



Trans-Africa Division

OUTLOOK

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UNION SESSIONS

SIXTY-FIVE YEARS

by A. W. STAPLES, *Retiring President.*

Excerpts from the President's Report, Presented at the SAUC Session.

The year 1967 marks the 65th anniversary of the organization of the South African Union Conference, which, like Eve, is the mother of all living Adventists in Southern Africa. It should prove profitable to briefly survey the way the Lord has led us in the past so that we might lay wise plans envisaging a finished work. We should ever remember that "God designs that the light of the gospel should extend to every soul upon the earth."—*E. G. White.*

As far as we have been able to ascertain, this Union Conference was organized in 1902, the late Pastor W. S. Hyatt being its first president. It was made up of two conferences—the Cape and the Natal-Transvaal—and two mission fields—Basutoland and Matabeleland. At this time there were 15 organized churches with 595 members, 9 companies with 90 members along with 30 isolated believers. Thus a total membership of 715 comprised the membership of the South African Union Conference at the time of its organization.

It is of interest to note that all the work in Southern Africa was administered from the union offices on the ground floor of the old church at 56 Roeland Street, Cape Town. This continued until the organization of the Zambesi Union Mission in 1919. This epoch-marking event ushered in an era of unprecedented growth and development both to the north and to the south. So much so that at December 31, 1966, our total church membership stood at 11,249 and our Sabbath-school membership at 13,182.

South West Africa: Ovamboland lies in the northern part of South West Africa against the border of Angola. For years we have knocked on closed doors. The reply was always the same, "You may enter when you have a sizeable congregation and a representative house of worship." The urgency of this situation became pressing. Money was coming from friends of the cause sufficient to build a chapel. Money was also coming from friends to support the missionary—but how could we raise up a congregation? Finally in an act of faith we arranged for a devoted layman to sacrifice his

work and to start on the borders. Suddenly and instantly everything changed. The door opened and Brother Amakali, our pioneer missionary to Ovamboland, is at work among its 225,000 inhabitants sitting in darkness.

Then there are the dignified and proud Hereros. Can they be reached? A young man of Herero blood, well educated, has accepted the message and will graduate from our Good Hope College in 1967. Here again, we see the hand of God at work for the work cannot be finished in Natal or elsewhere in South Africa before it is finished in South West Africa!



Pastor R. E. Clifford, newly elected president of the South African Union Conference. Mrs. Clifford is shown with her husband.

Pastor and Mrs. Kenneth G. Webster. Brother Webster has been elected the secretary-treasurer of the SAUC.



Tithe: The last four years have seen the largest increases of tithe flowing into the treasury for many, many years. The total receipts for 1966, £329,153, were more than double those received in 1959, £155,825, just a few short years ago.

Evangelism: We are living in a world on fire plunging headlong to its final

Armageddon. We are living in the vortex of world-shattering revolutionary changes. We are living in a time when the old standards are being abandoned and proved spiritual values flung aside. We have come to times of change and crisis, of peculiar stress and strain. We have a conviction that the next ten years will prove the most decisive in the history of mankind. It is now that we must commit ourselves, as never before, to evangelize South Africa. The fields are "white unto harvest." This is our day of opportunity.

Pastor R. H. Kent has recently joined our union staff not only to "do the work of an evangelist" but also to lead out in this programme of union-wide evangelism. Pastor J. C. van der Merwe has pioneered where needs have been the greatest and God has rewarded this veteran's work with souls. Pastor F. C. Pelsler joined our union forces a year ago

leading out in Afrikaans evangelism in Durban. These men are achieving much for God. Recently the union committee also placed a call for Pastor F. Campbell to join in this wider programme of total evangelism. We visualize a church, fully committed, swinging into action for the salvation of souls in earth's sunset hours.

Progress in East Africa

by ALVIN E. COOK, *Secretary,
Ministerial Association and Public
Relations Department.*

Times of change are always times of opportunity. Probably few parts of the world field have witnessed so much of these winds of change over the last quadrennium as the East African Union. Few have seen more opportunity and progress.

"Problems have not diminished in magnitude over the past four years," said the president, Pastor F. G. Reid, reporting in the union session at Limuru in the famous Kikuyu hills. "But the evidence of God's prospering and protecting hand over His people and the mighty power of the working of the Spirit in and through the church have been clearly seen."

During the quadrennium no less than 25 families and 8 single workers have joined the working force in this union. Many were replacements.

The Seychelles Island Field joined the union at the end of 1964, having been transferred from the Southern European Division. Its members were represented at the session by Pastor Caleb Bru. These islands, lying in the Indian Ocean about 600 miles northeast of Madagascar could rightly be termed "paradise islands." Mahe, the largest, is only 7 miles long by 4 miles broad, and has 30,000 inhabitants. Praslin, Silhouette, North Island, Frigate, Platte, Bird, and Denis are smaller. Most of the people are Roman Catholics, and live by agriculture and fishing. The climate is healthy and equitable, for the islands are well out of

the hurricane belt. Palms, mangrove and banyan forests, mountains going down to the sea, and many beautiful coral reefs make them a veritable Eden. The language is a form of Creole patois, derived from French.

We have a church there of 130 people. An effort was recently held on Praslin, the second largest island which has a population of 4,000 people. About 200 people attended the meetings. Opposition soon became evident and the audiences increased to 400! People are attending Sabbath-school and church services now, and a real interest has been aroused. So the work is onward in the villages and towns on the tropical islands of beautiful Seychelles, and a harvest is being reaped.

Our medical work in the East African Union has been strengthened. Additional personnel has been added to the Kendu Hospital and a budget for a second doctor for Ishaka Hospital in Uganda was made available, but as yet no doctor has been found to fill the post. Ishaka means literally "the Bush Hospital." Last year 19,000 patients were treated there which means an average of 60 patients per day. Kendu Hospital must be re-equipped and largely rebuilt if it is to continue to be effective and measure up to modern medical standards. Strong plans are being laid to make this a priority objective.

Good progress was made in the equipping of the Africa Herald Publishing House over the four years under review. Several modern machines were added to greatly improve the efficiency and the output of this busy publishing house.

Evangelism is the soul and centre of every activity in the Advent movement. Here Pastor Reid's report raised an abun-

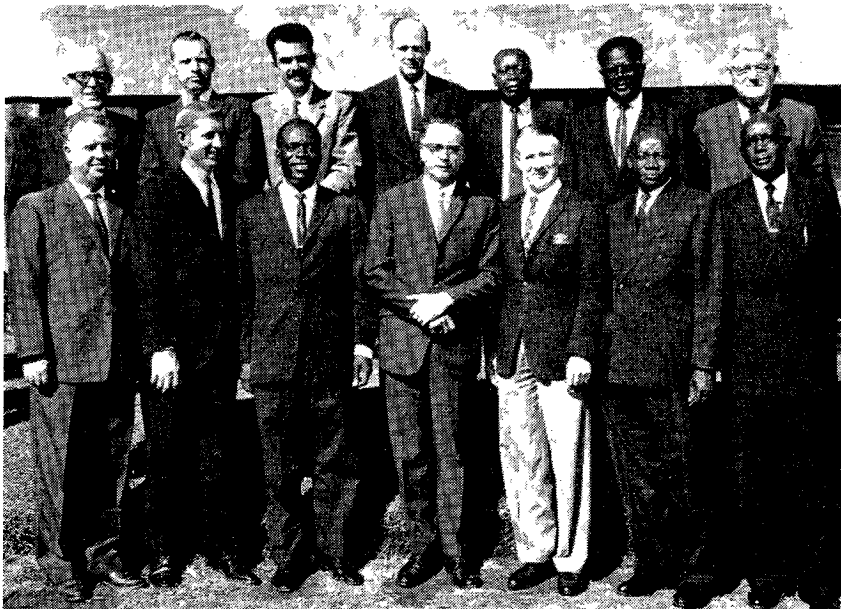
dance of enthusiasm and several loud "Amen's." Decisions for Christ were recorded at 36,000, and 26,112 actual baptisms resulted from the work of our evangelists, laymen, literature-evangelists and our youth. The public evangelistic meetings of union evangelist, Richard Delafield, have been blessed with rich fruitage, particularly in the Kisii area. The net gain in membership amounted to 25 per cent, making a total of 57,000 baptized believers in the East African Union.

Secretary-treasurer W. M. Webster, gave a unique report presented in diagrams and figures. Careful comparisons revealed gratifying advances. Some weaknesses were also clearly revealed for careful attention in the future. The tithe of our African believers had increased to Sh. 585,000, a gain of Sh. 222,000 over the previous year. Ingathering totals had almost doubled, and offerings to missions increased from Sh. 68,200 to Sh. 106,600.

Victories in the lives of men are in the final count what matters most. The story of Peter Shikuku is representative of what God is doing in East Africa.

Peter became a student of the Voice of Prophecy Bible School in June, 1965. After studying the 62 lessons in the course he was convinced that he was out of harmony with the will of God with respect to His holy Sabbath, and that, to follow in the footsteps of the Saviour, he should be baptized by immersion. It was on Christmas Day that he made his decision to follow the Lord completely. During the next five months many a

Pointing to his island home is Pastor Caleb Bru, president of the Seychelles Island Mission.



F. G. Reid, president of the East African Union (centre, front row) with the members of the EAU Committee. (Front row, left to right): M. A. Morford, F. E. Wilson, D. K. Bazarra, W. M. Webster, C. Otero, H. Kenani. (Back row, left to right): E. T. Gackenheimer, R. E. Gardner, D. R. L. Astleford, T. V. Gorle, E. Mwanje, E. M. Nyamweya, and Dr. K. H. Sturdevant. Not in the picture is P. D. Bakker.

difficulty arose and many were the struggles he went through in his efforts to be free from work on the Sabbath. He wrote to the head of his department asking for exemption from duty on Saturdays, only to be informed that since Saturday was not a recognized holiday, his request could not be granted. He was given permission to be free up to 10 o'clock each Sabbath morning, but since he had de-

cidied to go all the way with His Lord, he realized that he must resign from his work. Last November he and his wife were baptized and are now happy in the truth of the Lord and in His service.

So we rejoice that the work is onward in East Africa. They have problems and heartaches but also much to reward their faith and encourage them to press on in their service for the Master.

TANZANIA UNION

"Bring Wood — Build the House"

by A. E. COOK.

In February, 1963, Pastor James Bradfield drove me out beyond the town boundary of Musoma in Tanzania, and showed me a piece of ground which was being prepared as a site for our new church building. I was amazed to learn that we had no meeting-hall or house of worship in this busy lake-side town. What was my surprise to be told later that this situation was widespread. Not one city in Tanzania possessed an Adventist church!

At the recent session of the Tanzania Union, Pastor R. Ngasani, Church Development secretary, released a thrilling report of the building activities during the past quadrennium. No less than 41 churches have been erected! The capital value of these new buildings amounts to Sh. 800,000. A new day has dawned for the work in Tanzania, especially in the cities!

We now have representative church buildings in Dar-es-Salaam, Mwanza, Musoma, Moshi and Morogoro. In Arusha where a successful evangelistic effort is currently being conducted by Pastor Cyril Bender, we have been fortunate in being able to purchase a fine building from another denomination which has closed its activities in the area. Plans for the future envisage the erection of houses of worship in still other important Tanzanian towns.

On the first Sabbath of the session I had the pleasure of visiting the Musoma church. What was my surprise to see that the housing area of the town is already surrounding our new church. And adjacent to the church, a German firm is currently erecting another 450 homes. As hundreds of new residents move into the area a great evangelistic opportunity challenges our congregation.

I arrived early. A Sabbath-school teachers' meeting was in progress. Other early arrivals stood around studying their lessons, making a last minute check on the memory verse! At 9.30 that morning only the front five pews were filled. It

was a curious spectacle to see a church filling its pews from the front instead of from the back. I sat halfway down, wondering. Soon, the secret was out! An efficient deacon was snapping his fingers and looking quite sternly in my direction. When our eyes met he pointed with authority towards the front. He wished us to move forward and fill the front pews first. To the dispenser from Busegwe who had driven me to Musoma (in his late model Corsair), I whispered:

"I don't wish to move forward. There are plenty of seats and I like it here." But before my protests were ended the man had left. I followed. I noticed that a deaconess was doing the same good work of ushering on the other side of the church.

Plenty of seats! Not by the time the Sabbath-school study period was over! The new church, with a seating capacity, I estimated, of 230 or 240, was literally full to the doors. We will need another new church in Musoma soon.

The next Sabbath found me visiting

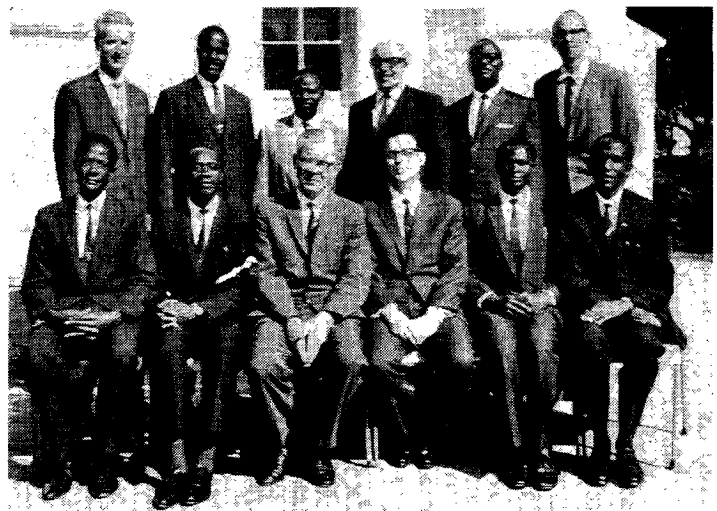
130 miles down the lake shore at Mwanza at the invitation of the friendly church elder, Brother Petro Kazi, a businessman of that city. This church was built in 1965 after a city effort had been conducted by Pastor Bender. A hundred souls were baptized from that effort and the large church with its comfortable pews, and complete with kneeling rail, is already two-thirds full. The spirit of dedication and enthusiasm which moves this congregation will, we believe, quickly fill the new church to capacity.

We talked a lot about evangelism and advancing the work in the cities at the workers' meetings. The needs and opportunities have never been greater in Tanzania.

Before I left Busegwe, Pastor H. Kija, president of the West Lake Field, said, "Pastor, I plan to go out and conduct a public effort this year and every worker in my field will run at least one public series each year."

Pastor Simeon Otieno, president of the East Lake Field, also expressed his determination to fully evangelize his field. On a number of occasions this dedicated leader would say to me: "Preach Christ! We must preach Christ! In every city, town and village of Tanzania!"

The other field presidents expressed a similar determination. The Church Development leaders hope to place representative buildings in every centre so that new believers can find a satisfactory spiritual home. This inspiration comes from the message of the prophet Haggai: "Bring wood . . . build the house." Hag. 1:7, 8.



Grouped around their president, P. G. Werner, are the members of the Tanzania Union Committee. (Front row, left to right): S. D. Otieno, H. Kija Mashigan, P. G. Werner, E. G. Olsen, E. Wanjara, and E. Semugeshi. (Back row, left to right): G. Schmidl, R. Ngasani, Y. Lusingu, R. H. Henning, T. Lisso, and Dr. H. S. Ashton.

SOUTHERN UNION



Above: The Youth Congress Choir blessed the believers with their fine singing during the Southern Union Session.

Right: Pastor Steve Joannou supplied special music at the SU Youth Congress.



Focus on

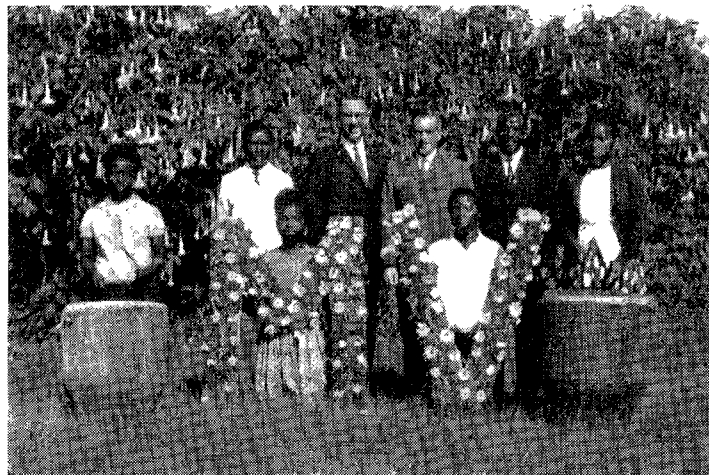
OUR M.V. DEPARTMENT

MEET OUR VISITOR

Pastor Clark Smith, Associate Secretary, Y.P.M.V. Department, General Conference, arrived from the United States on February 10 and will visit six of our unions before he leaves on April 16 for North America. His main interest is along the line of medical military service.

COVER PICTURE:

David M. Malotle, former MV leader of the Southern Union, with A. E. Maseko interpreting for him during the Youth Congress held in Durban, South Africa.



Youth leaders and young people of North Rwanda. Pastors B. E. Jacobs and J. G. Evert are in the centre. They are the Trans-Africa Division and Central African Union youth leaders.



Inspection: Camp Nkulumadzi, Southern Province, Malawi.



Metalcraft: Camp Msesedzi, Central Province, Malawi. Instructors: Mrs. Dorothy-Jean Salhany and M. N. Nkosi, MV Secretary, Central Lake Field.



Girls' Division:



Camp Lunjika, Northern Province, Malawi.

Let's face the facts! MV ca
filling the objectives of the M
by working for and through
eighty-three young people atte
East Africa Union last year at
the programme.

Excerpts from their letters
"I am very thankful for w
"I have never heard such
"This camp has been a rev
"From here I am going to
youth to teach them what I h

M.V. C

"Upon the youth there
pects much from the young
increased light and knowle
pelling the error and sup
many. . . . God holds the
given them. The work bef
efforts."—*Messages to You*

play its part in full-
volunteer Department
Four hundred and
camps in the South-
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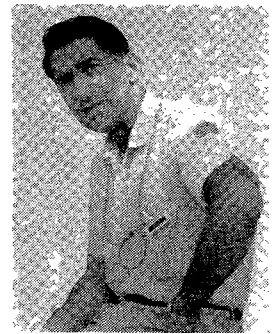
w:
learned here."
l my life."

man, working for the

"I have given my heart to Jesus; I have dedicated myself to Him in service."

Four permanent camp sites make it possible for a large number of young people to attend. Many youth sacrifice considerably to spend a week at camp with its full and balanced programme. Many walk 20 miles or more in order to save their transport money for camp fees. All campers leave with a new vision of God's love and of God's great desire for each individual.

It pays to conduct these camps. The many conversions and rededications prove their worth.



P. J. Salhany, Camp Director and MV Secretary, S.E.A. Union

PING: South-East Africa Union



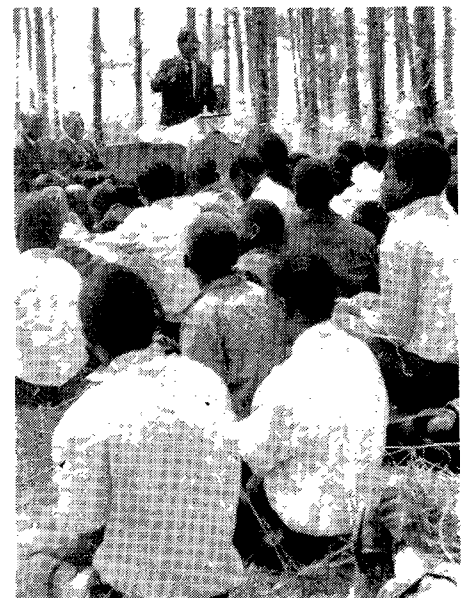
Eastern Zambia.



Singing to the glory of God.



Nature Study: Displaying wild bat.



A message from God delivered by Pastor E. J. Zintambila.

responsibilities. God ex-
live in this generation of
sires to use them in dis-
at cloud the minds of
ble for the opportunities
waiting for their earnest
page 199.

Room for One More

by L. F. SWANEPOEL, Registrar,
Helderberg College.

We must admit that there is an important reason for the vacant place at one of the machines shown in the accompanying picture. You see, not just everyone may enrol for the Helderberg Business Course. Admission is only granted to those with Senior Certificate or equivalent. And then the 23-subject, three-year course is not easy. We are proud of the high standard that has been achieved. In external examinations for the Institute of Administration and Commerce, the percentage pass has varied from 68 to 75. Every one of our graduates has been in great demand.

The work of God needs Helderberg-trained businessmen. The world of commerce and industry today needs Christian businessmen of integrity and a strong sense of responsibility. The opportunities are tremendous. The future is bright for business-minded young men of talent. Business training at an Adventist college is an experience not to be missed. If you are interested write now to the Registrar, Helderberg College, P.O. Box 22, Somerset West, C.P., South Africa, and request full details.

Improvements at Helderberg

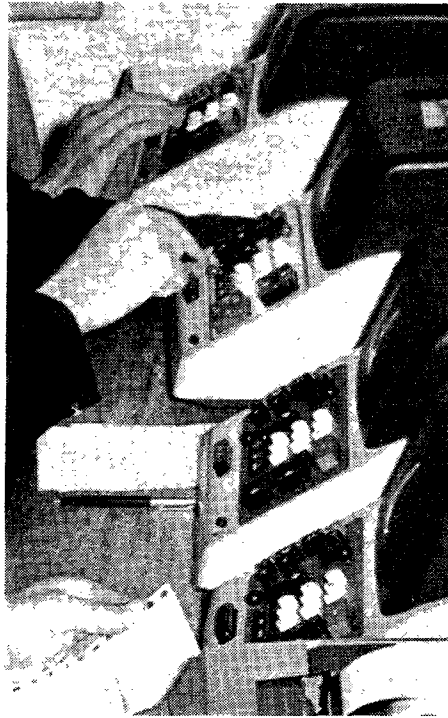
Glanz Hall, the new dining-room and kitchen, has greatly improved the facilities of the catering department. Visitors to the college are impressed with the attractive modern equipment. A chef will head the cafeteria soon and make your visits even more memorable!

The college gymnasium is now in full use. There is hardly an hour in the afternoons when it is vacant. A visit to the gymnasium any Sunday afternoon will convince even the most sceptical of the blessing this building is to the students.

Staff housing has always been a serious problem, and at the moment it has reached critical proportions. Two pre-fabricated homes are at present under construction and these houses will have a magnificent and unobstructed view of False Bay and the Hottentots-Holland mountains.

With the influx of married students there is a further critical and embarrassing shortage of student accommodation. For 1967 we have had to allocate the rather inadequate top floor of the Junior Hostel to three young married couples. Any further applicants for married accommodation will have to be referred to the old brooder houses!

The ground floor of the Administra-



Room for one more pair of hands.

tion Building is rapidly being modernized and brought up to standard, providing good chemistry lecture rooms and laboratories.

Remarkable work has been done in renovating and beautifying both Meade and Salisbury houses.

Andrews University Tour

A tour of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Paris for ministers will be conducted June 7-28, 1967, by Dr. N. F. Pease, chairman of Andrews University's applied theology department. The tour guide and lecturer will be Pastor Roy Graham, professor of religion at Newbold College, Bracknell, Berks., England.

Included will be places of historical importance in the lives of John Wesley and John Knox, as well as London, Oxford, Cambridge, Coventry, Plymouth, Stratford and Edinburgh. A special feature of the trip will be the opportunity to hear six distinguished British clergymen.

The cost of the tour will be R370 for jet flights, hotels, surface travel, guide service, and some meals. Qualified applicants may earn three-quarter-units of seminary credit. Tuition and auditing fees will be announced later. The tour is designed particularly for ministers and theological students, but a limited number of other applicants will be accepted.

"This is an opportunity," states Dr. Pease, "for ministers, theological students, and others with similar interests to gain valuable travel experience at a reasonable cost." Those desiring further information should write to Dr. Pease at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, U.S.A.



Seventy-Fifth Anniversary

Seventy-five years ago the first Seventh-day Adventist missionary, George James, an Englishman, who accepted the truth and trained at Battle Creek College, came to Malawi from the United States.

To commemorate this occasion a special service was conducted at Malamulo Mission. Pastor C. O. Franz from the General Conference was the 11 o'clock speaker on December 24, 1966. Special recognition was given to some of our African pioneer pastors.

Those taking part in this service were from left to right: J. Ngaiyaye, retired pastor; C. O. Franz, associate secretary of the General Conference; N. L. Doss, superintendent, South-East Africa Union; S. W. Young, principal, Malamulo College; A. Bristow, superintendent, South Lake Field; D. K. Kalonga, pastor, Malamulo College church.

—R. A. FORBES,
Public Relations Secretary,
South-East Africa Union.



Investiture class, Kamagambo Training School, Kenya.

Large Investiture at Kamagambo Training School

*by E. T. GACKENHEIMER, Secretary,
MV Department, East African Union.*

Sabbath, October 29, in addition to being graduation Sabbath, was also investiture day when 42 individuals were invested in the various classes, including eight Master Guides. The writer gave the charge to each class division, and awarded the pins, assisted by those who had prepared them for this important occasion. Then, J. H. Tegler, of Kamagambo Training School presented 390

MV Honour tokens to those invested.

The Master Guides were Harold Larsen, Lavonne Larsen, Enosh Ondenig, Jacob Makhulo, Isaiah Kenani, Jackson Lima, Damaris Waithira, and Sameoi Baroret.

Our congratulations go to Brother Tegler and his fine group of workers for this fine accomplishment.

It Happened in the East Congo Field

*by ASIELE RUHAYA, Treasurer,
East Congo Field.*

It was the first time in the history of the East Congo Field that visitors from either the union or elsewhere stayed with us for a period of six weeks. We were so glad that they could visit us and besides other things organize Ingathering in the cities of the East Congo Field territory.

Owing to the disturbances following independence, no one has been able to do Ingathering in the cities. It was also difficult to have visitors, especially missionaries, even guest-speakers in camp-meetings. We are very thankful to God that the way has now been opened.

Pastors G. M. Ellstrom and J. T. Knopper of the Congo Union, spent six weeks in the East Congo Field last year. After holding camp-meetings in different churches and assisting in a public effort for five weeks in Goma, the headquarters of the North Kivu Province, the visitors attended their last camp-meeting on Idjwi Island. On a dirty and very heavily loaded boat the two Pastors and I spent four hours, reaching our destination about noon.

It took us one hour to walk to where the camp-meeting was to convene and where the members were anxiously waiting for the visitors. Willing to be of help, and without a sign of being tired, our visitors were ready to start the first meeting by two o'clock. No words can express how happy the brethren and sisters were to see missionaries as guest-speakers at their camp-meeting after five years of living in isolation. The meetings continued through Sunday when three meetings were held and twenty-five persons accepted their Lord for the first time.

Being pressed by our programme we had to leave the Island of Idjwi and continue our voyage to Bukavu, headquarters of the South Kivu province. Tuesday afternoon was spent getting settled in Bukavu and asking permission for our Ingathering programme to be carried out in the city of Bukavu. On Wednesday morning, Pastor Ellstrom and the writer launched what became a successful campaign, while Pastor Knopper with the field Publishing Department secretary, Pastor Obedi Rwibasira, and two colporteurs were visiting houses, shops and offices with our books.

We are grateful that by the end of our Harvest Ingathering in the two capitals mentioned above, two hundred thousand francs were received, and fifty thousand francs worth of books were sold.

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OVERFLOW OFFERING MARCH 25, 1967

FAR EASTERN DIVISION

THREE PROJECTS

MEDICAL

The Seoul Sanitarium and Hospital in Korea is badly in need of a new building. The present building has stood the ravages of two wars. Your generous offering on Thirteenth Sabbath will help build a new unit to aid the needy of this interesting nation.

EDUCATIONAL

Education is a "must" in the developing nations of the Far East. Mountain View College in the Philippines is one of six senior colleges in the Division. The great need now is to construct new buildings to accommodate students of this fast-growing educational institution. The "School of the Light" provides workers for two large union missions in the Philippines. The membership in the Philippine Islands is now more than 100,000—as large as the Middle East, the Southern Asia, and the Australasian divisions combined.

EVANGELISTIC

Evangelism is the key to membership growth in the Far East. The total number of members is now approaching the 200,000 mark. A key city in the Orient is Hong Kong where an evangelistic centre is needed to reach four million people. Your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help construct a centre in the middle of this city in order to carry on a year-around soul-winning programme.

V.O.P. ENROLMENT WEEK, MARCH 25 - APRIL 1

“. . . Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest” John 4:35. Yes, it is true as this scripture says, “they are white already to harvest” in Kindu, former capital of Kivu-Maniema, in Kisangani, the largest city in the North Congo, and in other towns and villages throughout the East Congo Field. We are praying and looking forward to the opening of the way in several of the unentered cities of our field where conditions and lack of workers has kept the way closed. In spite of the difficult situation in which we find ourselves in the Congo, God has done wonderful things for us and we go forward in faith believing that there are greater things in store for us in the near future.

PERFECTING CHARACTER

“Christ has given us no assurance that to attain perfection of character is an easy matter. A noble all-round character is not inherited. . . . A noble character is earned by individual effort through the merits and grace of Christ.”—*Messages to Young People*, page 99.

NEEDED

Spare copies of the January and February issues of the OUTLOOK. If there are spare copies of these two issues in your church, kindly post them to your union office, requesting the secretary-treasurer to post them to the Editor. We will greatly appreciate your help in this matter.

—ED.

AT REST

OPENSHAW, John Thomas. On November 7, at the age of 76, we laid our brother to rest in a family grave at Kanye, in Botswana. At the graveside was his faithful companion, Helen Berendina Openshaw, and also their two sons, John and Joe, as well as their three daughters, Beatrice, Grace and Sheila, and some of the grand-children. A brother, Norman, and a sister, Mary, were also present, and a large number of friends.

Brother Openshaw has had a long walk with God. He sacrificed much to give all his children a Christian education.

The writer assisted by Pastor A. A. Tsotetsi conducted the services in the church and at the graveside.

—W. M. COOKS.

A Book You Will Never Forget

BY H. M. S. RICHARDS

Listen to this:

“The long hours in a fifth-floor prison cell were punctuated almost daily by the screams from the Milice torture room. Often a prisoner, more dead than alive, was dragged past their cell. . . . One morning an officer came to the cell. ‘I am sorry,’ he said, ‘but Darnand has refused to release you, Mr. Weidner. Vichy has also informed the German Gestapo of your presence here. Tomorrow they are coming to take you. Preparations for your execution are already made at their headquarters. If you have any letters to write to your family or other papers you care to make out, you should do that today. Here is some paper and a pencil. I’m sorry not to have better news for you.’”

Who was this Mr. Weidner, who with his friend in the prison cell heard the terrible news that he was to be executed the next day? He was Captain John Henry Weidner, of the Dutch army, a leader of the Dutch-Paris underground during the second World War, and a very dear personal friend of mine. For a long time I had hoped that he would tell his a-

mazing story to the world. Now he has done just that—told the story to Herbert Ford who has made it into a book—with the unusual title, *Flee the Captor*.

And that day in the cell with the firing squad ready to take his life the next morning, he was like the apostle Peter in the old Jerusalem prison behind strong iron bars, with no possibility of flight from certain death. And then—listen to this paragraph:

“About an hour after a nearby church clock tolled ten that night, Weidner and Rens began working at the door of their cell with the tools—provided. They had the door open in about an hour. Weidner stepped out quietly to check the corridor. Near the door on the right side of the cell was a guard—asleep on the floor. Cradled between his legs was a machine-gun. . . .”

Did he wake up? Did they escape? What about the other two guards? Well, read it for yourself. But don’t start at night if you want time for sleeping. Read it for a gripping story of bravery and daring in a troubled time, but most of all for a story of faith and trust in God for modern times—our times.

Read the story of my friend John Weidner in *Flee the Captor*. It’s a book you will never forget.

Your Editor Thinks

. . . that we can all be greatly encouraged by the recent experience of our believers in the Midlands Central area. The love of God, so limitless and unrestricted, has again been manifested in behalf of His trusting people. Evangelist J. M. Dube relates this remarkable experience as follows:

“We were faced with a severe drought in the Midlands Central area, but the Lord wrought a miracle. At the beginning of 1966, the hearts of many people were filled with fear, when they looked at their withering crops. Prayer bands were organized in every church and company. The people confessed their unfaithfulness in paying tithes, and made solemn promises that if the Lord would give them rain, they would pay a faithful tithe on their increase. The Lord heard their prayers. What abundant rains poured down! Discouraged hearts became encouraged. The drought year became a good harvest year, and the people remembered their vows unto the Lord. ‘Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High.’ Ps. 50:14.

“The month of June was tithe month, and I organized our lay preachers, sending them to all corners of my district. As they reminded the believers about their vows, a wonderful response resulted in every church and company. Believers and non-believers came to me, asking where to send their tithes. I arranged with our local institution, Lower Gwelo Training School, to buy bags of produce from us. In all we sent in one hundred and thirty-four bags of maize and nuts.

“I would like to make mention particularly of two brothers, one a believer and the other an unbeliever. The believing brother gave 20 bags of maize and nuts and the other brother gave 7 bags. I thank the Lord for these outstanding gifts which have been brought into the treasury of the Lord, and for His wonderful love in keeping His promises to His trusting people.”

Reporting on . . .

People and Events

Pastor Merle L. Mills, our Division president, visited the Congo soon after the turn of the year. The Congo Union session and workers' meetings were postponed, so only the union committee meetings took place in Lubumbashi. From there Pastor Mills went on to Bujumbura, and after visits to the union headquarters office and Kivogo (Adventist Seminary of Central Africa) continued his safari to Gitwe in Rwanda for the Central African Union session, workers' and committee meetings. Pastors Reinhard and Lind were with him for part of these meetings.

Three of the Division officers attended the South African Union session and workers' meetings, held in Durban, with Pastors Jacobs and Cook, and Pastor Clark Smith from the General Conference MV Department. Running concurrently with these meetings were the Youth Rally and workers' meetings of the Southern Union, followed by their union session. Pastor Reinhard was unable to be in Durban due to pressure of work at the office.

Pastor M. E. Lind, Division secretary, attended the East African Union session, held at Karura camp grounds, and then the session of the Tanzania Union held at Busegwe, followed by workers' meetings and a union session for the South-East Africa Union in Malawi. Pastor Reinhard also attended some of these meetings.

Another session was that of the Zambesi Union at Solusi College. Something new at this session was the appointment of Pastor Reward Ndhlovu as the Stewardship Department secretary of the union. Formerly Brother Ndhlovu was the pastor of the Solusi College church. When the Congo Union session and workers' meetings are held later in March, sessions and workers' meetings for the eight unions for this quadrennium will be completed.

Pastor and Mrs. R. M. Reinhard are on their yearly auditing trip to South Africa. They will visit the South African and Southern unions as well as Helderberg College and the Sentinel Publishing Association, both of which are Division institutions.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Brian Peckham, son of Brother and Sister Ira Peckham. Brian was involved in a car accident and is at present in the Wentworth Hospital in Durban with multiple injuries. Recently Brian earned a first class matriculation pass and was granted a bursary for the medical course. His accident has hindered the plans for his career, but it is being arranged for tape recordings of the medical lectures to be provided so that Brian can go ahead with his studies, even though confined to bed.

Let us pray that if God so wills, Brian will soon be fully restored.

—ED.

On a recent aerial visit to Lulengele Mission Station in the Congo by CESSNA, Pastor Don Thomas furthered plans for the construction of an airstrip on the station so that more frequent contacts can be made with the believers there. J. T. Knopper, the union publishing leader, accompanied Brother Thomas and reported that the book work was showing good progress. A baptism of 13 new believers took place, and reports from the districts indicate that more candidates will soon be ready for this sacred rite. It has not been possible for union personnel to visit this area for some time, but our workers and believers at Lulengele are of good courage and the work is moving forward.

From Pastor Joe Hunt of the Publishing Department come reports of a gain of nearly £4,000 in deliveries for January as compared with January of 1966. The Central African Union has doubled its delivery figure and the South African Union shows a gain of 60 per cent.

Thirty publishing leaders and literature-evangelists from two fields in the Zambesi Union met during February for an inspiring institute. During the mornings they received instruction, shared ideas, and listened to good devotional messages, and in the afternoons they went out two by two to sell literature and put their knowledge to practical use.

We have learned from the General Conference Sabbath School Department that the Offering Overflow for the third quarter of 1966 which was devoted to Solusi College was the largest offering given for a third quarter. This will bring great benefit and encouragement to the staff of our college. Good rains have fallen there recently and the dams are full. This promises to be a good year for Solusi.

The Trans-Africa Division

OUTLOOK

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SUNSET CALENDAR

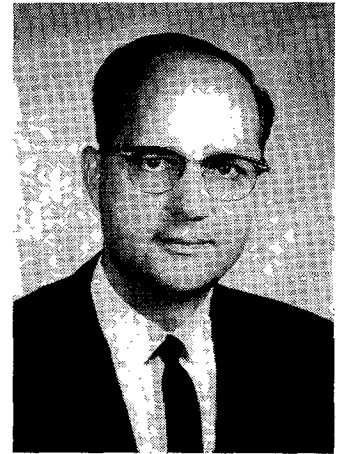
APRIL, 1967

MAY, 1967

	7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26
Cape Town	6.34	6.26	6.17	6.10	Cape Town	6.02	5.56	5.51	5.48
Johannesburg	6.01	5.54	5.47	5.42	Johannesburg	5.36	5.32	5.29	5.26
East London	5.57	5.49	5.40	5.33	East London	5.26	5.20	5.15	5.12
Port Elizabeth	6.06	5.58	5.49	5.42	Port Elizabeth	5.34	5.28	5.23	5.20
Bloemfontein	6.06	5.59	5.51	5.45	Bloemfontein	5.39	5.34	5.30	5.27
Pietermaritzburg	5.48	5.40	5.33	5.26	Pietermaritzburg	5.20	5.15	5.11	5.08
Durban	5.46	5.39	5.31	5.24	Durban	5.18	5.13	5.09	5.06
Windhoek	6.45	6.40	6.33	6.28	Windhoek	6.23	6.19	6.17	6.14
Bulawayo	6.00	5.56	5.50	5.46	Bulawayo	5.41	5.37	5.35	5.33
Salisbury	5.50	5.46	5.41	5.37	Salisbury	5.32	5.28	5.27	5.26
Gwelo	5.51	5.46	5.41	5.37	Gwelo	5.32	5.30	5.29	5.29
Lusaka	5.57	5.52	5.48	5.45	Lusaka	5.42	5.41	5.40	5.39
Blantyre	5.37	5.33	5.29	5.26	Blantyre	5.21	5.18	5.16	5.16
Lubumbashi	6.09	6.06	6.03	6.01	Lubumbashi	5.56	5.54	5.53	5.53
Nairobi	6.38	6.36	6.35	6.35	Nairobi	6.32	6.31	6.32	6.32
Mombasa	6.24	6.22	6.20	6.19	Mombasa	6.16	6.14	6.15	6.16
Kisumu	6.48	6.47	6.46	6.46	Kisumu	6.44	6.41	6.43	6.44
Kampala	6.56	6.55	6.53	6.52	Kampala	6.50	6.49	6.50	6.51
Dar-es-Salaam	6.26	6.25	6.23	6.21	Dar-es-Salaam	6.16	6.14	6.14	6.15
Tabora	6.52	6.50	6.48	6.46	Tabora	6.42	6.40	6.41	6.42

The Hallmark of a Christian

by MERLE L. MILLS,
President, Trans-Africa Division.



There is no lack of religion in our world today. In fact a sober and candid look around the world leads to the conclusion that we have more religions now than are necessary. But what the world does need is an increasing number of Christians—men, women and youth—who have an unquesting commitment to Christ. We need Christians whose influence and witness give evidence of the transforming power of the gospel. But what is it that identifies the quality of one who professes to be a follower of Christ? What is the distinguishing feature that one should look for in a Christian that stamps him as being genuine?

For an answer to this question, let us turn to Holy Writ: "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God: and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God" 1 John 4:7. There you have it! The hallmark which identifies the genuine Christian is love. An individual whose thoughts and motives are actuated by, and whose life is permeated with love, will be clearly marked. The world sees and understands little about love. For this reason the loving Christian will rise as a mountain peak above the valley of the masses.

Man was not born with a natural heart of love. Rather, he inherited a selfish nature, egotistical, grasping, with his thoughts centred on himself. That is why Christ's philosophy ran counter to and around the opposition of the Pharisees who equated a selfish and legalistic religion with piety and devotion. Christ's religion of love was also a contrast to that of paganism. It is foreign and strange to every other animistic and spurious religion that has come into existence in the subsequent centuries to Christ's startling announcement of this new concept of man's relationship. For man to love his neighbour as himself, and to love his enemies and do good to them that despitely use him, was startling indeed.

We must take precaution lest we degrade or weaken the force of this religion of love by failing to emphasize and elevate this basic principle of Christianity. John stated that it is only as we experience this love

that we reveal to the world "that we have been born of God and that we know God." Paul says that the greatest quality is love. All our piety, good words and profession will be but a sham and pretence unless our lives are actuated by this principle: "The badge of Christianity is not an outward sign, not the wearing of a cross or a crown, but that which reveals the union of man with God. By the power of His grace manifested in the transformation of character the world is to be convinced that God has sent His Son as its Redeemer. No other influence surrounding the human soul has such power as the influence of an unselfish life. The strongest argument in favour of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian."—*The Ministry of Healing*, page 470.

The significance of this statement should fasten itself deeply upon our souls. "The strongest argument in favour of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian." Just what kind of a person is a "loving and lovable Christian"? He is one whose thoughts are first of others. He shares his blessings and talents with others. There is no place in his soul for bitterness, hatred or revenge. Love for his brethren gives no admittance to fault-finding, criticism, intolerance, evil surmising, tactlessness, or discourtesy. His demeanour will be one of affability, gentleness and kindness. His countenance will radiate cheer and joy. He will put forth studied effort to avoid arguments and will give no needless offence. These are the qualities which make one loving and lovable. The friendship of such an individual will be cherished and its influence will be a benediction to the world. Such a life will do more good and will make a greater impact for the cause of Christ than a thousand sermons preached by the most eloquent preachers. This is the kind of religion the world is needing, for it is the most convincing evidence that there is power in the gospel to change hearts and to bring peace to the troubled souls of men.

Reader of mine, it is my fervent hope and prayer that you will determine to have a religion whose hallmark is that of LOVE.