

The North American Regional Department

By F. L. PETERSON, Secretary

For more than a half century the Regional Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists has functioned as an integral part of this great church. The purpose of its organization was to advance the work of the gospel more rapidly among North America's largest minority group. As we look back over the years of progress we cannot refrain from exclaiming, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad" (Ps. 126:3).

General Conference Regional Personnel

The talents of our workers are being utilized in the world work of the church, and several of our Regional leaders are occupying positions of responsibility in the General Conference office.

C. E. Moseley is a General Conference field secretary, as well as associate secretary of the Regional Department. He has made a worthy contribution to the church, both in North America and in his travels abroad.

E. E. Cleveland is an associate secretary of the Ministerial Association. His labors are identified with the world work and not especially with any particular racial group. Many are the calls for his services here in the home field and in overseas divisions.

The late Dr. Owen A. Troy was an associate secretary of the Sabbath School Department, and rendered invaluable service to the department before his decease.

We have excellent secretarial help in our office, and we have been in search for others.

Evangelism

The mission of the church is to evangelize the world. The story of Jesus must be told, and all mankind must know of His imminent return to put an end to the reign of sin.

The Regional Department is an agency of this world church to help proclaim the everlasting gospel, and especially to the more than 19 million colored Americans.

In each of the seven Regional conferences and the Pacific Union Regional Department major evangelistic efforts have been held and many smaller evangelistic meetings have been conducted by conference workers and laymen. These soul-winning campaigns have netted from 20 to more than 300 baptisms in one effort.

Membership

During the past four years the total number of baptisms was 15,610 which brings the total membership of the department as of December 31, 1961, to 46,200.

Our faithful literature ministers have had their part in making this membership total possible. Some of these workers have brought in whole families, comprising as many as eight persons. They are not only leaving the printed page in the homes but are also planting the seeds of truth in many hearts.

The Allegheny Conference leads the world field in literature sales. For the third consecutive year their deliveries have gone over the \$300,000 mark. Each of the Regional conferences recognizes the importance of this work and values it as ordained of God to be the final instrumentality in the finishing of the work.

In this department there are 183 ordained ministers, 48 licensed ministers,



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28 Bible instructors, 212 church school teachers, 406 colporteurs, and at the present time there are 18 interns.

Message Magazine

"The world is to receive the light of truth through the evangelizing ministry of the word in our books and periodicals. Our publications are to show that the end of all things is at hand."—*Colporteur Ministry*, p. 145.

The *Message Magazine* is instrumental in passing on the light of the gospel into the homes of the people. It is classified as being among the best of religious journals. It demands our most liberal financial support. James Dykes is editor; Delores Johnson is his secretary, and Mrs. Addie Hudson is filing clerk, in the Southern Publishing Association. We thank the unions and the General Conference for the financial support they have given to this magazine to keep it alive.

Medical Institutions

Riverside Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee, is now well known as a haven of health and healing for the sick. The in-

stitution is provided with the best equipment and uses the most modern techniques in patient care. N. G. Simons, administrator, Dr. Carl Dent, president of the medical staff, and their assistants are the servants of the hospital, for with them the patient comes first. The institution is conducting a course for practical nurses that is accredited by the State of Tennessee.

Phillips Memorial Hospital in Orlando, Florida, is a 55-bed institution, and even though it is only three years old it has established an impressive record of service. Dr. J. Mark Cox is chairman of the medical staff. The administration and executive control is knit very closely with that of the Florida Sanitarium and Hospital.

Education

In harmony with the blueprint on Christian education the Regional conferences are conducting church schools and some academies for the children of the church. In some places integrated schools are under the control of both the Caucasian and Regional churches.

Oakwood College is now in its sixty-fourth year of operation and is under General Conference control. For 16 years it has functioned as a senior college and today it is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

Since the school first opened its doors for classwork in 1896 it was accredited by Heaven, and at the present time a large percentage of our Regional workers are graduates of this institution.

The college has a well-qualified staff of instructors, and maintains an excellent enrollment under the leadership of President G. J. Millet.

It is with a great degree of sadness that we record the passing of four of our workers since the last General Conference session—J. W. Allison, Sr., P. B. Bon Temps, R. L. Bradford, J. M. Campbell, J. E. Cox, Brutus Ewing, J. W. Jones, P. G. Rodgers, O. A. Troy, and W. H. Winston.

Our Need

It is with great gratitude in our hearts to God that we make this report. We thank Him for the sacrifice and faithfulness of His people who have made this report possible. We thank Him for the loyalty and dedication of those whom He has called to be collaborators with Him.

As we look to the future we recognize our great need of the Holy Spirit that we may go forth as Spirit-filled ambassadors of the King, making disciples for Christ. To this end we are dedicated.

Master, Chart My Course Today

By HARRY SILBAUGH

O Master, chart my course today,
And guide me from the storm-swept way,
For I am drifting on life's foam
Apart from Thee, and far from home.
The tempest breaks, the sea runs wild;
I fear the depths, a sin-tossed child.
Chart my course through the storm tide's roll,
O Christ, the Captain of my soul.