

BRITISH ADVENT
MESSENGER
ORGAN OF THE BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

News from the Autumn Council

BELIEVING that our church-members in Great Britain will be interested in a brief report of the recent Autumn Council of the General Conference, at which it was the privilege of Brethren G. D. King, A. Carey, and myself to be in attendance, I outline the following major items of the meeting.

All those privileged to attend will long remember the stirring opening address delivered by Pastor J. L. McElhany, the General Conference president. This was a clear setting forth of the critical times in which we live and a challenging call to wholehearted consecration and endeavour on the part of our world church family to hasten the coming of the day of the Lord. The response was unanimous and wholehearted on the part of the large gathering of workers representing the varied interests of the great Advent movement around the world.

EVANGELISM

The first major item of business presented to the Council was a report by the Commission on Evangelism which had developed from a recent meeting of the Union Conference presidents of North America. This report restudied the urgent needs of the critical days in which we live and called for the development of ways and means for a world-wide evangelistic advance. The general plan as outlined, which suggests some changes in method of approach to our tremendous task,

By E. B. RUDGE

was warmly received by the Council. The details of this report will be submitted to our evangelistic workers in due course.

BRITISH UNION STATUS

The action taken at the time of the British Union Conference session, held at Watford in August, 1946, requesting the General Conference Committee to grant to the British Union Conference the status of a detached union with special relationship in counsel to the General Conference, was presented at this meeting. Action was taken granting to this field its desire for this special form of organization.

One of the outstanding items of business calling for special study and discussion at the annual Autumn Council of the General Conference, is the budget for the world work. The budget presented at the recent Council represented a sum of approximately £3,625,000. This is by far the largest budget that our denomination has ever voted. It impressed me deeply as being indicative of the courage and confidence our brethren have in the great work God has placed under their care. It involved the sacrifice of carefully nurtured reserve funds in order to take advantage of some of the stirring opportunities for advance work in mission lands. The budget draws on General Conference reserves to the extent of over £400,000.

To this field special grants were made in response to our

requests. These appropriations were given to assist in developing the work in Ireland and maintaining the recently begun Voice of Prophecy work over Radio Luxembourg. A special sum was also allocated for the work of church extension.

VISITORS NEXT YEAR

We also placed before the brethren requests from the British Union committee for the conduct of an extension school of the Theological Seminary for certain of our evangelistic workers in this field. This request has been granted and Brethren Lindsjö, L. E. Froom, and J. L. Shuler have been appointed to conduct this special series of instructional meetings. We believe this will mark a new era in the experience of the young men privileged to share in the work of this special school.

Another request was for a return visit of Pastor H. M. S. Richards, in company with his special associates "The King's Heralds." This request is still under consideration, and because of unexpected development in connection with radio work, may not be possible in 1948.

You will be interested to know that the General Conference officers have planned for the following brethren to visit our Union during the coming year: Brethren L. K. Dickson and W. H. Williams are to visit us early in the new year to assist us in planning for the needs of the work in Ireland. Later in the year we shall have visits from Elder

Dunbar, the leader of the youth work, Elder W. P. Elliott, the Publishing Department secretary, or one of his associates, and Elder Oswald, the Home Missionary Secretary of the General Conference. We believe the visits of these men, with the inspiring messages, will greatly encourage our workers and people as they come among us.

It was a heart-warming privilege to visit the General Conference headquarters office once again. Each time one goes to the centre of our world work an impression is received of the brotherly fellowship which is the outstanding feature of our church relationship. We were made welcome and caused to feel very much at home by the General Conference officers, and other workers attached to the General Conference headquarters.

At the present time in the General Conference office there are some men who know this field intimately, such as Brethren Christian, Read, and Lowe, all of whom have sent their warm greetings to their former associates and brethren in Great Britain.

As we face the work of the New Year and undertake our tasks in a world that is seriously troubled by its mounting perplexities, we commit ourselves and our tasks to the hand of God and earnestly pray that all within this Union, churchmembers and workers alike, shall be richly blessed by God and His Spirit in all that concerns the life and activity of 1948.

Union Notes

BRETHREN E. B. Rudge, A. Carey, and the writer have now returned from the recent Autumn Council and at the moment are giving attention to urgent matters awaiting our return. This last visit to America has been, we feel, a most profitable one for the British field, details of which will

of course be given as the days proceed.

One most encouraging aspect of the visit has been the excellent contact made with the General Conference officers and the various members of the full General Conference Committee. We feel that a new impetus has been given to the work in the British field, especially to our evangelistic programme. More progressive plans must be made if the work is to be finished here in the British Isles. Special emphasis was given to evangelism at the Autumn Council, and very far reaching resolutions were passed, which we believe can be very well adapted to the work here in the British Union.

It was, of course, a personal pleasure to meet with many friends of Britain in America, many of whom send their kind Christian greetings to the believers here in the homeland. At the moment, I think particularly of Doctor and Mrs. Ruble, Professor Camden Lacey, A. S. Maxwell, and others of course who have left this field more recently. They tell us that their hearts and minds turn prayerfully toward the British field, and their very great desire is to see the work grow and prosper in our midst.

EVANGELISM

It has been most encouraging to receive the news of the upward trend in evangelistic attendances in the British field. In various places throughout the Union excellent evangelistic campaigns are in progress and we feel confident that a new day is dawning as far as evangelism is concerned.

We are very happy that through the work of the Ministerial Association we are able now to place at the disposal of our evangelists an increasing number of talkie films presenting our message and mission work in other parts of the world field. During the recent visit to America we were able to secure a most excellent film portraying our medical mission service in Africa. We are hopeful, of course, that in due time the whole field will have an opportunity of seeing this most inspiring picture. It is entitled, "Witch-

bound Africa," and truly does reveal the splendid work of the Christian doctor in the Dark Continent.

STANBOROUGH'S SECONDARY SCHOOL AND NEWBOLD COLLEGE

REPORTS indicate that the first term at both our educational institutions has been encouraging, both from the point of view of enrolment and work accomplished. As is known throughout the field, the Stanboroughs Preparatory and Secondary School is operating at the present time as a real missionary enterprise, a large number of the day students being from non-Adventist homes—thus the news of the Advent message is reaching boys and girls, and indeed is penetrating into homes that otherwise would know little of the truth we love. One most pleasing feature is that a number of these boys and girls are enrolling in the Progressive Courses sponsored by the Missionary Volunteer Department. Undoubtedly the influence of this work will have far-reaching effects, the results of which will only be seen in the eternal kingdom.

Newbold College reports that an excellent spirit has prevailed at the school; the Week of Prayer being a time of special blessing to both faculty and students.

MISSIONARY SAILINGS

It has been brought to our attention that no notification has been given in the MESSENGER concerning the sailing of Brother Bernard Howard and his wife, who left on May 7th for West Africa. Brother Howard has proceeded to Sierra Leone to take charge of the educational work in that field. He is principal of the Teachers' Training School and, of course, will have the supervision of a number of mission schools throughout the territory.

Brother Howard, who holds the British degrees of B.Sc. and M.A. Hons., will doubtless bring great strength to the work in that field, and we wish him and his wife much blessing in their future labours.
G. D. KING.

South England Conference

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The Sabbath is Presented

At the last two campaigns I visited the Sabbath truth was presented, which makes me realize that we are reaching that period in our evangelical work this year which is critical and when the hard personal work is on.

Pastor C. R. Bonney has been running a mid-week campaign in Bristol and on December 11th I was privileged to hear him deliver a forthright, spirited, yet appealing address on the Sabbath of the Lord. It was his ninth meeting and the attendances have been remarkably good, especially for mid-week. That night 120 non-members were present and possibly forty of our own members. The interest was deep. The whole service was made attractive by song. Hymns and choruses were thrown on the screen and ably led by Brother K. Gammon. The local church has a well-balanced male quartette which adds considerably to the effectiveness of the campaign. Also, Miss P. Sweet has recently joined the team and has brought quite a wealth of musical talent with her.

A letter from Pastor Bonney states that the following Sabbath fifty-two non-members attended the first meeting. The team is finding plenty to do, for a large number of students from the Voice of Prophecy are in the Bristol area. All workers and churchmembers are hopeful of a good addition to the church by baptism in the coming year.

On Sunday, December 14th, I was able to hear Pastor T. J. Bradley speak on the Sabbath. The folk at Croydon have been a little troubled because for two weeks there has been no heating in the theatre and, in consequence, the attendance has considerably diminished. But the personal visitation is still maintained. The

Lord blessed the presentation of this testing truth. It was approached in a way suitable to the season. As Christmas is a time of giving gifts, Brother Bradley first beautifully presented Christ as God's great gift to man in his needy though rebellious state. Then the Sabbath was shown to be God's second gift to mankind, meeting his physical, mental, and spiritual need: A large chart was displayed all the time bearing the words, "If ye love Me." At an appropriate moment in the sermon three usherettes came on to the platform each bearing a word which completed the text, "keep My commandments." The speaker emphasized that we are saved by faith, but faith and love in action produce obedience. Following the close of the service a call was made for those wanting to know more about this question to stay behind for a while. Possibly fifty to sixty non-members gathered together and agreed to attend a service the following Sabbath afternoon.

Mrs. E. Watson gave two solos from her repertoire. The audience listened with deep interest and heartfelt emotion to the strong, rich appeal of this talented singer. Surely we are privileged to have such a voice in our midst, and grateful to the Lord that it is consecrated to His service.

The work is at an interesting stage now. The harvest from these campaigns is soon to be gathered. The workers need wisdom, guidance, tact, and persuasive power to complete the good work begun. **DON'T FAIL THEM. KEEP ON PRAYING.**

W. W. ARMSTRONG.

PS.—A letter from Pastor D. A. Conroy states that seventy-five non-members attended his last Sabbath afternoon service. We are glad of this good news.

W.W.A.



Another Day of Blessing

SABBATH, December 13th, will long be remembered as another milestone in the work for our youth at Stanborough Park.

At the morning service, before a crowded church, Pastor

H. T. Johnson brought a challenging message to us, young people and adults alike, from 2 Kings 2:14, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" in which he reviewed the highlights in the experience of Elijah from the commencement of his ministry to his translation, tracing the hand of God in His care and provision for His servant and reminding us that when we are in the place of God's appointment, He will never fail to keep His appointment with us.

Pastor Johnson then referred to the request of Elisha for a double portion of God's spirit, which he pointed out was the secret of the life which followed. It was no formal request, not something to satisfy the desire of a selfish heart. No! it was the deep longing of a surrendered heart to know and feel the power of the indwelling Lord God of Elijah.

Grasping the mantle of Elijah he threw out the challenge, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" not in any spirit of doubt, but in full assurance that the Lord God of Elijah was with him. He had a second-hand mantle but a first-hand experience. So the history of the past has its place, but the need of each one is a first-hand, a personal experience.

In response to a heart-felt appeal, the young people who were to enter the waters of baptism later in the day rose in an act of surrender. The parents of these young people were then invited to stand by their side, pledging themselves to support and encourage their boys and girls. Finally there was an appeal to the whole congregation to a re-dedication of all in support of our youth. Pastor E. L. Minchin then offered the dedicatory prayer.

We were happy to have with us Brother A. G. Tapping and a number of members from the Colchester and Ipswich churches, who brought with them six souls who were to be baptized.

At 3 p.m. in the afternoon the church was comfortably filled and an air of joy and expectancy pervaded the sanctuary.

Pastor Minchin spoke of the "Sunrise Conversion" which so

many of the candidates had experienced, coming as they did in the main from Adventist homes. He closed with an appeal to all to be tender and compassionate with our young people.

In addition to the six candidates from Ipswich and district, which included a German prisoner of war who had been led to accept Jesus and His truth by a fellow prisoner, fourteen of our young people were taken through the waters of baptism by Pastors Minchin and Johnson.

This fruitage was the result of the "Youth for Christ" week which was conducted in the spring, at which time a class was formed; three young people who wished to join in this service were prevented by sickness, but they will be joining the group which commences preparing in the New Year.

Thus closed another glorious Sabbath and we young people pause to thank our heavenly Father for a year which has been marked by a great forward step in the Missionary Volunteer ranks.

We thank Him for our "Pioneer Leader," and for consecrated earthly leaders, who by example and precept are constantly pointing us to Jesus. We desire to rededicate to Him and His service our youthful hearts, zeal, and enthusiasm for the finishing of His work on earth.

A YOUTHFUL, MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER.

North England Conference

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Yorkshire Youth Rally

WITH eager anticipation we awaited our "Youth for Christ Week" in Yorkshire. We had read and heard so much of the inspiring youth rallies in the South, and realized only too well that in the North we are scattered and relatively few in number. Rather wistfully we wondered if we, too, would have the "good hand of the

Lord" upon us, and benefit from the spiritual tonic, so refreshing and invigorating in these days of dire unbelief.

Looking forward to meeting Pastor E. L. Minchin, and our old friend Pastor E. R. Warland, we expected great things from them, and prayed earnestly for God to give them just the message we needed.

Throughout the week little companies met together—few in number, but how they sang; how raptly they listened; how faithfully they left their duties, just to be there! Friends, God was there, too; He hadn't forgotten our needs—He knew the young seed in Yorkshire required the gentle rain of refreshing. Could God work through Brother Minchin in the North? Of course He could! Mighty evidence was there; our Youth Week was an inspiration, and had a fitting climax.

Our lovely little church in Bradford had been beautifully cleaned; large chrysanthemum blooms decorated the rostrum, and for the first time in many years, every seat was occupied—yes, and the balcony. We were overjoyed to have so many from Leeds, York, Wakefield, and other districts with us on the Sabbath day.

Brother Warland was our speaker in the morning and his encouraging address was illustrated by such statements as "I flee," "I follow," "I fight," printed on cards held high by little girls, some of whom wore scarlet berets. But who were they? We soon learned that they had sung at Brother Cooper's campaign meetings and were sufficiently interested to come all the way to Bradford for this Sabbath meeting.

Have you heard of the new "Flannel-Graphs"? Brother Warland explained and illustrated them. What a great help they can be to leaders of children's groups.

It was a day of good things, and its conclusion will long be remembered. Brother Minchin earnestly entreated young and old alike in the service which followed. The week could not end without a testimony meeting, and as relays of young people hastened to the front, eyes looked

suspiciously moist. How could we remain unmoved when before us young men and women, young boys and girls, some for the first time, in the tenderness of their first love for the Saviour, testified from hearts full to overflowing, "I love Jesus." Time was no factor; for us it just stood still. God's Spirit was among us and almost without exception the youth of Yorkshire made or renewed their heartfelt dedication to God.

Last of all, we saw Brother Minchin's homeland; heard of the tons of luscious fruit simply allowed to waste—a land of plenty! What a contrast to our own land, to which he has so willingly consecrated his talents.

We thank these leaders of youth for their untiring efforts to portray the Christ life; truly Jesus has been to us the "One altogether lovely," and most of all we thank our heavenly Father for sending the "old time power" to Yorkshire.

LEILA C. HANDYSIDES.



Investiture at Carlisle

SABBATH, December 13th, was a "date" in the calendar of the youth of the northern counties, as we planned and worked at our Progressive Courses. But it was December 12th that the Carlisle members had in mind first, for a baptism was planned for the Sabbath eve. Pastor E. R. Warland and Brother R. A. Darbyshire assisted Pastor B. F. Kinman in conducting this most beautiful service and three young people, all members of the same family, publicly showed their determination to follow in the Master's footsteps. It was an inspiration to see these young people calmly and gladly engage in the sacred rite. We would here record the kindness of the Baptist minister who willingly gave us the use of his church, and who spared no pains to see that everything was ready for us.

Next morning we arrived for Sabbath-school to find the walls draped with all the Progressive Requirement Charts, and so the day began. Pastor Warland spent the Sabbath-school period with

the juniors, and at the close another interesting meeting was convened for the children. By this time the Newcastle contingent had arrived and filled our church with happy, eager members. We were sorry Pastor Musgrave was hindered from being with us, so again Pastors Warland and Kinman and Brother Darbyshire were on the platform. After singing the opening hymn, prayer was offered by three young people. D. Polano from Darlington reverently repeated the fourth commandment and E. Polano sweetly sang the theme song of the Voice of Prophecy. We were then reminded of the sweet singer of Israel, as C. Robson feelingly rendered a lovely negro spiritual, accompanying himself on his harp. Pastor Kinman next welcomed the three young people into full membership of the Carlisle church, while Pastor Warland welcomed them into the North England Conference. Chorus time found us ready and eager and then Pastor Warland spoke to us. "For bodily exercise profiteth little," was his text, meaning that, although not ranking first, it is indeed profitable. He told of the exploits of the Nottingham Young People's Society. Then began the Investiture, in which Pastor Warland was kept busy pinning on the badges and presenting all the various certificates and honours. Those invested were:

Master Comrade	1	Carlisle
Companions	8	Carlisle
Friends	3	Newcastle
Helpers	3	2 Darlington
		1 Carlisle

As time was marching on, the last hymn was omitted and the service closed with the benediction.
AGNES MACKAY.

Aid to Europe

Two and a half hundred-weights of rationed foods and more than four hundred garments have been sent to Europe by the Tyneside group of churches.

Even before it was possible to send relief gifts direct to our brethren on the Continent items of food and clothing were being gathered ready for shipment.

From the time the first consignment was received many have been the grateful letters from the recipients of the forty food and fifteen clothing parcels. Many tell of unbelievable hardships, but all speak of the goodness of God. Some received the parcels as answers to prayer. "My rations for the month were stolen. There is no compensation. God put it into your hearts to send me some food for life." So writes one of our sisters in Germany.



Famine relief parcels ready for dispatch from the Newcastle church

Reta Kozanowski, whom many will remember as being at the Woolacombe Youth Camp in 1938, writes: "You do not know how it is to have nothing. Just a few days ago I left the hospital where I stood eight weeks. One day I lost my mind for fourteen days because I was so hungry and fell down the steps exhausted."

A widow writes: "I am seventy-one years old; I cannot work because I am ill. Because I do not work there is little food for me. I am grieved as I think of next winter; the last one was so cold and long. Many died. But God is good—the coat you sent me will keep me warm."

God has blessed us as we have sought to help these unfortunate brethren and sisters and given us the joy. As we write we have come to the end of our stocks;

our last supplies have been sent. Can you help us to send to those who have not yet received anything? There is an urgent need of clothes for the winter. If you have any that have been discarded, please send them to us at the S.D.A. Church, 8 Higham Place, Newcastle, 1.

M. B. MUSGRAVE.

Birmingham Youth Forum

A MOST interesting and educational evening was spent on Saturday, November 22nd, when over sixty members of young peoples' societies from Stoke, Coventry, and the Birmingham area gathered at the Birmingham Handsworth church for a forum on "Nature Healing or Modern Medicine?"

The principal speakers were Pastor W. M. Lennox (Coventry); Brother S. Howard Parkin (South Birmingham); Sister Doreen Merchant (Handsworth, Birmingham); and Brother Graham Cabbin (South Birmingham). Brother B. Thompson (Birmingham Central) took the chair.

Pastor Lennox, as opening speaker on the subject of nature healing, ably instructed us in the "Philosophy of Nature Healing," his chief point being that the medical profession to-day was concerned largely with the negative work of germs and their destruction, whereas nature healing was based upon building up the body and constitution against diseases.

Sister Merchant, speaking on the subject of "Modern Medicine" traced the progress of medicine from early primitive methods to the modern medical services of to-day. She described at length the invaluable work ante-natal and child welfare centres were doing; the facilities available at clinics, and the splendid work undertaken by modern hospitals and rehabilitation training centres. Her address, covering as it did such a wide survey, also emphasized the part diet played in modern medical methods.

Brother Cabbin, the third speaker, submitted an evidently very carefully prepared paper on health-reform, quoting the accepted authority of Sister E. G.

White. He reminded his listeners of the denominational standing regarding diet, and sought with convincing argument, to prove how many illnesses to-day could be prevented or cured by natural methods, diet, and a proper understanding of true health reform.

It was evident that the final speaker, Brother Parkin, like the previous speakers of the evening, was not only conversant with his subject but had devoted considerable time and study to it and had undertaken a great amount of research work. He could not accept the inference of the title of the forum which tended to suggest that natural healing and modern medicine were two entirely separate subjects. He stressed the fact that modern medicine was not solely concerned with the killing of germs, but also to-day embraced disease prevention and thus also included diet and health reform principles.

The discussion which followed was lively, and members from all

societies were eager and ready to rise to their feet.

At the close Brother Thompson, the chairman, urged all members of the young peoples' societies to carefully consider the opinions expressed in the discussion and to make a thorough study of the whole of the writings of Sister White, not limiting their reading to isolated passages.

A vote of thanks to all on the platform was proposed by Pastor L. Murdoch (Wolverhampton); and the pronouncement of the benediction brought a thoroughly enjoyable and instructive meeting to a close.

In concluding this report a word of thanks and appreciation should be tendered to the church board of the Handsworth church for kindly placing their hall at the disposal of the meeting; and to members of that church for their kindness in providing refreshments afterward. This kindly thoughtfulness was indeed appreciated, especially by those who had long distances to travel homeward.

from us, together with all his other literature.

We could mention other colporteurs, such as Brethren W. Morton, F. B. König, M. Davidson, J. H. Repath, who have for long periods been taking between 1,500 and 2,500 of these magazines regularly every month, and are building up encouragingly large sales figures, almost solely by the sale of our popular "six-pennies."

Since its publication at the time of the annual conferences, *Youth Calling* has found a definite place in the hearts of our people, who have sold over 40,000 copies; at the present time we are printing another 20,000 edition to meet the demands. The present number of *Health and Happiness* has sold very well, the circulation figure in approximately twelve months is 116,000. In the same space of time we have sold over 164,000 copies of the present exceptionally popular number of *Good News*.

We plan, early in the New Year, to publish a brand-new number of *Good News*, and a little later a new *Health and Happiness*. We are confident that the sixpenny magazines have come to stay. R. CAREY.

The LITERATURE MINISTRY

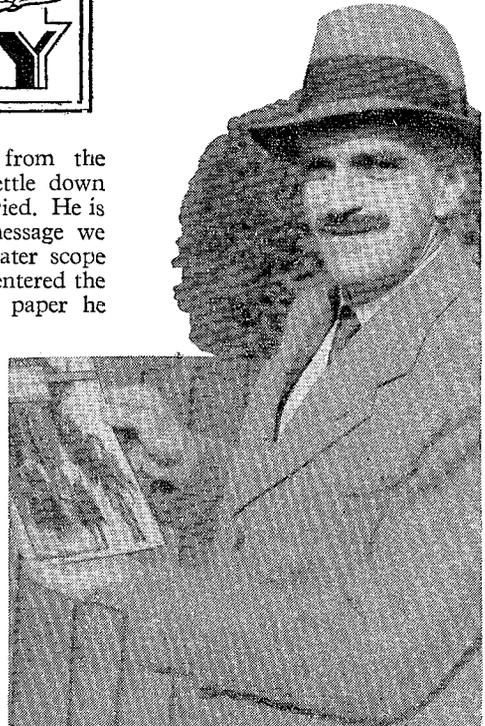
Sixpenny Magazine Sales Soaring!

ONE of the most popular features ever introduced into our literature programme in this country is the sixpenny magazine. We now have three of these, each with a beautiful three-colour cover which is proving a very powerful selling point. Our churchmembers and colporteurs alike have voted heavily in their favour and their sales are increasing daily. It is quite a common occurrence for the publishing house to dispatch to the field between 40,000 and 45,000 each month, even in these difficult days of paper shortages, etc.

The picture on this page shows Brother H. F. Kierstead, a Canadian who served as a soldier in this country during the war. After

obtaining his release from the army he decided to settle down here and has since married. He is full of zest for the message we love and to obtain greater scope to preach the truth he entered the colporteur work. The paper he is holding is *Youth Calling*. Since its introduction about three months ago he has sold over 5,000 copies and up to date this year he has taken over 12,000 sixpenny magazines

Brother H. F. Kierstead exhibits a copy of "Youth Calling" of which he has sold more than 5,000 in the past three months.



Welsh Mission

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Sabbath-School and Youth Rally

ALL our membership in the Welsh Mission will welcome the news of Pastor E. L. Minchin's visit to the Principality during the week January 7th to 14th. Special services have been arranged in Shrewsbury (January 7th), Hereford (January 8th), Newport (January 9th), and Swansea (January 11th), culminating in a large district rally at Cardiff on Sabbath, January 10th. We are very grateful to the officers of the West Grove Unitarian church, for permitting us again to use their very comfortable building.

The day's rally will open with a devotional hour from 9 a.m. to 9.45 a.m., followed by the Sabbath-school at 10 a.m. Services in connection with the Youth and Sabbath-school Rally will continue throughout the day.

At the 2.30 p.m. song service we hope to sample some of the beautiful hymns from the Revised *Gospel Melodies*, which have just arrived from the United States. One world-renowned composer of Gospel songs has stated that there is not another book which contains so many choice melodies within one cover.

At 5.30 p.m. the Cardiff church is entertaining us to supper. Adults will be charged 1/- per head, but children of fourteen years and under will have their refreshments free.

The evening will be devoted to social activities and among other things we hope to show some talkie films with the aid of our new cine-projector. Altogether it will be an inspirational and happy day. We want South Wales to give our brother a warm welcome and we are sure that this day of blessed fellowship will never be forgotten. During the day Pastor Minchin desires to see all our Sabbath-school and youth officers

who are present at the gathering.

Should any of our members living farther afield like to join us and desire accommodation for a night or two please write immediately to Pastor F. S. Jackson, 3 Dryburgh Avenue, Whitchurch, Cardiff.

Wishing all our members much happiness in service during 1948.
J. M. HOWARD.

Irish Mission

Superintendent: Pastor A. J. Mustard

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German Gift Parcels

FROM an Adventist widow and mother of four children in Germany has come a letter in response to a gift parcel of food. Believing the contents of the letter will be of interest to the Adventist community at large in Britain, we share with you its heart-moving message:

"My dear Sister ———,

"God's peace be with you!

"I must send you the joyful news that I have received your kind letter dated September 15th. Thank you very much I was so happy to get it. Also I have received your life-giving parcel of August 8th. Our joy over its contents was very great. We can surely make good use of these means of life. Never have our words of thanks seemed so feeble. When the parcel was opened I just dropped to my knees and thanked my loving Saviour for it and prayed Him to repay you richly. Yes, I am often very troubled about the daily bread for my children. We shall have a hard winter. For six months we have had no rain and very great heat. The poor cattle have no fodder, so die one after the other. In one month we get only 100 grammes of butter and no milk at all. The potato harvest was very bad. We have 400 grammes of potatoes daily, for dinner and supper, without fat and without any other vegetables. We can have only three slices of bread each day, the dryness of the land having spoiled the crops. We do not yet know whether we can live through this winter. Our faith, however, is strong enough to believe that God can bless the little

we have. Our Saviour is also able to work upon the hearts of men, so that they are willing to help us. This we have already experienced many times. We brethren and sisters over here can no longer help one another materially, and so our eyes and our prayers look across the water. My dear sister, you cannot know how great our joy is when a food parcel arrives. God will bless and requite you. We truly believe that we are very near the end. Soon our Saviour will return to fetch us. God's work here is onward. Many people are accepting the truth, and that is well. It is important that God should finish His work in our hearts so that we may be ready for eternity. Continue to pray for us. We pray also for you. Kindest greetings to all the members in your church.

"With heartfelt greetings, I am,
"Your very grateful sister in the
Lord,

"GERTRUD MAGER"

Such a message should encourage us to continue to do what we can for those of our brethren in less fortunate circumstances than our own. "Inasmuch . . . !"

A. J. MUSTARD.

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WEDDING BELLS

ROBERTSON-SMITH. — On Tuesday, September 30, 1947, a wedding of much interest took place at the Rugby Baptist church, when Mr. George Robertson and Miss Rita Margaret Smith, the two youngest members of the Rugby company, were united in marriage. This being the first wedding since the company was organized in December, 1945, almost every member attended to witness the event. The day was clothed in brilliant sunshine which added to the happiness of all present.

Our president, Pastor O. M. Dorland, officiated and gave the young couple some very helpful advice for their new life.

Mr. Bruce Wells presided at the organ. Mr. Everett of Rugby, the bride's uncle, gave her away. Miss Beryl Smith attended her sister, and Mr. D. Chapman of Brinklow acted as best man. About fifty relatives and churchmembers afterward enjoyed refreshment in the church schoolroom.

We all wish this young couple every success and God's richest blessing as they journey on life's pathway together.

B. A. Tew, Church Clerk.

Until the Day Break

LEWIS.—Mrs. Lewis passed to her rest peacefully in the early morning of October 28, 1947, and was buried in North Watford Cemetery on November 3rd in the presence of a number of friends. Our sister reached the good age of eighty-two years, and though she suffered much, her cheerfulness was a joy to all who visited her. Only a few days before her death her voice was heard singing in the Stanborough Park church. One of her favourite hymns, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine," was sung at the funeral service conducted by the writer. Our sister and her husband, who died some years ago, came into the truth in 1899. He had worked for years in our food factories at Horley, Birmingham, at Stanborough Park, and for some years in Australia. Our sister loved the truth and her hope in Jesus' soon coming was strong to the last. She longed for the day when sin and pain would be no more and rejoiced in the thought of being in the world made new. Her children and their families are left with the blessed hope that Mother will come forth at the resurrection of the righteous. One daughter in the U.S.A. (Mrs. G. Norris), a son in Wolverton, and one in Australia, sorrow not as

others without hope. May God help us all to be ready also to meet our blessed Saviour at last.

W. H. MEREDITH.

BARNES.—Mrs. Barnes fell peacefully asleep in the Stanboroughs, at the age of seventy-seven years, on Tuesday evening, November 25, 1947, after a long illness which had kept her to her bed and needing the continual loving care of her daughters with whom she lived during the last few years of her life. We laid her to rest in the North Watford Cemetery on Friday, November 28, just before the sun went down ushering in the Sabbath that was so precious to our sister for over thirty-four years. The writer, assisted by Brother F. Throssell, conducted services in the church and at the graveside. Words of comfort and consolation were spoken from God's Word, the Book Sister Barnes loved so much. She took pleasure in the study of the Sabbath-school lessons and left many perfect record cards behind. She was brought into the truth by Pastor F. A. Spearing when he held a tent meeting near her home at Southampton. Through all the years—not always easy—her faith never failed. To the last she trusted her Saviour and looked forward to the time when He would come again. Patiently she awaited the time of rest and her

thoughts and prayers were for her loved ones and God's people the world over. Her husband, children, and grandchildren may know that their dear one rests until the Saviour calls her to rise to eternal life. May we all who knew her patience and love so yield our hearts to Jesus that we too may be there in that grand reunion.

W. H. MEREDITH.

The four daughters of the late Mrs. Barnes wish to convey their sincere thanks to the Stanboroughs nursing staff for the care and devotion given to their mother during her last illness.

FRY.—Sister A. Fry, a much loved member of the Southstoke church, passed to her rest on October 30, 1947, at the age of seventy-eight years. Sister Fry accepted the message under the ministry of the late Pastor T. H. Cooper twenty-two years ago, and remained faithful to the end. Her health had been failing for about a year, and she was taken to the home of her married daughter, but she gradually weakened and could not attend church. Her sweet, gentle disposition, which endeared her to all, will long be remembered. Our sister was laid to rest in the Tiverton Cemetery on Monday, November 3rd, the service being conducted by the Rev. C. H. Higgs, pastor of the Oldfield Baptist church. There she awaits the call of the Life-giver and the reward which is laid up for the righteous.

M. CLIFFORD.

Australian Parcels—A Last Word

OVER one hundred names on the very first day, and still twelve days to go! We were utterly dismayed, for we saw the probability of hundreds of our members being disappointed.

The first hundred names West Australia requested were duly sent, and a copy of them to one of our very good friends in the Home Missionary Department at the Union headquarters in East Australia. We have had quite a deal of correspondence with this brother and so we slipped in a word about names still pouring into the office. A letter from him crossed with ours, saying that he would take any surplus over and above the one hundred we gave to West Australia. That offer greatly heartened us, but even so, as the days went by and the applications mounted and mounted, we began to wonder if we dared send them all! Finally we closed the lists on Monday, November 24th, with 709 names.

No! we just could not bring ourselves to send so many without warning Australia how great the additional load would be. We sent an airmail letter giving facts and figures and waited anxiously! Back came the reply as fast as 'plane can carry it; and here it is:

"Send us all the names you have and we will endeavour to do what we can with them. I am optimistic enough to believe that we can get at least one parcel for each of them. You can be assured I shall do my best. Yes! send the whole 700."

I leave it with each of you 709 to tell these Australians just how you feel about it all when you acknowledge the parcel that will one day come to your address. And even if you have to wait five or six months, do not conclude you have been overlooked.

A surprising number of names had to be rejected for the simple reason that our office records revealed that the members making application had had at least one parcel from some part of Australasia during the past two years. We were of the opinion that we had made the one disqualifying condition quite plain, but if our wording left any shadow of a doubt as to our meaning we tender sincere apologies.

In view of the overwhelming response that came to us we could not entertain extending the time limit set, and so we have had to withhold all names reaching us since November 24th.

MARY CAMPBELL.

JAGO.—It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Sister Jago, who passed away November 18, 1947. She was born in Capetown and accepted the truth, with her husband, some forty years ago. Her father was an interpreter at the law courts. Sister Jago came to England in 1921, where she remained until her death. In later years her sight failed her, which caused her much grief. Eventually, she caught a chill which hastened her death. She was a loyal member to the last. We laid her to rest in the beautiful Chiswick New Cemetery, to await the resurrection morning. She leaves relatives and many friends to mourn their loss. The service was conducted by the writer.

A. K. ARMSTRONG.

Acknowledgments

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THE treasurer of the South England Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Lord's tithe £1. 10s. from T.T.G.

SUNSET CALENDAR

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	Lon'n	Not'm	Car'ff	Edin	Bel't
Jan. 9th	4.10	4.23	3.59	4.07	4.17
Jan. 16th	4.20	4.33	4.11	4.18	4.29

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

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