

THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

VOL. IV

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No. 2

OUR TIME AND ITS DEMANDS UPON US

E. E. ANDROSS

(Continued from January number)

It is true that for years efforts of a similar character have been made repeatedly, but without favorable results to the proponents. Now, however, a great change has taken place. The church is beginning to feel the stimulus of her power successfully exerted in political lines. With her far-reaching organization with which she is moulding public sentiment she is preparing the way for the enforcement of her demands upon Congress.

Unless through the mighty intercession of God's commandment-keeping people, the hand of intolerance is further stayed, we may confidently look forward to more serious trouble than we have ever known, and that right early. It is surely time for us to "lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us," and strip ourselves for the final conflict. This is no time for self-seeking or for half-hearted service. "If the Lord be God, follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him."

In the little time that is left us, let us devote ourselves more energetically to our personal preparation to meet our God than ever before; let us marshal all our forces for a great forward movement in every field in this division, calling every consecrated soul into active service for the Master; let us make the year 1927 by far the most fruitful in the winning of souls for the kingdom of any previous year in our history; let us never rest day nor night till we have done all in our power to gather in the lost, to shelter them from the storm of God's wrath so soon to burst in relentless fury upon this ungodly world.

"But they did not keep their covenant with God. They followed after the idolatrous practices of other nations, and instead of making their Creator's name a praise in the earth, their course held it up to the contempt of the

heathen. Yet the purpose of God must be accomplished. The knowledge of His will must be spread abroad in the earth. God brought the hand of the oppressor upon His people, and scattered them as captives among the nations. In affliction many of them repented of their transgressions, and sought the Lord. Scattered throughout the countries of the heathen, they spread abroad the knowledge of the true God. The principles of the divine law came in conflict with the customs and practices of the nations. Idolaters endeavored to crush out the true faith. The Lord in His providence brought His servants, Daniel, Nehemiah, Ezra, face to face with kings and rulers, that these idolaters might have an opportunity to receive the light. Thus the work which God had given His people to do in prosperity, in their own borders, but which had been neglected through their unfaithfulness, was done by them in captivity, under great trial and embarrassment."—"Testimonies," Vol. V, page 455.

MY LIFE WORK

What wilt Thou have me to do, Lord?
What wilt Thou have me to do?
Where wilt Thou have me to go, Lord?
These are the questions for me.
One little life I can yield Thee,
Gladly 'tis laid at Thy feet,
May I be true to my Saviour,
Make my surrender complete!

Where Thou wilt have me to go, Lord,
That is the country for me.
What Thou wilt have me to do, Lord,
Life's sweetest guerdon shall be.
What Thou wilt have me to be, Lord,
Humble, and loving, and pure,
May I be found to Thy glory,
Seeking the things which endure.

Choosing the things that Thou choosest,
Thinking Thy thoughts after Thee,
Joyfully witnessing, toiling,
This is the service for me!
Seeking the lost and the fallen,
Telling them Jesus has died,
No other life-work so precious,
These are the joys that abide.

—E. May Crawford.

A NEW UNION ORGANIZED

The East Caribbean Union Conference was organized at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, and its first session was held December 12-16, 1926. This new union comprises the territory of British, Dutch, and French Guiana, the Windward, Leeward, and Virgin Islands. It has a church membership of about three thousand.

There are three local conferences, the South Caribbean, Leeward Islands, and Guiana conferences, and the Mt. Roraima Indian Mission, that together form the union. There are 64 organized churches and a number of companies. Pastor M. A. Hollister was elected president, and Sister Ethel M. Edmed secretary-treasurer. Pastor D. D. Fitch was called to take the position of home missionary and field missionary secretary, having served as president of the South Caribbean conference the past two years. Prof. C. J. Boyd was appointed educational secretary.

The language spoken in this territory is predominantly English. However, there is a French speaking population in the islands of Guadalupe and Martinique, and French Guiana, of about 500,000; also a Dutch speaking population of 107,827 in Dutch Guiana. There are also many aboriginal Indians in the Guianas speaking their own tongue. Beside the above nationalities there are about 250,000 East Indians in Trinidad and British Guiana, also a great number of Chinese.

The problem of reaching these various nationalities with the Third Angel's Message is not a small one; but the small force of workers consisting of 14 ordained ministers, 7 licentiate ministers, 25 holding missionary credentials and 17 colporteurs, supported by an earnest and devoted membership in the churches, are taking hold of the problem with courage, assured of ultimate success.

Brethren A. W. Cott and R. J. Christian, with their wives, and baby, left Georgetown for Mt. Roraima January 6, to establish work among the Arekuna

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or "Davis" Indians. There are also several other tribes in the vicinity. These missionaries expected to be in their fields ere this, but were detained in their preparation to make the long hard trip to the interior. The season also was not favorable. But now they are on their way and the prospect for drier weather is good.

We hope this may mark the beginning of a great work among the Indians of this vast territory, stretching from the Guianas through Venezuela and Colombia. Here are found many millions of these aboriginal people living in a state of absolute heathenism.

The prospect for the new Union Training School to be established in Trinidad is encouraging, and Professor C. J. Boyd is taking hold of the work with enthusiasm. The location for the school has not yet been secured but several prospective sites have been found and these seem favorable.

We solicit the prayers of our people for work in this field of opportunity.

E. E. ANDROSS.

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CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION

San José, Costa Rica

W. E. BAXTER	-	Superintendent
A. P. CHRISTIANSEN	-	Secty.-Treas.

ATLANTIC COLOMBIA NOTES

Our mission was favored recently by the visit of Brother J. A. P. Green, Inter-American Division Field Missionary Secretary. We are truly grateful for the help he rendered our colporteurs, and we believe the results of his visit will be seen in the faithful work of our colporteurs. While waiting for his boat in Puerto Colombia, Brother Green took ten subscriptions for *El Centinela*.

Brother Carl G. Christiansen left Barranquilla for Medellin, taking with him one hundred *Centinelas* to sell on the way. He disposed of all of these and had territory left for another hundred. He sold fifty in one little town. Brother Christiansen had been using Spanish only a few days so it is evident that a large vocabulary is not necessary to sell *El Centinela*.

Brother Redondo and a company of young people had a narrow escape from death recently when the auto, in which they were returning from holding a meeting, slid into a ditch about fifteen feet deep. He came out with a bruised foot which kept him in bed for a few days; but the others were uninjured. The people who saw the accident said they believed the Lord worked a mir-

acle; otherwise all would have been seriously hurt, if not killed. Truly, the Lord does care for His faithful children.

Brother Moises Valdes is having splendid success with "Nuevo Medico" in Santa Marta. Even the bishop is among the subscribers.

We were glad for the short visit with Sister E. E. Andross who came to the office while her boat was in port. She was on her way to Venezuela to attend the general meeting at Caracas.

Our office address is, Carrera Rosario, esquina Calle Bogotá, Barrio Boston, Barranquilla. An autobus marked "Prado" will come within a block or two of our house. We trust that those who have opportunity, when stopping at Puerto Colombia, will make us a call.

E. W. THURBER.

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ON THE ISLAND OF CURACAO

Undoubtedly the most promising plan for the permanent establishment of our work on this island would be that of opening a good school. I am convinced that it would be well patronized from the start.

The educational regulations for a sectarian school are not rigorous. Examination for qualification can be had at any time and in any of the languages spoken here. A large building is at our disposition without charges, and as the school enrolls a certain number of pupils, the government will pay the salary of the teacher or teachers. I almost tremble as I think of the possibility of losing the offer now before us if we do nothing about it. Business men not only suggest this plan to establish our work, but also urge that we have a school.

Our evangelistic efforts as well would then be greatly strengthened, because they could be closely linked with the educational work. One brief experience illustrates the eagerness of many here to hear the gospel story:

An elderly woman who recently died was so anxious to attend the weekly public lecture, that, being scarcely able to walk, she left her home one hour and a quarter before the time of meeting to walk a distance that takes an ordinary person from eight to ten minutes to go, thus spending two and one-half hours each time in walking, for the privilege of hearing the sermons on Bible themes.

C. E. KNIGHT.

—* * *

"Sympathy is the key that fits the lock of any heart."

THE COLON CHURCH

On December 11 when Elder L. L. Hutchinson renewed the invitation at the Sabbath service in the Colon church for those desiring to join the baptismal class with a view to uniting with the church, eight came forward and added their names to the list. The eighth name signed brought the number on the list to one hundred, this representing the number who have during recent weeks expressed themselves in favor of joining wholeheartedly with this movement. On New Year's night the third baptism was held, bringing the number baptized to approximately sixty-five.

The interest thus manifested has been a great source of encouragement to the church as a whole, and has brought in a spirit of consecration and work that has been very manifest. To the pastor, Elder Hutchinson, it seems a very direct answer to prayer as when he came here about four months ago he began definitely to pray for the addition of one hundred souls before the end of the year. The church members have united in prayer and work to this end. With the increase in membership, there has also been an advance in offerings and in the payment of church debt, as well as some alterations in the church building to enlarge its seating capacity.

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TENT EFFORT IN GATUN

We found the words in Romans 5: 20 equally true here on the Canal Zone as elsewhere. "Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." When we pitched the tent Satan tried to dishearten us by the existing conditions in the town of Gatun. But the Lord stood by us and as a result of the series of meetings we are happy to report a live little company now organized into a regular Sabbath school and meeting in Sabbath services.

Seven of our company were baptized in October and others are in the baptismal class preparing for the sacred rite.

At the close of our tent effort the company pledged the amount of one hundred dollars towards providing a place of worship. At the present time we are able to report three hundred dollars, two hundred of which is cash.

This little company also took an active part in the 1926 Harvest Ingathering campaign and brought in over one hundred dollars. They are always ready to cooperate in every line of work.

G. H. NEMHARD.

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION
 Box 66, Port of Spain, Trinidad
 M. A. HOLLISTER - - - Superintendent

SOUTH CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE SESSION

The fifteenth session of the South Caribbean Conference convened in the church at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, December 16, 1926. There were 126 delegates in attendance, representing fifty churches and companies in the conference. The territory of the conference now includes the islands of Trinidad, Barbados, Tobago, Grenada, the Grenadines, and Saint Lucia. Under the blessing of God the work is making very encouraging progress throughout the field.

The report of Pastor D. D. Fitch, the president, revealed a net increase of 122 members during the biennial period, bringing the present membership to 1,844. One new church was raised up in Grenada, with a membership of 43. This was admitted into the conference. The total baptisms for the term of the report was 436.

The treasurer's report showed a steady gain in nearly all the lines represented by the report. The tithe income has grown from \$5,332.70 in 1918 to \$11,689.58 in 1926, and made an increase over the preceding biennial period of \$3,729.37. The total increase of tithes and offerings over the preceding period reached a fine total of \$7,901.45. The treasurer's report was illustrated by an array of finely executed graphs and charts.

The report of Sister Mary Fitch, secretary of the Sabbath School Department, showed that there are in the conference 51 schools, with a combined membership of 2,413. Twelve schools reached or passed the missions goal of seven and one-half cents per member, and one church achieved the total of thirty-two cents per member. There has been a very marked increase in the total of offerings to missions through the Sabbath school, and there is a lively interest in all the other Sabbath school goals.

Sister Fitch also serves the conference as Missionary Volunteer secretary, and the report of that department for the biennial term revealed most encouraging progress. There is a veritable army of young people in the conference, and they are earnest Missionary Volunteer workers. Two seniors have reached the zenith of achievement in Standard of Attainment endeavor, having qualified for the sixth seal of attainment. Others are nearing this mark.

There are 25 senior societies and 23 junior societies, with a total membership of 786.

Unavoidable changes in the leadership of the Publishing and Home Missionary departments has seriously hindered the work in these important lines of soul-winning effort, but good progress was revealed by both reports. The church members are earnest workers and their missionary endeavor has been fruitful in winning many souls. In many places interests have been awakened that will be followed up. A large volume of work was reported under the various lines of missionary activity, and the Harvest Ingathering returns far exceeded any previous campaign. For 1924-1925 the total was \$2,908.28; for 1925-1926 it was \$4,389.87.

Through the earnest work of the president and the loyal cooperation of the churches the conference debt has been almost wiped out having been reduced from \$3,362.24 to less than \$965.00. This good response on the part of churches and individuals has enabled the Book and Bible House to pay all its obligations. A company of faithful colporteurs, under the leadership of Brother M. E. Lowry, are going from island to island and from house to house with our truth-filled literature.

The business of the conference was cared for with manifest interest on the part of all the delegates, and the various recommendations received careful consideration. Pastor D. D. Fitch was called to connect with the new East Caribbean Union Conference to serve as Field Missionary and Home Missionary secretary and Pastor C. E. Andross was elected to the presidency of the conference. There were no other changes in the office personnel, and only slight changes in the executive committee.

The spiritual work of the conference was shared by Pastors E. E. Andross, C. E. Wood, M. A. Hollister, H. J. Edmed, and the writer. All the meetings were marked by an earnest seeking of God for a deeper experience, and the laity and workers did not seek in vain. The Sabbath services were seasons of spiritual revival. Many took a stand for God and the truth for the first time; backsliders were reclaimed, and all united in a complete surrender for the finishing of the work in heart and life and in all the world. Nearly \$200.00 was given in Sabbath school offerings on the two Sabbaths. Delegates and workers returned to their places determined to make 1927 the best year in the history of the South Caribbean Conference. J. A. STEVENS.

ST. KITTS, LEEWARD ISLANDS

My trip to this new field has been a new experience for me and I enjoyed it very much. As I stopped at the many different ports at which the boat called, I had the opportunity of talking to several of our church congregations on the value of Christian education and relating some of my experience in going through school even though I had none of this world's goods.

At the present time this subject is of great importance to our young people in this field. Our prospective training school in Trinidad is the center of attraction to our young people just now. They have long waited for a school and we trust their hopes will be realized soon. Professor C. J. Boyd is just as eager to commence this new school as he was to establish the West Caribbean Training School, of which he was the former principal.

Brethren and sisters, let us not forget to pray that the Lord will impress the hearts of our young people in this field to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to prepare themselves for a place in the Master's vineyard. Surely the time has come when the Lord will use the youth to help finish the work in this division. Let us all remember at the throne of grace the young people in this field as we labor for their soul's salvation, and as they attend for the first time one of our schools. Let this be the burden of all our people in the Inter-American Division.

WILTON R. ARCHBOLD.

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FRUITS OF TRUE CONVERSION

Many people complain of the futility of their endeavor to get their converts to abandon old habits, but a gentleman who has lived many years in the West Indies said he had never found this true of Seventh-day Adventist converts. In fact, he continued by saying that the missionaries of that denomination had succeeded wonderfully with some persons who formerly had been noted for their wickedness but who after accepting the Seventh-day Adventist faith had become honest and true in their lives and habits.

Our friends who have always lived under Christian influences little realize the personal suffering endured by one of this people in separating himself from the religion of his fathers, his caste, and his family in order to accept the Christian faith. And this is particularly true when he becomes a Seventh-day Adventist. For one to observe the Sabbath usually means that he is

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ostracized by all former associates and becomes an outcast. Nevertheless, many are accepting Christ every year.

The abject poverty of certain classes in the West Indies is the worst I have ever seen. Seeing these things brings to my heart a great longing to assist. But the thought of the impossibility of more than touching the problem is well nigh over-whelming. Yet with hearts full of courage we press on as we see the effects of the gospel upon these people who out of their poverty manifest a marvelous willingness to give liberally so that others may receive a knowledge of the same gospel light which shines in their hearts. We need more men and means for hastening on this great work.

M. A. HOLLISTER.

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

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PROGRESS IN MONTSERRAT

All who had part in the erection of our new church building,—and they included men, women, and children,—are rejoicing together today because they have a place of worship so nearly completed that it may be used for the regular services of the church. The building is 40 x 26 and is situated on a beautiful site near the public highway.

During the past year we have held our meetings in the home of one of our brethren; but the attendance increased so rapidly that we were obliged to erect a booth in front of the house, and also one in the rear in which to hold the Sabbath school. This structure at the rear of the house was destroyed by the terrific gale of last August, and we feared to replace it because the government had hoisted flags and discharged cannons as warnings of the coming hurricane.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude that our island suffered no serious damage from the storm, with the exception of the partial loss of the fruit crop and the destruction of a few old houses in the southern part of the island.

One Sabbath in September we baptized eleven candidates. The people who assembled to witness this ceremony constituted the largest gathering we have ever had on a similar occasion. Many of these people attended the service which followed the baptism, and the seating capacity of the building was taxed to its limit. Although the seats for the new building were not ready, we announced the services for the following Sabbath.

We are expecting great things from God and are determined to attempt

great things for Him in the finishing of the work in this part of His vineyard.

J. A. REID.

Plymouth, Montserrat.

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MEXICAN UNION MISSION

Calle de Jalapa 210, Mexico, D. F., Mexico

D. A. PARSONS	-----	Superintendent
J. G. PETTEY	-----	Secy.-Treas.

GOD'S PROVIDENCE

The outlook was not at all promising when we knelt as a band of workers of the Sonora mission and laid our case before God. But still the pillar of cloud advances.

In a trip among the Indians some time ago, I found a ready response to medical missionary work. While I was holding services in a certain village a young man accepted the truth and desires to attend one of our schools. The Lord is waiting to do a work for these sons of the forest.

The fields are white, waiting for the harvest. But up to the present time we have had to cut down our budget and these needy fields have had to wait. May God help us to give and go until every nation has heard this message. In volume VI, page 446, we read: "Unless your hearts are touched in view of the situation in foreign fields, the last message of mercy to the world will be restricted, and the work which God desires to have done will be left unaccomplished."

C. E. MOON.

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"IN DANGERS OFT"

We are all of splendid courage, though political conditions in Mexico are growing more serious. In our visit through our union, Mrs. Parsons and I had some varied experiences. In one place bandits tore up the railroad for one hundred yards. A train wreck, in which several were killed, was the result. One night our train was delayed for many hours and we had to curl up on the ground while we waited for it at a lonely little station.

But the good part of it all is that the Lord greatly blessed us wherever we traveled. I cannot write of conditions in the field further than to say that traveling is extremely dangerous.

During 1926, in Mexico alone, we have raised up and fully organized eighteen new churches. More than three hundred were baptized. Brother Pohle, in the Central Mexico mission, had only eight attending his meetings and keep-

ing the Sabbath when he went to Guadalajara; now there are about forty. Very recently we received word from one town in his field where the municipal president and all of his officers are keeping the Sabbath. All the stores have been ordered closed on the Sabbath. We have learned also of a company of about forty persons who have started to keep the Sabbath through reading one of our books.

One of our ministers has set his goal for one hundred converts during 1927. Brother E. E. Pohle expected to have won one hundred members by the end of 1926, and at the time of my visit to his field it looked as though he was going to reach his goal.

D. A. PARSONS.

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PROGRESS IN TEHUANTEPEC

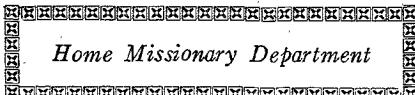
Despite our shortage of workers, and local anti-religious laws, we have baptized 148 new converts, organized 14 new churches, increased our Sabbath school membership from 356 to 800. This has largely been accomplished through home missionary work, at least sixty per cent, in one year. Surely God's blessing has attended the faithful efforts of our laity and colporteurs as they have cooperated with our pastors in giving the Third Angel's Message in this part of Mexico.

In company with Elder and Sister Parsons and Brother Barrett, I have just completed a three weeks' visit among our churches and companies. We held a short Sabbath school and Missionary Volunteer convention in almost every place we visited. The burden of the Sabbath school programs was to stimulate daily lesson study, better offerings, proper preparation for the Sabbath school every day of the week, an ideal Sabbath school with one hundred per cent punctual attendance, the use of the *Auxiliar*, etc.

In the Missionary Volunteer program we stressed one hundred per cent attendance, successful soul-winning methods, each individual a soul-winner, morning watch, reading course, *El Monitor*, etc.

Each church and company expressed their appreciation of our visit and the instruction given, and promised to put all into practice. We hope and pray that God will abundantly water and prosper through His Holy Spirit the efforts put forth so that 1927 will bring our Sabbath schools and Missionary societies much nearer to the ideals than ever before.

J. B. NELSON.


Home Missionary Department
RALLY WITHOUT DELAY

"God's people are called upon to rally without delay under the blood-stained banner of Christ Jesus. Unceasingly they are to continue their warfare against the enemy, pressing the battle to the gates. And every one who is added to the ranks by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty."—*"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VII, page 19.*

It is time for God's people to make a supreme effort to save those who are rushing forward toward destruction. We need to realize that we are daily meeting men and women who will soon be forever past help. We need a deeper love for souls—a love that will prompt us to sacrifice time, means, and comfort to carry the message of salvation to perishing souls.

The year 1927 brings us one year nearer to that solemn time when the last missionary visit will be made. It presents wonderful possibilities for service; for the Holy Spirit has prepared a multitude of hearts to receive the message. There are some significant statements in the testimony quoted at the beginning of this article. "God's people are called upon to rally *without delay*." There is no time to lose. Soon it will be too late. The sight of people wandering up and down this earth seeking the Word of the Lord and knowing that they will not find it, will cause us anguish of soul if we have not during the hours of probation done what we could to win them.

Then there is another statement of the testimony: "Unceasingly they are to continue their warfare against the enemy." When an army wavers, the enemy is sure to take an advantage. We cannot afford to say, I did considerable soul-winning work last month, I will cease my efforts this month. The enemy will surely sow tares where you planted the wheat, and your effort will be thwarted. "Unceasingly" we are to continue to work for the Master. We are to "press the battle to the gates." Our warfare is not to be defensive, but aggressive.

The last statement of the testimony is worthy of consideration: "Every one who is added to the rank by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty." Our membership is continually increasing as new recruits are joining the army of Prince Immanuel. It is the duty of

the officers of the church to see that every one is assigned his post of duty. This statement clearly intimates that the Lord is counting upon every one for service. When "the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work," we may expect God's work in this earth to finish quickly. The enlistment trumpet is sounding. Let every church member answer the rallying call.

C. E. WOOD.

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A SABBATH AFTERNOON CALL

You may be interested to know how Brother Rowe, the brother to whom I referred in the article last month, learned of the truth since he lives so far away from any of our people. It was in this way: About five years ago while living in his home at Nombre de Dios, Panama, he was taken ill. He learned of the Colon hospital and went there for medical aid, leaving his wife and little girl at home. While he was at the hospital usual care was given him, but he felt no improvement. He began to feel that there was no hope for him but that he must die.

It was then, on a Sabbath afternoon, that three of our brethren from the Colon church were impressed to take some tracts on the Sabbath truth with them to the hospital. They visited Brother Rowe giving him hope and courage and left the tracts with him. Soon he began to improve and returned home where he and his wife studied the Bible eagerly and decided that the seventh day is the Sabbath. They kept their first Sabbath together in their own home. From that day they have been striving to win others to Christ until now they have eight others keeping the Sabbath with them.

A. V. LARSON.

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NEWS ITEMS

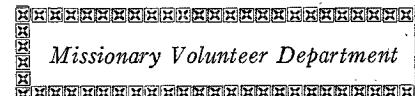
Seven leaders of the lay-member forces in the South Caribbean conference have set 520 as their 1927 goal of souls to be won. If they accomplish their objective, and our other conference and missions do proportionately as well, we will have the greatest increase in membership in the history of our work in this field.

Elder D. D. Fitch, who has been the president of the South Caribbean conference during the past two years, has been appointed Home Missionary secretary for the East Caribbean union. We welcome Brother Fitch as he joins the Home Missionary forces of the Inter-American Division.

A Home Missionary convention was held in Port-of-Spain during the week preceding the conference session, December 16 to 26. We are hoping that the inspiration which the workers received during this meeting, and during the conference session, when they had the privilege of listening to the instruction of Elder J. Adam Stevens, the General Conference Home Missionary secretary, may impel them to go forth in service as never before.

In a letter from Brother G. D. Raff written in December, he states: "Our Big Week campaign has just passed here in Cuba. I am expecting good results from the sale of the little books. We sent to each church and company enough books so that each member would have three books to sell during the Big Week. The companies were visited and encouraged to arise and take part in the sale of these books.

In a letter sent by air mail from Brother Nickle of Colombia, he reports \$800.32 Harvest Ingathering having been received in his field up to December 19. They hope to double this next year.

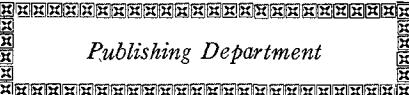
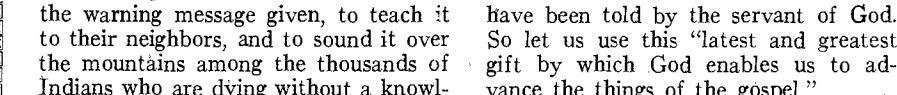

Missionary Volunteer Department
USE OF MORNING WATCH CALENDAR

Missionary Volunteers, and others, how are you using your Morning Watch calendar? Are you using it? Of course you surely have one. Or is it simply reposing in your Bible,—in your way when you are looking up the texts in the Sabbath services and when studying the Sabbath school lesson? I trust this is not true of any Missionary Volunteer in Inter-America, but hope rather that you are being daily benefited by committing to memory the precious texts and meditating upon them.

A text a day
Keeps doubt away.

Some of you have sold Morning Watch calendars. Have you any left? If so, here is a suggestion for you:

Thousands of orders for Morning Watch calendars to be placed in hotels were received by the Review and Herald Publishing Association. They write that it is not too late yet to order more for this purpose. Other religious bodies are placing Bibles; let us place the Morning Watch calendars in these Bibles. Who will be the first to use the Morning Watch in this way in Inter-America?


 Publishing Department
 

OUR STUDENT COLPORTEURS

Brother Mangold, principal of Aibonito Missionary Training School writes: "Four of our regular students took up the canvassing work during the vacation season. The Lord blessed them beyond human expectation. They earned their scholarships in less than three months' time. Their consecrated devotion to God and His cause is seen and felt in their school activities to such an extent that the missionary spirit in the entire school has been raised to a higher level."

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TWENTY YEARS ON THE SHELF

One Tuesday evening I left Bocas del Toro on a cayuca of three by twenty feet. That seemed the quickest way to reach Rio Chiriquí since the scheduled motor boat which had been due for three weeks had not yet arrived.

After a tedious journey of about 110 miles in canoe and on horse-back I reached my destination. It was on Friday night and the opportunity to rest from the tiresome journey since Tuesday was surely appreciated.

Sabbath morning I took my Sabbath school quarterly and Bible to study for a few brief moments before breakfast. Presently Señora Angelina in whose home I was staying, stepped up apparently to see what I was studying. I asked her if she had a Bible. "O, yes," she said, and she quickly brought it. Her father had bought it but being prevented by the priest from reading such a Book, it was laid on the bookshelf and there it remained untouched.

In 1925 when this young woman married one of the principal land owners in Rio Chiriquí, this book was presented to her by her mother. Having religious liberty in this place, she searched diligently through the Book that was said to be so dangerous, and which in all probability had been on the shelf for more than twenty years. She found in that precious volume a personal Saviour; and as a result she is now a Seventh-day Adventist.

In that community I found a great opportunity for service. I was privileged to give a few Bible readings, instructing and admonishing the people of the great crisis that is so near at hand. In a general meeting a great awakening was witnessed. All present enthusiastically pledged themselves to obey

the warning message given, to teach it to their neighbors, and to sound it over the mountains among the thousands of Indians who are dying without a knowledge of Christ.

I feel sure that at the triumph of this message, which we believe will be very soon, many will be called out of the little town of Rio Chiriquí to enter the eternal home. U. B. ROBINSON.

* * *

NOW I BELIEVE

"I do not believe in God, nor in the devil," said a man in the city of Barranquilla, Colombia, when approached by a brother, carrying our magazine *El Centinela*. At first the man showed very little interest in the contents of this magazine. However, after a little cheerful persistence he consented to have the paper delivered to his home every month. This silent messenger preached a new and strange doctrine, which led the man to read and re-read different articles of the magazine. It found him living among a people most of whom are unfriendly and even rebellious toward the messages it contained. But God, who always knows the best method of reaching the stony heart, nurtured the seeds that every month reached this man's heart. Soon a wonderful transformation took place. As the last *El Centinela* of the year was placed in his hand, this man, who neither believed in God nor the devil, said, "I want to pay you for the new year's subscription. This monthly visitor has wrought a great change in my heart. I was an unbeliever before, but now I believe."

The brother who persuaded the man to take the magazine did not live to hear this testimony, but although he is dead, his works do follow him.

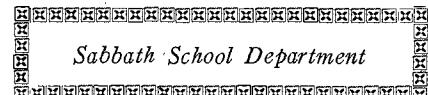
"Through our canvassers the truth will reach those who cannot be reached in any other way." The brethren in the Atlantic Colombia mission believe this statement from the servant of God. Every month they are selling fifteen hundred magazines, or about one eighth of the entire output of *El Centinela*. Brother E. W. Thurber, takes the lead, and the rest gladly follow. This ubiquitous missionary, *El Centinela*, is making friends in the Atlantic Colombia mission.

Why not scatter more pages of truth that many more who are traveling on the uncertain road, may be led to an understanding of God's message for today.

We are told to scatter this message "like the leaves of autumn." "Thousands will be converted in a day," we

have been told by the servant of God. So let us use this "latest and greatest gift by which God enables us to advance the things of the gospel."

J. A. P. GREEN.


 Sabbath School Department
 

AIM FOR 1927

Every believer ready for service:

A closer walk with God;
More prayer and Bible study;
More and better service.

Stronger Sabbath schools:

More Sabbath school members;
More daily lesson study;
More regular on-time attendance;

Stronger church and society members:

More Morning Watch observers;
More members of Attainment;
More faithful search for the lost.

Unconditional surrender service:

In behalf of our children and youth;
In behalf of our neighbors and friends;
In behalf of the waiting millions beyond.

* * *

INVESTMENT FUND DAY

The morning of November 20 was bright and sunny in St. Johns, Antigua, and at the hour appointed for Sabbath school the church was well filled with smiling faces. All were eager to enter into the Investment Fund Program. The children and young people did their part well in the program sent out by the General Conference Sabbath School Department.

The last exercise before the Ingathering was "The Two Baskets." This was rendered by two of our girls who, after their recitation, walked down the aisle of the church and collected the cans in their baskets. There were many cans labelled, "Sabbath School Investment Fund." Nor was variety lacking. There were cocoa, baking powder, and talcum powder tins of different sizes. There was also a miniature cash box with key, and some Keating's insect powder tins with many others.

I think the part of the program that was enjoyed the most was the opening of the cans. We did this in the presence of all and as each can was opened the owner told what his investment was. Two had dedicated Sabbath milk from their cows. Several had given one hen each and all the eggs had been sold. A dressmaker had given a certain piece of work. Others had given garden produce. The superintendent of the Sabbath school had dedicated some vines which yielded about \$2.00 worth of fine tomatoes. After all was counted and brought in, we had \$25.13.

At one of our country Sabbath schools which my husband attended that day, they also had a very good program. One old man who is a cripple and had little of this world's goods dedicated a kid. He had found it hard to get a customer for it, but after it was dedicated to the Lord, he sold it within a few days, and the proceeds went into the Investment Fund Can. One little boy whose blind father is in the Poor House and who is one of four supported by his mother, also gave a kid and all its offspring for the Investment Fund. A wee fellow of two years asked to be allowed to give his chicken. Surely the Lord will bless these sacrifices made for His cause. Mr. Edmed felt it was the best Sabbath school meeting he had attended.

St. Kitts got \$19.00 on that day, and little Frederiksted with a membership of twenty-five reached over \$14.00. The superintendent at this school devoted to it the profits in his business the first Monday in each month. Brother Henry, one of our colporteurs dedicated the best day's sales each month. One month his best day was seven orders for "Home Physician." He feels that his success since has been due to this gift. He had 100% delivery last month. He delivered \$60.00 worth of books in one day. Every one was waiting for the books with cash in hand.

I have not heard from all our schools yet, but some of the small ones have done quite well. They have as their record \$4.50, \$3.00, and so on. I do feel thankful for the blessing of the Lord that has attended this plan, and I believe it has come to stay and will in an easy way help these poor people to increase their Sabbath school offerings without any very great strain on them.

MRS. H. J. EDMED.

—* * *

"CHAIRS OF WELLNESS"

"It is said that Henry Ward Beecher prayed not only for those who were absent from the church services on beds of sickness, but particularly for those who were absent on 'chairs of wellness'."

There are many persons, and we would not by any means exclude Seventh-day Adventists, who are afflicted with periodical Sabbath sickness. They are abundantly able to carry on their labours of the week up to the very beginning of the Sabbath on Friday evening; they appear well able to begin their labours early on Sunday morning, and oftentimes at the sunset hour Saturday evening; but, for some unaccountable reason, they are quite incapa-

pacitated during the hours of the holy Sabbath. They are unable to attend the Sabbath school, or the church service, or if they do manage to reach the service, they make the occasion one for physical sleeping and rest. This class particularly needs the prayers of God's people, even above those who are kept away from the Lord's house by actual physical disability. While the Sabbath of the Lord was given man as a day of physical rest, it was likewise given as a day for spiritual refreshing; and if he enjoys the one without improving the other, he misses the great purpose of God in the establishment of this institution. To the "shut-ins" and to those who, in consequence of physical disability are kept from meeting with those of like precious faith, our hearts go out in fullest sympathy. But as well, let us remember the more needy class who remain at home on "chairs of wellness." Please read Mal. 3: 16, 17; Heb. 10: 25. —Alfred E. Bacon in *Australasian Record*.

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THE MESSAGE IN HUNGARY

Although there has been quite a lot of opposition especially against our book evangelists, as our colporteurs in Europe choose to be called, and our chapel in Miskolcz has been closed by the police since March, the brethren hope that this situation will soon be changed. Some of our lady colporteurs have suffered a great deal of persecution in their field at the hands of the local police. They had to report every day, and finally they were put in jail to get them ready for a hearing. But while they were detained they gave Bible readings to all the policemen and quite an interest arose, so that they were able to sell a number of books to them. After that the policemen treated our sisters very politely.

The next morning they were brought before the judge for the hearing. Eventually they were asked, "What do you tell the people when you come to them?" Whereupon, Sister E. replied, "Let me show you, just let me show you." With these words she took her prospectus and gave him a regular canvass, according to instructions received in our colporteurs' meetings. The judge listened very attentively, and when the sister had finished, he said, "Why, this is not the work of a pedlar, this is missionary work of the highest order." So the judge confirmed the fact that the Lord had already communicated to us by His servant, Sister White. The police record of that hearing was noth-

ing short of a missionary letter. Our sisters were dismissed without any fine and were allowed to work quietly in the days that followed.

Some people have a real desire to get our books. A brother was canvassing in a certain town, and offered some of our magazines to a lady, who then inquired if he had any other books. At the same time she began to look through the colporteur's bag herself. She found the book, "The Mystery Disclosed," and after looking over it she said in a disappointed tone, "That is not what I wanted." "What," said our colporteur, "how does the book look that you are after?" She answered, "It has a cross on the cover, and the title is something like 'The Steps to Jesus.'" Then our book evangelist showed her "Steps to Christ." Full of joy, the lady exclaimed, "That is the one I have been looking for. I have been constantly praying to God that He would send it to me."

Experiences like these encourage our brethren in Hungary to hold out even amid difficulties.

E. KOTZ.

—* * *

Be a banner school during 1927! Make your offerings, daily study, and regular attendance as nearly 100% as possible. Then watch for further announcements from your Conference Sabbath School Secretary of just how your school can obtain the pennant to be awarded to the school that reaches the standard!

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WARNING OR WINNING?

"Let us stop talking about warning, and talk more about winning" said the pastor as he spoke to the little flock gathered at the mid week prayer meeting. For fifty years we have been talking about "giving the warning" and it surely is time we change our view point, and get the vision of WINNING.

It is a noticeable fact that the missionaries coming in from heathen fields do not talk much about "warning" but they do tell us a good deal about "winning" souls to the Master. Coming down to the last days of probation this gospel message is to go to all nations, kindred, tongues and peoples, and it is to be a WINNING message for Christ is soon coming for His people.

"He that WINNETH souls is wise" the Word tells us. Is it because we do not have that "Wisdom" that we feel more free to warn than to win? If so, would it not be well to see where the real trouble lies and find a remedy? The gospel seed has been sown, and now the harvest time is here. Where are the laborers who really can bring in the fruits and gather in the sheaves? Let us catch the vision of WINNING and prepare for it. Perhaps the Fireside Correspondence School can help you. Let us hear from those who want to study how to WIN souls for the Master.

LIZZIE M. GREGG,
Registrar.

Fireside Correspondence School,
Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

DIVISION OFFICE NOTES

Brother and Sister R. R. Coble and baby, missionaries from the Inca Union Mission in South America, called at the mission home enroute to the homeland on furlough.

Another missionary family from South America, also from the Inca Union Mission, Brother and Sister Isaac C. Schneider and baby, stopped between boats at Balboa recently. They were returning home on account of Brother Schneider's ill health, caused from a severe siege of typhoid. They lost two children from the same malady, and the baby's life was despaired of just before they left their field.

The Inter-American division office staff welcomed another worker to its staff. Sister Asta Gehman, of Portland, Oregon, arrived in Balboa late in December on the S. S. "Mongolia." We are truly thankful for this much needed addition to our working force.

Sister Norman Brayshaw of California, who accompanied a patient to South America, stopped at the mission home for a few days on her return. She was returning by way of Havana, Cuba, where she expected to visit her sister, Mrs. Fred W. Miller.

Brother F. L. Harrison, division secretary and treasurer, returned to the office January 27th after a two months' trip through the East Caribbean and Caribbean Unions. He reports a very profitable time spent attending general meetings and auditing books. He will tell us about it in the March number of the MESSENGER.

When its total book sales were made up by the Pacific Press Branch at Cristobal at the close of 1926, it was found that there had been an increase of approximately \$3,000 over the sales of 1925. It was gratifying indeed to note that the conferences and missions in Inter-America had taken \$111,345 worth of subscription books and \$9,133.65 worth of trade books, as well as \$495.50 worth of tracts, making a total sale in the division of \$120,975.35 for the year. The retail value of *El Centinela* magazines circulated during the year amounted to \$14,155.50. Taking everything into consideration, the year that has passed has been a good one in the circulation of literature; and our colporteur forces and people generally are looking forward for larger records to be made in 1927.

For the past five weeks Elder L. L. Hutchinson has been conducting a series of evangelistic meetings in a large new tent recently purchased by the West Caribbean Conference. Its location is central, its seating comfortable, and general equipment and decoration attractive. Large crowds have been in nightly attendance, and from all reports it seems that the influence of the truths presented is felt throughout Colon. Up to date about eighteen persons have definitely expressed their intention to keep the Sabbath and unite with this movement. The choir of the Colon church, and its members generally, have given Elder Hutchinson strong support and assistance throughout this series of meetings.

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GENERAL MEETINGS

ANTILLIAN UNION

Haitian Mission February 17-27
Santo Domingo Mission February 3-13
Union Mission February 28 to March 4

CARIBBEAN UNION

West Caribbean Conference March 17-27
Union Mission March 28 to April 1

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION

Leeward Islands Mission February 3-13
Division Council April 3-12

HARVEST INGATHERING IN COLOMBIA

I have heard many speeches made in the United States to the effect that there is a great blessing in store for those who contribute to mission work, but I never saw the immediate results so vividly as I have in Colombia.

While conducting our Harvest Ingathering in the city of Bogotá, we also passed out invitations to the series of evangelistic meetings we were holding at that time. Many who thus learned of our meetings attended frequently. Some of these newly-made friends are regular in their attendance and are eager to learn more about the great plan of God for them. Others whom we met during these days of Harvest Ingathering desire to send their children to our mission school next year. Surely this work has brought blessings to those in Bogotá who helped by donations, as well as to those who made the calls.

Pray for us that the Lord of the harvest will give us many sheaves for the great Harvest Ingathering day above.

GEORGE C. NICKLE.

—* * *

TRACTS CAN GO ANYWHERE

Tracts can go anywhere. Tracts know no fear. Tracts never tire. Tracts can be multiplied without end by the press. Tracts can travel at little expense. They run up and down like the angels of God, blessing all, giving to all, and asking no gifts in return. They can talk with many as well as to one. They need no public room in which to tell their story. They can tell it in the kitchen or in the shop, the parlor or the closet, in the railroad coach or in the street car, on the broad highway or in the footpath through the field. They take no note of scoffs, or jeers, or taunts. No one can betray them into hasty or random expressions. Though they will not always answer questions, they will tell their story twice, or thrice, or four times over, if you wish them. And they can be made to speak on every subject; they may be made to speak wisely and well. They can, in short, be made vehicles of all truth, the teachers of all classes, the benefactors of all lands.

Who can measure the influence of one little tract put into the hand of an unconverted person?—Selected.

—* * *

WORD FROM PITCAIRN

[The following paragraphs are taken from a letter recently received at the Mission Board office from M. E. McCoy, treasurer of the Pitcairn Island church.]

"We realize the good we may do on board of passing ships with our songs and reading matter. We distribute hundreds and hundreds of pages this way, and we pray God will bless it to the salvation of souls. I will here mention one special boat, the 'Ionic,' running between London and New Zealand. Good Captain Jackson calls both outward and homeward, and he asks for a song service every trip. After the songs he collects an offering for missions. During last year and up to May this year, he has collected from the passengers of his boat over \$45 for missions. This is helping in God's work and I believe the Lord will bless him.

"It cheers our hearts to learn of the progress of the dear message in the darkened corners of the earth, India, Japan, Africa, South America, and the islands of the sea. It gives us joy to know that all trials and sorrows of this life will soon be over, and that God's children shall be gathered home.

We are all well here at present, enjoying much of the blessing of our heavenly Father,

with no sickness of any kind among us. Our Sabbath school membership is 176, and our church membership is 125, three members having died since Brother Hare went away.

"I know you will be interested in what we are doing in our Harvest Ingathering for missions. We began this work in 1924 by setting apart a special ship, and all that we received went for missions. Well, that year we raised \$258. Last year we had two collections and reached over \$350. We thought that this was the very best we could possibly do. This year, as there are fifty-two families on the island, we planned for each family to try to obtain a pound each. I am very much pleased to say that on May 8, we totaled over seventy-seven pounds (about \$375), quite a little beyond the goal set for ourselves. I have never seen a more willing offering than this. If no ships come this way, then no money. So we prayed and every one did his best, I believe, even to sacrifice, and God sent the ships and the money. And more, He gave to all the spirit of willingness and liberality, for which we thank and bless His holy name. All the honor goes to Him, and now our prayer is that He will use this money for the conversion of some souls who are still in darkness.

"Brethren, pray for us. Pray that our lives here may be a beacon light to passengers going to and fro, and also that when Jesus comes our little kingdom may be saved in His glorious kingdom. Christian love and brotherly fellowship to all of like precious faith."

—* * *

THE NEXT STEP

You have engaged in Harvest Ingathering. You have received the people's money. Now take the next step. Seek out the ones who gave most willingly, and tell them a little more about our work. In this personal house-to-house labor you will be greatly assisted by the lessons in our course "How to Prepare and Conduct a Bible Reading," which is really a course in personal work. Let us tell you about it and about "Practical Nursing," and many other interesting studies that will pleasantly occupy your evenings.

Fireside Correspondence School.
Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

Obituary

Benjamin Emanuel Brown was born in St. Thomas, Jamaica, and died at San San, Bocas del Toro, Panama, November 15, 1926, after three day's illness. He was thirty-six years of age.

Brother Brown was a faithful member of the San San church where he always carried some responsibility. Besides other relatives, he leaves to mourn, his wife and infant daughter.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." A. E. CONNOR.

INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER

Editor—Mrs. E. E. ANDROSS

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