

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

“Arise and Shine”

“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.”

SURELY it can be said to-day that spiritual darkness like a funeral pall has settled down over the earth, and that gross darkness such as this world has never known, has covered the people. But the message in this text is that when the darkness is greatest upon the earth then the light of God's truth will shine forth the brightest.

Regardless of the conditions we face, I think it is not a time for us to be taking counsel with our fears, or thinking too much about the obstacles in the way. It is time for the people of God to be reckoning more and more upon the omnipotent power of our great Leader. “We must have a true, abiding faith that this message will go forth with increasing importance until the close of time.”
—Vol. 9, page 154.

Someone has said recently that this is not the twilight of missions, but the noontide of missions. So far as I am able to judge the situation, there never has been a time when opportunities for real progress in the preaching of this message throughout the nations of the world have been so great as at the present hour.

I know that because a few missionaries have had to come home,

By W. H. Branson

(Abstract of Address at the
Autumn Council)

some have felt a bit discouraged. True, we have brought some missionaries home from China and the Far East, and a few from India. But does that mean that our mission programme is finished?

As a matter of fact, not very many of our missionaries, comparatively speaking, have come home. Throughout the earth, the great majority of our workers are still at their posts. Letters have been pouring into the General Conference office during the past two or three months from the remotest parts of the world, bearing to us the most wonderful stories of progress we have ever heard.

For instance, I had a letter recently from Elder Longway, the acting president of the China Division. His headquarters are in Chungking. He is looking after the work in Free China. He wrote: “The outlook for progress in the matter of soul-winning this year is more than bright. In all parts of the field there is an open door.” He stated in his letters that they are having the largest baptisms in parts of China that they have ever had in the history of our work there.

You will be glad to know that our training college that was located down near Hong Kong has been re-established at Chungking, and a little printing press that we had near Chungking has been enlarged and literature is

now beginning to pour out into Free China from this press. And so the work is onward.

We hear from Occupied China, that they are still publishing the *Signs of the Times*, and sending it out to our brethren and sisters in the churches for distribution among their friends.

OPENING WORK IN TIBET

Recently a most cheering message came to us from Brother George Appel, acting treasurer of the China Division, in which he said: “PLAN (ON) ESTABLISHING WORK TIBET NEXT YEAR (THAT IS IN '43). SENDING ONE CHINESE AND ONE FOREIGN WORKER.” No other denomination has secured such an opening, and we must step into this opening and occupy this far-away country with this message. And the brethren cable us that they are ready. There they hope, under the blessing of God, to establish a medical mission and thus one more of the outposts of the world will be entered with this message.

A few days ago a letter came from Elder Lowe, the president of the British Union, in which he said: “There has never been a time since the war began when we could not press on with our evangelistic work here. During the heavy blitzes there was a little unsettlement, but our men soon found their way through every difficulty, and I know of no man who could not go ahead with evangelism in every sense of the word. This year we shall have more evangelistic efforts than we have ever had before.” He tells

us that they are selling more literature, gathering more funds through the Harvest Ingathering campaign, than ever before in the history of the British Union.

And that seems to be the word, brethren and sisters, that is coming in from all over Europe as well. Brother Lindsay, of Sweden, who is looking after our work in the northern part of Europe wrote that both in Sweden and Finland and in other parts of their field, the progress of the work is far above the average in all lines. Brother Olson of the Southern European Division tells us that they are having a large ingathering of souls in the fields of Southern Europe. He states that the greatest increases are being made in the fields where persecution is the worst.

Brother Beach, the secretary for Southern Europe, says that conditions are bad in Rumania. "In fact, in the Bukovina territory our people are undergoing persecution such as they never have had to endure, and that is saying something for that area!

"It is reported that in one section our churchmembers have received prison sentences aggregating more than 500 years.

"In Croatia our churches are closed; many of our people are in prison; terrible persecutions are being experienced, and yet wonderful success is attending the efforts of our ministers and laymen in proclaiming the truth and bringing people into the church in that field.

"In Spain," writes Elder Beach, "we have never had so many baptisms as of late. In a place where we formerly had one church we now have dozens of groups, and they are doing their task well."

GREECE

Our believers in Greece have passed through about as hard a time and been as comparatively isolated from headquarters as any in the world. Just recently, Brother Oster, the superintendent of our work in Turkey, was asked by the General Conference to try to make his way up into Greece and contact our people. After many, many weeks of effort, he writes now that he has made the

journey and he tells us that he was able to take enough money to supply our workers and believers in Greece with sufficient to see them through the coming winter. For this, we certainly do thank the Lord.

Brother Oster stated that he did not find any discouragement on the part of any of our churchmembers or any of our workers in Greece, notwithstanding the terrible experiences through which they had passed during the past year.

ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia has again stretched out her hands to God. Ethiopia was such a promising field a few years ago, and then the doors were closed to us when the Italian armies marched in a few years back and the foreign missionaries had to evacuate. Most of our missionaries had to go. A very few of them were able to remain. When the fortunes of war changed and it was known that Haile Selassie was on his way back, the General Conference sent him a message by cable appealing to him that when he got back into possession of the country and came to Addis Ababa, the capital, he would protect the lives of our few missionaries who were still there.

Word came a little later, after the country had been reconquered, that every Seventh-Day Adventist missionary in Ethiopia was safe and that they were carrying on there in a limited way. A little later we learned that Sister Hanson, the wife of our school leader who has been acting as superintendent in Ethiopia, had been invited by the Emperor to come in and take charge of his household. She writes that she has fifty servants under her; that she is frequently asked to dine with the Emperor and his family, and that occasionally she is called into the Emperor's quarters and asked to discuss the Bible with him and his family and to tell them more about what the Seventh-Day Adventists believe. God has also used her, as he used Esther in the palace of Persia, to intercede with the Emperor concerning the re-establishment of our work. Said he, "We want Seventh-Day Adventist doctors, and we want Seventh-Day Adventist nurses to

come back as quickly as possible to re-establish the hospital work that they were carrying on before the war."

A cable has just come from Elder E. L. Branson, the superintendent of the Arabic Union, and who has recently been to Ethiopia, stating that now the Emperor is asking us to re-establish our educational work there and send teachers as quickly as possible. The cable reads:

"NEW INTERESTS IN ALL BIBLE LANDS. 750 STUDENTS IN SCHOOLS. FOURTEEN TRAINING SCHOOL STUDENTS EMPLOYED. EMPEROR ETHIOPIA URGING SEND TEACHERS ADDIS ABABA AND DESSIE. HOSPITAL ADDIS ABABA REOPENED. IN 1943 PLAN OPEN EIGHT NEW SCHOOLS. REOPEN OTHER EUROPEAN HOSPITALS. BEGIN WORK SUDAN AND GALILEE. PRINT BOOKS IN ARABIC, AMHARIC, AND PHARSEE, ANSWER SPECIAL APPEALS FOR EVANGELISM. FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT FOR MIDDLE EAST."

I believe, brethren, that we can say, with all confidence, that the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save. This crisis came as no surprise to our Leader. I do not believe, therefore, brethren and sisters, that we need to waste any time in talking about and waiting for a time of peace and prosperity in which to finish the work of God. Somebody said the General Conference was teaching that we were going to have a time of peace, when we would go out and do a great work throughout the world. Nothing could be farther from the truth. We are preaching and we believe with all our hearts that we are going to see the greatest work accomplished in the immediate future that God has ever accomplished in this world, but we believe that work will be accomplished in a time of crisis, under the most forbidding and discouraging circumstances. If necessary, it can be done during a world war, for God is not limited.

PLAN TO FINISH THE WORK

Let me say that I believe that now is the time for us to begin to plan as this people have never planned before for the finishing of this work. Not next year, nor the following year—but now. We

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

must not wait for the war to close, for the future is uncertain. We must make our plans now. I think the strongest plans we have ever made ought to be made in this Council for the advancement of the work in fields where we have freedom to work, and that is in most countries of the world. We ought to plan at this time for the greatest advance this people has ever made.

We need to plan *now*, and I believe that our people throughout the world will respond to the kind of leadership that will encourage them to arise now and finish our God-given task of world evangelization. I think we ought to send out a host of new recruits to the fields to which they can still be sent, and the literature ought to be prepared for use in those fields.

But that isn't all. I think we ought to begin to plan now for the day when it will be possible for us to resuscitate and revive our work in fields where our missionaries cannot now labour. For I believe the time is coming when our missionaries will be back in

China and in the rest of the Orient.

I believe we ought to begin to plan at this Autumn Council for a fund known as a Rehabilitation Fund. I would say that at least a million and a half dollars should be set aside for rehabilitating our work in the Far East and in China, in Europe, and in other places where so much destruction has taken place as a result of the war. Then when God opens the door for us to rehabilitate the work in those lands we shall be ready and can step in without a moment's wasted time.

We are told that—

"Often the Christian life is beset by dangers, and duty seems hard to perform. The imagination pictures impending ruin before, and bondage or death behind. [That surely is the picture now.] Yet the voice of God says clearly, Go forward. . . . Unbelief whispers, Let us wait till the obstructions are removed and we can see our way clearly, but faith courageously urges an advance, hoping all things, believing all things."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets,"* page 290.

Notes from the Union President

NEWS FROM ABROAD

PASTOR AND MRS. W. E. READ expect to leave America for the West Indies toward the close of the year, as Pastor Read has been called to the superintendency of the Caribbean Union, with headquarters at Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Dr. Henry Hargreaves writing to the Union Treasurer, from Tabriz, Iran, says:

"Since about a year our regime here has changed, so that the same difficulties do not now exist. We have perfect freedom to carry on our work, and to move about the country. I have just returned from a trip of some two thousand five hundred miles visiting our churches and companies, and am glad to say that there has been no sign of any backward movement, but that there are opportunities now open such as were never yet seen.

"We are all well and my practice in Tabriz is larger than ever before. Owing to the removal of other foreigners from the country the whole responsibility of our work has descended on me, involving a great increase in my

duties, but so far we are flourishing and only ask to be allowed to carry on under present favourable conditions."

THE AUTUMN COUNCIL

It is customary for Unions to send greetings to the Autumn Council, which was done in the case of the British Union. In returning greetings to the believers in the British Union, the General Conference secretary informs us that our exploits in Ingathering, and the courageous way we have faced the many problems of the war, including that of evangelism, have brought them a great deal of cheer.

Among the cables received at the Autumn Council was one from the Southern European Division, which tells its own story, and will certainly lead us to include that field in our prayers:

"SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION SENDS GREETINGS DELEGATES ASSEMBLED AUTUMN COUNCIL. ALSO REQUESTS YOUR UNITED PRAYERS. BITTER PERSECUTION

SOUTHEASTERN PART OUR DIVISION. TWO PUBLISHING HOUSES CLOSED. SCHOOL CONFISCATED. TWO HUNDRED FIFTY CHURCHES CLOSED. NINE HUNDRED BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN PRISON FOR CHRIST. DIFFICULTIES INCREASING. GRACE ABUNDING. COURAGE GOOD—OLSON BEACH."

CALLS FOR BRITISH MISSIONARIES

THERE are, as indicated in our last issue, a number of appointments now for missionaries in different parts of the world field, a number of which will come before the Union Committee for study shortly. One that is not so easy for us to handle calls for the services of a nurse for our new hospital at Ife, Nigeria. If this meets the eye of any qualified nurses who have a desire to enter mission work we should be interested to hear from them.

WE GREET OUR NEW OFFICERS

SHORTLY the reins of office will pass into the hands of newly elected leaders in our churches. Upon them will devolve great responsibilities, and we want them to know that they are welcome into the circle of leadership, and that we shall pray for them and support them in every possible way during the coming year. We commend these duties to the church also.

AT THE GATE OF THE YEAR

THIS will be our last contact with our churches during 1942. As we stand at the gate of a new year, we wish every one of our workers, officers, and lay-preachers the abundant blessing of God, and we pray that higher heights of Christian experience and new victories in the Lord may come to every one of them. The signs of the times have spread to every corner of the earth, and the coming of the Lord is drawing nigh. If that fact is properly understood and received into the life everything else will find its true place and God will ever be glorified in our midst.

WEEK OF PRAYER READINGS WANTED

THE Week of Prayer readings are not nearly so plentiful this year as heretofore, and our isolated believers are without them. We suggest that workers and *Review*

subscribers who have a copy, send them into the conference office immediately after use so that they can be forwarded to isolated members who would be glad to have them.

H. W. LOWE.

North England Conference

President: Pastor R. S. Joyce
Office Address: 22 Zulla Road,
Mapperley Park, Nottingham
Telephone: Nottingham 66312

Notes from the President

WEEK OF PRAYER

REPORTS so far received show that the attendances have been good. Some towns have been divided so that services on week nights can be attended in various members' homes. This has encouraged more to avail themselves of the opportunity to attend during black-out. Special prayers for specific, local, conference, and world-wide needs are being made, and we trust that we shall all be able to look back to this Week of Prayer and see many answered prayers in days to come.

ORDINATIONS

A THEATRE was booked in Birmingham for a District Meeting on November 28th, to which the College was invited. A full and inspiring programme began with the devotional service at 9 a.m. At the afternoon service, B. F. Kinman and D. J. Handysides were ordained. We are sure you will all welcome these young men among the ranks of the ordained ministers. Details of the day's activities will appear in another article.

CAMPAIGNS

BEFORE these notes appear in print, Pastor W. M. Lennox will have begun his campaign in un-entered Market Harborough, in Northamptonshire. He is assisted by Miss A. F. Clark and M. Musgrave. We await with prayerful interest the report of the opening meeting.

HALLS AND HOUSES

WE ask your special prayers for the evangelists and their families and assistants as they look for personal and hall accommodation.

Moving in these times requires courage and fortitude, but we know that God will bless the earnest and whole-hearted endeavours of our workers, and the prayers of our constituency on their behalf.

LITERATURE

THE colporteurs are continuing to do exploits. Sales to the end of November show an increase of £1,587 over the same period last year.

CHURCH BUILDINGS

THE Liverpool and Hands-worth churches are being improved, repaired, and re-decorated. When the work is finished, they will be more comfortable for the members and more attractive to the non-members.

FINANCES

IT is essential that an auditor be appointed in each church and company to audit the local church books, i.e., the treasurer's local accounts, and the accounts of the Home Missionary secretary. These books should be audited quarterly before the report is given to the Board, which should invariably take place before the reports are presented at the Church Business Meeting. It might be helpful if I mention that the conference treasurer audits the local conference fund books annually, i.e., the tithe and mission offering accounts.

LIBRARIES

HAVE you come to the end of another year without a library in your church or company? Do not let even the first quarter of the New Year go by without seeing that a start is made. It should contain as many Seventh-Day Adventist publications as possible. It should certainly have a full set of the writings of E. G. White. It should have all the reading course books, past and present, for the young people and children. We hope the church Boards will vote generous sums of money for the purchase of good books early in the year. The librarian has an important work, acquainting himself with the books in the library so that he can guide the choice of all ages and types of reading churchmember. Do not embarrass him by donating books to the

library that you yourself would not read if stranded on a desert island.

1942 AND 1943 CHURCH OFFICERS

WE would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have led in the various departments of church life and activity this year. The degree of success achieved by any conference in fulfilling its mission to all the world is largely measured by the faith, courage, and enthusiasm of the officers. We welcome the officers for the new year. Begin your duties without apology on your first week-end. "The greatest promptness is positively necessary in the hour of peril and danger. Every plan may be well laid to accomplish certain results, and yet a delay of a very short time may leave things to assume an entirely different shape, and the great objects which might have been gained are lost through lack of quick foresight and prompt dispatch."—*"Gospel Workers,"* page 134.

As you go forward, firm in the belief that:

"God leads no backward movements;
God builds no roads for retreat;
Faith makes no provision for failure;
God's programme is one of triumph;
God's best rewards are ahead of us;
Faithfulness to the end is expected
Of every loyal ambassador,"

we know you will be blessed as you plan for the deepened spirituality of those for whom you are directly responsible.

R. S. JOYCE.

The Birmingham Central Campaign

IT is just a little over six months since we opened our campaign in the Birmingham Town Hall. While we, as workers, learn from week to week from the Conference offices how the campaigns are progressing throughout the field it is only through the MESSENGER that our members may learn something of our work. Never in any previous effort have so many people expressed themselves that they are convinced

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

that the seventh day of the week is the Bible Sabbath. But never were there so many obstacles for new Sabbath-keepers to overcome. Families all engaged in war work coming in for meals at all hours of the day and night, standing in queues for hours, and Saturday morning the only day in the week when certain necessary goods are obtainable, fire watching and civil defence duties, and so on and so forth—we all know about it.

This is surely the time when we need to pray for new Sabbath-keepers as we have never prayed before. It will undoubtedly be true of many of them as John the Revelator saw in vision, "These are they which came out of great tribulation."

But the work is not all problems and difficulties in these war-weary days. Some things are easier. Money is plentiful, and people give liberally in their offerings to defray expenses. We have received from the public during the first six months of our campaign an average of six pounds a week, a total of £160, this has helped us greatly to maintain a meeting in a good class hall in the centre of this great city. And during seven weeks of this same period our 133 members in Birmingham and Wolverhampton, while helping with the billing and the advertising in the campaign on the home front, raised for the foreign front the sum of £631. 14s. 9d.—almost £5 per member—the goal being only £266.

At the beginning of our Harvest Ingathering campaign one brother suggested that we all sing the same hymns, stating that if we did so, he felt that we should have the best campaign we had ever experienced. He was asked to choose the hymns, and we all entered the campaign singing, and our hopes were more than realized. This brother possessed both faith and works, for he raised over £90 himself.

Another family of three, where two of them are engaged in full-time colporteur work, raised almost £80. Many others set goals ranging from £10 to £50 and achieved their objectives.

How true it is that while working hard for our people at home we are able to do better work for

the heathen abroad. With these bright flashes on a rather dark horizon we take courage and press on, relying on your prayers on our behalf, and looking forward with you to the time when the work will be finished.

L. MURDOCH.

Leicester

To date, twenty-eight more members have been added to the Leicester church this year and a number more are keeping the Sabbath and preparing for baptism. Two baptisms have been held this year already, making a total of six since we came to this district. Just two campaigns have been conducted, one in Coventry and one in Leicester. From these two campaigns seventy new members have been added to the church with a prospect of more before 1942 ends.

The gain in tithe and offerings for the district was £400 in 1941. So in that year alone a very much larger sum than that spent in the two campaigns was sent to the conference in increased finances.

In Leicester the tithe increased from £47 per quarter to £133. The Sabbath-school offering increased from £10 per quarter to £55, and the Ingathering from £87 to £235.

All the churchmembers pay tithe. All are members of the Sabbath-school. Most have evangelistic boxes. The Sabbath-school attendances are as good as those of the preaching services.

Senior and Junior Missionary Volunteer societies are now operating well. Four preaching services are held each week in addition to the Missionary Volunteer meetings and the Sabbath-school.

Our isolated members in addition to the annual visit receive some Gospel literature from us every week.

Among our best helpers in the "billing," arranging and care of the halls, attendances at all meetings, tithe and offerings, has been a family of five who were our converts in Darlington, now resident in Leicester. Many others also gave splendid help with the two Bible-workers, Miss Buck and Miss Ford.

Coventry also has each year reported good gains. They, with

Darlington and Middlesbrough, give us a happy picture of our years of labour since coming to North England. May it be so until we are all united in the kingdom.

S. G. JOYCE.

"Second Front" Opened in Morecambe

TWELVE months ago we opened the work here in one of the lesser-known picture houses called the Plaza. We were gratified to welcome 800 people at the opening service and we experienced continued encouraging audiences for twenty-two Sunday afternoons. After this we followed up the services in a lesser hall, and in spite of this being a seaside town our Sunday and Sabbath audiences were good; frequently fifty to sixty and more attended the Sabbath afternoon meeting. Collections, too, were generous.

A first baptism followed in September, when sixteen adults joined the movement—the nucleus of our church. The tithe from these new members has already gone a long way toward meeting the original budget expenditure.

Now, on the advice of the North England Conference Committee, we have opened up again—not in the Plaza, but in the sumptuous theatre known as the Winter Gardens. Facilities for advertising have been severely reduced owing to Government restrictions, but now we have at our back a body of new people filled with tremendous enthusiasm and so our faith has risen to the occasion.

Were we disappointed? Indeed, no! At 2 p.m. on the opening day the queue had already formed and by 2.30 p.m. (the opening time) between 200 and 300 lined up outside the entrance. As they entered instrumental music was being played by one of our new members and at 2.45 p.m. rousing choruses were being sung by the congregation.

A timely message, "The World's Mad Gallop," was well received by between 700 and 800 people. This was further evidenced by the substantial offering given.

We, the small band of workers, want your prayers for the great task before us, for surely there are omens of victory for the cause we love
W. MAUDSLEY.

South England Conference

President: Pastor G. D. King
Office Address: 780 St. Albans Road, Watford
Telephone: Garston (Watford) 2213-4

Notes from the President

MEMBERS who attended the large gathering at Holloway on Sabbath, September 5th, will remember sending greetings to several mission fields, and also to the General Conference. Word has just been received from Pastor J. Clifford saying how much these greetings have been appreciated in the Gold Coast. He states that at the time our letter arrived, the Union Mission Committee was in session and so he was glad to be able to give our greetings to the committee representing the whole field. Brother Clifford also asks me to pass on to our members and workers in South England greetings from the believers and workers in the Gold Coast, along with their thanks for all that you are doing in "holding the ropes."

Apparently the African workers in the Gold Coast particularly appreciate the fact that the gifts from Britain in offerings and In-gathering results mean so much in keeping the work going in that field, and they have asked us to pass on to you their most hearty thanks. It is pleasing to read of forward plans being made in a field that is known to us personally.

Pastor E. D. Dick, Secretary of the General Conference also writes that our greetings have been received and appreciated, and were forwarded to the General Conference at the time of the Autumn Council.

A BOMB OF BLESSING?

AS you know, our church at Norwich was very severely damaged recently by enemy action. Subsequently we were able

to secure the use of a well-appointed hall in the city for our Sabbath and Sunday services. Brother Tapping was encouraged to go forward with a little advertising, and thus capitalize the misfortune that had befallen our own building. In consequence a good congregation of non-members has been listening to the message at Norwich during the past four or five weeks. Very little expense has been involved, and the last report indicated fifty non-members present at the service. This experience is bringing great encouragement to our members in Norwich. Pray that a good harvest of souls may result from this "bomb of blessing."

PAIGNTON

AT Paignton last Sunday, 125 non-members attended the seventh Sunday meeting of Pastor A. J. Mustard's campaign in a town which has proved to be a difficult place previously. Brother Mustard's great desire is to see a church established in this town.

BAPTISMS

BAPTISMS are being held throughout the conference in spite of set-backs in many places. The work of evangelism is moving forward even in the face of many obstacles. Our ministers and Bible-workers are pressing on with their work courageously, and fruitage is being seen for their labour. Your prayers are earnestly solicited on behalf of the many souls now in the valley of decision.

FINANCES

SOON the total figures for 1942 will appear. We regret to report a fall in tithe for the month of November. By the time these notes appear, December will be almost over. Have you been faithful to the Lord this month?—this year? Before the year closes will you not bring your tithe and your offerings into the storehouse of the Lord?

WEEK OF PRAYER

THESE notes are being written during the Week of Prayer. Already there are indications that it is proving to be a time of real inspiration and blessing to our members throughout the conference. Never before have so many

letters reached the conference office from isolated members. It has been a thrill to receive such good letters from these dear believers who are separated from those of like faith. For them the Week of Prayer has been a source of great strength and encouragement. We do appreciate the faithfulness and loyalty of our members, especially of those who are isolated.

ANNUAL OFFERING

THE last special appeal of the year is the Annual Offering which closes the Week of Prayer. If you desire to make a special thank-offering to the Lord, there is still time to send your gift to the conference office, 780 St. Albans Road, Watford.

May God richly bless you in your faithful service as the year 1942 closes. G. D. KING.

Progress in Edmonton

ON Sabbath, October 31st, the hearts of the members of our church in Edmonton were greatly stirred as they witnessed the baptism of ten faithful souls. These members are the fruitage of the labours of Pastor Nicholson, and the patient help and strong endeavours of the churchmembers who greatly helped to bring forth this harvest.

Pastor Nicholson came over from Ireland to begin a new work in this field in March, 1942. Bright evangelistic meetings were held in the Maton Hall, and our thanks go out to all who helped in so many ways to make those meetings a success. We owe a special tribute to the Edmonton choir, who rendered inspiring anthems and quartettes under the able leadership of Brother Andrew Farthing, also to our pianist and soloists.

The baptism was conducted in the Walthamstow church, and we were very pleased to welcome Pastor King on this special occasion. Two of these candidates have been received into the Walthamstow church and one sister, who is the result of Brother Bainbridge's work in Exeter, will be associated with the Conference church. It was with great joy that we witnessed this happy event and our prayers will con-

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

tinue to follow these dear souls as we press on to do greater service for the Master.

N. L. THOMPSON.

Can You Help Us?

A FEW copies of the *Progressive Volunteer* for August and September are urgently needed to complete the bound volumes for 1942. Will any person or society able to oblige please send them to Pastor E. R. Warland, 780 St. Albans Road, Watford? Cost and postage gladly refunded.

March of Missions

A LITTLE company of our members in occupied China were surprised at Sabbath-school to be joined by some Japanese soldiers. Imagine their joy and amazement when these soldiers pulled out their Sabbath-school Quarterlies and joined in the study of the lesson. They were Seventh-Day Adventists!

TRACTS printed in the Pushtoo dialect, and distributed in caravan-serais and hospitals are finding their way into the closed land of Afghanistan.

STUDENTS of the River Plate College, South America, have been holding an effort in Diamante. Attendances of 700 and more have included the Chief of Police, Superintendent of Schools, and other prominent officials in the town.

A BIBLE colporteur, working up the Amazon, was asked by a Brazilian if the Bible he was offering had in it Matthew 7:7. He had been listening-in on the wireless and had heard a reference to the cable Winston Churchill had sent to Sir A. Wavell, which included the words: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." The colporteur very joyfully pointed out the passage to him, sold him a Bible, and also preached to him the way of salvation from the verse he had heard.

THE whole of the New Testament has been translated by two

DECEMBER 18, 1942

Wajita teachers under the guidance of Pastor R. Reider of the S.D.A. Mission. With the approval of the African Inland Mission, who examined the version, St. Matthew has been printed at their Mission Press at Kyabe.

THE mayors of several places visited by Missionary Orley Ford, in a recent trip in Guatemala, sent out invitations for his meetings to the leading people in their respective towns. After stressing the importance of listening to his address, a sample invitation ends: "Please sign your names to show that you have received this invitation and plan to attend." The audiences were invariably well attended!

L.W.N.



LIGHTFOOT.—The Wrexham company has suffered a grievous loss by the sudden death of Sister Rachel Lightfoot on Wednesday, November 18, 1942. She accepted the third angel's message nearly three years ago and has been a most faithful member ever since. She was an active missionary worker with our truth-filled literature and in the annual campaign for missions. To her sister and friends she had just been speaking of the white robe she joyfully anticipated receiving from her Saviour, when suddenly she was taken from them with a heart attack. Her unswerving loyalty to her Saviour will continue a powerful witness in her native town. We laid our dear sister to rest in the Borough Cemetery, after a brief service in the home of her daughter, "until the day breaks and the shadows flee away." To her sorrowing relatives we extend our Christian sympathy.

H. K. MUNSON.

CARLILE.—The Hull church has suffered a great loss by the death of Sister Minnie Carlile who passed away on November 24, 1942. She accepted the Advent message and was baptized by Elder Haughey in 1910. She dearly loved this truth and was faithful to the end. Almost her last words were to express the deep love of Jesus. She was indeed loved by all churchmembers and will be greatly missed. We believe our dear sister sleeps in Jesus until the resurrection day. After a service in the home Brother Conroy conducted a brief service at the graveside.

N. FISHER, *Church Clerk*.

RICHARDS.—We sincerely regret to announce the sudden death of Mrs. Ann Richards, a deaconess of the Bradford church, on November 30, 1942. She was seventy-six years of age and a faithful member, an ardent worker and zealous for the cause. Sister Richards was baptized on March 26, 1938, through the efforts of Pastor J. E. Bell. Two days before her death our sister was at the Sunday evening service bringing with her one who had been absent for a long time. She was laid to rest in the Tong Cemetery on Sabbath, December 5, 1942, to await the call of the Life-giver.

E. FARRAR, *Church Clerk*.

THOMAS.—After a long illness, patiently and hopefully endured, Sister Thomas passed away on October 31, 1942 at the age of forty-eight years. Seventeen years ago Pastor T. H. Cooper baptized Sister Thomas and she was welcomed into the fellowship of the Swansea church. For twelve years her membership has been at Holloway, and she has served willingly, at one time taking the leading responsibility in the deaconesses' service. She was a loyal home missionary worker, and in all her ways Jesus was her constant comfort and guide. As her eyes grew dim she asked to see the picture of her Saviour, and the promise of His coming again was always precious to her. She was laid to rest in Highgate Cemetery. We extend our deepest sympathy to her devoted husband, daughter, and son who mourn her loss but they sorrow as those who have hope in Jesus.

STANLEY BULL.

SMITH.—It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Sister Smith of the Hull church. She passed peacefully away on November 11, 1942, after a long and painful illness, but through all her suffering she remained a sweet and gentle Christian. She and her sister came into this message through the efforts of Pastor Murdoch and were baptized by him in 1940. We know that our dear sister sleeps in Jesus and will come forth at the resurrection day to be for ever with the Lord. Brother Conroy conducted the funeral service.

N. FISHER, *Church Clerk*.

HOLROYD.—The Nottingham church sustained the loss of one of its elderly members in the death of Mrs. Eliza Holroyd on November 11, 1942, at the age of eighty-five years. Mrs. Holroyd learned of the Advent message from the late Pastor J. D. Gillatt in 1920 and became a member of the Nottingham church together with her daughter and her grandson, Stanley. Mrs. Holroyd attended meetings regularly until about two years ago when she became too infirm to get there. On October 23rd our sister fell and fractured her right femur and was taken to the City Orthopaedic Hospital. Brother D. Clarke officiated at the interment which took place on Monday, November 16th at Nottingham General Cemetery. We look forward to the day of resurrection when we shall see our sister again.

C. E. WOOD, *Church Clerk*.

SUNSET CALENDAR

Reproduced from the *Nautical Almanac* by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

	Lon'n	Not'm	Car'ff	Edin	Bel't
Dec. 25th	4.55	4.50	5.07	4.42	5.01
Jan. 1st	5.01	4.58	5.13	4.48	5.08

Advertisements

PRINTING.—C. Russell, Newton Street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, a competent book-keeping typist, for S.D.A. firm doing work of national importance. Apply J.H.P., 780 St. Albans Road, Watford, Herts.

WANTED by healthy elderly couple, efficient help (35-50). Permanent post. Every consideration. Write: Mrs. E. Walton, "The Homestead," Blind Lane, Tanworth-in-Arden, Warwick. (Phone: Tanworth-in-Arden 349.)

YOUTH wishes to learn tractor-driving, etc., with S.D.A. farmer or forester. Some experience horse-carting, etc. Preferably little or no milking. Reference. Write in first instance to Pastor J. M. Howard, B.U.C. Offices, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

Birmingham District Meeting

HAD you been in the centre of Birmingham on Sabbath, November 28th, you would have seen many people, young and old, wending their way toward the Midland Theatre. If curiosity had impelled you to follow them inside the doors, you would have found yourself in an atmosphere radiating good cheer—an atmosphere of prayers and praise. This was the day chosen for a gathering of the members of the churches in the Greater Birmingham district, including Newbold College. When one of the effects of these war-time days has been to prevent our annual gatherings, a district meeting has something of the appeal of a peace-time conference. At least, that is how it impressed most of us as we looked at the faces of the congregation that had filled the theatre to enjoy the feast of good things that had been prepared.

The day's activities began with a prayer service at nine o'clock, conducted by Pastor L. Murdoch, and a goodly number were present at this early hour "to wait upon the Lord."

As we sang to open Sabbath-school, "Lord of the Sabbath, hear us pray, In this Thy house on this Thy day," it was with happy anticipation in our hearts of the good messages that the superintendent, Pastor Murdoch and his colleagues on the platform were to bring to us. The needs of a lesser-known section of our missionary work were explained to us in a stirring appeal by Brother B. Belton. He told how some of our war-time difficulties have proved to be to our colporteurs, opportunities for the entrance of our message into the homes of the people. Pastor G. W. Baird conducted the review of the previous week's lesson, and Pastor W. G. Murdoch the study for the day on "Christian Temperance." Temperance is often regarded as synonymous with self-control, but in the Christian experience it is the life controlled by God which is victorious.

The preaching service that followed had a special significance for those present as they listened

to the address given by Pastor H. W. Lowe. He prepared us for the outstanding event of the day, the ordination of two young men to the Gospel ministry, B. F. Kinman and D. J. Handysides. The theme of the hour was the work of the ministry. Quoting the words of the apostle Paul in Ephesians 3:7, Pastor Lowe emphasized the fact that ministers are made, not born. Most professions demand the passing of an examination as the qualification of entrance. This would hardly suffice in the choosing of ministers. They must prove before others that they have been called to this exalted service by the souls they win to the kingdom. The minister's task will include many activities, but all are subordinate to the one aim of reconciling the world to God. Paul himself calls it the ministry of reconciliation. (2 Cor. 5:18.)

A brief interlude was provided by the lunch hour, at the end of which all enjoyed the community singing conducted by Pastor R. S. Joyce.

The afternoon's ordination service was indeed a glad occasion, both for the two who were set aside to Gospel service, and for the many present who had upheld them by their prayers. Pastor R. S. Joyce spoke a few words of introduction and called our attention to the occasion when Israel was summoned before Moses, as recorded in Deuteronomy, chapter twenty-nine, and was exhorted to keep the covenant of the Lord that "ye may prosper in all that ye do." Separation to the Gospel ministry implies the acceptance of an equally solemn covenant, and blessing is attendant upon its fulfilment. The minister, like Moses, must ever be conscious that he stands with his family in the presence of God.

Pastor H. W. Lowe emphasized once more the minister's exalted calling. His work has no limits, but will endure through all eternity.

The ordination ceremony followed. Pastor W. T. Bartlett offered the prayer, Pastor H. W. Lowe read the ministerial charge, and Pastor R. S. Joyce welcomed

them. The responses which Pastors D. J. Handysides and B. F. Kinman then made to the call which they had accepted will long be remembered. Both gave us reminiscences from their experience since they had accepted Christ, paying tribute to the faithful work of all who had helped them to fulfil their desires. Their earnest sincerity impressed us with the fact that this ceremony would prove the beginning of an even greater and more glorious chapter in their service for God. We prayed God's guiding hand might continue to lead their steps.

Pastor W. T. Bartlett then conducted one of his much-appreciated Bible studies. His text was taken from Matthew 6:33. Life's quest is to seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness. We are to preach that kingdom as Christ preached it, having no fear of consequences. Not through ease but through violence will we lay hold of that kingdom.

Even after the sun had set, many were eager to remain and see the pictures which Pastor B. E. Sparrow had brought to show those who did not mind travelling home after dark. Two films were shown: "The Land of Palestine" and "The Unforgiving Debtor."

All good times must come to an end, but the memory of our good time at the Birmingham District Meeting will long remain. The words that were spoken are not all forgotten. Nor is the music which was heard. Items enjoyed by all were rendered by two soloists, B. Reece and V. Howard, and by the Newbold College choir. Such a meeting renews our fellowship one with another, and makes us long and pray for the day when we shall be united in the kingdom which Christ has gone to prepare.

KATHLEEN M. BAIRD.

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

Published fortnightly on Friday for the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists by the Stanborough Press Ltd., Watford, Herts.

Copy for next issue.—December 23rd.

EDITOR: W. L. EMMERSON

Vol. 47. No. 26. December 18, 1942