

# BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

BRITISH UNION SURVEY.—6

## Financial Blessings During the War Years

By A. CAREY

IN recent issues of the MESSENGER you have read with much interest I am sure, of the past, present, and future of the Lord's work in the various fields of the British Union. I have been asked to give you a brief survey of the financial aspects of our conference work as a Union, and it is therefore my purpose to put on record some of the financial blessings which have come to this Union during the five years of war.

You all know the hymn, "Count your many blessings . . . see what God hath done," and that is just what I propose to do, simply to name and count the financial blessings one by one, and you will observe that every item shows a very encouraging gain.

Naturally, the first item should be the Lord's tithe, and this should bring great encouragement to every churchmember who has been faithful in this respect, and if perchance there are any members who have not helped in the support of the Lord's work, perhaps the report when read will encourage them to join the others in this plan of support of the Lord's work in the future.

1. *The Lord's Tithe.* There has been a steady increase in the

tithe every year since 1939 as follows:

1940 % increase over 1939	7.47
1941 % increase over 1940	20.70
1942 % increase over 1941	14.97
1943 % increase over 1942	12.26

When you compare 1943 with 1939 there is a percentage increase of nearly 68 per cent, but this is not all. We have just completed our accounts for the nine months of this year 1944, and when comparing the tithe for the same period of 1939 (the last year of peace), we find that there is an 84 per cent increase. How has this come about; how has it been possible for such an increase? I have a Government publication before me which shows that on the average, the wages of most classes of workers in the British Isles have been increased by 40 per cent above 1939 rates, and during those years our church membership has had a net increase of approximately 4 per cent. So one might have expected 44 to 50 per cent increase in tithes, but surely the above increase quoted demonstrates the loyalty and devotion of our people to God's work in this earth to-day.

2. *Sabbath-School Offerings.* Obviously the next item for me to count up, and to which I would

call your attention, is the main and all-important mission offering given so freely week by week by our Sabbath-school membership, and it is of extreme interest to find that there has also been a steady increase year by year to date as follows:

1940 % increase over 1939	3.85
1941 % increase over 1940	17.59
1942 % increase over 1941	18.77
1943 % increase over 1942	15.25

But to me the most remarkable thing is that when we compare the year 1943 with 1939, the percentage increase in Sabbath-school offerings is 67.17, nearly equal with the tithe increase for the same period; and when we compare the nine months of 1944 with the same period of 1939, there has been a percentage increase in our Sabbath-school offerings of nearly 108 per cent. "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes." Psa. 118:23.

Now I would refer on the same lines of percentage increase to the other mission offerings, which, with the exception of the young people's, should be called special offerings. So let us look at the Young People's offering.

3. *Young People's Offering.* The year 1940 showed a percentage decrease on 1939 of 8.23,

but from the next year onward and to date there have been remarkable increases in the young people's offering, which the following figures will show you:

1941 % increase over 1940	34.61
1942 % increase over 1941	34.76
1943 % increase over 1942	18.72

Then when comparing the year 1943 with 1939 the percentage increase is nearly 98 per cent, and for the nine months of 1944 compared with the same period of 1939 there has been an increase of 150 per cent.

4. *Missions Extension Offering.* Here again the Big Week offerings have increased steadily year by year without any setback, and for 1943 as compared with 1939 the percentage increase was 57 per cent, and when comparing this year so far with 1939 there is an increase of nearly 200 per cent. This is brought about largely by the extra sum paid into this fund by The Stanborough Press Limited from its profits of last year; and their success in addition to the loyalty of our church membership has meant that we have been able to provide this year three times the sum raised in 1939 for new work in the mission field.

5. *Week of Sacrifice.* Now let us turn our minds to the Week of Sacrifice. There have been very good increases year by year up to last year, and then there was a decrease of nearly 5 per cent as compared with the previous year; but comparing 1943 with 1939, the Week of Sacrifice in this field has advanced by 68 per cent, and comparing the nine months of 1944 with the same period of 1939, there has been a substantial increase of 122 per cent. It might be well for me to remind our church membership of the Week of Sacrifice plan. We ask every one in conference employ to give to the special work of missions during the year, one week's salary, and we also invite our church membership as a whole to be as liberal in their donation to the fund as well. So I think the wonderful increase in this fund speaks well for all concerned, and surely the blessing of the Lord is upon every one who has given to it.

6. *Annual Offering.* Now we

are drawing to the end of the year and the Week of Prayer, when we call for the special Annual Offering, and I feel I must quote the increases year by year as they are interesting. For instance:

1940 % increase over 1939	64
1941 % decrease on 1940	15
1942 % increase over 1941	70
1943 Sum raised almost the same as 1942 (no increase)	

but comparing the year 1943 with 1939 there was a percentage increase of nearly 138. What will the percentage increase for 1944 be as compared with 1939? Shall we leave that with the Lord to direct and guide our hearts and minds so that each one of us will remember the many mercies and blessings of the Lord to us during these war years?

7. *Harvest Ingathering.* Now I have called your attention to the tithes and regular offerings which come to the Lord's treasury from the churchmembers, but I could not close this report without calling your attention to the Ingathering Campaign, which represents a labour of love and service on your part in gathering in from the public, funds for the support of our missionary work in the lands beyond the seas.

In 1939, over a period of several months, the sum of £10,693 was gathered in. This year of 1944, in five weeks, the wonderful sum of £23,624 has been collected, which is more than double that of 1939, showing 121 per cent increase. Surely every member can imagine the feelings of the Union brethren when such sums are gathered in so quickly. This is well beyond anything we have done in the past, for the furtherance of the Gospel message to the uttermost parts of the earth. We wish to express our gratitude to God for the unselfish labour of love of all those who have taken part, also to our Government who permit us to make such a collection from the public, and then assist us in the sending of every penny collected to the various mission fields with which we in this land are so vitally connected.

I will close this report to you by stating that during the year 1939 the combined tithes and

offerings of the membership of this field amounted to a little over £50,000, and for the year 1943 they amounted to £86,407—an increase of nearly 73 per cent. As I study the figures for 1944 so far I really believe that the tithes and offerings for this year of 1944 will double those of 1939.

Five years of war, distressing circumstances, the work carried on under many, many hardships, yet the tithes and offerings in this field are now nearly 100 per cent more than at the beginning of the war.

There may be some who have not taken very much part in bringing about this truly wonderful result. If any such read these lines, may I direct your attention to *Testimonies*, Vol. 5, page 732, where it is stated, "One dollar now is more valuable than ten later."

Thinking of this statement, we are reminded that one day it will be too late; probation will have closed; but to every churchmember who has helped under the blessing of God in these financial blessings which have come to the church during the five war years, I would quote from *Testimonies*, Vol. 4, page 119: "That we have heavenly treasure according to our investments in the cause of God."

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## Notes from the Union President

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### A WELCOME VISITOR

ELDER R. L. BENTON, formerly president of the South Western Union, has arrived from the States, and will spend some time visiting American camps here and on the continent. He will, on his travels, take in such churches as he can, and we are sure our churches will welcome our first American minister to visit these shores under war conditions.

### WEEK OF PRAYER THOUGHTS

JUST following our Week of Prayer new groups of officers will be assuming office in all our churches and companies. This means that some will probably

be remaining in office, others will be coming newly into office, while still others will be dropping out of responsibility for various reasons. I have a few things I should like to say from my heart to the various groups of officers, new and old, among our good lay men and women.

To those leaving office I want to say, firstly, that whatever local conditions may have been, the church at large is always grateful to the self-sacrificing hard-working, loyal lay workers who largely carry the responsibility of church leadership. Secondly—and I say this after having watched men and women come to and go from church office for thirty-five years—go graciously! Just once in a while, a change of office comes hard to a man or woman, and an element of bitterness arises from disappointment. If you should feel that in the slightest, let this Week of Prayer find you at God's throne of grace, where you may find divine solace and strength to be large-minded and gracious.

To those coming into office for 1945, I commend these words: "When a worker is selected for office, that office of itself does not bring to him power or capability that he did not have before. A . . . position does not give to the character Christian virtues"—*"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 277.*

We shall all need to remain humble-minded, earnestly striving for God, if we are not to be carried away with a sense of our human importance in the days to come. (Galatians 6:3, 4 contains food for meditation in this connection.)

#### ANNUAL OFFERING

THIS year we have a full share of gratitude in our hearts for God's sovereign and gracious protection. Let us therefore make our annual thank offering on December 9th a true index of our devotion to this blessed advent message.

H. W. LOWE.

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WHEN His people, with grateful hearts, bring their gifts and offerings to Him, "not grudgingly, or of necessity," His blessing will attend them, as He has promised.—*"Patriarchs and Prophets," page 529.*

NOVEMBER 17, 1944

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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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### London Centenary Day of Fellowship

ON Sabbath, October 28, 1944, Advent believers from the churches of London and the Home Counties met together for their Centenary Day of Fellowship. After a forced postponement of this meeting, owing to the flying bomb menace, the crowds that gathered seemed to be full of expectancy for a day of special blessing. It is impossible to convey in a report the atmosphere of such a gathering.

From the first service of the day it was quite clear that we were going to have a record crowd. In the entrance hall of the Holloway Road Baptist church over one hundred of our American and Canadian brethren of the Forces were welcomed by a patriotic display of their countries' banners. After signing their names in the visitors' book, they were presented with a souvenir booklet and leather book-marker suitably inscribed in gold leaf together with a complimentary ticket for the Y.P.S. social to be held in the evening.

Many hearts were stirred when the opening hymn of the Sabbath-school was sung. The members of this district had passed through a very trying time during the past few months, but now we were together again we could sing with heartfelt devotion and praise, "All hail the Power of Jesu's name." Brother E. E. White, the principal of our Secondary School, gave a masterly review of the book of Amos. The lesson study, which was conducted by Pastor W. T. Bartlett, brought a wealth of deep, spiritual lessons. Obadiah, with its tragic story of Edom's unbrotherly hatred, became a new book, inspiring us to "possess our possessions" and thus become equipped for our call as saviours to the world. It would be an in-

complete Sabbath-school without a glimpse of the needs of the mission fields. Pastor L. Edmonds, who has just returned, brought to us a moving appeal from one of the chiefs of South-East Nigeria. The Western nations are forcing upon the natives a life for which they are not prepared. The time is critical and great needs are rapidly arising. Rome is stepping in because she realizes the opportunity. This is also our opportunity. Brother Edmonds asked us what we were going to do. A record offering of well over £60 was the congregation's willing response.

When the church was filled with well over one thousand for the morning preaching service, we began to wonder what was going to be done about a place large enough for the next South England Conference session. It is a custom of long standing to look for the chief inspiration of the day in this service. To this end our petitions joined with Pastor Bartlett's that we might see our God and know Him. After giving the announcements and a special welcome to our members in the forces to this, the fifth such meeting of the war, Pastor G. D. King invited us to make the choir's rendering of 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18 a part of our worship. All the music of the day was appreciated, none of it being just a mere addition to the programme, but sung and accompanied in a way to reach and soften our hearts. Especially was this true of the male choir's rendering of "Lord, I'm coming Home," and the mixed choir's "Sun of My Soul."

Brother A. Carey made reference to a special financial burden of the conference. This was the need to repair the war-damaged churches in London, and to complete the purchase of two new properties. The church offerings of the day he told us, were to be devoted to this needy cause.

Pastor H. W. Lowe was the speaker for the morning. Before coming to his subject, he gave us a few statistics to encourage us and to demonstrate not only God's faithfulness but His peoples'. We were gladdened to hear that although many of our young people had had great difficulties

**—especially in the Forces—**God has been good and much grace has been vouchsafed to all who have called upon Him. For this he offered a prayer of thanksgiving, also pleading that any who had not found Jesus and made His grace sufficient for their needs might sense His presence that day.

Hebrews 10:32-39 was the foundation for our morning's consideration. This movement was brought to the birth one hundred years ago—and not easily, for there had been "a great fight of afflictions"—but our salvation is in adhering to this blessed truth in spite of whatever trials the Lord may permit. Many are the texts which speak of the riches of Christ or the glory of Christ, and all teach us that God's richest grace is seen most in men under pressure and affliction. There is no situation in this life capable of defeating the Christian, as long as he has this grace—the solution to any problem. However, one weakness may break down our defences and dog our footsteps either in school, home, business, or the Forces. All our failures can be traced back to a first weakness, a first lowering of the standards, where we were not strengthened with might in the inner man. But "My God shall supply all your needs"—whether we want help for a hasty temper, a sulky temper, or a bitter, hasty tongue, God's grace is sufficient for all these needs.

We stood as Pastor King dismissed us with a prayer of consecration.

A new feature to these district meetings was the lunch-hour service of song and praise held in the Holloway Advent church, which was not nearly large enough to hold all who wanted to join in the singing of the choruses and reading of psalms under the leadership of Brother R. A. Vince. Brother F. Bacon-Shone, who accompanied, played two piano solos.

At the afternoon Bible study, Pastor W. L. Emmerson gave a timely and inspiring address based on the words of Joshua: "Not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you." Joshua 23:14. Our occasion was

similar to that of Joshua's. We were looking back over one hundred years of our work and the preaching of the Advent message. We were asked the questions, "Has the message been invalidated by the passage of the years? Does it need to be modified or changed?" Brother Emmerson's study showed us very clearly that the answers were definitely in the negative.

The Advent message came during a remarkable period of discovery and invention and seemed to many of that day absolutely contrary to the world trends and beliefs. But in spite of this, "Not one thing hath failed."

The pioneers had not only many things to say about the future of the economic, social, moral, and religious state of the world, but they believed that the Advent message would go to the ends of the earth. As we look back over the progress during the past one hundred years we rejoice as we see the certainty of their predictions. They saw just the tiny flickerings; we see in flaming signs the outworking of their prophecies.

Pastor Emmerson closed his assuring study by appealing for even a corresponding zeal for the final triumph of the Advent message.

At 4 p.m. we came to the last service of the day which was conducted by our president, Pastor G. D. King. Before taking his chosen subject he thanked all who had taken a part in making the day such an outstanding success. Especially mentioned was Brother A. H. Thompson who, in addition to conducting the five beautifully rendered items by the Stanborough Male Choir and Church Choir, had, assisted by Brother F. Bacon-Shone, presided at the pipe organ.

The message of the closing hour was very timely. Brother King based his theme on the text found in Acts 28:15: "Paul . . . thanked God and took courage." We were reminded briefly of the double ordeal through which the London district had passed. Several churches had been damaged or destroyed. Many members had lost their homes, but the days of fellowship had been maintained. The service rendered in evangel-

ism has not been sensational, but never more sincere. Evangelism may have been delayed, but not defeated: hard but not dead. One thousand new members have been baptized during the six war years. The increases in tithes and offerings have been almost staggering, due to the blessing of God and the loyalty and love of the members which is the greatest asset of the Advent cause.

By the response of the audience we felt that God was receiving thanks and His people were taking courage.

In his closing remarks Brother King referred us to the message of Deuteronomy 31:6, 7: "Be strong and of a good courage: for thou must go with this people unto the land which the Lord hath sworn unto their fathers." We have to make up our minds that we will triumph with this cause.

This report would be far from complete without making mention of the care that was given to the children in their own services throughout the day. Pastor E. R. Warland, assisted by Brother G. Roper, Sisters M. John and V. Warren and others, provided very interesting and helpful programmes for the goodly number of children who had eagerly assembled. We know that they had a blessed time together.

The end of a grand day came all too quickly. The presence of God had been with us, and we were all loath to leave such an atmosphere. The trials through which we had passed had surely brought about and emphasized the truth of the parting statement of one of our American brethren, "You sure have a wonderful spirit of Advent fellowship here in London."

C. R. BONNEY.

### Advent Centenary Youth Social

As a large number of our youth were in London for the Day of Fellowship on October 28th, a social was arranged for them at the close of the Sabbath in the large Upper Hall of the Baptist church where the meetings had been held during the day. Three

hundred young people, including about forty of our overseas brethren in the Services, spent a happy three hours together. Such a large gathering of youth prevented our being able to accommodate older friends and relatives as we had done on similar occasions in the past.

From the moment of arrival, when each guest was introduced to a unique test of Bible knowledge, to the closing benediction at 9.45 p.m., the spirit of Christian fellowship was very manifest. An interesting programme of games had been prepared by Brethren R. A. Vince and D. J. Dunnett, all of which were heartily enjoyed by the young people. In the interval Brother A. W. Lethbridge gave us a couple of humorous items, and, following a brief message from our president, Mrs. King presented the prizes. Excellent refreshments were provided by Miss K. Mahon, Miss V. Warren, and their helpers. For a memorable half-hour Brother Vince then led three hundred youthful voices in some old and new community songs, after which more games concluded a very happy time together.

We are grateful to our heavenly Father for a quiet evening and believe His blessing was with us, as it had been during the Sabbath hours. We look forward to more peaceful days and more frequent happy gatherings of our Adventist young people.

E. R. WARLAND

### What the Bombs Could Not Stop

WHEN commencing our campaign here in Ilford some six months ago, we were met with the usual difficulty of finding a suitable hall, but one difficulty we did not anticipate and that was a second blitz. Despite the losing of our hall by bomb damage, the meetings were continued and supported by a small though consistent attendance.

Praise must be given to Miss Dando for her faithful work in the homes, and also to the members of the church who supported the meetings with their regular attendance.

How our hearts thrilled on Sabbath, October 21st, at Holloway to see seven souls unite with us by vote and baptism. Two others also were baptized, one from Edmonton and the other from Holloway. Pastors G. D. King and A. J. Mustard officiated, and we were urged to renewed consecration as we witnessed this most beautiful of all services.

Success under such conditions assures us that there is no power on earth that can hinder the purposes of God. Great things can yet be accomplished if God's chosen witnesses are faithful to their divine commission.

J. P. WEST.

### Baptism at Bristol

THE first Sabbath in November was a happy occasion to the members in the Western district. The church at Bristol was filled to witness the baptism of those who have responded to the teaching of God's Word. As a result, twenty-one were added to the Bath and Bristol churches.

Brother Leslie Shaw began an effort in Bath in the spring of the year. About the time of the presentation of the Sabbath, he was joined by Sister Aurelia Rudick, a recent graduate from the College, as Bible Instructor.

Nine of the new members are the result of this work and others are interested who we hope will go forward later. The twelve from the Bristol area brings the membership of this church up to a hundred and sixty.

Miss Guntrip, who for many years has successfully laboured in the Bible-work, has been associated with the writer in this effort. After twenty-seven years of strenuous work she feels that she must take things somewhat easier. Her labour has been greatly valued by the church and the Conference.

It was encouraging to have three men and their wives unite with the churches and thus journey together to the city of God.

At the beginning of the service, Esther Gabriel Shaw, aged three months, and Allen David Hodges were dedicated to the Lord by their parents. Sister Shaw sang

the consecration hymn as a solo and the Bristol choir, led by Brother K. Gammon, rendered some anthems which were very much appreciated.

During the first nine months of the year, the Bristol church had averaged in tithes and offerings £45 per week. This is an increase of £2. 10s. over the average for 1943.

On Sunday, November 5th, the writer was invited by the chaplain to preach to the men in a military prison. About a hundred were present, among them eight from the death cells. As the love of God and the plan of salvation were presented to these souls with so great a shadow over their lives, the Spirit impressed their hearts. One to whom we spoke personally promised to turn his feet into the ways of God. A further invitation has been extended to speak to the men at some future date. We ask an interest in your prayers.

O. M. DORLAND.

### Norwich Harvest Festival

CONTRARY to all expectations the sixth war-time Harvest Festival services proved to be the best that Norwich had been able to provide. On Friday afternoon the ladies and Pastor W. Nicholson worked very hard to transform the church from yellow, distempered walls into bowers of autumn-tinted leaves and berries. In the grand selection of gifts contributed by interested folk, as well as the members, were represented all the gifts of God for which we were grateful. Corn, oats, cauliflowers, apples, pears, butter, salt, and even coal were arrayed in front of the platform. The children performed their part by having a table of their own which was decorated as tastefully as the rest of the church.

The thanksgiving services were held on Sabbath, October 7th, and, from the Sabbath-school to the Young People's service, Pastor Nicholson had a busy day. These services were well attended.

The culminating service was held on Sunday afternoon, October 8th, at 3 p.m., when over sixty people attended, of whom thirty-two were non-members, in-

terested folk from Pastor Nicholson's evangelistic effort. His text, John 12:24 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit," was given a new meaning and all appreciated the meeting.

The gifts were later given to an Old-age Pensioners' home and a Boys' Orphanage. Letters of gratitude were received by the treasurer from both places, and Adventism in Norwich has been made better known by such an act.

ROY E. GRAHAM.

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### Gloucester Change of Address

WILL visitors to Gloucester note the recent change of meeting places. On Sabbath the services are held in the Connaught Rooms, Cadena Cafe, Eastgate Street as follows: Sabbath-school, 10.30 a.m.; Preaching service, 11.30 a.m.

On Sunday at 3.30 p.m. and Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. the meetings are at Manor House, Kingsholm Square.

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## North England Conference

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

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### Rotherham "Bible Brains Trust"

ON August 20th the lay members of the Rotherham church began a series of meetings to proclaim the third angel's message in the form of a Bible Brains Trust. The team consisted of Brethren H. Casson, E. Stead, and E. Coupland, with Dr. N. Druitt, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., as question-master.

Written questions were invited and many solos and quartettes have been rendered, making the services helpful and interesting.

The meetings have been held in the Baptist church, Eastdene, Rotherham, by kind permission

of their committee and members. At first the meetings were held on Sunday evenings. Now they are conducted on Saturday evenings.

Very deep interest has been shown in the sessions each week. Many and varied have been the questions handed in, and over sixty have been answered by the Bible Brains Trust.

The members of the Baptist church have been very interested and express their desire for the meetings to continue. Some of their local preachers are among those interested.

We are thankful to God for His blessings on this effort and it is hoped later to convert the meetings in due course into a class for Bible study and prayer.

We are thankful to all who have assisted in any way, especially to those who have rendered the musical items. We have the help and deep interest of Mrs Brown as organist, this lady being a member of the Baptist church.

We do pray for God's continued blessing on the labours of the Bible Brains Trust as they seek to spread the Gospel truth and win souls to the service of the Master.

We cling to God's promise that His Word shall not return to Him void  
E. B. RHODES,  
*Church Clerk.*

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## Welsh Mission

*Superintendent:* Pastor S. G. Hyde  
*Office Address:* "Ventnor," Tyglas Road, Llanishen, Cardiff  
*Telephone:* Llanishen 600

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### Superintendent's Notes

ON October 28th, the young people of South and West Wales met together for a day's fellowship in the Newport church. Never had we seen the church so well packed—for, of course, not only did the youth come along but also their elders and friends. So we had a really good time together all through the Sabbath day and on into the evening after Sabbath as well. This youth Rally completed a quartette of large gatherings of the convention type—at Cardiff, Hereford,

Swansea, Newport—and what an inspiring time we had at each and what large gatherings characterized them all! To us it seemed evident that the people of Wales are earnestly seeking after God and a deeper spiritual life. The spirit of the Advent movement is surely being re-born in us in this centenary year.

Our youth leader, Pastor J. M. Howard, was with us, and his presence and ministry were greatly appreciated. He shared with the writer the ministry of the day.

The united Sabbath-school under the leadership of Sister Dora Watson proved an inspiring opening feature of the Rally. The study, on Obadiah, was given by the field leader, and the review on Amos by Brother Charles Watson, and the missions appeal by Sister Olive Gatehouse. Those members whose usual Sabbath-school membership is small, greatly appreciate these large Sabbath-schools, and here in Wales, we have many who are so situated. Surely there is no finer sight than to see the church "at study," studying the precious messages of the Word.

During the day, time was found for an Investiture and the presentation of certificates—a formality which is both pleasing and encouraging.

In the evening, after Sabbath, still with a surprisingly large attendance, we enjoyed what was described as a "M.V. Pot-pourri" including some pictures of New Guinea shown by Brother Edgar Warren, F.R.G.S., and a "Brains Trust." Members of the "Brains Trust" were Pastor J. M. Howard, Pastor F. S. Jackson, and Brother Edgar Warren. The writer served as question-master. Many questions were provided and spontaneously answered. So the evening proved a success and a fitting conclusion to a very happy, helpful day.

The musical side of the day was not overlooked. The duettists were Mrs. Winnie Williams and Mrs. Betty Dunlop; the soloists, Miss Doreen Hyde and Mrs. Lively (a member of a well-known Newport broadcasting choir), while Brother Arthur Howard led the large congregation in a service of song.

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

The Newport church, as is their custom, kindly cared for the material requirements, as far as present conditions allow, of the visitors—a service which they greatly appreciated.

The children were not overlooked—a special morning service was arranged for them and conducted by Brother Edgar Warren.

The more one understands the conditions under which our youth are called to bear witness for Christ and His truth, the more one realizes how necessary it is for the church to give them every encouragement and inspiration. And if these Rallies will help in some small way to obtain these ends, then we shall not hesitate to have more, and still more, of them.

#### NEWPORT CAMPAIGN

ON November 12th, Pastor F. S. Jackson opens his campaign in Newport. He has secured the use of the Coliseum. By the time this notice reaches the churches, the first meeting will have been held. Will you please pray for the second meeting on November 19th, that it may attract many to hear the message to be presented that night? And let us remember in prayer the speaker, that he may be enabled and inspired by the heavenly presence and power. Brother John Freeman is assisting Pastor Jackson in this venture.

#### WEEK OF PRAYER

VERY SOON now we shall begin another Week of Prayer—the sixth of the war. If ever we, as a church, are to play our rightful part in a war-fevered world and to be in a position to “comfort the people” we shall need to renew our spiritual strength and power—to seek the Lord as never before. So let the 1944 Week of Prayer provide each one of us with an experience vital to our present and future needs. We trust that church leaders will plan for a full programme of prayer services so that there can be, if possible, a daily seeking of God together. Where we do not have our own church building, let us use the old-time method of house-meetings. Readings will be provided—but this year, on account of the paper shortage af-

fecting our American publishing houses, we shall not be able to have the individual copies as in the past. For this reason, it is to be hoped that members will be able to attend the services planned for and so hear the prepared message. S. G. HYDE.

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## Ministry of Literature

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### Mighty Publishing Miracle

“PREPOSTEROUS!” cried the critics against the pioneers of the Advent movement back there a century ago. “A small people like you, penniless, going forth with a few hundred tracts to give a warning message to all the world! Preposterous assumption!”

And it seemed so at the time.

The Advent believers were only few in number then, and, for the most part, poor.

In the year 1848, while in council together, the burden to spread the Gospel message due to the world came heavily on their hearts. The idea of publishing the truth was evidently under discussion, but after much study they concluded they were not in a position to begin such an enterprise.

Then came the answer to their

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### NEW PUBLICATIONS

“MORNING WATCH” SOLD OUT  
TEN THOUSAND copies of the “Morning Watch” Calendar were printed this year, but the whole edition was sold out in record time. Large numbers are now being used as Christmas Greetings.

“HEALTH AND HAPPINESS”  
THIS new undated sixpenny is a beautiful production. The coloured cover is from a photograph taken by one of the photographers to the Royal Family. The magazine can be used as a Christmas greeting card by attaching a specially prepared gum label. Greeting labels, 3d. a dozen. Magazines, 3/- a dozen to members.

“BEDTIME STORIES,” SERIES 21  
To be ready December 1st.

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perplexity. In the night Mrs. E. G. White was given a special revelation from God to meet the situation. She then said:

“I have a message for you. You must begin to print a little paper, and send it out to the people. Let it be small at first; but as the people read, they will send you means with which to print, and it will be a success from the first. From this small beginning it was shown to me to be like streams of light that went clear round the world.”—“*Life Sketches*,” page 125.

That was in 1848. In the following year those earnest Adventists began to follow the counsel given.

A little paper, *The Present Truth*, was issued and this step of faith was rewarded by the promised blessings. The publishing of the Advent message in its various phases has grown until now, in very truth, “streams of light” are pouring from the eighty-three Adventist publishing centres scattered over the world. In two hundred languages is the Gospel of the kingdom being proclaimed through the pages of our large and small publications.

Two world wars in this twentieth century have not been able to stop the work. As far as we here in North England are concerned the literature ministry seems more firmly established than ever, although the colporteurs are being rationed in their book supplies.

In 1860 the first year of our official position as Seventh-Day Adventists, the total sales of literature in the world was reported as less than a thousand pounds. Now in the North England Conference alone our colporteur - evangelists distribute more than that amount in one month.

And we have three colporteurs who themselves each dispose of £1,000 worth of our latest bound books very year, one of them doing this with *The Bible Speaks* entirely in hotels and public-houses!

Behold, what hath God wrought!

“Preposterous!” scornfully cried unbelief yesterday.

“Miraculous!” thankfully answers discerning faith to-day.

B. BELTON.

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# IN MISSION LANDS

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UNTIL THE DAY BREAK

## Our First Year

It's just twelve months since we arrived at our station here in Northern Nigeria, and as we are *your* missionaries we thought you might like to share in our reflections on the first year's work.

Looking over her dispensary records, my wife was surprised to find that the number of treatments had topped the 5,000 mark—and this in spite of a falling off during the rains when the natives are all too busy farming, and prefer to leave their wounds and sores for a few months before seeking assistance!

Of course our medical work is confined to very simple things, but even so we have been happy to see a good number of complete recoveries from really nasty infections and sores.

Perhaps even more encouraging is the consciousness that 5,000 times, patients and their friends have been reminded in a very practical way of the love of Jesus and the blessings of the Gospel.

The visit of our superintendent, Pastor McClements, was a welcome break. Only when one is cut off from it does one realize the warmth and value of Advent fellowship.

The big item of his visit was, of course, the baptism. And we were very pleased that eleven were ready for that step. Some had been long years in coming to a decision. Others had faced fierce opposition.

That this opposition is very real may be seen from one boy's experience. When he insisted on being baptized he was entirely deserted by his family, who preferred to leave their houses and build others rather than continue to live with him.

Another, a widow, was threatened that her four little children would be taken from her, as, according to the native law of the tribe, the children belong to the father's family and not to the mother, this could legally be enforced.

But she stood firm. She wanted

her children to be brought up in the Christian way as their father had wished before he died. Both her heathen chief and the white government official who came to see her about the matter were impressed by the strength of her convictions, and so far, we are glad to say, her children have been allowed to stay.

For long years during the pioneer work of Pastor and Mrs. Hyde, progress was slow. But now it seems that the tide has begun to turn and their faithful efforts are about to be rewarded.

At the beginning of the year the baptized membership was forty, with a hundred and fifty Sabbath-school members. Now there are fifty baptized members and two hundred and fifty Sabbath-school members in twelve villages with one or two other places also asking for teachers. In addition there are twenty-five who are waiting for baptism when the superintendent pays his next visit, and a further thirty who have turned from their heathen ways, begun to keep Sabbath, and are in their first year's probationary course.

The crying need now is for trained teachers. Should the next few years see a large turning to the Gospel, we would be utterly unable to find workers to meet the need. Thus a school has become urgent.

In the past this has proved impossible because of the primitive outlook of the people and their extremely low standards of living.

You can judge our joy when two months ago a school was opened with twenty-two scholars! We have great hopes that, by the grace of God, big things will grow out of this tiny beginning.

We couldn't end this report without saying how much we have been inspired by the news of your stupendous efforts in Ingathering and mission offerings. Continue to pray that your sacrifices in time and money may find their reward in a great awakening among the heathen in this isolated part of the Lord's vineyard.

L. W. NORMINGTON.

HOWLETT—Not long after Sabbath, September 9, 1944 had drawn to its close, Harry Howlett was suddenly called to sleep in Jesus. The large family of which he was so happy a member thus lost a helpful son and a beloved brother. The Leicester church, which he had always served so faithfully, lost an efficient officer; and a wide circle of acquaintances lost a very good Christian friend. The funeral service, conducted by Brother K. Lacey and the writer and held at Earl Shilton where so much of his life had been spent, was a reverent witness to the influence of our brother's life. By being laid to rest in his young manhood, his days were few, but their fragrant memories assure us that the Saviour will soon raise him from the quiet tomb where he now sleeps. May each relative gain comfort from this hope and from the thoughts of many sympathetic friends  
B. E. SPARROW

ARNOLD—The Advent believers of Swansea deeply mourn the loss of Brother Joseph Arnold, who was laid to rest in the Danygraig Cemetery on Sabbath afternoon, October 21, 1944. Our Brother had been totally blind since his fifteenth year and he died in his sixty-first year. He was well known and respected in Swansea. He was always a bright scholar of the Sabbath-school, and was baptized into the Advent faith in York Chapel about thirty years ago. His adherence to Sabbath-keeping eventually brought in the five-day week to the Swansea Blind Institution. The writer conducted the service at the house and graveside. We extend our sympathy to the sorrowing relatives and friends until the day dawn  
H. HUMPHRIES

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## Advertisements

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

BOURNEMOUTH One double bedroom, sitting-room, use of kitchen and bath, electric light and gas. Suit one or two ladies. Apply: J. H. Parkin, 780 St Albans Road, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, Adventist sister to live in and help with daily work. Family of two Full Sabbath privileges. Good wages. Write: L. E. Johnston, 49 Worple Road, Wimbledon, S.W. 19

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## SUNSET CALENDAR

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Lon'n Not'm Car'ff Edin Bel't  
Nov. 24th 5 00 4 58 5 13 4 52 5 10  
Dec 1st. 4 54 4 52 5 07 4 44 5 03

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## BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

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