



West Indies Union

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

VISITOR



CAYMAN ISLANDS • WEST JAMAICA • CENTRAL JAMAICA • EAST JAMAICA • BAHAMAS, • TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.

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No. 1

THE ONE THING TO DO

Looking back in shameful regret
 Being pressed down with murmur and fret
 Brings progress, hope and success?
 Never yet
 To the soul who has never learned to forget.

Like Paul, we cannot quite understand the reason for all the difficult problems and trials that we have to face daily. These calamitous circumstances bring a pressure upon the mind which sometimes grow heavy enough to blot out the life and dark enough to becloud the mind of spiritual enlightenment.

The trials of this age are sufficient to destroy all the good and to neutralize all the virtue that may be found in a trusting servant of God. The experience of Job is one outstanding example of how evil is intent on destroying faith in the goodness of God. Friends, in their efforts to sympathize, help us to recall all the past conflicts, fears and hard times. To this kind Job said in reproof "Your remembrances are like unto ashes . . ." Job 13:15. That is to say, of no stable value.

The habit of recalling the disconcerting past is a tool of Satanic production, intent on dismantling the divine structure that God has placed in man. The capacity to love as Christ loved is waning instead of deepening. The tendency to forgive and to be pitiful and tenderhearted is considered weakness. But let us consider these as aspects of the divine nature that man must receive and practice. This is essential to our eternal salvation.

The one thing of importance, then, is to replace retaliation and resentment of all the wrongs and buffetings of the past with the forward look. We cannot understand why these pressures come upon us. The Heavenly Father does not offer this revelation. Nevertheless, we trust Him as a God Who knows, understands, and cares. The "forward look" is equal to "reaching forth" (Phil. 3:13) toward the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus. With every new day and every new year let us ensure our future with the "reaching forth." All our strength and all our mind must be in-

A NEW THING

God has graciously brought us to the portals of another year. Nineteen hundred and sixty-four spreads out before us with a labyrinth of new experiences and challenges. Said the Revelator: "Behold I will do a new thing." Rev. 3:8. The compelling power of a new conviction, a new hope, a new ideal, a new vision is awe-inspiring.

Our Churches, Conferences, Missions and Institutions will not only face the balancing of budgets, the commencement of new church buildings and long desired utility units, but they will also be confronted with the completion of many projects now under construction. The maintenance and renovation of structures cannot be overlooked either. Resources are limited, but let us keep our minds on the sure dynamic for success . . . "Without Me ye can do nothing." "Only the work accomplished with much prayer and sanctified by the merit of Christ will in the end prove to have been efficient for good."—D.A. 362.

May we continuously demonstrate throughout the New Year by our giving that all that we have is only a Trust from our Heavenly Father. "The accounts of every business, the details of every transaction pass the scrutiny of unseen auditors, agents of Him who never compromises with injustice, never overlooks evil, never palliates wrong."—Ed. p. 144.

Let us face this year from the vantage point of His precious promises. Let us prove Him as never before. Let us place our hands in His and seek His constant guidance each new day throughout this year. Let us learn to seize the joy of each day as it comes, so that the forward look will not dim our eyes to the pleasures along the way.

A prosperous New Year to the Advent family throughout our West Indies Union.

—V. T. Boyce
Treasurer

tent on growing up into the fullness of God as we forget the past and press toward the future with confidence.

—W. U. Campbell, President
West Indies Union Mission of S.D.A.

THE PLEASURES OF THE NEW

Consciously or unconsciously human beings have burning in their breasts a sincere love for the new. The boy and girl like a new pair of shoes, a new hat a new tie, or new toys. The adult likes new furniture, a new radio, a new piano or a new car. Very soon however, we come to the realization that these material things do not remain new because they soon depreciate and look old.

To each of us there is a new year with 8,784 precious hours, 366 days, or twelve months to accept new challenges. What we do with this borrowed time is largely a personal matter. Perhaps some of you have heard how the Italians traditionally have greeted the new year. At the stroke of midnight windows and doors all over the country fly open and old wine jugs, plates, cracked sink, broken bottles, and old furniture are tossed out in the streets. This symbolizes the removing of all old or unwanted furnishings from the house with a view of commencing the new year. The whole practice has been outlawed by authorities in recent years but it continues without a let up.

I would suggest that we gather old jealousies, the old hatred, the old malice, the old misunderstandings and toss them in the streets of forgetfulness. Let us in the place of these unwelcomed traits endeavour in 1964 to be more loving, thoughtful and considerate to the needs of others. Doubtless each of us has made new resolutions, many promises, and have set new goals but we need to have heaven's guidance so that we may be able to make them a reality.

The following lines were made famous by the late King George VI of England:

"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year,
 Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.
 And he replied, Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God,
 That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

—M. G. Nembhard, Secretary
West Indies Union Mission

CALENDAR REFORM AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(An evaluation of the recent action of the Vatican Council dealing with a fixed date for Easter, and calendar reform.)

On October 29, the Second Vatican Council made a decision regarding the controversial question of calendar reform. In Rome this vote produced only a ripple of attention. In the newspaper world the reaction was of two opposite kinds. By one segment, the decision was completely ignored or given minimum coverage; by the other, it was heralded by extravagant claims. Some publications went so far as to claim that the Vatican Council voted to establish a fixed date for Easter and to sponsor a perpetual calendar of a blank-day type.

This is not true. As we write these lines we have before us a leading Swiss newspaper in which the following lines appear in French: "The Council could transform the life of the world: it has voted for the principle of a universal calendar. The first of January would always be a Sunday, the feasts would always fall on the same day." These are clearly exaggerated claims; however, we do not want to minimize the significance of this council vote, especially in the light of possible future developments.

What did the Vatican Council actually vote for? At present the exact wording of the statement approved is still not easily available, for a schema or sections of a schema that have been accepted are still considered confidential information until the schema has been officially promulgated by the Pope. The statement on the revision of the calendar voted by the Vatican Council is actually only an appendix of some four paragraphs to chapter V which deals with the liturgical year of the Liturgy Schema.

The statement approved by the council deals with two separate but related questions: (1) fixation of the Easter date which is really a matter regarding the Catholic liturgical calendar, and (2) a perpetual calendar, which is a general calendar for civil society.

The council stated that it considers the numerous requests for stabilizing the Easter date and for a fixed calendar to be of no small moment, and hence, after paying due heed to possible consequences that may follow the acceptance of a new calendar, it declared that it **does not oppose** the assigning of Easter to a fixed Sunday in the present Gregorian calendar, provided that **those for whom this question is of importance are in agreement, especially the separated brethren** (the non-Roman Catholic Christian churches).

Similarly, the council affirmed that it is **not opposed** to the various initiatives for establishing a perpetual civil calendar, **provided the week of seven days with Sunday is safeguarded, without any days outside the week being interjected.** The succession of weeks must remain intact, **unless there are important reasons, on which the Apostolic See must make the decision.**

As any reader can see from the foregoing paragraph, the Second Vatican Council did not vote to assign Easter to

a fixed date; it only declared that it is **not opposed**, provided the other Christian churches who are involved in this matter are agreeable. It seems reasonable to assume that it would take long and perhaps tedious negotiations to reach some kind of agreement, even if only among the major churches, in regards to changing the present system for calculating the Easter date. At the present time Rome and the Orthodox churches use the same system for calculating the Easter date. At the present time Rome and the Orthodox churches use the same system, nevertheless, because of the differences in liturgical calendars used and because of the Orthodox proviso that Easter must never fall on the same day as the Jewish Passover, the Easter feast usually takes place at a different time in Rome than in Constantinople.

It is obvious that the Roman Catholic Church has not voted in favor of the type of perpetual calendar that would interfere with the weekly cycle. It has not even voted for a calendar revision that would keep the week intact. All the council has done is to declare that it does **not oppose** initiatives by others to bring about a change of the calendar, provided that the week and the succession of weeks are not tampered with. The council itself is taking no initiative toward calendar revision.

Past Position on Reform

In order to better understand the Vatican Council's statement on revision of the calendar, let us review the past position of the Roman Catholic Church regarding calendar reform.

On February 24, 1582, Pope Gregory XIII in his bull *Inter Gravissimos* proclaimed a completely new calendar. This is a clear indication that in those days the Roman Church felt that a change of civil calendar came within its competency and jurisdiction. Over a period of several centuries this calendar came to be the generally accepted one. It was introduced in Russia in 1919, in Greece a few years later and in Romania as recently as 1928.

Not long after the proclamation of the Gregorian calendar it began to be criticized by some. From the eighteenth century onward these criticisms took a precise direction: the elimination of the instability of this calendar by introducing a new fixed and perpetual one. It appears that according to Vatican sources the Italian abbot Marco Mastrofini was the initiator of the calendar reform movement. In 1834 he published a volume in which he advocated a universal symmetrical calendar, which provided for each day of the year to always fall on the same day of the week.

In order to achieve this he called the 365th day of the present calendar, which is left over after 52 weeks, or 364 days, "the last day of December." This day was to be considered outside the weekly cycle. The World Calendar Association, founded in 1930, developed by 1937 a "universal calendar" of four equal quarters of 91 days with a blank day after December 30. Basically this calendar, perhaps the most popular of calendar reform projects, is simply a warmed-over version of Mastrofini's old proposal.

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EVANGELISTIC RETREAT

On the evening of January 23, 1964, twenty-three Pastor-Evangelists met at the Carib Ocho Rios Hotel, St. Ann, Jamaica, for an Evangelistic Retreat, honouring ministers who with the aid of their churches in each pastoral district had baptized over one hundred souls during 1963. The retreat ended January 25, 1964.

The Retreat was called by Pastor M. G. Nembhard, Secretary of the West Indies Union of S.D.A., Mandeville, Jamaica. He was chairman of the meetings.

Ministers present at the Retreat were Pastors D. H. Baasch, from the Inter-American Division; M. G. Nembhard, West Indies Union; H. E. Nembhard, J. G. Bennett, C. S. Greene, R. R. Henry, F. E. White, G. J. Wilson from East Jamaica Conference; H. S. Walters, H. R. Bennett, L. Carter, Basil Henry, Edwin Hyatt, Robert Williams, B. A. Woodburn, Zadock Reid from Central Jamaica Conference; Silas McKinney from the Bahamas Mission; S. G. Lindo, Fernando Broomfield, Astley Gordon, W. Kirlaw, John Calvin Palmer, Lynford Williams and Ernie Wright from West Jamaica Conference; Kenneth G. Vaz and Oswald E. Gordon from West Indies College.

Pastor David H. Baasch of the Inter-American Division and Pastor Kenneth G. Vaz, head of the Theological Department of West Indies College, were guest speakers. Pastor Baasch challenged the ministers present to make larger and greater sacrifices and efforts to win more men and women from Satan's prison house. It was the opinion of Pastor Baasch that if workers were willing to sacrifice for God, much more could be accomplished. Said he, "Let us deny ourselves and become completely men of God."

Pastor Vaz stirred the thoughts of his hearers as he brought a most challenging lecture on the topic "Recent Trends and Evangelistic Developments as matters of the Moment". He reiterated the facts leading up to the recent surge of events taking place within and outside Christendom, pin-pointing the occurrences that are heading toward the union of churches.

"With that as a background", Pastor Vaz said, "we are to see rapid events taking place before our very eyes, and the things the prophets spoke about are being fulfilled to the very letter. The great trend toward church union, Sunday laws, the visit of the Pope to the Holy Land, and the turbulent conditions of the nations of the world are but events in the great drama". "The King is on His way", Pastor Vaz continued, "what we do, we must do quickly, our evangelistic sights must be raised higher, our people must be organized to greater missionary work. Sunday must be made a day of deeper missionary activity and service. Our people must be seen going from house to house and every man must be warned of the coming crisis".

Other topics discussed at the venue were: "Improving our Evangelistic Technique"; "The place and use of Television and Radio in Evangelism" and the Evangelistic Follow-up Programme". A number of excellent suggestions as a means of

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Looking Ahead With the Literature Evangelists

During the period January 7—12, 1964, a most inspiring Colporteur Institute convened at Denbeigh, May Pen, with more than 100 ministers of the printed page in attendance. This was a time of intensive study and deep heart-searching and each one present resolved not merely to adopt a slogan but by God's help to really "Do more than before in '64."

Present with us were Elders D. A. McAdams of the General Conference Publishing Department, J. C. Culpeper of the Inter-American Division and Benjamin Riffel of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, as well as the Publishing Department personnel of Central, East and West Jamaica Conferences. The fellowship was real and genuine and all seemed very happy to be there together.

An interesting slant on Wisdom, Skill and Virtue was stressed. Wisdom is knowing what to do next. Skill is knowing how to do it. Virtue is doing it. Great effort was made during this period to develop in our bookmen wisdom and skill. From now on we are sure virtue will be evident. We are looking forward to 1964 as our greatest year in soul-winning and sales. God's business is a great and solemn business. It engages heaven and earth. God and angels are in it. How could honest-hearted colporteurs do less than their best in this mighty hour?

Most revealing and intensely interesting was our Symposium on Sabbath afternoon, January 11. One colporteur had a record of 170 souls won. Another, who cannot read and has a cork leg, worked 1550 hours and sold £515 worth of books to leading citizens of Kingston and St. Andrew this past year. Our deliveries for 1963 amounted to £53,018-19-8. Can we doubt that angels are working with us in this great business?

What we consider the best Institute in many years closed on January 12 and each has returned to his respective place of labour determined to measure up to the requirements of stewardship that the promise of the master may be meted out to him, "Take care of this business and when I come again I will repay thee."

—B. E. Hurst

OBITUARY

CELESTINA WILLIAMS—died October 6, 1963. She accepted the faith October 6, 1957, and remained faithful until the day of her death. We hope to see our sister on the resurrection morning.

—J. Bennett, Clerk

C. A. BEADLE—Born October, 1900, at Ridge Pen, St. Elizabeth. While yet a young man he travelled to Cuba where he accepted the Message in 1927. On his return to Jamaica he united with the brethren at Williamsfield and served in several offices in the church. He was ordained as a deacon in 1942 and served faithfully in this office until the day of his death, September 14, 1963. He leaves to mourn their loss one brother, five sisters, nephews and neices and many friends. He awaits the call of the Life Giver.

JANUARY—FEBRUARY, 1964

WEST INDIES COLLEGE

Meet The Teachers

In a recent issue of the VISITOR, the constituencies of West Indies Union were informed of the arrival of a num-

ber of new teachers to serve on the faculty of West Indies College. We are very happy to introduce them to you on this occasion.



From left to right—Front row: Mrs. Thelma Gordon, Miss B. Williamson, Miss Dotlyn Grant, and Mrs. E. Philp; From left to right—Back row: Professor

O. Gordon, Professor David L. James, Professor Aston Barnes, Mr. Robert Carby, Professor Eardly Philp, Mr. Ruben Leslie and Professor Simon Johnson.

Since this picture was taken two other teachers have joined the faculty. They are: Professor C. J. Thomas who taught at the College formerly and Mrs. Simon Johnson, wife of Professor Johnson. Both of these teachers, will undoubtedly, add much to the growth and development of West Indies College.

All of these new teachers are well qualified in their various fields of concentration, and already the strength of their influence and qualification is being felt not only in the College but throughout the field as well. There seems to be

a spirit of confidence and good-will toward the College which is reflected in the increased enrollment and the large number of applications which pour in constantly. We regret very deeply that owing to limited accommodations many of our very fine young people have been requested to delay their education until we are able to increase our facilities.

It is our hope that this situation will improve before long so that all of our young people who desire the preparation for the future that West Indies College can give will be able to achieve it.

WHERE THE TEACHERS WENT

The teachers of West Indies College are having a wonderful time of fellowship with and serving the various fields of the West Indies Union. The following is but a little glimpse of where the teachers went and what contributions they have made:

- * Dr. S. O. Beaumont attended the Division Council and returned by way of Cayman where he spent a week-end visiting parents and churches in the interest of West Indies College.
- * In December several teachers attended the Conference Session of the East Jamaica Conference giving valuable help. Musical numbers were given by students and teachers of various churches in the Corporate Area. Some of the teachers who attended were, Mrs. Davis, Mr. James, Dr. and Mrs. Beaumont, Mrs. Walters, Elder and

Mrs. Gordon and Elder and Mrs. Benson.

- * The Harrison Memorial High School in Montego Bay invited Elder Vaz and Gordon to address its graduates at the recent graduation exercises. Elder Benson spoke at the baccalaureate service.
- * Central Jamaica Conference had a very successful camp meeting; many teachers spent all or most of the time on the camp grounds assisting with the meetings in various ways.
- * On the last day of the year the West Jamaica Conference had its workers' meeting in Montego Bay. Elder Gordon was invited to attend and address the workers.
- * Dr. & Mrs. Beaumont and Elder and Mrs. Gordon were invited to the reception given by His Excellency—Mr.

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Group of Investiture

Candidates

Happenings in West Jamaica

On November 13, 1963, Elder E. J. Parchment, Missionary Volunteer and Educational Secretary of the West Indies Union accompanied the writer on the occasion of an Investiture Service in the Chambers Pen Church. This was the second large Investiture for the year in this church. The entire class of twenty-eight candidates were uniformly clad, the girls in green skirts and white blouses and the boys in dark pants and white shirts. Each class was designated by a large white band on which were written the words, Explorer, Companion, Friend, etc.

An unusual request was previously made by the MV leader, Brother Sydney Dias, that the quizzing be as long as possible covering the entire list of requirements for the classes; and so in acquiescence to this request, the Union and Conference MV Secretaries gave an exhaustive examination to the candidates. It would have done your hearts good to hear the prompt and accurate responses given by each class. There was no doubt at all that every candidate earned his pin, scarf and certificate. It was an inspiration to all who had gathered there to witness the ceremony, and in that area anything that savours of a special occasion finds a packed and overflowing church, which though unfinished, is already bursting at the seams.

The young people of the church are active, growing and vibrant Missionary Volunteers who are not satisfied with anything mediocre. They even presented a large collection of hand-made items including some intricate embroidery work, as well as some smart-looking bowties fit for a prince. So it's hats off to Brother Dias and his sparkling Missionary Volunteers in Chambers Pen. They are looking forward to an early Investiture in this year.

Two Sabbaths later, December 7, found the writer this time at the Jericho church where is located another aggressive MV Society under the leadership of Brother Carlos Finnikin. Brother Finnikin had set a goal of fifty candidates for Investiture, but he was somewhat disappointed for some fell out at the last minute and left only thirty-two; but it was an inspiration to hear those young people respond to the requirements for

the various classes. This society has been one of the few societies that out of sheer hard work has been able to successfully present Master Guide candidates for Investiture. This church is located on a beautiful elevation 'on the Jericho road'. This church is yet incomplete, but represents a modern miracle, for the walls of this 50'x36' building were put up in one day.

The MV Society there is on fire and the young people have no time to feel discouraged or to get into trouble because they have a full programme of activities. The accompanying picture shows a group of the candidates who were invested there at the church 'on the Jericho road'. This society also is preparing for an early Investiture this year.

NEWBRIEFS

* Miss Naomi McKenzie, a recent graduate of West Indies College has joined our staff at the West Jamaica Conference office as secretary to Pastor S. M. Reid in the Home Missionary and Sabbath School Departments. Her sister Miss Thermutus McKenzie has accepted a call to be instructor in Biology and Health Science at the Harrison Memorial High School in Montego Bay.

* A most unusual pedagogical exodus took place in West Jamaica when six of our school teachers grasped the opportunity to return to West Indies College to write their Teacher Training examinations. They are Mrs. Lynford Williams, Mrs. Aston Parchment, Mrs. Claude Plummer, Mrs. E. Roy E. Wright, Miss Lucille White; and Miss Eileen Allen who has been teaching at the Spring Garden school is returning too. In their places we welcome Miss Daphne Beckford, Miss Eulalee Smith, Miss Eulalee Sinclair, Miss Beverly Sutherland, Miss Phillipine Sommerville, Miss Eulalee Thompson, Miss Victoria Plummer, Mr. Raphael McDonald, Mr. Douglas Thompson and Mr. Conrad Grant.

* On December 31, 1963, the workers of West Jamaica gathered in the Montego Bay temple in a "Janus" session. Looking back over the past year we were grateful for the way that God had led and the measure of success that had

attended our efforts. Under God, 1,225 souls were baptized, and six centurions contributed to this figure. They are Pastors Wright, Kirlaw, Williams, F. Broomfield, Gordon and Palmer. Looking forward we are hoping to hit the 1,300 mark for 1964.

* Fairly on the heels of Workers' Meeting treaded our Leaders' Council which convened January 12. Approximately 150 leaders and assistants came together to be charged and suffused by the Spirit of God, so that they can go forth anew to accomplish for God "more than before in '64". Strategic plans were made for the accomplishment for the task, and these leaders returned home greatly inspired to set West Jamaica on fire for God. Let us pray for the work in West Jamaica as we do for it in other parts of the world field so that the work will soon be finished, and we can go home to dwell with our Saviour in the Land of Eternal Joy.

—H. L. Douce, MV & Educational Secy.

PENCIL+FAITH=TITHE

(The formula for a successful spiritual experiment.)

By J. Humberto Cairus
Minister, Corrientes, Argentina.

I was studying the Advent message with a man who was an insurance adjuster. This man accepted each subject as it was presented to him. As we progressed with the studies, we came to the subject of the support of the gospel through the tithe. To him this was a wonderful plan for God's people to provide for the finishing of His work. However, I noticed that he was somewhat perplexed.

At our next meeting, he told me that he had been meditating on the subject of tithing. Thereupon he took paper and a pencil and began jotting down figures, saying as he did so, "This is what I have earned." Then, pointing to another column of figures, he added, "These are my monthly expenses." All were minutely detailed.

"Tell me," he said, "how can I pay ten per cent as tithe? Where will I get it?"

I noticed that the figure for food expense was low indeed. To alter that figure would be unreasonable. I replied,

"If we figure with a pencil only, truly there is no place to squeeze the tithe out of such a tight budget. But in addition to the pencil, you will find it necessary to do some calculations with faith. By combining the pencil and faith, you will find a way to pay your tithe."

We did not discuss the tithe any further, but took up another subject. After a lapse of some three weeks, this gentleman spoke to me again with considerable feeling.

"I have been happily surprised. I had thought to make a real sacrifice for God. When I received my last pay check I gave the Lord His full tenth, and my wife and I were resolved to deprive ourselves of certain things.

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CALENDAR REFORM

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The Vatican has never in the past come out in favour of such calendar reform projects. In fact, just a few years ago there appeared in the Official Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, an authoritative article in two installments, taking a rather dim view of this type of calendar revision. The writer of the article, Father Giuseppe Pizzoni, pointed out that Catholic Ecclesiastical authorities were not opposed to reform that would affect the week and interfere with religion. Though such calendar reforms would not actually conflict directly with Catholic dogma, *L'Osservatore Romano* considered them unjustified and unacceptable.

Three basic arguments were presented in opposition to calendar reform: (1) tradition, (2) rupture of the weekly cycle, and (3) difficulty in reaching general agreement. In the case of assigning Easter to a fixed date, the writer of the article pointed out how strong tradition has supported basing this date on the phases of the moon during the spring, both for the Jewish Passover and the Easter Feast. He also emphasized that the week is not a division of time based on natural phenomena, nor simply a series of seven equal days, but a group of "hierarchical days" clustered around one principal day, the Sabbath or Sunday.

Since the week corresponds to the seven days of Creation mentioned in Genesis, Father Pizzoni indicated that the week is a religious institution of divine origin. He further pointed out that the introduction of a new calendar might tend to increase the religious divisions rather than diminish them, especially in the light of the historical experience that it took more than three centuries to achieve general acceptance of the Gregorian calendar.

The views expressed by Father Pizzoni seem to have represented the Vatican viewpoint until fairly recently. However, there has been a gradual evolution, especially among Vatican experts, in the direction of warmer attitude toward calendar reform in general, and of a definitely favourable position in regard to the stabilization of the Easter date. Dr. J. Rossi, one of our denominational experts on religious liberty and calendar reform had a recent conversation with Father Pizzoni and was rather surprised to discover that he now professes different views from those he expressed in the previously mentioned article, and is no longer opposed to the introduction of a perpetual calendar. It is in the light of these developments that we must consider the council statement on change of the calendar.

Calendar reform was not really discussed on the council floor. It is likely that the bishops considered this question as a technical one, to be considered primarily by the *periti* ("expert advisers") on the commission level. The calendar statement was voted as an appendix, with practically no opposition. In fact, out of 2,193 "fathers" voting, only 21 cast opposing ballots.

While in Rome I had the opportunity of discussing the question with tit-

ular Archbishop Bafle of Antioch, the papal nuncio in Germany. This leading figure of the papal diplomatic service is probably the best-known "council father" interested in calendar reform. His intervention on the council floor is considered to have been the most substantial of the very few references to the subject made in St. Peter's during the Vatican Council.

I talked with Archbishop Bafle in the palatial reception room of the pontifical academy for the training of Vatican foreign service. He spoke quite clearly and freely regarding the present Roman Catholic position on calendar reform. Neither is the Catholic Church opposed to a new calendar that would keep both the week and the succession of weeks intact. On the other hand, he said, he foresees enormous difficulties facing the introduction of a world calendar with blank days. In fact, he doubts that this type of calendar reform is realizable.

Archbishop Bafle pointed out that old tradition is very strongly opposed to an interruption of the weekly cycle. The Jews are flatly opposed, as are Seventh-day Adventists. Mohammedans also seem reluctant to change. The Orthodox even yet do not accept the Gregorian calendar. This Catholic prelate therefore feels that it will be extremely difficult for all churches to agree.

The Archbishop went on to say that though the Catholic Church is hostile to a perpetual calendar that would interrupt the week, "it is not absolutely opposed, if very important reasons exist." When we ask him to indicate to us an example of what would be a very grave reason, this distinguished prelate cited the example of a hypothetical danger of a calendar being accepted that did not respect the week at all, as was the case during the French Revolution when, for a relatively brief period, a calendar based on ten-day cycles was promulgated. Nevertheless Archbishop Bafle assured me that the Roman Catholic Church would never favour calendar reform without the consensus of the other churches. Further, Rome will not take the initiative. The Catholic Church wants to keep the week as it is.

In our conversation with Archbishop Bafle, he expressed the view that the week is of divine origin, though he is of the opinion that the seven days of the Creation are geological periods. Then he went on to bring out a very fundamental thought: The Roman Catholic Church has the authority to change the week. As proof of this authority he cited the fact that his church had changed the week in substituting Sunday for the Sabbath.

It seems to me that in giving up the Sabbath the Catholic Church greatly weakened its position regarding the inviolability of the week. No wonder the Catholic Church finds it rather difficult, even impossible, to take an **absolute position** in regard to the sanctity of the week. Having taken upon itself "to change times" (Dan. 7:25) by exacting Sunday instead of the Biblical Sabbath, the Catholic Church has made its traditional position regarding the divine origin of the week rather untenable. It is in this light that we must understand the council statement providing for the remote

possibility of approval being given to a calendar that would disrupt the week, **if there are very important reasons.**

The Jewish Attitude

What has been the reaction of the Jewish community to the Vatican Council's position on calendar revision? Together with Dr. G. Rossi I had the opportunity of discussing the question with Dr. Elio Toaff, the Jewish chief rabbi in Rome and a leading member of the European Rabbinical Conference. When in 1956 the Indian Government presented a calendar reform project to the UNESCO, the European Jewish leaders were in complete opposition. The present pope, then Vatican pro-secretary of state, informed Dr. Toaff that the Catholic Church would request that the matter be referred **sine die**.

When John XXIII permitted calendar reform to be put on the Vatican Council agenda, the European Rabbinical Conference made several interventions. The impressions they received was that the council would probably come out in favour of a reform of the liturgical calendar that would stabilize the dates of certain feasts, but there would be no statement favouring general calendar reform. However, as Dr. Toaff rightly pointed out to us, the present council vote has opened the door for much broader general calendar changes.

"All currents of Jewry are united in opposition," Rome's chief rabbi said to us. It is true that some liberals, especially in the United States, might be willing to accept calendar reforms, but for reasons of unity all groups are holding together. "The Jews are willing to cooperate with reforms that do not damage the weekly cycle," he stated. "We have even submitted projects of our own."

It is difficult to make realistic predictions concerning future developments in the Roman Catholic calendar reform position. But at present it seems to us

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EVANGELISTIC RETREAT

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improving Evangelism was given in panel discussion groups.

On Friday night of the Retreat the ministers attending heard Pastor O. E. Gordon present a message on "What it is to have Peace", at the Ocho Rios S.D.A. church. On Sabbath morning, January 25, the ministers spoke to various congregations in the parishes of St. Ann and St. Mary, and in the evening before a packed audience at the Ocho Rios church, the ministers gave a most heart-warming and thrilling Symposium.

It was reported at the Session that in the West Indies Union for 1963, three thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine individuals were brought into the church by baptism.

Since the workers are looking forward to doing "much more than before in Sixty-four", it is the expressed desire that more than 4,000 will be brought in during the current year.

As the services came to a close the ministers in attendance rededicated their lives for wider and greater service.

—C. S. Greene, H.M., S.S. Secy,
East Jamaica Conference



Mrs. Douce at the demonstration table on the evening of the last Nutrition class.

She gave a most helpful lecture on Child Nutrition and demonstrated lunch ideas.

"Women, in their role of mother, wife, and homemaker, have a work to do of great importance . . . The one who understands the art of properly preparing food and who uses this knowledge, is worthy of higher commendation than those engaged in any other line of work . . . It is the most valuable of all gifts." Manuscript 95, 1901.

With this quotation taken from the Testimonies, Pastor Keith O. Boyd, chaplain of Andrews Memorial Hospital, opened the first of eight devotional talks which prefaced eight sessions of a Nutrition and Cooking Class conducted under the supervision of Mrs. E. J. Heisler, ex-matron and wife of the business manager of Andrews Memorial Hospital.

Thirty-six were enrolled from churches throughout the Corporate Area, and eighteen qualified for certificates by attending all lectures or by missing not more than one.

A typical class period began with ten or fifteen minutes devotion. Guest speakers which included Doctors G. Thorpe, H. M. Johnston, N. Haye, B. Arellano, T. Littlefield, and Y. Stockhausen were invited each night to lecture on topics such as Digestion, Vitamins, Minerals, Proteins, Carbohydrates, etc. Each doctor, after a very informative and sobering lecture, left with the class resolving to follow more earnestly the counsels on diet and foods from Mrs. E. G. White which are, as they pointed out, today receiving recognition among scientists, researchers and prominent physicians. Demonstrations of meatless dishes were then given by various members of the class but more often by the instructor and supervisor, Mrs. E. Heisler. Her able assistants were Mrs. V. Boyd, MC and Platform Assistant, Miss G. Brodie, Serving Supervisor, Mrs. C. Greene, Hostess Supervisor and Hostesses—Mrs. O. Fletcher, Mrs. A. Dyke and Mrs. V. Nembhard. At the close of

each class, which lasted for two to three hours and during which several dishes were prepared, samples of the finished products were distributed to each class member. With expressions of satisfaction and delight, each person with the recipe well in mind and notebook left to 'try out' at home.

At the closing class session a delightful and delicious supper was served after Mrs. Douce gave a very helpful lecture. Husbands of the class members and lecturers were special guests. This supper was more than (s)ample proof that the class had not only accomplished a great and longing need but that it was also a success. Expressions of gratitude were many from the class members to the whole staff and to Mr. Heisler through whose effort and negotiation a new gas stove was procured on loan from "Tropigas Co." and a refrigerator from More's Supply House.

This is the second of two vital programmes sponsored by the Andrews Memorial Hospital under the voluntary supervision of Mrs. E. J. Heisler, the first being a Home Nursing and Family Health course earlier in the year.

Andrews plays an active role in Home Missionary activities and will continue to do so with your prayers and kind interests. We thank you.

—Keith O. Boyd, Chaplain
Andrews Memorial Hospital

NOTICE: Anyone knowing the present address of Mr. Sylvester Brown kindly contact the Clerk, Mr. Isaac Russell, Hunts Town, Dressikie P.O.

that the Roman Church is generally against calendar changes involving blank days. However, it should be recognized that Catholic hostility to this type of calendar seems to have grown less pronounced and certainly is no longer absolute. There are even some segments of Catholicism not unfavourable to the aims of the world Calendar Association.

Canon Gerhard Fittkau, director of the German press section at the council, told me unhesitatingly that, in his opinion, the Catholic Church "has no objection to blank days being introduced in the calendar, for blank days do not break the week." He feels it is important to keep the week as the basic unit, but "the introduction of blank days is not important." Such views provide evidence that Rome is certainly no longer unconditionally opposed to breaking the weekly cycle, and that if the trend continues, the church might well someday find such reform projects quite acceptable.

The council statement on revision of the calendar seems to be a part of Rome's efforts not to appear any longer as the centre of incorrigible reaction. It is felt that the tide has turned and the Vatican's influence is growing. A few years ago, when Pius XII was pope, the Vatican came out in favour of political democracy. Now interest in calendar reform, social progress, use of the vernacular, ecumenism, and even religious liberty all point to a concern in the council for Rome's image in the world and a desire to appear more modern and more reforming than Protestants themselves.

Archbishop Bafle said that "Calendar reform is not a problem felt inside the Church." We might add that it is not a problem felt acutely inside most non-Catholic churches. Dr. W. Viser't Hooft, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, recently told us that in answer to a letter from his secretariat to the member churches requesting their opinion whether the World Council of Churches should undertake a study of the calendar question, only 20 churches expressed the desire that the matter be taken up. The great majority of the churches seemed disinterested in the matter.

It seems to us that a perpetual calendar is far from being the most urgent problem that needs to be solved to promote human happiness and prosperity. We agree with Dr. Lukas Vischer, who said to us in front of the Waldensian Church in Rome: "We have much more important things to do in the world today than calendar reform."

—B. B. Beach
(Reprint - Review and Herald
January 2, 1964.)

'TILL THE MORNING

LETESIA STEWART—passed away November 1, 1963, at the age of 78. She was baptized September 2, 1956. She was a faithful witness until the end came.

"Sweet be thy rest and glorious thy awaking!"

A New Year's Message from East Jamaica Conference

We have just emerged from another interesting and eventful year. While we have embarked upon a new year—with new challenges, new experiences, new hopes, new prospects, it is well for us to be aware that many of the tantalizing problems of the old year will journey with us through 1964. However, we need not fear because Jesus will walk beside us through the coming days.

The ugly spectre of communism still hangs over the Western world. Fear and a feeling of insecurity still haunts the human breast. We face an ominous future indeed. Nevertheless Israel should not be afraid. We are the children of light. We should know the times and the seasons. Thank God we have not been left in darkness. The message of heaven to ancient Israel on the edge of the surging waters of the Red Sea was: "Go forward!" Today God's message to modern Israel as we stand on the borders of the time of trouble is the same—"Go forward!" Let us go forward in unity, love, peace and godliness. Let us go forward in an unprecedented soul-winning drive for the master. Let us go forward in faith. "We have nothing to fear for the future except as we shall forget the path through which He has already led us."

Finally, let us go forward in prayer. Make 1964 a year of much prayer and submission to His Divine will.

Prayer:

Even if a sword shall pierce my heart,
may God grant me grace to see that
His answer to my prayer is better
than the one I asked.

I asked for strength that I might achieve.

He gave me weakness that I might learn obedience.

I asked for health, that I might do great things.

He gave me sickness that I might do better things.

I asked for wealth that I might be happy.

He gave me poverty, that I might be wise.

I asked for power that I might have glory and fame.

He gave me impotence that I might realize my dependence upon Him.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life.

He gave me life that I might enjoy all things.

I received nothing that I asked for, but all I hoped for.

I am rich; I am happy; my prayer is answered.

May God bless you all and may 1964 be a year of great spiritual growth in your experience.

—H. Edison Nembhard, President

West Indies Union News Briefs

* From December 18-22, the period of the East Jamaica Conference session, that field was host to Pastors F. L. Peterson, vice-president of the General Conference; C. L. Torey the Treasurer;

H. W. Lowe, the General Field Secretary; and C. L. Powers, the president of the Inter-American Division. They all made a very valuable contribution to the high spiritual tone of the session.

* During the second Camp Meeting of the Central Jamaica Conference which convened at Denbeigh Clarendon from December 26 - January 1, they were privileged to have as their guests, Pastors B. L. Roberts, the head of the Bible Department of the Antillian Union College; Norman Simon, Business Manager of the Riverside Sanitarium; and S. Thomas, H.M. & S.S. Secretary of the South Atlantic Conference. The constituency was greatly inspired by the messages these ministers presented.

* Pastors W. U. Campbell and M. G. Nembhard, president and secretary respectively of West Indies Union attended the 10th session of the Bahamas Mission. Also present was Pastor D. H. Baasch, secretary of the Inter-American Division.

* On Sabbath, January 11, Pastor Leslie McMillan was ordained to the Gospel Ministry. Pastor D. H. Baasch gave the ordination sermon, Pastor W. U. Campbell presented the ordination charge, Pastor M. G. Nembhard offered the ordination prayer, and he was welcomed to the ministry by Pastor E. H. Schneider. During the Mission Session, Pastor McMillan was elected MV Secretary of the Bahamas Mission.

* The new Centerville church in Nassau was dedicated on Sunday, January 12. This is a very imposing structure and will mean much to the progress of our work in that field. Pastor H. D. Colburn, former president of the Bahamas Mission gave the history of the church, Pastor M. G. Nembhard led out in the act of dedication, and the dedicatory prayer was offered by Pastor W. U. Campbell.

* There was a very inspiring Mission Session in Georgetown, Grand Cayman, from January 24-26. This was followed by a MV Leadership course conducted by Pastor E. J. Parchment, MV and Educational Secretary of West Indies Union. There was a good representation of the Union personnel present for this session—Pastors W. U. Campbell, V. T. Boyce and W. A. Holgate. Pastor D. H. Baasch, secretary of the Inter-American Division joined the group on Monday, January 27, and left the following day for Miami.

* In attendance at the West Indies Union year-end meetings were all the field presidents and rotating members. Representing the higher organizations were Pastors F. L. Peterson, Vice-president of the General Conference; H. W. Lowe, General Field Secretary; and C. L. Powers, President of the Inter-American Division.

* A very colourful wedding ceremony took place at the Kencot S.D.A. Church on Sunday, January 12. Brother Alton Marshalleck, Accountant of the West Indies Union, took as his bride Miss Jean Mullings. We wish for them a very happy life.

* The new cafeteria building at West Indies College is making good progress and the teachers and students are looking forward to moving into this attractive building in the very near future.

WEST INDIES UNION VISITOR

PENCIL+FAITH=TITHE

Cont'd from page 3

But something unexpected happened. In the line of duty, and on orders from my company, I visited a certain factory. After I had done the work I was sent to do, and while I was in the administrative office of the factory, I was asked whether I would write some fire insurance policies. This was not my work, but my insurance company permits me to write policies when the opportunity presents itself. The employees of the factory had agreed among themselves that each would take out an insurance policy. I thought I would have to endure a month of privation, but because of this sale I had extra income that amounted to a month's wages. I did not think the Lord would fulfill His promise to me so soon."

Some years have passed since this occurred. This brother has continued as a faithful member of the church, and has been a loyal worker in the various activities of our church. He has continued to be well grounded in the truth ever since his happy beginning in the faith never failing to pay an honest tithe.

—Reprint, REVIEW AND HERALD.

January 2, 1964.

WEST INDIES COLLEGE

Cont'd from page 4

Ramcharan, High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago, and Mrs. Ramcharan in honour of Dr. Williams, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Jagan of British Guiana. Mr. Errol Barrow of Barbadoes and Sir Alexander Bustamante of Jamaica. The teachers had the opportunity of meeting these leaders of the Caribbean area along with many other dignitaries in political and social circles.

* At the recent centurion retreat held at Carib, Ocho Rios, Elders Vaz and Gordon were invited to attend. Elder Vaz presented a very scholarly paper on "Modern trends of religious development." Elder Gordon served as moderator for the discussion "New Technique in Evangelism."

* Elder Gordon attended the recent workers' meeting of the Central Jamaica Conference. He gave valuable suggestions as to how we may more effectively preach to the masses in this highly competitive age.

* On Sabbath, February 8, Elder Vaz and a group of ministerial students visited Elder Allen's district in Central Jamaica Conference. They spoke at Old Harbour, Blue Hole, Bellas Gate and other churches.

* Recently Elder Gordon and Professor Simon Johnson visited East Jamaica Conference taking with them a group of ministerial students. They preached at the Rollington Town, Washington Gardens, Trench Town and Hagley Park churches.

—O. Edward Gordon, M.A.
Public Relations Secretary

CENTURION EVANGELISTIC REPORT

Quarter Ending, December 31, 1963

Bahamas Mission	
Workers	162
Cayman Islands Mission	
Workers	20
Central Jamaica Conference	
H. Bennett	106
L. Carter	53
A. B. Davis	36
H. Fletcher	72
S. Grant	32
B. Henry	106
E. Henry	74
J. Allen	117
R. Ashmeade	117
E. Hyatt	117
S. Cole	67
V. Miller	67
U. E. Morgan	45
C. A. Newman	63
C. Parchment	38
Z. Reid	114
K. G. Vaz	49
E. A. Walton	79
J. N. Williams	28
R. Williams	139
B. A. Woodburn	162
Total	1380

East Jamaica Conference	
F. E. White	164
J. G. Bennett	151
R. R. Henry	131
G. J. Wilson	102
A. D. Laing	101
C. F. Edwards	80
M. Weir	70
A. H. Hunter	62
V. O. Brown	60
O. S. Rugless	54
A. G. Lawrence	41
R. U. Daughma	35
V. G. Newman	23
S. G. Campbell	9
N. H. Thorpe	7
K. O. Boyd	7
O. P. Reid	4
R. Douglas	3
Total	1104

West Jamaica Conference	
J. C. Palmer	182
E. Wright	170
F. Broomfield	113
W. Kirlew	111
L. Williams	111
A. Gordon	104
E. C. Reid	78
C. Mair	76
N. Fraser	62
V. Griffiths	55
D. Spence	50
T. Thompson	46
H. Richards	45
C. Perry	42
A. Parchment	20
Total	1265

'TILL THE MORNING

IRENE BENNETT—laid aside her earthly toil November 19, 1963, at the age of 52. She accepted the Message in her youth and served the church faithfully. She lived a Christian life until the day of her passing. She leaves to mourn their loss her husband, ten children and many other relatives and friends.

"In quietness and confidence shall be thy rest."

—J. Bennett, Clerk



S. N. McKINNEY

Bahamas Mission

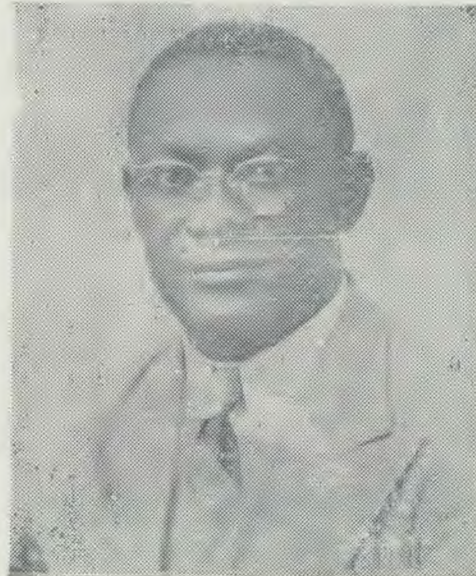


F. BROOMFIELD
West Jamaica

OBITUARY

TORBIO ALONZO LAZZARI—was born at Bodden Town, Grand Cayman, September 17, 1872, and died at Cayman Brac, October 31, 1963, at the age of 91. He was married to Georgiana Storer a native of Jamaica in 1891. To this union was born three sons, and three daughters. His wife predeceased him on July 10, 1939. He married Elveda Bodden, July 25, 1942, and to this union was born one daughter. He became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the year 1928 and was the oldest member on the island of Cayman Brac.

Brother Lazzari is survived by his second wife, two sons, Denzil and Torebeo; three daughters, Ermine, Esmie, and Hyacinth; also many grand children and great grand children. He sleeps to await the call of the Life Giver.



A. D. LAING

East Jamaica



A. GORDON West Jamaica

WEST INDIES UNION VISITOR

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Miss V. Greene Asst. Editor

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