

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

ORGAN OF THE BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Eighty Thousand Empty Hands!

TEN thousand outstretched hands! Yes, and many times more! Twenty? Forty? Eighty? Yes, approximately 80,000 thin, emaciated hands—calloused, horny hands of fathers and mothers, reaching out for food and for clothing for themselves and their little ones. Feeble, trembling, bony hands of old people, grateful for even a mere crust of bread; and, yes, too, hands of thousands of children—thin, pale, undernourished, hungry, half-clad children, all appealing to us; not beggars, but now begging that we help them in this time of cruel, cruel tragedy which has overtaken them—that we give them food and clothing in this their time of crisis.

But who are these so many who need our help? The answer is simple. In our East German Union we have 19,000 baptized members—earnest, zealous, loyal Adventists. Here conditions are appalling.

By government action, living conditions are reduced to the level of starvation. Even theoretically the people should have only 1,484 calories per day, and this is most often not attained. But even this does not include the elements required to meet the body's needs. No fats are provided with certainty, and at most only 10 grammes per day (450 gram-

mes per pound). The result is that people are slowly dying for lack of fats and albuminous foods. Their exhaustion is steadily increasing; their bodies are becoming more and more emaciated, and their memories vanishing.

Besides these unfortunate people of the East, there are between twelve and fourteen million refugees in the territory of our West and South German Unions—people who at the close of the

war because of changed political control and boundaries were forcibly ejected from their homes and homelands. All ethnic Germans living in East Prussia, Danzig, Poland, Ukraine, Rumania, Jugoslavia, Bohemia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and the States of Brandenburg (part only), Pomerania, and Silesia, of Germany itself, were driven from their homes and homelands. Their only possessions in most cases were what could be carried in a suitcase or two or pulled in a hand cart or pushed in an old baby carriage or similar vehicle. On they went to the western zones, most in mid-winter. Among these are 10,000 zealous Adventists with no fixed abode and largely without employment.

Besides these 30,000 baptized members are probably 10,000 unbaptized children and youth—40,000 or even more; yes—80,000 hands!!

Would that I had words to help you understand the needs as Elder Ochs and I saw them and were told by our workers and members. For good reasons we did not go into the Eastern Zone. But at the meeting of the East German Union Conference held in Berlin most of the audience was from that zone. Three thousand five hundred were in attendance. Their faces were a pathetic sight.



Some of the waiting hands you can help to fill.

FAMINE RELIEF OFFERING

SABBATH, DECEMBER 17th

Thin, pale, tired, gaunt—many with brown complexions caused by extreme malnutrition; children with evident undernourishment.

Scarcely, if ever, have I attended such a meeting as we had that Sabbath day. More than ever before I realized the great responsibility of attempting to minister to this hungry-souled congregation. Besides the spiritual blessing sought, they desired to express to us two heavy heart burdens; first, through us as representatives of our world-wide work to our people everywhere their unbounded appreciation for the help in food and clothing which had been sent to them; and, second, to plead with us that we continue to help them in this time of great disaster and need.

Let me dwell on two points only; first, the effects of malnutrition; and second, the need of shoes.

Continued malnutrition causes underweight of children—which opens the way for serious health complications. Out of 60 children in one of our churches, 46 were underweight; 12 of them more than 8 pounds each. In another church of 18 children, 11 had deformed backbones. These undernourished children have legs and arms like broomsticks, deep collar-bone pits, outstanding shoulder blades.

The old people are badly stricken. They cannot be supplied

LISTEN—

to the Voice of Prophecy
Radio Luxembourg
(1,293 metres)

Each Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Subjects:

"The Finger of God,"

December 20th

"Seven Great Doctrines,"

December 27th

with supplementary food often so necessary for the aged, and fall victims of illness and early death. These conditions reflect themselves in the vital statistics. In one area of 136,000, in May, 1948, there was 92 births and 265 deaths.

Tuberculosis continues to increase rapidly. In the same area referred to above, one per cent have active tuberculosis, and another one per cent are under observation—suspects. In our workers' meeting held in Berlin, with 165 of our workers present, 44 reported cases of active tuberculosis in their immediate families.

As regards clothing, shoes are their greatest need. In our East German Union only a small part of the population possess service-

able shoes. In Pomerania it is said that 75 per cent of the children have no leather shoes whatever. Their only shoes have wooden soles and fabric tops. In one city, 17 per cent of the children had no shoes, and 35 per cent only scraps of unrepairable shoes.

The special needs of our people in Eastern Germany and our refugee membership in the Western Zones were recognized by our brethren and sisters in their union conference sessions, and it was unanimously voted that there be no further general distribution of relief supplies in the churches, but that in the future it be on the basis of proven need; and that one-third of the supplies be allocated to the Western Zones for use of the refugee membership, and the other two-thirds be sent to the East German Union for distribution to our people there. One further word should be added. We were greatly pleased to see that the relief supplies have been carefully, economically, and justly distributed. Those responsible for this have kept a complete record of all receipts and distributions. In our meeting at Hanover, with approximately 4,000 present, when asked as to how many had received welfare help, every hand was raised, except one, and he was a new member.

They thank you—you who have given—they thank you over and over and over again, until their expressions of gratitude almost humble one. To think they were so grateful for so little. And then after they have told us again and again of their appreciation, often one is asked, Do our brethren and sisters in other lands who have helped us so much, understand how thankful we are? Words cannot tell it.

Yes, they do appreciate what has been done for them. And this stream of relief has done more than relieve physical suffering. It has brought courage and cheer and confidence and love and hope to thousands of our brethren and sisters.

Moreover, it has been a testimony to the world of the love of this truth which overrides national boundaries and binds the
(Continued on page 7.)



Opening up food parcels in a refugee home. They are oh, so thankful for all that is being done to help them.

Wimbleton	132	427	5	5	3	4	9	76	9	7	2	14	6	2	0	0	.....	81	4	1	12	4	.....	81	4	5	.....			
Wood Green	72	208	12	9	2	17	11	31	3	11	1	3	1	3	2	0	.....	32	7	0	0	.....	32	7	0	.....				
Yarmouth	29	38	11	0	1	6	7	7	17	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	17	1	.....	.....	7	17	1	.....				
COMPANIES																															
Bedford	9	3	0	0	6	8	8	1	15	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	15	6	3	11	.....	1	15	6	.....			
Bodmin	10	51	6	10	5	2	18	5	8	9	0	18	2	6	1	16	3	18	2	6			
Brentwood	12	35	0	9	2	18	5	8	9	0	9	3	11	1	15	4	9	3	11			
Elly	16	59	5	8	3	14	1	16	12	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	12	10	1	10	.....	16	12	10	.....			
Godmanchester	10	30	17	4	3	14	1	6	8	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	8	10	12	11	.....	6	8	10	.....			
Malden	16	53	7	10	3	6	9	10	15	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	15	10	13	6	.....	10	15	10	.....			
Maidstead	11	33	19	8	3	1	9	15	14	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	14	1	18	6	.....	15	14	1	.....			
Rye	6	18	14	8	3	2	5	10	15	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	15	9	1	15	.....	10	15	9	.....			
Salisbury	8	17	14	8	2	4	6	7	14	6	7	14	6	1	19	4	7	14	6			
St. Austell	17	64	17	0	3	16	3	20	9	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	9	6	9	4	.....	20	9	6	.....			
Stroud	14	23	2	7	1	13	0	6	14	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	14	3	2	3	.....	6	14	3	.....			
Swindon	12	17	19	0	1	9	11	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	6	.....	1	9	.....	17	6	.....	.....		
Weston/Wincombe	9	25	4	0	2	16	0	10	11	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	9	0	1	5	.....	11	9	0	.....			
Winstow	8	32	15	6	4	4	0	11	12	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	12	8	.....	.....	.....	11	12	8	.....			
Worthing	6	16	1	6	3	15	6	5	3	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	3	0	.....	.....	.....	5	3	0	.....			
Isolated	369	1389	6	11	3	15	4	104	12	8	28	11	2	104	13	10	28	11	2			
Conference Session	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76	3	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	4	6	.....	.....	.....	5	4	6	.....			
TOTALS, 1949	3528	10084	3	4	2	17	2	1741	13	2	58	17	7	39	4	4	1854	5	4	10	6	1854	5	4	
TOTALS, 1948	3410	10314	5	0	3	0	6	1766	4	7	51	8	7	2	12	0	6	16	4	1871	16	0	10	11	20	0	1891	16	0
Increase	118	-196	6	6	-3	4	-24	11	5	7	9	0	-2	12	0	32	8	0	-17	10	8	-5	-20	0	0	-37	10	8

North England Conference

Barnsley	36	44	6	1	1	4	7	6	8	4	.....	160	13	7	4	9	3	160	13	7	4	9	3
Birmingham South	48	129	9	9	1	13	11	17	16	8	.....	199	19	2	4	3	2	199	19	2	4	3	2
Birmingham Central	43	68	11	8	1	11	11	18	13	11	.....	161	13	1	2	3	15	161	13	1	2	3	15
Birmingham Handsworth	87	149	11	3	0	14	5	0	22	18	.....	629	10	7	7	7	4	629	10	7	7	7	4
Bradford	36	77	6	0	2	3	0	0	42	6	.....	131	6	11	3	13	0	131	6	11	3	13	0
Coleford	78	213	15	8	0	14	10	0	29	5	.....	429	6	4	4	5	10	429	6	4	4	5	10
Coventry	24	53	11	11	2	4	0	0	342	6	.....	342	6	3	4	14	5	342	6	3	4	14	5
Darlington	65	143	1	5	1	4	0	0	288	9	.....	159	11	1	9	7	9	288	9	6	1	9	7
Derby	17	17	1	1	2	13	15	7	127	3	.....	127	3	4	5	15	7	127	3	4	5	15	7
Gunsbury	22	64	15	7	2	18	11	1	1054	6	.....	1054	6	5	13	6	11	1054	6	5	13	6	11
Huddersfield	79	176	13	6	2	14	11	4	135	18	.....	135	18	7	4	9	10	135	18	7	4	9	10
Hull	32	74	6	2	1	6	5	4	346	0	.....	346	0	11	5	9	10	346	0	11	5	9	10
Kettering	63	193	3	1	8	3	1	1	193	14	.....	193	14	0	4	6	1	193	14	0	4	6	1
Leeds	45	92	3	1	1	1	4	1	192	0	.....	192	0	0	4	6	0	192	0	0	4	6	0
Leicester	23	43	1	9	1	17	6	7	192	16	.....	192	16	5	3	14	8	192	16	5	3	14	8
Lincoln	53	120	17	6	1	10	16	4	308	16	.....	308	16	2	6	17	6	308	16	2	6	17	6
Liverpool	58	179	19	10	3	2	0	0	414	16	.....	414	16	0	12	10	8	414	16	0	12	10	8
Manchester	34	119	0	16	2	10	2	0	420	8	.....	420	8	5	5	5	5	420	8	5	5	5	5
Middlesbrough	76	169	1	6	4	5	6	5	856	12	.....	856	12	11	12	12	3	856	12	11	12	12	3
Newcastle	113	166	2	9	1	9	5	9	290	2	.....	290	2	3	3	3	3	290	2	3	3	3	3
Nottingham	23	53	17	8	2	6	10	9	65	8	.....	65	8	1	3	5	3	65	8	1	3	5	3
Rotherham	21	60	17	0	2	17	11	4	62	12	.....	62	12	2	6	0	3	62	12	2	6	0	3
Rushden	10	18	8	0	1	16	10	5	0	0	.....	274	4	9	4	9	2	274	4	9	4	9	2
Sheffield	68	69	1	0	1	16	4	0	115	17	.....	115	17	4	4	9	0	115	17	4	4	9	0
Shields	26	23	16	3	4	10	4	0	150	2	.....	150	2	3	8	10	6	150	2	3	8	10	6

Scottish Mission

Aberdeen	61	159	5	4	2	12	3	27	0	0	17	5	317	8	2	.....	.....	345	5	7	.....	345	5	7
Edinburgh	69	164	8	3	2	7	8	63	17	9	.....	.....	508	17	0	.....	.....	572	14	9	.....	572	14	9
Glasgow	84	232	6	1	2	15	4	61	8	7	1	12	6	456	6	0	519	7	1	529	8	7
Kirkcaldy	4	32	13	3	8	3	4	9	10	9	.....	.....	3	0	0	.....	.....	12	10	9	.....	12	10	9
COMPANIES																									
Dundee	18	48	1	6	2	13	5	14	6	8	.....	.....	150	5	0	.....	.....	164	11	8	.....	164	11	8
Strirling	5	6	9	0	1	5	10	1	2	6	.....	.....	3	14	5	.....	.....	4	16	11	.....	4	16	11
Isolated	65	879	16	2	2	15	4	6	16	0	5	0	36	1	9	2	0	45	2	9	.....	45	2	9
TOTALS, 1949	306	822	19	7	2	13	10	184	2	3	2	14	11	1475	12	4	2	0	1664	9	6	1664	9	6
TOTALS, 1948	278	654	18	4	2	7	1	149	19	5	1	6	0	1508	13	5	1459	18	10	1459	18	10
Increase	28	168	1	3	6	9	9	34	2	10	1	8	11	166	18	11	2	0	204	10	8	204	10	8

Northern Ireland Mission

Belfast	57	270	17	9	4	15	0	36	6	2	2	18	10	632	17	5	.....	.....	672	2	5	11	15	10	.....	672	2	5
COMPANIES																														
Kilmoylie	10	24	0	9	2	8	1	2	7	10	.....	.....	.....	69	0	2	.....	.....	11	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	72	15	8
Larne	4	10	17	6	2	14	5	3	15	6	.....	.....	.....	194	9	2	.....	.....	72	15	8	10	15	7	.....	202	18	0
Shankill	19	60	15	10	3	4	0	8	8	4	4	.....	.....	231	4	3	.....	.....	17	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	255	16	0
Isolated	59	118	14	5	2	0	3	23	14	3	.....	.....	.....	231	4	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS, 1949	149	485	6	3	3	5	2	74	12	1	2	18	10	1127	11	6	1	8	6	1206	10	11	8	2	1	1206	10	11

Fire Mission

Dublin	21	139	18	1	6	13	3	31	8	5	19	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	7	11	.....	32	7	11
Isolated	3	52	11	3	17	10	5	19	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19	0	.....	.....	19	0	.....
TOTALS, 1949	24	192	9	4	8	0	5	32	7	5	19	6	33	6	11	33	6	11

Union Miscellaneous 1949	42	8	6</
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Eighty Thousand Empty Hands!

(Continued from page 2.)

hearts of believers together with cords of love. This has been the means of bringing many to the light of the message.

May God lead those who live in lands of peace and plenty to be liberal as opportunity comes to fill the hands of those who look to us in their time of trouble. Let all be encouraged in this labour of love by the undying words of our Master, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." Matt. 25:40. What a challenge! What an opportunity! What a privilege!

Eire Mission

Superintendent: Pastor A. J. Mustard

Office Address: 9 Churchtown Drive, Rathgar, Dublin

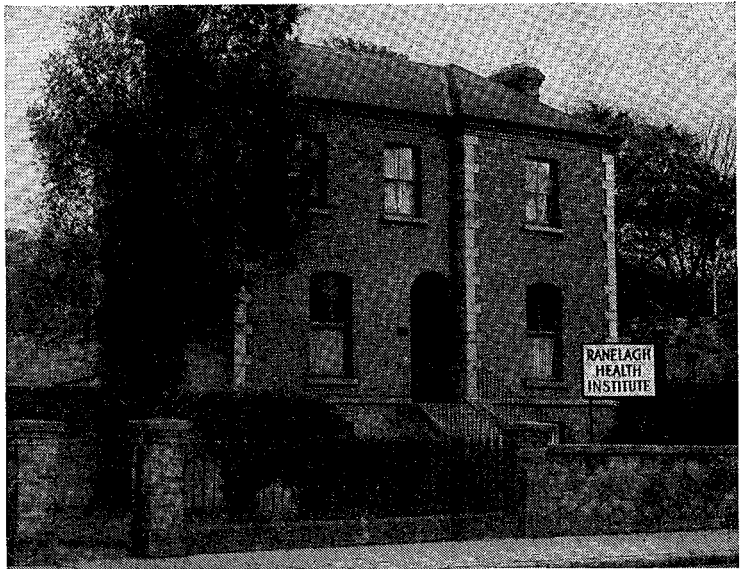
Dedication of Dublin Health Institute

SABBATH, November 5th, was a beautiful and memorable day in Dublin, the air was crisp and cool and the sun shining in all its splendour.

At 3 p.m. all the church-members, visiting brethren, and friends gathered at the Ranelagh Health Institute for a dedication service. Visiting from the Union conference were Pastors E. B. Rudge and G. D. King, and Brethren N. H. Knight and J. H. Craven, and from Belfast, Pastor W. G. Nicholson and Dr. and Mrs. Houston.

Pastor A. J. Mustard, chairman of the meeting, introduced the visitors and welcomed everyone to this happy occasion. Pastor Nicholson read from the third chapter of the first epistle to the Corinthians and Dr. Houston asked the blessing of God upon the meeting in prayer.

On behalf of the Eire Mission, Pastor Mustard thanked the General Conference and British Union Conference Committees for the generous gifts which had made it possible to open medical



The newly-opened Ranelagh Health Institute in Dublin.

work in Dublin. Brother Craven gave a brief statement on the expenditure involved and the work done in providing the institute.

Pastor Rudge preached the dedicatory sermon. He told of a loving, heavenly Father who pities His children, forgiving all their iniquities and healing all their diseases. He reminded us that our bodies must be cared for as temples of the Holy Ghost, "For ye are bought with a price." 1 Cor. 6:20.

Pastor King offered the dedicatory prayer, asking God to bless the institute, its workers, and all who would enter there, giving it to God's service for the treatment of suffering humanity, and praying that God would richly bless in aiding us to win souls for His kingdom.

The Ranelagh Health Institute has been open to the service of the public for a few weeks. Brother and Sister Nix have already given hundreds of treatments, and by their kindly Christian spirit are creating an excellent impression. All the patients, both Protestant and Catholic, respond gratefully to the prayer which is offered before treatment begins. We are confident that God will wonderfully bless this witness and ministry performed in the name of Christ.

May we ask an interest in your prayers on behalf of the work in this difficult field?

EDITH N. STEPHENS.

South England Conference

President: Pastor W. W. Armstrong

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President's Notes

ALREADY the MESSENGER family have been acquainted with the progress of a good number of campaigns now being held in this conference. We are pleased to report on still more.

NORWICH

ON November 22nd a visit was made to Norwich where Pastor J. C. French is holding a campaign for the second year from the same hall. It was his eighth meeting and a good congregation of about ninety were in attendance. A very pleasant feature of the evening was the rendering of several items by a ladies' choir of fifteen voices trained by Brother French. All were members or prospective members of our church. I was particularly struck

by the fifteen-minutes after-service. It is a regular feature of Brother French's work to present a vital point of the Gospel at the time followed by prayer. On this particular night it was on "Righteousness by Faith" and about forty people stayed. I felt a good foundation was being laid for the testing truths shortly to follow.

LEYTON

ON the night of my visit to the Town Hall about 180 non-members were present to hear Pastor S. G. Hyde's fourth address, "The Coming World Power," supported by the inevitable figure of gold, silver, brass, and iron. The Leyton Silver Band was making its second appearance and gave some good musical items, also accompanying the hymns. Brother A. Farthing was also on the platform assisting, and the Bible instructors, the Misses A. Ruddick and B. Trimmer, were in attendance to receive the people. There seemed to be a good interest to the subject as the address was delivered.

LUTON

BROTHER R. W. DOUGHERTY is endeavouring to obtain an interest in a section of Luton. A school hall was all that was available. Only a small attendance has been experienced so far. We discussed ways and means of adding to the present interest on the night of my visit, November 29th. Brother Dougherty has a number of names and is courageously visiting these interests in their homes.

We rejoice in the progress that is evident in the conference. Especially as the testing truths are being presented, let us remember these interests in our prayers.

W. W. ARMSTRONG.

Union Notes

AT this season of the year we take this opportunity of greeting our loyal membership throughout the whole of the Union. This is the season of the year when we endeavour to cement the bonds of

love and fellowship, believing that the greatest gift was ours, and still is ours, in Christ Jesus. We look back upon the year 1949 realizing that the membership throughout the field have been loyal and faithful, as a result of which we are able to report large increases in mission offerings and tithe returns. We remember that 1949 saw the largest Ingathering results ever experienced in our field, and for these and other blessings we thank the Lord and express our appreciation to the faithful members throughout the field.

Now, as we enter 1950, may it be with true consecration and sincere dedication to the cause of God, and for the finishing of His work here in our own beloved land.

SPECIAL VISITORS

WE have been happy to have with us here at Stanborough Park for a few brief hours, Elder H. M. S. Richards of the Voice of Prophecy. He called in on us on his way to the Middle East and India. We are very glad that Brother Richards could spend a few days in Ireland and believe that his visit there was a source of inspiration and blessing to our loyal believers in Dublin.

Our members will be encouraged to know that the Voice of Prophecy work here in our own field continues to develop and the enrolment and active interest is being built up strongly week by week. Most encouraging letters continue to come in from those who are learning the message through this most modern method of evangelism.

Plans are being made for the production of our own programme in this field by the building up of our own Recording Studio at Stanborough Park. Further news of this will be given to the field as the plans progress and materialize. In the meantime we request the prayers and co-operation of our churches throughout the field that 1950 will be greatly blessed of the Lord in the salvation of many souls through the Voice of Prophecy ministry.

G. D. KING.

Until the Day Break

NICKELS.—On October 20, 1949 Mrs G. Nickels, of the Stanborough Park church, was laid to rest in the North Watford Cemetery. Sister Nickels had been a faithful member of the Seventh-Day Adventist church for sixty-five years, her parents accepting the message under the ministry of Brother St. John in the Grimsby area when our first Adventist church in this country was established at Ulceby. Being one of "the Armstrong family"—consisting of father, mother, and eight children—Sister Nickels remembered the "early days," and could speak of her memory of Sister E. G. White's visit to this country. Our sister through the years set an example of quiet faithfulness, which will long be remembered by her own immediate associates in the Park church where she was respected by all. To her sorrowing husband, daughters, and sons we extend our deepest sympathy. They sorrow "not as others without hope." The funeral service was conducted by the writer in association with Pastor W. H. Meredith. G. D. KING.

Advertisements

REQUIRED, copies of the 1948 and 1949 *Church Officers' Gazette*. Please send to Pastor H. T. Johnson, 780 St. Albans Road, Watford.

WORK WANTED URGENTLY after Christmas. Anything considered—gardening, farming, motor-driving, or anything mechanical. Mr. R. H. Marshall (single), The Orchards, Mill Road, Banningham, Aylsham, Norfolk.

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SUNSET CALENDAR

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Lon'n Car'ff Edin Not'm Bel't
Dec. 23rd 3.54 4.06 3.40 3.50 4.00
Dec. 30th 3.59 4.12 3.46 3.56 4.06

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