

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

Studies in the Life of the Church

ONE step leads to another in doctrine whether true or false. Once we depart from the plain testimony of Scripture that our dear departed are blissfully and completely unconscious, we open the door to all forms of spiritism and psychic phenomena. Once we accept the solid biblical teaching that between the unconscious dead and the living there is fixed, by the will of God, an unbridgeable gulf, we are safe from all those psychic manifestations which range from the puerile to the perilous, from quackery to destruction.

Perhaps we spend too much time emphasizing the fraudulent side of spiritism. The presence of chicanery and deception is alone not a proof of falsity. Hypocrisy attends every form of truth, as we know unfortunately even in our own midst. No environment is so fruitful for the charlatan as that in which distracted human beings are seeking comfort and assurance regarding their beloved dead.

Regarding the miraculous side of all forms of spirit deception it is well to remember this:

"The apostle John, describing the miracle-working power that will be manifested in the last days, declares: 'He doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth' . . . Men are deceived by the miracles which Satan's agents have power to do, not that which they pretend to do."—*Great Controversy*, page 553.

No. 17. Some Distinctive Doctrines of the Advent Message:

The Spiritist Menace

By H. W. LOWE

That brings us to the one question germane to this whole matter of the origin of the powers behind spiritism. If they are not the communicating spirits of the dead, what are they? Are they sub-human intelligences of whom we know nothing? Are they deplorable delusions, or angels, or demons?

Answer aright this one question of origin, and the whole question of spiritism is disposed of so far as the Christian believer is concerned.

Our own "last times" are referred to in 1 Timothy 4:1: "Now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." So seducing spirits of demonic origin are, according to the Word, a reality in the last times of history. Paul also refers to powerful Satanic influences carrying credentials that will deceive the uninstructed. (2 Thess. 2:9, 10; 2 Cor. 11:14, 15.)

It is characteristic of spiritist séances that they are habitually held in a darkened place, whereas the New Testament expressly states that those who would find Christ (and that surely is the goal of every seeking believer) will

certainly not find Him in such a place: "Wherefore if they shall say unto you, . . . behold, He is in the *secret chambers*; believe it not." Matt. 24:26.

Anciently, King Saul is said to have lost his life because he sought counsel from a woman who was what we should now call a medium, then called "one that had a familiar spirit." 1 Chron. 10:13. This woman lived at Endor, a place of rock caves, in one of which, in all probability, she held her incantations or séances. At any rate, Saul had to disguise himself, and he had to go by night (1 Sam. 28:8)—a technique of approach which bears all the marks of "genuine" spiritism. This sort of thing was cursed by God because there being no such thing as the disembodied spirit of a departed person, the Hebrews were submitting themselves to Satanic influences through witchcraft, or necromancy, or spirit worship. (See Lev. 19:31; 20:6.)

These influences have an adequate explanation in Scripture. When Lucifer, "Son of the morning" was cast out of heaven because of his revolt against God (Isa. 14:12), he was followed by rebel angels (Rev. 12:4, 7-9), and henceforth these Satanic hosts made it their business to deceive and destroy the human race which Christ came to save. (The story of Job—see chapter 1:6—shows the malignity of these demon forces) No one knows when all this took place, except that it was pre-Adamic.

The believer is not gravely concerned about these evil angels,

because the majority of God's angels remained loyal to Him, and their work for man is beneficent in that it is protective and redemptive. Christ is the great Leader of the angels. (Exod. 23:20; Isa. 63:9; Jude 9), and the chief duty of these mighty spiritual forces is to direct and serve "those who shall be heirs of salvation." Heb. 1:14. They are not wooed in the darkness by the paraphernalia of the medium, and their comparatively rare appearances have always been to those whose lives were in harmony with God's Word.

The cumulative teaching of spiritism through the centuries has been consistently against the atoning work of Christ. That is unquestionably the chief argument against modern spiritism. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is reported to have said this of the atonement: "The student is well aware that the whole of this sanguinary method is drawn really from the pagan rites of Mithra," followed by the observation that other aspects of the atonement are "reminiscences of the more brutal side of paganism."—*Black Objects*, by Coulson Kernahan, pages 25, 26.

The same eminent spiritist, an admittedly high-minded man, is also reported as saying that "theological talk about people being miserable sinners was all hypocrisy and nonsense."—*Ibid.*

This alone would be enough to condemn spiritism in Christian circles, because the whole Christian religion centres around the atonement. One who does not accept Christ's atonement, cannot possibly believe in the incarnation, and thereby stands condemned in these words: "Every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God." 1 John 4:3.

The admixture of truth and error in spiritism is typically satanic. The medium at Endor produced a materialization that looked like Samuel and delivered an apt message that might well have come from a prophet. But the spirit was evil however impressive the performance. All falsehood has some good facets. As Shakespeare would say, "O what a goodly outside falsehood hath."

A world that is destroying itself is likely to fall largely under the spiritist menace (*Great Controversy*, pages 561, 562), which undermines faith in the Bible, in Christ, in true spirituality. It is one of the two greatest deceptions the world will ever know, (the other being portrayed in Revelation 13), and both Romanism and Protestantism will fall under its insidious spell. (See *Great Controversy*, page 588).

Notes from the Union President

THE General Conference Committee has approved a suggestion from this Union that a Red Cross Ambulance be maintained for a year from our Ingathering funds. Two of our institutions will also make a small contribution to what we consider this very worthy work of mercy. Our members are free to mention this as part of the work we do in our home field, for this is surely the kind of work that every Christian believer should support in these tragic days of human suffering.

AMONG OUR SOLDIERS

OUR members will be glad to know that many letters come to this office from American and other Allied soldiers expressing their deep appreciation of the cordial fellowship and kindly hospitality extended to them by our people all over the country. Some churches are receiving splendid help from these men, so that our appreciation is mutual.

CONGRATULATIONS!

IT is gratifying to learn that Robert Dunlop of the Edinburgh church has now obtained his medical qualification. He has been a great help in the church work as a medical student, and we are glad to see his name added to the increasing number of Adventist medical practitioners throughout this Union.

BAPTISMS ON GUADALCANAL
FROM the *Review and Herald* we take the following interesting paragraphs:

"E. B. Rudge, president of the

Australasian Union Conference, sends a good word regarding our work in the South Seas. In a letter to E. D. Dick he says:

"You will be interested to know that the four men who were recently returned to Papua are now busily engaged in restoring the normal routine of the work, and it is our expectation at an early date to add to this number of workers.

"All our island interests are now being well cared for except in the two regions where the war is waged actively, namely, the Solomons and New Guinea. Native workers are now reporting fairly regularly from the Solomons, and these reports indicate that on the whole our work is going along more or less normally. We were greatly cheered by a recent letter from Brother Rore, the native leader on the island of Guadalcanal, in which we learned that in his recent round of visits on the island he had baptized twenty-two believers and dedicated four new buildings as houses of worship. This surely is a striking indication of the manner in which the Lord has cared for His work despite all the ravages of war."

PASTOR SAVES BABY

THE paragraph below, which appeared in the *Evening Standard* of April 27, 1944, will evoke the sympathy of every member of the church in this country:

"After dropping a baby girl to safety from the window of a burning room in Warburton (Victoria) church hall, Pastor Edmund Rudge, 57-year-old president of the Australasian Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, and Pastor of Wahroonga, N.S.W., fell through the window on to the concrete pavement, reports Reuter.

"He was taken to hospital in a serious condition.

"Several of the audience of 250 were burned, but there was no panic when films being shown in the hall burst into flames and set the building alight."

MISSION COMMITTEES

THE Union Committee recently made slight changes in the Advisory Committees of two of our missions, which are now as follows:

Welsh Advisory Committee:
S. G. Hyde, F. S. Jackson, R. Jacques, F. E. Powell, J. R. Lewis.
Irish Advisory Committee:
E. E. Craven, A. C. Vine, E. Zins, J. McDowell, J. Ponder.

H. W. LOWE.

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

North England Conference

President: Pastor R. S. Joyce
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Telephone: Nottingham 66312

Notes from the President

PASTOR MAUDSLEY, who is assisted by Miss E. Adair and Miss L. Mason, has just reported the wonderful news that 253 interested people attended his first Sabbath afternoon meeting. This is the first Sabbath meeting ever held in Blackpool.

DERBY

PASTOR BIRD, assisted by Miss H. M. Ford, held his baptismal service last Sabbath. Thirteen candidates were immersed. For part of the campaign, Miss E. Mahon was his assistant. She was called away to help another evangelist. Unfortunately, Miss H. M. Ford was away ill for about ten weeks immediately prior to the baptism. However, in spite of obstacles, this encouraging baptism was held. Pastor Bird plans to begin another campaign on April 30th.

WAKEFIELD

BROTHER D. A. CONROY has had an encouraging start to his campaign. We hope to be able to send him help as soon as it is available.



Interior of the new Barnsley church building.

SCARBOROUGH

BROTHER D. J. CLARKE is conducting a campaign which includes a house-to-house visitation. He reports a good interest in the homes of the people.

DORCAS

WE hope you will read the report of the Newcastle Dorcas society which appears in this issue. We wish there were Dorcas and Welfare societies in each church and company.

WORKERS' MOVES

MISS I. HIMSWORTH has been invited to assist Pastor Bird, and Miss H. M. Ford has been invited to assist Pastor D. J. Handysides.

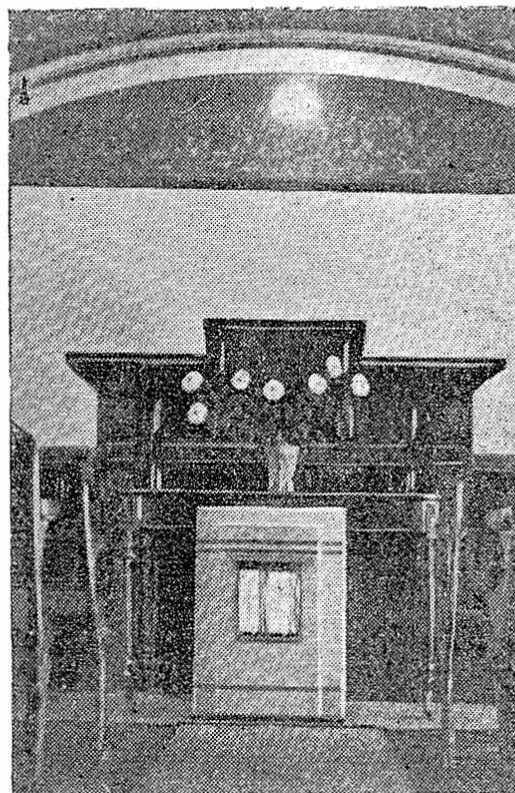
INGATHERING

INGATHERING plans have occupied your thoughts for the past few weeks. It may interest you to know that in our most scattered country district of Stretton, the necessary visits were paid by horse and trap. We hope you have planned to re-arrange your affairs for the month of May so that you will be able to devote time and energy to the campaign. We feel sure this opportunity has again providentially provided for the help of our world mission work. Is your goal one shilling for each year of our denominational history? R. S. JOYCE.

After Twenty Years

BROTHER EDGAR HALSTEAD of Manchester, an old friend of the literature ministry, writes to say that one of his *Present Truth* readers who first received our missionary magazine from him twenty years ago, has accepted the message and is now a baptized member.

Through the earnest efforts of Brother Halstead's sister, Mrs. Thorp, who took



The neat pulpit in the new Barnsley church.

over his list of readers, this person attended cottage meetings and the evangelistic campaign recently conducted in Rochdale. There, at long last, the decision was made to be obedient to the commandments.

So the patient sowing of the Gospel seed has brought forth fruit to God's glory, for which we are glad. B. BELTON.

"All in One Year!"

BARNSELY members have a just cause for much pleasure and pride, for in one year (1943) they have secured a fine church building, decorated it for service, and have presented it to God free of all debt.

How was it done? In March the Barnsley church had thirty pounds in the funds and there was a large house with a grand annexe which would be very suitable for a church to be sold by auction. This annexe took our "surveying eye!" The ground floor room could accommodate eighty, the basement was about the same size, while on the first floor, covering the large room, there were two splendid rooms, one we thought very suitable for M.V. meetings, while the smaller would make a good vestry. The two large attics would do for storage.

But, "We don't want the house," was the thought in most

minds, and "after all," said some, "£30 is not much to think of purchasing." Doubt said, "You cannot buy." Faith said, "I can remove mountains."

Our good treasurer could do with a change of house. "But I do not want that annexe," she said. So we offered her £300 for the annexe if she purchased the building—and she agreed.

Now, we had a month to raise the money. Could we do it? We called in Pastor R. S. Joyce, the president. He, as always, was enthusiastic and Brother A. Carey, after looking around the building, told us they would grant us something from the British Union toward the purchase price, plus a part of the cost of the alterations. Very good, we thought, but still there is a lot to find from a handful of faithful members—none very rich in worldly goods. But God was behind the project and by the time the auction was held, the money had been raised. I do not think that there was ever an auction-room so filled with Seventh-Day Adventists so earnestly praying—and their prayers were answered. That annexe was ours.

But what of the decorations and alterations? I was never so glad of my practical training. Walls were built, two staircases erected, a platform fixed, and countless other jobs never seen by the eyes of the visitor took our time and planning.

All our members helped with a will. Those too old to do manual work prayed, but all who could—worked. Brother H. Howard was our champion distemperer, Brother Carl Larson did much of the joinery work, while Sister Cluett, who was now installed in the house adjoining the church daily provided floor-cloths, odd brushes, dusters, and during the year must have supplied gallons of hot drinks to thirsty helpers.

We thank God for giving to us this grand building. We thank our president for his constant encouragement. We thank the Union for their help, and we cordially give an invitation to all the members and friends of the Advent family to visit our new home. This is the address: Advent Church, Victoria Bridge, Barnsley. D. J. HANDYSIDES.

Newcastle Dorcas Society

THROUGHOUT 1943, the work of the Dorcas society has been varied. We commenced the year by knitting socks and slippers and making overalls. The members brought in, during the year, about fifty garments, many of which we remade, mended, and gave to the poor; others being sold to enable us to purchase material to make other articles.

We were asked by Pastor Kinman if we could, as a society, raise £50 toward the church building fund. This seemed to be a staggering sum from so few. However, we had stout hearts. God blessed our efforts. We worked without ceasing for a "Bring and Buy" sale. May I add a note here to thank those members who gave both their time and their money to make the stall not only possible, but a success. We also thank the churchmembers, too, who gave so willingly. The sum realized by this effort amounted to £18. 19s. 5d. A further sum has just been handed over, amounting to £15. To date, the figure reached is £34, and we are still working, hoping to reach our goal.

We regret that during the year we have sustained the loss of two of our dear sisters, Sister Cooke, who will always be remembered among us for her help and good work; and Sister Pawson, who attended when her health permitted.

The year 1943 was indeed a full and successful one in the Dorcas activities. Once again we would extend to any non-members of the Dorcas society a cordial welcome, that they may share in this good work and join in fellowship with us as we labour for the Master. A. MORGAN.

Welsh Mission

Superintendent: Pastor S. G. Hyde
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Telephone: Llanishen 600

Superintendent's Notes

THE Convention for our northern churches—convened in Shrewsbury, April 14th and 15th—is now a memory. While at-

tendances could not be very large, owing to the small constituency in the north, they were good and very representative. It certainly was the best of such northern meetings at least for a good many years. The Lord blessed the brethren and sisters, as well as the workers, and it was obvious that everyone enjoyed the spiritual fare provided. A fuller report appears elsewhere in this issue.

SHREWSBURY CAMPAIGN

WE had the privilege of attending one of the public services in Shrewsbury being conducted by Brother J. R. Lewis. It was encouraging to see so many new faces in our church hall (where the campaign is being conducted), and to see their intense interest. Brother Lewis has also gathered together a fine group of young people (non-Adventist) who give great promise for the future. Many homes are now having a regular Bible study, and altogether we were much encouraged by the developments now taking place in beautiful Shrewsbury. Miss Alice Hartland is giving excellent support as Bible-worker.

THE MAY CAMPAIGN

WHEN you receive this MESSENGER, the Ingathering campaign will be almost a week under way. We trust that you have made a successful beginning. As a field we need some £300 each Sunday for the five Sundays provided for. This is what we did last year—so we know it can be done. Provided we don't procrastinate (you remember the copy-book proverb—"procrastination is the thief of time!") and we utilize every opportunity, we shall win through and rejoice in another great achievement.

LOCAL AGENTS

MAY we thank all local agents in anticipation of another campaign in which they have ably co-operated. Be sure and *post your report early on each Monday* so that the field report is all-embracing and representative.

SWANSEA

WORD has come through that Brother H. Humphries has secured a central cinema in Swan-

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sea for his campaign. We rejoice with him in this good opening and pray that the way may open for a successful undertaking.

AN ANONYMOUS DONOR

RECENTLY "a friend" in Cardiff sent along five £1 notes as a gift for the work now going on in Cardiff. We trust that this generous donor will see this acknowledgment of the gift and accept our grateful thanks.

S. G. HYDE.

Thirteenth Sabbath at Hereford

DID someone hear a whisper that March 25th had been set aside as a special day? Why, yes, of course. That was Thirteenth Sabbath, the day we had prayed would be a success. Our superintendent, Miss Vera Whilding, had worked most faithfully, week by week, to prepare a good programme.

What a glorious spring day it was! God's blessing surely rested upon us. This, of course, made us more enthusiastic, as we longed for our little "upper room" to be filled to the utmost, and I can assure you that there were not many seats empty.

Now, if you will listen just for a few minutes, you will understand why our programme did turn out a success. At the commencement of the service we united in the singing of that beautiful Sabbath hymn, "O day of rest and gladness," and then our hearts were lifted up in praise and thanksgiving as we knelt at the throne of grace. The Scripture reading was the well-known twenty-third psalm read responsively by the superintendent and her associate.

We recall how well Miss Stanton brought out the chief points in giving a brief but interesting review of the lessons of the quarter. Then we came to a big item on the programme, the lesson, which was on "The Prophets of Baal Destroyed." This was conducted by Mrs. Lambert, and I am sure all felt impressed, as we listened attentively to a lesson well studied, that our time was profitably spent.

Our next hymn was one for the

young people: "Into Thy service, Lord, Thou callest me."

"What about the children?" you will hear someone say, "didn't they take part?" Why, of course they did. They gave the missions appeal. Their poems were spoken with such good expression that when the offering was afterward taken up by Ann, we found that we had £5. 13s. 10d. to send away to the mission field. We are very grateful to everyone for giving so generously.

Sabbath-school continued with a recitation by one of our young people entitled, "Good and Evil," a message for to-day. "Long ago the children sang a song of praise to Jesus as He rode along" were the words in the hymn we joined with the children in singing.

Mrs. Bennett then showed how God really speaks to us through His Word. What an unusual sermonette it was! "The Bible Speaks" was the title. This was made most interesting and helpful as we turned up text after text; yes—the Bible does speak to us.

Then there was the quartette, a rendering of those beautiful words, "Jerusalem, my glorious home."

What was the next item? Oh, yes, I remember. Ann repeated John 14:1-7. It is always good to memorize God's Word. And what comforting words were found in that beautiful poem, "Man's Greatest Friend," given by Miss Vera Whilding.

So, with the singing of the hymn "Saviour again to Thy dear Name we raise," we brought the service to a close. The benediction was pronounced and a happy Thirteenth Sabbath programme ended.

FRANCES JONES,

Sabbath-school Secretary.

Shrewsbury Calling!

LAST August, we began to sell *Present Truth* in Shrewsbury, and did so until Christmas, by which time the circulation of the paper had caused our attendance on Sundays to increase slowly from six to eight, twelve, fifteen, and then twenty, non-members. A budget was then allotted, the members came to our help, and now the attendance is still growing, Bible studies are in progress, and already one young man has taken his stand for the Sabbath

and is canvassing in order to attend our College.

INVESTITURE

By announcing a meeting for young people an hour before the regular Sunday services interest grew from three to a dozen, and by the New Year a Friday evening service was commenced. Progressive Course work appealed to the youngsters, and Pastor Howard came to hold an Investiture in March. Members have had much pleasure in watching these adolescents respond to the Master's call.

CONVENTION

The week after Easter, Pastor Hyde convened a district meeting here, and the Shrewsbury church greeted visitors from Rhyl, Hawarden, Wrexham, Macclesfield, Wellington, Hereford, Cardiff, Wood Green, and the U.S.A. The Spirit of the Lord blessed us greatly in fellowship. On the Friday evening, our superintendent reviewed a century of Adventism and asked us if we were as eagerly awaiting the Lord's coming as the pioneers had been.

Principal W. G. C. Murdoch spoke to us twice on the Sabbath. His grave, quiet tones implored us to hold on to our confidence in the Saviour and His return, and his many illustrations assured us that earth had no pleasures to compare with the joys of heaven. Many friends rose to their feet at the end of the afternoon meeting to thank God for past blessings and to make a re-dedication of life.

The exercises of the day included a "Morning Watch" when Pastor Cooper led the prayers; a song service led by Brother Butters; and Sabbath-school with Brother Smith (Shrewsbury) and Brother Freeth (Hereford) on the platform. Miss Hartland was at the organ.

These gatherings become more precious as the years roll by. The younger folk are blessed in talking to those who have fought a good fight, and the older friends love to see the youth developing experience. By Sunday noon all had gone home feeling that it had been an inspiring re-union, when spiritual and other blessings were enjoyed by all.

JOHN R. LEWIS.

Scottish Mission

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Superintendent's Notes

WHEN these notes appear, the Ingathering campaign for 1944 will be well under way. I trust that YOU are sharing in the joy of service which this campaign brings to us all. I am sure that you share our desire to make this centenary year the very best in our history. This can only be if we all rally to the call and share the burden. We shall then be qualified to share in the victory which is sure to come.

WE are glad to report that the tithe returns for the first quarter of this year show an increase of over £31. This is excellent in view of the £300 decrease for the first two months. Let us all determine that we shall be found faithful under every circumstance. We "know not the day nor the hour" when we shall be called to render an account. "Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when He cometh shall find" faithful. No temporal comfort or material success can replace that joy which will flood the soul when we stand face to face with Jesus, and hear His commendation.

CONGRATULATIONS to Miss Doris Bleasby, who is now numbered among the growing list of doctors in the field. We wish her much joy in her medical services to humanity. To the others who are still studying, we wish to say that your day of rejoicing will come in due course, "if ye faint not."

WE are planning a District meeting in Edinburgh over the week-end of June 23rd to 25th. At the time of writing, Brethren W. G. C. Murdoch and J. Har-ker are planning to be present. As plans mature, we shall notify the members of the times of services. Plan now to be present. Pray now for the blessing we all need.

"Now is the time for the careless to arouse from their slumbers. Now is the time to entreat that

souls shall not only hear the Word of God, but without delay secure oil in their vessels with their lamps. That oil is the righteousness of Christ. It represents character, and character is not transferable. No man can secure it for another. Each must obtain for himself a character purified from every stain of sin."—*E. G. White, "Special Testimonies," Series A, No. 4, page 5.*

OUR Advisory Committee some time ago voted that Pastor H. T. Johnson should move into Kilmarnock to open up work in that important district. At the time of writing, the way has not opened up for this move to materialize. Pray that the Lord will go before and show the way. Ayr, a populous and growing town, has never heard the living preaching of the Advent message. Surely this is the time to breach this south-western rampart. We look to Him who has promised to "break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron."

As I write, word has come that Brother A. Barr has slipped away into eternity in his eighty-second year. Brother Barr was for many years a faithful member of the Glasgow church. We express our sincere condolences with his dear wife, to Andrew and Margaret. Less than twenty-four hours ago I prayed at his bed-side with the assurance that Jesus was his Saviour. The rod and staff were with him as he passed through the valley. Soon will come the sound of the trumpet and the voice, "Arise."

J. A. McMILLAN.

Newbold College

Graduation, 1944

At this time when so many urgent demands are being made upon the youth of the country, we have reason to be grateful to God that in this fifth year of war the number of students enrolled in our College has remained around ninety.

We believe that the object and aim of all true education is the development of a noble Christian

character. To this end the teachers of the College bend their energies as they instruct their pupils from day to day. The chapel hour, the Friday evening meeting, the Sabbath-school, and the prayer meeting keep continually before the students the supreme importance of becoming thoroughly grounded in the truth for these last days. One of the most gratifying features of a teacher's work is that of seeing young people developing in their Christian experience. At the close of the Spring Week of Prayer the younger members among us who had not yet been baptized signified their desire to join the church. A baptismal class was organized and the baptism will take place before the close of the school year.

We have been greatly favoured this second term by an unusual number of visitors, and their messages have been a real inspiration to us.

The next few weeks will be busy ones for all. We are about to launch our Ingathering Campaign and quite a number this year are under sixteen years of age and so will not be allowed to join us on this occasion. However, the plan is for them to "tarry by the stuff at home" while those of more mature years go out into the battle. A few days after the campaign the examinations will commence and we trust that victory will crown the final efforts of each student.

There are fourteen members in the graduating class this year—nine young ladies and five young men. We wish it were possible to have an old-time Newbold graduation as in pre-war days when a thousand friends and well-wishers used to come to honour the graduates. For the present we are sorry our war-time accommodation will permit only the relatives of the graduates to attend. The graduation exercises will be held at 3 p.m. on May 14th. Following the close of school, a number of the students will enter the colporteur field in quest of a scholarship and at the same time will take the message of hope and courage into thousands of homes.

Some of the teachers of the College will visit your church this summer to enlist new recruits for next school year. We hope that

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all will put forth special efforts to interest our boys and girls from fourteen to seventeen years of age. Now is the time for them to enter our schools. Many who are older would like to attend but the present circumstances make this impossible. If you know of any young people who ought to receive the benefits of a Christian education, will you kindly send their names and addresses to us? We would like to encourage them to come to Newbold College and obtain that training which will prepare them for a place of service for God on this earth and for a home in His eternal kingdom.

W. G. MURDOCH.

Church Addresses

Wimbledon

WILL visitors to Wimbledon kindly note that the Wimbledon church is once again able to meet for Sabbath morning and afternoon services in the Second Advent church, Montague Road.

G. ROPER.

Wedding Bells

SHAW-STENDALL.—On April 17, 1944, Norman Shaw was married to Edith Stendall in the Mansfield Road Baptist Church, Nottingham, where a large congregation witnessed the ceremony. Afterward, a reception was held for the many relatives and friends, which will long be remembered as a very happy occasion.

The bridegroom has been a student at Newbold College, and is now working for the Forestry Commission. The bride has been a stenographer in the North England Conference office since leaving Newbold College. Norman Shaw will continue his war work, and we are glad that Mrs. Shaw will continue to work in the North England Conference office. We wish them every blessing.

R. S. JOYCE.

ASHTON-WOODHOUSE. — Brother Leone Ashton and Sister Rosa Woodhouse were united in marriage by the writer in Stanborough Park church on Monday, April 10, 1944. A prayer for God's blessing upon the young couple was offered by the bridegroom's father, Brother

E. Ashton. The bride's father, who is from the Edmonton church, spoke appropriate words at the reception which followed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Barras. A large number of relatives and friends sat down to an excellent breakfast at which all joined in wishing the newly-weds all joy and blessings.

W. W. ARMSTRONG.



CHISHOLM.—Sister J. B. Chisholm fell asleep in Jesus on February 26th, 1944, at the age of fifty-nine years, following an operation in the Birmingham Hospital. About twelve years ago we made her acquaintance and commenced to give her Bible studies. With joy she accepted the Advent message. Shortly after this she left Sheffield, and as a ladies companion travelled much on the Continent. For a time she stayed in Rome, where she was baptized, and became a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist church in that notable city. She now rests from her labours awaiting the call of Jesus to immortal life. She leaves an aged mother and two sisters to mourn their loss.

H. CASSON.

COOMBS.—We deeply regret to announce the death of a well-beloved member of the Plymouth church. Sister A. Coombs passed away on Sunday, March 19, 1944, in her eighty-eighth year. She became a member of the church during the ministry of Pastor W. W. Prescott, and was baptized on her seventieth birthday. Since that time she had been a faithful member and, although during the past five years had only been able to attend the services occasionally, she always maintained a lively interest in the welfare of the church. We mourn her passing, but believe that she enjoys the rest of those who are "faithful unto death," and we look forward to that brighter reunion on the resurrection morning. The services in the home and at the graveside were conducted by the writer.

F. J. WILMSHURST.

BIRD.—The Wakefield church has sustained the loss of one of its elderly members in the death of Mrs. Eliza Bird on March 16, 1944, at the age of seventy-seven years. We laid her to rest on March 20th, Brother D. A. Conroy conducting the service. Our dear sister accepted the message along with her sister twelve years ago as a result of the labours of Pastor E. E. Craven and Brother B. H. C. Davies. After taking her stand she was ever loyal to the cause she so much loved, telling all of the love of Jesus and the Sabbath. It was her wish that she should live to see the Lord's coming, but it was not to be. She now awaits that day when Jesus will call from the tomb all those that sleep in Him. We pray that those who are left to mourn may know the joy of looking forward to the coming of the Saviour when death will then be a thing of the past.

J. HANTON-SHEARD, Church Clerk.

VINTON.—It is with deep regret that the Hull church reports the passing of Brother Vinton on March 23, 1944, at the age of eighty-four years. We miss his cheery presence and word of welcome to all. He was baptized during the ministry of Pastor Bell on June 29, 1906. The third angel's message wrought a complete change in his life, as a stranger, one of his personal

friends, remarked at the graveside. He testified to the last of God's goodness through this truth. He was laid to rest by Brother Vine in the Western Cemetery in the presence of a good number of members and friends. We have a sure and certain hope of a joyful meeting again at Christ's return.

E. LIMBACK,
Church Clerk.

LESTER.—We record with deep regret the death of Sister Emily Jane Lester on March 29, 1944, at the age of seventy-seven years after a brief illness. We placed our dear sister in the safe keeping of our Saviour "whom having not seen she loved." She was an earnest believer in the truth of the second advent, which she embraced in 1905 under the ministerial labours of Pastors McCord and Marcus at Nottingham. Words of comfort were spoken to mourners by Pastor W. J. Cannon, assisted by Brother P. Binks. Sister Lester leaves three sons, one daughter, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren to mourn their loss. "We sorrow not as others that have no hope," but wait in sure and certain hope of the resurrection morn.

L. SKELHAM, Church Clerk.

STONE.—At the age of seventy-four our dear sister, Mrs. Ellen Stone, fell asleep in Jesus on Sunday, April 2, 1944. She was a faithful warrior, having fought valiantly in the good fight of faith for thirty years at least, and having been a member of the Bournemouth church throughout this long time. Sister Stone accepted the message through the labours of Pastor W. Maudsley and his co-workers. For several years she had been far from well, but received from the Lord strength to attend the Sabbath services. Her last illness began just two days before she died. So far as we know, she had no relatives; but she did have many friends. A goodly number of these were present at the funeral services which were conducted by the writer in our own church, and at the graveside. For just a little while our sister sleeps; soon she will awaken to life everlasting.

F. A. SPEARING.

WALMSLEY.—The Slough church has lost a faithful member by the death of Sister Anne Walmsley, who passed to her rest on April 11, 1944, after only a few hours' illness. She accepted the truth under the ministry of Pastor Bonney, and was baptized at Reading, July 29, 1939. She ably filled the responsible position of church clerk. Her attendance at almost every service was a great inspiration to all. Her thoughtfulness for others and willingness to help, although always in ill health, was a marked characteristic of her unselfish nature. She sleeps in London Road Cemetery, awaiting the Master's call. The service was conducted by Brother K. Lacey at the Coventry church.

A. PRIOR.

CARTER.—Rosemary Carter peacefully fell asleep in Jesus on April 16, 1944. Rosemary had suffered for many years, but throughout her long illness was a wonderful example of Christian patience and fortitude. She was brought up in the truth and her faith in, and love for, Jesus never wavered. To the last she loved the message and longed for the coming of the Saviour. It was in the "sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection" at the last day that we laid her to rest on April 18th. Pastor W. T. Bartlett, a close friend of the family, prayed at the home. The writer, assisted by Brother P. Binks, conducted the service at the Sutton-in-Ashfield Cemetery. Churchmembers and friends unite in heartfelt sympathy with the mother and sisters, and with them, look forward to the day when "sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

W. J. CANNON.

India's Gratitude to the British Union

By A. F. Tarr

THE interest that Advent believers in Great Britain have taken in foreign missions is deeply appreciated by their fellow-workers and believers in India. In fact, one of the joys that has buoyed us up in the uncertain times through which we have passed has been the knowledge that the home churches have shared with us—by their prayers and their gifts—the stupendous task that still is ours.

The hardships that have been yours are a secret to none. We, in India, have been stirred by the accounts we have read and have watched with deep concern the unfolding of events that have meant so much to you. We have wished there were something we might do, even from this distance, to help. It would have been satisfying if we could have sent you a tangible reminder of our regard for you and our admiration of your courage and fortitude. But when from your own difficult situation there come gifts to us for the work over here, we cannot find words with which to express the gratitude we feel. Each remittance that comes brings with it a fresh reminder of your liberality and of the good will that this betokens. It reminds us, too, of the responsibility that is ours to use your gifts in a way that will accomplish the greatest results.

We are glad to tell you that God's blessing is attending our work in all of its phases. It is true our force of overseas workers has been greatly depleted, but the Indian workers have risen admirably to the occasion. In one Union alone six of the eight mission field superintendents are Indians and they are administering their work with remarkable efficiency and enthusiasm. At our mission hospital in East Bengal, where until two years ago an overseas doctor was located, we now have an Indian compounder, with two assistants, treating sometimes thousands of patients each

month. On a recent visit there I learned that they had treated as many as 350 cases in a single day. Cholera, dysentery, and malaria were the main diseases; but the famine situation, which in those parts was very distressing, had added to their problems. This situation has, however, greatly improved of late.

The high cost of food, and in some cases its scarcity, have made it difficult to operate our boarding schools, and even threatened their closing; but so far we have been able to keep them all open and operating with much success. A number of these, including high schools, are now directed by Indian principals.

Large city evangelism has been much restricted owing to war conditions and to a shortage of experienced evangelists; but village evangelism continues unabated. Some of our less experienced Indian evangelists, who in normal times might be serving as assistants, are drawing large audiences, and this without any other attraction or appeal than the simple preaching of the message.

In Assam, where despite danger our workers have stuck to their posts, evangelism is coming to the fore. At a recent committee meeting there it was inspiring to listen to the plans for strengthening this phase of their work. To our Assam Training School, students have come from unentered areas on the Burma border. Many of these have joined the baptismal class and are planning when they finish school to return for work in their own country, which thus far we have been unable to enter.

In Ceylon, under Pastor A. F. Jesson's direction, the workers and believers are pressing on with their task. It has been heartening to visit their churches and to note their zeal and fervour.

Among the Indian, British, and American troops, thousands of Gospels and copies of *Steps to Christ*, and *The Marked Bible* have been distributed, and many

interesting contacts have been made. The presence here of faithful Seventh-Day Adventist boys from other countries has been a source of encouragement to the churches where they have been stationed. In some cases they have served as Sabbath-school superintendents and Missionary Volunteer leaders as well as contributing by talks, instrumental music, and singing to the joys of worship.

And so we might recount the evidences of God's guiding, prospering hand. For the share which you of the British Union have had in this—your gifts and prayers—we thank you sincerely, and we pray that unmeasured blessings may be yours in your own great needs.

A Testimony on "Tithing"

"It is a Heaven-appointed plan that men should return to the Lord His own; and this is so plainly stated that men and women have no excuse for misunderstanding or evading the duties and responsibilities God has laid upon them. Those who claim that they cannot see this to be their duty reveal to the heavenly universe, to the church, and to the world, that they do not want to see this plainly stated requirement."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 387.

Acknowledgment

THE Treasurer of the Scottish Mission acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Lord's tithe, £20., from "Radio Officer, Merchant Navy."

Advertisements

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

FAIR price offered for *Advent Hymnal* (Music). Limp preferred. Good condition. Write: "Cantref," Sutton Poyntz, Weymouth.

SUNSET CALENDAR

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Lon'n Not'm Car'ff Edin Bel't
May 12th 9.40 9.51 9.53 10.13 10.17
May 19th 9.51 10.02 10.03 10.25 10.29

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

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