



## Studies in the Life of the Church

THE purpose of the incarnation is stated in the words, "For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10.

Those words also indicate the sole reason for the existence of Christ's church on earth. As long as there is anything or anyone on earth tainted by sin and not beyond hope of redemption, there will be a Christian church doing God's work of salvation.

"Ye shall receive power, . . . Ye shall be witnesses," said the Lord to the church He left behind on earth. (Acts 1:8.) Whenever the church has God's power, she witnesses for Him. We are in the church not merely to enjoy its services, not merely to feel happy because of the consolation which religion brings to us; we are here to advance God's cause by saving men and women.

In Ephesians 4:11 evangelists are listed with apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, but they were not a distinct order of church official. The presbyters, deacons, and apostles were all to exercise evangelistic functions. (1 Cor. 1:17; Acts 8:25.) Timothy was exhorted to "do the work of an evangelist" (2 Tim. 4:5), and deacon Philip is called an evangelist. (Acts 8:5; 21:8.)

Speaking of the whole church Mrs. White has said, "The evangelization of the world is the work God has given to those who go forth in His name." In the same place it is said that we are called to work for God, not by preaching to those who know the truth,

### No. 9. The Focal Point of the Church's Witness

By H. W. LOWE

but to those who never heard it. This was well understood by that great group of soul-winners in England in Spurgeon's day. One of them, Henry Carter, was a master chimney sweep who specialized in saving "rogues, thieves, and vagabonds," and printed invitations to his meetings often bore the words, "No person of good character admitted." We may smile at the technique, but the principle of constantly seeking the unredeemed is God's own.

Christendom is strewn with the wreckage of churches that foundered because they ceased to be evangelical—because they lost the love of working for the conversion of needy sinners. The Jewish church lost sight of this objective, and perished in a sea of intellectualism. Other churches later disappeared because doctrinal controversy replaced a burning evangelism. The great institutional churches of our own time have developed an imposing ritualism or a smug sanctimoniousness, or a misplaced emphasis, such as a social gospel—and as a consequence the church troubles very little about the lost. That way lies death, both for the church and the world.

The Advent church began as an evangelical, fire-filled, propa-

gandist body. If ever we could think of this movement ceasing to be primarily and wholly concerned with conversions, it would perish and God would work through other channels.

Even in bygone times when the second advent hope was a far distant one, God, through the prophets, repeatedly expressed His yearning for the salvation of sinners. Such passages as Ezekiel 36:25-38 express the Lord's chief desire regarding a sin-stained people. The plaintive cry of these lost souls whom God longs to save is expressed in these words: "I looked, . . . and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul." Psa. 142:4. The value of the individual soul is stated thus: "Gold and earthly treasure can bear no comparison to the salvation of even one poor soul." (*Testimonies*, Vol. 1, page 513.) "In comparison with the worth of one soul, the whole world sinks into insignificance." — "*Testimonies*," Vol. 5, page 614.

It is a delusion which has often beguiled the church, that special education and priestly training are prerequisites for soul-winning. The only qualification is the love of God in our own souls. Given that, we can at once commence to seek and save the lost. From that point, education and training of the right kind, and within certain limits, enlarge our faithfulness. Of all the church, laity and ministry, it has been written: "For the conversion of one soul

we should tax our resources to the utmost." — "Testimonies," Vol. 6, page 22.

The believer must be "moved by an inexpressible desire to win souls to Christ." — "Testimonies," Vol. 7, page 10.

Adventists believe in the imminent end of the world by the crisis of the second advent. This is an additional reason for the necessity of an intense and urgent spirit of evangelism in our midst. In no previous generation was there such urgent need.

For this there should be the most earnest, unremitting prayer. For this we must sacrifice personal comfort and ambitions. For this our churches should aim, as far as possible, to dispense with the services of workers whose time belongs to the unsaved on every side of us.

Lack of interest in soul-winning is a sure sign of departing spiritual life.

Like the Saviour in another connection, the church must say of true evangelism, "For this end was I born."

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## Notes from the Union President

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### WORLD STATISTICS

THE number of Seventh-Day Adventist churchmembers in all the world last year was 535,134, but as in six large areas no reports were available owing to war conditions, this figure is probably low. Of this number 197,215 were in North America. The next largest memberships were:

South African Division	45,156
Inter-American Division	44,226
Central Europe	42,387

In the Inter-American Division the equivalent of a new church of 111 members was organized every six days throughout 1942.

Ministers and colporteurs now number 16,074, and there are 9,212 churches in all the world.

### WITH OUR BRITISH MISSIONARIES

PASTOR H. M. SPARROW, superintendent of the new East African Union Mission, informs us that there are now eighty-one churches with 10,143 members

in his field, and that there are 6,278 persons in baptismal classes. Last year baptisms were expected to reach 750-800. These workers have great needs; they are much cut off from home bases by war conditions, and will surely find a large place in our prayers.

### CAMPAIGNS

GOOD news of forthcoming campaigns is coming to hand. In this time of perplexity we must in every way uphold our workers and churches as they move forward in courage. What we need greatly is a larger success in soul-winning to increase our membership in this field, coupled with a closer contact with mission lands.

H. W. LOWE.

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## South England Conference

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

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### A Bournemouth Baptism

OUR latest baptismal service was held on December 11, 1943, in the afternoon, and so made a fine finish to the Week of Prayer. Only two this time, but they were well worth having! These two, added to those who have already united with the church since we came to Bournemouth nearly two years ago, bring the total to twelve. Twelve disciples, ever learning of the Master; twelve apostles, ready to be sent in the service of God.

We were glad to welcome on this occasion friends from Weymouth, and other outlying districts, as well as the local members. We believe all present experienced the blessing of God.

Mrs. Spearing and I wish to place on record our appreciation of the help received from our lay members. Three of the twelve are young people whose home training made possible their baptism; and most of the others were encouraged by their relatives and friends to study the truth for themselves. "And I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion." Jer. 3:14. F. A. SPEARING.

### Investiture at Bournemouth

ON December 18, 1943, there was an Investiture at—no, not Buckingham Palace this time, but at Bournemouth, in the Seventh-Day Adventist church. We were all made happy to have with us on this great occasion Pastor E. R. Warland, who presented Friends' badges to three of our children: Reggie Bain, Gerald Norman, and Derek Proudley. We hope that other children will follow the lead of these three soon, and that they all in time will work their way through the advanced courses until they become Master Comrades.

This Sabbath was a full day for our visitor. It was natural and proper that he, being a foreign missionary for so many years, should be asked to give the missions' talk in the Sabbath-school. Brother Warland gave us an inspiring address at the eleven o'clock service, and, following the Investiture, treated us in the afternoon to a thrilling lantern lecture on Africa. We were sorry to have to bid him farewell, but shall look forward with pleasure to another visit this year.

F. A. SPEARING.

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### Stanborough School Concert

THE school concert has come to be looked forward to as an annual event by parents of children at the Stanborough Secondary and Preparatory School.

Last year the concert was held in the Congregational Hall, Garston, but that hall was so uncomfortably crowded that it was realized that something larger would be necessary this year. The smaller Town Hall which seats 350 people was secured for Tuesday afternoon, December 14th, but the school has grown so much during this year that even this hall was inadequate and some had to stand. (Maybe next year we shall have to hire the large Town Hall!)

The concert was timed for two o'clock, but well before that time the parents began to collect in front of the Town Hall.

For weeks the parents of those taking part had heard small items of the programme as individual pupils or groups of pupils had

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repeated their parts at home. Now the great day had arrived, and all were anxious to see how the children would acquit themselves on the platform. They leaned forward eagerly to catch the lisps of the little ones from the kindergarten in the Preparatory School as they recited their poems and sang their songs. They followed carefully as the Juniors and Seniors gave their items which consisted of songs, recitations, and plays.

One notable part of the programme was the presentation of the certificates by Pastor H. W. Lowe. These certificates were earned by the children during the year in public examinations. One had passed the London Matriculation examination. Three had earned School Certificates. There were also two supplementary School Certificates, and nine Preliminary College of Preceptors Certificates. Some children had done well at sports and were given certificates for swimming distances of 25 to 200 yards.

This annual concert enables the pupils to show just a little of the progress they are making and the way they are developing, and keeps the interests of one Adventist school before the public eye.

VIOLET ARGENT.



### Stanborough Park Juniors Advance!

Just before Christmas, Stanborough Park church once more witnessed an all-Junior service—this time an Investiture.

A deep spiritual atmosphere was encouraged and held throughout this most-solemn-of-all services for children. For Investiture is a solemnizing event—a public witness to those promises made to the Lord during the period of training.

In both the opening hymn, "Jesus high in glory, lend a listening ear," and John Craven's prayer, the Saviour's presence was invited. And here is a note of confidence in the Lord: "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want"—Jean Dobbs is reciting a piece of "Friend" memory work. May these words come readily to her mind over and over again in her journey through life.

Listen now to the sentiment

expressed in song by Derald Barham:

"I would draw nearer to Jesus  
In His sweet presence abide,  
Faithfully trying to serve  
Him—"

Yes, we all know the rest. We sing it so often. That these children may really believe and live it is our sincere prayer.

"I will be pure and kind and true." Every Volunteer knows the first promise of the J.M.V. Pledge, and Ronald Emmerson, Brian Proudley, and Ralph Simms gave very good story illustrations of their conception of that standard. To be "pure and kind and true" is a denying of self. As Pastor King said in his address later in the programme, "We can't be pure and kind and true—and selfish at the same time." The children know this and those finally chosen to give the talks were the result of no haphazard decision.

Nine small Helpers were then invited by Pastor Warland to be presented with their certificates. (Let it be understood, they are small only in a physical sense.) We were sorry the bad weather kept five of them away, but were glad to know they, too, had earned the honour.

And next—see them marching on the platform as their names are called—fourteen "Friends." The platform seems hardly long enough. Very proud they are of their first badge. May it always remind them of their promises.

The "Companion" Course is the highest in the Junior society and the first rung of the ladder in the Senior. Will a Junior allow himself to step up into the Senior society without this necessary honour? We hope not. And so we are pleased to see seven of the older boys and girls receive their "Companion" badges. "It wasn't so hard after all," said one newly-made "Companion" afterward. Not so very long ago he had emphatically stated that it was "impossible!"

Thirty invested Juniors crowded round the improvised camp-fire to sing choruses, and a number of others joined them who had received various honours—Reading Course and Bible Year certificates, and Honours in Flower and Tree

Study. Truly a working Society!

And now, the Investiture ended, awards presented, all sentiments expressed, we stand to join in a real dedication-to-service hymn, giving ourselves anew to the Saviour's work.

D. WATSON.

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## North England Conference

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

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### Notes from the President

THIS is the first MESSENGER of the new year and as is usual at this season we take a last look backward before we address ourselves to coming days. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the church officers and the faithful members for their devotedness to their tasks during the year that has closed. We welcome the 1944 officers and feel sure that all the members will rally round them as they work to lead the church forward. Remember that "without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established." Prov. 15:22.

#### NEW CHURCHES

IN the fifth year of war, we have organized four churches and three companies. Burton-on-Trent is about to be added to the list. Since writing my last notes, we have organized a church of fifty-two members in Central Birmingham where Pastor L. Murdoch, Brother P. Stearman, and Miss E. Adair have been working. Brother K. A. Elias and Miss E. A. Buck have been working in Wallasey, where twenty-nine members have just been organized into a church.

#### FINANCES

THE tithe and offerings totals show splendid increases. They should, because there is obviously much more money in circulation. This denomination, though naturally interested in the total amount paid, is much more interested in the percentage of members who are paying a faith-

ful tithe. The same is true of the Sabbath-school. We are primarily interested in the daily study of the lesson and regular attendance. In 1944, we hope that every member will be a faithful tithe-payer, and that, in regard to offerings, all will keep in mind that God looks at the amount we have left, as well as at the amount we give.

#### CAMPAIGN ATTENDANCES

YOU must have been thrilled to read in the MESSENGER that the evangelists in North England have had campaign attendances of 700, 900, and 1,500 at a single meeting.

I am sure you have all enjoyed reading the story of "the Ark in the Harvest Field." "They of Beth-shemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley: and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see it." 1 Sam. 6:13. We, too, are living in the harvest-time of our world. All through the land faithful workers with sharpened sickles have gone out to gather the wheat. Now, as in the olden time, an enemy has overrun the land and the outlook is often dark with multiplied difficulties. But as the Ark of the Israelites rested in the field of Joshua to show the reapers that God was in the midst of His workers, so to-day, if we but give our time and our talents to Him, we will find Him with us every day in 1944, assuring us of triumph through His abiding presence.

#### CHURCH ATTENDANCES

WE would encourage every member to attend at least the Sabbath-school and the Sabbath morning preaching service each week-end during the new year. We all need the refreshing and fellowship that comes from church attendance. We want 1944 to be a year of spiritual growth for every individual member. "When Christ is in the heart" it will be so softened and subdued by love for God and man that fretting, fault-finding, and contentions will not exist there." What a change the abiding presence of Christ would make in our hearts, in our homes, and in our churches! During 1944, may these hearts, these homes, and these churches of ours in North England be "as gardens by the

river's side, . . . and as cedar trees beside the waters." Num. 24:6.  
R. S. JOYCE.

### Wallasey's Big Week

IT was a big week, too! A week that we had prayed for, and worked for, for many a long month. In all our longings—no, not even in our wishful thinking—had we anticipated the solemn satisfying joy of those seven days. God had set His seal upon our activities and His presence was very clearly felt by all.

The Week of Prayer meetings formed the background. The daily periods of praise and meditation linked together two great events—the baptismal service held on the opening Sabbath and the organization service held on the closing Sabbath of the week.

The labour which culminated in these happy events began seven years ago in the cinema next door to our present location. However, the history of the proclamation of the Advent message in Wallasey goes back much farther than that.

The earliest record we can trace takes us back to World War No. 1, when this "Gospel of the kingdom" was preached in Seacombe in the premises now used as a Forces Canteen on the Borough Road. This work, however, was always an offshoot from Liverpool and gradually the fruits of the Seacombe effort were absorbed into the Liverpool church.

In 1936 a new start was made. Pastor W. Maudsley opened an aggressive campaign in the Capitol Cinema, and in due course a baptism was conducted. Follow-up work continued in the Oddfellows' Hall, and the summers of 1937 and 1938 saw tent efforts in progress, each gathering in honest souls for the Lord—souls that in most cases are with us to-day.

It may be interesting to recall the various assistants who worked with Pastor Maudsley: S. Stanley, now at rest; Miss F. Preston (now married), who to-day suffers from an accident received while working in Wallasey; Miss M. Hamblin (now Mrs. Warnock), who liked the people so well that she decided to make her home among them; D. J. Handysides,

now a successful evangelist in Sheffield; D. Ashton and G. Roper, who acted as tent-masters; and Miss E. Pratt, who is now in Watford.

The time came for Brother Maudsley to accept a call to the city of Lancaster and Pastor Bell took his place. Faithfully he worked and was rewarded by additions to the faith. It was during his stay in Wallasey that Brother Bell and his wife suffered almost the entire loss of their belongings by enemy action. Heroically they made no complaint, counting it worth while if thereby others might hear the message they loved. It was in the last few months of his stay that the Wallasey company was organized, Brother H. T. Fraley being the local leader.

In January, 1942, the writer was called to relieve Pastor Bell. In the summer of that year progress was made by holding the Sabbath-school and the preaching service on the Sabbath morning, instead of the afternoon. Also a small but vigorous M.V. society was started.

Full active campaign work was started in March and the Floral Pavilion, New Brighton, was used. Transfer to the Co-operative Hall was effected and for several months the message was preached there. Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining audiences, due largely to inadequate wartime transport, but in due course Sabbath services were introduced and were successful from the very start. Eventually the meetings were centralized in Liscard and the work was bound off there.

Here, as all through our work, God's leading hand was seen. The Oddfellows' Hall which had served us so well in the past, was now failing to meet our needs. It was imperative to obtain the sole use of a building so that a full series of meetings could be conducted. We tried to buy premises but the door was constantly closed against us. Finally, at a rental of about half of what was originally asked for, we were led to the building in which we meet to-day. Once a blitzed and derelict greengrocers' market, now repaired and decorated out of all recognition, it proudly serves as

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the house of God. We still pray, however, for the day when a permanent church building will be our very own.

Sabbath, December 4, 1943, saw the last step but one in our progress in Wallasey. Uniting with our friends in the Kensington church, Liverpool, we had the joy of seeing Pastor R. S. Joyce baptize those who had followed Jesus fully during the past nine months. Altogether eleven signified their surrender to the Saviour. With an earlier baptism of two this year, this gave us thirteen souls for the year. One of these was a member of the U.S.A. forces drafted to this country some time ago.

There can be no greater pleasure for a group of believers than the welcoming in of new converts for whom they have worked. I am glad that this effort and its results have been brought about by a joint work of love. The Wallasey company worked hard and faithfully and, in addition, when called upon, gave financial assistance willingly. Miss E. A. Buck, our Bible-worker, tirelessly did all in her power to back up the spoken word in the homes, and was a great help and source of encouragement in the campaign. This unanimous co-operation God graciously blessed and He gave the increase.

One week later our church was fully organized. Pastor W. T. Bartlett—whose fifty-sixth Week of Prayer this was—and Pastor R. S. Joyce officiated. Two by two the prospective members were called to join the nucleus until the church stood united. Gladly they testified to their acceptance of the truths Pastor Joyce had outlined; proudly, at Pastor Bartlett's suggestion, they took the name of Seventh-Day Adventist and signed the covenant accordingly.

Wallasey's big week is over. Our foundation, we believe, is well and truly laid. Together with our heavenly Father we march on in service that our spiritual superstructure may be completed, and eternal rest found in Him. God haste the day!

K. ELIAS.

## Baptism at Grimsby

ON December 18, 1943, Pastor B. E. Sparrow officiated at the baptism of Brother S. Weston who recently took his stand for the Sabbath to walk by the side of his wife and daughter. Brother Weston has had a prominent place in the public eye through the daily press as a result of his steadfast attitude in the keeping of the fourth commandment. Satan, who has been and is still working, has failed in hindering our dear brother from answering the call of God.

This was a unique occasion for, as the divine service was in progress, the air-raid siren warned us of danger overhead, yet unflinchingly and smilingly our brother went through the waters of baptism. His happy countenance gave us greater certainty that the Lord is with him, and with us if our faith and trust is in His almighty strength and Word. God's love, mercy, and protection was assured to us more profoundly when, at the close of the meeting, we heard the "All Clear."

And so during an "hour of danger" a soul was drawn closer into God's protection and peace. May we all be present at that great "All Clear," when the King of kings shall come to reign in peace and glory and majesty.

The service was held in the Stanley Street Baptist church, New Clee, which stands a witness for God in an area of debris and open spaces caused by previous bombs.

E. R. BAILDAM,  
*Church Clerk.*

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## Scottish Mission

*Superintendent:* Pastor J. A. Mc-Millan

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

*Telephone:* Western 6350

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### Superintendent's Notes

AT the beginning of the new year 1944, we are glad to record that 1943 has seen baptisms and increases of membership in four of our Scottish cities. Edinburgh led the way with a baptism of seven on September 4th. Since then, another soul has been bap-

tized in Edinburgh, making a total of eight. As already reported by Brother Johnson, eight souls have been baptized in Aberdeen. This is a very creditable increase this year, when we remember that Brother Johnson has laboured without the assistance of a Bible-worker. Here in Glasgow we baptized five new members on the Sabbath of December 18th. Unfortunately, two Sabbath-keepers died before the baptism took place. One of these was a man who had, after a great struggle, given up his pipe. The other was a retired midwife, who was looking forward to uniting with us. We trust that these souls will unite with the five baptized, in the earth made new, where death will never prevent the fulfilment of good desires.

With the addition of another two new members in Dundee, the total of new members admitted to the church in 1943 was twenty-three. We pray that these new members will grow in Christ and that their fellowship with us will continue through to His kingdom.

### EFFORTS

TWO small efforts are now in progress. One is being conducted by Pastor L. G. Hardinge in Musselburgh. The other is in the charge of the Glasgow workers at Coatbridge. Both these places are about ten miles from their respective cities. Though the attendance is small, interested souls are being contacted, and new Sabbath-keepers will eventually take their stand with the church. Remember the workers in your prayers, as they battle against sin, prejudice, the black-out, and all the other obstacles in their way.

### WORKERS' EXCHANGES

DURING the year we have exchanged some workers with other parts of the British Union. Brother Butters, after five years in the Mission, moved to North Wales; and we received Brother A. H. Watson to labour in Glasgow. In December, Sister Gowllett, who has engaged in Bible-work in Edinburgh for three years, went to Packwood to superintend the domestic arrangements, and we welcomed Miss B. Fretton to take her place in the capital. We wish the workers who have

left us all joy and success in their new fields, and we pray that our new workers will develop in faith and efficiency as they labour for souls.

#### FINANCES

THE finances of the Mission were never so advanced as in 1943. Our Ingathering enjoyed the common success of all the fields in the Union. It is too early to say how our final tithe figures will compare with 1942, but for the first eleven months we show a gain of £104. Are you being faithful? If not, read Malachi 3:10. Soon, money will be of little or no use either to us or the cause of God. (See Isa. 2:20; Zeph. 1:18.)

#### THANK YOU!

To all the church officers who served in 1943 we extend our most sincere thanks. Your loyalty, co-operation, and spirit of service were highly appreciated. To the new officers of 1944, we extend cordial greetings, praying that God will furnish you with every grace, that you may discharge your duties conscientiously, and may purchase to yourselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. (1 Tim. 3:13.)

#### NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

WHAT are your purposes and ideals for 1944? Are your eyes fixed on earthly goals, or does "the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus," inspire your efforts? Why not sit down and think soberly for a few minutes of your life and its objectives. Time is slipping away, and soon our characters will be for ever fixed. Will we be satisfied with the final results if we continue as we are now? Let us march forward into this new year with God's gracious promise, "I am still with thee," (Psa. 139:18), and with the resolve, "The Lord our God will we serve, and His voice will we obey." Joshua 24:24.

J. A. McMILLAN.

ONLY for the Christian is there ground for hope amid the perplexities of the hour and its menacing problems. Only the Christian in an age of moral sterility knows that the power of God is strong both to uphold and restrain.—*Professor J. G. Riddell, M.A.*

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## Welsh Mission

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Superintendent · Pastor S. G. Hyde  
Office Address: "Ventnor," Ty-  
glas Road, Llanishen, Cardiff  
Telephone: Llanishen 600

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### Superintendent's Notes

*Greeting:* A Happy and Blessed New Year to members and friends in Wales! Adieu to 1943.

The old year has passed into history—the fourth of years spent under the shadow of war and under the strain of wartime conditions. We are not sorry to see it go, for it has been a trying year for us in Wales, at least in some respects.

What with sickness, removals, and changes affecting our small staff—the evangelical results have been small. But if that be so for 1943, we are confident that the new year will see a "turning of the tide." Campaigns have all been small—necessarily so—but 1944 will see fruitage from them, and there is every indication that the centenary year of the 1844 movement will find Wales rising to the occasion.

#### AT REST

ONCE again we have to record an unusual number of deaths (for a small field). The incidence of deaths has been a serious one. Since the Union session of 1936 and since we connected with the Mission, over eighty of our cherished believers have passed to their rest. These eighty, who have "died in the Lord," were of the tried and much experienced order and difficult to replace. In addition, sixty more have been lost to the cause through "spiritual death," while a net figure approaching twenty represents members transferred to other fields. We have been grateful for some 160 new believers who, over the same period, have answered the call for these last days. We would have been happier had we greatly exceeded the losses and but for war conditions this would have been so.

So we begin the New Year with confidence. A survey of the field provides the confidence and the assurance that the fruitage of this year will bring rising encouragement.

#### POSSIBILITIES

THERE are but four evangelists (apart from the field leader) in the Welsh Mission, and only one of these is an ordained minister. In addition there are three assistants in their first year of service. We are not many, too few for a field of our size. But if the message brought to us on Home Missionary Sabbath (January 1st) has accomplished its hoped and prayed for mission, then the small group of trained workers will be augmented by a few hundred lay members. That's what it will be and *must* be—if we are to measure up to our responsibilities.

The end of all things is at hand. Oh for a flame of living fire to burn within each one of us! Oh for a membership experiencing something of the old-time yearning and love for souls. Come, Wales—let us pray for, work for, and realize something of the immense possibilities vested in a consecrated and divinely directed community!

#### VETERANS AT REST

ELSEWHERE reference has been made to the death of two brethren who have been associated with the cause in Wales for many a long year—Brother Coates of Cwm Gwrach, and Brother Rundle, of Caerphilly. Brother Rundle served as leader of our company in Caerphilly for some time, while Brother Coates, though isolated, was faithful until the last, in scattering the leaves of truth among his people in the valley of Glyn Neath. Fruitage will surely follow!

#### YOUR PRAYERS REQUESTED

PRAYER plays a much more vital part in the affairs of God's people than is sometimes realized. It would mean so much to the ministry in Wales, could they know that between four and five hundred members are praying for them and their labours day by day. Pray also for the churches and the officers, and for the efforts being put forth by brethren and sisters in many places. May God bless us all with an abundance of blessing during this year, 1944.

S. G. HYDE.

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## Sabbath-School Department

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### Do You Study "Daily"?

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS have long been renowned for their knowledge of the Scriptures—a reputation which has been gained by them because the pioneers were believers in the daily study of the Word of God. The knowledge they gained has been passed on to us as a glorious heritage but we must not rest content with living on the reputation which they have gained for us; we must study the Scriptures for ourselves. And what better method can there be than the one which has been devised for us in the daily lesson plan of the Sabbath-school, whereby we can enter into the pioneers' experience of digging in the mines of truth?

The pioneers of the Second Advent movement studied deeply, for they were expecting the Lord to come. To-day we are one hundred years nearer the Lord's appearing, and soon, we know that some of us will be brought to positions where we shall need to have a thorough knowledge of the truth. Some of us will be brought into legislative halls, and there, before the mighty ones of earth, we shall have to witness for the truths we love. We are assured that the words will be brought to our remembrance. How shall we be found ready for this critical time?

One of the best ways to strengthen ourselves for that testing time is to enter wholeheartedly into the Sabbath-school study programme. In our lesson quarterly we have outlined week by week, a concise lesson with commentary combined, embracing in the course of years, the complete doctrines we hold, and also devotional studies on Christian growth—and if we study our lesson completely, the writings of the Spirit of prophecy will be included in our study.

If we plan our daily programme aright, and if we belong to a family loving the truth, the Sabbath-school daily lesson study will become a habit in our evening

worship—in fact our own study or it will become, as it were, a daily Sabbath-school class; or, if we are isolated, what greater inspiration can we receive while studying our lesson daily than to know that our brethren and sisters all over the world are studying the same lesson as we are? The children, too, will learn in their early youth to study the Bible, and they will never forget the truths they have learned week by week. The children trained in this way will become strong, loyal supporters of the Sabbath-school in their later years.

It may be that you have heard or have yourself used the objection to daily study which is fairly common. "Brother Forthright" boldly answers when asked how many times he has studied: "Once! and I believe that I know more of the lesson from my deep study on Friday evening than does 'Sister Faithful' from her seven times study. She merely glances at it superficially but I dig down deeply!" That of course may be true, but it is not the ideal of the Sabbath-school. It is the intensive *daily* digging and searching in the mine of truth that helps us to form the excellent habit which will benefit our spiritual life, so that although one day's intensive study is good, seven days' intensive study is far better. We commend the daily habit, for it gives time for the truths to mature and become fixed in mind so that they remain there long after the *Quarterly* has served its purpose.

MARJORIE A. WHITE.



### Wedding Bells

VESEY-ATKINS. — We are very happy to announce the wedding of Brother Henry Thomas Vesey and Sister Lily Grace Churchill Atkins, at the Bournemouth church of Seventh-Day Adventists, on Tuesday, December 28, 1943. A good gathering of members and friends witnessed the ceremony. We speak not only for ourselves but for scores of others who are known to the bride or the bridegroom when we say: "God bless them both!" May Brother and Sister Vesey experience continually the blessing of Heaven as together they strive to live to the glory of God. F. A. SPEARING.

### UNTIL THE DAY BREAK

ABBOTTS.—On November 18, 1943, our dear Sister Abbotts fell asleep at the age of sixty-eight years, after an illness lasting three years. Sister Abbotts was baptized in 1919, and when the Stoke church was organized she became a willing and faithful worker. She was greatly missed when illness prevented her from meeting with the church, but many lessons of faith and endurance were learned at her bedside. Her trust and confidence in the Lord never wavered, therefore our mourning is linked with a great joy as we anticipate our happy reunion in the earth made new. Church Clerk

HUISH.—At the age of seventy-seven years our dear Sister Huish passed peacefully to her long desired rest on Tuesday, December 7, 1943. She was very tired and longed for the Lord to take her. Sister Huish was baptized by Pastor J. M. Howard on July 18, 1937, and was a charter member of the Ipswich church. Although almost totally deaf and unable to attend services very often, our sister maintained a deep interest in the activities of the church and gave her tithe and of her means faithfully to the Lord. We shall all miss her happy smile, but we know that she died in the sure hope of the resurrection and will, with those who look for the Lord to come the second time, be alive with Him for evermore. C. B. SMYTH, Church Clerk.

HOPPER.—Sister Mrs. Janet Hopper, of Bournemouth, fell asleep in Jesus on Monday, December 20, 1943, at the age of seventy years. She was led to take her stand for the message by Pastor and Mrs. G. W. Bailey eighteen years ago, and was always a faithful and greatly beloved member of the church. Her death was caused indirectly by a raid which took place in 1942, during which her house was hit and destroyed, and her daughter and granddaughter were killed. Our sister suffered from shock from which she eventually died. Her husband, Mr. Hopper, a well-known and greatly respected member of the community, their son, and other relatives are left to mourn. It would be true to say that those who knew Sister Hopper best, respected and loved her most. Words of comfort were spoken at the funeral service by the writer. F. A. SPEARING.

RUNDLE.—Brother George Frederick Rundle, of Caerphilly, died on November 29, 1943, and was laid to rest in the Cardiff Central Cemetery on December 6th, in the presence of sons and daughters, friends and churchmembers. Brother Rundle accepted the message many years ago (along with his wife, who predeceased him) during the leadership of the late Pastor Harry Armstrong. Brother Rundle's abilities proved useful to the church, and when the membership in Caerphilly was organized into a company, he was appointed leader. Our brother trusted in his Saviour and committed himself to the Lord. When the "shadows flee away," we believe Brother Rundle will "awake with Thy likeness." Services were conducted at the home and the graveside. Two married daughters carry on the work laid down by their father. S. G. HYDE.

EDWARDS.—The Stoke church lost another old member when Sister Edwards fell asleep on December 18, 1943, after an illness lasting two and a half years. Our sympathy goes out to Brother Edwards, who patiently nursed his wife during her illness, and we pray that God will richly fulfil His promises of comfort and strength at this time. G. NORRIS, Church Clerk.

# Prayer and Soul-Winning

JESUS is our example in all things, including soul-saving. He is the greatest scientist in the science of salvation. His methods are the best, and He gave them to His disciples, whom He commissioned to carry on the work He had begun. For more than three years He trained them for this work by both precept and example. The methods used by Christ and His disciples bring success in any age. By them the work of redemption will be finished under the latter rain.

Prayer occupied an important place in the work of Christ and His apostles. It was the chief secret of their success. It was the soul of their religion and the science of their labours. A religion without a soul is a religion without life and power. Prayer is the holiest exercise of the soul. The salvation of souls is the greatest work committed to mortals. When its impelling power is prayer, it is the greatest of all sciences.

The place of prayer is the place of power. It is the power-house, or dynamo, of the church, whence comes its light to lighten the earth with the Gospel truth. It is from the secret place of prayer that comes the power of Christendom. Jesus told His disciples that "all power" was available in the gift of the Holy Spirit, which would be given them in answer to prayer. This would qualify them to be witnesses. All the resources of heaven are at the command of those who are seeking to save the lost; the angels of heaven are waiting to co-operate in this noble work.

Jesus was the greatest soul-saver because He knew best how to prevail in prayer. He spent a great deal of time praying for His disciples. He told Peter He had prayed for him that in the hour of his trial his faith would not fail him. Before He ordained the twelve, Jesus spent all night in prayer. In the prayer of John seventeen Jesus said He had kept all except "the son of perdition." One whom He dearly loved, and for whom He had laboured and prayed, had slipped through His fingers and been lost. It almost

broke the heart of Jesus to lose Judas. This is a real passion for souls.

In His prayer Jesus virtually said: "I have kept most of those whom Thou hast committed to My care. I have kept impulsive and fickle Simon. In spite of many a weakness and many a blunder My grace has proved sufficient for him. I have kept James and John, the sons of thunder, in spite of their narrowness and their keen ambition. I have kept Matthew, having wooed him from his money-bags. I have kept gloomy and doubting Thomas, in spite of the fact that he tends to cling to life's sombre and shady side as ivy clings to old ruins. But Judas has thwarted Me. Judas has disappointed all the fine dreams that I cherished for him. In spite of all the big possibilities that were locked in his gloomy heart, in spite of all that I did for him and longed to do, he has run past Me and I have lost him."—*"Sermons on the Lord's prayer," Chappell, page 184.*

Prayer occupied an important place in the soul-saving programme of the apostolic church. The Lord instructed His people to pray for all men, including kings and all in places of authority. In every human being, however sinful, Jesus beholds a potential son of God whom He longs to restore to the divine favour. Paul continually prayed for his converts that they might not fail. He prayed "day and night with tears." Thus he watered the seeds of truth; no wonder there was a glorious harvest. Moreover, he asked his converts to pray for him.

A working church in travail for souls will be a praying church, a believing church, a receiving church. A church whose members seek the Lord daily will feed on the bread of life, will drink of the water of life, and will have a burden for souls. Earnest supplications from broken, contrite hearts will bring apostolic success in soul-saving.

When Job ceased to argue and debate with his friends, and instead prayed for them, his cap-

tivity turned and the situation was entirely changed. The same procedure would turn the captivity of many to-day, and would give them a vision of God and therefore of self such as transformed the character and changed the experience of Job. Like Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch, the Lord can bring praying Christians in contact with those who are praying for light. All over the earth there are honest-hearted men and women looking wistfully to heaven and praying for light. Multitudes are on the very verge of the kingdom of heaven, waiting only to be gathered in.

How beautiful is the statement that "the humblest worker, moved by the Holy Spirit, will touch invisible chords, whose vibrations will ring to the ends of the earth, and make melody through eternal ages."—*Taylor G. Bunch.*

## Acknowledgment

THE treasurer of the British Union Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Lord's tithe, £30. 10s. from "XYZ."

## Advertisements

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

WANTED, young girls for light work. Sabbath privileges. Apply A. L. Huguenin, 96 Hatton Garden, London, E.C.1., or phone: Holborn 4663.

FOR SALE, window cleaning business. Owner giving up because of failing health and age. Good opening and prospects for right man. For particulars write: J.S., 40 Bengal Road, Winton, Bournemouth.

FOR SALE, small library. Cheap. Write for list: W. Dowson, 28, Melrose Street, Middlesbrough.

CAPABLE young woman seeks situation as nurse-companion, housekeeper, or post looking after children. Must have Sabbath privileges. Any district will do. Reply, in first instance, to: E. R. Warland, 780 St. Albans Road, Watford, Herts.

## 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
Jan. 21st	5.28	5.26	5.41	5.20	5.38
Jan. 28th	5.40	5.39	5.53	5.35	5.52

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