



The Church and Her Work

"WHO is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?"

In these beautiful words we have God's church in the world described as one that looks out in the freshness of the morning, as being fair as the moon, clear as the sun—descriptive of the purity of the church—and terrible as an army with banners—a militant power in the world, going forth to give battle to the forces of evil.

We read of vast armies being marshalled, of their marching, countermarching, engaging in battle, and fighting to the death. The inspired writer borrows this illustration in his attempt to describe the church of God. The church is indeed to be as an army thrown into battle. We must not have our courage abated by the conditions that exist in the world. These things are but calls to the church to spread her banners, to marshal her forces, and to go forward with greater strength than ever to fight the battles of the Lord.

I believe it is time for the church to stand forth in the world clothed with power, imbued with the ability to go forward despite the obstacles and all the difficulties in the way of doing the work that God has commissioned her to do. "There is before the church the dawn of a bright, glorious day, if she will put on the robe of Christ's righteousness, withdrawing from all allegiance to the world."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 8, pages 11, 12.*

By J. L. McElhany

(Abstract of a sermon at the General Conference)

I am not one of those who feel that the church has already accomplished her mission in the world and that the time has come for us to throw down our hands and meekly, quietly decide that there is nothing more we can do, and retire from the field of action. No, on the contrary, I believe we are entering upon the days when the church must engage in her greatest conflicts, her greatest battles, and, thank God, her greatest triumphs.

As long as probation lingers, we must move forward confidently. We must never strike the colours, never grow faint and say that because of the conditions which exist in the world we will make no further efforts or lay no further plans. No, no! We must hold our banner aloft. We must place every man at his post of service. We must bid the forces of God to move forward in aggressive warfare until the very last hour of time.

In these dark, evil days, the church is to be a beacon light, is to point the way out of the chaos and darkness of these times. Do you think any Adventist preacher ought to be in doubt to-day about what he should preach? We are surrounded by the things we have been looking forward to for nearly a century. We see them multiplying on every hand just as the prophecies of the Word declare

they should occur. Should we now stop in the face of all things and say, It's no use? No, that is not the attitude we should take. Courageously, filled with zeal and faith, we should go forward as never before. When probation's hour closes I would rather be found planning definite moves against the enemy of the Lord, against evil and wickedness, than to be found with my hands down, doing nothing to meet the issue. I believe that as long as God Himself lengthens the span of time, we must carry on His work. I wish that all our young people might be in training to-day for aggressive service for God. But if the Lord should come in the very midst of their period of training, what of that? Would it not be far better for them to be thus engaged than to be giving themselves over to the things of the world? Yes, indeed!

In a little while from now the church will have finished her march through the world. She will become the church triumphant. I want to be a part of that glorious church, that triumphant church that, having passed the shores of time, will face eternity triumphant in God's grace. Be in order to have a part with church triumphant in the her victory and re-crowning glory, we re-part in the work militant. We must ing the forces, and in our have victo

Notes from the Union President

As these notes go to press the Union Committee is closing a two day's session which has been crowded with important matters. In our next issue will appear a full account of some decisions of vital interest to our members. Suffice it here to pass on one important item which is central to the existence of the church.

For a year or two membership has been a problem in all countries in the war area. While full results of the larger evangelistic programme launched in 1942 will not be available until well into 1943, we are profoundly grateful to report that 369 persons were added by baptism and vote during the year 1942. This is the largest gain since 1939, and our net gain of 130 is the largest since 1938.

There is no cause for complacency or for immense satisfaction in these figures, but they do, nevertheless, indicate the turning of the tide, and it is now for us by any and every means open to soul-seekers to keep that flow of new members moving in the right direction. The number of apostasies is the lowest for more than fifteen years, while the number of deaths was one of the highest figures for twenty years.

We must make this matter of increasingly successful soul-winning central in our prayers, plans and work, for it is God's supreme purpose to finish His work by soul-winning through the devotion of His people.

NEWS FROM OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

Elder Lindsay, resident in Stockholm, has just written an interesting letter from which we gather that our people in Norway, with whom he is in contact, are of good courage in the Lord. They have just held their most successful Harvest Ingathering campaign, which sounds altogether remarkable.

It is noted that while there is progress in Sweden, "our only regret is that the harvests are so slow to come in." The interest in the work is very low in

such exciting times as these. There are so many other by-interests, too." He adds that they have milk but it is "standardized and thin." They have some fruit, but things are much more difficult with our people in Finland and Norway with their allotted rations. The closing sentence in Elder Lindsay's letter is: "May peace return to old Europe again, and the routes of travel be free once more so that we can meet again. We wish you good folks from Stanborough and Edgware could come our way soon as we miss our British and American friends."

GREETINGS TO OUR MEMBERS IN IRELAND

Contact with our membership in Ireland is difficult under war conditions, although we do manage to get a permit about once a year for three men from the Union office to visit the field. That, of course, is small enough, and the British Union Committee has asked me to pass on to our workers and members in Ireland their heartfelt and prayerful remembrance at this difficult time. Under ordinary conditions we appreciate the difficulties in that country, and much more so under the isolation and emergency conditions now prevalent. God has His ways, however, of keeping His people under conditions that are puzzling and trying, and we commend our believers and workers in Ireland to the grace of God, which empowers us to meet every emergency that confronts His people.

A REMINDER.—If you surrender your bacon coupons at the local food office you can obtain a further two ounces of margarine or cooking fat. H. W. LOWE.

North England Conference

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

Newcastle Retrospect

THE year 1942 was a happy and prosperous one for the Newcastle church. It began well with a New Year social at which old

and young, together with many friends of the church, met for fun and games in a large hall hired for the occasion.

Several visitors brought welcome news of brethren in other districts, among these being Brother Apol, a merchant navy captain engaged on Atlantic convoy duty. He spent a few weeks in Newcastle before going home to his family in the Faroe Isles. Brother Apol, who is treasurer of the Torshaven church, told several interesting stories of the growth of the Advent church in the Faroes.

Pastors Howard and Sparrow visited the church in April and Pastor Harker in May. A less frequent visitor, Brother Raitt from Newbold, delivered some inspiring sermons on the week-end of June 13th, and everyone enjoyed Brother Craven's description of life in India when he visited the church two months later.

The young people's work is flourishing in the church and in October Pastor B. Sparrow conducted an Investiture service at which five keen young people were invested as Friends.

For the Week of Prayer two well-beloved ministers travelled to Newcastle. Pastor Bartlett conducted the meetings during the first week-end and Pastor Meredith the second. Many blessings were felt as a result of this Week of Prayer and the culmination was the baptism of seventeen new members.

The old year closed as it had begun with a happy social, at which every person present received a gift from the heavily laden Christmas tree.

Looking back we thank God for the addition of eighteen new members to our church. This addition was only made possible by the untiring efforts of our loyal Bible-worker, Miss Mitchell, and the prayerful co-operation of the churchmembers.

B. KINMAN.

News from South Yorks

WE are glad to say that God has blessed the district of Sheffield, Rotherham, and Barnsley, and that He has guided and pro-

tected its members during the months that have passed.

Sheffield Advent church, after losing its good hall at the time of the terrible blitz, when five oil bombs were discovered in the ruins, now meets in an upper room, happy to have a place of worship, when many others are without. God has blessed, souls have been added to the ranks, goals have been reached, and the young people are preparing themselves for greater service in the work of the Master.

Barnsley Advent church is the youngest in the district, and is steadily and healthily growing. I well remember the first visit I paid there. Five members were waiting for me. These were the faithful remnant of what had been a larger company. Now the membership stands at thirty-seven, but we are not satisfied. At our last communion service thirty-three were present, while our last service, just before this report was dispatched, was forty. At the second baptism in this church one of our members was healed and escaped the operating-table. We thank God for this manifestation of His power to heal. The tithes have reached £50 in one quarter. Thus in the year the income has been double the expense of the campaign. Barnsley also has the desire to secure a place of its own, and in one year £40 has been laid aside to this end. All our goals have been reached, but we hope in 1943 that we shall surpass all previous achievements.

Rotherham Advent church rejoices also. For the first time for almost ten years her Ingathering goal was reached and passed. She rejoices, too, that souls have been won—and that despite war conditions.

The district meeting held in Rotherham was a grand success. It is true the hall was packed to the door, and the heat became a little over-powering, but what a joy it was to see so many eager happy faces listening to the exposition of the Word, joining in the singing, and obtaining the blessing of God.

The Rotherham baptismal service was conducted in the afternoon, and was witnessed by

members from Doncaster, Killamarsh, Barnsley, Sheffield, and even from Reading. Seven souls were added, making a total of fourteen for the year. What a joy it was to welcome these new believers into our ranks. Yes, the Lord has blessed the district this past year, and we press forward in 1943 determined that with God's help, greater and more noble will be our work for the Master.

Miss J. M. Cowan was our faithful Bible-worker and the prayers of the district go with her as she proceeds to her new field of labour.

We are shortly to begin spreading the message in a new town where we hope to add yet another new church to the ranks of the remnant. Pray for us as we begin this new venture, that soon the Gospel may reach all, and that God's kingdom may come.

D. J. HANDYSIDES.

South England Conference

President: Pastor G. D. King
Office Address: 780 St. Albans Road, Watford
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Baptism at Southend

ONCE more the Southend church has enlarged her borders by a baptism. It was a cold, crisp morning on December 27, 1942, when three candidates, saying in their hearts, "Oh, Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end," declared publicly this resolve and associated themselves with God's remnant people. It was indeed a time of refreshing. Pastor Lane officiated and Brother Wilmshurst rendered an inspiring talk, after which we could not but be reminded of our baptisms and renew our vows of consecration. Surely the Holy Spirit was present in a great measure.

One young lady whose membership was placed on the Conference books has since joined the stalwart group at Newbold Missionary College, Packwood Haugh. Altogether two were baptized, one sister being received

into church fellowship by vote. It is our earnest prayer that, at the end of the race they may be able to say with Paul, "I have fought a good fight."

We ask for an interest in your prayers, that young and old together, may work and pray and praise till Jesus comes and in that better land we'll give Him better praise.

A. STEWART-JACKS.

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Legal Meetings

British Advent Missions

NOTICE is hereby given that the Thirty-Eighth Annual General Meeting of British Advent Missions Limited will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 1943, at 10 a.m., at the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors.

A. CAREY, *Secretary*.

Granose Foods Limited

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-Fifth Annual General Meeting of Granose Foods Limited will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 1943, at 11 a.m. in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors.

JOHN RIGBY, *Secretary*.

Good Health Association Limited

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fortieth Annual General Meeting of the Constituency of the Good Health Association Limited, will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 1943, at 2.30 p.m. in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors.

A. H. THOMPSON, *Secretary*.

Stanborough Press Limited

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-Ninth Ordinary Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of The Stanborough Press Limited will be held in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists at Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts., on Wednesday, March 3, 1943, at 4 p.m.

On behalf of the Board of Directors.

J. C. CRAVEN, *Secretary*.

UNTIL THE DAY BREAK

GRIFFITHS. — For fifty-five years Brother and Sister Griffiths lived a happy married life together, and now in death they are not parted. Sickness has given the past years an even richer and deeper meaning to companionship. During this time Sister Griffiths constantly cared for her loved one who sank to sleep in her arms on December 27, 1942. She had often prayed that the Lord would give her this privilege, and then she said she would like to rest herself for she had already passed her eighty-fifth birthday. Our heavenly Father granted this request for the day after her loved one's funeral she closed her own tired eyes to sleep in the Lord. Thirty-five years ago Pastor W. E. Read baptized our sister and she was accepted into the fellowship of the Mountain Ash church in Wales. Then she worked and prayed for her husband who became an Adventist about twenty-five years ago and has held almost every office in the church including eldership.

Devotion to the Lord, to the church, and to each other has marked the steps of their long journey together. We extend our deepest sympathy to their daughter Sister Mason, and to Brother Mason and their two children in whose home the grandparents had found comfort and care. May the God of hope give joy and peace to all who mourn.

STANLEY BULL.

WILLIAMS.—Sister Williams of the Hull church passed peacefully away on December 6, 1942, at the age of eighty-eight years. Owing to her great age she had not for a long time been able to get to church services. It is twenty years since our sister came to know this message, and she was faithful to the end. She has a daughter in Canada who is also an Adventist. Brother Conroy conducted the funeral service and spoke words of hope and comfort to the relatives and friends.

N. FISHER, Church Clerk.

Constance Mary Maxwell

MAXWELL. — Constance Mary Thicke was born at Oporto, Portugal, on April 8, 1892. She accepted the message at Hove, Sussex, in 1911 and went to Stanborough Park College to prepare for service. After doing Bible work in Southampton she was united in marriage to Spencer G. Maxwell in June, 1916, and they laboured in the Leicester and Northampton districts. In 1920, she accompanied her husband with a party of missionaries sent out to British East Africa. To restore the work in Kavirondo, to re-open the stations in the Pare mountains of Tanganyika, and to be the first to carry the truth to Uganda, all fell to her lot, and she never shrank from any move, however lonely the situation. For the past fourteen years she resided in Kenya, at Nakuru and Nairobi. Her health of late had not been good. Following an operation in 1941, she again became ill in June, 1942, when no hope was held out for her recovery. She asked for anointing, but the Lord did not see fit to heal in answer to the fervent prayers which were offered at that time. Resigned to the knowledge that her work in Africa was finished, she bore her last sickness with fortitude and cheerfulness, the Lord graciously sparing her acute suffering. In the early hours of December 28, 1942, she passed to her rest. The interment took place the same day at the Forest Road Cemetery, Nairobi, a simple and impressive service being conducted by the writer. Together with her loved ones she realized in her sickness that the Lord's will was

being worked out and she confidently looked forward to joining them again in the resurrection of the righteous. The natural sorrow of the bereaved husband and children thus gives place to joyful anticipation of that glorious day.

C. T. BANNISTER.

An Appreciation

MANY will sorrow with Brother S. G. Maxwell over the loss of his wife. To me it comes close home. I knew and honoured them both in their College life. It was a happiness to go with them to East Africa. Brother Maxwell was marked out for pioneer work. As soon as the way opened to resume operations in Tanganyika Territory, he led out in the Pare field and mastered the Chasu vernacular. When the door opened for us into Uganda, he was asked to be a pioneer again and had to learn the Luganda. In all these adventures his wife was with him, heart and soul. It was always a special privilege to visit them in their various fields, and to see how earnest and successful were their efforts to win the natives and then advance them in Christian education and service. Sister Maxwell was a woman of courage, honour, and devotion. She was among the best missionaries, and her gifts of heart and mind were employed unstintedly for the benefit of the cause. She will be missed. Her work in East Africa was finished, and now that her husband goes to another field she sleeps in the land to which she gave her life. It imparts a new appeal to the Blessed Hope to contemplate meeting her again.

W. T. BARTLETT.

Cereal Breakfast Foods

In conformity with recent regulations, the sale of

SUNNYBISK

GRANOSE BISCUITS

GRANOSE FLAKES

will be restricted as from February 7, 1943 to Food Distribution Sector No. 1.

This comprises the counties of: Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, London, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex, Middlesex.

We regret that under this regulation so many of our friends will be deprived of their favourite breakfast cereal, and that we shall be unable to supply direct to places outside our allotted sector, but it is the policy of the Ministry of Food to ensure, as far as possible, that there shall be no reduction in the total volume of these foods as a consequence of the zoning plan.

Retailers unable to get their usual supplies of our products will be allotted equivalent quantities of those of other manufacturers, we caring for some of their business in our sector.

We are glad that, at present, our other foods will be available as usual.

GRANOSE FOODS LTD.,

Watford, Herts.

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

HELP EVANGELISTS! Wanted by evangelist, a copy of the book, *The Tabernacle, Priesthood, and Offerings of Israel*, by F. Whitfield. Write stating price to:—The Stanborough Press Ltd., Watford, Herts.

Acknowledgment

THE South England Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of £40, anonymous.

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
Feb. 19th. 6.21 6.22 6.34 6.23 6.37
Feb. 26th. 6.33 6.35 6.45 6.39 6.52

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

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