

## ADVENTISTS RESPOND TO TURKEY EARTHQUAKE NEEDS



Workers are seen unloading a shipment of goods from Swiss Adventists for the Turkey earthquake victims. Other pictures on pages 6 and 7.

## Delegates Selected, Plans Made for 51st General Conference Session

The Middle East Division will send twelve delegates to the 51st quadrennial session of the General Conference, June 11 to 20, at Atlantic City, New Jersey. In addition seven members of the General Conference committee who serve in the Middle East Division will be seated as delegates-at-large. At least nine other workers from the Division will attend meetings during the session. Some delegates expect to be accompanied by their wives. This representation along with many former workers and residents of the Middle East will doubtless make the 1970 Middle East Division group the largest in history.

The division report is scheduled for the first Saturday night of the session, an hour generally regarded as prime time because of the large number of visitors and lack of conflicting appointments and because it is the first of the evenings devoted to overseas reports. Besides the officers' report, the program includes stories told by workers in costume and a motion picture showing the work of the division. The picture was

filmed and edited by Elders Fenn and Potter, with the narration by Elder Fenn.

The Middle East Division is to be represented in the exhibition hall by an attractive display making use of the latest in audio-visual techniques. A continuously running slide projector will put scenes of the Middle East on an attractive daylight screen. Narration will accompany the slides to explain the work represented. Telephone receivers will be installed to lines connecting to recorded sounds from the Middle East, including samples of greetings in Middle East languages and the Muslim call to prayer.

The display will also contain a museum table with exhibits of archaeological interest connected to the Bible. Large prints on the walls will show points of interest in the Middle East. There will be the usual envelope of gift stamps for visitors.

A new feature, presented as a first by the Middle East Division, will be a

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The Seventh-day Adventist response to a series of more than a thousand earthquakes which devastated towns in western Turkey during late March and April was speedy and compassionate.

Elder Fred Waelti, head of the welfare work in the German-Swiss Conference, telephoned Elder Manuk Benzatyan, president of the Turkey Section, to offer help. He said that the Adventist churches in Switzerland had answered the appeal and that help for the disaster area was ready. Within three days 16 tons of clothing and blankets arrived in Turkey from the Swiss Adventists.

From Germany the Central European Division sent word: "Our sisters and brethren who also have suffered all the great times of troubles and dangers are touched by the misery and they want to help." Elder Oswald Bremer, the division treasurer, put this help in the form of 5,000 West German marks for use in emergency relief or reconstruction.

In the meantime the Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service headquarters in Washington cabled: "\$1,000 credited Division account for Turkey earthquake victims."

The earthquakes centered around the town of Gediz in western Turkey. Nothing was left standing in Gediz, Akcaalan, and Emet other than a lone house leaning against a utility pole. Surrounding villages were heavily damaged. The death toll reached 2,000 and the full number may never be known. Thousands of others were injured.

Elder Benzatyan sent an account of the destruction: "It was sickening," he said. "It was as if an atomic bomb had exploded and left the place desolate. People were left without loved ones, children without parents, people without homes, businesses, income."

Elders Fred Waelti and Johann Laich accompanied Elder Benzatyan to the earthquake area. They traveled as guests of the Turkish National Airlines and of the Turkish Red Crescent Society. They were supplied with a minibus and drivers for two days to tour the area, take pictures, and assess the

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*More Than I  
Want To Know*



# TALKING TOGETHER

A little boy went to the library and asked for a book about penguins. The librarian found a suitable volume, and the satisfied lad walked merrily away with the book tucked carefully under his arm. Several days later he came back to return the book. "Well, son, did you find what you wanted to know about penguins?" "Yes," he answered, "but there was a whole lot there that I didn't want to know about."

Very likely you have felt just as the little boy expressed himself when some friend or brother related to you his appraisal of some real or imaginary fault or mistake committed by a mutual acquaintance—you simply didn't want to know about it. If that acquaintance had made some miserable failure in life and you could help him to get reestablished and walking again towards heaven, that would be one thing, but simply to hear recounted another's failures is too vivid a reminder of our own glaring weaknesses.

We all have faults and we all make blunders and it is quite a disturbing experience to hear these weaknesses emphasized or even exaggerated by a likewise-erring brother. Actually we are all quite familiar with our own weaknesses and in most cases we are trying by God's help to overcome them. Would it not be a much nobler attitude if we should seek to overlook or ignore the failures of a brother rather than to shout it from the house top or spread it from ear to ear?

The Spirit of Prophecy has much to say concerning this matter. Note the following words: "By their unrighteous suspicions and unrighteous judgments, the tale bearers hurt their own experience and sow the seeds of discord in the church. If they could see things as God sees them, they would change their attitude... The time spent in criticizing the motives and works of Christ's servants might better be spent in prayer. Often if those who find fault knew the truth in regard to those with whom they find fault, they would have an altogether different opinion of them. How much better it would be if, instead of criticizing and condemning others, everyone would say: 'I must work out my own salvation. If I co-operate with Him who desires to save my soul, I must watch myself diligently. I must cut away every evil from my life. I must become a new creature in Christ. I must overcome every fault. Then, instead of weakening those who are striving against evil, I can strengthen them by encouraging words.'" — 8T: 83-84.

Quite probably from time to time words of criticism have come to your ears that you simply "didn't want to know about", and you wish that you had never heard. The next time someone comes to you with one of these unholy tales concerning a brother's weakness, act disinterested, or point out to the teller a noble trait in the accused one's character, perhaps such an attitude will focus your own mind on his good qualities so that you will soon forget the evil, and maybe your obvious disinterest in the gossip story will help the teller to occupy himself in the future with more constructive pursuits.

## Middle East Evangelist Salim Japas Holds First Public Meetings in Madrid

The first Seventh-day Adventist evangelistic campaign in Madrid, Spain, was conducted by Middle East Division evangelist Salim Japas during the last quarter of 1969. Madrid, the capital of Spain, is a city of 3,000,000 people.

Elder Japas, known in the Middle East as Elder Khabbaz, the ancestral name of his family, is a Spanish-speaking citizen of Argentina with wide experience in presenting the Adventist message in Roman Catholic lands. The series of meetings was held concurrently in two Adventist church buildings of Madrid.

Reports from Madrid labeled the meetings a success with 22 persons baptized and others in classes for future baptism after follow-up work. The meetings were well attended in spite of obstacles. Local newspapers refused even paid advertising. Invitations were required to specify that the meetings were sponsored by the Adventists. Adventists are not well known and share in the suspicion usually cast upon Protestant meetings in Spain.

The method employed by Elder Japas to approach the people particularly impressed the Spanish workers. Four ministers were associated with the campaign throughout the series and others came in for periods of two weeks to study the method. Elder Salvador Iserte reported the meetings: "Brother Japas has worked out his lessons in a very practical, spiritual, and simple way, with great respect for the Roman Catholic Church, though he never mentioned it even once. His sweetness has been mingled with a strength and conviction in the exposition of the truth."

The Church of God was the theme subject and the method was based upon the text, "Thou art Peter." Workers met once a week to discuss methods. A second weekly meeting was held in each church with those who were visiting the interests and giving Bible studies.

Constantino Ruiz-Garrido, a distinguished personality of the Spanish Protestant world who attended the meetings regularly commented: "The Seventh-day Adventist Church has demonstrated through the Japas campaign that it has something to say to the world and to the Christian Church. I

believe that the law and the gospel must be preached together."

Meetings were held three nights a week in each church. One was a spiritual appeal, and the other two were devoted to special Bible lessons. The lessons were printed and distributed to those in attendance. Bibles were awarded to those who attended 16 times. The Series was entitled, "Al Encuentro de la Felicidad (In Search of Happiness)."

### Policies Revised

Differences in pay between men and women are to be eliminated over a five-year period, according to an action of the Spring meeting of the Middle East Division committee, March 17 to 19. Previously, married women whose husbands were employed in the work received lower salaries.

Other policy revisions voted at the meeting included a new detailed wage scale for teachers and increases in the benefits under the policies for advanced study by workers, national workers returning, and in-service worker training.

### Earthquake

*Continued from page one.*

needs. They left with a deep appreciation of what the Red Crescent has been doing for the victims and they praised the organization and efficiency of this society.

New quakes have continued to shake the area so the population remains in tents and similar housing. The most pressing need is prefabricated housing which can be quickly assembled. On the scene a German rescue organization has provided drinkable water from the river source and began spinning styrofoam domes five meters across at the base at the rate of two an hour for use as temporary shelter.

The Division officers report that further assistance to the earthquake victims in the reconstruction of their homes is planned.

### New Treasurers

New treasurers have been elected in the Jordan, Syria and Egypt Sections. Elected treasurer of Jordan is Husni Kolta, formerly treasurer of the Egypt Section. In Egypt Antar Yacoub was elected treasurer. Habib Banna, formerly accountant at the Benghazi Hospital, was named treasurer for the Syria Section.

## Aziz Family Called by Ethiopia As Division's First Missionary Appointees



*Brother Bishara Aziz and his wife, Fawzia, under appointment as medical workers to Ethiopia.*

Bishara Aziz and his wife Fawzia are the first Middle Easterners to be selected from the Middle East Division by the General Conference as missionary appointees. They have been called by the Northern European Division for service in the Ethiopian Union.

The Aziz family already has a background of mission experience, having served within the division territory as missionary nurses in Libya. Brother

Aziz is from Jordan, and his wife is from Assiut, Egypt. In Ethiopia they plan to continue in medical work.

It is planned that they will manage an outstation clinic at Ascata, in the Danakil desert near the border between French Somaliland and Ethiopia. Some Arabic is spoken in the area, which is largely Muslim. The clinic provides the only medical services in the area. This clinic recently received funds from the mission extension offering given by Adventist churches around the world.

Both members of the missionary team received their training at the Dar Es-Salaam School of Nursing in Baghdad, graduating in the class of 1959. Brother Aziz later completed the program at the American University of Beirut for a certified nurse anesthetist. At the Benghazi Adventist Hospital he operated the emergency room and worked in the anesthesia department. His wife, the daughter of Wadia Kolta, worked as a staff nurse. She particularly enjoys work in the OB, Pediatrics, and dietetic departments.

## Ingathering Work Succeeds in Khusistan

By R. M. Massey  
Evangelist, Iran

Once again the Lord has greatly blessed us in our ingathering work here in Khusistan and by His grace we were able to receive over 52,000 Rls. in cash and hope to receive another 5000 Rls. which will put us 700% over our goal. Praise the Lord for this great accomplishment.

Elder H. L. Gray, president of Iran Section, and I spent one week visiting the managers of the shipping companies and business men in Abadan, Khorramshahr and Ahwas. They were all very friendly and hospitable and appreciated our medical, educational and welfare work. Many of these men said that they had never heard of a society doing such good work for poor and needy. Not only were we able to receive good donations from them but we had opportunities to talk to them about our belief and teaching. One very fine Italian man said that he had heard about the Seventh-day Adventists and he wanted to know more. This gave us opportunity to explain some of our principles.

While talking to the manager of one shipping company, I said, "Friend, last year we missed you because you were not here." He said, "I will give you double so that you will not forget me next year." He gave 10,000 Rls. and requested us to visit his house. I am studying the Bible with this family.

In Ahwas a very fine business man, after giving us 5,000 Rls., said, "Please accept my small donation for your noble work." Truly the Spirit of the Lord has been moving upon the hearts of the people and we have seen the result of it.

The servant of the Lord said in the book *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 191, that many who are not of our faith have been made acquainted with the progress of the third angels message by ingathering work. As we visited these people, we left truth-filled literature with them. Who knows but that one day they may accept our message. We are living in the last days of this world's history. Soon the end will come. The Lord wants us to use every possible method to finish His work. I believe that through ingathering work we can bring many lost souls to the knowledge of the truth.

## Vacation Bible School at Rezayeh Is Combined With Evangelistic Series

By Elder L. Curtis Miller  
Division department secretary

They began gathering at the door more than an hour before opening time, and the buzz of their happy voices reminded us that we had best hurry to be ready for them.

"They" were the nearly sixty children who came to register for the third annual Rezayeh Vacation Bible School that is held during Norooz, the Iranian New Year holiday. While most Vacation Bible School programs are held during the summer months, this one held in Rezayeh shows that any time can be Vacation Bible School time.

Elder H. L. Gray, Iran Section President and Sabbath School Department Secretary, conceived the idea of a

Norooz Vacation Bible School in 1968 when he was scheduled to hold a series of evangelistic meetings in Rezayeh. "Why not," he said, "hold a Vacation Bible School during the day and the evangelistic meetings at night?"

He remembered that in January, 1968, Elder G. R. Nash, then General Conference Sabbath School Department Secretary, told of an evangelist in Korea holding successful evening evangelistic meetings that were supported by a Vacation Bible School program during the day. Iran Section workers tried it in 1968 and found that the plan works in the Middle East. Evangelistic meetings and a Vacation Bible School program complement each other

*Continued in next column.*



*Craft time absorbs the interest of children attending the Vacation Bible School at Rezayeh in Iran.*



*Ahmad Farnoody and Alice Hovsepian lead the Vacation Bible School students during their music period.*

by providing something of interest for both children and adults. It has been proven around the world that we can reach the hearts of parents through their children.

This year's Vacation Bible School in Rezayeh was under the direction of Alice Hovsepian. She was assisted by Ahmad Farnoody, George Terzibashian, H. L. Gray, and L. C. Miller. Over 150 attended the nightly evangelistic meetings conducted by Pastors Terzibashian and Miller. Most of those in attendance were young people of high school and university age.

The children at the Vacation Bible School enjoyed lively song services, games, and crafts, while learning lessons for eternity from the Bible and from the character-building stories told by the Vacation Bible School workers.

The presence of the same children each year shows that a Vacation Bible School can be a good evangelistic public relations procedure. Twenty-nine of the children present this year had also attended the two previous years and thirty-three returned from last year. We hear reports from around the world that Vacation Bible School programs held in connection with public evangelistic meetings pay in souls saved. If it happens elsewhere, it can happen in *your* church. Why not try it?

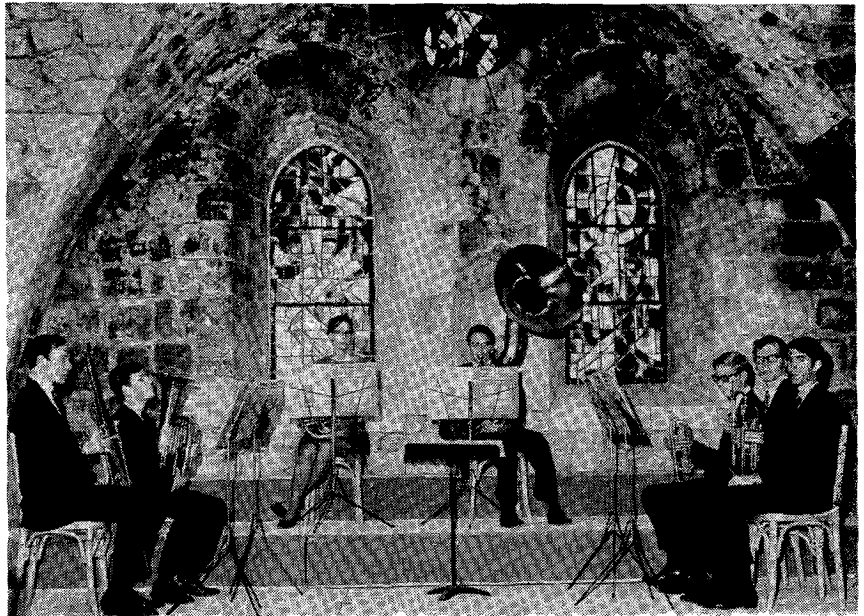
### Turkey Church Women

Sister Anahid Benzatyan, of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Istanbul, was chosen by Church Women United of that city to organize the annual World Day of Prayer observances, March 6, there.

The World Day of Prayer brings Christian women of many denominations together annually for an international prayer fellowship in which Adventists frequently participate. Adventist women in Istanbul have regularly joined the observances.

The 1970 service was held in the Seventh-day Adventist Church under the leadership of Sister Benzatyan. During the fellowship hour following the prayer service, Adventist ladies served lemonade and cookies.

The following churches participated in the observances: Anglican, Armenian Catholic, Armenian Gregorian, Armenian Protestant, Chaldean Catholic, French Catholic, German Catholic, German Protestant, Greek Protestant, Italian Catholic, Saint Trinite, Seventh-day Adventist, Syrian Orthodox, Syriani Kadim, and Union Church.



*Left to Right: Douglas Macaulay, Mark Sheffield, Violet Wentland, Harold Johnson, James Hamer, Hampton Walker, and Gregory Doyle, members of the brass ensemble. They are seen playing at the Belmont monastery.*

## College Musicians Popular in Lebanon

Musicians from Middle East College have been popular during early 1970, judged by the number of performances given in Lebanon.

The college chorale group, scheduled to sing the Easter portion of the Messiah, May 8, has presented music programs at two churches. The first was given in January at the American Community Church in Beirut. April 11, the chorale sang at the Bourj-Hammoud Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Because of its size and composition the chorale did not qualify as a participant in the annual choral festival at the Beirut College for Women, April 19, but as "the best choir in Lebanon," the group was invited to attend as guest. The chorale has worked especially hard this year, acquiring a new anthem for its repertoire every two weeks. Dr. West is the chorale director.

A brass ensemble, directed by Ray Doyle of the music department staff, has been active. They have given performances in the Adventist churches at the Beirut Center, College Park, Museitbeh, Bawshiriya, and Bishmezzine. Another performance was given at the American University of Beirut.

Perhaps the most exciting concert for the brass ensemble was one given at the Belmont Monastery in North Lebanon. The hall was built in 1128. The selections of sacred music had been composed for just such a setting and as Director Doyle reports the experi-

ence, "The sound was excellent." Bishop Haziem of the Greek orthodox church was present and invited the group back to the monastery for a formal program.

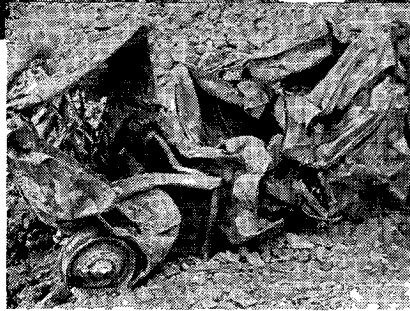
The college band, which Ray Doyle also directs, presented a program at the Bourj Hammoud Adventist Church, and has programs scheduled for Zahle, Bishmezzine, Aramoun, and Museitbeh. Sunday afternoon lawn concerts are planned at Middle East College and the American University of Beirut. The band played at Suk al-Gharb School March 1, and plans to return there to participate in their commencement exercises.

The music department at Middle East College is headed by Dr. Melvin West, on loan from Walla Walla College where he is chairman of the department of music. He is an organ recitalist and presented a concert of organ music at the German Community Church in Ras Beirut, April 13. Dr. West is a fellow of the American Guild of Organists and a doctor in organ performance.

Individual musicians and small groups supply the music for the worship services at the College Park Church. Guided by Marlene Gilleroth of the music department staff, many have contributed special music to the evangelistic meetings in the Bawshiriya Church.

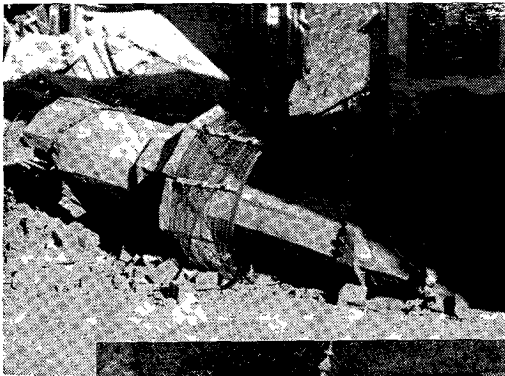


# EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY LEAVES DWELLINGS SHATTERED, VEHICLES WRECKED,



*Photographs by Manuk Benzatyan.*

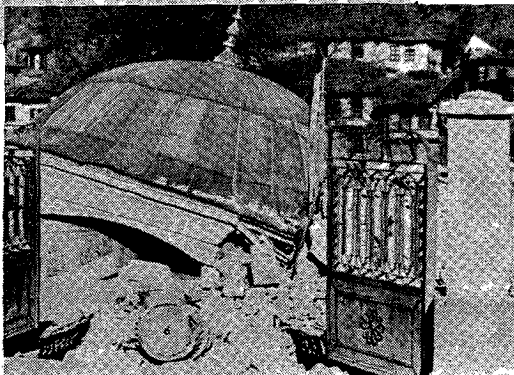
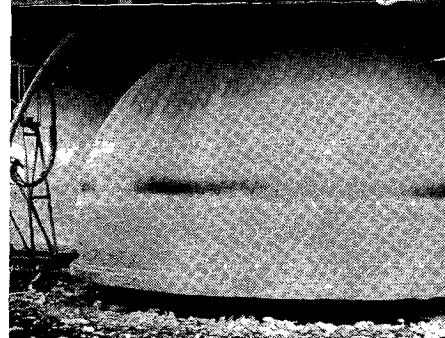
NO  
HOUSE  
FOR  
WORSHIP, ... BUT HELP COMES.



TENTS AND BLANKETS

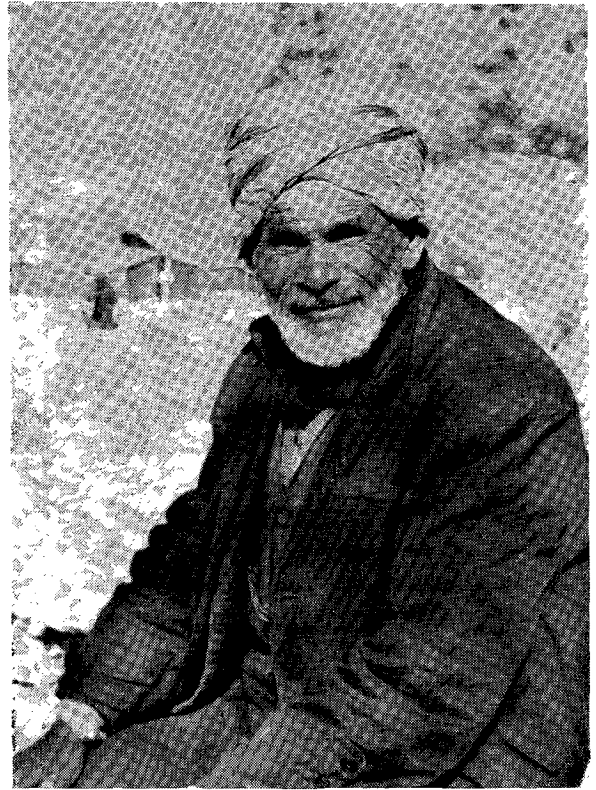
MOBILE KITCHENS

STYROFOAM SHELTERS

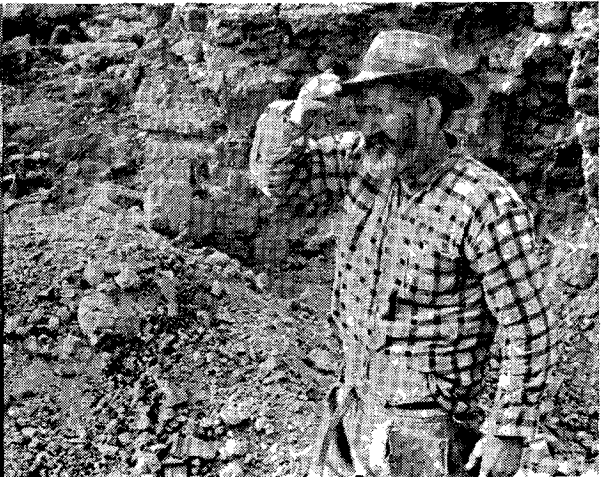


LIFE  
MUST  
GO ON

EVEN FOR THE HOMELESS,



AND A NEW FUTURE BE PLANNED.



THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS HELP

*See story on page one.*

## Gift Bible Plan In Cyprus, Beirut, Graduates Students

Graduation presentations to those who have completed the Bible Speaks lessons were made recently in Lebanon and Cyprus as a result of the Gift Bible plan. Under the plan persons receive a gift Bible for undertaking to do the lessons.

A formal graduation ceremony was conducted at the Adventist Center in Beirut, March 20, for graduates of the twenty-lesson course sponsored by the members of the church there. There were twelve graduates.

In Cyprus, Dean O. McDaniel, president of the Cyprus Section, reported sixty graduates. Here a 24-lesson course leads to graduation, and diplomas have been mailed or awarded individually.

At the Beirut presentation graduates were awarded a diploma by Nathan Dawood, an evangelistic worker at the Center, and were given a new Bible by Elder Harley Bresee, the Center director. The new Bible, of the family Bible type, was given in exchange for the used Bible from which the lessons had been studied.

Elder Bresee reports that some of the graduates are now studying courses from the Voice of Prophecy correspondence school and that others are taking personal advanced lessons from Brother Dawood.

The Cypriot graduates continue their Bible studies in an advanced course of 12 lessons available there.

Results of the Gift Bible plan, according to the report of Elder McDaniel, include a story hour conducted Sabbath afternoons in Famagusta by Elder Paul Horton, Doctor John A. Sines, Nancy Johnson, and their families. One student has stated his desire to keep the Sabbath and others are at the point of making a decision.

Both Elder Bresee and Elder McDaniel urge further use of the Gift Bible plan. Said Elder Bresee: "This is the first phase in putting the whole center church into the same Gift Bible evangelism program. If one person working can see such large results, what will be seen when all our lay members join with the pastors in all our churches?"

He answers, "We will finish our task and see Jesus come. The Gift Bible plan really works. Let's work the plan."

Elder McDaniel comments: "It is



*Elder Dean O. McDaniel presents a graduation certificate to George Vassiliou, the government wator at ancient Salamis where Paul and Barnabas stopped on their first journey.*

the desire of each of the Cyprus Section members that the great interest shown here in this form of Bible evangelism will inspire others to try it also. The Cyprus Section sincerely requests your continued support by remembering this program and each student of it in your prayers."

## G. C. Session Plans

*Continued from page one.*

prayer room. Here visitors will be invited to stop for a moment's meditation concerning the needs and opportunities of the Middle East and then to present them personally before the Lord. Flash announcements on the screen of the main auditorium will carry the invitation to pray in this room.

Off the center stage, but nevertheless of special interest will be Sister Diamondola Ashod telling the young people about her "resurrection." The Ashods after long years of service in various places in the Middle East have retired in Tennessee.

The regular delegates from the Middle East Division are Habib Ghali, George Ghazal, H. L. Gray, Rafic Issa, Salim Japas, George Khoury, Salim Majeed, Minas Megurditchian, J. A. Sines, Kenneth L. Vine, George Yared, and Kivork Yeshil.

R. L. Jacobs, Maurice Katrib, L. C. Miller, R. C. Mills, Manoug Nazirian, Harold N. Sheffield, and F. C. Webster are the delegates at large.

Expected to be present as representatives of the Middle East Division are A. E. Ashod, John Hasso, Anoush Keshishzadeh, Issa Kharma, Dr. D. C. Ludington, Vigain Marcarian, Dean O. McDaniel, Henry Melki, and Samir Shahin.



*Waleed Naseeb Abujawdeh receives a gift Bible at graduation exercises, March 20, for the Bible Speaks school at the Beirut Center. Elder Bresee presented the Bible. Brother Nathan Dawood, in background, presented him with the certificate.*



## FROM HERE AND THERE

**BEIRUT, LEBANON.** A series of health lessons written by Dr. Herschel Lamp, assistant professor in the school of public health, Loma Linda University, and formerly medical department secretary of the Middle East Division, has been accepted for publication by the Middle East Press. The lessons are planned as a replacement for those offered in the division correspondence schools. They have been written after a careful research of the health needs of the area and include a basic religious philosophy acceptable to Muslims and Christians.

**COLLEGE PARK, LEBANON.** The Middle East College bakery has announced plans to replace their out-of-date worn-out ice cream equipment with modern machinery by the summer season. Ice cream purchasers assure the bakery of increased orders when the new techniques and quality controls are used.

**TEHRAN, IRAN.** Elder Robert Nickell, director of the Tehran Adventist Center, reported the visit of a young Persian to the Center who told of having seen Jesus in a dream. According to his story he was instructed to become a Seventh-day Adventist. The next evening he attended the service at the Center and accepted arrangements for Bible studies. At the time of Elder Nickell's report he had completed several studies and accepted all the truths presented.

**BEIRUT, LEBANON.** The Lebanon Section has called J. W. Whitehouse, of the Bengehzi Hospital, to open new work in Bekfaya, Lebanon. The town is at the center of a heavily populated mountain area in which there has been no previous Adventist work.

**AMMAN, JORDAN.** Radio Amman in Jordan has rescheduled the broadcast of "Your Radio Doctor" for 1:00 p.m. Saturday afternoons. It was formerly carried at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday. The program is provided the station by the Voice of Prophecy in Los Angeles, California.

**COLLEGE PARK, LEBANON.** Students enrolled in Experimental and agricultural Science at Middle East College will have the use of a new weather station, according to Baldur Pfeiffer, head of the agriculture program. The station will aid in planning crop production at the college and be available to the science department for their courses, he said.

**AMMAN, JORDAN.** Brother Basim Aziz, a ministerial worker in the Iraq Section, was married, April 26, in the Adventist church on Jabal Amman, to Dilal Azar, daughter of Elder Mousa Azar of the Jordan Section. Elder Angely Gayed conducted the service.

**COLLEGE PARK, LEBANON.** Middle East College presented Najla Abujauda in a recital of Lebanese art songs, April 4, in the college auditorium. She was joined by the Ahlia Chorale and a group of children singers. Jame H. Laster, professor of music at the Beirut College for Women, played the piano accompaniment. Also on the program were some oud improvisations played by George Farah, director of the orien-

tal section of the National Conservatory.

**ISTANBUL, TURKEY.** The wedding of Brother Esat Kaymaz and Janet Sogut was celebrated, March 1, in the Istanbul Adventist church, Elder Manuk Benzatyan officiated. A large number of visitors from the Syriani Orthodox church attended the wedding.

**ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN.** Elder Robert Darnell, Division field secretary, has been awarded a doctor of philosophy degree by the University of Michigan here. He completed his program in the department of Near Eastern languages and literatures with a specialty in Muslim religious literature. The title of his dissertation was, "The Idea of Divine Covenant in the Qur'an."

## Three Baptisms held in New Church

A man hired to lay blocks and stone in the walls of the recently constructed Bawshiriya church was the first to be baptized in its pool. He is Brother Jacob Afram, an Assyrian from the Bawshiriya community. The baptism was the first in a series of three connected with a public series of meetings in the church.

The speaker for the ten-week series, Brother Shahadah Halabi, preached under the theme title, "In Search of Happiness (*fi talabi 's-Saaddah*). The pastor and associate pastor, Elders Salim Japas and Sanir Shahin, assisted in the planning and visiting.

Three baptismal services spaced at approximately two-week intervals brought 16 persons into church fellowship. The attendance remained constant throughout the series, nearly filling the 160 capacity church three nights a week—Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

The meetings were promoted by the use of a banner on the church property, and the distribution of handbills in the church neighborhood. Church laymen, organized by the Bawshiriya church lay activities leader, Elder Maurice Katrib, visited homes with personal invitations, and the secondary school at Bawshiriya led by Principal Jad Katrib, promoted attendance at the meetings among the students and their parents. The audience attracted was mostly young men of the Bawshiriya community, from various religious backgrounds.

The subjects presented concentrated on the doctrine of Christ and salvation,

demonstrating the fundamental Christian doctrines of Seventh-day Adventists. Other doctrines given emphasis were those connected to the Bible teachings concerning the second coming of Jesus and the Sabbath.

The presentations were characterized by the frequent use of visual aids. Picture slides, flannelgraph arrangements, blackboard drawings, and illustrative objects were employed.

Music features were prominent. The Middle East College band performed at one meeting. There were 15 minutes of sacred concert every Friday night. Music was arranged by Marlene Gillerth of the Middle East College music department. Elder Samir Shahin led occasional song services.

Other features included a weekly health talk by Doctor Harold Sheffield, Division medical department secretary, and a motion picture series depicting the life of Christ. One evening a round table discussion on marriage and courtship was presented.

Meetings for children were conducted simultaneously in a separate hall two nights a week. These were directed by Sister Mary Lou Segar and attracted up to 50 children at a meeting.

Personal visitation was carefully organized and employed the laity of the church as well as the evangelist, the pastor, and assistant pastor. Many homes have been opened and it is believed that continued interest and baptisms will result from the evangelistic efforts of the church.

## The Whole Session is a Prayer Season

Denomination leaders expect that when the 51st session of the General Conference meets in Atlantic City, June 7-20, it will attract 30,000 Seventh-day Adventists. Of these, only 1,500 will be delegates. The others will come not to participate in the business but to share in the blessing.

There is the blessing of fellowship. Even if one knows but few persons, he is aware that they have come from all corners of the world. He senses the joy of being part of the great movement for God. However, one is apt to meet school mates and former associates in the work, stir up memories of God's providences in the past, and hear news of what God has done for each as he has gone his special way.

There is a blessing in observing the business of the session. As leaders are chosen, reports considered, and goals defined God gives a sense of confidence that this is His work. There is no doubt but that His church is the one object of His supreme regard.

While the Holy Spirit works in many ways in that which happens to the life at such a gathering, there are sermons and Bible study hours which especially reach deep into the heart. There are seasons of prayer which take one close to the throne. The encounter with God is one treasured and long remembered.

It is planned that the 1970 gathering will be strong in spiritual impact. The opening Sabbath has been set aside as a day of fasting and prayer. Believers around the world can share in this day, thus uniting with the brethren in Atlantic City. The prayers of God's people may be heard as one voice seeking righteousness and strength.

The whole session will be a prayer season. Besides the invocations, benedictions, and other prayers which are part of every meeting, whether general or business, responsible persons will be giving hours to prayer that they may stand in this gathering as God wants them to stand. Volunteer prayer bands among the various division delegations will be meeting all over Atlantic City. Each morning just before lunch the business meetings will yield to an hour of Bible study and prayer.

While Adventists in attendance will seek a blessing for themselves and God's work, they will also seek to be a blessing. A five-day stop-smoking clinic will be held at noon for the business men and others of Atlantic City. A new program for handling alcohol problems will also be presented to the public.

It is expected that many of those at the meeting will share their blessings with the Middle East Division. They are to be invited to the Division exhibition booth to become acquainted with the special needs of this field. There they will find a secluded place of prayer. As they kneel they will pray for these special needs.

One may ask, will these who pray for the work in the Middle East find those of us who carry the burden of performing the work on our knees? It must be so. The time of the General Conference Session is not a time alone for the world leaders to reconsecrate themselves and seek God's direction. It is not a time alone for the thousands who attend the session to seek a blessing and to pray for us. It is a time for us all, as an important part of the world church, to renew our commitments to God, take hold of the merits of Jesus Christ, and work with the Holy Spirit.

— R . C . D .

## The Adventist World

### "INSIGHT" BEGINS PUBLICATION

The name *Insight* has been selected for the new Adventist youth magazine, which will make its debut May 5. The name was selected by a committee of nine judges from more than 3400 entries in the "Help the Happening" contest. Winner of the \$100 first prize is Miss Kit Watts, of Adelphi, Maryland, who was the first of 25 persons to submit *Insight*.

### CAUSE OF ALCOHOLISM PROBED

Elder Ernest H. J. Steed, executive director of the International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism, and Dr. Lawrence A. Senseman, president of the commission, have developed a program on the cause of alcoholism known as the Four-Dimensional Key to the Cause of Alcoholism. The program examines both the role of alcohol and of the user in alcoholism with attention to the four "dimensions" of man: physical, mental, social, and spiritual.

### NEW CHURCH FARTHEST SOUTH

The denomination's southern-most church is now the newly organized Ushuaia church in Argentina. It lies on the 55th parallel, 300 miles south of Punta Arenas, Chile, which previously represented the utmost of the denomination's southern reach. Ushuaia is closer to the south pole than the southern coasts of Africa and New Zealand, but still about a hundred miles short of the tip of South America.

### STUDENTS SING FOR NIXON

Fifteen students from Columbia Union College sang at the White House, home of President Nixon of the United States, for a Sunday morning service there attended by the president, his family, and high government officials.

### STUDENTS JOIN "OTHERS CLUB"

The Help Other People Club, sponsored by Christian Youth Action, the religious division of the Andrews University student association, has attracted fifty members, both men and women. Members tackle community clean-up jobs, help the elderly, and provide a wide variety of services.

### UNIVERSITY SENDS STUDENTS

Loma Linda University is sending more than 50 students to overseas fields for service during 1970-71. Half of the students are voluntarily postponing

*Continued in next column.*

graduation one full year in order to do the mission work.

**NIGERIA HOSPITAL REOPENS**

The Seventh-day Adventist hospital at Ahoada, Nigeria, is to reopen, officials of the West African Union have announced. Although buildings were damaged during the strife, they can be used. War damage left the hospital without water, electricity, and medical equipment. The former North Ngwa hospital is still in use as an army camp. Some 1,000 Adventists died during the conflict in eastern Nigeria.

**NO ROOM IN OSAKA**

Adventist travelers among the 50 million visitors expected to attend the 1970 World's Fair in Osaka, Japan, cannot expect to find mission facilities available for housing in that area, it was announced by the public relations department of the Far Eastern Division. Even hotel space is at a premium, so housing arrangements should be made through one's travel agency well in advance.



*Author J. O. Iversen presents a dedication copy of his new book to Elder H. M. S. Richards.*

**NEW BOOK**

Described by Religious Broadcaster Elder H. M. S. Richards as "the first up-to-date full coverage of radio and television procedure in the proclamation of the Word by Seventh-day Adventists," a new book has been published by the Review and Herald as a manual on broadcasting for the local pastor. It is *So You're Going on the Air*, by Elder J. Orville Iversen. Included are scripts from a number of the most successful radio programs.

**The Middle East Messenger**

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**Northern European Division Extends Work to Republic of Upper Volta**

By Dr. B. B. Beach  
Department secretary  
Northern European Division

The aim of the Advent Movement simply and speedily to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord has always been the purpose of the Northern European Division. This is what its executive committee intended when it challenged the church's world-wide membership to a large first quarter overflow offering.

Three projects were named to benefit:

(1) Finishing the work in Ethiopia with the help of the right arm of the message exerting itself through a splendid new hospital;

(2) Finishing the work in Poland with the help of the educational heart of the body of Christ;

(3) Opening for the first time the work in Upper Volta in order not only to write another chapter of missionary heroism, but to help finish the storming of the remaining bastions of paganism through coordinated evangelistic advance.

I know that Thirteenth Sabbath projects project evangelistic success. A few months ago I had the joy of conducting

the first evangelistic campaign in our new and first center in Lomé, the capital of Togo. This is the latest country in Africa where we have opened the work.

Our Sabbath School members around the world had supported through a recent Thirteenth Sabbath project the building of this fine center, providing us with a meeting hall and thus making the holding of campaigns a reality. The only other two halls in Lomé belong to the Evangelical Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches respectively. We have now been able to accomplish a public relations and evangelistic breakthrough, reaching some of the finest people in this French-speaking city.

This is what we want to be able to do in the great republic of Upper Volta, where today we still have no work. With my own eyes I have seen the crying educational, medical and evangelistic needs of this unentered country. But thanks to your Sabbath School, and thousands of others on all continents, 1970 marks the year when the "Upper Volta" entered the Seventh-day Adventist vocabulary and the advance-guard of Christ's last legion crossed geographical and spiritual borders to conquer another enemy bastion for Christ. The logistic support of your offerings spells success.



Five persons baptized during an evangelistic campaign in Heliopolis, Egypt, January 16 to February 28, are seen in front of the workers. Back row, left to right: Heliopolis Church Pastor Sobhi Fabim, Sabri Azar, Najeeb Nakhle, Evangelist George Khoury, and Egypt Section President Habib Ghali.



Seen in the picture is the food given, March 11, to the Armenian old people's home in Aleppo, Syria. The home is jointly operated by three denominations. Adventist workers in the picture are Elders Ziki Hanawi (third from left) and Gabriel Karib (right). Seventh-day Adventists also made a similar gift in 1969.



Brother George Ghazal (left), treasurer of Middle East College, is seen extolling the value of "College Maid" bread to Michael Sassine, deputy speaker of the Lebanese House of Representatives, during his visit to the college, February 19.

## Graduation Planned

Graduation Exercises for the 1969-70 school year were announced at Middle East College for June 19 to 21. The commencement program is scheduled for 6 p.m., Sunday, with Dr. William Schechter, president of the Beirut College for Women, as speaker. Dr. Siegfried Schwantes, head of the department of religion at Middle East College, will give the Consecration sermon, and Dr. Robert Darnell, Division field secretary, the Baccalaureate sermon.

The class of 1970 was formally presented at the college, February 9, with 13 members. The officers are Muhammad Shakibnia, president; Nabil Abu Nassar, vice-president; Nadema Bibi, secretary-treasurer; and Raymond William, chaplain. Dean Ignatious Yacoub was chosen as faculty sponsor.

The class aim is "Perfection," and the motto, "Conceive, Endeavor, Conquer." Their colors are gold and black; their flower, the rose.

## Church Calendar

### SPECIAL DAYS

June 7 World Prayer Day  
 June 13 Baptismal Sabbath  
 July 4 Medical Missionary Day  
 August 1 Pioneer Evangelism Day

### OFFERINGS

June 6 Church Lay Activities  
 June 13 Church Expense  
 June 20 Section Projects  
 June 27 Berlin Work  
 Church Expense  
 July 4 Church Lay Activities  
 July 11 Church Expense  
 July 18 Midsummer Offering  
 July 25 Church Expense

### SUNSET TABLES

	5	12	19	26
Amman	6:39	6:42	6:44	6:46
Baghdad	7:12	7:16	7:19	7:20
Beirut	6:45	6:49	6:51	6:53
Cairo	6:53	6:56	6:58	7:00
Isfahan	7:09	7:12	7:14	7:16
Istanbul	7:32	7:36	7:39	7:40
Luxor	6:38	6:41	6:43	6:44
Tabriz	7:43	7:47	7:50	7:51
Tehran	7:16	7:20	7:22	7:24
	3	10	17	24
Amman	6:46	6:45	6:43	6:39
Baghdad	7:20	7:18	7:16	7:12
Beirut	6:53	6:51	6:48	6:44
Cairo	7:00	6:59	6:57	6:54
Isfahan	7:16	7:14	7:12	7:08
Istanbul	7:40	7:37	7:34	7:29
Luxor	6:44	6:44	6:43	6:40
Tabriz	7:50	7:48	7:46	7:41
Tehran	7:24	7:22	7:20	7:16

Table prepared by Raymond F. Cottrell.