

THE MESSENGER

CONVENTION REPORT

1931 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY

COLUMBUS, OHIO, JULY 25

Seven Thousand at Opening Session

**Judge Rutherford Arrived at
Columbus at 4:15 p.m.
Yesterday**

Finds Preparations Complete

During this convention Columbus occupies the center of the stage in the most unique chain of public concourses in the history of the world. It will be the center of the world's biggest hookup of radio stations. Yes, but when the great meetings here are a thing of the past and the speakers are homeward bound, they will continue their addresses at other great conventions held on immediately succeeding days at Cleveland, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh and Washington, D. C.

And when we thus envision ten conventions all in one in the United States; we see but a part of the picture, for at the same time that the nine Columbus extension conventions are taking place in the United States, there are twenty-nine Columbus extension conventions taking place in Canada, seven taking place in Mexico, eight taking place in the West Indies and South America, eight taking place in Africa, seven taking place in Hawaii and Asia, nine taking place in New Zealand and Australia and eighty-eight taking place in Europe. And thus the Columbus convention extends all over the world, one hundred and sixty-six conventions all in one.

What We See at Columbus Itself

What we see at Columbus itself we can easily record. The special trains began to come in on Wednesday morning, July 22, with the convention staff on the first one, 100 workers all together, the vanguard from the Bethel, needed in starting off the various departments, of which *The Messenger* is but one.

The train arrived at Columbus at eight o'clock in the morning. By nine o'clock some of the workers were at their appointed tasks, and by ten o'clock meals were being served in the big dining room, for those who wanted them, and have been regularly served ever since.

The second special from Brooklyn came in Friday morning; other trains came in through the day, over all railroads, from North, South, East and West. Some automobilists arrived on the grounds by July 20, and by Wednesday night probably fifty house-cars and trailers had made their appearance and found their parking places. Since then the number has been added to in every daylight hour and even into the night.

Since the first of June the friends at Columbus have been busy making arrangements to provide rooms for those who would come. By Thursday night they had made some six thousand assignments, and the number is being rapidly increased.

The Most Important Convention Ever

Judge Rutherford has been thinking of this convention and planning for it since last December. We know that, for it was about that time that the first committees were appointed, those that should investigate the various grounds that could be obtained and present recommendations as to which should be engaged, and why they would be the best for the purpose.

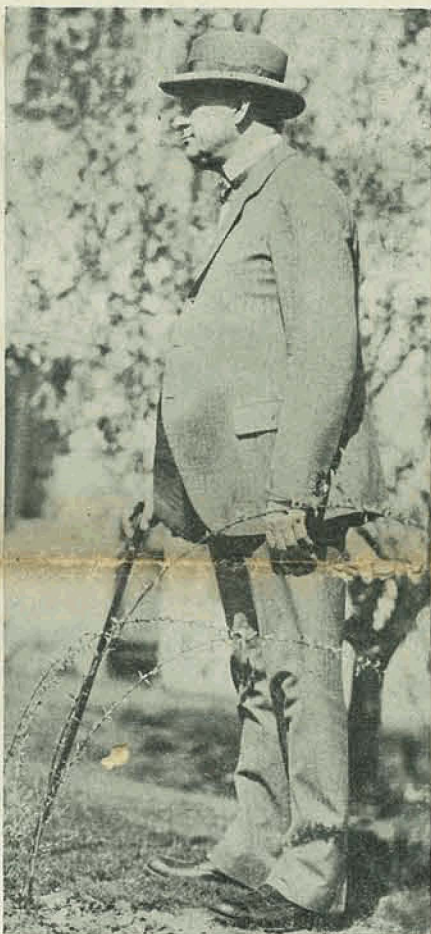
At length it was decided that the convention would be held in Columbus. In many respects this is an ideal location. For one thing, the Coliseum is a good place for a big meeting. It will accommodate an audience of close to ten thousand people, and while a great auditorium is not so necessary as it was before the days of the radio, yet there are many people who like to see as well as hear a speaker when he gives a great address, one in which they are vitally interested.

And then the Ohio State Fair Grounds are admirable grounds for what might be called the physical setting of a big convention. There are ample buildings for the meetings that will be held in foreign tongues, and other buildings in

plenty for all the other purposes for which buildings are needed. The buildings and grounds are well kept up. There is ample shade. The drives and walks are in excellent condition. There is all the room that would be needed to park fifteen hundred cars without intruding upon the driveways. The grass is kept

mown; the flower beds are kept up; it is a very attractive area on the edge of one of America's attractive cities. Columbus has many fine homes, and the State Fair Grounds are adjacent to the best section of the city.

In the physical lay-out of the grounds
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President of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society and Generalissimo of the Convention.

**The Honorable George White,
Governor of State of Ohio,
Welcomes Convention**

THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

Seven thousand conventioners greeted the governor of Ohio as he came upon the platform of the Watch Tower Convention, with the chairman of the convention, Anton Koerber.

Victor Schmidt opened the session with these words:

"Jehovah has again assembled his people to swell his praise.

Governor White will give the opening address of the convention."

As Governor White stepped forward he was greeted heartily with applause. The high points of his address follow:

Usually, when I welcome a convention, I am invited to a dinner or a banquet, but as yet I have not had an invitation from the Watch Tower folks. I wish you pleasant weather; I have received it from the weather men. I am very glad to welcome a class of people who do not need any policemen: I have not hired any extra force; you do not need it.

Prior to the Wall Street crash the country gave too much attention to material things; at this time our minds should be turned to the more serious phases of life. The only solution to the problems of the world is that the minds of the people should be taken off the more material things and placed upon the enduring and eternal things.

Recently I have thought a great deal about how the Pilgrims worshiped God and thanked him, and I think that this must be our attitude if we are to perpetuate our inheritance as a nation.

I am very much pleased to have this people assemble in this community at this time; I realize that your mission here is a good one and that the things you will leave behind you are good things that will benefit the people.

The address of the governor was well received by the conventioners and he was roundly applauded as he took his seat.

He was followed by Anton Koerber, chairman of the convention.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REPLY

Jehovah the King Eternal has made it possible for his people to assemble here in the greatest convention ever held on earth. We come in his name and to him we give all praise and honor and glory.

Governor White, and the good people of Ohio, it is with pleasure I acknowledge your greetings of welcome in behalf of Judge Rutherford, president of The Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, and its delegates from various parts of the earth assembled here in convention.

We recall the kindness accorded us during our convention here in 1924, which added to the joy of our return.

Many improvements have been made in the state. Your fine transportation facilities and good roads throughout the state made our trip to Columbus one of delight. I was favorably impressed with the natural resources and high state of agricultural development of Ohio. The diversified scenery, to one traveling through the state, is a real treat.

Its great lake, large rivers, beautiful mountains, and broad fields, are real cause for gratitude to the great Creator who made all these things in love for his creatures.

What a wonderful Creator we have! He has dealt bountifully in providing for man, and Ohio has shared well in its portion. The whole land is fast becoming a veritable paradise.

If man could but enjoy it forever in good health, at peace with God and his fellow man, his life would be complete.

It is Jehovah's purpose he shall have that blessed opportunity. Men and women have longed for that time, and we are
(Continued on page 2, Col. 3)



The Staff Appointed by Judge Rutherford to Look After the Comfort of the Conventioners.

(Continued from page 1, Col. 3)

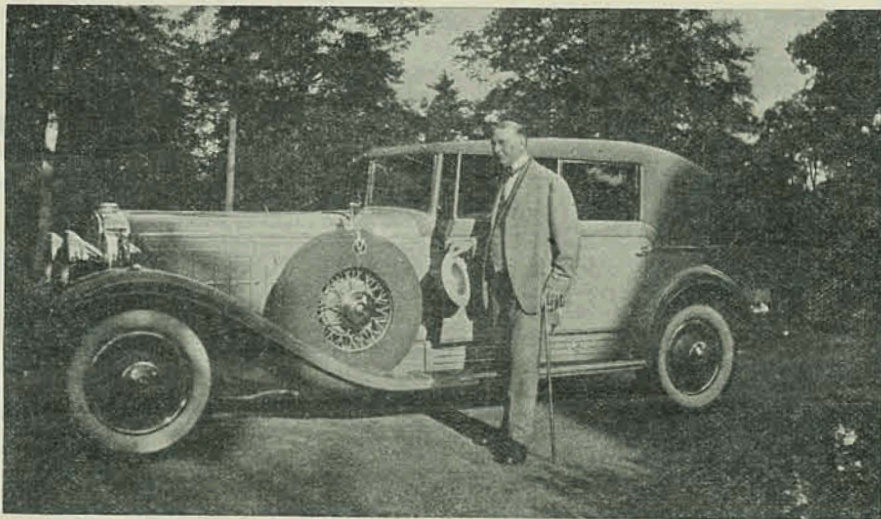
The piles of books looked very neat and orderly. It was an inspiring thing to think of the thousands of workers that would be taking those bags of books around, within the next few days, and

The Grandstand, which is Building No. 68, in its section No. 11 will accommodate the German-speaking friends, while in its section No. 2 the Ukrainian friends will be accommodated.

But suppose there were to be a thousand guests; the work would be multiplied tenfold; and if there were to be ten thousand (and it is anticipated that there will be that many or more at Columbus) the responsibility is still greater and provision must be made long ahead, looking to every possible contingency.

(Continued from page 1, Col. 4)

When we consider the wisdom of our



Alighting on Ohio Soil after His Drive from the Headquarters of the Society
in New York City.

In behalf of Judge Rutherford and this entire congress, I thank you for your kindness and assure you, Governor White, this whole assembly agrees with me in declaring it is fine of you to come here and personally welcome us in this manner, and we appreciate it.

The International European Conventions

Planned by Brother Rutherford for the Convenience of Our Brethren Across the Atlantic Who Could Not Come to Columbus

The Greatest Ever Held In Europe

Let's Join the Party That Accompanied the Judge

"All ashore that are going ashore." The deck steward gave his last call for all visitors to get off the boat; the gang planks were lowered and at 12:01 a. m. Saturday, May 9, the great ship began to slowly move away from the pier. The deep, bass, steam whistle gave a long blast as a parting notice to the city of New York that the SS. Rotterdam was once more leaving for Europe. This time she carried Judge Rutherford and his small party of assistants to attend the Watch Tower conventions in Paris, Berlin, Copenhagen and London.

Life aboard the ship was a very happy one for our little party. Each morning Brother Rutherford invited us to have a study on one of the articles on Mordecai and Esther which had just started to come out in *The Watch Tower*. Every session left us on "pins and needles" of anticipation and expectation for the next morning's study. If the trip had been limited to those morning studies, it would have been blessing enough, but the Lord had even more in store for us. During one of these meetings, Brother Rutherford, by way of illustrating how the Haman class was conspiring against the Mordecai and Esther class, told us about a letter he had received from Germany before leaving Brooklyn. This letter threatened him with arrest and imprisonment if he addressed the public and spoke against the clergy while in Germany. It so happened that a big public meeting was being arranged as one of the features of the Berlin convention. In spite of the letter he sent instructions to the Magdeburg office to go ahead with their preparations for the public meeting. Further than this he did not tell us what he was going to say or do. You can imagine the interest this gave us in the Esther articles as we learned how Haman plotted against Mordecai and the Jews and what happened to him. What would happen in Berlin? That was the question in our minds.

The trip across the ocean was a very delightful one. On Sunday, May 17, we arrived at Plymouth, where a party of friends met Brother Rutherford, who disembarked to spend a few days in London. On Friday of that week he went to Paris for the first big convention Paris had ever had.



Arranging for the European Conventions and the Columbus Convention and Extensions Requires a Prodigious Amount of Planning and Decisions. Here He Is Keeping Two Secretaries Busy with Preliminary Work.

What a convention that was! The Berne office, which made the arrangements with the assistance of the brethren at the Society's headquarters in Paris, had engaged the Salle Playel, the newest and best equipped hall there, for the entire convention. With one large hall seating about 3,000, and two smaller halls seating about 200 and 500 respectively, it provided excellent accommodations for the various meetings. In all there were about 3,000 brethren at the convention from all parts of Europe, from Asia and from America. The total number to come from England was 778. Germany sent a delegation of 1,450 brethren and 551 Polish brethren reported to assist the 200 French brethren in giving a real witness to the King and Kingdom in

Paris. The final count showed that among the 3,000 there were 23 different nationalities represented. This made the handling of the meetings a very difficult problem. But fortunately all who were there could understand English, French, German or Polish, hence it was necessary to make arrangements for having the various lectures translated into only these four languages.

Brother Rutherford seemed to be absolutely untiring in his administration to the needs of these brethren who had traveled miles to hear the comforting news which he had to bring to them from God's Word. One morning, for example, he spoke to the French brethren, and as he spoke, each sentence had to be translated by another brother into French. Talking in this manner is a great strain

on the speaker. Having talked to them for a full hour, after only a few minutes interval he went into the large hall and spoke to the German, Polish and English brethren. This meant that two interpreters had to translate for the audience each sentence as he spoke it. It was amazing to us how he was able to do it, and certainly proved to us that the Lord aids one in accomplishing his purposes. At other times when the brethren of all the nationalities assembled together in the same hall, three interpreters translated his talks into Polish, French and German.

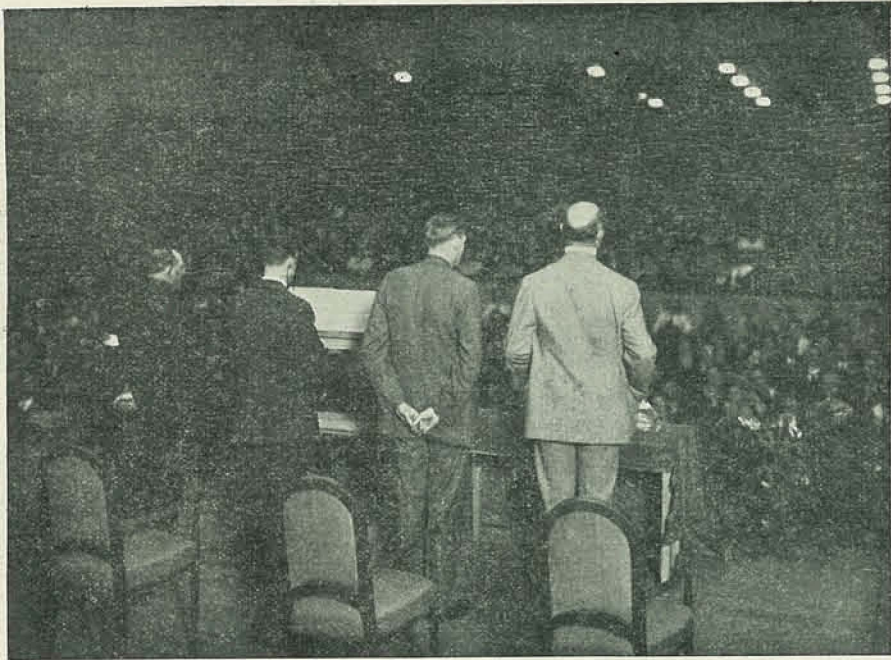
On Monday evening arrangements had been made for the public meeting. We had been looking forward to this with interest. You will probably remember, from *The Watch Tower's* report



Their Visible Leader—About to Give Instructions to the Paris Division of "Une Grande Armée."



Three Thousand at Paris—From Twenty-Three Countries. Count Noses, if You Like, but Don't Overlook Those in the Spacious Balcony. The Camera Wasn't Large Enough.



Brother Rutherford Addressing the Paris Conventioners in Four Languages at the Same Time: English, German, French, Polish

of the last time that Brother Rutherford addressed the public in Paris, that the meeting was broken up by a crowd of people who caused such a disturbance that those who wanted to hear could not. This time there was absolutely no disorder. The people came in in a very orderly manner, and never had our party seen a more interested and attentive audience than this one. They eagerly drank in the water of truth as it flowed to them from God's Word, and thirsted for more. We knew that this was true, for after the lecture, we watched the crowd come out of the auditorium carrying the books and "parlezvousing" over the good things they had heard. The report showed that 900 books and booklets were taken away by the public at that meeting.

Tuesday was service day. Bright and early the friends met at the hall to go out into the work. It was a real problem to take care of so many people who could not speak or understand a word of French, but it was done. Four brethren were on the platform to give instructions to the workers in four different languages. Various captains were given numbers, which they had attached to long sticks to hold them high above the heads of the people. Each worker was assigned to one of these numbers, and as the captain's number was called out from the platform he came forward so that all the workers assigned to him could follow him out of the auditorium. Each group had a couple of interpreters to aid the captain in placing his workers. Some parties went to their territory in big sight-seeing busses, which had been engaged for that purpose and which waited outside of the hall. Others who were assigned near-by territory went by trolley, taxi, or on foot. Practically 100 percent of those at the convention at that time engaged in the service. During that one morning of service, the workers placed 1,329 books and 14,557 booklets, making a grand total of 16,776 books and booklets placed in Paris during the entire convention, public meeting included.

"How was this possible when you couldn't understand or speak the language?" you ask. Well, you see, it was

like this. Each worker was furnished with a card which contained a short witness and the price of the books. We took this in our hand, knocked on the door, and as they came we handed them the card to read. When they asked us questions in French, we waved our hands, shrugged our shoulders and told them in our own language, which, of course, they couldn't understand, that we didn't have the slightest idea what they were talking about. This usually ended in their reading the card, if they had not already done so, and, as the total figures show, in many of them taking the literature. One brother told of a taxi driver he canvassed for the last two booklets he had. He understood the man to say, "No Bible," after he had read the card. To this the brother replied with gestures, "Oh 'messier,' Judge Rutherford, Salle Playel (this being the name of the hall), American, radio, 200 stations." The man looked at him in wonderment, repeated to himself what he had heard, reached in his pocket for his money and took the booklets.

Everybody had a happy time in giving Paris this witness. Besides that which has already been mentioned, Brother Rutherford spoke over the radio, his lecture in English being broadcast by station VITUS. It was followed by a translation into French so that many people throughout that country and surrounding ones could hear. The managers of the station greeted Brother Rutherford most cordially. Station VITUS has been broadcasting the Watch Tower's electrical transcription programs, and hence the management was delighted to have Brother Rutherford speak over their station in person.

On Wednesday, the day following the Paris convention, our party left for Berlin, breaking the journey by stopping one night at Cologne, that ancient city on the Rhine, and another night at Magdeburg, with the Bethel family there.

Saturday, May 30, and Berlin at last! The convention which had been of such particular interest to us was about to begin. What would be the outcome of the public meeting?

The convention officially opened that afternoon with an address by Brother Rutherford. All of us were surprised at the large attendance at this first meeting. We had rather anticipated that this convention might not be so large, because of the hard time through which the German people have been passing, but when we came into the great Sport Palace, we beheld a crowd of fully 8,000 people there. Sunday's meetings were attended by an even larger crowd. A conservative estimate of the number to attend the convention would be 10,000 brethren. In his address Saturday, Brother Rutherford made no mention of the threatening letter he had received, but greatly encouraged the brethren to go out into the service the next morning. He called for a show of hands of all those who expected to do this, and it was thrilling to see every hand go up. That the brethren actually did this was shown by the service reports which were received from 8,000 workers.

What a witness that crowd of 8,000 left in the city of Berlin during Sunday and Monday, the days set aside for service! Not only did they leave the books and booklets with the people, but they also personally invited thousands to attend the public meeting on Monday night. We were amazed at the final service report, which showed that 146,505 books and booklets were disposed of during the convention, public meeting included.

On Sunday afternoon the workers returned from the field to hear another most encouraging discourse by Brother Rutherford. On his way to this meeting

meeting and the time for seeing whether or not the Devil's organization would attempt to make good its threat, finally arrived. As we came into the hall a brother informed us that some members of the Nationalist party had attempted to put up their banners but that these had been taken down by the brethren. This in itself looked as if the trouble-makers were there, at least. The great hall was packed with people. Every seat was taken and many were standing. Another adjacent hall, connected with loud speakers, was also filled, making a total attendance of 16,000 or more. Some estimated the crowd at 17,000. The friends, a large number of whom had returned home so as to make room for the public, took the seats to the rear of the speakers' platform and in the balconies, leaving the best seats on the main floor for the public. There were approximately 5,000 friends there. The rest of the crowd was made up of the public.

When Brother Rutherford came upon the platform a tremendous applause greeted him, which must have put fear into the hearts of the trouble-makers. From the very first the people eagerly leaned forward in their seats and closely followed the interpreter's translation of everything that Brother Rutherford said. Instead of detracting from the interest, this sentence-by-sentence translation enabled the people to grasp the full significance of each word. Brother Rutherford opened with a general survey of world conditions and the need for some remedy. His first thrust at the hypocrisy of the clergy was not so pointed, his next was a little sharper,



Loading Up the Workers for Field Service—Paris Convention

a little incident occurred which illustrates the longing existing in the hearts of many of the people of Germany. While waiting in front of his hotel for his car to come, in his usual friendly manner he spoke to the hotel doorman, mentioning that he was a tall, handsome fellow. With tears in his eyes, the man replied, "There are not many big men like you and me left in Germany." This gave Brother Rutherford the opportunity to speak a word of comfort to him, and later he left with him a copy of *Life*.

Monday night, the time for the public

and his next still sharper as he developed his argument showing what the Devil's organization actually is and how it is working against the Lord and his anointed and endeavoring to keep the truth away from the people. Thrust by thrust, step by step, he led up to a climax. Then like a bursting bomb he told them how he had been threatened with imprisonment if he addressed that meeting.

You should have seen that audience! The critical moment had arrived. Would the Haman class show their faces and



Here They Are—At Least All of the 3,500 Get in One Photograph. Yes, He Was There

cause a disturbance? Our eyes swept back and forth over that vast audience for the first signs of disorder, but instead of disorder, from the section reserved for the public as well as every corner of the hall, came an overwhelming, deafening applause and many shouted out their indignation and their shame upon the clergy and conspirators. The audience was with him and against the conspirators. In a clear and logical manner the judge proceeded to tell them what was the only remedy, and the meeting ended with no disorder or attempted arrests. The public showed their interest by taking away with them nearly 12,000 books and booklets. Another great convention came to an end and the friends went home rejoicing.

The day following the convention our party returned to Magdeburg where Brother Rutherford remained at the Magdeburg Bethel until it was time for him to go to Paris. This second trip was necessary for him to complete the arrangements for a much needed house for the brethren who are looking after the work in France. While there he spoke over radio station VIRUS for the second time. Because this second trip was necessary it was impossible for him to attend the convention of the Scandinavian brethren in Copenhagen, June 5-7. Instead, two of our party, together with a brother from the London Bethel, made the trip. The same spirit shown by the brethren attending the other con-

Our party met together again in London, just in time for the opening of the London convention, which was held at Alexandra Palace. This hall is an immense structure located in a beautiful spot, high on the top of a hill from which an excellent view can be had of the city of London for miles around. It is surrounded with a lovely park filled with beautiful trees. The grass is luxuriant and there were no "keep off the grass" signs to keep the conventioners from sitting under the trees between meetings. The building itself has many different halls in it. The largest one known as the Great Hall, is so large that the Alexandra officials told us before the public meeting that no speaker had ever been able to attract enough to fill it. The convention meetings were held in one of the smaller halls, which comfortably seated the 3,500 brethren who attended.

The weather was fine and the brethren never manifested a better spirit. The long-tail coats, black ties and more or less ecclesiastical formalism which used to be in evidence had entirely disappeared. With hearty enthusiasm the brethren greeted Brother Rutherford's talk on the 54th chapter of Isaiah, particularly when he told them that the time had passed for giving honor to any man and that all honor for the truth belongs to the Lord. After this lecture we heard many brethren say that they had never attended a meeting which they



Judge Rutherford's Popularity with Londoners Packed Out the Great Alexandra Hall—The First Time It Was Ever Done by a Speaker



Three Hundred Sixty Scandinavian Brethren at the Convention in Copenhagen

ventions was manifest there. All day Saturday they spent out in the country sections of Denmark preaching the Kingdom Gospel by witnessing from door to door, to gather together again in the evening for a discourse. Again, on Sunday morning, they went into the work, this time in the city of Copenhagen. As a result of this witness 2,816 books and booklets were left with the people. Here 360 brethren from Norway, Sweden and Denmark attended the convention, and all left with a greater determination than ever to continue to press the battle to the gates.

enjoyed more; and we felt the same way about it, too, for a spirit prevailed which warmed the hearts of everyone. Brother Rutherford told us afterward that he believed the brethren there were ready to go right down the line for the Lord and his Kingdom.

As much as we enjoyed this meeting, we had another treat in store for us; for his next discourse was on the 9th chapter of Ezekiel, the subject being "The Man with the Writer's Inkhorn." (It amused us to hear one brother who spoke with a broad, cockney accent call it "The Man with the Writer's Hink

'orn.") When the subject was announced some were so enthusiastic that, in accordance with the British custom, they stamped their feet, clapped their hands, and one or two called out "'ear! 'ear!" That talk will long be remembered by those who heard it. At its conclusion the friends were so encouraged by the increasing light on God's Word of truth that they were more anxious than ever to do their part in showing forth the praises of Jehovah.

To tell about the London convention and not mention the field service would be omitting one of the biggest things; for the brethren came to work, and they did work. Practically all went into the work during the two service days, and as a result left 10,105 books and booklets in the hands of the people. This figure included the number placed at the public meeting.

And now to tell you about the public meeting. The Great Hall was packed to the overflow, fully 10,000 being there. Some were standing in the rear and others were turned away. Amplifiers carried Brother Rutherford's voice to all parts of the auditorium. Again in a fearless and logical manner he laid the plain facts before the people for them to accept or reject. He reminded them of public statements made by their leading clergymen which showed that they did not believe in the Bible and therefore could not be the Lord's representatives, but in truth and in fact were agents of the Devil. He told them that he was not there to get the favor of any man, but to tell them the truth. It was for them to "take it or leave it."

It was truly a wonderful meeting, and, taken in conjunction with the other meetings, the friends went away with the feeling that the convention was the best ever held in England.

Another week was spent in London following the convention, to take care of the many things which had to be done. On Sunday evening Brother Rutherford gave a farewell talk to the brethren in the London Tabernacle and on Tuesday, June 23, we left for home. Our departure from Southampton was delayed about ten hours by the mil-

lions of dollars in gold, which had been loaded on our ship, the Bremen, in payment of that part of Germany's debt to the United States due on July 1, having to be taken off on account of the moratorium. But this delay in getting started was offset by the courteous treatment which we received while on board the ship. It pleased us to see how the officers and crew showed their appreciation of having the judge return home on their ship. When we went around to engage a table in the dining room, we found that they had already reserved one in the choicest location to the immediate right of the captain's table. When we spoke to the deck steward about a couple of deck chairs, he told us that he was "holding them for Judge Rutherford in the 'Ambassador's corner.'" Another evening the captain himself invited Brother Rutherford to visit him in his private quarters and to bring his entire party with him. Only one other passenger on board was asked to attend. After this visit he requested Brother Rutherford to sign a private book which he kept for distinguished passengers. Many well-known men of the world had placed their signatures therein, but none were able to leave with their signatures such words of comfort and real good cheer as those which Brother Rutherford affixed. This was greatly appreciated by the captain, for he in turn presented Brother Rutherford with an autographed copy of a beautiful book of views of the ship. We found that all of Brother Rutherford's books were in the ship's library for the passengers to read.

All these courtesies on the second fastest ship afloat made our trip home a very pleasant one. The sea again was never very rough and none of us were sick. While we were sorry, in a way, to see the trip come to an end, we were glad to get back so that we could aid with the preparations for Columbus convention. From start to finish the Lord's blessings in this trip to Europe were clearly manifest, and the brethren everywhere were greatly encouraged by hearing and seeing their president once more.



gates at the London Convention That Could
ool! Quite Near the Center of the Picture.

Beth-Sarim — Much Talked About House in San Diego

The House of the Princes

Somebody Paid a Hundred Thousand Dollars for Advertising the Resurrection of the Old Testament Saints. But Not Us. Come Again, Reporters

"All men have not faith," and there is no use in expecting men to exercise faith when they do not have it. At the present time there is only a handful of people in the world who really know that the Bible is the Word of God. Since the Bible is the Word of God, then we may depend upon it that it was especially written for us who are living just now, when Satan's organization is slipping down into the abyss from which it will never arise.

God has a people in the earth at this time. These people are his people, and not the Devil's people. They look like other men; but they are not the same. They are governed in what they do by the Word of God. Their desire to do God's will as they find it recorded in his Word is the all-consuming passion of their lives; it means more to them than all else in the world put together.

We know who the people of God are. They are, collectively, God's "faithful and wise servant" in the earth at this time. Collectively this "servant" goes to make up the Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society. There is no other "servant." God does not have fifty-seven or even two different ways of doing his work in such an hour as this.

It is the positive conviction of the "servant" that the Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society is being used and will be used by the Lord to proclaim God's name and Word and his judgments in the earth and to help God's people, both those who are free and those who are in the Devil's cages, to grasp the blessings and to see

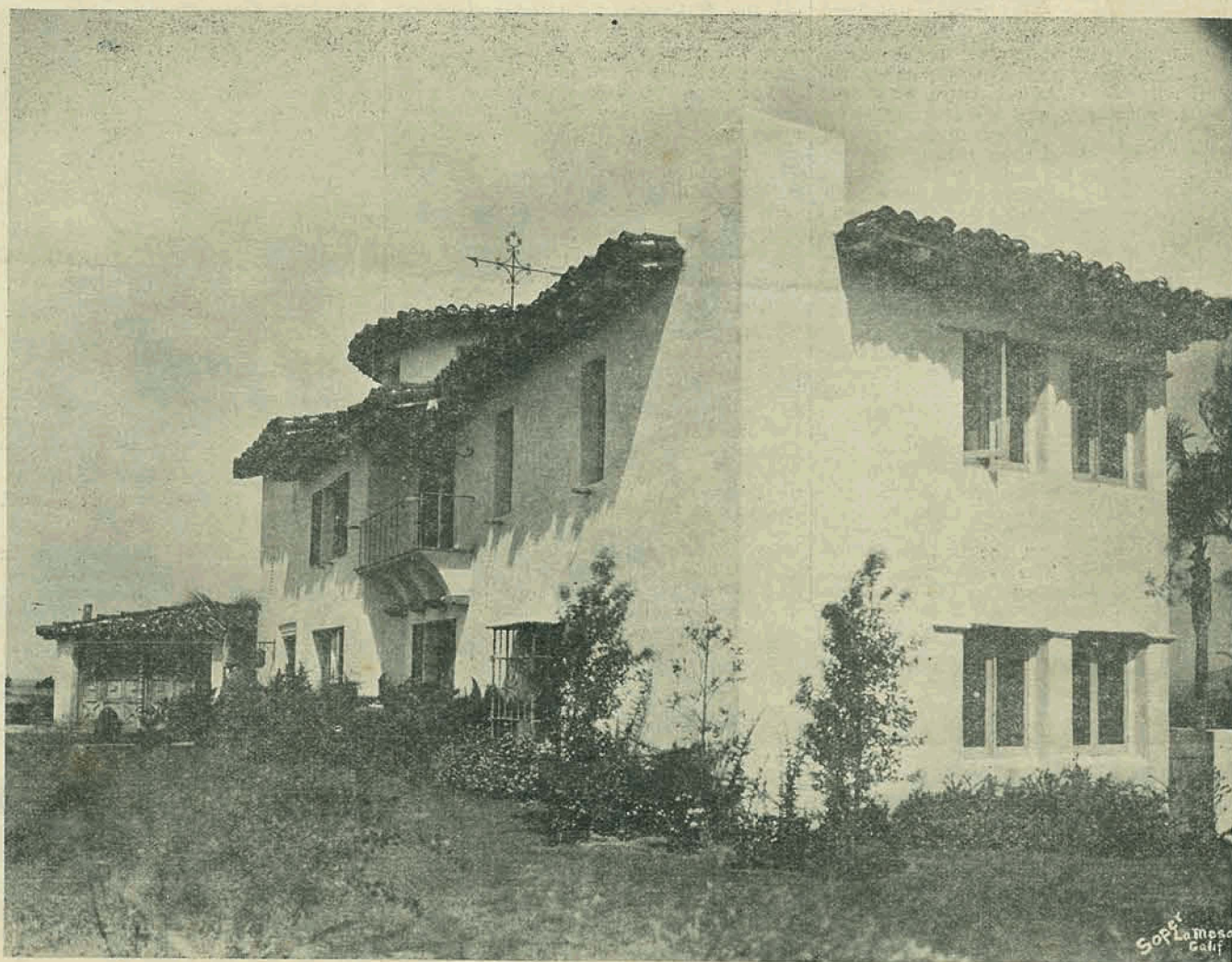
the duties and privileges of the hour. Judge Rutherford, president of the Watch Tower Society, is one of the hardest-worked men in the world. Anybody can be a Christian in peace-time, but Judge Rutherford was one of the war-time Christians; and, for daring so to be, went to Atlanta Penitentiary under four sentences of twenty years each.

When he emerged he was in poor physical condition, and even now has the use of but one lung. Since his return from Atlanta, prudence and good common sense dictated that, working as hard as he constantly works, he should have the benefit of the most equable winter climate to be found. It is a matter of common knowledge among meteorologists

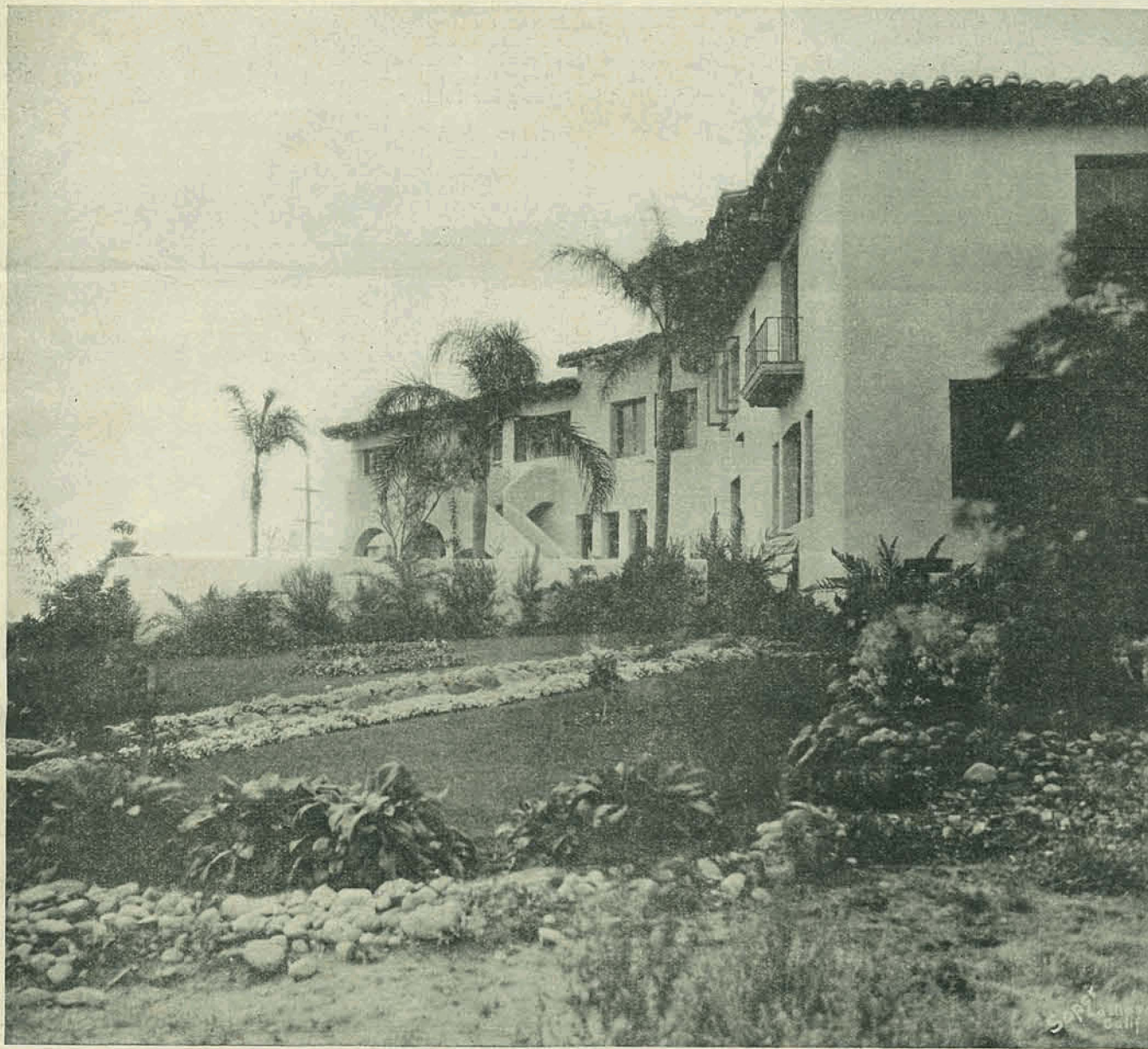
(weather experts) that San Diego, California, is as near perfection for a winter climate as it is possible to get. About a quarter of a million people besides meteorologists have made the same discovery and make the city their winter home.

For years after he emerged from prison, Judge Rutherford went to San Diego to work during the winter months, renting such quarters as could be secured. His physician, Dr. A. G. Eckols, of San Diego, urged him to make the city his permanent winter home; and in the latter part of the year 1929 some brethren, out of their own personal funds, arranged for the erection of Beth-Sarim, "the house of the princes," of which several illustrations appear in this issue.

Before Judge Rutherford would accept and use the home, he insisted upon writing the deed that it shall forever be held in trust by the Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society for the use of the Lord's
(Continued on page 8)



A View of the Front and East Side.



What the Back and the West Side Look Like. Do You Think David Will Like It?



Looks Pleased, Doesn't He? Just "Finished" the News Reporters

This Kingdom Gospel Must Be Preached in All the World

Amazing Growth of the Lord's Work Since 1922

The Messenger Takes Great Pleasure in Passing On to Its Readers Reports from the Brethren Brother Rutherford Has Appointed to Carry Out His Instructions with Reference to the Lord's Work in Foreign Fields.

(First Installment)

The Witness Work in Argentina

Argentina is a vast country, about equal in area to all the Rocky Mountain and Pacific Coast states of the United States. Today it occupies much the same relation to the rest of the world that was occupied by the United States seventy-five years ago.

You think of the United States as having many residents of foreign birth, but in proportion to our population we have twice as many foreigners here as you have there. Thus, the foreign-born population of the United States is given as 13 per cent, while the foreign-born population here is 25 per cent.

Yet, although Argentina is a young country as respects the immigration period through which she is passing, she is an old country otherwise. The University of Cordoba, in Argentina, was founded in 1613, seven years before the "Pilgrim Fathers" landed at Plymouth. Immigration into Argentina has come principally from Spain and Italy, though there are also many Germans among our new citizens. The state contributes about \$1,000,000 in gold every year to the support of the Roman Catholic religion, but other religions are tolerated. The constitution requires that the president must be a Roman Catholic.

We have a good deal of illiteracy to contend with, except among the German and British immigrants. Thus 31 per cent of our Austro-Hungarian immigrants are illiterate, 30½ per cent of the Spanish immigrants, 28½ per cent of the Italian and 17 per cent of the French. Among the German immigrants all but 9 per cent can read and write, and among the English immigrants all but 8 per cent.

In the country the farms are of vast size, averaging some 500 acres each, as would be expected in a land largely given over to stock raising and wheat growing. The great distances, poor roads, general lack of education, and preponderating influence of Roman Catholicism make it difficult to work the country districts yet, but some progress is being made.

Meantime we have a great work to do in Buenos Aires itself, where 40 per cent of all the immigrants remain after arrival in the country. This is a great city, one of the great cities of the world. We are doing something, but we need help. Pray for us and send us men and women of courage to help us.

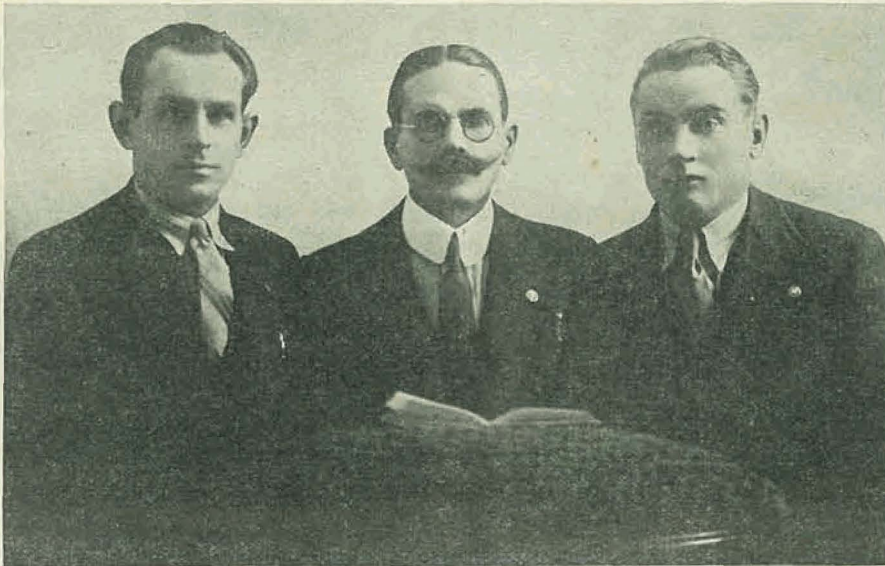
At the time this is written we are in the midst of our winter, so things are quite different with us from what they are with you. We are differently situated otherwise than as respects the weather. Yours is a rich country, while at this time Argentina is very, very poor. We work under great difficulties.

Our work began in 1924, with only one brother. Early in 1925, at his request, the Society's president sent in two able colporteurs speaking the German language to work among the immigrants from Germany. These brethren were and are to this day good samples of fidelity to the Lord and his cause.

We keep no regular office staff. Of the two brothers with me, one, the German brother, works during the day as a tile setter, when he has a job, and thus pays his room rent and expenses. When he has no work he goes on with his canvassing. The other, Pedro Kasanowski, has a knowledge of the three languages Polish, Ukrainian and Russian. He also works during the day when work is to be obtained, and at other times canvasses among the Poles, Ukrainians and Russians.

In the evening both of these brethren assist me in wrapping packages for mailing, and in making ready for mailing the 500 magazines which we send out from here every fifteen days.

The distribution of literature here is such a difficult task that a colporteur would not be able to make his expenses



The Bethel Family in Buenos Aires, John Muniz (center), Resident Manager.

if given 50 percent of the proceeds of his placements. The situation can be appreciated only by those who are in it themselves.

Acting under the advice and instructions of our beloved president our first aim is to keep the witness work under way, and where a colporteur cannot quite make a "go" of it we assist him to the extent that is absolutely necessary. Thus, by one means or another, we are getting the work done.

It sometimes seems to me that the Latins have to be handled with kid gloves. Work among them is difficult, aside from their poverty and lack of education. Nevertheless, we have now seventy friends who are taking a more or less active part in the witness work, the work which we consider most important. At the special drive in May we put out 2,709 books and booklets. This is not a great thing, but it is our greatest figure for one week's work.

In Rosario de Santa Fe, the work is represented by Brother Oscar Schwandt, German. The twin cities of Parana and Santa Fe are represented by Brother Felix Remon, Spanish. The city of Bahia Blanco and the southern part of the Republic is represented by Brother Ricardo Glahn, Paraguayan. The cities of Mendoza and San Juan, with the provinces of the same name, are represented by Brothers Maximo Gimpel and Ramon Mercado, the first German, the latter Argentinian.



Ricardo Traub, in Charge of the Work in Chile.

The work in the republic of Chile was started last year, in the care of Ricardo Traub, German. Although so recently started, we already have some results. One expression heard by the writer when he was there in February (at which time eight were immersed) was that one of the immersed ones said when the truth came to him he was communistically inclined, and did whatever he could to serve the Devil and libel God. Henceforth it would be different with him; he would try to serve God to the best of his ability, and he is doing so.

The Witness Work in Australia

Jehovah God states in his Word that this gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world for a witness. We are pleased, therefore, to make a report of the activities in Australia, New Zealand and the South Sea Islands, which come under the jurisdiction of this branch.



A. MacGillivray, Resident Manager of the Australian Work.

During the past year there has been a considerable increase in the work, both in the number of pioneers taking part in the field service and a general awakening amongst the classes. The work is directed by Brother Rutherford from the headquarters of the organization at Brooklyn, and we endeavor to carry out the instructions received as near to the letter as we possibly can, and we find that in proportion as we do this the Lord's blessing is manifested to a greater degree.

At the present time, May, 1931, there are 130 pioneers battering away at the Devil's organization, and also a number of auxiliaries and class workers. The reports received at the present date indicate a considerable increase in the work for the year 1930-31.

During this year the work in the Fiji Islands has opened up, and also in Tonga, Samoa and New Guinea. Little or no witnessing was done in these countries prior to this year, and it is marvelous to see how the message of the Kingdom is being received, not only by the natives, but also by many Europeans who make their sojourn in these islands.

The work as carried on in these islands and in Australia itself is not easy, by any means. The pioneers who operate in house-cars sometimes report that they find a distance of 100 miles between houses. Working under such conditions it is hard to put in the number of calls per day; however, in every case the Lord does sustain all those who are wholly devoted to him, and he provides all their needs.

Very recently one of these house-cars with four pioneers aboard traveled from West Australia to Sydney, a distance of over 3,000 miles; part of this was over the Australian Desert. For several days no houses were seen at all, but when they

(Continued on page 8)

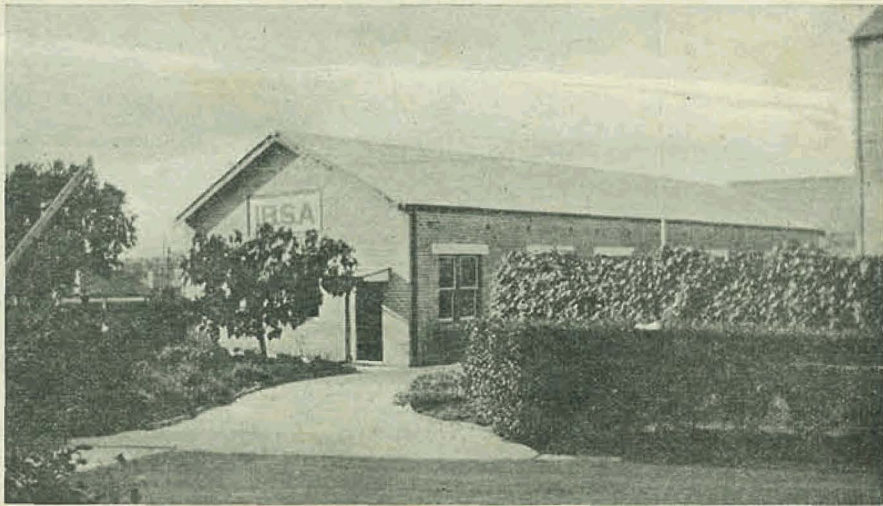


Carlo Ott, in Charge of the Work in Uruguay.

As fast as they are ready we are sending colporteurs out to the different cities. They canvass these cities, and if they find any interested they hold studies in *The Harp of God*; and if the interest continues they establish classes. If not, when the city has been thoroughly canvassed they are sent to another one.

Classes, when formed, are held in the rooms of the interested party; if this is not possible rooms are rented for the purpose.

The dear friends here all, as one, send their love to all, and in the name of our Lord wish that the great convention will have the most encouraging effect possible. Let us all hope that the Lord will bless the convention abundantly, and maintain our courage while we fight on the side of the Lamb.



The Society's Office in Sydney, Australia.



His Bedroom, and the Famous Nightcap Which So Amused the Newspaper Men.

BETH-SARIM

(Continued from page 6)

work in the earth, with the expectation that in due time Abraham, Melchisedec, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, David, Isaiah or some others of the patriarchs or prophets of olden times will appear and will be glad to use this home which has been prepared for one or more of them in the western edge of the new world.

The climate is the same as that of Palestine. The place is planted with date and palm trees, such as would be familiar and pleasing sights to these men. On the part of Judge Rutherford, the dedication of this home to God's work and for the use of these men was a simple act of faith. To a few newspaper men this exhibition of true faith in God and in his Word has seemed to give occasion for a little display of semi-mirthful incredulity; but for the most part the newspapers have treated the item with dignity, and the story of Beth-Sarim has gone around the world, conveying to millions of people the thought that shortly David and others will no

doubt be awakened from the sleep of death.

Whatever the motive of the newspaper men, their action resulted in giving free world-wide publicity to a Bible truth, the resurrection on earth of the faithful Old Testament saints, publicity such as would have cost the Society thousands and thousands of dollars.

Another feature, an ominous one for those caught in Satan's toils, is that the "evil servant" class, instead of being glad to see the preparation for and the use of adequate equipment for doing the Lord's work, seem to have the spirit of Judas when he said, "Why was not this ointment sold and the proceeds given to the poor?"

The record shows that Judas cared nothing about the poor. What he really wanted was to get his hands on that money for himself. And the reason he wanted it for himself was not so that he could use it to the glory of God. His thought in the matter was wholly selfish, wholly indefensible. And the Judas class are like Judas himself. They are all of the same stripe.



The Outside Stairs from the Patio to the Sun Parlor.

in their own language. We have yet a number of places to reach and plenty of room and liberty for those who wish to couple adventure with the privilege of service for Jehovah God.

The president has been pleased to assign Java to the Australian branch, and very shortly we are hoping to send representatives there.

The electrical transcription of Judge Rutherford's lectures has been a great boon to this country and a wonderful blessing in sending out the message. These are so clear, plain and convincing that the people absolutely rejoice to listen in. We are hoping as time goes on to add a goodly number more stations to our present 'going list'. Some of the Australian stations broadcasting the WATCHTOWER programs have been heard in America.

This is a vast territory. If you were to take your stand in New York you would have the eastern outpost of our territory in London and the western about California, and in the north and northeast about the same distance. This will enable the friends to get an idea of the difficulties that confront those who are taking part in the work in these parts.

Take a map of the South Sea sometime and look at Tahiti east of us, Western Australia west of us, and New Guinea, Java and Fiji north and northeast, and you will begin to have an ap-

preciation of some of the work that is going on by your brethren in the Southern Hemisphere.

Here in Australia, New Zealand and the islands of the sea we are joining with you in taking part in the Columbus convention extensions by means of general assemblies and field service for everybody. We are looking forward to the report of this international convention with keen interest, and we pray Jehovah God that it may be the greatest witness that has ever been given in the earth.

A word in closing, taken from a report just received from the first pioneer to enter the Island of Tonga in the South Seas. After being there a few days he gathered around him a number of young native men and women and they continued all night discussing the message of the Kingdom.

After hearing the glad tidings they resolved to band together to make a translation of all the books and booklets so that their people who cannot read English may have the privilege of hearing the Truth.

This is a sample of what is going on in the various islands under our jurisdiction. Truly it is glorious to have the privilege of carrying the message of the Kingdom to these people. The work is plentiful and the laborers are still few.

(To be continued in our next issue)



Here's That Celebrated Miniature Lake. The Newspaper Accounts Led People to Believe It Was Several Acres in Extent. Two No. 15's (If We Remember Correctly His Size) Would Make Quite a Splash!

WITNESS WORK IN AUSTRALIA
(Continued from page 7)

came to a station and reported themselves these station owners sent word ahead that the Watch Tower folks were coming and the end of the world. These

pioneers reported that even in the remote parts of the desert the people knew of the work being carried on.

The Lord is raising up translators in the different islands so that the message is being prepared for these people



The Bethel Family at Sydney, Australia, Saying Goodbye to Two Pioneers Setting Out Across the Continent.

This Kingdom Gospel Must Be Preached in All the World

(Second Installment)

Yesterday We Took You to Visit the Brethren in South America and Australia; Today We Jump Over to Europe. All Aboard!

The Witness Work In Austria

By Walter Voight



Walter Voight, Resident Manager.

According to the Treaty of Versailles in 1919, Austria has become a small country of hardly six million inhabitants. The former monarchy had fifty million inhabitants!

In Austria 94.4 per cent of the population is Catholic.

It was about ten years ago when the Society opened an office in Austria to spread the Truth in this land and to give a witness to the honor of the name of Jehovah in this dark country, where the clergy keep particularly the country people in darkness. At that time a few classes were organized which have now increased to 22 in number.

The brethren are very joyful and zealous and have distributed since 1924 one million books and booklets, most of them during the last few years. Aside from this, a large number of *Golden Age* copies and several million tracts and leaflets were put in the hands of the people.

We are receiving 6,000 copies of *The Golden Age* of each issue for Austria. One can see that in Austria every family has one book or one booklet by Judge Rutherford. This great work was done by a comparatively small army of faithful soldiers of the Lord.

As the joy of the brethren has increased, the rage of the Devil has increased also; but his wrath is in vain. Jehovah has separated his people for his name and he knows how to preserve them.

Some years ago the Society wanted to be registered in Austria, but the Catholic priest Seipel was chancellor at that time and he turned down the request of the Society. Thereafter he lost his position, and the Society was registered last year.

Like other countries of Europe, the priests and preachers are the bitterest opponents of our work. They resort to lying, false witnessing, instigating arrests, and even mobbing to disturb our work and keep the people from getting the truth.

In Vienna itself we have the greatest liberty. We called upon the chief of the city police and he told us that the law is on our side and that we should only call upon him in difficulties. Every case in Vienna has been decided in our favor.

In some sections where the brethren were held up by the police and were haled before the authorities, the brethren were asked if our literature reaches those who have left the Catholic church. We answered, YES; and were told, "That's good; now we will make a report which will make these dark men mad." (The Catholic men in office are called the "dark" or "black" men by the people!)

Recently we used films and slides to illustrate our public lectures in many Austrian cities. The Devil tried to cause difficulties. When we had finished the preparations at a certain city, a decision of the authorities was handed to us that we could not give our illustrated lecture in that place, and other places where we were preparing to go were also included in this prohibiting measure.

We entered a sharp protest, through our attorney, and wrote that the authorities of this part of Austria are held responsible for all expenses that we had had in preparing for this exhibition. Then the decision was withdrawn, and people who became interested through the Photo-Drama have now begun to canvass with the books at several places.

The greatest difficulty with the authorities was encountered in Lienz, a city of 6,000 inhabitants, the capital of East-Tyrol.



The Bethel Family at Vienna.

The owner of the moving picture house, apparently at the behest of the clergy, had destroyed his own picture machine, although he was obliged by a contract to let us have his theater for the meeting. He had put up a poster that there would be no exhibition of the Photo-Drama because the apparatus was not in order. He had not counted with the fact that we had our own apparatus for the slides, and he then made a long face when we got things ready for the lecture. Seven policemen and a representative of the county government were present and



Vienna Locusts Ready for the Field. Can You Find Their Stings?

they tried a number of times to make protest against what was said. But the people were on our side and they laughed at the interference of the police.

The next night an official, who feared that we might say similar things to what we did when showing the slides about the Dark Ages, said to the speaker: "You must not say another word." This in turn was made known to the public. Then the police forced the people to leave the hall. Four hundred, however, gave their addresses and, leaving the hall reluctantly, they said: "Now, we are going to leave the Catholic church." A brother who was a policeman at that place was discharged, and he will now enter the pioneer service.

Since this happened in this dark corner where no one dared to preach the Truth before, we are having a large gathering every week. Whenever the Devil thinks he can cause difficulty, everything that he does is turned against him. By these happenings the brethren have been encouraged to spread the Truth with more zeal and energy than ever before.

In Austria there are now 22 classes, with about 600 class attendants, of which 233 are regular workers.

It is a joy to see the courage and the devotion of the brethren. We trust in the Lord that the opportunities for the witness work in this country will be still more favorable in the future.

The Witness Work in Belgium

By J. Knecht

In Belgium, as in other countries, some who had not received the love of the Truth were sifted out, especially during the years from 1918 to 1925, and now there remains a faithful remnant. Jehovah needs no one. He does not even need Belgian brethren to carry on the work here. Others have replaced the unfaithful. English, Swiss, Polish and French pioneers have come to do the work, and these are working in unity with the remnant here.

We now have ten pioneers, and others are about to enter the work. It is a real joy to see their zeal for the Lord.

A few days ago a Polish brother came to the office and said: "I am tired of the organization of the Devil and now I am going to serve the Lord wholly and wish to enroll as pioneer."

Another Polish pioneer has kindled a fire of enthusiasm for the Truth in a whole section of the country. Whenever he enters a village, the priests run around like fools and their long black coats roll up the dust in the streets!

An English colporteur met a clergyman at a home who was very much excited. Threatening her with the police, he forbade her to work further. As well as the sister knew the language, she said smilingly: "I am not afraid of you or of the police." Then the priest began to sweat for rage.

The mayor of Namur told the Swiss pioneers that they could not work there; but since his prohibition and a warning in the newspaper they are working with increased joy, because there is no law which can prevent their work.

Three auxiliary colporteurs between 60 and 70 years of age are working here, and one of them goes to the market at Liège. This market is visited by many people and is very interesting. Our worker calls out the literature in 25 different languages. Many foreigners, whom we could not find otherwise, come and buy. His success is wonderful.

In the industrial sections of Belgium it is necessary to keep on hand books in 29 different languages. There are now three new Polish classes.

Belgium is wholly Catholic. The power and influence are in the hands of the clergy and they are responsible for the fact that a large part of the population can neither read nor write, but it is time to call out DELIVERANCE and many hear the message.

During the last two years the work in Belgium has increased much. The output in 1930 was four times as much as in 1929. During the first nine months of this fiscal year the total output of 1930 was overtopped by 10,500 books and booklets.



The Society's Office in Brussels, J. Knecht, Resident Manager, and the Rest of the Office Staff, His Wife.



Bethel Home in Vienna.

For some time we have been able to use a broadcasting station once a week in Belgium.

There are five classes in Belgium, with an attendance of 51 brethren, half of whom are regular class workers.

The Belgian brethren send their greetings and wish to express their joy that they are united with all the anointed on earth.

The Witness Work in Brazil

By D. D. Neves

As you may know we are under a revolutionary government. In the beginning the people hoped that things would be better soon; but now we see the people continuing in their afflictions. There is a great crisis throughout the country. There is no remedy except the Lord's kingdom, and this is at hand.



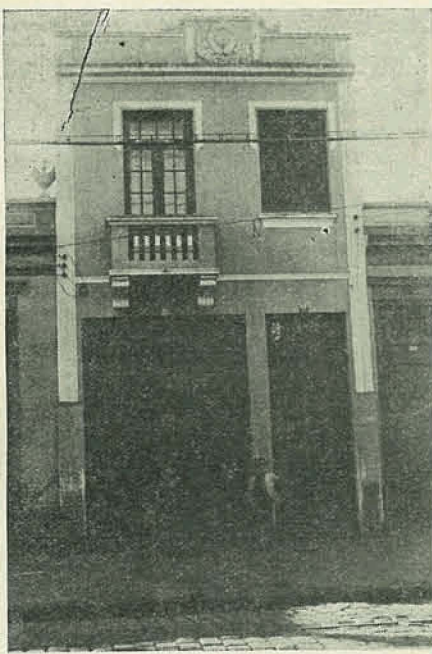
D. D. Neves, Resident Manager.

Our great privilege is to notify the people about the Lord's remedy. The condition of the country does not permit the placing of many pieces of literature; almost all pieces of literature we place are booklets.

We have seven classes, but not all are organized for service. Four classes are witnessing from door to door, but not all members of these classes. However, in all classes we have some members working with the literature. Here in S. Paulo city we have two classes, Portuguese-speaking people are one class; the other are of Hungarian-speaking people; and both classes have workers in the service from house to house, with some results. A German class in Curitiba is active in the witness with literature. Two classes in Rio de Janeiro have some members doing good service with the books. We hope henceforth to have all classes organized for service.

Some months ago I made a visit to several cities in S. Paulo state, where the people heard the message and bought literature. These trips would be very good if we could effect them in each state. Brazil is great, and traveling is expensive. We are doing our best and hoping in time to visit each city, giving the witness.

The Lord's work has now its center in S. Paulo city, about a million population. Our branch is in a good district, but where the people are very poor. Here we rent a part of a house for our depot and



Bethel Home in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

staff and where our printing press functions. One worker lives in the same house, but the manager lives in another house, where the service of translation and dispatch of letters and literature is done. The printing press prepares the edition of the Brazilian *Watch Tower*, tracts and handbills.

Now we are four, and even so we can-

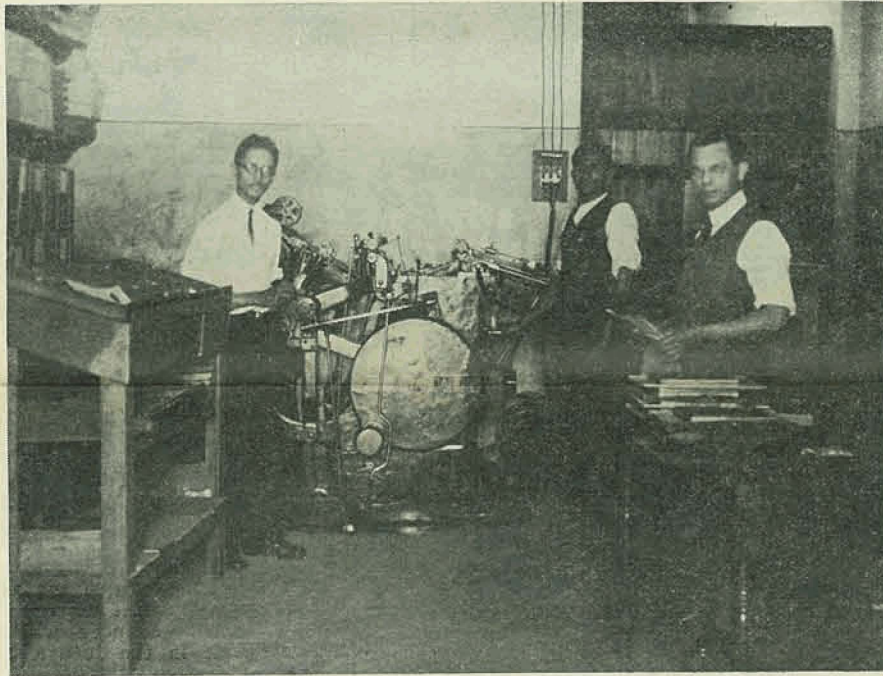
are attentive toward the explanation and buy some pieces of literature.

We have actually about thirty class workers every Sunday in the field. All interested ones are invited to go out in the service. Our purpose is to prepare classes only for service. Some are new in the service. Others find the service very difficult. Others are entering in. God is blessing all his servants who are confessing his name and glory to the people. The result is some become interested in the Truth.

Two thousand handbills are distributed every week, inviting the people to the public lectures every Sunday. Some newspapers also invite the people and give reports of the lectures. For the first time in Brazil a reporter came to the Society's representative, asking information about our service in the world, and our doctrines. All information requested was given and the newspaper published freely. Many were interested as a result of the report given in the newspaper.

A lecture was held about "Spiritism"; and the newspapers mentioned it as it were for spiritism. Our hall was full; almost all were spiritists. Some interrupted the lecture, but order was restored and the speaker continued unto the end. Some were interested from that day.

Now we are looking for the "International Service Convention Week." I invited the classes throughout the country to be ready for that glorious time. May Jehovah bless you with many blessings throughout the earth.



The Office Staff at Sao Paulo and the Printing Equipment for the Brazilian WATCH TOWER.

not do all the service as promptly as we desire. But the service is marching on, being better each day. All of us realize our opportunity to cooperate with you and the Lord, and we are very glad for all the blessings of the Lord.

Every Sunday some workers of four classes go out with literature from door to door testifying for Jehovah and his King. It is the most important service. Doing so we have opportunity to see directly the condition of the people. Some have no money to buy literature, then we give some tracts gratis. Others are against the Lord's message. But others

The Witness Work in British Guiana, S. America

By Fred Phillips, Resident Manager

As the countries of the world go, British Guiana is but a very little one. The total population of the country is but 304,412, of whom over one-third, or 125,204, are East Indians, and a like number are Negroes. There are 12,166 Portuguese in the country, and 4,558 whites of other nationalities. The remainder of the population are Chinese and mixed races.

For the last six years trade conditions in British Guiana have been deplorable. Exports in 1929 were less than two-thirds what they were in 1926, and the earnings of the people have so fallen off that the imports are only about half what they were six years ago.

Georgetown, our capital, is only a little city of 57,000 population. Most of the interest in the truth centers in the colored people that make their home here. Illiteracy among the East Indians is high, yet 60 per cent of all the people can read, and in spite of the prevailing poverty we are accomplishing something and the work is spreading to the sugar and rice plantations and to the gold mines that lie back from the coast.

We are putting out more than 5,000 books and booklets a year, and while that is not much, it is considerable for us, for we are but few. There are three colporteurs regularly in the field, and twenty workers. The average number of those who are weekly in the service is fourteen.

One of our brothers has visited remote parts of British Guiana. At great personal inconvenience, and sometimes in actual danger, he has crossed waterfalls, traveled for days in a small open boat with the blistering sun overhead, and tramped for miles along narrow

paths flanked with dense tropical undergrowth.

This was done that the workers in the diamond and gold mining districts of the Potaro and Mazaruni rivers, on the fringe of the Guiana forest, and the workers in the timber grants of the Pomeroon might have a witness to the truth. He also worked the head waters of the Demerara and Essequibo rivers. The regular workers are on the job in the city and near-by villages as often as possible, and thankful to our great God for the privileges which are theirs. We remember you all in prayer and ask to be remembered in yours.

The Witness Work in Canada and Newfoundland

By W. F. Salter

Ever since the year 1929 Canada and Newfoundland, in common with the rest of the world, have been gradually getting deeper and deeper into the mire, both economically and socially. The number of unemployed has been rapidly increasing until today tens of thousands are out of work and in need.

The situation is somewhat ironical; elevators are full of grain and the people are hungry; the factories are full of goods and the people are without these necessities; the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer; and the more the so-called leaders of affairs try to adjust the situation, the more hopeless it becomes and the more it is manifest that the only hope is God's kingdom.

While the general depression has brought about much oppression which is daily, yea, almost hourly, becoming heavier and more difficult for the people to bear, it is gratifying indeed to note, and worthy of praise to the great Jehovah God, that his people are kept under the shadow of his hand, in the secret place of the Most High, and are permitted to go on day by day giving his witness in ever-increasing measure.

The witness given in Canada and Newfoundland during 1930 surpassed that of any previous year, notwithstanding the fact that 1930 was the most trying year in the history of these lands, and while the current year is one in which times are even more difficult, again it is wonderful to note that the Lord's witness is much in advance of the corresponding period of last year.

Jehovah's little army of faithful servants in this vast territory, which extends for more than 4,000 miles from east to west, has been carrying on with burning zeal the work he has graciously committed to their charge and they have boldly and fearlessly given, and continue to give, his witness against this present wicked order of things.

During 1930 over 190 service conventions were held, at which the friends assembled primarily for the purpose of taking the message from door to door, meetings being held in the evenings for



Walter F. Salter, Resident Manager.

a discussion of the Lord's Word that the brethren might be built up and encouraged. As a result a tremendous witness was given in the rural districts and even in the most remote sections of the country.

So enthusiastic were the friends over the conventions held last year that their response to a suggestion that a similar policy be adopted this year has resulted in arrangements being completed for at least 209 conventions. These are divided



The Bethel Family at Sao Paulo.



A Corner of the Society's Office in Toronto.

into four series, and a regional service director has been placed in charge of each series to serve as chairman and with general authority to direct the convention activities.

The work is so organized that a number of automobiles are in attendance at

as a vehicle for conveying a large supply of books and booklets, and it is also utilized in the service during the witnessing hours. Words can scarcely express the joy and strength the friends are deriving from this feature of the service as evidenced by their testimonies, both written and verbal.

In keeping with the onward march and growth of the Lord's kingdom upon the earth the little army of colporteurs in this country is also increasing, and it is a source of much joy to note that there are now in the colporteur field in Canada and Newfoundland 165, as compared with 112 at this time last year. While this army is not great in number, it is a mighty power in the hand of the Lord in carrying on the work he has willed shall be done in this our day.

It seems very manifest that no phase of the Lord's service is more richly blessed than the colporteur work, and the pioneer field in particular. It is a phase wherein those engaged are called upon time and again to put their whole trust in him, with the result that they have abounding evidence of his continued protection and watchcare over them.

A pioneer colporteur, who had been passing through some trying experiences in the field, recently wrote us as follows: "Neither of us knew a soul here, and of course we had only the Lord to depend on, which is at all times sufficient to any of the anointed, and I knew he was going to take care of us both. Both Sister — and I could see his guidance in every move; it was so manifest even to the choosing of our room . . . Honestly, the more we have to depend upon the Lord for, the stronger we are in faith. In all the years I have been in the truth I have never really appreciated this as much as I have since becoming a colporteur."

In connection with the activities of the colporteurs and class workers a great number of automobiles have been more or less continually in use; in fact, it would not have been possible to have ac-

complished such an extensive witness without them. But, in addition to this means of transportation, in order to reach those living along the coasts, it has been necessary to use ships.

in no other way, for traveling by boat is the only means of transportation.

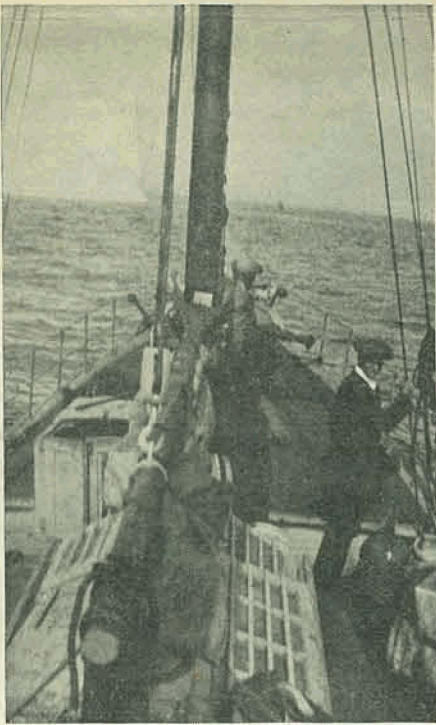
What is true of that territory is likewise true of the long 7,000-mile coast of British Columbia. For this territory another boat was purchased, and splendid results have been obtained, many hearing the message for the first time. This particular phase of the service has naturally been fraught with great difficulties and carried on under most peril-



Here Is the Society's Boat for Newfoundland and the Canadian Atlantic Coast Places.

ous conditions. The following is an interesting item from the report of one of the boat captains:

"In many ways the work here on the British Columbia coast is unusual and truly of a pioneer nature. Many small places are unknown so far as the maps are concerned, a number of inlets and bays being uncharted or at the best very poorly so, and one can never say with certainty where we will be on a given date. In some waters it is not safe to travel after dark, which makes our days very short, and storms, too, delay our progress. On the whole, however, our Master's guidance and protection have been marvelous in our eyes, and when the winds have begun to blow we have always found ourselves near a good harbor, with plenty of work to keep us busy until the storm had calmed. We find the people more and more rapidly lining up either for or against the message, and we have many friends. Generally speaking, they are very ready to listen and have a desire to investigate for them-



The Society's Atlantic Coast Boat Is an Icebreaker Literally and Otherwise.

each convention and these are used to convey the workers to the rural territory and to the towns and villages where it has been arranged for them to give the witness. To meet the demand for literature arrangements have also been made for a house-car to travel with each series



The Bethel Family at Toronto.

Three years ago this branch of the service was inaugurated to cover the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador, and a splendid work was accomplished, to the joy and comfort of the people. It was a witness that could have been given

selves. Those who are able to get the WATCHTOWER programs express their deep appreciation of them. Recently I called on a man who had obtained the first three bound books from me some months ago. He said he had read them



Whoa, Molly! That's All It Takes to Stop This Canadian Wintertime Express for the Colporteur's Next Witness.



This Society's Motor Boat Carries the Witness to All Canadian Pacific Coast and Alaskan Cities and Wilderness Places.

at least three times, and he took the rest of the set, a Bible, and a *Golden Age* subscription. Surely the Lord's blessings on the witness work are very marked at this time and ours is a marvelous privilege to have part therein."

In full support of his army the light and power of the Lord is ever manifest as he, as it were, goes on in advance, breaking down prejudice and opening the way for his messengers by means of the radio. It is gratifying to note that in Canada and Newfoundland there are now 21 stations broadcasting the message of truth. This service has been improved beyond expression by the recently changed policy of the Society of using electrical transcripts of Brother Rutherford's own voice speaking forth with power and might the message of the hour.

While we cannot fully comprehend the full extent to which this mighty instrument of the Lord, which he has graciously placed in the hands of his people, is being used by him, we do know from the testimony of the public through the workers that a great and a wonderful work is being accomplished. The large number of listeners-in can to some degree be appreciated by the fact that there are radio receiving sets in almost one-third of the homes in this country.

It might naturally be supposed that everyone would rejoice to hear the message and to see it going forth, but that is far from being the case, it being still true that "the darkness hateth the light," and as a consequence there has been and still is tremendous opposition to the Lord's faithful witnesses.

Satan is relentless in his effort to stop the witness work, and time and time again, through his dupes the priests and preachers, he has called upon the civil authorities to molest our brethren, arresting them and haling them before magistrates and judges. But it is a source of deep comfort and joy to note how the Lord has almost without exception given the victory to his people. Case upon case has been fought out and the verdict rendered, "Not guilty." In some parts of the land, despite the repeated decisions of the judges, the priests continue the opposition through the police department.

This was particularly true in Montreal, Quebec, and it became so intolerable that the Society finally decided to institute an action against the City of Montreal for damages and did so on behalf of one of the colporteurs who had been arrested there. After many months of adjourning the case the City of Montreal recently offered to make a settlement out of court, agreeing to pay \$75 as damages and \$50 toward costs, which offer was accepted.

Marvelous indeed is it to note on every hand the signs of the rapid approach of the end of all devilish things. We see the nation being gathered together to the Battle of God Almighty, and the witness that must be made being made by God's faithful remnant class, and the promise is that when that is finished then the end shall come, the church shall be delivered and mankind released from their bondage. And so his people pray with a full assurance of faith, "Thy Kingdom come," knowing that ere long that kingdom will be fully established in power and great glory to the vindication of his word and name.

The Witness Work in Czechoslovakia

By the Resident Manager

We here in Czechoslovakia are in one of the newest and yet one of the oldest countries in the world. Though Bohemia had its own king for many hundreds of years prior to 1620, yet in that year it was swallowed up by Austria and had no separate existence until it emerged as a republic in 1918, in the breaking up of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, and took its present name.

This is the land of Huss, and whoever, like John Huss, has raised his voice against the Roman Catholic church, has been an object of persecution. In 1921, out of a population of 13,613,172, the number of Roman Catholics was 10,384,833. Protestants were put down as 990,319. The remainder of the population was made up of Jews, Greek Catholics, Russian Orthodox and others. This will give you some idea of the problems with which we are confronted.

In size Czechoslovakia is about the same as your state of Illinois. In the parts which prior to the World War were in Germany 97 per cent of the people can read and write, but in Slovakia proper, which was part of the Austrian empire, only 85 per cent can read and write, while in Ruthenia fully one-half are without education of any kind. This is what the Austrian Empire and the Roman Catholic church did to the poor people under their care.

Now it happens that in Czechoslovakia most of the consecrated live in districts where the standard of education is very low. As many of these friends are themselves unable to read or write, and oftentimes are living in conditions of utmost poverty, and do not have proper clothing besides their frocks, they are generally not in position to perform effective work.

Nevertheless, Jehovah has richly blessed his work in Czechoslovakia. The number of workers has increased by 50 per cent. German brethren (from Germany) have come in as pioneers and have done excellent work. Other districts near the German border have been worked by German classes. Very frequently these German brethren have been arrested, but all the cases against them have been satisfactorily settled.

The literature for Czechoslovakia is manufactured at the Magdeburg plant. Besides German and Slovakian languages, there are 745,531 Hungarians in Czechoslovakia, 75,853 Poles and some Rumanians. Some effort is made to reach

the great expectancy, and the addresses given by Brother Rutherford, with the fact that there was an exceptional public meeting, all went to make the convention an outstanding feature. Undoubtedly the Lord blessed the convention as it passed, and he will assuredly bless the memory and the result of the gathering to the furtherance of his work.

But the London convention was really one of two that the British friends enjoyed at this time, for no less than 800 British brethren went to the Paris convention. This was a new experience, for nothing of the kind has taken place before.

Evidently it was the Lord's will that the British friends should have these experiences and should realize the unity of those of other languages of like precious faith. The journey to Paris and the sharing of the work was a life's event to many who went. It was much enjoyed and there was much enthusiasm. When the two trains which carried the party from St. Pancras station (London) to Tilbury had left the station, and the

discarded it, there is a determination more definitely expressed than ever to hold to the truth as it is revealed in the Lord's appointed way to serve the Lord by it, and thus to seek to be obedient in all things to every manifestation of his will.

There are 260 classes and 100 sharpshooters engaged in the work. The number of brethren holding the necessary permits is 4,900. The weekly workers average 2,700, and it is now usual to have over 4,000 out on campaign weeks.

During the past twelve months the classes and the sharpshooters have placed about 613,000 pieces of literature, and have given well over three million testimonies. The classes have an assignment of about five million homes on which to call, and the reports which are being received lead to the expectation that this year will see at least four million testimonies given to these homes.

The average number of whole-time colporteurs in active service is 180. A considerable number of the brethren who have been engaged with us have left for other countries. We are glad to know that these who have had experience in the work are now being used in countries where the work is more difficult. All together, 55 colporteurs have left us for service in France and other countries.

In this crowded country, particularly in England, the colporteurs and the service workers are often in very close touch one with another. Between these services, including the auxiliary colporteurs, almost every house in the island gets a witness during the twelve months.

The west coast of Scotland is difficult territory, but the barren west coast of Ireland is still more difficult; but even these, including the wildest and most barren portions, have their witness. At the other extreme the centers of the large cities have had a special witness. The business houses have been canvassed by special sets of workers, and this work has proved very profitable.

This army of the Lord, which includes all the true brethren, and which is almost synonymous with those who hold permits, works as one unity and with one desire. Forgetting the things of the past they seek to do that which the Lord has laid before them, and while there is the looking forward in faith to the future, it is not that there is a looking forward to a reward which is to come, but to the privilege of being included amongst those who are to be faithful to the end.

The outlook for the future of the work is promising. Though the majority of the people are careless as to their responsibility towards God, and thoughtless about their own responsibility towards him, yet there is in these countries a great number of God-fearing people who are shocked at the attitude which the clergy of all denominations take towards the Bible.

Many of these will surely be touched by the witness which God is giving to himself by the books. Besides this there are greater numbers of those who are ready to purchase when the books are presented to them. We are confident that there is a great outlook for the books already published and for the further messages which God will surely send through his people.

In the immediate future we look forward to the radiation of the spirit of service which will come from Columbus. Arrangements are made for seven local conventions in the spread-out service conventions in connection with the Columbus week.

For all these privileges we thank the Lord, and with heart and mind expect, as a part of the Lord's army, to take a share with all others of like precious faith and service.

The Nightly Radio Program

Last night, and Friday night also, several thousand conventioners remained after the concluding discourses of the day to hear the WATCHTOWER programs broadcast every evening during the convention from the two Columbus stations, WCAH and WAIU.

Everything on this program, from announcing to music, is furnished by members of the staff of the Society's radio station in Brooklyn, WBBR. Those who listened agreed that the music is of a superior class. Reports of citizens of Columbus, who listened in their homes, are that the reception was good and the program very good.

The Radio Convention Committee is trying to serve not only the conventioners but the general public of Columbus with the best programs on the air.

On Friday night J. C. Watt delivered a lecture on "Who Is Jehovah?" and E. Keller used "Divine Prophecy" as his subject last night.



The Bethel Family at London. See 'em Grinning? The Chief Had Just Finished Telling Them Something in the "Colored Language."

all of these. The brethren continue to press the work with zeal, and the results show the Lord's blessing. The people are waking up. Of late years there has been a determined stand for religious liberty. All this has been helpful to us in our work. The people are now ready to listen as never before.

The Witness Work in Great Britain

By J. Hemery, Resident Manager

Sometimes it seems preferable to say "last things first" and to act accordingly. In giving a review of the British work the outstanding feature is the visit of Brother Rutherford to London and the London convention which was held in connection with his visit. It has ever seemed to be that the last convention has been the best held, and this applies to the present case.

But there is a difference to be noted in respect to the recent convention: it is this, that there is no possible question that the convention recently held in London was the best and most profitable that we have had in this part of the field.

The circumstances of the convention,

friends who had been seeing the party off were coming away, one railway man said to a sister, "What is all this crowd?" She replied, "It is God's organization."

What the man made out of the reply we do not know, but the answer, so unusual, indicates what was in the minds of the many who went. The crowd of 800 brethren went to Paris, not to enjoy the pleasures of a journey and of a city strange to them, but to take a share in the work of giving a witness to the city.

These things are an indication of the unity to which that part of the Lord's remnant in this country has approached. Never in the history of the "Truth," nor of the work of the Lord as it has been disclosed to his people in the past years, has there been such a clear perception of the purpose of the Lord in giving the truth, nor so purposeful a disposition to do the work of the Lord as is now manifest amongst his people.

It is a pleasure to be able to say that despite the fact that there are things which would discourage, if faith were small, such as the general poverty of many of the people, and the hard times which they experience, and the opposition of those who love this present evil world, both of organized religion and of those who, having had the truth, have