



Quarterly Review

December, 1972
Vol. 39 No. 4

Organ of the
Euro-Africa Division

«Come... and Help Us»

By *St. Woysch*

In Troas, a city in northwest Asia Minor, the apostle Paul received a vision in which he saw a man of Macedonia calling, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." The record says, "We (Paul and his companions) immediately endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them" (Acts 16:10).

That vision changed the history of missions, and that call, the first of countless hundreds of calls to come to God's representatives during the centuries which have followed, set a pattern for response and sacrifice. In our day appeals come with greater urgency than ever before. Quarter after quarter, from every continent, from distant countries, from the islands of the sea, people rise to plead for spiritual and physical help. Again and again Seventh-day Adventists have been willing to sacrifice in order to answer the calls of needy and seeking peoples.



This quarter, from the extreme northern sector of Madagascar comes an urgent call for a hospital. The hospital is to be built in the town of Andapa, the center of an area where hundreds of thousands of people live without any medical institution. Grateful for the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church among them, the government is supporting the project. The Indian Ocean Union Mission has been given a beautiful site for the hospital. Building plans have been drawn up and approved. All that is lacking is the money to build.

From Angola, one of the African countries which form part of the Euro-Africa Division, children, young people, and adults are calling to us from an area where there is no organized work, no school, no mission station. Our brethren feel their responsibility. They know that the best way to establish the work of the church is to educate and prepare young people for God's service.

Some Adventist families have already settled in this area of South Angola. These African families willingly left their homes and work to pioneer the giving of the gospel message in this unentered region. Through their faithful witness, many of the people have become interested in Bible truths. This is the opportune moment to establish a mission and a school.

We have heard the calls. We have seen the outstretched hands. Now we have it in our power to answer. The overflow of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will provide the needed help. One fourth of all the offerings given on December 23 will be dedicated to these projects.

It is Christmastide, the time of the year when Christendom celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, the greatest gift ever bestowed on man. Should not the biggest birthday offering be consecrated to Him? Will you not bring a sacrificial gift to His altar on that day?

These Angolan children thank you for their mission school. Thousands of boys and girls like them are still waiting to know about Jesus.

Doing God's Work Through SERVICE

By *Paul Pichot*

As he enters the Ambatoharanana Adventist Training School campus, a visitor, going up the fairly steep hill toward the main area, cannot fail to notice on his right a small blue building, surrounded by neatly kept grounds. Then he sees a large group of people — wives, husbands, grandparents, many with babies in their arms or small children at their side. Most of these people are not students. They are usually poorly dressed, and often they can give only a tired smile as one waves hello to them. This is the Ambatoharanana Adventist Dispensary.

Amidst the sound of talking and crying, the gesticulating and general movement of the crowd, one soon notices a small woman clad in a white frock. Untiringly she goes from one to the other, dispensing medicines, giving injections, inspiring courage, smiling tenderly, and expressing sympathy to all those who have come to her with their multitudes of ills, some from very far. She is Mildred Vel, nurse-midwife-mother-friend-confidante to them all.

Although the dispensary has been in operation only a few years, its reputation has gone far and wide, across mountains and rivers to the smallest hamlet, miles from the school. On a recent visit, Dr. Ramangalahy, chief of medical jurisdiction for Tamatave Province (the area in which our dispensary is located), told me rather matter-of-factly that the reason our dispensary does not receive regular visits from medical inspectors is that they know it is the best in the area. "We have so many dispensaries which

are in deplorable condition that we do not worry about yours. We know the kind of work you are doing, and that is sufficient for us."

And yet the needs in our clinic are urgent. The conditions under which Miss Vel must carry on her work are still unsatisfactory and certainly not representative of what an Adventist institution ought to be. Because of the heavy rains that fall in this area most of the year, she has had to move into the back rooms of the dispensary, which space would normally be occupied by a much-needed delivery room, a treatment room, and a supply room. In addition there should be space for six to ten beds. Previously Miss Vel lived in a small house four hundred yards from the dispensary, but on dark, rainy nights trudging in the sleek mud made reaching the dispensary a difficult undertaking. Often she fell down and arrived covered with mud.

Patients come at all hours. They shyly knock at the back door, eventually waking up the nurse, who often has been working hard all day, from dawn until late at night. Nonetheless, she always greets the patient with a smile. Quickly she dresses and, without losing a moment, attends to the needs of whoever has come to her with such urgency.

Most people who come for treatment are unwilling to go to the hospital in Tamatave, twenty miles distant, because, they say, "People who go there die." They often prefer simply to disappear after their treatment than to be taken into town, even if their condition is very serious. They trust the Adventist nurse, but not the doctors.

On July 31 of this year, one man, who had traveled some seventeen miles on foot and in dugout, arrived at the dispensary at three o'clock in the afternoon. He was trembling, not with fever but from weakness. The nurse urged him to let her take him to the hospital, but he strongly resisted. He had been sick for more than a month, and when he finally decided to come for help it was too late. Realizing the hopelessness of his condition, Miss Vel prayed with him and for him. At last he agreed to go to the hospital. A few days later we learned that he had passed away soon after his arrival.

Because ignorance is often responsible for untimely deaths, the nurse, in addition to her normal duties, spends much time teaching the people how to care for themselves and their families. One sad case involved a seventeen-year-old girl who came to the dispensary with two other women and two men from her village some twelve miles away. They left home at nine o'clock in the evening. After paddling all night, they arrived at the dispensary at sunrise, but the



Miss Mildred Vel, nurse-midwife-friend of the sick and ailing in the Tamatave area.



The Ambatobaranana Adventist Dispensary at Tamatave is the only medical endeavor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Madagascar. A small hospital with modern facilities is envisioned as the result of the overflow of the 13th Sabbath Offering, December 23.



On the Dispensary porch are several mothers with their babies and small children waiting to see the nurse. Many of the patients travel long distances to receive help from Miss Vel.

girl, who was pregnant, did not reach help in time. She had delivered in the canoe, and by the time they knocked at Miss Vel's door the baby was dead, suffocated by the placenta.

The real purpose of the dispensary, however, is to tell the people of the wonders of redemption, which has been made possible through Christ's atonement, and of our Saviour's imminent return. Sometimes the enemy of souls is very present, attempting to keep within his grasp those who reach out for eternal life.

An example of the fierce struggle that is being waged for souls is the experience of Vavyroa, a young woman who recently came to the dispensary for help. Unwilling to go to the hospital for the delivery of her baby, she insisted that the nurse attend her. Before the time for delivery she came to the dispensary for frequent visits. During those visits she had many opportunities to become acquainted with Adventists. She even witnessed a baptismal ceremony with great interest. When the date for the delivery came and went, her husband told her that her interest in Adventism was the cause of the delay. Then when she was coughing one day, he again intimated that the Adventists were responsible for her problems.

Finally she arrived at the dispensary in labor, sure that the baby would soon be born. By seven o'clock in the evening, however, all pain ceased. Vavyroa started to get up to take a little walk, but she was unable to stand on her feet because of dizziness. Soon she became delirious and started screaming like a possessed person. She cried out that she was going to die. Turning to her husband, she said, "Your father (who had long been dead) is coming to get me. I see his hand stretched out toward me."

Greatly alarmed, the husband implored, "Father, do not take her away. Leave her with me."

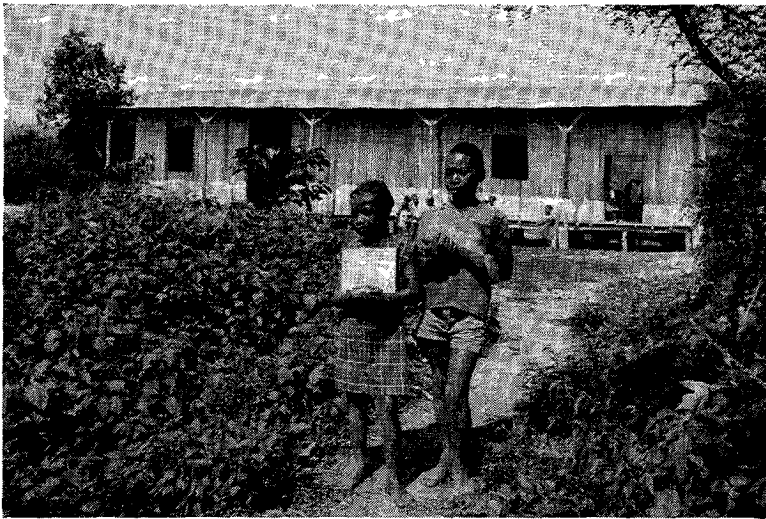
As her condition seemed to be worsening, Miss Vel decided to take her to the hospital immediately. The school truck arrived, but the husband refused to have her placed on a stretcher, claiming that only dead people travel that way. Knowing the gravity of the situation, the attendant pushed him aside. As the vehicle sped toward the city over the bumpy dirt road, Vavyroa delivered twin girls.

This experience changed this young mother. Now when she comes for her regular checkups, she seems to be a different person. Some day, God willing, Vavyroa, with many others, will be waiting to welcome their Saviour, thanks to the small dispensary and the devotion of the Master's servants who so kindly represent Him in this little known area of Madagascar.

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Spotlight focused on

Madagascar



Two Andapan children walking home from a Seventh-day Adventist school.



Faithful church members in the Andapa Valley, where there are now six Seventh-day Adventist churches and four schools.

Mothers like the one pictured below with her sick baby plead for a hospital.



On December 23 the attention of Sabbath school members around the world will be focused on Madagascar, an island located 250 miles off the east coast of South Africa and headquarters of the Indian Ocean Union Mission. Today more than 7,000 Seventh-day Adventists meet each Sabbath in the Malagasy Republic, where we have 120 organized churches.

In Central Madagascar, ages removed from the modern capital city of Tananarive, the Ambatoharanana School is the site of the only medical endeavor of our church on the island. The Ambatoharanana Adventist Dispensary is very small. Opened only three years ago, the clinic is staffed by one nurse, Mildred Vel. Paul Pichot, president of the school, reports that Miss Vel's work is greatly appreciated for miles around. Miracles of healing take place daily. People travel 20—30—even 40 miles to find help at the dispensary.

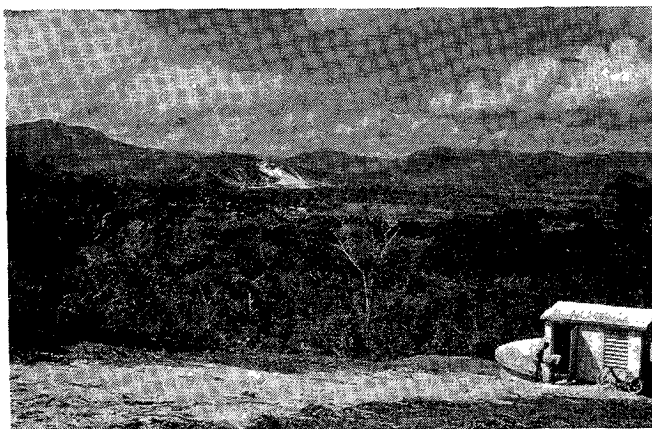
Realizing that the medical work is an important avenue to the winning of souls, our leaders have chosen North Madagascar as the site for a new mission hospital. Work opened in this area only thirteen years ago, when Pastor Henri Long was sent there in answer to a request which came to the Voice of Prophecy office in Tananarive. After traveling up and down difficult mountain passes, Pastor Long reached beautiful, fertile Andapa Valley. There he found a whole village studying the Voice of Prophecy correspondence course and keeping the Sabbath. A new \$ 16 million highway has now opened the area to the rest of the country, making it an important new area in the development of Madagascar.

Sharing the spotlight with Madagascar is Angola. The church plans to open a new mission station in South Angola. Picture, if you will, a pastor's

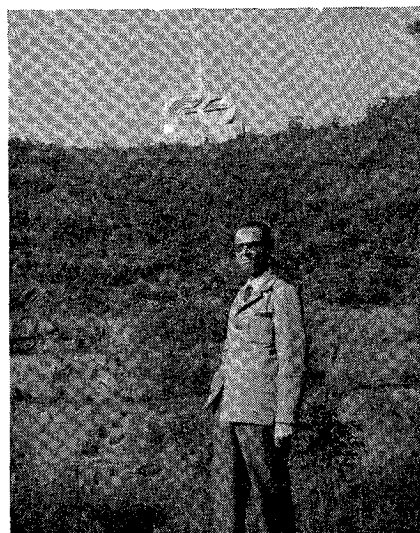
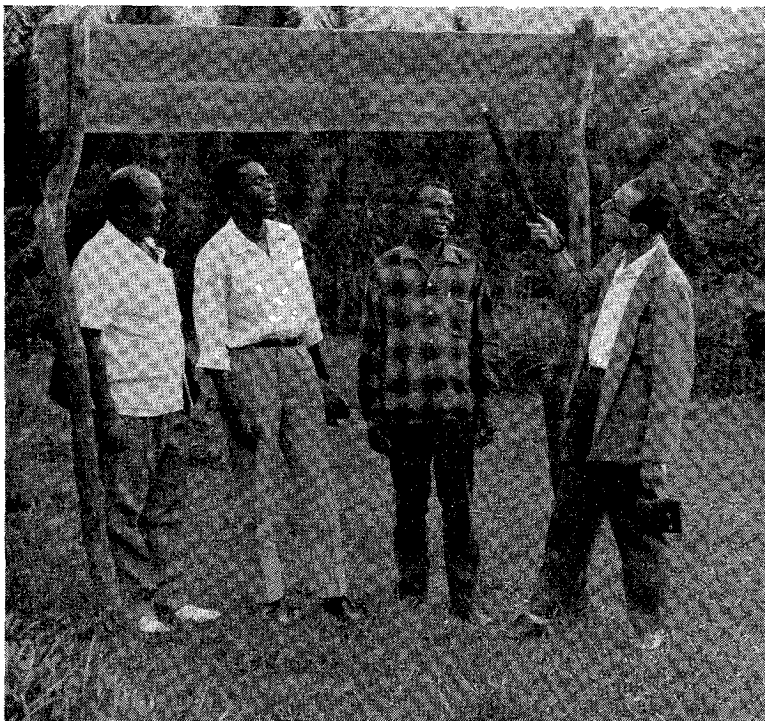
and Angola

By Sylvia Powers

Henri Long points to the sign which identifies the land as the future location of the Andapa Adventist Hospital.



A view of beautiful Andapa Valley.



Henri Long stands below the monument built by the company that constructed the new highway. It represents the Malagasy porter who used to carry coffee and vanilla to market and commemorates the end of an era.

answering a request that came from villages near Gabela, where we have about 200 church members, and finding 4,000 people waiting for him. Eighteen miles away another 3,500 gathered to receive him. One village chief came with 75 representatives to request that a Seventh-day Adventist teacher be sent to his village.

The gospel is making strides in Madagascar and Angola. Now is the time to go forward by faith. These fields need your gifts, your sacrificial gifts. Will you not respond this 13th Sabbath?

When a church is built in Angola, it is soon filled to overflowing, like the one pictured to the right.



Organization of the Mozambique Union Mission

By C. L. Powers

On August 8, 1972, a representative committee of seventeen workers and laymen met at the headquarters' office in Lourenço Marques to complete the work of reorganizing the Mozambique Mission into a union mission. Henrique Berg, the dynamic president who had recently come to the field from Brazil, and Joao dos Santos, the capable secretary-treasurer, had prepared well for this meeting.

The committee carefully studied the physical geography of the country, taking into consideration the problems of transportation and communication in reaching the more than eight million inhabitants with the gospel message. They agreed that it was best for the future development of the work to divide the area geographically into three sections and laid plans accordingly for the organi-

zation of the North, the Central, and the South Mozambique missions.

The office of the North Mozambique Mission is to be located in Mocuba, with A. N. Pires as president and J. A. Vieira, secretary-treasurer. It was in the Zambesi district of this mission that the Seventh-day Adventist Church first established work in Mozambique. With permission of the governor general, Max Webster established the Munguluni (Light) Mission in 1933 and later a school in 1940. Today the North Mission has 11,797 members worshipping in 39 organized churches. Last year 1,185 new members were added to the church by baptism, most of whom were won by laymen. Their goal for 1972 is 1,300 baptisms.

That first school, known as the Munguluni Mission Training School, received official recognition in 1963,

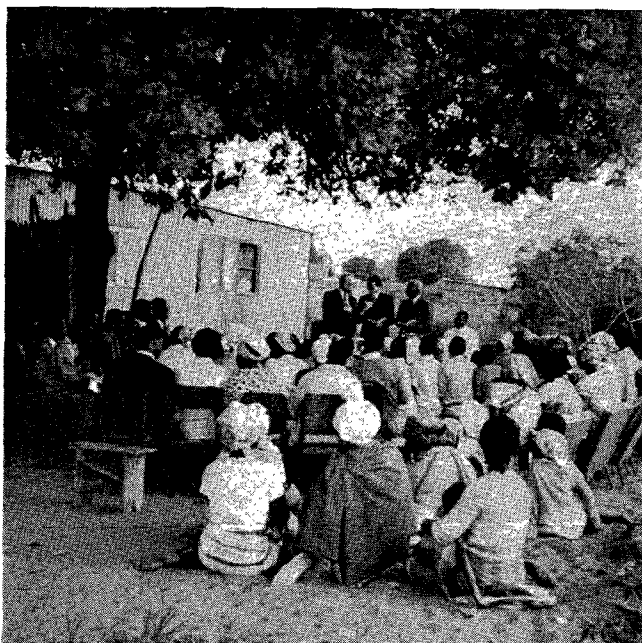
when it had an enrollment of only 25 students on the secondary level. Today it has an enrollment of 350 students. Sixty girls are housed in four rooms; often three girls must share a bed.

The Central Mission, with A. N. Nunes as president, is to work out of Beira, the second largest city in Mozambique. This coastal resort town attracts thousands of tourists annually from Rhodesia and South Africa.

A year ago Pastor Nunes approached the manager of the radio station and offered to prepare a weekly children's program at no charge to the station. The thirty-minute program which Pastor and Mrs. Nunes presented soon became known as the Adventist Hour. So popular has it been among the listening audience that they are now airing three programs a week. During my visit to Beira, we visited the manager of the radio station and thanked him for his kindness in granting us this free time. Deeply touched by our visit, he assured us that the Adventists would always be welcome on his program schedule. Then he thanked us for what the Church is doing in Beira.

On the Wednesday evening of my visit in Beira, we gathered in a small African church for an unusual service, the inauguration of a lighting system. Interested in the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the owner of a large construction company in the city had offered to provide lighting for our church. At the close of the lighting ceremony, the man was called to the front and presented with an autographed copy of God's Holy Word. Pressing the Bible close to his heart, he said, "This is the most precious gift I have ever received."

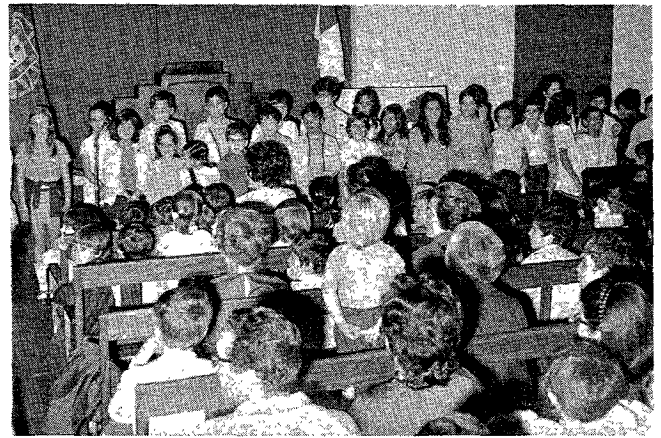
At the close of the worship hour, this man invited us to his home the following morning to see his large garden and his modern farming equipment. On our arrival, he gave us a cordial welcome. After our tour of the grounds, he asked a number of questions about Seventh-day Adventists. We were pleased to be able to talk and pray with him. Then he confessed that the day before he and his family had agreed that they would keep only enough of their income to care for their needs and would give the rest to help worthy causes. His



A Sabbath afternoon service under the trees in rural Mozambique. C. L. Powers is the speaker, with Joao dos Santos interpreting.



Sisters who helped Miriam Berg (first left), wife of Henrique Berg, to conduct the first VBS in Lourenço Marques, August 14-26.



Children presenting their memory verses at the program for the parents, which marked the close of the very successful first Vacation Bible School in Mozambique.

interest in giving had already been demonstrated by his gift to our nearby African church.

Also in the Central Mission is Vila Pery, an unentered city. There we had an appointment with the mayor. On our arrival, we were ushered into his private office for a most informal visit. He immediately asked all about the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in that part of Mozambique. Formerly an educational supervisor in the area where our Munguluni school is located, he and the mission president had become good friends. It was obvious during our conversation that he has a deep appreciation for our educational work.

He asked some questions that were difficult for us to answer. First, "Do you plan to open a school in Vila Pery?" Then, and even harder to answer, "Do you plan to build a church here soon?" Obviously he was disappointed when we told him that we must expand slowly for lack of funds. Then he quickly assured us, "Come to our city. I will help you."

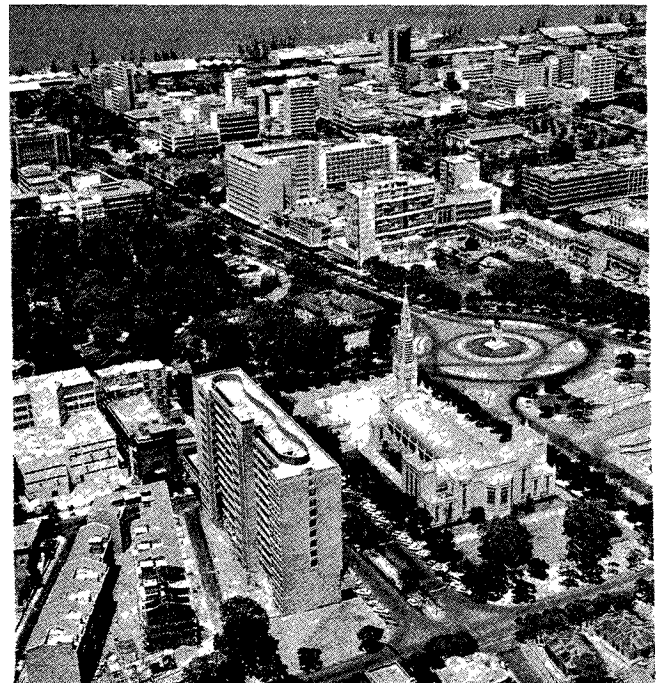
Although there are only three Seventh-day Adventist churches with 168 members in the Central Mission, prospects are bright for advancement and growth. During the past few years the European church in Beira has grown from one to 45 members. With an aggressive evangelistic thrust this church could become a pillar of strength and support for the work in this mission.

Headquarters for the South Mission will be in Lourenço Marques, with the union officers accepting the added responsibility of directing this local

field. A beautiful modern city of 600,000 inhabitants, Lourenço Marques has only two organized churches with 314 members. Last month Mrs. Berg, wife of the union president, conducted the first Vacation Bible School ever held in Mozambique. The response was overwhelming. On the first day 116 attended, 91 of them from non-SDA homes. Without doubt this city is ready and waiting for a major soul-winning breakthrough. The new Mozambique Union Mission is urgently requesting a union evangelist to devote full time to the preaching of the message. Doors are wide open now, but we dare not count on tomorrow.

The reorganization committee voted to recommend to the Euro-Africa Division that the new organization of the Mozambique Union Mission become effective January 1, 1973. The officers for the union will be appointed by the division committee. The departmental secretaries were elected as follows: Henrique Berg to carry the lay activities, Sabbath school, stewardship, radio and TV departments; J. B. Abella, health and temperance departments; and Joao dos Santos, education, YPMV, public relations, and religious liberty departments.

(Continued on page 8)



A view of Lourenço Marques, the modern capital of Mozambique, East Africa.

Medical Work in Equatorial Africa

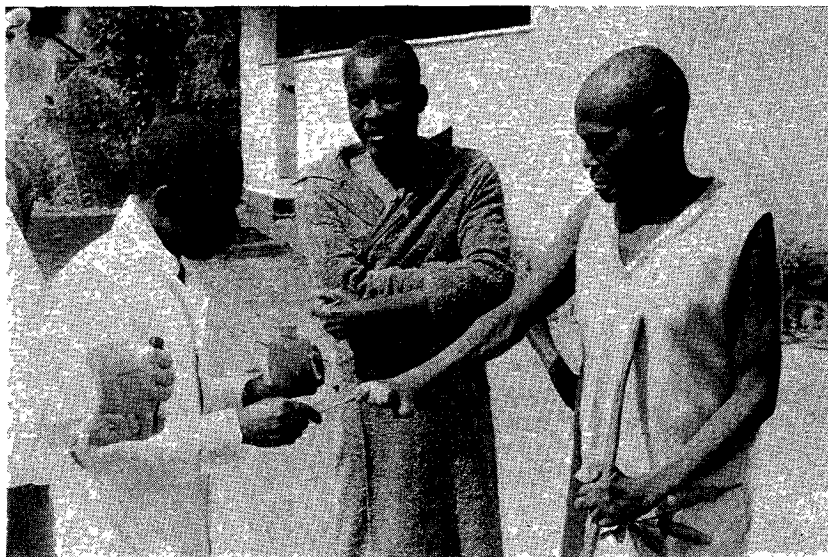
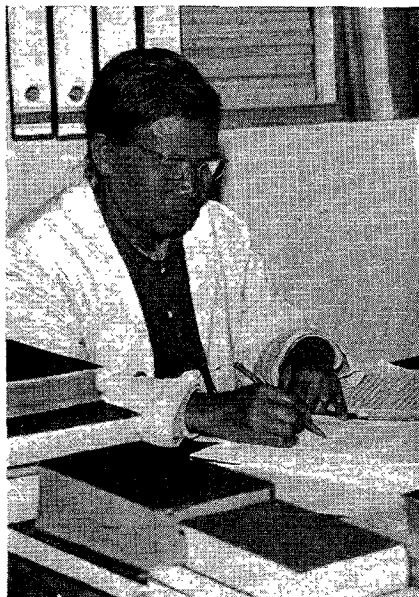
✓ The Cameroun Mission Hospital, located in Koza, North Cameroun, is staffed by two doctors, twelve orderlies, and three nurses. The personnel dedicate their time and effort to bringing relief to the thousands and thousands of sick who come to the hospital seeking help each year. The hospital has 80 beds.

There are also five dispensaries scattered throughout Cameroun, one in the Central African Republic, and one in Equatorial Guinea. At each dispensary a graduate nurse works almost around the clock to stem the tide of physical suffering in her area. This year construction will begin on another dispensary at Béré, in southern Chad.

A leper hospital, located near Nanga-Eboko, Cameroun, is soon to be given to the Seventh-day Adventist Church to run, according to an arrangement with the medical authorities of the Cameroun Government.

In the Equatorial African Union Mission workers are concerned with the whole man. They are dedicated to ministering to both the physical and spiritual needs of mankind.

Edwin Ludescher



Lepers receiving treatment at Nanga-Eboko.

From here and there...

*Every Saturday morning the third angel's message is being broadcast over Radio Youndé, in Cameroun. After each broadcast hundreds of listeners write in requesting copies of the radio sermon.

*As of June 30, 1972, the number of baptized members in the Equatorial African Union Mission reached 14,444. Plans call for the entering of Niger and Gabon with the gospel message during 1973 and 1974.

*Beginnings of the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Madagascar go back to the early 1920's with the translation of the book *Steps to Christ* into the Malagasy language by Rasamoelina in his spare time. In 1925, this translation was published. A small bookshop was opened in Tananarive to handle the edition of 5,000 copies and the small tracts which followed. Conversations with customers led to Bible studies and conversions. By September, 1926, there were ten baptized church members, the number required to sign a petition asking for authorization to hold public meetings.

From that time the publishing work has been important to the progress of the work in Madagascar. Pictured to the left is Mrs. Bertha Ranorohanta, who has translated and edited all the literature that has gone out from the Malagasy Press in Tananarive during the past 42 years.

*The Southern European Union Mission reported 483 baptisms during the first six months of the year. These additions to the church resulted in a 4.36% gain in membership.

*With a 10.47% gain in membership for the first six months of 1972, the Angola Union Mission led the Euro-African Division union fields.

Organization of ...

(Continued from page 7)

Since 1967 the Mozambique Mission has baptized more than a thousand souls each year. At the time of the meeting, the field reported having 44 organized churches with 12,279 members, 22,116 Sabbath school members enrolled in 84 organized Sabbath schools, and 20,000 interested people attending 207 branch Sabbath schools.

Euro-Africa Division

Quarterly Review

Organ of the Euro-Africa Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church published every quarter
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