

# BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

## Church Meetings and Evangelism

A CHURCH can live unto itself, arranging its meetings just to suit the convenience and love of ease of the members, without one thought for the people still in the highways and byways of sin or not yet of this fold. Or it can be imbued with the spirit of evangelism, which is the supreme business of the church. Matthew 28:19, 20 says: "Go ye;" 1 Corinthians 10:33 warns us that our attitude should be: "Not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of the many, that they may be saved."

Again we are told: "Whatever one's calling in life, his first interest should be to win souls."—"Desire of Ages," page 822.

And again: "The greatest work, the noblest effort . . . is to point sinners to the Lamb of God."—"Gospel Workers," page 18.

The soul-winning church will have this evangelistic outlook.

Sunday is definitely the best day for a meeting to introduce our message to the public. The Sabbath afternoon meeting caters for those who are somewhat informed and gripped by the message, but not yet keeping the Sabbath and so are unable to attend the morning service. This afternoon meeting gives them a Sabbath break-away from the world and creates the Sabbath habit. Sabbath-school and the morning devotional service are undoubtedly for those who are able to keep the Sabbath. The week-night prayer meeting is the power-house of the whole programme. With-

By S. G. JOYCE

out it the entire church is cut off from its only source of omnipotent power—heaven. Dorcas meetings, teachers' meetings, and Missionary Volunteer meetings all cater for the church's own interests, that the growth in knowledge and spiritual things may be maintained.

The weaker elements are always desirous of "cutting down" or "slowing up." Or the question may arise, because of the difficulty to find preachers: Which meetings can be dispensed with? To cut out any is to cripple and deform the whole church. Our literature abounds with good Bible studies and outlines. Consecrated lay-people can thus readily be supplied with suitable material for an address. To be filled with the Holy Spirit gives utterance and to be used by this mighty power is better than just to be able to talk. The church is hurt by those who maybe can talk but have not the Spirit, who love to hear themselves but whose general influence is bad.

Three good hymns are needed, one to commence the service, one to close, and the other just before the address. A brief Scripture reading should be followed by an earnest prayer, with a brief benediction to close. This appropriate setting to a well-prepared Bible study will work spiritual wonders and lead men nearer to Christ.

Remember, the worshippers

come to the meetings primarily to worship and give thanks unto God, not just to learn some new thing or to elevate the preacher!

Therefore all can be builders—not destroyers. And don't cut down. Keep the meetings to about one hour. If running over time a little, do not get panicky and indulge in undignified haste in closing. Commence on time and finish reverently.

If we are willing the Lord can use us for 2 Corinthians 8:12 states: "If there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not."

In *Gospel Workers*, page 66, we read: "God has provided divine assistance for all the emergencies to which our human resources are unequal. He means that sufficient facilities shall be provided for the working out of His plans. I bid you seek counsel from God."

Where there is no Sunday meeting the door is shut to the general public. Where there is no full church service on the Sabbath afternoon the church door is shut to the interested, would-be Sabbath-keeper and the old and feeble members. A church so crippled soon "falls away." For without these two doors being wide open there will be no growth, and lacking growth the church will perish.

Colossians 1:28 tells us to work for every man, not just for ourselves. Help the weaker elements in the church that would agitate for fewer meetings and would shut first maybe the most important gateways to life and success

—the Sunday and Sabbath afternoon services. Each service of the church has a definite objective and is not just another meeting. Each has an important place in the work of spreading the message and saving souls. When the members know the purpose for each meeting, they will give intelligent support, and all will move forward together to greater church activity and thus larger gains in souls saved and won. Apostasy will receive a death blow. May this be so for Jesus' sake.

## Notes from the Union President

### NO TIME FOR THE HALF-HEARTED

THESE are the times of God's testing. We may expect more and more to feel the strain that the lengthening shadows bring upon us mentally, physically, and spiritually. Yet, somehow, amidst and despite all the testing thrust upon us, God's work will go forward.

It becomes imperative that we waste no time on the trifles that have nothing to do with winning men for Christ. There are no signs of religious revival, but there must be many souls everywhere waiting for the light of truth.

Is there someone waiting for your call during this Ingathering campaign for missions? That is the way to regard work of this nature, and we may then expect to see, not only money for missions, but souls for the Saviour.

We have not much time for our work and the church needs you—all there is of you.

In the days when Nehemiah was calling for whole-hearted service from his people we have this comment in *Prophets and Kings*, page 639:

"In every religious movement there are some who, while they cannot deny that the cause is God's, still hold themselves aloof, refusing to make any effort to help. It were well for such ones to remember the record kept on high—that book in which there are no omissions, no mistakes, and out of which they will be judged."

May there be no half-hearted member just now. Let us remember:

Work without God is labour lost!  
Work on! Work on!  
Full soon you will learn it to your cost;  
Toil on! Toil on!  
Little is much when God is in it,  
Man's busiest day is not worth God's minute;  
Much is little everywhere,  
If God the labour do not share;  
So work with God and nothing's lost,  
Who works with Him, does best and most;  
Work on! Work on!

—A. A. Rees.

### MISSION NOTES

Louis Normington of the Press editorial department has been granted permission to take up a mission appointment in Africa, though his departure may be delayed somewhat under war conditions. His wife will, we hope, follow later. May God grant them a full measure of happiness, blessing, and progressively successful service in the mission field.

H. W. LOWE.

## South England Conference

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

### A Retrospect

IT is with mixed feelings that one answers the call to move to another district. At least, this is how we felt when we were asked to leave the North-Western or Thames Valley District of the South England Conference, where we have been working for the past five years.

At first we located in Reading where we held a campaign, while looking after the other church at High Wycombe. In just over twelve months we moved twenty miles away to the unentered town of Slough, where we preached the Advent message.

While living in Slough we also ran campaigns in High Wycombe and the unentered town of Staines.

In looking back over our sojourn in this district we can see how the Lord has blessed our labours. Sometimes figures are inclined to appear uninteresting,

but how often they speak of God's blessings and His people's faithfulness.

In all these places we saw souls born again and accepting the message we all love. In Slough we were able to establish an organized church which, for three consecutive years, was the first to reach its Ingathering goal in the South England Conference, and last year had the honour of leading the Conference churches in tithe per capita.

When taking over the district the membership was fifty-one; now, in spite of losing by transfer to other churches six brethren with their wives and families and six by death, the membership is 110.

The faithfulness of this membership is seen as we look at the tithes and offerings. In 1937 the tithe of the district amounted to £270, while in 1942 the total was £852. The Sabbath-school offerings show an almost similar increase from £75 to £180. The faithfulness of God's people and the blessings of God always go together.

We have appreciated and are thankful for the spirit of co-operation, and loyal, consecrated service given by our associated workers.

Now we have taken over the district of Kent making Gillingham our centre for a campaign. The work in this county has been somewhat disorganized through enemy action and its proximity to enemy-occupied territory, but many in their isolation have stood firm in spite of adverse circumstances. The feeling of these members can be summed up in a sentence just received from one of them: "It is indeed refreshing to know that the work is restarted in this county." Miss A. Stewart-Jacks is associated with us in this new sphere. C. R. BONNEY.

### God's Eye View of an M.V. Outing

LITTLE black dots, every one a Missionary Volunteer, are seen threading their way by tram and train, bus and bicycle, through the swarming highways of Greater London. Here and there, from Slough and Watford, Walthamstow, Holloway, Edmonton, Il-

ford, Chelmsford, Brentwood, and elsewhere the little black dots become little black threads, nosing their way to one of London's largest patches of green—Bushey Park and Hampton Court.

As the clock turns to 2.30 p.m. this Easter Monday, the black threads, each a defile of eager God-fearing youth, converge and contact near the pond in Hampton Court Park. Now they form a sizeable black smudge of well over a hundred volunteers. Much like a colony of ants, perhaps busily intermingling with welcomes and caresses of various and appropriate intensity. They are waiting for Pastor Warland's word "Go."

From here down the footpath to an open rain-refreshed field, the smudge lengthens into a procession. No funeral this. It is living youth, energetic, revelling in the blessings of this life, and properly preparing for the next. Now the procession becomes a double circle. Some call it "two's and three's," but it is a circle with the inevitable tangent of those who prefer to sit on the bank and watch. Again and again the geometry changes. Now perhaps it is four parallel lines—a team game. For an hour and a half they enjoy good wholesome fun.

For ten minutes, seated amidst attaché cases, carrier bags, and haversacks, they enjoy a history lesson at the hands of Brother Roper. Now they know something of the Palace and its grounds. It even has Bible connections. Here sat a committee in the days of King James, whose deliberations preceded the translation of the Bible known as our Authorized Version.

Back they go to the Palace to see for themselves. The procession is swallowed up in the black mass of sightseers. Through the lofty halls with panelled walls and artistically painted ceilings, up and down stairs they go, peeping into the wine cellars, awed by the magnificence of Wren's architecture, hustled by the keepers anxious to go to tea—and out again, the sun still smiling a welcome.

Together again the black dots form another smudge and another procession to the maze.

Laughing, though foiled time and again, they wander between the privets until they happen unexpectedly upon the exit.

Finally spread along a bank of green the lunch baskets are opened. There's room "inside" for all they contained. Thus replenished, the black smudge breaks up into black dots again, satisfied and happy to spend the last hours of the day as they chose—and in threading their way home again. They said in their heart, "There is much in being a Missionary Volunteer that is not to be spurned."

And I am sure God said, "If this is the first of its kind, it must not be the last." R. A. VINCE.

"Granite City" know "how hardly souls are wooed and won," and we give to God all the praise for these trophies of His grace.

At the time of writing we are in the midst of our third effort; conducting two meetings every Sunday, one in the north and the other at the south end of the city.

There is a good attendance at both services and a keen interest. Pray for us as the testing truths are presented and as we hold this outpost of our work in Scotland, that God may grant us the joy of seeing many gathered into the fold.

At the close of 1942, we were happy as a church to see our Ingathering goal passed, our Sabbath-school offering and attendance also well in advance of the previous year. This was true of most other offerings.

We have had our church hall recently redecorated, and after meeting these heavy expenses have a good balance in hand.

For these and all other mercies we are indebted to our Master whose work it is and whose willing servants we are.

H. T. JOHNSON.

## Scotish Mission

Superintendent: Pastor J. A. McMillan

Address: 15 Rowallan Gardens, Broomhill, Glasgow, W.1.

Telephone: Western 6350

### Northern Lights

WE here in Aberdeen had the privilege of witnessing the Aurora Borealis a few evenings ago. The brilliant colourful streams of light were very impressive, yet in the service of God there are occasions when scenes far transcending this break upon our vision. As our wondering gaze marvels at the work of so mighty a Creator, so we stand in humble contemplation of the monuments of His recreation, in victories won and lives surrendered to Him.

Such was the scene on Sabbath, April 17th, when two precious souls followed their Master through the waters of baptism.

The Baptist church had been placed at our disposal, flowers had been tastefully arranged by the minister's wife, and the church organist volunteered her services.

Pastor McMillan, who conducted the baptism, spoke to the candidates on the "Call of Christ," while the writer spoke from Hosea 2:19, 20, "I will betroth thee unto Me for ever."

This was the binding off of our 1942 work. We are happy to report ten new members since commencing work in Aberdeen just over two years ago.

Those who have served in the

## Ministry of Literature

### Rejoice With Them That Rejoice

EASTER Sunday, 1943 (an historic day in this eventful war) found us on our regular Sunday visitation wending our way down the ragged streets of the familiar East End, with the more familiar bundle of *Present Truth*, among these typical Londoners, a happy breed of men, yet with a desperate need. With the bright "Good morning" and the occasional reply, "Not to-day, mate," we press on. But hark! Above the rumble of traffic, the hum of ships on old Father Thames, and the happy din of children playing in the spring sunshine—can it be? Yes! indeed it is; the bells of London are ringing again. They have never sounded more welcome since "Whittington." Ringing again over this battle-scarred, bomb-blasted, yet irresistible cit-

del, this centre of freedom, this refuge for the oppressed, this jewel of the British Empire, these chimes ring out with a message of goodwill and hope for the future. With just pride and emotion these East Enders listen. It affects their pockets as well as their hearts, for the wheel of truth rolls faster and we are soon sold out. We meditate with joy as we retrace our steps, that, in the not far distant future, the whole earth will ring out with loud peals of the love of God, and men shall come in and go out, and none shall make them afraid.

JOHN OLLIVER.

## Mission News

PASTOR L. A. VIXIE writes from South Africa that on account of the shortage of books their colporteur work is restricted and he himself has been conducting an evangelistic effort. He has baptized twenty-five people as a result, and there are a number of others who are expected to be ready for baptism shortly.

OUR Gold Coast superintendent, Pastor J. Clifford, writes from Bloemfontein where he and his wife are spending their furlough. They had an uneventful voyage. At Bloemfontein they were staying with his brother, Francis Clifford, and were planning to visit the mission stations at Solusi and Malamulo, expecting to learn many useful things there that would help them in the Gold Coast.

Brother Clifford reports that the Stokes and Bartlett families had safe journeys back to the Gold Coast so that all the stations in that field are re-manned. During the absence of the English workers loyal and efficient service by the native workers kept all interests well cared for. They are hoping that before long the way will open for them to get in touch once more with the members in the Ivory Coast.

W. T. BARTLETT.



### American Conscientious Objectors Honoured

Private Orville Cox, a twenty-nine year old American Seventh-

Day Adventist who refused to carry a weapon or kill Japs was recommended for a citation by Lt-Col. C. E. Journey for his work as a medical corpsman in rescuing two wounded comrades at great personal risk at the Ko-Kombuna front on Guadalcanal. Japanese machine gun fire hit two infantrymen. As they lay wounded in an exposed area, Cox wormed his way forward in the face of machine gun and rifle fire and bandaged their wounds. He stayed with the wounded men until the Japs were pushed back by our troops.

Paratrooper Corporal Keith Argraves, a Missionary Volunteer from Portland, Oregon, (and the boy with whom Mrs. Roosevelt chatted in England) jumps unarmed, loaded only with medical supplies and water while his mates jump with small bombs and TNT. All the other medical men are armed but Argraves received special permission to jump without protection. If a 'chutist is injured in falling Corporal Argraves, the last to jump, gives him first aid and helps him to cover.

His superior officer questioned him, "You mean you are willing to jump over enemy territory without anything to protect you?" The boy replied: "Indeed, I am, sir. The Lord will be with me. We've been together too long for one of us to leave the other one now." The surprised officer replied, "You're the most courageous man I ever knew."

E. W. DUNBAR.

### UNTIL THE DAY BREAK

KIND.—With sadness in our hearts we record the passing of Brother Kind, of Peterborough, on January 31, 1943. Although at one time an ardent and active Spiritualist, God searched his heart, and brought him to a knowledge of the Advent truth. He was baptized by Pastor O. M. Dorland about seven years ago, and his faith in the coming of Jesus was "steadfast, unmovable." We miss him at our meetings, but we, with his dear wife, Sister Kind, are gladdened by the sure hope of reunion on that great resurrection morning. Pastor W. M. Lennox conducted the funeral service.

I. S. REDHOUSE, Church Clerk.

MAINER.—The Shields church suffered the loss of another old and faithful member when Mrs. E. Mainger fell asleep in the early hours of February 26, 1943. She had been ill for a long

time, but even in the midst of her illness and against the orders of her doctor she was able to struggle to church. It was the only place to which she wanted to go. Sister Mainger accepted the message during the ministrations of Pastor D. Morrison and was baptized on September 13, 1935. She was laid to rest in the Preston Cemetery, services being conducted both in the home and at the graveside by Pastor B. Kinman. She now awaits the call of the Life-giver.

L. WILKINSON, Church Clerk.

COOK.—The Newcastle church was made sad by the death of Sister A. G. Cook, who passed away on March 23, 1943, after a short illness, although for a long time our sister had not been well. Sister Cook accepted the message in 1927 under the labours of Pastor F. C. Bailey. She loved the message and the church. She was faithful and loyal and her one desire was to tell others of a soon-coming Saviour. She was laid to rest awaiting the call of the Life-giver in the Saltwell Cemetery on March 25th, the service being conducted by Pastor B. Kinman. We feel sure that we shall see her again when the dead in Christ shall arise.

M. F. SMITH, Church Clerk.

## Advertisements

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

A VACANCY for young domestic help in Nursing Home on Sussex-Surrey borders. Sabbath privileges. Commencing wage £52. Full residence. Apply: Principal, Upper Quabrook, Coleman's Hatch, Sussex.

WANTED by mother and grown-up daughter, post as caretakers of Advent church, or some similar work. Write: White, 225 Henley Road, Ilford, Essex.

NORTH DEVON CONVALESCENT CHILDREN'S HOME (Special School for delicate children) LYNTON. Applications are invited for a *Certificated Head Teacher* (Non-resident) and also *Junior Uncertificated Assistant Teacher* for Infants. Salary according to Burnham Scale plus War Bonus. 60 beds. Full details, age, qualifications, etc., to Secretary, N.D.C.C. Home, Lynton, North Devon, on or before May 12th.

FOR SALE. Large Slide Lantern complete with 500 watt and 250 watt lamps, adjustable lampholder, and reflector, 50 slides on Palestine. 12-inch focus—3-inch diameter lens. Operates in large halls. £10. 10s. 0d. Write: D. A. Conroy, 33 Mead Walk, Anlaby Park, Hull.

## 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  
May 14th 9.42 9.53 9.55 10.15 10.20  
May 21st 9.53 10.04 10.05 10.27 10.31

## 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.—May 12th  
EDITOR: W. L. EMMERSON

Vol. 48. No. 10. May 7, 1943