

BRITISH ADVENT

MESSENGER

ORGAN OF THE BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

"Cast Thy Bread Upon the Waters"

IN an American commentary over the radio recently the speaker was reviewing the events of the past half-century. He said that never before in history had a nation leaped to world leadership in so short a time as the United States of America. He outlined the complex problems in the world and then asked significantly what was the destiny that was being thrust upon that great nation. He added that the prospect was causing many over there to fear and tremble.

To Adventists, the prophetic Word gives us an answer. We know what is coming and why America is so powerful to-day. To me this commentary spoke of many things, but chiefly the fact that the end is very near and what we have to do as a people must be done very quickly.

That same night I read this text: "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days." Eccles. 11:1. The picture that comes before us is of the Nile overflowing its banks once a year and the farmer taking his skiff and scattering rice seed into the water as he floats over his field. It looked like wasteful, wanton labour. But as the great river subsided the seed germinated in the rich fertilized mud under the hot Egyptian sun. After many days, out of the apparently wasteful scattering, the farmer won a harvest.

Here is a truth that illumines the whole of human life. It reveals a law of life which is summed up in the title of a well-known hymn,

By W. W. Armstrong

"Living is Giving." Our Father took the Living Bread, His own Son, and cast it upon the waters of this world. To most it seemed a stupendous folly. He was despised, rejected, and even His own received Him not. But tell me, is it not different to-day? What multitudes have been transformed through the gracious gift of God. Think of the daring of the Gospel venturers who went out giving life and limb to declare the risen Lord to a pagan world! We can recall that their sacrifices brought forth a marvellous harvest of converts. The early church expanded and grew because it gave itself. On the other hand, Judaism was

exclusive, and lost itself because it was exclusive. It hoarded up its seed and because of that, never had a harvest. But the magnificent, daring faith of the apostles proves that "there is that scattereth, and yet increaseth."

We live in a day when we may expect the bread we cast upon the waters to be found again in a short time without waiting for the "many days." God is going to send a special "rain" that a quick harvest might be obtained. But first He must have a people who will obey the text: "Cast thy bread upon the waters." The "Bread" is always Christ and if He be not within us and with us, then we have nothing to cast. Even the gift of self is barren of a harvest unless Christ possess the life. Then we may understand that our text demands that each one fully cast a Christ-filled life upon the waters of this world. It portrays an act of continual casting all through our days. It speaks of a faith that believes the harvest will come after patience has had her sway.

The mothers and fathers must cast the bread of their love upon the home waters. Perhaps the children do not seem as thankful as they should. It may seem as if the waters have swallowed up your service of love and there is nothing left. Remember the text, parents. You will "find" again and your service will not go unrewarded.

Here are the church officers and Sabbath-school teachers. How they are filled with enthusiasm as

LISTEN —
to the
VOICE OF PROPHECY

Radio Luxembourg
(1,293 metres)
Each Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Subjects:
"More Bible Questions,"
January 31st
"Our Noah's Ark,"
February 7th

they take up the work of a new year. But the days and weeks bring their problems and often the response is not what we anticipated. But patient casting of the bread must win a harvest.

The faithful colporteur is daily casting the bread as he goes from door to door. What a grand and important work it is! Would to God that many more members would step in to sow the seed in its printed form. In a special way a harvest is to be seen from such labour. The servant of the Lord has frequently and abundantly promised this from God's own mouth.

All the Lord's workers need to fortify their lives with the great promise of a harvest as they dedicate their all to the service of saving souls from sin to life. Any sense of failure or defeat should be but a challenge to renewed service. God longs for, and expects, all to bring to Him a good harvest. We should soon be receiving pentecostal measure in our work and be praying and preparing for it. The times demand deeper consecration and more active service on the part of us all with a firm faith, that many more souls will be won for the truth, during this and succeeding years, than we have yet seen.

Newbold Correspondence School

Address: Bracknell, Berks.

"I Must Study"

FROM time to time we receive encouraging letters from our students, telling us how they enjoy the lessons, and what great help they receive from them. One of our colporteurs recently finished the course in "Old Testament History" with credit and has just begun "Minor Prophets." When sending in his answers to the closing papers in "Old Testament History," he enclosed the following note:

"These lessons have been a great help to me both mentally and spiritually, and I feel I must

continue Bible study by correspondence, in spite of my many duties and increasing responsibilities. I feel I must continue to study the Bible *in view of* my increasing responsibilities."

We only wish that many more of our lay workers and members throughout the field would have such a desire for systematic Bible study. Surely in these strenuous and critical days there is more need than ever for us to improve our acquaintance with the Word of God. Our courses are graded in such a way that we can help the veriest beginner as well as assisting the mature Christian and Bible student. Why not write today for particulars of these lessons? We can promise you that you will never regret doing so.

Recently we have added a course of lessons, twenty-five in number, in "Elementary Bible Doctrines." This series is intended especially for prospective College students. The textbook which is used at Newbold is followed in this course, and the lessons are adapted to the first-year Bible class as taught in College. We recommend this new course to all who are looking forward to attending College; it is very advantageous to take these lessons by correspondence, for by so doing you will obtain exactly the same credit as you would in attending the lectures here.

While the primary object of "Elementary Bible Doctrines" is to help prepare young people for residence at Newbold, we would like to make it clear that *all* are very welcome to enrol for the course, as we feel that there is urgent need for many of our believers to have a "refresher" series of lessons in the fundamentals of our message. It would be well if classes could be formed, under the leadership of a minister or elder, that many might benefit at the same time from these doctrinal studies; there would naturally be some reduction of fees to such clubs.

As we have said before, the supreme object of Newbold Correspondence School is to build up our membership in "the most holy faith." For this reason, the charges have been kept very low, and great pains are taken that the

answers sent in by students week by week shall be carefully marked, and questions from students shall be fully answered. Sometimes as much as an hour is taken in replying to the difficult points sent in for solution by one student. It is indeed a pleasure to help others to understand the Scriptures more clearly.

We shall look for many letters of inquiry about our subjects and lessons. We ask the prayers of our brethren and sisters throughout the field for God's blessing in this work, so that His people may be prepared to meet Him, and thus Christ's coming may be hastened.

E. B. PHILLIPS.

Advent Medical Fellowship

Another Profitable Meeting

A VERY profitable meeting of the Fellowship was held in the lounge at The Stanboroughs Hydro on Sunday afternoon, January 15, 1950, more than fifty being present.

Dr. G. S. Madgwick, who has spent many years in Africa, gave a graphic account of conditions and experiences encountered in his work there. He stressed the necessity for adequate preparation, including special study of tropical diseases. Also he reminded us that, because of the generally primitive conditions prevailing there, the physician must establish his own laboratory facilities, which are so necessary to satisfactory work.

Mr. W. M. Lennox followed with a paper in which he outlined some of the difficulties of Adventist medical students. Information had been gathered from students at as many different schools as possible, and this can be made available to any intending students if they will apply to the chairman of the Adventist Medical Fellowship. Greater difficulties have been encountered at some medical schools than others. In all cases where concessions are sought in respect of studies and examinations on Sab-

bath, a tactful and courteous approach is essential. It should be recognized that the making of special arrangements involves lecturers and examiners in extra trouble, and should never be demanded as a matter of right. Also, the laxity, discourtesy, or poor record of one Adventist student may cause great difficulty for others seeking to follow him at that medical school.

After an interval for refreshments, provided by the courtesy of the Stanboroughs Hydro, a talking film, "Triumph over Deafness" was shown. All marvelled at the results achieved by the patient efforts of the teachers who labour to teach the deaf to speak. The film, which is available free on application to the Central Film Library, Imperial Institute, London, S.W.7. (Catalogue No. UK 788), is strongly recommended for showing at church and senior school gatherings where a projector is available.

It is hoped to hold another meeting in the summer. All engaged in any branch of medical work, or training for it, are invited to write to the undersigned for particulars.

A. H. WILLIAMS,
Chairman, Adventist Medical Fellowship.

North England Conference

President Pastor O M Dorland
Office Address: 22 Zulla Road,
Mapperley Park, Nottingham
Telephone Nottingham 66312

Day of Fellowship at Newcastle

FROM Whitehaven on the west coast to Middlesbrough on the east coast, our northern members met on Sabbath, January 7th, for a special day of fellowship at Newcastle.

It was good to see our church full to overflowing. Sister Pickering welcomed the visitors as we began our Sabbath-school and Brother Pearse, the minister from Teeside district introduced us to

our new studies for the quarter on "The Lord's Prayer."

In the service which followed the Spirit of the Lord was felt in our midst, as Brother Parkin gave the address. It was inspiring to see three young ministers occupying the rostrum—Brother Pearse, Brother Mustow, and our own minister, Brother Parkin.

Many of our visitors had arrived the night before, and were kindly accommodated with the Newcastle members; hot drinks were provided for those coming for the day only.

A special children's meeting was held by Sister Mitchell, our Bible instructor.

In the afternoon a service of song and carols was held. After sunset a series of Kodachrome pictures of Switzerland was shown while willing helpers laid out a feast of good things at the Baptist Church Hall, Westgate Road, to which we then made our way and enjoyed an excellent tea.

Having shown their appreciation of the ample provision made, this large company of members, friends, and children were thrilled by a display of conjuring. It was good to see the excited faces of the thirty or forty children present, though it was hard to tell who enjoyed it most, the young children or the not so young.

There was a gift from the Xmas tree for each child, with

Manchester Youth Rally

February 3rd and 4th

All Lancashire youth are invited to attend the week-end services at the S.D.A. church, Parkfield Street, Manchester 14.

Visitors

PASTOR E. L. MINCHIN
PASTOR V. H. COOPER
A. W. LETHBRIDGE

Opening Service: Friday, 7 p.m.
Sabbath-school, 10 a.m.

Services continuing throughout the day.

Screen Lectures: 6.30 p.m.

"Glimpses of the Reformation and Waldensian Courage"

A. W. Lethbridge.

"Camping with the M.V.s. at Cayton Bay"

V. H. Cooper.

sweets, fruit, and nuts too, and in the fun and games which followed old and young joined together and enjoyed a happy time.

All too soon it was time for some to depart by train or bus for their long journey home, while others stayed overnight with friends. It had been a day of rich blessing and fellowship and we all look forward to another similar happy occasion. V. DIETZ.

South England Conference

President: Pastor W. W. Armstrong

Office Address: 780 St Albans Road, Watford

Telephone: Garston (Watford) 2213-4

Closing 1949 with a Baptism

THE last few hours of 1949 were a time of joy and gladness for the good number who were present at the Watford Town church, that Sabbath afternoon.

As the sun set, betokening the close of yet another year and the advent of 1950, the congregation were appropriately singing a hymn of praise and consecration to God.

But what made that Sabbath afternoon service even more unique, was the fact that two more souls had passed through the waters of baptism. These two sisters had decided to identify themselves fully with the remnant church, and had willingly made this public profession of their love for the Saviour and determination to follow in His footsteps. Their interest had been first aroused as a result of the effort run by Pastor S. G. Joyce, and which ended last October 8th. This addition now brings the total number of souls baptized in recent months to forty.

Sister V. Warren, our Bible instructor, must have been deeply gratified on this occasion, for she has laboured untiringly to bring souls into the true fold of Christ.

Pastor A. K. Armstrong addressed the congregation and the

writer baptized the candidates. As the right hand of fellowship was subsequently extended to them, they were assured of our prayers and help, that together we might journey successfully to the kingdom. R. D. VINE.

Press Relations Department

In the News

BLAZING front-page headlines in the daily papers, reporting the activities and progress of the Adventist church, is something we would all be thrilled to see. How marvellous a medium the papers would be for the promulgation of Adventist news. What a pity it is that the great dailies and weeklies cannot be thus utilized.

A great pity indeed, you'll agree, but as far removed from the prospect of reality as a fantastic dream.

We beg to differ. We do agree, regretfully, that the glaring headlines may be beyond the possibility of use for such a purpose. We likewise agree that the great national papers in their present emaciated condition are not the likeliest reporters of church activities.

But with your local paper, which is read with such interest by your fellow-citizens, the prospect is quite different.

Your local editors are always anxious for news. Anything that has real news value, be it Catholic, Adventist, atheist, or anything else, will always be welcome. They depend on you, however, to supply that news.

Newspaper publicity can be of inestimable value to us as a church. It is an effective means of publicizing our name, sometimes in a way that may be merely incidental, but which will always be favourable. Elsewhere—on the Continent, and especially in America—great success is attending the efforts of the Adventist reporters. There is no reason why we too, should not enjoy a good measure of success when submitting reports—and, if possible, photographs—of special church

activities such as baptisms, evangelistic services, conventions, conferences, welfare work, etc. We will discuss this matter further in subsequent issues of the MESSENGER.

Meanwhile, why not appoint a "press secretary" in your local church without delay? Let us no longer neglect this completely free, yet most effective medium of publicity. May God bless and guide you in your efforts.

R. D. VINE,
Press Relations Secretary, British Union Conference.

Granose

Health News

ONE of the main purposes of our health message is that it should be an entering wedge for the truth for these last days.

If all our churchmembers not only used "Granose" Health Foods themselves but recommended them to all their neighbours and friends, it would often provide an entry into homes that might not be open to contact in any other way.

Through such an approach, made with tact and Christian courtesy, their confidence may be gained, and an opportunity presented of calling their attention to the original diet given to man at creation by God Himself. (Gen. 1:29; *Ministry of Healing*, pages 295, 296.) The calling of men and women back to belief in, and worship of, the Creator (Rev. 14:7) may quite easily be done through this very simple means.

Then, too, the servant of the Lord has counselled us to make our Health Foods available to our churchmembers as inexpensively as possible, for they have the support of the cause of God to maintain, by tithes and offerings. This has been done ever since the manufacture of our Health Foods began fifty years ago, but if further particulars are required please write for details to the makers. "The profits on these foods are to come principally from the world,

rather than from the Lord's people."—*Counsels on Health*, page 473.

May God richly bless every member as they earnestly endeavour to walk in the counsel He has given. H.B.

Acknowledgments

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, £3, and Famine Relief, £1, from Anonymous (sent to president); and £3, from E.W., for tithe, Sabbath-school offering, and Famine Relief.

THE treasurer of the North England Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Lord's tithe, £2 15s., and £60 "for ministers' salaries" from Anonymous; also tithes and offerings, £1 14s. 9d., from M.B.H.

Advertisements

LADY offers to share comfortable and refined home (near Bournemouth) with young lady (canvasser preferred). Apply: J.H.P., 780 St Albans Road, Watford.

YOUNG woman urgently requires employment (resident). Adventist or Jewish home. Further information please write: E.T., 37 Hillingdon Road, Garston, Watford, Herts.

PARTIALLY invalided sisters or friends offered care in nurse's home. Sunny rooms. 3 guineas each inclusive. Replies: V. K., c/o J. H. Parkin, 780 St. Albans Road, Watford, Herts.

S.D.A. sister living alone and in delicate health has rooms to let. Rent free for three months as cleaning needs to be done. Adventists preferred. Write, Miss M. G. Veall, Irby, Skegness, Lincs.

A LATVIAN brother working in England wishes to purchase a music edition of *Advent Hymnal Revised*. Please send particulars to: Zanis Mikelsons (Staff), Napsbury Hospital, St. Albans, Herts.

HAVE you any unwanted *Good Health, Life and Health, Little Friends, Youths Instructor, Liberty, Listen*, for Home Missionary work? Postage refunded Sufficient *Present Truth and Signs*, etc., received—now being distributed. Thank you. Mr. Clive Blackburn, 736 St. Albans Road, Watford, Herts

SUNSET CALENDAR

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

	Lon'n	Car'ff	Edin	Not'm	Bel't
Feb. 3rd	4.52	5.04	4.49	4.52	5.05
Feb. 10th	5.04	5.17	5.04	5.05	5.20

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