

# INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER

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## Lest We Forget

*Lest thou forget.* Frequently these words were employed by God in His admonitions to His people. They so quickly forgot the marvelous manifestations of His goodness and mercy to them!

"And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day? Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons." Deut. 4:9.

But ancient Israel were no more inclined to forget than are His people today. Every week the command, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," comes to us with renewed emphasis; and yet the whole world has forgotten God, while only the remnant of His people are mindful of His goodness, and obedient to His commands.

But the Lord says to us today: "Take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen."

God has been, and is now, doing things before our eyes which are truly marvelous; but yet we so soon forget, or else we fail to recognize the finger of God in what is being accomplished. Knowing how soon we forget, the Lord assures us that He "is not unrighteous to forget" the "work and labor of love, which" His people "have showed toward His name." Heb. 6:10. If it would be unrighteous for God to forget our "work and labor of love" "showed toward His name," how much more must it be unrighteous for us to forget;—we who have been the recipients of the unbounded mercy and grace which God hath showed toward us, and toward His people, through Christ Jesus, our Lord and our Redeemer.

As I think of His marvelous mercy and grace which God has revealed toward His remnant people, I am con-

strained to say with the Psalmist, "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." Ps. 103:1, 2.

Beginning with the birth of the Seventh-day Adventist people in 1845, their history has been distinguished by the providential working of the Lord of Hosts. The denomination was born in obscurity, and nurtured in poverty, and yet its growth has been phenomenal. After eighteen years of incessant toil, and great hardship, its leaders could claim but 3,500 adherents. But with the passing of the years, the cause, represented by the noble, God-fearing men and women chosen by the Lord to pioneer in this last great reformation, gathered momentum till in December,

1923, the statistical report showed a membership of 221,874.

Although this denomination has now reached its eightieth year there are no evident signs of senility; but, instead of the seeds of death finding congenial soil within its bosom, the great Husbandman has watched so tenderly and constantly over it through the passing years that it has been quickened into new life and has gathered increased strength and power.

Under the guiding hand of the Lord, a marvelous system of organization has been developed that is now truly world-wide in its scope. Within this organization there are in successful operation 51 publishing houses, employing 923 laborers, and issuing 156 periodicals in 114 languages. The total sales from the publishing houses amounts to about \$40,000,000.00.

The denomination operates 1,256 primary schools, and employs 1,632 teachers, with an enrolment of 34,553 pupils. There are 122 advanced training schools with 1,314 teachers and 16,298 students enrolled. The total enrolment is 50,851.

There are 51 sanitariums and treatment rooms conducted for the specific purpose of bringing relief to the suffering, and of winning the hearts of the unconverted to the great Physician. In these institutions there are employed 241 physicians. The total number of employees is 3,077.

At the close of 1923 there were 7,292 Sabbath schools with a membership of 249,089. The same year these schools contributed to missions \$1,392,041.82. This makes a total contribution for missions from this one source alone of \$3,824.29 for every day in the year, or \$26,770.03 for each week in the year.

In 1923 there was contributed to the advancement of the Third Angel's Message \$4,814,554.87 in tithe, \$3,004,641.73 for missions, and for other purposes, \$1,337,585.35. The total offerings for that year were \$9,156,781.95. This shows a contribution for each member of the church of \$41.45. Each day of the year an average of \$25,155.99

## THE MESSAGE

*The Third Angel's Message is going,  
The lightning and steam give it flight.  
Like a huge tidal wave, overflowing  
The land with a great flood of light.  
It has deluged the earth with its papers,  
Is flooding the earth with its books,  
That shine in the darkness like tapers,  
And stream through the earth like the brooks.*

*There is nothing on earth can suppress it,  
For God gives it power from above;  
The humble find words to express it,  
With hearts all aglow with its love.  
Like a hurricane crossing the ocean,  
It storms the dark centers of sin,  
And sets the whole world in commotion,  
Yet gives peace and sweet comfort within.*

*No other work ever was equal,  
Since the day Adam first saw the sun;  
For this is the finish and sequel  
To all that has ever been done.  
Like the sun marching on in its splendor,  
Its glory enlightens the world;  
And thousands of hearts are made tender  
Where its banner of love is unfurled.*

*Heaven-born and world-wide in its nature,  
It speeds on its mission of love,  
And testifies, like its Creator,  
That men must be born from above.  
With victory perched on its banner,  
It marches through jungles untrod,  
To restore to mankind, in some manner,  
The Spirit and image of God.*

—William Brickey.

was contributed for the advancement of this cause, and for each week, \$176,091.95.

Nearly, if not quite, \$40,000,000.00 have been invested in denominational institutions. At least \$105,000,000.00 has been contributed for the propagation of this message in evangelistic lines.

The General Conference is divided into eight divisions, 54 union conferences, 146 local conferences, 150 local missions, and 5,096 churches. The Message is being proclaimed in printed form in 114 languages, and orally in 106 other languages, or in a total of 220 of earth's tongues. These include all the leading languages, and give us access to at least 90% of the world's population. Annually there are more than 20,000 candidates from these many tongues baptized into this faith.

The Message is rapidly swelling into the loud cry. Soon the work of warning the world of the coming of Jesus will have been finished; the last appeal to sinners will have been made, the last tear for the impenitent will have been shed, the last opportunity to be saved will have passed. Let us never for one moment forget the wonderful working of Divine providence that has so clearly marked out the way before us, or the fearfully solemn truths that must determine our eternal destiny.

E. E. ANDROSS.

### TRUTH, PAST OR PRESENT

Even though conditions have been constantly changing; and messages, which, at different times in the past, were especially addressed to their corresponding generations; there probably is nothing in the Bible that has not a practical lesson for these days. Nevertheless, the rapidity and multiformity of changes in present day conditions, demand alertness on the part of wise teachers to the degree that they may recognize the importance of presenting the latest evidence as proof for "the reason of the hope that is within us."

"Truth is eternal, but its effluence

With endless change is fitted to the hour."

I think this fact is apparent to the intelligence of our people who have heard many sermons based upon the well-known text in 2 Pet. 1:12. Not long ago we could refer to certain happenings in the world that seemed to substantiate perfectly our position with reference to the fulfillment of prophecy, and the shortness of time; but now even those may be discarded, and we can come still closer to the present

date for such evidence. In fact we are obliged to do this, as fatalities and catastrophies crowd fast upon each other, so that, as modern warships, with new developments, are soon in the discard, the matters of but a short time ago fail to interest.

The necessity of knowing when certain phases of present truth are applicable, and that we must be sure of our ground when making the application, is well illustrated by the story of a gentleman in Scotland, who, while walking in the country, met a farmer's boy. While speaking to the boy at the roadside, the gentleman remarked: "I saw a fox go into that hole." As he was passing the same place later on he saw the boy digging in the embankment. Wiping the sweat from his face, he asked, "Didn't you say that you saw a fox go into that hole?" "I certainly did," replied the gentleman. "Well, I cannot find him! When did you see him go in?" "Oh, about a year ago." The truth was told, but it was not adapted to that moment. What he said would have been of more value the previous year.

In calling attention to the fulfillment of prophecies pointing to the last days, we need not use altogether the evidence of many years back as proof of our position. Unusual horrors are produced by the elements, continued distrust exists among the nations, false teachings seem to thrive in the religious world, but best of all proofs, additional languages and tongues now being reached by the gospel message furnish fresh evidence that the end is near. How the great earthquakes of recent years gave opportunity in their several localities for the application of prophecy! But it was necessary to "begin digging for the fox" at once in order to take advantage of the opportunity. Calamities are occurring in many localities still, and they afford a means of reaching the people of those districts with present truth. How varied the nature of the calamities and in so many countries! As they visit many portions of the world, all may know their significance. Let us adapt the interpretation of them to that phase of present truth which makes known Jesus' coming, and do it before the events are forgotten.

C. E. KNIGHT.

### APRIL 5-11

April 5-11! Do not forget that this is the week set apart by our Division for a sacrificial offering to missions. It is expected that all our workers will

unite in this offering of one week's salary.

If conditions make it impossible to give the entire salary for one week, give such portion as you are able now, and the rest in weekly or monthly instalments till a sum equal to the week's salary has been given. This is to be in addition to the regular weekly offerings to missions, and should be specifically designated when made.

We invite all our dear people to join us in this week of sacrifice. Whatever your income for this week may be, let it be set apart sacredly as a special offering to missions. If it is your weekly wage, make that as an offering to missions in addition to your other offerings. If you have an income from a banana or other plantation, from a garden, from fowls, or from any other source, dedicate this to God.

First, set apart one tenth as tithe, then the nine-tenths left after the tithe has been taken out will be the amount of your offering to missions for the Week of Sacrifice.

Our brethren and sisters throughout the world are asked to join in this offering of one week's salary or other income; and many are doing so at great personal sacrifice. Our heavenly Father will not be unmindful of this sacrifice, but will place His special blessing upon such an offering, and upon the donor.

It is hoped that the returns from the Week of Sacrifice this year will make it possible to strengthen our force of workers in the fields most needing additional help. If this paper reaches you after the week designated has passed, and you have not taken part, consider this as a special invitation to you to join your brethren and sisters in this offering, even though the particular week set apart for that purpose has passed. If your church has not observed this week, set the matter before the members and invite all to set apart a later week for this purpose.

While you consecrate your offerings and yourselves to God, do not forget to pray for our missionaries, that their health may be preserved, that they may be delivered from all danger, and that they may be endowed with the power of the Holy Spirit in their labors. God will hear the "instant and earnest prayers" offered by the church in behalf of His devoted servants.

At the same time the faithful watchmen will carry on their hearts a heavy burden for the churches, while day and night their prayers ascend to God for the peace and prosperity of Jerusalem. (Isa. 62:1-7; Ps. 122.) E. E. ANDROSS.



# WORKERS' ROUND TABLE

FOR STUDYING OUR MUTUAL PROBLEMS

## LEADERSHIP—PART II

1. *The higher the position a man has the greater is his need to depend upon God:—*

"Those who today occupy positions of trust should seek to learn the lesson taught by Solomon's prayer. The higher a position a man occupies, the greater the responsibility that he has to bear, the wider will be the influence that he exerts, and the greater his need of dependence on God."—*"Prophets and Kings," p. 30.*

2. *Why the work does not advance as it should, under the direction of some leaders:—*

"Today, as in the days of Christ, God cannot do many mighty works because of the unbelief of those who stand in responsible positions. The converting power of God is needed before they will understand the Word of God, and be willing to humble themselves before Him as learners."—*"Counsels to Teachers," p. 374.*

3. *The lesson that leaders must learn, to be successful in their work:—*

"Those who, standing in the forefront of the conflict, are impelled by the Holy Spirit to do a special work, will frequently feel a reaction when the pressure is removed. Despondency may shake the most heroic faith, and weaken the most steadfast will. But God understands, and He still pities and loves. He reads the motives and the purposes of the heart. To wait patiently, to trust when every thing looks dark, is the lesson that the leaders in God's work need to learn. Heaven will not fail them in their day of adversity. Nothing is apparently more helpless, yet really more invincible, than the soul that feels its nothingness, and relies wholly on God."—*"Prophets and Kings," pp. 174, 175.*

4. *Results of unfaithfulness of leaders:—*

"Not until the day of final accounts, will it be known how great is the responsibility of men in holy office, and how terrible are the results of their unfaithfulness."—*"Great Controversy," p. 640.*

5. *Men that God sets aside from being leaders:—*

"When men exalt themselves, feeling that they are a necessity for the success of God's great plan, the Lord causes them to be set aside. It is made evident that the Lord is not dependent upon them. The work does not stop because of their removal from it, but goes forward with greater power."—*"Desire of Ages," p. 436.*

6. *The danger of self-confidence in leaders:—*

"The Lord can work most effectually through those who are most sensible of their own insufficiency, and who will rely upon Him as their leader and source of strength. He will make them strong by uniting their weakness to His might, and wise by connecting their ignorance with His wisdom.

"If they would cherish true humility, the Lord could do much more for His people; but

there are few who can be trusted with any large measure of responsibility or success without becoming self-confident, and forgetful of their dependence upon God."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 553, 554.*

7. *The reason some men do not advance and become strong leaders:—*

"Many never attain to the position that they might occupy, because they wait for God to do for them that which He has given them power to do for themselves. All who are fitted for usefulness must be trained by the severest mental and moral discipline; and God will assist them by uniting divine power with human effort."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 248.*

8. *The kind of men who are not to be leaders:—*

"The time has come when, in the name and strength of God, the church must act for the good of souls and for the honor of God. A lack of firm faith and of discernment in sacred things should be regarded as sufficient to debar any man from connection with the work of God. So also the indulgence of a quick temper, a harsh, overbearing spirit, reveals that its possessor should not be placed where he will be called to decide weighty questions that affect God's heritage. A passionate man should have no part to act in dealing with human minds. He cannot be trusted to shape matters which have a relation to those whom Christ has purchased at an infinite price. If he undertakes to manage men, he will hurt and bruise their souls; for he has not the fine touch, the delicate sensibility, which the grace of Christ imparts. His own heart needs to be softened, subdued by the Spirit of God; the heart of stone has not become a heart of flesh."—*"Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers," p. 261.*

"I am instructed to say that those who would tear down the foundation that God has laid are not to be accepted as the teachers and leaders of His people. We are to hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end."—*"Series B," No. 7, p. 41.*

"No man is to be trusted with high responsibilities who does not take himself in hand daily, and through the grace given, set his heart in order."—*"Review & Herald," April 10, 1900.*

9. *Leaders not to be dictatorial and think their judgment infallible:—*

"I must speak to my brethren nigh and afar off. I cannot hold my peace. They are not working on correct principles. Those who stand in responsible positions must not feel that their position of importance makes them men of infallible judgment.

"The Lord has not placed any one of His human agencies under the dictation and control of those who are themselves but erring mortals. He has not placed upon men the power to say, 'You shall do this, and you shall not do that.'"—*"Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers," p. 347.* C. V. ACHENBACH.

I have seen an angel standing with scales in his hands, weighing the thoughts and interest of the people of God, especially the young. In one scale were the thoughts and interest tending heavenward; in the other were the thoughts and interest tending to earth. And in this scale were thrown all the reading of story-books, thoughts of dress and show, vanity, pride, etc. Oh what a solemn thought! Mrs. E. G. WHITE.

## ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

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## THE WORK PROGRESSES IN CUBA

Recently the writer spent a few days in Moron with Brother and Sister J. N. Williams. These workers have had good success in their soul-saving efforts in that place. The brethren and sisters are all of good courage, and are helping the workers with their prayers, and by personal efforts for their neighbors. This kind of work is bound to be successful.

Although these laborers have some opposition, they recognize that the Lord has put His hand to the work and will not permit any precious wheat to fall to the ground. Twelve new believers united with their Lord in baptism. These have given evidence of true repentance; and we trust and pray that they will be a great help in bringing others to a saving knowledge of the truth for these days. We expect to organize the company in Moron into a church very soon.

Down at Gaspar we visited the few brethren and were privileged to baptize two persons. These, with the rest of the brethren there, have pledged themselves to be missionaries in their neighborhood to bring others to Christ.

In Matanzas the Lord has blessed greatly the efforts of Brother Angel Arcos. Quite a number have given themselves to the Lord and are obeying His commandments. The Sabbath school attendance averages about forty. A few weeks ago we had a baptismal service in which ten followed their Lord in this ordinance. Others are in preparation; and we hope that before long we shall be able to organize a church in Matanzas.

We thank the Lord for all these newborn souls; and we ask that they be remembered in your prayers that they may be kept from the evil that is in the world. C. V. ACHENBACH.

## PRESSING ON IN SANTO DOMINGO

At present we are conducting five mission schools and employing six teachers. We believe that the school work is the opening wedge here. It gives us prestige and helps us in our Harvest Ingathering work. The people can see that we really are helping them by educating their children.

A recent letter received from Dr. E. F. Otis offers us one or two buildings

in La Romana, if we can send some one there. As yet we have no work in La Romana; and we are very anxious to send a teacher there. But we have no one; and how are we going to prepare our young people for service with no training school within our reach?

Over in Macoris Brother Hall is beginning his work. His wife is conducting a small English school; and one daughter is teaching English in our mission school in that place.

There is a good increase in our tithes and offerings for 1924; but we hope to do better still this year. WM. STEELE.

### MORE GOOD NEWS FROM JAMAICA

A few months ago a German sister of California was impressed that she should return to her native home in Jamaica to give the Message to the people in the district where she formerly resided. She followed that impression; and the Lord has greatly blessed her labors as she has visited from home to home. A company of twelve Sabbath-keepers has already been gathered out at Seaford Town as a result of her efforts; and many others are deeply concerned about their relation to the Message for this time.

The result of this sister's consecrated work reminds me of the statement on page 606 of *The Great Controversy*, which says: "Thus the Message of the third angel will be proclaimed. As the time comes for it to be given with greatest power, the Lord will work through humble instruments, leading the minds of those who consecrate themselves to His service. The laborers will be qualified rather by the unction of the Spirit than by the training of literary institutions. Men of faith and prayer will be constrained to go forth with holy zeal, declaring the words which the Lord gives them. The sins of Babylon will be laid open. The fearful results of enforcing the observances of the church by civil authority, the inroads of spiritualism, the stealthy but rapid progress of the papal power,—all will be unmasked. By these solemn warnings the people will be stirred. Thousands upon thousands will listen, who have never heard words like these."

When the writer visited the company, mentioned above, he found the whole district stirred with the Message; and, while the majority of these people are connected with the Catholic church, we confidently expect that many will take their stand under the banner of the "commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

One family, that has accepted the Message and moved to America, has given the Jamaica conference a five-acre cultivation, on the condition that we put forth definite effort to proclaim the Message to the German people of that district. We are planning to do this by establishing a school on this tract of land, and by continuing to develop the interest which has already been started.

These evidences of the working of the Spirit of God are tokens of the time just before us, when the Message will be proclaimed with great power; and they encourage us to press forward earnestly with plans for the finishing of the work in this part of the Lord's vineyard.

Mrs. Wood and I are stopping over night at a hotel; and, as I began to write this article, she said, "I believe I will get acquainted with the white lady sitting upon the veranda." As I finished the last paragraph, she returned, telling me that this lady is a German living at Seaford Town, and is a member of the Presbyterian church. When Mrs. Wood talked to her concerning some phases of the truth, she was much interested; and when she learned about our plan to establish a school at that place, she expressed anxiety to send her children to it. We look upon this experience as another indication that the Lord is pointing in that direction, and desires us to start work in this German settlement.

C. E. WOOD.

Some time ago Pastor J. A. Leland wrote: "Pastor Wood reports three new churches organized in Jamaica and forty two persons baptized on his last trip. Pastor Altman reports one new church in the Bahamas and seven baptisms."

### AZTEC UNION MISSION

D. A. PARSONS . . . . . Superintendent  
C. V. WILLIAMS . . . . . Secy.-Treas.

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D. F., Mexico

### IN SALVADOR AND HONDURAS

During the month of December I had the privilege of visiting the little republic of Salvador. I found it an interesting, go-ahead place.

The work is prospering under the leadership of Pastor E. P. Howard and Brother R. G. Jones. I was glad to meet with them and the church in the capital of Salvador.

Two sisters were at work with the books before I could get over to help them; and they had taken nearly 300

orders for *Our Day*. One had sold a copy to the wife of the president of the republic. The other was friendly with the family of the chief of police, who, with others, helped and defended her in her work.

The little school for workers at La Loma has had a good influence among the natives, who at first had no desire to sell any land to the foreigners. Now, however, they attend the school through the week, and the church services on Sabbath, and are copying our methods of farming. The business men of the capital took a special interest in this school when Brethren Jones and Howard visited them in their Harvest Ingathering work. In two days they collected more than \$300.00. This is their first effort in this line of work; and it looks as if they would reach their goal of \$500.00. We were also able to collect smaller amounts from other sources in different parts of the country.

In different places there is a great interest to hear the truth; but the budget allowance even for 1925 does not permit new workers to be taken on and sent to preach to these hungry souls. A large number are awaiting baptism. Another canvasser has entered the field; and several others, willing to have a part in this line of the Lord's work, are waiting for the necessary instruction. We believe there are good days ahead for the work in Salvador.

While there, I received orders to go to Honduras to take charge of the office temporarily; and I enjoy laboring here with Pastor E. J. Lorntz and the other workers in this field.

H. A. B. ROBINSON.

In a recent letter from Brother F. E. Cary, of Honduras, he says: "I made a short trip up the river and baptized an old brother, James Garden, who had been keeping the Sabbath for thirty years. He accepted this truth by reading. He is over eighty years old. He was so glad to see us that he called his neighbor, saying, 'the Sabbath people have come! the Sabbath people have come!' We had a good meeting and left him much encouraged. Although isolated so long, still he is holding on, and I expect to see him in the kingdom above."

Looking over a recent issue of the Aztec union paper, we rejoice to learn that the work there is going forward splendidly. There have been twenty baptisms recently. Of these new believers one had been an atheist; two, Congregationalists; and seventeen, Roman Catholics.

One of our Aztec union colporteurs visited a shop where the foreman forbade his canvassing the twenty-three men under him during working hours. However, the colporteur did not despair. At five o'clock in the morning he met one of the working shifts; and at three in the afternoon he saw the other. The result was twenty-one orders for our books.

Salvador shows an increase of 33% in tithes and 25% in membership.

CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION

W. E. BAXTER *Superintendent*  
 C. E. KNIGHT *Secy.-Treas.*  
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COLPORTEURS' INSTITUTE IN VENEZUELA

At the close of the biennial session of the Venezuela mission, we held a short institute for the colporteurs of this field. Besides the few colporteurs who were in the field last year, many others showed a very deep interest in all the meetings; and at the close of the institute seven good, strong, consecrated men volunteered to take up the work with the big books for the year.

Pastor C. B. Sutton, our union field secretary, from his long experience in colporteur work, gave valuable instruction to those present. Pastors Knight and Borrowdale also took an active interest in the institute and helped the writer to make the meeting a success.

As one result of the institute, we now have the work well organized, and the republic divided into seven districts. We have a good strong man to be responsible for each part and in this way we hope to cover all, and the most remote, parts of the field. The prospects look bright for big things in Venezuela during 1925. Our most tried colporteur, a very faithful man, has gone to the Andes to go on with the work that our dear Brother Lopez laid down three years ago. He carried with him 200 copies of the good book, *Patriarchs and Prophets*. We feel thankful that this part of the field can again be entered by our colporteurs.

Last year only one man worked through the whole year; and, at the best, only three men were working in the field at the same time. We are, indeed, thankful to God for the renewed interest shown in this work and for the new recruits who enlisted in this line of service. The spirit of the Lord came very near to us in the meetings and I

do not think that I ever saw such a willing spirit among a company of colporteurs. Everyone was ready to go wherever the Lord might send him. The man longest in the field said, "Brother Steeves, just throw me up in the air and any place I come down I am ready to go to work."

Do not forget to pray for these messengers of God as they go with the printed page into the difficult parts of this country. FRED W. STEEVES.

"INASMUCH"

*It was only a cup of water,  
 With a gentle grace bestowed;  
 But it cheered a weary traveler  
 Along the lonely road;  
 For the way was long and dreary,  
 And the resting places few,  
 And the sun had dried up the stream-  
 lets,  
 And drunk up the sparkling dew.*

*None noticed the cup of water,  
 As a beautiful act of love,  
 Save the angels keeping the record  
 Away in the land above;  
 But the record shall never perish,  
 The trifling deed shall live,  
 For Heaven demands but little,  
 From those who have least to give.*

*It was only a kind word spoken  
 To a little weeping child;  
 But the thread of its grief was broken,  
 And the little one sweetly smiled;  
 And she who had spoken kindly  
 Went on her quiet way,  
 Nor thought such a simple action  
 Should count in the last great day.*

*It isn't the world-praised wonders  
 That are best in our Father's sight,  
 Nor the wreaths of fading laurel  
 That garnish Fame's dizzy height;  
 But the pitying love and kindness,  
 The work of the warm caress,  
 The beautiful hope and patience,  
 And self-forgetfulness,  
 The trifle in secret given,  
 The prayer in the quiet night,  
 And the little unnoticed nothings,  
 Are good in our Father's sight.*

—Selected.

A FAITHFUL SUPERINTENDENT

Brother Guberto Grajalez, a member of our church at La Concepción, Panama, is also a faithful member of the Sabbath school—and by the way, this is what every member of our denomination should be.

During 1923 Brother Grajalez was superintendent of our school; and although he lives at least sixteen miles from the school, he did not miss more than two or three Sabbaths during the entire year, and then circumstances beyond his control compelled him to remain away.

This may not seem difficult to one who thinks in terms of trains and automobiles, or even of joy-riding on horses. But there were no such means of transportation for this faithful superintendent. He had to travel on foot, and cross five good-sized rivers over which modern civilization has as yet swung no bridges. Any one of these rivers would seem sufficient reason for turning back; but Brother Grajalez did not. He pressed on.

Nor are the rivers the only obstacles that make it difficult for him to attend Sabbath school. During the rainy season the road over which he must trudge the long distance between his home and the place of meeting, is mud, mud, mud! Sometimes our brother has had to start on Thursday in order to get to Sabbath school on time; so you will understand that his was not an easy task, and that it took a genuine love for the Sabbath school, and a keen sense of duty, to manifest such faithfulness.

ISHMAEL ELLIS.

DIVINE HELP IN LITTLE THINGS

Among the converts for baptism in December of last year, was a candidate who was greatly opposed by her husband. I was directed to her home by one of our lay members. After making plain to her the truthfulness of God's Word, as well as the importance of obedience, she decided to keep the Sabbath in accordance with the commandment.

But until the week that her baptism was to take place, her husband was in bitter rage against her. Then I suggested that we make his attitude a matter of special prayer. After seeking the dear Lord, I had the privilege of having a personal talk with this man. He decided that she could go to church and be baptized; the children, however, were to be left at home, and his meals must be served on Sabbath as they had been in the past.

This great victory gained was a call to continue our supplications. So this woman and I continued to spread our petition before the throne of mercy. It was one morning about a week after her baptism that the next victory came. "My dear," said her husband, as he arose, "you are free to go to church at any time; take all the children with you; and when I come home on the Sabbath, I will look after my own meals."

Brethren and sisters, shall we not continue our prayers for the deliverance of the captives from Satan's bondage into the glorious liberty of our blessed Lord? Let us do so. AMY WALTERS.

## PUBLISHING HOUSE SECTION

Conducted by H. C. Kephart, Mgr. Central American Branch,  
Pacific Press Publishing Association  
Devoted to the Interests of the Publishing Department

## OUR FIELD LEADERS

ANTILLIAN UNION	G. D. Raff
Cuba, R. E. Stewart	Jamaica, O. P. Reid
	Porto Rico, Leo Odom
AZTEC UNION	J. B. Nelson
Northern Dept., J. W. Phillips	Southern Dept., H. A. Robinson
CARIBBEAN UNION	C. B. Sutton
Guiana, F. Hutchinson	South Caribbean, P. E. Shakespeare
	Venezuela, F. W. Steeves

## MOTHER'S DAY" NUMBER

May is the month in which "Mother's Day" is coming to be celebrated more and more, not only in the States, where it originated, but also in Latin America. So *El Centinela* is going to celebrate it too, with the May issue.

The two-color cover will picture a Mother. Fernando E. Brito, of Santo-Domingo, himself motherless, will contribute an article on "The Mother." Mrs. Agnes L. Caviness, of Switzerland, will write about two very simple and plain, but wonderful, homes she visited in Italy, giving us the message, "Keep Your Heads Above the Clouds." And there will be poetry about the Mother too.

Other leading articles in this coming number of our Spanish magazine, will be the following:

"This Way to Wellville," by Dr. "X." A non-technical, practical health talk. This follows a related health article by the same author, which we published in the March *Centinela*.

"The Marvelous Laws of Life," by R. F. Cottrell, being the fifth of his excellent series on the vitamins of religion.

"Miss May and Her Class," by Dr. Belle Wood-Comstock. The first of a series of short health articles written especially for children. This will make the Children's Page grow to two pages, for we will also publish a story or two for the children, as usual.

A page of poetry, by Clemente and Moisés Alpírez, of Costa Rica, will add to the attractiveness of the next *Centinela*, as will also the regular departments and the many illustrations. Remember: More *Centinelas*—More Souls.

\*  
THE BIG WEEK PLAN BRINGS DEFINITE RESULTS

When you read that little leaflet on the purpose and results of the BIG WEEK, didn't you feel an urge to put it into operation with a vim this year? Don't lose your enthusiasm! Let it Grow! Listen to Brother H. H. Hall's spicy statement of what the campaign has done up to date:

"This [Missions Press] fund has been a large factor in enabling us to add every fifty days during the past two years, a new language to the already long list in which we are printing. This means that every two months a missionary in some new language area is provided with that greatest of all human allies in evangelism, the PRINTED PAGE.

"We are preaching and teaching, you know, in 220 languages, but in 106 of these the printed ministry is still silent. A survey of these 106 language areas is now being made and we hope that the more important of them may be entered this next year through the aid of this Extension Fund."

The very least that can be said is that it is good business to continue pushing forward the Mission press extension work. Every person in whose breast surges the hope and expectancy of seeing this wonderful truth triumph at an early date will want to lend a hand in the work of hastening the further conquests of our gospel literature.

But not alone the publishing interests are to be strengthened by the BIG WEEK activities. Our people have heard enough of the success of medical missionary work and mission schools in foreign lands to know that development of these branches of our organized work will also do much to speed the message on. And both of these lines of work are definitely connected with the BIG WEEK, because the proceeds of this year's BIG WEEK effort are to be credited to the Missions Extension Fund, to be drawn upon by the Publishing, Educational, and Medical departments. Last month we indicated what portion of the \$135,000 Extension Fund each department is to receive, for the building up of the work in the various mission lands.

By joining in the BIG WEEK effort this year you are assisting the work of the Publishing, Educational, and Dispensary work in mission lands. In the words of another, "Let us help finish the threefold message with the threefold plan."

\*  
NOTES FROM THE PRESS

Brother J. B. Nelson, Aztec union field missionary secretary, writing while making a tour of the southern part of the union, in company with Elder and Mrs. D. A. Parsons, says:

"Everything looks very encouraging. Guatemala has two good colporteurs, with prospects for more; Salvador is starting out three; and Honduras has three good and successful colporteurs. I am hoping to get some more started out here [Honduras] after the camp-meeting."

Pastor W. E. Baxter writes, assuring us that the officers of the Caribbean union will do their best to push the BIG WEEK campaign throughout the union. Pastor D. D. Fitch promises "some good hard work" in the South Caribbean conference. Evidences of an active interest in other fields are also found in correspondence we are receiving.

It is a pleasure to report sales of literature nearly 100% greater the first quarter of 1925 than for the same period of 1924. The largest sales have been made to Cuba, where a strong work is being conducted according to all reports. Honduras has done a large business, \$3000 worth of literature having been sent to that mission by mail the past three months. Since the sales report has been made up, another shipment of books to Venezuela, the third thus far in 1925, has been sent out, which brings that field to the lead at present.

in the Caribbean Union. The South Caribbean has just received another shipment of books, also; so the next sales report will make a good showing for these fields and for the Caribbean Union.

Mexico is setting a good pace in *El Centinela* circulation this month. Their subscriptions exactly equal their club sales, and their net gain in circulation this month over last is over 400. When you know that this is almost entirely the work of one of their regular canvassers (using the combination plan, we suppose), it seems like a very good record indeed.

**LAW OF AVERAGES**

"30—20 is more than 15—10. The law of averages will work out. The salesman can increase his orders by increasing his turn-downs. This seems like a paradox, but it is not. If he sells one out of three, he will have five orders for every ten turn-downs.

"If he can increase his turn-downs, to twenty, still keeping the same percentage, he will have ten

orders at the end of the day, instead of five. "Also, as he cuts down his percentage of failure, he increases his percentage of success. And when his percentage is right, and his number of calls is right, he is bound to win out.

"A salesman who was about to 'call it a day' because of the heavy rainstorm, encountered in a hallway a match seller who appeared well dressed and well fed. The match man explained to him that no matter what the day, he always made sixty calls per day, and he always found himself with enough money at the end of the week to live in comfort.

"I used to try knocking off after thirty or forty calls when the day was bad, and making up the next day; but I soon found that I didn't get the result. Now I never miss my number of calls any day, and I always come up with a satisfactory result every week. And I don't worry if a whole day goes by without selling anything, for I know if I keep up my end of it and do my work every day, old Law of Averages will take care of me before the end of the week—and it always does."

"Most salesmen will find, if they are honest with themselves, and will mark down in a little notebook the exact number of calls made each day, and the number of hours and minutes spent in actually canvassing prospects (not idle visiting with them), that here is one of the best places there is for improvement of work. If you want more orders, see more people. Q. E. D. That's the answer."—"How to Sell."

**SALES REPORT, BY UNIONS, MARCH, 1925  
CENTRAL AMERICAN BRANCH, PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSN.**

	Subscription	Trade	Educa.	Tracts	Total
Antillian Union	4,899.25	261.45	39.10	4.00	5,203.80
Aztec Union	2,466.00	366.30	49.35	37.50	2,919.15
Caribbean Union	223.40	113.00	166.80	.50	503.70
<i>Inter-America</i>	7,588.65	740.75	255.25	42.00	8,626.65
Miscellaneous Sales	1,266.20	8.50	1.75	.20	1,276.65
<b>Total March, 1925</b>	<b>8,854.85</b>	<b>749.25</b>	<b>257.00</b>	<b>42.20</b>	<b>9,903.30</b>
<b>Total, March, 1924</b>	<b>3,928.45</b>	<b>705.35</b>	<b>136.75</b>	<b>7.95</b>	<b>4,778.50</b>
<b>Increases</b>	<b>4,926.40</b>	<b>43.90</b>	<b>120.25</b>	<b>34.25</b>	<b>5,124.80</b>

**SALES REPORT, JANUARY TO MARCH, 1925**

Bahamas	133.50	119.80	13.10	....	266.40
Cuba	6,520.00	207.60	2.50	30.50	6,760.60
Dominicana	.....	19.35	....	2.00	21.35
Haiti	5.00	19.25	....	....	24.25
Jamaica	262.00	410.40	62.70	....	735.10
Porto Rico	.25	176.60	.90	12.10	189.85
<i>Antillian Union</i>	<b>6,920.75</b>	<b>953.00</b>	<b>79.20</b>	<b>44.60</b>	<b>7,997.55</b>
Guatemala	484.00	9.10	....	51.75	544.85
Honduras	2,672.50	260.55	49.35	16.00	2,998.40
Mexico	3,040.50	206.60	1.10	25.75	3,273.95
Salvador	1,197.00	49.55	....	....	1,246.55
<i>Astec Union</i>	<b>7,394.00</b>	<b>525.80</b>	<b>50.45</b>	<b>93.50</b>	<b>8,063.75</b>
Colombia	3.75	19.25	11.25	17.90	52.15
Guiana	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leeward Islands	655.50	276.15	....	12.05	943.70
South Caribbean	787.00	136.05	24.00	11.65	958.70
Venezuela	2,335.30	23.85	7.00	....	2,366.15
West Caribbean	3,032.95	505.65	213.70	9.35	3,761.65
<i>Caribbean Union</i>	<b>6,814.50</b>	<b>960.95</b>	<b>255.95</b>	<b>50.95</b>	<b>8,082.35</b>
<b>INTER-AMERICA</b>	<b>21,129.25</b>	<b>2,439.75</b>	<b>385.60</b>	<b>189.05</b>	<b>24,143.65</b>
P. P. Branches	1,275.80	1.00	....	.60	1,277.40
Other S. D. A.	4.00	.50	....	....	4.50
Miscellaneous	.....	10.00	1.75	....	11.75
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>22,409.05</b>	<b>2,451.25</b>	<b>387.35</b>	<b>189.65</b>	<b>25,437.30</b>
1924, Jan. to March	10,919.85	1,971.80	426.05	106.70	13,424.40
<b>Increases</b>	<b>11,489.20</b>	<b>479.45</b>	<b>38.70</b>	<b>82.95</b>	<b>12,012.90</b>

(Decrease)

**"EL CENTINELA" CIRCULATION  
MARCH, 1925**

Cuba	3,539	
Dominicana	350	
Porto Rico	741	
<i>Antillian Union</i>		4,630
Guatemala	202	
Honduras	191	
Mexico	2,024	
Salvador	229	
<i>Astec Union</i>		2,646
Colombia	487	
Venezuela	386	
West Caribbean	248	
<i>Caribbean Union</i>		1,121
<b>INTER-AMERICA</b>		<b>8,397</b>
Arizona	18	
California	23	
Central California	29	
Florida	75	
Southern California	163	
Southeastern Calif.	28	
South Texas	205	
Texico	23	
Miscl. States	57	
<i>United States</i>		521
Philippine Islands		30
Miscl. Foreign		42
<i>Total Outside Inter-America</i>		593
<b>TOTAL, March, 1925—</b>		<b>8,990</b>
<i>Circulation, Feb. 1925—</i>		<b>8,793</b>
<i>Circulation, Mar. 1924—</i>		<b>13,015</b>



## DIVISION OFFICE MAIL

Pastor and Sister J. A. Leland have been attending general meetings in the Antillian union. They report our workers of good courage and the work progressing nicely.

Letters from Pastor and Sister D. A. Parsons tell of interesting meetings in different parts of the Aztec union where they have gone to help build up the work.

Pastor H. J. Edmed and his family have landed safely in Antigua where the office of the Leeward Islands mission will be located.

Pastor D. C. Babcock and his family have also reached British Guiana to take up the work of the newly organized Guiana mission.

Already Pastor and Sister D. D. Fitch are in the harness over in the South Caribbean conference; and when writing us recently they were leading out strongly in the Harvest Ingathering work.

We have been grieved to learn recently of the serious illness of Pastor M. A. Altman of the Bahamas, where he and Sister Altman have been doing such excellent work. Let us pray earnestly for his speedy recovery.

Sabbath, March 21, Brother and Sister Fred Hutchinson sailed from Cristobal to join Brother and Sister Babcock in the finishing of the work over in the Guianas. Their friends in the Zone will miss them. Brother and Sister Hutchinson have toiled for many years in the tropics; but we are glad that they volunteered for this more difficult field; and our most earnest prayers and loving interest go with them on their journey, and will ever follow them in their service in this new and needy field.

## GOOD NEWS FROM LANDS AFAR

When we recall that it was in the New Hebrides that Brother Norman Wiles gave his young life for the salvation of the cannibals there, we feel a special thrill of gratitude to learn this bit of good news from those far-off islands:—

"There is a decided movement toward the truth in the whole district," writes Brother J. R. James. "We have to keep working, praying, visiting, and helping the sick. The enemies of the truth in the district are nearly all dead. It is hard-fought ground, however. The great adversary is well entrenched. But we feel to thank God that a few have responded, and take courage for the fight."

From the shores of Africa comes a sweet story of a love for this truth that gave all. Pastor G. S. Joseph tells it in the following words:—

"I remember seeing an old man come to the campmeeting at Hanke. He was riding a donkey. When we made the call for funds on the closing day of the meeting, the old man rose to his feet; and with tears in his eyes, he said, 'I am sorry that I haven't any money to give to Jesus, but I have my donkey; and if you take him to work for Jesus, I will be very glad to give him.' (The donkey was worth about £4.) The man gave his donkey and walked home, a distance of about 70 miles."

Brother W. E. Read, writing in the *Home Missionary Bulletin* of the European division, says: "An interest has been awakened among a number of pastors in Madagascar. Some months ago a brother and his wife from Mauritius had occasion to visit Madagascar on business. They went to Tananarive, the capital. Some of these pastors heard that some Seventh-day Adventists were in the city, and a band of no less than ten of them searched through the different hotels until they found our people.

Then followed a number of Bible studies. These pastors and many others in Madagascar today are calling very earnestly for a missionary to be sent to that field."

Our colporteurs in Poland are suffering much for the privilege of giving the gospel to the needy in that field. However, they are not wearying in well doing. "The colporteurs are flogged and thrown into prison for weeks," writes Brother Isaac. "Our books are prohibited, and we are not permitted to distribute literature." But he continues, "We intend to print 20,000 Harvest Ingathering papers."

During the Big Week the sales there were about £150. The three German unions also have good reports on their Big Week sales. They doubled their goals; and Hungary did almost as well. Can we not say again as did Judson long ago: "Prospects are as bright as the promises of God"?

## WORTH THINKING ABOUT

Recently we have had the pleasure of learning that a number of young people have completed the reading of the nine volumes of the "Testimonies." One writes: "I appreciate them as I do the Bible, and shall read them often." Another says: "They have greatly cleared up certain doubts that lingered in my mind," and "the testimonies of reproof surely contain wonderful lessons for me." "O, how timely have been the instructions contained therein; none but they that have tasted of their influence can really understand. Reading those volumes sent me back to the colporteur work." Thus reads in part another testimonial; while still another says: "No words of mine can ever express the benefit that I have received from the reading of these volumes; I will only say that I shall never cease to read them so long as they are within my reach."

Why should not these inspired volumes bring similar joy and richness into the lives of hundreds of other believers in the Inter-American division? As the clear mountain stream transforms the valley through which it flows, so will the lessons in these wonderful books that God has so graciously given us transform and bless the lives which they are permitted to touch!

Within the last few weeks we have sent eight Bible Year certificates to the Antillian union, seven to the Aztec, and 128 to the Caribbean. During the same time the Antillian union has called for fourteen reading course certificates, and the Aztec for ten reading course and twenty-eight standard of attainment certificates. This is a good beginning for the new year. Before the next nine months slip away, we trust that many, old as well as young, will be candidates for at least two of these kinds of certificates. You are invited to be one of that number. Will you?

April 5-11 is Sacrifice Week! There is a special blessing in that week for those who renew their covenant with God through sacrifice.

## UNION AND DIVISION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The annual meeting of the three union committees of the Inter-American division will be held in connection with publishing conventions. The dates are as follows:

Aztec union, Mexico City, May 5-19.

Antillian union, Havana, Cuba, May 26 to June 9.

Caribbean union, Cristobal, June 16-30.

The division committee council will be held at its headquarters in Balboa, July 2-12. We solicit the earnest prayers of all our people that a large measure of the Spirit's power and great wisdom may be imparted to all attending these important meetings.

## ARE WE DOING IT?

Swiftly the sands of time are sinking in the hour glass of 1925. Already one-fourth has slipped through the narrow neck of today into the limitless bowl of the past. There is no holding back here,—no turning of the hour glass.

We cannot grasp the sands of tomorrow; nor yet draw back those that have already passed through the narrow channel of today. Only today is ours; there we are called to stand guard—there and there only. And it is all that this is so; for today needs all there is of us. Divided hearts and wondering minds; uncertain feet and hesitating hands, can never make fragrant the swift-flowing sands of today with loving service for Jesus.

As we stood on the threshold of this new year, did we not promise our Master to try earnestly to make this the best year ever in our service for Him? I know I did. But as I quietly think of the past, and of the shortness of time and the greatness of the task, it seems to me that I can hear the Master whisper: "Are you doing it? Are you really making this the best year ever? Remember, my child, as goes today, so goes 1925." And now I am passing His question on to you. Perhaps you, too, have heard it before.

And perhaps you feel just as I do: The first three months seem to be so full of mistakes. Sometimes we have tried and failed; and sometimes we have failed to try. But after all, it is not our honest failures in service that give us the bitter heartaches; we know our loving Father accepts such service as really worth while. That comforts us; but it is when we have failed to try, or failed to do our very best that we feel the agony of soul.

However, there is no turning back! The best way to retrieve the past is to use well the present, praying the Lord that somehow He will restore to us the precious hours and the sacred opportunities that the cankerworm of indifference has devoured. This He will do as we faithfully turn to the duties around us. There are the duties of prayer and study; there is the definite duty of personal effort for others to whom God sends us with His message or with whom He brings us in contact as we go about our daily routine, and there is the ever present duty of so conducting ourselves that our lives will be safe interpretations of the Bible for those around us to read.

All this, I believe, we promised our Master to try earnestly to do this year. Shall we not step aside for a quiet visit with Him about this promise to make sure that we are truly keeping it? And shall we not at the beginning of this new quarter renew our consecration for more and better service in our homes, in the church, in the Sabbath school, in the young people's society, in our business relations, and in other parts of the wide field of missionary service?

## INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER

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