

QUARTERLY REVIEW

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



SUCCESS

By O. Schubert

Secretary, Department of Education

Everyone who is mentally and physically sound wants to succeed in life. This is entirely natural and as it should be. Diligence does not conflict with the Biblical-Christian viewpoint. The parable of the talents actively encourages it. Daniel and his companions had made such thorough preparation for the final examinations at the royal university that they succeeded «ten times better» than all the others. It is only unwholesome ambition and place-seeking which is rejected by Christian teaching, as well as by any other system of ethics on a high level. The educational efforts of all idealistic schools of thought will therefore foster the desire to establish a successful life pattern. Should this desire be lacking, in exceptional cases, it becomes the duty of the educator to seek out the cause and if possible to remedy the deficiency.

What really constitutes success? The idea persists on the part of many that a person is successful if he earns a great deal of money. Others consider influential public position as success. An employee wishes to become manager of the enterprise in which he works. A teacher strives toward the principalship of the school. An artisan wants to have his own shop. A laborer seeks employment which seems to him less fatiguing.

Even when such a man reaches his goal, he is not invariably successful. Earning power is far

from synonymous with success. Influence and public position do not always bring happiness and contentment. A good employee may make a bad manager. A teacher who finds joy in his work may be desperately unhappy as school principal because in this «higher» position he can no longer work in the line of his talents and inclinations. A competent artisan is often utterly incompetent to manage his own shop. A laborer is sometimes surprised, to find that what appeared to be easier employment is really harder and more irksome than the work to which he was accustomed.

Success is not riches, influence, or high position.

A young physician is particularly gifted for treating simple country folk. He is the perfect «general practitioner,» beloved by all. The people trust him and unburden their hearts to him. He always has good advice to give, whether the illness is serious or trifling, physical or mental. And so often the mind plays such an important role! Thus he is really a physician of bodies and souls. Naturally, he is happy. His income is not large, but he earns enough to support his family and educate his children suitably. Who will say that this man is not a success?

Outside his small circle, however, the man is unknown. He is not a famous specialist. The

idea suddenly occurs to him that he is cut out for something « bigger » than to end his days as a country doctor. He must move to the city, specialize in some branch of medicine, become a professor. He gives up his country practice and finds a position in a city hospital. He works day and night in order, after long years of privation, to be qualified to give lectures at the university. He has reached « success. » But his health is undermined, and his family life has suffered. Arrived at the goal, he discovers that it is not at all as he had imagined it, that he is not fitted to spend his life in theoretical classroom discussions. Has he been really successful?

Success cannot be measured in terms of low or high position, of difficult or easy work, or of more or less influence in public affairs. Success is something altogether different.

A man is successful if he has found an activity « his size, » which will fill his whole life and permit the free development of his talents. If a man is happy in the work he is doing, that is success. And this does not depend on position. Position may denote failure. Nor must it necessarily follow that a higher position leads to the full development of all a man's abilities.

New Year's Greetings

Instead of sending out greeting cards this year-end to only a comparatively few of our workers and people, as is usual, we wish to send a message of love and courage to all who are connected with God's people throughout the world.

By the grace of God we have grown into a large and widely scattered family. In practically every nation of earth, men and women, hearing the mighty judgment-hour message, have responded to God's call and have united themselves with His people.

Thus we have all become brethren. We are of the household of God. Many, many have found the ties of church fellowship to be much stronger than those of nature. As with Jesus, it is often true also of His followers that they stick closer together than brothers in the flesh.

We therefore count you all to be our brothers and sisters and greet you as fellow members of God's family on earth.

We have now come to the beginning of a new year. The page that made up the record of 1952 has been turned, and a new page is before us. The record of the past year is made up. What we have written we have written.

But what of the new year? Its possibilities lie spread out before us. If, in our service for God, we have failed in any particular during the past year, shall we continue such failure this new year, or shall we rise in God's strength and write a record of success on the new page?

It can easily happen that for some reason a person is not in the place suited for him and that he should find another. First, however, a careful examination should be made to be sure that this is really the case. Then when opportunity offers, the step must be taken with decision and courage. However, one must not leap too hastily to such a conclusion. In these days it is not always possible to find a life work entirely to one's liking. On the other hand, one can usually make the work he is doing pleasant, if he adopts the right attitude and takes pains to carry through successfully the task assigned him. The Bible says, « Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might. »

One who is forever hesitating, doubting whether he is in the right place, will never be successful. But the man who falls to with a will, doing his work cheerfully, will certainly not come short of success. In the last analysis, the highest success in life is attained by the man who, although his occupation may not be entirely congenial, still finds joy and happiness in his work because in so doing he serves his fellow men. The divine benediction will rest upon him, and he will be « blessed in his deed. »

Never since the fall of Adam and Eve in Eden has the church been faced with such a tremendous task! The world is coming to an end. Probationary time is running out, and yet all around us are legions of people who are unsaved. We meet them on the streets. We associate with them in our work. We pass them in the market places and on the great lines of travel. We pass many of their homes every day. But what are we doing to bring them into God's family before the curtain falls? Soon, very soon, it will be too late.

As the year opens, the hours of probation still linger. Whether that will be true throughout the entire year, only God knows. If not during this new year, then some year soon the plan of saving men will be forever over and our work will be done.

The words of Jesus come ringing down through the years with peculiar emphasis at this time — « Work while it is called today; the night cometh when no man can work. »

The church today is engaged in a mighty effort to double its membership in four years. Three years of this time are now past. Only one year remains. Two or three of our great divisions report that they have strong hopes of reaching the goal. What a victory that will be! It will, however, require a miracle if it is to be a universal accomplishment. In some divisions the task is much more difficult than in others.

Yet the task is not impossible in any section of the world field. It really is so very simple. All that

is required for our entire membership to be doubled by the end of 1953 is for each church member to bring one new person into the church.

One convert in a whole year!

Does that sound impossible?

With God's blessing and earnest effort on our part, it can still be accomplished. We appeal to our workers and people everywhere to make this new year, 1953, a year of very special effort in soul-winning.

Thousands of our laymen should lay down their usual vocations and go forth as colporteurs this year to sell our truth-laden books to the people. They should be scattered like the leaves of autumn. Scores of thousands should go to those in their neighborhoods and distribute tracts and periodicals and give or lend our books to the people.

Our institutional workers should make special plans

for bringing the message to the direct attention of all who come to them.

Most people will not come voluntarily to the church. We must go into the streets and lanes, into the byways and hedges, and compel them, through love, to come in.

Why would it not be well for our church leaders to call a special business meeting in January or February of this year for the purpose of considering this all-important matter of doubling our church membership? Every member should be urged to take a part. This is our God-given task. Nothing else is so important.

May God lead and bless us as we all join hands to accomplish it in His strength and name.

Again we greet you in the name of the Lord.

Yours for a year of unusual service and blessing,

W. H. and Elizabeth Branson.

With Our Missionary Volunteers *

By J. J. Aitken

Secretary, Y. P. M. V. Department

The year 1952 has been a blessed one in every respect for the Missionary Volunteers of the Southern European Division. The « year of harvest, » it has also been a year of labor. Our societies have undertaken the largest missionary campaigns in their history. While 1951 stands out as the year of the Paris Youth's Congress, it is in 1952 that we have begun to reap the results, and we are happy to find that our labor was not in vain. Due at least in part to the publicity afforded on that occasion, our schools are overflowing with students. The influence of the Congress is apparent, too, in the increased number of baptisms — 3,359 as compared to 2,781 the year before.

The organization of Medical Cadet Corps has been perfected. The assistance of P. Lanarès has been invaluable in this respect, and we have been able to publish a French manual. Our aim is twofold: first, the spiritual training of our young people; second, their technical training which will enable them to find a place in the army without violating their religious convictions.

Almost all the unions have gone beyond their M. V. missions offering goals, high as they were. This means that the Indian Ocean Union will be the recipient of a missionary ship, offering interesting possibilities for evangelism.

We have space to list only a few of the encouraging news items which have come in from all parts of the field.

Indian Ocean Union Mission. The Missionary Volunteers of Réunion Island have had their first camp, under the direction of J. Surel. Fifty-four young people, 34 of whom were not Adventists, took part. In Mauritius and Madagascar, four series of meetings were held under the title « Youth Speaks to Youth. » The number of societies has increased from 33 to 44. Investiture services featured the presentation of insignia

to 355 young people. One young man who was won to the truth through the Missionary Volunteer society, later became the instrument of converting four members of his family and three friends.

Italian Union Mission. This year two camps were held for our Missionary Volunteers of Italy. Of the 150 participants, only one in four was an Adventist. Several decided while at camp to give their hearts to God and were enrolled in baptismal classes. A young man at Naples whose parents were Adventists had never set foot inside the church. At camp he heard God's voice and obeyed. The public meetings held each evening aroused much interest, and one young man was able to place ten Bibles in nearby homes as a result.

More than 150 young people have passed the examinations for the various progressive classes. Four new societies have been organized, and 36 Missionary Volunteers have made decisions for baptism.

Swiss Union. More than 260 young people have taken part in the summer camps, ten have been won through the efforts of our societies, and seventy have enrolled for the reading course. The Swiss young people have worked with delirious enthusiasm for the missionary ship and have almost doubled their goal. It is a pleasure to note that the colporteur work claims almost 25 per cent of our young people this year. Fifty-two were baptized during the past few months.

North African Union Mission. On my recent trip to North Africa accompanied by R. Esposito, our dynamic Missionary Volunteer secretary, I was pleasantly surprised by the increased number of young people in the societies since I visited that union four years ago. Several camps were held this summer, with 82 young people in attendance. Our North African Missionary Volunteers have specialized in the sale of *Jeunesse*. Our young people depend largely on this plan for meeting the expenses of their stay at camp.

Franco-Belgian Union. « The Paris Congress has had a marked influence on the increase in baptisms, »

* Abridged from a report presented at the Division Council, Paris, November 19-25, 1952.

says P. Tièche, union Y. P. M. V. secretary. As compared with fifty baptisms for the entire previous year, there have been 62 during the first three quarters of 1952.

At Paris the Missionary Volunteers have held a series of meetings in a Communist section. A hall seating five hundred persons was rented, but we were told it would be a miracle if 150 came. However, from the very first meeting more than four hundred seats have been occupied.

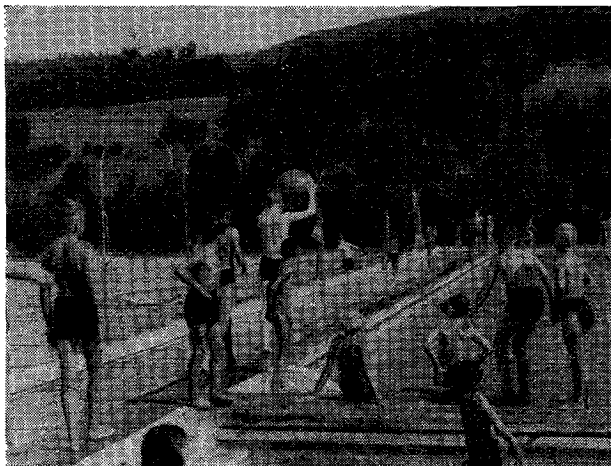
About two hundred young people took part in the eight camps held, among them a mobile evangelistic camp organized by G. Vandenvelde in Belgium, which pitched its tent successively in several villages and attracted sizable audiences for the lectures given each evening.

The Collonges students set a new record in Ingathering this year. The influence of their contacts with the public in Geneva and the Haute-Savoie region has been enormous.

The East France young people sold 75,000 French francs' worth of *Jeunesse* during the first quarter of 1952.

Austrian Union. O. Uebersax sends interesting reports of the three evangelistic efforts undertaken by the young people in Vienna, Edlach, and Linz. Good newspaper publicity has been given these efforts, particularly in Edlach.

More than four hundred reading course books have been sold during this year. Red Cross certificates were awarded to 150 young men and women belonging to the Medical Cadet Corps. The Austrian Missionary Volunteers went beyond their mission offering goal, raising a total amount of 10,000 schillings.



Missionary Volunteer camp at Edlach, Austria, 1952.

Angola Union Mission. A Casaca has worked hard at organizing regional congresses even in the bush. In this task he was aided by A. D. Gomes during the latter's recent visit. In 1951, 387 baptisms took place, and this year the number has already almost doubled, the last report listing 622. Ninety-seven young people have been won by the efforts of the Missionary Volunteer societies. Another encouraging piece of news is that 258 candidates have passed their examinations for the progressive classes.

Portuguese Union Mission. For our Missionary Volunteers of Portugal, 1952 has been a year of particular blessing. E. Ferreira reports that 183 have passed the progressive class examinations, as compared with eight for the same period last year. Sixty-three young people were baptized during the first three quarters. During my recent visit to Portugal, I was impressed with the wonderful spirit which animates our Missionary Volunteers in that country.



Gregor Bauer, 16, with the newly-baptized member whom he won through house-to-house missionary work in Vienna.

Spanish Mission. The new Missionary Volunteer secretary, A. Codejon, has entered upon his work with enthusiasm. Real progress has been made in Spain. Last year the progressive classes barely existed. This year 215 of our boys and girls have passed their examinations. A new record was set when 127 young people attended the five camps held during the summer. On that occasion, a large number of them made the decision to follow the Master and joined the baptismal class. In spite of manifold difficulties, our Spanish Missionary Volunteers are fighting the good fight of faith.

Grecian Mission. Our members in this small country are few in number, but their faith and courage is unlimited. The Macedonian call still sounds, and our young people are trying to win souls for Christ as did the apostle Paul. N. Poulos has made it his first object to organize the young people for missionary work as well as for the progressive classes. Hearty congratulations are due him for the little journal which appears regularly. The Greek young people have contributed \$30 toward the missionary ship.

French West and Equatorial African Union Mission. Although P. Bernard, union Missionary Volunteer secretary, is on furlough in Europe, the young people are not idle. Encouraging reports reach us of the evangelistic work being carried on even among the forest tribes.

I should like to express appreciation here to the presidents and Missionary Volunteer secretaries of all the conferences, missions, and unions, for their efforts in behalf of the 38,000 young people in our churches. May God render us worthy of the trust He has committed to us!

Harvest Time in Austria

By L. Schneebauer
President, Austrian Union

The close of summer marks the end of a year's work in the Lord's vineyard and the beginning of another. And so it is time to look back over what God has been able to do through His workers and His entire people.

Evangelism is rightly given the first consideration, for it is the supreme mission of the whole church, and every department of the work should in its own way further the cause of soul winning.

Thirteen ordained ministers, including union and conference presidents, and seven other workers have taken part in the achievements of the year. Ten regular evangelistic campaigns have been conducted, from six to nine months in length, usually two meetings a week, supplemented by regular Bible studies with interested persons. By the end of June, 1952, 123 baptisms had taken place. Considering the number who signified their desire for baptism during the regional meetings held throughout Austria this summer, it seems probable that forty or fifty more will be added to this number.

Unfortunately, our working force is still much too small. Since the end of the war seven new workers have been added (two of whom are beginning this fall), but this has not made up for those lost through retirement, death, or transfer. Constantly before our eyes are the many cities and towns which have not yet heard the message. However, since the establishment of the school in 1949, the situation is not hopeless, for a new generation is being trained. Our prayer is, « Lord, send forth laborers into Thy harvest! »

Even more deplorable than the lack of workers is the fact that five of our ministers were unable to hold public meetings for lack of a suitable hall. We have large memberships in populous cities which do not have a place large enough to meet for services. We confidently hope, however, that just now while we have freedom to preach the message, all our ministers and churches may have the facilities they need for the full accomplishment of their task. Trusting in God's help, we shall not stop praying until it is granted.

Among the number baptized are fifteen who became interested in the message through our colporteurs. Seven souls have been won through the work of the young people.

The missionary campaigns have been carefully planned by the Home Missionary Department. For the Big Week, a special book and a small pamphlet were printed. Our members, recognizing the importance of this literature, eagerly set out to place it in as many homes as possible. A total of 50,108 schillings was realized from the Big Week. The Ingathering campaign last fall brought in 145,781 schillings.

Welfare work has been given an important place during the period under report. By dint of zealous and untiring effort, the Dorcas societies have accomplished an impressive amount of relief work. In ad-

dition to caring for the needy members of our own church, 836 persons were assisted at Christmas time, 1951, with 2,672 articles of clothing, 136 pairs of shoes and house slippers, and 1,180 pounds of groceries. The value of the clothing and food donated was 146,950 schillings.

During the first six months of 1952, aid was given to 101 persons, in the form of 110 articles of clothing, ten pairs of shoes, and 450 pounds of food.

Since last fall, 663 persons have enrolled in the Bible correspondence course. Of these, 215 are studying regularly and 44 have already finished the course. Since the course was instituted in December, 1948, there have been 4,935 enrollments and 515 diplomas awarded.

It is a matter of regret to all our churches that as yet we have no radio broadcast of our message. However, hope is entertained for the near future. Such a broadcast would no doubt at least double the interest in the Bible correspondence course.

The Missionary Volunteer Department has for the first time organized medical cadet training groups, supervised by Army doctors. In six cities where the training was given, 150 young people completed the course successfully. This program will be continued.

Another innovation for our field was the children's summer camp held in Edlach, near Semmering, July 14-31. Some eighty children took part with great enjoyment. One of our constant concerns is the matter of school attendance on the Sabbath. In some parts of the country our Religious Liberty secretary has a hard battle to fight, but he is not giving up.

The Sabbath school is this year celebrating throughout the world its one hundredth anniversary. Sabbath school conventions held in each district from January to May have proved a real stimulus to the work.

Our publishing house is still a comparatively new undertaking, dating from 1948. Thirty-two colporteurs, under the direction of two leaders, have sold 24,696 books and 3,112 pamphlets, amounting in all to 926,652 schillings. As stated above, fifteen souls were won through their efforts.

A new book on Daniel by R. Rühling was published this year and met an eager welcome. Another valuable colporteur seller now on the press is « Wir und unsere Kinder » by W. R. Beach.

We are grateful for the help of the Division brethren in our various assemblies, and particularly so for the visit of three workers from the General Conference. At our union session last fall, Arthur L. White gave a series of very instructive studies on the Spirit of prophecy. He also spoke at Salzburg and at the Bogenhofen seminary. A. A. Esteb, associate secretary of the Home Missionary Department, with F. Charpiot of the Division, held a Home Missionary convention in Vienna which aroused fresh enthusiasm for house-to-house evangelism. Lastly, it was our privilege to have with us in Vienna a vice-president of the General

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF S. D. A. FOR THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1952

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 CONF.																								
Danube Conference	21	1473	37	—	14	51	17	2	14	33	18	1491	3	—	3	6	—	—	21	12	34	21	1551	1010
Alpine »	19	1153	14	—	5	19	5	2	14	21	-2	1151	6	2	2	3	3	—	18	31	19	1122	855	
Total :	40	2626	51	—	19	70	22	4	28	54	16	2642	15	3	5	10	5	—	39	77	40	2673	1865	
CZECHOSLOVAKIAN U. C.																								
Total :	114	5994	300	—	—	300	70	50	—	120	180	6174	33	3	2	3	19	—	8	68	160	6000	5400	
FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C.																								
Belgian Conference	14	901	21	3	15	39	4	2	13	19	20	921	2	3	1	2	—	—	—	8	22	15	945	666
East France »	18	490	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	-1	489	5	4	7	2	—	—	4	22	15	16	508	408
North France »	17	1152	38	2	9	49	—	1	4	5	44	1196	8	11	8	1	—	—	23	51	21	1285	940	
South France »	22	946	21	7	3	31	13	5	6	24	7	953	7	5	5	4	—	—	16	37	21	720	530	
South West France »	6	163	9	46	—	55	1	1	9	11	44	207	4	3	—	—	—	—	7	14	6	303	200	
Total :	77	3652	89	58	27	174	18	9	33	60	114	3766	29	29	27	10	—	—	54	149	79	3761	2744	
HUNGARIAN U. C.																								
Total :	155	7325	300	—	—	300	86	46	—	132	168	7463	26	10	4	15	35	—	—	90	175	7000	6500	
JUGOSLAVIAN U. C.																								
Total :	230	7288	500	—	—	500	90	60	—	150	350	7638	12	5	—	13	—	—	—	30	300	9000	8000	
RUMANIAN U. C.																								
Total :	551	36790	3000	—	—	3000	600	300	—	900	2100	38890	78	11	—	47	—	—	—	136	560	38000	31000	
SWISS U. C.																								
German Swiss Conference	33	1909	33	2	9	44	1	4	10	15	29	1938	2	2	2	5	4	1	32	58	32	1753	1102	
Leman »	25	1264	21	6	3	30	5	8	5	18	12	1276	9	3	1	7	1	3	13	37	24	1289	1070	
Total :	58	3173	54	8	12	74	6	12	15	33	41	3214	23	7	3	12	5	4	45	99	56	3042	2172	
ANGOLA UNION MISSION																								
Bongo Mission	23	2654	553	—	—	553	69	7	18	94	459	3113	4	1	—	7	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—
Cuale »	1	223	73	—	—	73	—	—	—	—	73	296	2	—	—	1	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—
Lucusse »	1	73	23	—	2	25	—	—	—	—	25	98	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Luz »	1	414	108	—	—	108	—	—	—	—	108	522	3	2	—	1	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—
Nova Lisboa Mission	3	918	262	—	29	291	—	—	14	14	277	1195	5	5	—	1	—	—	17	1	—	—	—	—
Namba Mission	1	766	73	—	2	75	—	—	—	—	75	841	2	1	—	1	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—
Total :	30	5048	1092	—	33	1125	69	7	32	108	1017	6065	24	17	1	20	—	—	110	1	173	175	13919	10996
FRENCH W. AND EQ. AFR. U.M.																								
Batouri Mission	3	387	53	—	—	53	15	13	—	28	25	412	2	—	1	5	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—
Bertoua »	2	233	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	233	1	3	—	2	15	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
French W. Afr. »	3	246	13	—	—	13	1	2	—	3	10	256	3	2	—	5	5	6	1	—	—	—	—	—
Kribi »	2	231	24	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	24	255	2	—	—	1	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maroua »	6	1231	102	—	2	104	18	17	—	35	69	1300	2	2	1	8	37	38	2	—	—	—	—	—
Nanga-Eboko »	4	336	7	—	—	7	—	6	—	6	1	337	2	2	—	4	9	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sangmelima »	20	2664	199	—	2	201	34	38	—	72	129	2793	13	10	2	28	94	67	4	218	98	9296	7500	
Total :	20	2664	199	—	2	201	34	38	—	72	129	2793	13	10	2	28	94	67	4	218	98	9296	7500	

“The Place is too Strait for us”

By O. O. Mattison

President, South India Union Mission

Wherever the «sons of the prophets» gather together to prepare themselves for the work of the Master, if run on proper lines, the place sooner or later becomes too strait for them. Thus it was in ancient days and thus it proves to be today. This is as it should be. Growth means expansion, and sometimes expansion means seeking a new location in which to expand.

When our educational work in the great Tamil-nad section of our South India Union started some thirty-five years ago, through the liberality of our first believers, a three-acre plot of land was made available for the erection of a school for their youth. At the time this seemed ample, and with faith and joy a unit of buildings was constructed that has served the field in a remarkable way. From it have come some of our strongest leaders, not only of this union, but of the great Southern Asia Division field as well. We are proud of these men and women, and they, no doubt, are proud of the school where they first learned of this message and where they received the call to enter the Lord's service.

But for some years now they have felt very much like the young men who appealed to Elisha when they said, «The place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us. Let us go, we pray thee, and let us make us a place... where we may dwell.» 2 Kings 6:1,2. For soon after the building of the Prakasapuram School, which today is called the James High School after its founder, Pastor J. S. James, the village of Prakasapuram grew into a town which so completely surrounded the school as to leave no room for expansion. Each time, however, that the directors felt they should go elsewhere and re-establish this school of the prophets, the question arose as to where they should go. They did not want to go too far north, as it would be getting too far away from our established work, and it would cost more than our poor people could bear to send their children long distances. They could not go very far west or south or east, as they would either run into the ocean or the Malayalam-speaking section of the Indian peninsula.

The school has grown so much in recent years that we have been forced to look beyond its present horizon for a definite location lest it grow backward instead of in a normal way. First we searched in the vicinity, but nothing presented itself that would fill our need. We needed land for cultivation — and good paddy land at that — so as to grow the food for our ever-growing school and ever-growing boys and girls attending it. We needed good road and railway facilities. We needed good water for irrigation and domestic purposes, so we began to search around Trinopolity which offered everything but the right kind of land and good water supply. We then went into the great rice-basket of the Tamil field, the Kumba-

konam and Tanjore districts. We found plenty of water and good land but no suitable building sites. Also certain places that seemed ideal were plagued with elephantiasis which made the inhabitants look like grotesque walking tree-trunks.

But the Lord kept leading us, and finally after much searching we were led to a rich landlord seven miles out of Tanjore who had three thousand acres of rich paddy land, and if we could only get it, an ideal building spot. We approached him with many misgivings, as the landlords of India do not like to part with their lands which have come down to them for many generations. This was a spot of land through which a railway line ran, which had passenger trains each way five times a day, and a little station just on the edge of the property called Kudikhadu. The main highway also ran along the southern border of the land, and a large irrigation canal along the northern border which would supply us an abundance of water for eight months of the year. It also had a never-failing deep well right at the spot where we decided we would want to build the school if we could only get the land, and looking south we could see the high-tension electric line which would supply us with all the electric power for our needs. The entire plot consisted of sixty acres, and what more could we ask for? — just the willingness of the man to part with this sixty acres out of his three thousand. We counted our resources and prayed for the Lord to impress him to come to our aid.

It so happened when we approached him that he was standing for election, but little did we realize that that would have anything to do with getting us the land. He needed ready cash, though, and we needed this plot of land. He named his price, and we just did not have the money for it. We got our heads together again and prayed some more and again approached him for the portion above the railway land, which was forty acres, and for which we had just enough money. Yes, he was quite willing for us to take the forty acres, as it would give him just enough money to see his campaign through. It did not take us long to close the deal with him. He had his money for his campaign and we had our land for the school; true, not quite as much as we would have desired, but much more than the three acres we have at the present site, and enough to grow sufficient rice and vegetables for two hundred students. And what rich soil it is, and what a wonderful supply of water we have, with good railway facilities, highway convenience, and a supply of electricity for lighting and industrial purposes. We also have our school family, Brother and Sister Rollins, studying Tamil preparatory to taking over as soon as buildings can be constructed — and that is where you come in, wherever you may be.

We are appealing to you to plan now for the finest Thirteenth Sabbath offering you have ever given, to come with us and build this new school. We want every one of you to have a part in it. We ask you to

This appeal comes to us from the Southern Asia Division, to which the Thirteenth Sabbath offering overflow for the fourth quarter has been assigned.

make it one of your special Christmas presents of the year, so that the youth of the Tamilnad may share its joy with you and thus through your special gift many young people may enter the Master's service.

«And he (Elisha) answered, Go ye. And one said, Be content, I pray thee, and go with thy servants.

And he answered, I will go. So he went with them.» That is our appeal to you today. Come and go with us, and let us together build this school for the Tamil youth of India and to the glory of God, and for the advancement of His work on the earth. May the Lord bless you as you give, and bless your gift.

A Missionary's Diary

By E. Vervoort
Indian Ocean Union Mission

The first rains have already swept down upon the parched earth when one warm December noon the mission truck rolls to a stop at a small village in the midst of the forest. The deserted street dances under the effects of the overpowering heat. The oppressive atmosphere presages a storm.

The honking of the horn has aroused at least one person from his siesta. Here he comes, triumphantly brandishing a key! While we were enroute for the unknown, he has managed miraculously to rent a small house which had been used to store rice. All along the way we have been worrying because we did not know where we would stay — and at the end of the trip God has opened a way for us.

A few minutes later a member of our small company here in the village comes to help unload the truck. The bustle of activity has attracted a few of the curious, and a group forms rapidly a few steps from where we are perspiring. The news is spreading now from person to person, «An Adventist missionary.» I anxiously watch the faces. To my great surprise, several curl a disdainful lip, and the crowd dwindles and disappears, leaving only the empty street, the blinding glare of the sand, and a few laggards dragging themselves along under the merciless sun. . . .

Next day. The truck disappears in a red cloud. I am alone. . . . I wander aimlessly through the dirty little house, gauge the menacing, hostile bulk of the Protestant church which casts its shadow over my new dwelling place, observe some of the passers-by in the hope of striking up an acquaintance. Nothing happens. The solitude and indifference are getting on my nerves; I must do something about it. Above all, I must not let myself think. . . . No, there is only one thing to do, work. In the little shop kept by a taciturn Chinese, I find a few packing cases with which I can make furniture for the kitchen. Hammering nails into wood does me good. Every now and then I jump halfway out of my skin at the bellow of a zebu being chased across the yard. I repair the reed fence as best I can. Some of the natives are watching from the corner of the market place and comparing impressions. . . .

Evening. My first evening alone. The feeble glimmer of a smoking kerosene lamp finds me chasing an army of cockroaches who emerge from cracks in the woodwork. Reinforcements arrive constantly through the broken shutters — window glass or screens being nonexistent. It has started to rain in torrents. Flashes of lightning pierce the mysterious darkness of the village. The rain drives in through

windows and doors. Under the onslaught of the water coming through the roof, part of the ceiling crumbles, gives way, and falls directly on my alarm clock, which stops. What does it matter? Time is no longer important. . . . All of a sudden I wake up, my hair standing on end. A cat has jumped in the window and is chasing rats around my bed. It is a long time before I get back to sleep.

The first Sabbath. I must go directly past the imposing Protestant church, past its Malagasy pastor with his bony face and his fox eyes which watch my slightest movements, alert to protect his sheep and his collections. Below the street level, surrounded by modest dwellings, I find a tumble-down hut constructed of unbaked brick, the door hinges clinging by one nail to their frames, a dirt floor covered with ragged mats. There are two rooms, one of which serves as a meeting place for the six people who have assembled this morning in honor of my arrival. The room is small. On the walls can still be detected traces of whitewash dating from a distant past. The thatch roof affords scant protection from the burning rays of the summer sun.

A few benches, a tottery table covered with what must have been at one time a white cloth. . . . and cockroaches. Outside the door, native women carrying water pass to and fro; before me a few impassive faces, the women nursing their babies, the children crying or playing on the floor underneath the table which serves as a pulpit. The hymns are intoned off key in a monotonous sing-song; the prayers carry no conviction; the little group separates.

In the evening, alone, I fall into reflection. I hear again the powerful discourses on missions, I reread in imagination the thrilling stories of the nineteenth-century missionary heroes, I experience anew my own hopes as I set out for the mission field, to work for these simple, primitive people, living close to nature, sending out a chorus of Macedonian calls. . . .

No one here needs me. There was a gleam of amused pity in their eyes as they passed me on the street. Where are all those natives who were going to cluster around me when I talked of God's love in Jesus Christ? They all seemed to know more about it than I. Where are the sick I was to care for? There is a local doctor one block away who charges for his treatments and medicines. . . . he had a crowd in front of his door. Where are the enthusiasts who were going to help me build schools, chapels, and dispensaries? . . . So many plans I had, such eager willingness. But these people are not even aware that I exist, or else they stand aloof, passively await-

ing developments, perhaps even hostile. They would prefer to be left in peace and quiet, free from worry about their material or spiritual welfare, crouching in a smoke-filled hut. . . . Oh, they bow to me in a frightened sort of way, unwillingly, tardily, until the time comes when familiarity will replace the bow with glacial indifference. They avoid me, fearing to talk to me or visit me. Alas, my beautiful dreams! . . . I must not think, only work. . . .

My wife has arrived. The house is clean. We are adjusting our life to the needs of the community. Our few members are gradually coming back into church fellowship as we are able to establish relations of brotherly intimacy with them. And how well situated we are, here in this little village, to do this. Their hearts needed the signs of our Christian affection. Living among them and with them, not displaying a spirit of superiority in anything, children of the same heavenly Father — here is the starting point for a rebirth. The days pass, and we are observed — furtively, but with a simple unerring logic. Here and there faces begin to relax; here and there souls reveal themselves thirsting for truth; here and there are some sick to be treated, in spite of the doctor or the priest; here and there we are needed after all. A hut opens, and it is for us to open a heart to the Saviour. A desire to open an Adventist mission station makes itself felt; it is for us to toil and sweat, encouraging our friends, carrying them along, showing them that we are only poor creatures among the rest, but that God loves all of us. Little by little the work establishes itself and begins to show progress. Nothing great, to be sure — nothing dazzling. Simple, humble, insignificant. But we know the price paid in cares, labor, disappointment, the prayer of faith answered by unbelief. My distress is comforted — that distress born of the stories of triumph which aroused the desire to do great things for God here on earth.

Itanjona : A Dream Come True

By H. Salzmann

President, Antsirabé Mission

We had burrowed through forests and wound our way over the heights. On the rice plantations, the planters were getting ready to thin their rice. Farther and farther we pressed on into the solitudes, where the rare passers-by stared at us in open-mouthed amazement. Had there not been natives in our company, our appearance would no doubt have been the signal for immediate disappearance into the bush.

Finally we abandoned the road altogether and struck out across the open fields, thinly covered with dry grass. Solomon (his native name is Razafien-drika) was serving as our guide, as I had never been in this region before, nor had any of our missionaries.

And here we were at last — not at Itanjona, but as near as we could get with the car. In response to Solomon's ear-splitting call, we could see several persons emerge from the tiny village, descend the steep slope, and start climbing toward us — for our baggage had to be carried the rest of the way by hand, or rather on the head.

Times have changed? Perhaps. But was there ever a time when a look, a word, a desire, brought wonders to pass for the glory of the Lord? when men were crowned as conquerors before they had conquered? I no longer believe that there has ever been or ever will be such a time. Now that the village is far behind us, now that we have bade farewell to these dear souls, these humble stations, now that the picture is blurring at the edges, softening into memory, now it is that we realize, « This was the Lord's way, these were His works. »

My Bible opens to Isaiah 53, in which God speaks of my forerunner in the divine path of eternal success :

« To whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? . . . There is no beauty that we should desire Him . . . We hid as it were our faces from Him . . . We esteemed Him not. »

Here is the setting! We all hope for such instantaneous and manifest success, and are so prone to become discouraged when it does not come. But the way of the Lord is the way of affliction; He lays bare the depths of our being and makes us understand the principle animating His work: the expiatory suffering of the innocent victim.

« He was wounded for our transgressions . . . With His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray . . . He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter . . . He openeth not His mouth. »

« I preach Christ crucified, » said that other missionary. He did it through a life « crucified with Christ. » And it is thus, contrary to our human conceptions, that God's work is done, humbly, silently. It is accomplished in the spirit of the Saviour, that spirit of unquenchable love in the midst of suffering, calumny, humiliation; that spirit of self-denial, setting aside one's own rights and ambitions in order to save some among that multitude whom the Lord so loved that He gave His life.

The occasion was a regional meeting of the churches in the vicinity of Ambositra. For three days we were together, showing pictures every evening, holding a baptism and communion service on the Sabbath — and, on Sunday, a sale. Our brethren and sisters of Itanjona had brought in the products of their fields and their rice paddies, to make a dream come true. But in order to tell you about that, we shall have to go back two years.

* * *
It was in November, 1950, that the government granted permission to hold religious services in one room of our brother Solomon's house. As often happens, the beginning was none too promising, but as a result of Solomon's perseverance, the room was soon too small to hold all those who wanted to come on Sabbath. One week, after the services had been uncomfortably overcrowded, our brethren held an impromptu committee meeting to consider the problem. Their solution was simple: they would build a chapel! But how, without funds?

On July 17, 1951, three men set to work. Often their own rice fields and homes were neglected. They were the objects of ridicule. Who ever heard of an Adventist chapel springing up in the bush, anyway? But God was with them. Attracted by the perseverance and enthusiasm of our brethren, others decided they would help too. And so, just before the heavy rains began pelting down, the neat little building, about 24 by 36 feet, was under roof. And well that it was, for nothing is spared by the rainy season.

This initial success was followed by another: at the end of the year three of the helpers on the building decided that they themselves would become part of the spiritual house of God.

1952. Happily the members whitewashed the walls, erected an earthen pulpit, and leveled off the surrounding ground. In addition to their work, they had contributed 20,000 colonial francs (about \$ 120) from the slender profits on their crops. They had had no aid whatever from the Mission. But benches and shutters were still missing, as were a great many small things which help to make a house of worship attractive.

* * *

And so the 6,000 colonial francs received from the sale (as well as the evening offerings during our regional meeting), will provide the finishing touches to the little chapel on the lonely plateau.

In the Madagascar forest are many companies of believers who long for a chapel. May the experience of Itanjona serve as an encouragement — for when God is with us, dreams can come true!

HARVEST TIME IN AUSTRIA

Continued from page 5

Conference, R. R. Figuhr. Our members remember with pleasure the sermons he gave at that time.

We thank God for every soul He has added to His church. Nevertheless, we realize that much more will be accomplished when every advent believer is constantly ready to be used by the Holy Spirit. Just now the workers throughout the land are preparing to begin their evangelistic campaigns. By faith we enter upon another year of labor for Christ and for the souls whom He has ransomed with His blood.

NORTHERN ITALY REPORTS...

The North Italian Mission, organized in January, 1947, comprises the Piedmont, Lombardy, Liguria (except the La Spezia district), Venezia Tridentina, Venetia, the free territory of Trieste, and three provinces of Emilia. There are eighteen and a half million inhabitants in this area of some 100,000 square kilometers.

We have fourteen churches — two of which, Trieste and Milan, have more than one hundred members each — as well as several companies and many isolated believers. In all the membership stands at 594. In the past five and one half years, 339 new members have been baptized.

The financial statements also show progress. All the goals have been reached and exceeded.

We have three chapels of our own, two of which are in the cities of Trieste and Milan. The other churches, however, are still having to meet in small rented halls. The disreputable street on which the Bolzano church has its place of worship constitutes a real handicap so far as publicity is concerned. But what is to be done when money is short and rents are high?

The Torino church, with 74 members, meets in a room 16 x 20 feet. On Sabbath morning when the pastor announces the Sunday night meeting, he is compelled to ask the members to remain at home, for otherwise there would be no room for the public.

Then there is the little Conegliano church, which is a continual target for the priests and whose thirteen members are consequently always in search of a new place where they can meet. At present they are worshiping in a meadow. If only they could have a more or less permanent chapel, a solid work could be accomplished and the membership multiplied within a short time.

At Trieste and Milan, the work is progressing normally. With a minimum of publicity our meetings attract good audiences, many of whom accept the truth as a result. In Milan, for example, 108 persons have been baptized during the past five years, and a church of sixteen members has been organized in the vicinity — that of Sesto San Giovanni. If in addition to the two Bible workers there were a minister devoting his full time to the work in this great city, the results would undoubtedly be larger. Since I have charge of the Mission as well as the church, my local activity is necessarily limited.

The colporteurs, during the past five and one half years, have sold literature amounting to 76,776,994 lire, or \$ 122,844.

Notwithstanding the size of the field and the large number of inhabitants, we have only five ordained ministers (one of whom is secretary-treasurer of the Mission), six licensed ministers, and two Bible workers.

A large number have enrolled in the Bible correspondence course, and several have already been baptized.

And so, by means of preaching, Bible studies, lay evangelism, colporteur work, and the Bible correspondence course, the light of the three angels' messages is shedding its rays upon our vast field. Much remains to be done; but, like Samuel, we are confident that He who has hitherto helped us will continue to be our guide and succor to the end.

R. Bongini
President, North Italian Mission

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* * *
HERE AND THERE
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It is fitting that we should record here the death of our beloved brother, **W. A. Spicer**, who passed away in Takoma Park during the early morning of October 17, in his eighty-seventh year. Elder Spicer was one of the outstanding personalities of the advent movement. From 1922 until 1930 he served as president of the General Conference. He visited Southern Europe a number of times, and his unassuming, frank, and kindly spirit is well remembered. His devotion to the cause of God was unremitting. A prince is fallen in Israel.

A. Meyer, Division Ministerial Association secretary, spent six weeks in Tangier during October and November, launching the first public evangelistic effort held in that city since the organization of the Tangier Mission. A good attendance with much interest is reported. **A. Sanchez** is continuing the effort since Elder Meyer's departure.

F. Chorpnot spent about six weeks, from late September until early November, in the Indian Ocean Union Mission. He returns with an enthusiastic report which will probably appear in the next issue of the **QUARTERLY REVIEW**.

An enrollment of 206 at the Collonges seminary has made it necessary for the school to rent rooms off the campus for some of the students. The training school at Florence, Italy, also reports a record-breaking enrollment of 83.

Miss **Huguette Tierce**, a graduate nurse who has worked for several years at the Gland sanitarium as well as in Lausanne, has accepted a call to the Cameroun for medical missionary work after obtaining a French nursing diploma.

W. R. Beach, Division president, has been asked to visit the Indian Ocean mission fields and Portuguese East Africa as well as Angola during the spring of 1953.

E. L. Jewell, secretary-treasurer of the Angola Union Mission, is spending a well-earned furlough in the United States with his family.

On Sabbath, September 27, the Berne church celebrated a double anniversary — the Sabbath School Centennial and the fiftieth anniversary of the church organization. A jubilee service was held in the afternoon. Honor was paid to **A. Walther**, charter member of the church, and **Mrs. R. Meyer**, Sabbath school member for more than fifty years.

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW

extends best wishes

for

1953

A number of missionaries have returned to their fields during recent months after a profitable furlough period in the homeland. Elder and **Mrs. E. Fayard** and three children left in August for Madagascar to take charge of the Majunga Mission during **E. Villeneuve's** absence. Brother Fayard will later be stationed at Diego-Suarez. Elder and **Mrs. A. Matton** and three children left France in September, returning to Dogba in the northern Cameroun. Mr. and **Mrs. K. Scheidegger** and two children left Switzerland in November, and Elder and **Mrs. P. Bernard** in early December, both returning to the Cameroun, where Brother Scheidegger is secretary-treasurer and Brother Bernard Educational and Y. P. M. V. Department secretary of the French West and Equatorial African Union Mission. We have confidence that God will sustain these missionaries and grant them health and success during their new terms of service.

R. Gerber and **M. Fridlin** will visit our recently opened mission headquarters in Dakar, Senegal, in connection with a trip to the Cameroun early in 1953.

To the **E. Villeneuve** and **A. Schnyder** families we extend a hearty welcome home on furlough from Madagascar. **E. Veuthey**, president of the Haitian Mission, with his family, also spent his furlough in Switzerland.

E. Vervoort, who has for a number of years been engaged in mission work in Madagascar, has been asked to assume the leadership of the Seychelles Islands Mission. Brother Vervoort was ordained to the ministry in Madagascar before leaving for the Seychelles.

A. Lecoultre, who for the past few years has had charge of the Neuilly church in Paris, has accepted a call to the leadership of the Tunis Mission and left Paris shortly after the Division Council. We wish him God's blessing and a rich measure of wisdom in this new responsibility.

The Angola Union Mission reports that 1,092 persons were baptized during the camp meeting season in the late summer. This is a record number. Thousands more are enrolled in baptismal classes. **A. D. Gomes** of the Division Sabbath School Department attended these camp meetings, after having visited Portuguese East Africa.

A fertile piece of land has been offered by the chief **Bati Ebolo** for a central mission station at Niamvoutou in the southern Cameroun. This is the native country of **Olinga Salomon**, one of our ordained ministers, who aroused an interest there several years ago, with the result that three churches have already been organized in the region. The new station will open a large section of the Cameroun which we have as yet been unable to occupy.