

# THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

Vol. IV

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No. 4

## *The Will of God Concerning Us*

MRS. E. G. WHITE

The knowledge of God is obtained from His word. The experimental knowledge of true godliness, found in daily consecration and service, insures the highest culture of body, mind, and soul. This consecration of all our powers to God prevents self-exaltation. The impartation of divine power honors our sincere striving after wisdom that will enable us to use our highest faculties in a way that will honor God and bless our fellow men. As these faculties are derived from God, and not self-created, they should be appreciated as talents from God to be employed in His service.

The heaven-entrusted faculties of the mind are to be treated as the higher powers, to rule the kingdom of the body. The natural appetites and passions are to be brought under the control of the conscience and the spiritual powers. . . .

The religion of Christ never degrades the receiver; it never makes him coarse or rough, discourteous or self-important, passionate or hard-hearted. On the contrary, it refines the taste, sanctifies the judgment, and purifies and ennoble the thoughts, bringing them into captivity to Christ. God's ideal for His children is higher than the highest human thought can reach. He has given in His holy law a transcript of His character.

Christ is the greatest Teacher that the world has ever known. And what is the standard that He holds before all who believe in Him?—"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Matt. 5: 48. As God is perfect in His sphere, so man may be perfect in his sphere.

The ideal of Christian character is Christlikeness. There is opened before us a path of constant advancement. We have an object to gain, a standard to

reach, that includes everything good and pure and noble and elevated. There should be continual striving and constant progress onward and upward toward perfection of character.

Paul says, "I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3: 13, 14.

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### LET JESUS GUIDE

Poor discouraged pilgrim, trudging thru this world of sin,  
Let Jesus guide you ever, always put your trust in Him;  
Drop not your earnest gaze from the beacon light on high,  
For help divine is yours and heavens helpers too are nigh.

The tribulation deals you heavy blows as on you go,  
The mind is ever troubled and your faith is ebbing low,  
Listen for a still small voice, piercing thru the strife;  
Heed the Master's whispers and you'll shape a nobler life.

When you're most discouraged and you feel life doesn't pay,  
Then your Guide and Helper comes along to lead the way.  
When you look ahead and fail to see the roads far end,  
Don't confide in self too much, but look to Christ your Friend.

Never feel that you're alone, but in His love abide,  
If in doubt about your course, let Jesus be your Guide;  
Peace and joy will be your lot when trusting in His love,  
For God who dwells in heaven sends your blessings from above.

C. LAWRENCE POHLE.

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This is the will of God concerning human beings, even their sanctification. In urging our way upward, heavenward, every faculty must be kept in the most healthy condition, prepared to do faithful service. The powers with which God has endowed man are to be put to the stretch. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." Luke 10: 27. Man can not possibly do this of himself; he must have divine aid. What part is the human agent to act?—"Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." Phil. 2: 12, 13.

Without the divine working, man could do no good thing. God calls every man to repentance, yet man can not even repent unless the Holy Spirit work upon his heart. But the Lord wants man to wait until he thinks that he has repented before he takes steps toward Jesus. The Saviour is continually drawing men to repentance; they need only to submit to be drawn, and their hearts will be melted in penitence.

Man is allotted a part in this great struggle for everlasting life; he must respond to the working of the Holy Spirit. It will require a struggle to break through the powers of darkness and the Spirit works in him to accomplish this. But man is no passive being, to be saved in indolence. He is called upon to strain every muscle and exercise every faculty in the struggle for immortality; yet it is God that supplies the efficiency. No human being can be saved in indolence. The Lord bids us: "Strive to enter in at the strait gate; for many, I say unto you will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." "Wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in there because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Luke 13: Matt. 7: 13, 14.

**ATTENDING GENERAL MEETINGS**

On account of the extended territory of the fields throughout Inter-America the division workers find it necessary to spend considerable time on visits to the various fields. In November of the past year Pastors Andross, Wood, Green, and the writer sailed from Cristobal for an extended trip to the southeastern part of the division. Our first stop was at Port of Colombia where the boat lay in dock for a day, unloading cargo. We improved the opportunity by visiting the mission headquarters of the Atlantic Colombia Mission, located at Barranquilla, twenty miles from the port. We were greeted by Pastor and Sister E. W. Thurber and Sister Prince, mother of Sister Thurber, who has been in the message for over sixty years. These workers are of good courage. Brother Thurber reported many interests springing up in different parts of the mission over which he has supervision.

Leaving Port of Colombia we sailed for Willemstad, Curacao. An impressive scene greeted us as we neared the island and saw the many large ships from every part of the world anchored in the harbor. This is a free port, consequently a great deal of trading is carried on here.

We were very glad to meet Pastor and Sister C. E. Knight at the Caribbean Union office. They have been actively engaged in missionary work in Willemstad and have raised up quite a company of believers. Sister Knight has been holding Bible readings with many families and assisting Elder Knight with the services. A goodly number came out in the evening to listen to Pastor Andross as he told them of the progress that the message is making, not only in the Inter-American division but throughout the world field.

From Curacao our boat sailed to Port Cabello where we stopped only a short time. The next harbor we reached was La Guaira. Here we were met by Pastor W. E. Baxter and three brethren from Caracas. We were glad to see Elder Baxter back in the field again. He and his family had just arrived that morning from the States where they have been on furlough.

Again we steamed out into the Caribbean and after two days reached Port of Spain, Trinidad. Here we spent approximately three weeks attending the organization meeting of the East Caribbean Union Conference, the East Caribbean Union committee meeting and the biennial session of the South Caribbean Conference. The work is

onward also in this part of the division. At the close of the South Caribbean Conference a number of the workers set their goals for one hundred persons during the year 1927.

There are approximately seven hundred young men and young women in the East Caribbean Union who are looking forward to the opportunity of attending the East Caribbean Training School which is to be located on the island of Trinidad. During our stay in Port of Spain, considerable time was spent investigating different prospective school sites. Several different estates were considered, but finally it was decided to ask the government for a grant of crown land on which to erect the school. We are waiting for the reply to our request. Professor C. J. Boyd, who founded the West Caribbean Training School, is very enthusiastic concerning the new school to be established in Trinidad. He expects to have his entire faculty with him by the middle of the year, and the school begun in earnest.

From Trinidad we sailed to Georgetown, British Guiana, where the biennial session of the Guiana Conference was held. Brother and Sister A. W. Cott and Brother R. J. Christian and family were in Georgetown waiting for the rains to cease before attempting the journey to Mt. Roraima. They expected to leave the early part of February.

The workers in the Guiana Conference are of good courage, and the message is going to the different parts of the field. However, thus far, the work has been confined largely to British Guiana. Workers and means are needed to extend the work into Dutch and French Guianas.

After spending one week in Guiana, Pastor Andross and the writer returned to Caracas to attend the biennial meeting of the Venezuela Mission. Elder Wood sailed for the Leeward Islands to attend a general meeting there. Pastor Green, who had remained in Colombia in the interests of the colporteur institute work, joined us again in Venezuela.

Our hearts were stirred as we listened to Brother Julio Garcia's report of his experiences in the interior of Venezuela. Brother Garcia is a convert of Brother Lopez who lost his life in the Andes Mountains four years ago while carrying the printed page to the people living in those remote regions.

At present Pastor and Mrs. Andross and Pastor Green are attending the general meetings in the Antillian Union.

F. L. HARRISON,  
*Secretary-treasurer.*

**ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION**

Josefina 56, Havana, Cuba

J. A. LELAND - - - - Superintendent  
N. L. TAYLOR - - - - Secy.-Treas.

**REPORT READ AT THE SANTO DOMINGO MEETING**

C. V. ACHENBACH

It is with profound gratitude to God that we assemble again in the capacity of a general meeting. All have looked forward to this meeting with more than ordinary interest for a long time. We worked and prayed that this meeting would be the best general meeting in the history of the Santo Dominican mission.

As we look back over the year and see the providential way in which the Lord has worked for the saving of the lost, we thank Him for the degree of success that has attended the efforts of our workers and lay members in their missionary work. Many are rejoicing in their new-found faith and in the transformation of life that they have experienced, as with their whole soul they have accepted the Third Angel's Message. Their hearts are full of praise and thanksgiving to God for what He has done for them.

The Republic of Santo Domingo has a population of almost a million people, the greater part of whom are still in ignorance of the message of heaven. We realize to some extent the responsibility that rests upon us as workers and lay members in giving the truth to the thousands of people scattered throughout this republic. We feel also that the work must be done speedily if we expect to finish the work on time. It is very evident that we cannot continue at the same pace that we have been going in the past; but that greater earnestness and zeal must be manifested in the work of soul saving.

The few that have been added year by year to our churches is not sufficient to satisfy us, nor do we believe that the Lord is satisfied with such small results, with the means that is spent and the efforts that are put forth. Surely God would have us see far greater results.

The Spirit of Prophecy tells us that angels of God are preparing ears to hear and hearts to receive the warning; that we are to seek to fulfill our high calling, to do others good, to be instrumental in the salvation of at least one soul. "But more may be saved than one." "Testimonies," Vol. II, p. 115.

With these encouraging statements before us we feel confident that God

will add His blessings to the efforts that shall be put forth to reach this goal. As we go out in faith doing our part faithfully, the Lord will bring us in contact with these souls with which the angels have been working: O how blessed it is to be connected with such a work in which we can have the cooperation of the heavenly agencies!

During the year 1925, twenty-four persons were baptized and added to the church. According to the records at hand we find that the same number were baptized in 1926. The membership at the close of the year 1926 was 212. We are sorry to report that quite a number had to be disfellowshipped during the past year. We hope that the question of retaining what we have gained will be studied thoroughly, and that we may all work faithfully to help our brethren and sisters remain faithful unto the end.

Since coming to this field, I have visited all of our churches and companies. We have had good, encouraging meetings. A spirit of earnestness and devotion is manifested by our brethren and sisters. We believe that we have a loyal people here in this mission, who have the work of God at heart and are desirous to see it go forward to a speedy triumph.

In 1925 the tithe for the year was \$2,688.91; in 1926 it was \$2,802.17, a gain of \$113.26. The offerings for missions in 1925 amounted to \$2,566.98; in 1926, \$2,618.41, an average of twenty-five cents a week per member.

During the past year a nice re-enforced concrete church building was erected in San Pedro de Macoris. The building has been paid for, and we hope to pay for the lot before the end of this year. Many similar memorials should be built in all of our principal cities. The time is ripe to establish a strong work in Santiago, in La Romana and in other places.

Plans have been made to build a small chapel in Las Lagunas. The material is on the ground and we hope to begin building soon after the general meeting. A gentleman who is interested in the truth has donated one lot. A number of the merchants have promised to help us in the enterprise. Some have donated material and others money. We hope that we can continue to do a similar work in other parts of our field.

The book department records show that we have sold \$7,268.16 worth of literature. We hope that very soon many more of our people will dedicate their time to the distribution of our good books and magazines.

God through His Spirit has said that "The proper circulation and distribution of our publications is one of the most important branches of the present work. But little can be done without this." "Testimonies," Vol. I, p. 687. And the promise of the Lord is that, "If in faith we maintain His principles, He will cooperate with us in placing the books in the hands of those whom they will benefit." "Testimonies," Vol. VII, p. 158. It is our earnest desire to cooperate thus with the divine agencies in this heaven-ordained work.

In our educational work we believe that we are not behind any of the fields of the Antillian Union. At present we have seven schools under the direction of the mission. These schools are exerting a good influence, and their work is greatly appreciated. They have opened doors for us to preach the message in different homes and have made us many friends. We believe that this line of work can be fostered and carried forward with increasing success. There are calls for more schools than we can operate.

The Lord has blessed the efforts of the Sabbath School Department. The attendance has grown and the offerings have increased. Recently we have sent out a questionnaire to the young people with the hope of securing information that will enable us to work for them in a more intelligent way.

We believe that greater earnestness needs to be manifested in all lines of work. Our church members, old and young, need a training for more efficient service in the finishing of the work of God in this field. It is our earnest endeavor to cooperate in this blessed work until the Master comes, that we may be able to hear the words, "Thou hast been faithful, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." I pray that this may be the happy lot of each one of us.

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THE PORTO RICAN MISSION MEETING

The biennial meeting of the Porto Rican Mission was held at Cayey, January 20-27. The delegates representing the fifteen churches now on the island were seated and the business of the mission duly executed. Since the last biennial session the Virgin Islands and Santo Domingo have been removed from the Porto Rican Mission. Thus the work grows.

The report of the superintendent revealed that at the close of 1926 the membership of the mission was 382. There were 165 baptized during the bi-

ennial period and a total of 273 additions to the church. However, because of a number of deaths and apostasies and 118 members having left the field the net gain over the preceding period was reduced to 19.

Many lay members in Porto Rico are doing successful soul-winning work. A Mayaguez one sister has won thirteen people to the message. At another place two brethren have organized a Sabbath school of 25. The prospects are that three churches will be organized as a result of the home missionary work.

The secretary's report showed an increase in tithe and Harvest Ingathering receipts for the biennial period. A gain of nearly \$1,000.00 tithe was reported for 1926 over 1925, notwithstanding the destructive hurricane last summer.

Brother Leo Odom and his colporteurs delivered \$14,433.69 worth of our good books during the two-year term. This represents a good gain over the previous period.

The school at Aibonito, under the direction of Professor H. Mangold, is doing good work for the young people. Four of the lady students earned scholarships selling our literature, two of whom accomplished this task two years in succession.

There are eighteen workers in the mission, two of whom are ordained ministers and three licensed ministers.

Elder H. E. Baasch having accepted the call to take charge of the work in Cuba, following the furlough that is due now, Elder L. J. Borrowdale was called to take the superintendency of the Porto Rican Mission.

Our work in this beautiful island was begun many years ago, and today the prospects are brighter than ever for a goodly harvest of souls under the faithful labors of workers and church members.

J. A. STEVENS,  
Sec. Home Miss. Dept. General Conf.

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CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION

San José, Costa Rica

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

INTEREST IN COLON

A petition signed by sixty-seven residents of Colon, all non-Adventists was presented to Elder L. L. Hutchins the Sunday night on which he had expected to close his series of six week meetings, urging that the meetings continue. Throughout the entire series held in a large tent well located, the

had been a very marked interest. Early in the effort twenty-seven persons signed the covenant definitely promising to obey the commandments of God and join the baptismal class, which during the past few weeks has grown to some sixty or more members. The question as to the advisability of continuing the public effort was settled when the petition was received and it was decided to continue the services two or three weeks longer. The offerings given during the six weeks amounted to \$158.10, or an average of \$4.27 each evening.

Those who know of the conditions in this city, and the terrible wickedness that prevails will appreciate the sentiment expressed in the petition. We believe all of the *Messenger* readers will be interested in this petition, which follows:

Colon, Rep. of Panama,  
February 11, 1927.

Pastor L. L. Hutchinson,  
Colon, Rep. of Panama.

Dear Pastor Hutchinson:

We, the undersigned, residents of the City of Colon, do beg to bring before your notice the way we have enjoyed the series of Tent Meetings you have been holding in this place during the past five weeks. We also wish to convey to you through this medium, our high appreciation of yourself and wife and pray that the Lord will use you both in a marked manner in the sending forth of His word.

Although we have not fully taken our stand for the points of faith which you have advocated so strongly, yet we are convinced that you are preaching the best warning message for this time, and be sure that the help and influence of our meetings will be far reaching. Already fruits of your labor can be seen and around this neighborhood in the changed lives of many who have listened to your sermons.

Now that your series of meetings are coming to their close, we think we could be in order to lay before you the fact that another six weeks would be greatly appreciated, and are, therefore, asking if you would influence the Mission Board you represent to prolong the series of meetings. Such a move would not only create a more lasting influence on the lives of the people, but would increase the number who have indicated their intention to obey the truth.

Wishing you health and an abundance of the rich blessings of God, we

Very sincerely yours,  
(Sixty-seven signatures follow.)

ECHOES FROM ATLANTIC  
COLOMBIA

We are glad to welcome to this mission Brother Jose T. Zepherin, who came to us from Europe after having canvassed very successfully in Spain and other countries. He is entering the colporteur work here, and we believe will be instrumental in bringing the light of truth to many homes.

Another family near Barranquilla have lately begun to keep the Sabbath, and will soon be ready to unite with the church.

Our office recently received its first report from the Sabbath school at Fundacion, thus making four reporting Sabbath schools in our field. The report was accompanied by a remittance of tithes and offerings. This school was raised up by the missionary efforts of Brother Castro. There is opportunity for other lay members to do a similar work.

The members of our mission are much pleased with the new *Mensajero*. We have felt a great need for just such a paper to keep the believers informed of the wonderful progress of our message in the fields of this division.

In a previous number of the MESSENGER I wrote of the death of one of the persecutors of our brethren in San Juan de Cesar. It was my privilege recently to have a very pleasant visit with his son, and to give him several copies of the *Centinela*. He sat reading them for a long time, and said they were very good. We pray that God may touch his heart through them.

While in Cienaga recently, I called on an English-speaking family, and immediately on entering noticed a copy of "Our Day" on the table. I asked them what they thought of the book, and they told me that they had bought it several years ago, had read it a great deal, and were thoroughly convinced that it taught the truth. I believe they will accept our message.

E. W. THURBER.



THE VENEZUELAN MISSION

The biennial general meeting of the Venezuelan Mission was held in the chapel at the mission headquarters in Caracas, a modern city of nearly 100,000 population. Situated in the mountains near the sea coast at an elevation of 3,800 feet, Caracas has a very healthful and pleasant climate.

The session extended from January

14 to 18, inclusive, having been preceded by a colporteurs' institute of one week. All three of the organized churches in the mission were represented, and the delegates took an active part in laying the plans that were adopted for the future advancement of the work.

The membership is still small as compared with other fields, but care has been taken to instruct the candidates thoroughly before baptizing them. A goodly number are being prepared for this solemn rite and the next year should see a marked growth in membership. At the close of 1926 the membership was 155. The three churches are located at Caracas, Camaguan and San Fernando. A school at Camaguan, conducted by Brother and Sister Greenidge, has been a strong influence for advancing the message in all the surrounding territory.

Brother F. W. Steeves, field and home missionary secretary, has led a fine band of colporteurs during the biennial term. These eight earnest workers have carried our message-filled books into all sections of the country. In 1926 they sold \$20,000 worth of literature; and surely such seed-sowing will bring a glorious harvest. Already souls have been won by these workers as they have pioneered the way, even into the section where Brother Lopez was assassinated.

All along the rivers of the interior the workers are going, and as they go they leave companies of believers. Hundreds are interested and seeking the truth. God is doing a great work all through the llanos, and many wonderful experiences were related by the workers. Bitter enemies of the message have been converted and become as active in its favor as they were to oppose it.

Elder L. V. Cleaves and Brother Julio Garcia Diaz have labored faithfully in the llanos, going by boat from place to place to follow up the interests. Many are being prepared for baptism. The brethren have found interested people 500 miles in the interior from Caracas.

Elder L. J. Borrowdale has been superintendent of the field for the biennial period and did faithful pioneer work for two years previous. Now he has been called to the leadership of the work in Porto Rico, and Elder William Steele has accepted the leadership of the work in Venezuela. Brother I. M. Gish is taking hold of the secretary-treasurer's work in a strong way and all the workers are united in their efforts to win a harvest of souls in this difficult field.

J. A. STEVENS,

Sec. Home Miss. Dept. General Conf.

**EAST CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION**  
 Box 66, Port of Spain, Trinidad  
 M. A. HOLLISTER - - - - - Superintendent  
 ETHEL EDMED - - - - - Sec'y Treas.

**THE GUIANA MISSION MEETING**

British Guiana is of historic interest in the development of the work of the Third Angel's Message. In the early eighties, Pastor W. J. Boynton of New York asked the captain of a ship to distribute a bundle of literature at Georgetown when the vessel arrived at its port. The promise was kept by the captain's merely tossing the bundle of literature on the dock. It was distributed, however, and fell into the hands of seekers for truth who took their stand for the faith. They were our first believers in this part of the world. Now there are almost six hundred members, most of whom are in British Guiana.

A general meeting for the three Guianas was held in the church at Georgetown, Demarara, British Guiana, December 30 to January 8. The Guiana Mission with its sixteen churches was organized into a conference; also three new churches were received into the conference. Very encouraging reports were given of the progress of the work in various parts of the field, but there is still much territory to be entered by the message. Very little has been done in Dutch Guiana, and French Guiana is practically untouched.

It is from the territory of this field that the Mt. Roraima Indian Mission has been formed. This is better known as the "Davis" Indian Mission. We were glad to have at this meeting Brother and Sister Cott and Brother and Sister Christian who responded to the call of the General Conference to open this mission. They were delayed in their journey to the interior by torrential rains. A full month will be required to make the journey from Georgetown to the site of the new mission.

The Guiana group is a hard field to work, but precious jewels are there waiting to be found and prepared for the Saviour's coming. One of the workers expressed the wish that he could be divided into ten pieces so that he could care for the many interests along the rivers.

In the Pomeroon River section the message is gathering out a fine company of believers; most of them coming from Catholicism. Some are suffering persecution and others have been driven from home for the truth's sake. In that section alone there are seventy in the

Sabbath school, twenty-eight of whom are baptized members, and forty are in the baptismal class.

The workers set as a goal for 1927 three hundred baptized believers and the lay members increased this number to 440. There were 110 baptized during the biennial period.

The treasurer's report showed a good growth in tithes and offerings despite the disastrous drought in 1926. A spirit of sacrifice has been manifested, for wages in general are very low, often not more than thirty-five cents a day. The Sabbath school goal of \$75.00 for missions for the two Sabbaths of the meeting was a high one, but it was reached.

Pastor D. C. Babcock was elected president of the conference and Brother Fred Hutchinson, secretary-treasurer. Sister Hutchinson will care for the Sabbath School and Missionary Volunteer Departments and Brother C. H. Carter will direct the work of the Publishing and Home Missionary Departments.

Workers and delegates returned to their various places refreshed and inspired to achieve greater results and hasten on the final triumph of God's work in that part of the great harvest field.

J. A. STEVENS,  
 Sec. Home Miss. Dept., Gen. Conf.



**MEXICAN UNION MISSION**

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

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

**MARKED PROGRESS**

Our little church in Guadalajara, once the center of the Mexican work, "which became (margin) dead and lived again," Rev. 2: 8, is coming right up again. Last September it had a membership of five. Now it has fifteen members and five more are awaiting baptism. Very soon this little company will be organized into a church.

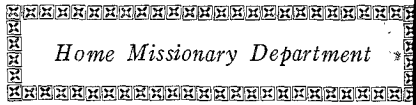
After four months of labor the regular attendance has been brought up to thirty. The last quarter of 1926 showed a remarkable increase in all lines of endeavor. Every member in the missionary society is a worker, hence we can report 100 per cent reporting. The Sabbath school offerings for the fourth quarter amounted to 107 pesos. After a very spiritual week of prayer, the brethren came forward with an offering of 45 pesos, thus showing their appreciation to the Lord for the many blessings received during the year. We are

happy to report 800 pesos tithes received from our little company since the re-organization of our mission work in Guadalajara.

Four of our members have earned Bible Year certificates, and now have passed the Standard of Attainment examinations. One brother set a good example to the rest by taking his examination on New Year's day.

Our corps of workers this year is small, consisting of three evangelical canvassers and one Bible worker, besides Mrs. Pohle and myself. Interested companies are springing up all about us. These need attention at once. The canvassers are stirring up interests wherever they go. All these openings must be filled. The 3,500,000 within the bounds of our mission must be given opportunity to accept the message. We solicit the prayers of God's people.

ERNEST POHLE.



**CO-OPERATION WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

When the angel of the Lord spake to Philip as he was engaged in that remarkable revival in Samaria, Philip did not excuse himself by saying that he was too busy to go upon that missionary trip on the road to Gaza. This district was desert, and naturally would not appeal to him as being a promising field in which to win souls; but he recognized the Spirit's voice, and immediately arose and went. The experience that followed proved that he would have committed a serious sin of omission if he had neglected to heed promptly the Spirit's call. The eunuch's chariot was rapidly moving towards Egypt, and soon the opportunity would have been past.

The Spirit is giving just as definite commands today, and has prepared individuals to respond to the message of salvation when the human instrumentality does his part faithfully.

In the last chapter of Revelation after the declaration of the Saviour "Behold, I come quickly," the invitation of the Spirit is recorded: "The Spirit and the bride say, Come." This indicates that the Spirit will plead in special way with wayward man immediately preceding the coming of Christ but this pleading is to prepare the heart for the human ambassador. After the Spirit has done this preparatory work the second command is given: "L

him that heareth say, Come." This is a definite command to the people of the message, and applies to them in a most emphatic way at this present time.

The Spirit has been speaking in clear and definite tones to a multitude of people in the Inter-American Division during the past few months. Almost every week we meet those who have been influenced toward the truth by the providential shaping of circumstances surrounding their lives; and they are deeply impressed that the Spirit has been speaking to them.

The time has come for God's people to co-operate with this work of the Spirit, and to do so promptly. The repetition of the gracious invitation, "come," by the bearer of the message, will surely meet with a ready response from the heart made tender by the wooing of the Spirit.

It is important that every one who heralds the invitation makes sure that he has "come" himself. One writer has well said, "The value of our work for God depends on the degree of our intimacy with Him at the time we do it."

C. E. Wood.

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NEWS NOTES

We have every reason to believe that a great forward movement will be seen in the missionary activity of the lay members in both the South Caribbean and Guiana conferences as the result of the general meetings which have been held in these fields recently. Home Missionary institutes were held in connection with both of these meetings, and the instruction given met with a response which surely indicates a rapid increase in the number of church members who will engage in soul-winning activity during the coming year and which will mean an increase in the number of souls won.

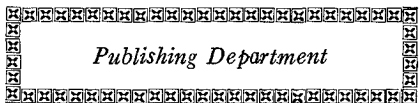
Following the Guiana conference meeting Pastor D. D. Fitch, Home Missionary secretary for the East Caribbean Union Conference, Brother C. H. Carter, Home Missionary secretary for the Guiana conference, and the writer, conducted an institute in New Amsterdam, which is located about seventy miles from Georgetown. Pastor Fitch will remain in the field and will, with the assistance of Brother Carter, conduct another Home Missionary institute in the Pomeroon River district.

The general meeting of the Leeward Islands Mission was held February 3 to 5. At the close of this meeting Pastor

M. A. Hollister and the writer held a Home Missionary institute for that field.

Pastor J. A. Stevens, General Conference Home Missionary Secretary, visited Venezuela, Porto Rico, and Santo Domingo at the time of their general meetings. At the present time he is attending a general meeting at Haiti. We are confident that his visits will not only be greatly appreciated, but that definite results will be seen from the missionary activity of our church members in these respective fields.

C. E. Wood.



Publishing Department

COLPORTEURS' INSTITUTE IN VENEZUELA

"I have a larger vision than ever before," said Brother F. W. Steeves, Field Missionary secretary for the Venezuelan Mission, when he presented his good report of the colporteur work in the Republic of Venezuela, at the recent institute held in Caracas. Our good brother has reason for possessing this enlarged vision, for his report revealed that 1926 was the best year in the circulation of the printed page in that republic. Here is the report in bolivars:

1920	.....	66,352.00
1921	.....	35,557.00
1922	.....	37,580.00
1923	.....	21,528.00
1924	.....	22,313.00
1925	.....	62,566.00
1926	....	101,265.00

(Divide by 5.20 to get the amount in dollars.)

This represents a considerable amount of money, and a great number of books. But what most interests our brethren in Venezuela is the truth contained in the "precious books" that have been placed in the many homes. Some day, somebody will find his way out of darkness into marvelous light by reading the books and papers sold by our faithful band of workers.

When Brother and Sister F. W. Steeves went to Venezuela, there were only two colporteurs in that great republic. This number was soon increased to seven who worked hard, penetrating the most remote and the most disease infected places of the country. There was no place too hard for these soldiers of the cross.

As we listened to the testimonies of

the colporteurs assembled at the institute of "colporteur evangelists" we saw in these men a literal fulfillment of the words written by the prophet of God in Jeremiah 16: 16, "Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks."

These faithful messengers purposed in their heart that they would carry the message of salvation anywhere and everywhere. "Los llanos," (the plains) where every tropical disease is found; and "Los jaramos," where the temperature is cold; did not dishearten these pioneers from taking the "good news" to the people. Sometimes these colporteurs have to cross from ten to fifteen streams a day where often the roads are flooded because of the heavy rainfalls, making it necessary for our colporteurs to take off their shoes and socks, and to wear "las alpargatas" (hempen shoes or sandals) for protection from the sharp stones in the road. Sometimes they arrive in a town with their suit cases thrown over their backs, part of their clothing in their hands, and looking more like vagrants than the men they really are.

It is the love of Jesus in their hearts that constrains these colporteurs to leave home and loved ones and to carry the gospel in printed form to many who probably would never hear this message in any other way. If the seven who canvassed during 1926 had not been possessed with this love we never would have heard the following interesting report:

Name	Hours	Value in Bls.
P. R. Beltran	1,196	22,922
P. R. Gonzalez	1,501	14,029
T. M. Vasquez	1,732	12,013
A. Acosta, H.	1,488	7,696
Pedro Gil	1,136	17,294
L. Aponte	835	2,884
C. A. Robaina	616	16,403
	8,504	93,241

The sales of the Field Missionary secretary and tract society makes the grand total of 101,265 bolivars.

We had a very good colporteurs' institute. Every colporteur was present, and each expressed his appreciation of being a co-worker with the Lord. All are rejoicing in the privilege of having a humble part in the finishing of God's work on the earth. "Winning souls as well as selling books" is the motto of each colporteur.

J. A. P. GREEN.

Sabbath School Department

GOD NEVER FAILS

When the Investment Plan was put before the Mandeville (Jamaica) Sabbath school, I thought of some old debts that were due me in the canvassing field. I had written to my debtors several times, urging them to pay, but all to no avail. So on this occasion I promised the Lord that I would write these people once again, and if He would impress them to pay these debts, I would give Him one-half.

One week after I wrote the letters, one sent in his forty-five shillings and another twenty-four shillings. The latter sent a messenger to tell me that he was on a sick bed and could not write or come himself; but he was constrained to send the money. I had £1.14.6 for the Investment Fund.

This is an evidence to me of the way the Lord works on the hearts of the people when we ask Him, and how faithful He is in fulfilling His promises.  
W. S. NATION.



BLESSING IN THE LLANOS

"The first Sabbath school quarterly I ever saw was on the Ministry of Angels," began Brother Julio when speaking to the delegates assembled in conference in Caracas last January. He was telling of what the Sabbath school was doing for the llanos, or great plains of Venezuela. Then he produced a leather case in which he carried his quarterly that he might preserve it to file for future reference and study.

"Aside from pastoral help," he continued, "the Sabbath school quarterly has been my teacher in this message. It is one of our faithful instructors a quarter by quarter it goes forth to our schools to teach the people, young and old, the precious truth we all love. We now have many companies in the llanos that receive almost no help outside of the Sabbath school. And friends, they are not keeping up the Sabbath school; it is the Sabbath school that is keeping them up. And week by week they are becoming more and more firmly rooted in this message."

Then he told of the people comprising some of these companies. It was an interesting story. None of them go to Sabbath school in autos. But by canoe, by burro, or on foot they come from near and far. Often they bring

their lunches, consisting of sticks of cane and some arapos (an arapo is a cake made from hulled corn). "And sometimes," said Brother Julio, "they suffer hunger rather than fail to bring an offering."

One woman away off in the llanos learned of the truth on her death bed. She prayed that she might be spared to keep at least two Sabbaths and asked Brother Julio to pray with her. God granted their petition, and after the second Sabbath she said: "Now, I'm going to die." "And do you not think you will have Sabbath school again?" asked a friend. "Yes," she replied, "where Jesus is the Teacher." Then she called her husband and pleaded with him to accept the faith of Seventh-day Adventists. And soon—before the Sabbath closed—she fell into that dreamless sleep to rest until called to gather in the great Sabbath school in the new earth.



Be a banner school during 1927!

Missionary Volunteer Department

FORM THE HABIT

A blind brother over in Porto Rico ordered five hundred Morning Watch calendars to sell among his neighbors. Having sold twenty-one books during Big Week, he was ready to attempt still greater things for God. But he was taken ill before his task was finished and others stepped into the breach. However, the example of this heroic, devoted man must challenge us to examine our own hearts to see how much we love this truth. If a blind man hesitates not to set before himself such a task, what should you and I expect of ourselves? What must God expect of us?

Brother Julio Garcia Diaz, one of our faithful native workers in Venezuela, is another friend of the Morning Watch calendar. He carries it about in a leather case, even as he does his Sabbath school quarterly. And he saves it from year to year for use in his soul-winning work. Among other words of appreciation of the calendar he said: "It contains the finest of council for Christians. It unites our family when we are far removed from one another. It helps to guide the child in the ways of life."

Yes, there are many who have made the Morning Watch calendar a regular

part of the daily program and the Morning Watch habit an inseparable part of their lives. Will not every worker, who knows the importance of keeping this morning appointment with the Master, try to get ten young people to form that same habit this year? Think how this habit will bless and strengthen the life of every youth who sincerely tries to form it!

Let every Missionary Volunteer society aim to have 100% of its members observe the Morning Watch. Keep calendars on hand to sell through the second quarter anyway.



THE MORNING WATCH

1. "My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee, and will look up." Ps. 5: 3.
2. It was in the early morning hours that Jacob gained the victory. Gen. 32: 24-29.
3. The manna was gathered every morning. Ex. 16: 21.
4. "And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, He went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." Mark 1: 35.
5. God's wonderful revelation of Himself to Moses early in the morning. Ex. 34: 4-9.
6. "Weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning." Ps. 30: 5.
7. "I will sing aloud of Thy mercy in the morning: for Thou hast been my defense and refuge in the day of my trouble." Ps. 59: 16.
8. "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praise unto Thy name, O most High: to shew forth Thy lovingkindness in the morning, and Thy faithfulness every night." Ps. 92: 1, 2.
9. "Cause me to hear Thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in Thee do I trust: cause me to know Thy way wherein I should walk; for lift up my soul unto Thee." Ps. 143: 8.
10. "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness. Lamentations 3: 22, 23.
11. "And in the morning came the word of the Lord unto me." Eze. 12: 8.
12. "And all the people came early in the morning to Him." Luke 21: 38.

Compiled by C. V. Achenbach.

COMPARATIVE REPORT OF MISSION FUNDS FOR THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

Conference or Mission	1925	1926	Loss	Gain
ANTILLIAN UNION:	70.00		70.00	
Bahamas	850.32	1,068.26		217.94
Cuba	7,908.85	7,251.64	657.21	
Haiti	3,157.41	4,136.23		978.82
Jamaica	8,076.70	8,223.27		146.57
Porto Rico	7,069.55	4,967.13	2,102.42	
Santo Domingo	2,618.41	2,566.98	51.43	
Total	29,751.24	28,213.51	1,537.73	
AZTEC UNION:				
Guatemala-Salvador	1,288.63	1,380.82		92.19
Honduras	1,829.94	2,237.42		407.48
Central Mexican		1,743.31		
Sonora		1,015.27		
Tehuantepec	4,159.03	934.90		901.00
Yucatan		237.59		
Gulf		1,042.86		
Lake		86.10		
Total	7,277.60	8,678.27		1,400.07
CARIBBEAN UNION:	134.05	121.90	12.15	
Central Colombia		1,226.82		
Atlantic Colombia	1,512.43	627.43		606.77
Antioqueña		264.95		
Guiana	2,188.62	1,551.83	636.79	
Leeward Islands	2,149.67	3,299.38		1,149.71
South Caribbean	7,803.23	8,580.21		776.98
Venezuela	1,918.75	1,898.56	20.19	
West Caribbean	10,247.81	11,015.83		768.02
Curacao		84.39		84.39
Total	25,954.56	28,671.30		2,716.74
Inter-American Division	62,983.40	65,563.08		2,579.68

F. L. HARRISON, Treasurer.

HOW SHALL WE STAND IN 1927?

Before this number of the MESSENGER comes into the homes of the believers throughout the Inter-American Division, two months of the year 1927 will have passed. This morning when I was comparing the 1925 with the 1926 mission funds receipts, I could not help but wonder how we are going to stand on our mission funds when the year 1927 shall have closed. Early in the year we should plan definitely to give systematically through the Sabbath school and other channels for the advancement of the message.

During the year 1926, fifty-one new recruits came forward to the Inter-American Division to answer the calls which have been unfiled for months and even years. Encouraging reports are coming continually to the division office. Most of the fields report a goodly number of baptisms so we have reason to believe that during this year there will be a substantial increase in our membership.

Recently I was impressed with the spirit of sacrifice that characterizes many of our people in the Leeward Islands Conference, as related by Pastor Edmed at the general meeting of the South Caribbean Conference. The following incidents illustrate the faithfulness of these people in their efforts to help advance the message even though they possess little of this world's goods:

One sister, who has two growing girls to support, walks six miles daily to and from her occupation, (washing clothes) for which she receives one and a half dollars per week. But every week her tithes and offerings are paid faithfully and she always remembers the "poor fund." She also gives to other special objects for which calls are made.

Another sister, with a large family of young children, walks eight miles to the city and back every day delivering milk. She receives \$3.84 per month. This sister also faithfully gives the Lord His own, contributes to all of the calls that are made for missions, and adds a gift for the "poor fund."

Still another sister who was out of work at the time a special call was made for offerings, made a pledge to the Lord in connection with one of our special calls. She sold one of her best hens in order to pay the pledge.

As we pause to think of the great needs in the different fields throughout the territory of the Inter-American Division, shall we not put forth more strenuous efforts than ever before, and practice stricter economy so that we may be able to give more for the advancement of the work.

F. L. HARRISON,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the next biennial session of the West Caribbean Conference will convene in the City of Panama, March 17-27, 1927. Each church organization will be entitled to one delegate for the organization and one delegate for each fifteen members or major fraction thereof.

All persons attending the conference are requested to provide themselves with bedding, etc. The conference will provide rooms for the delegates.  
W. R. POHLE, President.

KEEP AT YOUR WORK

"The Lord has given to every man his work. It is his business to do it, and the devil's business to hinder him if he can. So sure as God has given you a work to do, Satan will try to hinder you. He may throw you from it; he may present other things more promising. He may allure you by worldly prospects, he may assault you with slander, torment you with false accusations, set you at work defending your character, employ pious persons to lie about you, editors to assail you, officials to accuse you, and excellent men to slander you. You may have Pilate and Herod, Annanias and Caiphas all combined against you, and Judas standing by you ready to sell you for thirty pieces of silver; and you may wonder why all those things come upon you. Can you not see that the whole thing is brought about through the craft of the devil? To draw you off from your work and hinder your obedience to God?"

Keep about your work. Do not flinch because the lion roars; do not stop to stone the devil's dogs; do not fool away your time chasing the devil's rabbits. Do your work. Let liars lie, let sectarians quarrel, let corporations resolve, let editors publish, let the devil do his worst; but see to it that nothing hinders you from fulfilling the work that God has given you.

He has not sent you to make money. He has not commanded you to get rich. He has never bidden you defend your character. He has not set you at work to contradict falsehood which Satan and his servants may start to peddle. If you do these things, you will do nothing else; you will be at work for yourself and not for the Lord.

Keep about your work. Let your aim be as steady as a star. Let the world brawl and bubble. You may be assaulted, wronged, insulted, slandered, wounded and rejected; you may be abused by foes, forsaken by friends, and despised and rejected of men, but see to it with steadfast determination, with unflinching zeal, that you pursue the great purpose of your life and object of your being, until at last you can say, "I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do."

OBITUARY

Benjamin Franklin Mesker passed away in Bartle, Cuba, on January 15, 1927, at the age of seventy-six years. He was a faithful member of the Indianapolis, (Indiana) church.

Grandpa and Grandma Mesker came to Cuba the middle of last November to visit their granddaughter, Mrs. Maxine Ross-Pohle. Grandpa won many friends during his short visit in Cuba. His dying words were: "I know my sins are forgiven." So we are comforted with the assurance that we will meet him on the resurrection day when the just will be taken home.

Grandpa was laid to rest in Bartle, where our training school is located. He leaves to mourn, his wife, one brother, one sister, and two grandchildren.

C. LAWRENCE POHLE.

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DIVISION NEWSGRAMS

Elder and Sister W. R. Pohle and Brother C. L. Stilson called at the office while in Panama attending to matters in connection with the general meeting of the West Caribbean Conference soon to convene.

Elder W. E. Baxter and family recently passed through Cristobal enroute to San Jose, Costa Rica, where the Caribbean Union office is located now. We wish these tried workers abundant success as they start on another term of foreign service after their furlough.

On account of the many duties in connection with the closing of the division books for the year 1926, Brother Harrison, the secretary, was not able to attend the general meetings in the Antillian Union as he planned to do after returning from Venezuela.

The series of tent meetings conducted by Pastor L. L. Hutchinson in Colon, Republic of Panama, closed Sunday evening, February 20. Forty-four had signed the covenant, and fifteen or more others signified their intention to take their stand a little later. On Sunday evening, February 27, twenty-seven persons were baptized, twenty-two of these being adults.

Mr. O. L. Lampe, whose wife is a member of the Curacao company, called at the office on his way to California where he expects to make his home. He brought greetings to the division family from Brother and Sister C. E. Knight, who were instrumental in winning Sister Lampe to the truth. Sister Lampe and the children will join Mr. Lampe a month later.

Brother and Sister A. P. Christiansen and their two little girls were welcome visitors at the mission home recently while Brother Christiansen was finishing up the work of the Caribbean union office books and making out annual statements for 1926. He has taken over the work of Brother C. E. Knight who has been called to the presidency of the Guiana Conference. Brother Christiansen formerly served in similar capacity in the Antillian Union for several years. We are happy to welcome Brother and Sister Christiansen back to the Inter-American Division after their furlough to the States.