

Messenger Flashes

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CENTURION CLUB WINS 2000 SOULS—The "Centurion Pastors' and Laymen's Club" of the Central Dominican Conference, is the first in the Antillian Union to win 2,000 souls for Christ. Of this total, the laymen won 1,200. Laymen Arcadio Colon and Eulaterio Manzanillo baptized 110 and 100 souls respectively. With the centurions in the photograph are Elder Jose Espinosa (left), president of the Central Dominican Conference, and Elder Felix Rodriguez (right), president of the Antillian Union.—*Diogenes Suero.*

STUDENT COLPORTEURS SET NEW RECORD—Inter-American students increased their deliveries by 46 per cent over the previous year, delivering \$880,027.33 of books in 1974. The number of student literature evangelists also increased from 875 to 1,109, a 26 per cent increase, and 663 of them earned half or full scholarships. The Department of Education encourages every college and high school student, and even 5th and 6th graders, to become involved in this highly educational experience which trains for missionary service and is also a splendid source of self-support in financing educational costs.—*C. R. Taylor and I. B. Benson.*



FOREIGN MINISTER SPEAKS TO DELEGATES—Dr. Jose Joaquin Caycedo, Colombian vice minister for foreign affairs, spoke to the delegates assembled in the auditorium of our secondary school in Bogota for the Upper Magdalena Conference recently. He explained the significance to the Seventh-day Adventist Church of the new law concerning religion and education that was signed on July 12, 1973. This law guarantees religious freedom to all religions and makes education a function of the state rather than of the church, but the government will give aid to parochial education and to philanthropic organizations such as OFASA. Marriage can now be either a civil or religious ceremony. Dr. Caycedo appears in the photograph with Pastor Henry Niemann, president of the conference, and Raimundo Pardo, Communication director.—*A. R. Norcliffe.*



ELDER PIERSON PARTICIPATES IN GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY—General Conference president R. H. Pierson and Inter-American Division president B. L. Archbold took part in the recent ground-breaking ceremony for the expansion of the polyclinic in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The president of Haiti sent his personal representative, Major Savage, for the occasion. This event resulted from several years of planning on the part of Franco-Haitian Union president G. M. Ellstrom, Dr. Ivan Angell of Bella Vista Hospital and others. Dr. David Hinshaw of Loma Linda University and Dr. Long, treasurer of Missions International, were also present. Besides Elder Archbold, the Inter-American Division was represented by Health director Vernon C. Sparks and field secretary L. Marcel Abel. The new facilities now in the process of construction will make possible greater and more effective service for the people of Haiti.—*L. Marcel Abel.*

MEXICO ORGANIZES NEW MISSION—At the first session for the new West Mexican Mission held in Guadalajara in January, the 64 delegates from 10 districts elected the following staff: president, Neftali Quintero; secretary-treasurer, Eliseo Caamal; Lay Activities, Sabbath School and Communication, Jorge D'zul; MV, Education and Temperance, Arnulfo Pimentel; Publishing, Vicente Madrigal, and for his assistant, Jeremias Vazquez. It is an interesting note that this new mission was organized on the very spot where the first Seventh-day Adventist work in Mexico was established over 82 years ago.—*B. L. Archbold.*

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING OVERFLOW—

This quarter the overflow will benefit the Southern Asia Division by providing funds for new church buildings and expansion of dormitory, cafeteria and library space at Spicer College. Because of lack of space, Spicer College has to turn away many fine Seventh-day Adventist young people. In the photograph college president M. E. Cherian reluctantly tells his secretary to turn down a student's application. Let us give new courage to our brethren in Southern Asia by a liberal offering on March 29.



FORMER WEST INDIES COLLEGE DEAN OF MEN PASSES—

Elder Oswald S. Rugless, former dean of men and teacher at West Indies College, passed away suddenly at his home in Mandeville, Jamaica on the morning of January 21, 1975. His death came as a great shock to his loved ones, the faculty and student body of the college, and all who knew this dedicated dean of men and educator over the years. He served two long terms as dean of men at the college, with a total of fifteen years, making him possibly the "Dean of Deans" in the Inter-American Division. He leaves his family and the college to mourn their loss. The division family extends its heart-felt sympathy.—*I. B. Benson.*

MEXICAN UNION CONTINUES TO WIN SOULS—From the gigantic South Mexican Conference, which baptized 496, to the recently-organized West Mission, which baptized one, every local field in the Mexican Union held baptisms during the month of January. The total for the union was 781.—*Samuel Guizar.*



ANNUAL COMMITTEE AND MINISTERIAL COUNCIL—

The Guatemala Mission conducted its Annual Council and a Ministerial Council from January 6 to 9 in the capital city in an atmosphere of dedication and fellowship. Present to guide and counsel the administrative and ministerial workers were the following pastors from the Inter-American Division and Central American Union: Gabriel Castro, Robert Folkenberg, Tito Weiss, Hector Jurado and Claudio Ingleton.—*Alfredo Gaona B.*

NORTH DOMINICAN MISSION CONDUCTS MV LEADERCRAFT COURSE—

The new MV campsite of the North Dominican Mission was host to an MV Leadercraft Course, January 17-19. In attendance were 45 senior missionary volunteers along with several district pastors. The young people demonstrated tremendous enthusiasm and interest in the course, and the prospects of their making significant contributions to the continuing development of the Youth Department of this new mission are very promising. Forty-five missionary volunteers and their pastors were awarded the 10-hour Leadercraft Course certificate.—*George W. Brown.*

ANNUAL COUNCIL—The Caribbean Union annual Council opened with a stirring message from Inter-American Division treasurer A. R. Norecliffe on the importance of being thankful. Pastor J. Nagele, field secretary of the General Conference brought forcefully to the attention of the council the scenes of Calvary. Division auditor R. R. Drachenberg carefully guided the council through its financial studies. Caribbean Union president G. R. Thompson expressed his deep appreciation for the excellent contribution made by members of the council during the meetings.—*T. T. Billingsy.*

