

QUARTERLY REVIEW



ORGAN OF THE
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION of the General Conference of S. O. A.

“Be Ye Reconciled to God”

By W. R. Beach
President, Southern European Division

According to Plato, a thought is the soul talking to itself. It creates the possibility of an action. It may be suggested by the contemplation of what is going on around one.

Profound and intimate reflection may give rise to a good or evil thought, according to the state of mind or the quality of that reflection. A thought which proves good may lead to a constructive act, whereas an evil thought, even if involuntary, may precede a regrettable action. Thoughts do not come at beck and call; often they rise unbidden from the subconscious and force themselves upon us.

The Spirit of prophecy tells us that one evil thought is the beginning of defeat, sin, and ruin. The problem is a distressing one, for it is not always possible to prevent a thought, good or bad, from coming to one's mind. It is therefore necessary to discipline the will in order to expel these insidious thoughts. If they have already taken possession of the mind, one must summon all one's self-control so as not carry them out. Alas! it sometimes happens that an evil thought falls on soil only too well prepared to favor its growth. The thought in itself may be no sin; but if it is not resisted by a noble and upright thought, then it is certain to bring forth evil fruits, and this constitutes wilful sin.

Resumé of a sermon preached at Dammarie-les-Lys, January 26, 1952.

The Catholic Church endeavors to classify sins as venal and mortal. There is a « sin unto death, » and there is a « sin which is not unto death. » God is willing to forgive all our shortcomings, but He is powerless before persistence in wilful sin. This is the cherished sin which takes root in our hearts and quiets our scruples so that in the end we no longer have the desire to put it out of our lives. It is thus that, after having experienced alienation, we become enemies of God.

The apostle Paul says, « You... were sometime alienated and enemies. » An alien is not necessarily an enemy. When the apostle used the word « alienated, » it had a rather disparaging meaning. In our day foreigners are given a privileged status in most countries, but in Paul's time it was quite different. There were two communities to which one might be alien: the chosen people, and Roman citizenship.

It meant something to be a stranger among God's chosen people. Nor was this less true of Roman citizenship. « At that time ye were without Christ, » writes the apostle, « being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world. » (Eph. 2:12.) But there is more. St. Paul says elsewhere: « You... were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works. » (Col. 1:21.) What a

grievous accusation! What can be more distressing than to feel oneself at war with God? And it sometimes takes very little to bring about such a state. Ignorance as well as negligence may lead to it. A false concept inevitably carries one there. A weak man always finds excuses for himself, but the strong man knows full well the path he is following. If he is honest with himself, he knows where he stands in relation to his God.

Thought leads to action. Alienation becomes enmity, and one is at war with God.

But there is a wonderful experience in store, that of reconciliation. Reconciliation presupposes a state of hostility; it establishes peace. «Ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.» (Eph. 2:13.)

Four types of reconciliation may be distinguished:

1. Reconciliation with God. This is the most important. Christ alone, through His death, has made this reconciliation possible. The peace thus brought about makes man one with God.

2. Reconciliation with one's fellow men. This implies a complete transformation, which takes place of itself when the first reconciliation has been accomplished.

3. Reconciliation with oneself. Self is always the last to be forgiven. Anyone who takes the trouble to reason and who develops within himself the sense of his responsibility, recognizes this inexorable law: when we have pardoned all who have injured us, even the most serious offenses, we have still not absolved ourselves or regained our self-respect. Only Jesus Christ can reconcile man with himself.

4. Reconciliation with one's duties. Man is an unsatisfied being. If he has no ambition, he does not go far. Ambition makes him want more and more and creates a constant dissatisfaction with his work. But the reconciled man who is one with Jesus Christ accomplishes with dignity the task which God has entrusted to him, whatever it may be.

We were aliens, enemies; now we have been reconciled with God, with man, with ourselves, with our duties.

Having become new creatures, perfectly reconciled with the Divine plan here below, we are the happiest men and women on earth because we are walking in step with God, relying on His almighty power.

Reconnaissance Trip in Equatorial Africa

By K. Scheidegger

Secretary-Treasurer, French West and Equatorial African Union Mission

The African loves to travel, and he loves to talk. These two qualities have gone far toward making our message known from one side of the continent to the other. For a number of years, the Voice of Hope correspondence course has also spread the light beyond the limits of the Cameroun. And thus it is that, before any of our missionaries had crossed the border, there had already been talk of the Adventist mission in Ubangi-Shari, the Middle Congo, and Gabon. Several letters, most of which came from Ubangi-Shari, brought us to the decision to visit that region in order to survey the possibilities of establishing mission stations. It was R. Hirschy, missionary in charge of the Batouri station on the frontier of French Equatorial Africa, who accompanied me on the first of these expeditions.

From Nanga-Eboko it is four hundred kilometers to the border. Along the way, the children playing in the villages call greetings as my wife and I pass, for they recognize from afar the red mission truck. Their open, smiling faces cheer us and lighten the long and difficult journey.

The first stop on the schedule is Ndoumbi, 165 kilometers from Nanga-Eboko. Arriving during the forenoon, we find Brother and Sister R. Bentz at the dispensary, where they treat about one hundred

persons a day. The sight of these suffering men and women, and especially the children, touches our hearts. What a vision of human misery! Most of them have only a cloth around their loins, held in place by a string. Their bodies are covered with purulent sores, yaws, syphilis, and tropical ulcers. Others are bent-double with rheumatism, still others disfigured by enormous goiters. It does one good to see the devoted care with which they are treated. Through the missionaries, these people have come in contact with Jesus.

We leave Ndoumbi that afternoon so as to arrive at Batouri before night. Thus far our road has taken us through dense forests which obscure the sky overhead. From Ndoumbi, however, we head for the savanna. As far as the eye can see, there is only the bright green elephant grass, with a few scraggy bushes scattered here and there, periodically mutilated by brush fires, and from time to time a native village with its round huts surmounted by cone-shaped roofs. Overhead the sky is blue; not a cloud to protect us from the burning sun. The approach of our car sends guinea-fowl and partridges flying in all directions. One gracefully formed antelope disappears into the tall grass. And finally we arrive at Batouri without a single mishap. It is good to see our friends

the Hirschys ; such occasions are rare in Africa, due to the long distances between mission stations.

Early the next morning Brother Hirschy and I finish the preparations for the trip, which from now on will take us to new horizons and unfamiliar territory. The truck contains camp cots, provisions, and a reserve supply of drinking water, as well as our bags and of course our cameras. A box of books and two native colporteurs complete the load. Bidding goodbye to our families, we set out on our tour, full of joy and hope.

Our first stop is at Kentzou, on the frontier of French Equatorial Africa. Here we find the last of our outstations, which boasts an attractive little chapel, built of local materials. The native evangelist gives us a warm welcome. In the twinkling of an eye, the whole village is there to shake hands with us and express their joy. But we are pressed for time, for before nightfall we have all the preparations to make for projecting pictures at our meeting that evening. We enlist the pupils of our school, lively little negro boys who run to unload our baggage. The electric generator is set up, and a sheet is hung between two trees. No further announcement is necessary ; everyone understands what these preparations mean. There is little need of the tom-tom to bring in the laggards !

It is a lovely moonlit evening. The gathering makes an impressive spectacle under the cloudless firmament. Brother Hirschy and I take turns speaking to an attentive audience. The second part of the meeting consists of projected slides on the return of Christ. This is a marvelous method of explaining Biblical truths to the native mind. The spectators were stirred as they saw on the screen the different phases of this great event. It will certainly remain graven on their memories and will help them to understand the Bible prophecy.

Late in the evening we close the meeting and retire to our well-earned rest in the chief's hut.

The next morning, a few minutes bring us to the border, where there is only a small sign to let us

know that we are leaving the Cameroun and entering French Equatorial Africa. We are approaching our destination, Berberati, one hundred kilometers from the border. Along the way we stop at a number of native villages. We talk to the people, ask questions, and find that they are keenly interested in us. There are few outstations of other missions ; thus the opportunities offered for our work are excellent. The heat is overpowering, and we are glad to reach Berberati before noon. We get the colporteurs started on their work and do some publicity for the Voice of Hope. Then we pay a visit to the district chief, who already knows Brother Hirschy and welcomes us very cordially. He asks questions and seems quite interested in what we have to say. Under his influence, all the village chiefs who are present ask that we come and settle in their communities. They are almost disappointed to learn that our visit is only for the purpose of making contact with them. We promise to return as soon as possible, to stay.

While we rest for a while in the chief's hospitable home, our boy prepares the noon meal. Meanwhile, the news of our arrival has made the rounds, and a number of young men come introducing themselves as former pupils of our schools in the Cameroun. They are eager for our mission to establish itself among them, and we are happy to see that the seed planted in the hearts of these young people has not been wasted. Before leaving Berberati, we make many promises. When at last we take our leave, it is with a prayer that God will help us not to disappoint these people who are counting on us to bring them a message of comfort and of life.

For the return trip we follow a road which was formerly a native path and which winds in and out among rolling hills and valleys. A number of thickly populated villages lie along this route, and we have the pleasure of chatting with the villagers. They too ask for teachers ; they would like for their children to attend Christian schools.

This road is little traveled. There is no bridge across the two rivers to be crossed, and we must use a ferry, which takes a great deal of time. Late in the night we arrive at the border, where we take a few hours' rest before returning home to the Cameroun.

This trip has made a profound impression on us. It has shown us the great spiritual needs of a new territory. We have seen countless hands stretched out, like those of the Macedonian, in a pathetic appeal for help. None of the countries in French Equatorial Africa enjoy the light of the advent message. Thousands, millions of their inhabitants live in ignorance. Our responsibility is great. Please support us with your prayers. We thank you for the moral and material help you have given us in the past. The future is in God's hands, and we feel confident that He will supply the resources we so much need.



Mrs. R. Bentz caring for patients at Ndoumbi dispensary.

The Voice of Prophecy in Madagascar

By J. Rajoelison

Speaker, Malagasy Voice of Prophecy

December 4, 1951, marked the third anniversary of our Malagasy broadcast over radio Tananarive, which is a government-controlled station. Over its two networks, Catholics, Protestants, and Adventists are given free time weekly for broadcasts in French and Malagasy. Our Malagasy program is scheduled for five o'clock every Sabbath afternoon. The station director offered us forty-five minutes, the length of time allotted to other missions, but it seemed to us that a shorter program, carefully planned and well balanced, would be more effective, and we therefore accepted only thirty minutes.

From the first, our broadcast received a warm welcome from the Malagasy public, and its reputation has not diminished. Many listeners have told us that, of all the religious programs broadcast by Radio Tananarive, ours is far the best. At any rate, many are the people, in their own homes or in the public squares of Tananarive where loudspeakers are installed, who begin listening at the first soft notes of the Bach prelude which introduces our half hour.

We have adopted as a procedure the informal talk, with subjects grouped in cycles covering the prin-

cipal points of our message. On the first Sabbath of the month our broadcast is devoted particularly to problems of education and the home. These talks have been extremely successful, for there is nothing closer to the heart of the Malagasy than the welfare of his children. We try to introduce a reference to current events each week, and to present Christ as humanity's only hope and His second coming as the only solution to the problems of the present hour. Not content with a sterile presentation of the truth, we try to appeal to the hearts of our listeners as well as to their intelligence.

Another factor which has contributed to the success of our programs is the music with which they are interspersed. Our radio choir is composed of about twenty young people from our seminary. Mrs. H. L. Henriksen, wife of the union secretary-treasurer, serves as organist and has given us many helpful suggestions and encouragement. Other missionaries have helped with various talents, and some promising native speakers have been developed. Nevertheless, it is to the blessing of God that we must attribute the measure of success to which we have attained, and with His help we hope to do greater things in the future.

You may ask what tangible results we have to show for these three years. Apparently, very little; but we believe that the radio is first of all a means of preparing hearts for the message in its entirety. We feel confident that this work is going on, silently but effectively, and that an abundant harvest is in preparation.

In addition, we have the Bible correspondence course, which was launched a little more than two years ago. Offered in both French and Malagasy, it has been a success from the start. The enrollment has reached five thousand and is still climbing. It is undoubtedly the largest school on the island, and the only one which prepares its students for the supreme examination, the judgment. Our students are recruited from all parts of the island and from every class of society. The first diplomas were awarded toward the end of last year. So far, for the two courses, about fifty diplomas have been issued. Some of the recipients have signed a card signifying their decision for baptism. Unfortunately, the correspondence school staff, which consists of Sister Bertha Ranoroahanta and three secretaries, is greatly overloaded with work, and it is therefore practically impossible to make any direct contacts with correspondents.

I should like to cite here a few extracts from letters sent in by our radio listeners or correspondence school students. We have in our files a bulky folder filled with such testimonies, and new ones come in almost daily.

A listener in Fianarantsoa, capital of southern Madagascar, writes: «Last Saturday my family and I, seven persons in all, gathered about the radio to listen to the Adventist worship hour. We received a



Speaker for the Malagasy Voice of Prophecy program.

full measure of joy from listening to the study presented. . . . My wife and I would like to apply in our own lives the things that were said, for we are sadly aware that we are too much absorbed by the cares of this world. . . . Please put me on your mailing list for a copy of this broadcast as well as future ones. »

When our program had been on the air a few months, I received a letter from a Protestant minister who wrote: « I am a regular listener to your program. Rarely do I miss being at the Place Colbert (where loudspeakers are installed) at the time of your broadcast. With all my heart I urge you to keep up the good work, for you Adventist are the only ones who have a message for our time. The rest of us have little left to say. »

Our songs have more than once elicited favorable comment.

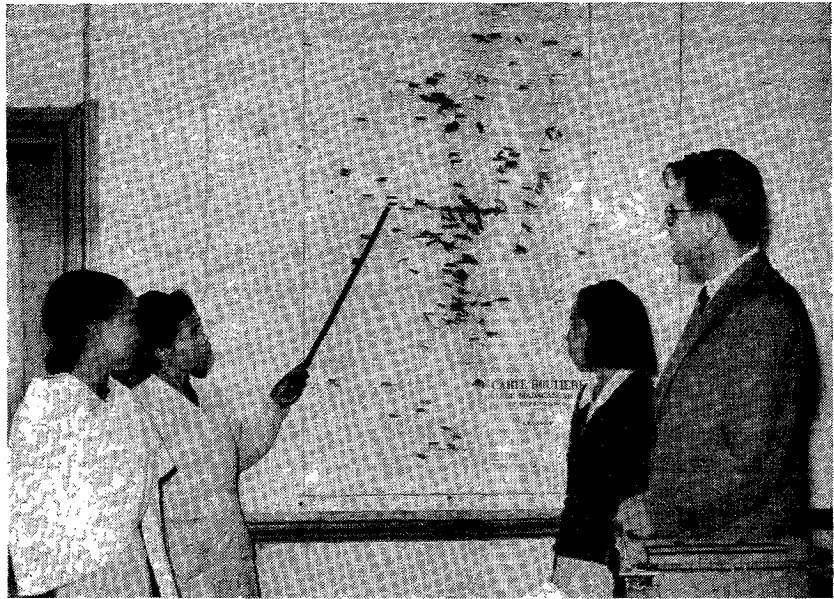
A sick girl sent us this message: « Thank you so much for the song on your Saturday's program. I am in bed with a high fever, but that song gave me so much spiritual comfort that I must write to express my gratitude. »

Another minister told of a painful experience through which he had passed at Christmas time: one of his children lay dying at home while the father must preach in three different churches. He wrote: « Since I have been a believer, I have been beset with trials of all sorts, and I might have succumbed to this last one if it had not been for the Voice of Prophecy. I was in such torment that I thought of suicide, but now my heart has found consolation. At my child's burial I had with me some of your lessons so as to be able to draw from them comfort and courage. »

From an invalid, paralyzed for the past four years: « I used to study the Bible every day, but I understood very little, until one day when, thanks to the Voice of Prophecy correspondence course, I began to see light in it. Now my greatest joy is to know that Christ is constantly at my side, instructing and encouraging me by means of these lessons, even though I cannot go to church to hear a sermon. »

From one of our European correspondents, a confirmed and militant theosophist (at the beginning, his answers to the questions were thickly studded with theosophic terms), we received one day the following note: « You may put me on the list for the next baptism. I give myself to God unreservedly. »

You may be interested in the testimony — a bit naïve, but sincere — sent in by a native of the west coast of Madagascar: « I am a Sakalava, and my desire is to lead my friends into the way of truth which you have shown me, as well as my children (when I have any), in order that they too may enter the path so clearly marked. »



Bible Correspondence School students are recruited from all parts of the island.

From time to time we send a letter to some of the more advanced students who have shown a real interest in the course, explaining the financial problems of offering a free course. As a general rule we receive a favorable response in the form of a money order. One correspondent accompanied his contribution with a message: « In response to your appeal, I am sending you this small sum (100 francs). I am still in school and am therefore not earning any money. However, I have managed to save a little, and I am glad to give it to advance the kingdom of God. »

I know of no more appropriate closing words than those of Isaiah 55: 10, 11: « For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. »

Brethren and sisters, pray for the radio and correspondence school work in Madagascar.

« When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you till it seems you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn. »

— Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Why were the saints saints? Because they were cheerful when it was difficult to be cheerful, patient when it was difficult to be patient, and because they pushed on when they wanted to stand still and were agreeable when they wanted to be disagreeable. That was all. It was quite simple and always will be.

RECAPITULATION

Name of Conference or Mission	Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter	Total Losses	Net Gain	Present Membership	Ord. Ministers	Lic. Ministers	Credentialed Missionaries	Licensed Missionaries	Bible Instr.	Elem. School Teachers	Canvassers	Total Laborers	Number of Sab. Schools	Sab. School Membership	Average Attendance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV.																							
Austrian Union Conference	40	2617	31	3	18	52	8	19	31	58	-6	2611	15	3	5	8	3	—	26	60	40	2824	1893
Czechoslovakian » »	114	5994	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5994	33	3	2	3	19	—	8	68	160	5845	5400
Franco-Belgian » »	78	3621	14	6	55	75	18	10	47	75	—	3621	28	29	34	7	—	3	54	155	76	3761	2422
Hungarian » »	155	7325	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7325	26	10	4	15	35	—	—	90	175	7000	6500
Jugoslavian » »	230	7288	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7288	12	5	—	13	—	—	—	30	300	9000	8000
Rumanian » »	551	36790	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36790	78	11	—	47	—	—	—	136	560	36000	31000
Swiss » »	57	3151	15	2	38	55	16	13	32	61	-6	3145	21	6	3	14	7	4	45	100	56	2961	2115
Angola » Mission	29	5049	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	5051	24	15	—	21	—	98	2	160	161	11583	9080
French West and Eq. Afr. U.M.	18	2664	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2664	12	7	2	13	94	68	2	198	98	9181	7500
Indian Ocean Union Mission	56	2240	18	—	8	26	6	5	6	17	9	2249	19	14	14	16	4	9	15	91	69	3666	2897
Italian » »	48	1898	17	1	27	45	6	4	40	50	-5	1893	19	9	2	22	9	—	52	113	62	2202	1865
North African » »	17	689	2	—	1	3	—	1	3	4	-1	688	8	6	1	10	3	—	18	46	18	725	516
Portuguese » »	16	1646	48	2	11	61	5	6	22	33	28	1674	11	4	—	10	13	5	11	54	53	2576	2116
Bulgarian Conference	39	2201	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2201	9	4	—	10	—	—	—	23	39	2000	1500
Grecian Mission	5	193	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	193	1	1	1	2	1	—	—	6	5	201	185
Portuguese East Afr. Mission	2	347	1	—	—	1	3	1	—	4	-3	344	1	1	—	2	9	—	1	14	6	1604	1200
Spanish Mission	11	756	—	1	4	5	—	—	8	8	-3	753	6	4	2	8	2	1	7	30	14	909	721
Tangier Mission	—	4	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	1	7	7
TOTALS, 1st QUARTER, 1952	1466	84473	146	17	163	326	62	59	189	310	16	84489	342	134	76	250	199	188	241	1430	1893	102045	84917
TOTALS, 1st QUARTER, 1951	1394	78167	181	17	128	326	83	58	146	287	39	78206	335	119	47	264	190	206	364	1525	1784	86979	74761

In French North Africa

By M. Fridlin

Secretary, Southern European Division

Before attending the auditing session of the North African Union Mission, which took place at Algiers, March 12-14, the writer had the privilege of accompanying W. R. Beach, the Division president, on a visit to Tunisia.

Our work is developing normally in this field. During 1951, two advance steps were taken which will extend it still farther. A layman who is a nurse has taken the initiative in opening a dispensary at Ferryville adjoining our charming little chapel there. This brother has provided furniture and equipment, and every evening, after his day's work, he devotes several hours to treating the sick and giving them the help and comfort they need.

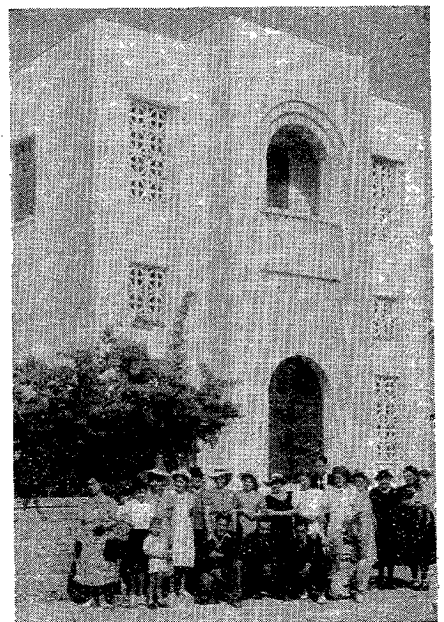
On February 4 of this year, Radio Tunis scheduled our first broadcast. After having given us ten minutes' free time each week, the station is now offering fifteen. Raymond Meyer, until recently president of the Tunis Mission, has had charge of these broadcasts, which can be heard in Algeria and even in southern France. In connection with the radio program, a Bible correspondence course has been launched, and the enrollments are coming in.

We are also pleased with the good work in progress at our Tunis dispensary, where Miss Aline Burri is devotedly caring for her numerous patients. In 1951 some six thousand persons were given the treatments they needed.

Although colporteur work is not easy in Tunisia, especially since trouble has broken out, our colporteurs are nevertheless working with remarkable faithfulness.

Their efforts are responsible for a large percentage of the newly baptized converts. One colporteur, who never misses an opportunity to present our message, has recently brought five people into the truth.

A new headquarters for our work in Tunisia is badly needed. The present accommodations for offices and chapel are quite inadequate and anything but a credit to us. In the near future we hope, with God's help, to raise enough money to purchase a new center where all of our missionary activities can be grouped so as to make our work more effective in the large and progressive capital of Tunis.



Church members and chapel in Ferryville

Over the week end we held meetings with our members in Tunis and Ferryville.

The auditing session at Algiers took place under ideal conditions. An excellent spirit prevailed throughout the three days during which the field leaders were assembled to study their numerous problems. The union president, P. Girard, presented an encouraging report. The year 1951 set a new record in baptisms; 101 members were added to the church, bringing the total membership to 690 on December 31.

The tithes and offerings, as well as Big Week



Chapel and union headquarters at Algiers.

and Ingathering receipts, are on the increase. This is also true of colporteur sales. The book « Prophètes et Croyants » (Prophets and Believers) by J. Reynaud has been well received in Moslem circles and will no doubt have considerable influence among the Mohammedans of North Africa.

In this connection, a decision was reached which marks a real forward step. At the Division Council in December, a budget was voted enabling us to lay a solid foundation for reaching the thirteen million

Moslems who inhabit this vast territory. Raymond Meyer, who has studied literary Arabic, was elected president of this new branch of our evangelistic work. He is supported by a committee, of which J. Reynaud is secretary. A competent sister has been employed to supervise a vocational school for young women, to be opened probably at Mostaganem. It was also decided to employ Brother Genuso, founder of the Ferryville dispensary, for medical work among the Arabs. He speaks the language perfectly.

W. Ruf, who has had charge of the Algiers church as well as of certain departments, was called to replace R. Meyer as president of the Tunis Mission.

Our little medical institution, « Vie et Santé, » situated on a sunny hilltop and blessed with a mild climate, is attracting favorable notice and has even been forced to turn away patients for lack of room. The competence of the directress, Miss Dora Meyer, enhances the worth of this institution, which today exercises a beneficent influence throughout North Africa and was able to show a small profit at the end of the year.

Mention should be made here of the evangelistic effort begun last year by Charles Winandy and his coworkers, sent from Paris to Algiers by the Division. The new mission headquarters dedicated in 1950 has made a favorable impression on the public and has no doubt strengthened the hands of the evangelistic team. The results have been most heartening.

At Algiers, as at Tunis, the meetings held were well attended by our church members and friends. There was also the valiant group of colporteurs who had gathered for the institute to be conducted a little later by F. Charpiot.

W. Fuchs, president of the Moroccan Mission, reported that the workers in that field, although few in number, are completely dedicated to their task. Elder Beach spent some time in Morocco after the committee session, and we feel sure his visit has proved a blessing to the churches there.

The brethren in North Africa were enthusiastic at the prospect of broadcasting the « La Voix de l'Espérance » over Radio Morocco. We hope to sign the contract soon. In the meantime, the Bible correspondence course has already been organized.

We are convinced that our workers in the North African Union Mission, with the loyal cooperation of the churches, will win new victories, by the grace of God, during this year. A day bright with promise is dawning in these countries where we have heretofore had uphill work. It is true that many difficulties remain. The lack of meeting places, for example, causes us some anxiety. However, with the help of God and the liberality of our North African members, we feel confident that this problem can be solved.

Brethren and sisters, will you not remember North Africa in your prayers?

EDUCATIONAL DAY

July 26

Belgian Conference

By Léon Belloy
President

Nearly one hundred baptisms! This is the happy result of a year's work, struggle, and prayer.

The Flemish church in Brussels has had a large share in this achievement, having brought 28 persons into the truth, thus making its total membership more than two hundred. The Liège church also deserves special mention for twelve baptisms, a remarkable record in this difficult field.

The part our colporteurs have taken in evangelism opens a new chapter in the annals of the Belgian Conference. Half of the baptisms in the Liège church are a direct result of colporteur work.

The Publishing Department shows satisfactory growth. Yearly sales now amount to more than one million Belgian francs. Considering the difficulty of the times and the scarcity of colporteurs, this figure represents a miracle of Divine grace.

One of the fondest hopes of our Flemish brethren and sisters has now been realized. For lack of appropriate Flemish literature, half of our territory lay fallow. Every year at the annual meeting, the same lament arose, « We need a Flemish magazine to gain access to the Catholic population of Flanders and Limbourg. » And now the journal « Leven en Gezondheid » has made its appearance, vying in attractiveness with its elder brother, « Vie et Santé. »

Truly, according to our faith has it been unto us; for to launch a journal during a period of crisis such as the one we are passing through, with only one or two colporteurs to assure its circulation, is no small feat. God has blessed us by enabling us to secure an amount of advertising which covers a sizable portion of the costs, and by giving us a devoted colporteur who is really accomplishing wonders.

Another department which affords us profound satisfaction is that of the Missionary Volunteers. Our young people are coming to understand more and more clearly the part they can play in finishing God's work. They are no longer content with assisting in the evangelistic campaigns conducted by our ministers; they themselves are undertaking public work whose success deserves admiration as well as gratitude. More than seven hundred enrollments for the Bible correspondence course were obtained through their open-air efforts in the public squares, and eight persons have been brought into the truth solely through the work of the young people.

Even the summer, with its invitation to rest and relaxation, cannot restrain their zeal. Instead of vacation camps, they plan to hold evangelistic camps,

with public tent meetings. We thank God for having raised up far-sighted leaders with a vision of the tremendous possibilities offered by a trained army of consecrated youth.

The Home Missionary Department is also flourishing. Mention must be made of the extraordinary effort put forth by our members and workers in the Ingathering campaign. The conference exceeded its assigned goal by 100,000 francs. The total sum ingathered for missions was 383,000 francs, or 40,000 francs more than last year.

The Bible correspondence courses in French and Flemish are a constant encouragement. Hardly a day passes that we do not receive letters of appreciation from students.

« These lessons have given us a new outlook on life, » writes one woman. « We cannot thank you enough, for your course has brought happiness to our home. My husband and I have already attended several Sabbath services. We should like to be baptized and become members of your church. »

Such experiences repay all our financial sacrifices, for who can measure the value of a soul? These people are soon to be baptized. Ten of the 1951 baptisms resulted from the Bible correspondence course.

The Brussels church school, which at one time seemed at the point of death, has received a blood transfusion and is in better shape than ever.

The annual meeting, as well as the smaller district meetings, were a source of encouragement and spiritual benefit to all who attended. The outstanding event of the year was certainly the visit of Arthur L. White, who aroused much interest by his talks on the gift of prophecy with which God has blessed His people.

The evangelistic efforts held by our workers, while attracting only a moderate attendance, have nevertheless yielded as good results as others which seemed more brilliantly successful.

The membership of the Belgian Conference at the close of the year was 923. Our members are loyal and zealous. Their faithfulness in tithing has enabled us, in spite of increasing expenses, to maintain the work on a solid foundation and to lay plans for extending our evangelistic efforts. We have a fine group of workers, devoted to their task and determined to make 1952 a record year.

May God, through His Spirit, grant much fruit for the labor of all these willing workers.

Evangelism in Praia

By J. Morgado

Evangelist, Cape Verde Islands Mission

Since the Cape Verde Islands Mission headquarters was moved to Sao Vicente a few months ago, we have begun an evangelistic program at Praia which has continued without interruption and promises well for the future.

We have done very little, but God has abundantly blessed our humble efforts. Our meetings began with an attendance of more than 150, which has been maintained ever since. We have met many persons who had never before come in contact with Adventists, as well as renewing acquaintance with others with whom we had lost touch. Our effort has attracted the attention not only of the whole city but also of people living in the interior of the island, which is the largest of the archipelago, with populous villages. Little by little we have made many friends whom we visit and with whom we study the Bible.

We began our work in the public market, where on Sundays thousands of people assemble from the farthest points of the island. At first we distributed several hundred leaflets and obtained some subscriptions for our health journal, «Saúde e Lar.» May God bless these leaflets as they are carried into communities which we have been unable to visit. At the market we met former members of our young people's society, now scattered in order to earn a living, who were happy to renew their fellowship with Adventists. In one village, through a nurse who once belonged to one of our Missionary Volunteer societies, we have established contact with several persons and we hope to organize a company there. In another village, a family which used to attend church but of whom we had had no word for some time, was located when we visited the market one Sunday. Here also several persons are studying God's word, and we pray that His Spirit may speak to their hearts.

We are sending tracts by mail to persons in other villages which we have as yet been unable to visit.

In connection with our meetings here in Praia, tracts and invitations have been given out by the young people. Missionary Volunteer society meetings have been held regularly, and the youth choir has rendered valuable help in the public evangelistic meetings. With appropriate films, we have had a medical missionary evening every two weeks, in which instruction has been given on practical matters such as home nursing and healthful cookery.

Attendance at our children's Sabbath school is constantly increasing, with the children of the new members and even of non-Adventists. Last Sabbath we had 37 children. This increase has made it neces-

sary to arrange another room, with low tables, pictures, flannelgraph, and sand table, for the smaller ones. It was first used on the last thirteenth Sabbath. We hope that through these attractive materials, our children will learn to love God and to serve Him. The cost of fitting up the room was met by the increased receipts of the missionary society, due especially to the subscriptions obtained for «Saúde e Lar.» May God help us to carry out our plans for the development of the church.

The adult Sabbath school also shows a regular attendance, and we hope that this new quarter will bring new victories, in offerings as well as attendance.

The most recent event was the Missionary Volunteer Week of Prayer, from which both young and old received a blessing. It was conducted by the young people themselves. Meetings were held every evening, and on the last Sunday an Investiture service was held at which nine Friends were invested. During the whole week the chapel was full of young people and older ones who had come to show their interest. Some young people came for the first time; others who had attended before asked to be enrolled as members of our Missionary Volunteer society.

With the offering taken at the close of this week, and others which our young people have given in token of their gratitude to God, the goal for this year was not only reached but exceeded.

On March 30 we made a missionary visit with some of the young people to Santa Catarina, a small town, European style, very pleasant and cool. With our hymns, tracts, and personal contacts, also with the authorities, we prepared the way for a public effort which we hope to begin soon.

The Dorcas society is also active. Besides the help of various kinds rendered wherever possible, a class of girls is being taught to make lace, etc. Their work is sold for the benefit of the Dorcas fund. Much more could be done in this line, if we had more means. The needs are many and our resources are few. It is heartrending to see so many children in need and to be almost powerless to help them.

At the next visit of our mission president, F. Cordas, we hope to hold the first baptismal service of the year for the young people whom we are now preparing. May God touch the hearts of others of our listeners, in order that they may unite with His church.

The young people and older members of the Praia church send you their Christian greetings and ask that you remember them in your prayers. The island is a place of difficulty and misery, but one which must receive the light of the gospel.

« What matter then where your feet stand, or wherewith your hands are busy, so that it is the spot where God has put you, and the work which He has given you to do. »

George Eliot.

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Sabbath School Centennial Celebration
 at Lausanne

« This is the happiest day of my life, » said 100-year-old Jean Schütz on Sabbath, May 31, before an overflow audience at the Montbenon Casino in Lausanne, Switzerland. The occasion was the Sabbath School Centennial celebration in connection with the annual meeting of the Léman Conference.

Present on the platform were several of the first Sabbath school members in Europe: Jean Vuilleumier and his sister, Mrs. Jules Robert, with 82 years of membership to their credit, and Brother Robert with 68 years. Altogether there were almost twenty who had belonged to the Sabbath school for fifty years or more. It was a poignant moment when the children marched in singing, their arms filled with flowers which they presented to these honored pioneers.

Brother Schütz, himself a faithful Sabbath school member, had made the trip from Neuchatel, where he lives, in order to attend the annual meeting. He signed his name without the aid of glasses to a message sent by the delegates to the General Conference Sabbath School Department, closing with the words:

« Having already received so many blessings from the Sabbath school lessons, we are determined, with God's help, that the study of His word in our Sabbath schools shall be a means of strengthening the bonds of fellow-ship and of growing in grace, as well as of evangelizing others. »

Newly Married Workers Send First Letter to
 Mission Director

Fredrico had gone ahead and made all arrangements with the chief at Corio to move there permanently. Fifteen men had been promised to serve as carriers and had made the return trip with all the baggage. The letter, received by E. P. Mansell, director of the Portuguese East African Mission, reads as follows:

YOUR EXCELLENCY
 DIRECTOR MISSION MUNGULUNI

I have the honor to tell you that the chief received us very kindly as well as the people. They brought us food more than we could eat and even invited us to stay in their homes.

Whenever we sound the baluke (native drum) everybody in the village and those in the hills far away come to the meeting whether it be day or night. Last Sabbath there were about one hundred at the Sabbath school.

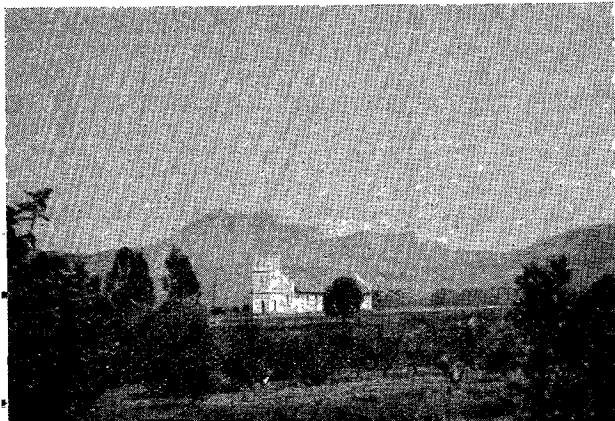
We need your prayers that we may know how to win all of these people to Christ. Send us medicines. There are many sick among the people.

Your humble servants,
 Fredrico and Zabelita.

Corio, March 17, 1952.

YET HIS PRAYER WAS ANSWERED

He asked for strength, that he might achieve —
 He was made weak, that he might obey.
 He asked for health, that he might do greater things —
 He was given infirmity, that he might do better things.
 He asked for riches, that he might be happy —
 He was given poverty, that he might be wise.
 He asked for power, that he might have praise of men —
 He was given weakness, that he might feel the need of God.
 He asked for all things, that he might enjoy life —
 He was given life, that he might enjoy all things.
 He received nothing that he asked for or hoped for —
 Yet his prayer was answered.



Munguluni Mission

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* * *
HERE AND THERE
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The Portuguese Union Mission reports 48 baptisms for the first quarter of this year. This news leads us to hope that 1952 will be a record year for baptisms in Portugal and its island fields.

A. Henriot, president of the East France Conference, writes that he expects to baptize about twenty new members in the Strasbourg church during the East France annual meeting. Thirteen were baptized by **A. Schmid** in the Berne church on May 28.

During the Swiss Union session, held in Lausanne June 1 and 2, **J. J. Aitken** was elected president of the union, replacing **A. Meyer**, who has held that position for eight years and will now give his entire time to the Division Ministerial Association. Elder Aitken, in addition to his duties as Swiss Union president, will continue to act as secretary of the Division Y. P. M. V. Department.

At present a number of our missionaries are spending their furloughs in the home field. Among them are **E. Fayard** and family, who will return to Madagascar to take charge of the Diego-Suarez Mission when **A. Schnyder** leaves on furlough. **J. Zurcher**, principal of the Madagascar training school, will spend most of his furlough in Geneva, working toward his doctor's degree. The **A. Matton** family from the North Cameroun Mission, after spending their furlough in Southwest France, will return to the Dogba mission station, where they have done such excellent work. **K. Scheidegger**, the secretary of the French West and Equatorial African Union Mission, recently arrived with his family after a first term of service in that field. Elder and Mrs. **P. Bernard** also arrived in June from the Cameroun and will spend their furlough in their homeland, Alsace. Brother Bernard has had charge of the educational and young people's work in the French West and Equatorial African Union Mission and hopes to return after his furlough. These missionary families always bring enthusiasm to our churches through their good reports.

R. R. Figuhr, a vice-president of the General Conference, arrived in our field toward the end of May. After having attended the annual meeting of the Léman Conference at Lausanne, followed by the Swiss Union session, he accompanied **W. R. Beach** to Yugoslavia to attend annual meetings in Belgrade, Novi Sad, and Zagreb.

N. W. Dunn, associate secretary of the General Conference, is visiting Southern Europe for about two and a half months. His main object is to visit as many churches as possible. Elder Dunn's itinerary began with Paris, East France, and Switzerland, after which he spent a month in Portugal and Spain, and then attended a number of district meetings in the Italian Union, accompanied by **M. Fridlin**.

A Division educational convention will be held at the Bogenhofen seminary in Austria, July 18-26. **E. E. Cossentine**, secretary of the General Conference Department of Education, and one of his associates, **L. R. Rasmussen**, will be present. The educational secretaries of the Northern and Central European divisions have also been invited, as well as the teachers at the Collonges seminary and those from the various union training schools. We feel sure that this convention will be an inspiration to all the delegates and will help our teachers in their task of training workers for the cause of God.

J. Esteves, who has had charge of the Azores Islands Mission, has been called to the leadership of the Portuguese East African Mission, replacing **E. P. Mansell**, whose furlough is soon due. Elder Mansell, who has served for many years in the Portuguese fields, and whose work has been greatly blessed, intends to leave Portuguese East Africa permanently at the time of his furlough. Two other Portuguese workers, **Carlos Esteves** and Miss **Fernanda Martins**, have been called to the Angola Union Mission for medical work and will leave Portugal soon. We wish all these outgoing missionaries God's blessing and good health in their new field of labor.

A. D. Gomes left Berne at the beginning of June to spend two weeks in Portugal before leaving for Portuguese East Africa and Angala to attend annual meetings.

Dr. **F. Brennwald**, the son of our former Division treasurer, has accepted a call for medical work in the French Cameroun. Dr. Brennwald obtained his medical degree in Switzerland several years ago and has since then spent some time in the States, where he received his American degree and has recently been connected with the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital. Dr. Brennwald expects to arrive in Africa toward the end of the year.

A. Lams, who for some six years has had charge of the Ankadifotsy school in Madagascar, has been asked to be head of the science department at the Collonges seminary following his furlough. Brother Lams and his family are already settled on the seminary grounds. We know that Brother Lams is happy to be back again at his alma mater, and we wish him God's richest blessing in his important work.

R. Bermeilly, who has long been connected with the Collonges seminary, for the past several years as dean, has for some time felt the necessity of a change, and was recently appointed director of the Voix de l'Espérance Bible correspondence school in Paris. He has also been asked to prepare a set of transition lessons which can be used to bridge the gap between the educational correspondence course prepared by M. Tièche and the regular Bible course. Brother Bermeilly is greatly regretted at Collonges. Our prayers are with him, and we feel sure that he will accomplish a fine work in connection with the Voix de l'Espérance Bible course. **P. Bénézech**, who formerly had charge of the course, has been released on request of the Franco-Belgian Union in order to take charge of an important district. We have appreciated the good work he has done in the Bible correspondence school, and we know that he will continue to represent its interests.