

many endeavors are being carried on by consecrated physicians, nurses, and others in ministry to those in need.

The available statistical record is as follows: [See table, page 123.]

In reviewing medical and health work in general, mention should be made of the important role that is played by health magazines, leaflets, books, and booklets prepared by the various publishing houses and given wide circulation. We know of five English and eighteen foreign monthly health magazines that are now being printed, and there may be others. We regret not being able to give accurate figures regarding circulation. The present monthly circulation of the two health journals in North America is about 170,000. We may well be proud of the high quality of our denominational health literature. It is our feeling, however, that its value in augmenting health education and promoting various phases of denominational interest has not been fully utilized.

No effort is made to here enumerate

all the interests and activities of the departmental work, such as collaboration with the Mission Board respecting medical workers and the health status of all appointees, co-operation with other departments of the General Conference in various activities, with the editors of our health journals, helping with problems that pertain to overseas medical work, etc. We are confident that there is much more to be done than we have known how to undertake. We earnestly solicit your counsel on how the department can best serve the needs of the field. The co-operation and prayers of all our leaders and workers are needed in making this branch of the message all that it is designed to be under God for the finishing of His work on the earth and for preparing a people to be ready for the kingdom of heaven.

We are counseled:

"He who cherishes the light which God has given him upon health reform, has an important aid in the work of becoming sanctified through the truth, and fitted for immortality."

free American citizens. They have contributed much to American progress and have helped to lay the material foundations of our civilization. Their labor, their songs, and their record of patriotism are evidences of their loyalty and their self-sacrificing spirit.

The leaders of the advent movement, early in the history of its organization, recognized the Negro as an integral element in American life. About the year 1890 definite steps were taken to carry the third angel's message to this people. It is interesting to note that seven years previous to this, or in 1883, a colored church had been organized at Edgefield Junction, Tennessee, which had been raised up by a colored brother who had received the truth through reading the *Signs*. Our present church work in Nashville, Tennessee, is the outgrowth of this first church organization.

Since that time evangelistic meetings have been held in almost all the large cities of North America. The colporteur, true to his task, has scattered our truth-filled books and papers in both rural and urban centers, and we are happy to report at this Conference that we had 236 churches, with a combined membership of 14,537, at the close of 1940.

Our colored believers are loyal to this movement, and out of their poverty they have given during the last five years with impressive liberality. From the year 1936 to December 31, 1940, the total tithe receipts were \$1,112,189.52. During the same five-year period there was sent on to foreign missions \$703,347.40. The grand total in tithes and mission offerings was \$1,815,536.92. The colored believers have also contributed many thousands of dollars for their own local church needs and home missionary enterprises.

In this department we have fifty ordained ministers, fifteen licentiates, five Bible workers, five assistant field missionary secretaries, one union

The Negro Department

By F. L. PETERSON, Secretary

PREVIOUS to the creating of the North American Negro Department by the General Conference in 1909, an aggressive work was carried on by the denomination in the field of evangelization and education for the colored people.

Faith, courage, and intelligent optimism in the face of almost insurmountable barriers urged the pioneers of this work forward, until today as we note the achievements of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for the colored race, we say with the psalmist: "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Ps. 126:3.

This department occupies a very distinct place in the program of the church, and renders both measurable and immeasurable service. There are still millions from among the colored people who are yet to be warned of the coming of the Lord and of the preparation that must be made in order to meet Him.

During the five years that have passed since the last General Conference session, this department has experienced many difficulties, but God has blessed us with such exceptional opportunities for service that today we find our hearts united with the leadership of this movement for the finishing of the work of God in all the world, and we bring you a message of hope and courage.

When the apostle Paul stood on the flinty platform of Mars' Hill and delivered his challenging appeal to the Areopagites, an epoch was turned in the history of Greece. Among the startling propositions of the sermon that caused the change of attitude of Dionysius and Damaris was the statement, "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that He is

Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; . . . and hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation." Acts 17:24-26.

The grand old story of salvation is still being preached, and many thousands out of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people are being changed until today the prophecy of Zephaniah is being fulfilled: "From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia My suppliants, even the daughter of My dispersed, shall bring Mine offering." Zeph. 3:10.

The presence of the Negro upon American soil is the result of the cupidity of commerce. His coming was against his will. Since the landing of that little Dutch trading vessel in 1619 at Jamestown, Virginia, with its small cargo of African slaves, the descendants of these bondsmen have become



A View of the Book Display in Larkin Hall

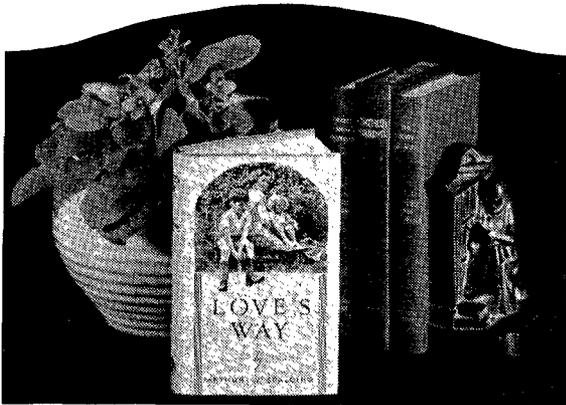
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home missionary and educational secretary, eight interns, one hundred church school and academy teachers, and a small army of colporteur evangelists.

There are approximately 12,000,000 Negroes in North America. The last available figures of the census reveal the astounding fact that more than six million of them are without church membership. Although our race is reputed to be a religious group, for more than a generation there has been a drift away from religion. Here at the home base the Adventist Church should view this situation with serious concern and do all that is within her power to win these people for Christ.

Since we last met in General Conference session three of our workers have been laid to rest—A. J. Evelyn, A. Gaynes Thompson, and H. E. Ford.

Christian Education

The Christian school has become a virile, positive force in this denomination. What Christian education has meant to our colored boys and girls, and the overwhelming importance of the church school in Negro education, cannot be adequately described within the limits of this report. It is the aim and purpose of the working force in this department to follow the blueprint in education that has been given to this people by the messenger of God. We believe that "our children should
(Continued on page 128)

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY READING PROGRAM

ASSIGNMENTS FOR TWENTY-THIRD WEEK

June 1-7

Volume: "Patriarchs and Prophets"	
"The Literal Week"	
"The Tower of Babel"	
"The Call of Abraham"	
June 1 .. 111-113	June 5 .. 125-126
June 2 .. 114-116	June 6 .. 126-128
June 3 .. 117-119	June 7 .. 129-131
June 4 .. 119-124	

ASSIGNMENTS FOR TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK

June 8-14

Volume: "Patriarchs and Prophets"	
"Abraham in Canaan"	
"The Test of Faith" (1st 6 pages)	
June 8 .. 132-134	June 12 .. 142-144
June 9 .. 134-136	June 13 .. 145-147
June 10 .. 136-139	June 14 .. 147-152
June 11 .. 139-142	

ASSIGNMENTS FOR TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK

June 15-21

Volume: "Patriarchs and Prophets"	
"The Test of Faith"—Concluded	
"Destruction of Sodom"	
"The Marriage of Isaac"	
June 15 .. 153-155	June 19 .. 167-170
June 16 .. 156-159	June 20 .. 171-173
June 17 .. 159-162	June 21 .. 173-176
June 18 .. 162-167	

ASSIGNMENTS FOR TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK

June 22-28

Volume: "Patriarchs and Prophets"	
"Jacob and Esau"	
"Jacob's Flight and Exile"	
"The Night of Wrestling" (1st 5 pages)	
June 22 .. 177-179	June 26 .. 190-193
June 23 .. 180-182	June 27 .. 193-196
June 24 .. 183-187	June 28 .. 196-201
June 25 .. 187-190	

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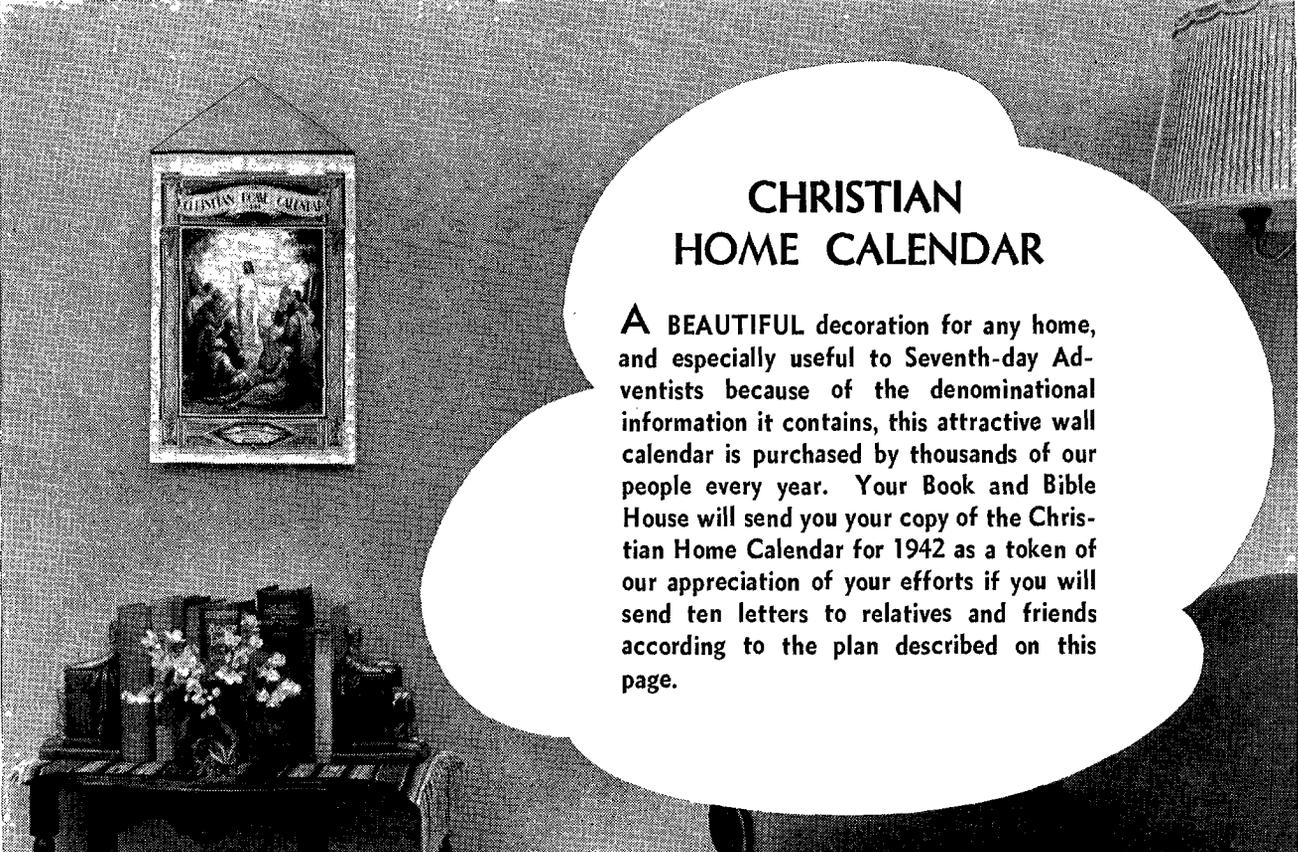
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Satan, His Origin, Work,
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The Negro Department

(Continued from page 125)

be removed from the evil influences of the public school, and placed where thoroughly converted teachers may educate them in the Holy Scriptures." —"Counsels to Teachers," p. 204.

There are 100 teachers now engaged in giving Christian instruction to our church-school children, who are attending the 66 church schools that are being conducted.

Oakwood Junior College, our advanced training school, is doing an excellent work for our young people. There is a strong faculty of fifteen members. Each year the school is being improved, and a large number of students can now be accommodated there. During the last three years, approximately \$45,000 has been spent in the erection of new buildings and the purchasing of additional equipment. In the last five years 153 young people have been graduated from the junior-college courses, and 73 from the academy. Some of these are now engaged in conference work. Thirty-eight of our 77 workers now in conference employ are graduates of Oakwood. The school enjoys the best financial standing it has experienced in many years. There is, however, a great need for enriching the courses of study that are offered, so that a larger number of our youth will be attracted to the school and so that they may receive a full college training.

Literature Ministry

We have a small army of colporteurs who have set themselves to the task of taking our truth-filled literature to the homes of the people. Many thousands of copies of our large and small books and magazines are being sold by these literature ministers. The *Message Magazine* is filling a longfelt need in our work. It has grown from a quarterly magazine to ten issues a year. More than thirty thousand of the November-December issue for 1940 were sold. Our books and magazines are finding their way into the best homes of our people. There is a determined effort on the part of our workers to increase the circulation of the *Message Magazine*, and of our other magazines and books as well. It was the message that was published in the *Signs* that had to do with the organizing of our first colored church in 1883, and who knows but it might be through the interpretation of the signs through the pages of the *Message Magazine* that a larger number of our colored people will yet come into this truth.

In 1940 the Harvest Ingathering number of the *Message Magazine* proved a great blessing to our colored believers in their solicitation of funds for our foreign mission work, and we believe that the Ingathering number this year will be just as effective.

Medical Missionary Work

The Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital has gained for itself a good repu-

tation among the colored people as a mecca of health. More than one thousand patients have been treated at the sanitarium during the last five years.

A small clinic is now being operated by the sanitarium, and this is proving a blessing to the people who live in the vicinity of the institution. Riverside is a struggling institution, and its needs are many.

We are very grateful to our sanitarium training schools for the work that is being done by them in educating some of our young women for nursing service. The Hubbard Hospital of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, has also permitted some of our young women to enter their training school for nurses. Sabbath privileges have been granted our girls, and a special diet has been planned for them. Although this arrangement is not the most ideal, we are thankful for what this institution is doing for us. We hope that the time is not far distant when we shall be prepared to conduct a nurses' training school at Riverside.

A large number of our churches are

conducting home-nursing classes for the benefit of our church members.

The one great outstanding need of this department is a nurses' training school in connection with the Riverside Sanitarium, where our young people may receive a medical missionary training.

The General Conference has been very generous in making contributions toward the advancement of the North American Negro Department. Today we wish to express our gratitude and to pledge our loyalty to this cause and our support of it both by giving liberally of our means and by living godly lives.

We realize that today this denomination has come face to face with a great world tragedy, but we are determined to unite our efforts with those of our leaders in the finishing of the work of God in all the world. Though there is a strengthening conviction that much more needs to be done to advance the work among this people, we close this report with full appreciation in our hearts for the growth and development of this department during the last five years.

Partial Report of the Nominating Committee

The following partial report of the Nominating Committee was voted at the seventh meeting, 3:30 P. M., Friday, May 30, 1941.

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It is recommended that the Bureau of Home Missions remain as constituted at present, and that in harmony with a recent action of the General Conference Committee, the situation be reviewed at the Fall Council of 1941.

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