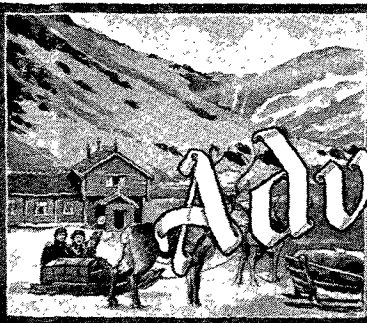




Advent Survey

Organ of the
NORTHERN EUROPEAN
DIVISION
of the General Conference of
SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTISTS



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The Winter Council

By W. T. BARTLETT

OUR Winter Council, which met at Skodsborg, December 15-21, 1936, will long be remembered. It was an unusually large gathering. In addition to the members of the West Nordic Union Committee who met with us according to custom, because the gathering was in their territory, we had the conference presidents from Sweden and Finland, two conference presidents from the British Union, also the principal of Newbold College, four local presidents from the Baltic Union, and one from the Polish Union. Unfortunately Brother Czembor, now the president of the Polish Union, was unable to obtain a travelling permit. We also had three representatives from the mission fields, Brother S. G. Maxwell, of the East African Union, Brother W. McClements, of the Nigerian Union, and Brother T. H. Fielding from the Gold Coast. Brother Eric Palm, late of Abyssinia, was also present. Altogether about fifty were in attendance.

We were made exceedingly comfortable by the management, who furnished us with a very suitable room for our council meetings and also provided whatever we needed in the way of committee rooms and offices. The 'flu, which was prevailing in the neighbourhood and affected a considerable number of the sanitarium staff, made only light inroads on the council.

Especially were we glad of the presence of the president and treasurer of the General Conference. Brother J. L. McElhany conducted the Bible studies every

morning but one, when Brother W. E. Nelson spoke. These brethren played a very helpful part in our council and, by their brotherly fellowship, established a happy relationship between us and them. We feel assured of sympathy and understanding between this Division and the General Conference in the quadrennial period that has now begun. The secretary of the General Conference, our old friend Brother E. D. Dick, has already proved very helpful.

The council faced very important questions right from the outset. One of these was the fact that the capital resources of the Division had more than disappeared. In a way these had served their intended purpose by making it possible to continue mission developments through a long period of depression. The time has now come when the reserves no longer exist, and it becomes urgently necessary to restore them. The council was agreed that the working capital must be restored, and to effect this it was necessary for the home bases to sacrifice part of their income, and even that the mission fields should suffer a kind of forced contribution. Every field felt that the economy was a painful one, but they faced the situation with courage, and the necessary steps were taken.

Another matter of major importance was the strengthening of the educational work in our missions.

It was decided that central training schools must be established in West and East Africa, where advanced training could be given to native teachers and evangelists, so that these could be distributed to man the mission and sector schools in our field. The Government, in both East and West Africa, recognizes the value of such work as a contribution toward the uplift of the native peoples under their care, and in several places we are now receiving substantial sums in aid of our educational work. If we can lift our school work to a higher level by employing better qualified native teachers, more money can be earned as grants.

Quite apart from this consideration, experience is showing clearly in our own and other Divisions of the world field that we must give better education to our own membership if we expect it to become a working agency for carrying the church into the regions as yet unentered. The work for Africa must be largely done by Africans. Today Africa is being rapidly educated, and in future we may expect to find ourselves dealing more and more with educated peoples. To win converts we must provide better teachers, who will receive Government permission to do their school work because they themselves have passed examinations which show that they are qualified for educational work.

A necessary part of this scheme for raising the standard in the mission fields is the provision of European missionaries who are able to conduct training schools

in Africa, and who would be regarded by educational authorities as qualified for such work and, in some cases, eligible for financial assistance. This involves supplementing the facilities for training workers now to be found at our own college in England, which has been adopted as the future senior college for the Northern European Division. The council was convinced that such steps must be taken in the interests of the cause, and a committee was appointed to work out details in counsel. Such advanced work will mean much hard work and considerable sacrifice, and will call for the liberal help of the brethren and sisters in Northern Europe.

On account of the many important matters to come before the council, it organized itself for more thorough and rapid labour somewhat on the lines followed in the Autumn Councils of the General Conference. The council met in full session morning and evening, but the hours from dinner until 4 p.m. were given over to committees. One committee dealt with plans of work and resolutions referred to it. The plans were quite fully discussed on this committee, so that when they were presented in their final shape before the full council, there was little need for discussion. Another large committee dealt with the matter of finances, and to this committee were referred all questions on goals and the raising of money to provide for various needs. Then a small budget committee was formed, and before this committee all who had special pleas to urge on behalf of their fields had opportunity to state their case, emphasize their needs, and answer questions.

By this division of labour the heavy agenda was disposed of, and although the work kept us under high pressure until the very last moments, practically nothing of importance was left to be referred to the home committee for further consideration and final action. Brother McElhany closed the council with some earnest words, and we broke up. In an hour or two almost everybody had departed for home.

The proceedings from first to

last were followed with deepest interest by all present. Questions of vast importance were before us every day. There was a solemn conviction that we were living in the shadow of a tremendous world crisis, and that God's cause had come to a time when human wisdom and resources were altogether insufficient to meet the need. It was a privilege to be at the council and to realize in some faint measure how it was given to us to play a part in the great drama of the ages. At the last session it was decided to send a message to our membership expressing this solemn sense of unparalleled opportunity that faces the church to-day, and appeal to our brethren and sisters everywhere to rally with us to the call of the hour.

The message reads as follows:

Dear Brethren and Sisters in Christ:

We are gathered here in Winter Council from the various parts of the Northern European Division, and desire to send you our cordial greetings. We ourselves have been blessed and strengthened by the fellowship enjoyed in this council, and we rejoice that this same fellowship takes you all in, even to the uttermost parts of the Division; that in Christ we are one people, bound together in one blessed hope, and united in working for its speedy realization.

Proof of this is seen in the fact that, as a Division, we have taken another forward step in the Harvest Ingathering Campaign, passing the total of 1935, and reaching the goal considerably earlier. We rejoice together in this victory and while we give thanks to God for the blessing bestowed on our united endeavour, we wish to express to you also how grateful we are for your self-denying co-operation. It encourages us to look and plan for steady progress when we see your loyalty to the cause of God.

It will grieve you, as it does us, that we are not able to respond to some very pressing calls that are coming to us from African mission fields. We are as certain as man can be that God by His opening providences is testing our faith and sincerity by these calls, and the home fields of Europe are willing to make every sacrifice that the calls may be answered, but we have already exhausted the Division's financial resources and are positively unable to do more. We are united, however, in dedicating ourselves to the proclamation of the message with greater efficiency and zeal, and invite you to join with us in an entire consecration to the finishing of the work.

As we contemplate our work to-day, you and we face a situation full

of peril. You do not need to be persuaded that a world-wide crisis is now upon us, a more threatening one by far than mankind has seen since the days of Noah. Our work is being restricted in many lands, and in others there are signs of trouble for the Advent people. Our only hope is in God's almighty protection, for the good intentions of statesmen seem too weak to contend with the forces of evil. When the storm breaks, our work will become more difficult than we can imagine.

We shall not enjoy much longer our opportunity to work in peace and freedom. Peace may quickly disappear, and freedom may go with it, never to return. To-day we still have opportunity to work, if we will. God grant that when the coming storm breaks, our work may have been speeded up, and, by God's help, almost finished. Some of us would, we trust, face a whole world of enemies for Christ's sake and prove faithful to the very last. No matter how difficult the task might become through the defect of others, we would not waver in our loyalty. If that spirit is ever to characterize the Advent ranks *it is needed now.*

The day has come for which we have long looked. It is time to be wholly on the Lord's side, to withhold no sacrifice by which we can advance the Advent message. We must put on the whole armour and close up the ranks. The day of the Lord is at hand. Let not 1937 be as other years. Our hope is that we shall not need to wait till another Winter Council to see if we can answer the calls that to-day must go unanswered. We ask that you will come to the aid of God's suffering cause in such a manner as to make it soon possible for us to supply the needed means. As you in personal consecration—as well as in your tithes, offerings, and special gifts, respond to this earnest appeal, we believe that God will do great things for us, and make 1937 a new beginning in our experience.

Brethren, pray for us. It is our earnest petition that God will unite you with us in the experience of full surrender and unreserved dedication that this time demands of God's remnant people.

Yours in the everlasting Gospel,
W. E. READ,
President

Let this message go through our ranks to every member, young and old. It came from the hearts of the brethren assembled in this council. We hope it will be received as an earnest appeal to all to stand with us in these tremendous issues.

It is the custom at such gatherings for the members of the council to meet at the beginning of Sabbath for prayer and Christ

fellowship. This is usually a time of deep blessing, and it certainly was so on this occasion. Brother W. E. Read led out with a brief talk on the "Peace of God," telling how this had come into his own experience. Hearts were touched. Immediately a flood of testimonies began to pour, and the meeting was prolonged to give us opportunity. Hearts came together in real Christian brotherhood, and we sat in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Undoubtedly this meeting played an important part in helping us all to face hard facts with courage and good will.

Brother McElhany and Brother Nelson gave eminently practical instruction in their studies. All were happy to meet these leaders and to see what manner of men they were. We believe we have entered a new quadrennium of progress and achievement. Difficulties will, of course, be present, and probably will grow worse and worse, but if we meet them by closing up our ranks, consecrating our lives and means more fully, and relying more and more on the power and Spirit of God, the difficulties will work for good, and bring real blessing in their train.

fields to ascertain what portions are still unentered and unoccupied, and that every effort be made to occupy such territory as rapidly as possible.

9. That we seek ever to keep before our people the fact that the work of the church is to proclaim the Gospel message, and to win souls for the kingdom of God. This is God's purpose. The Saviour's last great commission is to the church as well as to the ministry, "Go ye into all the world, and make disciples of all nations." Matt. 28:19 (margin). This is the work of the church; it has no other business. All its activities should have this one object in view—the saving of souls from sin that they may be prepared to meet their Lord in peace. Every member in the church, and every labourer in the cause of God, no matter in what department he may serve, should be a winner of souls. All his work should contribute toward this one purpose. Although he may not be directly engaged in evangelistic work, he must ever have the proclamation of the Gospel truth and the winning of souls as the ultimate purpose of all that he does.

The Responsibility Resting upon the Ministry

BY W. E. READ

We would commend to the prayerful attention of all our workers the statements from the recent Winter Council held at Skodsborg. Especially would we mention the action taken on the all-important question of evangelism:

CONTINUOUS EFFORT IN GREATER EVANGELISM

WHEREAS, We are now entering the era of the last and unprecedented crisis of the ages, when the fast-filling signs of the times point with ever-increasing evidence to the soon coming of Christ, emphasizing that our time for soul-saving work is short, and

WHEREAS, We recognize soul-winning evangelism as the chief objective and fundamental feature of our organized work and the primary means of proclaiming God's saving message to the populous cities and to all mankind, and

WHEREAS, We recognize that the efforts for a greater evangelism during the several years past have resulted in a large fruitage which, in turn, has brought added strength to all branches of our work, therefore

We Recommend, 1. That union conference and mission field leaders lead out in urging this evangelism and co-operate to the full extent of their ability with local conference residents and committees in planning for their respective ministerial workers definitely to engage in the work of public evangelism, freeing them from other duties sufficiently to enable them to do this work.

2. That conference and mission

field leaders be urged personally to engage in the work of conducting public efforts, thus gaining a fresh experience in this line of soul-winning endeavour, as well as setting before their working forces a worthy example in putting first things first in their service to God.

3. That our younger ministers be not burdened with heavy church administrative duties, but be left largely free to give their time and strength to labouring for those not of our faith, through public evangelistic efforts.

4. That we encourage our medical workers and nurses to connect with evangelistic efforts, where possible, thus making the medical missionary work an "entering wedge" for reaching the hearts of the people with the Gospel message.

5. That conferences and mission fields encourage and train suitable lay men to labour as self-supporting lay-evangelists, with a view to their co-operating with the ministry in their work in the respective fields.

6. That groups of young people be organized, in churches where there are youth of talent, to be known as evangelistic groups, and that these youth be trained to do public evangelistic work in their respective communities.

7. That we encourage the workers in the different departments of our organization to devote a part of their time, so far as possible, directly to evangelistic efforts, and that in all their departmental work they keep in view the ultimate object of all our efforts, namely, the proclamation of the message and the winning of souls.

8. That our union committees provide for a survey of their respective

10. That we appeal to our people earnestly to pray for our evangelists that they may be clothed with divine power, that success may attend their efforts. There is power in prayer. It reaches up and lays hold of the arm of Omnipotence and moves hearts and changes lives on earth. Every great revival has been preceded by earnest prayer. Daniel prayed for his people and the angel Gabriel came in response. The disciples prayed and the Pentecostal blessing fell upon them. The early church prayed and Peter was miraculously released from prison. Paul and Silas prayed and they were delivered, and the jailer was converted. A praying church to-day will bring success in soul winning, for the "effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Therefore we most earnestly plead with our people to pray for the success of the workers and the conversion of souls.

11. That through these means, and under the blessing of God, we endeavour to build up our membership by at least ten per cent during the year 1937.

The Gospel plan provides that some be called to "give themselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the Word." Acts 6:4. When Jesus was here He called men into intimate fellowship with Himself. The record in Mark's gospel states: "He goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto Him whom He would: and they came unto Him. And He ordained twelve, that they should be with Him." Mark 3:13, 14. To those

thus called has been committed "the ministry of reconciliation." 2 Cor. 5:18. They are "ambassadors for Christ" (2 Cor. 5:20) and, like the Saviour of old, are sent into the world "to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10. Let us notice a few features of the work of the ministry, and to what the servant of the Lord is called.

1. To Preach the Gospel.

Jesus commissions His servants to "preach the Gospel." Mark 16:15. On a later occasion He bade them "teach all nations." Matt. 28:19. They are commissioned to carry the glad tidings of the everlasting Gospel, the Gospel of the kingdom of God, to all mankind. They are to preach a full message, "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Matt. 28:20. They are to be faithful in presenting every phase of the message of truth. The apostle Paul could declare, "I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." Acts 20:27. This is the work of the Gospel minister. He has to declare with no uncertain voice the message of a crucified and risen Saviour.

His work is not to stay with the churches. He will naturally remain long enough to build up in the faith those who have accepted the message through his ministry, but then, like the apostle Paul, he will pass on to other centres and herald the good news.

"I am instructed to point our ministers to the unworked cities, and to urge them by every possible means to open the way for the presentation of the truth. In some of the cities where the message of the second coming of the Lord was first given, we are compelled to take up the work as if it were a new field. How much longer will these barren fields, these unworked cities, be passed by? Without delay, the sowing of the seed should begin in many, many places."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 123.*

"Our ministers are not to spend their time labouring for those who have already accepted the truth. With Christ's love burning in their hearts, they are to go forth to win sinners to the Saviour. Beside all

waters they are to sow the seeds of truth. Place after place is to be visited; church after church is to be raised up. Those who take their stand for the truth are to be organized into churches, and then the minister is to pass on to other equally important fields."—*Id., Vol. 7, pages 19, 20.*

"Are there not Seventh-Day Adventists who will do likewise? Instead of keeping the ministers at work for the churches that already know the truth, let the members of the church say to these labourers: 'Go work for souls that are perishing in darkness. We ourselves will carry forward the services of the church. We will keep up the meetings and, by abiding in Christ, will maintain spiritual life. We will work for souls that are about us, and we will send our prayers and our gifts to sustain the labourers in more needy and destitute fields.'"—*Id., Vol. 6, page 30.*

2. To Win Disciples.

Preaching or teaching is not the main work of the messenger of Christ. Preaching is a means to an end. There is an objective and a very definite objective. We read this in the first gospel: "Go ye therefore, and make disciples [or Christians] of all nations." Matt. 28:19 (margin). This is the purpose of God. His servants are called to be fishers of men.

The story recorded in the fifth chapter of Luke is full of many precious lessons concerning this. It is to be observed that when the net was let down on the right side they enclosed a great multitude of fishes, not merely one or two, but a multitude. On a later occasion, as recorded in John, chapter twenty-one, when they drew in the net they found it full not merely of fishes, but of "great fishes," one hundred and fifty-three.

Thus the Lord would bring home to our hearts His purpose for us in the winning of souls. "He that winneth souls is wise," says the writer of the book of Proverbs. A wonderful promise is given also through the prophet Daniel: "They that turn many to righteousness" shall shine "as the stars for ever and ever." Dan. 12:3.

After souls have been born into the kingdom of God they must be fed with food convenient for them, first of all with the milk of the Word and then, as they can bear it, with strong meat. Hence the servants of God are commissioned by their blessed Master to "feed the church of God." Acts 20:28. The ideal, as the apostle Paul sets it before us, is "that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus." We should aim that the believers be "rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith." Col. 2:7.

Well-directed efforts should be made to instruct the churchmembers in plans and methods of service. Notice the following counsel from the Spirit of prophecy:

"In every church there is talent, which, with the right kind of labour, might be developed to become a great help in this work. That which is needed now for the upbuilding of our churches is the nice work of wise labourers to discern and develop talent in the church—talent that can be educated for the Master's use. There should be a well-organized plan for the employment of workers to go into all our churches, large and small, to instruct the members how to labour for the upbuilding of the church, and also for unbelievers. It is training, education, that is needed. Those who labour in visiting the churches should give the brethren and sisters instruction in practical methods of doing missionary work."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 117.*

"There should be no delay in this well-planned effort to educate the churchmembers. Person should be chosen to labour in the large cities who are fully consecrated, and who understand the sacredness and importance of this work. Do not send those who are not qualified in these respects. Men are needed who will push the triumphs of the cross, who will persevere under discouragements and privations, who will have the zeal and resolution and faith that are indispensable to the mission field. And to those who do engage personally in the work, would say, Do not hinder those who are willing to work, but

them encouragement and support." —*Id.*, Vol. 9, page 119.

4. To Make Soul-Winners.

There is to be an objective in all the activities of our church-members. Their efforts are to be focused on a definite aim, and that is making known the truth of God for the express purpose of winning souls to Jesus. The ministry is to train the laity for this work. Paul's counsel to the church at Ephesus mentions apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers in the church. He tells also why they are there—"for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Eph. 4:12. Another rendering gives this added significance, "For the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of the ministry, unto the edifying of the body of Christ." Here is seen one of the reasons why God has placed these gifts in the church. It is to perfect the children of God in the work of ministering, to show them how to minister, then to lead them in service and to work with them so that they may become efficient soul-winners for the Master's kingdom.

"Let ministers teach church-members that in order to grow spiritually, they must carry the burden that the Lord has laid upon them—the burden of leading souls into the truth."—*Gospel Workers*, page 200.

5. To Exemplify the Truth.

What an important principle this is. What we are speaks much louder than anything we say. In giving counsel to Timothy the apostle Paul wrote, "Be thou an example of the believers." 1 Tim. 4:12. He was not only to teach the truth, but to live the truth. After all, the world will be convinced not so much by what we preach as by how we live what we preach. God's ministers are to be examples of the believers, "in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." 1 Tim. 4:12. They are to lead the people in their gifts to the cause of God; to lead them in their missionary activities; to lead them in

faith, in honesty, in godliness. Well might the servants of God, thinking of their high and holy calling, cry out, as did one of old, "Who is sufficient for these things?" But let us reply with the

apostle Paul, "Our sufficiency is of God."

May God make us able ministers of the new covenant and winners of souls for His heavenly kingdom!

The Unity of the Advent Movement

A STATEMENT on the unity of the Advent movement, as adopted at the recent General Conference session, was voted as follows:

Christ died for all mankind and the Gospel belongs alike to every nation. With God there is no respecter of persons; He "hath made of one blood all nations of man for to dwell on all the face of the earth." His Spirit is pleading with all flesh, and those who receive Him out of every nation are adopted into His family and become a Christian brotherhood in all the world.

The Advent message is worldwide. It presents the everlasting Gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people for this generation. It is one message and one church in all the world. Faith in this message unites men of every race and colour into one body in Christ. "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female," for we "are all one in Christ Jesus."

This Advent movement, under the leadership of Christ, heads up, as an organization, in one General Conference to which all our other organizations stand related as the branches are related to the tree. The closer these organizations in the different sections or divisions of the world field can stand related to the General Conference, the richer will be the blessings and the greater will be the progress that will come to this movement. United in the truth we can withstand every onslaught of the enemy. Therefore,

1. Every possible effort should constantly be put forth to hold together and to avoid all barriers of nationalism, racial feelings, or independence that would lead to separation or division. We must not permit the spirit of ambition for office, the desire to rule, or

antagonism to people of other countries to enter our hearts. Rather, fervent faith in God, deep humility of heart, and mutual confidence in one another should actuate all the workers in this cause—this will bring unity and success.

2. Experience of many years has proven that unity of the Advent movement is best preserved when there is an interchange of workers of different countries, bringing in a variety of gifts and experience and adapting these to the conditions and needs of each field. Often has it been seen that where a country is set off to itself, with workers of its own people only, our work does not prosper so well as it otherwise would. The General Conference executive committee is composed of men of various nationalities, and in the manning of our own Division an excellent example of this has been given by employing a large number of workers from different countries with their varied gifts.

3. In our mission fields, where many are coming to the light from among backward and untaught peoples, we urge that immediate steps be taken to develop a much larger force of ministers and leaders from among these converts and that responsibility of leadership in various posts of duty be placed upon them as rapidly as possible. This plan will greatly relieve the overburdened missionary staff; secure for them a larger degree of co-operation from the indigenous workers; give stability to the work; and establish still greater confidence in the hearts of the church membership. We also recommend that far greater efforts be put forth to train the women of such lands that as homemakers and companions to their husbands in service they may be able to labour successfully in con-

nection with the cause of God and to exert a telling influence in favour of the Christian religion.

4. In planning for the upbuilding of the cause of God in all lands, we must ever press forward by faith in the divine leadership and with confidence in our fellow-workers. The Spirit of Christ must rule in our hearts and love for souls be the propelling motive in our lives. As a citizen of an earthly country, every one should

be loyally subject to the authorities and pray for the rulers of his country, while, as children of God, all should bear in mind that they are also, in a spiritual way, citizens of a heavenly land and members of the family of God. The missionary in a land not his own is to be subject also to the civil authorities wherever he may live, giving honour to kings and rulers, as commanded in the New Testament scriptures.

Statement of Loyalty

THE following statement of loyalty to the message was adopted by the council:

In former days, God's people often stopped to review the past, to study the present, and survey the future. Thus their faith, courage, and joy in the Lord were revived and strengthened. In like manner, it seems timely at this Winter Council of the Northern European Division, that we briefly study the great fundamentals of our faith, order, and work.

We reaffirm our acceptance in full of the doctrine and organization of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. We believe that this Advent message and movement, founded as it is on the entire Bible, and upon the Bible alone, is a fulfilment of Scripture's prophecy. We accept without reserve the precious instruction of the Spirit of prophecy in the Advent church, not as a new Bible, or an addition to the Bible, but as light from heaven on the Word of God. We desire, under God, to stand loyal to the General Conference and to the Advent believers as one church and one body in all the world.

The condition of the world, as well as other signs of the times, and especially the rapid advance of the Advent movement, lead us to believe that the coming of the Lord is nigh at hand.

The work to be done being large, and the time but short, we feel deeply the great plan and solemn task committed to us, and we desire with all our ministers and workers to lead our people into a deeper, stronger faith, as

well as a genuine preparation for the coming of Christ, and to do our utmost to save and train our children and youth. We pledge ourselves under God to make every effort to carry the Advent message to the many millions in the countries of the Northern European Division, including its large mission fields.

MINISTERIAL STANDARDS

The following statement on ministerial standards was presented to the council and adopted:

Believing that God has called His ministers to be examples to the flock in word, in faith, and in purity, we urge anew that all upon whom holy hands have been laid give earnest heed to their personal life, that by their unblemished conduct they may witness against the prevailing iniquities of this degenerate age. And in view of the prevalence of the sins which characterized the days of Noah and Lot, we counsel the most earnest watchfulness on the part of every worker in the cause

Our Objective for the New Year

In the strength of the Lord, let us make the year 1937 the banner year in the winning of souls to Christ.

of God that he may be preserved from the sins of impurity which war against the soul.

We appeal to those in administrative authority, in conferences, and institutions to give no coun-

tenance to carelessness in these matters among their workers, and after careful consideration and counsel to deal faithfully with those who are proved to have disregarded the obligations set forth in the seventh commandment. We reaffirm the pronouncement as found in the General Conference *Manual for Ministers*, which reads:

"In case of moral fall by any minister, it is to be recognized that automatically the ministry ceases. While one so offending has access to the mercy and pardoning grace of God, and in reformation of life is assured of the love and goodwill of the brethren, it is clearly indicated that, for the sake of the church and the maintenance of moral standards, the labourer should plan henceforth to give his life to some other calling or business than that of the ministry."

New Members of the N.E.D. Committee

THE following persons were appointed as members of the Division committee for the quadrennial term, 1936-1940, or for so long as they continue in their present positions in the cause. The Division committee has power to add to its numbers such men as it may wish to combine with it as counsellors, but the men so added are not constituted members of the General Conference committee.

C. M. Scott, manager of the Oslo and Copenhagen clinics.

A. Rintala, principal of the school in Finland.

A. Warren, manager of the British publishing house.

W. G. C. Murdoch, principal of Newbold College.

Of these men, all but A. Warren were present at the Winter Council.

God's workmen must be many-sided men; that is, they must have breadth of character. They are not to be one-idea men, stereotyped in their manner of working, unable to see that their advocacy of truth must vary with the class of people among whom they work and the circumstances they have to meet.

—"Gospel Workers," page 119.

Resolutions

Adopted at the Winter Council of the Northern European Division

GRATITUDE

That we do return thanks to Almighty God for the better growth in membership revealed in the reports for the past year, also for the improvement in tithes and offerings, and especially for the continual blessing that, under existing conditions, alone makes any growth possible, and

That, in humble recognition of our own insufficiency and utter dependence on divine help for the least success, we unitedly dedicate our entire lives to the service of God and pray for perfect cleansing from sin and worldliness that we might be filled with the Spirit of truth, and holiness, and power.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

It is with deep sorrow that we record the loss by death of some members of our Division during the year.

Sister Christian, wife of L. H. Christian who, after a long illness, fell asleep at Loma Linda, California; Sister Mary Wharrie, who has laboured faithfully both in East and West Africa and was laid to rest at her post of duty in Nigeria; Sister Stadin, who met her tragic death in Ethiopia; and the little child of Brother and Sister Fielding of the Gold Coast.

We would also mention Brother Ahren who laboured long in Scandinavia.

To the relatives and friends of the deceased we extend our heartfelt sympathy and pray that the Great Comforter will bind up their broken hearts and that soon the glad reunion will take place.

GREETINGS—L. H. CHRISTIAN

Resolved, That as we gather in Winter Council, the members of the Northern European Division, new and old, extend affectionate greetings to L. H. Christian, praying that God's blessing may attend his labours in the sphere to which he has been called.

CARE IN CHOICE OF LEADERSHIP

WHEREAS, The history of the church throughout the ages has

clearly revealed the fact that the very life of the church is dependent largely on her leadership; and

WHEREAS, From the human side no other one thing is so important as that of securing able, God-fearing men of truth, men who are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, to lead the church of God forward, upward, and heavenward at this critical hour of her history; therefore

We Recommend, 1. That greater care be exercised in the selection of local church officers and leaders for every department of church work; that where possible the churches be requested to take counsel with a minister or conference officer in the selection of such officers; that only such persons be chosen whose lives are in full harmony with the holy principles of truth and righteousness, who are qualified to teach others the way of life, and whose entire influence will be given to bringing the whole body into "the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

2. That in the selection of men for union and local conference leadership, the same high standard be maintained in spiritual lines, and that only such be chosen as are prepared by training and experience successfully to fill the position to which they are called.

3. That in the selection of leaders for churches, conferences, or mission fields, counsel be sought of those of wider experience in such matters in the next higher organization.

"Heaven is watching to see how those occupying positions of influence fulfil their stewardship. The demands upon them as stewards are measured by the extent of their influence. In their treatment of their fellow-men, they should be as fathers—just, tender, true. They should be Christlike in character, uniting with their brethren in the closest bonds of unity and fellowship."—"Testimonies," Vol. 7, page 282.

4. That the articles being prepared by the *Review and Herald* for 1937, setting forth the qualifications necessary for all who are called to fill these responsible offices in the church, conference, or mission, be published in our union and local papers.

5. That in each conference and mission, institutes be held for the training of church officers, the conference taking counsel with the union as to the plans for such meetings.

TESTIMONIES FOR THE CHURCH

WHEREAS, The church is to-day

facing perils of the last days—days especially marked by the deceptions and delusions of the enemy of souls, and

WHEREAS, The Lord has, through the Spirit of prophecy, sent to the remnant church messages that clearly reveal the snares and delusions that endanger spiritual life, and

WHEREAS, These messages uphold the high standard of Christian living in these days of apostasy and prevailing iniquity, and magnify the importance of Bible study, prayer, Christian service, and faith in Christ, thus tending to fortify the soul against specious temptation and delusion, and

WHEREAS, With the passing of the years, the death of the pioneer workers, and the accession of thousands of new believers, there is danger that, like Israel of old, we shall forget the providential way in which the Lord has led and instructed us, and

WHEREAS, The firm acceptance of the Spirit of prophecy depends to a large degree on a clear understanding of the teachings of the Scriptures on this subject and a proper understanding of the manifestation of this gift among God's remnant people, and

WHEREAS, There is at the present time but little inexpensive literature setting forth this subject which can be placed in the hands of prospective and new believers as well as our other churchmembers;

We Recommend, 1. That all workers in every branch of denominational endeavour give special emphasis to the importance of individual study of, and obedience to, the instruction in the writings of the Spirit of prophecy as the vital factor in the preparation of heart for the impending crisis before the world and the church, for more efficient preparation for soul-saving service, and for a preparation for the coming of the Lord.

2. That we counsel all who have a knowledge of English to secure and faithfully study the instruction to workers and churchmembers in the Nine Volume Set of *Testimonies to the Church*.

3. That we counsel each union to give study to the matter of publishing certain selected portions of the *Testimonies* in either pamphlet or book form.

4. That each union pass in its recommendations to the Division Committee, with a view to arrangements being made with the White Estate Trustees for permission to publish the writings of the Spirit of prophecy.

5. That careful study be given to the initial cost, such as translation, setting up, etc., and, should the need arise, that small grants be made from the Division "Testimonies' Fund" for this purpose.

RELATION OF CONFERENCES TO
UNIONS IN MATTERS OF ORDINATION
TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

WHEREAS, It is necessary to exercise the greatest care in the selection of candidates to the high calling of the Gospel ministry, in which ministry the candidate will work not for one local field alone, but for the entire church,

We Recommend, That the procedure for ordination to the ministry as laid down in the General Conference Church Manual be followed, viz:

(a) That the matter be first dealt with by the local conference committee.

(b) In case of approval, the local conference committee submit the names of the candidates to the union conference committee for counsel.

(c) The decision of these two bodies be placed in the hands of the Committee on Credentials and Licences (at the next session of the conference) on whose favourable report the conference makes final decision in the case.

INSTRUCTION OF BAPTISMAL
CANDIDATES

WHEREAS, There is always danger of carelessness being allowed to creep into the activities of the church of Christ, and consequently there is a constant need of upholding our former standards of procedure, and

WHEREAS, Any tendency toward carelessness in adequately instructing new members when they come into the church would undermine the quality and character of our churches, strengthen the forces of worldliness against the forces of true spirituality and bring weakness into all our church activities,

Therefore Resolved, 1. That we hereby reaffirm our confidence in our established practice of thoroughly instructing every prospective church-member in all the doctrines of our church, including those teachings which are not tests of fellowship; examining every candidate carefully so as to give the church satisfactory assurance that all candidates have accepted the teachings of the church and are living in harmony with same before baptism and admission to church membership.

2. That in preparing candidates for baptism our evangelists take counsel on each name with the elder and church officers with a view to assuring that every possible step be taken to avoid baptism of those whose lives are not fully in accord with all phases of the doctrines we preach.

3. That this reaffirmation and these recommendations be presented to all our workers at the forthcoming local conference sessions.

4. That only such persons whose baptism cannot be satisfactorily arranged in the local church be baptized at annual meetings, or upon other occasions.

A further resolution dealt with the question of "Baptism and Admittance to Church Membership." After briefly discussing the merits of this resolution, it was voted to adopt it without any change.

BAPTISM AND ADMITTANCE TO
CHURCHMEMBERSHIP

WHEREAS, The cause of God is sustaining heavy losses, much of which we feel is preventable, because young people and others who give their hearts to Christ are oftentimes not properly instructed and led to a full surrender to God in baptism and church membership, and

WHEREAS, The names of young people and others after baptism have, at times, not been entered upon the church record books,

We Recommend, That we adopt the following plan:

1. That every minister and worker be alert rightly to follow up those who have manifested a desire to be baptized and join the church, in order that they may be led to a full surrender to Christ in baptism and church membership.

2. That in the case of each person baptized, the minister in charge recognize that it is his definite responsibility to see that the baptized person be received into some local church or the conference church.

3. That we counsel our various conferences to consider favourably the general use of a baptism certificate which will contain the following information:

(a) Date and place of baptism.

(b) Name of church into which received.

(c) Signature of the person baptized.

(d) Signatures of officiating ministers.

(e) Where deemed advisable by local field conditions, the name of the church clerk might be also shown.

4. We counsel each union to print a small folder, setting forth the principles of our faith as shown in the Year Book; this to be placed in the hands of each candidate desiring baptism.

THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE
LORD'S WORK

Every Seventh-Day Adventist believes that the third angel's message of Revelation 14 must go "to every nation, and kindred, and

tongue, and people" in the whole world, and that we are the people raised up by God to give this message in this generation. We are under solemn obligation to finish the work which was so auspiciously begun by our pioneers. There is no stopping place. As we are told in the Spirit of prophecy, "Our watchword is to be, Onward, ever onward. . . . Our burden for the 'regions beyond' can never be laid down until the whole earth shall be lightened with the glory of the Lord."—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, page 29. We must advance year by year till the work is finished.

To complete this task we must have more and more spiritual power, and we must have increasing funds to send more labourers into the field to reap earth's last harvest of souls.

Seventh-Day Adventists are a liberal people. It is marvellous in the eyes of others to see a people who are so few in number, and with so limited resources, make such large gifts to religious work. Such loyalty and devotion to God's work is greatly appreciated by those who have been chosen to lead.

The many evidences of the near coming of our Lord and conditions that exist in the world, and the marvellous opportunities for soul-winning which are far beyond our present ability to compass, call for a deeper consecration on the part of workers and people, and a determined effort to husband all the resources God has given us for a mighty forward movement. Far greater things can be done than have yet been accomplished if every Seventh-Day Adventist will do his best.

We have been told through the Spirit of prophecy that if all our people would pay a faithful tithe there would be no want of means with which to carry forward the great work of sounding the last message of warning to the world. Conference presidents have been admonished "to see that the elders and deacons of churches do their work in the churches by seeing that a faithful tithe is brought into the treasury," and elders of churches are admonished to "labour from home to home that the flock of God shall not be remiss

in this great matter which involves such a blessing or such a curse."—*"Testimonies to Ministers,"* pages 305, 306. As a people we should understand that as the Lord has reserved to Himself the Sabbath as holy time, so has He reserved to Himself one-tenth of our increase as holy. And as we have found delight in observing the Sabbath, so we should take delight in returning to God that portion of our untithed possessions and increase which is His own.

In view of the needs and possibilities:

We Recommend,

1. *As to Tithe.*

(a) That we counsel each union to arrange for a special tithe Sabbath early each year and appeal to our members to enter into a covenant with God to pay an honest tithe into the treasury.

(b) That the use of the tithe covenant card be encouraged.

(c) That pastors and elders make efforts to help those who are delinquent, to see their privilege and responsibility in regularly paying a full tithe into the treasury of the church.

(d) That special attention be given to instructing new churchmembers in this matter.

(e) That all union and local conferences and missions join in this effort to get all our people to pay a full tithe.

(f) That an educational effort on tithe paying be carried on in the SURVEY, union and local papers, by frequent insertion of articles on tithing from the Biblical standpoint.

(g) That the unions give careful consideration to gathering material and experiences on tithe paying and prepare this into a tract for circulation among our believers.

(h) That conference and church treasurers and other officers through personal and appreciative letters carry forward this educational work vigorously and that the effort be continuous rather than spasmodic.

(i) That records be kept by the local conferences so that reports may be sent to church pastors and local elders from time to time, showing the progress of the effort to lead our churchmembers to become one-hundred-per-cent tithe payers.

2. *As to Mission Offerings.*

(a) That all our fields set definite goals for the average of gifts per member for the extension of the work, and that each union do its utmost to encourage local conferences and missions to reach the goals set.

(b) That the Harvest Ingathering work be pushed vigorously in all fields.

(c) That the Sabbath-School Department continue to stress the plan of regular weekly giving to missions, endeavouring to reach the goals that have been or may be set.

3. *As to training our indigenous churches in the principles and practices of tithe paying and systematic offerings.*

That arrangements be made for all our mission unions to keep separate budgets for the indigenous work, and that the ideal be emphasized of making the income from the indigenous constituency support its own work; and that goals be set from time to time for the percentage of self-support to be reached; so that an increasingly larger portion of what is appropriated by the Division can be used for opening new work.

4. *As to Unity.*

Recognizing that the Advent message is the one message of God for all the world to-day, and that the remnant people of God must be a united people the world around,

We Recommend, That constant and loving efforts be put forth in all fields to maintain the unity of all believers, and that the foreign missionaries and the workers that have been raised up from among the people of the various countries earnestly work together for the extension of the message into new fields.

We Recommend, That we endorse the following resolution concerning church building finance, and concerning the borrowing of money, adopted at the General Conference Autumn Council of 1936:

1. That all churches encumbered with debt make every sacrifice and effort possible to free themselves from all burden of debt as rapidly as they are able, while carrying on the regular programme of the church.

2. That churches contemplating either purchasing or erecting church buildings be cautioned not to undertake obligations which the church cannot easily carry, the local and union conference committees giving careful counsel after studying the size of the congregation, its financial strength, and the location of the church.

3. That where conditions seem to make it imperative for congregations to assume obligations on their church properties, in no case should building operations be started until seventy-five per cent of the entire cost is in hand in cash; and that any help from the General Conference Church Extension Fund, where given, be a part of the remaining twenty-five per cent.

4. That whenever possible churches be not dedicated until they are free from indebtedness.

5. That no conference or institu-

tion borrow money for the purpose of reinvestment or loan to individuals, neither make loans of its own funds to employees or other individuals.

6. That in no case shall organizations, either conference or institutional within a union conference, borrow any money for operating or for any other purpose without authorization of the union conference executive committee.

7. That no church borrow money for church building or church expense without the counsel of the union and local conference committees approving such loan.

8. That in the case of any financial project, as a church building, institution, or any other investment of £1,000 or over, the union take counsel, as a general rule, with the available members of the Division Committee.

9. That in the Division, union, and local conferences, and missions, all operations be promoted on available funds, and that no further debts be incurred; that in all our institutions embracing publishing houses, schools, and sanitariums, the work be carried on with available funds, so no increase of indebtedness will take place; that all of the above organizations undertake to liquidate their liabilities by effecting economies in operating and by increasing their income, so that this curse of debt may speedily be removed.

10. That when a controlling board of any institution or organization desires to enlarge or improve their properties and increase the facilities for carrying on their work, it shall be done without increasing the indebtedness.

11. That leaders who show inability to operate the work in harmony with our established financial policies shall not be permitted to continue in executive leadership.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

WHEREAS, There is danger of a trend toward worldly education in the ranks of Seventh-Day Adventists, and a tendency to honour those who have obtained their education in the State institutions above those who have been trained in our own schools and colleges, and

WHEREAS, The future of this movement depends absolutely on our school and college faculties being made up of men and women who are true to this message, and who have a denominational background and outlook, that they may be able to train our young people, not only in the arts and sciences, but also in the fundamental truths of the third angel's message, and in the worldwide denominational plans and purposes, and

WHEREAS, It is our conviction that

these essential qualifications cannot be obtained in the schools of the world, however high their scholastic standards, and

WHEREAS, We as a people have been admonished again and again by the servant of the Lord, not only to establish schools as havens of refuge for our tried and tempted youth, but also to place our young people under the care of consecrated teachers who will train their young feet in the paths of obedience and service, therefore

We Recommend, 1. That every worker in this Division put forth every effort possible to get our young people to attend our own schools and colleges, where they will be under the care of Christian teachers.

2. That school boards in making up faculties when considering the qualities of prospective teachers favour those who have received their training in our own schools and colleges.

3. That our workers use great caution in recommending young people to attend worldly colleges in preference to one of our own schools and that such counsel be given only in exceptional cases and after a prayerful study of responsible leaders of the needs that call for such training.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY FOR MISSION FIELDS

In view of the urgent demands for a stronger and larger educational programme in our mission fields, and the pressing calls for trained workers both at home and in Africa, therefore

We Recommend, 1. That a representative committee be appointed to give careful study to ways and means of putting the foregoing educational policy into operation in the Northern European Division by studying our available resources and what funds would be needed in the carrying out of this programme.

2. That this committee draw up a memorial to be presented to the General Conference setting forth the urgent need for a larger educational programme in the Division, and the crisis which we face in our mission fields unless the foregoing policy can be put into operation in a comparatively short period of time.

3. That careful study be given as to how the Division may co-operate with the Newbold College Board in expanding the work of that institution so that senior college work may be offered at Newbold and that Normal Training may be added to their curriculum.

4. That the continental department at Newbold be developed and strengthened so that Newbold College may serve as a training centre for missionary appointees from all parts of the Division.

In view of the fact that it will

take at least two years before we can hope to draw any trained educators from Newbold College, and because of the urgent necessity of getting our educational work in the mission fields established upon a firmer foundation in the near future, therefore we recommend:

5. That steps be taken to secure from the General Conference two men who have been trained in education to be appointed to lead out in our training schools in Africa. We would suggest that, if possible, men be secured who have had experience in educational work in the African mission fields.

BRANCH SABBATH-SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, The Sabbath-school has shown itself in mission fields and in home lands a potent soul-winning agency, and

WHEREAS, It is proving possible to extend this good work by means of Branch Sabbath-schools,

Resolved, That we recommend to our Sabbath-school workers and teachers throughout this Division that they study this plan and endeavour to carry it out by:

(a) Opening up afternoon Sabbath-schools with little groups of members, friends, and neighbours, and

(b) Encouraging home members to invite others to join them in their own home school and, further,

That such Branch Schools be included in the report of the parent Sabbath-school.

SABBATH-SCHOOL HONOUR AWARDS IN MISSION FIELDS

Voted, That in our mission fields, where the General Conference conditions for giving awards of honour cannot be applied, we give a Division award when the following standard is reached:

1. Purchase of Sabbath-school lesson pamphlet.

2. Candidates for award must be enrolled by the teacher at the beginning of each quarter.

3. Registers are marked at commencement of class. Perfect mark given when member is punctual, and daily study is claimed. If class work not satisfactory, teacher cancels perfect mark.

4. At close of quarter eight memory verses must be recited accurately, and a brief outline of the quarter's lessons must be given.

The Division award will be a Bible picture that can be hung on the wall. Suitable label to be pasted on back. The picture is given in exchange for four quarterly awards. Quarterly cards to be prepared locally. Pictures to be supplied by the Division.

SABBATH-SCHOOL TEACHERS' TRAINING COURSE

WHEREAS, Our Division Sabbath-

School Department is planning a Teachers' Training Course for the first quarter of 1937,

Voted, That we urge, in connection with this Training Course, that as many Sabbath-school Conventions as possible be held in the union fields.

LEADERSHIP IN COLPORTEUR WORK

WHEREAS, There is great need in the literature ministry of strong, efficient leadership of our Division, therefore

We Recommend, That earnest, sustained efforts be made by field leaders to develop such leadership.

1. By watching for experienced colporteurs who show evidence of possessing qualities of leadership and by placing on these men definite responsibilities.

(a) Where possible to appoint such as group leaders in the field and in our schools and assisting when student colporteurs are in the field.

(b) By appointing them as assistant Field Missionary Secretaries in conferences where the need arises.

2. By showing confidence in the ability of young Field Missionary Secretaries who may recently have been appointed and by encouraging them in every possible way.

3. That in fields where they now do not have Field Missionary Secretaries every effort be made to secure a suitable leader for this department.

RECRUITING IN COLPORTEUR WORK

WHEREAS, Our literature is a dominant factor in the spreading of the message throughout this Division, and furthermore

Realizing the handicap and dangers which now threaten and practically preclude the circulation of our religious literature in some countries, therefore

We Recommend, That immediate steps be taken in every conference and mission field to enlarge our present army of colporteur-evangelists, setting an increase of at least ten per cent as our goal for 1937, by:

1. Seeking the co-operation of our leaders.

2. Laying the burden of literature evangelism upon our lay members in the churches.

3. Encouraging students in our schools who show aptitude for this work to take it up as their life calling.

SUPPORT FOR INSTITUTIONS

Recognizing that our institutions, such as publishing houses, sanitariums, schools, and health food establishments, were founded in the providence of God as evangelizing agencies, and as such have had a large share in the spreading of the Gospel, and

Recognizing that they will continue

to bear increasingly heavy responsibilities in the finishing of the work,

We Recommend, 1. That our leaders and workers recognize the work done by these institutions as forming an essential part in our world-wide evangelism.

2. That the leaders and members accord our publishing houses, sanitariums, and other health institutions, schools, colleges, and health food factories their whole-hearted and loyal support.

(a) By speaking well of them wherever there is opportunity, and by making known their work to fellow-believers and friends.

(b) By our workers encouraging our young people to attend our own schools and colleges.

(c) By recognizing that in harmony with denominational policies of finance, our institutions are entitled to make and collect charges for services rendered.

(d) By recognizing our publishing houses as the centres for all denominational printing and publishing for their respective territories.

PRIVATE SOLICITATION FUNDS

We Recommend, 1. That all conference, church, institution and individual workers who desire to solicit funds outside their own territory should take counsel and only act when permission has been granted by the authorities concerned. The solicitation of funds within their own territory should be in harmony with local and union general policy. Money-raising campaigns should not be arranged to coincide with any of our general campaigns such as Big Week, Harvest Ingathering, etc.

2. That for the protection of churches from unauthorized teachers and fraudulent and undenominational solicitation, we further re-state and emphasize:

(a) That ministers and church officers should not grant the privilege of the pulpit to persons who have no recognition or recommendation from the conference authorities.

(b) That no permission be granted to solicit funds either publicly or privately without such recognition.

(c) That all funds contributed by our people for any cause in response to appeals be passed through the regular channels of the church.

(d) That no authority be granted workers in the cause, representing special interests in one part of the field, to solicit help for that work in any other conference without arrangement by the conference authorities, with written authorization therefor.

(e) That direct solicitation from churchmembers by workers outside their own church or district for funds for any purpose is wholly discountenanced. Appeals within their own church or district should be in harmony with the rulings of the executive committee.

STATEMENT ON HEALTH PRINCIPLES

The following declaration of loyalty to health principles was adopted:

We are told that "when the third angel's message is received in its fullness, health reform will be given its place in the councils of the conference, in the work of the church, in the home, at the table, and in all the household arrangements."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 327.

We believe that the time has fully come when the principles of healthful living should be given their heaven-designed place in the practice and teaching of every church leader and of the church at large.

We, therefore, as the representatives of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church assembled in Autumn Council, voice our high regard for the principles of health given to this people. We recommend that these principles receive the hearty and sympathetic support of our leaders throughout the world.

It would be quite impossible to specify the various details of these principles. They pertain to the food we eat and the air we breathe, to exercise and rest, to the use of water for drinking and bathing and in the treatment of disease, to the clothing we wear, to our homes and their surroundings, to the non-use of drugs and narcotics, to the preparation of food and a balanced dietary, to the state of the mind in its influence on the functioning of the physical organs, and other details too numerous to mention in this connection.

We believe that the question of diet constitutes a most important phase of healthful living, and, because of the great danger to health attending the use of flesh foods, that our workers and people, especially under conditions where a balanced non-flesh dietary is available, should choose their dietary from non-flesh foods, making use of flesh only under exceptional circumstances as an emergency food.

Our workers should present our health principles the same as every other phase of present truth to the church of Christ, and by their own

personal example lead the members of the church in faithful obedience to the instruction we have received. Every individual should apply these principles faithfully in his own personal experience and in a spirit of generosity to his brethren. We call upon every conference and institutional worker throughout the world field to unite with us in this high and holy purpose.

We Recommend, That instructions in health principles be given in connection with our coming annual meetings and in our camp meetings and other important church gatherings as can consistently be done, thus carrying into effect the resolutions regarding the question of health teaching which were passed at the last General Conference.

HEALTH REFORM

WHEREAS, It is an axiom among us that the health reform is the right arm of the message, and

WHEREAS, There is great need of a strong right arm in the more strenuous days that now confront us,

Resolved, That we take up in every conference the work of educating our people in the principles of healthful living by:

(a) Preaching and lecturing on the subject in our public efforts.

(b) By arranging for doctors and nurses to lecture and demonstrate in our churches.

HOME MISSIONARY BANDS

WHEREAS, It has been definitely pointed out that "every addition to the church should be one more agency for the carrying out of the great plan of redemption," and that "God calls upon every churchmember to enter His service," and "every one must learn to work and to stand in his place as a burden-bearer," and that every one must be "assigned his post of duty" (*Testimonies*, Vol. 8, page 47), and,

WHEREAS, We are told that the very simplest modes of work should be set in operation among the churches, and if the people will unitedly accept such plans and persevere to carry them out, they will reap a good reward,

We Recommend, That prayer bands and the following worker groups be encouraged and organized so far as possible in all our churches and companies where they are not already in operation:

(a) *Prayer Bands*. "Only the work accomplished with much prayer, and sanctified by the merit of Christ, will in the end prove to have been efficient for good."—*Desire of Ages*, page 362.

(b) *Bible Reading Bands*. "Among the members of our churches there

should be more house-to-house labour. in giving Bible readings." (*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 127.) "There are many, both men and women, who can engage in this branch of missionary labour. . . . God will not permit this precious work for Him to go unrewarded. He will crown with success every humble effort made in His name."—"*Gospel Workers*," page 192.

(c) *Literature Bands*. "Who will go forth now with our publications? . . . The world must hear the warning. When the call comes, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' send back the answer clear and distinct, 'Here am I; send me.'"—"*Testimonies*," Vol. 6, page 333.

"By lending or selling books, by distributing papers, and by holding Bible readings, our lay members could do much in their own neighbourhoods."—"*Testimonies*," Vol. 9, page 35.

LITERATURE SALES BY OUR CHURCHMEMBERS

WHEREAS, We are told that when the believers of our churches individually take up their appointed work, "the quickening, sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit will be poured out upon them" (*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, pages 266, 267, and 268), and

WHEREAS, We know the value of our literature work as an entering wedge in arousing an interest in the truth of the third angel's message, and

WHEREAS, We have in all unions in our Division some excellent help and religious magazines together with many tracts and pamphlets,

We Recommend, 1. That well-planned systematic efforts be put forth by all our believers in selling, loaning, or giving away this truth-filled literature, doing follow-up work by visiting and holding cottage meetings.

DORCAS SOCIETIES

WHEREAS, We are told that this is the special work now before us, (*Testimonies*, Vol. 2, page 34), and

WHEREAS, "Christ's methods alone will give true success in reaching the people. . . . The poor are to be relieved, the sick cared for, the sorrowing and bereaved comforted, the ignorant instructed and inexperienced counseled" (*Ministry of Healing*, page 143), and

WHEREAS, "If all who know the truth will take hold of this work as opportunities are presented, day by day doing little acts of love in the neighbourhood where they live, Christ will be manifest to their neighbours. . . . This will be of more consequence than sermons or professions or creeds" (*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 264),

We Recommend, That Dorcas

Societies be organized in all our churches.

CHURCH OFFICERS' AND LAYMEN'S CONVENTIONS

WHEREAS, Church officers and departmental conventions have proved of real value to the cause of God, and

WHEREAS, There is an ever-present need for such institutes for church elders and other leaders of our varied church activities,

We Recommend, That plans be laid for featuring the various interests of our church life in such institutes in as many fields as possible.

WIN-ONE MOVEMENT

WHEREAS, The speedy proclamation of the Advent message to all the world in this generation depends to a large extent upon the activities and intelligent co-operation of all our churchmembers in well-organized soul-winning endeavour,

We Recommend, 1. That every member be encouraged to join in the world-wide "Win-One Movement," maintaining a definite prayer list and by personal soul-winning efforts seek to win at least one soul to Christ before the close of 1937.

2. That, knowing that responsibility for leadership and for the training of the church rests on the ministry, but the obligation for service on all, we continue to rally our churchmembers to the highest form of efficient and Christian service.

LAY PREACHERS' INSTITUTE

We Recommend, That plans be laid for the conducting of lay-preachers' institutes as early as possible and in as many fields as possible, calling into these meetings promising lay-men who give evidence of ability in public speaking, in the holding of cottage meetings, and in personal soul-winning endeavour.

STUDENT TITHE

WHEREAS, We recognize the principle of tithing as being the regular, substantial, and equitable basis for the support of the ministry of the church, and as it is incumbent upon us that we teach the youth in our schools, many of whom will be the workers of the future, to be conscientious tithe-payers, and

WHEREAS, Our secondary schools and colleges provide an excellent and effective medium for doing this both by precept and practice,

We Recommend, 1. That all students be encouraged to pay tithe on their earnings while in school.

2. That students pay their tithe to the local conference through the church where the school is located, it being recommended that they transfer their membership to the school

church during their attendance.

3. That in case of a school being financially unable to permit students to draw the tithe in addition to their wage, the conference make arrangements with the school concerned for some financial assistance on the amount of tithe paid to students.

ADVANCED TRAINING—NEWBOLD MISSIONARY COLLEGE

Recognizing the need of more and better trained workers for our fields both in the homelands and in the mission fields, and

Further realizing that the English language is of great value to all our workers, both orally and from the standpoint of our denominational literature,

Resolved, 1. That plans be laid immediately to enlarge and also increase the status of Newbold Missionary College.

2. That students, after having completed their course in their home fields, be encouraged to take advanced training in the British school.

MISSIONS EXTENSION PLAN

WHEREAS, The Missions Extension Plan has now been in successful operation for fifteen years and has become a part of the organized work in all Division fields, having of late combined medical and educational work with the publishing extension work and thereby become the means of building, equipping, and assisting about 400 different projects (printing plants, dispensaries, and schools) in the mission fields, we would

Recommend, 1. That the Missions Extension Fund plan be continued and strongly supported as an important feature of our missions programme for 1937.

2. That our Division follow the Missions Extension Big Week Plan, selling our literature on as large a scale as possible.

3. That a strong appeal be made to all our workers, including colporteurs, and all our lay members to dedicate a day's income to the Missions Extension Fund offering, and that all our conferences and institutional workers and lay-members engage in the sale of literature to the extent of time and opportunity.

4. That our believers who cannot comply with the request of a day's income be encouraged to raise the Missions Extension Fund offering through the selling of small books and magazines, each member to be personally responsible for the literature he desires to sell.

5. That an earnest effort be put forth to reach the set goal with the understanding that the overflow be used for work in medical and educational lines or other needy work in the respective home fields.

6. That the leaders in the medical

and educational departments, as well as the publishing department, be requested to unite with the Home Missionary department secretaries in the developing and carrying out of plans which will place definite responsibility upon all our institutional workers in helping to reach the goal.

WEEK OF SACRIFICE

We Recommend, 1. That union conference and local conference presidents and union and local superintendents become responsible for the promotion of the Week of Sacrifice within their territory in an endeavour to make this offering the largest in our history in view of the many unfilled calls for means totalling more than \$20,000.

(a) By calling meetings of workers in union institutions for presentation of an appeal that will enlist the generosity of every worker.

(b) By correspondence with the presidents of conferences concerning their responsibility to enlist every worker in sacrificial giving.

(c) By carrying on a promotion programme through the columns of the union papers.

2. That local conference presidents lay upon their workers, in workers' meetings, or through correspondence, their solemn duty to appeal to our believers for a sacrificial offering.

3. That pastors and church elders give earnest attention to the promotion of a liberal offering in every church, giving some notice of the need, the objective, and the date of the offering for at least two Sabbaths before the date of the offering.

MISSIONS EXTENSION GOALS

British Union	£450
Polish Union	140
East Nordic Union	350
West Nordic Union	440
East African Union	15
Ethiopian Union	12
Gold Coast Union	10
Nigerian Union	18
Sierra Leone	5
Upper Nile Union	6
Northern Cameroons	2
Liberia	2
	£1,450

MISSION OFFERINGS GOALS FOR 1937

Sabbath-School

British Union	£5,419
Baltic Union:	
Estonian Conf.	£330 Ekr. 5,020
Lithuanian Mis'n	120 Lits. 3,500
Latvia	546 Lats. 13,658
Polish Union	540 Zl. 23,448
E. Nordic Union:	
Sweden & Finland	2,700 Skr. 52,650
W. Nordic Union:	
Norway & Denmark	4,470 Nkr. 89,700
E. African Union	591
Ethiopian Union	147
Nigerian Union	258
Gold Coast Union	164
Sierra Leone	58
N. Cameroons	16
Upper Nile Union	60
Liberia	23
	£15,442

Week of Sacrifice

British Union	£719
Baltic Union:	
Estonian Conf.	75 Ekr. 1,354
Lithuanian Mis'n	35 Lits. 1,014
Latvia	165 Lats. 4,140
Polish Union	89 Zl. 3,868
E. Nordic Union	548 Skr. 10,685
W. Nordic Union	736 Nkr. 14,737
E. African Union	108
Ethiopian Union	71
Nigerian Union	63
Gold Coast Mission	42
Sierra Leone	34
North Cameroons	11
Upper Nile Union	30
Liberia	15
	£2,741

Harvest Ingathering

British Union	£9,600
Baltic Union	1,500
Polish Union	404 Zl. 18,000
E. Nordic Union	3,928 Skr. 76,600
W. Nordic Union	5,000 Nkr. 100,000
E. African Union	270
Ethiopian Union	142
Nigerian Union	311
Gold Coast Union	236
Sierra Leone Mission	74
N. Cameroons	1
Upper Nile Union	36
Liberia	18
	£21,520

Annual Offering

British Union	£663
Baltic Union:	
Estonia	90 Ekr. 1,600
Lithuania	38 Lits. 800
Latvia	140 Lats. 3,500
Polish Union	83 Zl. 3,593
E. Nordic Union	525 Skr. 10,242
W. Nordic Union	1,239 Nkr. 24,780
E. African Union	392
Ethiopian Union	31
Nigerian Union	15
Gold Coast Union	5
Sierra Leone	7
N. Cameroons	4
Upper Nile Union	22
Liberia	5
	£3,259

Young People's Offerings

British Union	£167
Baltic Union	14 Lats. 347
Polish Union	12 Zl. 529
E. Nordic Union	45 Skr. 879
W. Nordic Union	112 Nkr. 2,251
	£350

INCREASING TITHE INCOME

We Recommend, That we endeavour to increase our tithe income during 1937 by eight per cent in the home countries and by twenty per cent in the missions.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER PROJECTS FOR 1937

Voted, That projects for the Missionary Volunteer offerings for 1937 be the Girls' School in Nigeria and the Girls' School in Kisii.

REVERSION OF HARVEST INGATHERING OVERFLOWS IN UNION CONFERENCES

WHEREAS, The increasing calls for church buildings, schools, conference equipment, and emergencies for our conference and institutional activities

compel us to recognize the need of additional funds for our union and local conference organizations to meet unexpected demands, arising from the unusual economic conditions prevailing in many sections of the field,

We Recommend, 1. That as far as consistent, in all our unions, we hold to a general unified plan in the promotion of the Harvest Ingathering Campaign.

2. That there appear in all promotion material a balanced appeal for home and overseas work.

3. That in preparing the annual budget of the Division, the usual provision be made for promotion and campaign expenses.

4. That basic membership goals be set annually by the Winter Council for the respective unions of the Division.

5. That any income resulting from the Ingathering effort be considered Division funds, and reported in the regular way to the Division Treasurer.

6. That any overflow, without being subject to Bonus Appropriation, be dealt with as follows:

According to the General Plan twenty-five per cent to the General Conference, fifty per cent to the union which raised the overflow, and twenty-five per cent to the Division.

Christian Home Sabbath

ACCORDING to arrangements made at our recent Winter Council, Sabbath, February 6th, is to be Christian Home Day. Doubtless in most of the unions, special programmes will be prepared, but the arrangement provides an excellent opportunity for bringing before our believers the responsibilities and blessings of home life. Let us lay careful plans for the services of this day, and emphasize the importance of Adventist homes being places where love and kindness abound, and homes which might be lights in the darkness of this time, pointing souls to the glorious light of the kingdom of God.

New Vernacular Periodical

WE have received No. 1 of *Alore (The Watchman)*, published in Yoruba by the Nigerian Advent Press. This periodical, price 2d., will be published at intervals. It has twelve pages, and is well printed and illustrated. The contributions come from our Nigerian workers.

Branch Sabbath-Schools

BY J. C. STEVENS

WHAT a golden opportunity the branch Sabbath-school offers us. We live near our neighbours. We know the language. We have the message. The Sabbath-school lessons make it easy to give this message. "The Lord desires that those who are engaged in the Sabbath-school work should be missionaries, able to go forth to the towns and villages that surround the church, and give the light of life to those who sit in darkness."—*Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work*, page 74.

One sister writes: "I called at each home on our street and invited the children. I took the picture roll that a friend had sent to me and explained to the parents that we were going to start a children's Bible class." A very busy man finds time to conduct a branch Sabbath-school every Sabbath. A colporteur in his work found some people who were interested and began holding a branch Sabbath-school with them. Another brother says that an isolated family formed the beginning of a branch Sabbath-school. He now has sixteen members. A brother who has made friends of all the children in his town has from forty to fifty every week in his Sunday-school.

"The Sabbath-school is a missionary field, and very much more of the missionary spirit should be manifested in this important work than has been manifested in the past."—*Id.*, page 35.

There seems to be no problem for those who are willing to take hold of the work. Most of our branch Sabbath-schools are being conducted in private homes. Mothers find that by inviting some of their children's playmates for a Bible story hour Sabbath afternoon, their own children enjoy the Sabbath more. Some shut-ins find that their lot is not so hard to bear when they can look forward to Sabbath or Sunday when some of their neighbours and friends will come to their home for a Sabbath-school. The possibilities in the branch Sabbath-school are many.

Have you ever stopped to think how handy everything is for you to conduct a branch Sabbath-school? First, the lessons are already prepared. Whether your school is for children, young people, or adults, the lessons are ready for you. Second, the lessons never have an end. There is no danger of creating an interest and then running out of material. Third, we have studied these same lessons ourselves every day during the week. By the time we are ready to teach the lesson, we are familiar

with it. Fourth, it is an excellent way to spend part of the Sabbath. We find it difficult at times to make a visit that is proper on the Sabbath. In a branch Sabbath-school we have all the visit we wish and the kind that Jesus' smile can rest upon. Fifth, we are helping to give this message—something that must be done before Jesus can come. Sixth, it helps us. We learn by teaching. Our hearts are set on fire when we are labouring.

"There is a most precious missionary field in the Sabbath-school, and if there are now omens of good, they are only indications and beginnings of what may be done."—*Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work*, page 29.

The Influence of Literature

BY L. A. VIXIE

"OUR publishing work was established by the direction of God and under His special supervision. It was designed to accomplish a specific purpose. Seventh-Day Adventists have been chosen by God as a peculiar people separate from the world. He has made them His representatives, and has called them to be ambassadors for Him in the last work of salvation. The greatest wealth of truth ever entrusted to mortals, the most solemn and fearful warnings ever sent by God to man, have been committed to them to be given to the world; and in the accomplishment of this work our publishing houses are among the most effective agencies."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, page 138.

When the third angel's message was first sounded, God revealed to His chosen people the fact that books, papers, and tracts would have a very prominent part in proclaiming our heaven-sent message. Since that time experience has fully demonstrated the fact that thousands have found the light of truth through this medium.

To-day many other religious organizations recognize the effectiveness of the printed page. Some time ago I read a statement from a prominent Mohammedan leader which reads as follows:

"Some time in 1922 it occurred to me that the production and dissemination of Moslem literature was a more effective and economical method of spreading Islam in the West than all the other measures which I had adopted since 1912. The better to test the matter, I myself produced several new books and the result confirmed me in my opinion. . . . I intend to devote the coming days of my life to producing literature and to raising the reserve fund. . . . If God grant me strength, it is my purpose to produce more literature for the Board."

While in Durban, South Africa, collecting Harvest Ingathering funds among Mohammedans, I was aware of the fact that these deceived people were awake to the possibilities of the printed page. Every evening on returning to my room I had an armful of Islamic literature which had been given me by zealous adherents of this faith. Often they tried to sell me their literature, but where this method failed it was given gratis. One day a prominent Mohammedan presented me with a copy of the Koran.

I was impressed with the earnestness of these people in trying to disseminate what they believed to be the truth. Surely their faithfulness should be a lesson to God's remnant people who have such a vital, life-giving message. Our business of preparing a people for

the coming of the Lord should be uppermost in our minds as we come in contact with individuals.

Remember the printed page affords you a wonderful opportunity to extend the invitation to mercy.

A Programme for 1937

BROTHER G. E. NORD, Home Department secretary, commends the following programme to every church for 1937.

1. A SPIRITUAL GOAL

(a) Daily prayer and Bible study by every member.

(b) Family altar in every Adventist home.

(c) Faithful attendance at the weekly prayer meeting and other church services.

(d) One hundred per cent of our members attending the Sabbath-school and Sabbath meetings and taking part in the ordinances of the Lord's house.

(e) All take part in the yearly campaigns: (1) Harvest Ingathering; (2) Big Week; and actively engaging in one or more of the different working bands of the church: welfare work, distribution of literature, holding Bible readings, etc.

2. EDUCATIONAL GOAL

(a) Every member of the church a member of the Sabbath-school or Home Department.

(b) All the children in our Sabbath-school and, wherever possible, in our own church schools.

(c) All the young people and the children members of the Missionary Volunteer and junior societies.

(d) Every sister a member of the Dorcas society or some organized group, prayer, or working band.

(e) Our denominational papers, the missionary, church paper, health journals, youth and children's papers, in every Seventh-Day Adventist home, and the *Review and Herald* where the English language is understood.

(f) Regular instruction in the different branches of personal work, how to give Bible readings, instruction in healthful living, healthful cooking, simple treatments and caring for the sick.

(g) At least two parents' meetings a year.

3. FINANCIAL GOAL

(a) Thorough instruction on faithful stewardship.

(b) Every member a faithful tithe-payer.

(c) One hundred per cent of the members regular contributors to the needs of home and foreign missions.

(d) All members regular supporters of the church schools or colleges where such are in existence.

(e) Regular monthly or yearly offerings for the sick and needy.

(f) Regular contribution to the local expenses of the church.

4. SOCIAL GOAL

(a) Regular quarterly meetings when the leaders and secretaries for all the organized activities of the church report.

(b) As far as possible several or at least one social meeting for the whole church once a year.

(c) A song and music evening now and then for edifying and encouraging the development of these priceless talents of the church.

5. SOUL-WINNING GOAL

Every member seeks to win a new member, through prayer and personal efforts.

Missionary Volunteer Work in Oslo

BY C. T. SCOTT

IN Oslo we have a pretty large and very active young people's society. Every Friday night we have our meetings in the church, prayer and testimony meetings alternating with programme meetings with Bible studies, speeches, lectures, music, recitations, lantern pictures from the work at home and abroad.

We believe in group work and have many at work: Sunshine groups going out to see sick and old people; prayer-rings to pray for certain things and people; training groups; Home nursing course; correspondence group; junior; kindergarten, and so forth.

In the Harvest Ingathering Campaign we had set our goal at 1,750kr. (about £87), and we were almost afraid it would be impossible to reach it. We assembled usually Saturday nights and after a short worship we went out together, working through one certain block of houses at a time, not leaving one door untried. Others who could not go out that night went out other days, each in his allotted district of the town. With the help of God we succeeded not only in reaching our very large goal, but even surpass-

ing it by about fifteen per cent.

Last summer we arranged a kind of Young People's Congress which proved to be a great blessing. Its character may be told in its motto: "Common holidays for the Advent young people under the guidance of Christ." About eighty of the young people from all parts of Norway spent one week of their holidays together in Stavanger, a small town by the seaside, some 400 miles away from Oslo. We had one short worship in the church every morning, then went by car, bus, or special steamer to the place the committee had decided for that day. After bathing, playing, and doing nothing and everything all the forenoon, we gathered for a short meeting in the middle of the day. In the afternoon we did the same as in the forenoon and then went together back to town, having a meeting at eight o'clock in the church. After spending one week in this manner all of us felt drawn to each other and to God in a manner we never had known before. We could go home sunburnt and full of health and joy and blessings, able to stand one more of our long and dark winters.

Advance in the French Cameroons

BY R. BERGSTROM

AT Dogba, where our station in the French Cameroons is located, the natives have in the past for several reasons been slow to respond to the message. The tribes among which we mostly work are very wild. There are still parts not far from our mission where the natives have not yet quite submitted to the government. It has therefore taken a long time to make contact with the population in this unsettled territory. However, the conditions begin to change, and we are now able to extend our work to some new places.

The government has recently given permission to build chapels and open up work at two new places where the natives are eager to hear the message. They are now busy building their own chapels. At the same time, we are glad to send out our first native evangelist trained in our own mission school at Dogba. He is a man over forty and belongs to the same tribe where we now are opening up new work. As a little child he was taken captive by Mohammedans, among whom he grew up. He was taught their religion and served some years as prayer-caller in a big Mohammedan town. The colonization of the country brought him liberty. Living in a village not far from our mission, he soon became acquainted with us and he was one of the first to be baptized. When we started the school he was also one of the first to enter. During spare time he worked in order to support his family. His knowledge of several languages makes him also a fit worker for the message he has accepted.

Some weeks ago I made a journey on horseback to certain mountains where we have been warned by the government officials not to go. At first some chiefs did not permit me to enter their villages. In the places where I could go many of the inhabitants got frightened and fled from their villages. However, after staying some days I made many friends

among these wild heathen. It was also interesting to find that many of them knew about our work and were less afraid when they heard that I was from the mission.

The natives in our field are divided into many different tribes with different languages. We desire to get a number of natives from different tribes trained in our school, who afterward can go back and preach the Gospel among their own people.

Tithe Sabbath

It is expected that early in the new year each field will arrange

Our Motto for 1937

*Give us a watchword for the hour,
A thrilling word, a word of power,
A battle cry, a flaming breath,
That calls to conquest or to death;
A word to rouse the church from rest,
To heed the Master's high behest,
The call is given: ye hosts, arise!
Our watchword is—EVANGELIZE!
—Selected.*

for one Sabbath when the blessings of tithe-paying can be brought to our entire membership. It is well for this to be done periodically, and while the biblical basis for tithe-paying may be given, it is well to lay stress upon the blessings the Lord bestows upon those who are faithful in this respect. Gather up some experiences of how the Lord has worked for His children as they have been faithful to Him in bringing in their tithes. Such experiences of providential leading always bring courage and cheer to our churchmembers.

Missionary Volunteer Week

It is none too early to lay plans for Missionary Volunteer Week which has been timed for March

6th to 13th. Missionary Volunteer Day is Sabbath, March 6th. Plans will doubtless be laid by the different union and conference committees for special meetings on behalf of our youth. Much careful and prayerful study should be given by all our ministers and workers as they join in this special effort in the interests of our young men and women. Let us seek the Lord for wisdom and understanding that there may be a real revival and that many of our young people may give their hearts to God.

WE are living in the time of the end. The fast-fulfilling signs of the times declare that the coming of Christ is at hand. The days in which we live are solemn and important. . . . The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude.

The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones.—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 11.

JOHN WESLEY said to his preachers: "Your business is not to preach so many times, and to take care of this or that society, but to save as many souls as you can."

WHEN trials arise that seem unexplainable, we should not allow our peace to be spoiled. However unjustly we may be treated, let not passion arise.—*Christ's Object Lessons.*

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