

ORGAN OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF S.D.A

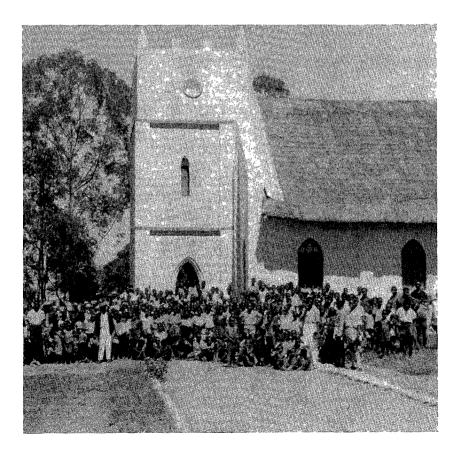
Vol. XXVIII

March 1961

Number 1

The 25th Anniversary of Munguluni Mission

By M. Lourinbo



The Visitors to Munguluni Mission Outside the Church

We have just celebrated the 25th anniversary of the founding of our first mission station in Mozambique. It was at Munguluni, in the important district of Zambezi, that Pastor M. M. Webster and his family set up home in a hut built of bamboo and grass, and here they lived for eleven months while a suitable house was being constructed. The workers who helped with the building were also among the pupils of the first Bible class conducted by the missionaries, and some of them were among the first members of our church here in this district.

During our special commemoration services, under the chairmanship of the administrators of the district, Pastor Webster had the privilege, before a congregation of 2000, to hand out to some of these first members a token of appreciation and recognition of their faithfulness during these 25 years.

Munguluni today is the most important mission center in our territory. It is here we have the most beautiful church, and certainly the largest in all our territory of Portuguese East Africa. It is wonderful to see what God has done in this place, and how He has blessed abundantly the efforts of His faithful servants during the twenty-five years.

We have here a modern elementary school where native workers are being prepared for service. During 1960 the number of students rose to more than 400, and it was necessary to enlarge the dormitories to be able to house all the boys.

Apart from scholastic and agricultural work, there are also about thirty students in the industrial department where they learn building, shoemaking, basketmaking and as we plan to install a small printing-press, there will also be possibility for some to learn the art of printing.

Our hospital is a blessing to the people in that region, and many come from distant places to seek our help. The government doctor often comes to us, offering his services absolutely free, and he has said more than once that our little institution is the best of its kind in the whole district.

Thanks to the generosity of the Sabbath school members the world over, we are right now in the process of carrying out the project of installing water and electricity at the mission, and our missionaries are both happy and appreciative of this improvement.

The most important thing, however, is the number of souls which each year are added to the church. We have just finished our annual meetings for this year (1960), and 526 new souls have been added, so we now have more than 2000 members in this district. With two baptisms in Beira and seven in the European church in Lorenço Marques, we have been blessed with 535 new members during 1960. As all our activities are centered on the aim of winning souls, this makes our hearts rejoice above all. We have only one wish here in this vast field, and that is to hasten God's work in our country, and thus prepare a people for the day of His coming.

The Beginnings of Munguluni Mission

By M. M. Webster

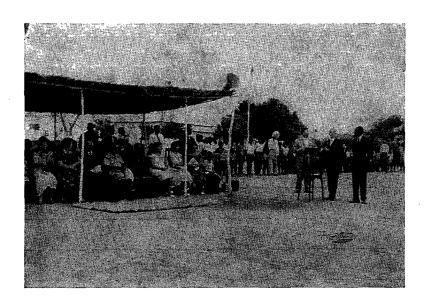
In 1933 my wife and I were asked to go to Portugese East Africa to find a suitable site to open a mission station. In 1935 we got the authorization to begin our work on a place in the Lugela area, district of Quelimane. Our first temporary home was built of poles, bamboo stems and grass, and although it was only a protection from rain and wild animals, we were happy to have such a home and begin the work of God in this country. We named the mission «Munguluni» which means «The Main Highway» as a well traveled path crossed that spot.

I planted quite a few gum trees in February 1936, and they grew so fast that when we built the church in 1945, these trees were large enough to be used for the roof of the building. We also began to make bricks right away, and two dwelling houses were built, one for the mission director, and one for the African pastor. We also planted avocado pears and other kinds of trees, so we always had plenty of fruit to eat.

We spent much time in studying the Portuguese language, as it was our desire to prepare as many native

teachers as possible to go out spreading the good news to their fellow men. For thirteen years we were mostly alone, as Brother and Sister Gouveia, who joined us in 1939, had to return in 1941 for health reasons. In 1937 we built a school, and for many years it also was used as a chapel until the present church was built, which stands today as an evidence of God's power to advance His truth even under difficult circumstances. In 1947 a dispensary was built, which has since been converted into another European dwelling house. In 1943 four native teachers passed the government examination which allowed them to go out teaching in the district, and two outschools were built, which are still functioning today.

The people were very primitive and superstitious when we arrived, but we have had the joy of seeing many join our church. Munguluni today is a thriving mission station, and the buildings erected and converts brought to this precious truth are wonderful testimonies to the saving power of the gospel of Jesus.



M. Laurinho Speaking at the Celebrations

Division Publishing Convention 1960 in Florence

By E. Naenny

The Southern European Division Publishing Convention 1960 was held in Florence, the beautiful city known for its flowers and Renaissance art. There was, however, another reason why Florence was chosen as the meeting place for fifty-four delegates from twelve countries: Besides our publishing house «L'Araldo della Verita» which prints our literature for Italy and the nearby countries. we also have here our Italian Mission School «Villa Aurora». This school is beautifully situated away from the city in a well-kept park with lovely flowers and majestic trees, and here in the hospitable atmosphere of this delightful place the delegates enjoyed the days from September 5 to 10, 1960. It was ideal for good cooperative work, and proved fertile soil for new ideas which would help to ad vance the publishing work.

G. A. Huse, the publishing secretary of the General Conference, was present, and from his rich experiences he willingly gave us his counsel. M. E. Loewen from the General Conference Department of Public Affairs was also with us for a few days, and M. Fridlin, G. Cupertino and R. Gerber from the Southern European Division stimulated us greatly by their devotional hours as well as with practical suggestions.

The motto of the session was "By My Spirit, saith the Lord" (Zech 4:6). In the many spiritual talks it was especially stressed that in all our efforts, strength and help from the Holy Spirit is the most important factor.

Reports were given, and many subjects were discussed during the day, such as "The Colporteur Work in the Evangelistic Program," "The Book Evangelist Leader I Would Like to Have in My Field" and "The Book Evangelist I Would Like to Meet at My Door," etc. In the afternoons special group workshops were conducted, where different problems were taken up for discussion. Ch. Gerber headed the editors' group, G. A. Huse the managers' and E. Naenny the book evangelist leaders'.

Twelve resolutions were made, and in all the deliberations the well-being of the book evangelists was first and foremost in our thoughts.

Thursday morning was set aside for a special treat, when big busses took all the delegates into the city of Florence to view the many interesting sights. It is hard to say which made the greatest impression on the workers: The typical fertile Tuscan hilly landscape with the olive groves and evergreen cypresses, the architectural beauty of this medieval town with its numerous treasures, the remembrance of such great artists as Michelangelo, Dante and others, or the great work done by Savonarola, the hero of faith who was burnt at the stake as a heretic on the main plaza of Florence.

The high point of the week was the Sabbath. It was a spiritual feast which started Friday evening with the testimony meeting led by Ch. Monnier, president of the Swiss Union Conference. On the Sabbath day all the delegates joined the believers in the town of Florence in worship, and H. Pichot, president of the North African Union Mission, preached a stirring sermon. On the Sabbath evening the Holy Communion was conducted by F. Lavanchy, president of the Franco-Belgian Union Conference, and it was indeed a fitting and blessed climax to these days we had enjoyed together; it brought our hearts and souls into harmony, and we felt we were able to go forward finishing the work together.

It was most interesting to see the artistic exhibitions set up by the ten publishing houses of the Southern European Division. Although the many different languages spoken in our Division often make the work a little heavy, we were glad to learn that in the year 1959, 117 135 150 pages were printed in nine different languages, and s 562 074.— worth of literature was sold by 226 faithful book evangelists.

This Convention was a great blessing to all the delegates. We thank God for His presence with us, and we all dedicated ourselves to do more earnest work in bringing the truthfilled literature to as many people as possible, that the end may soon come.

Delegates to the Publishing Convention, Florence



Division Council 1960

By W. A. Wild

The Southern European Division Quadrennial Council convened at Gland, Switzerland, from December 12 to 19, 1960. The total number of delegates reached fifty-eight, representing the General Conference, the Southern European Division and its institutions. Due to special circumstances it was impossible for representatives to be present from Angola, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Israel, Mozambique, Rumania and Senegal.

In spite of the fact that the Coucil was attended by brethren of many different nationalities and languages, a deep spirit of unity and harmony prevailed, and all the delegates dedicated themselves anew to the finishing of God's work in Southern Europe and its mission fields.

The business of this council was

conducted in the French language' and the General Conference secretary's linguistic ability brought added zest to the deliberations of the council in session. W. R. Beach, as former president of the Southern European Division, met many of his friends in this part of the world, and his help during the sessions and the devotional meetings was greatly appreciated by all. R. H. Adair, assistant treasurer of the General Conference, also gave very valuable counsel during the meetings, and his devotional talks were filled with courage, faith and optimism.

The council was held on the premises of the Lake Geneva Sanitarium, and most of the delegates found accommodation at the Sanitarium, while others were lodged in nearby hotels. Many interesting reports were rendered every evening and on Sabbath afternoon, December 17. Much inspiration came to all as we listened to the thrilling experiences of the progress of God's work in Algeria, Cameroun, Greece, Italy, Madagascar, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Yugoslavia.

The Division membership at the end of the third quarter 1960 stood at 107 716, and the baptisms of the fourth quarter will be more than enough to pass the goal of 8800 for 1960. The Southern European Council closed on the strong central theme of «Christ to the World» by means of a well-planned program of evangelism and a renewal of dedication to this great task on the part of all the delegates.

Delegates to the Division Council 1960



The report of the treasurer, B. J. Kohler, given at the Division Council, was a very encouraging one which showed steady progress along all lines throughout those fields from which we are able to receive reports. He pointed out that when the Southern European Division was organized in 1929, the membership stood at 14 644, while at the end of 1959thirty years later-we have a recorded membership of 103 665. Figures given showed that tithes and offerings had increased accordingly, and the financial condition of the organization is on a stable footing.

Emphasis was placed on the fact that the greatest asset this cause has is its faithful membership, and that the great and final objective of all our church activities is to build up and strenghten a people prepared and ready for the coming of the Lord.

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At the recent Division Council, recognizing the certain assurance of God's presence and power, an action was taken which fixed a goal of at least 100 special evangelistic campaigns in the Southern European Division during 1961 and 1962. In harmony with the recommendation made, two of the Division staff members conducted short evangelistic efforts at the beginning of January.

In the ancient city of Basel, Switzerland, M. Fridlin, president of the Division, held an intense series of lectures in the Casino. Meetings were held every night for one week, and each time the hall was filled to capacity. The full message was presented, and it was gratifying to see the great interest which reflected the longing in the hearts of the people to hear something of a tangible nature in these days of uncertainty and trouble. Several young workers assisted in the effort, thus gaining experience for the future, and the many interests are being followed up by Bible studies given by H. Moeschinger, the worker in Basel.

From January 19 to 28, G. Cupertino, secretary of the Ministerial Association, also gave a series of six lectures in Lugano, Switzerland, the first four being held in the Casino Kursaal while the last two were given in our own hall. The listeners showed good interest, and most evenings the halls were filled. Forty new addresses were obtained, and the interest will be followed up by Brethren V. Stragapede and K. Sturzenegger in collaboration with the members of the small local church.

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From the West African Mission R. Erdmann, mission director, reports that an evangelistic effort has been conducted in the newly opened mission territory of Ziguinchor, Casamance, Sénégal.

W. A. Wild, secretary of the Division, reports that 173 souls were won for the message directly through the radio work in 1960.

B. J. Kohler, treasurer of the Division, made an extensive visit to Greece in February of this year. The island of Crete was visited, and later this year a worker will be located there to open up our work on this most interesting island. A piece of property was bought in Nigrita, where a small chapel will be built, and in Nikea an apartment for the worker will be added to the church building.

P. Steiner, educational secretary of the Division, will be spending three weeks in March and April conducting youth rallies in Yugoslavia.

R. R. Figuhr, president of the General Conference, paid a short visit to the office in Berne after his trip to Hungary with Dr. J. Nussbaum. Our believers in Hungary are full of courage and rejoiced to see the two brethren.

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Division Directory

MISSIONARY SAILINGS

Southern European Division 1960

January

- Mr. and Mrs. M. Laranjeira, and one child, of Portugal to the Cape Verde Islands
- Mr. and Mrs. G. Poublan, and two children, of France to Cameroun (returning)
- Miss Bluette Rossier, of Switzerland to Cameroun
- Mr. and Mrs. K. Waber, and two children, of Switzerland to Cameroun (returning)
- Mr. and Mrs. H. Walder, and one child, of Switzerland to Cameroun

February

- Mr. and Mrs. João Cordas Tavares, of Portugal to Angola
- Mrs. E. Veuthey, of Switzerland to Tahiti

July

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lopes, and three children, of Portugal to Angola (re-turning)

August

- Mr. and Mrs. F. Augsburger, and two children, of Switzerland to Cameroun
- Mr. and Mrs. José Lopez, of Spain to Fernando Po
- Mr. and Mrs. A. Quirici, and two children, of North Africa to Reunion Island

September

- Mr. and Mrs. José da Silva Botelho, and one child, of Portugal to Angola (returning)
- Mr. and Mrs. R. Meyer, and two children, of Switzerland to Dakar, Senegal, West Afrika

October

- Mr. and Mrs. José Augusto da Silva, Jr., and one child, of Portugal to Saint Thomas Island
- Mr. and Mrs. M. Hecketsweiler, and four children, of France to Madagascar (returning)
- Mr. E. Vervoort, of Belguim to Madagascar (returning)

November

- Doctor and Mrs. F. Brennwald, and three children, of USA to Cameroun (returning)
- Mr. and Mrs. H. Kempf, of France to Ivory Coast
- Mr. and Mrs. Joaquim Nunes Ramos, and one child, of Portugal to Mozambique, Portuguese East Africa

December

- Mr. and Mrs. G. Dewinter, of Belgium to Ivory Coast
- Mr. and Mrs. A. Simon, and one child, of France to Cameroun (returning)

SOUTHERN EUROPEAN QUARTERLY REVIEW

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W.A. Wild Editor Mrs. B. J. Kohler Editorial Secretary

Name of Conference or Mission	Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter Missing Members	Total Losses	Net Gains	Present Membership	l. Mini	 , Honorary Gred. Miss. Active 	* * Honorary	Lic. Ministers	Licensed Missionaries	Bible Instructors	Elementary School Teachers	Colporteurs	All Other Regular Workers	Total Workers	Number of Sabbath Schools	Sabbath School Membership	Average Attendance
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Statistical Report of the Southern European Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending December 1960

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RECAPITULATION

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Franco-Belgian	Union Conference	85 4666	48 12 94	154 17	12 93		122	32	4698	47 9 3 2	14	11	7	1	8 4	13	191	75	4550	3112
Hungarian*	Union Conference	163 6 2 25							6225	39 - 9 -	6	-9	4				67	175	7000	6500
Rumanian*	Union Conference	646 35629								108		127					235	646	5320 0	4 8 000
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Spanish	Church	18 147 0	46 - 46	92 1 4	6 31		51	41	1511	12 2	8	4	3	2	27	1	59	22	1939	1454
West African	Mission	1 13	<u> </u>	4 —				4	17	2		3		2			7	1	18	27
Totals Quarter, 1960	•••••	1648 107716	1129 54 671	1854 302	182 743	205	1432	422	108138	486 25 49 12	189	370	118	431	245	271	2196	2544	160860	128332
Totals Quarter, 1959		1531 102712	1323 32 372	1727 167	127 463	17	774	953	103665	474 24 44 15	180 —	362	126	392	191	253	2061	2307	154340	130872
* No Report																				1
** 2nd and 3nd Quar	ter, 1960																			

Name of Confe or Mission		Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter	Missing Members	Total Losses	Net Gain	Present Membership	Ord. Minist. Active	* * Honorary	Gred. Miss. Active	» » Honorary	Licensed Ministers Licensed	Missionaries	Bible Instructors	Elementary School Teachers	Colporteurs	All other Regular Workers	Total Workers	Number of Sabbath Schools	Sabbath School Membership	Average Attendance
SOUTHERN EURO	PEAN DIV.									`			<u>-</u>		20		11 -		3 3	0			_	176	240			
Austrian	U. C	41	2701	127	7	72	206	68	42	84		194	12	2713	16	2	6	1	4 1	3	11	-	19	2	74	41	3019	1972
Czechoslovakian*	U. C	50	7505											7505	43	_		:	26	2	—				71	160	6000	5400
Franco-Belgian	U. C	85	4517	224	32	249	505	51	53	2 20	_	324	181	4698	47	9	3	2	l4 1	1	7	1	84	13	191	75	4550	3112
Hungarian*	U. C	163	6225				-							6225	39		9.	 .	6	9	4				67	175	7000	6500
Rumanian	U. C	646	33989	2705	310	1330	4345	925	530	1250	••	2705	1640	35629	108				- 12	7					235	646	53200	48000
Swiss	U. C	58	3454	94	5	137	236	32	65	111		208	28	3482	26	2	2	2	5	8	3	5	31	4	88	58	3211	2438
Yugoslavian	U. C	230	8590	388	24	728	1140	225	156	776		1157	-17	8573	33		1 -		11	5	11				61	300	9100	8600
Angola	U. C	59	13554	1309	13	24	1346	48	22	18	316	404	942	14496	30		1 ·		51 3	30		149	5	5	271	524	30088	19076
Eq. African	U. M	36	6646	832	5	11	848	102	75	8	5	190	658	7304	17		9 -		74	9	73	171	—	34	360	198	17805	11214
Indian Ocean	U. M	92	4117	298	3	128	429	38	25	143	11	217	212	4329	27	1	2 ·		9 3	6	2	75	9	11	172	112	7505	5217
Italian	U. M	57	2677	216	2 2	80	318	49	25	119		193	125	2802	24	6	2	1	15 1	8	2		44	14	126	92	3152	3074
North African	U. M	20	894	79	2	38	119	24	14	100		138	-19	875	11		2 ·		5	5	1		4	1	29	19	871	697
Portuguese	U. M	30	2351	216	7	101	32 4	32	46	137		215	109	2460	12	3		6	10	7	1	2	20	2	63	38	3088	2384
Bulgarian*	Mission .	39	3197			—				—				3197	9				4 1	0					23	39	267 2	2200
Greek	Mission .	6	202	13	—		13					—	13	215	3		1 ·		2	3	—		1		10	6	2 30	190
Israel	Mission .	1	37		2	2	4	2	1	1		4		37	1				1 -						2	2	46	38
Mozambique	Mission .	16	1586	531	2	—	533	22	15	12		49	484	2070	6	—			8 -			24	1	8	47	36	7366	6739
Spanish	Church .	18	1411	152	2	130	284	39	16	129		184	100	1511	12	2			8	4	3	2	27	1	59	22	1939	1454
West African	Mission .	1	12			5	5						5	17	2					3		2			7	1	18.	27
Totals for the Year (1960	1648	103665	7184	436	3035	10655	1657	1085	3108	332	6182	4473	108138	486	25	49	12 1	89 37	70 1	118	431	245	271	2196	2544	160860	128332
Totals for the Year * No Report	1959	1531	100501	4716	114	1728	6558	842	565	1903	84	3394	3164	103665	474	24	44	15 1	80 3(32	126	392	191	253	2061	2307	154340	130872

Statistical Summary of the Southern European Division for the Year 1960