

Messenger Flashes

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WELFARE CENTERS--Mrs. Ivy Hin of the Sugar Industry Welfare Board, who officially opened the Health and Welfare Center, congratulated the Adventists for being the first to establish a welfare center in West Jamaica. West Indies Union lay activities secretary S.G. Lindo emphasized in his address the need for practical love in the carrying forward of the gospel commission. Conference president E.A. Hyatt and union president H. S. Walters also took part in the program.--C. A. Holness.

*At present the Central Dominican Conference operates eight welfare centers as part of Evangelism '72 activities. The conference is donating a beautiful sewing machine to every church that opens a welfare center.--Cesar A. Puesan.



VOP GRADUATION--Voice of Prophecy students who were awarded certificates in San Luis Potosi, North Mexico. District pastor Saul Marquez and mission departmental secretary Ramon Gomez participated in the ceremony.--Lic. D.G. y Poyato.

LECTURES ON DRUGS--The series of lectures "Drugs and our Society" was very well received by the public at Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico. Pacific Mission evangelist Jaime Castrejon presented his timely messages sponsored by the Lions Club and the Civil Association of Welfare and Education. Many professional people attended the lectures along with students and parents. Present for the opening lecture were the personal representative of the governor, the state attorney,

the director of education for the state, the mayor, and other public officials. At the end of the series the public was invited to attend follow-up meetings in the church.--David Guzman.

WORKERS' RETREAT--Administrators, departmental secretaries and workers of East Puerto had a retreat at the El Verde Girl Scout camp to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in their work. The workers are of good courage as new churches are organized and dedicated, baptisms are celebrated and crusades are conducted such as the metropolitan campaign directed by Pastor Salim Japas of the theology department at Antillian College.--Ernesto C. Santos.



CHURCH CELEBRATES 50th ANNIVERSARY--The Mella Avenue church in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, celebrated half a century of its organization April 26-29. Several charter members and former ministers of the church attended the event. Taking part in the program were Elders Wilson Roberts and Esteban Galva, conference MV leader and president, respectively; C. D. Christian, Antillian Union lay activities secretary, and C. L. Christensen, union secretary-treasurer.--Hector J. Brignoni.



DEDICATION--On Sabbath, April 30, members from all parts of Martinique gathered at Pain-de-Sucre, Sainte Marie, for the dedication of the new Golgotha church. The photograph shows the modern facade of the spacious church, and also a view of the throng of happy members and well-wishers.--L. A. Ramirez.

1,200 RECEIVE CERTIFICATES--Prior to the campaign being conducted in San Juan, Puerto Rico, by Pastor Salim Japas of Antillian College, two VOP graduations were held, one in the Youth

Center where some 900 were awarded certificates, and another in the new Bayamon church where around 300 were "graduated." So far these have been the largest VOP graduations held in Puerto Rico.--Hector J. Brignoni.

DEATH--Sister Leonor H. Escandon, a mother in Israel, was called to her rest May 9. She leaves to mourn her departure three minister sons, Tirso, Antonio and Jorge; three missionary-teacher children, Lola, Sara and Rafael; and two daughters, Judith and Rosa, faithful church members.--Joel Manosalva.

FROM BRITISH HONDURAS--On Sunday, April 16, mission president James Kaine inaugurated a new building for classrooms at the Seventh-day Adventist Vocational College in Calcutta.

*The school also held an open house for parents and well-wishers of the community. Visitors included the district officer, Honorable Ramon Ramirez, and the principal of the Methodist secondary school in the Corozal district.

*Mission secretary-treasurer Ireno Cargill conducted an evangelistic campaign in Hattieville. The first eight souls have already been baptized and 30 more are preparing for baptism. Also plans are being made for a new church in the area.--Aquilino Jesse.

INVESTITURE--The Guanare, West Venezuela, church staged recently an investiture service. Five young people, portrayed in the center, were invested. Participating in the ceremony were Miss Blanca Reina (right), leader of the Master Guide Club and local elementary school teacher, and mission MV secretary Robinson Urdaneta (left).--Robinson Urdaneta.



NEW POSITIONS--Cesar Funes is the new publishing secretary for the Central American Union. To fill the vacancy left by him in the Sabbath School and Lay Activities Departments, Hector Jurado who at present is on study leave, was called.--Jose J. Figueroa.

*German Cortes is the new publishing secretary for the East Venezuela Mission.--Romulo Lozano.

VICTORY DAY IN SANTO DOMINGO--On April 30 the Central Dominican Conference constituency celebrated Victory Day at the Quisqueya Stadium for having reached their Ingathering goal and 1,152 souls baptized to date. As a result of an appeal made by West Indies Union president H. S. Walters at the end of his thanksgiving sermon, 300 non-Adventists expressed their decision to join our church. A special offering of \$6,000 was taken. Present for the occasion were Elders C. L. Christensen, C. D. Christian, Oscar Gonzalez and Abdiel Acosta of the Antillian Union; Joe Espinosa and Hector Acosta of the North Dominican Mission, and workers and officers of the conference.--Cesar A. Puesan.