

THE MESSENGER

CONVENTION REPORT

1931 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY

COLUMBUS, OHIO, JULY 25

Seven Thousand at Opening Session

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

Finds Preparations Complete

During this convention Columbus occupies the center of the stage in the most unique chain of public concourses in the history of the world. It will be the center of the world's biggest hookup of radio stations. Yes, but when the great meetings here are a thing of the past and the speakers are homeward bound, they will continue their addresses at other great conventions held on immediately succeeding days at Cleveland, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh and Washington, D. C. And when we thus envision ten conventions all in one in the United States; we see but a part of the picture, for at the same time that the nine Columbus extension conventions are taking place in the United States, there are twenty-nine Columbus extension conventions taking place in Canada, seven taking place in Mexico, eight taking place in the West Indies and South America, eight taking place in Africa, seven taking place in Hawaii and Asia, nine taking place in New Zealand and Australia and eighty-eight taking place in Europe. And thus the Columbus convention extends all over the world, one hundred and sixty-six conventions all in one.

What We See at Columbus Itself

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

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

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

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

The Most Important Convention Ever

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

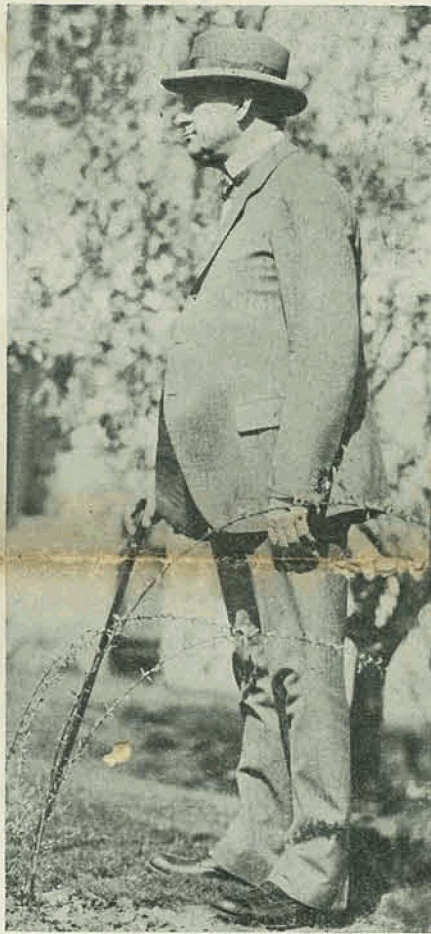
At length it was decided that the convention would be held in Columbus. In many respects this is an ideal location. For one thing, the Coliseum is a good place for a big meeting. It will accommodate an audience of close to ten thousand people, and while a great auditorium is not so necessary as it was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

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

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

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

In the physical lay-out of the grounds (Continued on page 2, Col. 1)



President of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society and Generalissimo of the Convention.

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

THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

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

Victor Schmidt opened the session with these words:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE CHAIRMAN'S REPLY

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

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

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

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

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

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

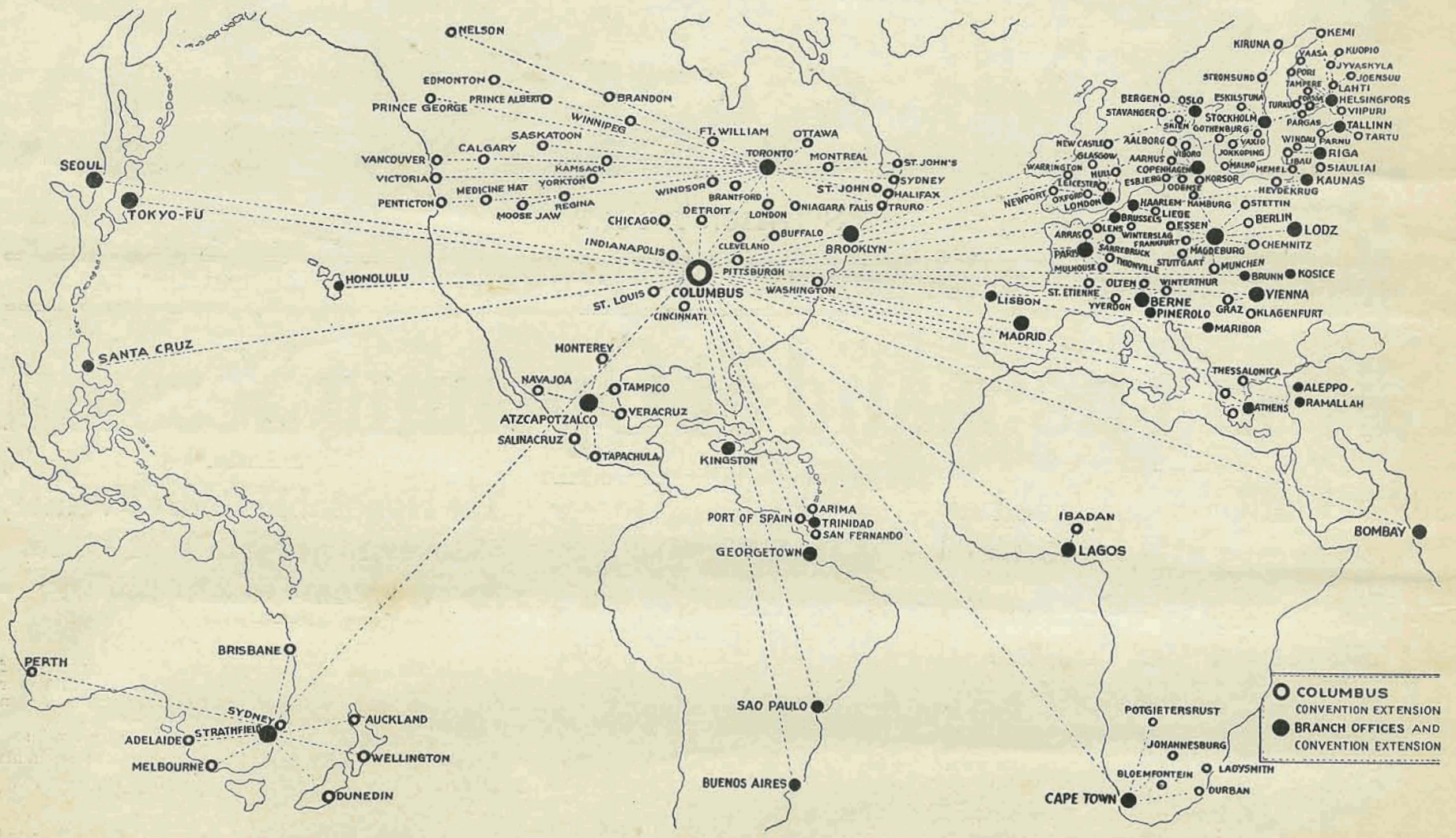
If man could but enjoy it forever in good health, at peace with God and his fellow man, his life would be complete.

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



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

The Columbus Convention Will Have Its Closing Sessions Next Friday, Saturday and Sunday in 166 Cities in Every Part of the Earth. Here They Are.



Finds Preparations Complete

(Continued from page 1, Col. 3)

the central point of interest is the Ohio House. It is purposely painted white, and is the only building of that color on the grounds. It is located approximately in the center of the buildings, or rather a little to the front of the center. This entire building is given over to Judge Rutherford and his staff. The general oversight of everything that goes on at the convention will be centered at The Ohio House.

Just back of The Ohio House, to the northeast of it, is the Administration Building. It is just what its name implies. It is here that the chairman and the assistant chairman of the convention have their offices. Here is the cashier, the director of instrumental music and of vocal music, and a headquarters for the reportorial staff of *The Messenger*.

North of the Administration Building is the Coliseum, which houses the Information Bureau, subscription offices of *The Messenger*, and the various subdivisions of the Service and Colporteur Departments, which, in this convention, is one of its greatest features. Here you will find too, the Post Office, Telegraph, writing tables, rooming assignment, and other conveniences for the friends.

To the west of the Coliseum is the Restaurant and Book Room. The Restaurant is really thirteen cafeterias in one. Each one of the thirteen sections is complete in itself, equipped with eight waiters, who minister to the needs of the hungry. There are sixty people in the kitchen. It is estimated that at the thirteen counters and upon the 200 tables in this great room four thousand people can be accommodated at one sitting.

At one end of the great dining room there were piled on Friday morning thousands of paper bags each of which contains Judge Rutherford's books and booklets. These books and booklets are now printed in forty-eight languages. Many of these tongues are represented in the literature now about to be placed in Columbus and vicinity, but, of course, as Columbus and vicinity have no great foreign population there is less need for some of the tongues here than there would be in a place like Paris, where one of our great conventions was held less than two months ago. We hope every conventioner will call at the Book Room and take away with them combination No. 1, No. 2 or No. 3.

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

of the tens of thousands of messages of God's kingdom, the only hope for the world, that they would be leaving in homes all through this part of Ohio. All parts of Ohio that can be reached by automobile in a day will be covered by these workers. We shall have more details about this later.

Up stairs, over the Book Room, is the sign painting department, and here, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday four expert sign painters were making all kinds of signs such as would be needed to minister to the comfort of ten thousand guests, each of whom will wish to know where to go, and many of whom would be sure to go into some places they ought not to go unless carefully steered in the right direction.

Around to the south of The Ohio House, Building No. 2 will accommodate Russian sessions of the convention, No. 4, the Greek sessions of the convention, and No. 5, the Italian sessions. The rehearsals of music, and especially for the chain programs, are had in a portion of the structure that houses the Greek sessions.

Building No. 29 accommodates the Polish sections of the convention, No. 41, the Hungarian and Luthuanian sections (Hungarian in the main part of the structure and Luthuanian in the alcove), and Building No. 43, of rustic design, almost in front of the Ohio House, accommodates the Slovak section.

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

Between the Grandstand and The Ohio House is the Baby Nursery, located on the top floor of a two-story building, and equipped with cribs, sand piles, toys, bedding, mosquito netting and whatever is necessary to keep little folks busy and contented and safe while parents are elsewhere. Nurses are provided. The hospital is next door.

The story about the campers, the hundreds of house-cars and trailers, the camp of the front line soldiers in this great battle of Jehovah against all untruth and unrighteousness is a separate story in itself and will be told in a future issue.

You sometimes have company at your house, don't you? And if there are to be lots of guests, there is plenty of excitement long before the guests arrive. There has to be. Now suppose there are to be a dozen guests. That would be quite a houseful. It would be necessary to make some unusual provisions, if the guests were to run to twenty-five, fifty or a hundred.

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

The Chairman's Reply

(Continued from page 1, Col. 4)

confident this good news will make their hearts glad.

When we consider the wisdom of our

God reflected in the works of his hands in the heavens and earth, it must be apparent to all that he never purposed his creatures to live here just long enough to learn to love the things he provided, form strong ties of friendship, and then to die, leaving it all behind. He has promised that some day it shall be different. That day is at hand. It is God's will that all shall know about it, and it is our happy privilege, as his witnesses, to bear this good news to the people of Ohio, and to all peoples of good will throughout the earth.

Knowing the end from the beginning, Jehovah foretold of the radio and provided it as his means of conveying his message to the people.

It is a remarkable fact that radio was discovered at the very time God commands the good news of his kingdom shall go to all nations.

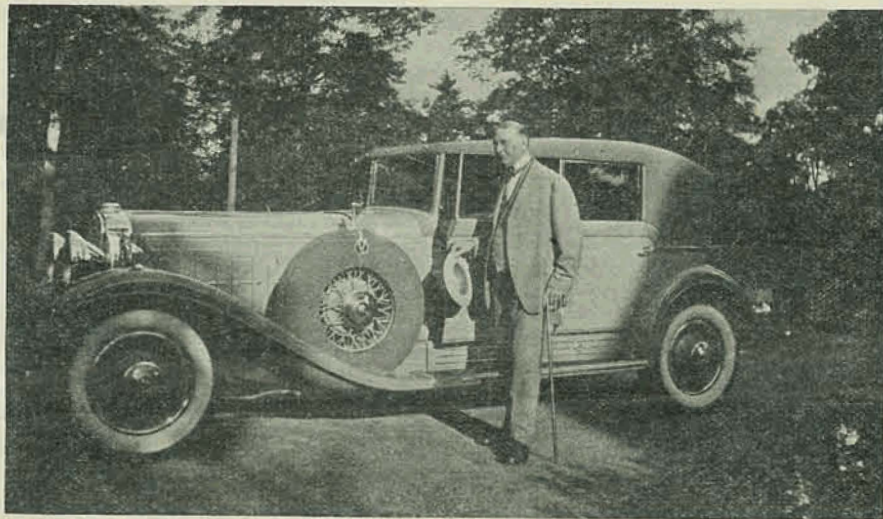
Next Sunday, by Jehovah's providence, his message will be heard in the greatest broadcast ever arranged, reaching the people from Alaska to Australia and including every state in the United States, and covering Europe, Canada, Mexico, Cuba, Hawaii, British Guiana, and virtually every place where it can be heard by radio.

All the peoples of earth need God's help. Jehovah is man's real friend and benefactor. He has promised to establish his kingdom upon the earth forever, through his son Christ Jesus, and bless all the families of the earth. His promises are sure. It is God's will that his people shall come together at this time to consider his purposes and with confidence declare them to others as his witnesses.

We are therefore assembled as children of the Most High, as one family in Christ, with one purpose to honor the King Eternal and as one man to obey his commands by joyfully doing the work he commands us to do. We are glad to have a part in the Lord's work, and take this occasion to invite you, Governor White and all the people, to hear the message next Sunday and join in praising our God.

The conveniences you have so graciously placed at our disposal, this large Coliseum with its spacious grounds, together with the fine hospitality shown by the officers and everyone with whom we have come in contact, has greatly added to our comfort and happiness.

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



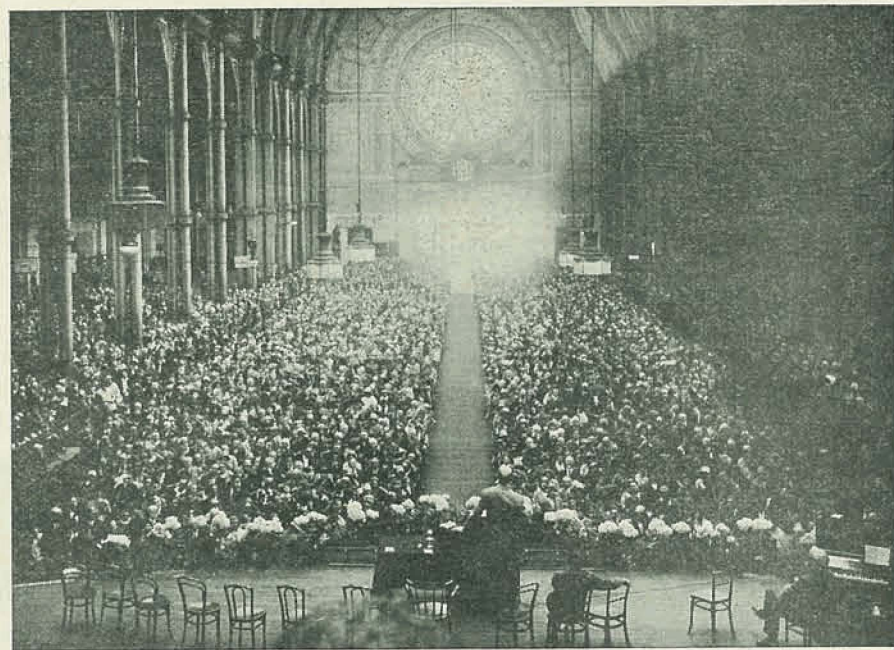
Alighting on Ohio Soil after His Drive from the Headquarters of the Society in New York City.

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

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

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

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



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



Three Hundred Sixty Scandinavian Brethren at the Convention in Copenhagen

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Delegates at the London Convention That Could Not Be Taken in One Picture—Quite Near the Center of the Picture.

Beth-Sarim — Much Talked About House in San Diego

The House of the Princes

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

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

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

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

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

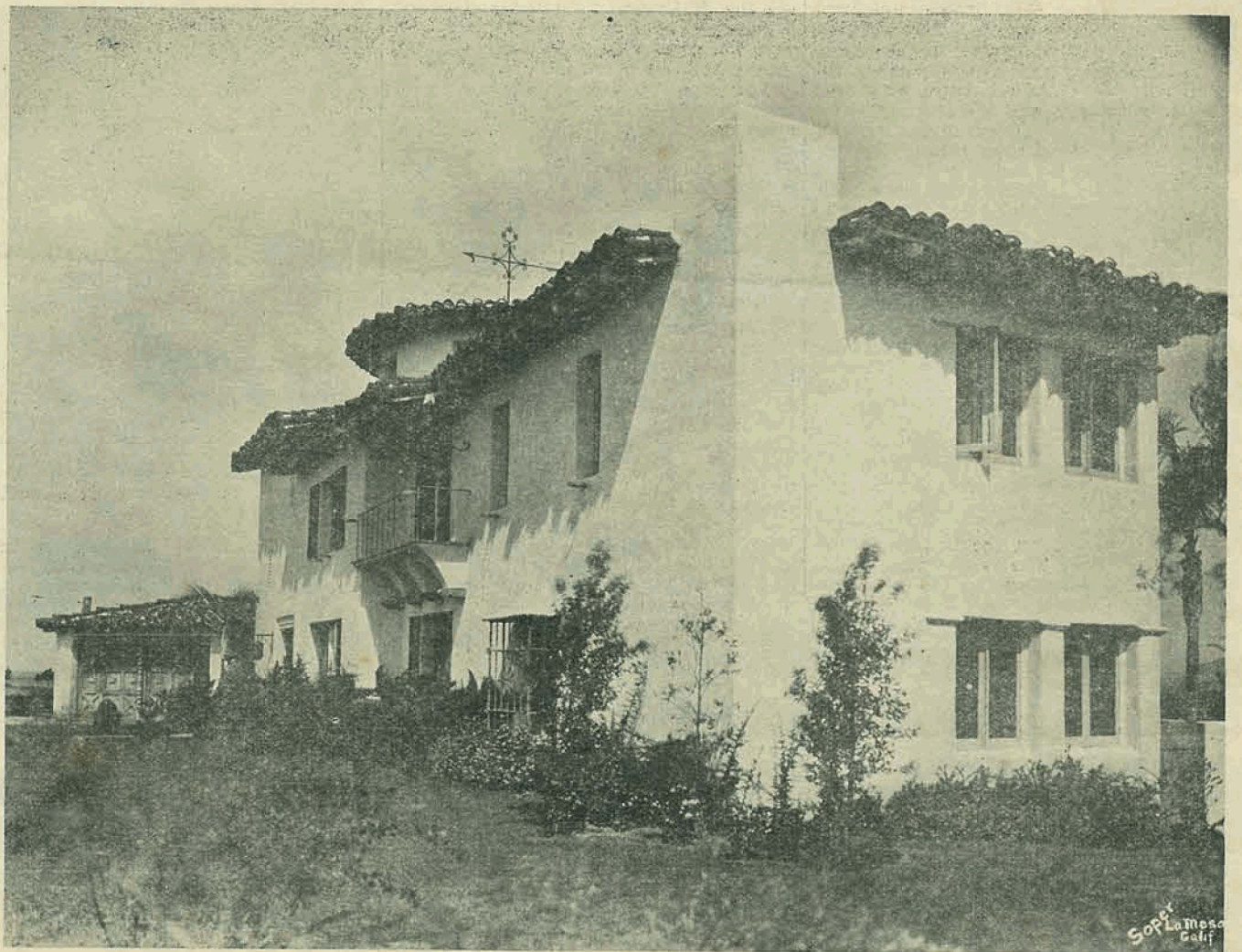
the duties and privileges of the hour. Judge Rutherford, president of the Watch Tower Society, is one of the hardest-worked men in the world. Anybody can be a Christian in peace-time, but Judge Rutherford was one of the war-time Christians; and, for daring so to be, went to Atlanta Penitentiary under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

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

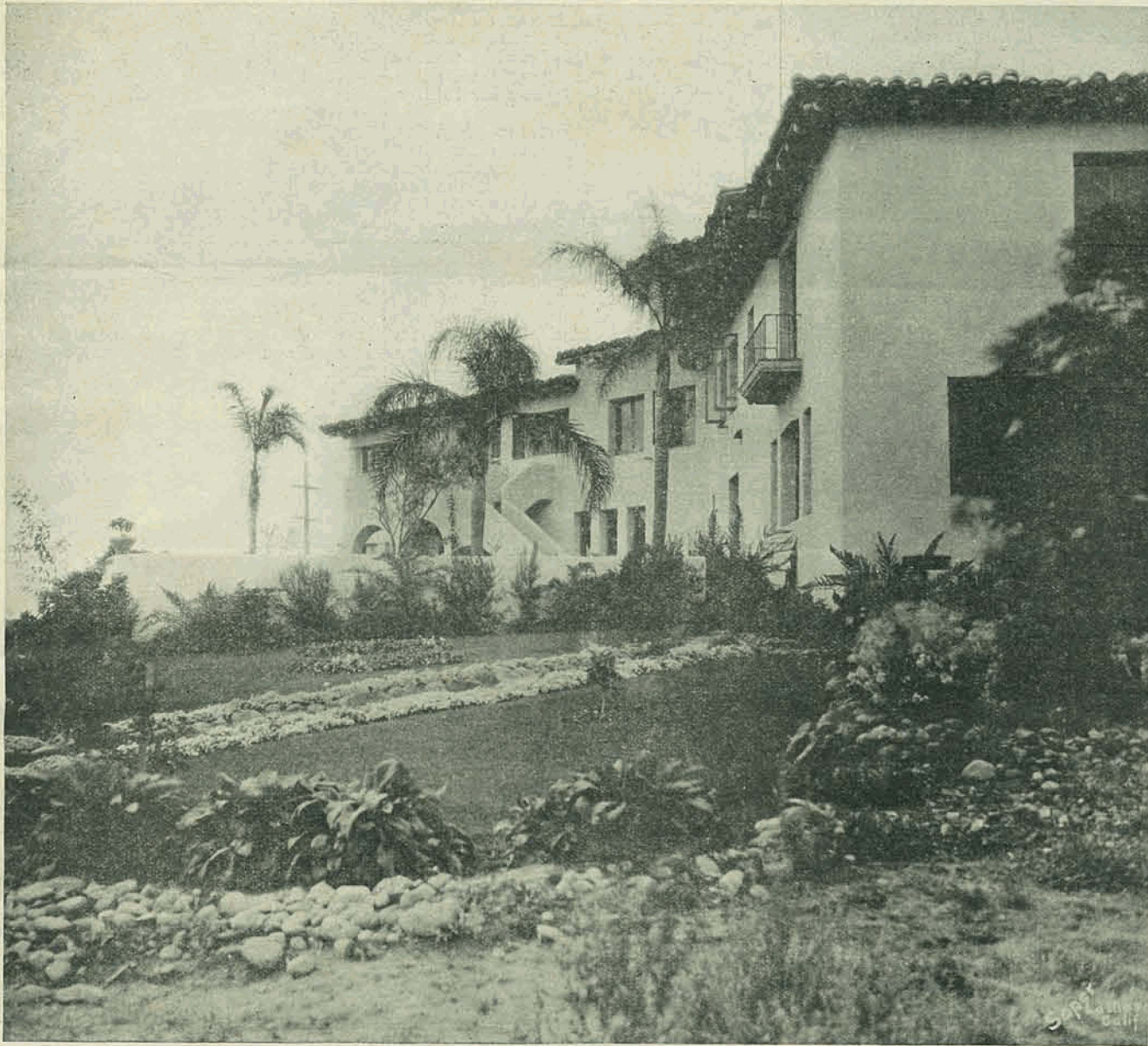
(weather experts) that San Diego, California, is as near perfection for a winter climate as it is possible to get. About a quarter of a million people besides meteorologists have made the same discovery and make the city their winter home.

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

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



A View of the Front and East Side.



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



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

This Kingdom Gospel Must Be Preached in All the World

Amazing Growth of the Lord's Work Since 1922

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

(First Installment)

The Witness Work in Argentina

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



Ricardo Traub, in Charge of the Work in Chile.

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

The Witness Work in Australia

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



A. MacGillivray, Resident Manager of the Australian Work.

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued on page 8)

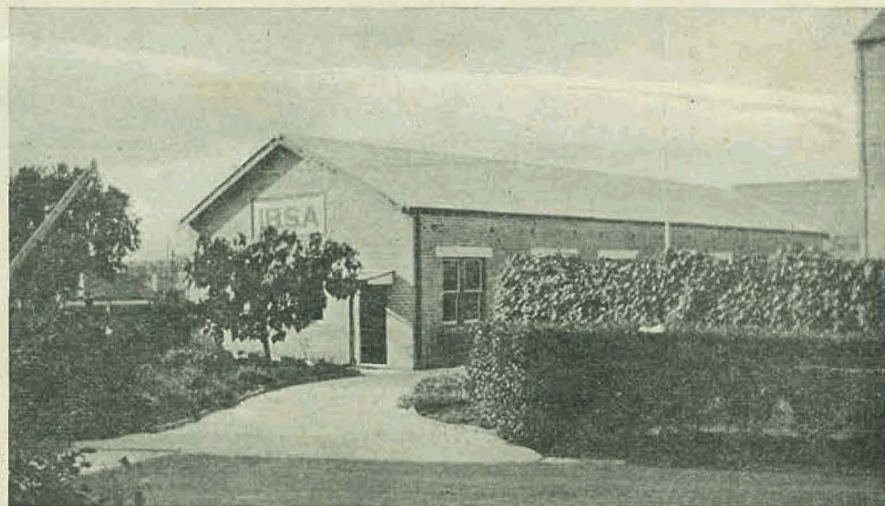


Carlo Ott, in Charge of the Work in Uruguay.

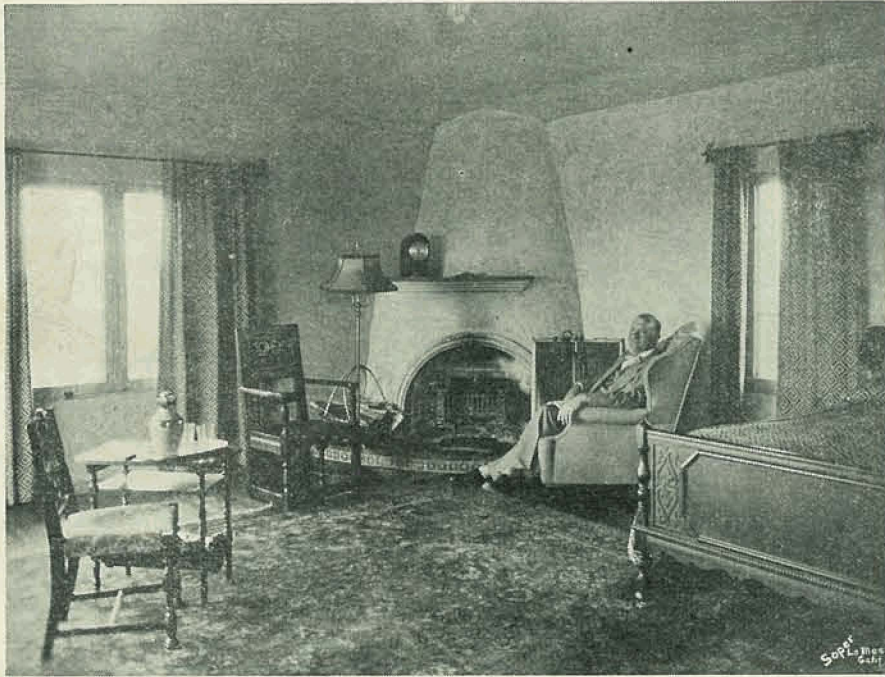
As fast as they are ready we are sending colporteurs out to the different cities. They canvass these cities, and if they find any interested they hold studies in *The Harp of God*; and if the interest continues they establish classes. If not, when the city has been thoroughly canvassed they are sent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

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

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



The Society's Office in Sydney, Australia.



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

BETH-SARIM

(Continued from page 6)

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

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

doubt be awakened from the sleep of death.

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

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

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



The Outside Stairs from the Patio to the Sun Parlor.



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

WITNESS WORK IN AUSTRALIA

(Continued from page 7)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(To be continued in our next issue)



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

This Kingdom Gospel Must Be Preached in All the World

(Second Installment)

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

The Witness Work In Austria

By Walter Voight



Walter Voight, Resident Manager.

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

In Austria 94.4 per cent of the population is Catholic.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



The Bethel Family at Vienna.

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Witness Work in Belgium

By J. Knecht

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



Bethel Home in Vienna.



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

