

INTER-AMERICAN  
*Messenger Flashes*

No. 118

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NEWS FROM VIENNA



*Stadthalle where the General Conference Session was held.*

**SDA MINISTERS FROM ENTIRE WORLD MEET IN COUNCIL**—Pastors from the Inter-American Division met with ministers from around the world from July 7 to 10 to study how they can better serve their congregations and their denominations. In his opening message, Elder N. R. Dower of the General Conference Ministerial Association stressed the point that pastors should lead their church members in active work for Christ rather than just 'baby sitting' them. For the part of each day, the pastors divided into groups for workshops on 'the Pastor as a shepherd', 'the Pastor as a soulwinner', and 'the Pastor as a trainer.' Special meetings for Pastors' wives were conducted in one of the city churches each day. Mrs. G. R. Thompson, wife of the new elected General Conference vice president, led the song services at the meeting.—J. T.

**OFFICERS APPOINTED FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION**—Elder Robert Folkenberg was appointed president of the Central American Union to fill the vacancy left by Elder Carlos Aeschlimann who has been elected Division Ministerial Association Secretary. Elder Folkenberg was called from singing evangelistic work in the States to be a Pastor in the Panama Conference. He later became a departmental director in that Conference and president of the Honduras Mission. His latest post was secretary of the union of which he is now president. Elder Juan de Armas was appointed by the Inter-American Division Committee to be treasurer of the Central American Union. Prior to a study leave for working on his Master's degree at Andrews, Elder de Armas was treasurer of the Colombia-Venezuela Union. —

**IAD STAFF ELECTED**—The following men were elected to serve the Inter-American Division during the next quinquennium: J. H. Figueroa, Secretary; R. R. Drachenberg, Treasurer; G. W. Brown and M. G. Nembhard, Field Secretaries; T. G. Sample, Auditor; T. R. Haylock, Communication; David Rhys, Education; V. Sparks, Health; C. D. Christian, Lay Activities; Carlos Aeschlimann, Ministerial; L. H. Fletcher, MV; L. A. Ramirez, Publishing; G. Castro, Stewardship and Trust Services; Sergio Moctezuma, Sabbath School; M. Abel, Temperance and World Food Services; and I. B. Benson, Religious Liberty.—J. T.



**IAD PRESIDENT IS REELECTED**—Inter-American delegates broke into spontaneous applause when their president, Elder B. L. Archbold, was reelected at the Business Meeting on Sunday afternoon, July 13. This news created a happy spirit for the IAD program which took place that same evening. The Inter-American Division membership has doubled under Elder Archbold's leadership over the last quinquennium. J. T.

**ELDER GEORGE BROWN PRESENTS SERMON**—At the special request of Elder R. H. Pierson, president of the General Conference, Thursday's program was altered to make room for a sermon by Elder George W. Brown on the role of the Spirit of Prophecy in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The afternoon Business Session was moved up and shortened for this purpose, and further emphasis on the topic was provided in the form of a gift book issued to every delegate through a coupon in the session program booklet, a book entitled, "Ellen G. White in Europe."—J. T.



#### DIVISION PRESIDENTS OUTLINE FUTURE PLANS—

Sabbath afternoon, July 19, the presidents of the world divisions presented their plans for the immediate future in response to the challenge of evangelism. Elder B. L. Archbold, whose Friday night sermon was part of the climatic final hours of the session, presented Inter-America's goal of 250,000 baptisms during the 1975-1980 quinquennium and a membership in 1980 of 600,000 Inter-American Seventh-day Adventists.—J. T.



#### INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION PRESENTS PROGRAM—

Sunday night, July 13 was the highlight of the entire General Conference session for Inter-America's delegates and friends as they watched or participated in the division program. After being introduced by General Conference associate secretary David Baasch, Elder Archbold greeted the audience warmly. Following this he presented 29 flag bearers in national costume who came forward one by one to the strains of organ music. As the flag bearers took their places, the other division officers, departmental directors, and union presidents filed onto the platform. Mrs. Archbold was escorted in and seated beside her husband and two ladies came forward to pin a lovely corsage on her. Elder Archbold's report was presented via an action-packed film in color and sound. Inter-America's evangelism explosion of the last five years was featured, bringing in the participation of the different departments. As the film faded out, ten ladies in typical costume carried out large trays of bright flowers. These were thrown to the audience one by one, expressing the friendship and hospitality so typical of Inter-America.—J. T.

#### INTER-AMERICAN IS ELECTED A GC VICE PRESIDENT

Elder G. R. Thompson was elected a vice president of the General Conference on July 14. For the past five years Elder Thompson has given strong leadership to the Caribbean Union Conference as its first West-Indian born president.

He has had wide experience in the work as a district pastor, Bible teacher, local field president and Union president. For the first time in the history of the denomination, and Inter-American occupies an administrative post in the General Conference.— J. T.



#### INTER-AMERICANS TAKE PART IN MISSION PAGEANT

The parade of Missions, always the most colorful program of a General Conference Session, was limited this time to those carrying flags and placards of countries where Adventists have organized work. With the theme of 'Reaching the Unreached Now', the program began with a representation of our church's first foreign missionary, J. N. Andrews. This was followed by a parade of present-day missionaries and workers, most dressed in national costume. The costumes from Inter-American were among the most colorful. A great impact was made when 28 people paraded representing countries where there is no SDA work. After the presentation of many veteran and student missionaries, 28 people stepped forward and grasped the flags of the unentered countries as Elder Charles Brooks sang, 'I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go.' —J. T.

**ELDER C. R. TAYLOR ELECTED FOR GC—***After being reelected for the Education Department in the Inter-American Division, Elder C. R. Taylor was appointed as one of the Associate Directors of the General Conference Department of Education. Congratulations! —M.D.C.*



*Elder Billingsy of the Caribbean Union talks to interested visitors at the IAD Booth.*