

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

ORGAN OF THE BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

SABBATH-SCHOOL PAGEANT IN NORTH LONDON

A SABBATH-SCHOOL Pageant! Yes, as good as a Rally. It was really something that captivated the eye as well as the ear, and put the Sabbath-school on the map for the churches of North London. In it we had depicted, in story and song, the rise and progress of the Sabbath-school from its early beginnings to the present day.

Well, what did we see? There was an unforgettable scene of the birth of a Sabbath-school in the heart of James White. There in a cornfield sat James White, as he rested his horses at the mid-day lunch hour when he was on a journey from Rochester to Bangor, Maine. He was very much burdened over the work for the young people and longed to help them in systematic Bible study. On this particular day he rested on his lunch basket and wrote the first four lessons for the Sabbath-school on the Sabbath, the Law, and the History of the Sabbath. These he had printed in the first *Youth's Instructor* in 1852. Photostatic copies of this actual paper were displayed so that all could see what this historic document looked like.

Then as the pioneers crossed the ocean, the Sabbath-school came to Europe: to Switzerland, Britain, Germany, etc. Then, with the onward advance of mission work it travelled to the Near

By A. BELL

and Far East, to the lands on the other side of the world, to Africa, and South America until now the Sabbath-school has encircled the globe and has become the greatest educating factor in this beloved Seventh-Day Adventist Church of ours. This story of progress was presented by twenty young people.

In this unusual school "no pupil ever graduates, it makes no financial claim in the form of tuition fees, . . . yet he who surveys the Sabbath-school with the inner eye sees it each Sabbath day bringing its pupils face to face with some portion of the Word of God and the saving influence of Jesus" Surely this in itself is sufficient to commend it to every churchmember. Apart

from this great spiritual influence it supplies one-third of all the money required for the onward advance of missions.

The second part of the programme developed itself into the function of the Sabbath-school in the church and at home. For this, one of our Junior members was seen studying his lesson before getting into bed. The lesson was the visit of the shepherds to Bethlehem. His imagination was very childlike and in answer to his queries could be seen in the dream-like distance, a vision of the shepherds as they rested and talked on the hillside after their wonderful visit to Bethlehem. The story of their impressions answered all the little lad's inquiries.

A demonstration of the Kindergarten lesson also was given. All the tiny tots excelled themselves.



Scene at the Holloway pageant portraying Elder James White in the cornfield where the idea of the Sabbath-school was born.

The need of the Sabbath-school is felt by many not yet within the portals of our church. This was emphasized as we heard the familiar strains of the Voice of Prophecy programme and saw an earnest seeker after truth voice her reactions to the message she heard. Her need was a church where a systematic form of Bible study was followed. This need was met and fulfilled as she eventually heard of the Sabbath-school at the close of her Voice of Prophecy studies. Then in a Sabbath-school class she found her way to the church and looked forward to a systematic form of Bible study which is helpful to simple and learned, old and young as, day by day and week by week, they go through the Bible, until at the end of twelve to fourteen years the whole Bible has been spanned.

The Sabbath-school which had its humble beginnings in a cornfield will continue to function until its pupils find its grand and glorious culmination in the new earth. As members of every Sabbath-school hear the Saviour's benediction in the day when He makes up His jewels, it will be because the song of redemption is upon their lips, and so our programme closed with the Sabbath-school representatives of all nations swelling into the grand chorus of, "Redeemed by the precious blood of Christ."

This programme was presented by the Kindergarten, Junior, and Young People's classes of the Holloway Sabbath-school.

South England Conference

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Evangelism in Bristol

SINCE moving from Kent to Bristol we have not sent any report of our work to the MESSENGER, so we feel that we owe you a short account of what has been done. After spending a few months in getting an understand-

ing of the churches and members in this large area we settled down to the interesting yet arduous task of evangelism.

A centrally located hall was booked for nine Thursday evenings, but the interest kept up so well that we were there for twenty-two weeks before going back to our own church. At the first meeting we had one hundred and twenty-five non-members and kept round about that number right through, having eighty-two, apart from our own members, at our last service.

When thinking of our work for this autumn and winter we plucked up courage to take the same hall for another mid-week campaign. Our courage has been rewarded, for up to the time of writing we have held eight meetings with an average attendance of one hundred and forty-three; being a little above the average of last year. We are hoping, praying, and working for another good baptism as a result of these meetings.

It is always a joy to be able to report baptisms. Since coming here just twenty months ago, we have had three baptisms when thirty souls, including eleven men, have taken their stand for the message we love. Many are the stories which could be told of struggle and triumph, of opposition and victory. The devil is certainly coming down with great wrath as we near the end of time, but the providences of God are also made manifest in counter-acting the forces of evil. This gives us confidence in the final triumph of truth and righteousness.

We have had one or two changes in assisting workers, but Miss E. P. Dyer has been with us all the time working faithfully and energetically in winning souls.

C. R. BONNEY.

Change of Address

THE Cambridge church now meet in the upstairs room at the Liberal Hall, 42 Regent Street, Cambridge. Sabbath-school, 2.15 p.m.; preaching service, 3 p.m.

E. S. RULE,
Church Clerk.

What People Are Saying

AND still they come. Boys and girls, young men and women, mothers and fathers, and the elderly people, too.

For six weeks they crowded into the Watford Town Hall, and now after a further eight weeks—over three months in all—they are still coming to the Palace Theatre to hear God's truth for these days. We hardly expected to see such a response in the town where we are so well known.

But how do these people feel about the meetings? Every week cards are available for the people to write down their comments or questions. Here on the table are a few dozen of these cards, so let's take a look at some of them and see just what the people really think of our meetings.

Here are two cards written about the time we moved into the Palace Theatre:

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the meetings in the Town Hall. God bless you in your good work."

"I have been to every meeting—this last has been the best. I will certainly be in the Palace Theatre. God bless you."

Some people seem to record their appreciation at every meeting. Here are some comments, all in the same handwriting:

"Watford has needed such a presentation of the Bible for years. Thank God you have come to do the task."

"Thank you for the booklets—you have brought joy and light into my home."

"My husband will not go to church, but he will come to hear you."

And here is a letter with both an appreciative and a practical message:

"Dear Sir: I was sorry to hear you say last Sunday that you may soon have to discontinue the Palace Theatre meetings as I think they have been wonderful. I enjoy every minute of them. I am a transport driver and cannot get there to-night. I enclose two shillings for to-night's collection."

Such are the reactions of the people to the meetings. How do they enjoy the booklets which

they ask for from week to week? Let some of the people tell us:

"Your literature is very clear and simple to understand. . . . I would appreciate the next copy."

"It is kind of you to send along these helpful booklets so faithfully."

"Thank you for the literature. When I am unable to attend, will you send along my literature just the same? Thank you."

"We enjoy reading your booklets for which we thank you so much. God bless you. You have brought us near to God."

But although it is good to know that people enjoy the meetings, and that they find the literature helpful, our great desire is, of course, that they shall find the Saviour and be drawn to Him. So it was encouraging to all when Pastor S. G. Joyce received the following letter a few weeks ago:

"Sir: On Sunday evenings I generally go to the pictures, and during the week I also go to the pictures, and to the 'dogs' for the very want of somewhere to go.

"Last Sunday I saw throngs going into the Palace Theatre, so I thought I would go inside, too. Well sir, a miracle happened. I enjoyed your 'other side of the world' to mine—the side I have been used to. It was not your address which made me think, but the singing of a piece called, 'Perfect Peace.'

"What a beautiful song! I think it beats anything I have heard Bing sing on the wireless. While it was being sung something tugged at my heart. I sat with my eyes closed and Someone seemed to stand in front of me with arms outstretched, beckoning me to come.

"Well sir, I went. As you said in your address, I took the Lord with me, and that's a week ago and He is still with me. This will, I know, sir, make you perhaps happier than it has made me.

"I have not put my address on this letter, sir, but you can have it if you wish. I hope that some more miserable sinners like I was a week ago will come to your meetings and see 'the other side of the world,' as I call it, for this happiness and contentment is far in advance of having a good time at the 'dogs.'

"May God bless you in your work."

Isn't that encouraging? These responses prove to us that God's good Spirit is at work on the hearts of men and women in this town, and we believe that many more will be led to the foot of the cross before this effort is finished.

Join your prayers with ours, won't you? Pray that God's name may be uplifted and that souls may be saved for His everlasting kingdom.

EDGAR A. WARREN.

North England Conference

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Baptism in Sheffield District

SABBATH, December 4th was a high day for our district, but more especially for Rotherham. We held our baptismal service in the East Dene Baptist church, kindly lent us by our friends there.

It is a long time since Rotherham had such a large Adventist gathering. Members, friends, and candidates from Doncaster, York, Barnsley, and Sheffield assembled, and we were favoured in having Pastor O. M. Dorland with us, also Brother A. Lethbridge.

Many times through the year we had asked, "What will the harvest be?" The enemy of souls had been so busy, but the Spirit of God triumphed in honest hearts. We were cheered as we witnessed eleven souls baptized and three received by vote. Three of these were young men with their wives. As each couple stood together we were deeply grateful for the evidence of a good foundation for three Adventist homes. Two souls were nearing their eightieth birthdays, and two young people had taken a fine stand—one as the result of our Youth Congress.

We were pleased to have Pastor V. Cooper with us, bringing one of his trophies from York.

Our prayers continue with these souls that they may endure unto the end, and we look forward to the next baptism for which other souls are preparing.

D. E. WATSON.



Lincoln's Christmas Activities

OUR newly formed Sunday-school played a large part in the Christmas week-end services. In the Thirteenth Sabbath programme the choir made its debut by opening the day's worship with, "O Come, all ye Faithful." In spite of the absence of buses the churchmembers had come from all over our ancient city.

Some of the star items in this special programme were solos given by a four-year-old Sunday-school member.

The preaching service which followed was also specially prepared for the occasion, but perhaps the Sunday afternoon service was the best attended, when we welcomed twenty-one non-Adventist adults to a very colourful "Pageant of the Nativity" performed by the children.

No doubt, what the children enjoyed most was a party held at the commencement of the New Year, when eighty boys and girls gathered together for tea and games, and then crowded around the two Christmas trees to receive their presents. We are hoping and praying that through these young children we shall be able to spread the news of our soon-coming Saviour and to win more souls for Him.

L. PAIN,
Church Clerk.



Bombed City Still Lives

It was a great day in Hull for the Advent youth on December 18th. We held our Thirteenth Sabbath programme a week in advance owing to travel conditions.

There were a good number present for the occasion and everyone enjoyed the items which were presented by different members and children. The programme was conducted by Sister Fisher, our Sabbath-school superinten-

dent. In the afternoon we had a combined service of the Sunday-school members and the M.Vs. There were seventy-three present—the largest attendance for some time. We all felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst as we stood to sing the well-known carol, "O Come, all ye Faithful."

After prayer had been offered it was good to see a coloured member of our Sunday-school stand up to recite. After this, several young people sang together that beautiful carol, "Silent Night."

Our M.V. leader, Sister Taylor, then gave a talk on the birth of our Saviour. Another coloured boy afterward recited a poem which all enjoyed.

A study on the second coming of Christ was next given to us by Brother S. Coulman, after which seven children recited a poem entitled: "Have Faith in God." Edna Sanderson and Margaret Wastling then sang to us that lovely song: "Beyond the Sunset."

As we reached the climax of our meeting our minds were directed to the New Jerusalem, the home that the saved will inherit when Christ comes down to earth with all the saints for the last time. What a great day that will be for us all if we are faithful.

"We're Marching to Zion," was sung to bring a happy and Spirit-filled meeting to a close. God bless the Advent youth.

V. L. WASTLING,
Sunday-School Superintendent.

Until the Day Break

OETZMANN—We regret to announce the death of Sister C. Oetzmann, a member of the Holloway church, on November 12, 1948, at the age of eighty-nine years. Our sister accepted the message under the ministry of Pastor A. J. Mustard, and was baptized in 1944. The service was conducted by Pastor G. R. Bell and the interment took place at Golders Green. Our sympathy goes out to those who mourn. We look forward to meeting her again on the resurrection morning.
CHURCH CLERK.

ROBERTS.—We regret to record the passing of Sister May Roberts of Wrexham, aged eighty-five years. Our sister joined the Rhos company under the ministry of Pastor H. K. Munson. To the end of a trying illness our sister maintained a cheerful hope in her Saviour. The burial took place in the Gwersyllt churchyard on December 2, 1948 and was conducted by the Rev. I. Notwan, assisted by the writer. "At eventide there shall be light."
H. HUMPHRIES.

Acknowledgments

THE treasurer of the British Union Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of £6 from Anonymous, Southend, for the Students' Aid Fund.

THE Editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Lord's tithe £1, from E F J.

THE treasurer of the South England Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Lord's tithe £1, from T.T.G., and £1. 12s., from E W.

THE treasurer of the Irish Mission acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Lord's tithe £1 1s., from A.M.



Advertisements

BRIEF CASES. 13 in. by 10 in. Two compartments, £3. 10s. 15 in. by 12 in. three compartments, £4. 5s. Limited supplies of children's school satchels, £1 15s. Music Cases £1. 10s. Ladies' handbags, £2. 15s. All best cowhide, machine stitched, strong fittings. Lockyer, Brinklow, Rugby.

Attention!

All STUDENTS Past and Present

Don't miss the next meeting of the

A.S.A.

(Adventist Students' Association) in the

Holloway Advent Church

FEBRUARY 3, 1949, at 6.30 p.m.

when

PASTOR W. L. EMMERSON

will speak on

"Archæological Research and the Bible"

Share Your Faith and bring your friends

WANTED, Dr. S Green's *Handbook of Church History and History of the Sabbath* by Andrews and Conradi. Write: H. I. Dunton, University College, Exeter; Devon

FOR SALE, Collin's Red Letter Bible with concordance and helps, hardly used, £1; *Patriarchs and Prophets, Acts of the Apostles*, excellent condition, 7s. 6d each, *Great Controversy* (some passages marked), 5s. Write: J.O., 23a Westbourne Terrace Road, London, W.2.

SALE, hand-made leather goods, bags, wallets, purses, writing cases, etc. Miss Britton, 5 Chepstow Road, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, second-hand copies of *Prophecies of Race and Religion* by L. H. Christian. Miss Binns, 21 Lennox Street, Edinburgh 4.

Legal Meetings

BRITISH ADVENT MISSIONS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-Fourth Annual General Meeting of British Advent Missions Limited, will be held on Wednesday, February 23, 1949, at 10 a.m., in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

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

GOOD HEALTH ASSOCIATION LIMITED

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Constituency of the Good Health Association Limited, will be held on Wednesday, February 23, 1949, at 11 a.m., in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists at Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors. G. L. ANNISS, *Secretary*.

GRANOSE FOODS LIMITED

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fifty-First Annual General Meeting of Granose Foods Limited, will be held on Wednesday, February 23, 1949, 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. G. E. ADAIR, *Secretary*.

THE STANBOROUGH PRESS LIMITED

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fifty-Fifth 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 23, 1949, at 3.30 p.m.

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

SUNSET CALENDAR

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

	Lon'n	Car'ff	Edin	Not'm	Bel't
Feb 4th	4.55	5.07	4.52	4.54	5.08
Feb. 11th	5.07	5.20	5.07	5.08	5.22

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