

From the G.C. President

August 23, 1993

Robert S Folkenberg

1. G W BROWN, IAD PRESIDENT, HAS ANNOUNCED HIS RETIREMENT effective December 31; thus, in harmony with procedures set forth in GC policy, I joined the IAD Executive Committee August 23 to consider the name of the individual to recommend to the 1993 Annual Council of the General Conference Committee. The person recommended is Israel Leito, presently Director of Church Ministries at the General Conference.

2. SATELLITE VIEWERS will want to see the special to be broadcast from the ASI (Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries) Convention in Toronto, Sabbath, August 28. To be aired on Adventist Communication Network (ACN), the 90-minute program "ASI Alive" is a cooperative venture of ASI, NAD, the GC, and a 3ABN crew. ASI Vice president Dan Houghton is the host. Airtime is 2:30-4 pm (EDT) on Galaxy 7, Channel 15. ASI is one of the Church's fastest-growing organizations, beginning with 25 charter members in 1947 to more than 1,000 today.

North American churches, institutions and conference/union offices which have not yet bought a satellite dish antenna may call 1-800-ACN-1119 for further information. Cost with standard ground installation in the U.S. and Canada is US\$2,829.

3. GC LOBBY TO FOCUS ON SECOND COMING: The lack of a dominant religious motif in the entrance of the General Conference headquarters led the GC Administrative Committee to appoint a commission to consider options on how best to fill this need. After considering many alternatives, the commission submitted, and ADCOM tentatively approved, a design featuring a series of life-size sculptures pointing toward a large wall hanging a stylized representation of the Second Advent which, at its center, is based on the words of I Thess. 4:16, 17 and Rev. 22:20: "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God. The dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the air. So shall we ever be with the Lord, even so come Lord Jesus." The project, designed by Alan Collins (who sculpted the "The Good Samaritan" figures, centerpiece of the Loma Linda University campus), cannot be paid for from General Conference funds and, therefore, will not be initiated until sufficient private donations are in hand to cover costs.

4. AWR-LATIN AMERICA: Elders Mittleider and Scragg and David Gregory (station manager) met

recently with South American leadership to explore ways to expand SAD's participation in AWR programming. One option is a partnership proposal between AWR and an SDA station in Brazil and another in a Spanish-speaking area. These stations would produce blocks of programming to be rebroadcast from Costa Rica.

5. GLOBAL MISSION - ENGLAND: Newbold College students have lead out in establishing a new group of believers in the unentered community of Basingstoke. Pastor Messenger conducted an evangelistic meeting, resulting in three baptisms. A group of 15 worship each Sabbath, six of whom are possible candidates for baptism. A picture of this group will appear in **THE CAMERASTORY**, a publication of the Global Mission office.

6. BALTIC REALIGNMENT RECOMMENDED: Prior to the Second World War, Seventh-day Adventist members in the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania were part of the Northern European Division (today called the Trans-European Division). In response to the political changes in these countries, and to a request from the Baltic Union Committee, the General Conference appointed a survey commission to assess the advisability of realigning the Baltic Union territory as part of the Trans-European Division instead of the Euro-Asia Division. After meeting in Riga, Latvia, the survey commission recommended that this realignment be implemented, with the exception of the area of Belarus which they recommend remain as part of the Euro-Asia Division. If approved by the 1993 Annual Council, the transfer will take effect January 1, 1994.

7. CHINA HOSPITAL BEGINS OPERATIONS: Radiology procedures have commenced at the Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital in Hangzhou, China, according to David Fang, MD, who heads the institution. Functioning as a sister institution of Zhejiang Medical University, the new facility is operated by Loma Linda University. Sir Run Run Shaw, the wealthy Hong Kong businessman who financed the construction of the hospital, was a patient decades ago of Dr. Harry Miller, the Adventist pioneer medical missionary to China. Sir Shaw made his gift contingent upon management by Seventh-day Adventists.

8. JOHN BREWER, husband of Marjorie Brewer, an employee of General Conference Trust Services, was killed July 29 while on duty as a security officer at Howard University. Our deepest sympathy is extended

to the family members and friends.