

BRITISH AGENT MESSENGER

"Quit You Like Men!"

By D. SIBLEY

"WATCH ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." Those words were written from the battlefield of life by one of God's grand knights of the cross, the apostle Paul. He lived in days of tumult, when all the powers of hell seemed determined to prevail against the infant church of Christ. Adversaries sought to pollute its doctrines by heresy, to intimidate believers by threats and persecution, and to lower the standard of Christian living by enticements of the flesh and the world. Above the noise of conflict, the voice of the apostle came ringing down to the hard-pressed soldiers of Christ: "Quit you like men, be strong." Surely such a message is needed to-day.

The same apostle also declared that in order to win some for Christ he was willing to "become all things to all men," so we see he was no fanatic. There were details of fashion and fancy he could compromise with in order to reach men; but on matters fundamental he refused to be moved. He preferred death to compromise when vital questions of doctrine or morals were involved. "Stand fast in the faith," was the counsel of Paul to that early church; and he certainly practised what he preached. What a different state of affairs would have continued in Christendom if all of Christ's followers had been as loyal as Paul! His refusal to compromise ended in his death at Rome. Before the axe of the

executioner fell, however, Paul could say in triumph, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." Paul found it a grim fight to keep the faith, but in the strength of Christ he was more than conqueror. Those who witnessed his martyrdom no doubt thought that he was a stubborn fanatic, or maybe they thought that he was to be pitied for his tragic ignorance; but the apostle knew that there was laid up for him a "crown of righteousness." Time has proved that Paul was one of the greatest of the human race, and the judgment to come will make it openly manifest to all that he decided wisely and well.

Jesus, the Master Paul served so well, was urged by Nicodemus, by the Sanhedrin, and even by His disciples, to compromise; but the One who showed Himself so ready to mix with humankind in order to save them, remained as fixed as the eternal hills. His refusal to follow the multitude at last ended in His crucifixion. We are told in Luke 23:27 that when Jesus was being dragged away to Golgotha, "There followed Him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented Him." Those poor creatures saw only the shame of crucifixion. They knew that Jesus was a noble, holy, young man, but they would have persuaded Him not to die, for they thought that His zeal had carried Him away. But the vision of Jesus

enabled Him to see past the shame and confusion of the day. He knew of a surety that He was doing the will of His Father, and would reign with Him in glory after the testing was done. Turning to those who wept, He said, "Weep not for Me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children." The Master told them He did not need their tears. He saw that Israel's compromise with error and sin would lead at last to that dreadful destruction to be wrought by the Romans. They thought that by compromise they showed great wisdom, and would thus put off the evil day, buy off their adversaries, and ensure peace and prosperity for their race. They made a fearful mistake, and paid the full price.

The spirit of compromise has cost the church dear in every age, and is making it a reproach in some quarters to-day. Those who contend for the old-time Gospel, with its old-time standards, are regarded as faddists and fanatics by those who claim to be more liberal in the church, but this should be expected. Those who held Christ and Paul up to ridicule, and later betrayed them, were men who professed to fear God, but in whose hearts was that spirit which is ever ready to compromise with evil. A sour, narrow-minded fanatic does not adorn any church; yet it is to be feared that the church of Christ has suffered less from this class

than from those who claim to have greater breadth of mind than their brethren. Christ and Paul were great lovers of humanity and, earnestly desiring to save men, they scorned religion that savoured of the cloister and moved among their fellows. But what a great gulf there was between their spirit and that of those in thralldom to sin! The Master could say, "The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in Me." Those whose hearts are easily enticed by the prince of this world's follies would do well to give up boasting of superior vision and keep far away from the world. Unless kept by that Spirit who filled the Saviour's mind, no man dare think to mix with those who live for the pleasures of sin.

The church to-day is called to witness in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. Masses of the people are drunken with

the wine of Babylon's fornication. History shows that ancient Babylon, by lying and fornication and frenzied pleasures, defied the great Judge until He could refrain His indignation no longer. That wicked city lies buried beneath the silent desert sands, a lesson to the people of God. It is an honour to-day to be called to withstand lies with truth, to reprove lust by firm virtue, and to condemn unholy pleasures by things that edify. God is counting on His church. "The greatest want of the world is the want of men—men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall." May God give us grace to be like these. "Quit you like men, be strong!"

frankly, we felt that there was some justification. Last year's was a special effort and a splendid figure was reached. Nevertheless we had to keep on telling people, "Of course we can pass last year's total. The leaders don't push the figure up. It's the willing workers who do that." And they did.

In 1944 Stanborough Park church raised £1,234 for Ingathering. That was the best ever, but it now takes second place. With so many people working more hours at their normal tasks and many of our members away in other towns and countries, we, as leaders, would have been gratified to see the £1,000 mark reached. We knew, however, that we had a wonderful band of loyal Adventists working with us and therefore kept our aim as before—"The Best Yet"—and reached the splendid figure of £1,313.

However small the amount collected, everyone who contributed has earned a blessing commensurate with the sacrifice involved, but we would like to say a special "thank you" to our "over twenties."

Miss I. Clark	£81.
Mr. H. Goldsmith	61
Mrs. E. E. White	31
Mrs. H. J. Brookes.....	26
Mr. E. E. White.....	22
Miss L. Wills.....	22

and to sixteen-year old Russell Argent with £16.

The institutions, with their special difficulties in relation to labour shortage and government controls, came through with flying colours and have reported separately.

We have enjoyed the privilege of leadership in this work, but we praise God most for what Pastor King calls "followship," that very helpful gift which makes light work of heavy tasks. May God bless us all as we continue to follow the Master.

A. W. LETHBRIDGE,
J. A. CLEMENT,
H. J. BROOKES.



The Stanboroughs Ingathers

It has been customary in the pre-war years for the workers of the Stanboroughs, particularly the nurses, to be released from

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

Notes from the Union President

APPRECIATION

THE General Conference Committee sends the following cable which will be of interest to all our mission-loving members here:

OUR COMMITTEE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENT INGATHERING.

WILLIAM NELSON.

GOOD NEWS

A SMALL increase in the paper ration will enable us to begin increasing our range of evangelistic tracts in the near future. A vigorous programme of evangelism is now the order of the day and good tracts are vital to this. Our big cities must now hear the message and committees will be studying ways and means of strengthening the work everywhere. London, especially, should become the headquarters of the biggest evangelistic campaign we have ever known.

JUST NOW

THIS is the season when we used to make our Week of Sacrifice offering. This year it is

combined with the Week of Prayer offering, but it would be wise for those who carefully budget for these things, to lay aside the week's income, or pay it into the church if preferred. Great rehabilitation needs face us.

H. W. LOWE.

South England Conference

President: Pastor G. D. King
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Telephone: Garston (Watford) 2213-4

Stanborough Park's "Best Ever"

"WHAT, beat last year's wonderful figure? You are asking too much. You are always pushing the figure up. We shall be doing well if we get near to last year's total without passing it."

Yes, these sentiments were actually expressed at Stanborough Park this year, and,

their duties in order to raise funds for foreign missions. We well remember the days when a couple of nurses would spend a week at the seaside and contribute very largely to the Stanboroughs' goal.

During these war years we have not been so fortunate as our workers are now controlled by the Ministry of Health and most of the collecting has been done in the evenings. It has proved an unmixed blessing, however, as we have found that evening collections around the London and Watford districts are more fruitful.

The fifty Adventist workers we still have with us raised £188. This is an increase over last year's figure for which we are very thankful. The laundry department proved to be the best, the six members bringing in £31 3s. 4d.

Our oldest collector, Miss L. Wills, raised over £22 and the next highest figure was attained by another domestic helper, Miss J. Taylor, who brought in £14. The highest figure reached by the men was over £13; this was collected by Mr. J. G. Willis of the maintenance department.

We are gratified that the institution has once more reached and well passed its goal.

A. H. THOMPSON.

Irish Mission

Superintendent: Pastor E. E. Craven.

Office Address: 16 Knockbreda Gardens, Ormeau Road, Belfast.

Young People's Rally at Dublin

DUBLIN is the seat of the government of Eire and it is also the home of the Seventh-Day Adventist church in this Catholic state. There are very few young people of our faith in this city, but with some visitors we had a very enjoyable rally from May 25th to 27th. Pastor J. M. Howard, after seeing that the Progressive Courses were well launched in Belfast, came to Dublin to attempt to stimulate a friendly rivalry between the two

chief cities of Ireland, as to which city would invest most of its members as Companions first.

On Friday evening Pastor Howard opened the rally with an address on "Youth at the Helm!" In this talk he stressed the fact that the youth of to-day will be the citizens of to-morrow, and then pointed out that we, the members of the Seventh-Day Adventist church should plunge into the Progressive Courses with enthusiasm and so fit ourselves to be leaders of to-morrow. His talk boded well for the success of the young people's rally.

Sabbath morning again found us in God's house for the usual services of the day, but with additional visitors. Pastor Howard very capably took the school as a whole for the lesson study from Ephesians and went so deep into it that the bell for the close of Sabbath-school rang long before he had covered the whole theme.

We had the pleasure of listening once more to Pastor Howard in the after service. He dealt with the subject, "God's Great Reconstruction Plan!" and also told us of some experiences of our young people who have proved to be real live Missionary Volunteers.

In the afternoon we assembled to hear Pastor A. C. Vine speak, his subject being: "Journeying on with God." We need to go *with* God, not before Him or a little behind, but always to take God with us if we are to reach the end of our journey safely. Miss Madge Ellis, a visitor from Belfast, sang to us at this service, a message I am sure we will all remember, "His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me."

At 4:30 in the afternoon the special young people's service began. Mrs. Vine gave the first talk on "Planning Progressive Courses." In this she dealt with the educational value of studying and collecting wild flowers. She is a very enthusiastic supporter of the Progressive Courses. Brother Michael Sisson followed with "How Can We Improve Our Programmes?" He asked for the young people's suggestions and also for their co-operation.

Pastor Howard's talk, "How can we care for the Social Needs of our Youth?" was unfortunately

cut short as time was passing rapidly. A discussion followed on the Progressive Courses.

Saturday night found the young people, accompanied by Pastor Howard and Pastor Vine, rambling in Phoenix Park, one of the largest in the world.

A youth outing was planned for Sunday morning the party going to Dollymount to enjoy a day of sunshine and recreation on the sands. A fire was lit and all were provided with hot drinks.

At the end of the afternoon we had to say farewell to some of our visitors. We wish they could have stayed with us always, but when this old world ends we will be together for ever if we are faithful.

On Sunday evening the last meeting of this memorable rally took place. Pastor Howard once more addressed the church, this time taking as his subject, "Be ye also Ready"—ready to meet the Lamb on Mount Zion, and to sing the glorious song of the redeemed. We need to be ready now with our lamps shining brightly, for we know not when the Bridegroom will come. The solo sung by Brother M. Sisson, "When the Pearly Gates Unfold," was most fitting.

So our week-end came to a close, but we hope that many more such happy seasons are in store for us. We pray that Pastor Howard will prove a like blessing everywhere he goes.

ISA DARLINGTON.



Belfast's Youth Rally

A YOUTH rally! It doesn't sound dull, does it? Well, Belfast's youth rally was certainly a lively affair.

We had members from Larne, Dublin, Londonderry, and isolated places. The rally began on Friday, May 19th, when Pastor J. M. Howard spoke on the subject, "Beside Still Waters." The soloist was Miss Madge Ellis.

Sabbath-school next morning was conducted by the superintendent, Brother C. Rhodes. Mrs. Cowley and Miss Meta Ellis gave a missionary dialogue. The lesson was reviewed by one of the junior members, Miss Verna Houston. After Sabbath-school, and also in the afternoon meeting, Pastor

Howard related some of his experiences as camp pastor.

Sabbath evening saw four young people eager to discuss four interesting and correlated subjects. Brother C. Rhodes had as his subject the rather overwhelming one, "Planning Progressive Courses." He emphasized the fact that we must show clearly the use of the requirements of the Progressive Courses in order to gain interest. Miss Meta Ellis, speaking on "Missionary Volunteer Programmes," commended the work already done this year by the Young People's leader, Brother C. Knowlston, and gave further suggestions. Brother Priestley told us how he enjoyed the Reading Course books, even the junior ones. The social needs of the youth were pointed out by the writer, who urged that the youth must be cared for between Sabbaths as well as on Sabbaths.

After the meeting we had a

discussion entitled, "What Is Your Recreation?" and Mr. Cowley did the summing up of the suggestions put forward.

Pastor Howard, in his address on Sunday afternoon, showed us that those who were not able to stand fast in times of comparative ease would be lost in the time of trouble. On Sunday evening he spoke on, "Preparing For Peace," a sermon so full of gems of thought that it would be impossible to praise it adequately. Suffice it to say it was unforgettable.

On Whit-Monday we had our outing to Bangor. I have vivid memories of playing rounders by the sea, and of going to a delightful sun-parlour for refreshments.

We earnestly hope that the decisions made at our youth rally will in due course be carried out, and that the same enthusiasm we showed then will continue in the future.

FLORENCE M. BARKER.

Scottish Mission

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Superintendent's Notes

It was our privilege to hold a convention in Glasgow on June 22nd and 23rd. Our visiting ministers were Pastors W. T. Bartlett and W. G. C. Murdoch. We had a good attendance, and a free, happy spirit prevailed throughout the Sabbath.

The Lord used His servants to bless our people in a special manner. Young men in the forces were with us, representing U.S.A., Canada, and Poland.

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOUR

At a recent committee meeting, it was decided to make a few changes in the location of workers. Brother A. H. Watson, who has laboured in Glasgow and Aberdeen, is moving to Greenock to conduct evangelistic services and care for the work. Miss E. W. Hanna, who has served in the Glasgow district for almost four years, and Miss B. Fretton who has served almost two years in the Edin-

burgh district, are exchanging locations.

We are glad to welcome to the mission, Miss Barnes, a graduate Bible-worker, who will locate in Aberdeen in exchange for Brother K. H. Rosier, who is moving to North England. We pray that these moves will contribute to the progress of the message.

These moves will take place at the end of August. Our workers will have had their holidays and we purpose to launch aggressive evangelism in the autumn. Shall we not all carry this work in our hearts, that Scotland may yield a richer harvest of souls for the kingdom of God?

J. A. McMILLAN.

Wedding Bells

HANEY-PITCHER—In the Lowestoft Advent church on June 4, 1945, before a large number of relatives and friends, including several members of the US Air Force, Brother Calvin Haney of the US Air Force was united in marriage to Sister Irene Pitcher, a member of the Lowestoft church. The church was tastefully decorated with flowers for the occasion, and the service was conducted by the writer. After the service the

guests were entertained in the upper hall over the church, when all present joined in wishing Brother and Sister Haney God's richest blessing in their new venture. As they unitedly dedicate themselves to the Master's service, we pray that He will give them grace to build a home where God may dwell "and where love fills every breast."

W. G. NICHOLSON

PARR-WITTS.—Mr. R. G. Parr and Miss D. M. Witts were united in marriage on Sunday, June 3, 1945, in the Chiswick Advent church. Both are members of the Ealing church, the bridegroom being the leader of the young people in the West London district. There was a large attendance to witness the ceremony. The reception was held at the home of the bride's mother. Much happiness and a larger field of usefulness in the Lord's service is the sincere wish of their many Adventist friends.

W. W. ARMSTRONG

Advertisements

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

FARM HOUSEKEEPER required for two single men friends in Norfolk. Help given with rough work. Sabbath privileges. Good food and outings. Write, giving particulars and wages required, to: H. Slatke, 2 Altyre Close, Beckenham, Kent.

PROJECTOR, takes standard slides; adapter to show film slides. Three illuminants, electric, gas, and paraffin incandescent. Special chimney, etc., for the latter. Suitable for home or small hall. £4. Write: W. H. G., 7 Orchard Lane, Huntingdon.

S. D. A. young lady required to help with housework. Some knowledge of vegetarian cooking. Comfortable home and good wages. Sabbath privileges. Apply in first instance to Nurse Kite, 14 Turner Street, Northampton.

ELDERLY WIDOW (Sabbath-keeper) offers a good home for companion-help. Write in first place to J. R. L., "Lance-gaye," Luciefelde Road, Shrewsbury.

SUNSET CALENDAR

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Lon'n Not'm Car'ff Edin Bel't
July 20th 9 06 9 17 9 18 9 42 9 45
July 27th 8 57 9 08 9 10 9 30 9 35

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