



Flashes

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HIGHLIGHTS OF IAD MEETINGS IN KINGSTON, JAMAICA

We could not have asked for better treatment than we received in Jamaica at the time of the Departmental Advisory Council, the Inter-American Division Quadrennial Council, and the Triple Centurions' Retreat which were held in July. We took boxes and boxes of material for the meetings, and when we arrived in Kingston workers were at the airport to meet us and took care of our passports and our baggage and transported us to the Sheraton Hotel. There was space in the hotel for all our needs in the meetings, even a parking lot for jogging, and they provided vegetarian meals for us buffet style.

Sabbath meetings we had in the North Street church. It was an inspiring afternoon when all the union presidents gave a report of what had been accomplished. Our goal was to reach 60% of the baptismal goal by the time of the meetings in Jamaica, and by the first of July we had reached 64.8%. The Central American Union had the

highest percentage of their goal with 82.1%, and the Mexican Union had the largest number of baptisms, 7,384. We used to be a 1,000 per month Division, but we are now close to 1,000 per week with 31,915 baptisms reported as of July 14.

The penetrating slogan "Now Is The Time"—"United for Victory" conveys the collective pledge of the delegates to these meetings for genuine revival and reformation, coupled with united evangelism involving every department, every worker and every church member to reach the following objectives by December 31, 1979: 600,000 church members, 250,000 baptisms, a tithe income of \$72,000,000.00, and at least 15% in non-revertible mission offerings as compared to tithe, and \$4,500,000.00 in Ingathering.

The Quadrennial Council voted that we accept the recommendation of the General Conference that we join the world church in setting aside November 6, 1976 as a Day of Fasting and Prayer. On that date the Annual Week

of Sacrifice Offering will be received which will be especially dedicated to spreading the gospel in unentered areas.

The Survey Commission appointed to study the readiness of several mission fields submitted favorable reports, and upon the approval and recommendation of the unions in which the fields are located, the Inter-American Division at this Quadrennial Council voted to grant Conference Status to the following fields: North Mexican Mission, Pacific Mexican Mission, Inter-Oceanic Mission, and the Guadeloupe Mission.

As a result of the recommendations of the Departmental Advisory Council which were approved at the Division Quadrennial Council, the *MV Kit* and *El Centinela* will soon be available in the three major languages of the Division: English, Spanish and French.

Many other actions and resolutions will be reported in a forth-coming issue of the IAD Edition of *Review* and *Revista Adventista*.

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EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE FROM THOSE ATTENDING SIXTH QUADRENNIAL COUNCIL OF INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

WHEREAS, There have been in this Division for the period under review a number of baptisms, a large increase in the amount of tithe, the establishment of a new university, the granting of conference status to several missions, and many other signal blessings,

RESOLVED, That we, the representatives of the Sixth Quadrennial Council of the Inter-American Division meeting in New Kingston, Jamaica, express our sincerest gratitude to our God for all these blessings and tokens of His providence; and that we also express our profound gratitude to the Government of Jamaica for its cordial welcome and its continued guarantee of Religious Liberty. Moreover, we thank God for the dedicated workers and members of the Inter-American Division for their loyalty, generosity, and dedication to the Advent cause. We also reaffirm our belief in the fundamental doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and on this day solemnly rededicate ourselves and our talents to the promulgation of this message of hope and salvation for the soon return of our Lord and our Saviour Jesus Christ.—B. L. Archbold, Chairman; Jose H. Figueroa, Secretary; Faye A. Reid, Recording Secretary. (July 22, 1976)

The Governor General of Jamaica addressed the council, and then invited several of the workers with their wives to have "tea" with Her Excellency. The wife of the ambassador of Israel was also a guest, and many others in official positions, but it was the Adventists present who were singled out by the Governor General to be mentioned with gratitude for their educational and benevolent work in Jamaica and elsewhere. He hoped we would have a delightful stay on the island of Jamaica, and indeed the delegates did leave with a good impression of this tropical pearl of the Antilles. —R. R. Drachenberg.

MONTEMORELOS UNIVERSITY

On July 22 at the Inter-American Division Quadrennial Council in Jamaica it was voted that Montemorelos University become a division institution, thus implementing the action of the General Conference at the time authorization was granted for the upgrading of the institution and the approval for a school of medicine. The General Conference action stated that if this institution was to offer a school of medicine, the Inter-American Division must assume the administration of the institution. Since Montemorelos University will serve all the Inter-American Division, and according to denominational pattern no one union may operate a division-wide or world-wide institution, a survey commission was appointed to study this matter. The survey commission recommended the implementation of the General Conference action, which the Mexican Union Committee had also requested by official action.

It was therefore voted at this Quadrennial Council that the Montemorelos University become a division institution with the cooperation of the Mexican Union. After the action was taken, the operating policy for the university was adopted by the council. Montemorelos University thus becomes the first institution of the Inter-American Division.

The chairman of the board of Montemorelos University is B. L. Archbold, president of the Inter-American Division. The three vice-presidents of the board are: Velino Salazar, president of the Mexican Union; J. H. Figueroa, secretary of the Inter-American Division; and R. R. Drachenberg, treasurer of the Inter-American Division. The union presidents and union educational directors

of the Inter-American Division are members of the board. Other board members include the educational director, ministerial secretary and health director of the Inter-American Division; the other two officers of the Mexican Union; and the officers of the local conferences of the Mexican Union.

At the first meeting of the board, which was held in Kingston, Jamaica, during the Division Quadrennial Council, the following officers were named for Montemorelos University: Jaime Castrejon, president (and secretary of the board); Francisco Arguelles, academic dean (general secretary); P. A. Gomez, general business manager, and Therlow Harper, dean of student affairs.

Montemorelos University is operating various schools as follows: School of Theology (Philosophy), School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Pedagogy, and a School of Business Administration.

The next meeting of the Montemorelos University Board will be held September 2 on the university campus. —B. L. Archbold.



Typical of the good music that was interspersed throughout the Division meetings in Jamaica is that of Pastor Robert Folkenberg (pictured singing, center of page) and the King's Men (above) who favored us with their songs of inspiration.

TO NEW POSTS

The Central American Union Committee has appointed Flavio Villarreal president of the Costa Rica Mission, replacing Guillermo Melendez who has been called to the West Puerto Rico Conference.

At the same meeting, Raul Rodriguez was appointed president of the El Salvador Mission, replacing Cami B. Cruz who is returning to the Antillian Union, his home union.

At the recent Inter-American Division Quadrennial Council held in Kingston, Jamaica July 18-24, the following new appointments were made:

Carlos Morales, formerly treasurer of the Nicaragua Mission, was appointed auditor of the Central American Union, replacing Francisco Arroyo who is retiring after many years of service.

Cristobal Torres, formerly treasurer of the Upper Magdalena Conference, was appointed auditor of the Colombia-Venezuela Union, replacing Samuel de Angel who is now business manager of the Colombia-Venezuela Union College.

Guy Valleray, formerly youth and educational director of the Franco-Haitian Union, has been appointed secretary of the union. Formerly Napoleon Grunder carried the three responsibilities of secretary, treasurer and auditor. He will now be treasurer and auditor.

Robert K. Kloosterhuis who previously spent ten years in the Franco-Haitian Union was appointed as president of that union, replacing G. M. Ellstrom who had requested a return to his homeland. —J. H. Figueroa.