

Middle East Messenger

September-October 1968

Volume XVII Number 5

A Teacher's Meditation



BY RUTH HANNA MALAKA

Father Divine:

What will become of Thy children dear
Who come to school from year to year—
These boys and girls who are sincere
To Thy precepts while they are near
Thy consecrated teachers here?
But soon they face a world so drear,
With all its temptations severe.
My Lord, their destiny I fear!

Father Divine:

As I study day by day
Thy Word with them, how they pray
For grace divine to help them stay
Faithful to Thee all the way!
But soon they leave and go away
From this shelter where they may
Forget Thee and disown Thy sway.
Lord, help them not to go astray!

Father Divine:

Like faithful Jochabed of old,
Thy truth I try to unfold
To these dear lambs from Thine own fold,
I pray that, like Moses so bold,
They too may Thy precepts uphold
In this wicked world,
And, with the Spirit's pow'ful sword,
Gain victories for Thee, my Lord.

Father Divine:

O how dear they are to me!
Are they not much more so to Thee?
Take care of them—this is my plea.
In this world help them see
Thy sacrifice on Calvary.
Then on the bright and crystal sea
When I meet with them and Thee—
My Lord, how wonderful it will be!



Lip Service or Life Service

During the early years of my secondary education I had a teacher who was greatly admired by his students. I was particularly fond of him. He was young, he had a pleasing personality, he was happy and jovial, and he had the polished manner of a perfect gentleman. In addition to these qualities he possessed the innate ability—so valuable to a teacher—of being able to transmit knowledge to his students easily and effectively.

Yet there was something lacking in that teacher which made his work at my secondary school considerably less than successful. He grew careless in his Christian life. He filled his mind with philosophies foreign to the truth of God's Word. His behavior began to reveal that he was not a solid Seventh-day Adventist. Shortly after I went on to another school, he left the church completely. The impact that he could have exerted on the lives of his students was largely wasted because he did not direct his own life by the principles in the Bible.

Every teacher in our Seventh-day Adventist school system has the solemn responsibility to project to his students not only the intellectual knowledge needed to face life, but the high principles of Christian living needed to face eternity. Such lessons are not taught to the student by "lip service," but by "life service." Indeed, the life you live in and out of the classroom contributes infinitely more to the real education of your students than does the information you transmit in the classroom.

Knowledge of the arts and sciences and of the patterns of behavior of the peoples of our world does not in and of itself prepare young people for life. They need also to observe this knowledge at work in the lives of you who transmit knowledge. If your students do not see you as a practical example of what Christian education can accomplish, then all of your teaching of facts will become nothing more than a jumble of unconnected ideas.

As a Christian teacher, you are called by God to "the nicest work that was ever entered upon by the human agent, the dealing with human minds" (Ellen G. White: *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 277). You are called to the profession of *true* education—"the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers." You are called to the sacred duty of preparing "students for the joy of service in this world, and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come" (Ellen G. White: *Education*, p. 13).

I am praying that you will fulfill your high calling most faithfully.

A Busy Summer in the Middle East

And not only busy—what with evangelistic campaigns, vacation Bible schools, youth camps, official itineraries, student missionaries, an archaeological expedition, and a number of visitors from all over the world (whew!)—but it was a summer full of big blessings from heaven.

Before we get too far into the autumn months, let's review some of the highlights and sidelights of 1968's busy summer in the Middle East. We'll begin in Beirut at the

Middle East Division



where the Ministerial Association's Evangelistic Training Institute convened August 13-20 under the direction of Pastors Frederick C. Webster, L. Curtis Miller, Salim Japas, and George Khoury. Several dynamic young ministers from Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria registered for the intensive training program. Evangelist Japas was the chief instructor. The photos above show (left) Pastor Gabriel Katrib, acting president of the Syria Section, speaking at a morning devotional service (with Evangelist Khoury translating), and (right) the institute faculty and students.

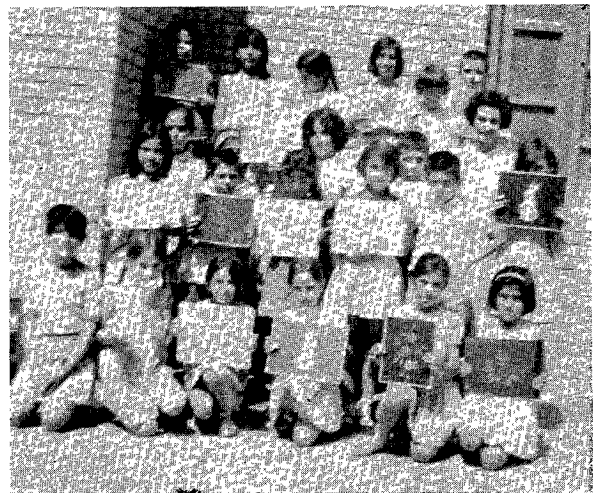
Middle East College

Academic Dean Ignatius Yacoub served as acting president during the summer. He released these news briefs:

* Dr. Fouad Bustani, president of the Lebanese University, presented the MEC commencement address June 23. Seven hundred people thronged The Quadrangle to see the closing event of the 1967-68 school year.

* MEC's 1968 summer session began July 2 with a record enrollment of 40 students taking courses in English, history, psychology, religion, and science.

* The faculty apartment building situated above the women's dormitory was completed and several families promptly moved in. Grounds crews have cleared underbrush on some of the forested hillsides of the campus, providing a more park-like atmosphere.



with Pastor Salakian.) Isaac Salakian directed the children's musical activities.

We had a good program on the final Friday evening. The church was full of parents as all of the children showed what they had learned in the ten days of VBS. At the end of the program we presented certificates and awards—Armenian Bibles and ribbons.

Iran Section

From The Julfa Church in Isfahan comes this report by Pastor Haik K. Salakian:

I am sending you pictures of our Vacation Bible School (July 22-August 2). We had seventy students in three classes and four teachers. (See photos above of Class 2 and the VBS teachers

Jordan Section

Miss Hana J. Nasr, principal of the Adventist School for Girls in Amman, tells about the June graduation:

By six o'clock in the evening, June 16, hundreds of people had packed into the school auditorium to attend the graduation program. Parents with bright faces and big smiles were in the front rows to see their daughters receive their high school diplomas.

The program began with a procession of participants and graduates. I

welcomed the parents and friends to the school and one of our teachers offered the invocation.

Graduating Class Sponsor Sami Bishai introduced the diploma candidates, describing briefly the aims of Adventist schools in Jordan. Section President Willard J. Clemons addressed the class, followed by two responses, one in Arabic and the other in English.

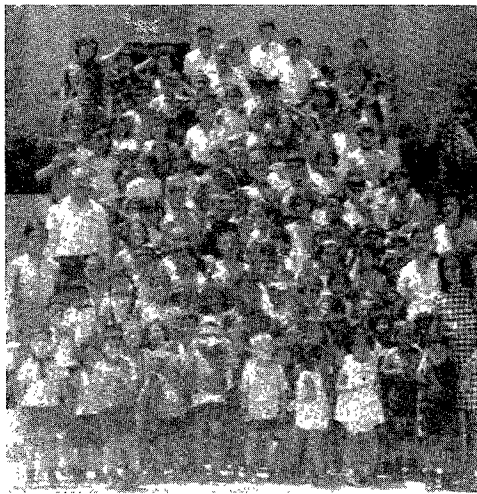
Amman's director of education, Mr. Abed Khalaf, presented the diplomas, praising the school and the church for the good work accomplished. He emphasized the value of education.

All the while, blazing lights dazzled our eyes as the television people took pictures. Two days later our graduation program was shown on TV.

And Pastor Clemons sends these news notes from Jordan:

* Workers and members in Amman, Zarqa, and Kerak conducted Vacation Bible Schools in their communities. Attendance was above average. The picture shows the VBS group in Amman (June 29-July 10).

* Pastors Angely Gayed and Kameel



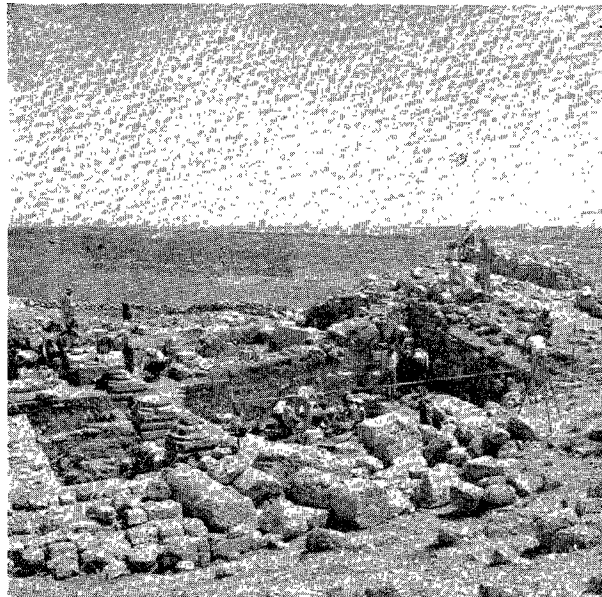
Haddad teamed up to hold a short series of meetings in Kerak. Their nightly services and daily visitation program were a blessing to both the church and the community.

* Pastor Bishara Taweel of Zarqa led a group of church members and friends on a tour of Syria and Lebanon, visiting Seventh-day Adventist churches, schools, and other institutions. Pastor Taweel wanted the new Adventists in his group to become acquainted with the international scope of the church.

* Twenty-two Jordanian young people joined Lebanese campers for the annual summer youth and junior camps at the

foot of Mount Sunnine. Jordan MV Secretary Najeeb Ayoub, Girls' School Teacher Nouha Zaiback Abdul Nour, and MEC Student Emile Haddad served as camp counsellors.

* But the really big event in Jordan this past summer was the Andrews University Heshbon Expedition directed by Dr. Siegfried H. Horn. Acclaimed the largest archaeological expedition ever to work an East Bank site, the AU team was based at the Adventist School for Girls in Amman, offering the 40 explorers a welcome respite from the usual tent-life of a field archaeologist. Dr. Horn's group uncovered what may be the remains of a Byzantine church built on top of the tell. Other significant artifacts were discovered during the course of the seven-week "dig" which will be resumed in 1970 with many of the same team members. Visitors to the mound included Jordanian government officials; the U. S. ambassador to Jordan; diplomatic corps representatives; press, radio, and motion picture teams; and various church leaders. Certainly the most important personage was His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who was regent for King Hussein at the time of his visit. All digging ceased as archaeologists, laborers, and villagers welcomed the prince.



Here are some scenes of the Heshbon Expedition of 1968.

Above, a survey of the acropolis on the top of Tell al-Hisban. Here, AU archaeological team members think, a Byzantine church was once located. Note the pillar bases. Below, Expedition Director Siegfried H. Horn cleans up an iron age object (helmet or pot?) discovered in an ancient cistern in Area C where Middle East College's Siegfried J. Schwantes worked.



Egypt Section

Left, a silver trophy for Principal Hanna Malaka's Adventist Primary School in Heliopolis. It's presented by Dr. Khalifa Barakat, general director of the educational zone in which the school is located. Reason: overall excellence of the school. *Mabrouk!*

The flagraising ceremony was a daily event at the Egypt Section youth camp held on the sandy shores of the Mediterranean Sea near Alexandria.

Below, Pastor and Mrs. Habib Ghali, the active first couple of the Egypt Section.



First row below, left: The Turkish flag goes up as the bugler blows. Center: Turkey Section President Manuk Benzatyan and MED Acting MV Secretary Manoug Nazirian enjoy the natural sur-

Turkey Section

roundings. Right: Pastors Nazirian and Benzatyan conduct a camp worship service. Second row, left: Young Wil-

liam Tells get a bead on the target. Center: Campers spend time with handicrafts. Warm clothing tells the weather story—cold! Right: Camp buddies form their daily prayer circle.



President's Fall Council Address

PASTOR WEBSTER: When one thinks or speaks of lands of the Middle East, it is almost impossible to separate the past from the present. The history that has been packed into these lands merges imperceptibly with the events of today to provide the setting for a unique way of life.

It is a wonderfully rewarding experience to live with our brethren of the Middle East Division and to share with them the challenge of evangelizing the 130,000,000 who live in the lands that were used so frequently by God during ages gone by as the stage upon which to enact His purpose for mankind. It is satisfying to know that God is still enacting His plan for the wonderful people of the Middle East.

Before describing how God has led His church in the Middle East this year, I wish to present to you the secretary of the Middle East Division, Pastor Ray L. Jacobs. He came with us to Beirut a little over two years ago to share the challenges that face the church. Pastor Jacobs and I are both Canadians by birth. In early childhood we both lived here in Toronto. Pastor Jacobs and I have been warm friends since we were boys together in the southern states where our fathers, workers in the Adventist church, were transferred from Canada. Although our pathways led both of us into mission service in the lands of Latin America, we never had the privilege of working together nor even near each other until now. It is a joy for us to work side by side in the Middle East. Pastor Jacobs is a capable and efficient secretary and a valued Christian counselor.

PASTOR JACOBS: One of the pleasant tasks of the Division secretary is reporting the growth of the church. During 1968 there has been a definite, dramatic increase in baptisms. This year's first-quarter report showed more baptisms (65) than any previous first quarter, but the baptisms for the second quarter alone (206) were more than the baptisms of any previous complete year in the history of the Middle East Division.

We rejoice over this awakening and feel confident that God is beginning to do some unusual things in the Middle East. We have been praying for a breakthrough.

Last March Division Evangelist Salim Japas and Pastor Farouk Rizk held an evangelistic campaign in Fayoum, a city in central Egypt. Among those baptized was Ramzi Fahim. He had attended all of the meetings and had diligently studied his Bible. Thoroughly convinced of the truth, he was converted to God's way of life. After Ramzi was baptized, he began to think of the people of the village where he had been reared—the village of Baiada. It is nearly an hour by bus from Fayoum. Pastor Rizk went with Ramzi to visit his village and to meet his family.

The village of Baiada is populated with exceptionally fine people. Though a Christian church had never been built in Baiada, the Coptic priest regularly held services each Sunday in private homes or outdoors.

When Ramzi and Pastor Rizk came the people listened with great interest to the truth. There was a new hope in the message these men brought. Arrangements were made to hold meetings each Sabbath. Seventy people came the first week for Sabbath school and church.

If you could accompany Pastor Rizk and Ramzi next Sabbath afternoon, you would arrive at the highway bus stop about 1 o'clock. The village of Baiada is located about a quarter mile from the highway, but a large group of Ramzi's friends and relatives are waiting at the bus stop to accompany their teachers of truth to the village so that every moment of the visit can be profitably used to inquire after and to learn of the better way of life. Each evening during the week many of the people of the village met together to study the Bible. They wrote down questions that puzzled them. Now as they walk from the bus stop to the village, they ask Pastor Rizk to answer the questions and he does. Sabbath school and church are held at different homes each week, or, I should say, in the yards of different homes, for there are too many now to go inside. Everyone wants his home used as the site of the Adventist service. Pastor Rizk must go on to another service later Sabbath afternoon, so the city fathers again accompany him and Ramzi back to the bus stop, plying him with questions until the last moment.

Pastor Rizk reports that the entire Christian population of the village is attending the Sabbath services. Many Muslim neighbors are coming too. It seems that at least the Christian section of the community will turn Adventist. Already six

have been baptized. A large property has been donated on which to erect a church building. Each family has set a goal to make 1,000 adobe bricks to be used in the construction. £230 (about \$60) in cash has been given for the building of the church—the first Christian church in that village.

The Coptic priest who had conducted worships in the village until Ramzi and Pastor Rizk came has been told by the village patriarchs that his services are no longer needed. They reason: "Why should he come? He couldn't answer our questions." The priest's only response seems typical: "You mean you'll deprive me of the weekly salary that you have been giving me?"

PASTOR WEBSTER: When one is way out in the ends of the earth facing staggering, far-reaching decisions involving God's work, it is most consoling and comforting to have consecrated and wise counselors at one's side with whom one can discuss problems and arrive at sanctified judgments.

Pastor Robert C. Mills, our MED treasurer, joined us at the time of the last General Conference session. He has brought to the Middle East a rich experience of home and overseas service and a wide variety of accounting and managerial skills. Pastor Mills is a good counselor. He has that vital—though rare—talent of being able to anticipate the needs of his fellow workers even before they are voiced. Carefully safeguarding church funds, Pastor Mills guides us in investing our resources where they will render the greatest returns for God's kingdom.

PASTOR MILLS: Last January, after having carried on our medical work in Benghazi, Libya, under makeshift arrangements for over ten years, we moved into our new 60-bed hospital ideally located on Benghazi's perimeter highway. This modern medical facility is a miracle hospital in many respects. Libyan law bars foreign organizations from owning any land. All foreign companies, corporations, and organizations, including the oil companies, must lease their land. But the General Conference's corporate entity was allowed to buy and become owner of the land on which our hospital has been built. It is the only foreign organization in Libya that holds title to its property.

Another miracle is the fact that funds for construction of this \$750,000 hospital were provided by the international oil companies which are developing the rich petroleum resources of Libya. ESSO was the chief contributor.

An additional miracle came on the day of the formal opening of the hospital. During his address, Libya's minister of health made the surprise announcement that he had brought a gift from His Majesty King Idris I. Then he handed to Dr. Clifford Ludington, medical director of The Adventist Hospital, the king's check for £10,000 (\$28,000). This gift meant more than just money; it meant royal approval of The Adventist Hospital in a land where Islam reigns supreme; no other form of religion may proselytize in any way. That royal approval was ratified a few months later when King Idris made an unprecedented personal visit—yes, a miraculous visit—to our hospital. He inspected the building and greeted employees and patients. Before leaving with his retinue, he sat in the hospital library and conversed freely with the staff, offering his thanks for the work of The Adventist Hospital.

From the first day of service, patronage of the new medical facility has steadily increased far beyond our expectations. Our meager staff has been seriously taxed—almost to the breaking point. Because we lack personnel we have been able to operate at only slightly more than 50% bed capacity.

Through the miracle of God's mercy we have been provided with this modern, well-equipped hospital, situated in a stronghold of Islam, but enjoying the blessings of a devout Muslim leader. We gladly accept the challenges of operating this hospital in keeping with the highest traditions of Seventh-day Adventist hospitals belting the globe. But in order to meet the challenge, we must secure the services of consecrated, well-trained doctors and nurses and other paramedical personnel. We are confident that God's miracles are not yet exhausted and that the same miracle-working power which made possible the purchase of land and the construction of The Adventist Hospital in Benghazi will provide the people to run it.

PASTOR WEBSTER: Some of you will remember the little story I related to you when we were together last year. The story concerned a remarkable modern-day conversion that took

Christmas Color Coming!

We think the next issue of The Middle East Messenger is something special. It's already printed. In fact, thousands of copies are now on the way to people in places all over the world. Why? Because church leaders saw wisdom in telling the Middle East story loud and clear, far and near.

Watch for it. It's coming—in living color, too! Meantime, send a few messages yourself to loved ones and friends urging them to "love. . . live. . . give" for the Middle East on Christmas Sabbath, December 21.

place "on the road to Damascus"—literally. Evangelist Salim Japas was traveling from Jordan to Lebanon. On the Syrian frontier he gave space in his car to a customs official. As they traveled together toward Damascus the customs official listened in wonder to the story Pastor Japas told him of Jesus' love and ministry and the work of the people who today follow in His footsteps. Like St. Paul nearly 2,000 years before him, the customs official was transformed by truth. He began to attend meetings in The Damascus Center. On a subsequent journey that took Pastor Japas past the same frontier post, the customs official's associates testified that their chief was a changed man since the day he went with the Adventist pastor "on the road to Damascus."

Now tonight I have a sequel to that story.

During the intervening months that customs official has continued to attend regularly our meetings at The Damascus Center. He will be baptized later this year, but he has already accepted the challenges of his counterpart and predecessor on the Damascus Road, St. Paul. He has already begun his career as a soulwinner. While he was taking some classes at the University of Damascus, he was asked by a fellow student about a certain book. He told his inquiring friend that he had the book and would lend it to him. As they walked together to the customs official's home to get the book, our man of the Damascus Road told his friend about a greater and more important book that he himself had only recently discovered. He explained that it was the Book of all books—the Bible.

The university friend began to study the Bible, and to attend The Damascus Center meetings. Last May he was baptized, preceeding his spiritual benefactor into church fellowship.

Maroun Khoury, an ex-priest, is now an Adventist worker in Lebanon. One day he saw a man standing on the sidewalk, seemingly in severe pain. Inquiring, Brother Maroun found

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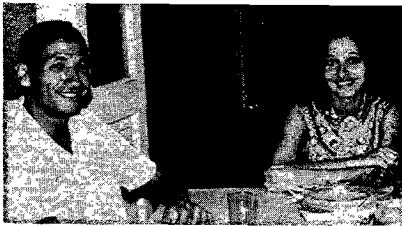
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*On leave

TRANSITION

Happy at Home



Pastor and Mrs. Saad Khilla, Egypt Section, were married June 17. She's the former Leilah Antar Yacoub.

out that the man had been struck by a block of wood in the shop where he worked. The boss had sent him home, but he was suffering too much to talk. Besides, the man's home was in North Lebanon. Brother Maroun could easily see that the man could not travel to North Lebanon in his present condition, so he took him to his own home, put him to bed, and cared for him until he was well enough to travel. While he recuperated they studied the Bible together. Thus Ahmed became acquainted with the Christ who had inspired Brother Maroun's kind act.

In a few days Ahmed was well enough to go to North Lebanon where Brother Maroun and Pastor Harley Bresee later visited him on various occasions. Ahmed was baptized on August 31. He faces several problems—opposition from his parents and his fiancée. His employer refuses to give him Sabbath off, but for three months Ahmed has refused to work on Sabbath. And each Sunday morning his employer joyously welcomes him back to work.

In two countries of the Middle East where government restrictions present formidable barriers to the preaching of truth, some marvelous happenings have taken place recently. Syria is one of these countries. Citizens of several western nations cannot obtain visas for Syria. Fortunately we have Pastor Japas, an Argentinian of Syrian heritage. He has been able to travel freely in Syria. Recently he visited a beautiful valley there which is largely Christian in population. The pastor of the Christian community received Evangelist Japas and his family warmly, insisting that they stay in his home. He had had previous contacts with other Seventh-day Adventist workers, had purchased *Patriarchs and Prophets* and *The Desire of Ages*, and was receiving *Hope* magazine each month. He said that all of his sermon material comes from our literature.

"How is it," he asked, "that you can print and circulate *Hope* magazine in Syria when no other Christian literature is allowed?" This pastor is observing the Sabbath and teaching his people the truths of the Adventist faith. He told Pastor Japas that it is his studied aim to lead his entire congregation into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

An almost identical experience is taking place in Istanbul, Turkey, the only European-mainland city in our Division. An Assyrian Orthodox priest learned the Adventist faith in the southern part of Turkey. Recently he was transferred to Istanbul. He has been regularly attending our church there. He too wants to lead his whole congregation to what he has found to be truth.

I mentioned *Hope* magazine. About one year ago we put on a special promotion campaign so that *Hope* could make a greater impact on the Arabic-speaking population in our territory. We sent out 10,000 gift subscriptions. The response has far exceeded our greatest hopes. We have received a response from 1,000 new readers. This 10% reader response is far above average, we believe. There were only two who did not wish to continue receiving *Hope*. We are now in the midst of a subscription campaign. We firmly believe that *Hope* will play an important part in finishing the work.

Throughout the Middle East the harvest is ripening. Our task is enormous. Each Seventh-day Adventist in the Middle East must win 50,000 others for God's kingdom. Jesus told of the time when the reapers would overtake the sowers. We believe that that hour has arrived in the Middle East. We shall continue to sow, but as we sow with one hand, we shall reap with the other. Blessed by the Holy Spirit the work of Christ's church will be completed quickly in the very same lands where it was so gloriously begun.

YEAR-END COMMITTEE The General Conference is sending Vice President *F. L. Bland* and Assistant Treasurer *Robert E. Osborn* (a former MED treasurer) to the year-end meeting of the Middle East Division Executive Committee, November 8-14.

THE ADVENTIST HOSPITAL People come and people go. Fortunately, there have been more comings and fewer goings lately. The *Clifford Ludington* family returned from short furlough, but the medical director promptly came down with hepatitis, delaying the departure of the *Rob Johnson* family. Benghazi has welcomed these new people to the hospital scene: *Dr. R. Dean Dietrich* (brother of *Judy Whitehouse*) and *Ellen Lois Mary*; Medical Records Librarian *Primo Guarin* and his pharmacist wife *Evelyn* (from The Philippines); School Teacher *Leona Blaker*; Secretary *Carme-*



Helper

Dr. Wayne Platner, general practitioner from Spokane, Washington, helped out in Benghazi last summer.

lita Coloma and Nurses *Erlinda Cabanilla* and *Trinidad Deguzman* (also from The Philippines); and Assistant Engineer *John Strain* and *Joanne* (she's a daughter of the *Russell Nolins*). And by the time you're reading this, *John* and *Susan Melconian* will be back in Benghazi. An electronics expert, he'll work in the engineering department; she will return to the dental office.

MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE The proverbial slow boat to China somehow got routed to Beirut. On board: the *Justin Hamer*, *Ray Doyle*, and (going on to Iran) *Ralph Nickell* families. MEC's new chemist and new dean of men jumped ship at Thessaloniki and flew to Beirut in time for the opening of the 1968-69 school year (combined college and secondary enrollment: 160). Meanwhile, wives and families are enjoying (?) what will turn out to be a six- or seven-week cruise—instead of two. The business administration department's *John Segar* and family and new Dean of

Women *Ruby Williams* (who is certainly not new to the Middle East) took wings in the first place, arriving for the colloquium conducted by President *Kenneth L. Vine*, back from furlough himself and now pastoring The College Park Church as well.

NEW PRINCIPAL *Munif Shawareb* is now directing activities at the Adventist Secondary School, Irbid, Jordan.

SCHOOL DAYS Beirut Overseas School buzzed through its first weeks with 39 students (including the progeny of several Nazarene missionary families), three full-time faculty (Principal *George Unger*, *Barbara Beaven*, and *Phyllis Miller*), and five part-time teachers (*Shirley Bowen*, *L. Hugh Cowles*, *John Damerell*, *Yves Gomot*, and *Frances Unger*).

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION The Middle East Division's new documentary film, to be screened for the first time (hopefully) at the 51st General Conference Session in Atlantic City in 1970, is now being shot "on location" throughout the Division territory. Film team members assisting Producer/Director/Writer *Richard Lee Fenn* include Pastors *Harley D. Bresee*, *Willard J. Clemons*, *Robert Hyde*, and *W. Armour Potter*. October finds the cinematographers in Turkey, Iran, Kuwait, and Iraq. (By the way, if you have any good 16mm color film of the Middle East, please contact me immediately! Thanks! R. L. F.)

They're A - OK!

Atlantic Union College sent *Gordon Piffber*; *Columbia Union College* sent *Ellen Lorenz*; and they both made a big impact on the Middle East Division, where she ran the outpatient treatment room, *Gordon* in all the countries having youth camps.



Terms Tanta Success Breakthrough!

BY FAIEZ TOWFILES

There is in Tanta one of the largest mosques in all of Egypt. Therefore it is considered one of the largest Islamic centers.

The Christians who live in Tanta are fanatical members of the Orthodox church. They are against any other church. Because the work in Tanta is very difficult, I asked other churches to pray with us for a breakthrough. Then I began my spring effort on Sunday, March 31. It continued six weeks to May 4. I held evening meetings every Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday and services on Sabbath mornings.

We advertised the meetings through house-to-house distribution of handbills with personal invitations. The attendance at our meetings was greater than any previous effort in Tanta. The church was nearly full. By mid-August, 24 were baptized and others are making favorable decisions. My wife and I continue to visit many families and to conduct Bible studies.

During the summer we had a very successful Vacation Bible School. Because my wife and I were the only teachers, we could not accept more than 55 boys and girls. The VBS opened more doors for visitation.

We are thankful to God for these blessings. We are also grateful to all those who prayed with us for a breakthrough in Tanta.

MESSAGES

* Thanks so much . . . for giving my letter such good publicity (The Messenger, July-August 1968, pp. 6, 7). I appreciate this very much, for I wanted to reach our people with this message.

ROBERT H. PIERSON
President

General Conference
Washington, D. C.

* I understand my article "My First Experience at Camp Meeting" . . . appeared in The Messenger of July-August 1968. I would appreciate one or two copies . . . for my records.

A. A. "BABY" ARATHOONIAN
Tehran

* Thank you very much for the wonderful work you are doing by publishing The Messenger. We do appreciate receiving it. We follow the progress of the workers in the MED and spread the news all over the churches here in Oregon. We pray that God will bless all . . .

ADEL M. ABDEL FADI

Milwankie, Oregon

Would you too like to receive The Messenger regularly? It's free for the asking. Send your name and address to the editor.

LISTEN!
YOUR RADIO DOCTOR
in English
from Amman, Jordan
Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
854 Kilocycles

Leaders Urge Big Temperance, Sacrifice Offerings

GC President Robert H. Pierson has appealed to the church to "make the World Temperance Offering the best ever—because the times demand it!"

And MED President Frederick C. Webster has called for "a liberal and

generous Week of Sacrifice Offering to be received November 9 so that God's wonderful work may go ever forward."

Evangelists in Action!

Citing critical needs in the fields of narcotics education and overall church development, the two officials expressed their confidence that Adventists everywhere would again respond with a ready will.



Above, Pastor Angely Gayed and baptismal candidates in Amman. Center, Egypt Section Worker Leon Magrissy and daughter with candidate won in Pastor Saad Khilla's September effort. Right top, Pastor Abadir Abdel-Messih conducts meetings in Sohag, Egypt. Bottom, ministers and counsellors with Egypt youth-camp baptismal candidates.

