



VOLUME 7

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A Heart Work

"Unless our hearts beat in unison with the heart of Christ, how can we understand the sacredness and importance of the work to which we are called by the words: 'Watch for . . . souls, as they that must give account'?"

"We talk of Christian missions. The sound of our voices is heard, but do we feel Christ's tender heart-longing for souls?"—Testimonies, Vol. 9, page 45.



Christian friend, as together we read of the marvellous providences of God in this special publishing department issue of our Division paper, may Jesus speak to our hearts and may our love flow warm and free in service to God and fellow man.

J. M. BUCY,

Publishing Department Secretary, Northern European Division.



"Let There Be Light!"

J. M. BUCY, *Division Publishing Secretary*

ON the twenty-third of September, the "All-European Publishing Convention" delegates met at the beautiful Adventhaus in Freudenstadt, Germany. Freudenstadt is located in the heart of the great Black Forest area. The convention lasted six days. Seventeen nations were represented at this important meeting, making it necessary to employ a number of translators as the programme proceeded. Delegates from the three Divisions of Europe and invited guests numbered over two hundred. The three Division presidents, A. F. Tarr, W. Mueller, and M. V. Campbell, from the Northern, Central, and Southern European Divisions respectively, brought soul-stirring messages to the assembled delegates during the morning devotional hours. Other devotional speakers were: W. L. Emerson, senior editor from The Stanborough Press in England; F. Lavanchy, president of the Franco-Belgian Union; and R. Dettmar, president of the South German Union, in whose territory the Adventhaus is located. Pastor Dettmar extended a cordial welcome to all of the



Delegates from the Northern European Division at Freudenstadt.

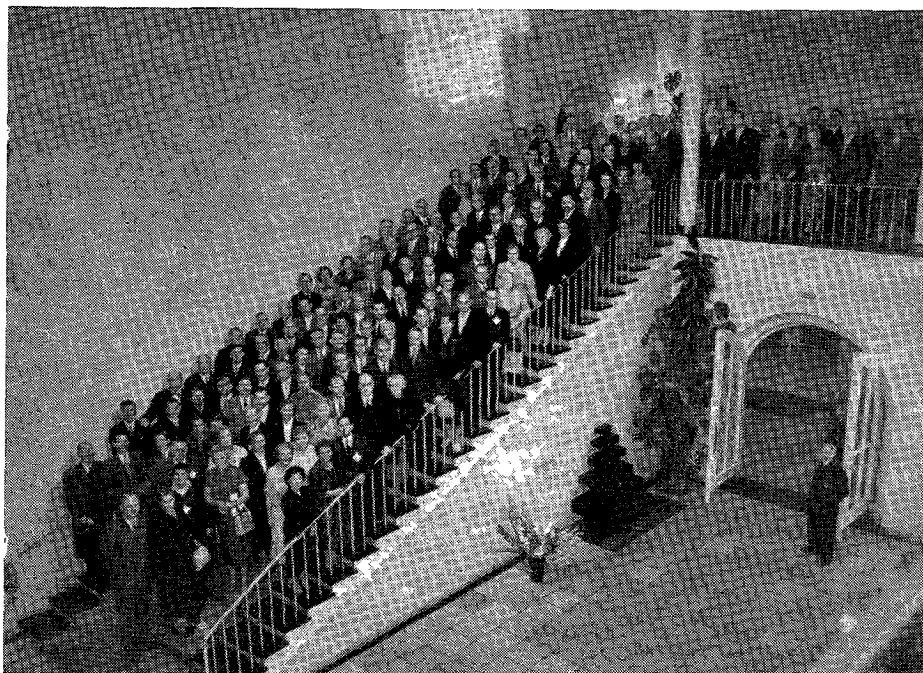
delegates. The German brethren proved to be hospitable and congenial hosts to this large gathering.

Pastor G. A. Huse of the General Conference was chairman of the convention. The manager of the Hamburg Press, E. Christoffers, acted as secretary. Two other delegates from the United States were

C. L. Palmer, treasurer, and J. D. Snider, book department manager, of the Review and Herald Publishing Association in Washington, D.C., our parent publishing house.

According to Pastor Mueller, Adventhaus was erected to be a Youth Centre. There is sleeping accommodation for eighty persons. Adventhaus also contains a beautiful church sanctuary with a seating of approximately two hundred persons. This splendid institution, built largely through the sacrificial gifts of our members, serves also as headquarters for many important Division, Union, and local conference meetings, according to Pastor Mueller.

Pastor A. F. Tarr addressed the delegates at the opening meeting. His text was, "And God said, Let there be light." Gen. 1:3. His challenging words laid the ground-work for the convention. In elaborating on this text, Pastor Tarr reminded the convention that God has never changed His plan through the ages. Today, more than at any previous period in history, the darkened world needs light. Throughout the convention it was emphasized again and again, "Let there be light." Each speaker seemed to catch the spirit of the convention. From one would come the challenge, "It is our work to enlighten the world." From



Delegates at the All-European Publishing Convention.

another, "Send the light." And yet another, "Ye are the light of the world." Surprisingly enough, the film-strip with sound track commentary shown by Elder Huse, containing some of the most beautiful photographs ever made of leading colporteurs and publishing department activities throughout the world was entitled, "Let there be light." All of this was unknown to Pastor Tarr as he prepared his material for the convention, which reveals that the loving Spirit of the Almighty was hovering over the delegates, moulding their thinking toward the great objective of warning a sinful world of its impending doom, and calling men to repentance through personal contact and the printed page.

There were accounts of persecution and hardship, of suffering and pain; but in each experience the glory of the Lord shone through. Progress was indicated on every hand. In one union conference the publishing department leader revealed that his field had shown a 1,000 per cent gain in colporteur deliveries in the past six years. Where oppression exists the message seems to gain momentum.

The hearts of the delegates were cheered over and over again as the different leaders gave their reports. There are some countries where our activities are drastically restricted. We do not know when we can work again in these fields. Recently one of our publishing leaders visited a large church in one of these restricted areas. Dozens of colporteurs came to him, weeping bitterly, because they could not continue with their work. But again it was learned that some countries are becoming more friendly in their attitude toward our work, and in one instance, a kindly official went so far as to suggest that he would like to learn more about our message.

There are 470 million blood-bought souls in the three Divisions waiting for the message. One hundred and sixty million of these are in the Northern European Division. Friends, we must carry the light of truth to them while it is day. The dark night of eternal blackness will soon engulf the unconverted sinner. Then your work and mine will be finished. It will then be revealed from the record books of heaven what effort we put forth in loving ministry for the blood-bought sinner.

Many important recommendations have come forth from this convention which will provide a great impetus to our publishing work.

Before the convention terminated our Northern European Division publishing leaders in the Unions, presented their 1958 delivery goal. They have set a goal of \$1,154,480. The Spirit of prophecy counsels us to place the literature in the

homes of the people NOW, and in that day when He pours out the latter rain, those books will come into use and "a thousand will be converted in a day." Today we are forced to use the financial yard stick to reveal our progress, but tomorrow we shall behold the fruition of our labours in souls won for the kingdom.

Shall we not unite in fervent prayer
(Continued on page 15.)

GAINS ALL ALONG THE LINE

THE figures below were exhibited on a large chart during one of the meetings. Pastor Tarr pointed out the percentage of gain during the last four years over the previous period. It was also noted that the Division shows gains all along the line for the first six months of this year. It is hoped that the Division will go well over the \$800,000 delivery figure for the year 1957.

NORTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION LITERATURE SALES — COMPARATIVE REPORT

Year	No. of Colporteurs	Hours	Orders	Deliveries
1949	225	281,173	\$647,057.13	\$620,083.44
1950	330	429,494	\$663,045.84	\$599,500.99
1951	339	440,514	\$792,588.73	\$702,614.61
1952	362	505,605	\$868,017.53	\$793,165.72
1953	351	484,012	\$780,989.34	\$705,418.64
1954	345	461,901	\$774,832.90	\$687,056.26
1955	336	446,362	\$775,989.95	\$695,191.44
1956	321	450,156	\$828,302.78	\$728,798.99
1949-56	2609	3,499,217	\$6,130,824.20	\$5,531,830.09
1949 to 1952				
1949-52	1256	1,656,786	\$2,970,709.23	\$2,715,364.76
1953 to 1956				
1953-56	1353	1,842,431	\$3,160,114.97	\$2,816,465.33
	97	185,645	\$189,405.74	\$101,100.57
	GAIN 7.17%	GAIN 10.07%	GAIN 5.99%	GAIN 3.59%

January to June, 1956 and 1957

1956	298	193,218	\$340,415.17	\$256,145.07
1957	306	201,918	\$378,302.86	\$280,998.61
	8	8,700	\$37,887.69	\$24,853.54
				GAIN 8.83%

"The Publishing House Manager Speaks"

Sweden



Erik H. Larsson.

What then about the thousands of books, papers, and tracts scattered as the leaves of autumn?

Now we have reached the time when the work is to be finished even in our field. We are deeply concerned about our heavy task, and to be honest, the prospects at present seem to be not too bright. Our literature corps is very small, and from our hearts the cry for more workers forces its way. During the first six months of this year we have had on an average not more than fifteen reporting colporteurs, too small a group for our great field with its eight million inhabitants. We are convinced that there are many more to be won and prepared for the soon coming of Christ. Time really is short and this is our day of opportunity.

My co-workers and I myself have a great burden for our literature ministry in Sweden and in Swedish Finland. At present it seems to be very difficult to get new recruits for our ripening fields. We know, of course, that we could perhaps

bring into action some other methods that would make possible a greater circulation of our literature. The well-trained literature evangelist is still our God-given method of reaping not only a harvest of sales but, primarily, of souls. Would you, dear reader, help us by praying for us that God may also send many a faithful worker to our Swedish field?

We thank God for what has been done in the past. During the summer of this year we are happy to report rather good sales. Our literature evangelists have sold on an average per week during the first six months of 1957 to the value of Kr. 6,250 and have delivered literature for the same period for Kr. 130,000. Our total sales for the first six months of this year amount to Kr. 282,700. Our main books are at present: *The Great Controversy*, *Miracles in Borneo*, a mission book, then an extract from Brother Maxwell's children's books, and a book about Jesus, our Saviour. From January to June of this year 19,200 and 10,540 copies have been
(Continued on page 13.)

THE literature work within the Advent message in the Swedish field can be traced back to the nineties. Many are the verbal testimonies about our special truths that through the years have been given by our consecrated literature evangelists.

Finland



Yrjö Miettinen.

LIKE leaves of autumn is how our literature, according to the words of inspiration, should be spread to the world. This is an enormous goal. But immense, though often unassuming, is also the influence of the distributed literature whereby the mind is prepared and ripened. It is for us to sow in faith, trusting that God will give the harvest.

This year marks the sixtieth anniversary of the Finland Publishing House. During all these years, the progress of the literature work in Finland has been fairly steady. Counterpoising the inflationary changes in the money value and bringing it to the present level, the decennial literature sales in Finland are presented by approximations as follows,

1897 - 1906	\$156,000
1906 - 1916	\$330,000
1917 - 1926	\$460,000
1927 - 1936	\$600,000

1937 - 1946	\$820,000
1947 - 1956	\$1,725,000

Dollars have their worth both in and off statistics, but perhaps an even clearer picture is given by the fact that during the past ten years, an average of more than 200 pages of Advent literature has been distributed to every one of the one million homes or roughly four million inhabitants of Finland.

Since pioneer times the apparent interest in the literature work has been most encouraging. Our most successful soul-winners have been, at some time or other, active literature evangelists. A great number of enthusiastic young people who love the cause of God, have earned their school fees and scholarships in summertime, and numerous students have secured, through colporteur work, means to help them reach even university graduation. Last but not least, we have a

number of full-time literature evangelists, sacrificing and persevering men and women who have consecrated their lives to the spreading of Gospel literature. They have been steadfast, unmovable,

always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as they know that their labour is not in vain in the Lord.

We know, however, that even the most sacrificing efforts yield harvests only

through the blessing of our Lord. We are grateful to Him for the help He has rendered us so far, and we are praying Him to lead His work to the final triumph even in Finland.

WE have just completed a very wonderful Literature Convention in Freudenstadt, Germany, where the three European Divisions met to study ways and means of proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom as efficiently as possible.

It was indeed a very profitable occasion, and I know that every member benefited considerably. But if there was a feature that impressed me more than any other, it was the perfect harmony and unity that existed in the ultimate between the brethren. This sense of unity, I found, refreshed and strengthened my own conviction that the Advent church is indeed the church of God that will finish the work on earth.

This unity, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, will not be defeated, but will fulfil the task that has been given to us as a people to accomplish. I know, and I believe with my whole being, that the literature work will accomplish that which the servant of the Lord has indicated in her writings so often.

I am personally so abundantly happy that I have been granted the privilege of being a member of the literature ministry corps at this time in the world's history.

Britain



J. H. Craven.

As I look back over the past five years and realize the wonderful blessings indicated in such a remarkable upsurge in sales within the British Union, I thank God; and I know that in the very near future much more will be accomplished in His name, as we seek to pursue this God-given task with utmost dispatch and with all the strength that lies within the fibre of our being.

At The Stanborough Press Limited we are preparing and laying plans for the most powerful and penetrating action that has been contemplated within this Union, and I foresee with God's blessing that within the next two or three years our accomplishments in the past will fade into insignificance as compared with the glorious achievements that will be ours in the future.

Our sales have trebled in the last eleven years, and have doubled in the past five years. This is but a small achievement, and if we all could catch a vision of the possibilities, and if we did all that was possible by way of making our "tools sharper," how easily the words of Mrs. White would come true, that our literature should be scattered as the leaves of autumn. This will come, it is true, but it depends on you and me, and the members of the Advent church. Let us all plan now to enlist every member as a colporteur, either full-time or part-time, and then this statement will be accomplished and the work of the Lord completed and His second appearing will be a reality. J. H. CRAVEN,

*General Manager,
British Publishing House.*

Denmark

By Viggo Thomsen

THE first Adventist missionary to Northern Europe, John G. Matteson, had a great vision of the importance of our literature work. While in America he had a heavy burden to bring his countrymen the truth, and so as early as 1872 he began to publish a Danish magazine, *Advent Tidende*, and sent it to people in Denmark. When, five years later, at the age of eighty, he landed in his native country to preach the Advent message, he found the soil so well prepared by the literature sent in advance that after one year's work he was able to organize a

church of twenty-seven members, and after two more years he organized the first conference outside of America.

As Brother Matteson was so eager to get the publishing work established in Denmark, a year after the conference was organized, he succeeded in setting up a printing house in Oslo with a branch house in Denmark. That was in 1881, and that year Brother Matteson was able to send out three new books, a hymn-book, and thirty-four different tracts and pamphlets. The same year he began to edit and publish a bi-monthly mission paper, *Signs of the Times*, and a monthly health magazine, *Sundhedsbladet*, as well as Sabbath school quarterlies. This was

a very good start, and it is interesting to note that all three periodicals have continued up to the present time.

Four years later in 1885, when Mrs. E. G. White visited Denmark, her book, *The Desire of Ages*, in Danish, was just off the press. During the next few years this and many of her other larger books were published in Danish and spread over the country by faithful colporteurs.

The colporteur work soon proved to be just as successful in Denmark as elsewhere. Many were sceptical and claimed that it was not possible to sell books in this way. Time and experience have shown that it not only is possible, but as the Spirit of prophecy has told us, it is

The Editor's Viewpoint

a good and successful method of distributing literature. As others watched our success in this work, they too, followed our methods, and today nearly all publishers in Denmark sell books through colporteurs, some even more than through other channels.

Through the years we have had a faithful and strong staff of colporteurs working the territory again and again. Many of the early pioneers are laid to rest, but we are happy that we still have some of the old warriors among us today as living witnesses, inspiring younger people to take up this good work.

There is ninety-two-year-old P. Pedersen, who began the colporteur work fifty-six years ago and was one of the most industrious workers. Always starting out early, about 6 a.m., and going on till late at night, six days a week, he has set a worthy example for his co-workers today.

Mrs. Anna Sonne has an outstanding record, too. She is now eighty-one years old, and has worked for about fifty years in the literature ministry, first starting as a part-time worker. As a widow she has for many years supported her family of four children through this work. At our last institute she expressed her joy at being a colporteur and said that she is still working and hopes to be able to do so till Christ comes again. She could not think of stopping this work and expressed her wish that many more young people would take up the colporteur work and experience the blessings the Lord bestows upon those working in His vineyard.

Today in Denmark it is very difficult to gather people for religious meetings. Besides, there are thousands of homes in the many hundreds of villages who have never had an opportunity to attend an evangelistic meeting. But our colporteurs go everywhere and visit every home with our truth-filled literature. Often they find homes where several of our books have been bought. We believe that some day these books will be taken down from the shelves and studied, as the Spirit of prophecy tells us.

Just the other day it happened that a lady came to our publishing house in Copenhagen with a very worn copy of
(Continued on page 13.)



W. L. Emmerson,
Editor, British Publishing House.

THE Freudenstadt Council provided opportunity not only for the discussion of the technical aspects of publishing and the field problems of getting our literature in the hands of the people, but it enabled the twenty-one editors present from the three divisions to get to know each other and to discuss their heavy responsibility for the content and appeal of the books and papers going forth from our publishing houses. In several separate sessions and others in association with the production men they discussed many matters of mutual concern.

Because the Advent message is to go to "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people," it must be proclaimed in lands where freedom is severely restricted as well as in those where there is complete freedom for the preaching of the message, and only wisdom from on high can guide our writers and editors in these countries in their presentation of the message. But that wisdom is manifestly being bestowed in abundant measure in some of the difficult fields of Europe and there, as elsewhere throughout the earth, the printed page is winning souls for the kingdom of God.

Much time at Freudenstadt was spent

in discussing the design, make-up, and illustration of our books and periodicals in order that they may make an immediate appeal as they are opened up at the doors and in the homes of the people by our faithful literature evangelists. How well this aspect of their task is being carried out was clearly evidenced by the wonderful display of literature from the various publishing houses in the Adventhaus where the sessions were held. So attractive was this exhibit that it was felt that it should be kept together as a permanent collection in the Hamburg Publishing House.

But even so, the editors and production men were sure that they could and would do still better. The national galleries and private collections of Europe have a wealth of sacred art which is already being extensively drawn upon by some of the publishing houses of our three divisions. It was the conviction of all that this fine illustrative material could very profitably be shared with the smaller houses in the form of photographic prints and clichés so as to produce the most attractive literature possible with the greatest economy. As the largest publishing house on the Continent, the Hamburg House very generously offered to take the responsibility for the rendering of this valuable service.

Gratitude was expressed to our large American publishing houses for the help they have given in making available their collections of Bible and other pictures to the publishing houses in Europe, and the hope was expressed that this service too, might be considerably enlarged, particularly with reference to the supply of pictures illustrating the great truths of the Advent message.

Listening to our European editors one could not but recognize that they are a truly dedicated group of men, conscious of the responsibilities of their task, and determined under God to produce books, periodicals, and magazines, which will attract, declare in certain tones God's last message of mercy to mankind, and win souls for the kingdom of God.

With Our Union Publishing Secretaries

PROGRESS and PROSPECT



A. W. Howard, British Union.

NEARLY eighty years ago, one to whom God had clearly revealed His purposes was moved to pen this warning:

"We have no time to lose. Important work is before us, and if we are slothful servants we shall certainly lose the heavenly record. *Few have broad and extensive views* of what can be done in reaching the people by personal, interested efforts in a wise distribution of our publications."—*Review and Herald*, 1878.

That the significance of these words was realized is evidenced by the remarkable development of our literature ministry, and the parallel growth of our world membership throughout eight decades. Moreover, we are so grateful to God that those connected with the publishing programme within the British Isles have been privileged to witness an expansion fully commensurate with that in other sections of the Lord's vineyard.

Those who pioneered the work here during the later years of the last century certainly required breadth of vision, and just as certainly possessed it. Hardly any of them have been spared to behold the extent to which their small but enthusiastic beginnings were destined to grow. But how thrilled they would have been

today to see the fine volumes and magazines reaching the homes of the highest and lowest in the land, to see the steadily improving standards in the production of our literature, as more and better machines are installed in our growing publishing house. How the builders of fifty years ago would have rejoiced to see this institution nearly doubled in size and with very many times the original productive capacity!

Above all, how these men would have thanked God for the earnest consecration and soul-winning zeal of the stalwarts engaged in the work of distributing this literature. Only eternity will reveal the full results of their self sacrifice.

Eleven post-war years have seen the value of literature circulated in these islands rise from £42,000 to £107,000. This is all the more astonishing when we realize that while the prices of our bound publications have been only very slightly increased, these volumes have mostly been correspondingly enlarged. Also, while it is true that our magazines now cost more, the number of pages they contained at the beginning of this period has been more than doubled. Whereas, owing to wartime paper scarcity many consisted of only eight pages, no issue now contains less than twenty, and a large number have thirty-six.

The growth in circulation of all classes of literature, therefore, is very great and very real. Last year, 258,848 bound books of various sizes came from the machines at The Stanborough Press and 1,179,560 magazines. Nearly one million and a half pieces of literature in one year, not to mention tracts! This might mean that one home in ten throughout Britain purchased an Adventist publication.

We rejoice and praise the Lord for this result, but it is only a beginning. Wonderful as the development of our work has been, there is still no room for satisfaction, for we are but touching the fringe of our possibilities. We must broaden and extend our vision. A great effort must be made to increase our force of literature evangelists whose united

aim should be to ensure that at least one Adventist publication enters every home in Britain each year! Please pray with us for its speedy realization.

BLESSINGS IN SERVICE

FINLAND is a country up in the north-eastern corner of the Division. Part of our territory is on the northern side of the Polar Circle where the sun never sets in midsummer. Days and nights are fine and light. Winter days, however, are very short and cold, with heavy falls of snow.

Our country is thinly populated. There are 4.3 million people living in an area which is larger than Britain and the Netherlands together.

The climate with its long, cold winters,



Unto Hongisto, Finland Union.

makes the extended journeys of our literature evangelists, working in their scattered territories, most arduous.

However, God has in a wonderful way blessed the literature ministry in Finland. The success is not only revealed in marks and in the number of books sold, but foremost in the willingness of the hearts of the people. This readiness to work is the secret of our success. During the past five years 250 to 300 brethren and sisters

(Continued on page 10.)



ELDER R. R. FIGUHR,

President of the General Conference, says:

"In no other way can all-round Christian maturity, cheerful dignity, consecrated self-reliance, and a straightforward earnest purpose be so soon and so surely acquired.

"The colporteur learns to press on with an unfaltering trust in God, to ignore rebuffs, to minimize difficulties, to grow in wisdom, in mental stature, in spiritual grace, as he presents effectively the message of the hour through our publications."

"A

**"To tell an unconverted
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**So, why don't you experience the thrilling blessings of working with God for
 Write or phone your publishing department secretary at**

PURE MINISTRY"

and person that God loves him—that is a pure ministry.

families each day—that is a pure ministry.

man to live up to what he knows—that is a pure ministry.

twenty families each day—that is a pure ministry.

beautiful things AND to sell our beautiful literature at the same time—this

is made solely to prepare the people to meet God—that is a pure ministry!

brothers and sisters, the folk all around you certainly need that kind of ministry!"

CHURCH —

for workers from every church among us to enter His service as canvasser evangelists."—"Colporteur
page 20.

LITERATURE —

character training books. Easy to sell, they open the way for greater doctrinal book sales.

books that answer thousands of perplexing Bible questions. They bring many individuals into the church
Now our publishing houses are building four, six, ten, and twelve book libraries because of urgent demand!

magazines. Sales opportunities are unlimited. They open the way for a larger work.

books and magazines. People need them badly. They are easy to sell.

the earnings per hour throughout the whole Northern European Division territory is \$1.62. Figured on
5 day week, this means \$64.80 per week or \$12.96 per day.

**the salvation of souls before it is too late? If others can do it, you can too!
your conference office. He will gladly counsel with you.**

(Continued from page 7.)

have annually taken part in the literature work. Among them we find several whose work and influence have brought people to accept the Advent message. One colporteur was instrumental in bringing twenty-two persons into the truth.

During 1956 our literature evangelists sold 52,500 big books such as *Health and Happiness*, *The Desire of Ages*, *The Destiny of the World*, and *Human Knowledge and Happiness*, together with 12,500 small books. Then 24,500 subscriptions were taken for our health magazines and *Signs of the Times* and many tracts and magazines sold singly. Thus during one year our literature evangelists sold more than 89,500 publications including subscriptions. During the same period they visited about 450,000 homes or about every other Finnish home. Practically every home in Finland receives a call from an Adventist at least once every other year. Even if no book is ordered, the literature evangelist has by his call and talk given a short presentation of the principles of our message.

We are thankful to God that we now can get books which remove the prejudices which people have had against us in the past. Thus we prepare the way for the proclaiming of the message from the pulpit and especially for the work done by the Bible correspondence school.

We are indeed happy that among our people in Finland there is such a general interest in the literature work which has resulted in a desire on the part of many to participate in the work for some weeks or months each year. We are also happy for our regular band of faithful literature evangelists who have devoted themselves wholly to this work, and on whom the success of the literature work so largely depends. Even the enthusiastic college colporteur group is of great importance to our work. Last year forty-six students earned their scholarships. This is the largest number of scholarships gained in any one autumn.

We thank God for the blessings which He has bestowed on the work in this distant union. We feel deeply our responsibility for the work in our country. We must not, however, only look back on the work already accomplished but must press forward. This means more

good books to be spread, better methods in our work, and last but not least, more of the wisdom and power bestowed by the Spirit of God. We need the blessing and the presence of the Lord in order to go forward in the large work He has entrusted to us.

—◆—
**“LET NOT THINE HAND
 BE SLACK”**



F. C. Barfoot,
 West African Union Mission.

ALL the resources of heaven are at the command of those who are seeking to save the lost. Angels will help you to reach the most careless and the most hardened. And when one is brought back to God, all heaven is made glad.”—*Christ’s Object Lessons*, page 197.

This is a wonderful statement, and to us as God’s remnant children it is a message worth analyzing. When this gem of truth is stored in our hearts and kept before our mind, as a creed, or a plaque of faith, we shall indeed accomplish wonderful things for Christ. Just think for a moment of the import of the first sentence, the whole of heaven stands by our side. Friends, as we visit those outside our church, when we stand at the door, and then call upon the services of the “Captain of the Host” to assist us, Jesus and His indomitable force will never fail to answer the clarion call.

When God speaks to our hearts and invites us to share with Him the blessings of “seeking lost souls,” He assures us of

the spiritual power, and the presence of all heavenly beings to guide our feet, and to assist us to speak “words in season to those who are weary.” If one good churchmember in Britain had not believed these facts, and had not placed one of our message books into a certain home, we should not be in the mission field today. Likewise today in your country and in your town, there are men and women who are as we were once, just waiting for someone to bring them an invitation to “Come and follow Me.”

Through the pen of His faithful servant, God has promised us great results from the literature ministry. “I have been shown that the press is powerful for good or evil. This agency can reach and influence the public mind as no other means can. The press, controlled by men who are sanctified to God, can be a power indeed for good in bringing men to the knowledge of the truth. . . . God will soon do great things for us if we lie humble and believing at His feet. . . . More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications.”—*Colporteur Ministry*, pages 149, 151.

You still may say, How does this apply to me? but please meditate upon this statement. “God calls for workers from every church among us to enter His service as canvasser evangelists.” (*Colporteur Ministry*, page 20.) Can you doubt now? God has accomplished wonderful results through the humble efforts of consecrated colporteurs in West Africa. Since 1950, when our publishing work was established, over £100,000 worth of message books and magazines have been placed into homes and offices of this corner of His vineyard. Although our records are far from complete, we know of at least fifty souls who are members of our church today, and who are able to trace their first contact with our faith through a colporteur. These figures are from one mission alone. The bookman believes that all the resources of heaven are at his command in this vital last hour work. Jesus is now inviting you to step out in faith and follow Him. Just reflect for a moment what joy there will be in heaven when you, too, have been able to gather in one of His lost sheep.

THE POWER OF THE PRINTED PAGE



Paul Frivold, West Nordic Union.

THE great philosopher and literature critic, George Bandes of Denmark, once said: "How much greater is the power in the lead which is made into type than that which is made into bullets!" How true are these words. The lead made into bullets can destroy life, but the lead which is made into type with which the Gospel can be printed, is the power of God unto salvation.

Job, the old and tried servant of the Lord wrote: "Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book!" Job 19:23.

How happy we can be that this wish from the patriarch has been made possible. What would we as a people do without the printed page? We have the last warning message from heaven to proclaim to the world today, and we have the great commission from our Lord to give to every nation, tongue, and people. It would be impossible for us to do this work without our publications and our faithful literature evangelists. "Our publications can go to places where meetings cannot be held. In such places the faithful evangelistic canvasser takes the place of the living preacher. By the canvassing work the truth is presented to thousands who otherwise would never hear it."—*Colporteur Ministry*, page 8.

Certainly our faithful literature evangelists play an important part in the work the Lord has given us to do in this

late hour of the world's history. "We cannot too highly estimate this work, for were it not for the efforts of the canvasser, many would never hear the warning."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 313.

Just two experiences which illustrate this. On an island in Denmark where we have no churchmembers, our literature evangelists have sold many message-filled books. A young man found one of these books in his father's home. He read it and was very interested, and thought about what he had read for a year or two. Then one day he wrote a letter to the author, Pastor Axel Varmer, who lived at that time in Stockholm. He told him that by reading his book he had become convinced of the truth it contained, and that he wished to contact one of our churches. A little later he was baptized and now he rejoices in the advent hope.

In Bergen, Norway, one of our good message-filled books, *A Word in Season*, by J. C. Raft, was sold. In one of the homes where this book was placed, one of the sons found it several years later, and began to read it. He was soon convinced about the Sabbath truth, but not knowing of any others who observed the seventh day as the Sabbath, he would go up on the slopes of one of the mountains surrounding the city, and there by himself with his Bible and this book, he would quietly meditate and commune with the Lord. Week by week he went up to this lonely place on the Sabbath. One Sabbath, on his return home, his father told him that there surely must be others in the town with the same faith, because he had seen many people coming out of a church service on Saturday noon in a street nearby.

The next Sabbath, instead of going up to the mountainside, he went to the place his father had told him about. He came in good time for Sabbath school, and when the service opened he felt he was near the gates of heaven. Immediately he felt that this was the church to which he should belong. Soon afterward he was baptized. Today he is elder of this church with approximately 450 members, and he and his family are rejoicing in the truth.

Experiences like these could be multiplied in our countries, and they certainly are an encouragement to the eighty to

one hundred literature evangelists in the West Nordic Union.

We are happy for the power of the printed page, and know that we in the future will see a rich harvest of the seed which is so faithfully being sown.

PUBLISHING WITNESS IN ETHIOPIA, SWEDEN AND POLAND



W. S. Jensen, Ethiopian Union Mission.

DURING recent years, progress has been made in our publishing programme in the Ethiopian Union, by the addition of two excellently printed books,—one entitled *The Story of Jesus*, being a translation of the well known book *Christ Our Saviour*, and the other being a splendid edition of *Steps to Christ*. Both these books are printed in the Amharic language and are well illustrated. They have made a favourable impression in governmental circles, so much so that 1,000 copies of *The Story of Jesus* were ordered by the Educational Department for use in government sponsored schools throughout Ethiopia.

While the colporteur force is undeveloped in Ethiopia, teachers and students from our schools have taken a deep interest in the literature ministry, and Brother W. S. Jensen who has enthusiastically pioneered the publishing programme in Ethiopia, is confident that ahead of us lies a great future for the publishing work throughout Ethiopia.

Sweden has been a happy "hunting ground" for overseas students coming in from Germany and Finland and

other adjacent countries to Sweden, and every summer, excellent results have been achieved and students have returned to their homelands happy in the knowledge that not only have they reached encouraging sales figures, but that the seed of truth has been sown in some of the remoter places of the Swedish Union. The regular colporteur force in recent years has been small in Sweden, but the faithful band of literature evangelists have held valiantly to their task, and under the enthusiastic leadership of Pastor O. Spanghagen, this phase of evangelistic witness in Sweden has brought encouraging results, and souls won to the message.

There has been a close link-up with the Bible correspondence school programme and by this means, interests have been nurtured which otherwise might have been lost to the cause of God. The publishing house leaders have endeavoured to meet the needs of the field by the production of well printed and excellently illustrated books and magazines, meeting the high standards that are maintained in almost every respect throughout Sweden. We believe that given continuous and enthusiastic leadership, great things will be accomplished in the field of literature throughout Sweden.

Prior to 1939, Poland possessed a gallant band of literature evangelists. Under great hardship they carried the literature from door to door, and while at times it appeared that their witness might be crushed, by fortitude and faith, great victories were achieved.

On a recent visit to Poland, it was a great joy to meet some of those who had been engaged in this form of apostolic service, and there is today in Poland a great desire to see the publishing programme revived and built upon the strong foundations of former years. Already our missionary paper has been republished and the membership are taking advantage of the freedom that has been offered to them of distributing this message filled paper. We must continue to pray for the faithful brethren and sisters in Poland that their witness and faith will bring a harvest of souls, and that doors will be continually opened to the proclamation of the Advent message.

G.D.K.

MOVING ONWARD IN FAITH



J. T. Knopper, Netherlands Union.

YOU will be interested to know some of the facts and interesting experiences from the little flower country with its well known tulip fields along the shore of the North Sea. Our publishing work started at the end of the nineteenth century. The first book we published was *Steps to Christ*. We printed it seventeen times and sold over 120,000 copies. More than sixty years ago we also started to publish the *Signs of the Times*. This paper has done much to establish our work in the Netherlands and in the winning of souls. Sometimes souls have been won to the truth because the food which they bought in some store was wrapped in a page of the *Signs of the Times*.

Today we have a good staff of literature evangelists. We have an average of

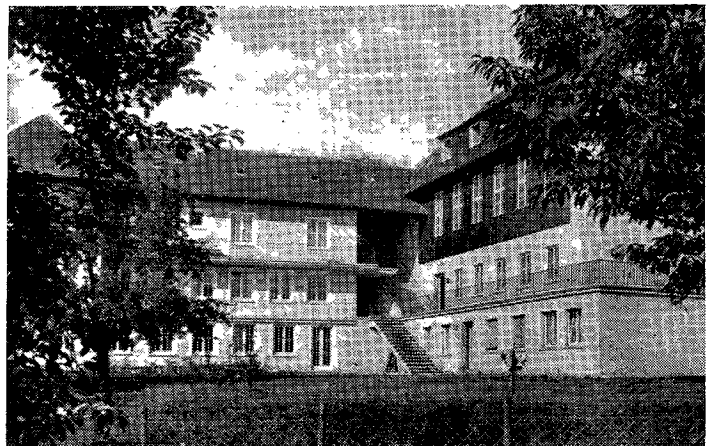
about fifty to sixty consisting of full-time, part-time, and student workers.

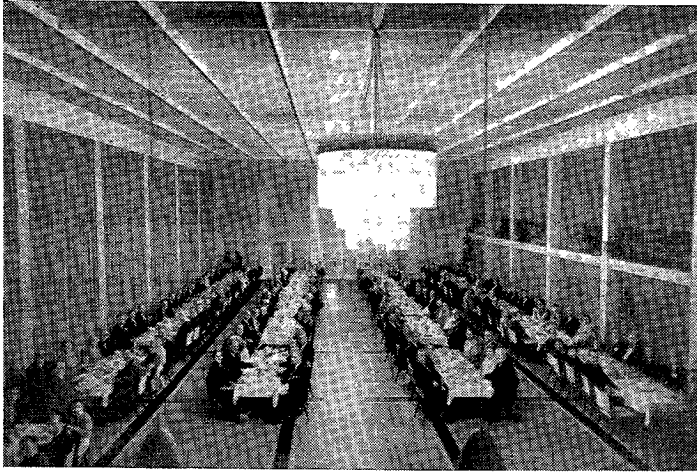
During the first half of 1957 we sold 8,573 more than in the first six months of 1956. Bible studies have been given and prayer offered in many a home. Seven souls have been baptized. We praise the Lord for these results because He made it possible, opened the way, and gave us strength to do the work.

We have our difficulties the same as elsewhere. The leaders of other churches sometimes warn their people not to buy our literature. In one such instance, when the day for delivery of the books came, our courageous worker took his order-pad and prayed earnestly one by one for those who had ordered the books. In faith he started the delivery and not one book was refused. We thank the Lord for such experiences because they show us that the Lord will lead us to victory when we move onward in faith.

Another worker met a man who was very sad. His wife had left him with his child and would not return. They talked about it and had earnest prayer asking the Lord to re-unite the family. A fortnight later our brother returned with the book but found that not only had the wife not returned but that the man had had all his money stolen the night before. He asked our brother to return with the book in fourteen days. Again they had prayer asking the Lord for help. When the time came to deliver the book our literature evangelist found a very happy husband. He had money to buy the book and most remarkable of all, his wife had returned. He himself was astonished at this answer to their prayers. Our litera-

*The beautiful
Adventhaus in
Freudenstadt, Ger-
many, where the
Publishing Con-
vention was held.*





Delegates to the Publishing Convention in Freudenstadt meet in the large Kurhaus for a social evening.

ture evangelist was encouraged in the soul-saving work he is doing for the Lord.

One of our lady literature evangelists sold several books to a woman. One of the books was *The Marked Bible*. Several weeks later our sister met this lady who told her that she had read the book with great interest. Now she was considering the Sabbath. Our sister

talked with her and they prayed together. She received Bible studies and was baptized. Some time later her daughter was also baptized.

In this way our Dutch literature evangelists are doing their important task of selling books and papers to young and old, warning the people of Christ's soon coming and saving souls for God's kingdom.

Denmark

(Concluded from page 6.)

The Great Controversy, a first edition, some seventy years old. One of her friends had given it to her and asked her to burn it since it was damaged because she had given it to her boy to play with. The lady, however, started to read the book and became so interested that she sought out the publishers in order to obtain a new copy. We were glad to sell her one of the newest editions in the best binding, and at the same time enrol her in the Bible correspondence course.

Time and conditions may change, newer methods and means be employed, but "as long as probation continues, there will be opportunity for the canvasser to work. . . . There will always be places for labour, and hearts to receive the message." "If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures." "There never was a time when more workers were needed than at the present. There are brethren and sisters throughout all our ranks who should discipline

themselves to engage in this work." "The Master calls for everyone to do the part given him according to his ability. Who will respond to the call?"—*Colporteur Ministry*, pages 11, 7, 21, 13.

Sweden

(Continued from page 4.)

sold of the children's book and the mission book respectively. With the exception of *The Great Controversy*, these books are printed by our own plant which also prints all of our papers and quarterlies, as well as some material for our union and local conferences, such as the Bible school lessons, etc.

Our big concern is the winning of souls for the everlasting kingdom. We sincerely pray that the seed sown in our Swedish field may bring forth rich fruits for eternity, and that many more among our dear members may respond to the challenge of literature evangelism, for we know that "the silent messengers that are placed in the homes of the people through the work of the canvasser will in every way strengthen the Gospel ministry."

MY EXPERIENCE AS A COLPORTEUR

By Mrs. Ingrid Paavilainen

WHEN I was a girl of fourteen I attended a revival meeting. I did not know that it was a Seventh-day Adventist meeting, but I loved the message they preached. I would go home after the meeting and enjoy one or two ham sandwiches before going to bed, then one day I heard a sermon on the health message and I was glad to give up the pork and unclean food.

Once my father gave me a bicycle, and when I could arrange it on Sabbath I would get up at five o'clock in the morning, milk eight cows and then pedal my way seventeen miles to Sabbath school. One Sabbath my father became so angry he took the seat off my bike so I was unable to attend Sabbath school. I went down beside a little lake on our land and there alone with God in the orchard is where I held my Sabbath school.

I became a Seventh-day Adventist at fourteen as a result of attending the meetings, but my parents who were not Seventh-day Adventists objected strenuously to the suggestion of baptism at that time. When I became eighteen years of age I was baptized and then started in the canvassing work shortly thereafter in order to pay my school expenses. The sister who started me out in the canvassing work spent a few hours getting me started and before I hardly knew it I was doing very well. I earned my own way through eight grades in our school in Finland by canvassing during my summer holidays. I also canvassed in Lapland, and found oftentimes I was still canvassing at two or three o'clock in the morning in that land of the midnight sun. Then I would realize that I had not had any sleep and I would terminate my work and return to my room to rest. I saw no sunset in Lapland all the time I canvassed there. It was necessary to be covered carefully with cheese cloth in order to find protection from the large mosquitoes that always seemed to be very hungry. Incidentally, it was necessary for me to walk twenty-five miles to my territory in Lapland. Many times big reindeer would run up and sniff at me a little and then run along beside me for

some distance. Then one day a maddened reindeer chased me until at last I found refuge from the enraged animal on top of a huge lumberpile.

In one village along the way where I canvassed I sold seventeen books in succession. The only difficulty I encountered canvassing there was the fact that the people were so cordial and hospitable that they insisted on preparing a meal for me in almost every home. It was necessary for me to take the orders for our literature and then return a few weeks later for delivery. I was able to hire a man with a boat to row up-stream against a strong current with my supply of books, otherwise I would not have known how to make my deliveries.

Some of the villages in Lapland, however, were negotiable by path. Here I was able to ride my bicycle. One did not see carts or waggons in that country as there were no roads. Some people rode bicycles, others rode horseback. A number of times I rode as far as fifty miles a day on my bicycle. It became increasingly difficult to obtain bicycle tyres because of war rationing at that time. Fortunately the man we rented our room from and who owned a supply store helped me to secure tyres for my bicycle. There was another student living with me. She would leave her territory as I did, each Friday, in order to reach home and prepare for the Sabbath. The store manager was kind, and always had a steam bath waiting for us early Friday afternoon.

I usually worked six days a week, leaving early Sunday morning for my territory, and canvassing through until Friday afternoon. Sometimes we would order our books for delivery day, and then to our dismay we would find that books were not available and would not be available for another month or two because of paper shortage. However, I found while taking the orders that it was possible to sell as many as thirty to forty large books in one day. In fact my husband once did sell forty-four books in a single day. Often we sold more books than we could supply for some time to come.

After returning one autumn to Toivonlinna, our only school in Finland, I met John Paavilainen, the man who later was to become my husband. Then it be-

came necessary for him to leave our school in order to serve his country because of war. Later he returned to finish his education while I was still attending our school. John was not a Seventh-day Adventist but his parents were at the time he was called to his country's service. One day on the battlefield an enemy pointed a rifle directly at him. Recognizing his great danger John sent a short,



Mrs. Ingrid Paavilainen.

fervent, silent prayer to God: "If there is a God in heaven save me. I will become a Seventh-day Adventist and give my life to You in service." Just then another soldier hidden nearby on the ground in the tall grass shot the enemy before he could shoot John. John then went immediately to his camp and wrote a letter to his father asking him to draw all of his money out of the bank. It was a considerable sum and he asked his father to invest it all in the Lord's work. Later John also did some canvassing. He then worked in conference evangelism after terminating his education at our school. I was privileged to work in the same conference where John worked and for the same evangelist, Pastor Arvo Arasola. I began to see more and more of John while working in that conference. Then some time later it was our happy experience to have Pastor Arasola perform our wedding ceremony.

After our marriage we contemplated furthering our education in the United States. It was necessary, however, to spend about two years in Sweden canvassing in order to obtain necessary funds for our trip. The first year I canvassed I had the highest sales. The second year we decided to leave Sweden for Canada in September. It looked as though I would have led in sales in Sweden for the second successive year. Incidentally, en route to Canada we met with a terrible storm on the ocean. The normal five day trip took us eleven days. A radio message stated that a nearby ship had been broken in half and needed help. Others were sinking in the storm. My husband and I discovered the plight we were in and we found courage enough to climb to the deck to view the storm. The storm was so severe we found we could not aid the other stricken ships. There were great mountains of waves on every side of us and we knew it would only be through God's providence that we would escape the wrath of the storm. However, my husband and I felt we were ready to die if Jesus willed it so, or continue on to serve Him faithfully if this was in His plan for us. The storm finally subsided and we reached our port of entry in Montreal safely.

I was anxious to start canvassing in Canada because I felt I owed this service to my Master. It was the least I could do for Him, but I found my limited knowledge of English would not permit me to start immediately. We found our way westward across Canada to British Columbia where we both found temporary employment in a Seventh-day Adventist lumber camp. We continued to pray that the Lord would lead us just where He wanted us to be. The way soon opened for us to come to Oshawa, Ontario, where we still reside. My husband John loves to pray and he has a special talent for his work as chief maintenance man for our beautiful Kingsway Publishing Association plant located at Oshawa, and I am a full-time literature evangelist.

This is my third year of canvassing in Canada. God has blessed John and me for being faithful in the work He has given us to do. We feel He has especially blessed us because our great desire is to see how much we can give to Him in hours of service and funds for

His needy harvest field in this very late hour.

John and I have prayed much for success and we have pledged most of our income to His precious work. Although at first it did not look like I would have success in Canada because of the language barrier, finally success did come to me in the canvassing work. The Lord has given us both health and prosperity. John and I praise Him daily for His wonderful blessings upon us in so many ways.

My experiences in the literature work have been most enjoyable and rewarding. One day I called on a radio announcer. It was late in the evening. After canvassing him he telephoned and awakened his sister who had been sleeping at her home. He told her about the book. Without seeing the book his sister purchased one through her brother's telephone recommendation for it.

In another home an elderly lady whom I could see was very poor, listened to my canvass. She was a very fine lady, but she didn't seem to have any money. After canvassing her I asked her when she would like to have the book and to my surprise she said: "Just a minute." Then she went to a stack of old newspapers over in the corner of the room and lifted them up. Underneath was a parcel, and beneath this parcel she found the money with which she paid for the book.

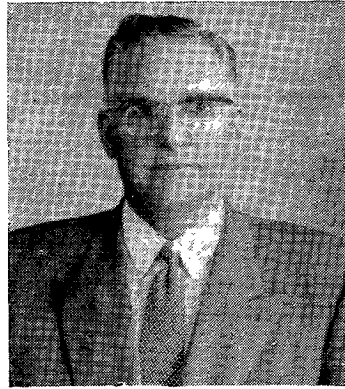
I recall in one home I sold three books bearing the same title resulting in a sale of well over \$30. In another home I sold two of the same title. The canvassing work is a wonderful work and I believe there ought to be many more Seventh-day Adventists, young and old, in this work. Yes, Jesus is calling for many to enter His vineyard at this late hour. Shall we not heed the call?

NORTHERN LIGHT

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J. M. Bucy.

**IF you are to serve in a larger capacity,
IF you are anxious to bear more responsibility in the great cause of Christ,
IF you have felt the call, or see the need for greater service in these times—
Then you must THINK of the opportunity before you;
You must DECIDE to forsake all and follow Him;
You must ACT NOW.**

REMEMBER: "Thought and learning are of little value unless translated into action." So many today say, "My heart is in this great publishing work," but our fervent prayer for believers is that more of them will also put their feet in it. Others are succeeding; you can, too. J. M. Bucy.

Jesus' preferred method of soul winning: "It was in private, often to but one listener, that Jesus gave His most precious instruction."—"Christ's Object Lessons," page 329.

A Week of Sacrifice

(Concluded from page 16.)

There are great issues at stake in the cause of God today. There has never been a time when our work has been looked upon with so great favour as now, in most parts of the world. Our people have been prospered and should remember that it is God who gives power to get wealth. We are the stewards of the mysteries of God and, "moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful."

This time of great opportunity must not be neglected or the work will suffer, for we are told that "some doors now open to the truth will be for ever closed. Carry the message now. Do not wait, allowing the enemy to take possession of the fields now open before you."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 172.

These words were never more appropriate than now. We can actually discover how the closing of some doors which have been open to the Gospel message for a long time have closed. We must enter in and complete our task before the day arrives when we shall no longer have opportunity. Like the blessed Master we follow, we "must work the works of Him that sent us while it is day. The night cometh when no man can work." John 9:4.

Remember the date—*November 23rd*—during the coming Week of Prayer. Let us all plan to give most liberally to the cause of God at this time and we shall be blessed in so doing.

"Let There be Light!"

(Concluded from page 3.)

daily that our goal of at least one full-time colporteur be recruited for every hundred thousand population in the Northern European Division this year? Shall we not ask our heavenly Father to help our leaders and colporteurs reach their objective in deliveries for this year and next? And then, if we are desirous of moving on to Canaan's bright shore, let us utilize every nerve fibre, sinew, and muscle for the task. My brother, my sister—what do you say?

Blessings and Gratitude

By A. F. Tarr

ONCE more we find ourselves on the eve of our annual Week of Prayer and Sacrifice, and again it is given to us to reflect on the blessings that a rapidly passing year has brought.

This year's blessings have been great and many. Peace has prevailed in every one of our Division's countries. Financial prosperity has continued, and with it exemption from Sabbath work without any great disability to most of our members. The health of workers and members alike has been wonderfully preserved. Religious freedom has not in any material way been curtailed. Literature has rolled from our presses and into the homes of churchmembers and of the public in unprecedented volume. Public evangelism has pressed its way into the forefront of our programme with heartening results. Church campaigns have been greatly blessed, notably the Ingathering campaign, through which the gifts of thousands of non-churchmembers have freely flowed into the Lord's treasury. The annual meetings held in nearly every local conference and mission in the Division have witnessed a new spiritual outreach on the part of many thousands of churchmembers of many nationalities. Our schools have opened their doors to a larger number of Seventh-day Adventist youth than ever before. Our sanitariums and hospitals have ministered healing to many thousands of sufferers, and have been greatly blessed in so doing.

One of the crowning blessings of the year has been the personal contact we have been able again to make with a union that has been separated from the rest of the Division for many years—the Polish Union. It is from there, with the joys of this happy re-union shining in the faces of over 3,000 enthusiastic, ardent believers, that this message is now being written.

In the light of all these blessings so generously extended by God to His people, and of the more personal blessings of which each one of us is individually deeply conscious, we believe that the 1957 Week of Prayer should call from every member of the Northern

European Division such fervent and spontaneous gratitude as we have never expressed before. We believe, too, that these past and present blessings—in the face of the serious times into which the world is so obviously moving, and which already envelop so many countries—call for a new dedication of our lives and of our all to the service of our King.

To this dedication we earnestly invite our church membership during this coming Week of Prayer. We invite you to make the whole-hearted surrender you know God wants you to make to Him, and to appropriate in its fullness the blessing He has in store for all who give Him first place in their lives. Whatever sin may still be cherished, whatever inclination or practice may constitute an idol in your own individual experience, be it selfishness, impatience, impurity, envy, evil surmising, a root of bitterness in our attitude toward a brother or a sister, a neglect of prayer or of the study of God's Word, or whatever other thing we know to be dangerous to our spiritual life, shall we not determine by God's grace to put it away once and for all at this God-appointed time? How good it

would be if each one of us in complete surrender would make the words of that oft-sung hymn our own earnest, fervent prayer:

"The dearest idol I have known
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from Thy throne
And worship only Thee."

With this prayer answered—and we know how eager God is to answer it—we shall close the Week of Prayer with a note of joy and victory we never knew before.

We invite all also to share generously in the Week of Sacrifice offering to be taken on Sabbath, November 23rd. All of the workers will, we feel sure, wish to contribute a week's income to this special sacrificial offering. Let all the churchmembers who can, share with us in this sacrifice. Surely we who live in Great Britain, and those who live in most parts of the Northern European Division, have so much for which to be grateful. Let us reflect that gratitude in a generous gift to God.

And so may this coming season of prayer and sacrifice bring to us one and all the blessings we need so much, and through our gifts and prayers bring unprecedented progress to the cause of God in our own community and in all the world.

A Week of Sacrifice

By A. L. Ham, Vice President, General Conference

As we approach the closing weeks of another year we are reminded of the constant care and many blessings received from our heavenly Father. It is not reasonable or right that we should fail to acknowledge these tokens of love and care.

The words of the song-writer are very appropriate:

"Count your many blessings,
Name them one by one;
And it will surprise you
What the Lord hath done!

"Count your many blessings,
Every doubt will fly;
And you will be singing
As the days go by!

"Count your many blessings,
Money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven,
Or your home on high.

"Count your many blessings,
Angels will attend;
Help and comfort give you
To the journey's end."

This ought to inspire God's people to far greater love and liberality in giving to the work of the church in all the world. The increasing expansion of the giving of the message is the source of thanksgiving during this Week of Prayer season and is also a reason for far greater sacrifices, that the task given us to perform may soon be completed.

(Concluded on page 15.)