

BRITISH ADVENT

# MESSENGER

## Colporteurs' Victory Council

January 1-8, 1946

As I take up my pen to write with over thirty pages of closely packed notes of the Council, I ask myself, "How can I reduce such a wealth of matter to a short report?"

Well, first of all let me pass on the good news that though the year 1944 was the best ever, by the blessing of God, 1945 showed a still further increase of sales amounting to £4,500. In 1938, the year before war was declared we sold 22,607 bound subscription books, amounting in value to £29,229. In 1945, the closing year of the war, 93,281 bound subscription books, amounting in value to £44,993 were sent out, an increase of 54 per cent. The three and a half million sheets of printed matter in these books if placed end to end would stretch 810 miles.

The Council theme this year was "The Power of Literature Through the Ages." This was covered in three excellent talks. Pastor W. L. Emmerson dealt with literature in Old Testament times and the early Christian centuries, revealing the inspiring fact that the early Christians were foremost in the work of publishing in the first centuries of the Christian era and that it was the Christians who were chiefly responsible for the change over from the "roll" to the now universal leaf book.

Brother J. C. Craven followed with the part literature played

By COLPORTEUR STANLEY  
COMBRIDGE

---

in the work of the Reformation. We were urged to get hold of Luther's spirit and use the power of the press to the full. We have a mighty task before us, but we can set England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland on fire if our hearts are full of the truth of the return of Jesus Christ.

Pastor J. M. Howard brought the theme to a close, dealing with the power of literature in later centuries down to our own day. He showed how Wesley was greatly influenced by a tract written two hundred years previously by Luther, and how other great leaders of the Christian church in the past were moved to attempt and do great things for God as the result of the printed page. He told how, in 1878, a Mrs. King was the first to accept the Advent message in England as the result of a copy of the *Signs of the Times* sent by her cousin, Elder Ings. What will be the result of the literature we scatter to-day?

The general instruction given by the Field Missionary secretaries—Brethren B. Belton and A. W. Cook—was of great value not only to the new recruits, but also to those who have been longer in the work.

A health lecture, followed by

many questions, was given by Dr. A. H. Williams and contained sound advice, which, if put into practice, will greatly assist in keeping the body in such a condition as to get the best out of it in our service for God.

The symposium by five colporteurs on the Sabbath evening proved, as always, a great inspiration not only to all the colporteurs, but also to the members of the Stanborough Park church who filled the building to capacity. Truly we could say, "See what God has wrought!"

The celebration of the ordinances, conducted by Pastor R. S. Joyce, was a time of great spiritual uplift and confirmed the love already manifest between the colporteurs.

Once again we had discussion circles and round-table conferences where many topics were ably handled by senior colporteurs.

We marvelled as we listened to the brethren in charge of the various departments of The Stanborough Press as they told of the work accomplished during the year 1945. Composing Room production was explained to us by Brother H. S. Pearce, the work of the Press Room by Brother E. J. Trace, and Bindery production by Brother K. Richter. We marvelled at the work carried through with sometimes less than half the pre-war staff. Without such loyal service by all the

workers, not forgetting the clerical staff of The Stanborough Press, the colporteurs would have failed to reach the wonderful total sales for the year.

Special thanks are due to the choirs and male-voice quartet for musical items rendered, which considerably added to the spiritual atmosphere of the meetings.

One item which was looked forward to throughout the Council was the "Victory Tour" arranged by the publishing house. On the last afternoon of the Council, the colporteur family left the Park in two coaches and headed for London. We visited the recently re-opened Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, and Palestine House, seeing also many other "sights o' London" en route. We certainly rejoiced over the blessing of God upon our colporteurs who worked in London during the war period as we beheld the terrible damage done through enemy action.

On our return we found all ready for a special social evening which continued until eleven o'clock. May we thank those who took part in giving the many interesting items, especially Brother Merchant for the films he showed, including pictures he had taken of former colporteurs' conferences, and Brother Baldry who was the M.C. for the evening.

One face was greatly missed at the Council—that of Brother Warren, the manager of The Stanborough Press. For over a year he has been ill. Many are the prayers which have ascended to God on his behalf, and we still believe that our heavenly Father will yet undertake for him.

Perhaps you may ask, "What was the reason for this Council?" Putting the answer into "Churchillian" language, it was to give the colporteurs "the tools to finish the job."

Every day was started with a devotional meeting conducted by Pastor King, Pastor Joyce, Pastor Bartlett, and Brother Craven; Pastor Howard spoke at the opening service and Pastor Lowe spoke to us on the Sabbath of the Council. Space does not permit my quoting from these speakers whose ministrations were blessed to us all.

Nor would it do justice to the subject for me to attempt to give even a short review of two studies by Pastor Emerson under the title, "Prophecy and Prospect."

The space allotted for this report is almost filled. What of the future? Six years ago not many would have thought that such a Council would have been held—few contemplated such a wonderful report. And now, with our eyes fixed before us, grasping still firmer the hand of our Saviour, believing that the angels of God are even now going before us to prepare the hearts of the people, we return from the mountain-top blessing of the Council to enter the darkness of the valley, carrying the light of present truth to those who sit in darkness and cheered on because we know that your prayers are with us.

---

## Notes from the Union President

---

### UNION SESSION

IT has been decided that our long-delayed Union Conference session will be held during the early part of August (2nd to 10th). At the moment we have not found any place where we can solve the catering, accommodation, and hall questions. Any suggestions likely to help us in these three things would be appreciated. Further announcements will appear as information becomes available.

### COLLEGE ITEMS

WE had hoped to open College during the third week in January, but this does not now seem possible. It seems likely that the College will reopen the first week in February. The transfer to Bracknell, Berkshire, has been almost completed.

Miss E. R. Howard, our College preceptress for six years, has accepted an invitation to work in the Canadian Union office. Sister Howard has rendered conscientious and valued service, under trying conditions during the war, and our appreciation and our good wishes go with her.

Miss C. H. Eyre, who has for some time been under appointment as matron of Helderberg

College, South Africa, is rendering valuable voluntary help to our College staff as they move into their new quarters.

### VISITORS

ELDER AND MRS. W. R. R. LAKE, of Malaya, are with us for a month or two. Elder Lake has been in a Japanese internment camp for over four years, and has suffered from severe treatment. We hope these good workers, who have held responsibility for many years in the Orient, will find a welcome change and rest with us.

Dr. Jean Nussbaum is here from Paris, attending the United Nations meeting at Westminster. He is a denominational religious liberty specialist of great experience, and now, more than ever, the cause of liberty is in grave danger everywhere.

Elder Dunbar, of the General Conference M.V. Department, passed through London en route to Sweden recently, and hopes to spend a few days with us on his return journey.

### EVANGELISM

THE Union Committee has invited two evangelists from Australasia to join our forces in this needy field. One is in Australia and the other in New Zealand. Both these good men want to come back to their homeland. Our plan is that a stronger evangelistic programme shall be the vital part of our post-war work. The work in London and other large cities will call for much more attention. It is vital that this be done, and although no one at the moment has the solution of the housing and hall problems, we must move forward in faith.

As these plans develop, and when final word comes from Australia, further news will be given.

### CONGRATULATIONS

MISS SYBIL YEATES, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Yeates, of the Lewisham church, has obtained her L. R. C. P., M.R.C.S. (London) diplomas, and has our good wishes for a successful career as a Christian doctor.

### THE RAVAGES OF WAR

*The Christian Century* of December 12, 1945, reported that an

American delegation of church leaders, which recently visited Japan, found the famous Japanese evangelist and pacifist, Dr. Kagawa, in rags, but in good spirits, and, though confined by the Japanese police to working only in his own church, he was preaching to large crowds and making many converts. Asked what Japan now needs most, he said: "We need your prayers, Bibles, and good missionaries."

There were 1,222 Christian churches and meeting places in Japan when war began. Of these 500 have been destroyed. In Tokyo there were 166 Protestant institutions, of which 157 were destroyed.

#### KINDNESS OF AUSTRALIAN BELIEVERS

OUR fellow-believers in Australia recently interested themselves in us to the extent of sending a good number of food parcels. This action was quite spontaneous and is deeply appreciated. Recipients would doubtless like to send a personal word of thanks. We have sent a note to our Australian church paper.

#### VETERANS RETIRE

AFTER some forty years' service in various responsible capacities Pastor and Mrs. F. A. Spearing are retiring. Pastor Spearing is a sick man and has earned a rest. The good wishes of the Union and local committees and the prayers of us all will be with Pastor and Mrs. Spearing and their family in the days to come.

Pastor J. Harker has been granted a short leave-of-absence for rest and medical attention, after which he and his wife will retire also. Pastor Harker will continue to shepherd our church hymnal through the printers' hands. He has carried a heavy load loyally in the war years, and our respect and love are with him and his companion.

Pastor J. M. Howard will care for the Union Home Missionary, Missionary Volunteer, and Sabbath-school departments at the request of the Union committee.

#### NO M.V. CAMPS THIS YEAR

THE Union committee has recommended that as the Union and

General Conference sessions will come between May and August, it will be wise not to try to run M.V. camps this year.

Sorry, M.V.s to disappoint, but it wouldn't do to spoil a good thing like an M.V. camp, would it?

#### CHANGES AT OUR PUBLISHING HOUSE

BROTHER J. C. CRAVEN has been appointed as successor to Brother Arthur Warren as Press manager, and Brother Ronald A. Carey, returning permanently from Africa after fourteen years' service, as circulation manager. Our post-war publishing work will grow and call for energetic and consecrated leadership and these men will need our prayerful support.

Brother Arthur Warren's numerous friends, will be interested to know that, though obliged to rest most of the time, he and his good wife are of good courage in the truth. H. W. LOWE.

---

## South England Conference

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

---

### Invest for Missions

HAVE you ever thought what might happen if our Sabbath-schools closed down? Not only would we in the homeland lose the spiritual help to young and old which regular study of the Word of God brings to us, but to close the Sabbath-school would create a crisis throughout our world-wide mission fields.

For, important as are Ingathering and special mission offerings, it is the Sabbath-school which supplies that steady, regular flow of money which maintains the great work in the regions beyond. Sabbath-school offerings represent nearly half of our mission funds! Yes, it is your regular sixpence, shilling or half-crown; your Thirteenth Sabbath offering and Birthday gifts which keep

the cross uplifted in every clime and proclaim the Advent message in eight hundred tongues.

We therefore rejoice as we look over the ever-increasing missionary offerings during the ten years it has been our privilege to serve as Conference Sabbath-school secretary. From £2,743 in 1936 the figure has risen every year until we reached £6,604 in 1945. Last year's record figure of just over £2 for every member must surely be a great encouragement to our self-sacrificing missionaries.

Special mention must be made of the remarkable improvement in Investment Fund amounts during that period. The amount for 1936 was only just over £7 for the whole Conference. Now many individual churches far exceed that total figure. By 1940 the year's Investment brought £40. Two years later that good figure was trebled and in 1944 we had a real record of £150.

But last year the churches did even better. Garden plots were dedicated to missions and month by month fingers were busy making useful articles for the home— toys, Christmas cards and calendars, and other saleable objects. The Investment grew and grew. In the first six months £60 had been raised; the third quarter alone added another £72. And the fourth quarter? Well, the almost unbelievable sum of £120, making £252 for this year!

As we might expect, our large Sabbath-school at Stanborough Park tops the list with nearly £60 for the year. But who would have expected Torquay to come next with £46? Wimbledon, Bourne-mouth, Chiswick, and Portsmouth each gave us a welcome surprise in the region of £30 apiece. Little Exeter contributed as much as £20. Chelmsford, Edmonton, Folkestone, Plymouth, Salisbury, Winslow, and many other places gave amounts which were much appreciated.

We thank all who helped—with a special word of thanks to the children. And we invite you all, young and old, to INVEST FOR MISSIONS IN 1946.

E. R. WARLAND.

## Wedding Bells

**BADGER-COOKE.**—The members of the Worcester church assembled on August 23, 1945, to witness the marriage of Brother Badger and Sister Cooke. They will be greatly missed from the church, especially by the young people's society, where they were active leaders, but the church in Hereford will gain by Worcester's loss. The young couple desire to enter the colporteur work as soon as Brother Badger can obtain his release. May God make them a blessing as they journey through life together working and witnessing for Him.

L. MURDOCH.

**HEIDE-SMITH.**—On December 16, 1945, in the Nineveh Road church, Handsworth, Brother Karl Heide and Sister Joan Smith were united in marriage. Relatives, church-members, and friends witnessed the ceremony, which was performed by Pastor E. B. Phillips from the College. We pray that God's richest blessing may rest upon them, and we wish them much happiness as they endeavour to press forward together toward the mark.

J. CASHMORE, *Church Clerk.*

**STIMPSON-FOWLER** — Another Adventist home was set up on December 20, 1945, when Pastor B. F. Kinman united in holy matrimony at the Methodist Chapel, Bensham Road, Gateshead, Miss Elsie Stimpson and Mr. Maurice Fowler. Mrs. M. Wilkinson was matron of honour and Mr. M. Musgrave, minister of Newcastle church, was best man. A good number of friends and relatives witnessed the happy event. Following the reception, the happy couple left for their honeymoon at Scarborough. We wish them God's blessing as they labour together for His kingdom.

E. DICKINSON, *Church Clerk.*

**HAMLET-LANE.**—On New Year's day, 1946, Brother H. Hamlet of the Luton church was united in marriage to Sister E. Lane of the Torquay church. The ceremony was performed by Pastor F. L. Stokes in the presence of a good number of relatives and friends, after which the reception was held in one of the rooms in the church building.

We pray that the Lord will bless the happy pair as they journey through life together.

N. CAMPION, *Church Clerk.*

The treasurer of the South England Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of an offering of £10 from "Faith."

## UNTIL THE DAY BREAK

**WATSON.**—December 24, 1945, was a sad day for the members of the Ely company when news of the passing of one of its most faithful members was received. In our sister Violet Watson, aged twenty-seven years, we had a staunch Adventist, who, although afflicted for many years with sickness and failing health, had learned to patiently serve her Master. She accepted the truth through the ministry of our local elder, Brother Bowden, and was baptized by Pastor S. Joyce on October 22, 1938. A very large company of relatives and friends from the district was present as we laid her to rest in the Ely Cemetery on December 30th, Pastor A. K. Armstrong conducting the services both in the chapel and at the graveside. She was greatly loved by all who knew her and her example and patient witness for the truth will long be remembered and cherished. No better epitaph could be hers than the words of Jesus, "She hath done what she could," for in her most trying hours she found time to encourage others in the "way." Our sister now rests from her labours to await her Lord's return, when we are fully assured we shall meet her again. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the mother and sisters and other relatives who mourn their great loss.

E. C. COLLINS.

**HOWARD.**—On January 1, 1946, Sister Howard fell peacefully asleep in her Lord at the advanced age of eighty-seven. Sister Howard was an old member, coming from Hull in the days when Pastors Jackson and Taylor conducted a campaign there. She was resident in Watford for some time and was a member of the Stanborough Park church. Lately she had been living with her son near Watford. She was a good woman and faithful in all her ways. We laid her to rest on January 4th in the cemetery of the village of Abbots Langley, in the sure hope of the first resurrection.

W. W. ARMSTRONG.

**RYLAH.**—On Friday, January 11, 1946, Brother J. D. Rylah, aged sixty-nine years, a faithful member of the Stanborough Park church, was laid to rest in the North Watford Cemetery. Brother Rylah suffered considerable pain during his illness, but it was always a joy to hear him speak of his strong faith and confidence in the Advent message, even in his suffering. Right up to the end he held firmly to the promises of the Word of God. Our brother accepted the Advent message under the evangelistic ministry of Brother J. D. Gillatt in Sheffield, forty years ago, and was baptized by Pastor E. E. Andross. Brother Rylah was for some years a worker with Granose Foods Ltd. His wife and two daughters, in the midst of their sorrow, find joy in the Advent hope, knowing that the glad re-union at our Lord's return will not be long delayed. The funeral service was conducted by the writer and Pastor S. G. Joyce.

G. D. KING.

**ROY.**—We regret to announce the death of Miss Helen A. Roy on January 21, 1946. Sister Roy accepted the truth during the writer's first effort in Glasgow in 1942, and was a faithful member. She was an M.A. of Glasgow University, and followed the teaching profession. Sister Roy's last months were darkened by much suffering, and the Lord has mercifully shortened the days and given His beloved rest. The interment took place at the Western Necropolis, Glasgow, on January 24th. "The dead in Christ shall rise first."

J. A. McMILLAN.

## Notices of Annual Legal Meetings British Advent Missions

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-First Annual General Meeting of British Advent Missions Limited will be held on Wednesday, February 27, 1946, at 10 a.m., at the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors  
A. CAREY, *Secretary*

## Good Health Association Limited

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-Third Annual General Meeting of the Constituency of the Good Health Association Limited, will be held on Wednesday, February 27, 1946, at 2 p.m., in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors.  
A. H. THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

## The Stanborough Press Limited

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fifty-Second Ordinary Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of The Stanborough Press Limited will be held in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists at Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts., on Wednesday, February 27, 1946, at 2.30 p.m.

On behalf of the Board of Directors.  
J. C. CRAVEN, *Secretary.*

## Granose Foods Limited

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-Eighth Annual General Meeting of Granose Foods Limited will be held on Wednesday, February 27, 1946, at 4 p.m. in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors  
JOHN RIGBY, *Secretary*

## Advertisements

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

NORTH DEVON Convalescent Children's Home School, Lynton, North Devon, requires cook, kitchenmaid, wardmaid, S.R.N., nurse attendants. Good wages. Apply with references to: The Principal

## SUNSET CALENDAR

Reproduced from the *Nautical Almanac* by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

Lon'n Not'm Car'ff Edin Bel't  
Feb. 15th 5.14 5.15 5.27 5.15 5.30  
Feb. 22nd 5.27 5.29 5.39 5.31 5.44

## BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

Published fortnightly on Friday for the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists by The Stanborough Press Ltd., Watford, Herts

Copy for next issue.—February 13th

EDITOR: W. L. EMMERSON

Vol. 51. No. 3. February 8, 1946