

INTER - AMERICAN NEWS



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THE ANTILLIAN UNION

It was the writer's privilege to itinerate in the Antillian Union in the month of September, where spiritual retreats were held for the workers of the East Puerto Rico Conference, the West Puerto Rico Conference, and the North Dominican Mission. The officers of the Union were also in attendance, and a spirit of reconsecration reigned throughout the meetings.

Included in the appointments was an all-day Marriage Seminar in the West Puerto Rico Conference. Many topics were presented on how an Adventist couple can achieve a happy home, resolving problems common to modern marriage. Speakers besides the writer were Victor Diaz Castro and Conrado Visser.

At Antillian College in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico for Spiritual Emphasis Week we developed the theme "On the Road With Jesus" and culminated the week with the celebration of the Lord's supper and a baptismal ceremony.

It was encouraging to observe the march of evangelism throughout the Antillian Union. In the West Puerto Rico Conference, Evangelist Sergio Ortiz, with a team of fourteen, was conducting meetings in two tents joined together, and between 1,500 and 2,000 were attending each evening in two sessions. The meetings are continuing, and we hope for an extraordinary harvest.

The East Puerto Rico Conference distributed 350,000 copies of the special edition of *El Centinela* during September, and all the workers dedicated the entire month to evangelism, which included a baptismal concentration when 150 new converts were baptized.

Organizational plans were laid for the evangelistic crusade which is to be conducted by the writer in San Juan beginning the first of 1977.

Carlos Aeschlimann IAD Ministerial Secretary

DISASTER AID

Seven communities were ordered evacuated in Guadeloupe because of the action of volcano "La Soufriere" and approximately 73,000 people are affected. Permission was received from the government for our workers to return long enough to dismantel the evangelistic tent at Vieux-Habitants. All our churches in the seven communities remain closed, and our people are scattered, some in the homes of friends or relatives living far enough away from the volcano, and hundreds have taken refuge in the Adventist Youth Center at Duportail. -Guiscard Sablier

October 4 the SAWS organization of the West Indies Union sent 50 bales of clothing weighing 4,292 pounds to aid the recent hurricaine disaster victims in Mexico. Pastor S. G. Lindo, director of the Community Services Department in Mandeville, presented the gift to the Jamaican Red Cross Association who had made the appeal in the newspaper Star. -C. A. Holness

Following recent flooding of the Ariari River in Colombia, the Seventhday Adventist Welfare Service, in cooperation with Civil Defense authorities, distributed a week's supply of groceries to each of 100 families in Puerto Caldas. City officials expressed their gratitude to district pastor Alfredo Mesa for the prompt action of SAWS. *—Raimundo Pardo*

The first forty houses to be completed in the Adventist reconstruction program following the Guatemalan earthquake were turned over to their recipients in Santa Lucia Milpas Altas on September 20. The Secretary General of the National Committee for Reconstruction said at the ceremony of presentation, "We congratulate the Seventh-day Adventists for their program of housing reconstruction and for the quality of workmanship which is evident." Before the end of the year hundreds of additional houses will be turned over to families who lost their homes in Jalapa, Santa Lucia Milpas Altas, and other parts of Guatemala. -Alfredo Gaona



PANAMA-This chapel, currently under construction, is the direct result of the work of an evangelistic unit of the La Chorrera church. Enoc Rodriguez, the district pastor, who appears in the photo, states that the evangelistic unit plan (each Sabbath school class organized geographically into an evangelistic unit) is truly an extra-ordinary one.-Luis Alaña.



Mission president Alfredo Gaona at door of one of the homes provided by Seventh-day Adventists for Guatemalan earthquake victims and the happy couple who received it.

EVANGELISM

Pastor Kenneth G. Vaz has been working hard in a tent crusade on the north coast of the Central Jamaica Conference, and as of October 10 he had baptized 214 new members from the campaign, with another baptism planned soon. -C. Aeschlimann.

The Colegio Atlántico in Barranquilla culminated their recent Week of Prayer with the baptism of 39 students. With these candidates, the Atlantic Colombia Mission has reached its 1976 baptismal goal.—Joel Leiva.

Evangelist Jose Osorio began an island-wide decision campaign in Curacao on October 2 with a graduation for approximately 400 Voice of Prophecy students. Pastor Osorio is preaching in Spanish in two different evangelistic centers, with Pastor I. Leito translating to English and Papiamento. The campaign will continue for one month.—I. Leito.

Pastor Dodridge Kennedy has been conducting "Operation Concern" in the May Pen District of the Central Jamaica Conference. After six weeks in a tent in the village of Jacob's Hut he baptized 70 new converts. He was assisted in the baptismal service by Pastors C. A. Holness and Kenneth Green. "Operation Concern" is continuing with nightly meetings.–*C. A. Holness.*

VISITOR

Several years ago Pastor Max Grunzeug changed from active departmental work in the West Puerto Rico Conference to "active retirement" in the IAD office, caring for such things as mail dispatch and special assignments of the Administration.

Last week Pastor Grunzeug introducted to the Division family his newphew, Erich Amelung, treasurer of the Euro-Africa Division, who was in the USA for the General Conference Annual Council. Pastor Amelung gave a report of the progress of the Adventist work in his division in a morning worship talk.

WEDDING

On August 1, 1976 there was an unusual wedding ceremony in Miami Temple Church, for two new Christian homes were formed at the same time. Pastor J. H. Figueroa, IAD secretary, read the vows uniting in marriage his son, Luis Rafael Figueroa, to Wandi Esther Jimenez; and his son, Harry Etienne Figueroa, to Cynthia Lou Firpi. All four young people are employees of Hialeah Hospital.



EL SALVADOR-The young people in the Zacatecoluca Church Choir have dedicated their talents to the Lord, and have contributed to the success of a number of evangelistic crusades with their music and missionary work.—*Escriel Romero*.



BOGOTA-On the occasion of a dinner in honor of retiring Pastors Jesus Roa and Vicent Duarte (seated at back end of table) the president of the Upper Magdalena Conference expressed appreciation for their many years of outstanding work in bringing people to Christ and to Mrs. Roa and Mrs. Duarte who contributed much to this fruitful ministry.-R. Pardo.



PANAMA-M. G. Nembhard, assoc. secretary of IAD Ministerial Association, began "The Quest for Peace" crusade Sept. 19 in his boyhood home town Bocas del Toro, formerly an English community, but since many now speak Spanish Pastor R. M. Cargill (right) is translating. A corner of the audience in the unfinished church building is pictured. Pastor Nembhard hopes many family friends with others will be won to Christ.-Vinette Walker.