

BRITISH ALLIANCE

MESSENGER

A More Distinctive Emphasis

By L. K. DICKSON

THE church is now engaged in a struggle which is the most titanic in all the history of Christendom. This great and final conflict will soon strain all the spiritual and material resources of the people of God. But besides all this, it is straining the capacity of every one of us for courageous thinking and firm and unwavering decision.

Present circumstances and the great commission of our Lord have placed upon us a heavy responsibility to all nations, kindreds, tongues, and peoples.

This is a responsibility which we can hope to fulfil only if we are sound in faith and realistic in charting our course along the confusing wilderness that lies before us. In the face of the present turmoil and tragedy of this hour we are obliged to reconsider the comfortable assumptions which have previously conditioned our thinking—assumptions of security from sacrifice such as our early pioneers faced as they launched this mighty movement.

We are at the crossroads not only of history but of the church. Everything depends now on the way we take, both as leaders and as members of the remnant church.

In the light of what we already see there can be no doubt that God means that there shall be such a reshaping of all our work and plans and lives that the

church will be able to take full advantage of her supreme opportunity to proclaim from a mountaintop, as it were, and with a loud voice, the message of warning and entreaty to a bewildered and reeling world.

It is therefore of crucial importance that we keep our minds and wills on the main issue and not allow ourselves to be diverted to secondary things or confused with respect to our real needs and interests.

No power of Satan in these last days is able to withstand the assaults of the Holy Spirit of God. This is our hope, and in the gift of the Holy Spirit is our strength. God can and will entrust His Spirit's power to us to the very limits of omnipotence if that power is allowed by us to manifest in and through us a more Christlike, self-sacrificing, and missionary spirit. In every church, in every leader, in every member, must be found this matchless power, this all-consuming passion to fulfil all that God has revealed to His church.

It is one thing to have truth; it is another thing to have living truth. Such a challenge will bring us face to face with the need of a new outpouring of God's Spirit, such as that which is promised for this hour.

Spiritual power is seldom found, because it is so often sought for in a way separate from

all that Christ has asked His people to perform. This power cannot be found by seeking it merely to possess it for personal success or acclaim. It comes as a by-product of something deeper. It comes out of a certain inward fellowship, partnership, with God, and utter abandonment to His purposes, which will lead us each one actually to seek the lost.

The world around has a right to expect in us such an experience and to witness such power. With such an experience we need not be afraid to proclaim boldly the most drastic truths of warning. Without such an experience preaching and teaching such truths will only bring difficulty and perplexity.

These are critical moments in the life of our movement, which call for heroic action on the part of us all. We must now turn a sharp corner in the individual experience of both ministers and people, and head straight for that life and experience which can alone fit us for the final moment of triumph.

Is it not a shame that we have been so long deciding to take this important step? Let us delay no longer. Open doors everywhere are beckoning us to take full advantage of our opportunities. These are opportunities which will not continue long. We are now facing our hour of visitation. Let us not fail to be ready for it.

Notes from the Union President

UNION SESSION ITEMS

NOTICE having already been given that our Union Conference session will be held in the Watford Town Hall, August 1st to 10th, we are now able to state that apartments and catering will be very difficult, and that our people will have to take due care that they register well in advance. We shall not attempt any catering ourselves and the best we can do will be to arrange the times of meetings conveniently for the people to avail themselves of the town restaurant services. Apartments will be obtained as far as possible, but they will be limited.

Delegates to the Union session are arranged by the local conferences and missions on the basis of one representative for their organization and a further one for every fifty of their membership, with one for any fraction above this number. Further information on this subject will be sent out from the conference offices in due course.

COLLEGE SUPERVISION

DURING the absence of Pastor W. G. Murdoch in America, Pastor W. T. Bartlett, and Brethren N. H. Knight and C. F. W. Futcher will act as a committee of control.

We have rented a further eighty acres of land and a mansion in the vicinity of our Binfield property and are in process of negotiation for the purchase of another adjoining property.

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOUR

THE supervision of the Union home missionary, Sabbath-school, and M.V. departments having been taken over by Pastor J. M. Howard, it has been decided to invite Pastor J. A. McMillan to become the Union field missionary secretary. The superintendency of the Scottish Mission being thus vacated, Pastor W. R. A. Madgwick has been invited to accept this position.

These changes will, due to the housing and other difficulties,

take some time to work through, and the indulgence of the fields concerned will be needed pro tem. This is a difficult year of changes and we must all relate ourselves prayerfully and helpfully to the needs of the cause during this rehabilitation period.

MISSIONARY SAILINGS

DR. NIGEL BUXTON sailed for India on March 25th. Dr. Buxton was an army doctor in India some years ago, and accepted the truth through contacts he made there. Our workers in India became much attached to the doctor who has whole-heartedly devoted himself to medical missionary service. We wish him God's blessing.

DR. AND MRS. JOHN A. HYDE have accepted a call for service at the Ife Hospital, Nigeria, and hope to sail early in June. Dr. Hyde has been many years in Africa before coming home to train for medical missionary service, and as a consequence has been granted special permission to return to the mission field, exempted from military service.

We are sure a happy and useful future awaits these good workers.
H. W. LOWE.

North England Conference

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Office Address: 22 Zulla Road
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Notes from the President

AT the moment, 117 interested people are attending the Sabbath services throughout the conference. Of this number, 75 are keeping Sabbath, and 67 are preparing for baptism. Let us all pray that this number will steadily increase as the year advances.

BAPTISMS

FOUR baptismal services have been held this quarter. We welcome the new members into fellowship.

EVANGELISTIC BOXES

WE are entering a time of progress and expansion. Now is the time to remember the penny-a-week box. The evangelists will need all the financial help we can give them.

CHURCHES AND HALLS

IS your meeting-place as attractive as you can make it? Much property has become rather dilapidated because of war-time restrictions. We appreciate all that has been done by our members to improve our churches and halls. Can we do still more, for the good name of the church and to attract new members?

CHURCH HEATING

DURING the winter, as we have visited the churches and halls, we have appreciated the improvement in the heating arrangements. This matter is of particular interest to us because it vitally affects the attendance. It is essential that by 9.45 a.m. the halls should have a temperature of 60 deg. Fahr. if the summer attendances are to be maintained. If any church does not possess a thermometer, we would suggest that the purchase of one, or even two, would be a sound investment. If the heating in your church is not adequate, the summer is the time to make the necessary improvements.

INGATHERING

LAST year, with the help of the College, we collected £9,867. Can we reach this splendid total this year without the help of the students? We are sure we can if every church organizes and prays to this end. We hope every able-bodied member will pull his full weight. Overseas missions calls are greater than ever before. Ingathering is definite soul-saving work.

HOME MISSIONARY WORK

THE home missionary department has been organized primarily to save souls in the homeland. How many souls were added to your church by home missionary activities last year? What plans have been made in your church to save souls this year? How often has the home missionary department committee met to dis-

cuss this vital matter? There should be a baptismal service in each church and company every year.

"The great violinist, Paganini, left his marvellous violin to his native city of Genoa, but on the condition that it must never be played upon. This condition was unfortunate, for it is one peculiarity of wood that as long as it is used and handled it wears but slightly, but as soon as it is discarded it begins to decay. The lovely-toned violin has become worm-eaten in its beautiful case, and it is valueless, except as a relic. The mouldering instrument is a reminder of the truth that life withdrawn from all service to others becomes useless alike to God and man"

SABBATH-SCHOOL

THERE should be more Sabbath-school members than churchmembers. This is obviously true because children and interested can be members of the Sabbath-school. What is the position in your school? The Sabbath-school can be a definite soul-saving agency.

AN ESSENTIAL SAFEGUARD

"If the rush of work is allowed to drive us from our purpose of seeking the Lord daily, we shall make the greatest mistakes; we shall incur losses, for the Lord is not with us; we have closed the door so that He cannot find access to our souls. But if we pray even when our hands are employed, the Saviour's ear is open to hear our petitions. If we are determined not to be separated from the Source of our strength, Jesus will be just as determined to be at our right hand to help us, that we may not be put to shame before our enemies. The grace of Christ can accomplish for us that which all our efforts will fail to do. Those who love and fear God may be surrounded with a multitude of cares, and yet not falter or make crooked paths for their feet. God takes care of you in the place where it is your duty to be. But be sure, as often as possible, to go where prayer is wont to be made"—*"Counsels on Health,"* page 424.

"One petition offered up to God in faith has more power than a wealth of human intellect."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 2, page 279

R. S. JOYCE.

Welsh Mission

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Superintendent's Notes

ONE of the most successful M.V. Rallies ever held in Wales was convened in the Unitarian chapel, Cardiff, on February 22nd and 23rd. Usually the Friday evening service is thinly attended. But this Friday was exceptional and quite the largest number of friends foregathered for this opening meeting. On this occasion a message was provided by the field leader, who also served as quiz leader in a Bible Quiz Contest between a team of Missionary Volunteers from Newport and one from Cardiff. This new feature proved of the greatest interest not only to the team members, but to the large audience. The Cardiff team just managed to outpoint their opponents. Newport awaits the opportunity to redress a situation which was accepted with all good grace.

Pastor J. M. Howard and Captain L. F. Yelland (of the National Mission to Seamen) provided excellent Sabbath fare and the "Open Forum" presided over by Pastor S. G. Hyde provided an opportunity of airing some Missionary Volunteer problems. A panel of eight represented the audience and provided the chairman with the data upon which the "Rally's" decision was founded.

The social evening, was as successful as the rest of the rally had been and for some hours the atmosphere was warm with fun and frolic! Truly a memorable rally and a reminder to our youth that their interests are our deepest concern.

In addition to other demands upon his time and attention, Pastor Howard invested some junior members and generally brought the kind of help that a Union M.V. secretary is expected to bring.

VISIT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE SECRETARY

When the rally was planned for we had no idea of a possible visit of distinguished guests the following weekend. That is what materialized. Elder E. D. Dick, Secretary of the General Conference, made a special request to visit Wales, and in spite of the big venture of the week before—the friends of Wales proffered to return to another united meeting on March 2nd to welcome this distinguished visitor, together with Elder W. W. R. Lake, of the Sarawak Mission. For this meeting we were granted the use of the Tabernacle church in Cardiff and a full and happy Sabbath was enjoyed by the large number who responded to a belated invitation.

Elder Dick brought much news and a wealth of facts from the world field and provided the congregation with inspiring and encouraging messages. It was good to have this contact with the General Conference after so long an interval and the brethren and sisters of Wales appreciated the thought which prompted this particular visit.

Elder Lake—a prisoner for nearly four years in a Japanese Concentration Camp—and a senior member of the Far Eastern Missionary Force, brought a message which will not readily be forgotten. The story of his captivity and the providences of God touched and tendered all our hearts.

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGNS

THE Buckley campaign in North Wales, conducted by E. A. Butters, is attracting a number of interested people.

IN Shrewsbury, J. R. Lewis continues to build up the church in that old-world town. Miss Hartland is giving excellent support there as well as giving some help to the work in Buckley.

IN Pontypool, Pastor F. S. Jackson, assisted by J. Freeman, is conducting a series of Sunday night services.

THE Penarth interest continues encouragingly and a Sabbath meeting is now a feature of the work there. Miss J. Baird is giving much appreciated service both

in Penarth and the valleys, while C. D. Watson, in addition to his excellent work locally, is caring for Missionary Volunteer interests in Caerphilly and Porth.

BROTHER H. HUMPHRIES, has met with an encouraging response in Skewen, near Swansea, and reports that this campaign has proved, so far, about the best he has experienced since joining us in Wales.

ON FURLOUGH

UP in North Wales, the friends have welcomed the return of Pastor and Mrs. J. Clifford from West Africa. Mrs. Clifford is the daughter of Mrs. Vernon, of Rhyl, Wales' star ingatherer. We are glad to have these experienced missionaries at home with us for a while. They will serve as an inspiration to us as we make ready for the 1946 Ingathering campaign.

S. G. HYDE.

Wedding Bells

BRAILSFORD-JOHN.—Mr. J. D. Brailsford and Miss M. M. John joined hands in holy matrimony on March 17, 1946, in the existing schoolroom of our bombed Wimbledon church. A large number of relatives and friends were present to witness the ceremony performed by the writer.

Brother Brailsford is well known to our South East Essex believers for his faithful ministry of lay-preaching, while Sister John has, for several years, rendered consecrated and fruitful service to evangelism in South England as a Bible instructor.

We extend to this happy couple Heaven's benediction, and believe that the confluence of their lives and resources, under God's blessing, will bring much strength to the Advent cause.

JOHN H. BAYLISS

COLLEDGE-NEEDHAM.—We are happy to announce the marriage of Mr. E. Colledge and Miss V. Needham on March 18, 1946, at the Stanborough Park church. Both are members of this church and have taken an active part in its life. A good number of relatives and friends were able to witness the pretty ceremony and to wish them God's blessing in their united lives. All who know them, but were prevented from coming to the ceremony, will wish to join in this best of all wishes.

W. W. ARMSTRONG.

UNTIL THE DAY BREAK

BRUMBY.—The Hull church, suffered the loss of one of its oldest members in the death of Brother John Brumby, aged eighty-three years. After a short illness he passed peacefully away in his sleep on March 7, 1946. A service was conducted in the home by Pastor Zinns, many of the churchmembers and friends being present. He was laid to rest in the Western Cemetery to await the call of the Life-giver.

E. BELLAMY.

RATCLIFF.—The Wallasey church deeply regrets to announce the death of Mrs. H. Ratcliff on January 6, 1946, at the age of seventy-eight years, after a brief illness. Sister Ratcliff came into the truth through the labours of Pastor K. Elias in December, 1943. Our sister now sleeps awaiting the call of the Life-giver.

H. FRALEY, Church Clerk.

CAMPBELL.—We regret to announce the death of Mr. Campbell, of Bishopbriggs, Glasgow. It was our joyful experience recently to talk to Mr. Campbell about his soul's welfare, and to lead him to surrender his heart to the Lord and make his peace with God. He passed away suddenly on Sunday, March 3rd, and was buried at Edinburgh on Wednesday, March 6th, the service being conducted by A. H. Watson in the absence of the writer. We extend to Sister Campbell wife of the deceased, and to his niece, Miss M. Campbell of Watford, our most sincere condolences.

J. A. McMILLAN.

JUPP.—The Bournemouth church has sustained yet another loss by the death of Brother Albert Percy Jupp, aged fifty-eight years. He had been a sufferer for some long time. Brother Jupp and his mother became interested in the truth while in Southampton in 1915. His mother was a much loved member till her death. Brother Jupp maintained his interest in the truth, accompanying his wife (née Edith Desty) fairly regularly to meetings, and was received into fellowship by Pastor Spearing about a year ago. Brother McGougan conducted the funeral service on February 17th.

CHURCH CLERK.

FIELD.—We regret to announce the passing of Sister M. Field on February 27, 1946, at the age of sixty-six years. She, with her sister Rosa, accepted the truth in 1932 through the ministry of Pastor J. G. Bevan. They were baptized by Pastor O. M. Dorland, and became members of the Chiswick church. During the war they were evacuated to Essex and became members of the Conference church. Sister Mabel was brought to her home church where a service was held. Three sisters and many friends are left to mourn their loss, but not as those who have no hope. She was laid to rest in the glorious hope of the resurrection. The services were conducted by the writer, assisted by Pastor R. T. Bolton.

A. K. ARMSTRONG.

BARNES.—Miss Ann Barnes passed away in Mount Vernon Hospital after an operation on February 8, 1946, aged seventy years. The writer buried her in Isleworth Cemetery on February 25th in the family vault, many relatives and friends being present. She was baptized by Pastor R. A. Anderson at Holloway. She was an active member, being constantly engaged in home missionary activities. She will be greatly missed by her fellow churchmembers, and by the children whom she loved to teach children's hymns. She now rests a "prisoner of hope," which hope will

soon become a reality at the coming of Christ, who releases His loved ones from the prison-house of death. Our sympathies extend to her relatives and friends.

JOHN G. BEVAN.

Craven.—Mrs. E. Craven, for many years a respected member of the Stanborough Park church, passed peacefully to rest in the early morning of March 12, 1946, and was buried in Garston Parish Church Cemetery on Thursday, March 14th. Sister Craven had been a faithful Adventist for forty-three of her eighty years of life, and had realized her cherished desire to see her three sons, Edward, Jack, and Joseph, and her daughter, Mrs. F. S. Jackson, connected with the Lord's work. It was in Wellingborough that Sister Craven accepted the message, through the labours of our faithful lay elder, Brother G. Hawkins, and was baptized by Pastor E. E. Andross. Her faithful life and courageous conviction are a memory to be cherished by all who knew her and an example to be emulated by all who love the same Lord and Master.

G. D. KING.

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April 12th 6.50 6.57 7.03 7.12 7.20
April 19th 7.02 7.10 7.15 7.26 7.33

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