

AUSTRALASIAN RECORD

and advent world survey



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Summary of president's opening address at the Division Quinquennial Session

WHILE IT IS DAY

R. R. FRAME, President, Australasian Division

AS WE MEET tonight in this the Seventh Session of the Australasian Division we look out upon the political and religious world and readily recognize that events long foretold in prophecy are taking place with startling rapidity. The significance of the times must not be lost upon us.

I am reminded of the words we find in Romans 13:11, 12: "The night is far spent." This text is pregnant with warning admonition and promises. Man's existence on this planet is threatened by weapons too fateful to name. He is the prisoner of his own inventive genius. Through his technology he has polluted the very air we breathe and the water we drink. It has been well said that the only way out is up!

Our text also brings us a beautiful promise that "the day is at hand." The day of our Lord's return, the day when He will lead the saved on that triumphant journey through space to the eternal city. Yes "the night is far spent, the day is at hand."

At this moment we are, in the words of Thomas Carlyle, "standing in the centre of our immensities." It is an urgent hour and an hour of opportunity for the church of God.

As reports are presented to us during this Session we will take a retrospective view; we will be reminded of the leading of the Lord; we will rejoice as we contemplate the blessings of the past; but our successes of yesterday do not call for complacency. The challenge of an unfinished task is still before us.

In reflecting upon the darkness of this world's night and looking toward the day of His glorious appearing, the words of John 9:4 must also ring in our ears. "I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work." If Christ recognized the need to be engaged in the business of His Father, how much more should we be busy about the things that relate to eternity. Time is very short. How often we remind ourselves of this truism, yet how we delay as men and women continue to go down into Christless graves. It was Bertrand Russell who said, "That the world is in a bad way is undeniable, but there is not the faintest reason in history to state that Christianity offers a way out." We must prove this statement false. In reminding ourselves of the lateness of the hour it is easy for us to look at others and not see our own needs. It has been stated that the work of God will not be

finished anywhere until it is finished everywhere, but first of all it must be finished in the hearts of every church member. I believe that if we who are gathered at this Session can all come into a right relationship with Christ, then a shout of triumph will be heard by our people right across the Division and the final movements will be set in motion.

While it is still day, while there is time, let us take a look at ourselves. What does the Lord expect of us? "Gospel Workers," page 505 says, "What the church needs in these days of peril is an army of workers who, like Paul, have educated themselves for usefulness, who have a deep experience in the things of God, and who are filled with earnestness and zeal. Sanctified, self-sacrificing men are needed — men who will not shun trial and responsibility; men who are brave and true; men in whose hearts Christ is formed 'the hope of glory,' and who, with lips touched with holy fire, will 'preach the word.' For want of such workers the cause of God languishes, and fatal errors, like a deadly poison, taint the morals and blight the hopes of a large part of the human race."

"Christ's Object Lessons," page 69 puts it this way: "Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own."

The times demand that there must be a clear break with transgression. There must be a true reflection of Christ in all that we do. There must be a demonstration of genuine Christianity. The genuine Christian is one who has a heart filled with joy as he spreads cheer and courage.

The genuine Christian loves to speak of his Saviour in the most loving terms. He can speak without hesitation about his Redeemer. He can tell how that He left heaven for just one reason: to lift us out of the pit of sin and restore us to His image and give us, absolutely free, the gift of eternal life.

The truly converted Christian loves people as Jesus does, and he has a great heart of compas-



Pastor R.R. Frame, president, Australasian Division.

sion for people; he will find great pleasure in helping fallen sinners get to their feet.

The devoted child of God has a forgiving spirit. He is not just willing to forgive and forget, but is anxious to see the spirit of Christ restored.

The true Christian hates sin but loves sinners. He speaks more about heaven and less about things of the world.

The child of God is in this world but is not of the world. He longs for heaven and the sooner he can get there, the better.

The follower of Christ loves his church because the church belongs to Christ and Christ is the Head. He does everything he can to build the church; he lives for unity; he knows the church is not perfect, but he always tries to put the church in the best light and does what he can to make it more effectual.

The vision of Adventism is still the world for Christ, nothing less. In a world facing the darkness of night, a world full of wickedness and crime, the call is for us to move forward with a clear channel between the soul and the Saviour. Then the revival of true godliness will be a reality. This done, the power of witness will be manifest in bountiful proportions and our world will be bathed in gospel glory.

DIVISION SECRETARY'S REPORT

K.S. PARMENTER, Secretary

AS YOU LISTEN to the reports of progress presented at this quinquennial Session, you will be led to exclaim with the psalmist, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Psalm 126:3. There are signs that Satan is doing his best to hinder God's work. Calamities of varying intensity have visited many areas of the world, bringing distress, difficulty and human suffering. Viewed under the searchlight of Bible prophecy, the international scene indicates that we have moved dangerously close to the end of history. With the hymn writer we can agree, "Change and decay in all around I see..." Revolution is the order of the day in our religious, political, economic and scientific world.

Subtle forces are competing for control of the minds and souls of men. Spiritism has become a popular religion. In direct fulfilment of prophecy, the chasm between Catholicism and Protestantism is narrowing. Scarcely a day goes by without the national press headlining some sinister happening. Evil men and seducers are truly waxing worse and worse in total defiance of the God of heaven.

These tremendous changes and events are to us significant signs of the times, and have inspired and urged us forward in attempting greater things for God in finishing the task committed to our care.

In reviewing the accomplishments of the church of God in Australasia, we must conclude that the quinquennium, 1970-1974, was the most successful ever in the history of this great Division. Details presented in this report and others that will follow, will show that the past five years present an outstanding record, particularly in the field of evangelism. Tremendous forward steps have been taken in many areas and we say, "to God be the glory."

Evangelism

Commencing in 1972, a Division-wide programme of evangelism was adopted. Special Steering Committees were appointed to give direction and provide materials for seed-sowing. On the opening night of the "Mission 72" programme, more than 800 public efforts swung into action. Administrators, evangelists, pastors and laymen joined forces, proclaiming in halls and churches around the Division that Christ is the answer to the world's problems. Our motto has truly become "Evangelize and Live." Following Missions '72 and '73, a third programme entitled "Impact '74" was conducted and we are presently in the midst of our fourth Division-wide evangelistic programme entitled "Outreach '75." Besides the personal witness of church members and preachers, millions of special tracts, "Signs of the Times" and books have been distributed.

While this intensified programme of church-centred evangelism has been in operation, our leading evangelists, known today as "Inter-Union evangelists," have been conduct-



Pastor K.S. Parmenter, secretary, Australasian Division.

ing crusades in the large provincial towns and capital cities. God has greatly blessed all this endeavour with a fruitful harvest.

Total accessions for the five-year period, were 31,534. The highest number of baptisms reported in any one year in the Division was achieved in 1973 with a total of 6,918.

Membership

We are happy to report that in 1972, we broke the barrier of 100,000 membership. Total church membership at the close of the quinquennium was 111,733 compared to 90,720 at the close of the previous period. This represents a net increase of 21,013 and means a growth rate of a church of seventy-eight members every week of the quinquennium. Table B shows the growth of Conferences and Missions during the period.

With a population of 20,027,233, the penetration of the Adventist Church with a baptism

figure of 31,534 for the five-year period, represents one baptism for every 635 of population. The number of Adventists in relation to population now equals one to 179 as indicated in Table C.

During the past quinquennium our regular Sabbath school membership has increased by 17,120 to 135,867 and branch Sabbath school membership increased by 5,061 to 26,187.

In spite of inflation and difficulties facing the building industry, many representative and spacious new church buildings have been erected. This has been accomplished by much personal effort and generous giving on the part of our membership. Over the period under review, seventy-five new church organizations have been added, making a total of 932 for the Division as set out in Table D.

Losses

Having expressed our pleasure at the gains made, we should now look at our losses through death and apostasy. See Table E.

The total given shows a loss of 11,163 members or 35.39 per cent of the total accessions of 31,534. The total of 7,643 apostasies is 24.24 per cent of the accessions, which means that for approximately every four persons brought into the church, one was lost. When we recognize that every soul that seeks salvation brings rejoicing to the courts of heaven, we cannot help but imagine the sadness of Christ and the angels as they contemplate these figures.



Pastor W.E. Battye, a former Union Conference president, who passed away during the quinquennium.

TABLE A
BAPTISMS

YEAR	C.P.U.M.	P.N.G.U.M.	W.P.U.M.	T.C.U.C.	T.T.U.C.	TOTAL
1974	785	3,053	712	854	1,210	6,614
1973	697	3,309	883	812	1,217	6,918
1972	884	3,026	735	878	1,251	6,774
1971	1,106	2,288	816	793	1,062	6,065
1970	1,100	1,511	766	704	1,082	5,163
	4,572	13,187	3,912	4,041	5,822	31,534

known ministers, administrators and women who have passed from our midst during the quinquennium: Pastor A. J. Campbell, Brother A. L. King, Pastor C. Head, Pastor W. E. Batty, Pastor S. W. Carr, Mrs. L. Thorpe, Brother C. J. Howell, Pastor R. H. Adair, Pastor E. R. Whitehead, Mrs. N. C. Burns, Pastor D. Sibley, Brother E. A. Butler, Mrs. N. M. Piper, Mrs. R. W. Lang, Pastor J. R. Kent, Mrs. C. Stockton, Mrs. U. L. Lawson, Pastor and Mrs. W. Gillis, Brother G. E. Salisbury, Pastor J. S. Jackson, Pastor C. J. Boulting, Brother W. J. Gilson, Pastor A. D. Vaughan, Pastor K. D. Karallashvily, Brother S. J. Hartley, Pastor G. J. Parker, Pastor E. B. Ibbott, Mrs. G. C. Kranz, Pastor J. F. Coltheart, Mrs. E. H. Westerman, Pastor T. E. A. Sedgman, Mrs. M. F. Stacey, Miss I. A. Lang, Brother W. J. Ellis.

Work Force

At the end of 1974, the working force, covering all classifications and including the Health Food Company, totalled 4,860. This represents an increase of 434 over the previous period. Of these, 1,798 were in the Union Missions and 3,062 in the home territories. These workers were engaged in the following activities:

**TABLE F
WORK FORCE**

Evangelism and Pastoral Administration, Promotion and Office	806
Literature Evangelists	747
College and Academy Teachers	86
Church School Teachers	391
Education Institutions—General	625
Health Food Company	151
Medical Institutions	1,087
Senior Citizen Homes	741
Publishing Houses	127
	99
TOTAL	4,860

Union Missions

In January 1972, the boundaries of the three Union Missions were re-aligned. The Coral Sea

Union became known as the Papua New Guinea Union and the Bismarck-Solomons Union moved headquarters to Honiara, taking over some of the territory of the Central Pacific Union and becoming known as the Western Pacific Union. All three Unions built spacious new office facilities during this period.

The development of national leadership was emphasized during the quinquennium. A special "National Workers' Development Course" was introduced at Sonoma College in 1972, with approximately twenty students participating each year. The course runs for the last six months of the school year and has been greatly appreciated both by Mission administrators and the sixty students who have participated during the three years of its operation.

National mission presidents have now been appointed in all three Union Missions and it is encouraging to see how the work of the church is moving forward under their careful leadership. The latest move in this direction was the appointment of Pastor Joseph Mave as associate secretary of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission. In the days ahead, our national brethren will be assuming more responsibility in the area of leadership and the administration of the church in our island territories.

The first Missionary Orientation School was conducted at Wahroonga in January, 1974. Although the number attending was not large and the course was short, those present expressed their appreciation, stating that they felt better equipped and prepared to take up their new appointments to the mission field.

Another step in the right direction was the establishment of a Missionary Volunteer Service Plan. The contribution being made to our mission field programme by talented men and women through this plan, without cost to the church, is beyond estimate. It is heartwarming to see doctors, nurses, dentists, teachers, tradesmen and students devoting their skills and professions in a voluntary capacity to the finishing of the work in our island territories. While it may seem they have little reward for their labours here, they will certainly have treasure in heaven.

TABLE G

	Mission Field	Home Field	Division
1974	66,911	44,822	111,733
1969	51,023	39,697	90,720
1965	38,665	35,766	74,431
1961	27,637	31,877	59,514
1957	18,757	27,320	46,077
	Total Division Membership		



Pastor S.W. Carr, veteran missionary, was the oldest ordained minister in the Division at the time of his death during the past quinquennium.

In 1963, the church membership in the mission field caught up with the church membership in the home field. Now, ten years later, the mission field membership is 22,089 ahead of the home base.

Today, the membership of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission exceeds that of Australia, for we find 41,133 Adventists in this newly emerging country. Table G indicates the progressive proportion of mission field membership to Division membership.

Migrant Work

The first migrant church in Australia was the Russian church in Sydney, organized in 1949. The migrant work continued to develop until the need was felt for the formation of a Migrant Committee to co-ordinate and expand this important area of our work. In July 1961, the first meeting of the Migrant Committee was held. From the 468 members recorded at that time it has expanded until at the end of the quinquennium there were 1,704 church members plus hundreds of children and adherents. These worship in ten migrant churches and five companies under the care of twelve migrant ministers working in six of our Conferences.

The larger language areas are Yugoslav 681, Polish 638, Spanish ninety-five, Chinese ninety and Russian eighty-nine. New church buildings dedicated during the past quinquennium included the Oakleigh Polish church in Melbourne and the Chinese and Yugoslav churches in Sydney.

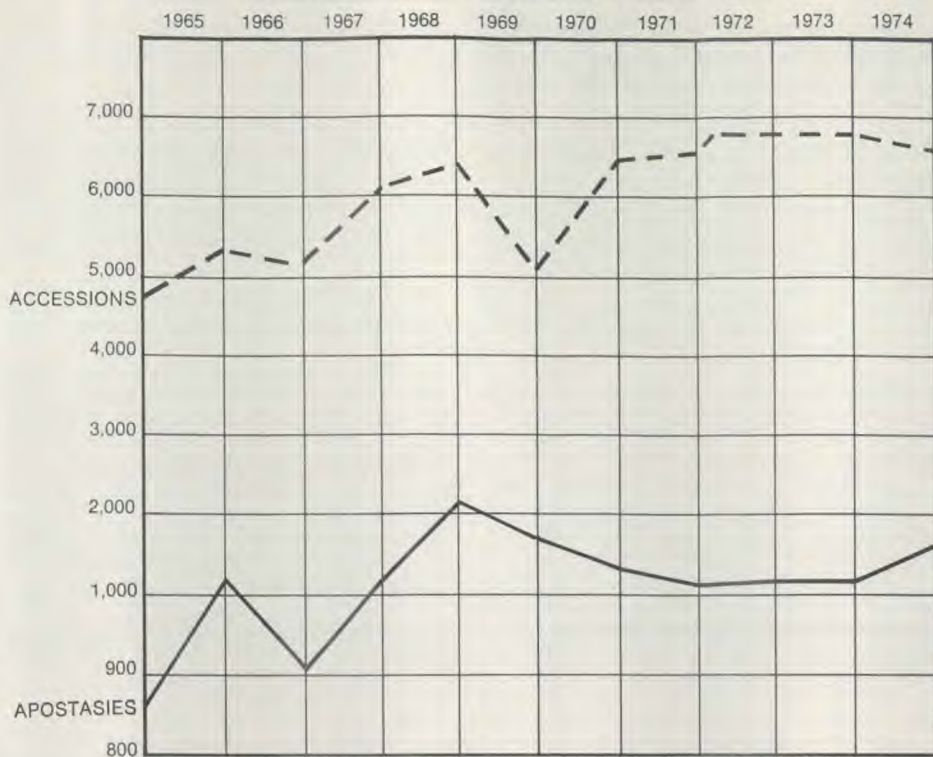
The contribution made by our migrant churches both financially and evangelistically, particularly on the Appeal for Missions campaign, is outstanding.

Aviation Programme

The first aircraft owned and operated by the church was put into service in Papua New Guinea in 1964. From this small beginning the Aviation programme has developed rapidly for we now operate four aircraft in the mission field and five in Australia. This expansion is largely due to the generous gifts and help of dedicated laymen.

We could elaborate at length on the tremendous contribution our planes and pilots are mak-

GRAPH SHOWING ACCESSIONS IN RELATION TO APOSTASIES OVER 10 YEARS



ing in helping to fulfil the prophetic utterance, "a short work will the Lord work in the earth." The rugged mountainous terrain of Papua New Guinea, and the vast outback areas of Australia are now being invaded by the flying Adventist preacher. Weeks and months of travel are being squeezed into hours and days, as the messengers of God fly through the midst of heaven bearing the everlasting gospel to every kindred, tongue and people.

Departments

As the departmental leaders present their reports, you will be thrilled by their stories of growth, advance and broken records. But I must leave it to them to bring you this encouraging news. However, I should mention that a new department — Stewardship and Development — was introduced into this Division at the commencement of the quinquennium. This department is building strongly and is proving to be a great blessing to churches and members alike, as Pastor Wade, its director, will report later.

Major Building Projects

An extensive building programme has been undertaken during the quinquennium. This included the rebuilding of the Sydney Adventist Hospital, additions to the Nurses' Home and the construction of a new Nursing School. A new sixty-bed hospital has been erected in Auckland, New Zealand, and the Warburton Hospital was enlarged. As a result of these building operations our medical work has been greatly strengthened.

Other major building projects undertaken during the period include the library and a lecture theatre at Avondale College, additions to the Division office, new offices for the three Union Missions and the construction of a new boys' dormitory at Fulton College. The Health

Food Company has also been involved in building operations which is to be expected with such an expanding business. Many new church buildings have sprung up in the past five years, the largest being the Avondale Memorial church at Cooranbong. In addition, renovations and extensions have been the order of the day.

Conclusion

What of the future? From a worldly viewpoint, dark days are ahead. Nothing is certain or stable. Problems of gigantic proportion will have to be met. The church has a great responsibility in these tremendous times. There must be no slackening now. We must move forward

in unity, pressing on with the task assigned with a view to speedily finishing the work of God.

At this meeting we will formulate and adopt resolutions but that is not enough. We must pray for the baptism of the Spirit of God, both for the ministry and the laity, so that the work of preaching, teaching and healing will go forward with great power and greater rapidity, so God's purpose for His church in Australasia can be fulfilled. We will then have done our part in helping to usher in the kingdom of glory for which we are all waiting and watching.

PRAISE GOD FOR THE HARVEST

We give Thee thanks for harvest:
O God of sun and cloud;
For work and rest, Thy name be blest,
Let all men sing aloud.

We give Thee thanks for harvest:
For long as earth shall stand,
Thy faithfulness shall be confessed—
God of the open hand.

We give Thee thanks for harvest:
For seed-time, soil, and beast;
For seasons sure at Thy behest—
As sure as west and east.

We give Thee thanks for harvest:
For strength and skill that pass
Down furrow, and up hill-crest,
The pledge of corn and grass.

We give Thee thanks for harvest:
For thought that fruits in deed,
For everything that stands the test
Of meeting human need.

We give Thee thanks for harvest:
Lord of the now and then;
For Thou wilt not withhold the best
That God can give to men.

—Selected.



A group of senior workers taken (at the 1958 or 1962 session?) at Avondale. Most have now gone to their rest. Only Pastor R.E. Hare remains. Those pictured are, front row, left to right: Pastor E.H. Guilliard, H.E. Piper, Dr. T.A. Sherwin, Pastors C.H. Head, E.R. Whitehead and E.B. Rudge. Back row: Pastor R.E. Hare, Mrs. H.E. Piper, Brother T.J. Dowling and Pastor A.G. Stewart.

DIVISION TREASURER'S REPORT

L. L. BUTLER, Treasurer

THE FOLLOWING statement in "Ministry of Healing," page 183, though written many years ago, aptly describes today's conditions: "Those who hold the reins of government are unable to solve the problem of poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis." How fortunate we are that we are not dependent on human wisdom! In the same quotation we read the following encouraging counsel: "If men would give more heed to the teaching of God's Word, they would find a solution of these problems that perplex them."

As we view in retrospect the years of the past quinquennium, 1970 to 1974 inclusive, a period of change and uncertainty in the world, but a period of growth and development within the church, we exclaim with Nehemiah, "that this work was wrought of our God." Nehemiah 6:16.

General Conference Appropriations

The appropriations received during the past quinquennium are shown in Table 1.

The appropriations from the General Conference have increased each year at about the same rate as the total budget has, despite the fact that the United States dollar devalued considerably during the period. The General Conference made a special effort to provide additional

funds so that appropriations in this Division were not reduced. This is greatly appreciated.

Tithes and Mission Offerings

The financial strength of the church lies in the faithful support of the tithing principle by the church membership. Their splendid response is recorded in Table 2.

The tithes and offerings have increased very considerably during the quinquennium. While we recognize that inflation would account for some of this growth, yet there has been a lot of real growth in the amounts given. Both tithes and Sabbath school offerings in the year 1974 were more than double the amounts for 1970. We regret that the trend continues of offerings each year being less in relation to the tithe.

We would like to refer to three special offerings not covered in the foregoing figures. These were:

(a) Brisbane Flood Relief Offering, given on February 9, 1974, which amounted to \$91,000;

(b) Darwin Relief Offering, given on January 4, 1975, which amounted to \$121,000;

(c) Adventure in Faith Offerings, given on April 26 and July 12, 1975, which amounted to \$165,000.

The response of our church members in times of need, and the support of the work is a wonderful encouragement to us all.

Appropriations

A rapidly growing work in the island fields of this Division requires additional funds which

TABLE 1

APPROPRIATION	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1970-74	1965-69	%
Regular Base	950,918	997,573	984,936	1,030,140	1,070,766	5,034,333	3,445,060	46.13
Specials	147,321	89,286	144,068	200,000	165,517	746,192	973,671	(23.36)
Sydney Adv. Hospital				41,666	34,483	76,149	44,642	70.58
Church Extension	22,321	22,321	21,186	23,958	22,069	111,855	98,212	13.89
Spring in Tithe & Offerings	31,956	50,000	76,511	62,699	176,887	398,053	266,349	49.45
Evangelism	2,221	30,013	23,636			55,870		100.00
Totals	\$1,154,737	\$1,189,193	\$1,250,337	\$1,358,463	\$1,469,722	\$6,422,452	\$4,827,934	33.03
Budget	\$3,108,660	\$3,281,602	\$3,642,903	\$4,006,723	\$4,503,174	\$18,543,062	\$13,975,690	32.68
% of Total Budget	37.15%	36.24%	34.32%	33.90%	32.64%	34.64%	34.55%	
Other General Conference Appropriation								
Missions Extension	9,512	10,602	11,565	10,562	12,987	55,228	54,370	1.58
13th Sabbath Overflow		92,244			156,472	248,716		
Grand Total	\$1,164,249	\$1,292,039	\$1,261,902	\$1,369,025	\$1,639,181	\$6,726,396	\$4,882,304	28.70%

TABLE 2

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1970-74	1965-69	%
Tithe	4,706,690	5,394,737	6,241,452	7,658,254	9,599,115	33,600,248	18,520,928	81.42
% Increase	10.96%	14.62%	15.70%	22.70%	25.34%			
Sabbath School	610,717	712,861	787,847	977,645	1,242,255	4,331,325	2,311,713	87.74
Other Mission Offerings	127,316	161,624	163,784	206,012	254,015	912,751	679,420	34.34
Sub-Total	738,033	874,485	951,631	1,183,657	1,496,270	5,244,076	2,991,133	75.32
% Increase	4.19%	18.49%	8.82%	24.38%	26.41%			
Appeal for Missions	486,267	525,170	552,804	609,690	698,091	2,872,022	1,929,523	48.85
Totals	\$1,224,300	\$1,399,655	\$1,504,435	\$1,793,347	\$2,194,361	\$8,116,098	\$4,920,656	64.94
% Increase	5.85%	14.32%	7.49%	19.20%	22.36%			
Offerings per \$ Tithe	\$0.260	\$0.259	\$0.242	\$0.234	\$0.229	\$0.242	\$0.266	
TITHE FOR DIVISION								
Tithe for the five years by Unions is as follows:								
T.C.U.C.	1,753,920	1,978,204	2,242,207	2,724,857	3,427,905	12,127,093	6,936,889	74.82
T.T.U.C.	2,447,852	2,827,185	3,324,664	4,222,181	5,192,148	18,014,030	9,982,155	80.46
Home Field								
Sub-Total	4,201,772	4,805,389	5,566,871	6,947,038	8,620,053	30,141,123	16,919,044	78.15
C.P.U.M.	282,437	323,596	275,893	267,923	392,194	1,542,043	927,180	66.32
P.N.G.U.M.	115,293	142,781	197,334	203,781	278,985	938,174	346,510	170.75
W.P.U.M.	107,188	122,971	156,711	150,921	216,145	753,936	328,194	129.72
Mission Field								
Sub-Total	504,918	589,348	629,938	622,625	887,324	3,234,153	1,601,884	101.90
SECTION II			44,643	88,591	91,738	224,972		
GRAND TOTAL	\$4,706,690	\$5,394,737	\$6,241,452	\$7,658,254	\$9,599,115	\$33,600,248	\$18,520,928	81.42%

TABLE 3

	Direct Base Appropriation	Tithe	Tithe To Base
1970	\$333,384	\$504,918	151%
1975	\$447,115	\$887,324	198%
Increase	34.11%	75.74%	

usually do not seem to match the growth there. A total of \$8,400,992 was given during the quinquennium, which was an increase of 46.4 per cent over the previous five years. It is good to see increased self-support in these fields as shown in Table 3.

**TABLE 4
SUSTENTATION FUND**

Table 4 shows the comparative figures for the years 1970-1974 inclusive.

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Balance January 1	610,632	656,393	781,481	975,259	1,178,654
Income	762,417	976,905	1,201,012	1,355,193	1,835,408
Expenditure	716,656	851,817	1,007,234	1,151,798	1,329,845
Surplus (Deficit)	45,761	125,088	193,778	203,395	505,563
Balance December 31	\$656,393	\$781,481	\$975,259	\$1,178,654	\$1,684,217
Number of months Expenditure on Hand at December 31	10.99	11.00	11.62	12.28	15.20
% Increase in Expenditure	8.23%	18.86%	18.25%	14.35%	15.46%

**TABLE 5
AUSTRALIA**

	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
INCOME				
Contributions and Subsidies	314,806	362,528	619,598	852,299
Governments Benefits	73,356	165,591	192,375	236,432
	388,162	528,119	811,973	1,088,731
EXPENDITURE				
Benefits Paid	368,556	535,018	718,859	1,017,217
Administrative Expense	15,377	18,532	19,918	30,505
	383,933	553,550	738,777	1,047,722
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$4,229	(\$25,431)	\$73,196	\$41,009

**TABLE 6
NEW ZEALAND**

	1971	1972	1973	1974
INCOME				
Contributions and Subsidies	8,052	8,349	9,792	14,826
EXPENDITURE				
Benefits Paid	8,678	11,161	12,492	15,613
Administrative Expense	232	211	400	170
	8,910	11,372	12,892	15,783
Operating Deficits	(\$858)	(\$3,023)	(\$3,100)	(\$957)

Sustentation Fund

Table 4 shows the comparative figures for the years 1970-1974 inclusive.

Policy requirements call for the balance of the fund at any particular time to be equal to three times the previous year's expenditure. At the end of 1973, for the first time for quite a number of years, the balance on hand exceeded the expenditure for that year. This has increased since then so that at the end of 1974 the balance on hand was approximately equivalent to fifteen months' expenditure.

In 1960 there were 2,387 regular workers in the homeland with 302 retired workers, a percentage relationship of 12.65 per cent, whereas in 1974 there were 3,062 regular workers as compared with 539 retired workers, revealing a percentage relationship of 17.6 per cent. In the island field in 1960 we had a staff of 990 with fifty-four retired workers, a relationship of 5.45 per cent, while in 1974 the staff totalled 1,798 with 217 retired workers, giving a relationship of 12.07 per cent.

Medical Contribution Fund

Using a combination of Government-oriented funds and denominational funds, our workers in Australia have enjoyed excellent coverage against their medical and paramedical expense. The rapid growth of the funds is illustrated in Table 5.

The benefits provided to our workers in Australia have increased rapidly over the past few years as indicated in Table 5 above. With the introduction of the Government Medibank Scheme the volume of the benefits available from the Medical Contribution Fund will be reduced considerably.

Long-term Housing

The provision to arrange Bank loans to our Conferences and institutions to enable them to purchase cottages on a long-term basis has proved most helpful indeed. During 1974 fifteen houses were approved under this arrangement, involving loans amounting to \$259,750 which together with interest, would be repaid over a period of ten years. During the quinquennium under review the Conferences and institutions obtained assistance under this policy to erect forty-seven cottages. Throughout the home field a total of eighty-three residences have been purchased since the provisions of this policy were formulated, involving Bank loans of \$861,750.

Church and Conference Loans

Very considerable assistance by way of loans under the denominational policy to assist in the erection of church buildings was provided by the Australasian Conference Association Limited. As at January 1, 1970, the total advances outstanding amounted to \$293,285. During the quinquennium new loans advanced amounted to \$1,059,056 with repayments of \$699,835. The advances outstanding at December 31, 1974, amounted to \$652,506. At the close of the period there were 166 churches and schools benefiting under this scheme.

One of the nice things about being Division treasurer is that you can read a book while the assistant treasurer does all the work. Here is proof: Pastor L.L. Butler (right) is absorbed in the delights of reading while Pastor A.H. Forbes (assistant treasurer) is trying hard to balance the budget.



Short-term Property Finance

At January 1, 1970, \$98,300 was on loan to the Conferences and churches under the terms of this policy. During the period the sum of \$454,185 was made available in new advances to assist with the purchase of new properties. The sum of \$364,378 has been repaid, leaving \$188,107 outstanding as at December 31, 1974.

Buildings

The past quinquennium has been a period of unusual building activity, possibly the largest in the history of this Division. The following major programmes have been completed during this period:

Western Pacific Union Mission Headquarters—Honiara	\$204,597
Central Pacific Union Mission Headquarters—Auckland	\$419,714
Division Office Extensions—Wahroonga	\$483,312
Services Building—Hornsby	\$186,530
Sydney Adventist Hospital—Wahroonga	\$8,912,901

With the recent rapid increases in building costs we are grateful that this work has been completed.

Risk Management Service

The Risk Management Service was established in 1972 to formulate a programme of self-insurance for denominational property, and to negotiate with commercial insurers in other areas where collective purchasing could result in lower premium costs.

Initially the main areas of activity in self-insurance were for properties in Australia and New Zealand, and for vessels operating in the mission field. To begin with, the Service was not a separate accounting entity, but rapid growth and progress led to the formation of independent accounting records, beginning in 1974. Comparative annual figures are therefore not available, but for the year ended December 31, 1974, the following results were achieved:

Total Premium Income for all areas (less Reinsurance)	\$146,345.06
Add Other Income (Commissions, Investments)	84,391.43
	<hr/>
	230,736.49
Less Total Claims and Administrative Costs	74,176.11
Operating Surplus for the year	\$156,560.38

Reserves in existence at the beginning of 1974 were increased by the above Operating

Surplus to result in a Total Net Worth of \$846,091.93 at December 31, 1974.

The total value of properties self-insured in Australia and New Zealand for 1974 exceeded \$80 million, but a reinsurance programme with the General Conference Insurance and Risk Management Service Limited the aggregate risk for the Australasian Division to approximately \$150,000 for that year.

In addition to properties and marine vessels, the Risk Management Service now self-insures cash risks, medical insurance for travellers and some all risks covers. The principal types of insurance negotiated by the Service, apart from the above, relate to Workers' Compensation, General Liability, Aircraft, Transit, Personal Accident and Mission Properties.

Conclusion

We live in changing times and nothing is changing more rapidly than the value of money itself. New problems confront us, but the One who has led us in the past will continue to guide us in the future. The foregoing report reveals a pattern of growth for which we would like to thank our church membership whose generous support has made it possible. As we seek to know His will He will reveal to us the solutions to all our problems. "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19.

The report of the medical director on...

THE SYDNEY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

H. E. CLIFFORD, Medical Director, Sydney Adventist Hospital

CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY is said to comprise three elements:

- To Look Backwards
- To Look Forwards
- To Look Upwards

To these, a fourth may be added:

- To Look Outwards.

The activities of the Sydney Adventist Hospital over the past five-year term will be considered in relation to these functions.

LOOKING BACKWARDS Historical

The seventy-year mark in the history of the Sydney Adventist Hospital was reached in the middle of the period under review, and brief reflection upon its inspired origin and illustrious course would be timely and appropriate.

The first definitive action leading to the establishment of a health facility at Wahroonga, New South Wales, was taken at a Union Conference Session held at the Avondale church, Cooranbong, on July 21, 1899. Pastor A. G. Daniells was presiding over a special meeting when Mrs. Ellen G. White entered to address the group on the need for such an institution. She gave indications regarding its location, outlined the features of the work to be conducted and appealed to all to stand by the proposal.

While Ellen White's association with the founding of the enterprise has been generally

known, some insight into the dimensions of her involvement has recently come through a review of her many references to the institution which have remained unpublished. Of these, undoubtedly the most important counsels were those outlining the great ideals of the ministry to be conducted at the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital. Education as a function of the institution's activities was emphasized repeatedly. Reform, economy, harmony and spiritual atmosphere were other elements impressed upon the workers.

Particularly revealing of the intimacy of Ellen White's association with the developing project are not, however, her general counsels, but her specific instructions on various matters: the grounds were to be kept in the best order, there were to be seats under the trees, furniture was to be restful and comfortable, diet was to be healthful, liberal and appetizing. None of the property (then evidently deemed large) was to be sold.

Indeed, as these counsels are reviewed, it is apparent that Ellen White was interested in every aspect of the new institution's operation. She was central to the fund-raising programme, she advised on planning, personnel, finance, medical and nursing activities, and ministry.

It is gratifying to know from her own testimony that Ellen White lived to rejoice over the Sanitarium's prosperity.

The history of the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital — Sydney Adventist Hospital — is one of unremitting advance, progress and outreach. The record of the past five years is but one chapter in this history, but it is a good example, nonetheless, and an outstanding testimony to the wisdom, genius and inspiration of a prophet who once worked among us, and whose influence has not waned.



Dr. H.E. Clifford, medical director, Sydney Adventist Hospital.



The old "San." Now a victim of the wrecker's hammer, it has been replaced by a bigger and more modern edifice.

struction period was four years. (Details of times taken in construction of the various buildings are shown in Table 1.) In this time the face of the estate was changed completely. The effective capacity of the completed Sydney Adventist Hospital is 309 beds. Virtually all facilities and units within the Hospital were rebuilt, renovated or upgraded within the development programme.

Advances in Function

At least as significant as the physical innovations and renovations have been the upgrading and advancing of the institution's functional programme. Outstanding developments have included:

- The opening of an Intensive and Coronary Care Ward
- The development of Emergency Services
- The establishment of a comprehensive Central Sterile Supply Department
- The commencement of Paediatrics as a clinical unit within the Hospital
- The redesigning of essential services operations including:
 - The control and distribution of supplies
 - A preventive maintenance programme
 - The commencement of a Central Porter Service
- The development of a comprehensive Medical Practice at the Fox Valley Medical Centre
- The commencement of Dental Services at the Fox Valley Medical Centre

TABLE 1

	Contract Date	Occupancy or Completion	Period
The Nurses' Home Extension	27.5.70	3.5.71	1 yr
The Fox Valley Medical Centre	1.9.70	19.5.71	8 mths
The Electrical Sub-Station	18.8.70	23.6.71	10 mths
The Nursing School-Activities Centre	26.1.71	3.6.72	1 yr
The Main Hospital Block	30.4.71	15.4.73	2 yrs
The Boiler House	6.7.72	10.4.73	9 mths

TABLE 2

	Year Ended 30.6.69	Year Ended 30.6.74	Growth Factor %	Yearly Average for Quadrennium Ending 1969	Yearly Average for Quinquennium Ending 1974	Growth Factor %
Daily Bed Average	161	197	22%	158	169	7%
Average Length of Stay	11 days	8 days	—	11 days	9.7 days	—
Admissions	5,359	8,757	63%	5,076	6,491	28%
Surg. Operations						
Major	1,584	2,367	49%	1,458	1,894	30%
Minor	2,262	4,246	88%	2,066	2,832	37%
TOTAL	3,846	6,613	72%	3,524	4,726	34%
Deliveries	566	849	50%	418	676	62%
Laboratory Tests	16,105	33,670	109%	15,211	22,381	47%
X-ray Procedures	3,269	6,097	87%	3,013	4,326	44%
Physical Therapy Procedures	41,833	42,567	2%	40,121	42,588	6%
Pharmacy Prescriptions	25,146	32,718	30%	24,382	27,033	11%
Medical Centre Attendances	10,039	24,580	145%	*	16,226	
" Dental		3,405			2,801	

(*Complete Departmental statistics not available before 1968)

Rebuilding and Development

To make necessary advances possible, to meet the needs of increasing demand, to secure the future of Christian nursing education and to honour standards of safety in a modern hospital — these were the reasons for rebuilding.

After an exhaustive planning exercise spread over five-and-a-half years, the contract for the first structural unit in the rebuilding programme — the Nurses' Home extension — was signed on September 1, 1970. (The Hospital Board resolution requesting the Australasian Division to authorize rebuilding and extension of the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital to 300 beds was taken on February 4, 1965.) Building operations proceeded with remarkable speed. The period from signing of the main contract to occupation of the new Hospital was two years. See Table 1.

With eighteen months devoted to demolition of the old hospital and rebuilding on its site, and the renovation of existing units, the total recon-



The new Sydney Adventist Hospital, Wahroonga, officially opened by His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, on June 10, 1973.

The introduction of By-Laws and an Accreditation System for Practitioners using the Hospital

The organization of Anaesthetic Services
Advances in Diagnostic Services:

The introduction of Histology, Sereal Radiography and Electroencephalography examinations

The commencement of Volunteer activities
The establishment of a Personnel Office

The development of formal Health Education Programmes.

While these items reflect essentially major qualitative developments in the Hospital's programme, quantitative growth has been no less striking.

TABLE 3

Year Ended June 30	Annual Budget
1970	\$1,622,300
1971	\$2,027,200
1972	\$2,504,400
1973	\$3,646,150
1974	\$5,512,500



Budgets for the period, has been the product of increase in services and advances in function as well as of progressive inflation. Refer to Table 3.

The specialization of functions and staff, uncertainty and changes in State and Federal policies, shortened patient length of stay, inflation and credit pressures have all contributed to characterize the period under review as a complex one financially. The last year in the series concluded with a deficit for the first time in twenty-five years. A reversal of unfavourable trends has appeared in recent months, and even in these uncertain times, we feel encouraged and confident about the future. For full details refer to Tables 4 and 5.

LOOKING OUTWARDS

Education, Reform, Christian Influence, Missionary Activity and Evangelism are the five important elements in the outreach of the Sydney Adventist Hospital. An experimental approach to the challenge of **Medical Ministry** has yielded new rewards and has brought great strength to our institution.

Education

With approximately half the staff following specific training and study programmes, the Sydney Adventist Hospital may be regarded as an educational institution designed to prepare Christian professionals for service in the church and in the community. While Nursing is by far the largest educational programme, personnel in at least twelve other disciplines are sponsored at or by the Hospital for qualification in special fields.

In 1966-1972 compression of the Nurses' Training Course was introduced, reducing its duration from four to three years and, simultaneously, increasing its content. During this

period the block system of training was introduced. As a result of these developments the course has become more intensive and competitive. A special study has been made to define and establish the place of Bible study in the curriculum, and in spite of other pressures, more Bible has been incorporated in the course than at any other time in recent years.

The tradition of excellence in scholarship for which the school has been known has been maintained, although with rising standards and greater intensity, attrition rates are higher than formerly.

Nursing Graduates

Since the founding of the hospital, there has been a total of 1,217 graduates. During the quinquennium under review 216 have graduated.

The Sydney Adventist Hospital is dependent upon its graduates for its own continued operation as a Christian institution. The Warburton Sanitarium and Hospital, the Auckland Adventist Hospital and the mission field are also strongly supported by Sydney Adventist Hospital trained personnel.

In-service training as a formal scheme was commenced on an experimental basis in 1974, with an extended series of specially planned lectures and seminars for trained staff. These have been very successful, and will be continued and expanded in response to needs in the future.

Reform

The establishment of regular Health Education and Health Promotion programmes has been one of the most exciting developments in Sanitarium activities in recent years. Details of the courses offered and the numbers attending are given in Table 6.

Phenomenal publicity and goodwill have been generated by these programmes, and the leadership of the Sydney Adventist Hospital in health activities of this kind has come to be acknowledged by the community.

In addition to the regular and important ministry of the enlarged Chaplain's Department, under which virtually all patients are visited (many receiving more than one visit), the influence of Christian staff in every department operates continuously and powerfully to touch and change lives. The addition of a Deaconess in 1970 to support the visitation programme was a significant innovation.

Communications received from patients often testify movingly of the tangible and potent influence of personal Christian witness. Here are some short extracts from letters:

"I didn't believe people like that existed any more, especially young people."

"Their reassurance and care... is an experience I will never forget."

"The universal dedication of the nursing staff has impressed me tremendously, so much so that I have modified my philosophy, and should be the better for it."

"I felt the Holy Spirit everywhere."

TABLE 6

	Courses Per Year	Meetings Per Course	Average Attendances
5-Day Plan	8	5	75
Weight Control Course	3	10	55
Nutrition Course ¹	3	8	50
Prenatal Classes	16	6	14
Heartbeat Health ² & Fitness	4	10	20

¹ Commenced July 1974. ² Commenced March 1975 (experimental)

Parameters of Activity

As the periods under review have not been comparable (i.e. quadrennium v. quinquennium) an appraisal of the growth of Hospital activities may be made by:

1. A comparison of yearly averages for the periods.

2. Comparing the last years of the two most recent periods. As the new Hospital was occupied for two-fifths only of the quinquennium, and complete at 309 beds for its final six months, growth as a result of activities in the new Hospital appears more clearly from this sampling than from the yearly averages. These details are given in Table 2.

A most significant feature has been the shortening of patient length of stay in recent years. This is due partly to economic factors, and partly to advances in Surgery and Anaesthesia which make early ambulation and discharge possible. The increased "turnover" required to maintain high occupancy has made greater-than-apparent demands upon the physical, personnel and financial resources of the Hospital.

Finance

Growth in the Hospital's financial operations, as observed in comparative Annual

If the personnel and services of our institution have borne witness to the church as an institution of love as well as of law, of compassion as well as of creed, they can be said to have succeeded in important measure.

Missionary Activity

The Sydney Adventist Hospital expedition to the Solomon Islands in 1973 gained considerable publicity within the church and in the community, and was a most rewarding operation in terms of experience and results.

Less publicized, but just as worthwhile, have been the large number of special missionary projects undertaken by every department of the Hospital. These have varied from sponsorship of students in missionary colleges to the supply of syringes to island hospitals. Other activities have been conducted in the home area. These have contributed much to the consciousness of meaning and purpose which is so vital to institutional life and work.

Evangelism

Uncounted numbers of evangelistic activities or functions conducted by church groups or personnel within the local Conference and further afield have been supported by the staff of the Sydney Adventist Hospital. Often medical, nursing or para-medical personnel have been able to make a unique contribution to the event. This participation in the work of the church at large has brought fulfilment to many who have been privileged to participate, and has helped to generate a close fellowship between workers in related organizations within the church.

LOOKING FORWARDS

Finance

Following the close of the Hospital's quinquennial period in June, 1974, disproportion between fees and benefits, cost inflation, credit pressures and a fortuitous low in hospital admissions throughout a wide area of the state placed the institution, geared to the progressive demand of previous months, in a difficult position. Although financial pressures are still extant, high occupancy and planned economies in recent months have reversed the trend and the Hospital is presently operating favourably.

In a time of considerable complexity and uncertainty, particularly in the field of health care, great caution will be necessary to secure the Hospital's position as a viable and independent enterprise. Many encouraging indications appear, however, and our confidence in the Hospital's future is greater than our concerns.

Education

For several years the Sydney Adventist Hospital has closely followed trends in Nursing Education, with their development towards regionalization and the creation of advanced education programmes.

It is most important that our role as a training institution be preserved, and initiatives to advance and secure our interests in this area are currently being taken.

Outreach

Never has there been greater community interest in health than at the present time. Gov-

ernments, local authorities, churches, philanthropic and commercial organizations and the public are talking and thinking health. In this situation the Sydney Adventist Hospital is strategically placed to assume leadership and supportive roles in health promotion and endeavour. Early in 1975, the health of Adventists was assessed by an independent agency working at the Sydney Adventist Hospital. Preliminary analysis of the results favours the Adventist way of life very significantly. A number of other approaches for our help in health research and activities have been received.

With the rebuilding programme accomplished during the past quinquennium, surely new and great advances in health activity and outreach make fitting objectives for the forthcoming term.

LOOKING UPWARDS

The inspired origin of our work, not only in a general sense but in the local and specific context of the Sydney Adventist Hospital, must be remembered if advances are to be made towards our great goals. Well may we turn again to the counsels of the messenger who once lived among us, and from whose wisdom we have benefited so much.

In gratitude, too, we turn to God whose providence has led the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital - Sydney Adventist Hospital through one of the most active periods in its history, and pray that the bread that has been cast and shall be cast upon the waters will indeed return to the glory of God and His kingdom.

Dr. E. G. McDowell renders his report on...

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

E. G. McDOWELL, Director, Department of Education

Primary Education

In the four years since 1970, we have witnessed a marked drop in the number of primary schools in the mission field, notably in Papua New Guinea and the Western Pacific areas. This has been due partly to school consolidation, but mainly to the closing of a number of small, inefficient schools previously staffed by unqualified teachers. The overall result has been a drop in the total primary enrolment but a distinct improvement in the general quality of the primary work. The Apia School in Western Samoa has also gradually reduced its very large primary classes to more manageable sizes.

In Australia and New Zealand the overall primary enrolment has increased by over 25 per cent with very rapid growth at Mount Gravatt, Cooranbong, and South Auckland, and new schools at Tauranga, Bowen, Eastern Districts (Adelaide), Ballarat, Darwin, Warrimoo, and Macquarie Fields (Sydney).

In the meantime the two Aboriginal schools in Western Australia have been closed. This year, new schools have been opened at Carrum Downs (Vic.), Tamworth (N.S.W.) and Penguin (Tas.).

It will be noted that in this Division the primary teachers now constitute 63 per cent of our

total teaching force and the primary school comprises 75 per cent of the total student enrolment at all levels. Thus the primary school



Dr. E.G. McDowell, director of Education, Australasian Division. Dr. McDowell expects to retire about the middle of 1976.

looms as the most important facet of our educational work. An important development in recent years has been the removal of the primary school from the rear of the church and locating it on its own site with adequate grounds. Modern and better equipped buildings have resulted, giving our primary schools an image and a stature that has long been their due. Another feature in the larger cities has been the successful attempts to locate schools in peripheral strategic areas to enable them to serve a greater proportion of our homes.

While most of the larger cities—Wellington, New Zealand, excepted—are now well served by church schools, many of our country towns with considerable numbers of children still lack schools. The Lord admonishes us that every church should have its school. (See "Counsels to Teachers," page 168.)

We are still far from that goal. And in Papua New Guinea where we have hundreds more baptized church members than in the whole of Australia, there is still a great dearth of schools for the hundreds of boys and girls growing up in Adventist homes. Fortunately, in many places the local constituency sense the need and are making valiant efforts, despite their very li-

mitted financial resources, to provide Christian education for their children.

All of our primary schools throughout the South Pacific area are completely staffed by nationals. There are now no expatriates teaching at the primary level in any of these schools. This is quite an achievement and a credit to those who have pioneered and developed mission schools over the years. Our secondary schools and colleges in the islands are still largely staffed by Avondale College graduates, but all of these institutions now have nationals on their staffs and the numbers will increase year by year.

Before leaving the primary area we should not fail to mention the splendid work being accomplished by the various primary supervisors both in the island schools and in Australia and New Zealand. These people have made an invaluable contribution to the development and progress of our small schools especially.

Secondary Education

While steady growth has been made in our primary work during the period under review, it is in the secondary field that the most spectacular progress has been made. In the South Pacific area the secondary enrolment has increased by 216 per cent, making tremendous demands on our resources both in personnel and finance. In Australia and New Zealand the increase has been 64 per cent, which, considering the high cost of secondary education, is no mean achievement.

The most notable increases have been in the Melbourne area and in Adelaide. While steady growth has been made in Sydney, Cooranbong, Perth and Auckland, new high schools have

Primary Schools
Primary Schools
Secondary Schools
Secondary Schools
Colleges
Colleges

Primary Teachers
Primary Teachers
Secondary Teachers
Secondary Teachers
College Teachers
College Teachers

Primary Enrolment
Primary Enrolment
Secondary Enrolment
Secondary Enrolment
College Enrolment
College Enrolment

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

	1970	1974
(South Pacific)	246	193
(Australia & New Zealand)	61	66
(South Pacific)	9	12
(Australia & New Zealand)	16	18
(South Pacific)	2	2
(Australia & New Zealand)	2	2
	336	293
(South Pacific)	543	430
(Australia & New Zealand)	123	146
(South Pacific)	69	114
(Australia & New Zealand)	121	149
(South Pacific)	14	20
(Australia & New Zealand)	44	60
	914	919
(South Pacific)	14,138	12,630
(Australia & New Zealand)	2,913	3,674
(South Pacific)	1,130	2,444
(Australia & New Zealand)	1,354	2,133
(South Pacific)	148	271
(Australia & New Zealand)	528	492
	20,211	21,644

been established in Brisbane, Nunawading, and Gosford. Complete new buildings on new sites have been erected at Auckland, Warburton, and Murwillumbah, while very extensive additions and improvements have been effected at Cooranbong, Strathfield, Perth, Adelaide, Hobart, Carmel, Hawthorn, Lilydale, Newcastle, and Longburn.

Our high schools continue to achieve a high standard of success in external examinations. We have now come to expect this as a matter of course, but we have been amazed in the past two or three years with the exceptional results produced by our newer high schools at Kabiufa, Kambubu, and Betikama. Now a new school at Mount Diamond (near Port Moresby) bids to rival the older institutions.

Splendid work is being achieved by Fiji's two junior secondary institutions at Navesau and Vatuvonu. Here we pause to acknowledge Vatuvonu's indebtedness to its recently deceased principal, John Rowden, whose leadership in this school over the past two years has been outstanding.

Aore High School (New Hebrides) has had its facilities upgraded and established as a high school independent of primary classes. It should now make real progress. Western Samoa is in the throes of establishing a new boarding high school on a delightful site far removed from the school's present city environment. Its opening next year will mark a new day for Christian education in Samoa.

Training and Tertiary Education

Fulton College in Fiji continues to do very strong work in training ministers and primary and secondary teachers as well as clerical workers. Its recently completed young men's dormitory is a major contribution to its facilities, and a young ladies' dormitory is under construction.

Sonoma College in New Britain goes from strength to strength, graduating each year very capable ministers and primary teachers as well as serving as a school for upgrading the qualifications of national workers with years of experience to their credit. We can be proud of the achievements of Sonoma and Fulton. This year

their combined enrolments will have doubled since 1970.

Avondale College, our major institution, will be reported elsewhere, but we would not fail to acknowledge its very considerable contribution in providing us annually with competent and dedicated teachers. Few are the schools that are not staffed by at least one Avondale graduate.

Longburn College has in recent years developed essentially as a high school providing secondary education for students from country areas and from the city of Palmerston North. Its tertiary work is confined mainly to primary teacher training, a small group of graduates each year providing welcome staff additions to our growing list of New Zealand schools.

As we look back over the past five years we are led to exclaim: What hath God wrought! and to acknowledge our gratitude for His overruling providence and guidance.

Home Study Institute

In 1972 a branch of the Home Study Institute was established at Wairoonga under the direction of Dr. G. Rosenhain. Courses offered included Old and New Testament History, Bible Doctrines and Daniel and Revelation in which a total of eleven students enrolled. Only three are now active. Courses in primary and secondary school Bible subjects have attracted very little interest.

Church-related courses for Sabbath school teaching and church elders have very limited interest, but a few literature evangelists are engaged in the Salesmanship course. On the other hand, eighty-four enrolments were received for Pre-school Child Activities, and thirty-seven enrolled for Pre-school Child Guidance. These two courses have proved more popular.

Non-recognition of Home Study Institute credits by Avondale College, and the fact that the primary and secondary school courses as prepared by the Home Study Institute in Washington are unsuitable for Australian and New Zealand students, severely limits the appeal of the Home Study Institute in this Division.



A report on "the church at study"...

THE SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

M. G. TOWNEND, Director, Sabbath School Department

A SURVEY of the work of the Sabbath School in the Australasian Division provides some rather inspiring detail. During the past quinquennium Sabbath school membership increased by 17,120 to 135,867, and branch Sabbath school membership increased by 5,061 to 26,187, making a grand total of 162,054 persons directly benefiting from the Sabbath school influence. A further 32,038 children attended Vacation Bible Schools.

When the Sabbath School Department report was presented to the 1970 Division Session, we rejoiced because 104 Vacation Bible Schools had been conducted in a four-year period. During 1974 alone, we conducted 121 Vacation Bible Schools.

Growing pains are usually identified with children. Kurri Kurri Sabbath school, in a small coal-mining town in New South Wales, has growing pains. There are twice as many children as adults in the Sabbath school. Of twenty-six regular attenders in the junior division, thirteen are non-Adventists, and a further seventeen non-Adventist children are doubling the size of the primary-kindergarten division. This influx of thirty children is overtaxing church accommodation and causing the church to give serious thought to the matter of building extensions. How did it happen? Why this influx of children? Church pastor, Robert Douglas, gives four reasons:-

1. A successful V.B.S.
2. A branch Sabbath school conducted by students at Avondale College which brought a number of children to the regular Sabbath school.
3. Pathfinders—three-quarters are non-Adventists!
4. Good programmes. The children delight to bring their friends. What Kurri Kurri has done, any Sabbath school could attempt.

Spiritual Vitality

Evidence of the spiritual vitality and dedicated devotion of members of the Sabbath school was shown by their gifts to missions. Sabbath school offerings for the quinquennium amounting to \$4,384,111.82, which is an annual average offering of \$876,222.36 as compared with \$524,125.50, and supporting statistics show that our offerings have more than doubled during the quinquennium, amounting to \$1,292,346.72 for 1974.



Improvement

Sabbath school emphasis during the past quinquennium was on improvement in teaching. Teaching at all levels has benefited from Teaching Seminars that have been conducted in all local Conferences and most local missions.

A strong Division-wide programme has been launched in an endeavour to reclaim missing members. Many local fields have indicated that, in some cases, reported low attendance records are more a reflection on efficiency in reporting, rather than a true indication of membership participation in the Sabbath school.

Union Statistics

Because all Union Mission territories were rearranged during the past quinquennium, it is not possible to show a fair comparison of progress statistics by Unions; however, the report (see Table 1) for the year ended December 31, 1974, gives an indication of the present Sabbath school picture by Unions.

Branches

Seventh-day Adventists at Burnie in Northern Tasmania will tell you that fruit grows on branches.

TABLE 1

MEMBERSHIP	C.P.U.M.	P.N.G.U.M.	W.P.U.M.	T.C.U.C.	T.T.U.C.	DIVISION
Church Members	12,280	41,133	13,498	17,271	27,551	111,733
Sabbath-school Members	14,564	56,679	21,782	15,944	26,888	135,867
Average Attendance	10,547	51,737	17,274	12,361	20,846	112,765
No. Branch Sabbath schools	92	2,595	45	11	31	1,774
Branch Sabbath-school Members	911	24,372	274	155	475	26,187
S.S. Members Baptized During Year	834	2,418	262	691	509	4,720
OFFERINGS						
12 Sabbaths	\$54,644.05	\$40,447.28	\$23,370.34	\$289,623.41	\$417,608.55	\$825,693.63
Birthday	5,075.53	3,674.38	1,206.76	8,389.99	15,065.52	33,412.18
Investment	2,698.58	1,379.83	1,978.78	38,024.47	44,224.96	88,306.62
13th Sabbath	8,352.08	15,558.15	7,140.90	114,774.50	199,108.62	334,934.29
TOTAL	\$70,770.24	\$61,059.64	\$33,696.82	\$450,812.37	\$676,007.69	\$1,292,346.72

Burnie is a busy, industrial town on the north coast of Tasmania. It has a busy progressive Seventh-day Adventist church. The members of this church wanted fruit. To get fruit they decided they needed a branch—a branch Sabbath school. Burnie decided to establish its branch Sabbath school at Savage River where Seventh-day Adventists were practically unknown.

To get to Savage River it required a trip of 128 kilometres and 650 bends, through rugged mountain country. Our Burnie members considered that the trip, the corners and the car sickness were well worth the effort when ninety-four boys and girls were in regular attendance at the branch Sabbath school. Parents have been contacted and Bible study groups formed, and there are good prospects for a new Sabbath school in the Savage River area.

Tongan branch Sabbath school enthusiast, Isikeli Lauteau and his family, travelling five on one bicycle, visit their twelve branch Sabbath schools. They are always followed by a host of children who want to hear the programme over again at the next village. Isikeli speaks no English at all and has spent only two years at the Pierson Lay Training School in Tonga. After leaving the school, Isikeli and his wife gave their full time to the Lord and brought many people to the knowledge of the truth. This

TABLE 2
GROWTH INDICATOR

MEMBERSHIP	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
No. Schools	1,668	1,680	1,695	1,758	1,757
Church Members	90,788	94,280	102,334	107,255	111,733
Sabbath-school Members	119,856	122,805	127,333	134,355	135,867
Average Attendance	101,744	91,050	98,245	102,020	112,765
S.S. Members Baptized	2,678	2,476	5,031	4,219	4,720
EVANGELISM					
No. Branch Sabbath schools	1,138	1,101	1,118	1,099	1,938
Branch-S.S. Members	19,574	18,949	21,781	26,811	26,187
No. Vacation Bible Schools	48	44	59	75	121
Enrol. Vacation Bible Schools	4,621	4,549	5,799	6,724	10,614
OFFERINGS					
12 Sabbaths	\$405,390.31	\$464,608.97	\$527,542.41	\$611,839.70	\$825,693.63
Birthday	16,062.77	19,109.23	22,025.96	26,672.06	33,412.18
Investment	57,335.45	54,645.33	69,430.56	79,823.62	88,306.62
Thirteenth Sabbath	131,931.55	164,861.42	168,760.21	258,726.37	344,934.29
Total	\$610,719.26	\$713,224.95	\$787,759.14	\$977,061.75	\$1,292,346.72

year the Tonga Mission has called Isikeli into the organized work, and he is reporting over 1,100 Bible studies per month. He gains these interests through branch Sabbath school evangelism.

In Conclusion

As we look back over the past quinquennium and see what the Lord has been able to ac-

complish through the Sabbath schools of this Division, we can but express our heartfelt gratitude to God for His leading and the success that has attended every aspect of Sabbath school enterprise.

Praise the Lord for such an army of faithful Sabbath school officers, teachers and members.

THE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

C. R. STANLEY, Secretary, Ministerial Association

TODAY, when light is paling and shadows are gathering, the remnant church bears the solemn responsibility of carrying God's last urgent message to a doomed and dying world. No other people in history have ever been entrusted with a more dramatic and solemn task. In the message of Revelation 14 we find God speaks of the crises of the last days; it is His answer to the modern apostasy and national, economic and social dilemma. In my association with the ministry which is ordained to proclaim this finality of truth I am conscious of an awareness of the lateness of the hour and the need to enlarge our efforts to spread God's appointed message for today.

For the past quinquennium the Ministerial Association accepted as its slogan "Evangelize and Live" as it sought to enlarge the church's evangelistic outreach, both in its private and public aspects. Like the early Christian church the Seventh-day Adventist Church was born an evangelical movement. From Revelation 14 and 18 and the teachings of the Spirit of Prophecy we should be continually expecting greater accomplishments from evangelism, which has been and always will be the paramount concern of a progressive, triumphant and vibrant church.

Through its brochure "Evangelize and Live" the Association has sought to communicate and share the spirit of evangelism throughout the Division. Over 600 of these bulletins are sent to the ministry twice a year. New ideas, techniques and available equipment are thus brought to the attention of the ministry, and refreshing experiences and new methods tried are likewise shared.

During the past quinquennium, major evangelistic efforts have been conducted in our Division. The most ambitious programme of evangelism to be held in this field was Mission '72. This co-ordinated evangelistic thrust was closely connected with a similar programme in

the North American Division. The aim of Mission '72 was to have every Adventist minister make some effort to proclaim publicly his faith. The opening date for this concentrated outreach was April 16, 1972. During Mission '72 over 400 public programmes were conducted and the baptismal results for that year were, up till then, an all-time record, thus demonstrating the effectiveness of a strong programme of evangelism. Similar united efforts were conducted later, such as Mission '73 and Impact '74. In all of these outreach programmes special efforts were made to develop a stronger relationship between laymen and the ministry.

Strong Preaching Programmes

Throughout the quinquennium, six inter-Union evangelists moved into the larger cities of Australasia with strong preaching programmes. In all, throughout the Division, at least 1,594 evangelistic efforts were held. Approximately half of these were held in the mission field, where, under the leadership of Pastor Burnside, the previous Ministerial secretary, public evangelism was commenced in a strong way. These efforts have largely contributed to the total baptisms of 31,534 souls during 1970-1974.



Pastor C.R. Stanley, secretary, Ministerial Association.

Ministerial Retreats have been conducted in every Conference and Union Mission. These times have been occasions of spiritual uplift to the ministers and have provided refreshing opportunities to stimulate evangelism and pastoral ministry. On December 5, 1972, at Avondale College, a Seminary Extension School began. This was conducted over a period of six weeks, and 110 workers studied under the direction of Pastors H. LaRondelle, R. Spangler, A. Salom and Dr. W. McFarland. In December, 1973, a Ministers' Seminar was conducted at Fulton College, Fiji. Thirty-seven ministers from the Pacific Islands gathered together for study in areas related to their pastoral and public

evangelism work. This seminar continued for three weeks.

During the quinquennium the plan of conducting junior ministers' meetings was commenced in this Division. Several of these have been held in Victoria and North New South Wales, and have been enthusiastically entered into, proving most helpful to the younger men. These ministerial retreats involved those men who had been in the field for five years or less.

Health Evangelism Gains Impetus

In recent years there has been a growing interest in health-oriented evangelism. Doctor McFarland and Pastor Spangler gave impetus to this facet of outreach during the Seminary Extension School in 1972. We have appreciated the loyal assistance of a number of our doctors who have given unstintingly of their time to this good work. This pattern of ministry has been supported by health-oriented courses held at the Warburton Health Centre. Three of these programmes have been held and a total of fifty-eight men have attended.

Evangelism in all its facets is the church's business, and we must never forget that this is the purpose of our being. Sister White does warn us of this danger: "I have been instructed to trace words of warning for our brethren and sisters who are in danger of losing sight of the special work for this time.... In every land we are to herald the second coming of Christ, in the language of the revelator proclaiming: 'Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him.'" — "Evangelism," pages 217, 218.

While this is our responsibility, it is also the church's greatest pleasure. Such experiences as the following should spur us on to greater accomplishments. This inspiring story comes from one of our local evangelists, Pastor Garrie Williams:

"A young high school teacher came to one of our programmes a couple of years ago with the purpose of showing how wrong the Bible really is. Deep down, he had an interest in the Bible but didn't want to admit it. Later he told me that his interest had been aroused by the book 'Chariots of the Gods.' He put in many questions on the topic but as our wonderful message was presented—not in an argumentative way, but in uplifting Jesus—his heart was softened and step by step he accepted the truth.

"Soon he began to bring his mother along to the programme, and it was a great joy to baptize both of these wonderful people. Strangely, the young man's father who first gave him a copy of the mission handbill did not accept the message himself.

"Some time after the baptism this young teacher gave me an envelope in which he said was some money he wanted to give to the Conference to help with evangelistic work. I didn't take much notice of the envelope as I thought it contained just a few dollars. However, when the Conference secretary opened it, there were three thousand dollars for the Lord. Now this man himself is preparing to enter the work."

Two Contacted—Ten Baptized

The same evangelist goes on to report of a couple who had once slipped away from the truth but many years later responded to the advertising of his mission programme in Maryborough, Queensland. This couple continued to come to the mission, and members of the family joined with them. Ultimately father, mother, children and in-laws, totalling ten, were baptized as a result of this initial contact.



Using the words of the evangelist we quote: "There is no doubt that in every way evangelism still does pay. Combined with all other methods of soul-winning, the public preaching of God's Word is still the greatest and most successful means of reaping the harvest."

Pastor Otto brings to our attention the following experience:

"David and Carole Phillips came from Texas. He worked at the National University, Canberra, as a lecturer in Mathematics and was the leading force behind 'Mind Dynamics,' being advocated for the development of the intellectual mind in Canberra. Besides all this he was an avid atheist.

"He and his wife came to the mission out of curiosity, and God's Word plus the Holy Spirit did the rest. The prophecies fascinated him, and for the first time in his life, he saw that the Bible could not be thrown aside, and that those who followed it had the best reason on earth for doing so.

"Then came the programmes on 'Spiritism' and 'The State of the Dead.' These had a profound effect on him, for he had gone very deeply into Mind Dynamics and was disturbed at what was taking place in his life, and also the life of his wife. He told me through the exercise of the mind what you could achieve, but at that time, he did not realize that he was going deeper and deeper into spiritism. He would count himself down in his mind—down ten floors to his own laboratory (the laboratory of his own mind), and there meet a man and a woman called Alpha and Omega. These two people were his slaves, were at his command, and worked out all his problems on his mind's computer.

"By using Mind Dynamics he could even travel, or so it seemed. He had been on the moon, and what he saw was exactly what man sees on TV about the moon walks. His wife had been transported in mind to Mars. He claims it is so real, that you are sure you are really there.

They Were Scared

"However, now they were getting trouble, for instead of Alpha and Omega being their

slaves and doing as they were told, Alpha and Omega were giving them orders. By the time I got to the subject of Spiritism, they were already convicted that they were in the grip of something they did not understand.

"After the meeting on Spiritism, they said that they now knew exactly whom they were dealing with, and were scared. When they went to bed that same night they both woke at the same moment with the feeling of death in the room and the sound of a circular saw running around their bed, and across their heads. They were both convicted that if they had risen, they would have been killed. They were terrified, and that night, they both made their decision for Christ.

"We had the privilege of baptizing David and Carole, but not before David gave a public testimony in the church. He told how he did a lot of public speaking, and his favourite subject used to be to ridicule Christ, and to mock His illegitimate birth. He also said that he would never have accepted Christ in Texas, and he now knew why he was brought out to Australia. He was going back to witness for the Christ he now loves."

The chaotic scene of today's world is saying in thunder tones: "Members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, this is your hour. For such a time as this you were called."

The servant of the Lord says: "Today the signs of the times declare that we are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Everything in our world is in agitation. . . . They (national leaders) observe the intensity that is taking possession of every earthly element, and they recognize that something great and decisive is about to take place,—that the world is on the verge of a stupendous crisis."—"Education," page 179.

If ever there was need for a clarion call to evangelism it is today. Brethren and sisters, God has brought us to this hour and we must arouse and proclaim His message of warning with a loud voice. Nothing else must absorb our attention. More money and ministers must be channelled into publicly proclaiming God's last

entreaties of mercy for men and women to prepare for His appearing.

"All heaven is astir, engaged in preparing for the day of God's vengeance, the day of Zion's deliverance. The time of tarrying is almost ended. The pilgrims and strangers who

have so long been seeking a better country are almost home. I feel as if I must cry aloud, Homeward bound! Rapidly we are nearing the time when Christ will come to gather His redeemed to Himself."—"Evangelism," page 219.

Let us work and pray that the solemn responsibility entrusted to us, the members of the remnant church, will be faithfully fulfilled. Let us press forward in unity until the warfare is over and Jesus comes to gather into His kingdom His faithful people.

The Publishing House is a Division Institution and the manager reports on...

THE SIGNS PUBLISHING COMPANY

R. E. PENGILLEY, Manager, Signs Publishing Company

AS THE YEAR 1974 concluded, the publishing work in Australasia was in its ninetieth year. Much has been accomplished under the blessing of God in the years that have gone, but there is still much to be done. Arriving in Melbourne in June 1885, the pioneers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia soon purchased printing equipment and began the task of printing and distributing the message in printed form. "The Bible Echo," sold on the streets of Melbourne on Saturday nights by our people for one penny per copy, was the forerunner of our missionary paper of today, the "Signs of the Times."

Many years ago the servant of the Lord penned the lines: "Our publishing houses are God's appointed centres, and through them it is to be accomplished a work the magnitude of which is yet unrealized." — "Testimonies," Vol. 7, page 144.

Over the years, the Lord has wonderfully blessed in the spreading of truth through the publishing programme, and today we are witnessing an ever-increasing volume of literature being produced and handled in our Division. The eighty-five regular workers employed by the Signs Publishing Company are dedicated to the printing of our truth-filled books and periodicals, conscious of the fact that "the saving of human souls is an interest infinitely above any other line of work in our world." — "Testimonies to Ministers," page 293.

The five-year period covered by this report was one fraught with problems and uncertainties, with economic trends being ever a cause for concern. The twin problems of unemployment and inflation presented an increasingly serious challenge to business in the more recent past, but we have seen the hand of the Lord over His work, as the Company's plant has been required to operate at full capacity to meet the needs of the church in the Australasian Division.

A retrospective glance at the sales attainments of the Company for the five years tells the story of a busy work programme.

1970 Sales	\$1,006,273
1971 Sales	\$1,022,656
1972 Sales	\$1,040,579
1973 Sales	\$1,204,998
1974 Sales	\$1,549,182
Total	\$5,823,688

An analysis of the above figures reveals the total invoice value of the work done and charged out under the following classifications:

Subscription Books	\$1,240,809
Helps	149,524
Tracts	14,689
Trade Books & Disc Records	1,885,813
"Signs of the Times"	570,345
"Good Health"	130,094
"Our Little Friend"	40,757
"Australasian Record"	269,688
General Printing	1,521,969
	\$5,823,688

Some idea of the volume of literature which has passed through the Publishing House will be gained as it is realized that in the quinquennium 3,828,069 books were sold. Periodicals printed and distributed numbered 9,314,988, while the retail value of books and periodicals sold totalled \$9,611,433.



Mr. R.E. Pengilley, Manager, Signs Publishing Company.

Wide Distribution

The distribution of this wealth of material was made possible by the work of literature evangelists, the Adventist Book Centres, and the ministry and laity of the remnant church. What a tremendous power for good is the printed page in the hands of consecrated men and women, boys and girls!

As we moved into the concluding years of the quinquennium, literature evangelist teams were being strengthened and consolidated in many Conferences, and the efforts of Publishing Department directors and literature evangelists were bringing increasing success to many of the men and women dedicated to literature evangelism. Weekly earnings were increasing for many, and benefits being received from the Literature Evangelist Benefit Fund were adding substantially to the income of these workers. During the five years, 554,841 subscription books were sold.

Quantities of the main titles delivered may be of interest:

"The Bible Story" (10-Volume Sets)	8,977 Sets
"Your Bible and You"	19,001
"Bedtime Stories" (Vols. 1-6)	142,604 Volumes
"My Bible Friends" (5-Volume Sets)	38,298 Sets
"Modern Ways to Health" (2 Volumes)	24,063 Sets

New titles added during the five-year period were:

- "Bedtime Stories," Volumes 5, 6
- "Dear Mother to Be"
- "Everything a Teenage Girl Should Know"
- "Everything a Teenage Boy Should Know"

These books were printed and bound at the Signs Publishing Company, ultimately being placed in the homes of the people of the Division by literature evangelists. The sowing is being done and God will give the increase. The following extract from a very recent letter from the manager of one of the Adventist Book Centres tells its own encouraging story:

"Only last Sunday afternoon, when we were open for business, a lovely young couple came into our office. They were influenced by our 'Bible Story' and the husband said to me, 'Only four weeks ago we were worshipping Anglicans and now we are worshipping Adventists,' and they are looking forward to the second coming."

In passing, mention should possibly be made of the wide distribution of the small "Bedtime Stories." The years have proved that these are

build libraries which will be a blessing to parents and children alike. They have done their work well, as is evidenced by a 59 per cent increase in sales value over the preceding five-year period.

The Company does everything possible to encourage sales, by making Book Department personnel available during camp meetings to assist in Bookroom selling and promotion, and to engage in book itineraries through Conferences, and by supplying advertising leaflets from time to time. An annual sales convention for Book Centre managers is proving very helpful indeed.

Up-to-date with Paperbacks

In this age of paperbacks the denomination is keeping pace by making our message books available at almost "give-away" prices. Those imported and channelled through to our people were supplied in the following total quantities and at the prices shown:

"Desire of Ages,"	32,000 copies at 30 cents per copy
"Great Controversy,"	250,000 copies at 20 cents per copy
"Ministry of Healing,"	5,000 copies at 65 cents per copy
"Bible Readings,"	10,000 copies at 75 cents per copy
"Steps to Christ,"	220,000 copies at 10 cents per copy

From the time when Ellen G. White said to her husband, "I have a message for you. You must begin to print a little paper and send it out to the people," what tremendous growth we have seen in the printing of our magazines and periodicals! Today the gospel seed is being sown constantly, and the "Signs of the Times" must be one of the most



The Echo Publishing House, as it looked in its location in Melbourne in the early years of the printing work.



The present plant at Warburton, set in the beautiful Yarra Valley.

builders of a tremendous amount of goodwill, and so often they have helped open doors of homes to much of our other literature. The number of small "Bedtimes" sold from 1970-1974 was 342,034.

The emphasis in the printing world today is on colour, and because of this the Signs Publishing Company has concentrated on producing possibly the most lavishly and beautifully illustrated books available on the religious market today. Put out in first-quality bindings, these books recommend themselves to the lovers of good books.

Adventist Book Centres are the retail outlets to our church members and others who care to step inside their doors. The growth in the work of these centres over the past five years has been most encouraging. The results achieved are a tribute to the energy and enthusiasm of the managers, for theirs is the responsibility of inducing church members to

effective means of outreach. As the quinquennium commenced, the monthly circulation of this periodical was 61,500. The conclusion of the 1974 "Signs" campaign revealed a subscription list of 76,500, an increase of 15,000 subscriptions over the five-year period. During that time 3,931,762 copies of the "Signs of the Times" were despatched from the company's premises.

Circulation of "Our Little Friend" lifted from 5,084 at the beginning of the quinquennium to 5,690 at its close. The "Australian Record" printing per issue increased from 7,719 in 1970 to 8,625 by December 31, 1974. Unfortunately the period saw a falling off in the circulation of "Good Health" from 24,000 in 1970 to 17,400 in 1974.

"General Printing" is the term which covers the service offered by the Company to many sections of the organization. It is in this field of



This picture shows the machine located in the bindery which seals the final products in an air-tight plastic wrap.



The latest acquisition is this V.I.P. Photosetting computer, which, when fully operational, will add much-needed speed to our typesetting area.

endeavour that brochures, leaflets, handbills, stationery of all kinds, church and departmental supplies and many other items find their place. It has been the pleasure of the Company to serve the Australasian Division office, the A.R.T.P. organization, the Sanitarium Health Food Company, and Conferences and institutions in all parts of the Division. Work to the value of \$1,521,969 was invoiced as General Printing during the quinquennium. The largest annual General Printing job undertaken is the Appeal for Missions magazine. In all, 7,781,037 magazines were printed during the five years under review. The Company printed 165,000,000 cards and 2,127,000 posters for the Sanitarium Health Food Company.

Handbills for Evangelists

Over the years there has been an increasing demand on the Company for evangelistic handbills. More and more, evangelists are looking the way of our Art department for layout and design for their handbills and there is good reason to believe that they have not been disappointed. While it is a little beyond the scope of this report, it is of interest to note that for the five months to May 31, 1975, we had printed thirty-nine different handbills, totalling 560,000 in number, for thirty-one of our evangelists.

Through the years the Lord has blessed the operations of the Company and it has been possible to set aside funds which have later been

used to update our plant and equipment. During the quinquennium, old equipment has been replaced by two two-colour presses, a new Round- ing and Backing machine and two Folding machines, while additional plant purchased included a factory air-conditioning unit, a film processor, and a stand-by diesel generating plant. Some \$325,000 was spent in modernizing the plant and equipment to make the work of the Company as effective as it should be.

It has been the pleasure of the Company to follow Policy in making 20 per cent of its earnings available to the Australasian Division, this amount being built into the annual Division budget. Five per cent of earnings is passed through to the General Conference as a contribution to the Publishing Expansion Fund, from which appropriations are made to help establish additional publishing houses around the world.

The prediction of the world-encircling programme of our denominational literature has been the inspiration of the workers in the publishing department around the world, and it is the vision of a work still to be completed that keeps the workers of the Company faithfully working at their machines, benches and desks as the days come and go. "Life Sketches," page 217, records the divine charter: "Tracts, papers and books, as the case demands, should be circulated in all the cities and villages in the land." To this task the Signs Publishing Company and its staff remain dedicated.

One of the newer aspects of denominational endeavour makes its second report ...

TRUST SERVICES

W. E. RUDGE, Director of Trust Services

IT IS with pleasure and with a deep sense of gratitude to God for His manifold blessings and guidance that we bring to this Session a report on Trust Services. Believing, as we do, in a total commitment in stewardship, this report will reveal the response of the membership in this Division to the principles outlined by our Saviour Himself when He said "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, ... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven." Matt. 6:19, 20. God's special messenger to His people in these days of turmoil and stress makes an important comment on the Scriptures quoted. She says: "This work of transferring your possessions to the world above, is worthy of all your best energies. It is of the highest importance, and involves your eternal interests."

In several places she stresses the importance of helping people make the disposition of their property that they so much desire and in harmony with the principles of the kingdom of heaven. "There are aged ones among us who are nearing the close of their probation; but for the want of wide-awake men to secure to the cause of God the means in their possession, it passes into the hands of those who are serving Satan. This means was only lent them of God to be returned to Him; but in nine cases out of ten, these brethren, when passing from the stage of action, appropriate God's property in a way that cannot glorify Him, for not one dollar of it will ever flow into the Lord's treasury. In some cases these apparently good brethren have had un consecrated advisers, who counselled from their own standpoint, and not according to the mind of God..."

"Many manifest a needless delicacy on this point. They feel that they are stepping upon forbidden ground when they introduce the subject of property to the aged or to invalids in order to learn what disposition they design to make of it. *But this duty is just as sacred as the duty to preach the Word to save souls.*" — "Counsels on Stewardship," pages 323, 324. (Emphasis supplied.)

Being aware of the importance of this work, and the need to have men actively engaged in it, the Division administration, just prior to the 1970 Session made an appointment at Division-level that set the Trust Service work in motion. On May 1, 1969, the work commenced. Slowly at first but with much appreciated help and



Pastor W.E. Rudge, Director of Trust Services.

counsel from the General Conference, the Service gathered momentum. In 1970 a director was appointed by the Trans-Tasman Union Conference, and toward the end of that year the

Trans-Commonwealth Union Conference followed with an appointment in that field.

Right from the beginning it was evident that we would need to have the help and counsel of the legal men within our ranks. Consequently, Brethren Lloyd McMahon and Bruce Hon responded readily to the suggestion that we get together and formulate a philosophy and an approach to this work that would be professional and in turn give the best possible protection to our church members seeking the help of Trust Service officers.

Trust Service Philosophy

The philosophy followed by Trust Service personnel may be summed up in the following points:

1. To counsel church members to follow as far as possible the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy in the disposition of their assets, both in their wills and during their lifetime.

2. To explain to church members the effect the law will have upon the family situation on the death of either parent, depending upon:

- (a) The type of property owned;
- (b) The way in which the property is held;
- (c) The type of estate.

3. To so draft a will that there can be no possible partial intestacy and no possible litigation arise because of the method used in the drafting.

As a result of all of this, the work began to grow and expand rather rapidly until we came to the place a little over three years ago when we had to purchase a word-processing machine, in

the form of an IBM magnetic tape typewriter, in order to cope with the volume of work. This machine, correctly programmed, types at the rate of 180 words per minute without the possibility of error, thus enabling us to complete between fifteen and twenty documents a day.

Soon local Conferences began to look at the possibilities of making appointments of Trust officers at that level. Greater Sydney was the first to move in this direction and Pastor E. J. Garrard accepted a call to that field. Pastor W. F. Taylor was called by the Trans-Tasman Union Conference to replace Pastor Garrard at Union level. Just recently North New South Wales Conference called Pastor E. Clark, and about the same time North New Zealand called Brother L. McMurtry.

This report would be incomplete without reference to our Seventh-day Adventist solicitor. Approximately mid-way through the quinquennium Brother Ken Eastman accepted a call to connect with the Division as a solicitor. Brother Eastman left a family legal practice in Bunbury, Western Australia, to devote his time and attention to legal matters for the organization. His coming has been a tower of strength to us in Trust Services. His professional skill and experience has upgraded our service and improved the technical skill of all Trust officers. Every will is checked twice by Brother Eastman before it leaves our office — once in the drafting stage and once when it comes from the word-processing machine.

Brother Lloyd McMahon of Melbourne has been doing this for the Trans-Commonwealth Union Conference Trust Services, and more recently Brother Cyril K. Wood has been en-

gaged to do this for Trust Services in North New Zealand Conference. The fact that we have such capable legal men guiding the work with their expert knowledge and experience is a guarantee to our church members that the best possible assistance and protection is being given to them in this field.

By no means least in the team of Trust Service personnel are the two senior lady secretaries at the Division. Mrs. Betty Nixon and Miss Emma Farrington handle the technical details surrounding the actual production of the documents with very commendable skill and efficiency. They have to understand the legal technicalities of will-drafting and at the same time understand the intricacies of operating the word-processing machinery. They have performed their tasks with ability and care. The work at times has been extremely difficult but with their dedicated application a large volume of business has been accomplished.

Success of this Venture

Now for a brief report on what has been accomplished since the commencement in 1969 to the end of 1974. During this period a total of 293 meetings have been conducted at which Trust Service officers have explained the service to our church members and made offers to assist those who were in need of help. The degree of acceptance by our membership of the Service is evidenced by the fact that for the period under review, Trust Service officers have prepared 7,366 wills, which represents three and a half wills per day for every day of the period.

Testators, after caring for the needs of their families in testamentary gifts, have of their own volition and without undue influence of any kind willed to the cause of God \$52,016,661. An analysis of this figure reveals that at maturity an amount of \$5,853,679 has been willed directly to the organization, while an amount of, and in addition to the figure immediately above, \$7,923,843 has been willed to the organization on the death of one other person in the family other than the first, and should the entire family meet an untimely death then an additional amount of \$38,239,139 has been willed.

This is irrefutable evidence of the fact that God has blessed His people with an abundance of this world's goods, and also of His blessing upon the work of the Service by impressing the hearts of His people to remember His work. Perhaps just a word on Gift Annuities and Moneys on Deposit is in order. The Gift Annuity programme is being phased out and no more Annuities will be accepted. The Moneys on Deposit aspect of the programme is receiving more study and a statement regarding it will probably be made in the near future.

In closing this report we wish to express our appreciation to our heavenly Father for His abundant blessings upon the work of our Trust Service officers, also for His great blessings upon our church members — both temporally and spiritually. If we would be saved at last, "we should regard ourselves as stewards of the Lord's property, and God as the supreme proprietor, to whom we are to render His own when He shall require it." — "Counsels on Stewardship," page 326.

AVONDALE COLLEGE

E. A. MAGNUSSON, Principal, Avondale College

REMEMBERING its history and its origin, Avondale College chooses its path through the seventies purposefully but deliberately. A heritage is an obligation, best paid by maintaining it.

The past five years have presented the College with several major opportunities, and the manner of their reception will exert a strong influence on the church in Australia in the years to come. Government financial aid to students, recognition of Avondale's own degree and diploma courses, the strengthening of links with the church's system of higher education, the initiation of a programme of further education for established workers and laymen, are of considerable significance for the future vigour of the church.

But so also is the fact that during most of the past quinquennium the College has operated well below its enrolment goals with the twin results that its finances have suffered and its output of graduates has slumped badly behind the church's needs. We now have the spectacle of one of the more vigorous and financially stable of the world Divisions actually having to discourage calls from other Divisions for evangelists and teachers, even though there is no real shortage of young people who could have been ready to serve.

Academic Affairs

Very few changes in the range of courses offered by Avondale have appeared during the past five years, but there have been very significant changes in the structure of the courses themselves. In summary, the



Dr. Eric Magnusson,
President of Avondale College.

present situation and the more important events which produced it are as follows:

Theology Courses. The B.A. (Theology) Course, offered in affiliation with Pacific Union College, has been re-structured, permitting renewal of the affiliation with P.U.C. The changes look forward to the introduction of a wider range of optional subjects within the course, permitting some specialization in the area of Ministry-Evangelism, Health Science and Biblical Studies. The course retains its strong orientation to the needs of the Australasian Division, where graduates enter immediately after completion of the B.A. degree, but it is still strongly linked to the church's world-wide system of higher education for its ministers. Plans have been laid for annual Seminary extension schools to provide regular opportunities for ministers to continue serious study.

The College has added a Certificate course in Biblical Studies and this annually attracts a fine group of young people.

Education Courses. The introduction of a second system of tertiary education in Australia—the Colleges of Advanced Education—has finally opened the way for Avondale to gain local recognition for its courses. All five teacher-education courses are now recognized by the New South Wales Advanced Education Board and listed by the Australian Council on Academic Awards in Advanced Education. This has led to recognition in the states and in New Zealand and, as well, confirmation of the inclusion of these courses in the Australian Government's Scheme for Financial Assistance for Students.

Science Courses. With the granting of recognition for Avondale's own B.Ed. degree course for Science teachers, it has been possible to phase out the London B.Sc. scheme. Changes have also been made in the

Certificate courses in Applied Science. The Diploma of Applied Science Course has been withdrawn.

Courses in Business Studies. Minor changes in the Accountancy Diploma Course were made to permit it to be submitted for recognition by the Advanced Education Board of N.S.W. The last stages of gaining this recognition are almost complete. The Accountancy Certificate Course continues and the Secretarial Course has been split into two courses to provide for a wider range of applicants.

Courses in Music. Music instruction at the College is generally provided for students taking other courses but many of these complete the examinations of the A.M.E.B. The Diploma in Teaching (Music Education) Course represents a major change in course offerings.

Courses in Fine and Applied Arts. The aims of Certificate courses in Fine and Applied Arts are substantially unchanged. Courses for teachers of Fine and Applied Arts have been greatly strengthened.

Enrolment and Staffing

Enrolment at Avondale in Certificate and Diploma courses fluctuated around the 500 figure over the period 1971-74 but rose sharply with a big Diploma/Degree enrolment in 1975. This coincided with the fact that 1975 was the first year in which recognition and financial aid on such courses could be clearly advertised in advance of the opening of the College year. An excellent enrolment figure in 1975 for Theology students indicates that financial aid and recognition are not the only factors which induce students to attend.

The College anticipates that the enrolment could grow to about 700 over the next three years.

The overall staffing position at Avondale College may be viewed with some satisfaction; it is mainly due to the fine planning carried out during the previous decade. The College possesses a fine body of dedicated and well-trained teachers, and the continued growth of its reputation attests the quality of their work. Many faculty members have undertaken further study in addition to heavy teaching loads in an endeavour to improve their qualifications; the church's debt to them is great. Staffing still presents some problems, however, and the need for careful planning remains.

The continuing change in Avondale's enrolment towards tertiary courses has presented the College with some major problems. Laboratory facilities in the biological, physical and social sciences do not meet accepted standards. There have also been repeated crises in space for teachers' offices, small group teaching—indeed for any kind of space. However, the provision of a major extension to the Library has been of enormous value to the College's attempts to improve its instructional facilities, as has also been the provision of the 160-seat Lecture Theatre. Most other early changes in the College have been in the category of renovation or resurrection.

Avondale College has participated in an extensive programme of further education for church workers and lay members. Summer schools at Avondale have attracted considerable numbers of laymen, and the College has provided speakers for extension schools, workers' meetings, refresher courses, workshops, seminars, Bible camps, etc., on numerous occasions over the quinquennium. The importance of this branch of College activity should not be underestimated.

Student Affairs

The appointment of a full-time Dean of Students in 1971 marked the recognition by the College Board of the importance of students-as-people. At the end of the quinquennium the appointment of a College Chaplain and of additional fulltime Residence Deans has become urgent. The pressures of study in an educational institution combined with the problems which young people often bring with them from their home communities demand much more attention than they have been given. Overseas experience makes it clear that the Adventist constituency very rapidly loses confidence in an institution which does not place high priority on Christian ideals and Christian standards of behaviour. Such ideals are not met by computers but by pastoral care.

Standards of boarding accommodation at the College have been high in all halls except Preston Hall which, unfortunately, has had to be used in spite of great concern about its safety. Accommodation for married students has been a serious problem for many years and the College expresses gratitude for the completion of the first stage of a Married Student Village with eighteen homes now occupied at a subsidized rental. "Collegeview" was completed at a saving of at least \$70,000 as a project of the Association of Business and Professional Men Limited.

A student missionary programme, commenced in this Division during the present quinquennium, has attracted the interest of students each year. Some have worked in this Division, some have gone further



A view of Watson Hall, the boys' dormitory on the Avondale Campus.



Preston Hall, one of the girls' dormitories.



During the quinquennium many campus improvements were made. This shows the new library extension under construction.

The new and the old Avondale symbols shown above the tower of the College Chapel—that landmark remembered by so many Adventists.



afield. Similar idealism was displayed in 1975 when the Blueprint Scheme was introduced to provide opportunity for regular voluntary work for students whose fees are provided by the Australian Government.

Financial Affairs

Like every other educational institution in the world, Avondale has survived the financial pressures of the past five years only by presenting bigger and bigger bills to its students and to its owners. Tuition fees for a full-time student have grown from about \$550 in 1971 to about \$900 in 1975. Fortunately for the students, the Australian Government now pays tuition fees for almost 80 per cent of the College enrolment but no such benefactions are available to the church. Along with other church-related teacher-training institutions, Avondale was invited in 1973 to apply for direct Government aid. The invitation was declined.

Government assistance for students on approved courses covers tuition fees (except Bible subjects) and living allowances well in excess of the College boarding fees, but it has become necessary for the church itself to assist Theology students and Certificate students who receive no aid of this type. The College is grateful for the Worker's Educational Policy, the Bursary Assistance Plan and, most recently, the College Scholarship Plan. The latter two forms of aid have been particularly

helpful to married students, many of whom have seen their plans for a college education decay as inflation destroyed their savings. The College is also grateful to the many private donors who have channelled assistance to students in need.

The student work programme at Avondale College has continued to play an important part in the over-all College programme. The number of students requesting work has dropped over the quinquennium, especially since the introduction of the T.E.A. scheme in 1974. The student work programme has not been easy to manage but the College remains convinced of its importance. One College industry has disappeared during the quinquennium and others have had financial difficulties.

Planning

During the quinquennium the College has been assisted by a number of advisory committees which have helped it prepare for the changes which have occurred so rapidly in education over the past period.

A notable success has been the work of the Site Development Committee. This committee, containing laymen with special skills as well as workers, has prepared a twenty-year development plan for the College, permitting the Board to adopt a strategy as well as tactics in its decisions about the campus and its development. Advisory committees have assisted in the same way in the academic area.

Student promotion has been carried out during the quinquennium by a variety of methods. The Dean of Students, who is responsible for promotional activities, has supervised the production of a range of brochures, of a College film and has co-ordinated visits of College personnel to camp meetings, youth camps, Bible camps, and schools aiming for benefits in the long term as well as for enrolment from school leavers.

Conclusion

This report concludes with appeals for loyalty and support.

If the Adventist Church wishes Avondale to promote its traditional standards of ethical and moral worth, then it must know that such results do not come by accident. Adventist workers, Adventist homes, Adventist churches cannot leave their standards to be set by a society which has repudiated Christian decency. Most educational institutions, including many church-related ones, have given up the struggle. If the church's own institutions are to resist the tide it will be necessary for every single one of us to wade into it. Avondale College appeals for loyalty and support for the principles held before our youth about association between the sexes, about simple honesty, about Christian recreation, and about music and dress.

If the church is to remain master of its own institution it must be prepared to accept financial responsibilities that it has refused to allow the state to assume. This will be difficult in a Division which supports a vigorous but financially taxing mission programme. Adventists as individuals, as well as in the various levels of church organization, should realize that ideals for our young people necessarily imply financial obligations. While the academic staffing at Avondale is now better than it has ever been, it is still minimal by modern standards. Over-worked faculty members no longer have time to perform their most vital task of counselling and encouraging students who will soon be bearing the burdens of the Lord's work and determining its progress. Pastoral care as originally envisaged for the church's system of education needs to be re-established. Condemned and fire-dangerous worship and dormitory buildings need to be replaced, not to mention the need for expanded learning and teaching facilities. Avondale appeals to individual Adventists as well as to the organization that owns it to help it maintain the goals which the church has set for it.

Avondale appeals to the church to support an academic programme designed to equip the church with workers to meet the demands of the times. Young people will be quick to notice whether our aspirations for them are linked to the second coming of Christ or merely to intellectual and financial success in this world. The College seeks the involvement of Adventists and Adventist organizations in decisions about its programme, but it also asks for a high standard of loyalty—loyalty in what they say to young people about the College, its faculty and its courses, as well as in advice and encouragement about their life's work.

Avondale appeals to the church for loyalty and support in its spiritual objectives. Avondale sees its 550 young people as members of a society in which faith, hope and love have practically vanished, and who will never influence it until they have overcome its influences on them. Avondale earnestly seeks the prayers of every church member that it may continue to provide the motivation for Christian service that has vitalized the Australasian Division for almost eighty years, and continue to provide the environment where a vigorous Christian experience may take root and grow.

The retiring director reports on...

THE YOUTH DEPARTMENT

C. V. CHRISTIAN, Director, Youth Department of Missionary Volunteers

IT WAS a Chinese friend of William Stidger's who made the remark, "The most beautiful sight in all the world is to see a little child walking confidently down the road after you have shown him the way." It is indeed a privilege to be a part of a department whose business it is to take young people by the hand in this age of confused morals and show them the way to satisfaction in this life, and heaven as a bonus.

Right at the outset of this report, I would pause to give God praise for His goodness to our team of Youth directors in this Division. What a wonderful group they have proved to be! I would not forget to pay tribute to my office secretary for her untiring efforts in typing letters, sending bulletins, packaging parcels and keeping the department running in my frequent absences from the office.

It is difficult to compare one quinquennium with another quadrennium and so this report will be lacking the usual comparison of figures common to earlier reports. However, it will be good for us to compare a few statistics from the fourth quarter, 1969, and the fourth quarter, 1974. This will indicate the kind of growth which has encouraged our hearts.

In 1969 we had a total of 1,447 MV and JMV-Pathfinder Societies, while in 1974 the total stood at 1,598, an addition of 151, or approximately thirty new Societies per year. The membership in 1969 stood at 43,661, while at the same time in 1974 the membership was 57,220, an increase of 13,559, or approximately 2,700 per year. The membership in 1969 gave a total in offerings of \$39,246. In 1974 it provided \$62,338, an increase of \$23,092. The South Pacific Volunteer Service Plan referred to later in this report has done much to raise the sights of our young people in relation to their giving.

The Fourth Quarter report in 1969 in the "MV Classes" and "Leadercraft Course" and "Pathfinder Clubs" areas makes an interesting comparison with the Fourth Quarter 1974. See Table A.

Another area of the report which brings us great satisfaction is the number of souls won through youth outreach. In the last quadrennium 1,429 souls were led to Christ through the various methods of youth outreach, an average of 357 souls per year. During this quinquennium, 4,446 souls have been won, an average of 889 souls per year. For some time now, we have been aiming at 1,000 baptisms per year through youth outreach. 1973 was the first year



Pastor C.V. Christian, the retiring Youth director.

we achieved that goal and we did it again in 1974 with 1,043 baptisms.

Our national youth in the South Pacific Islands are particularly active in soul-winning, but their homeland counterparts are also active in reaching out. Methods of soul-winning in Australia and New Zealand have followed trends in the United States, with an emphasis on street preaching and coffee-house evangelism. Programmes such as "Salt" in Sydney, "The Gateway" in Newcastle, "Rain" (Reach Anyone In Need) in Adelaide are typical of the style of approach to the uncommitted in 1974.

During the quinquennium 14,698 youth were baptized, indicating that the Youth programme contributes significantly to the baptismal figure for this Division. We rejoice to see such additions to our church membership, recognizing that these figures represent the work of many agencies, not the least of which are our church schools. Our camping programme plays its share in leading youth to decisions for Christ, and it is pleasing to see some of our Conferences, which have not previously owned permanent camping facilities, now establishing Youth camps. Methven in South New Zealand is now a very representative Youth camp with its nicely appointed hall and rooming facilities. Tasmania has purchased a tract of land at a beautiful spot called Orford, and plans are under way for the development of a Youth camp. North Queensland now has a well-developed site on the Burdekin River near Ayr. Our 1974 Camping report reveals that twenty-six of the thirty-two Conferences and Missions conducted camps. Ten thousand, two hundred and twenty-four youth attended, and 763 made decisions for Christ. Sixteen of our Conferences and Missions own facilities for camping.

MV Outreach and Upreach

During the quinquennium our youth were responsible for 1,487,746 missionary contacts, distributed 4,243,432 pieces of missionary literature, and conducted 594,451 Bible studies.

Three thousand, eight hundred and twelve Bible Year or Character Classics certificates were issued and 14,962 MV Book Club certificates presented. Recognizing the importance of the spiritual life of the youth, the department, during 1974, placed an emphasis on the Encounter programme, the correlated reading of the Bible and Conflict of the Ages series.

JMV-Pathfinder Programme

The phenomenal growth in the JMV-Pathfinder programme from 171 to 322 clubs and from 4,194 to 10,920 members has been largely due to promotion of this area of youth evangelism in the South Pacific Islands. With the appointment of Pastor L. A. Lansdown to the Youth Department in the Papua New Guinea Union Mission, the three Union Missions are now in the happy position of having Youth directors who are unfettered by other departmental responsibilities and able to devote most of their time to their youth.

The need for a follow-up programme for young people in the islands who have gone as far as they can with their education, and are forced to return to their villages, is a desperate one. In some of our schools like Betikama in the Eastern Solomons, only one-fifth of those who apply are accepted. Of 350 who sought admission to Betikama during a typical year, 280

TABLE A

MV CLASSES	1969	1974
MV Honours issued	1,845	4,680
Friends Invested	496	1,062
Companions ..	362	961
Explorers ..	177	485
Rangers ..	18	356
Guides ..	112	207
Master Guides ..	142	211
LEADERCRAFT COURSE AND PATHFINDER CLUBS		
Leadercraft certificates issued	42	81
Pathfinder Staff Training Course certificates	127	229
Number of Pathfinder Clubs	172	322
Pathfinder Club membership	4,194	10,960

were turned away. These youth return to villages where there is nothing for them, or they gravitate to centres like Port Moresby, Goroka or Honiara, where in the past there has been little more for them than in the villages. The Pathfinder movement has been a godsend in the Eastern and Western Solomons.

I wish I had the privilege of introducing you to some of the fine young people who were deeply involved with the world and its vices until the church began to do something for its youth through Pathfinders. What a thrill it was for me to attend five Camporees in the mission field in as many weeks last year, and see these young people in action. At Kukudu in the Western Solomons where we have a tremendous concentration of youth, we had nearly 600 Pathfinders "under canvas" (Solomons' style) when I was there. God's hand was made evident when a boating accident occurred after that Camporee. A boat with sixty Pathfinders on board capsized in heavy seas. Many of the Pathfinders were in the water for four hours and some did not struggle ashore until midnight that same night after nine hours in the water.

First Division-wide Camporee

The first-ever Division-wide Camporee was held at Yarramundi, January 1-6 of this year. Inasmuch as all of the planning for this event was done in the past quinquennium and the Camporee convened over the first six days of the new term, we are making bold to report on it. While the weather left something to be desired, the programme was nevertheless a success. Imagine the thrill of seeing eighty-four clubs with some 1,250 Pathfinders and nearly 500 directors and counsellors march past as Pastor Leo S. Ranzolin from the General Conference Youth Department took the salute. It took the better part of an hour to have them all march past and they looked good in their Pathfinder uniforms.

It seemed that the enemy was determined to disturb the Camporee in some way or other. Two of our evening programmes were washed out, a lightning strike destroyed a tree within a

few yards of one of our clubs, a "willy-willy" almost destroyed the tents in one of our clubs, and the hottest day in eleven years prostrated scores of our Juniors. In spite of all this, they came up smiling and the Camporee closed on a high note.

Pastor Ranzolin's comments are of interest. "It was indeed the largest Division Camporee in history and is an event that will be memorable and left indelibly in the minds of our Pathfinders and Youth directors. I saw the tremendous qualities, discipline, uniformity of uniforms, many skills that Pathfinders have developed, especially their enthusiasm to serve the Lord. It was really great. I was also impressed by the *esprit de corps*, or your teamwork, during the total Camporee. You have some fine leadership in your Division, not only Pathfinder directors, but also tremendous Youth directors."

We are already seeing results from this Camporee evidenced in a greater awareness of the potential in the JMV-Pathfinder programme. A number of new clubs have commenced since this event.



Pastor G.R. Miller, who has succeeded Pastor C.V. Christian as Youth director of the Australasian Division.

tist High School in the New Hebrides. Some of the volunteers returned from the project determined to do more for this very needy area of the South Pacific, and of their own volition have started a fund-raising campaign to establish an adequate water supply for Aore.

In the year 1972 the Volunteer scheme was widened to include an adaptation of the student missionary plan adopted in North America and operated by the Youth Department. The title "South Pacific Volunteer Plan" now covers a scheme in which qualified personnel give up to twenty-four months of their time without wages. A small weekly allowance from MV Offerings, plus board and lodging supplied by the mission in which the volunteer serves, provide the day-to-day needs of these young people. In 1972 six volunteers rendered twelve months' service, in 1973, six, and in 1974, eight. The range of vocations vary from theology students, teachers, nurses to agriculturists, builders and engineers.

Typical of those who volunteered is Gordon Smith, a third-year Theology student from Avondale College who gave twelve months' service in Honiara, Guadalcanal. Gordon was responsible for reclaiming a significant number of youth in this town, a number of whom I met at the Eastern Solomons Camporee last year. At the same time, he gained valuable experience which helped to make his final year at Avondale more meaningful.

Farewell to Youth Programme

This is the second and final Division Youth Department report which it has been my privilege to write. As I sever my connection with the department after seventeen years of association with it from local Conference through the Unions to Division leadership I do so with mixed feelings. The Lord has blessed, and these have been thrilling years spent in service for our precious youth. Yet there is a certain sense of dissatisfaction because there is so much yet to be done. The best years of Missionary Volunteering are still ahead.

As a new Youth director takes up his responsibility, it is my prayer that the Youth programme will reach even greater heights of achievement than it has done during this quinquennium. May God hasten the day when the youth of this church will link hands with their elders to finish the work under the impelling power of the latter rain, so that Jesus may come to take us home.



Pastor B.L. Crabtree, Youth director of the T.T.U.C.—the Union that stretches across Australia.

Division Youth Congress

Another youth event which made an impact on the youth attending it was the Division Youth Congress held at Canberra the year-end of 1972. In the vicinity of 2,000 youth attended and were thrilled with the inspiration provided by Pastor J. H. Hancock, General Conference Youth director, and Pastor H. M. S. Richards, Jr. and the King's Herald. The Congress was voted to be an unqualified success as it provided a balanced programme, appealing to the spiritual, physical and mental faculties. It could be that the inspiration of this programme helped to spur our youth to greater heights of soul-winning achievement, for 1973 was the first year we ever exceeded 1,000 baptisms as a result of Youth evangelism.

South Pacific Volunteer Service Plan

It was in the year 1966 that the first Volunteer building team sponsored by the youth of the Australasian Division established a school at Ramaga. This plan has been carried on in the quinquennium with a double-headed project at Fulton and Navesau in the year 1970. The latest of these projects involved the building of a much-needed girls' dormitory at Aore Adven-



Pastor Ken Martin is the Youth director of the Trans-Tasman Union. He is typical of the men to whom Pastor Christian pays tribute.

THE COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

M. G. TOWNEND, Director of Communication

THE MERGING of the Radio-Television and Public Relations Departments to form the Department of Communication has proved its worth. Advances are clearly seen in all areas of activity and outreach of this newly named consolidated department.

Radio and Television

At the close of the quinquennium, 150 radio and television programmes were being aired each week over 123 stations compared with eighty programmes broadcast weekly at the close of the last quadrennium. In addition to paid religious broadcasts, Adventists were further featured in radio-television newscasts or interviews on 2,987 separate occasions.

It is gratifying to note that the radio-television presentation of the Advent message is now evenly spread over the total territory of the Division, either in regular programmes or newscasts, from Perth to Pitcairn and Tarawa to Hobart. Languages used in our programmes are: English, Pidgin, Kauanua, Motu, Fijian, Samoan, Tongan, Tahitian, French, Maori and Gilbertese.

From the home base, Pastor R. A. Vince, our principal radio pastor, has brought prestige and strength to the radio ministry of the church in Australia with his "These Times" Voice of Prophecy programme. In the first year of the quinquennium only twenty-seven stations broadcast the "These Times" programme. Last year seventy-one stations aired the programme and the number has considerably increased in 1975.

Many letters that come in from listeners make it obvious that they are "regulars," that is they make it a practice to look for "These Times" on the radio dial, and regard it as an important part of their daily or weekly spiritual refreshment. Others, of course, are "casuals."

One newly baptized church member in Brisbane found it necessary to go to Sydney for special surgery for cancer. It was with under-

standable trepidation that she awaited the morning when she would face the ordeal. She was isolated from friends, in a strange city, and dark questions were in her mind. She sought some diversion from her fears in her radio. She manipulated the dial, looking for something suitable. She heard a familiar voice, and realized she had tuned in by chance to "These Times." The message was related to the problem of suffering and such comfort as she needed came just at the opportune time. She said she felt God had spoken to her and she was able to face the morning with reassurance.

Another "casual" was the driver of a large earth-moving machine. The roar of the motor in his cabin was such that he resorted to listening to the radio through earphones to shut out the din. It was while he was manoeuvring the monster that he heard "These Times" broadcast. He said, "Your session made me very aware of God and His Son Jesus Christ. I'm glad that I have come to regard them as Friends and not just Someone up there, so to speak." He went on to say, "Now I am trying to put into practice the things which your Bible Course explains." Several of our pastors speak regularly from local radio stations.

Mission field speakers during the past five years have included the following pastors and other staff: Allan Paul, Elisha, Tony Kemo, Peter Miller, Alwyn Johan, Ororea, Paul Jami, Wala Iga, Pakavai, Edwin Kai, Oliva Safotu, Taukana Epu, Aisake Kabu, Matton, Hermans, E. Doom, M. Niuafe, Max Simi, Joel Panda, Denmark Micah, R. Milled, John Gereman, Ronald Haiavu, Walter Oli, Robert Isaiah, John Hamura, Timon Masagala, Moses Songa-



Pastor M.G. Townend, Communication director of the Australasian Division since 1966 and re-elected for a third term.

vare, Peter Pokarup, Wilfred Walua, Yori Hibo, Gideon Raowe, Alfie Are, Sonatane Katoa, David Hay, Manina Haumani, J. Surel, Tungagne Polura, Wilson Katovai, Ioane, Kataiva, G. Byrne, Y. Missud, Mrs. Bera and Evelyn August.

Television

Pastor George Vandeman's "It Is Written" programme continues to be our major television thrust in Australia, while "Faith for Today," "Crisis," and "Focus on Living" have also been exposed for limited periods on both metropolitan and country stations. While "It Is Written" has been exposed on a regular basis in Sydney and Melbourne, it has also been broadcast weekly during the past five years for periods of up to nine months from a further eight or nine stations each year..... In 1975 fourteen stations are airing "It Is Written." A large share of the credit for our expanding radio and television network in Australia must go to Pastor D. J. Silver and the good relations he has maintained with stations.

We are happy to report that several local ministers have now ventured into local television broadcasting.

Ministry through the media reaches all sections of the community, from the tenements of Sydney's inner suburbs to the mansions of Melbourne's Toorak Gardens—from the lonely shut-in to the hurrying world traveller.

Some months ago, among the many letters of appreciation received by our Australian "It Is Written" office from the ordinary "man in the street" was a letter from one who had been knighted by Her Majesty, and is a director of one of Australia's largest commercial enterprises, but unfortunately, not an Adventist. He is, however, an enthusiastic supporter of Pastor George Vandeman's "It Is Written" television series and assures us that he is a regular viewer.

Being a man of means and a man of action—a most desirable combination as it turns out—he requested that a 16mm film copy of the programme be prepared and sent to him.

This was done, but the story doesn't end there. He continues to view the programme, and from time to time we receive on the very finest of crested note-paper, requests for further films. And what does he do with them?

He gathers together, in staff meetings, the branch managers and leading employees of his large business empire, and with his own projec-



Communication has come a long way since Pastor L.C. Naden and Pastor R.C. Piper used to broadcast the Voice of Prophecy in the 1950s.

TABLE A

MISSION FIELD	AUSTRALIA	NEW ZEALAND	DIVISION
Applications	72,887	67,584	161,501
Enrolments	48,449	33,521	92,129
Test Papers Corrected	524,086	371,275	951,026
Graduates	25,557	5,878	35,220
Students Baptized	2,239	1,043	3,733

tor, screens the programmes to his captive audience.

"This is good stuff. Now you fellows take notice of this," seems to be the philosophy, and we might almost say, the command, of his approach. As he is the boss, we presume they do indeed take notice.

Here is one who commands his household (albeit a business house) after him, a Gentile king as it were, a sort of modern Nebuchadnezzar, used of the Lord to direct the subjects of his empire to the truth for these latter days.

Bible Correspondence Schools

Thirteen strategically located Bible Correspondence Schools back-up and consolidate the work of our radio-television ministry.

The introduction of the new "Here's Life" Bible Course has breathed fresh life into the work of our Bible schools. Particularly in the home field more people than ever are enrolling in, continuing to study, and completing this course, and more precious souls are accepting Christ and His message. Most results come from application cards faithfully letter-boxed by church members.

One student wrote: "I well remember taking your card out of my letter-box and thinking to myself 'More advertising junk!' I was about to throw it away but felt impressed that here was something I ought to look into. Little did I realize how much this act was to change my life. Each succeeding lesson explained things so clearly that now both my husband and I are baptized members of the Adventist Church. Now we are busily working for the other members of our families. We are eternally grateful that the Lord prompted someone to put that card into our letter-box."

Another husband and wife told how they were led to enrol: "A very fine man from your church built our lovely new home for us. When he handed it over, he also gave us a gift subscription to the 'Signs of the Times.' It was in this magazine we read about your 'Here's Life'

course. At the time we were nominal Christians, members of a large church, but we knew almost nothing about the teachings of the Bible. All this now has changed. With the help of these wonderful lessons, we are daily learning more of God's will for our lives."

Recently a young woman wrote: "I was very much alone in this city to which I had come to find work. Things had not turned out as I hoped, and I had become so desperate I had even turned to drugs. One day I happened to hear your broadcast, and the speaker told of your Bible guides, I was so confused I missed your address but the next week I listened again and sent for the 'Here's Life' course. Somehow life has taken on a new meaning. Everything seems to have fallen into place. I now no longer feel lost and alone, and I have a sure hope for the future. Thanks for the help you are giving to people like me."

Telephone Evangelism

In Australia and New Zealand, Adventist telephone dialling services, including "Dial-a-Prayer" and "Gospel Good News," received 11,454,331 calls resulting in several thousand enrolments for various home delivery Bible courses. Sixty-five lines are currently used by these dialling services, and calls have increased from an annual average of 1,720,000 to 2,290,866 with 3,138,010 recorded for 1974.

Newspapers and Magazines

Without financial cost to the denomination but as the result of a good deal of hard work on the part of Union, Conference and local mission Communication directors, and Communication secretaries of local churches, 10,339 separate newspaper and magazine stories carried 131,890 column-inches of Adventist news and views. For the 1966-1969 period the average column-inches per year was 21,904, whereas for the 1970-1974 period it averaged 26,378 per year.

Film Production

Two Australasian Division film production units operate, sometimes separately and at



During the quinquennium, the King's Heralds visited Australia and were tremendously popular.

Correspondence School activities for the quinquennium are shown in Table A.

If a full report of "visitor evangelism" in the personal delivery of courses was available, the above totals would possibly be doubled. Many thousands of sets of lessons are provided to the Lay Activities Department each year but details are not included in the Communication Department report.

The cumulative totals (excluding Lay Activities home delivery) since Bible Correspondence Schools were commenced in Australasia thirty years ago are:

Applications	734,774
Enrolments	301,563
Graduates	96,194
Students Baptized	16,848

Mention must be made of the efficient work done by Pastor R. C. Piper as principal of the Australian and New Zealand Schools, and the strong team of Bible Correspondence School supervisors in both our mission field and New Zealand.

other times together, in the preparation of sound movie films both for television and general screening. The high standard film production of Eric Were of the Division staff and Warren Judd of Advent Radio-Television Productions is appreciated not only in this Division but in a major part of the world field where Australasian-produced films are shown.

In Conclusion

A report of the work of the Department of Communication would not be complete without making reference to the fine spirit of co-operation that has been manifest by the whole Communication team which includes Pastor D. J. Silver, manager, Advent Radio-Television Productions; Communication directors and secretaries; broadcasters; lay visitors, and the general staff of our total Communication organization.

The future is bright for our media ministry as together we move forward in faith.



Pastor R.C.Piper, the principal of the A.R.T. Bible School, to whom Pastor Townsend pays tribute in his report.

The Director's report on five years' activity in the Department of . . .

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

R. W. TAYLOR, Director, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department

AT A TIME when millions of people around the world are deprived of religious freedom and liberty to follow the dictates of conscience, the people of this division should thank God daily for the privileges which we enjoy. However, it has been well said "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance," and we should continually be on guard against any incursion into what we have come to regard as our right to personal liberty of voice and action.

Sabbath Examinations

A provision for university examinations, scheduled for Sabbath, to be sat outside these hours, which was pioneered in the 1950s at the Sydney University has been finally extended to all Australian universities, the Public Service and P.M.G. department. Adventist students are taking full advantage of this arrangement, and on occasions groups of between twenty and thirty students at a time are being cared for. It would be fitting to record in this report the appreciation of the Religious Liberty Department and the church as a whole for the many hours freely given by the examination supervisors which makes this scheme a workable proposition.

Armed Forces

Because National Service is no longer obligatory we do not have problems currently over compulsory service in the armed forces. We have, however, been called upon to assist a number of men who have become Adventists while serving in the armed forces and have subsequently requested Sabbath privileges or discharge. All situations have been resolved amicably.

Trade Unions

In the past five years there has been considerable trade union activity, with pressure being exerted for compulsory union membership. Some unions have been more active than others, and we have seen a concentrated campaign to get our hospital workers into union membership. While compulsory union membership is an admitted aim of the union movement, both the president of the A.C.T.U., Mr. Bob Hawke, and other union leaders have declared their acceptance of the rights of the conscientious objector.

The Commonwealth Arbitration Act makes provision for a certificate of exemption to be issued to those who have conscientious objection to belonging to a union, if they serve under an award which includes a union preference clause. A considerable number of our church members have taken advantage of this provision. I am, in fact, not aware of any Adventist member being denied such classification upon application to the Registrar of the Arbitration Court.

Some local union branches and even employers have not been as helpful, and some members have had to seek alternative employment when they refused to bow to pressure to join the union.

Interestingly a Gallup Poll has shown decreasing support in the Australian community for the concept of compulsory unionism. (See Table A.)

TABLE A

	Voluntary	Compulsory	Undecided
1942	52	36	12
1943	64	26	10
1956	69	26	5
1966	63	30	7
1971	68	25	7



R.W. Taylor, director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty.

Representations

Representations have been made by this department to trade union officials on various matters; to the Australian Government about the Family Law Bill, and about the Electoral Law Amendment Bill; to the Attorney General about immigration permits; to State Governments on liquor and associated Amendment Bills. Representations have also been made to several Governments of emerging countries in the South Pacific about safeguarding the rights of conscience of their citizens by adequate provision being made in the drafting of their constitutions.

Calendar Reform

A Melbourne-based committee endeavoured to gain support for a new version of the blank-day calendar, but this failed to capture interest. Another change to the calendar has been more successful. This has been proposed by the standards association of the United Nations and involves a change to make Monday the first day of the week. It is claimed that because of the large amount of business done on computer these days it is much more convenient to have the first business day of the week listed as "day one" on the calendar. The proposal was introduced with considerable subtlety. Only a brief period was allowed for objection to the scheme, and the proposal was so worded as to imply that a failure to object indicated an acceptance. So by default in many cases the proposal has been carried. It is only a recommendation, but it is being implemented already by a number of countries, particularly in Europe.

Innovations

Because of the vast amount of legislation being processed by both the Federal and State Parliaments, and because some of these laws could have hidden implications for the church and its members, it has been recommended that a legislation surveillance officer be appointed to scrutinize proposed legislation and alert the church if any action should be taken.

The publication of a newsheet has been thought desirable, and although its commencement is technically outside the period of the report, we mention that this publication under the title "Fact and Opinion" has already made its appearance throughout the Division.

The Future

It would be nice to predict that with the trend to acknowledge the rights of minority groups which is currently popular, we could hope for complete religious tolerance for the future. The prophetic Word gives the lie to this oft-voiced objective, however; we know that the future holds much turmoil and intolerance. We are advised in the counsels of the Spirit of Prophecy to guard carefully the liberties which we enjoy that we do not prematurely bring hardship upon the church and thus hedge up the way for the finishing of the task.

On the other hand let us be sufficiently resolute to know where we stand with regard to our service for God and His precepts that we, like Daniel's three companions, may be able to withstand even the most fiery trial and be found walking with "one like unto the Son of Man."

A "first" at a Division Session...

CHRISTIAN SERVICES FOR THE BLIND

R. A. VINCE, Director, Christian Services for the Blind

IT IS a pleasure to report briefly on the establishment and development of our work for the blind and visually handicapped in this Australasian Division. Among the few statements of inspiration from the Lord's messenger on this responsibility are these: "I saw that it is in the providence of God that widows and orphans, the blind, the deaf, the lame, and persons afflicted in a variety of ways, have been placed in close Christian relationship to His church; it is to prove His people, and develop their true characters." — "Testimonies," Vol. 3, page 511.

"That heart in which pity and sympathy are not excited at seeing a blind man groping his way in a world clothed to him in darkness, is hard indeed and must be softened by the grace of God." — Id., page 521.

"Those who have pity for the unfortunate, the blind, the lame, the afflicted, the widows, the orphans, and the needy, Christ represents as commandment-keepers, who shall have eternal life." — Id., page 512.

Doubtless in response to such motivations, our church's work for the blind was initiated by a Doctor A. O. Wilson in the U.S.A. in 1899. It operated first under the name Christian Record Benevolent Association, which later became Christian Record Braille Foundation.

This General Conference organization presently serves the visually handicapped in eighty-five countries, with a wide range of services, the most significant of which is its lending library of about a thousand titles of "talking books," Braille and large-print books.

In 1971 this Division had sixty-three persons benefiting regularly from the materials available through the mail from America. A liaison officer of the Australasian Division served as representative of Christian Record Braille Foundation to the whole field.

The mailing of bulky magazines and books in braille, and the large quantity of records containing books and magazines (such as "The Student," or Sabbath School Lesson) was not without problems. Frequently records would arrive in a damaged and unusable condition, or too late as in the case of "The Student." Consequently in May 1973, it was voted to establish our own organization to work for the blind, under the name Christian Services for the Blind. Its objectives are akin to those of the Christian Record Braille Foundation, but its primary purpose at present is to establish a local library of talking books, etc., to avoid the mailing complications referred to.

Officially Registered

Christian Services for the Blind is now officially registered as a business name in all Australian states except Tasmania and Victoria, but it is confidently expected they will comply in due course. Donations to Christian Services for the Blind of over \$2.00 are also now tax-deductible when the gift is made to Christian Services for the Blind headquarters, where the official receipt is issued.

In many churches, "secretaries" for Christian Services for the Blind have been elected, and guidelines have been supplied to indicate



Pastor R.A. Vince, director, Christian Services for the Blind.

how they can best represent Christian Services for the Blind and Christian Record Braille Foundation, and where possible, obtain co-operation from local church members in visiting and helping the blind and visually handicapped with a practical, loving ministry.

The library of Christian Services for the Blind is at present very limited. However, as funds become available, priority is being given to the reproduction of books on standard cassettes, particularly Spirit of Prophecy works such as "The Great Controversy," "The Desire of Ages," "Steps to Christ," and "Ministry of Healing." The new "Here's Life" Bible Guides are also in process of reproduction on cassettes.

One particularly popular feature of our new cassette reproduction facility is the distribution of the Sabbath School Lesson, "The Student." The following figures are of interest:

In 1971 the number receiving the Sabbath School Lesson on records and braille from C.R.B.F. was thirty-seven.



In 1975 the number receiving the Sabbath School Lesson from C.R.B.F. was twenty. The number receiving the Sabbath School Lesson from C.S.F.B. was fifty-eight. The 1975 total was seventy-eight.

In 1971 the total number of people in Australasia receiving C.R.B.F. services was sixty-three.

In 1975 the total number of people in Australasia using C.R.B.F. and C.S.F.B. services was 187.

Financially, at present, Christian Services for the Blind is almost insolvent. Some regular system of financing needs to be established if we are to develop along the lines agreed upon. Some substantial gifts, including a bequest of \$1,000, have been received. Some sample costs for reproduction alone are: the "Great Controversy" costs \$40, "Steps to Christ" costs \$8 and the Sabbath School Lessons per year, per person, cost \$12.

Each year the Australasian Division supports the work of Christian Record Braille Foundation by about \$1,200, which is particularly to cover the costs of magazines sent to this Division. In 1974 the Conferences of Australia and New Zealand donated \$1,200 to Christian Services for the Blind to provide initial funds for library development, etc. However, funds have now run out, and it is hoped this Committee will consider a basic plan of regular financial support.

As the foregoing figures of clientele indicate, Christian Services for the Blind is steadily growing in its outreach and ministry. One feature we may need to take note of in the future is the employment of suitable blind persons in appropriate places in our institutions. We also hope soon to move into the conducting of our first camp for blind children. This we believe will help establish the atmosphere of loving concern in which such a service as this thrives best.

PUBLISHING

J. W. NIXON, Director, Publishing Department

THE EVANGELIST preaches the message of salvation to the people through their ears, the printed pages preach the message to the people through their eyes, which is one of the most effective ways of reaching the mind and transforming lives. The messenger of the Lord made this clear: "This agency can reach and influence the public mind as no other means can." ("Colporteur Ministry," page 149.) "It is as good and successful a method as can be employed for placing before the people the important truths for this time." — Id. page 6. Through this agency "the message will go where the living preacher cannot go." — Ibid.

"A book is a subtle thing. It lies on the table in the living-room, inert. It has no tongue, and cannot talk; it has no eyes, and cannot see; it has no ears, and cannot hear. But it is nevertheless one of the most dominant factors in the household, and has a way of touching the lives of all who take it in their hands, look at it with their eyes, and read its thought and discern its purpose. For a book is a living thing, with heart and mind and soul and spirit; and from it issues forth a stream of good or evil that cleanses or befouls the lives of all whom it touches in its onward sweep."

A Look at the Past

Just over 129 years ago, on April 6, 1846, we printed on a small hand press in New England, U.S.A., our first denominational tract entitled "The Remnant Scattered Abroad," written by Ellen G. White. It was an account of her first vision and the publishers were James White and H. S. Gurney. The edition totalled 250 copies.

Two years later, in 1848, while a small group of believers were gathered together giving special study as to how they could proclaim the message to the world, God gave Mrs. White "a view of the proclamation of the sealing message, and of the duty of the brethren to publish the light that was shining upon our pathway." Describing this experience, Mrs. White said: "After coming out of vision, I said to my husband, 'I have a message for you. You must begin to print a little paper and send it out to the people.'" That first paper was called "The Present Truth," and early in 1850 the title was changed to the "Review and Herald" which is still the official church paper of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Today we see the fulfilment of this wise counsel, as the denomination owns and oper-

ates fifty-one publishing houses and prints literature in almost 300 languages and dialects, and publishes not one paper, but 308 different papers and periodicals.

The total value of literature sold since the beginning of our work up till the end of 1974 is just over \$1 billion. We are grateful that God has blessed the sales of our literature, but more important is the fact that thousands of people are rejoicing in the truth today because of the influence of billions of pages of books, magazines and tracts distributed throughout the world by literature evangelists and missionary-minded church members.

Statistics

The sales of literature in the Australasian Division for the present quinquennium are the highest on record for any similar period. Actual records show the following sales by literature evangelists:

1965-1969	\$3,001,152.00
1970-1974	\$3,546,297.00
Amount of increase	\$ 535,145.00

In 1974 we experienced a sales explosion, when \$919,750.00 worth of literature was delivered, which is \$186,884.00 more than we delivered in our previous best year, 1973. The actual number of books sold totalled just over 150,000. This means that for every working day our literature evangelists worked, they delivered one book every 50 seconds or more than one book every minute. But beyond this they were instrumental in various ways in the baptism of 120 souls during the same year. This is the greatest number of baptisms in one year from literature evangelists' contacts. The following table gives the great amount of extra missionary work done besides the actual sales of literature.



Pastor J.W. Nixon, the retiring Division Publishing Department director.

Cumulative Extra-Mile Services

	1970-1974
Number of tracts and other literature given away	345,515
Number enrolled in Bible Correspondence Courses	5,538
Number of interested people attending church or S.S.	7,514
Number of former S.D.A.s contacted and invited to church	3,090
Number of homes in which prayer was offered	23,096
Number of Bible studies given	13,841
Number baptized from literature evangelist contacts	433

In 1971 we began combining message books with the medical set, with the result that the sales of "Your Bible and You" greatly increased and also the pleasure of the literature evangelists, through being able to place a full message book with the medical volume in the homes of the people.

Promotion Plans

During the quinquennium a determined effort was made to improve the stability of our literature evangelists by improving their selling ability. Concentrated efforts by our Publishing directors proved effective and an increased earning capacity of a large number of the selling force has been the result. This has brought new life into the work and greatly improved the image of the literature ministry. Today we have a very definite training programme for prospective literature evangelists which must be completed with before a new recruit is allowed to start. We are striving for quality rather than quantity and it is proving a great success.

A swing away from credit selling to the more stable method of cash on delivery in the Australian section has taken place in the past two years and has brought much relief and satisfaction to the literature evangelists. Incomes have increased and losses have dramatically decreased. The success of cash business has greatly improved the morale of the sales force in Australia.

Publishing Evangelism Programme

Towards the end of 1974 the Greater Sydney Conference appointed Pastor N. H. J. Smith to work with the Publishing Department on a paid-out literature-evangelist-customer-survey programme. The plan calls for a visit to lists of people who have purchased sets of books, asking for their co-operation to enable us to give them further service. If the survey reveals an



Pastor J.W. Nixon has been a publishing leader for quite a long time. Here he is with a group of his publishing directors in a picture taken at a Trans-Commonwealth Union Publishing Council in 1953. Those pictured are (left to right): H. Dodd, G.D.Box, S.H. Shell, N.H.J. Smith, R.C.H. Smith, M. Hughes, J.W. Nixon, G. Heise, H.G. Bone, J. Young and F. Bevan.

interest in their books, they are offered a Gift Bible Course. This is followed up by Pastor Smith for a few weeks and if the interest is good, he introduces the local worker and hands over to him. This allows him to continue his survey work for more interests. Out of the first thirty-four homes surveyed, ten accepted the Gift Bible Course and six are continuing with the lessons in a regular way and have been handed over to the local minister. This is wonderful for just one and a half days' survey work.

One literature evangelist husband-and-wife team have passed on eight foolscap sheets of names and addresses of people to whom they have delivered sets of our books.

Overseas where this plan is in operation it is proving very fruitful, and the indications are that it will be equally as fruitful here. This could be an exciting break-through in soulwinning. The combination of minister and literature evangelist is a very successful method of winning souls when properly organized. The following recent experiences in Greater Sydney illustrate this point.

Literature evangelist Les Nobbs sold "Your Bible and You" to a family that Pastor Noel Smith was visiting for regular Bible studies. After a while the mother and children began attending church. At his next visit Pastor Smith was about to introduce the subject of tithing, through the lesson "God's money in my purse," but before he did so the lady asked, "What do we do about tithing?" Somewhat puzzled and surprised, Pastor Smith asked,



Old P.D. leaders never die, they just move up to Paradise—Surfers' Paradise, that is. Pastor P.H.G. Starr, the P.D. leader of the Trans-Commonwealth, retired during the quinquennium, and now lives in sub-tropical surroundings in his native Queensland.

Home Health Education Service

There is every indication that the publishing work is heading for great times. Our sales are on the increase and the turn-over of full-time literature evangelists has dramatically decreased. The sales force is fast becoming larger and well established, and is attracting men and women with successful backgrounds.

Australia

With the accent on cash and C.O.D. selling, anticipated sales at invoice value for the twelve months to June 30, 1975, should reach \$370,000. This exceeds our record year of 1974 by 24.3 per cent.

Take note of Table A. This lends effect to the changes in sales trends over the past ten years.

The percentage of credit sales to cash sales has greatly reduced during the past four years as follows:

1972	46%
1973	21%
1974	11%
1975	4%

The Central Credit Office is now established in new and permanent offices at Hornsby. We thank the Lord for making it possible for us to be away from the pollution and noise of the city, and to be able to work in such pleasant surroundings.

New Zealand

We operate a successful credit selling programme there under the capable care of W. Ackland. However as current economic trends de-

velop, it could well be that a greater accent on cash selling could prove beneficial. The Lord has greatly blessed, and anticipated sales for the twelve months to June 30, 1975, should reach \$127,600, an increase of 27 per cent on their record year of 1974.

Table B shows New Zealand sales trends over the past ten years.

"The canvassing work is God's means of reaching many that would not otherwise be impressed with the truth. The work is a good one, the object high and elevating." — "Testimonies," Vol. 5, page 405.

Over the past five years we have experienced the blessing of God over His work, and are confident that He will continue to direct it till Jesus comes.

Adventist Book Centres

The past quinquennium has seen a rapid growth in the sales of our Adventist Book Centres. It is obvious that our church members are reading more than in former years. One thing that has contributed to this interest is the



Some of the tonnes of books delivered to the Signs for distribution to the field.

large increase in books produced for children and youth. The introduction of the cheap paperbacks in 1969 boosted sales dramatically. Even though the profit on each unit sale is less than on the hardbound books, the increased sales have more than offset this loss.

After the sales of subscription books were taken away from the Book Centres in 1965 most Conferences predicted a loss on Book Centre operations. This did occur temporarily in some of the small Conferences but all Book Centres are now showing record profit returns.

The most dramatic area of growth has been in the sale of disc records and cassettes. From sales of \$20,656 for the previous five years, the total for this quinquennium has increased to \$160,511, an increase of 677 per cent. The past



Pastor N.H.J. Smith, who is pioneering a follow-up survey programme in Greater Sydney. This picture, taken in 1956, indicates that Pastor Smith has not changed one bit in nineteen years.

"How do you know about tithing?" The reply was, "Oh, we read all about it in the book 'Your Bible and You' we bought from Mr. Nobbs, and it seems so exciting we want to begin doing it."

The minister can also help the literature evangelist and at the same time help his own work. After he had been studying in a home for several months, Pastor Smith asked a literature evangelist to call and introduce our books. After making a sale of "Your Bible and You" and "The Bedtime Stories," the literature evangelist offered prayer before leaving the home. The husband and wife were so deeply impressed with the department of the literature evangelist that at the very next study they said, "If this is the kind of people Seventh-day Adventists are then we want to become members of your church."

TABLE A

	1966-1970	%	1971-1975	%	Increase	%
Cash Sales	\$725,950	67	\$1,044,000	72	\$318,050	45
Credit Sales	363,200	33	403,600	28	40,400	11
Total Sales	\$1,089,150	100	\$1,447,600	100	\$358,450	33

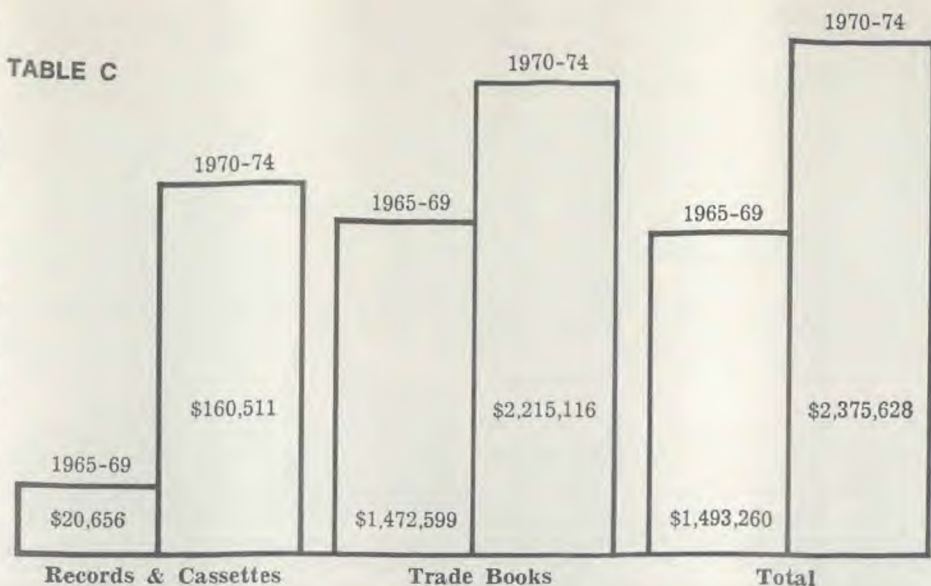
TABLE B

	1966-1970	%	1971-1975	%	Increase	%
Cash Sales	\$137,600	45	\$198,250	42	\$60,650	44
Credit Sales	167,900	55	277,150	58	139,250	83
Total Sales	\$305,500	100	\$475,400	100	\$199,900	65

three years have seen greatly increased sales to the Pacific Islands. This has been due to the growing Adventist membership and rising living standards. Papua New Guinea Union Mission operates a central Book Centre that has shown dramatic sales. Overall Book Centre sales for this quinquennium show an increase of 59 per cent on the previous five years. The graphs in Table C tell the story.

In conclusion I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the privilege of having worked with the Division officers, department directors, and fellow labourers at Wahroonga, the Publishing Departmental directors around the Division and the management and staff of the Signs Publishing Company. It has been a heartwarming and rewarding experience, and I have received much more than I have imparted, therefore my farewell message is a deep and sincere expression of gratitude to God first for the privilege of being His helping hand, and then to my fellow-labourers for their unstinted helpfulness, comradeship and co-operation.

TABLE C



STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

JOHN H. WADE, Director, Department of Stewardship and Development

"EVERY CHRISTIAN is a steward of God, entrusted with His goods... A steward identifies himself with his master. He accepts the responsibilities of a steward, and he must act in his master's stead, doing as his master would do were he presiding. His master's interests become his. The position of a steward is one of dignity because his master trusts him."—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 246.

The aim and objective of the Department of Stewardship and Development is to stimulate spiritually God's people into an experience of total identification with our Lord and Master Jesus Christ. The Lord has certainly blessed the ministry of the dedicated men who are enthusiastically serving in this, our newest department in this Division.

It is interesting to note that from a very humble beginning in 1970 with just one man seeking to establish this new work, today we have Stewardship directors in each of our five Unions, plus Stewardship directors in each of our Conferences. This means that seventeen men are now very actively and happily serving the cause in this specialized work. Repeatedly we are hearing such remarks as:

- "Spiritual revival has come to our church."
- "Why didn't we have this department years ago?"
- "This programme is solving our church problems."
- "Our people are now informed and inspired."
- "We know where we are going now in church planning."
- "We no longer have to promote for money on Sabbath."
- "We have been delivered from second-rate methods of fund raising."
- "Intelligent, systematic giving is the answer."

These and many other favourable comments give us courage and also a deep desire to press on to even greater things.

While we do not measure the success of this work by financial accomplishments, nevertheless it is interesting to note that Stewardship programmes have been conducted in 264 of our churches, resulting in church budgets amounting to \$1,510,434 being written up. In one Conference, namely North Queensland, the entire sisterhood of churches has united in a plan known as Conference-Wide Development (C.W.D.). Through this plan a secondary school which will benefit this whole Conference will be made a reality.

Benevolence Gives Spiritual Life

"The idea of stewardship should have a practical bearing upon all the people of God... Practical benevolence will give spiritual life to thousands of nominal professors of truth who now mourn over their darkness. It will transform them from selfish, covetous worshippers of mammon to earnest, faithful co-workers with Christ in the salvation of sinners." ("Testimonies," Vol. 3, page 387.) We thank God today for the fulfilment of this statement which is so evident in our churches.

"God's providence has arranged the entire plan of systematic benevolence for the benefit of man. His providence never stands still. If God's servants follow His opening providence, all will be active workers."—"Testimonies," Vol. 3, page 399.

God has certainly dealt very bountifully with us. So many blessings flow to us via the cross of Calvary. We should never cease to praise Him for the spiritual blessings which are ours in such abundance. We also live in such a favourable



Pastor John Wade, Stewardship and Development director, who commenced the operation of the department in the Australasian Division. Pastor Wade retires at the time of the session.

area, surrounded as we are by so many temporal blessings. We are stewards of so much, and for what purpose?

"He has placed means in the hands of men that His divine gifts may flow through human channels in doing the work appointed us in

saving our fellow men. This is one of God's ways of exalting man. It is just the work man needs, for it will stir the deepest sympathies of his heart and call into exercise the highest capabilities of the mind... He thus makes man the medium through which to distribute His blessings on earth. God planned the system of beneficence in order that man might become like his Creator, benevolent and unselfish in character, and finally be a partaker with Christ of the eternal, glorious reward."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 9, page 255.

In the year 1904, Ellen White wrote, "God Himself originates the plans for the advancement of His work, and has provided His people with a surplus of means, that when He calls for help, they may cheerfully respond."—*"Review and Herald,"* July 14, 1904.

In this late hour of earth's history, it is pathetic that "many of the people of God are stupefied by the spirit of the world and are denying their faith by their works. They cultivate a love for money, for houses and lands, until it absorbs the powers of mind and being and shuts out love for the Creator and for souls for whom Christ died. The god of this world has blinded their eyes; their eternal interests are made secondary; and brain, bone, and muscle are taxed to the utmost to increase their worldly possessions. And all this accumulation of cares and burdens is borne in direct violation of the injunction of Christ who said, 'Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.'"—*"Counsels on Stewardship,"* page 209.

Something For Each to Do

The message of Stewardship is: "LET EVERY CHURCH MEMBER DO SOMETHING." There is something for each one to do. Time, talent and treasure are to be made available to God. This is the way God's work will be finished: when we are willing to give what we are able to give. There is much more than merely the tithe and offerings to be returned to God. He has claim upon much more than just our substance. What we are seeing in our churches—of greatly increased tithe receipts, enlarged offerings, sacrificial covenants for God's work—is just an expression of the spirit of willingness which is taking possession of the hearts of God's remnant people who are willing to make THEMSELVES available in the grand programme of finishing the task.

As Seventh-day Adventist Christians we are ardently looking for the day of our Saviour's return. Prophecy and promise assure our hearts that that day is soon to dawn. What a day that will be when the reaping angels will be commissioned to gather in the harvest of this earth! They have instruction from their great Commander, "Gather My saints together unto Me; those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice." Ps. 50:5. In *"Testimonies,"* Volume 1, page 126, God's messenger states that "some hardly know as yet what self-denial or sacrifice is.... But none will enter heaven without making a sacrifice." What a privilege is ours today of sacrificing gladly for the One who gave His all a willing sacrifice to assure our salvation!

We thank God today for the unmistakable evidence we see of His blessing upon the Department of Stewardship and Development, both at home and in our mission territories. We have deep heart convictions that God by His



Pastor Gordon Lee, the director-elect of the Stewardship and Development Department.

Spirit is moving upon His people to take part in the work seriously and gladly, for this is the day of opportunity. Stewardship is of God. May He continue to guide as we plan larger things for the future.

"We should never forget that we are placed on trial in this world, to determine our fitness for the future life. None can enter heaven whose characters are defiled by the foul blot of selfishness. Therefore God tests us here, by committing to us temporal possessions, that our use of these may show whether we can be trusted with eternal riches."—*"Review and Herald,"* May 16, 1893.

May we all prove to be faithful stewards of God-entrusted goods.



Stewardship—the way to stretch the dollar.

"Our growth in grace, our joy, our usefulness, all depend upon our union with Christ and the degree of faith we exercise in Him. Here is our source of power in the world."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 5, page 48.

The Valley of Prayer

THERE'S a quiet, deep vale by the wayside of life,

And the name of this valley is prayer; It is hid from the world with its tumult and strife,

And the angel of peace dwelleth there.

Winding down through its calm flows the river of God,

All agleam with the glory on high; And I feel in my soul, as I kneel on its sod, A sweet rapture that comes from the sky.

The breezes that blow through this valley of prayer

Are as soft as the sighing of love, And as pure as the dew on the clover bloom there,

Or the raindrops that fall from above.

The wild storms that come nigh it soon swoon into calm

In this deep, hidden valley of prayer; And the leaves of the trees there are rich with the balm

That heals all my pain and my care.

Hovering o'er its still depths are the infolded wings

Of bright seraphs sent down from the throne,

To shelter with love the suppliant who clings

Unto Him whose shed blood can atone.

When the tempest is on me, and fierce is its wrath,

And my heart is sore pressed with its care,

I turn from the world, and gladly enter the path

That leads down to the valley of prayer.

—Campbell Coyle.

"God has made provision that we may become like unto Him, and He will accomplish this for all who do not interpose a perverse will and thus frustrate His grace."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* page 76.

"The head and not the tail."

This report reveals that Adventists make a contribution to...

TEMPERANCE

R. W. TAYLOR, Director, Temperance Department

THE DARKER THE NIGHT the brighter the appearance of the stars. During the period under review the Temperance Department has been shining brightly in no small corner against a background of increasing darkness. For example, we could note that in the past twenty-five years the average per capita consumption of alcohol has doubled in Australia to 28 gallons of beer, half a gallon of spirits and two gallons of wine. When it is considered that about two in ten are non-drinkers, and another three in ten are only occasional or light users of alcohol, it becomes evident that some people are consuming enormous quantities of liquor and suffering the unfortunate consequences.

In spite of health warnings against smoking, the percentage of smokers in the community remains about the same. The ranks of the ex-smoker are being filled by youth, particularly young women commencing the habit. The drug abuse situation is not escalating at quite the same pace as it was, but it is still increasing, and it is now evident that a large percentage of the population is regularly taking drugs of some kind or another.

In this setting the challenge to the Temperance Department has been tremendous and we are thrilled to report that the response of the Temperance leaders and church members has been energetic and timely.

Public Outreach

A programme of public education in the advantages of the temperate way of life and the danger of alcohol, tobacco and drugs was pursued through the use of lectures, film screenings, show exhibits and the distribution of literature. A comparative summary of these activities is shown in Table 1.

This summary indicates that a total equal to one in fifteen of the population saw one of our films during the period. And a piece of Tem-

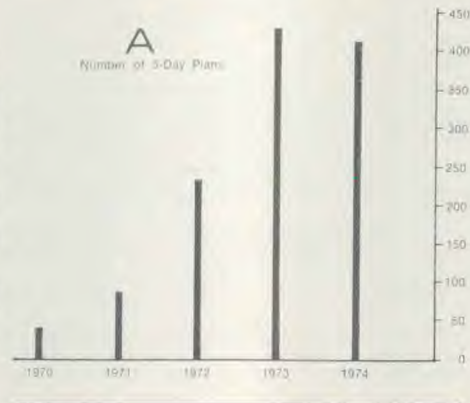
Literature

A number of high-quality Temperance leaflets have been produced, usually as supplements to "Alert" in the first instance, and later available separately as leaflets. There has been a strong and steady demand for this literature both by Adventists and non-Adventist organizations. We have also produced the first of a proposed series for the South Pacific areas. This was on Betel-nut, and others are planned on other topics.

"Smoke Signals" and "Winner" are also produced as periodicals by the department. The current circulation of "Smoke Signals" is approximately 7,500 and the "Winner" 4,000.

5-Day Plans

This successful stop-smoking programme has been given wide and favourable publicity during the period under review. It has been featured in "The Reader's Digest," along with many other newspapers and magazines. The Australian Consumer Association gave it a high rating in their journal "Choice." It was the subject of a 40-minute programme on "Four Corners," the A.B.C. feature, and has had coverage on many radio and television stations.



victory over the tobacco habit. In the past two years of the period under review 15,442 people enrolled in the 822 Plans. This was an average of nineteen people per programme. Of those enrolling, 11,814 stopped smoking completely. This is just over 76 per cent.

Junior Australasian Temperance Society

This organization has been considerably strengthened during the period. It is now a requirement of the JMV organization that every member be a member of J.A.T.S. Attractive honour tokens are available to J.A.T.S. members for use on their JMV honour sashes. Further recommendation since the end of the reporting period will, upon implementation, increase still further the Junior Temperance Organization throughout the Division.

We urge parents and leaders not to assume that our children are unlikely to be tempted in regard to tobacco, alcohol and drugs, or that they are fully insulated against this problem. Surveys have revealed that in Australia the average age for smoking experimentation is seven years. Alcohol and drug experimentation usually begin between twelve and sixteen years. Full support for the J.A.T.S. programme in each church can do much to help our children reject the pressures toward intemperance which are all around them.

"Alert" Magazine

A major aspect of the Temperance programme is the circulation of the official organ of the Society, "Alert." While there has been a gratifying increase in circulation, there have also been other rewarding evidences of the success of this journal. After years of vainly trying to encourage other organizations to use "Alert" in their temperance programme, we are at last achieving this aim. All the Australian State Temperance Alliances have ordered bulk quantities of "Alert" and some have used

TABLE 1

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	Total
Film screenings	2,198	1,873	2,460	4,620	4,009	15,160
Attendances at screenings	173,055	129,210	158,572	183,221	183,376	827,434
Literature distributed	95,175	122,811	524,595	747,323	775,796	2,265,700

perance literature was given for every five of the Australian population. At an average of half-an-hour per film screening it would take more than ten months—or 316 days—of continuous twenty-four-hour-a-day projection to screen the films listed in the report.

Australian Temperance Film

While speaking about films we should mention that we produced in 1973/74 the first Temperance film made in this Division. The film, with the title "Tomorrow is Cancelled," has been widely acclaimed by Temperance workers in Australia, particularly those not connected with the Adventist Church. Some copies have been sold overseas, and Pastor Watson of the General Conference Temperance Department stated: "You will be pleased to know that we are having some very good responses. Dr. Addison Pinkney particularly is finding the film very useful in his school work." Twenty-four copies of the film have been sold in Australia, plus a number overseas.

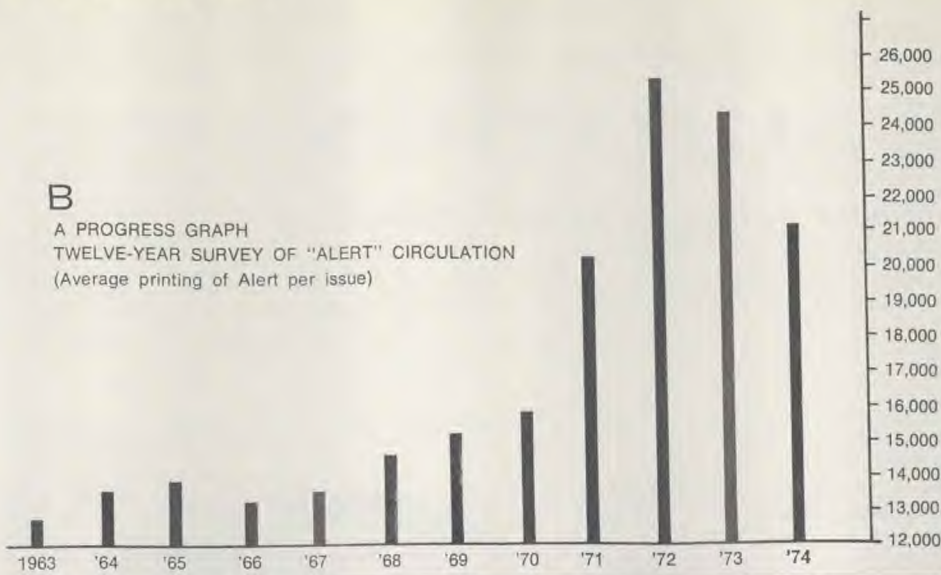
The 5-Day Plan is frequently recommended by satisfied participants and enjoys a high reputation in private and Government medical circles. The year 1973 was the tenth anniversary of the introduction of the 5-Day Plan into Australia, and a goal of one Plan for each day of the anniversary year was easily surpassed. In the final year of the quinquennium 153 teams were engaged in running 5-Day Plans, and 190 of the 450 Plans were concluded with an organized follow-up programme. At the end of the year seventy-eight contacts from the 5-Day Plan were receiving Bible studies and four had been baptized.

The growth of the 5-Day Plan programme can be seen from Graph A.

The interest, support and expertise of the doctors, pastors and laymen associated with this extensive service to the community is greatly appreciated, but beyond this I am sure that those operating these programmes have rejoiced with participants as they gained the

B

A PROGRESS GRAPH
TWELVE-YEAR SURVEY OF "ALERT" CIRCULATION
(Average printing of Alert per issue)



"Alert" supplements by the thousand in their work. Recently "Alert" has been quoted by other non-church journals as a source of reliable information and referred to as a reference journal. This gives us a status which we value highly and will seek to guard.

For various reasons the subscription section of "Alert" has passed through stages of evolution during the period, and now (1975) is centred at the Signs Publishing Company where it is being handled in the same manner as other periodicals which it produces. It is hoped that the proposal to computerise the mailing list in the immediate future will give trouble-free service to the subscribers.

In 1974 we reached the highest ever printing of "Alert" for one issue of just on 40,000 copies. A glance at the graph of circulation figures covering the past twelve years will give an indication of this magazine's progress. See Graph B.

Offerings and Training

The growing interest of our church membership and their personal investment in the work of Temperance is demonstrated by the progressive totals of the annual Temperance offerings. See the details given in Graph C.

A calculated effort has been made by the department to train Temperance workers at Conference and church levels; and also to demonstrate to ministers and laymen alike the soundness of the blueprint statements that "Temperance is an entering wedge... that is part of the gospel," and that its presentation aids in preparing people for the second coming of Jesus.

Workshops and training programmes have been operated in most areas, as well as techni-



Through hundreds of 5-Day Plans, thousands have conquered the smoking habit.

cal seminars for Conference Temperance directors. We believe that there is a growing awareness of the part which health and temperance are to play in these vital days of the world's history, and we look forward to an ever-increasing use of the "right arm of the message" in "the battle of the Lord."

Representation

Inspired counsel has directed that we should actively associate with others who have similar aims in the matter of temperance. In most states of Australia and also in New Zealand and some of the Pacific territories, Adventist personnel have been actively associated with Alliances, Temperance Unions, etc., in working in the cause of Temperance. This participation has brought statements of appreciation from a wide range of people and enabled us to achieve with them some goals which would have been beyond us if we acted alone.

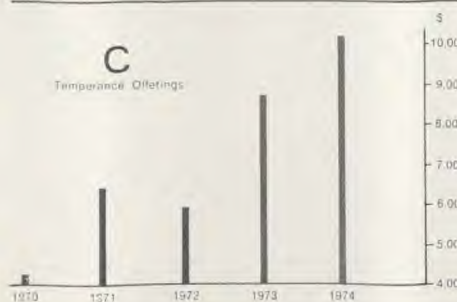
Currently the director of the Temperance Department at Division level is president of the

N.S.W. Temperance Alliance, a member of the N.S.W. Health Commission Drug Education Advisory Committee, executive secretary of the National Committee for the Prevention of Alcoholism, a member of the Executive and Board of the Australian Council on Smoking and Health, and editor of this organization's publication "Smoking and Health."

In the use of liquor, tobacco and other drugs we see, through the eyes of inspiration, a major weapon of the enemy of God and man. A weapon being singularly successful in dulling men's minds by tranquillizing them into peace when their souls know no peace. The darkness of the hour challenges the church that has a light to shed it abroad that all may see. The hand of science is today fanning the flame of our health message, and men marvel at its brilliance. May we, each church member, each worker, wave the Temperance banner high that men may perceive the importance of these dark days which herald the eternal morn.

C

Temperance Offerings



The department in which EVERYONE has a part...

LAY ACTIVITIES

GEORGE W. MAYWALD, Director, Lay Activities Department, Australasian Division

“THE REAL CHARACTER of the church is measured, not by the high profession she makes, not by the names enrolled upon the church book, but by what she is actually doing for the Master, by the number of her persevering, faithful workers. Personal interest, and vigilant, individual effort will accomplish more for the cause of Christ than can be wrought by sermons or creeds.”—“Christian Service,” page 12.

This report is a record of the work done by those faithful members who, week after week, prayerfully and diligently, seek to bring a knowledge of God’s love to their neighbours and friends. We rejoice because of the progress of God’s work. In every line of service we see increases. We praise God for His leading and guidance during the period under review. This report is made possible because up to 64.4 per cent of God’s modern-day apostles have recorded their good deeds. If only all members had recorded their service to God and humanity, the picture would be even brighter than it is.

The aim of God’s church is to evangelize the world. To do this, contacts with people must be made. During 1970-1974 a total of 4,655,176 contacts were made. During the previous quinquennium there were 4,167,445 contacts. This is an increase of 487,731. It is interesting to note the increase over the past twenty years. (See Graph 1.)

One of our greatest avenues of service is the distribution of our truth-filled literature. The messenger of the Lord has stated: “Our literature is to be distributed everywhere. The truth is to be sown beside all waters.... We know not what may be the good results of giving away a leaflet containing present truth.” — Id., page 153.

“Place in the homes of the people papers, tracts and books that will preach the gospel in its several lines. There is no time to be lost.” - Id., page 147.

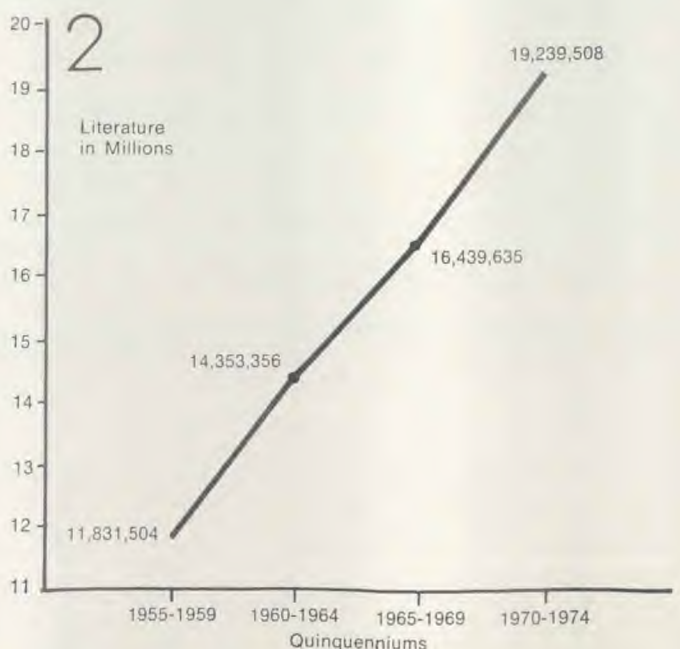
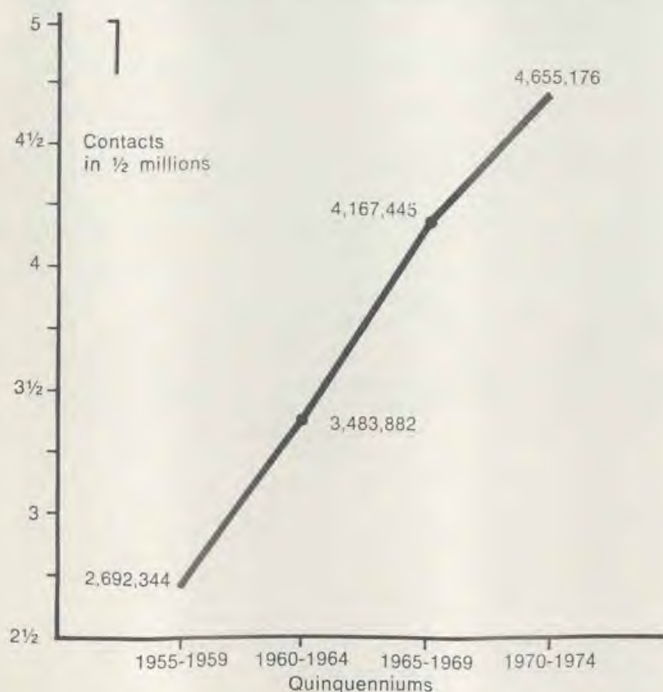
During 1970-1974, 19,239,508 pieces of literature were distributed. For the previous period the total was 16,439,635. Thus we had an increase of 2,799,873 pieces of literature. This included the hundreds of thousands of copies of our truth-filled magazine, the “Signs of the Times.” We thank God for our dedicated laity and ministry who are using this magazine so effectively in their soul-winning work. We also pause to thank the editor and the Signs Publishing Company workers for their continual efforts to improve this wonderful magazine. The present circulation has now climbed to just over 76,500 a month. We look forward to the near future when this will be increased to 100,000 a

month. Graph 2 shows a continued steady increase of pieces of literature distributed over the past twenty years.

During the quinquennium under review, thousands of our members, both in the home-base and in the mission field have been trained to give simple Bible studies.



Pastor G.W. Maywald, Lay Activities director of the Australasian Division, 1970-75.



We greatly appreciated the visit of our General Conference Lay Activities director, Pastor V. W. Schoen, who gave to our field tremendous inspiration in lay evangelism.

Our members gave 1,570,937 Bible Studies during 1970-1974, an increase of 471,592 over the 1965-1969 total of 1,099,345, as illustrated on Graph 3. We are told: "Our work has been marked out for us by our heavenly Father. We are to take our Bibles, and go forth to warn the world. We are to be God's helping hands in saving souls — channels through which His love is day by day to flow to the perishing." — Id., page 141.

We do pray that more and more of our laity will spend some time each week in studying God's Word with their neighbours and friends. We must still be "the people of the Book."

Willing Response

In Community Services activities we saw a marked increase over the previous quinquennium. Our people responded willingly to calls for help in cyclone areas. We very much appreciated the response of our people during the disastrous floods in Queensland, and more recently in the Darwin disaster. We are thankful for the work of our church Welfare Societies.

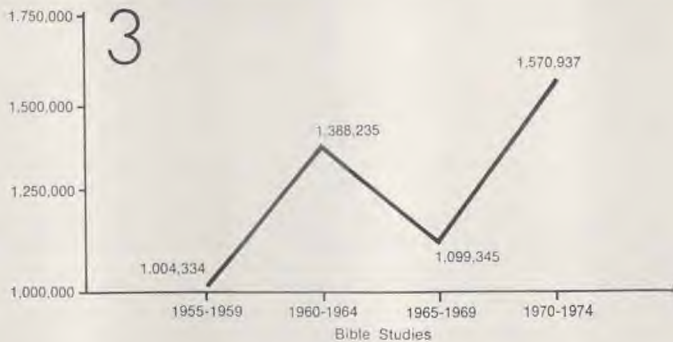
At the beginning of the quinquennium we had 670 Societies organized. This figure has now grown to 788. Many hours have been spent by members in relieving suffering, taking cheer and hope to sick and aged, and packing hundreds of bags of clothing to help in disaster areas of the Pacific Islands. The figures in Table A speak for themselves.

We read: "Christ's chief work was in ministering to the poor, the needy, and the ignorant. In simplicity He opened before them the blessings they might receive, and thus aroused a soul hunger for the bread of life. Christ's life is an example to all His followers." — "Welfare Ministry," page 59.

As we face the future we must be prepared and ready to render greater service in a world of growing need. May God continue to bless the work of all our Community Services. We look forward to more of our youth



The youth of the church are doing their part in lay witnessing. Here a young man in a Melbourne street speaks to two young ladies about his faith.



joining the ranks of those who are ready to follow in the Master's steps. The total numbers of units of service are listed in Table B. It is most encouraging to see the steady growth.

One of the greatest programmes of the church is our Ingathering work. God's messenger writes: "The Lord has placed His goods in the hands of unbelievers as well as believers; all may return to Him His own for the doing of the work that must be done for a fallen world. As long as we are in this world, as long as the Spirit of God strives with the children of men, so long are we to receive favours as well as to impart them. We are to give to the world the light of truth, as revealed in the Scriptures; and we are to receive from the world that which God moves upon them to give in behalf of His cause." — "Christian Service," page 168.

This programme has meant much to this Division since its commencement in 1918. As well as souls having been won in the mission fields, there are hundreds in the homeland who rejoice in the message

we love because their first contact was by someone calling on their door during Ingathering. Just one experience to illustrate:

One of our sincere, earnest members was working from home to home when a young lady who had already given a gift came and asked whether she could help too. He said, "If you can answer one question." He then asked: "Do you love Jesus?" "Yes," was her reply. So she was given magazines and territory and succeeded in bringing in \$100. More important still was the fact that our lay brother had access to the young lady's home for Bible studies. She is now baptized and has brought her sister to Christ. Her mother is also planning baptism and the three are praying and working for their father.

It is interesting to note the way God has blessed the Appeal for Missions programme financially over the years. This becomes abundantly clear by referring to Table C.

In 1974 we were able to bring into the treasury for the mission fields seventy-four times more than what was collected during 1918.

APPEAL FOR MISSIONS

TABLE C

Our first year was	1918	which resulted in	\$ 9,362
Ten years later	1928	—	\$ 30,628
" " "	1938	—	\$ 32,231
" " "	1948	—	\$ 94,250
" " "	1958	—	\$273,638
" " "	1968	—	\$447,527
Six years later	1974	—	\$698,091

TABLE A

Year	Persons Helped	Articles of Clothing	Hours of Voluntary Labour in Community Services	Cash & Value of Food
1955-1959	2,582,278	2,542,281	2,103,912	\$153,249
1960-1964	2,972,694	1,402,296	2,934,506	\$380,430
1965-1969	2,899,685	2,690,037	3,181,305	\$607,285
1970-1974	3,362,531	3,130,646	3,253,870	\$844,481

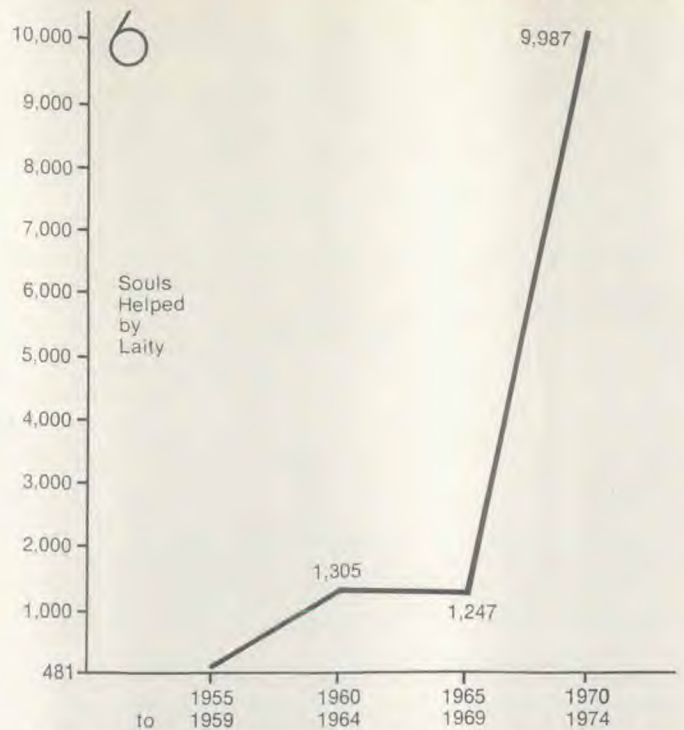
TABLE B

Total units of missionary service	
1955-1959	20,756,653
1960-1964	26,534,969
1965-1969	30,477,452
1970-1974	35,212,668



During this quinquennium there has been a steady increase each year. We are glad for this, though the increase has barely kept up with inflation. We do appreciate the many hours put in by our workers and laity. Graphs 4 and 5 indicate the growth of the programme annually and quinquennially.

We are looking forward to the time when we will reach the ONE-MILLION mark. We are sure this can easily be accomplished if all would take part and cover all territory.



As we think of the report presented so far, we must conclude that this has resulted in an increase in souls who have been helped to accept Jesus Christ. We are thrilled with what has happened but not satisfied.

Soul-winning by Laity

Graph 6 gives a clear picture of the increase in the number of those baptized whom our laity have helped to win. The following is the Yearly Report for the past five years:

1970	653
1971	1,803
1972	2,479
1973	2,641
1974	2,411
Total	9,987

We believe these results will multiply when our ministry, church officers and laity whole-heartedly unite their forces to go forward with the good news of the second coming of Christ.

In closing this report we want to thank our administrators, Union and Local Conference Lay Activities directors for their whole-hearted support of the programme of the church. This report has been made possible only because of their support in uniting their forces with their church members. We thank also the many church leaders and members who have so willingly co-operated in the work of God.

We look forward to a finished work and pray that continued revival and reformation will be the experience of God's people. Let us continue to watch, pray and work.

HEALTH

D. E. BAIN, Director, BERTHA A. SHOLLENBURG, Assistant Director, Health Department

GOD'S GUIDANCE and blessing is acknowledged with praise and thanksgiving. The progress of the past five years is recorded for the honour and glory of God and to encourage the members of this remnant church to press on with courage toward the uncertain future, for "What shall we say then to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31.

This quinquennium began under the able leadership of Dr. Saleen Farag who made an invaluable contribution to the department through training lay workers and developing teaching material for the islands.

In October 1971, Dr. Farag was called to the United States, and the department was without a leader until 1972, when Pastor Bain was appointed. His leadership was temporarily interrupted in June 1974 for fifteen months' study at

Loma Linda University, where he received the Master of Public Health Degree in Health Education in August 1975.

During Pastor Bain's absence, Pastor Ron Taylor has ably carried the double yoke of Temperance and Health.

Miss Daisy Schluntz, who served six years as nutritionist, returned to the United States at the beginning of this quinquennium. Miss Bertha Shollenburg joined the department as Nutritionist in September 1971, and has extended

the health work in the area of foods, nutrition and dietetics. Emphasis has been placed on training lay home nutrition instructors.

Health Evangelism

"I can see in the Lord's providence that the medical missionary work is to be a great entering wedge, whereby the diseased soul may be reached." — "Counsels on Health," page 535.

"Medical missionary work is in no case to be divorced from the gospel ministry." — Id., page 524.

The Seminary Extension School at Avondale in 1972 under the direction of Dr. McFarland and Pastor Spangler gave emphasis to the importance of combining the health message with the third angel's message. At least fifty of the eighty ministers attending the summer school showed definite interest in this approach to evangelism. Many efforts have been run in the home field and in the islands following this programme. Pastor Graham Byrne and Dr. Solomon reported thirty-five baptisms in the New Hebrides. Pastor Alec Currie has introduced health evangelism in the Fulton College Training programme, and ministerial students are finding success in villages where previously they had made no progress.

Missions from Port Hedland in West Australia to Christchurch in South New Zealand have successfully used this approach. Pastor Stanley and Dr. Johnson have just completed a "Century 21" pilot programme in Wahroonga. We anticipate greater use of health evangelism in carrying this message to the world.

Pastor Reg King pioneered health evangelism in this Division. He has recently produced a set of sermons and visual aids for health evangelists, combining the physical and spiritual in a united message. One hundred copies of the visual aids were produced by the Signs Publishing Company and are in use in the Division.

Conference and Local Leadership

Three Conferences have appointed full-time Health and Temperance directors. In other Conferences, with one exception, these departments are carried in conjunction with additional responsibilities.

Many churches have now appointed Health secretaries. Five training programmes for local church Health secretaries have been conducted in the past three years. This fills a real need, as many Health secretaries are unsure of their role.

Health Education in the Mission Field

Health education in the mission field has progressed steadily, particularly in the C.P.U.M. and W.P.U.M. where they have 270 sets of the Health Notes prepared by Dr. Farag for training programmes for health workers at the village level. Both Unions have received Division financial help from the Health offering to buy equipment, films, and transparency/tape material for extending their work. Locally produced materials that deal more specifically with indigenous conditions are needed.

The major emphasis in Health work in the P.N.G.U.M. has been in the clinical area but doors are wide open for preventive health work. Other church groups have indicated they are looking to the Seventh-day Adventist Church to give a lead. There is need for trained personnel. This training could be given at Sonoma or Fulton. The advantage of Fulton would be the proximity of two excellent institutions in Suva



Pastor Don Bain, Director, Health Department.

where public health and allied subjects are taught, and particularly the South Pacific Commission Community Training Centre.

Health Education for Children and Youth

Health care and health practices of the early years influence the health for life. Thus it is most important that children and young people understand the health principles and care of their health. Health Week has been promoted in the schools throughout the home Unions by Pastor Reg Brown. Health Education material covering a wide range of health subjects has been prepared for school use.

In one Conference, Health was presented during camp council for junior and earliteen camps. Camps for Young Marrieds have been held with the emphasis on health.

Medical Students

Medical students are the potential medical workers for our institutions. Two camp-outs have been arranged with medical students. From the students came suggestions for a correspondence programme of Seventh-day Adventist Health Philosophy. Shortly Dr. Errol Thrift will complete these study guides. These will be available to doctors as well as students. Medical students now receive the "Ministry" magazine. A request has come from medical students for a correspondence course in Nutrition, as they recognize the need for this, particularly as it relates to our own philosophy.

It is important to make plain to the church the relationship between health and the gospel. To this end doctors and health workers should be encouraged to find employment within the denomination in response to a call for service in the same way as ministers or teachers are employed.

Training of indigenous health workers at all levels is a priority for our mission work. Post-graduate studies must also be considered. These fields must become self-supporting as far as manpower is concerned.

Food, Nutrition and Dietetics

Twenty-one Home Nutrition Instructors' courses have been held throughout the Division during this quinquennium, with more than 400 students completing the work required for the

General Conference Home Nutrition Instructor's Certificate. The first Home Nutrition Instructor's course for the island fields was held in Tonga in April, 1975, and thirteen Tongan ladies completed the course and have already begun giving talks and demonstrations. There is need for more of these training programmes in the islands.

The Seventh-day Adventist dietitians in Australia have organized into an Association. Their first project, well under way is the preparation of a Nutrition book for the Australasian Division. As an Association they can make a positive and important contribution to the health work.

A set of "Food and Nutrition" lessons for the Australasian Division is being prepared and should be available by the first of the year. These will replace the "Everyday Nutrition" lessons in use for many years.

The "Health International" lessons have been revised and extended to fourteen lessons. The present series is entitled "Here's Health," and is being produced as handouts and adapted by A.R.T.P. for Health lessons.

Health Outreach for the Church and Community

A number of churches throughout the Division have used the study guides on "Counsels on Diet and Foods" prepared by Pastor John Gate for prayer meeting studies. Others have studied "Ministry of Healing." In many churches the Home Nutrition Instructors begin their nutrition and cooking schools for the church members, as there is still need for further health education among our people.

Nutrition and Cooking Schools have been conducted in many churches throughout the Division. At the present time five or six are either completing or being run in the Greater Sydney area. At least six Health Clubs have been formed for the local church members and an outreach to the public. Pastor Jenkins has developed a follow-up programme for the 5-Day Plans in which health and weight control are emphasized. It is called the 2C Plan—Health Care and Weight Control.

The Sydney Adventist Hospital has three programmes in Health Education: Weight Control began two years ago, Nutrition Schools and Heartbeat—a fitness programme—in addition to the 5-Day Plans.

Warburton Health Care Centre has a number of live-in programmes including Weight Control, Fitness and 5-Day Plans. The Auckland Adventist Hospital uses tape/transparencies for health education in patients' rooms.

Medical Institutions

The period under review has seen great change, development and extensions in this area. The Sydney Adventist Hospital, which represents the greatest financial outlay in this Division, is facing a very interesting future. National Health Schemes, Nurse Training changes, and inflation are but some of the problems to be faced. A full report of this institution is to be given at the Session.

Warburton Health Care Centre has been making steady progress. The full potential of this institution is still to be reached. The best days are yet ahead and with a stable staff (if this can be obtained) many new programmes can be developed. Warburton has become a very important centre for the training of ministers and other denominational personnel. This is vital until such a time as health education is made an

integral part of ministerial education or a training programme is offered in this area at Avondale.

The Auckland Adventist Hospital was opened in 1973. It is providing a very valuable service to the community.

In the mission field there are five hospitals and fifty clinics. These institutions provide invaluable medical and spiritual service.

Sopas: Nurses' Training programme has taught nurses and doctor boys. The fine work here of Dr. Kelly is greatly appreciated.

Atoifi is working toward obtaining recognition for their nursing training programme.

Togoba: Dr. Steve Smith contributed greatly to the work in Togoba. There is a changing pattern in leprosy work and the need for a hospital is less acute as leprosy control moves out to the villages.

Hatzfeldhaven is now under national leadership. The valuable work of Alan Stiles is to be remembered. This hospital also has a changed emphasis from leprosy and tuberculosis to include that of a small general hospital.

Aore has been the site of a great deal of building and progress. Dr. Joeli has returned from post-graduate studies in New Zealand. During his absence, Sister Ione Markey made a valuable contribution as a volunteer.

General Conference Visitor

In 1972 Dr. Waddell from the General Conference visited in the Australasian Division. His counsel and instruction were greatly appreciated and gave encouragement and direction to the Health work.

Annual Doctors' Tea

Seventh-day Adventist doctors and dentists in private practice, and medical and paramedical students studying at the universities, often have little contact with the organized work. To acquaint them with the work of the Health De-

partment, to foster understanding of each other's responsibilities and to encourage greater co-operation with and participation in the Health work of the church, the Greater Sydney and North New South Wales Conferences sponsor an annual doctors' tea for medical and dental practitioners and students.

Volunteers

Volunteer medical, dental and paramedical workers have brought great physical and spiritual blessings to our island institutions. Their contributions in knowledge and expertise, time and money are greatly appreciated and acknowledged. Benefits have not been entirely one-sided as the volunteers have gained a new and first-hand knowledge of mission service and have an opportunity to help those who would have had no help.

Health Offering

The Health Department outreach has been greatly aided through purchase or production of visual aids, teaching materials, films, etc., made possible through the annual Health Week Offering which has amounted to \$4,499.66 in 1972, \$6,461.26 in 1973 and \$7,150.16 in 1974. The loyal financial support of the church members is greatly appreciated.

Acknowledgements

The progress reported here would not have been possible without the blessing of God, the co-operation of the brethren, the guidance and understanding of the officers of the Division, Unions and Conferences and the close affiliation and co-operation of the Temperance Department. Their co-operation and understanding is acknowledged and greatly appreciated. Much yet remains to be done. Uncertain days are ahead but we look forward to continued growth and progress under God's guidance and through His appointed leadership.



Mr. F.C. Craig, the general manager of the Sanitarium Health Food Company.

Food Agency," and with only a slight change, is the name the Company is known by so favourably today.

Production began in 1898, and since the humble beginning of this work in our Division, with all of its sacrifice, success has come as God has rewarded the dedicated service and sterling work of those who have worked in the Health Food Department since it began so many years ago. The counsel from the messenger of the Lord suggesting that the profits of the Health Food work would be a financial help to other parts of the work, and would be used for suffering humanity everywhere, has met its fulfilment in that we have seen an uninterrupted and increasing flow of money from the Health Food Department into the Division Treasury, to such an extent that it would be difficult to measure its value in the strengthening of the church in this large Australasian Division.

Evidences of the guiding hand of Providence have been with us over the past quinquennium period, and we are grateful for the prospering hand of God who blessed us in our work for Him. Mounting inflation continued to dominate the general business activity of Australia and New Zealand, but in spite of the unrelenting rise in production and operating costs, we note excellent increases in all sections of the work.

Financial

While fulfilling the main objectives laid down for the Health Food work in the operation of the business, financial success was a part of the blessing, and we are pleased to report for the quinquennium that the consolidated group revenue sales rose in the past five years to a total of \$209,678 million, which represents an increase of 68.61 per cent. From these sales the Australasian earnings increased by 47.11 per cent over the previous five-year period, and the flow of money into the Division Treasury totalled \$6,680,934.

Marketing

The volume of turnover to the wholesale trade for the five years stands at a record level of \$96.08 million, which is an increase of 63.74 per cent. Twenty warehouses provide outlets for our foods and the consumer demand generally is strong for our products. Most of the selling today is done to the powerful chains and independent groups who do weekly battle for the mammoth dollar-spending of the consumer.

THE HEALTH FOOD DEPARTMENT

F. C. CRAIG, General Manager, Sanitarium Health Food Company

THE HEALTH FOOD DEPARTMENT is the official title in church terminology, but operating under the registered business name of Sanitarium Health Food Company, it all belongs to the church, and indeed it was "God's gift to His people," as declared by the messenger of the Lord in "Testimonies," Vol. 7, page 128. Nowhere else has this gift to the church so prospered, or been so helpful, as is evidenced in the Australasian Division.

Reporting today to this representative meeting which we believe has a certain pride of ownership in a much-valued church institution, we would recall the humble beginning of this work which commenced on a platform of sacrifice, frustration, financial losses and long hours of work. But surely, on reflection, we can see that God has rewarded the dedication of service that was built on, as the pioneers ever followed closely His counsel day by day. Even though the project was inspired by God Himself, and had the authority of the Spirit of Prophecy on it, we feel sure that, in its infancy and commencement, the early workers still did not sense the great potential of this enterprise, which has been called by the messenger of the Lord "a business of God's devising."

The godly men associating with the Lord's messenger here in the Australasian Division took an action eighty years ago which laid the foundation of the Health Food work in 1895. In the days when believers were few, and cash was hard to obtain, the programme as outlined by Ellen G. White looked a hopeless task, but with a great deal of faith, and the belief in their hearts that it was God's will that the practice of healthful living should be part of the wide spectrum of true Christianity, plans began for making health foods available to the church members and others who might be interested in such a programme.

In the year 1897 foods were first of all imported from Battle Creek, U. S. A., and it was in this same year that the name chosen for this enterprise was voted as "Sanitarium Health



Their pride and joy. The staff of the S.H.F. factory, Warburton, in the 1920s, stand gazing fondly at the T-Model Ford, the first motorized transport they had ever had.



The modern factory at Christchurch, New Zealand, is set in beautiful surroundings. It is typical of the premises of the Sanitarium Health Food Company throughout the Division.

It may interest you to know that in Australia there are currently 10,933 retail outlets in the grocery trade, accounting for an annual turnover of \$2,201 million, and in New Zealand there are 4,916 retail outlets, accounting for an annual grocery turnover of \$441 million.

Sanitarium's volume line, Weet-Bix, holds first place in Australia with 23.5 per cent of the total Ready-to-Eat Cereal market, with Kellogg's Cornflakes in second place at 18.1 per cent. In New Zealand, Sanitarium commands a 78 per cent share of the total market on Ready-to-Eat Cereals, 52 per cent of this going to Weet-Bix, the No. 1 seller in the Dominion.

Production

Our twelve factories throughout Australia and New Zealand produced a stream of health foods totalling 140,155 tonnes for the five-year period, which is an increase of 27.45 per cent over the previous five years. Behind this massive figure of total production is a programme of processing involving thousands of tonnes of wheat, corn, peanuts, yeast, soy beans and flour, with many other raw materials. The packing materials involved in the production programme aggregate to thousands of tonnes of cardboard and paper, along with millions of cans and jars.

Retail

The Spirit of Prophecy counsel concerning the important witness of our Health Food stores highlights the importance of this aspect of the Company's operation, for our retail staff have an unusual opportunity to witness as they serve

the millions who enter our shops and do business with us. The seventy-two outlets in the retail division of the Company's operations had a turnover for the quinquennium of \$29.24 million, which is an increase of 79.19 per cent. In terms of customers served over the five-year period, this represents a total of 39.8 million people through the check-outs, an increase of 27 per cent over the previous five-year trading period.

Over the years there are many who have been influenced into church membership because of their contact with our staff throughout the Division, and it is our custom to have a range of our own publications available to those who shop Sanitarium.

The foregoing figures show real growth in spite of the problems and perplexities that come in the daily course of business activity, but as each year has passed it has left us with the sure consciousness that the guidance and protection of the Lord over His work is very real.

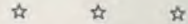
At the close of the quinquennium our loyal and dedicated band of workers number approximately 1,600, and we would record our deep appreciation for the co-operation of all who have made these achievements possible. The great objective of the church is to finish the work quickly and see the Lord come, and to that end the Health Food Department is dedicated daily. From the messenger of the Lord we quote: "We know not what is before us, and our only safety is in walking with Christ, our hand in His, our hearts filled with perfect trust."—"Selected Messages," Book 1, page 79.

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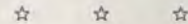
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TO MARYSVILLE WITH LOVE

THIS ISSUE of the AUSTRALASIAN RECORD is much bigger than a normal issue. That happens once every five years. It happens when we place in one issue all the reports of the directors of all the Departments of the Australasian Division. And, as you read this issue, you will see that there has been progress, progress and more progress all along the way.

The reports you read herein were read by the appropriate secretaries, directors and leaders at the Quinquennial Session at Marysville, Victoria, from September 16 to September 20. "Were read?" you might well ask, seeing that some will receive this issue before the session actually closes. Very well, "are being read" or "will be read" (since this is being written on September 3) but that is of no consequence. The important thing is that you have in your hands the news as soon as the delegates themselves — well, almost.

Quibbling over the actual time is not our purpose; the important thing is that those who are delegates will share the good news with you who were not delegates. And the good news is that our God has wonderfully blessed His people in the past five years. Last session, we were looking hopefully toward that once-unrealistic goal of 100,000 members in this Division. Today we look BACK upon its attainment. Notice that now there are about 110,000 who share the hope of a soon-coming Saviour. How many an aged missionary who has toiled for years in some distant group of tropical islands has longed for this day! How many of them bent their backs to the burden and received so little reward! How many of them have written themselves off as failures because of their lack of baptismal successes! How many have even come home from the island field discouraged! But northward, eastward, look! the sky is bright!

It is bright with promise and it is bright with fulfilment. Those lands that were yesterday unpromising and difficult, are today open doors, with their people choosing the way of life that we know so well. It has not been a sudden operation of the Holy Spirit; it has not come as the result of a sudden influx of funds or the sudden sowing of a million seeds where once we sowed a hundred. The result of this mighty army of people from the island fields has been because those who pioneered these difficult places laboured and built far better than they realized.

According to figures available, it took us twenty-two years to win the first twenty-one converts in Papua New Guinea. Look at the figures and you will see that the annual intake of members in that Union Mission alone is more than 3,000. What hath God wrought! But we must pause to honour the pioneer missionaries, some of whom are no longer with us, some of whom are aged and bent with the years now. They laboured not in vain; their earthly reward has been to see the people from the islands of the sea gathering into the church — an ingathering of souls which must have delighted their hearts.

Some, of course, will not know of the escalating numbers of converts in their former fields of labour. Some, like Norman Wiles, paid their debt to their dark-skinned brethren with their lives before appreciable numbers were seen. The fruitage was not even in the bud. But the time will come when they shall be accorded the greatest of rewards: the "Well done" of the Master Himself.

There are other pioneers, too, who should be honoured. Think, for a moment as you read the report on the Health Food Depart-

ment, of those with minds bright with faith who commenced this work. Think how they nurtured this fledgling that has become a giant. Think how they must have had a mountain of faith — and a molehill of experience. Who had the technical know-how? Who had access to large amounts of capital or even bank credit? Who knew how to launch a new product on to the shelves of the grocers' stores? Who had the business acumen, the expertise to conquer? Were they not endowed with one virtue above all others — their faith in God, that He was their Great Director, that He who moved the mountains into their places could move the mountains of difficulties that beset their pathway? We honour these men also who, under the blessing of God, founded a mammoth enterprise which is "God's gift to His church."

And there are others — in every field of endeavour. They have laboured when the sun was hot, when there was difficulty with finance the like of which modern administrators know little. They have borne the brunt of criticism when the church they served was not as well accepted as it is today. But they, by their faithfulness, by their balanced approach, by their honest endeavour, by their skilful handling of those talents which God had given them, have built an edifice which we who follow in their train are glad to call our own, and which the God of heaven has blessed.

So we go to Marysville with love — love and appreciation for those who laid the foundations in difficult and faith-testing days; love and appreciation for those who left home and loved ones and lived in difficult circumstances with few or no comforts; love for those who pioneered the way; love for those who were the giants of the past — giants in faith and vision and whose mantle today's leaders must wear.

But most of all, we go to Marysville with love and gratitude to God. He has done wonderful things, whereof we are glad. We belong to a movement which is no longer regarded as a sect but as an entity in the Christian Church. We are part of an organization which is respected because of the integrity of the leadership and the evangelistic approach of the membership. Under the guidance of good men our evangelistic outreach has not become a stench in the nostrils of the people but is received by them and is respected. We are not afraid to tell the world that we are Seventh-day Adventists, people of the Book, who have their hearts set in the certainty of the blessed hope. We do not fear to tell the world that soon Christ will come and the end of this present world is near. We are grateful to God that He has asked us to bear this message; we are grateful to Him for the allies that He has brought to our aid — the statesmen, the scientists, the philosophers, the ecologists, the diplomats and the commentators who see that this world cannot go on its lunatic way without some major intervention from outside of our own system.

When men's hearts are failing them for fear all around us, we who have a faith in God's Word, His leading and His providence, look up and see the glad new morning is approaching. We know that He holds the whole world in His hands. We know that there are difficulties ahead, and that we don't know what the future holds. But we know who holds the future. We have nothing to fear. That is why we go to Marysville with love — and confidence.