

The MISSIONARY WORKER

ORGAN OF THE
BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE
OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

“BE READY!”

Sermon delivered by Pastor W. A. Spicer at the Battersea Town Hall,
Sabbath Morning, July 31st.

It is always a joy to me to meet the dear friends in England. Year by year the meetings increase not only in attendance, but I trust also in devotion and seriousness and earnestness. There is but one theme for a Sabbath morning of a conference, and that theme is Jesus, His power to save, His love for us, His longing desire that we shall be ready to meet Him when He comes.

I see some before me who have grown grey looking for the coming of the Lord. Oh, may their hearts beat joyfully in anticipation, for, brethren and sisters, signs of His coming are very near and are multiplying on every hand to-day. Jesus has loving thought for us always, and I want to say the same old things this morning, things that I have been talking about, and you have been talking about and praying about for years.

I will read first a scripture in the thirteenth chapter of the gospel of John, first verse, “Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.” Jesus knew that the hour had come when He was to be lifted up on the cross and taste death for His loved ones. Then He would return to His Father and He would see heaven again, that glorious land that He left when He came down to earth to die for man. He would see the angels again and the glory of the Father and would see the Father face to face.

But where was the thought of Jesus at that hour? Was He thinking about how good it would be to get out of this world and away from it back into heaven again? Oh, you can read it between the lines here. His thought was not really about heaven, not about the angels. His thought was about His loved ones down in this world, “and having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.” Really you can understand by the tone of His voice that actually He did not want to leave His loved ones down in this world. Had it been good for His loved ones He never would have left them, but would have stayed with them. But He said, “It is expedient for you that I go away.”

Jesus is always thinking of us. I love to think of that! We get discouraged and disheartened sometimes and we feel almost unconsciously that we are left to battle alone, nobody caring. But there is One Who cares and “He careth for you.” Cast your care upon Him, for He cares, and really,

brethren and sisters, He cares more than we think. Sometimes when we think nobody cares, they do care. But Jesus is thinking about us all the time.

When He went back to heaven, He said, “It is expedient for you that I go.” And up in heaven, what is He doing? He is preparing a place for us; He is ministering for us; He is making intercession for us; He is thinking about us. And when He comes again—why does He come? For us! He said, “I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.” When you love anyone, you like to be with them. Dear brethren and sisters, Jesus loves His own that are in the world, and He wants us to be with Him. He is thinking about it up in heaven, getting a place ready for us. Still to this day, “Having loved His own that are in the world, He loves them unto the end.” I am so glad of it this morning, for I am down in this world. It does me good to know that there is someone great and powerful in the heavens Who loves me. May that thought of the tender love of Jesus bring joy to every heart this morning. Let it melt away all bitterness, all discouragement and depression. Let every discouraging thought be cast behind us. Jesus, the loving Saviour, loves you this morning, and He sends anew from His blessed Word the message, “I love you.”

Do you know—I say it reverently—I think Jesus is just a little anxious about His loved ones now; for suppose when He comes for His loved ones He should find some of them not ready? I am sure that Jesus is thinking about it—what if some of them should not be ready when I come? And that is why it is that in all the gospels He sounds that note of caution when talking about His second coming. In Matthew, Mark and Luke, the three writers of the gospels who especially deal with His second coming and the signs of His appearing, when they record Jesus’ words for that last generation of His church that would see the signs, every time is given the warning, “Watch.” As we are told in Mark, chapter 13, “Watch and pray”, “Watch and pray”. Why, Jesus is anxious about it! On that last night with His disciples in the garden He told them to “watch and pray”; He was so anxious that they should be prepared for that crisis in His life and in their lives. They lost so much because they did not “watch and pray”. Jesus excused them in His love; He said, “The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Instead of watching they were drowsy. You know it is a drowsy time

in the world to-day It is the time of all times when it is easy to go to sleep spiritually. And Jesus, thinking about His coming, watching from heaven the progress of His work, seeing His angels treading every path of earth, searching out the honest-hearted, sending the Spirit to speak to every honest heart, is thinking of these words that He spoke for His church of the last days, "Watch, watch and pray"

We will read only one of these texts, that one found in Matt 24 :44. "Therefore, be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh" Dear friends, he is speaking really not for the world but for Seventh-Day Adventists—for His church. In this connexion He says that some of His servants will be saying in their hearts, "My Lord delayeth His coming". There are thousands in this wide, wicked world that care nothing for the coming of the Lord There are Adventists who in their hearts are saying, "There is quite a time yet, years and years must pass yet, plenty of time." It is so easy to say, Five years or ten years I do not know! But whenever my thoughts begin to fix upon five years, ten years, fifteen years, I hear the voice of Jesus say, "Be ready, in such an hour as ye think not I am coming"

It is so easy to look back thirty years and think, well, thus far only have we come these thirty years; it may be a long time yet But, my friends, that is just where Jesus says to Seventh-Day Adventists to-day, "Be ready, be ready". Do not say in your heart, it is delayed; be ready The Lord said from the beginning that this message was to go as a witness to all people. It has taken quite a little time to get us "ranged up", ready to carry it to everybody; now the temptation on our part is to look at the great world field and think, well, it has taken us about thirty or forty years to really get into it, now it may take as many years to do the work That is where Jesus says to Seventh-Day Adventists who see all around them the signs He has mentioned here, "Be ready; in such an hour as you think not I will come" As I look at it, I can see with the physical eye, just the natural vision, how quickly God can finish this work We are seeing things we never thought of seeing five, ten, or fifteen years ago. We see that God of a truth is speeding up the work; He is fulfilling that promise made back in the days of Joel Seven or eight hundred years before Christ, when speaking of the very last days, it says, "It shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: and also upon the servants and upon the hand-maids in those days will I pour out My Spirit"

There is to be a quick work done; He has to get His church ready for the task, then He will show signs and wonders before the great and terrible day of the Lord. "And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered" My friends, it does not take the Lord very long to save a sinner. He pours out His Spirit upon all flesh, upon all mankind. To Him the whole world and all the nations are but a little dust in the balance This world is not too big for Him; He can pour His Spirit upon all flesh And "whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call." Brethren, I love that verse I have seen recently something in it that I never saw before. God has given the message of deliverance for the last days in the remnant church In Rev 12 : 17, we are told that the remnant "keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" That is the remnant church.

Brethren, God has delivered to us the message of deliverance in these last days You know, somehow we find it all over the world continually—awakened souls, upon whose hearts the Spirit of God has come, searching for the remnant church in which is the message of deliverance

Last summer I was up in Nyassaland, in the heart of Africa There we find millions of heathen in darkness. The brethren there told us of a chief who came to the magistrate and said, "I want an Adventist school!" "All right," the

magistrate said, "Go to the Adventist missionary" The chief went back to his village and the Roman Catholic priest was after him The priest took the man back to the magistrate, and said, "He wants us, not the Adventists; we will give him a school" "Well," the magistrate said, "Who do you want?" And the chief said, "I think I will take the Adventist" After a while the priest said, "He will take us now" The magistrate asked the chief again whether he wanted the Adventist or not, and the chief said, "I think I will take the Adventist" "Well," said the magistrate, "do you understand that that means no more beer—that is what they will teach you—no more tobacco; they will teach you that. Now, which do you want?" "Well," the chief said, "I think I will take the Adventist" My friends, he was searching for the message of deliverance "Now," the magistrate said, "Do you know what you are calling for if you take the Adventist? That means no more drink." "Yes," the chief replied "No smoke." "Yes," said the chief "Now which will you take?" "I will take the Adventist" That man's heart was touched by the Spirit of God and he wanted deliverance for his people.

As I travel over the world, I find actually that this remnant church seems about the only one that has the full message of deliverance A Dutch Reform missionary, the wife of one of the officials of the Mission said to me, "We try to get our preachers and teachers to give up tobacco and the native beer, the curse of the village, but we cannot get them to do it. We try to make them promise, but we cannot get them to give it up How do you get on?" I said "They all give it up, not only the preachers and teachers but all the converts, they all give it up" She thought that was wonderful. It is the power of the living God; it is the message of deliverance for the last days. God has given that message of deliverance to the remnant church. Brethren and sisters, may it deliver us from every evil way and then may we be true servants of the living God in carrying that message of deliverance to other souls. They are waiting for us in the darkness.

Just recently we have had word from one region of South America where, for fourteen years, the Indians have pushed back every other society They said, "No, we are waiting for the God-man to come" We sent a missionary in fifteen years ago and he died, but he taught them just a little. For fourteen years they called, and we were so slow. At last, in fact it was last summer, our workers got back in among those people. It was many days' journey Finally they reached the region of the Indians. The two workers were so weary that they decided they would sleep before looking for anyone They had just hung up their hammocks in a deserted hut when along came an Indian. He went to them and said, "Are you the Davis missionary?" That was the name of the missionary who had died fifteen years ago "Yes," they said, "We are the Davis missionaries" And that man of the wilds said, "I want to be a good man"

Is not that a welcome for a teacher of the message? Somehow, as God pours out His Spirit over the earth and touches hearts, men and women want a message of deliverance, not a philosophy, not an argument; they want a Gospel that has power to deliver souls from sin. Brethren and sisters, God has given to us that message for the world; let us keep it bright in our hearts Jesus says to us, "Be ready" He does not say, get ready over yonder; He says, be ready now There is a wonderful difference in it as we face the close of probation Some day, we say to ourselves, we are going to put away faults and failings We are going to get over them just before probation closes Under the power of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, we are going to be lifted from them Jesus says, "Be ready" None of us has promise of to-morrow

I was preaching from this text over in Tasmania, South Australia. I had left the meeting hall to take a train, and the very words of this text, "Be ready, be ready," were ringing in my ears Brother Watson and I were riding in a closed cab to the railway station, when suddenly a run-away hospital ambulance came almost upon us Somehow it skidded on the tramway and missed our cab by a hair's

breadth, and then smashed through the iron lamp-post. I thought, another hair's breadth and surely it would have been essential to my eternal salvation to have been ready just at that moment.

To us whom He loves He says, "Be ready, for in such an hour as you think not, I am coming." Not based merely on the uncertainties of life, but based upon the fact that one of these days our names will be called in the judgment which began in 1844. We know from the prophecy of Daniel that some day it will come to the living, it will come to the church of God, and some day our names will be called by the angels, and Jesus Who loves us will be anxious to know that over against our names in the record book is written "Forgiven" across every sin. That is why He says to us, "Be ready."

Keep your sins forgiven. Remember the parable of the ten virgins. They all had lamps, they were all Adventists, they were all expecting to meet Him. We, as Seventh-Day Adventists have got the lamp, and, as we love to say, we have got the truth. The doctrine is all right—not that we know it all, we are still learners—but in the parable they needed something beside the lamp. It was oil. What does the oil represent? The oil of His love, the real Christian experience, the converting power of God in the life, that is what shines, that is what makes the Christian light, the light of Jesus in the world to-day, the character of Jesus in the soul. The converted man and woman with a Christian experience within—that is the oil. We need the lamp, we need the right doctrine, but we not only need the truth, we need the power of the truth in our lives. In the parable they all went forth to meet the bridegroom, all expecting to be ready, but suddenly the cry was raised, "He is coming, meet Him." Some of them awakened to the fact that while they did have some oil at the beginning, they had lost it; they had lost the experience, the oil had burned out. They wanted to be ready, and they said to the others, "Give us oil," but they replied, "Not so, you must get it for yourself." How true that is! We cannot give the experience to one another, we may help one another toward it. We must do that, and we long to help each other, but actually every heart must know God, every soul must know the forgiveness of sin for himself. The converted wife cannot stand for the unconverted husband in that day; he must know that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses him from all sin.

"And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with Him, and the door was shut." Those that were ready were saved; those that were getting ready were lost.

I read here in the Spirit of prophecy: "Be always ready, in the evening, in the morning, and at noon, that when the cry is heard, 'Behold the bridegroom cometh,' you may, even though awakened out of sleep, go forth to meet him with your lamps trimmed and burning." It may be at morning, it may be at noon, that my name will be called. Suppose it is called at noon and there is some wrong thing in my life that I am waiting till evening to put right. Why, my brethren, it is too late, isn't it?—an eternity too late.

Let us be ready. How? We are told in 1 John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Brethren and sisters, that is the way. If we confess, what will He do?—He will forgive. The moment sin springs into the life, that moment, my friends, we are to confess it. The priest was to take the blood of the sacrifice warm into the sanctuary. Let us not put off confession of sin. The moment we find the Spirit of God convicts us of sin, that instant let us have it forgiven through the blood of Jesus. Let us form the habit of keeping right with God. Do you know, when we will do that faithfully, we shall find in it a power to keep us from repeating sin. The moment you sin, that moment, fly to Jesus. Let Him forgive it and take it out of your heart and out of your life.

Down in India, where Brother Williams lives, thousands every year die of the bite of a poisonous serpent. The man is out in the field, a cobra strikes him. If he had a remedy to apply to counteract it, some carbolic solution to inject

to neutralize the poison, his life could be saved but he has nothing. By the time his friends get him to a place of refuge, that poison has worked all through his system; it is too late and he is dead. If they had had a remedy instantly to apply, they could have saved his life. Dear friends, sin is the bite of the old serpent. The only thing to do is that instant to take it to Jesus and have it forgiven. It is hard, I know. It is a hard thing in our homes. With the wear and tear of life we do get irritable, irritable with those that we love the best; and I know it is hard to turn right around and say, I am sorry. It is easy to sing about it, it is easy to think about it, but it takes grace for a preacher like myself to say to his wife, "Wife I am sorry I spoke that way." My wife and I never quarrel, I think if I scolded my wife, it would break her heart; but sometimes I feel conscious of answering with a little irony, a little shortness in the tone. I go away to my office and it comes to me that my wife must have noticed that, it must have hurt her. Well now, brethren, it is hard to go straight back home and say to the wife, "I am sorry." It is easier to try to get around it. I have gone home and tried to be especially good to my wife so she would know I was sorry and I would not have to say it. Well, these wives take us just as we are, but it doesn't get me out of trouble. I know there is only one way and that is to go straight back and say, "Wife, I am sorry I spoke as I did. Forgive me." Of course, she does, and there is something that comes down warm from heaven and glowing in your heart—it is the forgiving grace of Jesus that cleanses from sin.

It is hard to say to the children, "I am sorry." The devil tempts us to think, "Well, they needed rebuke and reproof, and I was only doing my duty." Yes, but the Lord didn't want you to put irritation and impatience into it. And when you see you have done it, it is hard to say to John or Mary, "I am sorry." But I will tell you, brethren, that that is the only way out for fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, and churchmembers. Jesus says, "Be ready, be ready."

Never will I forget one illustration of the text. I heard it when I was living in North England years ago. A widowed mother's eldest son had run away to sea just as he was where he could have been a help to her. For fourteen years she prayed—and a mother's prayers go to the ends of the earth. One evening she was sitting in her cottage and heard a noise at the window. She looked up. There was a man at the window with a bearded face looking in. She was startled. Then she heard a voice saying, "Mother". She knew that voice. She said, "John, John, come in." He said, "Mother, I will never step across your door until you tell me you have forgiven me for running away." "Why," she said, "come in here, I forgave you fourteen years ago; I have only been longing for you to come." Oh, dear friends, nineteen hundred years ago on the cross of Calvary, Jesus made provision for the forgiveness of all your sins. You do not have to plead with him to be willing; He is willing now and anxious for you to be willing. Let Him have everything to do, dear friends, and know this morning that He has cleansed us from all sin, and then by His grace let us keep it so and be ready every day.

COLLEGE RE-OPENS AUGUST 24th.

All young people desirous of attending College should write
for application forms to

THE PRINCIPAL

Stanborough College, Watford, Herts.



South British Conference

President : F. A. Spearing Sec-Treasurer : J. H. Parkin
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 Vice-P. for Ireland : W. J. Young F.M.S. : B. Belton
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WE are thankful to be able to report that the cause of God is still onward in this field. Our Father in heaven has been pleased to bless the efforts of conference workers and lay-members. We gladly acknowledge our indebtedness to Him for the help He has given, realizing that without Him we can do no good thing.

TERRITORY.

The territory of the South British Conference takes in that section of England which stretches from Cornwall in the south-west, to Norfolk in the east; the principality of Wales; the Irish Free State; and Northern Ireland.

MEMBERSHIP.

South England Section

During the past four years 862 persons have been won for the message in South England alone. These, with 173 others who have been transferred to us, have all been added to the church. This represents a gain of approximately 33½% for the period. Last year 154 were baptized, 36 received by vote, and 44 transferred from other fields, making a total of 234. During the year 14 of our members fell asleep, 39 were transferred to other sections, and 68 left the movement for one reason or another. Those who are at rest are not lost to the cause; their names are in the Book of Life, and they are safe for eternity. Those who have received letters of transfer are, presumably, still within the fold. But the large number who have left the movement causes us much concern. We must study how to instruct our converts when they accept the faith so that they will stand the test of time, and be prepared to meet the trials and difficulties that are the lot of the Advent people. In spite of these heavy losses, we have a net gain for 1925 of 113.

Wales and Ireland

As Wales and Ireland have but recently united with us, we give only one year's figures. We are glad to say that after showing a decrease in recent years, Wales made a gain for 1925 of 20. Unfortunately Ireland shows a loss of 35, but we trust that this will be the last time we have to report a loss for this section of our field. It is only fair to state that while South England received by letter about as many as were dismissed in this way, Wales and Ireland lost by transfer to other fields 18 and 16 respectively, while they received only two each.

One of the most striking features of our work has been the large evangelistic meetings that have been held in various parts of our field. In Belfast, Ireland, Elder S. F. Tonks conducted meetings in a cinema seating 750 persons. This cinema was filled from Sunday to Sunday, and at times many were unable to find seats.

Pastor O. M. Dorland of Cardiff, Pastor W. P. Prescott of Plymouth, and Pastor D. Morrison of Bristol have also held quite large meetings. At Hove Pastor G. Hyde held large public effort in the town hall, and later he took the

Dome at Brighton for two week-night meetings, there being present on each occasion well-nigh 1,500 people. For the past three years Pastor W. Maudsley, now vice-president of the North British Conference for Scotland, carried on successful work in Wimbledon, first in a cinema, seating about 1,000 persons, and afterwards in a neighbouring theatre, about twice as large. Two and one-half years ago Pastor L. W. Barras, British Union Evangelist, conducted a series of meetings in the Finsbury Park Cinema, and had upwards of 2,000 present on the average, the maximum attendance being 2,600. Last year he had a second campaign, and this year a third in the same hall, each time with good results. Next year, D. V., we shall have services in the Queen's Hall, the most representative hall in London. The Queen's Hall has already been booked, and we are hoping and praying that the meetings will prove the most successful we have ever had in this city.

OUR FINANCES—TITHES.

The tithe for the past two years in the three sections of our field was as follows:

	1924	1925	Incr	Decr
South England	£11,283	£12,079	£795	—
Wales	£1,920	£1,730	—	£190
Ireland	£738	£679	—	£59
South British Conf	£13,941	£14,488	£546	—

We are glad to get this increase in South England because of the very heavy expense involved in our public campaigns. The decrease in Wales is not surprising in view of the economic conditions there. It would be surprising if there were no decrease. This year, so far, the amount of tithe received has fallen short of our needs. Unless there is a marked improvement during this quarter it will be necessary to curtail our autumn efforts very materially. We appeal to all our people to remember their obligations to the Lord in this matter. The promised blessing still holds good.

MISSION OFFERINGS.

The total mission offerings for the whole conference amounted to £8,902 for 1925 as compared with £8,159 for 1924, an increase of £743. Of this gain, Big Week brought in £23, the Missionary Volunteers £41, the Sabbath-school £60 and the Harvest Ingathering Campaign £660. The Annual and miscellaneous offerings each experienced a drop, but this was almost equalled by the Week of Sacrifice offering of £390.

These figures are very encouraging and inspiring, and represent a good deal of sacrifice. They show very clearly that our members believe with all their heart in missionary work abroad as well as at home. What they are unable to give, they do their best to get.

It is interesting to note that the increase in gifts for foreign missions is 9% over 1924, while the increase in tithe is 4%. Twelve months ago we raised in mission offerings a sum equal to 15/- for every £1 of our tithe used in this field. In 1925

we passed over to the mission treasury 16/6 for every £1 of our tithe used in the home field. We believe this fact will greatly cheer our brethren of the General Conference and of the European Division, upon whose hearts the burden of a world-work weighs so heavily. We take this opportunity of thanking these brethren for the large appropriations we have received from year to year. We appreciate very much this help, realizing that without it we could not have accomplished as much as we have. We are grateful to God, too, for the splendid spirit of co-operation and devotion manifested by our people, workers and lay-members alike. We sometimes call this the "Advent spirit". That is what it is; and without this Advent spirit it would be impossible to carry on.

OUR DEPARTMENTS

We are fortunate in having at the head of our various departments men of experience and devotion. At the treasury department we have Brother J. H. Parkin, who has won his way to the hearts of the people throughout the field. His kindness and tact and efficiency, and other excellent qualities, make him a valuable asset to the cause we love.

Brother Goodall is rendering yeoman-like service as head of the Sabbath-school, Missionary Volunteer, and Home Missionary Departments. Brother Belton takes care of the colporteurs, and we know his timely visits and words of counsel are a source of strength to those whom he seeks to help. Dr W. A. Ruble, our medical secretary, and Brother G. Baird, educational secretary, have both other and heavier responsibilities. We are glad to get from them the help they feel able to give.

With these brethren to lead out, and with our willing and efficient office staff, we can, with the blessing of God, accomplish great things in this phase of our work.

In speaking of the work of our departments it will be unnecessary to say more than a word or two about each, as the departmental secretaries will present reports.

SABBATH-SCHOOL.

Our Sabbath-school membership has more than kept pace with the membership of the church. In 1924 there were 192 more members of the Sabbath-school than of the church. Last year there were 257 more in the Sabbath-school than in the church. The missing members, we are glad to say, have been reduced from 761 to 456 in the twelve months. The importance of the Sabbath-school as an evangelizing agency is seen in the fact that 102 Sabbath-school members were baptized during 1925. The number for the previous year was 70. Reference has already been made to the Sabbath-school offerings for missions.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER

In 1925 there were 36 Missionary Volunteer societies, and 754 members, as compared with 28 societies and 702 members in 1924. The Young People's offering to missions has grown in the year from £107 to £148.

HOME MISSIONARY.

The Home Missionary is perhaps the most comprehensive of our departments. It takes in not some members, or a section of the church, or even the whole church for a part of the time, but every member, and all the young people 365 days in the year. Not only in the Harvest Ingathering and Big Week Campaigns has there been progress, but in soul-winning efforts as well.

FIELD MISSIONARY.

The report of book and periodical sales for 1925 as compared with the previous year is decidedly encouraging. £8,242 worth of subscription books was sold in 1925, and £6,421 worth in

1924, a gain of 29%, while the value of periodicals sold increased from £4,261 to £5,100, nearly 20%. But these figures do not tell the whole story. Not only have many thousands of truth-laden books and papers been placed in the homes, but much personal work has been done by our evangelistic colporteurs. Scores in our conference have been led into the light of truth through the printed page, and by means of this personal work.

EDUCATIONAL

There are four church schools in the South British Conference. One is situated at Watford, a second at Plymouth, and the other two in London. Details with regard to these will be given by our secretary. We rejoice that all of these schools have prospered under the guidance of God during the year. We believe the principles of Christian education laid down in the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy are sound. We trust the day will soon come when many more of our children will be able to attend our schools. We hope, too, an ever-increasing number of our young people will wend their way to Stanborough College to get the training that will fit them for a place in the work.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

We are convinced that more attention should be given to the medical phase of our work. Not only should we recommend those not of our faith, when sick, to go to The Stanboroughs for treatment and instruction in healthful living; we should also strive to live in harmony with the laws of health ourselves, and help our neighbours to do the same.

PROSPECTS FOR 1926

The prospects for the present year are bright. Already a goodly number have been baptized. The following baptisms have been reported up to the time of writing:

North London	42	Southampton	13
South London	23	Cardiff	16
Plymouth	33	Other places	27
Bristol and District	20		—
Belfast	11	TOTAL	185

There are doubtless many more who will follow their Lord in this ordinance before the year closes. But ought we to be satisfied with a net gain of 100 or 200 members in a year? With fifty workers and 2,600 members we should surely accomplish much more than we do. The note of advance for our world work was sounded at the recent General Conference. From representatives of every section of the harvest field the cry was "Forward"! Are we in the homeland to lag behind, or ought we not to redouble our efforts to win souls?

The Lord is willing to work mightily through us; but we who are workers must confess our backslidings and mistakes, and seek forgiveness of sins at the throne of grace. When we have done this, we shall be able to help our people in the churches to come up higher; and the spirit of wisdom and power will attend our work, and thousands will be converted in a single year. Why should we not have this experience? In greater Berlin there is a population of 3,820,000, and we have 2,149 members, that is one member for every 1,750 of the population. In the city of London, only one person in 10,000 is a Seventh-Day Adventist. Why should there be so many more members in Berlin than in London? We should have at the very least ten times our present membership in this great metropolis. Just as the Lord promises to multiply grace to us, so He can multiply our numbers. Let us trust Him to do it, and at the same time put ourselves in the place where we can co-operate with Him.

There is just one other matter I should mention in this report. For many years it has been obvious to all that Seventh-Day Adventists should have a representative church building in the city of London. We have three churches in London but not one of them is large enough for a central church; nor are they in any way centrally located. North London is more conveniently situated for this purpose than any other place, and our committee have voted to secure a site or building in North London as soon as possible. The fact that we have between 200 and 300 members in that neighbourhood without a home of their own, serves to emphasize the need of a suitable structure. The General Conference Committee at the request of the British delegation to the Milwaukee session, have appointed a commission of three—Pastors W. A. Spicer, J. L. Shaw, and C. K. Meyers—to study with us the situation in this city and give us their counsel as to where the building should be situated, what kind of a structure should be erected, etc. Not only have the General Conference Committee taken this action, but they are prepared to grant us very considerable financial help in the project. The vice-presidents of the various divisions waived all their claims to help from the Church Extension Fund for this year in order that London may have the "right of way." We fully appreciate the action taken by the General Conference Committee and by these other brethren, and thank God that at last a monument is to be erected to His name in old London, the world metropolis, worthy of the great cause we represent. The North London members are doing their part to raise funds for this building. We invite all our members to subscribe to the building fund as the church will belong to us all.

Our closing word: The erection of a representative church in this city should prove not only a blessing to North London, but a mighty impetus to our people throughout the conference. Let us rise up as one man to finish quickly the work committed to us. God "will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness."

F. A. SPEARING.

Vice-President's Report for Wales

I WAS called to take charge of this field at the beginning of the year. I had to slip into Pastor Meredith's shoes, which I found rather large.

Out of a population of nearly 3,000,000 we have a membership of 365. We deplore the fact that this small number is split up into as many as eighteen churches and companies. In the Pembroke Dock church some of the members are sixty miles apart. This fact makes our work exceedingly difficult, particularly as our workers are so few in number.

The only ordained ministers are Pastor T. H. Cooper and myself. Brother J. G. Bevan and Sisters E. Guntrip and O. C. Davies have been assisting me in my effort at Cardiff. Sister Buckle has done good service with Pastor Cooper at Swansea. Sister Cooper was doing part time work in Hereford.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in attending to the needs of the various churches and companies. I have sometimes conducted ordinances ten times in one quarter. I appeal for more workers, and if at all possible an ordained minister also.

In Cardiff we have had an attendance to our meeting of 850. For many weeks the attendance has averaged 200. Already sixteen new members have been baptized, and ten more are expected shortly to participate in this ordinance. Last year twenty-seven new members were added to the Cardiff Church, and several others joined with us in various parts of the field.

We thank the canvassers for their splendid work through-

out the country. Were it not for them many large towns would yet be unwarned with the truths of our message.

The economic situation in Wales is exceedingly serious. Many of our members have been and are even now suffering severe hardships as a result of the coal strike. Quite a number of our people have been so reduced in circumstances that now they are existing upon one meal a day.

Because of this situation our Cardiff members have been refused permission to gather funds for the Harvest Ingathering campaign. An appeal has been made to the committee against this decision, and your prayers are earnestly solicited on our behalf in this matter.

O. M. DORLAND.



Another Year's Work in Ireland

WE esteem it a privilege to render a report of the Irish division of the South British Conference for the year ended December 31, 1925. Ireland is predominantly a Roman Catholic country. Of the total population of 4,390,219 (1911), 3,242,219 are Roman Catholic.

Last year was the 40th anniversary of the beginning of the work in Erin's Isle. The first church building was dedicated in Belfast in 1909. At the present time we have two churches, two companies and about fifty isolated members. From this it is evident that much has yet to be done. We are glad that in the good providences of the Lord, Ireland is not left wholly without being warned. The faithful and courageous colporteurs have left the message in almost every part of the country, both north and south. We sincerely pray that their labours have not been in vain.

Our membership at the end of 1924 was 182, unfortunately a decrease of thirty-five on this number has to be recorded for last year. The thirty-five members taken off the books were made up as follows: thirteen were transferred to South England, one died and the remaining number were dropped. This decrease is in some measure due to emigration. Members go away to other countries and, in spite of the fact that much is done to keep in touch with them, are lost to the cause. Last year we added eight to our membership, one by baptism, three by vote and four by letter. Certainly this is a very small number, but I would like to remind you that Ireland is a good supply centre for other fields. Let me mention a few of those who, although not with us in Ireland, are yet of us. Brother Baird, the College Principal; Dr. J. J. Bell, South Africa; Pastor S. Joyce, Union Field Missionary Secretary, and his two sons, now labouring in London; Pastor G. Keough who is in charge of our work in Egypt; Pastor McAvoy at The Stanboroughs; Pastor R. Mussen; Pastor W. McClements now in Nigeria, and his brother Dr. S. McClements at The Stanboroughs. There may be several more who have left Ireland for foreign parts. Pastor Whiteside is still left with us in Ireland.

Practically no aggressive work was done during 1925. Towards the end of October, however, Pastor S. F. Tonks commenced an effort in the Picture House, Royal Avenue, Belfast. These meetings were well attended.

Pastor R. Whiteside has been caring for the work in Dublin, where we have a small but loyal band of workers.

We are glad to be able to report some progress financially in spite of the very heavy trade depression during 1925.

In closing I would say that now is the opportune time to make advance in Erin's Isle. The outlook is as bright as the promises of God. We have our perplexing problems, but are not pessimistic. God is with His people to-day. I appeal for an interest in your prayers on behalf of Ireland.

W. J. YOUNG.
President



North British Conference

President : Alfred E. Bacon. Sec -Treasurer : W G Baldry
 Vice-Pres for Scotland : W. Maudsley F M. Sec : D Davies
 H.M., M V and S S Sec : H. W McCrow
 Office Address : 22 Zulla Road, Magdala Road, Nottingham



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is indeed a privilege to be assembled once more in Derby, for another annual conference; and to render to you at this morning session a brief account of the progress of the great advent movement in our North British Conference. It is a great opportunity for us, as we assemble in these solemn days—when the industrial world in this fair land of ours is passing under such a time of stress and strain—to be privileged to gather together under such favourable and peaceful conditions. We are living in very difficult times, and every occasion on which we meet in peace and liberty and joy should be taken as a special favour of God, which we should well improve.

The angels are still holding the four winds, and the Lord is waiting to place His seal on the foreheads of His chosen people. How much longer probation will linger, we cannot tell; how soon the final storm may burst, no one can foretell. The world is rushing on to its final doom, but amid all the din and turmoil, sounds forth in trumpet tones the timely message of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: "Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Within the borders of the North British Conference we have a population of nearly twenty-four and a half million people. To us has been entrusted the stupendous task of carrying to these millions of souls the light of present truth. To accomplish this will call for divine wisdom and guidance, together with the whole-hearted consecration and co-operation of our entire membership. God has richly blessed the efforts of our labourers this past year, for which we are truly thankful. A turn seems to have come in the tide of our evangelism, and we are convinced that this is only the beginning of great things which the Lord is going to accomplish through His chosen instruments. Then if every member in the conference could realize the goal of winning only *ONE* soul for the truth this coming year, this, coupled with the more efficient and effective efforts of our ministers and Bible-workers, would bring such an increase and blessing into each life, as well as every department of the cause, that we should experience the beginning of Pentecost. This is no idle talk, or fanciful dream. It is a glorious possibility, and should be a living reality; for only thus can the work be finished on time. God help us to go from this conference determined by His grace, that as far as the North British Conference is concerned, this *GAOL* shall be reached.

We have twenty-eight churches and twenty companies, with a total membership of 1,818. Since we met in conference one year ago we have added to our numbers 164 by baptism, 27 by vote, 8 by foreign letter, and 15 from the South British Conference, making a total of 214. During the same period we have lost 44 by apostasy, and 20 of our members fell asleep in Jesus, among them Brother Horspool, elder of the Bradford church, Brother Tristram, elder of the Worcester church, and Brother Schuil, deacon of the Newcastle church. We lost 7 by foreign letter, and 27 by transfer to the South British Conference—total 98. This gives us a net gain of 16 for the year.

The number of labourers in the field is 27, 10 ordained ministers, 3 licentiates, 13 Bible-workers, and 1 other worker. About October 1st, 3 or 4 additional workers will be added to the field force, for the autumn and winter aggressive campaigns. These will be mostly those who graduated in the spring from the College, and who have been spending the summer months in the canvassing field. We have made one change

in the personnel of our labourers—for reasons of health, Brother Mussen has been moved to the south, and we are glad to welcome in his place, as the vice-president of our conference, Pastor W. Maudsley of Wimbledon.

FINANCES

Our tithe of £8,789 3s. 7d. is £538 5s 7d less than the previous year, but when we remember that last year Scotland had a windfall of £300, and North England £190, a total of £490, the loss is not really quite so great. Then when we stop to consider the serious state of trade in this industrial part of the kingdom, we are grateful matters are not worse. Given a speedy peace, and a little time of prosperity, I am sure our tithes and offerings will reveal a gain rather than a loss at the close of the present year.

SABBATH-SCHOOL OFFERINGS.—£1,693 6s. 5d., a loss of £164 2s. 10d. *YOUNG PEOPLE'S OFFERINGS.* £70. 19s. 1d a loss of 17s. 3d. *BIG WEEK,* £146 11s. 4d., a loss of £57 15s. 10d. *WEEK OF SACRIFICE,* £236. 2s.-11d., a gain of £111 7s. 7d.

HARVEST INGATHERING, £3,170. 8s 6d, a gain of £469. 12s. *ANNUAL OFFERING,* £182. 13s 9d., a loss of £90 1s. 11d. *MISCELLANEOUS OFFERINGS,* £9 19s 2d, a gain of £1 10. 5d.

TOTAL OFFERINGS, £5,510. 1s 2d, a gain for the year of £287 12s 2d. In addition to these offerings we have raised £41 17s 8d., for the endowed bed, and £39 13s. 10d., for the "Missionary Worker." Our book and paper sales for 1925 were £12,874 7s. 7d., and for the first seven months of the present year are £6,933 17s. 4d.

From February 12th to 18th a very profitable colporteurs' Institute convened in the South Manchester church, kindly placed at our disposal for the occasion. We rejoice to see so many of our members selling the shilling books, also the papers, "Present Truth" and "Good Health," but there is plenty of scope for much greater efforts along these lines. However, what we would like to witness is a much larger army of consecrated men and women devoting their whole time to the circulation of our large books. The Lord has blessed and is blessing abundantly those who are doing good, faithful service in these days of strike, with its vast amount of unemployment. These noble workers have had a very prominent place in our prayers, especially during the last few weeks. Soon, these devoted seed-sowers will come "rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them."

The past school year saw a good number of our young people in attendance at the College, and we are glad to say that practically all made satisfactory progress. The coming year we hope will witness a much larger attendance from the north.

Another Harvest Ingathering campaign is approaching. The prospects are that it will be harder than ever before to get our *GOAL*. But do not forget, we have a *MIGHTY GOD WHO IS ABLE* to give success under the most adverse circumstances. Let us go forth in His name and strength, determined to do our best, and success will be ours; the *GOAL WILL BE* reached, and the work in the regions beyond advanced.

Before closing this report, we would like to invite all present to remember in their prayers our afflicted members who would be with us but for sickness; also those who are

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THE EDITOR'S PAGE

SHORTEST POSTAL ADDRESS:

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Editor: A. S. MAXWELL.

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August 13, 1926

WE are publishing this issue of the WORKER a few days earlier than usual so that our people who were unable to be at the conferences may have a taste of the good things enjoyed there at the earliest moment possible. Further reports will appear in the next issue.

JUDGING by what we have been told by scores of people, these two conferences have been "the best yet". Certainly they should have been, for never before has this field been blessed with such strong help from America, Europe and Africa at one time. It seemed almost too good to be true that Brethren W. A. Spicer, J. L. Shaw, N. Z. Town, C. K. Meyers, L. H. Christian, W. T. Bartlett, W. E. Read and twenty other missionaries should be present at the same time, but they were there, and God used them to bring great blessing to all. At the close of the meetings beaming faces and hearty handshakes told of souls going home with renewed courage, enlarged vision and re-kindled love for the cause of God.

IT would be impossible, and certainly unwise, to make comparisons between the north and south meetings. Everybody in the north felt that they had had the best meetings, and the folk in the south said the same. They were both right! Having been present at both conferences, we can testify to the excellent spirit that prevailed everywhere.

THE closing meeting of the South British Conference was given over to the missionaries, under the leadership of Pastor W. E. Read. It was an inspiration to listen to them, and we hope to be able to publish some of their reports in the near future. During the meeting a photograph was taken of the group on the platform—a unique gathering, representative of East and West Africa, Egypt and Mesopotamia. Copies of this memorable picture, (which, by the way, was developed, printed and mounted before the meeting closed), can be obtained from The Stanborough Press Ltd. The size, mounted, is 12ins by 10ins and the price is 2/6 each, post free.

President's Report

(Continued from page 7)

detained on account of financial circumstances. We believe the Lord will bless all such and give them a share in the blessing we are receiving. We would like also to extend our hearty thanks to all our church officers for their devoted, consecrated services. This noble band of men and women make possible the ultimate success of many of our church activities. We thank God for their loyalty and co-operation, and know that in the time of final rewards, they will hear from the Master, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

"Cast not away, therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after we have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry." "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified," ALFRED E. BACON

North British Conference Field Missionary Secretary's Report

WE are glad to report that during the past year the number of colporteurs has increased. At present we have approximately forty-six on our register. North England has forty-three, and Scotland three. Unfortunately several of this number are part-time, or small-book and paper workers, leaving only eleven regular big book canvassers in the whole of the North British Conference.

We have also twelve student colporteurs in the field, ten in Scotland, under the leadership of Brother G. D. King, and two in North England. This brings the grand total on our register to fifty-eight.

With a population of over twenty-four millions we are far from being satisfied with this number of regular colporteurs in the North British field, and we would, therefore, invite our brethren and sisters to pray earnestly that the Lord by His Holy Spirit will impress all those who have the talent and ability to join the ranks of the colporteur army and help finish the work of God in the earth.

From July 1925 to June 1926 this noble band of self-supporting missionaries was able to distribute books and papers to the value of £8,823, a total increase over the corresponding period of 1924 and 1925 of £1,851. To this amount North England contributed £6,972, an increase of £1,410, and Scotland, £1,941, an increase of £440. These figures give us courage and confidence in the Lord.

It is impossible to estimate, however, the full value of the work that has been done by the colporteur. When we think that £8,823 worth of our message-filled books and papers have been sold, figures became inadequate to express their great value in the advancement of God's truth for this time. It means that thousands of books have been scattered among the people, and still a greater number of homes visited by our consecrated workers. Who can tell the results of such great missionary enterprise?

The work is making good progress. The colporteurs have been convinced that the work they are doing is ordained of God, and the Spirit of God has certainly been poured out in a rich measure upon them.

Two of our faithful colporteurs have been laid to rest. Brother E. J. Young of Birmingham and Brother E. Horspool of Bradford. Their works will surely follow them.

In closing our report, we would invite our brethren and sisters to remember our faithful colporteurs at the throne of grace. In these trying times, their task is not at all an easy one. It is only as they go from house to house with a burden for souls upon their hearts that real success can be theirs.

We trust, also, that others who have consecrated their lives to the service of the Master, will be constrained to join our ranks, becoming real evangelists, and winning many souls through the books they leave in the homes of the people.

D. DAVIES.

North British Conference Field Missionary Secretary.

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SUNSET CALENDAR.

	LONDON	EDINBURGH	CARDIFF	NOTTINGHAM
August 20th	8 14	8 29	8 26	8 22
August 27th	7 59	8 22	8 11	8 6