

The INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER

VOL. 1

BALBOA, CANAL ZONE, APRIL, 1924

No. 1

GREETINGS

"THE INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER," in this its first issue, solicits a place in your interests, and invites you to be a shareholder in its success. The MESSENGER is the result of earnest prayer and a sincere desire to provide a channel through which the blessing and inspiration of good experiences in every field may flow out to all our workers in this division to comfort their hearts and to strengthen their hands in service.

This first issue is sent on its way with earnest prayer as it goes forth to carry to you the good news of the conflict. It brings you greetings from many of your fellow-workers, as well as cheering reports of conquest by the advance guard of our far flung battle lines in the Master's great soul-winning campaign among Inter-America's 40,000,000 people.

It is the hope and expectation of your fellow-workers in the division office that THE INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER shall draw us all as workers into one large informal circle for prayer and counsel, by gathering good news from all the fields and then carrying these same glad tidings to every worker in the circle. The paper will endeavor to be a channel of communication through which those who are serving in this widely scattered field may speak "often one to another" to cheer, to comfort, to encourage all in the King's business. It is purposed also for a channel through which shall

flow information concerning plans and methods for strengthening our work.

That THE INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER may indeed fulfil its mission of being a channel of blessing and inspiration to the workers in the division, shall we not all as fellow workers pledge ourselves to its support? From month to month let it ring with evidences of answered prayer; let it proclaim the victories gained for the gospel among the lost; let it acquaint your brethren with the problems in your field, that they may mingle their praise and rejoicing over your victories with earnest petitions to God for your special needs.

We bespeak for this new messenger, that is now ready to serve you, a hearty welcome and constant support. Remember that all material for its columns should be sent to THE INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER, Box 143, Balboa, C. Z. Surely if we all do our best, the MESSENGER cannot fail to come to each of us with inspiration for a stronger faith, a brighter hope, and with new courage and fresh vigor for the conflict. It will echo with songs of the triumphs of the cross from the southern border to the northern extremity of our division, and from the islands that skirt its eastern boundary to the mountainous coastline on the west. And it will ever be a tie to bind our hearts in loving service for the Master above and for the 40,000,000 people in our division.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Inter-American Division of the General Conference embraces Mexico, the five Central American republics, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, British, Dutch and French Guiana, the West India and Bahama Islands. Within this territory there is a population of approximately 40,000,000, speaking Spanish, French, Dutch, and the various Indian languages.

The official language of a large part of the territory is Spanish. In Mexico and Guatemala, however, the great bulk is not of Latin, but of Indian origin. Large racial groups still retain their own language and ancient customs. Undoubtedly the largest problem we have confronting us is that of reaching the great Indian population. Next to this is the problem of reaching the Spanish speaking people. Then follow the other

languages in which the message must be proclaimed.

A NEW ERA

The blessing of God has attended the efforts put forth in this field from the beginning; but now we have come, as we believe, to a new era for the work in this territory. The time is fully ripe for a general forward movement. The division officers and workers will join with the laborers in the union and local conferences and missions in an effort to organize all our forces for more effective service in a united advance.

The great proximity of the end of all things earthly, as seen in the rapidly fulfilling signs of the times, and in the testimony of the Spirit of Prophecy, urges us to far greater efforts to reach the multitudes in our field in the brief moment of probationary time that is still left us. Much has been accomplished through the consecrated labors of our devoted missionaries in the past, all for which we thank God; but a much greater work is still to be done. This unfinished task calls us to emulate the lives of our most devoted, self-sacrificing missionaries. More than this: it calls us to a height of spiritual attainment in power and efficiency unknown to the church of Christ since apostolic days.

POWER PROMISED

The greatness of the task before us, and the very brief period in which to accomplish it, demands a mighty revelation of the power of God through His chosen messengers. For this God has made abundant provision.

"Before He offered Himself as the sacrificial victim, Christ sought for the most essential and complete gift to bestow upon the world, which would act in His place, and bring the boundless resources of grace within the reach of His followers. 'I will pray the Father,' He said, 'and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.'

"The striking feature of divine operations is the accomplishment of the greatest work that can be done in our world, by very simple means. It is God's plan that every part of His government shall depend on every other part, the whole, as a wheel within a wheel, working with entire harmony. He moves upon human forces, causing His Spirit to touch invisible chords, and the vibration rings to the extremity of the universe."—*Special Testimonies to Ministers and Workers, No. 10, pp. 36, 37.*

What a wonderful promise! We have "the very simple means" at our command. These simple means anointed with the power of the Holy Spirit, every part working in entire harmony with every other part, will accomplish "the greatest work that can be done in our world."

TRUTH WILL CONQUER

Although our force of workers is very small—so small that it seems entirely inadequate for the great task before us;—and although there are vast stretches of territory, with their millions of people, where nothing has yet been done to bring the last message of mercy to the lost, yet as we give ourselves wholly to the Lord, and as we are anointed with the Spirit for service, we shall see the work move forward with mighty strides.

"Through most wonderful workings of divine providence, mountains of difficulty will be removed and cast into the sea. The message that means so much to the dwellers upon the earth, will be heard and understood. Men will know what is truth. Onward and still onward the work will advance, until the whole earth shall have been warned, and then shall the end come." *Test. V. 9, p. 96.*

EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION

God has provided the best system of organization that has ever been formed in this world. Under His direct supervision this organization has been developed for the express purpose of making all our efforts for the accomplishment of His purpose most effective. The territory of the Inter-American Division is now to enjoy, so far as the leaders with all their limitations can make it possible, all the blessings of complete divisional organization. The division office is now situated in as central a location as possible. The providence of God in securing a suitable location seems most marked. The means of communication with every part of the field, is superior to what we expected to find it.

Large as is the task that is before us in this field, and although painfully conscious of our weaknesses and imperfections, we cheerfully take up our labors, with the assurance of the hearty

and united co-operation of every field in the division; and with the confidence of divine guidance and the presence of our great Leader in all our efforts to finish the work committed to our trust.

E. E. ANDROSS.

WORKERS

A father was once heard to say, "I want my son John to go to school and get an education so that he will not have to work as hard as I have always had to work." This may sound all right in a way, but at the same time a greater untruth was perhaps never intimated. The father had a mistaken idea about education. And young people should have a pretty clear understanding that the more knowledge they acquire the harder they should work. This may not sound so well, but the acquiring of knowledge brings with it its responsibilities. The more knowledge and truth that comes into our possession, the busier our lives should become in order that proper use may be made of that knowledge and truth. And while education will bring to us more work and greater responsibility, yet it can be remembered with comfort and satisfaction that great joy follows intensive service, and that a rich reward awaits the faithful worker.

The Lord's real people are workers. They always have been and always will be. Abraham, the father of the faithful, was a worker. He was also a good financier and seems to have left this imprint upon his posterity. The Jews were and are a thrifty people. We question whether any of our readers have ever seen a Jew appear at the back door asking for bread.

Jacob was a worker. When he arrived a fugitive in Padan-Aram and had been there a month, his uncle said, "Shouldst thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what shall thy wages be?" There were some excellent young ladies in that home with whom Jacob might have spent considerable time, but it seems that he went to work without any prospects of remuneration about as soon as he appeared on the scene.

Joseph was a worker. Wronged by his brethren, he was brought a slave to Potiphar's kitchen. It isn't difficult for us to imagine Joseph performing the most lowly tasks, such as scrubbing the floor, cleaning the sinks, or carrying the garbage. But we know that he was faithful and did every duty well, or those familiar promotions would never have followed. Had he not been a worker of the most industrious type he doubtless never would have been heard of very far from Potiphar's kitchen.

The whole list of patriarchs and proph-

ets, so far as we are able to discern, is made up of workers of the most diligent class. Then, too, our Saviour was a tireless worker. He said, "My Father worked hitherto, and I work."

Seventh-day Adventists are a busy people. We are attempting a great task. We are not only trying to make a living and educate our children, but we are carrying the most important message ever entrusted to any people, to all the world, and are expecting to do it in one generation. We must have workers, real workers! and plenty of them.

We have schools—plants designed for the production of workers, gospel workers. Inter-America has seven of these training schools, either in operation or that are about to operate. We are receiving some very interesting letters from the principals of some of these schools, which must be published, in part at least, later.

All Inter-America is calling for education, crying for schools. It would seem that this is a most opportune time to mow wide swath in an educational way. But some of our letters tell us that the people are poor.

Industrial schools are a possibility even where poverty exists, providing there is a willingness on the part of the young people to perform productive service. But in localities where students without money are unwilling to use their physical strength in order to acquire an education, schools are an impossibility.

We are glad to find in so many places a genuine sympathy for all kinds of work and workers—regions where the dignity of work is maintained. We are glad to find so many young people who appreciate an education enough to attempt to win it largely by their own efforts. And after all, how many times it happens that those who work while they learn, and learn while they work, develop into the best workers. Yes, God wants plenty of willing workers.

C. J. BOYD.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS

A PUBLISHING CONVENTION will be held at Cristobal, Canal Zone, July 15 to 22, at which time all the Field Missionary Secretaries and Tract Society Secretaries in the Inter-American Division will be present. This will be an important occasion and will mean much to the denominational missionary activities in our field. Representatives from the General Conference Publishing Department as well as from the Pacific Press Publishing Association of Mountain View will join us in our study of this branch of our work, and will help us

plan to make the future more effective in reaching the thousands of lost souls in this region. As this meeting precedes the division annual council, we will be favored with the presence and assistance of our three union mission superintendents.

July 22 to 29 has been set apart for the meeting of the Executive committee of the Inter-American Division of the General Conference. This meeting will be held at the division offices, Balboa, Canal Zone. All members of the executive committee are requested to be present and to plan to be with us at the beginning of the council. At this same the budgets for 1925 will be studied and acted upon, and it is important that all local fields forward their annual requests in good time to their union office, so that the union estimates may be prepared before the time of the division council.

This will be the first division council held in the territory of the division, and we expect the presence and help of a General Conference representative. We invite our members and churches in all our fields to remember this important gathering of the leaders of God's work in this division in their prayers.

Many years ago this people received a message through the Spirit of Prophecy, from which we quote:

"O, how we need the Divine presence. For the baptism of the Holy Spirit every worker should be breathing out his prayers to God. Companies should be gathered together to call upon God for special help, for heavenly wisdom, that the people of God may know how to plan and devise and execute the work. Especially should men pray that the Lord will choose His agents, and baptize His missionaries with His Holy Spirit."

Spec. Test. to Ministers, No. 2, p. 19.

The publishing convention, followed by the division council, are very important occasions for Inter-America. Decisions of far reaching effect will be made, and we have great need indeed of the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide the delegates in attendance at these meetings. We therefore invite our workers in the field, and all our churches and companies to call upon the Lord for special help on behalf of those who shall be gathered at these meetings. K.

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If we follow in Christ's footsteps, we must come close to those who need our ministry. We must open the Bible to the understanding, present the claims of God's law, read the promises to the hesitating, arouse the careless, strengthen the weak."—*Gospel Workers, p. 336.*

Aztec Union Mission

D. A. PARSONS Supt.
M. R. BATTEE Secy.-Treas.
Office Address: 4a. Calle Querétaro
No. 74, México, D. F., México

Pastor C. P. Martin, superintendent of the Guatemala Mission, writes of having just come in touch with two native workers in South Mexico who had been cut off from their own headquarters by the revolution. Although deprived of their regular support for several months, and having to endure other hardships, they had not wearied in well doing, and God had wrought through them. In one place five had been baptized and fifteen others were awaiting baptism in the near future.

Pastor D. A. Parsons, superintendent of the Aztec Union, writes of conditions in Mexico as being serious, yet at the same time very hopeful. He says: "Many are awaiting baptism and they must have attention. One of our workers has twenty-five candidates waiting. Twenty-five have signed a pleading letter, asking us to send some one to their town to teach them the truth about the Sabbath and the second coming of Christ."

In another letter, Brother Parsons says, "You will be pleased to hear how our Mexican school is progressing during these days of war and trouble. There are, I believe, forty-four students. More than thirty of these stay in the school home. Other students will come in a few days. All except four or five are of mature age—by this I mean from seventeen to thirty years old; and several of them give us great hope that in time they will develop into steady workers for the cause. One thing about our school that stands out to the view of all is the order, harmony, and good will that pervades each class room, the home, and the grounds. Thus far every student has paid his or her own way—no debts being incurred. Our students are covering this city with books, papers, and tracts; soon our printing press will be in full swing, and that will greatly help us with funds.

From Honduras, which is also suffering from one of its periodic revolutions, come messages indicating the Father's care of His own and of His work. Our office building in San Pedro, from which our work in that mission field is administered, bears marks of a former revolution; but so far, our workers and believers there have been protected from danger. In a letter just received from

Pastor E. E. Beddoe, superintendent of that field, he says:

"We have been having quite a time here with the revolution. Our mail, telegraph, and telephone service has been cut off for about a month. But now that the rebels have won in this part of Honduras, our mail service has been re-established. Sabbath seventy sacks of mail came to San Pedro. We received a telegram from the school yesterday, saying that everything there is all right. This was the first time we were able to hear from them since the war started. Considerable damage was done by fire here in San Pedro; and over in La Ceiba thirteen blocks were destroyed; but I understand that our church, mission home, and the homes of our believers there are all safe."

"The Lord has gone before us into one large section of independent Indians—that is, Indians owning their property—," writes Pastor Ellis P. Howard, who has charge of the Salvador Mission. "And," he continues, "the way is opening for our work in a marvelous manner among these Indians, who live about twenty-five miles from San Salvador. A number of them are keeping the Sabbath, and following all the light as far as they know it; but they have not yet heard all points of the truth. One of these Indians—the leader—is quite well-to-do for an Indian. He owns a good deal of land and two houses in San Pedro, only a league from his home. He has offered to fit up a room for us to hold meetings in, without charge. If we will come into their community to conduct a school, they will help erect the building. We should not fail to step into this opening. If it develops as I think it will, we should be ready to buy a little piece of land and establish our first country school there. They are a very humble people, and yet bright, and I believe the Lord will do a wonderful work among them. Truly the Lord is going before us, preparing the hearts of the people, and if we will but follow and step into the openings, many souls will be won to the cause."

Caribbean Union Mission

W. E. BAXTER Supt.
C. E. KNIGHT Secy.-Treas.
Office Address: Apartado 136, Caracas,
Venezuela

"We had a profitable and interesting trip into the interior," writes Brother Baxter, Union superintendent. "The Lord is going before us in a most remarkable way in that part. Our workers

are finding many people who keep the Sabbath. When I was over there this time, I asked Brother Diaz about what per cent of the people he thought were keeping the Sabbath, and he told me that in some river districts more than fifty per cent were doing so. When asked why they keep the Sabbath, some say that a man who passed up the river from San Fernando, told them that it was wrong to work on the Sabbath. Others seem to have read some of our literature. At any rate the matter is quite interesting, and causes us to realize that *something far from the ordinary is taking place.*

"We are at a loss to know just how we are going to follow up the work that is going before us. These people who keep the Sabbath are glad for the rest of the truth when our workers carry it to them. They are anxious to become members of the church as soon as possible. One of the first things that they do, when they begin to keep the Sabbath, is to quit smoking, and then they give up the use of pork. I cannot explain what is going on; but I do know that it

is a call for us to make haste with the work."

Brother Byrd Bullard writes: "I have just received a letter from Brother Greenidge about the great success of his school in Camaguan. He has at present forty-eight students enrolled. This keeps him busy night and day nearly. He states that many of these students are from Catholic families. Some of them learned that it was wrong to eat hog meat, so when at their tables they refuse to eat it, telling their parents that it is unclean. Brother Greenidge is an excellent teacher, and the fame of his school is going far and near."

BROTHER J. D. WOOD, of Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, writes: "We have just had a splendid convention in Port-of-Spain in which the Missionary Volunteers have pledged that where they sold 3,000 Morning Watch Calendars this year they will try to sell 10,000 next year. On New Year's morning we had a five o'clock meeting in all of our churches, and during the rest of the day we had a Morning Watch Calendar campaign. The calendars did go. They ran clean bare at the office. Was not that fine?"

Antillian Union Mission

J. A. LELAND - - - - Supt.
A. P. CHRISTIANSEN - - - Secy.-Treas.
G. D. RAFF - - - - Field Miss. Secy.
Office Address: Corrales 2-A, Havana,
Cuba

From Porto Rico, the superintendent, Pastor H. E. Baasch, sends this word of cheer: "The work is onward in Porto Rico. Interests are springing up in many places. What we need is men and means."

From Jamaica another very encouraging report of progress has come. "Recently I visited a district in the western part of the island where our ministers have never preached the message," writes Pastor C. E. Wood, the conference president, "and there I found twenty-five keeping the Sabbath as the result of the work of laymen in a nearby church. On this trip I visited three or four churches for the first time that have been raised up in this way. In fact, so many churches are being raised up in different parts of the island, that it is difficult to visit them and keep in touch with the work that is developing so rapidly. This movement is surely an indication that the Lord by His Spirit is mightily co-operating with the efforts that are put forth."

In speaking of conditions in the South Caribbean Conference, Pastor H. J. Edmed, who has charge of this field, writes: "The people are crowding into our meetings wherever I go, and many are taking their stand for the truth." It appears that in every part angels of the Lord have gone before us and prepared the hearts of many for the truth that is so dear to all of us.

In another recent letter Pastor C. E. Wood writes: As a partial result of Elder Hurdon's tent effort in Kingston, about thirty have already decided to obey. Prospects are bright for a harvest of souls as the result of this effort. A wonderful interest to hear the truth is developing in every part of the island. We cannot begin to keep up with the calls. These are encouraging omens for they indicate that the finishing of the work is just before us."

Brother P. J. Bailey writes: "From the second largest town in this Island (Jamaica) the M. V. Secretary wrote that as a result of their work in the country district six miles out of town, eight have begun to keep the Sabbath. The work was started by a Sunday school, the parents later becoming interested as their children were worked

(Continued on page 7)

REPORT OF TITHE AND TRUST FUNDS REPORTED TO THE DIVISION OFFICE FOR THE YEAR 1923

	Antillian	Aztec	Caribbean	Totals
TITHE OF TITHE	4,006.95	1,339.91	2,947.42	8,790.42
MISSIONS	21,773.95	7,924.36	20,228.02	49,926.33
Annual Offerings	463.75	111.73	556.40	1,131.88
Harvest Ingathering	6,716.84	1,343.10	7,529.06	15,589.00
Midsummer	34.20	15.91	11.26	61.37
Missions	871.27	397.27	781.58	2,050.12
Sabbath School	9,259.85	4,463.33	6,120.64	19,843.82
Thirteenth Sabbath	3,570.21	1,091.08	3,642.82	8,304.11
Week of Sacrifice	770.76	291.47	1,036.37	2,098.60
Big Week	34.62	203.10	381.95	619.67
Miscellaneous	52.45	7.37	167.94	227.26
SUSTENTATION	2,015.89	670.04	1,492.09	4,178.02
TOTALS	27,796.79	9,934.31	24,667.53	62,894.77

A study of the financial report by Unions reveals some interesting features. The tithe has increased in each section keeping pace with the increase in the number of believers. We feel certain that, barring unusual contingencies, the same ratio of increase will be noted for the current year. The increase in tithes in the Antillian Union approximates \$7,607.00, while for the Aztec Union it was \$848.00, and for the Caribbean Union, \$5,233.00.

We have listed the Mission Offerings showing the channels thru which the

total was gathered. There was an encouraging gain in Mission offerings over the previous year, about \$2,000 of this coming thru the Harvest Ingathering, and over \$5,000 thru the Sabbath schools. It is thus evident that these two channels present our best mediums for reaching our goals for Missions.

It is interesting to note the per capita tithe paid by Unions, which is as follows: Antillian, \$10.40; Aztec, \$14.04; Caribbean, \$8.82. The weekly standard for Mission funds reached by Unions is as follows: Antillian, 10 cts.; Aztec, 16 cts.; and Caribbean, 11.6 cts. K.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

H. C. KEPHART - - - - - *Manager*, Central Amer. Branch, Pacific Press Pub. Assn.
 S. E. KELLMAN - - - - - *Secretary*, Division Publishing Department

PUBLISHING HOUSE REPORTS

BY INVITATION of our Division officers, the Central American Branch will utilize a portion of the space of the INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER for broadcasting its reports to the workers in this field. With the Division organ going to all the workers in Inter-America, our publishing house news and reports will thus be sent to all to whom our *Promoter* has been addressed in the past, and in a more satisfactory, readable form than has been the case with our mimeographed news letters.

Believing that all our people appreciate the very important place our literature work holds, we feel sure the publishing house section of the MESSENGER will be read with as much interest as will the reports of the other departments of our division organization. We invite our literature workers to pass on for publication items of interest and progress coming to their attention, that all may hear of the success that God is giving this branch of His work.

The message in printed form must receive far greater attention in all parts of our field. The power of God is back of His literature, and rightly handled, the books, papers, and tracts presenting the third angel's message will wield a wonderful influence. We are inclined to bemoan the dearth of laborers. Instead we should make still greater use of the silent messengers of truth, and call upon God to bless the work of these silent preachers. Increased circulation of all forms of our gospel literature will bring growth in every field. It is a work that worker and lay member alike can foster.

We solicit the united prayers of fellow workers that God's prospering hand may be upon the preparation and circulation of literature in Inter-America.

WHAT IS THE TROUBLE?

THE PROMOTER sent out under date of March 30, contained a report of book and tract sales for the first quarter of 1924, amounting to \$13,400. During the same period of 1923, the sales were in excess of \$36,700. Why the great difference? Is something wrong?

Perhaps something is wrong. It surely is not right that this work should retard.

As to the chief cause of the shortage, we are hardly prepared to say. We do know that Mexico has been marking time recently, partly because of revolutionary conditions, partly because she has been without a field leader, so that the purchases of books this year are but a small fraction of what they were the first part of 1923. We know, too, that Porto Rico secured about eight times as much literature during the first three months of 1923 as in the same period of 1924. Porto Rico also is without a field leader at present. We also know

that to all the rest of our territory sales are holding very even with the 1923 records.

Of course we are not pleased to see a record so much smaller than last year's. However, it does not necessarily mean that we are going to accomplish less this year than last. For five of the twelve months of 1923 the sales to Mexico totalled only about \$1,000 in all. Just about \$13,000 of the total of nearly \$14,000 sales to Porto Rico last year were made in five of the twelve months. With a reviving of the colporteur work in these two fields later this year, the present discrepancy can be made up, and probably will be. Moreover, the effort being put forth in different fields to clean out accumulated stock will naturally result in smaller purchases of new stock for a time. So we are not discouraged. We believe that 1924 records

EL CENTINELA CIRCULATION, MARCH, 1924

Our "Good News" magazine for March records a small gain in circulation over the preceding issue, a gain to which several of the fields contribute a little. Let the good work continue. Remember, our goal is 20,000 copies per month.

The leading field, Cuba, now just under five thousand copies of the entire thirteen thousand, holds a very conspicuous place in the list, seventy of the 146 galley lengths of single subscriptions being packed with Cuban addresses. It is a good example of what the fruitage of the "Combination Plan" might become if followed in all the fields as definitely as in Cuba. We might add that aside from the nearly 2,000 single subscriptions now in the Cuban list, that field has also bulk orders totaling more than the combined circulation in any Union [not counting Cuba's figure in the Antillian total, of course]. We may therefore be pardoned for praising that field quite often, for they are truly doing a splendid work with *El Centinela*.

Cuba	4,998	Colombia	1,506
Haiti	5	South Caribbean	9
Jamaica	8	Venezuela	821
Porto Rico	1,261	West Caribbean	571
<i>Antillian Union</i>	6,272	<i>Caribbean Union</i>	2,907
Guatemala	403	<i>United States</i>	990
Honduras	108	<i>Philippines</i>	59
Mexico	1,703	<i>Misc. Foreign</i>	21
Salvador	552	TOTAL CIRCULATION	13,015
<i>Aztec Union</i>	2,766	Circulation, Mar. 1923	8,200
(Increase in Circulation, 58.7%)		GAIN	4,815

WANTED — Additional *El Centinela* agents; more colporteurs to adopt the "Combination Plan;" and boosters for the "Good News" magazine. How many will join in the good work?

Circulation Goal—20,000 Copies per Month

as a whole will show up very favorably with those of 1923.

We have been told that this work should be carried forward with increasing success. This we are trying to do. We believe God will bless our efforts.

THE BIG WEEK

"Literature in every tongue" is now the motto of the people. The publishing department is definitely committed to such a program, and the entire denomination is glad to assist in the worthy undertaking. A budget of nearly \$130,000 for Mission presses for 1924 has been adopted, and preparations are being made, the world over, to strike another telling blow in favor of the Missions Publishing Fund.

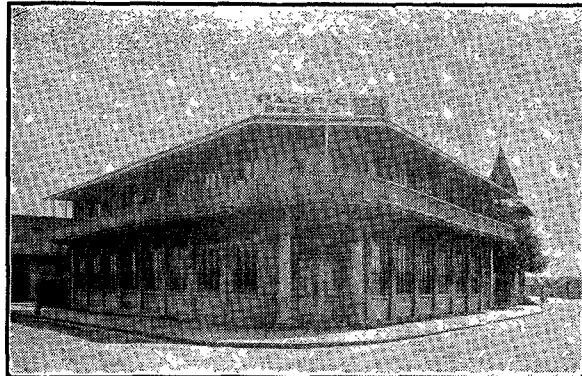
1924		APRIL					1924	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

Big Week, April 19-26, is the appointed time for this year's special effort. The individual goal is \$2.00, and wherever possible, our people are encouraged to provide this much help from the sale of literature. If not possible to engage in work with literature, the equivalent of a day's wage at regular employment may be substituted. Colporteurs, publishing house employees, all other workers, and in fact all church members are cordially invited to accept a share in the task of equipping Mission presses the world over. Help provide gospel literature in every tongue.

BOOKMEN'S CONVENTION SOON

JULY 15-22 will find, we trust, every tract society secretary and field missionary secretary of Inter-America in the chapel here at the Central American Branch. That is the time set for the Convention. We know of no occasion for which our friends, with us, should seek God with more earnestness than for the success of the meeting of "Bookmen," to be held here in July. We greatly need an abundance of heavenly power to accomplish the work before us. From now on, we invite the workers in all of Inter-America to unite in asking God to prepare us for the great

The Central American factory branch of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, stands on a busy and convenient corner of Cristobal, Canal Zone. This is the home of the Spanish magazine, *El Centinela*. It is the distributing point for Seventh-day Adventist books and tracts for all Inter-America. In this building will be held the Bookmen's Convention in July.



task ahead. In some way we must plan to carry the gospel in an effective manner to the millions within our borders.

THE WARFARE

"The warfare has been left in our hands by our great Leader for us to carry forward with vigor." *Test. Vol. 3, page 406.*

Thus the Spirit of the Lord speaks to us concerning our task as a people. The work of salvation is the Lord's but after completing his sacrifice on Calvary, He ascended into heaven to continue His mediatorial work in the heavenly sanctuary and has left the actual warfare on earth—winning of souls—with His people. Wonderful privilege to be thus honored by the Saviour of mankind!

In the Big Week campaign, April 19 to 26, a splendid opportunity is given us to engage in a great united work, designed to be a blessing in a threefold way to the cause, for it will bring great good to the Foreign Missions Publishing work; it will bless your local work in winning converts thru your efforts in circulating the books and other literature; and moreover it will greatly bless you as you go out in a personal way and engage in the warfare. Every worker will take part in the campaign this year in Inter-America, and with such consecrated leadership, we surely will be blessed of God with encouraging results.

But with the Big Week campaign in the past, we must not slacken our efforts. Many of our conferences and missions are perfecting their plans for the new Harvest Ingathering campaign for 1924. These periodic seasons of united effort, under the blessing of God, are producing wonderful results, both in souls saved and means to strengthen the foreign mission work. Could we but catch a vision of the interest heaven takes in these divinely directed movements, none would fail in entering with whole-hearted ardor in the work. While the "warfare has

been left in our hands by our great Leader," heavenly angels are commissioned to give their aid in all these plans for saving lost souls.

"Heavenly angels have long been waiting for human agents—the members of the church—to cooperate with them in the great work to be done. They are waiting for you."—*Test. Vol. 9, p. 46.*

When the returns are all in for 1923, we shall see that some 1100 souls were baptized into this Message last year. Facing a population of 40,000,000 people in our division, we must get more earnestly under the burden of carrying the evangel of truth to them to bring them deliverance from their errors and sins. Our force of workers, ministers and colporteurs, number only 305, and so it will be impossible for this small band to compass the great task of reaching 40,000,000. But with our membership of 8,500 believers, we are better able to measure with our undertaking. The warfare was not left to the apostolate alone, but every believer willingly got under the burden imposed by the Master. So it must be today. Our hope of success in reaching our forty millions lies in training and enlisting every believer for service.

"God calls upon every church member to enter His service. . . . Every one must learn to work, and to stand in his place as a burden-bearer. Every addition to the church should be one more agency for the carrying out of the great plan of redemption."—*Test. Vol. 9, p. 30.*

"The final movements will be rapid ones," is the warning of Inspiration. We have not much time to lose. Every conference and mission leader, must like wise generals, plan now to utilize every available resource for finishing the warfare in triumph. One fourth of the year is past, but almost three fourths is still with us to use for the glory of God.

"The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take

place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones." *Test Vol, 9, p. 11.*

"Wickedness is reaching a height never before attained, and yet many ministers of the gospel are crying 'peace and safety.' But God's faithful messengers are to go steadily forward with their work. Clothed with the panoply of heaven, they are to advance fearlessly and victoriously, never ceasing their warfare until every soul within their reach shall have received the message of truth for this time."—*Acts of the Apostles, p. 220.*

S. E. KELLMAN.

SHALL IT BE A BANNER YEAR?

Fifty years ago Seventh-day Adventists launched their foreign missionary enterprise, when Elder J. N. Andrews set sail for Europe. How fitting that we should make this jubilee year count for much in the finishing of the work in this division! The marvelous way in which God has prospered our denominational activity, until we are now operating in almost every part of the world, calls for deep gratitude and a new and unconditional surrender for the finishing of the task committed to our hands. And if this year adequately expresses our gratitude and consecration, will it not be a banner year in our service for the King? Will it not be a banner year in the history of the Third Angel's Message in this division?

First let us make this the best year that our united prayers can make it. How well I remember one day years ago. About five thousand young people were assembled in a large massive auditorium. We were listening to an earnest appeal for consecrated effort in soul winning work, and to a stirring exhortation to make the most of the great missionary convention in which we were assembled. Quietly, but very earnestly came the penetrating words of the speaker: "The most obscure delegate in this room," he said very slowly, "may hinder our getting the blessing that we should receive."

That sentence is all I remember of the service. But it was to me a veritable storehouse of truth from which have dropped seed thoughts all along the way in the furrow of life. And somehow as I look out upon our field this jubilee year of our missionary advance, it comes back to me with all the force of the years behind it. Friends, the most obscure worker in our ranks of soul winners may hinder others from making this year reach the highest possible standard of efficiency in service. I may do it! You may!

But on the other hand, the most obscure worker, may be the somewhat hidden channel through which God will pour out many of His choicest blessings this year. There comes to my mind the experience of a certain church. It was visited with a remarkable spiritual revival. Naturally minds sought the source through which the Spirit had stirred hearts. And soon it was learned that a poor lonely shut-in who could not leave her bed had been praying night and day for an out-pouring of His Spirit—for just the blessing that had come.

Prayer is still the key, in the hands of faith, to heaven's storehouse! The prayer of him whose heart is fully surrendered to God still "availeth much"! We have abundant evidences of this in our great field. Truly these are but the reminders of the great fact that we should "expect great things from God and attempt great things for God" during 1924. We must pray this gospel over mountains of opposition; through walls of indifference; and into hearts of Egyptian darkness. What prayer has done, prayer can do.

Then we can help to make this the banner year in our missionary work by making it a year of banner giving. Our Sabbath schools have done nobly! So have our Missionary Volunteer Societies! So have our churches and companies everywhere. But one reward of work well done is ability to do still better work. Perhaps some of us can get along without a few of the things we should like to buy! And whether we make this our best year in giving will depend largely on the self-denial we practice. God calls us to make a covenant with Him thru sacrifice during 1924. To finish the work we have before us, we must advance upon our knees; and to do this, we must leave behind many things we should otherwise enjoy. Thus and only thus can we make 1924 a banner year.

But there is still another way in which we all stand ready, I am sure, to pledge our support to the united effort of making this a banner year. It is in the matter of training recruits. We have a host of splendid young people from the islands of the east to the extreme western coast line. Many of these young people have already done much in God's service. But somehow, as I realize that the needs of the hour demand still more of them; and as I recall that "the Lord has appointed the youth to be His helping hand," a feeling of solemnity rests upon me.

Since the youth are the Lord's "helping hand," do we not face a most solemn duty of training that hand well

for service? God has greatly blessed your efforts to do this in the past, but shall we not pledge ourselves to still greater endeavors during the present year? The Morning Watch, the Bible Year, the Standard of Attainment, and the Reading Courses are all designed to help build them up and fit them for the soul winning work they are called to do. Many are pressing towards these goals of proficiency; but all should be making progress; for the truth is heaven's great gift to men, and our youth must learn to give it in the very best way!

And now let us individually face the question quietly: What will 1924 be if every worker works just like me? Will it be banner year? Can the Master count on you and on me to do our best from day to day? May God help us to learn more fully this year than ever before that there is no limit to the usefulness of him who putting self aside makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit; for truly,

"The work that centuries might have done

Must crowd the hour of setting sun."

Mrs. E. E. A.

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

(Continued from page 4)

for. In one of our country churches our young people started a Sunday school about seven miles away. Today they are holding gospel meetings for the adults; doors are wide open to receive the message and the messengers, and prospects are bright for a rich harvest of souls."

"Our watchword is to be, Onward, ever onward!"

The INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER

Organ of the Inter-American Division
of the General Conference of Seventh
day Adventists

DIVISION OFFICERS:

E. E. ANDROSS - - - Chairman
S. E. KELLMAN - - - Secy.-Treasurer

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NEWS ITEMS

Friday, April 11, Pastor S. E. Kellman, the division secretary-treasurer and auditor, sailed from Cristobal for Porto Rico via Curacao. He will spend such time as may be necessary auditing the books of the Porto Rican Mission. After a brief visit to Santo Domingo he will proceed to Haiti where he will attend to the auditing work of that mission. From there he will cross to Jamaica and continue his work as auditor, later assisting at the biennial conference sessions.

Having had a long experience in general mission work as well as in executive lines, Brother Kellman's visit to these fields will be a source of inspiration, and will be generally helpful wherever he goes.

If the Lord wills, May 15, Pastor E. E. Andross, will sail from Cristobal for Tela, Honduras, where he will be met by Pastors E. E. Beddoe, superintendent of the Honduras Mission, and D. A. Parsons, superintendent of the Aztec Union. After visiting the churches on the north coast of Honduras they will proceed to San Pedro Sula, the headquarters of the mission.

Brother Parsons planned to spend about three months in the southern end of that union visiting the three local missions prior to the council of the union committee that is to convene at San Pedro Sula May 23. On account of the revolutions in Mexico and Honduras this plan had to be modified. It looks now, however, as if he will be able to spend a short time in the south before the union committee meeting.

Following the meeting of the Aztec Union committee Pastor Andross will sail from Tela for the Antillian Union to attend the biennial meeting of the Jamaica Conference, June 12-22, and also the meeting of the union committee to be held in Jamaica in connection with their general meeting. Pastor Kellman will also be present to join with the members of the union committee in counsel.

A meeting of the Caribbean Union committee will be held, the Lord willing, in connection with the division committee meeting, July 22-29, at Balboa, following the Bookmen's Convention at Cristobal.

These meetings will be of great importance to the work throughout the

division. We are expecting new inspiration and new power to come to the workers throughout the entire field, as well as more effective plans to be developed, from the closer union and counsel of the leaders of each field.

Since arriving at Balboa we have endeavored to render all the help possible in the local work. We found quite a strong church at Panama City, a small but very earnest church at Pueblo Nuevo, about four miles out of Panama, also a small company of believers at La Boca. Beside there is a company of Spanish believers that meet each Sabbath afternoon in the Panama church.

Two baptismal classes are meeting weekly preparatory for baptism. The interest in the truth is deepening and extending. Our own people are very responsive to every effort to build up their spiritual life. Their love for the fundamental truths of the message is very ardent, and they are earnestly endeavoring to mould their lives into perfect conformity to its holy principles.

It has been our happy privilege to visit the church at Colon and at the Training School a few times. In each place the same sweet spirit of unity prevails, as we found on the Pacific side of the isthmus, the same love for the truth, and the same aggressive spirit. At Cristobal the work for the English-speaking people is making progress under the leadership of Brother A. Grizzle, and for the Spanish with the assistance of Brother and Sister Johnson. Brother Johnson is kept very busy with his editorial work, but still he finds time to do personal work for the Spanish people who have had so little done for them hitherto. The outlook for the work in these parts is very bright. With the increase of spiritual power that will come with increased devotion, and with efficient leadership for the work in the large Spanish population that has not yet been touched the work in this part of the field will develop very rapidly.

E. E. ANDROSS.

NOTES FROM THE PRESS

A TRIBE of Valiente Indians living on the North coast of Panama, not far from here, are soon to have a portion of the Scriptures in their native tongue, for we are preparing the Gospel of Matthew in Spanish and in this Indian dialect for the American Bible Society. This gospel will be the first piece of literature in printed form in this particular language. Thus the Word of God advances. May it find a place in the hearts of many of the Indians who may learn to read the gospel in their own language.

IT IS OUR PRIVILEGE occasionally to render some assistance to our brethren on Pitcairn Island. From their isolated spot of land out in the Pacific come frequent remittances of trust funds, which we are glad to receive from the hands of accommodating masters of vessels calling at Pitcairn on their way from Australia to Europe via the Canal. Just a few days ago a remittance came in from Brother M. E. McCoy, treasurer of the Pitcairn church, for more than \$40.00, which with earlier sums made a total of \$64.00 sent from there for the European and Japanese Relief Fund. Though so far away from us, Pitcairn's post office is Cristobal—the very one we call ours. We almost feel that the Pitcairn Island belongs to this field.

OBITUARY

SISTER EDMED, wife of Pastor Herbert J. Edmed, president of the South Caribbean Conference, fell asleep in Jesus February 13, at her home in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

Sister Edmed's battle with disease lasted over fifteen months, and while at times it seemed as if she might be victor in the conflict, yet all the time there was a steady undermining of her strength.

Her life was a beautiful illustration of what the grace of God will do for one who is fully surrendered to His will. She has filled a great place in the work of God, silently devoting all her life energies to its furtherance in almost every department of the Cause of Truth she loved unto the end. Through all the years of strenuous labor in Africa, in England, and in the West Indies she faithfully labored by the side of her husband. To the last she maintained her interest in the Cause of God, revealing her undiminished faith in the early triumph of the last message of mercy, and in the end, passed peacefully away, fully persuaded that the blessed Hope is a reality, and that the tomb is but a brief resting place.

The day following her death she was laid to rest amidst a great demonstration of love and respect. The MESSENGER family unite in assuring Brother Edmed and his family of our deepest sympathy and of our prayers. Every such sad experience causes us to long more deeply for the coming of that triumphant day when the Son of God will burst the fetters of the tomb, and when the broken links in the family chain will be reunited. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

E. E. A.