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Family Altar Day

By A. F. TARR, Northern European Division President

ourselves, but also to be made instruments of blessing and of power to others.

To the patriarch Abraham, that godly man whose family altars marked all his varied sojournings, the promise was divinely uttered: "I will bless thee; . . . and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Gen. 12:2, 3. And again: "In blessing I will bless thee, . . . and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." Gen. 22:17, 18.

The blessings that came to faithful Abraham are available for praying families to-day. And how greatly we need them! We need them first of all for ourselves, for our own family circle. We are, all of us, daily beset by temptations, by the most subtle, the most insidious, the most persistent temptations that the devil ever launched. How else can we find help to meet them than by earnestly, humbly, reverently presenting ourselves to the One whose storehouses are overflowing with the very resources and equipment that we need.

But it must not be with thoughts of self alone, or even of our loved ones, that we surround our family altars; it must be with a sense of others' needs—of our neighbours', our friends', our fellow countrymen's and even of those in lands afar—and a longing that in these closing days, and through our service and prayer,

that glorious promise may be fulfilled: "In thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

If there be homes in the Northern European Division where the old-time family altars are burning but feebly, let us on January 5th revive those flickering embers. Let us determine that both morning and evening our prayers, like sweet incense, will henceforth ascend to God, as with our families we seek both to be blessed ourselves and to be made a blessing to others.

What a wonderful thing it would be if amid the darkness that is engulfing the world to-day, there might be re-enacted in the home of every Seventh-day Adventist that experience of ancient Israel's as they were about to set out from Egypt on their journey to the promised land: "And there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt: . . . but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings." Exod. 10:22, 23.

That light must to-day be our most coveted possession. And it will surely shine in and from the home where the family altar is erected. May Sabbath, January 5th, mark the beginning of a new era of family worship in every home in the Northern European Division; and the God who honoured the prayers ascending from family altars in ancient days will honour our prayers to-day.

SABBATH, January 5th, is to be observed by Seventh-day Adventists throughout the world, as Family Altar Day. Probably no subject could more fittingly occupy our thoughts on the first Sabbath of the New Year than that of prayer. And in no place could the altar of prayer be more appropriately erected—or re-conditioned—than in the home.

The Family Altar is one of the oldest institutions we have in the world to-day, and certainly the most powerful. In those sacred moments of morning and evening communion, when hearts are turned to God, and souls are bared to receive His blessing, the presence of the divine One draws preciously near. The waiting, emptied hearts are filled with love, the open, upturned souls with light, as yearningly we crave not only a blessing for

ICELAND

THE LAND OF CONTRASTS

By E. L. Minchin



*New Junior College,
Hlidardals skoli,
Iceland, recently
completed and
dedicated.*

and where many Icelandic youth will catch the heavenly vision and receive the call to service.

Iceland has a population of about 150,000 and has been inhabited for over 1,000 years. The early Vikings from Scandinavia came there and it is claimed that the inhabitants speak the oldest and purest form of Scandinavian. The people are intelligent, courteous, and peace-loving and are inclined to be a little shyer than their European neighbours. Iceland is a self-governing republic, and has its own university and training college. These people envy no one and are deeply attached to their peaceful little island home in its isolation from the worries and strife of the greater and more populous countries.

Some interesting customs still remain in Iceland. For instance, a woman does not change her name when she marries. Most surnames end with either "son" or "dottir." For example, if the father's Christian name is Gudmund his boy's surname would be Gudmundsson, and his daughter's surname Gudmundsdottir, and she retains this name even after marriage. However, they are usually called by their first name. The conference president's name is Julius Gudmundsson, but he is known to all, both old and young, as Julius.

Each clear night we were treated to a beautiful display of the northern lights. Neither Brother Tarr nor I had seen them before. With much delight we watched those mysterious shafts of light shooting

ICELAND is a fascinating little country away in the north-west of our great Division. Its name would indicate a land of eternal ice, snow, and freezing temperatures, but that is not so. Although on the edge of the arctic circle and nearer the pole than Labrador, its climate is amazingly mild. This, of course, is due to the influence of the Gulf stream.

It is indeed a land of contrasts—of mighty glaciers and snow-fields, of hot springs, volcanoes, and steaming geysers, of precipitous, treeless mountains and lava-covered plains. Its midsummer skies are always light, while its midwinter nights are long. The soft, mellow light of the midnight sun in summer lends enchantment to the beauty of Iceland's lovely landscapes, while the long winter nights are frequently lit by the fascinating and mysterious northern lights.

In company with Pastor Tarr it was my privilege recently to visit our people in Iceland, to attend the annual conference in Reykjavik and to be present at the dedication of our new junior college about fifty miles distant from Reykjavik.

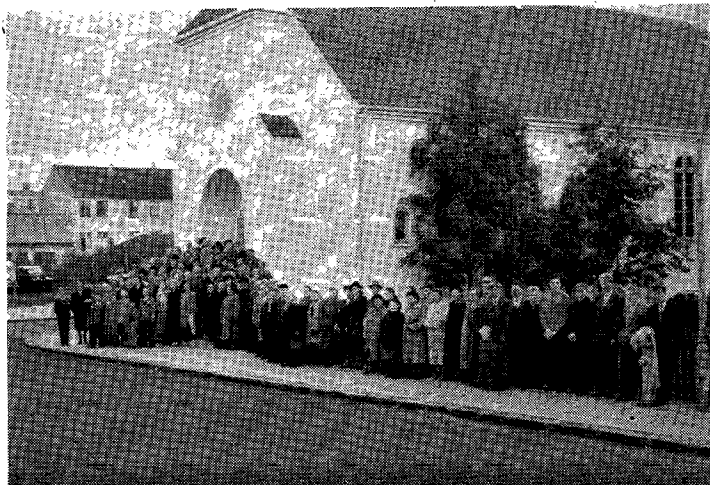
It was indeed a pleasure to meet with our believers in their attractive and spacious church in Reykjavik with a membership of about 120. We learned that we are the second denomination on the island, our Sabbath-school membership now being about 420 and the church membership 360. We have six churches, two church schools, and one junior college. Surely this compares more than favourably with any conference and mission of similar size anywhere else.

Brother Gudmundsson, the president, is an earnest, godly man and holds the confidence of the people, while Brother O. J. Olsen is affectionately regarded as the father of our work in Iceland and is still giving of his love and ministry to the flock he has shepherded for over thirty years. The message first came to these shores in 1886.

I have been impressed with the fine type of young people we have there. Eleven of them attended the Paris Congress recently. Five splendid young people have recently accepted the truth through the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence Course. One of them, a talented young man of twenty-one, has just completed his course at the Teachers' Training College in Reykjavik and has been appointed to teach in our newly opened college. Another is furthering his education at Newbold College this year.

It was our privilege to be at the opening of our Icelandic college, situated about fifty miles from Reykjavik on a grassy slope facing the sea. It is a beautiful, well-built building and can accommodate up to fifty students. At first when I saw the school and surroundings, a feeling of isolation came over me, but soon something gripped me. The great, open treeless plains around us, the distant ocean, the lava-covered hills and mountains behind, the gloriously fresh, clear atmosphere cast a spell over me, and I felt that here was a place where God will come near,

*The attractive and
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lievers in atten-
dance at the Annual
Conference.*





Young people of Westmann Island, south-west of Iceland, who participated in an Investiture Service.

across the sky, now this colour then another, twisting and curling into fanciful shapes and sometimes hanging from space like lovely coloured curtains.

Brother Tarr was able to stay only for the conference session and the dedication of the college. He then left by plane to attend the Autumn Council in the United States. He would have liked to stay to visit our people on the tiny Westmann Islands just off the south coast of Iceland, but he was warned that if he did that, he might not get away from there in time

to catch his plane to America, as stormy weather frequently made it impossible for the local plane service to the island to operate. The island is so small that it has a runway only in one direction. If the wind blows from any other than two directions the planes cannot land. Brother Tarr could not take the risk, but I was able to. We had heard much about the warm-hearted church folk and the splendid army of Advent youth on this little fishing island. Brother Gudmundsson and I planned to spend three days with them. We arrived

safely, but true to form the storms came up, the wind blew from the wrong direction, and we were stranded there for nearly a week. I missed my plane home to England, but the people didn't mind that and the youth were jubilant. I think they almost prayed that the plane would not go. The Lord blessed as we fellowshipped with those humble, earnest fisher folk. Night after night we met in the church and enjoyed seasons of refreshing together. Even after the close of the meetings the youth especially were reluctant to leave, so we retired to the schoolroom where we taught them choruses and talked about our youth work. One night it was 12.30 a.m. when we dispersed. Our young people in this northern outpost are consecrated and active. Last year, in this church alone, a group of eleven Master Guides received their insignia, and every Sunday evening these young people conducted public meetings in their church.

It has indeed been a great thrill and privilege to visit our people in Iceland and see the triumphs of this message in this far-away land. Our people there send their loving greetings to their fellow-believers in the Northern European Division and to all the world. Among those whom the Lord at His coming will gather from every continent and island will certainly be a happy, victorious company from this interesting little island of the north.

HAPPY FELLOWSHIP in FINLAND

By T. J. Bradley

ANTICIPATION of something good to come is always exciting, but the realization of it is very satisfying to the heart. As I look back on the happy days of September 18th-30th, I am reminded of what the psalmist once wrote: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" He may not exactly have had in mind the happy fellowship of ministerial councils and institutes, but his sentiments so well fit the gatherings that we have enjoyed throughout our Division, that I feel clear in quoting these descriptive words as a preface to this report on our East Nordic institutes.

On Wednesday, September 19th, more than seventy ministers, Bible instructors, and other conference workers of Finland gathered in the lovely inland town of Tampere to enjoy days of refreshing study and fellowship. Tampere makes an instant appeal to the visitor, situated as it is between two large, blue-watered lakes and surrounded by low pine-covered hills. Wide streets, some of modern pavement

and others of cobblestone surface, give a spacious appearance to the town. New, modern buildings are nearing completion to replace the ones destroyed by the bombings of the Russo-Finnish war, and at night-time the neon lights set a glow of greens, blues, and reds that assure one he is still in the heart of a throbbing civilization.

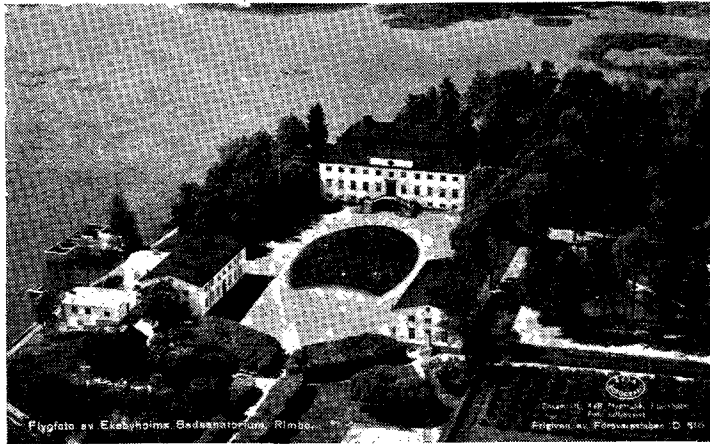
It was intended that these institute gatherings should be held in Tampere's new and beautiful church, the dedication of which follows on the next page, but the builders were not ready to hand over the completed structure and so we met in a cosy hall just a few hundred yards away, the very homeliness of which brought its own benediction upon us. The General Conference delegate, Pastor A. L. White, gave a most helpful and convincing series of studies on the "Spirit of Prophecy in the Remnant Church." Pastor E. B. Rudge of the Northern European Division office led us into deep, earnest reflection on how to arise and meet the challenge of our work in a world that has grown increasingly in-

different, while the writer developed themes on the techniques of evangelism and soul-winning. The spirit of fellowship continued around the community meal table and even when the cool weather tried to chill our limbs, the joy of our comradeship could be seen in the pleasant games played with vigour to restore warmth and circulation.

Language barriers were present, 'tis true, but there was nothing that could restrain the Christian smiles that broke out in constant greetings on all faces.

Brother Gidlund, our union president, led the meetings with fervour and inspiration, and as we came to the closing moments and joined in earnest prayers for added power and deeper consecration in service, we all knew that we had been together in the Mount with Jesus our Lord, and had learned of Him.

After the thrilling round of week-end activity linked with the dedication of the new church and conference office at Tampere, our institute delegation, accompanied by Pastor Nord, travelled by boat back to Sweden where we were to meet at the College at Ekebyholm. The college campus is an interesting combination of old and new. As you drive down the tree-lined highway



Ekebyholm, Rimbo, Sweden, the home of nobility for 400 years, now our Swedish Missionary School and, in summer, our Sanitarium.

you see the building known to all as the Palace and you are impressed by the pleasant symmetry of the buildings and their layout. For four hundred years this lakeside "palace" had been the home of nobility, and even royalty had spent many happy visits there, too. One is reminded of that as one enters the royal suite and admires the remaining effects of mural paintings in mediæval style. Of course, to-day, the happy chatter and laughter of students preparing for their life-work fills these halls, and one must feel more satisfaction from the melody of hymns which float around the campus than from the sound of the old hunter's horn calling men and dogs to the chase! The new section of the college is an imposing, modern addition, housing chapel, classrooms, an administration block, and additional student rooms, and very wisely this was built on the gently sloping ground above the "palace" and overlooking the nearby lake. This, surely, is another college built among ideal surroundings of God's own nature and reminds one of Toivonlinna in Finland or Vejlefjord in Denmark. It was amid these impressive surroundings that more than fifty of our Swedish ministers and workers gathered for their institute. We were happy indeed to have some of the wives of the workers present with us, and again the Lord blessed us with His sweet presence so that the allotted time seemed all too short. These were days of renewed consecration and I believe a clearer vision of our supreme privilege in winning souls and proclaiming this message came to all.

One pleasant interlude that came to Brethren White, Rudge, and the writer was a visit to the old folks' home built near the college. Brother Gidlund interpreted our short messages of cheer and comfort to those of our brethren and sisters facing

life's sunset hours, but what an encouragement to know that these dear, elderly folk are being cared for by the church which has appreciated their help and devotion through the years. This home is a credit to the planners and the present staff who serve so unselfishly.

And now we all as servants of God have returned to our various fields of labour. Let us continue to pray for each other that the fellowship so recently enjoyed will be maintained in the spirit and that our soul-winning achievements for this present campaign season will excel anything we have before realized. "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord." Let us, therefore, go in the strength of the Lord to do battle for Him and bring honour to His name.

TAMPERE CHURCH

By E. B. Rudge

OCTOBER 23rd last was certainly a high day in the experience of the members of the West Finland Conference. Hundreds of our people had gathered in from Helsinki, Turku, and other places, as well as from the city of Tampere itself, to share in the dedication of the long-desired new church building. The president of the West Finland Conference, Pastor A. Arasola, led out in a most inspiring service of dedication. Pastor G. A. Lindsay, treasurer of the Northern European Division, preached an impressive dedicatory sermon, during the course of which he pointed out clearly the great blessings that come through the establishment of a church of Christ, and of man's realization of God's own desire to dwell among His people. This was followed by an earnest prayer of dedication offered by Pastor A.

Y. Rintala, former president of the East Nordic Union.

Pastor Arasola gave a history of the development in the plans which had reached fruition on this particular day. Also, a very clear statement was made by Brother Unto Rouhe, of the way the funds had been provided. It seems that the General Conference, the Northern European Division, the East Nordic Union, and the local brethren had together shared in finding the money which resulted in the dedication of the very fine building declared open on this occasion.

Among those present were the leaders of six of the other Christian communities of the city of Tampere. Each of these gentlemen briefly addressed the audience and displayed a most encouraging spirit of friendliness toward the leader of the work in West Finland, and to the membership of our church in Tampere.

A delightful feature of the service of dedication was the beautiful musical items rendered by the Helsinki Adventist Male Choir and the choir of the Tampere church, as well as one or two other special items provided by members of the church and worker family. Other participants in the chief service of the day were representatives of the Division, Pastors T. J. Bradley and E. B. Rudge; Pastor C. Gidlund, president of the East Nordic Union, Pastor T. Seljavaara, president of the East Finland Conference, and Pastor O. Peltonen, Home Missionary secretary for the East Nordic Union.

The new building is undoubtedly one of the finest within the Northern European Division. The church provides accommodation for six hundred and fifty worshippers. Connected with the church is a fine little hall for young people's meetings, an additional hall for special work in connection with the Sabbath-school, and a fine baptistery with all the needed amenities provided in the basement of the building. Then, too, there is a suite of conference offices, three apartments for conference workers, and a small apartment for the caretaker of the building. The total cost of the building was Fmk. 32,000,000.

We believe that the dedication of this new building marks a very definite advance in the work of the cause of God, not only in the city of Tampere, but throughout the whole of Finland. We wish for those who will continually worship in it, and the many strangers who will undoubtedly come within its walls, very much of the blessing of the Lord as this new house of worship continues to serve His cause.

AFRICA! After Many Days

By G. D. King

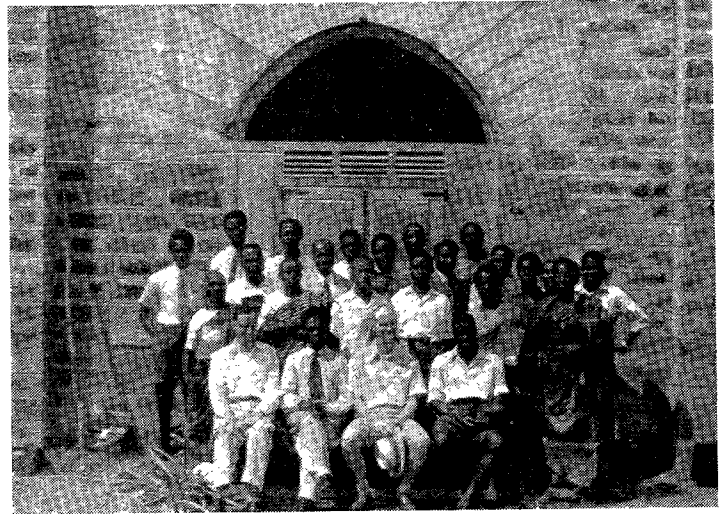
TO visit old friends when years have intervened between the greeting brings a joy and thrill to the heart such as nothing else can do. That is especially true when the old friends haven't changed too much and we find them just the same. Something of that thrill was mine as I revisited West Africa with more than a quarter of a century intervening. In many ways I found West Africa just the same—the heat, the damp, the bush, and the palms—but above all, the same cheery, friendly native, who is really such a charming fellow when you meet him on his own ground and do not allow your mind to be prejudiced by civilization's inhibitions.

Naturally many things have changed and for these changes we can be thankful and praise the Lord. How glad I was to find that living conditions have so greatly improved, and while missionaries still make a tremendous sacrifice as they do service in the mission field, that sacrifice is not unnecessarily made harder by economies in mission expenditure which can be so uneconomic in mission personnel. Most of the quarters in which our missionaries are housed without being pretentious, are comfortable and representative of the great mission cause we serve. That is also true of our mission offices, schools, hospitals, and dispensaries throughout the West Coast of Africa. The enlightened policy of endeavouring to keep the field adequately staffed is something for which our missionaries are thankful and as it is continued will bring great blessing to the field and an increasing fruitage in souls won for the Master.

Indeed, a new day has dawned in our West African missions—the Harvest Days are here! As we contemplate the responsibility that is ours in harvesting the fruitage after years of mission enterprise, the words of the prophet ring in our ears: "Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

As we visited old mission stations established in the "early days" by Elder Babcock and others, and heard again the story of those pioneer days and then looked out upon the "fields already white unto harvest," we thanked God for the labour of

Colporteur group at Agona, Gold Coast. P. H. Stearman and D. L. Chappell are seated in the front row.



the years and for the fruitage from the toil. Modern missionaries are indeed privileged as they enter into the labour of former years and reap the harvest in these latter days. Undoubtedly we have reached the harvest years in West Africa for educational development, evangelistic advance, and medical missionary enterprise. As a Division a tremendous responsibility rests upon us as we seek to measure up to the demands that will be made upon us as we now foster and finish the work so nobly begun and sacrificially continued through the years.

In Sierra Leone, Liberia, Gold Coast, French Ivory Coast, East, West, and North Nigeria we have organized mission fields whose needs in men and means must reach our hearts in the home fields in such a way as to lead us to even stronger efforts in our Ingathering and mission offering programmes and to cause us to make greater sacrificial responses as qualified men and women are called from our midst to meet the demands of these harvest years. To be the "home base" for such a field as West Africa is indeed a responsibility, but as we face the challenge and bring it to our members and workers throughout our home unions, we are confident that ready hearts and hands will answer the call.



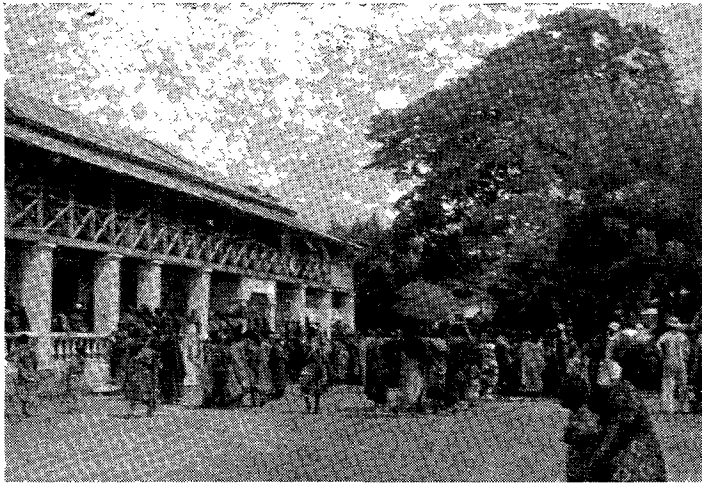
PUBLISHING PROGRESS

EVANGELISTIC advance and publishing progress are usually found marching side by side. Our colporteurs are the advance guard, or to use a modern term, the commandos, preparing the ground and making way for the regular forces. These

are days of forward moves, and in West Africa we are witnessing a most encouraging revival of our publishing work. During recent weeks, while visiting in West Africa, three colporteur institutes were conducted, one in Gold Coast territory and two in East Nigerian territory. For the first time a student-colporteur institute was conducted at the Nigerian Training College located at Ihie. The attendance at each of the institutes numbered about twenty so that, in all, sixty potential literature workers were gathered together for counsel and instruction.

The Gold Coast Institute was held at Agona, one of our older mission stations. While we no longer have the training school at Agona, an efficient day school is in operation and there is a virile and growing church membership with an excellent representative church building. The chief and native authority at Agona, the seat of a paramount chieftain, have for many years been favourably disposed toward our mission programme. On the occasion of our institute, the chief offered housing hospitality to Brother D. L. Chappell, Brother L. H. Davidson, and myself. Consequently, we slept in the royal palace during our stay.

Brother L. H. Davidson, formerly of Jamaica, leads our colporteur force in the Gold Coast and he had organized an excellent programme. A splendid spirit prevailed at all the meetings and the spirit of fellowship among the literature workers was indeed most inspiring. Encouraging sales have already been accomplished in the Gold Coast, but greater things in literature ministry are ahead of our faithful workers in that field. The goals set by the colporteurs themselves at this institute



The Royal Palace in which our missionaries were given housing hospitality during their stay in Agona, Gold Coast.

indicate a determination to double the sales and to double the colporteur force during 1952. We shall long remember the inspiration of this gathering.

At the Nigerian Training School the students gave keen attention and constant attendance at their first colporteur institute. The school programme was so arranged as to give ample time for institute instruction. The co-operation of Pastor Brendel, the acting principal, was most helpful and was much appreciated. Eighteen young men were assigned territory at the close of the institute; four of them will be entering "foreign" territory by going over to West Nigeria to work in the large cities of Lagos and Ibadan. The training these stalwart young men of Nigeria receive both at school and in the colporteur field will undoubtedly make them fruitful teachers and evangelists in coming days.

The East Nigerian Institute was held at Aba, the headquarters of the mission. Brother E. L. Brown, also formerly of Jamaica, is leading a growing and efficient force of colporteurs in this field. In spite of some disappointments in securing supplies, the colporteurs have held valiantly to their task and with prospects of a better supply service, the future of our literature work appears to be bright indeed. At the close of this institute an examination on the instruction given was conducted. The high percentage of marks scored in the examination revealed that close and keen attention had been given in the class period.

At each of the three institutes most encouraging field experiences were related by the colporteurs, indicating that the Lord is blessing the witness of the printed page. Incidentally, it is surely not without significance that in the two fields, the Gold Coast and East Nigeria, where the liter-

ature ministry is experiencing a real revival, evangelistic returns also are most heartening. While at Aba it was our privilege to take part in the baptism of seventy-seven souls, Pastor W. J. Newman, the union president, is hopeful that in the neighbourhood of one thousand souls will be baptized in East Nigeria during 1951.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN WEST AFRICA

By L. Mark Hamilton, Ph.D.

THE West African Union Mission is an area roughly two thousand miles in length by nearly one thousand miles in width. It is the home of 36,000,000 people, thus being one of the most densely populated areas in Africa. The flags of two European states, as well as that of Liberia, fly over various portions of the Union, and in addition scores of language groups complicate the task of giving the Gospel to the people in these different lands. Because of growing nationalist sentiment in recent years it is increasingly difficult to carry on some phases of the work of the third angel's message. That appears to be especially true in the field of education, where colonial governments are assuming an increasing amount of control.

In order to study these problems firsthand the writer, in company with Pastor D. V. Cowin, M.V. and Education leader in the West African Union Mission, spent six weeks in that field recently, visiting schools and discussing educational problems with mission and government leaders. In addition to nearly one hundred elementary schools currently maintained in all parts of the field, four training institu-

In harmony with the increasing sales of literature in West Africa is the plan to greatly strengthen the production plant in the territory. There has been some disappointment in securing a suitable site for the location of the new press that is planned. Brother H. Pearce, the press manager, is energetically pursuing his efforts to find the right place. In the meantime the Ibadan press is growing in production efficiency. The Stanborough Press Ltd. is giving generous support to our literature developments in West Africa and the kindly interest of this parent house is much appreciated.

Brother D. L. Chappell, the union departmental secretary, is leading the literature work in West Africa with energetic consecration and he is greatly beloved by all who are privileged to be associated with him. We ask an interest in your prayers on behalf of our gallant band of literature workers throughout West Africa that the Lord may bless their efforts with increasing sales and souls saved during coming days.

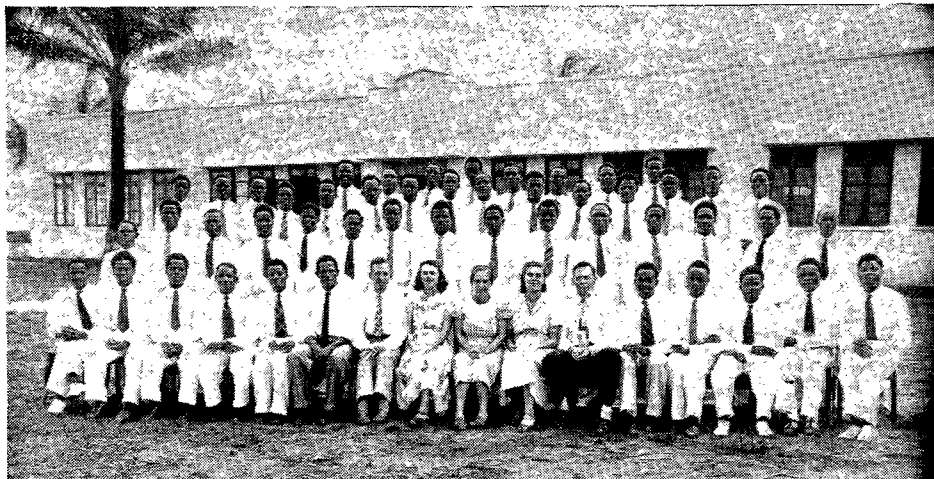
tions are being operated. Three of them provide preparation for evangelism and teaching, and one is training Seventh-day Adventist nurses for hospitals and dispensaries.

At Ihie, East Nigeria, seventy earnest young men have been in training as teachers and evangelists at the Nigerian Training College during the school year just closing. Although this institution is a union mission project, the great majority of the students are from the Ibo and Yoruba tribes in East and West Nigeria respectively. It is in these two areas that the third angel's message has resulted in the greatest fruitage up to the present time in the Nigerian field. The buildings of the school plant are among the best in West Africa. Under the leadership of Principal L. R. Downing and his associates, Pastors Brendel and Bartlett, and Miss Nuka, it is doing an important work in training urgently needed African leaders for the whole of West Africa. It is pleasantly situated in a clearing of nearly 100 acres on the crest of a low hill, thus giving a commanding view of the surrounding area. Visible from almost any quarter, it is indeed a "city set on a hill that cannot be hid."

It was the writer's privilege to conduct the closing Week of Prayer at this institution, October 14th to 19th. Although the young people are all baptized members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church—

some of them teachers and evangelists with previous experience—a very pleasant week together was spent in studying God's love for His children, and finding inspiration in the common hope of a soon-coming Saviour. In addition to the prevailing earnestness of the student body, two things were especially impressive: their love of sacred song and their ability to harmonize the Advent hymns and tunes without music. This they demonstrated in their spirited singing of the Missionary Volunteer choruses under the enthusiastic leadership of Pastor D. V. Cowin, and again in a special programme during which they presented their own version of the parable of the ten virgins. Using "bush lanterns" for the lamps of the parable, they acted out its various parts while telling the story in native music of their own composition.

The closing meeting of the Week of Prayer was held on Friday evening in order to permit attendance at week-end Missionary Volunteer rallies held in the Delta region, some forty miles below Aba, the mission headquarters. Setting out from Ihie at four o'clock on Sabbath morning we visited the church at Abua where teacher Moses recounted his story of the Paris Youth Congress at the eleven o'clock hour and at another special service in the afternoon. In the evening a meeting was held in the village for the benefit of non-believers. On this occasion two of the local chiefs rose to ask for additional schools and pleaded particularly for a hospital to serve the needs of the vast numbers in that area, since the nearest medical institution is more than fifty miles away. On Sunday we visited the church at Obite, where a similar programme was presented, and many good comments were heard from the



East Nigerian Training College, Ihie, faculty, and students in training for evangelists and school teachers. African young men in front row are teachers on the staff. Behind the group is one of the new classrooms, a new modern concrete building, well lighted and equipped.

visitors who were present at the meeting. A new school is in process of construction at this place, and when completed will provide much needed additional accommodation for this important work.

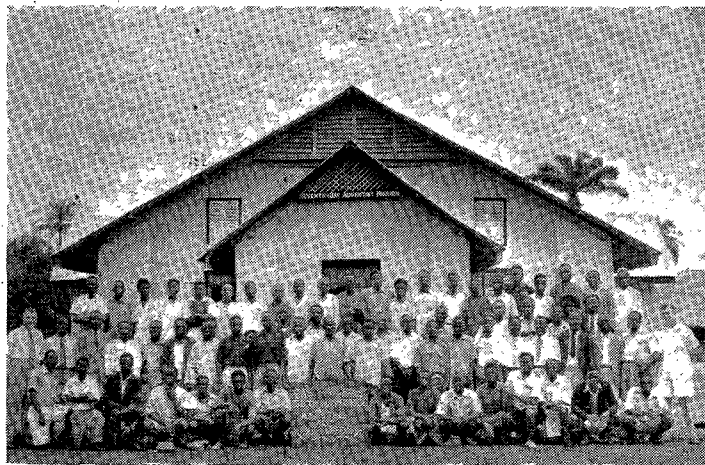
During the course of the visitation of educational institutions in West Africa, stops were made at Bekwai Training School near Kumasi in the Gold Coast; and although the stay at this place was short we carried away a warm sense of friendship and devotion to the cause manifested among the students. Pastor Welch and his colleagues are making a good contribution here. He is well known among the government education leaders and they have particularly commended him for the beginnings in industrial and agricultural education being carried on. A small printing plant is functioning at the school, and several students are enrolled in a course in this art now being offered here. Classroom and dormitory facilities are overcrowded and there is urgent need for carefully planned expansion in order to keep abreast of the greatly accelerated government education programme in the Gold Coast.

Continuing our journey, the next stop was in Liberia, where Pastor

Banks met us at Robertsfield airport, some sixty miles from Monrovia. A very crowded three days' schedule had been arranged. During the morning of the first day we visited the elementary school in Monrovia. In the afternoon we went some twenty minutes by air from Robertsfield to Lower Buchanan, where excellent evangelistic work has been done recently by Pastor Henri. A thriving school in good buildings is being carried on here, but the furnishings are woefully inadequate. It was here that a number of Seventh-day Adventist school-boys demonstrated the worth of Christian education by going to jail rather than participate in a military parade on the Sabbath in honour of a visit by Liberia's President Tubman. Participation in Pastor Banks' regular Wednesday evening evangelistic campaign in Monrovia and a visit to the training school at Konola completed the tour of this field.

Sierra Leone was the next stop. It was here that the work was first begun in West Africa. It was thrilling, therefore, to meet with the church in Freetown on Friday evening, and on Sabbath morning with the church at Waterloo. The believers in these places, and their African leaders, are hoping for great things for the Advent cause in the future. At Bo, the mission headquarters, an investiture service was conducted in the elementary school. Nearly fifty enthusiastic young people were awarded appropriate symbols of their achievement in a gaily decorated school assembly hall. The buildings at this place are adequate for the present needs of the standard six school, but some of the structures are in need of repair and are short in

(Continued on back page.)



Group of local chiefs and people who came to plead with our missionaries of East Nigeria for a hospital and more secondary schools. Behind the group is the Umvocha church, built entirely by churchmembers.

NEWS FLASH

PASTOR A. F. TARR arrived back at headquarters from New York on November 16th, after attending the Fall Council in Cleveland, Ohio, October 14th to 30th, and visiting other places in the United States. He reports:

1. A deeply spiritual council—from the opening to the closing meeting.

2. A constantly inspiring leadership by President W. H. Branson and the officers associated with him.

3. Reports of unprecedented progress from every division of the world field.

4. A world church membership on December 31, 1950, of 756,712 with thousands more baptized during 1951.

5. Phenomenal growth in radio and Bible-school enrolments in many lands, with increasing interest on the part of the upper classes.

6. The largest budget voted in the history of the denomination, with liberal grants for the Northern European Division, especially its mission fields.

7. Far-reaching plans laid which, under God's blessing, should make 1952 a year of record achievement.

Here in Great Britain, as our Division Council is about to convene, we anticipate blessings similar to those received at the Cleveland Council. Present indications are that rich experiences will be recounted from every union comprising the Division.

Dr. T. R. Flaiz, medical secretary of the General Conference, spent a few days in the British Union on his way to the Far East. His counsel in connection with the Stanborough Park Hydro was greatly appreciated and he expressed his pleasure at the progress that had been made during the past two years.

Encouraging word has been received from Dr. J. A. Hyde of the recent progress in the Northern Nigerian Mission. The following is an extract from his letter: "We are pleased to be able to report a big increase in new converts this year. They show mainly in the hearer's class and Sabbath-school membership. June 30th figures, the latest to come to hand, show a hearer's class membership of 131 as against 62 on December 31, 1950, and a Sabbath-school membership of 561 as against a December figure of 455. In gross figures these increases do not seem much, but taken in proportion to the figures that we have laboured so many years to obtain, they are very encouraging. We have had

one baptism early this year, one at Kaduna in September and one in Jos in October and one at Jengre also in October. We are trying to get the lay membership interested in lay evangelism, and about forty have responded. In one district alone the lay members have set themselves the goal of forty-five converts in the next six months. We pray that God will bless them as they labour for Him." An article on the recent Jengre camp meeting will appear in a future issue of this paper.

Conference workers and others who may have occasion to use or call at Prestwick Aerodrome, Scotland, will be interested to know that Pastor Thomas Brash is now located at 49 Mount Avenue, Kilmarnock. His telephone number is Kilmarnock 2378. Pastor Brash will gladly be of service to workers who may be passing through Prestwick Aerodrome.

139 WON TO CHRIST!

By J. K. Amoah, *Gold Coast*

AUGUST holidays were hurrying on when plans were laid for our evangelistic efforts, employing our teachers, evangelists, laymen, and students in our campaign of evangelism.

Six towns were chosen—Antoakrom, Bogyawi, Danso, Edubiasi, Fiankoma, and Jacobu—with the following leaders in charge respectively: E. G. Asamoah, S. K. Tato, J. K. Eidoo, I. K. Ansong, E. K. Mensah, and J. K. Aka-Kwarm. After instructions had been given and the available supplies distributed, the leaders set out with their helpers to their places of labour.

Very soon Pastor and Mrs. Welch, Miss Mohlman, and the writer visited the nearest teams and encouraged them with piano accordion music and a projector-scope. The attendance at the meetings averaged about three hundred daily. We met all the teams at work, doing wonders. Everywhere good results were reported. The total number won to Christ was 139. Praise the Lord for this influx of souls!

Do you wish to know the secret of this success? It was because the workers won the confidence of the inhabitants. In Jacobu, they conducted "mass literacy" classes in connection with the efforts, and taught the villagers how to read and write Twi. This was one way of reaching the people. Then in the evening the workers employed house-to-house visitation.

As we travelled extensively through the district, we found many unentered towns and villages which have not heard the

Gospel, the saving power of Jesus Christ. They present a definite challenge to us.

Brethren and sisters, what are we going to take to heaven with us as trophies? Not clothes or buildings, but souls. So as we endeavour to do our part, we hope you also will be faithful in hastening the coming of the King.

* * *

Christian Education in West Africa

(Continued from page 7.)

equipment. Pastor Keslake and his associates are of good courage and see evidences of revival in several places which have long been closed.

As I look back on the experiences of this journey, I have been impressed by the great surge of interest in educational matters everywhere throughout West Africa. Government leaders are sponsoring ambitious programmes, and it seems clear that courageous planning must be done to keep our own schools abreast of current progress. There is an urgent need, also, for advanced training of outstanding African leaders. Many of them feel inadequately prepared to meet the needs of the new day that is dawning in West Africa. We solicit your prayers on behalf of the work in that needy field, and especially for the training schools in their work of preparing the leaders of to-morrow.

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