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With Our Brethren in Poland

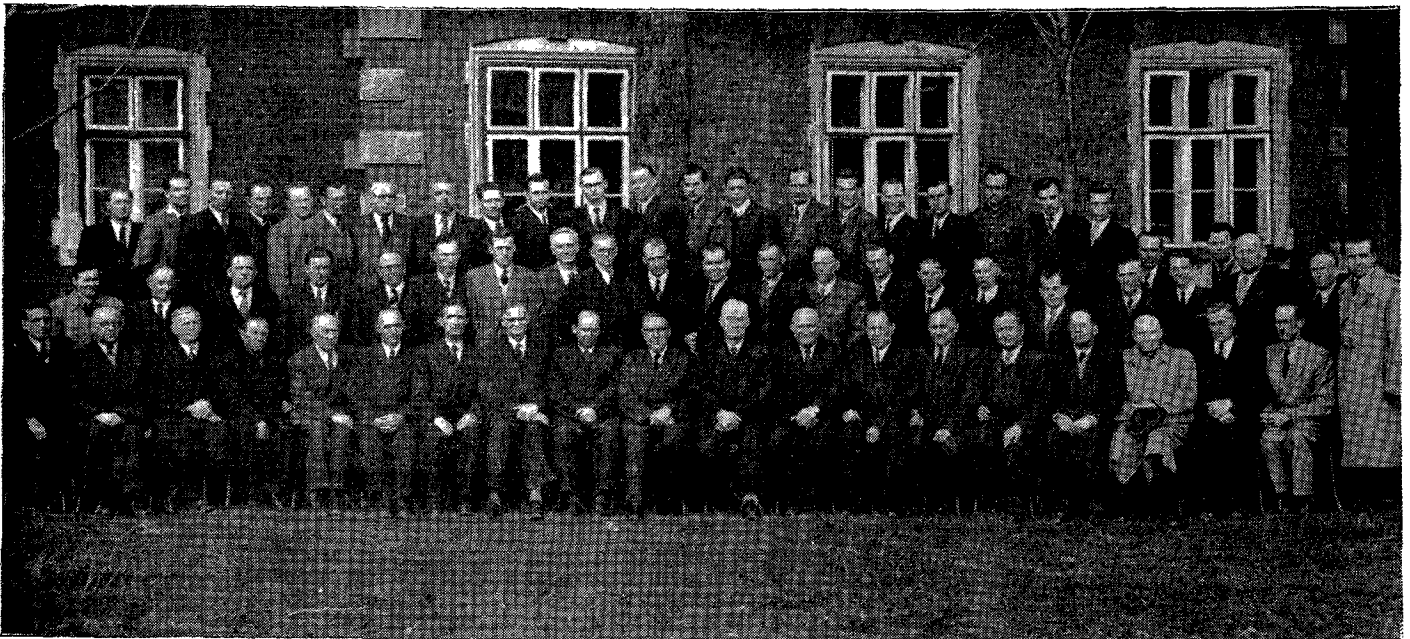
By A. F. TARR

LADEN with greetings from all parts of the Northern European Division, and from the General Conference, Elders G. A. Lindsay and A. C. Varmer and the writer stepped from a Polish Airways plane onto the Warsaw airport on the evening of March 28th. The distance from Copenhagen had taken only two and a half hours to cover, but it was a journey we had eagerly anticipated for many years. And judging by the heart-warming reception we received on the airport that

night, we were not the only ones who had longed for this event.

Completely oblivious to any Immigration and Customs restrictions, our workers gathered immediately about us, the officials looking on with remarkable indulgence. The workers had come from various parts of Poland. They had come with the accumulated fervour of eight years of waiting. Among them were F. Stekla, G. Baron, Jan Skrzypaczek, J. Borody, Bogden Maszczak, W. Siemienowicz, A. Kruk, E. Niedoba, S. Dabrowski, and J. Kulak. Then with a generosity and a dispatch that would rival any international airport in the world, the Customs and Immigration officials delivered us and our baggage into the hands of our waiting brethren.

Plans were immediately laid for our coming meetings, and our brethren drove us—in rented cars—into the city where arrangements had been made for our entertainment at No. 8, Foksal, the con-



A. F. Tarr, G. A. Lindsay and Axel Varmer meet with our Polish workers in Warsaw.

ference building which houses the union headquarters and the Warsaw church. Here our room was brightened by bunches of beautiful red and white (Poland's national colours) carnations that had been presented to us at the Warsaw airport.

For several days, our meetings with representative leaders continued, bringing understanding and rich blessings to us all. Midway during the discussions some of the leaders together with our overseas group met with Poland's Director and Assistant Director of Religious Affairs. A very sympathetic and understanding attitude toward our church problems was expressed, and we were assured of the State's interest in our work and its desire to ensure complete religious liberty to all of its citizens.

On that first week-end, meetings were held in the Warsaw church to which several hundred believers came from far and near. The following Sabbath found us at Bielsko, down near the Czechoslovakian border. Here our greatest congregation assembled. The largest hall the brethren had been able to rent had seats for 900. But an hour before Sabbath school convened, every seat was taken, and by the time Sabbath school began approximately 400 were standing and they continued to stand until 6.30 that evening when the meetings closed for the day. These meetings had followed each other in quick succession without any interval except for lunch.

The following day at Krakow several hundred other believers gathered in from surrounding churches. Here, as in Bielsko and Warsaw, the pleasure of again greeting fellow members from abroad was clearly evident on every face, and the hearty hand-grip—and in some cases the kiss—of our members in Poland is something not soon to be forgotten.

Our last meeting of all was at Bielsko Kamienica, where the Polish training school, now closed, was formerly operated. They told me that Elder H. L. Rudy was the first principal when the school opened here in about 1926. Here for our meeting were gathered seventy workers, constituting, with two or three absentees on account of illness, the entire working force of our church in Poland. For two days we met together discussing as we had done with the leaders in Warsaw, the

problems and differences that the brethren had confronted through the years. Prayers and tears mingled together as we reviewed the past, and as we faced the great task of presenting, with a united front, the Advent message to the 28 million people of Poland. Never has the writer witnessed such clear and powerful evidences of the



The beautiful Palace of Culture in Warsaw.

Holy Spirit's presence as during the workers' meetings here and at Warsaw.

A unanimous and whole-hearted dedication to absolute unity in fellowship and doctrine marked the close of our gathering, the entire group of workers rising to their feet in earnest desire to identify themselves with that stirring scene in Jeremiah 50:4, 5: "In those days, and in that time, saith the Lord, the children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together, going and weeping; they shall go, and seek the Lord their God. They shall ask the way to Zion with their faces thitherward, saying, Come, and let us join ourselves to the Lord in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten."

Our remaining hours with the brethren and sisters in Poland were extremely busy and happy ones. Several workers accompanied us on our 200 mile journey back by train to Warsaw, where the last night

(Continued on back page.)

The Everlasting Gospel

(NOTE.—While the President of the General Conference, Elder R. R. Fighur, was delivering his Sabbath morning message in the University Hall, Oslo, during the East Norway Conference session, I caught the vision of the Everlasting Gospel going out to the farthest corners of the earth. Some years ago I wrote a song in my mother tongue (Norwegian, "Salmer og Lovsanger," No. 504), and now the words of this song, based upon Revelation 14:6-14, again ring clearly in my ears. The verses of the song I humbly offer as a testimony of my belief in this message and its final victory. The melody of this song as given in our Norwegian "Salmer og Lovsanger" has been composed by the musician L. (udvig) M. (athias) Lindeman, a Norwegian Lutheran Composer, who compiled the Norwegian State Church psalm-book.—O.R.)

The everlasting Gospel goes
Today the world around.
Through it a multitude of men
The grace of God has found.
And all of them are filled with love
For fellowmen and God above,
Who told them go to farthest lands
With serving hearts and hands.

"Fear God and glorify His name,"
The message ever goes.
It crosses frontiers, conquers hearts,
Defeats the evil foes.
It causes men to worship God,
It raises up the broken rod—
The power of creative might
Accompanies the Light.

Through Babylon were led astray
The myriads of earth.
They did not know the way, the truth,
The life of a new birth.
But now the message comes from God,
Through healed and saved and new-made roads:
Come! Follow Jesus! He's the way,
He does not lead astray.

The power of the beast is strong,
It rules both minds and lands.
Be not afraid, thou church of God,
Thou art in Jesus' hands.
Keep thou the faith of Jesus Christ,
Love His commandments with all might,
And soon the night of sin is gone,
The battles are all won.

That day the heavens will roll back,
The Saviour will be here.
And those who followed Him on earth
Shall follow Him up there,
Where He prepared a city bright
With pearly portals, walls of light—
Where Jesus shall reside with me
Through all eternity.

—O. RANES.

Skodsborg's Church Dedicated

By Ingemann Olsen

Editor, Copenhagen Publishing House

ON SABBATH, April 13th, the new Skodsborg Seventh-day Adventist church was dedicated at a special service. Pastor A. F. Tarr, president of the Northern European Division, and many invited for the occasion had gathered in order to attend the ceremony.

The ceremony was opened with a festival prelude and the pastor of the

Pastor Johannes Jensen said in his address of welcome: "This is a big day for us for it gives us a very special feeling to be able to gather for the first time in this new house of God. This is the first occasion on which we see this new church with a congregation—a sight which is undeniably beautiful." Pastor Jensen also remarked that God is honoured when we

living in the last days, and the other that our denomination has been entrusted with a message for the whole world. This message is not dependent on large church buildings, but it rests on a strong evangelical basis. The most important thing in connection with a church is that it has been built for the worship of God. David showed that God is interested in the place where God can meet His people. God Himself gave instructions as to how the sanctuary should be built. God loves the gates of Zion and appreciates the people that worship Him. The church is the apple of His eye. A father is more anxious to meet his children than the children are to meet the father. God is also happy to see His children. Our worship is the answer to our Father's love toward us.

At the end of the sermon Pastor Tarr asked: "Is it enough that we dedicate this building today? Do you not want to dedicate yourselves with the building?" Many of our churches in South Africa carry a motto that Pastor Tarr brought to our attention. It reads as follows:

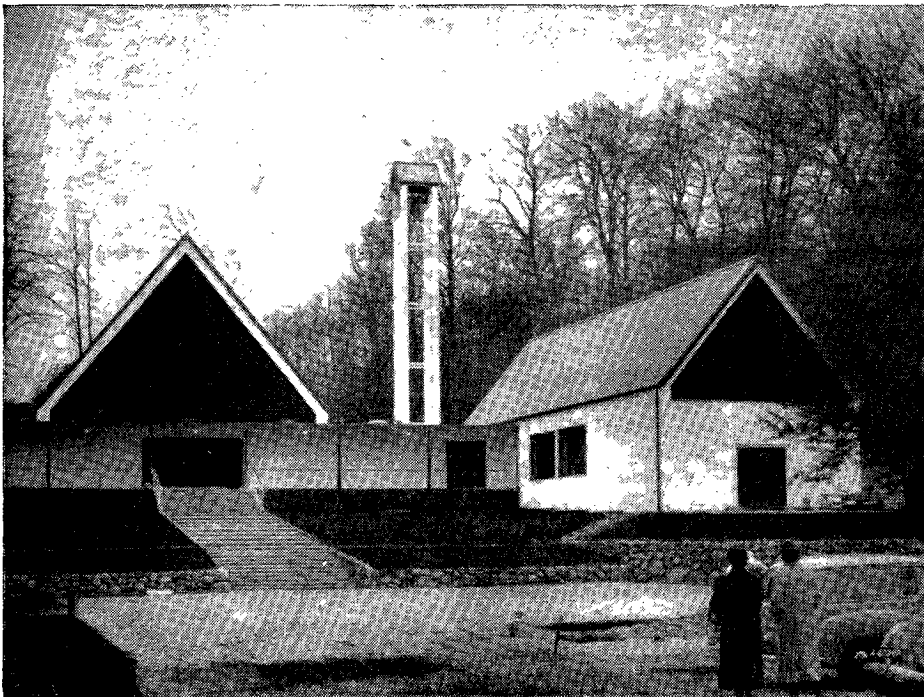
"Whosoever thou art who entereth this place remember it is the house of God. Be silent, be thoughtful, be reverent, and leave it not without a prayer to God for thyself, for him who ministers, and for those who worship here."

The president of the East Denmark Conference, Pastor Thorvald Kristensen, directed the dedicatory service. The text was printed in the programmes and was read by Pastor Kristensen, and the congregation responded.

A well-known organist, Mr. P. S. Rung Keller, had composed music to the text of Solomon's prayer when the sanctuary was dedicated. The composer himself played the organ, while Ole Hansen of Skodsborg, sang and recited the words.

The treasurer of the Northern European Division, Pastor G. A. Lindsay, London, now spoke of the Skodsborg Sanitarium and the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. Pastor Lindsay also mentioned our world-wide evangelical work and our health work.

Now the choir sang two hymns and the manager of the Skodsborg Sanitarium, Mr. H. Westerlund, spoke about the

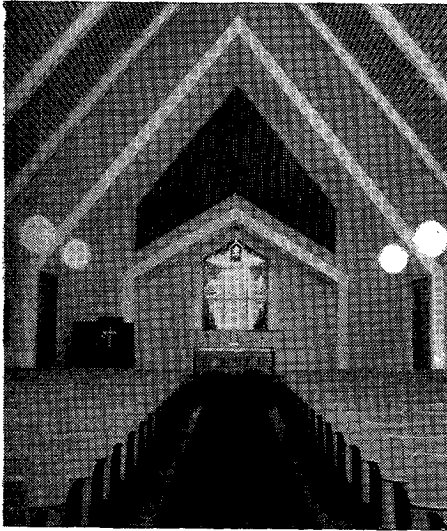


Set among green lawns with a backdrop of tall, shady trees, Skodsborg's new church is outstanding among Adventist churches for its modern design and interior symphony of colour. Its baptismal font, organ loft, its surrounding halls, classrooms, Dorcas rooms, mothers' room, lobbies, rest rooms, and its splendid heating system, all make it most desirable and composite.

Skodsborg church offered a prayer. After that, the big congregation sang a hymn of praise. Dr. Andersen, who is the head physician at the Skodsborg Sanitarium, then read Psalm 84, expressing the joy of dwelling in God's sanctuary which is a place of peace and safety, strength and blessing for the soul. Käthe Hiesiger, a harpist, gave the ceremony an even more solemn atmosphere by playing two harp solos.

give Him the best; that is why we have built this church. He mentioned that special invitations for the dedicatory service had been sent out to representatives of various denominations, so that actually this was an ecumenical meeting. The church is open to everybody.

Pastor Tarr delivered the sermon. In his introductory remarks he said that there are two convictions in the heart of every Seventh-day Adventist. One is that we are



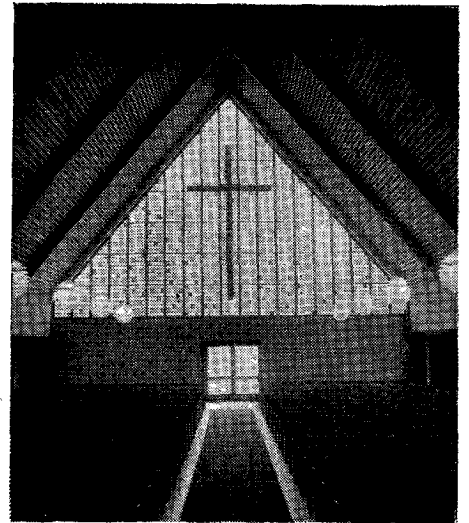
The architectural theme of the exterior of the church is here developed to magnificent proportions from the roof to the rostrum, finally enclosing a modern interpretation of the Christ in stained glass. Note the rose-coloured lamps suspended.

building of the church. It has been erected with funds from the Seventh-day Adventist denomination and from the sanitarium. Contributions have come from the churchmembers in Skodsborg, from the patients at the sanitarium, and from suppliers of materials for the church. The church is free of debt. The architect is Mr. C. K. Gjerrild. He and some very fine specialists and craftsmen have created a beautiful church in a modern style. The manager closed his remarks by thanking everybody who had assisted in the building of the church.

After this, everybody was free to speak and several came forward with greetings and congratulations.

The dedicatory service was closed by the singing of a hymn, the benediction, and another hymn rendered by the choir.

At 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. there were two more services in the new church.



At the rear a simply designed yet very beautiful stained glass window, dominated by an amber cross, spreads a radiance of diffused light over the worshippers. Above, the roof fans out again true to pattern. On either side of the cream seats are pillared aisles.

"The Great Event of 1957"

Report of the Northern European Division Laymen's Congress
Held in Birmingham, England, April 18-22, 1957

WHILE Britain's brilliant Easter sun gave added zest to the country's pleasure-seeking millions, a small but important group from many parts of these islands was assembled in Birmingham for what had been advertised as "the Great Event of 1957."

It is well known, of course, that Britain's "second city" is no holiday centre. In this dismal, sprawling metropolis of what is familiarly known as "the Black Country," with its giant factories and numerous motor works, the emphasis is on work, not pleasure. This aspect of the environment, however, made it all the more appropriate that Birmingham be chosen as the rendezvous for 200 Adventist laymen who attended the Northern European Division's Laymen's Congress.

That this superlative Congress should have been designated "the great event of 1957" showed optimism and faith on the part of its industrious organizers which God greatly honoured.

This Congress did more than provide

those present with stirring devotional appeals; it did more than tackle the task of providing intensive training in evangelistic technique. Truly, it emphasized personal fitness for service; likewise did it stress the means and methods of successful ministry; but, thank God, it went further than this. Under the evident movings of the Holy Spirit, it fired each one of those humble-hearted laymen with a real desire to fulfil his part in Christ's great commission. It is true to say that the Congress was in the nature of a revelation, providing those present with a vision and a purpose which many had hitherto failed to grasp.

Congress organizers were Home Missionary Department leaders—Pastors E. W. Pedersen, Northern European Division; E. R. Warland, British Union; A. C. Vine, South England; E. H. Foster, North England. Pastor Pedersen was chairman throughout the many sessions of practical instruction, the value of which was greatly enhanced by his vigorous

ministry and wise counsel.

Without resorting to journalistic exaggeration, we feel safe in stating our conviction that the Birmingham Congress must have occasioned real joy in heaven. Under God, it may well prove to be the real beginning, so far as Britain is concerned, of the fulfilment of Sister E. G. White's prophetic vision of these latter days. She wrote of the servants of God, their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, going from home to home to share with others the light of truth. (*The Great Controversy*, page 612.)

Congress messages laid much stress on ministry by consecrated laity. Pastor Pedersen's opening address on Thursday evening, heavily underlined the fact that the church of God is an army on the march, not a rest camp for the weary; and that the speedy finishing of God's work demands a consecrated and militant laity.

A later speaker, quoting Historian

Schaff, reminded us that: "Every congregation in the early church was a missionary society, and every member was a missionary, inflamed by the love of Christ to convict his fellow men." Not less surely will this description apply to the remnant church before the end.

Easter Sunday's home-to-home visitation campaign, organized by Pastor Warland and his colleagues, came as a surprising revelation to the majority. It provided everyone with an opportunity in one brief hour to engage in the kind of Christian service upon which the finishing of God's work will largely depend. Nearly a thousand homes in the immediate vicinity of the Camp Hill Adventist church, where the Congress was held, were visited by the lay folk—both men

homes, and was able to have prayer in six of them.

One brother said, "The one great disappointment this morning's campaign has brought me, is that I have never done this kind of work before."

These were typical of a surging stream of testimonies from delegates for whom this home-to-home visitation had been a dramatic revelation.

Pastor G. D. King's closing appeal on Easter Monday, stressed the heartening truth that as surely as God is man's greatest need, so surely is man God's greatest need. The Congress had clearly revealed how we might shape up to God's benevolent purposes, and left us all with a deep determination to be more effective and fervent as we seek, through the power

* "We feel that we have realized something of what the early disciples felt of Pentecost—a foretaste of the power of the latter rain. The Holy Spirit has, indeed, been in our midst. I know it personally, because of the conviction of sin in my own heart. We will, with the help of God, translate the vision we have caught into the practical work of soul-saving, and present Jesus as the Saviour.

* "The congress has been a great spiritual uplift to me, and I feel so humble that God should have given me this great privilege of sharing in this wonderful fellowship. God surely is calling me to do greater work for Him. . . . My sincere prayer is: Here am I, Lord, send me."



Delegates in attendance at the Division Laymen's Congress in Birmingham, England.

and women. Evangelistic papers were distributed, invitations to meetings were given, and, wherever possible, prayers were offered. The subsequent testimony service, when all had reassembled, provided eloquent and uplifting proof of the value of such ministry. Of the homes visited, over 200 had been entered, and in 130 of these, prayer had actually been offered.

One sister told of a person with whom she had had prayer. When she left the home, the grateful householder said, "This day, joy has come to my heart."

Another sister confessed to being "completely horrified" at the prospect of visiting homes in this way. But she went in the fear of the Lord. She visited seven

of the Holy Spirit, to do our part in fulfilling the Lord's Gospel commission.

The following testimonies, typical of the many which were offered after Pastor King's final service, give ample proof that the Congress organizers were not wrong in describing this unique gathering as "the Great Event of 1957."

* "I have been deeply enthused, as a result of which I am planning to do much more in the service of God."

* "I am determined as a result of this congress to work with greater diligence in the service of God. We should work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work."

* "With very deep gratitude in my heart, I would like to say that the wonderful spiritual help received these few days from this Congress has filled me with a deep desire that my life be completely spent in the Master's service, wherever He may see fit to lead me."

* "This Congress has made me realize the work will never be finished until every one puts his back into soul-winning. As we go home, we must not only work ourselves, but do our best to impress the other members also to win souls."

May God empower these consecrated members to translate their noble desires into glorious reality. R. D. VINE.

Music and Song at Newbold

By R. W. Scarr

THE MELODY of praise is the atmosphere of heaven; and when heaven comes in touch with the earth, there is music and song, thanksgiving and the voice of melody."—*Education*, page 161.

Music is transcendent; it is "a precious gift of God, designed to uplift the thoughts to high and noble themes, to inspire and elevate the soul."—*Ibid.*, page 167.

At Newbold one is able to listen to much fine music. During the present academic year trips have been made to London to hear Handel's "Messiah" sung by a thousand voices, and to a Royal Festival Hall orchestral concert. We are certainly fortunate in being so near to such a cultural centre.

On three occasions programmes have been given in the College by visiting artists. Last autumn Georgia Laster, a coloured soprano from the U.S.A., came over from Germany to give a concert. The visit of Phyllis Bonney and Beryl Gammon of the Voice of Prophecy, with Russell Kranz and Louis Revel from the New Gallery Centre, was none the less

enjoyable because the performers were so well known.

Following the spring Week of Prayer, Claude de Meyer (violin) and Edmee Pache (piano) from Paris gave their second programme.

To find the greatest enjoyment in music is to make it oneself. Tuition given in piano and singing is but the beginning of what is done in the Music Department. With the part-time help of Mrs. V. N. Olsen and Miss Gillian Keough, sixty individual lessons are given each week. These, with classes in theory, appreciation, sacred music, and conducting, prepare the student to take his place on the public platform, and especially to provide music for worship. Week-end meetings and Saturday evening programmes give ample opportunity to gain experience.

As well as soloists there are the choral groups. The choir sings each week for the Sabbath service, and the members are always enthusiastic to take part in evangelistic campaigns within easy travelling distance. The quartet has had a number of appointments during the year, includ-

ing a week's tour as far as Scotland.

Music is an art—one that needs good instruments for its performance. This summer a Compton electronic organ is being installed in the college hall; this is an instrument which is no mere luxury, but an essential to our congregational singing. We are deeply grateful for all the gifts sent from Britain, from Northern Europe, and other parts of the world.

Like other arts, music means patient and careful practice. The eight practice rooms and studio, in their fresh colours, should prove an incentive to all students.

May we be able, with our improved facilities, to maintain a high musical standard, and learn here the key-note of heaven's praise.

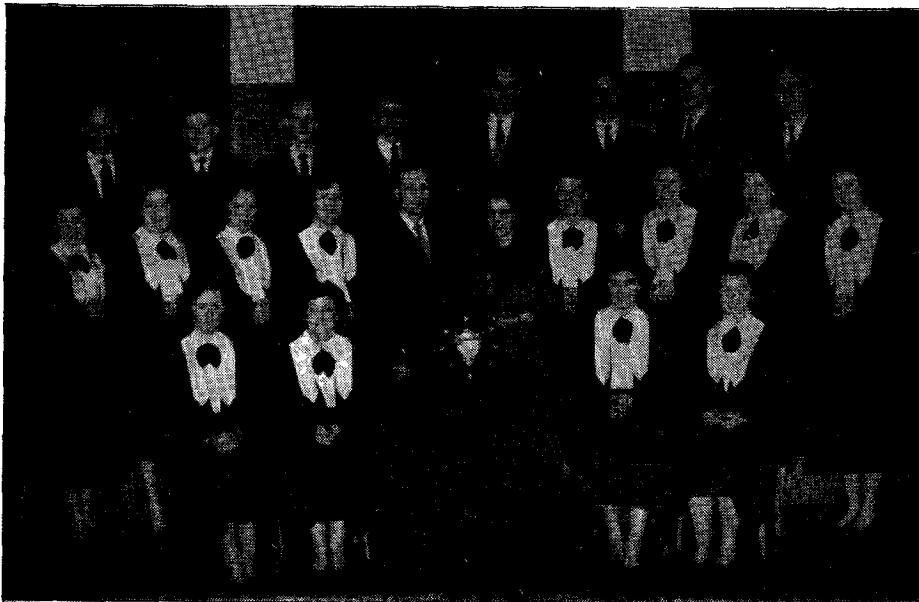
In Memoriam

(Concluded from page 7.)

We who knew Brother Toppenberg intimately, and had the privilege of working with him for many years, loved him dearly. He was a humble man, a considerate man. As the missionary Paul, he too could have boasted. As Paul he never did. He never sought fame or publicity. He just wanted to serve. He looked for service, and he found what he sought. Characteristic of him is this prayer he prayed just prior to his death: "Dear Lord, bless the little work which was so falteringly and poorly done. Hold Thy hand over it, and grant that at least a few souls may be saved in the day when Thou makest up Thy jewels, black and white!" We know that in many parts of Africa today souls are rejoicing in the blessed hope because of his faithful and untiring ministry.

We thank God for his unselfish life, for the good friend and comrade he was to us younger missionaries, for his noble example of Christian service, so worthy to be followed. Our hearts go out in sympathy to Mrs. Toppenberg who herself was a true missionary, and to Ingeborg and Bobby, left to live up to the high standard godly parents set before them. With them we look forward to a happy reunion in a not very distant future, when our dear friend and brother shall again see his beloved Africa—an Africa made new.

E. W. PEDERSEN.



Competing at the Shiffield Eisteddfod recently, the Newbold College Mixed Choir won first prize in the Senior Choir Class with 95 points. Three individual members of the choir entered the solo voices class and Colin Anthony (centre back row) won first place with 98 points. The choir and soloists were trained by Mr. R. W. Scarr, L.R.A.M., A.T.C.L., Music Department, Newbold Missionary College.

ONE WEEK we had a letter from Mrs. Toppenberg telling us that Brother Toppenberg had suffered an attack of coronary thrombosis, but that the doctor gave him a better than fifty-fifty chance of recovering. Next week another sad letter informed us that he had passed away on March 27, 1957.

Thus came to an end a long and rich life that had been consecrated to God and to Africa.

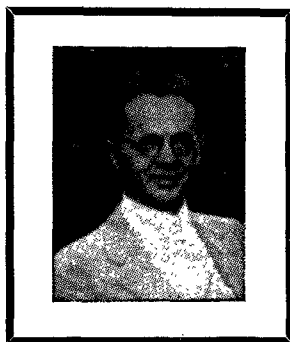
Valdemar Emil Toppenberg was born February 29, 1884, in Aalborg, Denmark, where he spent his childhood and early youth. At his confirmation at the age of fourteen someone gave him a little book about Africa. In it were a few lines in Swahili, one of the several African languages he was later to master.

As a young man Brother Toppenberg emigrated to America. Here he joined the Adventist church, and Union College became his Alma Mater. In 1909, the year of his graduation, he signed a Missionary Volunteer card, which he kept during the years, pledging his life to God's service, willing to go anywhere the Lord might call him. That same year he sailed for Africa, thus beginning forty-three years of ardent and faithful mission service.

Italian Eritrea became his first field of labour, but before long he moved deeper into the heart of the Dark Continent. In Tanganyika he experienced all the hardships and perils of the life of a pioneer, for in those days we knew but little of how to protect ourselves against such tropical diseases as malaria and blackwater fever. Of thirty-five missionaries in that area no fewer than one-third died within two years of arrival. Brother Toppenberg's life was spared, and in coming years his was the privilege of blazing the Gospel trail through large portions of East Africa, building mission stations in many places.

During the first World War, when other missionaries in East Africa were either interned or returned home, Brother Toppenberg was left free to carry on his work. A tremendous load and responsibility rested upon him during those trying years, and he worked almost beyond his strength. The authorities held him in high esteem, particularly because

In Memoriam



V. E. TOPPENBERG

of the untiring medical service rendered to wounded troops.

When the Upper Nile Union Mission (Uganda and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan) was organized in 1933, V. E. Toppenberg became its president. Under his administration the work in Uganda was put on a solid foundation, the headquarters at Kireka were procured, as was also the Bugema estate, the present site of the East African Training College.

Ever since his arrival in Eritrea in 1909 Brother Toppenberg's ambition had been to enter the forbidden land of Ethiopia with the third angel's message. Perhaps his greatest adventure came in 1921 when as the first Seventh-day Adventist he crossed the border into the land of the Queen of Sheba and secured our present headquarters at Addis Ababa. His personal friendship with His Majesty, the Emperor of Ethiopia, has lasted through the years and has meant much to our cause.

The year 1943 saw another re-organization of our work in East Africa, and with the liberation of Ethiopia from the

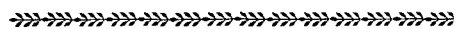
Italian yoke, Brother Toppenberg's services there were highly desirable. His knowledge of the language, land, and people, and his friendship with the emperor, were all valuable assets. So back he went to give his last ten years of active service for Eritrea and Ethiopia. Here he procured for us the Kuyera estate in the southern part of Ethiopia where our Training School now is located.

But the long years had sapped his strength, and it was practically at the point of exhaustion that he finished building the training school. When he returned from Africa in 1952 at the age of sixty-eight he had only had four furloughs during forty-three years of service in various parts of Africa. He came back to rest in retirement.

However, "once Africa, always Africa." And in America there was no rest to be found for this man whose heart was still beating for Africa. He was a missionary, and had always been a missionary, and wanted to be a missionary to the very end. He longed to go back to Ethiopia. Relatives urged him to settle down, saying that he would die out there, to which he always replied, "And why not? I would rather die there in harness than in comfort here at home." Just a few weeks prior to his demise his dearest wish, that of returning to Africa, seemed about to come true. Definite arrangements were being made for him to take up self-supporting work in familiar places in Africa under the Southern African Division. He was on fire with enthusiasm—passports and passage were almost secured, when the blow came that put an end to all his hopes.

Brother Toppenberg was married twice. In 1913 Minnie Hansen joined him in Tanganyika where they were married, and for twenty-three years she was his faithful companion, until Africa claimed her and she passed away in 1936. Two children were born to them, Ingeborg and Robert, both of whom live in America. A couple of years later Brother Toppenberg married Mary Oswald. Since their return to Uganda in 1938 she has faithfully and lovingly shared with him all the toil and hardship, all the joys and blessings of missionary life. Her love for Africa was deep and genuine as was his.

(Continued on page 6.)

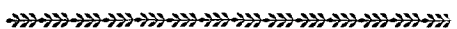


My Task

Just to be working with Jesus,
Faithful in service each day;
Just to follow the path He trod
Along the heavenly way,

Just keeping His every appointment
Humbly, is all I ask.
Just doing my very best for Him—
This is my task.

—MERRIE BIRGE COWLES.



NEWS FLASH

ELDER R. R. Figuhr, President of the General Conference, has been the guest of the Division during the month of May while touring the home unions with A. F. Tarr. Many educational and medical institutions have been visited and conference sessions have been greatly blessed by their presence. On June 2nd Elder Figuhr will address the graduates of Newbold Missionary College before returning to the United States via Iceland. G. A. Lindsay has also been in attendance at a number of the gatherings and G. D. King attended the Medical Council held at Skodsborg. Dr. T. R. Flaiz also gave valuable help at the Medical Council.

Brother and Sister John Muderspach and their three children passed through England early in May on their way to Denmark on furlough. Brother Muderspach is secretary-treasurer of the Sierra Leone Mission. During this their first term of service they have endeared themselves to the African people and rendered very acceptable service. We wish them a profitable rest in the homeland and a happy return to their field of labour in due time.

Recently N. B. Nielsen, secretary-treasurer of the West African Union, accompanied by his wife, flew to Copenhagen in order to undergo surgery which was not available in Africa. We do sincerely wish Brother Nielsen a speedy recovery and a quick return to his field of labour.

On April 27th Britain launched her Ingathering Campaign for 1957. Ingathering reports for the first eight days, show a total receipt of £14,887, or £2,121 above the same period last year. The Ingathering spirit of Britain has always been remarkable, but this year it surpasses anything we have ever witnessed. Our recent successful Lay Congress in Birmingham is doubtless a contributing factor. It is as though everyone has gained a larger vision of the richness of the harvest and the urgency of the task. We wish them good success as they strive to make this year their best ever.

The very successful Lay Congress held in Britain during the Easter holiday will be followed in the autumn by similar congresses in Iceland, Holland, Denmark, Norway (for Norway and Sweden), and Finland. Elder Guenther from the General Conference Home Missionary Department, will attend these. If they will be anything like the one held in Birmingham—and we believe they will—a most helpful and inspiring experience awaits our Division laity in those lands.

E. W. Pedersen, C. D. Watson, and Mrs. A. C. Vine attended the annual meeting of the British National Temperance Federation, May 7th, in the Alliance Hall in London. The Right Honourable Lord Mathers, D.L., was in the chair. At the meeting our British Temperance Society was accepted as an affiliated member of the Federation. In moving our incorporation, Dr. Somerville Hastings, M.P., spoke of us in most complimentary terms, stating that we were a vigorous and enthusiastic body with important contacts and connections in the United States, in Asia, and practically throughout the whole world. We had already made ourselves favourably known by our active participation in a strong Temperance programme. Thus we had been able to arrange a lecture in honour of Prof. Dr. Ivy which was well attended. We would bring new life to the Federation, etc. Mr. Cecil B. Heath, Barrister-at-Law, seconded the motion, saying that he has had most pleasant and encouraging associations with members of our group. The action was unanimous. It was interesting and gratifying to note that in a later discussion on a Temperance pamphlet the Ministry of Education is issuing for teachers, Lord Mathers made reference to our *Alert* as the type of journal that would captivate the imagination of people, especially the youth. Said he, "We must have some literature that can appeal to the general public, notably to the youth—something like this *Alert*, you have no doubt seen."

With Our Brethren in Poland

(Continued from page 2.)

was spent, and where some of us visited also Methodist leaders.

And now we are on our plane from Warsaw to Copenhagen. Always vivid in our memory will be the scene of an hour ago when our brethren who had accompanied us to the airport, and to whom we had already said good-bye, stood in a little group and waved and waved and waved as our departing plane brought to a temporary close a season of remarkable fellowship that will never be forgotten. The warmth of their hospitality, the deep devotion to the requirements of God's Word, the strong fervour, the indomitable spirit of our membership and working force in Poland, augers well for the future progress of the Advent message under the guidance of the Holy Spirit in that great country.

It is hoped that a little later in the year, probably in August, another visit will be possible, and that at that time a session of the Union Conference may be held. The Government has already indicated that the necessary permission will be granted. In the meantime we convey to churchmembers throughout the Northern European Division the fervent and fraternal greetings of their beloved brethren and sisters in Poland.

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