

# VISITOR

Bahamas East Jamaica West Jamaica Caymans Turks & Caicos

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## Reverence in God's House

"Ye shall keep my Sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord." Lev. 26:2.

"God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him." Psalms 89:7.

"To the humble believing soul the house of God on earth is the gate to heaven. The song of praise, the prayer, the word spoken by Christian representatives are God's appointed agencies to prepare a people for the church above and for that loftier worship into which there can enter nothing that defileth." *Church Manual*, p. 101.

Greater reverence is one of the needs of our churches. We are falling far short of the standard in the Word of God. Too often by our actions we fail to give the impression that the "Lord is in His Holy Temple." Too many of us think of our church attendance as a social experience only, rather than fellowship with God.

A few months ago I visited one of the largest Protestant churches on New York's fashionable Fifth Avenue. While waiting for the services to start I was greatly impressed as I saw the people quietly come into the church, walk to their pews, sit down and then bow their heads in prayer for a few moments. In many instances entire families sat with heads bowed. About 4,000 people were in attendance at the services this particular morning and there was a quietness and reverence that was most impressive. Finally the chorus walked into the auditorium singing, "Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty." Then followed the ministers. One could not but get the definite impression that we were all there to worship God. I was reminded of the instruction that we have, but so seldom follow,—"When the worshippers enter the place of meeting they should do so with decorum, passing quietly to their seats—common talking, whispering and laughing should not be permitted in the house of worship, either before or after the service."

"If some have to wait a few minutes before the meeting begins let them maintain a true spirit of devotion by silent meditation, keeping the heart uplifted to God in prayer that the service may be of special benefit to their own hearts and lead to the conviction and conversion of other souls." *Church Manual*, p. 102.

It is true, of course, that many of our church buildings don't lend themselves to an attitude of reverence. By constant education, however, I believe we can overcome the many hindering factors. Even though there may be no stained glass windows, no soft strains of organ music, no plush carpets; yet we can be quiet and reverent in the house of the Lord.

It is to be regretted that in quite a number of our churches the audience is getting out of the habit of kneeling for the main prayer in Sabbath school and church service. A church on its knees in worship is one of the most beautiful pictures of a congregation waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Let us not get out of the habit of kneeling for prayer.

There are times, too, when the house of the Lord is desecrated by the kind of announcements we make. Many of them are entirely out of place. Then again certain sound motion pictures are shown which have no place in a building dedicated to God. There is also the constant danger of too much merchandising in the house of the Lord. One cannot help but feel, when listening to some announcements, that the stomach is getting more attention than the heart.

Divine services at times are greatly disturbed by babies who are permitted to cry. No mother can help it if a child now and then starts to weep, but she should make a hasty retreat by way of the nearest exit where the least disturbance will be caused. More churches should have mothers' rooms, but in those which do not have this provision some special reserved section can be made available.

There are times, too, that lack of reverence in a church is due to the behaviour of the minister. As ministers of Christ we should always be very careful of our behaviour in the house of the Lord. Someone has said, "The pulpit is the most sacred spot in the world. There are some who bow down to financier's desks or to the editor's chair, or the professor's platform, but the masses of people in their hearts hold the pulpit as of greatest meaning to them. Let the minister enter the pulpit in full comprehension of its importance. He is to conduct the worship of God. He is to speak for God. What a

responsibility."

It is my hope and prayer that in all of our churches there may be a real spirit of reverence and true worship. Whenever we come into the house of the Lord we should know and understand that "God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about Him."

—R. R. BIETZ, President,  
Southern California Conference.

(Copied from Pacific Union Recorder,  
April 11, 1955).

## What the Bible Correspondence School is Accomplishing

There is a note of progress in the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School in the island of Jamaica. Very encouraging are the reports that come in from the representatives in the churches and the students themselves. This is surely one of the methods that God is using to cut His work short in righteousness.

For the month of May, 1955, we have about 322 students who have finished either the "Faith", or the Voice of Prophecy course, and about ninety per cent of all the "Faith" finishers have signified their desire to accept the truth as revealed in their study of the lessons. We are sure that as the interest is followed up these individuals will be strengthened to take their stand fully in the Advent message. We are very happy that Pastor Holgate has been called to devote his talents to the building up of this particular phase of the Bible School work, realizing that marvellous things will be accomplished through following up the interest of these students.

Below are a few of the many expressions of appreciation from the students:

From Bartons a young lady writes: "Praise God for the day on which my brother gave me a Voice of Prophecy enrolment card. My parents are Seventh-day Adventists, but I would not keep the Sabbath; instead I mocked and called them Jews, cooked and ate pork in the home, and laughed at them while they were having worship. In spite of all this they prayed for me constantly. Now

I want to tell you that God has used the Voice of Prophecy to change my life. I am now determined to keep the covenant that I have made with Him to be faithful to the end. Thank God for the Voice of Prophecy and what it has done for me and others."

From Kingston writes another student: "It has been more than a pleasure to be a student of the Voice of Prophecy. I cannot find words to express the joy that is deep down in my heart for the knowledge, strength and courage that I have gained from the study of these lessons, and the transformation that has been wrought in my life. I am now a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist church, seeking to lead others to the peace that I have found in Jesus. Please pray that my life will be a blessing to the world."

These studies have brought comfort to a sorrowing mother. She says: "I am very grateful for the blessings derived from the course that I have studied. I have had burdens that would have caused me to be crazy, but praise God for His wonderful salvation. I am a poor woman without a husband. About four years ago my husband got crazy and killed our darling little boy. Since then he has been in the lunatic asylum. O what sorrows I have had! I was almost stripped as was Job, but thank God, how His Spirit cheers me and I can say, 'Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him'."

One of our dear representatives report that she now has a branch Sabbath school in her home which is attended by the students with whom she is working. Two have been baptized and a number are in the baptismal class, while several others are attending Sabbath school.

Many of our juniors are convinced of the truth and desire to obey it, but are being prevented by their parents and guardians. They are longing and praying for the privilege of keeping the Sabbath and attending church services, and entreat us to remember them in prayer. One child was even turned out of her home and her clothes thrown out because of her new found faith.

Dear reader, will you not join your prayers with ours for the many who are studying the truths of God's Word through the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School?

—G. A. E. SMITH, *Secretary, Bible School.*

## Experience of a Layman

Brother Stephen Wright, an enthusiastic layman of the Newell church, sent us the following experience which we trust will encourage others to be of good courage in spite of seeming failure in their efforts to win souls:

Two years ago he visited a certain home and offered to study the Bible with the family. The husband and father was out at the time, but the mother and children enjoyed the study. Just as the closing prayer was being offered the head of the house came home, and seeing our brother praying with his family became greatly incensed and ordered

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## CAYMAN ISLANDS MISSION

Pres. .... WALTER COMM

Sec.-Treas. .... R. S. BLACKBURN

## MV News from Grand Cayman

At 4:45 a.m. on April 3 an enthusiastic group of young people from Georgetown set out on the 50 mile cycling trip which fulfilled the main requirement for the MV honour in cycling. In spite of the very poor condition of the road, the first ten miles were covered within an hour, and then came a half-hour pause on the beach for breakfast, just at sunrise. At East End, the half-way point, the group spent most of the day exploring the reef, caves and beach, beginning the homeward journey in the late afternoon. As a result of this day's efforts, twelve qualified for the cycling honour.

Sabbath, April 23, was an inspirational day for all of our believers on Grand Cayman, and particularly for the young people. One truck brought the members from the eastern end of the island and another brought a large group from West Bay filling the Georgetown church to capacity and overflowing. Elder A. R. Haig was the speaker at the 11 o'clock hour.

The high light of the day came at 3:00 p.m. climaxing several months of faithful work by youth from three churches. The Investiture Service commenced with 42 young people marching to their places at the front of the crowded church. Following Elder Haig's message, "God's Call to Youth," representatives of each of the classes recited portions of Bible memory work. Several practical demonstrations were given by other members of the classes, including knot science, first aid, and nature study. These were followed by the charge and the awarding of the insignia and MV honours. The classes comprised of 9 Sunbeams, 23 Friends, 4 Companions, 3 Guides, and 3 Master Guides. Five of these young people had prepared for more than one class.

We are happy for the keen interest shown in the MV classes and believe that they have benefited these young people spiritually as well as providing them a means of wholesome recreation.

The week of April 25 to May 2 found 26 young campers, together with Elder A. R. Haig, Adviser, and Elder W. O. Comm, Camp Director, in a large ranch-style house on beautiful West Bay beach. The enthusiastic Volunteers entered into all of the many camp activities with zest. There was a full programme each day including a morning camp council, crafts, studies in denominational history for the Junior Standard of Attainment, nature study for the MV honour in Cats (16 qualified for this MV honour), and games and good swimming. The evening campfire hours on the beach, concluding with a short devotional by Elder Haig and the traditional singing of "Taps", were greatly enjoyed by campers and visitors alike.

On the last Sabbath of camp, April 30,

we had many visitors from both Georgetown and West Bay attending the baptism of eight young people.

Just before breaking camp on the last day, the camp family met once more for a final hour of fellowship together. One by one nearly all arose to testify of their faith, and it was truly thrilling to hear these young folks reaffirm their determination to be true Volunteers for Christ.

—W. O. COMM

## EAST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

Pres. .... E. H. SCHNEIDER

Secy.-Treas. .... V. T. BOYCE

## East Jamaica Conference on the March Again

After a slow start for 1955, East Jamaica Conference is again on the march. By the accompanying article written by Elder W. U. Campbell, our Home Missionary and Sabbath School Secretary, you can readily see that plans are being laid for a strong evangelistic programme in the eastern end of this beautiful island of ours.

This past week the writer along with Elder A. C. Stockhausen, our Union president, Elder V. T. Boyce, our newly elected secretary-treasurer, and Elder W. U. Campbell ascended into the hills of Portland to organize our church at Belle View. Twenty-nine active and enthusiastic Seventh-day Adventists were united together to form this new company, after which Elder O. E. Gordon, the pastor of the district, united two couples in matrimony who are also in the baptismal class along with many others. We are expecting great things from Belle View as was indicated by the goodly group of visitors gathered to watch the proceedings. These visitors had to climb their way up steep mountain paths to join the group of worshippers that now form the Belle View church.

Two weeks ago when Elder S. S. Will, the Home Missionary Secretary of the Southern Union Conference, in company with Elder W. L. Mazart, the Home Missionary Secretary of the Florida Conference, made an itinerary with Elder Campbell and the writer, we all had the privilege of crossing the Wag Water river on a mule and then ascending up a mile and a half where we organized a branch Sabbath school in a neat little bamboo booth that had been built there by the group who worship regularly every Sabbath in that place. Elders Will and Mazart were thrilled as they viewed the strong lay evangelistic programme that is being carried on in the East Conference. In a three-day itinerary approximately 25 lay evangelistic efforts were visited. Both of these men preached in open-air efforts as well as special bamboo booths that were pitched by our lay brethren for the promulgation of the third angel's message. Their appetites for viewing the work that is being carried on by our lay preachers here

were so completely satiated that they were ready to return to Miami after leaving Jamaica, instead of travelling through the countries of Haiti, Santa Domingo and Puerto Rico. Surely the Lord is blessing the work of the lay preachers in the East Conference.

The accompanying picture is that of Pastor V. T. Boyce and his family who have recently arrived from Barbados to carry on the duties of the secretary-treasurer of the East Jamaica Conference. Every one in the conference has held out his arms of welcome to the Boyces. His long experience in financial matters and his cheering smile we believe will stand the conference in good stead. Our prayer is that the blessing of God will rest upon our brother and his family. We also solicit the prayers of the *Visitor* family that Elder Boyce will be a blessing to us and we will prove a blessing to him.

God's rich blessings have attended the efforts of our preachers in their recent efforts for the salvation of souls. Pastor D. C. McCalla has been carrying on a strong effort in our newly dedicated Yallahs church, and has been greatly blessed with large crowds in attendance. The interest has grown steadily until now on a Sunday night it is virtually impossible to get a seat in the church. Elder McCalla reported two weeks ago that there were more people outside listening through the doors and windows than were seated in the church, and still the interest grows. The prospects are very, very encouraging for the work in Yallahs.

Brother T. O. Shaw recently held a revival in the Palm church. The revival proved so successful that it developed into a full-fledged effort, and at the present moment plans are being made for a baptism of between 25 and 30 candidates on Sunday, June 12. Brother Shaw has done good work, having just baptized 19 in his district, and at the same time promoting strong work in Ingathering. His district was among the first to go over the top.

Evangelistic work is also being carried on by other district pastors. Brother Lewis is holding a strong effort at Manchioneal. Brother Walton has just reported 19 souls baptized; Brother Fletcher reports 15 baptized recently; Brethren Edwards and Williams each has baptized 9 souls this past month. Elder Laing, the pastor of East Kingston, baptized 40 souls for the first quarter. Elder Nembhard and Brother Samuels both reported good baptisms, and so the work of East Jamaica is on the march again. We could mention other preachers with prospects of good baptisms in the very near future: Elder Woodburn, Elder Gordon, Brother White. We look forward to the future with great anticipation that great things will be done for God because we are attempting great things for Him in the East Jamaica Conference. Again we say, pray for us.

#### Church Buildings

Our church building programme is also on the march. By the grace of God we are determined to finish the Port Maria church, under the guidance of Elders C. F. Edwards and E. E. Parchment. The church has been ceiled and is almost ready for the finishing



ELDER V. T. BOYCE & FAMILY

touches of the painter. As some of the readers of the *Visitor* may know, the old Spanish Town church building has been sold, a new site bought, and under the able direction of Elder E. C. Walton a new structure is being reared and is just about ready for the roof to go on. This will be a much larger building than the old church. It is being built of strong cement block construction and will be commodious to house a good strong effort when completed. Other churches around the conference are being given special attention for their completion that new lighthouses may be raised up for the promulgation of the third angel's message.

#### Publishing

Our Publishing Department also is on the march under the leadership of brethren A. A. Morgan and Alphonso Reid. We are planning for 35 student colporteurs from the West Indian Training College at the close of the school year this month. There will be approximately 30 from the Kingsway High School and a goodly number from North Street church school. These with the blessing of God will greatly increase our sales and deliveries, and will greatly strengthen our already strong colporteur family in East Jamaica which now numbers approximately 130. We envision great things for our book sales for the rest of 1955.

#### MV and Educational

We are sorry to announce that Elder W. A. Holgate, our MV & Educational Secretary, will be leaving us about the 1st of July. However, we pray for God's blessing upon him and wish him God's speed in his new work which God has called him to do. Before

leaving us Brother Holgate has laid definite plans for a junior camp to be conducted in the East Conference from July 18 to 25 inclusively. The camp site has not been definitely selected as yet, but we believe it will be up in the mountains alongside a stream where bathing will be a part of the programme.

As yet Elder Holgate's successor has not been named by the Conference Committee. We are therefore asking the prayers of the readers of the *Visitor* that the Lord will guide us in selecting just the right man to promote a strong programme for the Missionary Volunteer and Educational Department; a programme that will fit into the East Jamaica Conference being on the march again.

—E. H. SCHNEIDER

## News from the Home Missionary Front

God's power makes His people willing. This is very much evidenced in the way the people of the East Jamaica Conference have taken an active part in the 1955 Ingathering campaign. The spirit of every church has been warm and filled with fervour and devotion, and even those who may not, for one reason or other, have taken part, have extended their fellowship and blessing in prayer and good will.

The Lord has blessed the campaign with £3,500 gathered up to May 10. It is expected that in another two weeks the goal of £4,000 will be surpassed.

Every Ingathering campaign is a sample of the great gathering day when the eternal tomorrow will be ushered in. We hope the people of East Jamaica will receive that eternal "well done."

There is a great revival among the lay forces of East Jamaica. By public efforts, cottage meetings, Bible Correspondence courses, house to house Bible study, 250 laymen have moved forward in the battlefront of missionary endeavours. Here they warn, witness and win for Christ. To speak of a few we warmly mention lay-preacher Vincent Mornan, who has formed an open-air lay preacher's effort and started a branch Sabbath school of 24. Don March is running a unique effort in St. Catherine with the hope of bringing up his branch Sabbath school at Bamboo to church organization during this year. Edgton Brown is working with the same aim in his Rolanfield effort. Brother S. A. Blake is determined to have Boice Content organized this year, and Brother Richard Burrell will be starting his effort in June with the view of forming a new church at Macca Tree. Lay preacher C. L. Clarke is giving strong concentration on housing his flock at Steward Mountain; already they are worshipping in the new construction. Brother Gerald Collins is storming Needam Pen with an average of 60 in attendance each night.

Thus every lay preacher is conscious of his marching orders to evangelize, and be it one, two, three, or four or more each, they have set themselves to bring in 500 souls this year. We also look forward with the help of the lay forces joining hands with the ministers to have 25 new church organizations

to be added to the sisterhood of churches by the next conference session.

—W. U. CAMPBELL, *Home Missionary and Sabbath School Secretary, East Jamaica Conference.*

## WEST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

Pres. .... H. S. WALTERS

Secy.-Treas. .... L. A. MORRISON

### Flashes from West Jamaica

**Publishing:** The Publishing work is taking on a new aspect under the methodical leadership of Brother S. A. Grant. Realizing the need of a greater stir among the colporteurs at the present time, he mustered up his forces consisting of Sister E. W. Parchment, Book and Bible House Manager, and Pastor B. E. Hurst, Union Publishing Secretary and together they launched out on a nine-day rally in the western parishes. Rallies were held at Claremont, Montego Bay, Savanna-la-mar, Maggotty and May Pen. Following were the highlights of the rallies: (1) The launching of a seven-week drive called the "Tercentenary", with a goal of £16,000 orders and £4,000 deliveries. (2) The building up of the morale of the colporteurs who decided to go out wholeheartedly to battle for the printed page. (3) Reconsecration and the pledge to win at least 200 souls during 1955.

The student colporteur institute at the West Indian Training College, May 13-15, was a very outstanding one. Twenty-six students with undaunted courage pledged to go out in the canvassing field in West Jamaica. Let us pray that at the end of the summer many of these students will return to school with their well-earned scholarships. **Sabbath School:** While at the colporteur rallies, Miss Parchment did a two-fold job by giving valuable instructions on Sabbath school work to superintendents and secretaries. The Sabbath schools expect by the help of God to reach all their goals in membership, attendance, daily study and souls for 1955, thus fulfilling the slogan "More alive for Christ in '55."

**Evangelistic Efforts:** Steady progress is being made in the major and lay efforts being conducted at various points in the field by the ministers and laymen. Never before has there been such a longing to know the truth. The follow-up programme of these efforts is most important, so we crave the prayers of all our brethren that these dear souls being garnered for the Kingdom will remain firm and true to God.

**Ingathering:** West Jamaica broke all past records. In four weeks approximately £3,900 were raised. Now only £100 are needed for victory song to be sung. Thus our goal of £4,000 will soon be realized then on to the Super-goal of £4,500. Marvellous achievement through the might of the Omnipotent One. To Him be the glory and honour!

\* \* \*

Brother Junior Mullings met with an accident, a few weeks ago while riding his motorcycle. He is now a patient in the Andrews Memorial Hospital. Thank God he is now recuperating nicely. Let us con-

tinue to pray for his speedy recovery.

—H. S. WALTERS

### MV News

Here in West Jamaica our force of over 4,000 youth is on the march for Christ. During the first quarter we promoted very strongly the Out-post Evangelism programme, and at the present time there is an encouraging number of Outposts being set up for God.

To prove that recreation plays a vital part in the life of youth, the district pastors of east and west Hanover gathered their MV's who came in trucks, on bicycles, and on foot to attend a picnic on a beautiful polo ground near Sandy Bay in Hanover.

The MV's of New Port also had a well spent day by the sea at Pedro, St. Elizabeth, and Resource also has plans for an outing on May 24.

The MV leaders and secretaries of West Jamaica have joined in the "£2,000" club for the present to raise £2 each for Ingathering. Many have accomplished this and Miss Chisholm, the MV leader from Southfield, has passed that figure by 150%.

Plans are being made for a number of MV institutes and Investiture services to be held in June. Pray for the youth of West Jamaica.

JOE FLETCHER, *MV Secretary, West Jamaica Conference.*

### West Indian Training College News

On the 20th of April Mr. Phillip Manderson Sherlock, B.A., Vice Principal of the University College of the West Indies, visited the college and gave a lecture in the auditorium during the chapel period. His topic was "What It Means to be a West Indian." He pointed out that even though West Indians are divided by great distances, are a people of different races and creeds, and even possessing every colour but blue, we can all live unitedly, showing to the world how to establish human brotherhood.

\* \* \*

April 24 was a special occasion when the young ladies gave their biennial surprise party in honour of the young men.

\* \* \*

School closed on May 12 for the summer holidays, but a number of students remained over the following weekend for colporteur institute during which time about forty young men and women received the inspiration to spend their vacation in the canvassing field. Two of our seniors are being given the opportunity of canvassing in the Bahamas Mission this summer, brethren Lloyd Scott and Noel Thorpe; let us pray that God will use them mightily in placing the printed page in many homes in that portion of His vineyard.

A very fitting service for the last Sabbath of school was the baptismal service on May 7 when 18 young people dedicated their lives to following the Master. This baptism was the partial result of the spring week of prayer conducted by Elder Delafield, there being

quite a number awaiting baptism during the next semester. One lady, having been previously baptized, was also received into church fellowship on profession of faith.

—V. GREENE

### Andrews Memorial Hospital News

Among our patients at the time of writing is Brother Junior Mullings of the West Jamaica Conference office staff, who sustained injuries in a motorcycle accident a couple of weeks ago. We are happy to report satisfactory improvement in his condition.

\* \* \*

Brother James Dunbar, father of Mrs. Jameison, one of our nurses, is also a patient at Andrews, as well as Mrs. Marjorie Machado, wife of the dentist, Dr. G. R. Machado, who is in for a few day's rest and treatment.

\* \* \*

Miss Whitney, our matron, and Miss Marion Brodie are very busy moving into the duplex apartments that have been completed for them. This house is the first of the improvements planned for bettering the housing facilities and the over-all appearance of Andrews.

—MRS. M. E. HOEHN

### The British West Indies Union Visitor

R. S. Blackburn Editor  
P. Nation Asst. Editor

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### Experience of a Layman

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him out, promising to use forceful means, whereupon Brother Wright humbly withdrew.

This happened on a Thursday morning and the following Sabbath this gentleman went out to cut wood with an axe, but the first stroke severed two of his toes, causing him to spend some time in hospital.

A few months ago he went out to cut wood once more and again cut the same foot. Some weeks later, conscience stricken, he invited Brother Wright to come and offer prayer for him. Finding the wound in a bad condition, Brother Wright not only prayed for him, but offered to dress the wound. At the time of writing, that wound was healing nicely and the gentleman and his wife were planning to attend the Seventh-day Adventist church just as soon as the wound was entirely healed.