



Flashes

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ADVENTIST CENTER OPENED IN BARQUISIMETO, W. VENEZUELA—Pastor Jose H. Figueroa (at podium in photo), secretary of IAD, gave the inauguration speech when the Adventist Center in Barquisimeto was officially opened on February 1. Medical and dental personnel from various Adventist clinics in Venezuela were present for the inauguration. Pictured at bottom (left to right) are: Dr. Israel Escobar from Caracas, Dr. Jose Francisco Rivilla from Barquisimeto, Dr. Miguel R. Lemus from Coro; and from the new Barquisimeto Clinic: Mrs. Amilia F. Lopez, graduate nurse; Dr. Ana Pastora Gutierrez; Dr. Cecilia O. Abreu; Dr. Carmen Luisa Manzano; Dr. Crucita B. Gonzalez; and Dr. Daniel Gonzalez, the medical director. —Ernesto C. Santos.



TWO MORE CHURCHES DEDICATED IN MARTINIQUE CONFERENCE—When the Derriere Morne church (left) was dedicated it brought to six the total number of Adventist churches dedicated to the Lord in the Martinique Conference in 1975. On Sunday, February 1, 1976, the members of the Marin church (right) gathered for the dedication service of their new temple. The mayor of the city was present and expressed his appreciation for the work of Seventh-day Adventists and their contribution to the welfare of the community. —Marcel Abel.



REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE GUATEMALA MISSION—

General Kjell Eugenio Laugerud, president of the Republic of Guatemala, recently said, "We are wounded, but not to death." The brethren of the Guatemala Mission who have suffered from the impacts of the earthquake since February 4 say, "Though our churches and houses have fallen, our faith in God has not fallen."

At the time of writing this brief report, we have reports of six Adventists dead, eight churches destroyed, three schools and fourteen churches damaged, and approximately 450 Adventist families who have lost their homes and all their possessions.

We thank God for the aid of the higher organizations and the confidence of the national government that have enabled us to set up more than 300 tents in the name of the church and to distribute food to thousands of families without religious distinction. A team of Adventist doctors, nurses, and students have helped not only in Guatemala City, but in the interior of the country.

The General Conference, the Inter-American Division, other world divisions, a West German Protestant organization, and unions and local fields of Inter-America have all helped generously. We are grateful we are not alone.—*Alfredo Gaona.*



Adventist doctors and medical students attended hundreds of persons in Guatemalan vaccination stations.



THREE PASTORS ORDAINED IN THE SOUTH MEXICAN CONFERENCE—

On Sabbath, January 10, an inspiring ordination service was held in the city of Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, headquarters of the South Mexican Conference, when three pastors (pictured in front row) were added to the ranks of the ordained Adventist ministry: Carlos Uc G., conference departmental secretary; and two district leaders, Samuel Hipolito and Casto Maheda. The officers of the Mexican Union participated in the service. The sermon was preached by Enrique Gil, the ordination prayer was by Velino Salazar, and the charge was given by Samuel Guizar. The conference president, Jacob Saviñon, welcomed these brethren to the ministry. The South Mexican Conference, organized only last year, has a membership of 30,000 and has had a great need for ordained ministers to travel about the field and baptize. These newly-ordained ministers will greatly alleviate the problem of enough pastors to baptize.—*Daniel Sosa.*



VETERAN LEADER NICOLAS CHAIJ CHALLENGED COLPORTEURS—

The Pacific Colombia Mission held its annual Literature Evangelists' Institute February 4 - 8, and 55 colporteurs received the inspiration of veteran colporteur leader Nicolas Chaij, retired IAD publishing director; and Romulo Lozano, publishing director of the Colombia-Venezuela Union. The president and treasurer of the field were also present; and the enthusiastic director of the institute was Elder Bernardo Rodriguez, publishing director of the local field. During 1975 the colporteurs of the Pacific Colombia Mission delivered US\$ 71,000 worth of literature and won 120 persons to the Master. Anibal Bedoya was the colporteur who brought the most new members to the foot of the cross, 16 persons; and Nicandro Ospina was the champion in sales, US\$ 3,200. The combined goals for the Literature Evangelists in this field for 1976 are deliveries of US\$ 100,000, 400 baptisms, and 150 active colporteurs.—*Miguel Angel Fuentes*

ANTILLIAN COLLEGE INCREASES ENROLLMENT—Normally at most colleges the matriculation for the second semester is less than that of the first semester, but this year just the opposite has occurred at Antillian College. On the Mayaguez campus for the first semester there was an enrollment of 551 students, and for the second semester 584. In the Extension School in San Juan the enrollment for the first semester was 118, and for the second semester 140. Mrs. Gisela Gutierrez has been named Secretary of Admissions and has begun processing applications for the school year beginning in August, 1976.—*Israel Recio.*