

INTER-AMERICAN  
*Messenger Flashes*

Nº 16

July 13, 1971

●**SURVEYS**--During the month of May, Elder R. R. Drachenberg, auditor of the Inter-American Division, in addition to auditing the books of the Caribbean Union, conducted financial surveys of each of the local fields, the Caribbean Union College, the Port-of-Spain Community Hospital, and the Davis Memorial Hospital. We are grateful to Elder Drachenberg for the help received from him.--*G. R. Thompson.*

●**NEWS FROM WEST VENEZUELA**--On Sabbath, May 15, an attractive chapel was dedicated to the Lord's worship in the San Jacinto district of Barquisimeto. Mission president Jorge Carambot, district pastor Jorge Gonzalez, and departmental secretary Robinson Urdaneta participated in the ceremony. The church membership stands at 150.

\*Beginning July 11, the lay workers of the field plan to hold at least one effort in each church and company. The motto of our laymen is: "I shall win one in '71."--*Robinson Urdaneta.*

●**BAPTISMS IN COSTA RICA**--On Sabbath, May 15, under impending rain, seventeen new believers were baptized in the town of Guayabo, Guanacaste, thus bringing the church membership to 67. A layman, Brother Claudio Miranda, is preparing 20 more candidates for baptism in the near future.

\*In the San Rafael settlement of the San Isidro del General district, three souls were baptized recently. They were won by layman Luis Jimenez, who is preparing seven more candidates for baptism.--*Francisco Arroyo.*

●**NEW TREASURER**--Brother Cami B. Cruz has accepted a call from the Central American Union and the El Salvador Mission to be the treasurer of that field.

●**FROM BELLA VISTA**--The Herman Lambertson family returned to Puerto Rico June 15, Brother Lambertson to be the pharmacist of the Bella Vista Hospital and his wife to teach school.--*Dora Reed.*

●**NEW LIGHT**--On Sabbath, May 22, the #80 church of the East Puerto Rico Conference was organized in the town of Salinas. This is a new light in a place where there was no organized church. Conference president E. C. Santos led out in the ceremony.--*H. J. Brignoni.*



●**NEWS FROM "CADES"**--The college choir, directed by Mrs. Loron Wade, had three off-campus appearances this year. The first one was at a school in San Francisco de Heredia, Costa Rica, to the delight of the 800 students and the faculty of the institution. The second appearance was at the Rotary Club in Alajuela. The following day a recording of the program was broadcast. The third program was presented at Cachi, where the choir participated in the activities of the week of culture. For the first time in the choir's history, they sang in a Catholic church nearing completion.--*I. Gonzalez.*

●**CHURCH ORGANIZED**--On Sabbath, May 29, Elder J. G. Nikkels organized the Soacha church, #5 in the Bogota, Colombia, area with 30 charter members.

In May, Brother Henry Anaya, one of the workers of the Upper Magdalena Conference, started a crusade there in connection with the Bogota campaign. Between 150 and 200 meet there in rented quarters to hear the preaching.--*J. G. Nikkels.*



●**LAY CONGRESSES**--Inter-America was honored with the visit of Elder M. T. Battle of the General Conference Lay Activities Department. With IAD lay activities secretary A. H. Riffel, and the help of union and local leaders, eight lay congresses were held. The visit climaxed with the division departmental quadrennial advisory council held in Guatemala City June 2-9.

Our photo (above) depicts Elder Riffel pinning on Elder Battle's lapel the "1971 - Laymen's Year" pin.



Lay activities leaders of the Antillian Union, with Elders M. T. Battle of the General Conference and A. H. Riffel of the IAD, during the Puerto Rico lay congress. From left to right: Hector J. Brignon, Antillian Union; Isaac Suarez, East Puerto Rico; M. T. Battle; Pedro de Jesus, West Puerto Rico; A. H. Riffel, and Ramon Araujo, Dominican Conference.--*A. H. Riffel.*

●**ENCOURAGEMENT**--"Congratulations once again for the FLASHES. It is more effective than the news section of THE MESSENGER since it is up-to-date and leaves more space in the magazine for general articles and news of a wider scope."--*Horace Kelley, Mexican Pacific Academy.*

●**PRISONERS BAPTIZED**--On May 29, Elder Israel Gonzalez (center front) baptized three of the inmates of the Heredia, Costa Rica, jail who were won to the truth by the joint efforts of Brother Carlos Bustamante (third row, extreme left), a colporteur from Argentina, and the Voice of Prophecy. The new believers are (second row, from left to right): Leonardo McLean, Anael Ramirez (third from left), and Adan Ramirez (third row, extreme right). In the picture also are seen the VOP office secretary and another interested inmate (second row, second from left).--*Francisco Arroyo.*



●**DEATH**--The D. J. von Pohle family was touched by tragedy on Sabbath, June 19, when Elder Edwin H. Klein, their son-in-law, was electrocuted in the baptistry of the Franklin Avenue church in New Orleans at the close of a baptismal ceremony. Funeral services were conducted June 21 by E. F. Sherrill assisted by B. E. Leach, B. L. Archbold, and P. I. Nosworthy.

●**WARNING**--Because of the tragic death of one of our ministers in the North American Division, caused by taking hold of a microphone while still standing in the baptismal pool, we would like to caution our pastors to be very careful and not touch anything that might have electricity in it while standing in the baptistry. Microphones are especially dangerous because of high amperage.--*B. L. Archbold.*