the Section. Then our booth sign read, "Your Friends the Adventists." This time, for political and other obvious reasons, we thought it wise to introduce ourselves to the public through the Home Health Education Service and the International Temperance Association.

The interest aroused by the exhibit led some cigarette manufacturers and importers to take a serious view of what we were doing. One manufacturer threatened to blow up our pavilion and even my home. Another cigarette firm sent one of their officials to our office to get sample leaflets in order to check the authenticity of our statements. Another company director warned me that we were liable to legal action, but upon second thought, he decided that this would only increase the publicity.

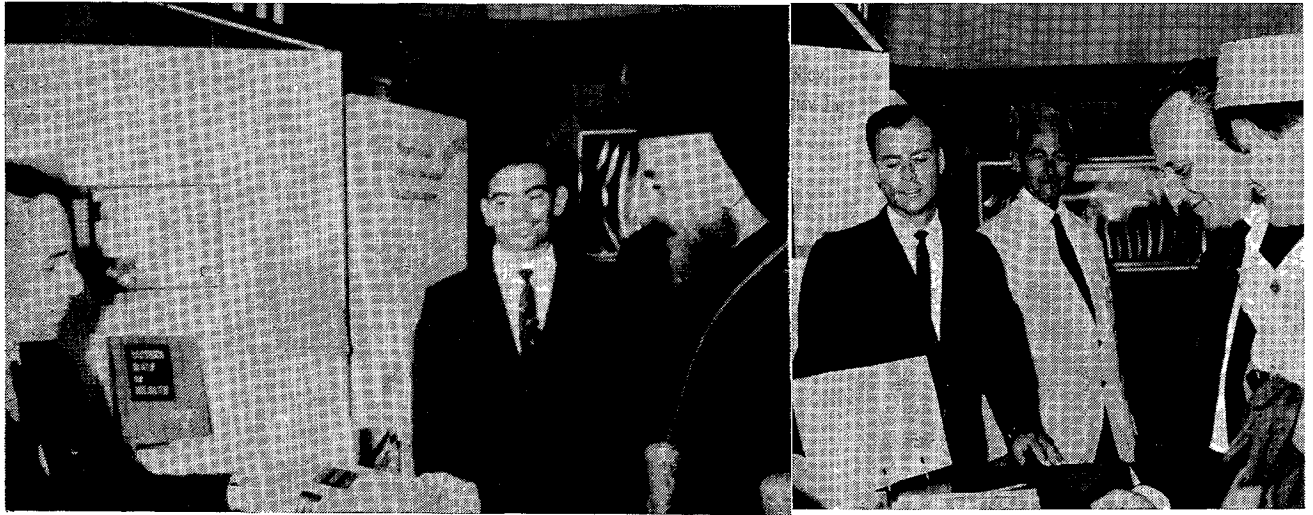
We believe that hundreds stopped smoking. Practically every day we meet people who tell us that they have stopped smoking after seeing the film or reading the tract. One man reported having smoked two packs daily for 25 years.

The fair gave us an opportunity to acquaint Cypriots with our work and to break down prejudice. Already we have several requests to show the film in high schools, clubs, and village halls.

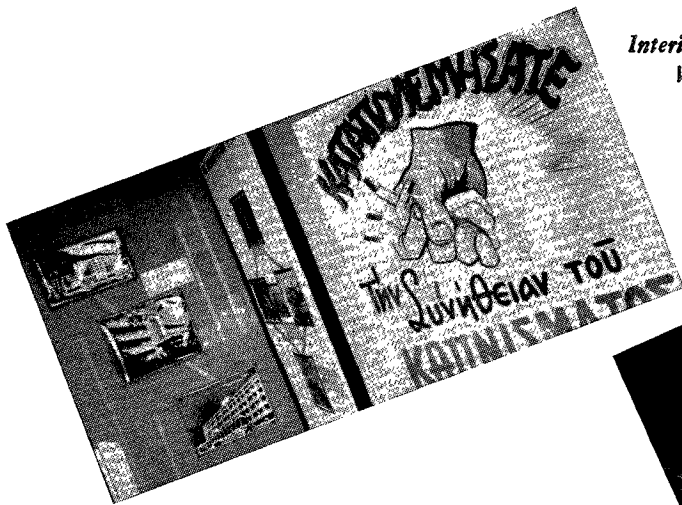
It is planned to use the pavilion for several years, each year emphasizing a different subject. Next year we will feature drinking and show the film, "Verdict at 1:32."



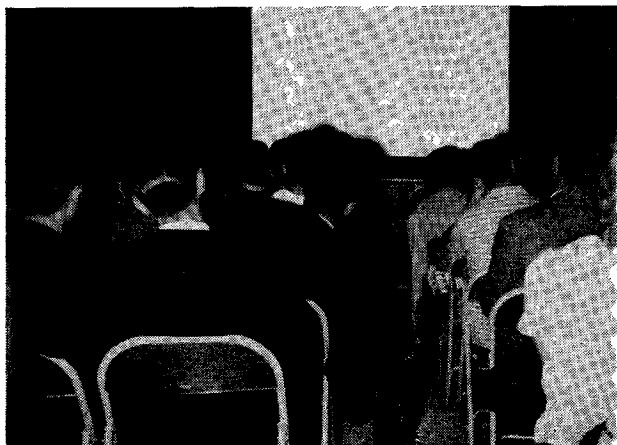
Closing Program at the 1966 VBS School in Bourj Hammoud



Archbishop Makarios, the president of Cyprus, accepts a copy of the Adventist health book in Greek from Moses Elmadjian, secretary of the Cyprus Section. On the right, Elder Jones, the Section president, shows the president of the house of representatives, Mr. Klerides, and his wife through the exhibition pavilion.



Interior Views



The little theater in which the film "One in Twenty Thousand" was shown.

Visitors crowd around the register to sign for the free health course.



Summer Camp Draws 80 Egyptian Youth to Alexandria Beach

By Hanna Malaka
Section MV Secretary

Egyptian youth were asking, "Are we going to have a youth camp this year?" It was hard to tell them that we had no money and that there were other serious obstacles. We needed God and made our request to Him.

His face went before us and prepared the way. An appeal was made to the division for financial help. They responded with a special appropriation. The use of a lovely piece of land was offered to us free by a benevolent high official. Another benevolent officer offered water and electricity with-out price from his own villa.

The camp site was at a lovely, quiet, and clean spot of beach in Agamy, Alexandria, where the sea waters are clear and smooth. We pitched our tents near the shore of the Mediterranean, creating a picturesque view which caught the sight of neighbors and passers-by. Many paused to watch as we proceeded with our daily program. Some even joined in the evening gathering around the campfire, listening to the character-building stories and singing the gospel choruses. The neighboring officers expressed their delight with our program.

The location made it possible to introduce refinements which we haven't had at camp before. With access to city water, the business manager, Habib Bana, was able to put in faucets and showers. Taking advantage of the electricity, the program included educational films and recorded music. The kitchen staff prepared a good, tasty and balanced diet.

We had 80 campers in all—36 girls and 44 boys. Most of these came from non-Adventist homes. In fact some had

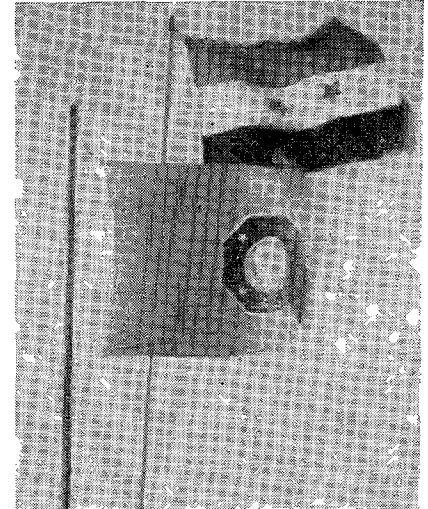
no previous Adventist contact. Since their education levels ranged from primary to university classes, it was sometimes necessary to divide the group for activities.

The Bible-marking plan was introduced this year to Egyptian campers by Samaan Fangary, the camp pastor. Each camper was delighted to own his own Bible. A daily period was assigned to the study of doctrinal subjects and marking them in the Bible. Many campers said that this was the most interesting hour of the day. The older group studied with the camp pastor while the younger group took simplified lessons from Mrs. Fangary. At the end of the ten days, the campers had learned how to use their Bibles and find its precious truth for themselves.

As the hours and days slipped by our hearts were warmed to see our camp family grow physically, mentally and spiritually. Every day brought more victories for Christ. The last Sabbath was a special day of great victories. Many dedicated their lives to the Master. The afternoon of the same day 35 youth were invested in MV honors and classes.

At six o'clock the evening of that great Sabbath, the whole camp family of 105 members assembled near the shores of the sea. Then five young people were buried with their Lord in baptism while the golden rays of the setting sun bent low over the water in awe and reverence.

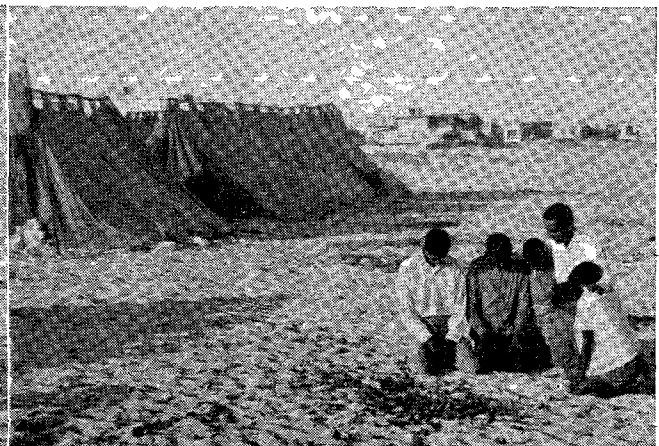
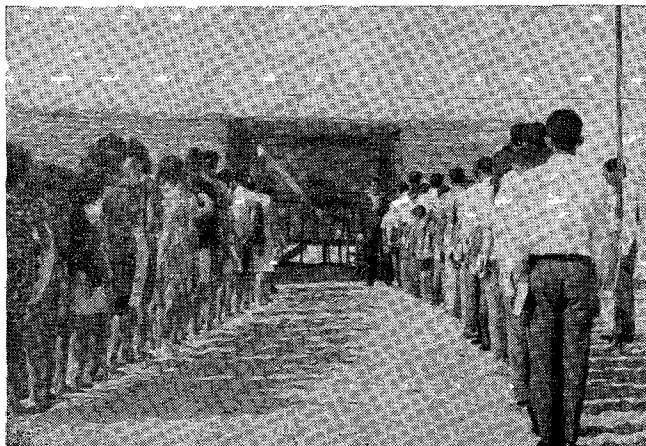
It was hard to break up the chain of this Christian fellowship. It was hard to part with this lovely nature where we learned to know the God of nature as a wonderful Friend. As those dear



young people who had been strangers to our faith clasped our hands in a warm goodbye, each seemed to say: "Thy people shall be my people and thy God my God."

CAMP STAFF

- Director Hanna Malaka
- Business Manager Habib Banna
- Pastor Samaan Fangary
- Doctor Hany Fahim
- Boys' Leader Samaan Fangary
- Girls' Leader Ruth Malaka
- Craft Instructors Farouk Rizk
Nadia Fahim
- Boys' Counselors Farouk Rizk
Saad Khilla
Nathan Ratib
Yacoub Ghali
Mikael Fahmy
Henein Soliman
- Girls' Counselors Nadia Fangary
Ruth Malaka
Amal George
Nadia Lotfy
Nadia Fahim
- Kitchen Staff Mrs. Antar Yacoub
Mrs. Shehata Guindi
Mrs. Nathan Ratib
Josephine Abdelmalik



U. S. President Johnson Visits Benghazi Hospital Patient

Photos Courtesy of the Louisville Times and Courier-Journal

Nadia Soussi, a patient of the Benghazi Adventist Hospital, was honored by a visit from the president of the United States.

The story began five years ago when Nadia was eight years old. She was one of thirteen children in the family. Her father was a wealthy landowner and importer in Benghazi. Further he was a senator. He loved his children and sought to provide the best for them.

Nadia needed the best, for she was the victim of chronic glomerulonephritis. When tonics failed to strengthen her, she was brought to the Benghazi hospital. Here Dr. William Wagner recognized her problem and began a medical program which was continued by Doctor Ludington, presently director of the hospital.

For a time Nadia lived in Benghazi under the care of Doctor Ludington, but making periodical trips to London for specialized treatment. There, as an out-patient, she learned to speak English. But she made little improvement in health.

Doctor Ludington began consultations which led to a meeting in London with Dr. Leonard B. Berman, of Louisville, a specialist in kidney diseases. He examined Nadia, and after consulting with Doctor Ludington and her London physician, he recommended a renal transplant. He gave her only six to eight months.

So preparations were made for the dramatic operation. First Nadia spent three weeks on a pilgrimage to Mecca. When she returned to Benghazi, her condition failed so quickly that Doctor Ludington phoned Louisville to seek immediate attention for her. Her kidneys no longer properly filtered the impurities from her blood, so it was necessary to give her dialysate solution, a solution which when put in the abdomen draws out the poisons.

Mrs. Laura Dennis, a nurse of the Benghazi Hospital, accompanied Nadia on the plane to the United States. The trip was a race against time. A plane was chartered in Chicago to complete the journey because she dare not wait for a scheduled flight. Doctor Berman met her at the airport. She was rushed to the hospital where the treatment with solution in the abdomen was repeated.



Nadia Soussi is visited by her brother at the hospital in Louisville.

For some time her case had been complicated by a cardiac tamponade, a condition in which fluid accumulates in the sac around the heart. This worsened, delaying plans for the kidney transplant. When attempts to withdraw the fluid by needle were not effective, the problem was solved by an operation during which the anterior half of the sac was removed.

In preparation for the transplant, Nadia was hooked up twice a week to a mechanical kidney which filters the blood and purifies it. In the meantime, the family and the doctors looked for a kidney which could be used for Nadia.

A second patient was brought to the

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President Johnson shakes hands with Nadia as he expresses his thanks for her remembrance of his daughter's wedding.



The Mayor of Louisville and his wife welcome Nadia and her family to a dinner at his home.



Hospital Welcomes New Staff Members

Pictured above are new staff members at the Benghazi Adventist Hospital.

The right top picture shows Misses Emelia Tabo (right) and Nadia Nashed, both registered nurses. Miss Tabo who is a graduate of the Bangkok Sanitarium and Hospital is also a trained nurse midwife. She arrived at Benghazi from the Philippines in April. Miss Nashed is a graduate of the Karachi Adventist Hospital.

The family of Dr. Don C. Fahrbach is pictured top left. Left to right they are: Nancy 8, Doctor Fahrbach and Thomas 5, Janice 11, Mrs. Fahrbach and Daniel 13. They arrived in Benghazi September 5.

Seen in the lower picture is Vola and Darel McConnell and their young son (20 months), Jerry. An infant daughter, Jody Darlene, rounds out the family. The McConnells come to Benghazi from the Glendale Adventist Hospital. He is director of laboratory services; she is a registered nurse.

Other new staff members (pictures in a subsequent issue) include Habib Banna, credit manager, and George Khoury, outpatient cashier, who arrived in Benghazi October 19 and November 17 respectively.

FROM HERE AND THERE

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION

Dr. Hershel Lamp and Robert Darnell visited members in Dharan, Arabia, and surveyed new work possibilities in Aden, October 3 to 10. Elder Darnell continued to Uganda and Ethiopia to visit refugee students from Sudan attending Adventist schools before going to Khartoum to discuss with Sudanese officials the possibility of opening work in that country. He reported favorable prospects. (See picture on page nine.)

MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE

Dr. S. J. Schwantes and his wife arrived on campus early in October. Doctor Schwantes is chairman of the division of religion and Biblical languages.

Dr. Herschel Lamp led out in the autumn religious emphasis week, November 11 through 19. He built his talks around the theme, *This is Your Life*.

The Men of Might, a campus club for dormitory men, elected the following as officers: George Terzibashian, president; Walid Abu Hamzi, vice president; Diran Keushgerian, secretary-treasurer; and Daniel Minassian, chaplain.

Leif Jensen, college MV sponsor, directed the first of a series of weekend camp-outs, October 21 through 23, in the valley pine grove at the edge of the campus.

CYPRUS

The colporteur collection plan for time-payment sales has been successful in Cyprus. Sister Leontides reports sales worth \$2,321.55 in 645 hours worked so far this year. Hopes for more sales are bright, especially after the publicity for the health book at the fair and the approval of the ministry of education for the use of the book in schools.

EGYPT

The theology institute at Gabal Asfar opened September 25 with 31 students.

Of these 24 are Seventh-day Adventists. The school covers grades 7 through 12. Elder L. H. Cowles, the new principal, is expected soon.

Literature evangelist Fereh Rizk, of Cairo, was married October 23 in the Heliopolis church to Miss Lea Halonen of Finland, formerly a nurse at Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Brother Fereh is distinguished by sales of *Patriarchs and Prophets* and *Desire of Ages* during 1966 amounting to \$1,805.

IRAN

Elder Aram Aghassian announces the birth of twins, Daniel and Varoujean, born October 13 at ten in the morning.

The second quarter overflow offering, assigned to the Iran Section, amounted to \$81,432.57. It is to be used for an elementary school in Tehran and for improvements at the academy. The Section has purchased a 2000-square-meter piece of land in Tehran for the elementary school.

The Tehran elementary school opened September 25 with an enrollment of 73. The head mistress, Miss Anooosh Keshishzadeh, is assisted by three full-time and four part-time teachers. All are Seventh-day Adventists.

LEBANON

The Musseitbeh school reported a net gain of LL 10,577 for the 1965-66 school year, making it the only self-supporting institution in the Lebanon Section. Its academic standards compare with the most advanced educational institutions in Beirut which offer the same range of coursework.

The Lebanon Section teachers' institute closed October 1, with a dinner at the president's home. Attending were officers of the Middle East Division, the Section teachers, and their families.

Elder George Khoury held a three-week series of evangelistic meetings November 13 to December 4 at the Musseitbeh church. Featured on the program were health talks by Leif Jensen and chalk drawings by Miss Williams. Shehada Halabi directed the music.

LIBYA

A series of quarterly meetings for employees was begun August 17. Three health education films were shown and refreshments served.

Doctors from the hospital were invited to the Soussi residence for a dinner in honor of Doctor Berman, the Louisville nephrologist who operated on Nadia Soussi. (See story on page seven.) Doctor Berman stayed a week in Libya.

A hospital record was set in October with the delivery of 34 babies. The previous high of 31 was set only the month before. This compares with an average of 12 deliveries per month in 1963. Miss Emelia Tabo, a midwife, has joined the doctors in covering the work of this department.

More items on page twelve

Benghazi Patient

Continued from page seven

hospital who also needed a kidney. Finally the doctors secured a body from which the transplant could be made, but when the kidneys were checked only one was good. Tense moments went by while the family waited to learn which patient would get the good kidney. Nadia was chosen. The operation was a success. The good news was cabled to Doctor Ludington in Detroit for the General Conference session.

Nadia's case was publicized by the newspaper so she received hundreds of cards. Soon everyone was her friend. When she left the hospital, the mayor of Louisville, himself of Arab ancestry, invited her to his home for an Arab meal. There he presented her with a key to the city.

How did President Johnson get into the story? It was just before Luci's wedding, so Nadia took the opportunity to send a wedding gift. Now the Johnson family wanted to meet her, so they stopped in Louisville to say thank you.

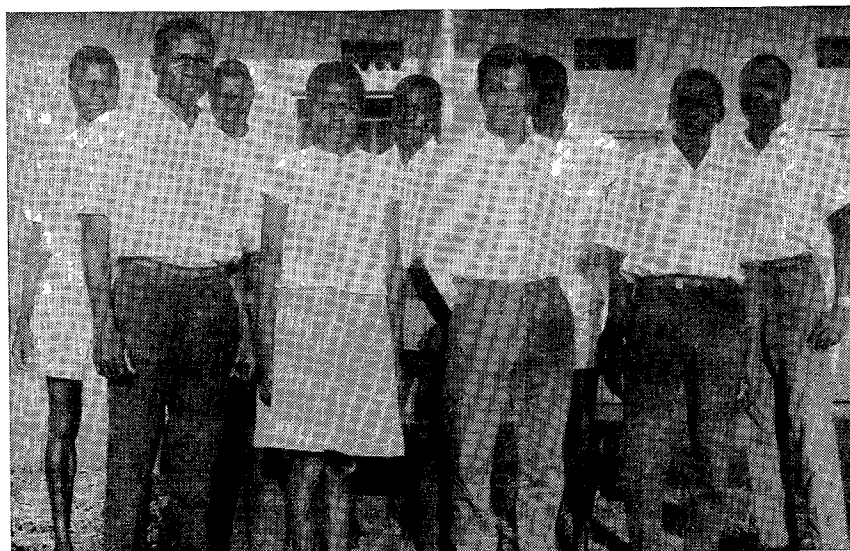
Now Nadia says thank you to the many from all lands who befriended her and helped her recover, including the doctors and staff of the Benghazi Adventist Hospital where she still gets her regular check-ups.



The Middle East Division welcomed Elder A. E. Gibb (left), associate secretary of the General Conference, and Elder K. F. Ambs, assistant treasurer, to the annual meeting. They later visited the Section meetings.



Elder G. R. Nash visited Beirut, October 27 to 30, enroute to India. He gave talks in four Beirut churches emphasizing branch Sabbath school work. He is seen (right) with Elder Khoury and (left) visiting Sidon with Sabbath School Department Secretaries Derwood Chappell (on crutches) and Minas Megurditchian.



Sudanese refugee students at Bugema Missionary College: Front row (left to right): Lawrence el-Haj, Sarah More, Ismail Mukhtar, and Gordon Morjan. Back row: John Timon, Paulino Lado, Bilal Aventura, Stanley Gary, and John Winder. (See "From Here & There")

PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

Two important anniversaries are celebrated in 1966.

This year is the 100th year of the Arabic Bible. Parts of the Scriptures have been translated into Arabic as far back in history as the period of the Byzantine empire, but the translation regarded as authoritative was done a hundred years ago by Dr. Eli Smith and Dr. Cornelius Van Dyck, missionaries of the Congregational church.

This year is the 150th year of the American Bible Society. The Bible society has been a leading instrument in the translation and circulation of the Scriptures. Where the Bible is most highly regarded and copies are most widely distributed, Adventists are strongest, and we find that the Bible society has gone before.

There is scarcely anyone in the Middle East who has not heard of the Bible. The stories of the prophets are part of the common knowledge. But only a few have read it. Most have never held a copy in their hand.

In the past both Christians and Muslims have discouraged direct Bible-reading. The Muslim was taught that what he found in the Qur'an of the teachings of the Bible was enough; he had no need to read the Bible itself. The Christian was told that what he heard from the priest was enough; the reading of the Bible would only confuse his theologically untrained mind.

But times have changed. Now the Christian clergy encourage Bible-reading and Muslims feel free to purchase copies for themselves.

Islam quotes Bible prophecy to show that the coming of Muhammad was a fulfillment of God's plan. It cites the agreement between the Bible and the Qur'an as a proof of their mutual truthfulness. Otherwise the Bible is little used.

What interests Seventh-day Adventists who live in predominantly Muslim communities is the manner in which Islam uses the Bible to distinguish a true believer among Christians and Jews.

Unbelievers are characterized by their disregard of the Bible. We are told: "When God made a covenant with those who were given the Bible, (He said), Explain it to men and hide it not. But they tossed it behind their backs and regarded it of little value" (Amran 186). Further, "O people of the book, you accomplish nothing until you practice the law and the gospel and that which is revealed to you from the Lord" (El-Ma'idah 68).

Our love for the Bible and our acceptance of God's word as the authority in our lives is evidence that we are believers. We can with propriety carry our Bibles in our hand. "Be learned in the Lord," says the Qur'an, "because you teach the Book and because you study it" (Amran 78).

Because our belief and practice is rooted fully in the Bible, we can review with joy the 100 years of the Arabic Bible and the 150 years of the American Bible Society. We can also look forward to success for Seventh-day Adventists in the Middle East.

— Robert Darnell

Adventist World

EARL ADAMS TO BALTIMORE

Brother and Sister Earl Adams, formerly of the Iran Adventist Academy, moved to Baltimore this summer with their three daughters. Adams is now principal of the Greater Baltimore Academy, a school serving the eight churches of the Baltimore metropolitan area. He moved to Baltimore from Texas where he was principal of the Jefferson academy.

PROFESSOR BUILDS ANALYSER

Dr. Leonard Hare, associate professor of biology at Andrews university, is building his own amino acid analyser. Designed for work in micro mixtures, the analyser will handle four times the number of samples with ten times the amount of sensitivity than does a commercial analyser. Results are recorded on highly readable charts in less time and space than on a commercial machine. An automatic valve actuator will enable four complete analyses to be run and charted within 24 hours.

PLANE LOST IN FAR EAST

"Charlie," a single engine Cessna 180 and the only mission plane in the Far East Division, was lost when the sling in which it was being carried by a helicopter along the Borneo coastline broke. The plane was being airlifted after it got stuck in the mud in Sarawak.

PITCARIN ISLANDER HONORED

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of the Birthday Honours List for 1966 made John L. Christian, a Seventh-day Adventist church elder of Pitcarin Island, a Member of the Order of the British Empire. Christian is chief magistrate on the island and was cited for his work in developing local government.

MANILA DOCTOR ELECTED

Dr. Ulysses M. Carbajal, chief of the ophthalmology department of the Manila Sanitarium and Hospital, was elected this summer as first vice-president of the 7,000-member Philippine Medical Association. Elected as president of the association was Doctor Marcos, brother of the president of the republic. Doctor Carbajal is a graduate of the Philippine Union College and of Manila Central University.

Middle East Messenger

Robert Darnell Editor

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Mrs. Marvin Griffin and Mark are seen studying the preschool lessons now offered by the Home Study Institute correspondence school in Washington.

Home Study Offers Preschool Lessons

"Kindergarten is a good idea but I believe that the mother ought to be the teacher," says Mrs. Marvin Griffin of Reading, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Griffin and her son Mark are well along through the course, *The Preschool Child* from Home Study Institute.

Eight years ago Home Study Institute, recognizing the need for a course which would guide the mother in getting her preschoolers ready for the first grade, developed a two-part course which has proved popular and very effective. The course consists of two sections—one for the child, the other for the mother. The section "Preschool Child Activities" provides a rich gold mine of ideas and material for the youngster. The section for the mother, "Preschool Guidance" is a serious study of methods and problems and can be taken for college credit (two hours). Textbooks include *Child Guidance* by E. G. White, *Baby and Child* by Dr. Spock and Ilg and Ames, *Child Behavior*. The course is designed to aid Seventh-day Adventist children in getting off to a successful start in the SDA school system. And Mrs. Griffin adds, "This course certainly is in harmony with the Spirit of Prophecy instructions for mothers and their preschoolers."

Write Home Study Institute, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C., for more details.

D. W. Holbrook
President

Public Relations Work Opens the Way For Breakthrough in Brazil

By Roberto R. Azevedo

Department Secretary, South Brazil union

These last years the attitude of the public toward the Adventists in Brazil has suffered a radical change. By means of radio, newspaper, and television we have enlightened the public as to what we believe, what we are, and what we do. On television we have received from fifteen minutes to an hour of free time to show our films on the work of our twelve medical-missionary launches. Thousands of persons have seen and heard such programs.

Mayors of some of the towns have secured theaters and requested us to show our films to their students and teachers. We have also showed the films in public halls, clubs, churches, school auditoriums, and cultural societies to an appreciative public.

There is no doubt that advertising and public relations play a great part in the formation of a favorable opinion of the church. Prejudice is broken down. Good will is built up and the way is opened to rapidly carry forward God's great plan for the salvation of souls.

Today it is not difficult for our colporteurs to obtain permission to show temperance or welfare films in army barracks or in factories. By this means confidence is established in our general church program and in our publications and hundreds of books are

sold. Five or ten years ago books were not sold in this way, and when the customer knew where the books were published or by whom, the sale was almost certain to be lost.

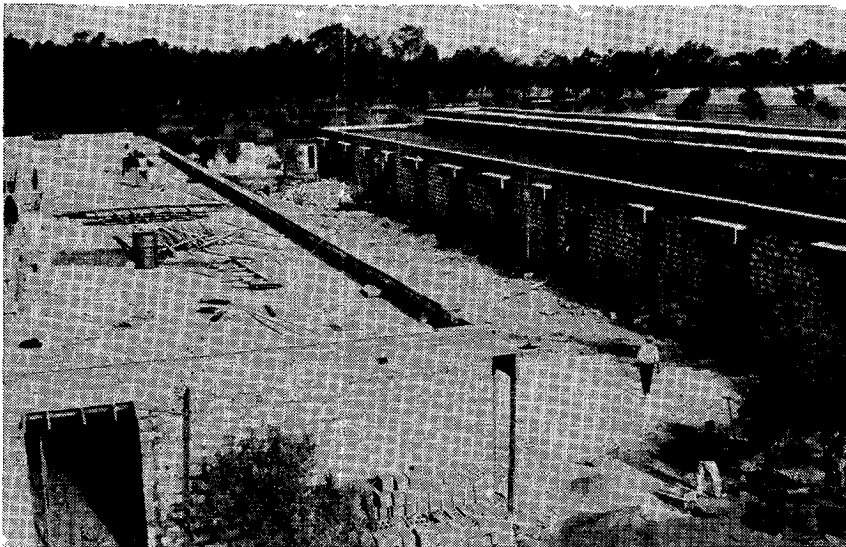
By using this same type of publicity the evangelistic program is well-accepted by the public, especially when the territory is prepared by the Voice of Prophecy and Faith for Today programs and the assistance of our church members and Bible workers in delivering the Bible lessons to the people.

When a series of meetings is announced, the people come by the hundreds because they already know who we are and want to know more. From sixty to eighty-five percent of those attending are familiar with our beliefs and about the same percent are baptized from many different churches as shown by the statistics of three series of meetings recently held in Sao Paulo,

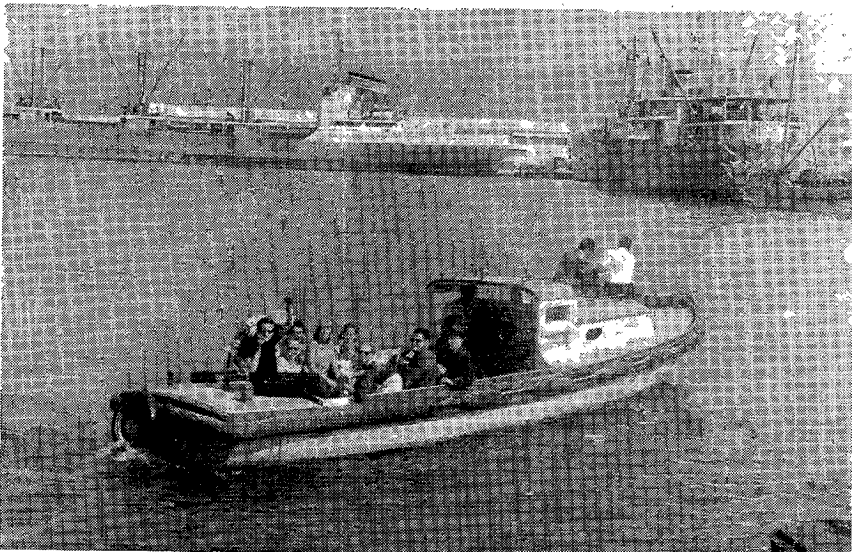
Catholic	540
Pentecostal	112
Methodist	22
Presbyterian	26
Spiritualist	22
Baptist	40
Brazil Christian	14
Mormon	2
Jewish	1
Greek Orthodox	1
Reform	1
Without religion	12
Children of Adventists	51
Total	844

The Ingathering campaign highly benefited by this publicity. Some workers have shown films, slides, or photograph albums to clubs (such as the Lions or Rotary) and in various places the Ingathering contributions have increased ten or fifteen times over what they had been in the past. What has contributed much to this has been the aid given to those suffering from savage fire (penfigo).

In these days of such great opportunity it is our privilege to receive a part of the Thirteenth Sabbath offering of the last quarter of this year for two hospitals in the South Brazil Union; the Sao Paulo Hospital (A Casa de Saude Liberdade) in the great city of Sao Paulo with almost five million inhabitants and the Penfigo Adventist Hospital (Hospital Matogrossense de Pönfigo) in the state of Mato Grosso.



A view of the new Benghazi Adventist Hospital under construction in Libya.



Charlie Mills (left) waves from a launch in the Beirut harbor as the family arrived from New York. Father is seen wearing a hat, sister Susan is in the back row on the left, and mother (also back row) is mostly hidden.



The 1966 annual meeting of the Middle East Division committee is seen listening to a report by Dr. Ludington in the committee room.

Here and There

Continued from page nine

Two Senussi princesses, Nafisa and Sofia, were hospitalized part of August and September for rest and treatment. Reportedly they appreciated in particular the physical therapy given by Jack Thompson.

Miss Nadia Nashed returned November 20 from Beirut where she spent several weeks caring for a serious eye infection. She is resuming duties with the hope that the trouble is cured.

The Russell Nolin family returned from a three-month furlough arriving in Benghazi September 20. They were joined in the U. S. by their son, Jerry, who returned to Libya with them.

Nearly all the interior and exterior walls of the new hospital are finished, the cement floor slabs are poured and the roof slabs nearly complete. Work has now begun on door and window frames and plastering. Plans are to move in during the summer of 1967.

Munir Masloub welcomed the birth of a son August 25. Their three-year-old son, Maher, is also reported delighted.

Church Calendar

SPECIAL DAYS

- December 10 Tithe Promotion
- December 24 Thirteenth Sabbath
South American Division
- January 7 Soul-winning Plans
- January 14 Bible Evangelism
- January 28 Spirit of Prophecy Day

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

- December 3 Church Missionary
- December 10 Church Expense
- December 17 Church Expense
- December 24 Church Expense
- December 31 Poor Fund
- January 7 Church Missionary
- January 14 Church Expense
- January 21 Church Expense
- January 28 Church Expense

Division Directory

DIVISION DIRECTORY

- President F. C. Webster
- Secretary R. L. Jacobs
- Treasurer and Auditor R. C. Mills
- Field Secretary Robert Darnell
- Cashier and Assistant Auditor
..... R. W. Wilmot
- Section I Cashier and Accountant
..... Sabah Isbir
- Department Secretaries: D. L. Chappell, Roger Coon, A. A. Haddad, Herschel Lamp, Associate: Jabbour Semaan; Acting Manouk Nazirian.