

V I S I T O R

Bahamas

East Jamaica

West Jamaica

Caymans

Turks & Caicos

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Simple Honesty - What is it?

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold." So wrote a wise man two thousand nine hundred and fifty five years ago. This statement is just as true today as it was when it was written.

How do we obtain a good name? We are not born with it, and certainly it does not come with the accumulation of a certain amount of wealth or influence. A good name is not an accident, but it is the heritage of those who, for a lifetime or a long period of years have demonstrated the virtues of simple honesty, purity of heart, fair dealing and uprightness. These attributes must be genuine from within; they are not something which can be put on from without, like a garment.

There are many tests by which the stature of a man can be measured, but few are more easily or quickly administered than one which is found in the Scriptures. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts." This is a simple test we should each administer to ourselves. No one else can do it for us, nor should they try. "Will a man rob God?"

is the question of the prophet Malachi. He does not ask this question of the world in general. It is a personal question asked of those who claim to be the followers of Jesus.

In addition to the tithe the Lord expects His followers to give sacrificially for the support of the poor (Isaiah 58:7), the erection and maintenance of suitable houses of worship (Haggai 1:9), and that the gospel might soon be carried to the ends of the earth (1 Corinthians 9:14). When we have done all this our gifts are as nothing when compared with our Saviour's supreme gift on Calvary's hill.

Simple honesty is also manifested in the prompt payment of all personal obligations, the faithful keeping of all promises in or out of the church "... let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation."—James 5:12.

It is the privilege of every Christian to have a good name, not only in the church but out of it. A "conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men." The formula is not a secret; just plain, simple honesty in all our dealings with God and man.

—R. S. BLACKBURN

"Witnessing in Okinawa"

By F. R. MILLARD

President, Japan Union Mission

OKINAWA is the heading of a new chapter in the thrilling story of Adventist missions. Why the story of this populace island lying so near to Japan does not begin until late in 1950 is hard to explain. Even the colporteurs seem to have passed it up. But with Okinawa in the world's lime light following the war, Okinawan believers in Hawaii made an earnest appeal in behalf of their long-neglected homeland and Elder E. E. Jensen was sent to open up the work.

Two lay brethren from Hawaii had made a short visit to Okinawa a few months prior to the opening of Elder Jensen and the interest they stirred up provided him with a good starting point. The first convert was a prominent Bible worker. She was followed by a university student Elder Jensen had employed as an interpreter. God thus gave us two

strong workers to assist in the pioneering of the work. Other young people joined the staff of workers after studying for a time in Japan Missionary College and more than 20 are now preparing for service. Well over 100 have been baptized. A regular mission has been organized with four churches, two schools, and a small clinic. Interests are developing everywhere and Elder Jensen says he could report a thousand baptisms in the next three years if he only had the workers to follow them up.

The world thinks of Okinawa as the site of the "last battle" of World War II where the Japanese army, navy, and air force made a last ditch stand in a suicidal attempt to keep the allied forces out of Japan proper. Measured in the combined losses of both sides, this battle easily takes its place among the greatest and most decisive military conflicts of all time with 125,000 men lost on the battle field 1,598 planes shot down and over 2,000 more lost in operations; 52 war ships sunk including "Yamato," the world's largest battleship, and 368 more ships badly damaged.

Okinawa is a lizard-shaped island 63½ miles long, narrowing at one point to two miles and only 18 miles at its widest point. Though the climate is semi-tropical with an abundance of rain, the soil is poor and scarce providing inadequately for the 600,000 people who depend on it for their food. It lies near the breeding ground of the typhoons that harass China and Japan and seems to be a proving ground for their destructive forces. To the thousands of GI's who have been stationed on it, Okinawa is "The Rock," and "The Land of the Big Winds," and it is commonly claimed among them that no one should be held responsible for his behaviour after 18 months in the place.

Okinawa boasts a long history and a civilization that combines an old culture distinctly Chinese in origin with a new and predominant culture given them by Japan. The people are friendly and once they respond to the Gospel they make staunch Christians.

Early in 1954 with our work just started, Elder Jensen and his family returned to America on furlough, leaving in charge a young worker just completing his ministerial internship. It was at this time that the new church met its first big test.

The trouble began in the northern part of the Island where meetings had been in progress for sometime in the village of Okuma. From the first, interest was good and people came from miles around to attend the meetings. A Sabbath school was started and it, too, was well attended. After a few weeks students from the local high school began attending the night meetings and soon were so interested that they stayed away from classes on Saturday in order to attend the Sabbath school. After a few absences the teachers reported the matter to the parents, who in turn, ordered their children to go to school on Saturday.

Most of them risked the wrath of their parents and kept right on going to Sabbath school. One morning the Sabbath school was broken up when these parents appeared in search of their children. One father had a chain with which to tie his daughter. In the midst of the shouting and excitement the frightened children slipped through a side door and ran for the wooded hills nearby. All search for them proved fruitless and late at night the frustrated parents returned home. After a night in the mountains the young people sought refuge in the homes of believers. Again the parents came for them but this time promised that they would not be ill treated if they would only come home. These

assurances were quickly forgotten when they reached home and angry parents gave vent to their fury. These young people were to learn early in their new found faith what it means to suffer for Christ. The next Sabbath some were taken forcibly to school and others were tied to trees to keep them away from the church. All of them were subject to ridicule and abuse.

One of the parents was head of the Parent Teacher Association, another the village treasurer. They indignantly reported the whole affair to the newspapers and the story was reported in great detail throughout the island. The district superintendent of schools entered the picture in an attempt to stop the "disturbance" in the school. He even carried it to the central government which resulted in more publicity in the press. Everywhere the Adventists were under attack, even by other Protestant churches.

One of the most bitter foes was the wife of the superintendent of schools. As leader of the women's societies in the whole area she was in a position to stir up much opposition. The result brought great distress to many of the new believers. Some were driven from their homes, one girl was given a knife by her mother and ordered to commit suicide, all were ridiculed.

The trouble had originated in the high school and here the greatest tests came. Members of the senior class were told to attend classes on Saturday or forfeit graduation. They quietly chose to lose that honour rather than dishonour God. One girl had been chosen as one of the school's athletes. She invited the reproach of teachers and students by refusing to take part in meetings on the Sabbath. Another of the girls was president of her class. She too accepted reproach and ridicule as the price for loyalty to God. Shizue Kinjo, the first of the students to accept Christ worked constantly for the other girls, keeping up their interest in the Bible and giving them courage during the dark hours of persecution. Finally she had the joy of seeing eight of her schoolmates join her in the sacred rite of baptism.

God permitted the fiery trials to continue for a season, then turned the captivity of His people. The beautiful Christian character and faithful witness of the girls won the respect of teachers who were able to make arrangements for them to keep the Sabbath and still graduate. When the son of the leader of the women's societies developed a serious mental disorder the mother was led to wonder if it might not be the result of her persecution. Then one of our sisters told her of Jesus and his healing of those possessed by demons, and she began to study the Bible. Today that influential mother and her son, now healed, are faithfully attending the church they once persecuted, her two daughters are in our school in Japan, and the husband, the superintendent of schools is our friend.

Stories continue to come to light showing how the trials of our people and the publicity against them turned out rather for the furtherance of the Gospel. Just as the trouble was beginning in Okuma, a missionary of another church together with an earnest young university student, went to the same place to hold

(Continued on page 4.)

Bahamas News Notes

The Grants Town Church has been conducting an excellent evangelistic crusade on Hay street, in the Inagua Society Hall, under the leadership of Stanley Major, the elder of the church, who has associated with him Brethren W. W. Nairn, D. A. McMillan, and E. E. Ferment.

This group of lay workers holds their meetings four nights each week with an average attendance of around one hundred and fifty. They have appropriately named their effort, "Bible Picturama," and are using the screen for the first forty-five minutes, followed by a "live" service of singing, prayers, sermons, etc., lasting an additional one half to three quarters of an hour. After fifteen minutes of very spirited singing from the screen thrown on by dissolving projectors, the tape recording of Elder Vandeman, of the General Conference Ministerial Association, comes on clearly and distinctly through the loud-speaker above the screen and the appropriate and beautiful illustrations combine to make the subject one of deep interest and easy to understand. Then, follows the second half of the service in a very dignified and impressive way. Special speakers have prepared messages which serve as a recapitulation of the subject covered by the slide-tape lecture; taking advantage of the "atmosphere" of reverence, worship and clear presentation of the subject, the speaker builds on what has gone before and then makes his personal appeals.

A large number are showing an increasing amount of interest, and it is felt by all of us that there will be a goodly fruitage from this lay evangelistic effort. One of those attending is a minister of another persuasion who has completed three of our Bible correspondence courses and is convinced of most of the truths we hold dear. This man has recently approached us regarding the possibility of our giving the entire series of Bible lectures in his church, to his congregation. We feel that this would be an excellent opportunity of using the influence of this leader, who is already sympathetic to the Message, to take the Message to his entire congregation. Pray, please, for this latest endeavour by God's people in the Bahamas to carry out Christ's commission to this part of His vineyard.

* * *

I have recently returned from a most profitable trip to Cat Island, where I had the privilege of visiting all of our believers on that long and interesting island. The Devil's Point believers joined with those at Old Bight for a service in the public school building, our church building being far too small for the occasion. We enjoyed good meetings in Howles and Bennett's Harbour as well, and it was a real treat to renew old acquaintances and meet new members, being my first visit to Cat Island since 1948.

We were privileged to conduct baptisms for several candidates, and understand from Brother H. N. Moore, district pastor of Cat Island, that there will be eight or ten more ready for baptism before the end of the year.

Just before boarding the boat around sundown on Sabbath afternoon, a little group of believers gathered on the sand where we conducted a short funeral service for the six year old son of Brother and Sister Hartman Strachan of Bennett's Harbour. The little boy had drowned a short distance off shore three weeks previously, and because of the circumstances a funeral service had not been held. It was a privilege to read to these bereaved parents comforting passages from the Word of God and to commend them to His care, pointing them to the glad morning when the King shall command the sea to give up its dead, and the family can once more be united.

On the return voyage I obtained permission to show sound moving pictures of our Voice of Prophecy programme, our Faith for Today telecast, and the film "One in Twenty Thousand" on board ship with a large number of crew and passengers hearing and seeing them. Several pledged never to smoke again after seeing this fine film produced by our International Temperance Association.

* * *

On September 19 the long-looked-for day came when ground was broken at the site of the new Mission office and work was commenced in the erection of the greatly needed building. Brother Arthur Roach, the contractor for the carpentry of the building, moved an able group of men on to the grounds and went into action. Today, three days later, it is almost unbelievable what they have accomplished in so short a time. It is Brother Roach's plan to complete the building in ten weeks or less, and we look forward to soon moving into our own commodious quarters where we can carry on the work of this office in a far more efficient manner.

Located as it is on the main thoroughfare with traffic moving eastward, it will prominently advertise our mission's headquarters, as our gold-leaf on black background sign reads: Office, Bahamas Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, Bahamas Book & Bible House and Bahamas Branch, Voice of Prophecy.

* * *

The Mission found it necessary to close ranks recently when Brother Lloyd Binns accepted a call from the East Jamaica Conference to serve as its MV and Educational Secretary. The vacancy was filled when the Mission Committee invited Brother William W. Nairn to serve as the Home Missionary and Sabbath School Secretary. Brother Binns had endeared himself, along with his wife, with the entire Bahamas Mission family. We all wish for them, God's abundant blessing in their new field of labour.

—H. D. COLBURN, *President,*
Bahamas Mission.

Attention!!

The Mount Carey Church desires to know the whereabouts of the following members:

Mr. & Mrs. E. E. DeRoux,

Miss Ethlyn James.

Kindly communicate your information to the church clerk, Mr. Lester Stephenson, Mount Carey, Anchovy P. O. Thank you!

News Notes From East Jamaica

Our laymen are on the march for God. To date over 100 reports have come in to our office for the third quarter. A new and stronger emphasis is being placed on house to house evangelism. Especially is this effective where changing and inclement weather militate against holding regular public meetings. The reports reveal three new branch Sabbath Schools formed, more than 100 persons very much interested in the message, and over 50 souls baptised. We solicit your prayers that the way will be made clear for a greater outpouring of the Spirit of God on the remnant church.

In the district of Lower St. Andrew there is a growing company in the Maverly settlement. The Sabbath school is growing with a present membership of 25. Five persons have already been baptized and others are preparing for the sacred rite. This is one of the branches of the Kencot church.

A series of Missionary Rallies will be held in all the districts of the East Jamaica Conference ere this year comes to an end. The first of the series was held in the Saint Thomas district. The second was held in western Kingston at the Greenwich Town church. Great inspiration came to all who attended, and the closing evangelistic service was climaxed with a baptism of 9 candidates. Elder C. S. Greene, H.M., and S.S. Secretary of the British West Indies Union, Elder E. H. Schneider, president of the East Jamaica Conference, as well as other workers were in attendance. The next Rally is scheduled for Lower Saint Andrew No. 1, October 21 and 22, and will be held at the Kencot church.

While time is slipping by, let us be up and doing our Master's bidding—warning the world of its impending doom.

District-wide Dorcas Exhibitions are planned for the following districts: Saint Thomas, to be held at Lloyds in October; and also East Kingston, to be held at the North Street church grounds. The Port Antonio Dorcas Society will hold their Exhibition in November.

The East Jamaica Conference had the privilege of entertaining visitors during the last few days in the persons of Pastors Melvin and Harold Nembhard, brothers and former workers of this conference, and Brother H. Premdas. Pastor Melvin Nembhard was vacationing with his family when the hurricane struck the island of Barbados, where the headquarters of the mission of which he is president is located. He left by the first plane going to Barbados to stand by his post of duty and to help carry relief and comfort to the suffering. Pastor Harold Nembhard and wife were en route to the United States where they plan to further their education. Brother Premdas, coming from Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, was on his way to take up an appointment as treasurer of the British Honduras Mission. We wish these workers God's blessings in their fields of labour.

The passing of hurricane "Janet" brought torrential rains to the island, particularly along our eastern shores. This resulted in a flood in the Saint Mary district, causing a great deal of havoc in the Jack's River and

Port Maria vicinity. We understand that the water rose to a height of one foot in our newly dedicated Port Maria church. Several people were rendered homeless, and loss of life was also reported. Pastor C. F. Edwards and family, who live in that area, were marooned on the top of a hill where their home is located. The family had a miniature experience of Noah in the ark at the time of the flood.

We are thankful that the Lord in His mercy watched over our people, and they were preserved. However, many have suffered the loss of possessions and crops.

We pray that as the calamities of the last days increase, God's remnant church will be found pure and spotless, and be a living witness to the power and protection of the Almighty.

Pastor E. H. Schneider and his family have been away from headquarters on a two-week vacation. On the 17th of October we hope to see Elder Schneider sitting at his desk fully refreshed in body and soul to grapple with the problems contingent on administration in the East Jamaica Conference office.

The East Jamaica Conference family is made happy by the arrival of baby George Edward David to the Nembhard's home on the 9th of October. We pray that our Heavenly Father will give Pastor and Mrs. H. E. Nembhard wisdom to train this little boy for the kingdom.

—VINETTE E. WALKER

News Flashes From West Jamaica

Sabbath School Rally, Sabbath September 24, was a marvelous success throughout the West Jamaica Conference. Reports from various sections of the field reveal that many of those members that had back-slidden returned and renewed their covenant of allegiance to the Advent faith. It was also a meaningful day to the Voice of Prophecy students who had graduated from the Bible course. These students were especially invited by the Conference and nearby churches to attend this particular service, and as a result many of those who responded to the invitations took their stand for present truth.

EVANGELISM

Pastor K. G. Vaz and wife, together with Brother D. O. Spence are blazing the trail for God in Lionel Town, Clarendon. Pastor Vaz writes that although the rains persist, crowds attend the meetings from night to night, and as a result a church will soon be organized at Lionel Town.

Pastor Palmer and his associates are still on the war-path of soul-winning. A large baptism has been the result after months of labour.

Pastor Holness and Miss Haughton have been doing a very aggressive work for God at John's Hall. Additional souls have been baptized recently.

Pastor S. M. Reid and many of the other ministers and workers are consolidating on their efforts. A rich harvest of souls is anticipated.

WORKER'S MEETING

A very inspiring workers' meeting was held at the Conference office on October 11. Reports from the field were very encouraging, and evidences indicate that West Jamaica is marching on to victory.

RECREATION

October 12 was a day long to be remembered by all the workers. It was early morning when all turned their attention towards Dunn's River for relaxation, and after a well-spent day by the sea everyone returned to his post with mind and body refreshed.

TRANSFERS

Our staff regrets very much to lose Pastor Joe Fletcher from the Conference office. He has been transferred to Montego Bay as headmaster of the Harrison Memorial High School. We wish Brother Fletcher abundant success in his new field of labour.

Pastor I. B. Benson, former headmaster of Harrison Memorial High School, is now in charge of the northern St. James district. A word of appreciation must be expressed to Pastor Benson for his inestimable contribution to the cause of Christian education over the past few years in the class room.

Mr. Alvin McLean has succeeded Pastor Joe Fletcher as MV Secretary for the conference. The whole-hearted co-operation of all the Volunteers throughout the conference is solicited for the continued success of this phase of the work.

Brother Zadock Reid, a graduate of the West Indian Training College, is now in charge of a number of churches in Hanover. We pray that God will bless Brother Reid and his family as they strengthen the work in the West.

DEPARTURES

Pastor H. S. Walters, our conference president, flew to the United States on October 18. He expects to be gone only a couple of weeks.

Brother Audley Dwyer, one of our church school teachers flew on October 12 to further his studies in the United States. Brother Dwyer did a very outstanding work in training the young people at Springfield. As he proceeds to develop his talents further, we pray that God will be by his side to see him accomplish his aim, "To serve where the need is greatest." Miss Pearlina Dawes, graduate of '54, succeeds Brother Dwyer at Springfield.

NEW ARRIVALS

The homes of Brother and Sister Harold Bennett and Brother and Sister Rupert Henry have been blessed with the arrival of a daughter and a son respectively. May these precious gifts be dedicated to God for His service.

We all like to be connected with a going concern but we should take care to see which way it is going.

"It is not the number of hours that a man puts in, but what the man puts in the hours that counts."

Poet's Corner

HEAVEN'S DIVIDENDS

Every coin of earthly treasure

We have lavished upon earth

For our personal worldly pleasure

Purchased no eternal worth.

All the gold we leave behind us

When our death shall end our gain,

Though in life it did e'er blind us

We did gather quite in vain.

For in death we cannot use it

To help heaven pay the cost,

Nor in other worlds expect it,

What we hoarded, we have lost.

But gold placed in God's collection

God considers as a loan;

What we gave in self-negation

We may safely call our own.

For the treasure freely given

Is the treasure that we hoard,

Since the angels save in heaven

What is lent unto the Lord.

—Adopted by J. A. Buckwalter

WITNESSING IN OKINAWA

(Continued from page 2.)

a meeting. The young man visited the principal of the high school to ask for the use of their chapel. In the course of the talk he learned of the trouble in the school caused by the student's attending the Sabbath school and also was shown the articles in the newspaper denouncing the Adventists.

With a little encouragement from his missionary associate he became greatly stirred up over the Sabbath-keeping sect and set about to convert them. First he read a book on law and grace. Then armed with his Bible he set out for the Adventist church in Shuri, not far from the university. On the way he caught up with another student carrying a Bible and discovered one of his classmates bound for the same church. After the sermon he immediately went to the workers and launched his attack. Things didn't go as he had expected but he was there again the next night with more questions and more attack. As time went on the skillful answers of the workers as well as their kind attitude together with the Truths he was hearing in the sermons had a profound influence on the boy. First he found himself incorporat-

ing Adventist teachings in his Sunday school class, next he began keeping the Sabbath, and now he and his classmate who accompanied him to that first meeting are both baptized and he has entered the ministerial course in Japan Missionary College.

And so the work goes; first there is the outworking of God's providence and grace, then the faithful witness of those who respond to that grace, and finally the victories and blessings that always come out of trials and persecutions so that God is glorified. The pattern has been laid in Okinawa and the prospects for a good work are excellent.

Andrews Memorial Hospital News

On October 9 Pastor and Mrs. H. E. Nembhard were made happy by the arrival of a son at the Andrews Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Veta Anderson, one of our students in the new vocational nursing programme, left by air on October 5 to take up residence in New York.

Our Treasurer, Miss Marion Brodie, left on October 10 for a two-weeks holiday in the country.

—MRS. M. E. HOEHN

West Indian Training College News

On August 15, 1955, we began our second semester. Happy greetings were exchanged as the students returned from home and the colporteur field, ready once again to take up where they had left off. Many precious experiences were gained at home and out in the field, and we believe many souls were won for the Great School above.

A few of our students have gone on to the United States and to England. We loath to say farewell, but we wish them every success in their undertakings. We are happy to welcome the new students who have come in for the second semester. School is in full swing again and our teachers and students are working and studying hard to make this last semester a success.

Elder Hilbert Nembhard, from the East Jamaica Conference, conducted our fall Week of Prayer from September 2 to 10. The Spirit of God was poured out on the waiting souls and many were the blessings derived from this week of spiritual refreshing.

The days are fast slipping away. The Senior Class of '55, with an enrolment of thirty-five, was presented on the evening of October 9. Already the seniors are counting the school days with a mixed feeling of happiness and sadness. Happy because their dreams are fast fulfilling, but sad because too soon they will say farewell to "Mother W.L.T.C." However, they do not fear the future, because with God as their Captain they are ready to launch out into the deep.

—VERONICA GREENE

Until The Day-Break

JOHNSON.—Mrs. Virginia Johnson, a member of the Chamber's Pen church passed away on the 11th of September after a brief illness. She was laid to rest on the following day amidst a large-gathering. She is survived by her husband and eleven children. She awaits the call of the Life-Giver.

WANTED: Experienced Cabinet Makers, immediately. Apply, West Indian Training College, Woodproducts Department, Mandeville.

The British West Indies Union Visitor

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

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BRITISH WEST INDIES UNION MISSION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Tithe and Mission Offerings Comparison for Nine Months Ending September 30, 1955

TITHE RECEIPTS

Organization	1954	1955	Gain	Gain %	1954	1955	Gain	Gain %
Bahamas	4173 1 11	4506 6 0	333 4 1	8.0	1214 9 4	1467 7 2	252 17 10	17.2
Cayman Islands	1505 10 7	1021 5 8	484 4 11*	32.1*	294 15 1	418 12 1	123 17 0	41.8
East Jamaica	17200 10 9	19734 16 9	2534 6 0	14.7	6193 13 10	6610 11 2	416 17 4	6.7
West Jamaica	17775 3 11	19147 18 4	1372 14 5	7.7	6288 1 0	7156 6 1	868 4 4	13.8
	40554 7 2	44410 6 9	3755 19 7	9.2	13991 0 0	15652 16 6	1661 16 6	11.9

MISSION OFFERINGS