

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has had many excellent missionaries who have been creative and developed innovative approaches to mission life and challenges. However, too many of them never wrote extensively about what they learned or the methods they developed. This void has resulted in succeeding generations of missionaries repeating the same mistakes and having to discover what previous missionaries learned.

Especially missing from Adventist mission literature is documentation of the work by indigenous workers who often did the face-to-face contact in presenting the Three Angels' Messages. In denominational papers the history that is recorded too often only lists the missionary's name with no mention of the local workers.

This issue of the *Journal of Adventist Mission Studies* focuses on Adventist mission history. It also welcomes a new writer, Chigemezi Wagu from Nigeria, and his excellent article on "Trailblazers of Adventism in Nigeria, 1900s-1930s." We need more voices from Africa and Asia to write similar histories of the early work in those parts of the world with a specific focus on the work on early indigenous evangelists and other front-line workers.

David Trim presents two articles on the history of the Adventist Church's mission enterprise and the role and function of the General Conference Secretariat. Unfortunately, the present trends in Adventist mission are discouraging and with little focus on reaching the unreached peoples in the world.

Two articles by Gottfried Oosterwal were given to Petr Cincala by Millie Oosterwal after his passing. I have included his Sabbath sermon at Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan, to mark the anniversary of the birth of J. N. Andrews (July 21, 1979). His other article on M. B. Czechowski's work both in America and in Europe is a reminder that sometimes those who are little appreciated by the institutional church are the ones who accomplish the most for God.

A request: If you know of people who have written articles on Adventist mission history, please encourage them to submit their papers. I am planning to have another issue dealing with this topic in the next year or so.

Bruce L. Bauer, editor