



VOLUME 2

MARCH, 1952

NUMBER 3

# “BE STRONG AND WORK”

Opening Address by A. F. TARR, *President*, at the Winter Council, 1951



THERE could be no better subject for the opening service of this Council than the motto which has been prepared for us: “Our Times and our Task Demand Action!”

God’s programme has always required action. The idea of inactivity or idleness is something completely foreign to the programme of God. The very first words that we read in the Bible are: “In the beginning God created.” Thus the first and the last pictures we have of God picture Him at work on behalf of those whom He has created.

Likewise, in God’s programme for man, labour has been set forth as a fundamental doctrine. In the heart of the Ten Commandments is enshrined, “Six days shalt thou labour,” and from the wise man there comes the admonition, “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.” The parable of the talents leaves no doubt regarding the fate of those who are idle in the service of their Master.

In harmony, therefore, with God’s programme for man and His own great example, “Our Times and our Task Demand Action” seems particularly appropriate, and I read as an introductory text Haggai 2:

4: “Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the Lord; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work: for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts.” Always, and in every condition, the need has existed to be strong in the service of God. But never in all the history of the church was the need so transcending or so urgent as it is to-day; and I want at this opening meeting to set forth some of the outstanding reasons:

1. Because of the lateness of the hour. In Zechariah 8:9 we read: “Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Let your hands be strong, ye that hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets.” This injunction, while applying in a measure to the time of ancient Israel, seems very forcefully also to apply to the days preceding the setting up of God’s eternal kingdom. Prophecy is crowding in upon us. We have come to the time envisaged by the prophet Daniel when he declared, “In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom.” With all of the unfolding events about us, we therefore are confronted by a doubly insistent challenge to “be strong,” because of the lateness of the hour.

2. Another challenging reason why we should “be strong” is because of what the angels are doing at this hour. One of the tasks of the angels is dramatically pictured in Revelation seven, verses one to three, where they are seen to be holding the four

winds of the earth until the servants of God are sealed.

When, shortly before the Second World War, Britain had successfully averted what seemed an impending crisis, Lord Baldwin declared: “It was just as if the finger of God had drawn a rainbow once more across the sky, and ratified again His covenant with the children of men.” And he added: “The children of men of all nations have a part to play in these fleeting hours that are before us.”

Seventh-day Adventists of all people ought to be working with might and main during “these fleeting hours that are before us.” Of the task still to be done, the Spirit of prophecy declares: “With almost impatient eagerness the angels wait for our co-operation.”—*The Desire of Ages*, page 297.

At this time when the angels are holding back the winds of strife, and are waiting “with almost impatient eagerness,” it behoves the church to be indefatigable in its own uncompromising endeavours toward the finishing of the work.

3. Because of what God Himself is doing, we should “be strong” in His service. It is God who stands behind the angels and gives the commission. He it is who promises to “finish the work” and “cut it short in righteousness;” and in this programme that He has set for Himself it is for us constantly to remember that “we are workers together with Him.” As His co-workers it must be said of us: “We are

finishing the work, *we* are cutting it short, because a short work will *we* do on the earth."

4. Our service should "be strong" because of what is taking place in the world to-day. The late Rt. Hon. Gen. J. C. Smuts, as far back as 1936, described the then prevailing situation as "a world in turmoil, rocking on its foundations from one side to the other." Conditions, instead of improving since then, have undergone unprecedented deterioration. Behind the scenes an evil genius seems obviously at work, and he works with fiendish haste. But I ask you, must he always be left to take the initiative? Why should not we be on the offensive and be actively "redeeming the time because the days are evil"?

5. Because of the immensity of our task. That immensity can only be appreciated when we consider the greatness of the One who has assigned it, and the greatness of the adversary against whom our battle is waged. Of our adversary I would remind you that he it is who has sought to crush truth in every generation. It was he who in heaven arraigned his forces against God Himself, and who sought to make even our Saviour while on earth a victim of his specious temptations. He it is who to-day moves evil potentates in their evil acts. No wonder the apostle Paul declares: "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12.

But thank God for the Captain we have in that warfare. All power in heaven and in earth is at His command; and not only may we regard Him as our all-powerful Ally, but as a Friend and Brother—as One who loves to share with us the things He has that we need so much.

But it is not only the consciousness of His power that we need: it is a great and mighty utilization of it, and that utilization must dominate every aspect of the service God has committed to us to render. First and foremost, we must be strong in evangelism—an evangelism that heralds a message as vital and urgent as Noah's, or Jonah's or Elijah's or John the Baptist's, or that of our own early pioneers. Ours is the message that constitutes the climax of all the messages that God has ever sent, and it must be proclaimed with a fervour, a faithfulness, and a positiveness more dominant than has attended any message yet delivered.

Moreover, it must be geared to a new situation. Once our public audiences were converted men and women, and we built

on that conversion. To-day, the very fundamentals of Christianity are often strange to them, and only when these are preached and Christ is exalted above all doctrinal issues, shall we have the glorious response that God's programme demands. I read from *Gospel Workers*, page 158: "No discourse should ever be preached without presenting Christ and Him crucified as the foundation of the Gospel. Ministers would reach more hearts if they would dwell more upon practical godliness." It is our business to inculcate faith into men's hearts; a faith that will some day bear fruit in their lives, even though they may not immediately become Seventh-day Adventists.

Likewise to every department of our great organization comes the challenge to "be strong." Sabbath-schools should be storehouses of spiritual food for our hungry people.

Our Missionary Volunteer societies and our educational institutions should be places where the steps of our youth may be guided to the kingdom of God.

Our Home Missionary societies should be harnessing the whole church for service. In *Gospel Workers*, page 72, we read; "Let those who have been trained for service now take their places quickly in the Lord's work. House-to-house labourers are needed. . . . Singing and praying and Bible-readings are needed in the homes of the people."

In our Harvest Ingathering campaigns we should be sowing seed in every home we visit.

In the Publishing work our colporteurs should likewise be constantly laying more emphasis on the evangelistic phase of their work, and especially on contacts which we should be making in the homes of the well-to-do.

Our Medical ministry—and thank God for the extent of it—should have as its ultimate goal the spiritual restoration of those who come to us for relief. In *Medical Ministry*, page 331, we read: "Christ co-operates with those who engage in medical missionary work. . . . The weary will be refreshed, the sick restored to health, the sin-burdened relieved."

But our burden as we meet at this time is not alone for the 150 millions of people still outside our church. We must remember also the more than 40,000 whose names are on our books, but many of whom are to-day unready. Said the servant of the Lord: "I saw that the remnant were not prepared. . . . My accompanying angel cried out with awful solemnity, 'Get ready! get ready! get ready! for the fierce anger

of the Lord is soon to come.'"—*Early Writings*, page 119.

For the sake of these unready ones we at this gathering should sanctify ourselves anew and henceforth "be strong" in deepening the spiritual life of our own church membership.

Yet our times and task demand even more than this. They demand an even closer search of responsibility. Two weeks ago to-day I was visiting the home of a very revered friend of mine in the States, not an Adventist but a godly man of strong convictions. As we talked together he suddenly made this remarkable statement: "Tarr," he said, "it is no time now to fool with truth. You have got to accept it." Perhaps one of the needs of the church to-day is for us as workers and leaders to enter ourselves into a new acceptance of the truth; a deep and sincere repentance and a turning away from every evil thing. "Thou, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."

A new acceptance of the truth involves also a new love for the Book that contains the truth; a new outstretch of faith and a new joy in love—love for God and for the brethren. And you know, I fear sometimes that in this joy and faith and love both for God and the brethren, our converts sometimes put the ministry to shame.

A new acceptance involves also a new realization of God's presence and leadership in our lives, and this sense of leadership is inseparable from successful service. He who said, "Go ye, preach, baptize," also said, "Lo, I am with you." This sense of His presence is something we must tonight place side by side with that call to action which our motto presents. Alone we cannot make it. We need a mighty Hand, a helping Hand, an accompanying Hand. Brother Dick in his prayer prayed, "Unless Thou art with us, our work is vain." There is a song Mrs. Tarr sings to me sometimes that contains a message I should like to pass on to you, and I am going to ask if she will sing it at this time:

In shady, green pastures, so rich and so sweet,  
God leads His dear children along;  
Where the water's cold flow bathes the weary one's feet,  
God leads His dear children along.

CHORUS:

Some through the waters, some through the flood;  
Some through the fire, but all through the blood;  
Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song,  
In the night season, and all the day long.

(Continued on page 7.)

# NETHERLAND UNION

Report Presented at the Second Winter Council, 1951



**A**GAIN another year has sped by, and by the grace of God we, in the Netherland Union, can testify that the blessings of God have been with us. Although there have been many difficulties and there still are, we are confident

that the Lord will guide us if we only submit ourselves wholly to Him.

Our last report of 1950 shows that we had a membership at that time of 2,149. During the three quarters of 1951 we have added 173 by baptism, letter, and profession of faith. At the same time a total of 131 members had to be taken from our records; some because of unfaithfulness, some who had left the country, and several because of death. This shows a net gain of 42 during the past nine months. However, there are several more who have studied the message; some have been baptized during October and November; still others will be in the near future.

About all our workers are now engaged in evangelistic work. At present a total of fourteen efforts are in progress. Some of these are well attended and we hope that a large number may be gathered in at the end of these campaigns.

Our tithe shows an increase over the same period of 1950 of fl. 9,229.78 (£874). Tithes at the end of the third quarter totalled fl. 164,920.00 (£15,624). The offerings also show an increase of fl. 424 (£40) over the same period of last year. We trust that during the remainder of the year this progress will continue and that we shall close with a large increase in tithes and offerings. Our Harvest Ingathering has shown an increase of at least fl. 3,000 (£284) over last year. Although we have not been able to reach our goal, we rejoice at the increase. Our students and young people have had a prominent part in this work.

In our Sabbath-schools we have also made some progress. At the last union conference meeting an action was taken to strengthen this work. We now send each month translated portions of the *Sabbath-School Worker* to the teachers of the senior and children's divisions as lesson helps.

The membership of the Sabbath-school could be better, but we hope to bring this up also. In Utrecht we have a young lady who has built up a fine work among non-Adventist children. These children meet with her on Sunday afternoons when she teaches them Bible lessons and also trains them in M.V. work. This has proved an excellent way to contact the parents.

There are many who are taking part in our home missionary work. Several of our lay members are engaged in soul-winning work with good results. Thousands of pages of literature have been distributed.

During the past few weeks our churches have gathered clothing to be distributed in the different camps we still have in Holland. We have also started to make surprise parcels of food for the poor to be distributed at Christmas time. Last year very

good publicity was given our welfare work.

We have a large group of young people in our churches; they are the hope of our church. At the last union conference a secretary was appointed to lead out in this important branch of the work. During this year several week-end camps have been held for the young people, and especially for the juniors. We were able to add eleven new societies, four of which are seniors and seven juniors: we now have a total of thirty-one societies. It is very gratifying to see the young people take their stand for Christ. More than thirty were added to the church by baptism. Many others are in baptismal classes.

In connection with this I might also mention that there is a good increase in our school enrolment. Some of the new students are from non-Adventist homes, but they are earnest students and are preparing to become members of our church.

During the summer a number of students went out with the printed page and several came back to school with full

## "ZANDBERGEN"



P. P. SCHUIL, director and manager of the Netherland Missionary College writes: "We are enjoying a good school year. This coming spring we are hoping to graduate the first class. This group of seven earnest young people includes two or three young women, who, we hope, will become the first Bible instructors in this country."

scholarships earned. One of the boys was able to sell fl. 2,000 (£189) worth of literature in three months. However it is getting more difficult to place books in the homes of the people because of the increasing unemployment and the scarcity of money.

Last but not least I would like to mention the work of the Bible Correspondence School. It has been a great joy to read the many letters of appreciation of the blessings our students have received both through the fine programmes over the air and the splendid lessons. We have now nearly 6,000 who receive the lessons and more than 1,200 who regularly answer the questions. We have placed over 250 names of interested people in the hands of our ministers during this year and we believe it will bring large results.

Again we thank the Lord for all He has done for us. We also thank the brethren of the General Conference and the Division for the help they have given us both in finance and in men who serve us with their larger experience.

Our biggest need is a greater outpouring of God's Spirit; our earnest prayer is that we may be better fitted to finish the work of the Lord in the Netherlands in the shortest time possible.

K. TILSTRA, *President.*



### North Netherland Conference Report

WITH all honour to God I should like to tell you some of the results of the work done during 1951 in the North Netherland Conference. In this conference live about four and a half million people. Our church membership is 1,186 divided among twenty churches. Unfortunately we do not show a large increase in membership over 1950 as our country is overcrowded and many of our members have left for Australia, Africa, and Canada. During the coming months another thirty members will be leaving this country. Fortunately these people are saved for the church, but it is a loss to the Netherland Conference.

Our group of workers is not large. There are three ordained ministers and ten licensed ministers.

At present evangelistic meetings are being held in Amsterdam. There were 400 non-Adventists in attendance and 175 handed in their names for copies of the sermon. In Apeldoorn about eighty attended and in Zutphen a number of names were handed in from the forty present. In Eschede, a big industrial town, the meet-

ings were well attended. There were about 150 visitors and ninety gave in their names. In Leeuwarden 150 attended with forty names received and in Haarlem an effort has also been started. Many other places will follow. Although there is a shortage of workers, yet with God's help we endeavour to do just as much as we possibly can.

The Harvest Ingathering during the past year has shown progress over the previous year. The missionary spirit has also improved. We hope and pray that the coming year may be the best we have yet had in the North Netherland Conference. We have only one aim and that is to praise the Lord and ask for His Spirit to fulfil His work here in the Netherlands, too. We are thankful for what the brethren of the General Conference and the Division have done for us.

Conditions under which we work are often very difficult. For more than five years we have been trying to get a church in Groningen. We have already raised 85,000 guilders (£8,052. 12s. 7d.), but building expenses are very high and from the last report it would seem that the church will cost not less than 280,000 guilders. (£26,526. 6s. 4d.) We still hope somehow to reach the goal.

Our little church at Hooegeveen, of about forty members, collected 14,000 guilders (£1,326. 6s. 4d.) so that they might worship in their own church. These members have done much themselves to alter their building into a nice church, but they still need help to finish their project.

Looking back we are thankful for what the Lord has done for His people in our conference.

May the Lord richly bless you and us in the coming year.

P. VAN OOSSANEN, *President.*



### Walcheren Island

THIS week-end (January 7, 1952) I spent on the island of Walcheren. This was the island that was flooded at the time the Allied forces entered Holland. Everywhere one can still see the grim reminders of war. We are happy to say that the Advent message is accepted here. I had the privilege of organizing a new church in Flushing (Vlissingen). This is the first new church to be organized in 1952. Our local minister is now planning to hold missions in three different towns and we earnestly pray that souls may be gathered in as a result of this work.

K. TILSTRA, *President.*

## Welfare Work in the Netherlands

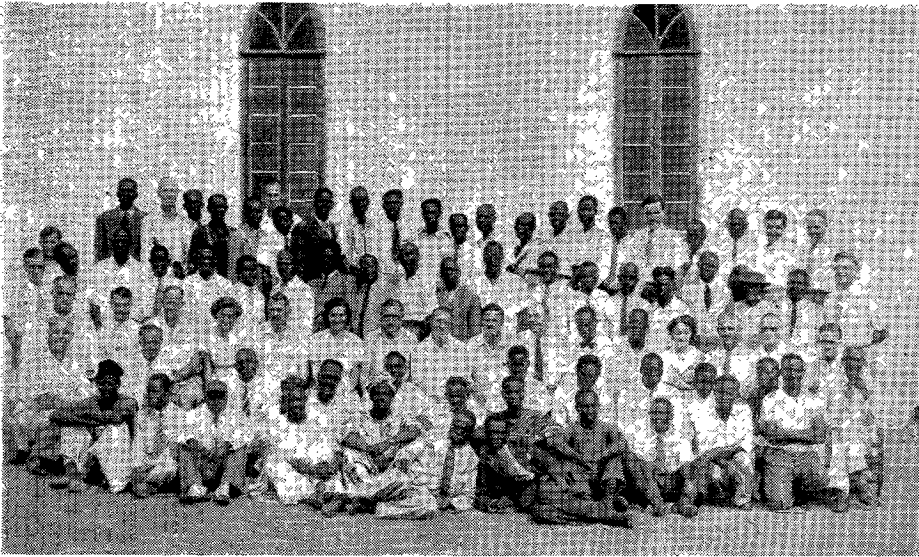
By K. Tilstra



THE willingness to make sacrifices for the welfare of others is the characteristic of all Seventh-day Adventists the world over. Whenever a call is made to meet some emergency, our people respond whole-heartedly. This spirit is also manifest in the Netherlands.

It had come to our attention that many of our fellow believers from Indonesia, from the island of Ambon, were among the thousands who were placed in camps in various parts of Holland. These people,

used to a tropical climate, were in, much need of winter clothing. So we made an appeal to all our churches and the response was overwhelming. From large churches, from smaller ones, even from small groups came parcels and large boxes of clothing. The accompanying picture shows some of the clothing we received. Some of it has already been distributed. We hope that our Ambonese brethren will feel at home in their new homeland and will know by this gesture that we as Seventh-day Adventists are all children of our heavenly Father.



*Delegates in attendance at the first West African Union Constituency Meeting held in Accra.*

## WEST AFRICAN UNION FIRST UNION CONSTITUENCY MEETING AND MINISTERIAL INSTITUTE

By T. J. Bradley

NEW YEAR'S day, January, 1952, will it ever be forgotten? Not at least by nearly eighty delegates from the West African Union Mission who had assembled in the neat, white Seventh-day Adventist church in Accra for the first union ministerial institute and constituency meeting.

For my part I had just left England a few days previously, where the white frost of winter covered the countryside with its mantle and made the cheery hearth a welcome friend, but Africa—! no such cheery hearths are needed. Clear skies, a burning sun, a trying humidity make the call of the pounding waves on the distant beach well-nigh irresistible. But January 1st was no time for thinking of surfing. The long-looked-for and planned ministerial institute was due to commence, and as European and African workers assembled, there was a sense of fellowship and brotherhood which bound all hearts together and was a prelude to many wonderful days which were to follow.

A cheery song service introduced the opening meeting. Visiting overseas delegates seated on the platform with the West African Union president, J. O. Gibson, were R. R. Figuhr and C. E. Moseley from the General Conference and A. F. Tarr and T. J. Bradley from the Division,

and these were warmly welcomed in the opening remarks of the president's address. A. J. Mustard, newly-appointed superintendent of the Gold Coast Mission and G. L. Anniss, union secretary-treasurer, were also on the platform. J. O. Gibson stressed the need for unity and prayer as two specific ways of meeting the tremendous challenge of mission work in the West African Union. Though much had been accomplished, much more remained to be done, but without God's help the task would not be completed. A special season of prayer was held to conclude the opening exercises of the evangelistic institute and all felt that a good foundation had been laid for many happy hours of devotion and study.

The following two days were devoted to an interesting and diverse programme. In a quiet yet forceful way, A. F. Tarr led out in the devotional services each morning. These very practical studies inspired new resolves in many lives. In the Bible study hours, R. R. Figuhr called our attention to the qualifications of the "man of God." Much personal heart-searching was the result of these clear and forthright addresses given to the ministry. C. E. Moseley of the General Conference Coloured Department made a lasting im-

pression in his Bible study on John the Baptist, as with typical enthusiasm and force he analyzed the experience of the famous forerunner of our Lord during the hours immediately prior to his execution.

In the ministerial institute section there were a number of themes taken up for study whereby it was hoped that the evangelistic endeavour of the strong and loyal band of workers in the West African Union would be assisted. Mention should also be made of the discussion hours, when the African evangelists themselves discussed "Techniques in Native Evangelism" and sought to reveal methods which they themselves had found to be successful and useful under many varying conditions.

The days seemed all too short and the time had passed so rapidly that, with a measure of regret, we had to change the form of our gathering from an institute to a union constituency meeting.

It was the first time in the history of our West African Mission that a union-wide representation of European and African delegates had met to discuss and plan the work of the union. But it was a wise decision and proved a blessing to all present. The time may not be far distant when we shall have to lean very heavily upon our African brethren for direct leadership, and as we associated with many of these consecrated workers we were made to feel that the work of God would be devotedly cared for, and thus we rejoiced in the further opportunity for experience which this gathering afforded.

Looking over the congregation that filled Accra church we remembered that they represented the faithful evangelists and teachers in hundreds of villages and towns who had been blessed by God in the winning of over 5,000 members in the years 1947-1950. And in the first nine months of 1951 they had already led nearly a thousand persons through baptism into the church of God. In reports which the treasurer was to give, we were to learn that tithes and offerings, Sabbath-school gifts, and Harvest Ingathering collections were reaching an all-time record, due alone to the increasing faithfulness of workers and lay members alike. The same sense of joy for the privilege and opportunity of thus aiding the Lord's work was evidenced here in the mission fields as in the home fields.

Think, too, of the forty-four colporteurs who trudged for 35,000 hours in and out of the villages taking Jesus to thousands of the idle who sit hopefully on the roadsides. They actually delivered £7,279 worth of literature. Eternity alone will reveal the

full story of this valuable contribution.

The educational side of the work was vigorously and thoughtfully discussed. Everywhere one goes one hears the clamour for higher education, and many are bartering their time and their souls for all that education can offer. It was therefore very gratifying to see the Union Executive Committee voting unanimously to extend the present facilities and curriculum of the two training schools, to include a higher education under the wise and spiritual guidance of our own teachers. But despite all the accomplishments, our hearts were left aching as we heard the appeals from the various superintendents of the mission fields for more workers, both African and overseas, for more funds for just necessary items, for more training schools in which to develop an army of the Lord's workers. May I appeal to our brethren and sisters in our home fields to match our faithfulness and dedication to the great needs and challenges of those who still sit in darkness.

There had been many opportunities for reconsecration of heart and life to the service of God, but the closing hours of the constituency meeting will long be remembered. With our hearts burdened for the quicker advancement of the evangelistic work in the union, the various fields pledged as a goal for their 1952 efforts over 3,000 baptisms and an additional 8,400 gathered into the hearers' classes! Readers, it sounded staggering to ears accustomed to lesser harmonies, but as a united fellowship we knelt in prayer asking for such an outpouring of God's Spirit that these figures would be more than reached, for His glory and honour.

And then a voice from the front of the church began to sing, "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love." And one by one (till eight or nine had gone forward) some of the evangelists and teachers joined linking their arms as a symbol of our intention to remain united in heart and resolve. Then the great climax came! Hands were joined all over the church from pew to pew and seat to seat, as we sang, "God be with you till we meet again." Many eyes glistened with tears as the fervour of this affection for each other and for God's work ended in a prayer of dedication.

The buzz of greetings and farewells and the round of handclaps was soon over and out into the humid night air went a band of men resolved to carry Jesus Christ to Africa's dying millions. Back to the villages and towns; back through the haunts

(Continued on back page.)



Graduating Class of Midwives, 1951

Seated: B. M. Turtill, midwifery teacher; S. A. Nagel, Medical Superintendent; S. W. Turtill, assistant teacher.

## Midwifery School at Ile-Ife, Nigeria

By Sister B. M. Turtill, Director

IT WAS in April, 1949, that I was invited to connect with the Ile-Ife Hospital, Nigeria, as a nursing sister, and two months later found me at my post of duty. At that time a third ward was being built and the acting medical superintendent told me that this was to be my ward, since I had been called to take care of the midwifery service. In the meantime we had four beds allocated to midwifery cases in the female ward. In August, 1949, we started an ante-natal clinic. We also started an infant welfare clinic to coincide with the ante-natal clinic, and so the two grew side by side.

About three months later we were beginning to see the fruits of our efforts and by now ten beds were left open for midwifery cases. Unfortunately things didn't move as fast as we would have liked in the preparation of our third ward. Just at this time we had a visit from one of the health officers and the matron in charge of nurses

in the western provinces. They had come to inspect our hospital and advise us regarding further developments we might make. It was strongly urged that we start training midwives. This, however, was a very big undertaking. I was asked to start this work. Time went by very quickly as we were always busy, for besides the midwifery work, we were helping with other work in the hospital and also trying to conduct some small Bible study groups and singing bands in the town of Ife.

After much prayer and consideration our midwifery school started on May 1, 1950, almost a year after my arrival in Nigeria. There were six girls in this class, all of whom had previously graduated as nurses from our general nurses' training school. They all showed keen interest and we worked along together enjoying our new work.

By the end of 1950 we had almost 800 patients on our ante-natal clinic records,

Preparing for Service

Senior students of the Ile-Ife Nursing School.

Aim: To Preach and Aid in Healing.



and by May, 1951, 1,600, so there was plenty of material for the students to work on. Up to the end of this group's first year we were entirely without classroom equipment, and many times lectures were given right on the ward, for the student midwives were also responsible for the patients, and the teacher for watching the deliveries. Many times in the middle of a class we would be called upon to put our theory into practice. After our task was accomplished and the mother and baby were comfortable, we would return to our class work. Many may think this was a hard way to learn, but it certainly more than made up for the deficiency of classroom equipment.

In December, 1950, we opened our new third ward. The day was celebrated by the birth of two babies. The total number of babies born for that year was 291. January

1st came with one baby born and we have almost averaged a baby a day since. To date, November 18, 1951, we have had 285 deliveries with over 300 babies counting twins and one set of triplets. We are hoping for 300 cases before 1951 closes.

On August 21st five students from our first group appeared at the Government Hospital for the midwifery examination. Anxious days followed, but how happy we were when the results were published and we found that all our students had passed. Later we learned that out of a list of 24 entrants, three of our girls had taken the first three places, and seventh place was tied for by the remaining two. This we all felt was nothing but answer to prayer and a reward for work learned and done in faith.

On October 21st the sun shone beautifully and the day was perfect. This was the day chosen for the graduation of our mid-

wives. During the previous week many willing hands had sewn dresses, made aim and motto, helped to decorate the large clinic building, and also to prepare a party which was to be held after the graduation exercises. By 4.30 p.m., the class marched in behind the faculty, followed by the graduate male nurses, and a very beautiful and impressive service was enjoyed by all present.

So ended our first venture at training midwives at Ile-Ife. The Lord has blessed us wonderfully in this work, and we trust you who read this little story will pray for our work here as we strive to train our young people to be better equipped for service. We have the privilege of seeing many of the mothers attend our meetings, and as the little ones grow older, they also attend the baby department. Our aim is to evangelize through midwifery.

## "Be Strong and Work"

(Continued from page 2.)

Though sorrows befall us, and Satan oppose,  
God leads His dear children along;  
Through grace we can conquer, defeat all  
our foes,  
God leads His dear children along.

Away from the mire and away from the  
clay,  
God leads His dear children along;  
Away up in glory, eternity's day,  
God leads His dear children along.

Let us never forget that in all of our service He goes before us. We are going to discuss many things at this meeting; we are going to take back to our fields of labour much counsel, many spiritual lessons, and a certain amount of financial appropriation; but to-night even the appropriation of large sums of money cannot compare with the presence and leadership of Him who has all power that is in heaven and in earth; and for myself I should like to-night to accept Him anew, and I know that if I do this all my problems will be solved and that my work, like yours, will be blessed of God.

In closing, let me read again Zechariah 8:9: "Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Let your hands be strong, ye that hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets." May God grant that this meeting shall be marked by a new appropriation of God's strength, and a new determination to turn every faculty that God has given us into channels of power for the speedy consummation of our task.



New recruits attending the British Union Colporteur Council for the first time.

## Colporteur Councils, Norway and Britain

THE colporteurs throughout the Northern European Division have caught the vision of greater soul-winning evangelism and are determined by God's grace and greater effort to place more truth-filled literature into the homes within their territory.

During the closing days of December and early in January excellent colporteur councils convened in Norway and Britain. The Norway gathering was held at Onsrud College with about thirty colporteurs in attendance. In Britain the meeting was held at Stanborough Park and around one hundred were present, over twenty of them being new recruits to the literature ministry.

At both gatherings it was impressive to note the spirit of devotion and desire for greater efficiency possessed by the colporteurs. Naturally, courage and cheerfulness were apparent, for these are the normal characteristics of successful col-

porteurs, but there was a great emphasis on a deeper consecration and more efficient service which was exhilarating. These are days when we hear constantly of the need for more "spirit-filled workers" and for more of the "apostolic spirit" in our ministry, and the attendance at a colporteur gathering and the experience of ministering to a colporteur group brings the realization that amongst our colporteurs these much discussed and desired blessings are being enjoyed. It was indeed a great joy and blessing to be "ministered unto" by our gallant colporteur army in both Norway and Britain. The union and local leaders in both these fields are doing valiant service with an excellent group of real evangelistic bookmen.

Pray that the efforts and desires of these men and women of the printed page will be realized in more sales and more souls during the year 1952. G. D. KING.

# NEWS FLASH

A. F. Tarr arrived back at headquarters from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on February 9, 1952, after attending the annual budget meetings. He spent a day in Asmara en route to Ethiopia. While in Ethiopia he also visited the schools at Kuyera and Akaki.

G. A. Lindsay left for the Continent on January 31, 1952. He attended budget meetings in Holland and Scandinavia during February. A. F. Tarr was also present at the Scandinavian meetings.

Alf Karlman left for Denmark and Sweden on February 12, 1952. He will be away from the office for a few weeks.

A welcome visitor to Great Britain recently was C. E. Moseley, associate secretary of the General Conference Coloured Department. Elder Moseley had been visiting the West African Union and was en route to the United States. He gave a very interesting account of his visit to West Africa at the Stanborough Park Y.P. service on Friday evening, February 1, 1952, and Sabbath morning he addressed the faculty and students of Newbold College.

On January 19, 1952, Miss L. Rasmussen sailed from England for Uganda. Until recently Miss Rasmussen was nursing at the Skodsborg Sanitarium, and it is in this capacity that she hopes to render service to Africa's millions.

Miss M. Tweedie left England for Ethiopia on February 2, 1952, where she has accepted the call to join the nursing staff at our hospital in Addis Ababa.

G. E. Vandeman, associate secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Department, is at present in Great Britain. Plans are being laid for Elder Vandeman to hold a large centralized campaign in the city of London this autumn, and a number of workers will be called to help him at this time. In connection with this effort, the members of the London churches met together at the Upper Holloway Baptist Church on Sabbath, February 16, 1952, when Elder Vandeman gave the address and spoke of plans that he is making, in counsel with the brethren of the British Union and the Northern European Division. Many responded to his appeals for help in publicizing this campaign and distributing leaflets.

E. L. Minchin recently returned from an itinerary in Holland, Norway, and Denmark,

where he held Missionary Volunteer Youth Rallies and Sabbath-school conventions. A special Youth Week of unusual blessing was held for the nearly 300 young people of Skodsborg Sanitarium. Many youth also came from Copenhagen and the surrounding churches. Pastor Minchin also conducted a very inspiring series of meetings for the young people of the North London churches during the week February 9-16, 1952. Publicity had been given to these meetings and many young people from other churches in the London area also attended. Very timely topics were presented, bringing a great response from the young people. He leaves for West Africa on February 19th, where he will lead out in Youth Rallies and Sabbath-school conventions during the two months that he will be visiting that field.

Axel Varmer has just returned to the Division office after spending a week in Scotland, where he led out in Home Visitation campaigns in Edinburgh and Aberdeen on the two Sabbaths. He reports that the churchmembers visited about sixty to seventy non-Adventist homes in both towns on the Sabbath afternoons, and these interests will be followed with further visits.

## West African Union Constituency Meeting

(Concluded from page 6.)

of leopard and python; back to the land of elephant and buffalo; back to Mohammedan or pagan, back to wherever the need for them existed—this was the purpose of every heart present.

Brethren, pray for West Africa!

### DIVISION DIRECTORY

A. F. Tarr ..... *President*  
 E. B. Rudge ..... *Secretary*  
 G. A. Lindsay ..... *Treasurer*  
 Alf Karlman ... *Asst. Treasurer and Auditor*  
 O. J. Olsen ..... *Field Secretary*

### DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARIES

A. Andersen, M.D. .... *Medical*  
 G. D. King ..... *Publishing, Press Relations,  
 and Religious Liberty*  
 Axel Varmer ... *Home Missionary and Radio*  
 T. J. Bradley ..... *Ministerial Association*  
 L. Mark Hamilton, Ph.D. .... *Educational*  
 E. L. Minchin ... *Sabbath-School, Missionary  
 Volunteer, and Temperance*

EDITOR ..... MRS. A. F. TARR

## NORTHERN LIGHT

Published monthly as the Official Organ of the Northern European Division of Seventh-day Adventists, 41 Hazel Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex, England.

PRICE 3/- A YEAR

Printed at The Stanborough Press Ltd., Watford, Herts., England.



Attractive literature stand at the International Exposition held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

AN interesting revival of our publishing work is taking place in Ethiopia and there is every indication that a progressive programme is being planned for this important phase of evangelism in that interesting country.

W. S. Jensen, the secretary-treasurer and publishing secretary, in a recent letter, indicates that the recent printing of the small book, *The Bible Speaks*, in the Amharic language, has meant a great deal in preparing the way for evangelistic progress in that territory. This book is a small manual of Bible doctrines which gives a clear statement of our special message.

The indications are that the scattering of our literature is arousing interest and

already interested people are writing in asking that teachers or preachers be sent who can tell them more about the truth.

Recently, a large International Exposition was held in Addis Ababa and most favourable publicity was given to our literature and message by a most attractive stand being prepared, on which was displayed a great deal of our literature. Thousands of leaflets were distributed to the interested viewers of the stand and undoubtedly as a result of this publicity a lasting interest has been aroused.

We solicit the continued interest in your prayers on behalf of the needy and growing work in the ancient and romantic land of Ethiopia.

G. D. KING.