



VOLUME 3

FEBRUARY, 1953

NUMBER 2

The Division Biennial Council

Held at Skodsborg, Denmark, December 11th to 18th, 1952



DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE AT THE BIENNIAL COUNCIL.

Those invited to meet with the regular delegates were:

General Conference Representatives.—A. V. Olsen, R. H. Adair, E. W. Dunbar.

Senior Ministers.—A. K. Armstrong, W. McClements, J. de Ruyter, S. Lundstrom, L. Saeboe-Larssen, L. Muderspach, A. Wasli.

Departmental Secretaries.—V. H. Cooper, E. R. Warland, R. A. Vince, H. T. Johnson, British Union; D. Vink, Netherlands Union; H. Andersson, D. Carlsson, I. Heikkinen, P. Hornfeldt, H. Mandell, J. Onjukka, K. Utterback, O. A. Spanghagen, East Nordic Union; H. J. Christensen, G. Dam, O. Frenning, R. Guleng, D. Guldhammer, O. Jordahl, Odd Jordahl, M. Rosen, J. Reichelt, B. Röst, West Nordic Union.

Institutional Managers.—J. H. Craven, Publishing House, British Union; G. Norris, Food Factory, Great Britain; Y. Miettinen, Publishing House, Finland; E. H. Larsson, Publishing House, Sweden; V. Thomsen, Publishing House, Denmark; R. F. Jensen, Food Factory, Denmark.

Union Treasurers.—N. H. Knight, British Union; K. Beijer, Netherlands Union; U. Rouhe, East Nordic Union; K. Abrahamsen, West Nordic Union; W. S. Jensen, Ethiopian Union Mission.

Local Conference Presidents and V. N. Olsen, P. P. Schuil, A. J. Woodfield.

IN THE ARMOUR OF CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS FORWARD IN THIS MIGHTY HOUR!

FORWARD IN FELLOWSHIP

By G. D. King

THE Biennial Council of the Northern European Division which convened at Skodsborg, Denmark, December 11th to December 18th was an outstanding meeting. Much could be written about the excellent spiritual sermons delivered, the thrilling reports given, and the challenging resolutions passed, but the outstanding fact is that it was a great meeting of "fellowship." Spontaneously, one of the union presidents expressed that thought when he said, "Such a meeting breaks down barriers and makes us brethren." Another union president, in his personal testimony, said, "This meeting has helped us to understand each other's problems better," and a union treasurer, in his prayer, thanked the Lord "for the joy of brethren working together in unity."

Yes, undoubtedly that is the feature which will be remembered longest, for it made a deep impression upon us all. This was a meeting of deep and abiding fellowship—a fellowship based upon a sincere dedication to a task and a firm faith in our God and our cause. From the first meeting to the last, emphasis was placed upon two basic principles of Christian service: "A deeper personal fellowship with our Lord," and, "A more efficient and energetic application to our task"—and two great needs make this doubly urgent at this present time: "Our own personal, spiritual need," and, "The challenge of an unfinished work." These basic principles were aptly expressed in the motto chosen for the Council and which was impressively and artistically displayed over the platform.

IN THE ARMOUR OF CHRIST'S
RIGHTEOUSNESS
FORWARD
IN THIS MIGHTY HOUR!

At the opening service, Dr. A. Andersen, the much beloved director of Skodsborg Sanitarium, extended a most gracious welcome to the Council, in which he said,

"Everybody is your servant while you are here," and, indeed, the willing service and bounteous hospitality we received throughout the whole time of the meetings fulfilled that gracious welcome.

Brethren A. V. Olsen, R. H. Adair, and E. W. Dunbar from the General Conference brought greetings from Washington and from many parts of the world field. Pastor Alf Lohne, president of the West Nordic Union, heartily welcomed the Council into his territory. The roll call of delegates indicated that there were over eighty present, representing territory from the Arctic Circle to the Equator, with every local conference in the home unions represented, J. O. Gibson present from the West African Union, and W. S. Jensen from the Ethiopian Union.

A fact of real human interest was disclosed at this opening meeting. Elder A. V.

Olsen—truly a man of European antecedents and interest—revealed that his father was the first Sabbath-keeper in Sweden before any Adventist minister reached that country. He was led to the message by reading a tract printed and produced in Oslo by our pioneer missionary in Northern Europe, Elder Matteson. Such was the far-reaching effect of a simple tract so many years ago.

Space will not permit the recording here of the many helpful addresses given at the devotional and Sabbath services. Counsel from the Word of God and the Spirit of prophecy made a deep appeal to all our hearts and brought forth a practical and spiritual result in a deepened consecration and a fuller surrender to God for service. The ministry of our visiting brethren, A. V. Olsen and R. H. Adair, was indeed most refreshing and uplifting. Elder E. W. Dunbar was compelled to leave for other appointments after the first day of the Council. His presence with us at the departmental meetings preceding the Council had been much appreciated.

Naturally a great many "resolutions," covering almost every phase of our denominational activity, were considered and passed by the Council in session. The various committees did excellent and efficient work and there was every indication that diligent and prayerful thought had been given to the plans and policies brought in for adoption. The emphasis placed on a wider and more intensive evangelism by the whole church was indeed inspiring and challenging. The resolution covering Evangelism provoked tremendous interest and very full discussion. It was evident that every delegate present was determined not merely to vote for this resolution, but to carry it into effect in every possible way when back in the field.

The various reports rendered at the Council will doubtless appear in the pages of the NORTHERN LIGHT, but here it should be said that most encouraging progress was reported from each department of our Division organization. The field reports from the home and mission unions indi-



By Hazel Hartwell Simon

They stand so tall who stand beside their Lord;

They walk like princes who are in His stride!

There is a fearless light within the eyes
Of those who choose to travel by His side.

Their minds are tutored by their talks with Him,

Their spirits lifted to His higher goals;
There is a sweeter glory in the smiles

Of those who work with Him for needy souls!

There is humility to match His own,
And service meted out unstintingly;
While over them His spirit gently moves,
And in their hearts is deep tranquillity.

Oh, higher than the highest human thought
Can reach, God has appointed them to be!
Joint-heirs with Christ, who saved them by His grace,

To make them kings and priests eternally!

cated that the Lord is blessing the witness of His church and that a progressive programme of evangelism is being sponsored throughout the Division territory. Each evening service, attended by many of the local churchmembers, was preceded by a song service, enthusiastically led by Pastor E. L. Minchin, with English choruses, enthusiastically sung by all present.

Finances were, of course, given their rightful place in this important gathering of the leaders in our Division. The statistical statements and balance sheets presented all revealed that God has richly blessed His cause through the generous and sacrificial giving of our faithful membership. Constantly throughout the Council meetings mention was made of the loyalty and faithfulness of our dear people in tithes, offerings, and Christian service which, under God's blessing, is the basic strength of our denominational witness and finance.

Mention must be made of the courteous chairmanship of our president, Pastor A. F. Tarr, who, in spite of the very crowded agenda, gave everyone the opportunity of expression and there was consequently great freedom of discussion. Each Council session was opened by the reading of appropriate passages from the Spirit of prophecy, and throughout all the Council meetings a strong spiritual tone was maintained. Pastor Tarr's impressive sermon on the first night of the Council, in which he spoke on the far-reaching implications of the Council's motto, undoubtedly set the tone for the whole of the meetings. Many of his expressions on that evening will linger long in the memory and thus fulfil a deep spiritual mission for all of us who were privileged to be present.

Naturally, on the closing day, indeed in the closing hour of the Council, the presenting of the budget to cover the operating expenses for the work throughout the Division territory for 1953, was followed with keen expectation and deep interest. Pastor G. A. Lindsay, the Division treasurer, stated that the budget was the largest in the history of our work in Northern Europe.

The Budget Committee had given most prayerful and careful consideration to the many requests presented by the field leaders. Within the means available, the brethren had endeavoured to meet the most pressing special needs, as well as to increase the base appropriation to all the fields. It was indeed a "great" budget, not merely in the amount appropriated, but in the courageous and generous spirit in which it had

been prepared. Following the presentation and disclosure of the budget, it was more than impressive to listen to the response from the union field leaders and others who had waited for the event with keen anticipation.

Gratitude—to God for His manifest provision for His cause; to the General Conference for the generous appropriations; to our faithful membership in the field; and to the Division Budget Committee for its careful distribution of the

funds available—was the spontaneous expression of everyone present. This gratitude was fittingly climaxed by the singing of the doxology, followed by a large number of sincere testimonies of a deeper dedication and fuller consecration to God and His service.

As the Council meeting began with expressions of "fellowship" and "confidence," so it ended, its total message and inspiration being a call and a challenge to march "Forward in Fellowship."

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

I WANT to preface my report this time with two texts of Scripture which have to do with doing business with God and for God. I quote:

"Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine." Prov. 3:9, 10.

"There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself." Prov. 11:24, 25.

It is not necessary for me to offer any comments on these texts of Scripture. It will suffice to state that there are many, yes, perhaps a large majority in our church membership, who can, from personal experience, testify to the truth of the statements quoted. There are many in our churches who know for sure that "all the promises of God in Him [Christ] are yea, and in Him [Christ] Amen." 2 Cor. 1:20. God never lets down any of His children who put their full trust in Him. To those who live for the world, and to the materialists, all this talk is foolishness. It certainly is contrary to common business sense as far as they are concerned.

MISSION OFFERINGS

At this time I want to pay tribute to the many thousands of faithful members in our churches both in Europe and in West Africa and Ethiopia—the many who have made possible the excellent report that I here have the pleasure of rendering. We deal in millions when we add all the contributions together for our Division, not only in the low value currencies, but even if we compute it in U.S. dollars.

The total tithe and mission offerings for

1951 for the whole Division field amounted to \$1,378,643.78. That is nearly half a million pounds sterling, and much of this money, to be sure, is coming from those whom we can call friends of the poor widow in the parable. May God abundantly bless every one of those many who have added their mites to the treasury to make up these large figures. It is only through Christ Jesus that poor, selfish creatures are able to bring such excellent gifts to the work of God.

We certainly appreciate what is being done in the Ingathering campaign. Through this campaign we are getting much money to help us to carry on our heavy programme, and now when the Home Missionary secretaries are present with us from all the home unions and local conferences, permit me to express to you in a special way our gratitude for what you are doing in leading the membership of this church to put forth such great endeavours for God. The total amount of Ingathering for 1951 was \$250,994.41 for the whole Division. This is more than a quarter of a million dollars. What a fine achievement! From all indications, the 1952 campaign will bring still greater results.

May I point out that the Division has not yet reached the amount of working capital that is required by the General Conference Working Policy. At the end of 1951 we were still £5,909. 19s. 3d. short of reaching our authorized working capital, which for the year 1951 should be £32,850. 14s. 1d. For the year 1952, however, due to the increased appropriations to the field, the authorized working capital should be £42,012. 5s. 6d., and at the end of September this year we found ourselves short of £8,704. 5s. 3d. to cover it, I hope this will be a little better by the end of the

year, but we shall most assuredly be several thousand pounds short of this.

I am glad to say that, in the main, we are working quite nicely within the budget that we voted last year.

DEBT REDUCTION

The leadership in our unions, conferences, and institutions must set themselves earnestly to the task of liquidating debt faster than we are doing at present. We must set our houses in order now, while we still have a good income. We must beware of increasing debt, and keep faith with the policies that we ourselves have accepted in our councils.

BUDGET

As expenses constantly seem to increase in all our organizations, many find it very hard to balance their budgets at the time of the auditing meeting and keep them balanced through the year. Funds are also needed for the schools and medical institutions in the mission fields and in the home base unions. Added funds for special evangelistic campaigns are also urgently requested from various fields. Total requests to meet increased cost of present work, new workers, new equipment, new buildings, etc., to the amount of \$1,060,000 have been asked for. Besides that, you have asked for \$241,000 for church extension; in all, \$1,300,000, and we have received \$199,500 from the General Conference with \$170,800 from our own funds—a total of \$370,274 to distribute for specials, or about one quarter of the required amount. What are we to do? It will be impossible to meet all these requests. We must ask God for wisdom and judgment in the distribution of available funds, and humbly remember that God is not dependent upon men and their means for the advancement of His cause.

He could have used angels as His witnesses. But it is His purpose to cultivate in us a spirit of service and sacrifice by using us in His great work to preach the Gospel of the kingdom in all the world. May we as God's workmen consecrate ourselves for the task and I am sure that our meagre means, when we think of the amount requested, will multiply in the distribution of them, like the loaves and fishes in the hands of our Lord and Saviour while He was here on earth. G. A. LINDSAY.

"THE work is fast closing up. . . . We have but a short time in which to work. Let us awake from spiritual slumber, and consecrate all that we have and are to the Lord."

THE SECRETARY SUMMARIZES

THE following are some interesting items taken from the report of the secretary, Pastor E. B. Rudge, presented to the Council. He told us that two years ago, at the time of the first Council meeting held by the reorganized Northern European Division, delegates present accepted a membership goal of a double membership by 1954. He then gave the following report upon achievement of the field toward the attainment of this goal.

ACHIEVEMENT

The Division membership at December 31, 1950, was 39,054. At September 30, 1952, the membership totalled 43,921. The gain for the period of one year and nine months was 4,867. If we had attained our goal of a doubled membership, the gain should have been approximately 17,090, which would have brought our total membership to 56,143. However, we have attained 28.48 per cent of the goal we set ourselves two years ago.

DIVISION WORKING FORCE

1. Licensed Workers in fields during 1952—1,593.
2. Institutional Workers:

British Union	147
East Nordic Union	365
Ethiopian Union Mission	124
Iceland Mission	3
Netherlands Union	10
Polish Union
West African Union	84
West Nordic Union	414
	1147

In the Division there are 129 self-supporting health centres and clinics, etc., employing between 500 and 550 workers.

We have a force within this Division of 2,740 men and women who are serving in the various branches of work for the Master.

The membership by unions is as follows:

UNIONS	December, 1950	September, 1952	Total Gain
British Union	6666	6979	313
East Nordic Union	8161	8390	229
Ethiopian Union Mission	654	790	136
Iceland Mission	324	368	44
Netherlands Union	2150	2195	45
Polish Union	3034	3034	...
West African Union	9834	13714	3880
West Nordic Union	8231	8451	220
	39054	43921	4867

GLEANINGS

From Departmental Secretaries' Reports

SABBATH SCHOOL

FROM the beautiful fjords of Norway, from the pine-covered lakelands of Finland, from lovely Sweden, from ye banks and braes of bonny Scotland, from ancient Holland and Denmark, from Iceland touching the Arctic Circle, from ancient Ethiopia and from colourful West Africa, yes, from all over our great Northern European Division, our Sabbath-school members would, I am sure, have me bring their greetings to our brethren gathered in council at this the close of the great Sabbath-School Centennial Year.

We rejoice to know that we belong to the ever-growing world Sabbath-school

family of over one million members and thrill to the reports of Sabbath-school growth and activity in all parts of the world. Here in these ancient lands of Northern Europe we sense the importance of the place this great institution has in the building of God's church and the preparation of a people to meet their Lord. We are resolved as we leave this centennial year behind to accept its challenge and go forth to launch the strongest soul-saving evangelistic Sabbath-school programme in our history.

At the end of the third quarter of 1952 we have 63,987 Sabbath-school members in 1,139 schools throughout our Division. This is remarkable when we remember that

our total church membership is only 40,888. The percentage of Sabbath-school membership to church membership is therefore 156. This is largely due to the wonderful Sabbath-school attendance in West Africa, where we have a church membership of 13,714 and a Sabbath-school membership of 35,288.

Our Sabbath schools continue to pour means into the Lord's treasury and to establish our people in the great truths of the Word of God. In the first nine months of this year a total of \$106,537.34 was given by our Sabbath schools for foreign missions. We believe, however, that with stronger promotion of the Birthday and Investment offering plan, our people will gladly increase their gifts to the Lord's work.

In every conference in Northern Europe we are witnessing a new and fast-growing interest in Sabbath-school evangelism and in the soul-winning possibilities of Branch Sabbath-school and Sunday-school work. Nearly three thousand children from the streets of the great cities and towns of our densely populated home fields are gathered into Branch Sabbath schools and Sunday schools, while in West Africa a truly wonderful work is being done in 115 Branch Sabbath schools.

This year a real effort has been made to educate our Sabbath-school officers and members in the objectives and possibilities of our Sabbath schools. It was my privilege to associate with our brethren in Sabbath-school conventions in Norway, Denmark, and Holland. In Great Britain the plan of holding yearly conference-wide Sabbath-school officers' conventions in some pleasant location has proved a tremendous inspiration and help to the Sabbath-school cause in that field.

Great interest was aroused by the special Sabbath-school centenary celebrations on September 27th, in each of our churches. The members holding the longest Sabbath-school attendance record were honoured and our people were stimulated afresh to an appreciation of the great Sabbath-school institution.

There are many needs in our Sabbath-school work in this Division. At the Sabbath-school council of our union and local secretaries, just held here in Skodsborg, earnest study was given to the need for increasing the power and efficiency of our Sabbath schools. A solemn obligation rests upon us as God's workmen to give the strongest possible lead to our Sabbath schools this coming year, and by the grace of God put into effect the recommendations

made at that time and passed on at this Council. If so, a new day of vigorous growth in our Sabbath-school work will be witnessed in this Division.

Our loyal hearted Sabbath-school members in the Northern European Division assure you of their love for this great message and join you in a new dedication to the glorious cause of Sabbath-school evangelism. Sixty-three thousand, nine hundred and eighty seven Sabbath-school members in this great Division wish, by the grace of God, to make an appointment with you, and each other, to meet in the kingdom, where we shall sit at the feet of the Master in the most wonderful Sabbath school of all time.

E. L. MINCHIN.

EDUCATIONAL

THE Educational secretary, Dr. L. Mark Hamilton, gave an interesting report of work under his care. He stated that within the Division there are 169 schools staffed by 590 teachers, with an enrolment of 13,166 students. During the year, 53 of these students were baptized. It was clearly stated, however, that this was an incomplete report of baptisms. Forty-five students who were graduates from our schools during last school year are now in service in the various conferences. Two secondary schools began to function in West Africa during 1952 and probably for the first time in the history of our work in West Africa a degreed African student will connect with the work as a teacher at the close of this year.

In Ethiopia, advances have also been made. At Akaki, a new dormitory for the boys has been constructed. At the Kuyera Training School in the Arussi district, buildings connected with the school programme are under construction.

One new church school has begun to function in Leeds, England.

Dr. Hamilton also reported with satisfaction that the home union training schools all showed a substantial increase in enrolment for 1952. The Educational Council held at Watford, August 1st to 10th this year, was attended by sixty-five educational and other workers and undoubtedly was a valuable contribution to the educational work of the Division.

In closing his report, Dr. Hamilton made reference to the Jerslev School in Denmark. This school has been in continuous operation for more than sixty years and has the distinction of being the oldest

continuously operated school in the Division. From it many have gone to join the force of workers in Denmark and other fields. These include teachers, preachers, and other professional workers, and a number well known at the Skodsborg Sanitarium.

MINISTERIAL

IN THE absence of Pastor T. J. Bradley, secretary of the Ministerial Association, his report was read by Pastor E. B. Rudge.

In this report, Pastor T. J. Bradley called attention to the purpose of God to extend His work around the circle of the earth until men of every land should know of the power of Christ and of His gift of eternal salvation. He reported that during 1951, 162 evangelistic campaigns were conducted within the Division. During the nine months covered by the report for the year 1952, 177 similar efforts were conducted. It is estimated that 140 evangelistic campaigns will commence during the first three months of the year 1953. Brother Bradley also reported briefly upon his visit to the West African Union Mission, where, during the course of a five-month stay in addition to conducting a public campaign and a school of evangelism in Kumasi, he held five ministerial institutes. He reported having visited other sections of the Division in connection with his work and stated that at the present time he is associating with Pastor G. E. Vandeman in the London campaign. He closed by calling attention to the Reading Course books issued from the Association from time to time and urged that all workers strive to secure these and give them careful study.

MEDICAL

THE Division Medical secretary and superintendent of Skodsborg Sanitarium introduced his report by stating that throughout the Division there were twelve major health institutions, employing approximately 1,000 doctors, nurses, and other workers, as well as five clinics and dispensaries, employing 100 nurses, helpers, and doctors. Dr. Andersen made reference to the early struggles in establishing the Skodsborg Sanitarium. The lack of means for development, the many perplexities arising from this lack of capital, as well as other difficulties constantly pressing upon the workers, made for very arduous labour. The mainstay of the

workers in all their struggles was their unfailing confidence in God. Out of all the travail of those early days has come the institution which to-day gives such satisfaction to all. Before closing his report, Dr. Andersen related the story of the German occupation of the institution and the providential ways in which the Lord safeguarded the institution and its workers until the day of liberation came, which permitted the free reorganization of the work along the lines we value so highly to-day.

Included in the doctor's report were some interesting statistics relating to the institutions under the care of the Medical Department of the Division. These will appear in a later issue.



PUBLISHING

A PROGRESSIVE group of administrators such as constitute this Council do not need to be convinced of the place our publishing work fulfils and will continue to fulfil in the comprehensive and progressive programme of evangelism.

The Division Publishing Department continues to be able to report remarkable progress in the field of publishing the message. The Publishing Department exists in order to promote the sale of message-filled literature and its purpose is to increase and inspire and build up the means of production.

You may remember that at our last Council we reported the gains and progress made for the nine-month period closing in September, 1951. We are now able to give a little fuller picture indicating the progressive trends since 1950, when the Division and this department were enlarged and re-organized.

At the time of reorganization—that is, at the close of 1950—there were just about 300 colporteurs in the Division territory. The year 1951 closed with 340 colporteurs.

In 1952, at the end of the nine months, we report 368 colporteurs.

The year 1951, with total sales of \$702,614.61, showed a gain of \$103,113 over 1950.

In the year 1952, for nine months, we report a total sales of \$584,769, a gain of \$66,030 on 1951 for the first nine months.

In thinking of these outstanding gains in literature sales it must be remembered

that most of our literature is what we call message literature, and these gains represent a tremendous number of books and papers entering the homes of the people through the faithful efforts of our colporteur ministry.

Another outstanding and encouraging fact is that every union field in the Division reports a gain in literature sales for the first nine months of 1952.

West Africa shows tremendous gains in sales for the first nine months of 1952 and already has almost reached its goal of £10,000 sales for the year. The growth of our literature ministry, under the able leadership of D. L. Chappell in that important field, is one of the most encouraging features of our work.

The achievements of our student colporteurs this last vacation period have again been most stimulating, indicating that many of our future workers in the field are learning the basic principles of evangelistic service in the practical field of literature evangelism. The scholarship results in the Netherlands showed a remarkable increase and in Britain the figures were the best on record.

While speaking of Britain and Newbold College, mention should be made of the "open door" now offered to our overseas students desirous of attending Newbold College and engaging in colporteur service on a scholarship basis. I quote from the official letter received from the Government office:

"The Secretary of State has carefully reviewed the question in the light of your representations, and in view of your assurance that this activity forms part of the students' missionary training and is not in the nature of commercial practice, he is prepared to re-consider his previous decision and to raise no objection to students who have been admitted to this country for full-time religious training at the Newbold Missionary College, engaging in colportage for short periods as part of their religious training."

This decision will mean much to our overseas students planning to secure entry to Newbold College. Incidentally, overseas student colporteurs have enjoyed excellent success while engaging in colporteur work in Britain in previous years.

In addition to the regular and student institutes around the Division territory, the department has conducted a publishing survey throughout the home unions of the Division.

During July and August, Pastor E. E.

Franklin, associate secretary of the General Conference Publishing Department, was with us in our Division territory. Surveys were held in every local conference and publishing house in our home unions. The entire field of publishing activity was covered as well as the whole of our territory from Southern Ireland to Northern Norway. Seventeen local conference headquarters and six publishing houses were visited during the itinerary.

The co-operation of all the brethren concerned was helpful and in every instance the information freely given made the survey work worth while. We believe that with this over-all view of our publishing programme, and of the specific problems in each field, we shall be able to build a profitable agenda for the forthcoming Division publishing council.

The recent survey committees were a source of encouragement and enlightenment. One outstanding fact emerged—where we have strong, efficient, and well-organized leadership, our publishing programme is progressive and successful. We have had some excellent reactions to our survey work throughout Northern Europe, and I feel confident that the contacts we made and the counsel given will prove to be most profitable.

Tribute should be paid to our energetic field leaders throughout the territory and to our faithful colporteurs who make such gains in literature sales possible. Our publishing houses and production men continue to do an excellent job in supplying literature of a high quality worthy of the great purpose and objective to which our literature is dedicated.

We go forward into our task with an increasing, consecrated desire to see our objectives realized in every field of our territory.

MORE COLPORTEURS

MORE EFFICIENT COLPORTEURS

MORE EVANGELISTIC SERVICE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS THROUGH OUR COLPORTEURS.

G. D. KING.

~~~~~  
 What we give, He takes;  
 What He takes, He cleanses;  
 What He cleanses, He fills;  
 And what He fills, He uses.  
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Catching the vision of youth leadership. MV Officers' Camp in Finland, 1952.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER

She was just a fair-haired, blue-eyed girl of thirteen years attending our recent conference session in Tampere, Finland. She accompanied me down the street one evening and talked in broken English. She said that she was the only Adventist in her family and she was to be baptized next morning. I could see she wanted to say something more. There was something in her heart that must be said. As we were about to separate she put her hand out to me and with tears glistening in her eyes and with a beautiful sincerity shining on her youthful face said, "Pastor Minchin, I will give all my youth to God." Next morning I saw her robed in white standing in the baptismal waters, publicly declaring her faith in her Saviour.

This dear girl's sincere and beautiful consecration is typical of what we are seeing among our youth right throughout our Northern Division. Never were they more willing and eager to respond to the call of God. Surely this must be one of the most heartening things we see in our work to-day. We see it in all of our colleges and institutions and churches.

This year, in our largest sanitarium in the denomination, here at Skodsborg, where we have nearly 300 youth employed, there was witnessed during a youth Week of Prayer, the most remarkable response to the call for consecration ever seen in this institution.

A new spirit of youthful witnessing is seen in many places. In Denmark, England, and Norway a wonderful work is being done by our youth in gathering hundreds of children and youth off the streets of our towns and cities into Sunday schools.

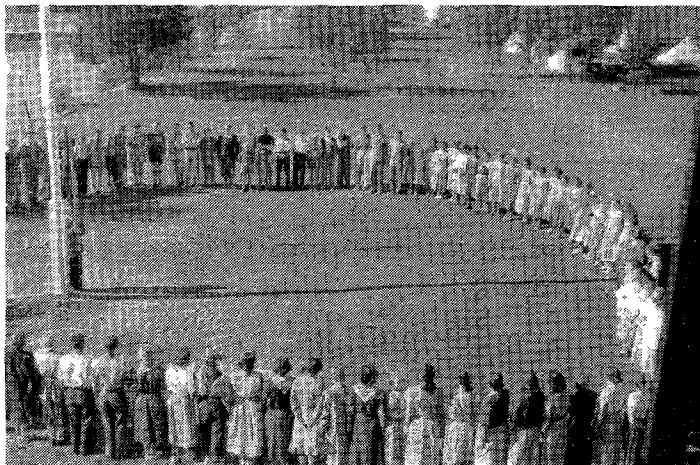
In West Denmark alone, over 900 have been enrolled in the Sunday schools. This year a special camp for these children was held at Vejlefjord, Denmark. Down in our West African Mission field, 7,000 Advent youth are bearing a wonderful witness and sharing their faith. They are conducting 115 Branch Sabbath schools in that one union. One lad in Sierra Leone, who had himself only been in the message three months, went back to his heathen village with a passion to take the Gospel to his people. He and his young brother raised a Sabbath school of eighty-four members. They had no church in which to hold the Sabbath school, so these two boys set to work and built their own church. Fourteen of the eighty-four Sabbath-school members are now baptized.

We have this summer witnessed an outstanding series of youth camps in our Division, where the spirit of consecration and youth evangelism was everywhere manifested. At our camp in beautiful Telemark, South Norway, nearly 300

youth were present. It was an evangelistic camp. Over forty of our own youth and juniors asked for baptism. Our young people also visited the neighbourhood, inviting the youth to our evening meetings. The tent was crowded each night with many non-Adventist youth present. They caught the spirit of the Advent youth and joined in their inspirational singing. Even the dancers from a nearby country dance hall came and listened and joined in the singing.

The last night of the camp witnessed a remarkable praise and testimony meeting. To climax it all, two splendid youth from the neighbourhood (seventeen and eighteen years of age) declared their decision for the truth. One boy has been a prominent youth worker in the State church and comes from an influential home. He electrified the audience, many of whom were from the community, by coming boldly to the platform and giving his testimony. He told of the influence the Advent message and youth had had upon him and of his conviction that they had the truth. He said that he represented many thinking youth to-day who were sincerely looking for people who proclaimed the truth and had a message to give to the world. He made a powerful appeal to the people of the community to study the Adventist message. Other non-Adventist youth were deeply impressed. This is an example of what our youth camps can do for non-Adventist youth. Even the dancers caught the "spirit" of the Advent youth, for at one o'clock in the morning the strains of "It Is Morning in My Heart" came floating from the hall nearby!

From all over the Division reports are coming in of the zeal of our youth in house-to-house visitation. In Bergen, Norway, each Saturday night, our young



Beginning the day with God at Telemark Youth Camp, South Norway.

people take a gramophone and visit the homes of the people. They have a selection of sacred records which they play. After talking with the family they ask if they can have prayer. In this way many homes have been entered.

At our Hultafors Sanitarium, in Sweden, our young people are witnessing. Last winter they went to a nearby village each Sabbath, visiting the homes and securing enrolments for the Bible Correspondence Course. The result is that two souls are keeping the Sabbath and attending the sanitarium church. One is a mother whose three boys have joined the JMV class. This winter the youth are planning with their church pastor to conduct public meetings in another nearby village.

The young people of Oslo are conducting their own evangelistic effort this winter in the outskirts of the city. They have been granted permission by the conference committee. Our Oslo youth have very enthusiastically and effectively taken part in two previous efforts.

It is an inspirational sight to attend the great London campaign and see the splendid contribution that our youth are making. For many weeks hundreds have enthusiastically engaged in house-to-house visitation. Scores of eager, Advent youth are present at each meeting, singing in the choir, and assisting with the ushering.

Never have our colleges been filled with more promising and responsive youth than we find this year in our schools. One hundred out of one hundred and fifty colporteurs in the field in Finland this summer were our young people from Toivonlinna College. One boy in his teens sold 112,000 Finnish marks' worth of orders in one week. Another lad sold 120,000 marks' worth in one week. That means that they



A "Jordan" in the Arctic Circle. Youth Camp near Narvik, North Norway.

both won their scholarship within a week!

Even our juniors are doing exploits for their God. A little girl of twelve years in the Turku church, Finland, sold 400 Ingathering papers last autumn. This was by far the best in the whole church.

Terho Paavilainen is one of our consecrated boys in Tampere, Finland. I met him at the youth camp recently. His constant smile and cheerful, courageous disposition immediately attracted my attention. I was told that he is regarded as the best student in the High School at Tampere. When he first went there he had great difficulty over the Sabbath as all schools are open on Sabbath morning. Even the priest from the State church who gave religious instruction in the school endeavoured to persuade the boy to go to school on Saturday. The priest said: "I do not think you have any convictions regarding religion and the Sabbath. You are an Adventist only because your parents

keep the Sabbath." The boy immediately stood up and said: "No, sir, you are wrong. I do not keep the Sabbath just because my parents keep it. I will keep the Sabbath because it is required of me in God's Holy Word and it is one of God's commandments." The boy's remarkable stand in defence of his faith and his open declaration of his convictions before all the students greatly impressed the principal, with the result that the boy has Sabbath privileges and is not required to go to school on that day. His younger brother is now attending the same school with the same privileges. The principal told the president of our conference that they are the best boys in the school and he said: "We want you to tell your people that any Seventh-day Adventist boy will be welcome to the school and will have perfect liberty concerning his Sabbath."

Early this year it was my privilege to spend eleven weeks visiting our youth in the fast-growing West African Mission field, where 4,500 Advent youth are doing wonderful things for God and the truth. I attended in East Nigeria a youth leadership camp in the jungle—the first of its kind in West Africa. Nearly 100 of Nigeria's youth leaders were present. Here I associated with Brother D. V. Cowin, the West African Union MV Secretary, and Brother J. Meade, the East Nigerian MV secretary, in this intensive work of instruction for the East Nigerian youth leaders.

The MV Courses have taken a strong hold upon our youth in West Africa. It was my privilege to attend more Investiture services in two months in this country than I have done in a similar period during my whole experience. This is a splendid testimony to the vision and ser-



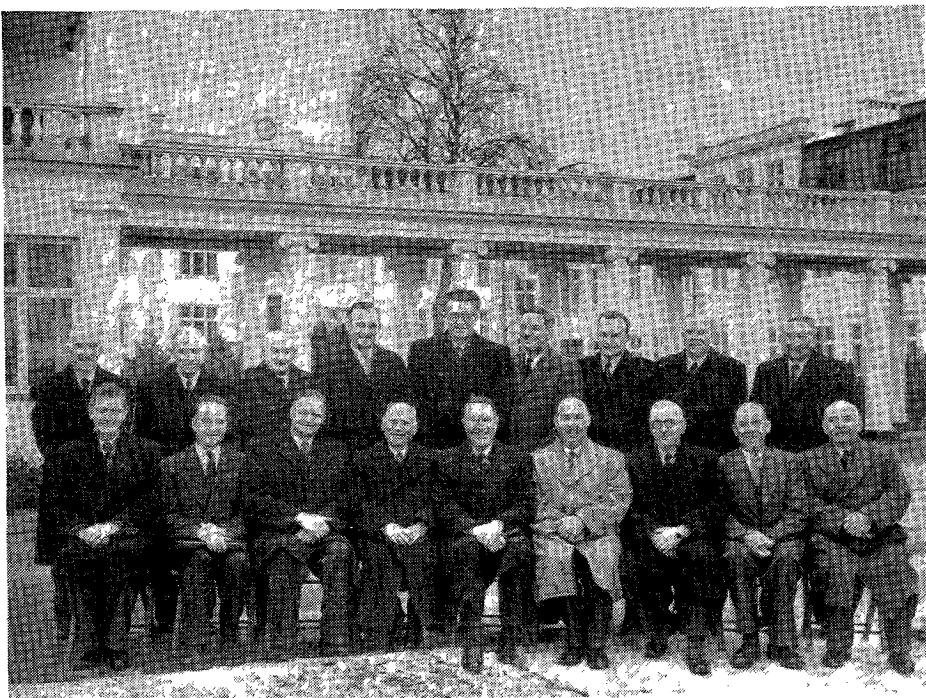
"Nekamen."
A typical Finnish farewell at our Youth Camp at Mikkelei, Finland.

vice that our leaders in this field are giving to our youth.

We thank God for the group of loyal, devoted youth leaders we now have in this Division. We believe that our conference workers are coming more and still more to recognize that to save and hold our youth and children is evangelism of the first order and that such a work requires the leadership of especially qualified and devoted men. In this day, when great causes are challenging the hearts and inspiring the

loyalties of the youth of our countries, this church must provide an equally inspiring leadership for its youth. From this leadership we can count on the overwhelming support and loyalty of our young people. Yes, our youth in Northern Europe are on the march and will not fail the church in this last hour. They are "northern lights" indeed. With their fellow youth around the earth we believe they will yet bear a witness that will astonish the world.

E. L. MINCHIN.



THE DIVISION COMMITTEE

Seated.—E. L. Minchin, L. M. Hamilton, G. A. Lindsay, A. V. Olson (General Conference), A. F. Tarr, R. H. Adair (General Conference), E. B. Rudge, A. Karlman, G. D. King.
Standing.—W. R. A. Madgwick, O. J. Olsen, E. Bjaanes, A. Lohne, W. W. Armstrong, J. O. Gibson, A. Varmer, K. Tilstra, C. Gidlund.

Highlights from the Union Presidents' Reports

WEST NORDIC UNION

DURING the first ten months of 1952, 303 persons were received into church fellowship in the West Nordic Union. We are far from satisfied with this number, but we are glad to know that this figure is eighty-five per cent larger this year than last, and the prospects for a future harvest of souls look promising. Forty-one evangelists, assisted by twenty-eight Bible workers, have begun public efforts, and in most places the interest is good. Several

workers have conducted two or three efforts in different places. In addition to this, seventeen lay-workers conducted public efforts.

Our present membership is 8,451.

The different departments and branches of our organization all work toward a greater evangelistic programme. The Sabbath-school and MV Departments work closely together on the Sunday-school project. Almost 1,500 non-Adventist children study each Sunday the Adventist Sabbath-

school lesson, which gives promise of a rich harvest. Already several parents have become interested in the message through the Sunday schools. Most of this splendid work is done in Denmark, but our departmental secretaries, Brethren C. Jordal and D. Guldhammer, are working hard to spread it all over the union.

Our two Bible Correspondence Schools are doing a good work. During the first three quarters of this year, 45,506 lessons have been sent out to the students. The influence of these lessons is being felt more and more. The schools not only receive letters of appreciation, but begin to see converts received into church fellowship as a result of the work. The Danish school reports forty-nine new members won so far this year, and the Norwegian school thirty-two.

The Bible schools seem to be the medium through which every churchmember can take an active part in the work. Tens of thousands of enrolment cards have been printed, and the Home Missionary Department is busily organizing its forces to enter every home with these invitations.

Our two publishing houses are producing ammunition for the soldiers at the front, and are spreading thousands of silent witnesses all over the field. During the first ten months of this year about 50,000 books have gone out to the homes, and more than 2,000,000 magazines and tracts. During the past few weeks, dozens of part-time canvassers have been enrolled as a result of an intensive campaign by the publishing secretaries.

Our Ingathering campaign was a great success this year. As far as I know this is the first time the union has reached its goal within six weeks. By the end of October the increase over 1951 was \$10,623.25.

The most encouraging thing about this campaign is first of all that it becomes more and more a soul-winning campaign. Not only does the money strengthen the work in foreign fields, but hundreds of students are enrolled in the Bible schools. In Denmark over five hundred students have been enrolled as a result of the campaign this year. Secondly, it gives good promise for the future that our young people are taking part so eagerly in the Ingathering. As an example let me mention that the teachers and students at Vejleford School gathered \$1,800 during an intensive three-day campaign, and the young people of Oslo MV Society doubled their goal and gathered \$1,695.

We have been working hard this autumn to find another locality for our training

school in Norway, and we have a couple of promising projects under consideration. The students from Norway are now studying at Vejlejord Højskole in Denmark. Two of the Norwegian teachers have joined the staff at the school. In close co-operation with the leadership and the Danish teachers, a plan has been worked out so that the students from both countries receive a training that not only prepares them for our work, but also enables them to pass the State examination (Realeksamnen).

Vejlejord Training School is filled to the limit this year, having ninety Danish and forty Norwegian students. In the dormitory, up to five students are occupying the same room. But in spite of crowded buildings, the spirit is high, and we believe the school year will be a very good one.

We have fifteen church-schools, some in each conference of the union. There are 391 students in attendance with twenty-four teachers in charge. The operation of these schools is a heavy financial burden on the conferences, but this form of evangelism will pay well in the long run.

At Koge, in East Denmark, a new church was dedicated about a month ago. It is only a small one, having a seating capacity of fifty persons, but it is very nice and inviting.

For some time we have had an old people's home in Denmark. It is situated near Skodsborg and is under the direction of the Nordic Philanthropic Society. Through the years it has done a wonderful work for Adventists in their advancing years.

We are now glad to report that the first old people's home in Norway was dedicated at the beginning of 1952. It is located near the city of Trondheim, in beautiful surroundings on that fjord. The large building was erected by the occupying troops during the last war, and was intended to be a recreation place for their leading officers. Now it is a place for grand old men and women of the church!

The place was bought for \$11,250, which was the price fixed by the authorities. After our churchmembers in the city of Trondheim had spent much of their spare time working and repairing the building, the value has gone up from \$11,250 to \$23,250. Not one cent has come from Division funds for this project. All the money used so far has come from our churchmembers in Norway. When everything is fixed up as it should be, the home will have room for

about thirty patients and the necessary workers.

The clinic in Tromsø, Norway, was dedicated last summer. It is still early to say much about this outstanding project in the far north, but so far everything is going along nicely. The sick who have experienced healing from treatments given at the clinic have spread the news like wild fire. Consequently applications accumulate, and people are begging to be put on the waiting lists. During the month of October, 2,500 persons were given 4,000 treatments. The treasurer wrote some time ago that they have enough patients on the waiting lists to fill every bed in the clinic for months to come. The blessings of the Lord seem to rest upon this last addition to our health work.

We are very glad to have Skodsborg Badesanatorium within the borders of the West Nordic Union. Its brilliant leaders, doctors, and other employees do a wonderful work for the hundreds of patients coming to this large institution. Let me just mention that from this place ninety-nine smaller clinics and health institutions have grown up all over the West Nordic Union.

The union associate medical secretary, Brother Bjarne Röst, has, in close co-operation with Skodsborg, worked hard to have the masseuses and the masseurs recognized by the State. At last that goal seems to be within reach.

The sanitarium is doing quite well financially, and it was a pleasure to receive a cheque of \$3,000 for tithe a couple of weeks ago. Half of this money goes to the East Nordic Union.

Speaking about money, we are glad to report an increase in tithe of \$22,179.47 and in mission offerings of \$13,355.04.

We thank the Lord for what He has done through the humble efforts of the workers and believers in the West Nordic Union. We know He has greater plans for a greater work in the coming year. May His plans and His will be done through ready and willing instruments!

ALF LOHNE.

EAST NORDIC UNION

IN PRESENTING this report I should like to state that all of our workers are of good courage and faithful to their calling to preach the Advent message.

During the first nine months of this year we have had the pleasure of baptizing and welcoming into the church 303 new members, in spite of the fact that three of

our successful evangelists have been out of the work for a year, and a fourth had to finish off his effort in the month of March. However, now they are at work again with renewed strength and courage.

The tithe in our union shows a small decrease from \$206,899.60 in 1951 to \$194,030.20 in 1952. In reality, however, there has been an increase both in Sweden and Finland, as the tithe in Sweden amounted to \$102,316 and in Finland to \$91,712. The apparent decrease in the total amount is due to the new General Conference rate of exchange.

The mission offerings, however, were large enough to more than offset the lower rate of exchange and show an increase from \$64,535.60 to \$67,205. This is of course a source of encouragement and joy, and we thank God for it.

The Ingathering also has proved a success, though it has been trying for our brethren and sisters to walk day after day in the rain. All the conferences have passed their goals. The latest report showed a total of \$54,449. For this we thank God and our faithful membership.

Our literature work continues to grow. We have almost reached the sum of \$300,000 in literature sales. This is due to the large and faithful group of about 100 colporteurs in Finland. God bless all these faithful workers!

At our two schools we have an enrolment of 148 students, fifty in the Swedish school and ninety-eight in the Finnish school.

Our five sanitariums have accomplished a very good work. At Nyhyttan every autumn we have so-called "County Council patients." This year we had ninety such guests and a real revival took place among them. The chaplain had the privilege of preaching the message to them every day during the month that they stayed at Nyhyttan, and favourable results have already been evident.

The chaplain at Hultafors has also had many interesting experiences with guests who have hungered after peace with God. He has been asked constantly to visit these helpless, searching ones. Truly our sanitariums perform an excellent work breaking down many prejudices. The following experience is an example of this: The manager at Hultafors was out selling the mid-winter number of "Tidens Tecken." He called at the office of a business man and offered him the paper. At first he refused, but on hearing that our brother had come from Hultafors, the business man said, "I will have ten copies." Yes, it is thus that we find the way to the hearts of the people.

During the Week of Prayer and Sacrifice a patient gave \$800 to missions.

We are happy to have been able to acquire five buildings and to convert them into church halls. Most of our churches have for many years been guests and strangers without a meeting place of their own, so that it is high time that we endeavour to provide them with spiritual homes.

While we ask for forgiveness for what we have in times past failed to do, we cannot but praise God and thank Him for what He has accomplished through us and for us.

C. GIDLUND.

NETHERLANDS UNION

WE ARE thankful to our heavenly Father who has bestowed upon us His blessings during the year 1952. At the end of 1951 we had a total membership of 2,175. During the last nine months 114 have been added to the church. During the same period, however, we regret that there was a loss of eighty-nine due largely to the straightening up of the church records.

Our tithes were a little less this year, but all other offerings show an increase for which we are thankful. Harvest Ingathering for nine months of 1952 has thus far amounted to \$6,809, showing a gain of \$3,983 over 1951. There are still reports to come in for the end of this year which we hope will be the best year so far.

A small group of about twenty-three colporteurs have sold in nine months a total of \$15,926 worth of literature. Our students have also sold \$5,785 worth of literature, making a total value of \$21,711. We need many more colporteurs.

Our Sabbath schools have shown an improvement over previous years, not only in offerings but also in attendance.

We are placing in the hands of every teacher a translated outline for each lesson, taken from the *Sabbath-School Worker*, and this is greatly appreciated. An outline of the children's lessons is also being sent out.

Our staff of workers is not as large as we would like, but we are happy that we could employ four young men and four young women this autumn. They were trained in our own school and are doing excellent work. One young man is in charge of a new territory where an interest has been started through the Bible Correspondence School. We now have organized a group there, some have already been baptized, and others soon will follow.

Our Radio and Bible Schools have been

doing excellent work. Prejudice has been broken down and a large number of people rejoice in the truth. Our colporteurs find it easier to enter homes by mentioning the radio broadcasts of The Voice of Hope.

According to the latest figures, about forty people have been baptized this year who first came in contact with us through the Voice of Hope. More than 3,000 new students were enrolled during this year and a large number of names have been sent to the different workers for further study.

Quite a number of our workers are holding public meetings. Most encouraging reports have come to us. Pastor v. Oossanen, president of the North Netherlands Conference, is holding meetings in three different places. He is planning to continue after the new year and has a number of interested people. Brother Vink, MV and H.M. secretary, has conducted a series of lectures in Amsterdam and a good interest has developed. Pastor De Ruiter has

THERE is perfect happiness in perfect obedience if we have perfect confidence in the One we obey.

also conducted meetings in three different places. He is kept busy following up the interest. Several of the younger workers are helping him. I am holding an effort in The Hague, and the meetings have been well attended. Most of the other workers are holding an effort in their respective places and all report good results.

We earnestly pray that the Lord may bless these united efforts in order that a large number of souls may be prepared to meet the Lord in peace when He comes in the clouds of heaven. The work in the Netherlands is not easy because the people in general are well satisfied with their own religion. However, the message must be preached in this country and we believe that the Lord has still a great number of honest souls who must be prepared for His coming. We ask an interest in your prayers that we may be able to carry out the Lord's command.

K. TILSTRA.

BRITISH UNION

IN PRESENTING his report Pastor W. W. Armstrong gave a brief review of the work of the British institutions. Progress was reported in each case. The Stanborough Press sales in ten months of 1952 were £81,716, which is £5,867 more than the corresponding period last year. The Granose Foods Ltd. has effected sales to

the sum of £117,000 in 1952, which is £20,000 over the previous year. Considerably more patronage has been experienced in the Stanboroughs Hydro this year than previously, but higher costs and wages will prevent this institution from showing a profit this year. There will be a loss similar to last year.

At the College at Newbold almost 100 students are enrolled and a good spirit exists there. During the summer fifty students went into the colporteur field, and forty returned with scholarship benefits. They enrol Voice of Prophecy students as they go. One student secured fifty-one enrolments.

The Voice of Prophecy School continues to grow strongly and is an effective agency in the field of evangelism. Enrolments this year so far are 12,058, compared with 7,010 in 1951. Gifts have increased from £847 to £1,510.

In Wales a new youth hall has been erected in Newport, while in the north interests have developed in a blind school where three or four pupils are expected to be baptized shortly. In Catholic Ireland, where much prejudice exists, the splendid report of seventeen baptisms was given and at the present moment studies are being given to forty non-members. Turning to Scotland we find a group of young men who are evangelically-minded. The medical work there has been strongly represented by Dr. Brown, who has given much service to the campaigns. Recently a good campaign in Glasgow has been started, where over 1,000 people are hearing the message.

In the industrial north a strong plan of evangelism is being conducted, although at the present time six of their best workers are connected with the London campaign. A vigorous evangelistic campaign is planned for 1953 under Pastor T. J. Bradley in Birmingham.

In the south of England several good campaigns are being conducted, apart from the big London effort. Notably a strong campaign in Ipswich is being conducted for the second year by Pastor S. G. Hyde. The London campaign, under the leadership of Pastor G. E. Vandeman, is proving a big attraction, and the influence of this effort is widespread. Weekly 1,500 people are attending after three months of meetings. The integrated organization has included the churches of London and the enthusiasm evoked has spread to many other churches, where widespread distribution of bills and V.O.P. cards in con-

junction with spearhead campaigns is producing good results.

An extensive evangelistic programme has been mapped out in the British Union, covering four to five years, and there is a wide-awake interest in our planning by the loyal membership. Great things are being attempted for God and great things are being expected from Him. Time is short and 52,000,000 people must be warned. Now is the day of Britain's salvation. We need all the help that can be given and above all we, as Advent Britishers, need to be clothed fully with the armour of Christ's righteousness.

WEST AFRICAN UNION MISSION

I BRING you greetings, and a hearty thanks, from our more than 35,000 Sabbath-school members in West Africa. Our overseas workers send greetings. Although some have suffered sickness, yet they are of good courage. They, with the African leaders, are striving hard to finish God's work in our field. More and more responsibility is being placed on the Africans.

All departments of our work are progressing well. I thank God for my strong co-labourers. Brother G. L. Annis, the secretary-treasurer, gives strong support to our large programme. Brother D. L. Chappell is giving a strong lead to our Publishing, Sabbath-school, Press Relations, and the Ingathering programme. The Publishing Department, which is only a few years old, has a sales goal of £10,000 for the year. At the end of October the sales had already reached £9,454. This was a gain of about £4,000 over the same period in 1951. Ninety-one newspaper articles appeared in newspapers about our work during the first ten months of this year. We expect to well exceed our £5,000 Ingathering goal this year. Our campaign is now on.

Brother D. V. Cowin heads our Educational and MV Departments. He is giving strong leadership. Our MVs are on the march winning many souls to Christ. Thousands are being invested in the progressive classes. More than 10,000 children are in our mission schools. Our two training schools have 170 students enrolled. For years we have been struggling along with no secondary schools. Our young men have therefore fallen far behind educationally as compared with those in other denominations. We have set out to open two secondary school departments in connection with

our two training schools. These two schools will cost approximately £79,000. Building costs in Africa are high. We thank the General Conference and Division for the generous help given last year. We have set a goal in our field of £20,000, which we will endeavour to raise in the next three years. I think you will realize this is an enormous amount for one African union to raise. We are requesting the Division for £39,000, spread over the next three years, to help us complete this project which means so much to the future of our work. Without it we cannot train suitable workers for our fields.

Our Voice of Prophecy Bible School is progressing well. Nearly 40,000 have enrolled since we started in 1948. There are many interests and we are calling a Radio secretary to sponsor radio work and spend the major part of his time following up those interests. Our radio broadcast from Liberia is receiving many favourable comments and bringing our message before many well educated people.

In January, 1952, we held our first union constituency meeting. Eighty-four attended from all over the union. About sixty of these were Africans. It was encouraging to see the fine way they took the responsibility in planning an advanced evangelistic programme. Plans were made for every overseas worker, every teacher, evangelist, institutional worker, and many laymen to join in evangelism in 1952.

OPERATION MILLE-WON

One great feature of our work this year was first an all-out evangelistic drive, including all of our working force and many laymen. These new converts will be baptized in later years after careful preparation. Secondly, we planned a big baptismal day for September 6th when we hoped that 1,000 might be won or rather joined to the body of Christ by baptism. We did not hold members back any length of time for this occasion. We baptized over 1,000 in

our field before that day. We did plan, however, to have baptisms in just as many churches as possible throughout the entire union on that day. Examinations were to be conducted the week before and then the pastors were to travel from village to village and have several baptisms on that one day. We worked hard and prayed earnestly that God would reward our faith with 1,000 souls. We thank God, He did. Our pastors worked very hard on that day. Many travelled many miles by car, motor cycle, bicycle, and on foot. There was joy in their hearts and I am sure there was joy in heaven. When the total reports were in there were 1,124 souls. God has been wonderful to us. To Him be the honour and glory.

DOUBLING OUR MEMBERSHIP

With God on our side we are working and praying for the doubling of our membership in four years. Our membership at the end of June, 1950, was 8,424. Our baptisms in the two and a quarter years since have totalled 6,528, which is seventy-seven per cent gross increase. Our losses have been 1,238, giving us a net gain of 5,290 or about sixty-three per cent. We have 8,497 in our baptismal classes and 35,288 in our Sabbath schools. During the first three quarters of this year 2,444 have been buried with their Lord in baptism. We thank God for the measure of success He has given. We thank you for your generous offerings which make this possible. My heart goes out to-night, however, to our population of forty million, most of which have not heard our message. What are so few converts among so many? Surely we must find new means to reach these. We must have a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We solicit an interest in your prayers that we may use the best methods, and then for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in order that we may quickly finish God's work and be gathered home.

"By God's help—

DOUBLE OR MORE BY '54."

J. O. GIBSON.

ETHIOPIAN UNION MISSION

W. S. JENSEN, the secretary-treasurer of the Ethiopian Union Mission, presented a most interesting picture of the work in that field. The following are excerpts from his report: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings." Isaiah 52:7. The whole empire of Ethiopia and Eritrea covers 5,000,000 square miles,



more than the size of Germany and France together. About half of the area is mountain country and by far the greater part of the inhabitants live there. It is there that the workers are located and are all working at an altitude of from 4,000 to 8,000 feet. So they are indeed proclaiming the Gospel (Good Tidings) upon the mountains. Scattered over this plateau are living approximately 15,000,000 people, about half of them belonging to the Coptic Church and one quarter to the Muslims. Another 5 millions are pagans and the rest belong to mission societies. The Coptic Church, which is the State church, has 17,000 to 18,000 churches and monasteries and they have approximately 200,000 priests attached to them. The Ethiopian Church, whose history goes back to the fourth century, calls itself a Christian church. But still we believe that God has many precious souls in Ethiopia who will receive the Advent message and follow it, and it is our duty to find ways and means to reach them. During the year sixty persons have been baptized and we report a little more than 800 members. This seems a small result, but when we consider conditions in Ethiopia it is understood.

At the annual meeting this year it was decided to evangelize our work in Ethiopia and plans were made for some campaigns. Pastor H. E. Davis was asked to go to Asmara, in Eritrea, to start a real evangelistic effort there, and it has proved to be a great success. Hundreds attended the meetings and so many people gathered outside the hall that the police had to come and control the crowds. Three times the meeting hall was filled on the first Sunday and even 500 children attended a special children's service. Besides this, special health talks and instruction have been given by Mrs. Davis, who is a registered nurse. Great numbers have already asked for baptism. At other places in Eritrea there is a strong evangelistic programme going on and our European workers, assisted by national workers, are doing a great work in proclaiming the message in this district. During 1952 we started work anew in Dessie, where we had made a beginning before the Italian invasion. The interest is being cared for by a national worker and he has been able to reclaim most of our former members there. In the Wollega district our working staff have conducted up to 150 Bible studies a day, besides special classes for women in home manage-

(Continued on back page.)



FORWARD in this MIGHTY HOUR!

© R. & H.

GRATITUDE AND RE-DEDICATION

WHEREAS, We are deeply conscious that it is only because of the Lord's divine mercy and rich blessing that we are enabled to render service to Him and are privileged to meet in such a Council as this, and

WHEREAS, We have received many evidences of God's blessing upon His church throughout our Division as seen in the loyalty and faithfulness of the membership in tithes and offerings and missionary service, and in the fruitage of souls won to the message, through the labours of His servants in home and mission fields,

Therefore Resolved, That we render heartfelt thanks to God for His manifest blessings and humbly and solemnly re-dedicate ourselves to Him and His service, beseeching Him to continually beget in us a sense of urgency in our task, and through our surrender to service, fill us more completely with His Spirit that His work might be speedily finished throughout our territory.

CALL TO EVANGELISM

We believe the time has come for the fulfilment of the following prediction by the messenger of the Lord:

"Servants of God with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given."—*Great Controversy*, pages 611, 612.

WHEREAS, This call to evangelism brings the Advent movement face to face with God's last summons to universal action; and

WHEREAS, Every resource in men and means must be harnessed now and utilized to the very best advantage, so that "terrible as an army with banners" we can "be strong

and do exploits" with a maximum efficiency and success,

Voted, 1. That division, union, and local field committees proceed immediately to survey their territories and marshal their forces with a view to organizing an over-all programme of integrated evangelism by which the total strength of the ministry, the activities of every department, and the resources of every institution shall be focused on soul-winning fruitage.

2. That local fields organize yearly institutes under the direction of the president and departmental secretaries at which this programme of integrated evangelism can be developed, soul-winning techniques presented, and church leaders trained more efficiently, thereby allowing ministers to devote their major time and interest to leadership of public evangelism and to rallying the church, the Sabbath-school, and the youth in concerted action.

3. That we encourage union and local committees to occasionally invite experienced evangelists to meet with them in counsel.

4. That when and where practicable, executive committees and boards arrange the duties of all credentialed and licensed workers so that they can conduct, or be associated with, at least one public effort yearly.

5. That an ever-increasing evangelistic mould be placed on our colporteur work, and that colporteur-evangelists be encouraged to co-operate with ministers in soul-winning by preparing the field with literature prior to a public evangelistic-campaign, by reporting the names and addresses of those who have purchased literature in the area, or who have manifested an interest in the message.

6. That every Seventh-day Adventist church be organized as an evangelistic centre in which a year-round programme of public evangelism is carried forward by either the conference worker or trained laymen, and that unless a major evan-

gelistic effort is conducted in the vicinity, an evangelistic service be held regularly in our churches each Sunday or other appropriate evening.

7. That the responsible leaders in local, union, and Division fields keep this programme of expanding evangelism constantly before their committees, workers, and churches, informing them of progress made in achieving the objective; and

WHEREAS, The best ministerial talent of the church must be encouraged to think evangelism, plan evangelism, and remain in public evangelism as a life work,

Voted, 1. That where yearly workers' meetings are organized they be held in such a way that a definite part of such meetings shall be reserved for a planned consideration of public evangelism and its problems.

2. That study be given to the organization, on the local, union, or Division level, of special evangelistic teams, for larger city evangelism, in which evangelistic workers of experience can continue with unchanging service, and that the assignments of these be worked out on a long-range basis, thus making better and more satisfactory planning possible for this evangelistic personnel.

3. That the programme of public evangelism be kept before the church as the essential activity to which all other activities must be contributory, care being taken lest it be overshadowed by other denominational undertakings or programmes.

4. That recognition be given to experienced evangelists called to leadership of teams on a union or Division level that will classify them along with other workers who carry major responsibilities in conference leadership.

EMPHASIS ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Alarming numbers of Advent youth, including many from homes of workers, attend non-Seventh-day Adventist schools with grave danger to their eternal salvation, and,

WHEREAS, The church is largely dependent upon our schools for consecrated and trained leaders, both lay and denominationally employed,

Voted, that the cause of Christian education be vigorously advanced by:

1. Placing renewed emphasis upon the responsibility of all denominational workers, both conference and institutional, to actively promote Seventh-day Adventist Christian education and to support it by sending their own children to our schools;

2. Appointing consecrated, enthusiastic secretaries to promote the work of Christian education in each union and local conference;

3. Urging our people, particularly parents and church officers, to own and study the book *Education*, which contains the pattern and philosophy of Christian education, and to urge the appropriate authorities to arrange, where necessary, for its translation

and abridgement, but not involving any omissions from the basic text;

4. Arranging that publishing houses and book and Bible houses have for sale the inexpensive Christian Home edition of *Education*.

MV DEPARTMENT RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, God has appointed the Missionary Volunteer organization as a mighty agency in the saving and training of our children and youth, and,

WHEREAS, there is a need for a regularly organized effort on the part of the church for its youth,

Voted, 1. That renewed emphasis be placed on the importance of establishing strongly organized MV Societies in every church where there is a sufficient number of children and youth.

2. That the church, through its MV Society Executive Committee, plan where possible for regular weekly meetings of the society, preferably during the Sabbath hours.

3. Where there is a danger of the regular MV Society programme being weakened during the summer months, we recommend the following:

(a) The careful selection of leaders and associate leaders who are able to give unbroken leadership through the year.

(b) The launching of a specially appealing summer programme including outdoor missionary projects, occasional outdoor MV Society meetings and social activities, such as camps, hikes, etc.

4. That we launch a programme of educating our society officers each year by means of local, district, and conference-wide conventions.

DUTIES OF MV OFFICERS

WHEREAS, There is a great need to stress among our youth the importance of establishing strong habits of daily Bible reading and prayer,

Voted, That all our MV Societies strongly promote the Loughborough League in 1953.

LITERATURE MINISTRY

WHEREAS, We believe that the time has now come when a great forward move in evangelism should take place throughout our whole Division territory, and

WHEREAS, Both practical experience and the counsel of the Spirit of prophecy indicate that "some will be reached by our literature who would not be reached in any other way. From our books and papers bright beams of light are to shine forth to enlighten the world in regard to present truth."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 8, page 87,

Voted, That earnest efforts be made to strengthen the witness of our literature

ministry throughout the Division territory by:

1. Maintaining an efficient and vigorous leadership in the Publishing Department of each union and local field.

2. Constantly bringing before our church membership the blessings that come to themselves and the fruitage that may be gathered by personal work with our literature amongst neighbours and friends.

3. Urging our conference workers to be ever ready to guide suitable candidates into the colporteur ministry, realizing that this service offers us an opportunity of greatly increasing our working force in each field without increasing our budgetary problems.

4. Continuing to produce message-filled literature in our publishing houses in an attractive form and at a marketable price, thus encouraging our colporteurs to continue with the sale of soul-winning literature.

WORK WITH THE PRESS

WHEREAS, The public press is opening wide to this denomination in many countries, and

WHEREAS, The extent to which we take full advantage of this powerful agency for advancing our work depends very largely on efficiency of organization, and on persons qualified to work intelligently with the press,

Voted, 1. That our leaders in union and local conferences give intensive study to the formation of plans and to obtaining effective and competent leadership for this work;

2. That in order to engage effectively in this specialized line of work we recognize the need of our ministers and other workers of having an understanding of successful press relations;

3. That arrangements be made in conferences for the holding of short training institutes with workers in which they may receive practical instruction, and benefit by exchange of experiences;

4. That the holding of one-day local church press secretaries' workshops be encouraged, and that these be held in places where lay groups may receive personal practical help in their local church press work;

5. That special study be given to the preparation of certain types of copy that feature points of truth for publication in newspapers on a paid advertising basis; the purpose of this being to arouse interest and to bring responses by way of requests for literature or for enrolment in one of our Bible correspondence courses.

SABBATH-SCHOOL AND MISSION EXTENSION OFFERINGS

WHEREAS, The needs of our overseas missions are increasing every year, and

WHEREAS, We believe that our faithful members are ever ready to support the extension of our mission programme;

Voted, 1. That in 1953 each union aim to increase its Sabbath-school Offerings by five per cent over its 1952 attainments.

2. That for the Missions Extension Campaign in 1953 we accept the following goals :

British Union Conference	£ 700
East Nordic Union	1625
Ethiopian Union Mission	25
Iceland Mission	25
Netherland Union	450
West African Union Mission	125
West Nordic Union	900
	£3850

HOME NURSING EDUCATION

WHEREAS, The church membership will be qualified to meet more effectively any emergency that might occur, especially in the last days of our church work, if every churchmember is equipped to do practical medical missionary work; therefore it is

Voted, 1. That the conference leadership be requested to promote an active plan for continuing home nursing instruction in their respective conferences.

2. That Seventh-day Adventist colleges and secondary schools be encouraged to make available Red Cross home nursing classes, Units I and II, as part of the schools' educational programme.

3. That Seventh-day Adventist medical institutions be asked to become (1) training centres for the preparation of home-nursing instructor-trainers and instructors, and (2) centres which promote an active home-nursing programme throughout their respective union conferences.

THE MINISTERIAL BOOK CLUB

WHEREAS, Through the Ministerial Book Club plan, the ministry and worker group of the Advent movement is unified in its study, objectives, and preparation for larger service; and,

WHEREAS, The 1953 volumes include the full reports of the Bible Conference, as well as other valuable sources of research;

Voted, That our conferences and institutions be urged to study sympathetically how to encourage and assist our workers to avail themselves of the undoubted benefits of the Ministerial Book Club plan.

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY BOOKS

REALIZING that the messages contained in the volumes of the Spirit of prophecy are needed in the churches to-day, and that a new generation has come into the churches that needs to be educated in respect to their need for these volumes, and in order to strengthen the faith and to build up the spirituality of our people by a more diligent reading of the Spirit of prophecy volumes,

Voted, 1. That at all of our annual conventions, conference meetings, and district

meetings, special emphasis be given to the importance of our people reading and studying the messages contained in the Spirit of prophecy writings; and

2. That ministers in all our churches be asked to preach one or more sermons each year on the subject of the Spirit of prophecy.

MEDICAL WORKERS AS CO-LABOURERS IN THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

WHEREAS, Christ calls the Christian medical worker to the work of soul saving: "Our physicians are to unite with the work of the ministers of the Gospel. Through their labours, souls are to be saved, that the name of God may be magnified."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 240, and

WHEREAS, We are instructed that all workers should stand as a unit: "If ever the Lord has spoken by me, He speaks when I say that the workers engaged in educational lines, in ministerial lines, and medical-missionary lines, must stand as a unit, all labouring under the supervision of God, one helping the other, each helping each."—*Counsels on Health*, page 394, therefore,

Voted, 1. That our Christian physicians, dentists, and other medical workers be recognized as co-labourers in the Gospel ministry, and that this close co-ordination between our medical workers and ministers of the Word be made effective by our medical workers being invited to workers' meetings in which soul-saving is discussed and planned for, and that at least once a year a medical ministerial meeting be held in each conference in which a sufficient number of medical workers are located, to make such a meeting possible; and that in addition to providing a time of fellowship for all concerned special emphasis at such meetings be placed on ways and means by which our ministers and medical workers may integrate their thinking, planning, and interests along soul-winning lines.

2. That our pastors and church officers be encouraged to use the talent and missionary spirit of our consecrated physicians and dentists in the various services and activities of the church, and that particularly for Medical Missionary Day, a special programme be arranged in which our physicians and dentists will have a part.

HEALTH LITERATURE

WHEREAS, There is much secular literature on the subject of health which is finding its way into the homes of many of our people that does not give a balanced picture of healthful living; and,

WHEREAS, We are instructed that "in teaching health principles" we are to "keep before the mind the great object of reform—that its purpose is to secure the highest development of body, mind, and soul"—*Ministry of Healing*, page 146; therefore it is

Voted, 1. That in order to obtain a sound and balanced concept of healthful living, we urge our people to secure where possible the Spirit of prophecy volumes which deal with the subject of healthful living, namely :

- a. *Ministry of Healing*.
- b. *Story of Our Health Message*.
- c. *Counsels on Health*.
- d. *Counsels on Diet and Food*.
- e. *Medical Ministry*.
- f. *Temperance*.

2. That we urge our churchmembers also to avail themselves of our other denominational health and temperance literature, such as our local denominational health magazines;

3. That through the union conference papers the attention of church members be drawn to the revised booklet by Ellen G. White, entitled, *A Call to Medical Evangelism*.

4. That *Medical Ministry* be translated into a Scandinavian language.

RELATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS TO WAR

THE following statement passed by the 1952 Biennial Council of the General Conference was, by the unanimous expression of the delegates, incorporated in the minutes of our own Council :

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a religious body that devotes its energies and resources exclusively to spiritual and humanitarian work. It teaches its members in every land to live blameless lives, to honour their country and obey its laws, and to deport themselves in every way as loyal, peaceable citizens. Very particularly, the church teaches its members to pray for the welfare of the state, and for its rulers, in accordance with the instruction of Christ and the holy apostles.

"In time of war Seventh-day Adventist churchmembers seek even more zealously to carry out these teachings. In many lands they offer group training in first-aid medical cadet service, and other forms of relief work, to enable them to give most effective assistance to the wounded, the sick, and the needy—the kind of assistance that they conscientiously believe they should give to their fellow-men and to their country.

"When called by their country, Seventh-day Adventists have ever been willing and ready to render faithful service, except as it involves training for, and engaging in, combat service and activities which would contribute to the taking of human life. They do not hesitate to risk their lives; they fear only to disobey God. And they believe they would be disobeying their conscientious Christian convictions if they took human life. The same holy apostles who instruct them to pray for rulers, also instruct them that they should obey God rather than man if there is a conflict between the two. Indeed, they do not know how they can give genuinely loyal service to their country unless they first are loyal to their God."

NEWS FLASH

We are happy to pass on word of the continued success of the evangelistic campaign in Asmara, Eritrea. Pastor Herman Davis, in association with his wife and some national workers, continues to build up the interest. Ere long he expects to report a large number of decisions.

Pastor Roger Coon and his wife passed through London recently on their way to Accra, West Africa. We extend a very warm welcome to these new members of the Division family working force. Pastor Coon is to serve in the West African Union Mission as Radio and Press Relations secretary.

On the S.S. *Aureol*, which sailed from Liverpool on January 1st, were Pastor and Mrs. Cowin and their daughter, Dorane. They have just concluded a period of furlough in the United States.

The superintendent of the Sierra Leone Mission, Pastor Edgar Keslake, together with his family, has recently returned to his field and is again busily engaged in the responsibilities of service in that difficult field.

Dr. Sherman Nagel, with his wife and three children, recently returned to the Ile-Ife Hospital, Nigeria, from their furlough in the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Farthing and family have recently spent several weeks in London whilst waiting for transportation to India. Brother Farthing has been appointed to evangelistic work in Madras, India.

The Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Gold Coast Mission, Elder J. C. Vetter, accompanied by his wife and children, recently passed through London on their way to spend their furlough in America.

A very successful colporteurs' institute has just been concluded at Stanborough Park, Watford. More than ninety colporteurs were in attendance at this meeting. It was conducted under the leadership of Brethren G. D. King and A. W. Cook.

A recent visitor to the Division office was W. H. Williams, Under-treasurer of the General Conference, who spent a few hours in London whilst on his way back to General Conference headquarters from a visit to the East.

Pastor A. F. Tarr, accompanied by Pastor G. A. Lindsay, is visiting the West

African Union Mission. They expect to attend the annual meeting of that union and make visits within the field. Later Pastor Tarr will proceed to Ethiopia.

The Division auditor, Brother A. Karlman, is also on an extended visit to the different missions in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

An educational survey is being conducted of our mission school enterprises in the Ethiopian Union Mission by Pastor E. E. Cossentine, the General Conference Educational secretary, and Dr. L. M. Hamilton. They plan to spend six weeks in carefully surveying the educational activities in this section of the Division.

INGATHERING GOALS FOR 1953

UNION	Goal in Local Currency	Goal in American Dollars
British Union	£ 35,000	98,000
East Nordic Union	Skr. 210,000	42,000
East Nordic Union	Fmk. 3,000,000	12,000
Ethiopian Union	E\$ 2,100	861
Iceland Mission	Ikr. 60,000	3,750
Netherland Union	Fl 31,500	8,505
West African Union	£ 5,000	14,000
West Nordic Union	DnKr. 370,000	55,500

Ethiopian Union Mission

(Continued from page 13.)

ment. It has helped a great deal in these efforts that we have had the Voice of Prophecy lessons printed in Amharic and Tigrinia, and many, especially the young people, are eagerly studying the truth in these languages.

The most important event during 1952 was the first graduation at our training school. Fourteen young people, who had been trained along evangelistic and educational lines, have now gone out as a strong asset to our working staff in the different parts of the country. It is our prayer that in the years to come these faithful young men may develop into strong leaders in the Ethiopian Union Mission.

All our schools have a full capacity enrolment and hundreds are begging to be enrolled. We carry on the progressive classes in the schools and during the year several investiture services have been held.

Also our hospital work is growing stronger and stronger in the Ethiopian field. Our hospital in Addis Ababa set up a new record this year and before long there will be a group of graduate national nurses from this good institution. From this hospital also goes out a strong evangelistic influence and our nurses and workers there are conducting several branch Sabbath schools.

Debre Tabor Hospital had, in the first eleven months of this year, twice as many in-patients compared with former years and it had 4,500 new people attending the clinic; and also for the first time in its history they reached the budgeted income. Every Sunday the Voice of Prophecy is broadcast in English over the Addis Ababa radio.

Plans for the future include the setting up of a printing press, for which the Division has kindly appropriated us a sum of money. We have permission from the Ethiopian government to operate this press and before long we hope to be able to produce our own message-filled literature, and then we hope to have many colporteur-evangelists taking the message to the millions who are waiting in the huts scattered over the Ethiopian mountains. It is also our great desire to open up work in the southern provinces, in the Somalilands, and the part of the Sudan which belongs to the Ethiopian Union. We solicit your prayers on behalf of our great task in the Ethiopian Union.

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

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- G. D. King ... *Publishing, Press Relations, Radio, and Religious Liberty*
- *Home Missionary*
- 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

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