

## WEST AFRICAN ADVENT

## MESSENGER

VOICE OF THE WEST AFRICAN UNION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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No. 1



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Associate Secretary, Department of Education, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

### Why Christian Education?

By K. J. Reynolds

In the Spirit of prophecy we are told that a Christian education is the birthright of every Seventh-day Adventist child. This we believe and so far as possible we establish schools to carry out this plan. Why we do it is not always equally clear.

First, the individual child or young person needs a Christian education for his own proper development. Education without a moral pattern is dangerous. Education which is Christ-centred gives the very best moral fiber to

the life and spiritual direction to its activities. Adventists believe that the first purpose of education is to restore in man the image of his Maker, to bring the child face to face with His Lord in an environment favourable to spiritual growth.

Secondly, education is the means by which a social group renews itself and maintains its ideal. The church is a social group to which

Christian education is indispensable. It has been demonstrated over and over again that the most intelligently faithful Adventists are those who have gone through our schools. The longer they have been in this environment the more likely they are to be true Christians and competent workers. Christians are not born such; they are made. The church is not miraculously preserved with its ideals and objectives intact; it preserves itself by concentrating on the Christian education of its youth. The youth are the most important people in the church, potentially, and education, next to evangelism, or as a type of evangelism, is the most important work of the church. As such it should have the hearty and sustained support of every worker and every church member. The strength of the church of tomorrow in West Africa is being forged in the church schools of today. Send your children to the church schools and training schools to save their souls, to speed the message, and to hasten the coming of the Lord.

### Tithe

#### NO SAFETY IN WITHHOLDING

"As did Abraham, they are to pay tithe on ALL they POSSESS and ALL they RECEIVE. A faithful tithe is the Lord's portion. For to withhold it is to rob God. Every man should freely and willingly and gladly bring tithes and offerings into the storehouse of the Lord because in so doing there is a blessing. There is no safety in withholding from God His own portion."—E. G. White, In MS. 159-99 (caps. supplied).

"All should remember that God's claims upon us underlie every other claim. He gives to us bountifully, and the contract which He has made with man is that a tenth of his possessions shall be returned to God. The Lord graciously entrusts to His stewards His treasures, but of the tenth He says, this is Mine. Just in proportion as God has given His property to man, so man is to return to God a faithful tithe of all his substance. This distinct arrangement was made by Jesus Christ Himself."—"Testimonies," Vol. VI. p. 384.

### What is Christian Education

By D. V. Cowin

Every plan of education and institution of learning should be designed in accordance with a pre-determined philosophy. It should be a comprehensive plan. Of course the operation of such an education harmonizes with its

(Continued on page 7)

## A Message From Our Division President

By A. F. Tarr, President Northern European Division

Dear Fellow-workers and Members of the West African Union:

It is a great pleasure to me to send you greetings through your good church paper, "The Advent Messenger." I send these from India preparatory to my departure for Great Britain where the headquarters of our new Division are to be located.

It had been my plan while on route from the General Conference to pay a brief visit to West Africa, but after attending meetings in Northern Europe and then in the British Union Conference, unforeseen circumstances prevented the remainder of my plans being carried out. I shall therefore have to treasure a little longer the anticipation I had already accumulated of being able to pay you an early visit.

Indirect contacts which I have already had with the West African Union have been most enjoyable: first of all the pleasure of meeting with so many of your representatives at the recent General Conference session; then later of travelling with Brother Newman and family on the "Queen Elizabeth" to Southampton, and subsequently of associating with Brother and Sister McClements and Brother J. O. Gibson at the British Union session in Watford. Also when in Washington, D. C., Brother J. O. Gibson was good enough to come over to my brother's home one evening and show us some interesting pictures of West Africa, which have greatly whetted my appetite to see the work at closer range and to meet with those whose faces I saw on the screen.

Having made mention of the General Conference I must add my testimony to what others have undoubtedly already told you of what a wonderful gathering it was. Into it was carried the same spirit that characterised the officers' meeting which immediately preceded it. During that meeting, despite all of the business which it dealt with from the world field, an entire day was set apart for

earnest heart-searching and seasons of testimony and prayer. Then on the first full day of the General Conference session the thousands present were invited to make that day a day of prayer and fasting. It was undoubtedly this spirit that contributed so largely to the memorableness of this meeting, and already its influence has extended to the remotest corners of the world field.

A major factor in the earnestness characterising this gathering was what seemed to be a unanimous conviction on the part of delegates that we are on the eve of stupendous events, and that the developments of recent years, and even of months, indicate that the finishing of our work and the coming of the Lord must be tragically near. The daily papers, even at the time of our meeting, depicted the critical relationships developing in international affairs,—relationships which even powerful and well-intentioned nations seemed impotent to avert.

It was with this background that delegates from nearly every nation on earth met together and rehearsed the mightiest conquests for God that have been witnessed since Pentecostal times. They set for themselves objectives, too, that would far outstrip anything as yet achieved. One of these goals is the doubling of our church membership in the next four years. Already since that meeting some of the world divisions have taken practical steps toward the attainment of that objective. We in our own Division also must harness every force in a determined and consecrated effort to accomplish our own portion of the task. We must so organise our work and plan our activities that in the very minimum of time every man and woman and child in West Africa shall hear this wonderful message and be privileged to join us in our journey toward the Kingdom. This is our supreme responsibility.

Elder E. B. Rudge, the Secretary of our Division, will soon be with

you. In fact, he may arrive before this letter and already be studying some of your problems. I am sure you will greatly appreciate his visit. He comes with a background of many years of leadership in the former Australasian Division and in Great Britain, and his counsel will be very valuable.

You may be assured that all of us at Division headquarters will enter wholeheartedly into all of the plans that you or we can think of for strengthening and advancing the work in your great field. We know of some of the medical and educational needs. Counsel has already been sought of the General Conference regarding certain aspects of these and we hope for personal visits soon from General Conference men who are specialists in these respective fields.

I look forward very keenly to visiting you in the early part of 1951 and to becoming acquainted with the many phases of the great work you are doing in West Africa.

I pray that God will abundantly bless you all in your service for Him.

### Greetings

By G. A. Lindsay,

Secretary, Northern European Division

I take pleasure in sending a few lines of Christian greetings through the "West African Advent Messenger" to all our faithful missionaries, national workers and believers in the West African Union. I count it a privilege indeed to be connected in an intimate way with the great West African field through our new Division organization, and I look forward to the best of mutual co-operation in the coming days for the advancement of the work of God in West Africa.

You represent a great and important field. There are millions of people in West Africa yet to be reached with the Advent Message. While the Advent Movement has made wonderful progress in West Africa during the past years, I am

sure that the greatest and most promising days for our church in your lands are still ahead. I believe that West Africa can be, very soon, one of those fields where a thousand will be converted in a day, and let us by all means work with that goal in mind, praying earnestly every day that God, our Father, will give us the needed power from on high.

We live in stirring times. Nations are in distress as they watch the developments of the affairs in the world. Individuals are agitated and perplexed. God's people too must be stirred; stirred in our hearts, stirred to greater activity. We must remember the words of our Lord and Master: "While daylight lasts, we must be busy with the work of Him who sent us: night comes when no one can do any work." John 9:4 (James Moffatt.)

I want to join with you in a more whole-hearted reconsecration than ever before of spirit, soul and body unto the finishing of the work of God in all the earth.

Yours in the Blessed Hope.

### The "Opening Wedge" At Work In North Nigeria

By Timoai Z. Kadoki.

"... And dear Father, when she recovers and returns to her home again, may she remember that it is Thou who has healed her, and may she in turn decide to follow Thee. Amen." The prayer was over, and the operation begun. None of us realised just how much that prayer was needed. Dr. Hyde carried on in his usual manner, but suddenly the patient collapsed! Emergency measures were taken immediately, but we were all shocked to hear the doctor say, "I think she is dead." There was little I could do but pray, but I prayed hard, and she began to breathe again. We all worked hard and prayed hard, and after about five hours work she was fit enough to be taken back to her bed. Three weeks later she was discharged cured.

During her convalescence I had the opportunity to talk to her and

tell her just how God had intervened to save her life. She belongs to the Jere tribe, who had been very resistant to the Spirit of God, and from among whom after twenty years of faithful labour by evangelists there are only three baptised members. Since she left the Hospital I have been visiting her and her husband, and now they both have started to keep the Sabbath with us, and express their gratitude to God by serving Him. And so one more prayer to God is answered. Thank God for the medical work—His "opening wedge."

### North Nigerian Teachers Send Greetings

By Dr. J. A. Hyde

The hundred teachers in North Nigeria send greetings to their brothers in the work throughout West Africa.

Yes, one hundred teachers out of a membership of under one hundred and fifty. How is it possible? It is true that there is only one Primary School with 65 pupils and three paid teachers. It is true that formal education for the children only extends up to Standard IV, but we have 100 teachers nevertheless.

The majority of the teaching in this mission is carried out by the

members themselves. Most, if not all of the pagans in this area are illiterate and so cannot tell whether we are telling them the truth when we read from God's word or not. So one of the first things that we do when we take the Gospel to them is to teach them to read, and to read the Bible for themselves. Then as they learn to read, and write, and so study the Bible for themselves they immediately, while still pupils, join the teaching band, helping others who do not know as much as they do. Thus from one hundred and fifty members we know of one hundred teachers.

The Primary school at Jengre continues to grow. We have expanded it, one class a year until now we have reached standard IV. Next year we are planning to extend to Standard V.

The school and mass education work here is definitely evangelistic. Children from non-Adventist homes are attracted to our school by its high standard. While with us they learn the reasons for our high standard, and a number of them have taken their stand for the truth by baptism. So we continue in the work in North Nigeria, making every department work to the one end, to win souls for our Lord and Master and to prepare them for His kingdom.



S. D. A. School Jengre, N. Nigeria, with Headmaster F. O. Chima.

## Bekwai "Share Your Faith Trek"

By A. M. Moyer

On Sabbath morning October 7, at 8 o'clock thirteen college students, two staff members and the writer left the compound by foot on a "Share Your Faith Programme". The villages visited were Pepedan, Dwumako, Wiaso, Ankasi, Sanfu, and Kwamang. The group was heartily welcomed at each village by the chief and the elders. Of the six villages, five have Adventist churches. The one village Dwumako not having a church asked that we return and give them our full message.

In the programme presented, Christ was the central theme, and each member of the group took part. At each village, the group marched about singing hymns to gather the people. After the usual greetings, "Mo a modọ Nyeme", (We are marching to Zion) was sung to open the programme. Following the prayer, the writer gave a brief introduction. The subjects presented began with the true God, then following by Creation and through the story of Redemption. It truly was soul-refreshing to the group of students and staff members as well as to those who heard the message.

The forest jungles re-echoed the songs of glory as the group marched from village to village along the narrow bush paths. At 8 p.m. in the darkness of night, the group of Share Your Faith Members came on the compound, singing the songs of Zion. Yes, weary in body from the 18 miles trek but refreshed in soul. Twelve precious hours were spent preparing souls for the kingdom of God.

The group consisted of: Tr. Asamoah, Tr. Tato, Opoku Johnson, Joseph Boateng, Okrah Obempong, Ernest Boadu, Phillip Aboasu, Nim Wilson, Emmanuel Boadi, Edward Wilson, Thomas Anjo, William Brown, Joel Kamara, Alfred Campbell, Daniel Cudjoe, and A. M. Moyer.

## Christian Education In Sierra Leone And The Ivory Coast

At the present time ten schools are being operated by the Sierra Leone Mission with 25 teachers in charge. Six hundred pupils are in attendance. The Bo Training College has 10 teachers and evangelists enrolled under the direction of Principal C. A. Bartlett.

Plans are being studied for the advancement of the educational work in this field so that there can be another Senior school soon. These progressive plans include the assignment of an educational secretary who is able to visit the schools regularly. Buildings and equipment in the schools are being improved at a good rate. This is the only mission in our Union which has proper Bible text books for the teachers.

Government regulations are posing some real problems for our brethren in this field.

As yet we have no educational work in the Ivory Coast. Still it is recognized that workers must be trained if the work is to make any progress. A European worker is being sought who has educational qualifications and who will be able to take in small groups to be trained as workers to serve in this most needy field.

We solicit the prayers of our brethren on behalf of the grave state of educational affairs in these two fields.

## It Takes Persistence

By J. C. Vetter

On the 5th of this month also I tackled one of the Methodist teachers with whom I have studied the Bible and at once he said, "Teacher it would be a shame to become an Adventist, because many of my friends will laugh at me." Then I said, "Joe! let us see what the Bible says about those that will follow the remnant people of God." Then I referred to Matt. 5: 10, 11 and after we had studied that together I then opened the "Early Writings" to page 46

where it speaks about the trial of our faith. After I read a little part of that page I stopped and again told him many truths about Christ when he was once on this sinful world. All of a sudden he shouted, "Teacher, enroll my name for now I have seen that it is better to serve God even when your friends are mocking at you!"

As soon as he said that I shook hands with him and knelt with him in prayer.

## A Scene At Kwaaso Village.

By Appiah Dankwah

During the effort meeting at Kwasso one of the new converts Daniel Gyasi by name called my attention to the fact that, as he has become a Christian he is not willing to live again with his idols and jujus.

I was therefore invited to fix a time to come and burn them. One bright Sabbath morning on the 16th Sept. 1950. Mr. and Mrs. Vetter, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Appiah and myself went to the village, after the church services, the man brought in his various idols and in the presence of the village chief, his elders, and the town folks the man stood in the midst of the people and witnessed for the wonderful message of Christ which has changed his heart to commit to the flames these rubbish idols.

I poured kerosene on them and a stick of match raised a towering flame, no mean bonfire and devoured the whole thing without reserve.

The flames of the fire must have appealed to the minds of the awe-stricken populace who were looking to the worthless idols they once served and worshipped.

## Gold Coast Schools

By James C. Vetter

The people of the Gold Coast are no longer backward about education. In our 35 S. D. A. schools we have about 2,200 pupils. Even those areas that are classified by Government as "backward" are calling for schools.

## Gold Coast Schools

(Continued from page 4)

One place on the fringe of such an area called Akuma is very progressive in its educational aims. The people have built three class rooms and are now on the next three class rooms which will give them their requirements for a full infant-junior school, and this without state help.

They have a very good educational

committee in the town to do the planning. In a recent letter the chief expressed his courage and said that the "scoffers could scoff," he would soon have six class rooms finished.

We have many problems with our schools, but the Lord seems to be directing us to greater activity and a fuller programme of soul-winning. We are glad we can have a small part in the great work of God.

earth can be entered, even with present means and facilities. If we wait until everything is ideal by our own human measurement for a final advance, it will not come. We must pray as we plan and trust as we work and we shall see a resurrection in the evangelistic possibilities that will surprise us all and glorify our Father in heaven.

It is evident that a great expectancy now rests in the hearts of our people everywhere. They are looking for us as leaders in conferences and churches, to implement our revival spirit and lead the church into an abandonment to service for the lost such as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. Every worker and every member is to be challenged by our personalized leadership. It is not sufficient for us as leaders simply to admonish, to counsel, or to urge. We must, in a very personal way, see to it that each worker and each member is definitely enlisted in some more effective way to do a larger soul-winning work.

The need of action now must come into all our hearts with greater weight. Present opportunities will not last. Soon our goings to and fro will be hedged up. War, greater and more terrible than ever before, is impending. From every viewpoint this is our "hour of visitation."

(Continued on page 16)

## Our Greatest Evangelism

By L. K. Dickson,

Vice-President of General Conference of S. D. A.

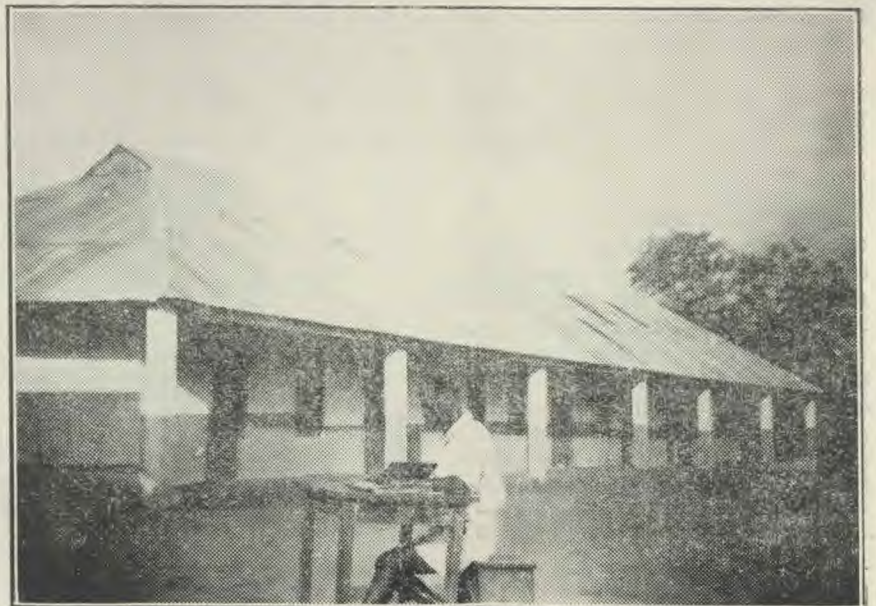
The spontaneous response which came from the thousands of leaders and believers gathered together at the General Conference Session in San Francisco to the appeal to double our membership in the next four years, was both remarkable and gloriously portentous. Under the influence of the Holy Spirit which was so manifest at that great session, a new determination laid hold of our leaders, to bring about a realization of this great possibility of membership increase. Never were the following words of the Servant of the Lord so true as now:—"Many are on the verge of the Kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in."—"Acts of the Apostles," page 109.

We are greatly encouraged to learn how this new determination is laying hold of all our leaders around the world and we believe 1951 will see such plans worked out as to bring about a storming of the enemies strong holds such as has not been seen since Pentecost. Every means and method, old and new, are to be now harnessed for the assault, under the inspiration and power of the Holy Spirit.

It is well for us to note what this will all mean. What will be the result in devotion and activity throughout our ranks? It means that in every church, every conference, and every institution in our work around the world, supreme efforts will now be focused upon this one great reason for our

existence as a people. It will mean that every church board, every conference committee, every institutional board will sit down and plan first of all to make their programme of action definitely evangelistic, far beyond any previous plan. It will mean that in every union and division field, the dark countries and unentered sections will be attacked and entered by a definite programme of evangelism in some effective form.

Let us not allow the lack of means or equipment to stop us in our determined plans to succeed. Compared to what the apostles lacked in material facilities in pentecostal times, we are rich in instruments of warfare for God. There are ways by which every dark spot on



Teacher S. A. Essien and new school building at Akuma



Students at Grand Bassa School, Buchanan, Liberia.

## Christian Education In Liberia

By P. E. Giddings

The most permanent results in the soul-winning work in Liberia have been produced through our schools. Heathenism is not merely a vacancy where Christ is absent; it is a power, a great negative power from which its victims are unable as well as unwilling to withdraw themselves unless they receive that training that leads souls to Christ. How often we find those who refuse to accept the greater power of Christ in exchange for the power they have known from childhood. When a boy or girl is trained for the work of God during the formative years of his or her life we may expect a certain stability in the worker and a permanency in the work.

Our school work started in this country many years ago under very trying conditions, but in spite of the many limitations we can see the benefits of christian education. As we look over our field we find only those trained in our schools filling responsible places in the organized work. A typical example of christian training is shown in the life of one of our pupils. John writes: "I wish only to refer to some experiences which I am impressed to

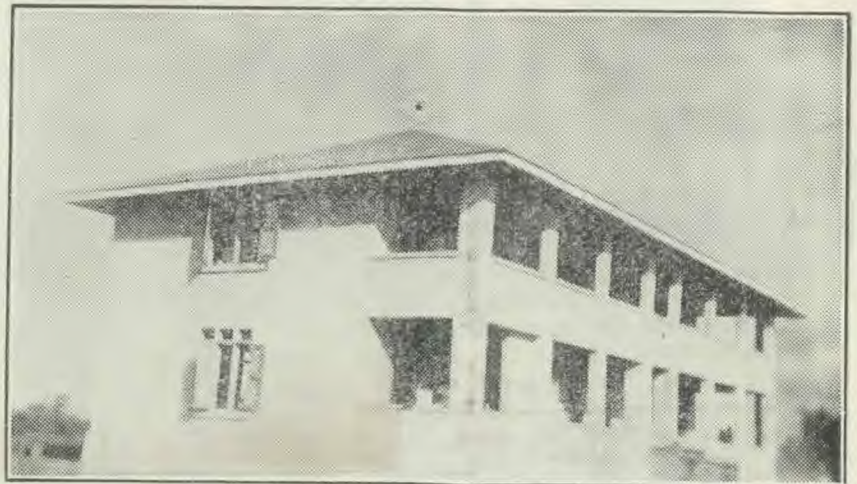
write this morning. The time is not far when the test will come to every soul. Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will not find it a hard matter to further yield to such powers rather than subject themselves to mockery, insult, and death.

To begin my life story from its beginning would be a hard task. I am sorry to say that I have no record of the year of my birth. I was born of heathen parents who worshipped gods made by the hands of man and who never learned of our Lord's second coming. At my birth, it was declared by some sage woman of the neighbourhood who had taken a live interest in me several months before it was possible for me to become acquainted

with her, that I was a posthumous child which really means in this part of Africa that my mother died shortly after my birth (Two hours after). I was therefore destined to be unlucky throughout my life. I was placed in a position to be the so called god-son of the witch doctor; I would therefore be privileged to see ghosts or the spirits of the dead. Both of these privileges, they believed were inevitably attached to all unlucky infants born under such conditions.

When I was about the age of ten I was given the name "Begum" which means witch boy. Now living in the home of the witch doctor nothing was to be hid from me because I was to qualify as a highly trained medium for the service of the devil. Just a few months after this my father was called to the front in the skirmish over the Liberian and French boundary lines. This was in 1939. I was then taken from the home of the devil doctor and placed in the care of my father's aunt. But this grand aunt soon completed arrangements with the bush doctor for me to join the bush society in order to further qualify me to meet the superstitious expectations of my tribe. As a result of two years of service in the bush society I was prepared to take the place of the devil doctor in case of his death. Soon after I had left the bush society my uncle who

(Continued on page 10)



New boy's hostel Konola School,  
Liberia

## What is Christian Education

(Continued from page 1)

peculiar philosophy, and emphasizes the origin, nature and destiny of man.

Each teacher is duty bound, even beyond the special privilege which is his, to know intimately and to use actively the definite philosophy under which he serves. There are many conflicting views of education but in a Christ-centred programme all other ideals should be discarded.

In spite of the many views in the world today relative to the origin, nature and destiny of man, Christian teachers must not draw away from the great values of life. Life came by the act of a Supreme Intelligence. Each pupil is an image of the great original and is destined for eternal happiness, by the grace of God.

The purpose of Christian education is to retrace in beauty and in holiness the moral image of God which was lost to the child through man's fall. The child has a heritage of evil but he can be born again and baptism is that outward sign. There will be a lifelong struggle between good and bad inclinations.

For guidance in this difficult struggle, the child needs a curriculum which has its source in revelation and which is complete in matters of doctrine and faith

Such denominational teachings represent a divine deposit by God for the child's welfare. The pre-eminent text must be the Christian Bible. Supernaturalism is a guiding philosophy of this education. The pupils are the children of God; the teachers, servants of God. The schools are to follow after the mind and will of God.

Now there must be objectives in any form of education and in Christian Education they may be wisely arranged as follows:

### (A) Final Objective

"To restore in man the image of his Maker, . . . development of body, mind and soul, . . . this is the object of education, the great object of life."

### (B) Intermediate Goals

1. Develop a living knowledge of God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost.
2. Make the Bible a working tool of Christian living.
3. Develop a Christlike character.
4. Establish a wholesome view of life.
5. Become an active participant in church life.
6. Master human knowledge so as to work effectively.
7. Promote the highest possible mental development.
8. Develop an appreciation for the worthy use of time.
9. Know the natural world and

- its laws as the work of God.
10. See the beautiful in nature and art.
11. Know the body as the temple of the living God and use it as such.
12. Willingly and ably perform that which our hand finds to do.
13. Progress in citizenship now while preparing for the life to come.
14. Prepare to enter with responsibility into the society about us.
15. Train in the principles upon which the Christian home is established.
16. Experience proper recreation which increases bodily vigour, elevates the mind, and enriches the soul.

Children are not born Christians, Seventh-day Adventists or any other persuasion, so they must be educated into such a social group. Desired results will come only through prolonged, exact, and rigorous training. Unless we transmit our specific Christian belief to our children we will lose our identity very soon. Thus there must be Christian Education that we may survive.

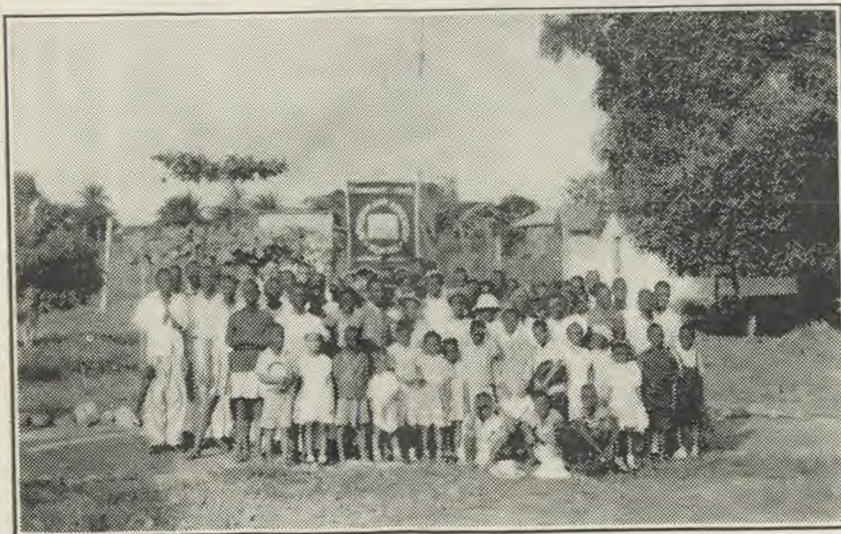
## The Twilight of The Setting Sun

By J. A. Mensah

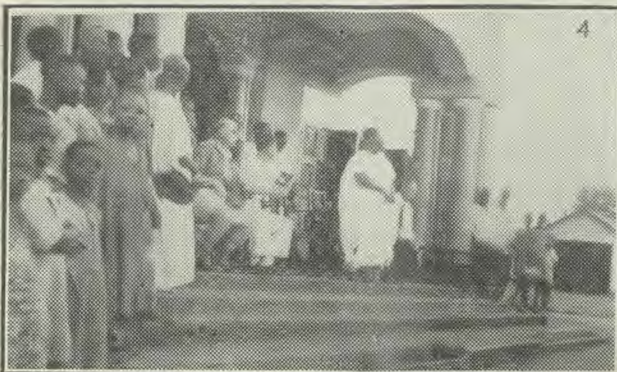
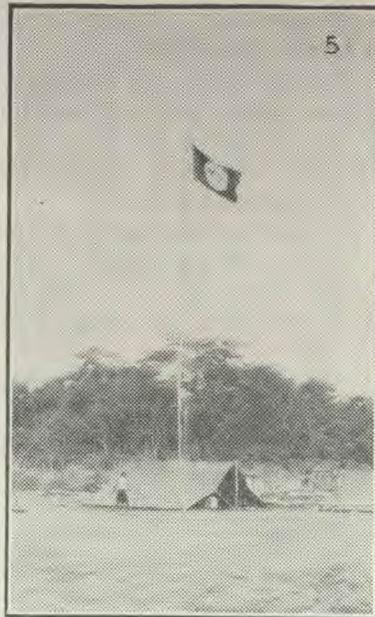
As the physical sun apparently rises in the east and sets in the west, and seemingly lengthens the dying day with the refulgent reflection of its twilight in the east, so is the Spiritual Sun of Righteousness which rose in the eastern hemisphere, is now setting in the west and the invigorating rays of its twilight has appropriately awakened West African Adventists to realize that they have an urgent part to play in the great plan of salvation and that the message which they must reflect to those living in darkness is the last supplementary message of Revelation 18:4. "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

This is the message of our schools to the Gold Coast pupils.

M.V. Investiture—Monrovia, Liberia  
S. D. A. School.



# Camping at Ife, West Nigeria, October 8-15, 1950



1. Morning inspection by Pastor Cowin. 2. Camp Entrance. 3. Sports day. 4. Oni of Ife addressing cam-ers in front of his palace. 5. The Camp Flag. 6. Inspection by the D. O. of Ife. 7. Sick para-ite. 8. "Every-thing in order—Sir," 9. "On parade," marching to salute the Oni of Ife.



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The New Classroom Block

## NIGERIAN TRAINING COLLEGE

SERVING THE NEEDS OF THE THREE NIGERIAN MISSIONS

We are happy to extend greetings from the college at the close of this "mid-century" year to all our friends and believers throughout West Africa.

This year has been one of achievement at your college, located on a beautiful hill-side in the heart of the Eastern Provinces of Nigeria. The enrolment, the largest in the history of the school includes a class of Elementary Teachers and a class of Evangelists in training, an approved standard

six demonstration school and a Girl's Boarding School.

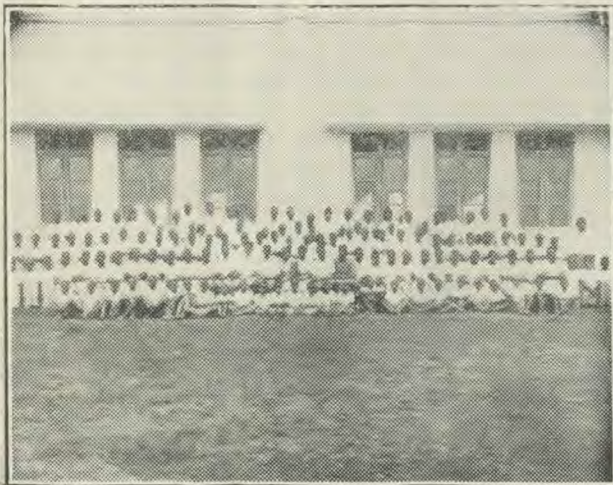
The students have shown an excellent spirit as they have worked together in classes, and on the grounds. Although they have come from various tribal groups and widely separated areas, they have learned to blend individual interests and personalities and achieve a unity of purpose.

The physical plant has been expanded to include a new classroom block, a practice school, a new dining hall and a second

dormitory. Work on the new church building is progressing rapidly.

Visits of General Conference, Division, and Union leaders, with their inspiring messages have been greatly appreciated. The local fields which the college serves have also been generous with their visits and co-operation.

We look forward with courage to the new year and ask your continued prayers in behalf of the College, its student body and its staff



Demonstration School Pupils



College Teacher and Evangelist Trainees and Staff

## Christian Education In Liberia

(Continued from page 6)

had been acquainted with the light of civilization came home. He thought he should share with me this light to which he had been introduced some time before. This meant attending school. But what school will he send me to? This was my question. Would school do me any good? These questions I repeated over and over with some indignation.

Not long after this we were told by a heathen chief about a school 165 miles away where they trained boys and girls for God. This school, he said was called Konola. Here I was privileged to begin my school career with the intention of becoming a truck driver after finishing the 4th grade. After two years my uncle passed away and I was left alone to fulfil my ambition. It was hard going during those following years, but by this time I was somewhat acquainted with the real source from which true help comes. Psalm 55 : 22 was the answer to my question. As I dreamed of success, I kept struggling for three more years beyond the time that I should be a truck driver waiting for further directions which came to me from Proverbs 3 : 6. At the end of this time the missionaries had arrived. They seemed to know what material they had to work with. I can assure you that it was not an easy task for them. For some of the material was warped, some rusted, and some filled with self conceit. By the help of these missionaries I was further introduced to a soul-saving message in the year of 1945, and I was baptized in 1949. Our missionaries had to season the raw material, plane the rough edges, straighten the warped uneven sides, tone down all superfluities, and improve the goods. This christian school changed my intentions from a truck driver for a man to one who would rather steer for the Master."

John Newman is now teaching in our mission school while he takes further work to better qualify himself for the Master's service.

## Education Affairs In West Nigeria

(Continued from page 11)

what I have just said. You may say this or that, and even argue that all three should commence together and to go on together. And you may be right. But it really does not matter very much. We all know that education of the heart is the best and most important kind of education, for it is said of a man, "for as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Prov. 23. 7. So if we educate a man's heart, he will cause his hands to do well, and he will want to educate his head so that he can carry out the things, the good things, that his heart asks him to do. "For out of the heart are the issues of life." Prov. 4. 23. If head education does not lead us to do right actions,—right in the sight of God,—it is useless. Still worse,—it is a deception.

We in West Nigeria are struggling against this deception. We do not intend to make the education of our heads the chief aim in our work. Consideration has been given to the setting up of a school where hand education will be given equally with that of the head; and heart education more than either. This may take a year or two to bring about, but we are certainly going to try hard to get it going. Then it will be, learn in the classroom—then go to the workshop, or the farm, and do what has been learned. Head Education leading to right action. Doing this we cannot go very far wrong.

Thus teachers and scholars both will have entered upon a course in the Highest of all Educations. We will learn to be workers together with God here and now, and then continue that education in the School of the Hereafter?—God's school in heaven.

We hope to meet you all there in the classrooms of that school.

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True education "is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world, and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come." —"Education" page 13.

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## Bekwai Seminary

(Continued from page 13)

trained teachers. This school includes the Infant Junior department and for next year, standards four and five of the Senior School. At present there are six teachers and 161 children. Under the capable head-mastership of Mr. E. K. Mensah excellent work has been done and the college now has this fine laboratory in which its teachers-in-training can observe and practice.

The entire staff of the Seminary is grateful to God for his blessings and to our brethren for their support and encouragement.

### Mass Education

The Gold Coast Mission and the Bekwai Seminary have recently had the privilege of taking part in the Mass Education programme of the Gold Coast Social Development Team. This is really an adult education project designed to teach illiterates to read and to produce more happy conditions for living in the villages.

A team consisting of five students of the college and several mission teachers attended the Mass Education school for ten days at Sekodumase. Recently the Mass Education officers spent several days as guests of the Seminary putting on a campaign of adult education in the town of Bekwai. This has given the students a fine opportunity for learning how to do this important work. It has also given the college much favourable publicity.

The teaching of village people to read seems to give promise of being an excellent entering wedge for evangelism as well as a means of greatly strengthening our own church members who have been unable to read the Bible in their own vernacular.

## Educational Affairs In West Nigeria

By J. J. Hyde

Primary education in Nigeria has been "frozen" for the past two years and will be again for at least one year more. This is the deliberate policy of our Education Department and has for its object (1) To concentrate the resources of the Government on Teacher Training, and (2) To prevent the opening of more new schools until trained teachers are available. In addition to this, grants have been completely withdrawn from many schools. This has caused the closing of many of them.

In short, Government has imposed what is virtually a "stand-still" order, so as to make possible an advance on really good lines in the very near future.

We in West Nigeria agree that this is a good policy. We have opened no new schools during this year, though we may obtain permission to do so next year. And we are endeavouring to advance some of our Junior Primary Schools to Senior status. One or two very weak schools have been closed. In preparing to improve our schools, we have followed a strong training programme. We have accepted every place the Ibie Training College could offer us in the Teacher's Department. Nine teachers and four evangelists returned to us in 1948 and commenced service in 1949. Nine other teachers took their places in the Elementary Teacher's Course, and five of our previously trained men returned to the College to train for the Higher Certificate. Five others (including three who previously were teachers) commenced the Evangelists Course. When I tell you that besides the men already mentioned, three teachers entered the Hospital to commence Nurses Training, and three others entered Government Teacher Training Centres (all on scholarships), you will see that the teaching staff of the Mission underwent a considerable change, at the beginning of 1950. Still others will commence training in 1951.

As you perhaps know, there must still be some uncertificated teachers on our staffs. We have

about twenty-four of them. But almost all of them have had one year's preliminary training before commencing teaching, and all are planning to take further training as soon as possible.

You may judge from all this that the staff of the West Nigerian Mission is an enthusiastic one, keen to get all the training so that it can train God's children in God's own way. West Nigeria's schools are going, by God's help, to be good ones.

### Secondary Education

Everyone here is very eager for higher education. We have a University College right here in

Ibadan. We would all like to be able to enter it. One of us has already succeeded and will complete a B.A. course in 1951. Two other Yoruba teachers are overseas, one in England and one in the United States and both will return with degree. Can you wonder, then, that others of us would like to follow in their steps.

We await with keen interest and high hopes, the decisions which are about to be made concerning the opening of a Secondary School in Nigeria in the near future.

### The Higher Education

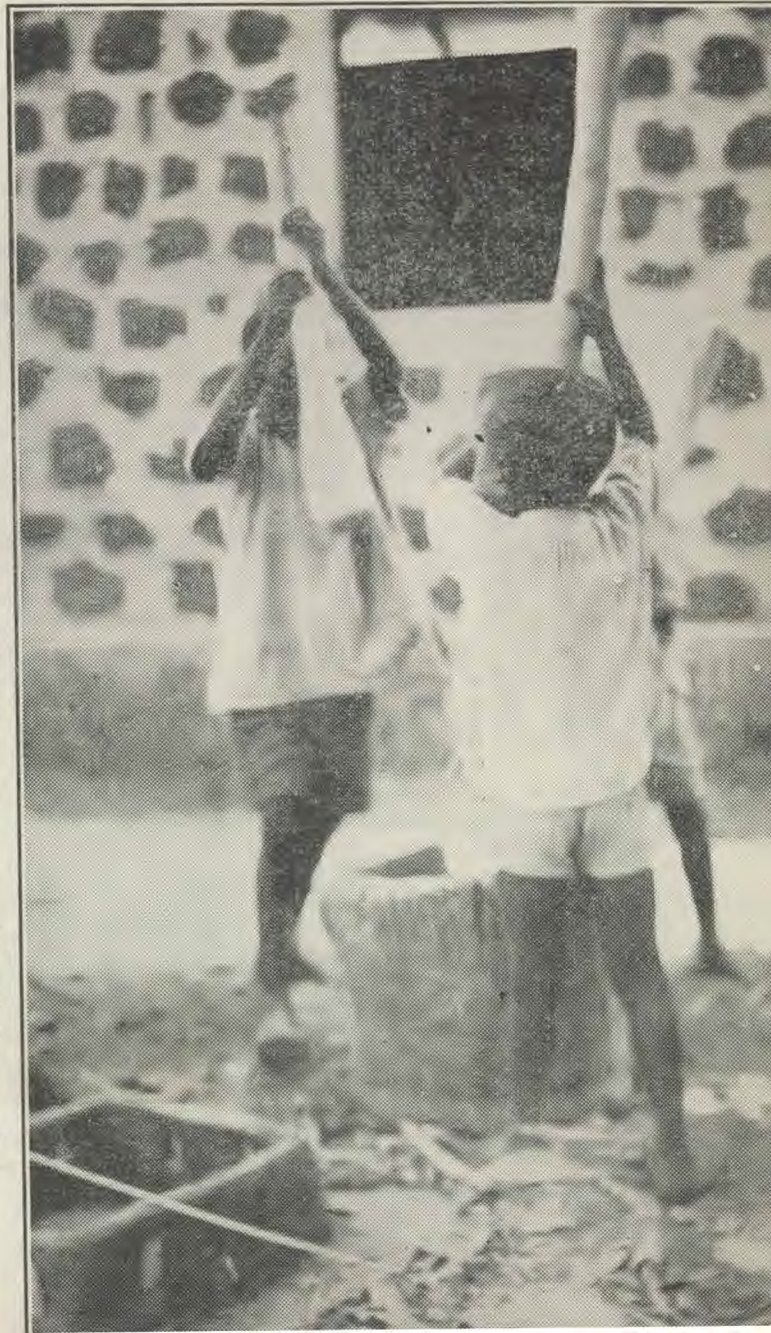
We confess that in this respect we perhaps are not quite as keen as we should be. We think our heads need more education.

And they do. But True Education is not only the education of the head, but of the hands and the heart also. We all know that.

As we grow from babyhood, I wonder which of these three educations comes to us first. Perhaps it is the education of the heart (to love our parents and be obedient to them), then that of the hands (to hold and throw, to feed ourselves and to move about) and only finally, that of the head (when we enter schools). After that, all three kinds of education should proceed together.

Now you may not agree with

(Continued on page 10)



Little Fellows—  
Big job

# Educating Medical Missionaries

By Sherman A. Nagel, Jr., M.D.



In the Operating Theatre

In order to have a clearer understanding of the place that Christian Medical Education has in God's Great Plan let us review briefly a little of what the Lord has said concerning medical work as a whole.

"This world has been visited by the Majesty of heaven, the Son of God 'God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' . . . Christ stands before us as the pattern Man, the great Medical Missionary,—an example for all who should come after"

## Following in His Footsteps

"What, then, is the example that we are to set to the world? We are to do the same work that the great Medical Missionary undertook in our behalf. We are to follow the path of self-sacrifice trodden by Christ. (1) Our work is clearly defined. As the Father sent His only begotten Son into our world, even so Christ sends us, His disciples, as His medical missionary workers. In fulfilling this high and holy mission, we are to do the will of God. No one man's mind or judgment is to be our criterion

of what constitutes genuine medical missionary work. . . . True medical missionary work is of heavenly origin. It was not originated by any person who lives." (2)

Going back into the history of the medical work of this movement we discover that only 12 days after the General Conference was organized in 1863, Sister Ellen G. White was given the memorable vision of the great fundamentals of health and healing. Before we as a people had a school, a college, a printing press, we had a sanitarium. But the medical work is just one of the many branches which compose the organization of the Church which is carrying the last warning Message to a sinking world.

## The Body, The Arm, and The Head

"The medical missionary work has never been presented to me in any other way than as bearing the same relation to the work as a whole as the arm does to the body. The Gospel ministry is an organization for the proclamation of the truth and the carrying forward of the work for sick and well. This is the body, the medical missionary work is the arm, and Christ is the

head over all." (3) "If ever the Lord has spoken by me, He speaks when I say that the workers engaged in educational lines, in ministerial lines, and in medical missionary lines, must stand as a unit, all labouring under the supervision of God, one helping the other." (4)

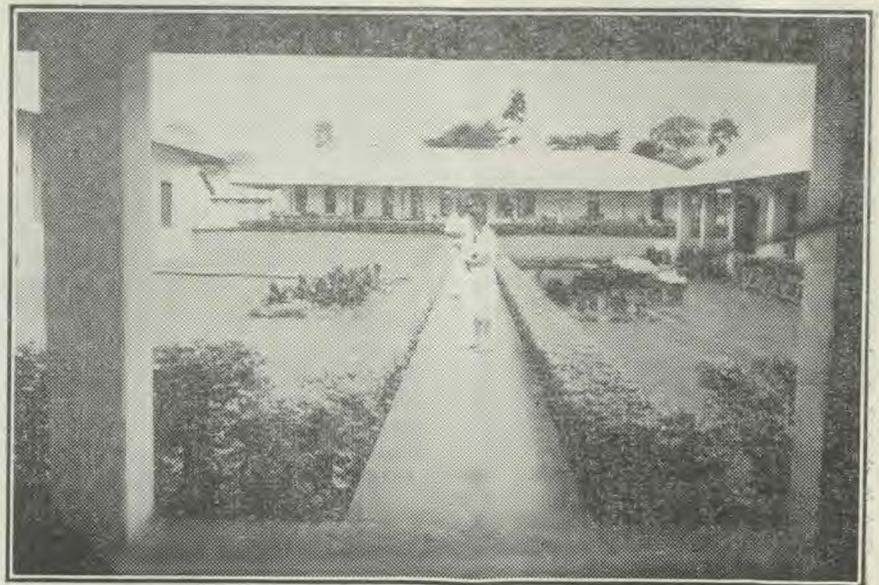
## To Open Doors

"The right hand is used to open doors through which the body may find entrance. This is the part the medical missionary work is to act. It is to largely prepare the way for the reception of the truth for this time. A body without hands is useless. In giving honour to the body, honour must also be given to the helping hands, which are agencies of such importance that without them the body can do nothing. Therefore the body which treats indifferently the right hand, refusing its aid, is able to accomplish nothing. . . . In new fields no work is so successful as medical missionary work." (5)

## A Hospital in West Africa

Realizing and following the general principals of the above

(Continued on page 15)



Ife Hospital, view of Female Ward.

## Bekwai Seminary

By H. J. Welch

This school year of 1950 has proved a year of progress and blessing at this training college for Seventh-day Adventist Youth of the Gold Coast. The student body of 57 young men, studying to be teachers and evangelists, have been loyal and earnest. At the date of this writing we have 66 applicants for the beginning class next year. We are sorry that not all can be accepted due to lack of accommodations.

One of the most encouraging features has been the strong programme of evangelism led by Brother A. M. Moyer and Pastor J. K. Amoah. Students and staff members have all participated in this programme. Series of Evangelistic meetings have been held in eight villages with a total of 224 converts reported to date. On November 18, a baptism was held for the college when 14 students were buried with their Lord in baptism.

During the year a heavy programme of building and improvement has been in progress. Electric lines have been installed and thirteen buildings have been wired for lights. This work has all been done by the students of the college. Five new buildings have been erected. These include a new Senior School block of four class rooms, a new dormitory for college men, a dormitory for girls, a European dwelling house for a Lady Teacher and a new garage at the Principal's house. A considerable portion of the college land that had grown into large bush has been cleared for agricultural purposes.

The staff of the college firmly believe that the future of the work in the Gold Coast depends to a large degree upon the character of the training given at Bekwai. They desire that first of all their students may be men of God and second that they may be well trained for professional efficiency.

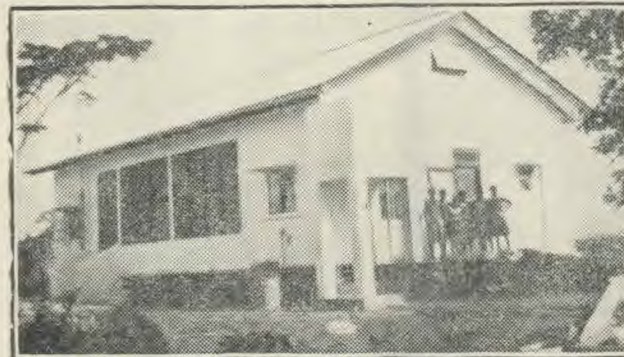
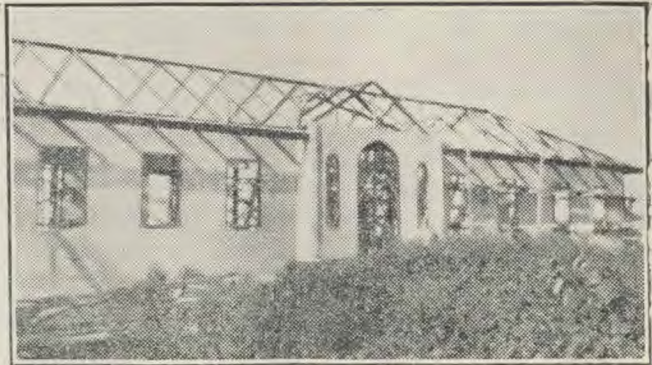
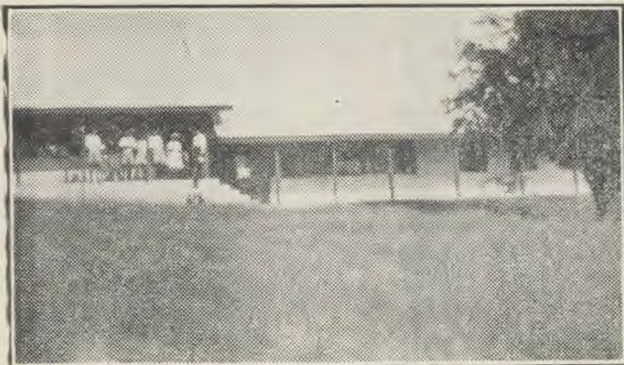
Every other week the college staff with the practice school staff meet for a study of the Christian Principles of Education. These studies have proved a great blessing.

One of the great needs at present is for educated women who can take their place with the men in the work. Miss Joyce Mohlman, a graduate of Atlantic Union College U.S.A. will be arriving about January 1st, to help in the training of women. At present she is studying colonial education in England.

A new dormitory for college girls and for Senior School girls is now being constructed and will be ready when school opens. It is sincerely hoped that soon a goodly number of girls will be enjoying the training to be offered by the college.

In this report we should also make mention of the work of the Practice School. Through the help of the Gold Coast Mission we have been able to staff the entire school with Seventh-day Adventist trained teachers. This school in-

(Continued on page 10)



Top left—Senior School  
Bottom left—Lady Teachers' House

Top right—Girls Hostel.  
Bottom right—Boys dormitory

# East Nigerian Mission

## More Schools, More Youth for God

By G. M. Ellstrom



Headmasters and Lady Teachers of East Nigeria.

An ever open field for evangelism is the schoolroom, and surely we ought to thank the Lord for this medium of soul-winning and for the teachers who have consecrated their talents to train youth for life and for eternity.

We believe in schools in East Nigeria and are using them to increase our already rapidly mounting membership. That is why we have 22 schools excluding our practice school at the training college at Ihie, and expecting to have at least one more and possibly two more schools this next year. Our enrolment this year is 3,196, which would make a substantial church membership for any

mission. I trust the Lord will lead the greater portion of these into the fold of His glorious church.

Our teachers need encouragement as well as instruction to be efficient, not only as teachers, but as christian teachers, and we have tried to give some of

this help to them. About fifty teachers were privileged to meet with Brother Cowin on his first visit to our field, and one hundred out of our 137 teachers enjoyed this privilege when we met for a three days institute on his second visit to our field. We had a very good time together and we hope that the good counsel received will fire the teachers with a new zeal to train the heart as well as the head and hand.

More schools—More Youth for God, is only a fanciful dream, but can be and is a reality. Why not make it our motto? We wish to in East Nigeria and I believe with the Lord's help we shall realize hundreds of youth in the kingdom through our schools.



Teachers attending institute at Aba.

## Educating Medical Missionaries

(Continued from page 12)

"blue-print" given by the servant of the Lord the leaders of our work here on the West Coast of Africa opened a small medical institution. During its six operational years, it has grown to an 85 bed hospital where up to 1,500 patients a year receive either medical or surgical treatment within the confines of its wards. In its out-patient department up to 35,000 patient visits are now annually recorded.

### Medical Ministry in Africa

Through the ward service, the clinic services, the literature ministry, the kindly word, the prayer at the bed-side or the operating table, hundreds and thousands a year are hearing of the last call of mercy to a dying world. Who knows what the harvest will be! Multiple have been the requests during this last year for medical and evangelistic work to be opened up in towns and villages, requests coming from those who first received a taste of the Gospel while being patients within the walls of this institution. Well over 200 requests have come in alone for the "Signs of the Times" to be sent to them. The most recent request for new work to be opened up in an adjoining town arrived at the headquarters of the S. D. A. Mission, Ibadan, a few days ago.

### A School of General Nursing

The "blue-print" called for an educational programme along health and medical lines to be carried on in connection with our medical institutions, education not to be confined simply to the patients but to be offered as well in a more specialized way to young Christian men and women who choose to come and receive training for Medical Ministry. In 1949 this institution received Governmental recognition for its School of General Nursing, making this school one of the twelve in Nigeria now accredited for nursing education.

### A School of Midwifery

In 1950 the hospital also received Government recognition for its School of Midwifery. The S. D. A. Hospital at Ile-Ife can boast of possessing one of the best Midwifery Centres in Nigeria, and from the present statistics it well indicates that close to 400 deliveries will be had in the institution during its first year's experience as a Grade II Midwifery Centre. These young women will be able to go out after their graduation and in a very special way make useful contributions to their communities, their societies and their church, and further because of their training they will be better qualified to become Christian wives and mothers. The new girl's dormitory, to accommodate 20, with room for expansion, will soon be ready for occupancy and will help to more comfortably house the young women who seek their training here at this training institution.

### Daughter Dispensary a Training Aid

The institution has recently opened another avenue adapted for the young men in training at this General Nursing School, an avenue which will broaden their present training. In November of 1950 the first daughter institution was opened at Inisha where today a splendid dispensary is now in operation. During its first month of operation it recorded nearly 1000 clinic visits. Where, as here at the parent institution, the "right arm" is serving not just for the interest of this life, but also for the interest of the life to come. Each month one of the male students in training is assigned to help the graduate nurse who has been appointed the post of responsibility there. Here the student learns by actual experience, under supervision, medical work as one sees it in dispensaries. This training will prove invaluable.

### Applicants for Training

The eyes of many youth are turned towards this institution. Only a small percentage of those who

choose to come here for training can enter into these two schools of medical training. The classes are made up primarily of our own Seventh-day Adventist youth. For 1951's class more than 100 applicants applied from our S. D. A. Schools, and close to two hundred applications were received from non-Seventh-day Adventists seeking admission for training.

### Graduates

Already three classes have successfully graduated from this training institution and the fourth class will graduate on the 21st of January 1951. Yearly, these young people who have completed their years of prescribed training, three and a half years for General Nursing, and a year's additional work for the young women seeking midwifery training, go forth from the doors of this medical missionary training institution to their towns and villages to do their part in the carrying forward of the Great Commission, and are in a very special way following in the footsteps of the great Medical Missionary. Under His power and direction they are and will combine their talents and services with the talents and services of the branches of the Lord's work, all pressing together and contributing toward the glorious triumphant victory of the cause of righteousness in this section of God's great harvest field.

### References

1. White, E. G., "Medical Ministry," page 20-21, (1932)
2. White, E. G., "Medical Ministry," page 24 (1932)
3. White, E. G., "Medical Ministry," page 237 (1932)
4. White, E. G., "Testimonies to the Church," Vol. 9, pages 169-170"
5. White E. G., "Medical Ministry," page 238-239

"Christ is no longer in this world in person, but He has commissioned us to carry forward the medical missionary work that He began."—"Counsels on Health," page 249.

## SUNSET TIMETABLE

Accra time is Greenwich Mean Time, not Gold Coast Local Time.

|         | Free-Town | Accra | Lagos | Port Harcourt |
|---------|-----------|-------|-------|---------------|
| Jan. 5  | 18:54     | 18:00 | 18:44 | 18:30         |
| Jan. 12 | 18:59     | 18:05 | 18:49 | 18:35         |
| Jan. 19 | 19:03     | 18:09 | 18:53 | 18:39         |
| Jan. 26 | 19:04     | 18:10 | 18:54 | 18:40         |
| Feb. 2  | 19:06     | 18:12 | 18:56 | 18:42         |
| Feb. 9  | 19:06     | 18:12 | 18:56 | 18:42         |
| Feb. 16 | 19:07     | 18:13 | 18:57 | 18:43         |
| Feb. 23 | 19:08     | 18:14 | 18:58 | 18:44         |
| Mar. 2  | 19:08     | 18:14 | 18:58 | 18:44         |
| Mar. 9  | 19:06     | 18:12 | 18:56 | 18:42         |
| Mar. 16 | 19:06     | 18:12 | 18:56 | 18:42         |
| Mar. 23 | 19:05     | 18:11 | 18:55 | 18:41         |
| Mar. 30 | 19:03     | 18:09 | 18:53 | 18:39         |
| Apr. 6  | 19:03     | 18:09 | 18:53 | 18:39         |
| Apr. 13 | 19:01     | 18:07 | 18:51 | 18:37         |
| Apr. 20 | 19:00     | 18:06 | 18:50 | 18:36         |
| Apr. 27 | 19:00     | 18:06 | 18:50 | 18:36         |

Dates given are Friday nights.

## Our Greatest Evangelism

(Continued from page 5)

When we face our tasks as the first disciples faced their task, the sense of our need for Holy Ghost power will drive us penitently seeking after God as it did in their lives. The only revival worthwhile is that which will result in fulfilling the purpose and commission of Christ, as He, too, pointing to a needy and dying world, commanded "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

The world has been led to the doorstep of doom. A tired, worn-out despondency is laying hold of the hearts of men. The world is hungry for the light, for words of encouragement, for a satisfying explanation and for an assurance for the future which they can lay hold of. "Ye are the light of the world," said our Lord and Master. Let us now rise to that high calling and serve our Master with all our lives.

## The Advent Messenger

Official organ of the West African Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists.

P. O. Box 1016, Accra, Gold Coast  
D. V. Cowin - Editor

R. Muderspach - Assistant Editor

## NEWS NOTES

Brethren Gibson and Vetter of the Coast Mission were callers at the Union office from December 3-5. They had just attended one of the mission camp-meetings in the Accra district.

Brother Dickay of the East Nigerian field stopped in Accra December 2-4 en route to his home after attending the General Conference Session. He has also been studying in the S. D. A. Theological Seminary in Washington D. C.

Dr. K. J. Reynolds, Associate Secretary of the Educational Department of the General Conference, left the West African Union field on the first of December after spending four very busy weeks surveying the educational work. He attended the Northern European Division meeting in Copenhagen.

Brethren Davidson and Chappell, colporteur leaders, conducted a Colporteurs' institute for the students at Bekwai late in December. A goodly number of the students plan to sell our literature during their vacation period.

D. V. Cowin, Educational Secretary of the West African Union, joined Dr. Reynolds in the study of the educational problems in the field.

The bungalow which has been constructed on the Union Compound for Brother and Sister Chappell is now ready for occupancy.

It was thrilling and very nearly overwhelming to observe the investing of 466 persons in the various progressive classes at Agona, Gold Coast on the 14th November. J. C. Vetter was in charge. Pastor Mensah was invested as a Master Comrade.

Alpha Rahn of the Nigerian Training College left in December to spend her furlough in the U.S.A.

Brethren Duploux and Cowin attended the Northern European Division meeting in Copenhagen in December.

G. M. Ellstrom of the East Nigerian Mission and family is spending a few months in the Ivory Coast. Brother Ellstrom is directing the mission work in the absence of the mission superintendent. A dwelling house is being erected at the same time.

Sister Duploux is on sick leave just now and is spending her time in France where she is able to receive the needed medical attention.

Another "First" has taken place. The North Nigerian Mission has had its first M.V. Investiture. D. V. Cowin invested 24 Friends at Jengre on the first of December. Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Hyde were invested as Master Comrades.

It was a real privilege for Dr. K. J. Reynolds to attend the Aba camp meeting on the 25th November. He spoke to the nearly 8,000 persons in attendance on the Sabbath and observed a special educational intention on Sunday morning the 26th.

Brother Duploux visited the Ivory Coast Missions early in December.

Brother and Sister Mackey of our Shiloh S.D.A. church in Chicago, U.S.A. visited in Liberia and Accra during November.

Recent additions in November to the large family of West African Union persons were sons born to the Robert Santinis at Ibe and to the Al Brendels at Ibe. The sons are doing well. Mrs. Brendels has spent a little time in the Port Harcourt Hospital recently.

The new church which is being erected at Ibe is taking on a fine appearance. It is planned for completion in March and represents a sizeable donation from a benevolent friend of the Nigerian Training College and Principal Downing.

Friends in the U.S.A. have been sending to the Educational Department of the West African Union gift packages of Bible text books for use in our primary schools. These books are a real blessing to our field and are being placed in the hands of our school teachers.

More than 3,000 persons have been invested in the various M.V. progressive classes in the West African Union during the year 1950. Is it too much to hope that this good record will be bettered in the new year?

The M.V. Department of the Gold Coast Mission conducted a five day Laymen's Evangelistic Training School at Bekwai in December. More than 100 persons were in attendance.

In harmony with the recommendation of the General Conference, the Division and the West African Union, each mission has recently conducted strong Revival Campaigns in the S.D.A. churches and evangelistic efforts in special places. The results are very gratifying and it is planned that the year 1951 will be a special year of revival. Surely this will bring a very positive upturn in the total number of members in our field.

Pastor W. E. Nelson, former treasurer of the General Conference, travelled in the West African Union early in the new year and gave helpful counsel where he visited.

The December Week of Prayer was unusually successful and splendid reports are coming in from the pastors and the missions telling of the daily meetings and of the many conversions.

December was a month of Harvest Festivals all over the field. Many churches and most districts conducted these programmes and they are reporting increased returns this year over last year. The Accra church received nearly twice the offering of last year.

Brother Chappell has been assisting recently in the Ingathering programme in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, and West Nigeria. He reports that the returns are satisfactory and that the Union goal will be reached soon if all will take part and will report what is received.