

THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

VOL. IV

BALBOA, CANAL ZONE, NOVEMBER, 1927

No. 12

DIVINE LEADERSHIP ALL THE WAY

The remnant church of God was to be marked by two characteristics,— they “keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

These two characteristics were in the possession of the advent believers who had stood the test of the disappointment; and even before the disappointment, God was calling men to act as His messengers to the advent believers. In 1842 He gave a man of Boston, William Foy by name, two visions. They related to the new earth and the travels of God's people to the holy city. William Foy was an educated man, a minister, and an able speaker. Large audiences listened spellbound to his story of what he had seen of the heavenly land. Not long before the disappointment in 1844, God gave him a third vision, in which he saw three steps or platforms, the third extending clear to the kingdom of God. This vision he could not understand, as he was looking for Jesus to come very soon, and so he did not make it public, as he should have done.

Next, shortly before October 22, 1844, God visited Hazen Foss, of Maine, with three visions. This young man was also a firm believer in the soon return of Jesus, so he could not understand the part of his vision relating to the three steps. There were also messages of warning for him to deliver. He was naturally proud. When God revealed to him some of the hardships that he would encounter as His special messenger, he shrank back. In the second vision God told him if he refused to serve as His prophet, He would call one of the weakest of the believers to deliver His messages to the remnant people. Still he hesitated, and finally refused. Then in a third vision God told him he was released. This stirred him to action. He resolved to tell others. But, alas! when he stood before the audience, he could say nothing. The vision, once so clear, had fled. His mind was a blank.

GOD'S MESSENGER CHOSEN

A few months after the disappointment, God called the third person to serve as His messenger. This call came during a season of worship, when five women were praying earnestly for light. In this group was Ellen G. Harmon, a young girl of seventeen. She was very frail, her health having been shattered by an accident, so that physicians despaired of her life. The disappointment had been a severe tax on her physical strength, and some thought she could live only a short time. It was while praying for light regarding the dis-

appointment that Miss Harmon was taken off in vision for the first time. She was shown the journey of the advent people to the New Jerusalem. This was wonderfully comforting to her, and it encouraged and strengthened other faithful ones to whom she related the vision, giving them a sense of the presence of God in their bitter experience.

But even yet she did not think of the possibility of being called to act as God's messenger to the remnant people. However, in about a week God showed her in vision that that was to be her mission in life. In the *Review and Herald* of July 26, 1906, she wrote thus of her divine call:

“My Saviour declared me to be His messenger. ‘Your work,’ He instructed me, ‘is to bear My word. Strange things will arise, and in youth I set you apart to bear the message to the erring ones, to carry the word before unbelievers, and with pen and voice to reprove from the Word actions that are not right. Exhort from the Word. I will make My Word open to you. It shall not be as a strange language. In the true eloquence of simplicity, with voice and pen, the messages that I give shall be heard from one who has never learned in the schools. My spirit and My power shall be with you.’”

There was a real struggle in the heart of this young Christian. For some time she prayed that the burden might be laid upon some one more capable. Still came the unmistakable command: “Make known to others what I have revealed to you.” Finally, after the earnest prayers of other believers in her behalf, she said to her Master: “Here am I; send me.”

Soon her mission began. After she had related her first vision in Portland, Maine, Hazen Foss, who recognized it as the same vision that God had given him, urged the young woman to be “faithful in bearing the burden, and in relating the testimonies the Lord should give her.” To others he said, “That is the instrument on whom the Lord has laid this burden.”—*The Great Second Advent Movement*, p. 213.

From that day of unconditional surrender to her Master's will until her death, July 16, 1915, the messenger thus chosen and commissioned of God, never drew back. Of the early struggles, when the pioneers would be praying earnestly for more light, she said:

“When they came to the point in their study where they said, ‘We can do nothing more,’ the Spirit of the Lord would come upon me, I would be taken off in vision, and a clear explanation of the passages we had been studying would be given me, with instruction as to how we were to labor and teach effectively. Thus light was given that helped us to understand the scriptures in regard to Christ, His mission, and His priesthood. A line of truth extending from that time to the time when we shall enter the city of God, was made plain to me, and I

Before we had a church organization, some felt it was not needed; but this message came through God's chosen messenger to the advent believers: “The church must flee to God's Word, and become established upon gospel order, which has been overlooked and neglected” (said the angel). This is indispensably necessary to bring the church into the unity of the faith.”—“Early Writings,” p. 100.

By 1925 we had 5,629 churches with 250,988 members in all the world.

gave to others the instruction that the Lord had given me."—*Letters to Physicians and Ministers,* Series B, No. 2, p. 57.

SECRET OF PROGRESS

God used Miss Harmon (later Mrs. E. G. White) mightily all through her life in directing His people to new fields; in changing methods of labor; in bringing in new lines of work; in giving warnings and reproofs; in bringing hope and cheer to discouraged ones; in restoring unity among brethren; in preparing work and workers for unexpected crises; in meeting false doctrines; yes, in every advance step in the development of our system of organization. The Spirit of Prophecy, as manifested through Mrs. White, is woven so intricately into the progress of our denominational history that the story of no line of work can be told without the feature of divine leadership standing out clearly and unmistakably.

It was through this prophetic gift among us that the early believers were urged to organize into a church, although a number of workers opposed such a plan. Through that same voice and pen, God called His people a little later to develop the health reform movement, then the educational work. Three years before our first foreign missionary sailed for Europe, God sent His messenger to tell our people in America to look up and see the needs in lands beyond. And even before then had come a message foretelling in symbolic language the day of missionary advance in foreign lands.

When the book work was starting in Scandinavia, Mrs. E. G. White gave instruction as to the methods to be used. Publishers said of the colporteur work, "It cannot be done," for it never had been done there. But Sister White said that the angel of the Lord showed her that the method presented to her would be far superior to those used by worldly publishers. So the plan was tried out, and the success was phenomenal. In one year, more than \$40,000 worth of books were sold from the Christiana publishing house alone.

Similarly in Australia plans of work and location of institutions questioned by human wisdom, but indicated by the Spirit of Prophecy, proved wisest in the end. . . .

THE SUPREME TEST

But there is no need of piling up fur-

ther evidence of the accuracy of the predictions made by God's chosen messenger. Let these suffice. They declare unmistakably that God's word is still infallible and eternal.

The messages that came from the pen of Mrs. White not only stood the test of genuine prophecy in the matter of prediction; they were also in harmony with "the law and the testimony." (See Isa. 8: 20.) Her physical condition while in vision also answered to the Biblical description of the true prophet in vision. However, it is not the manifestation of superhuman power in physical demonstrations or in the working



Mrs. E. G. White

of miracles, that constitutes an infallible sign of the divine presence and leadership. Just before the coming of Jesus, Satan will work "with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness." 2 Thess. 2: 9, 10.

Another test of the true prophet, and the one upon which the Saviour seems to have placed more stress as an evidence of deep spirituality and divine guidance than any other, is the fruit borne in the life and the influence of the teaching. This must be uniformly good. The Master said:

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that

bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." Matt. 7: 15-20.

There must be wrought out in the life the will of our Father in heaven. We cannot conceive of God's choosing an unholy instrument through which to communicate His will to His people.

The individual may be faulty, as all God's prophets, except the Saviour, have been; but the heart must be pure. There must be a life of holy endeavor and firm adherence to the right. The aroma of a heart that is purified, sanctified, glorified, by the continual presence of Christ, will be recognized in God's seer. The fruit of the Spirit,—"love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance,"—like the fruit of the tree of life, will appear continually; and like it, the leaves of this tree—the teaching, whether oral or written—will be for the healing of the nations.

While it would be perfectly proper for the friends of Mrs. E. G. White to speak of her virtues, of her godly life, of the fruit of her teaching in their own lives, the testimony which would be most convincingly in her favor would be that which comes from disinterested witnesses. Therefore we reproduce here a portion of an editorial that appeared in the *New York Independent* of August 23, 1915. After speaking of the death of Mrs. White, the editor of the *Independent* says that her husband, Elder James White, shares with her the honor of founding the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but that she was its one prophetess. Continuing, he says:

"Ellen G. (Harmon) White, born in Gorham, Maine, was a very religious child. . . . At the age of seventeen she had her first vision, and was bidden, she believed, by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the speedy advent of Christ to glorify His saints and destroy His enemies. She dreaded the duty, but was given strength to accept it, and was rewarded with a long succession of revelations through her life.

"Before she was twenty years old she married Elder White, and their following began to grow. Her revelations were in the nature of instructions to their disciples, mostly aimed at their spiritual life, not forgetting to forbid the sins of custom and fashion. . . . The gift of prophecy was to be expected, as promised to the 'remnant church,' who had held fast to the truth. This faith gave great purity of life and incessant zeal. No body of Christians excels them in moral character and religious earnestness."

THE FRUIT OF HER LIFE AND WORK

And what has been the influence of

In 1848 came this message from the Spirit of Prophecy: "I have a message for you. You must begin to print a little paper, and send it out to the people. Let it be small at first; but as the people read, they will send you means with which to print, and it will be a success from the first. From this small beginning it was shown to me to be like streams of light that went clear round the world."—*Life Sketches of Ellen G. White,* p. 125.

Today we have 53 publishing houses in all the world. In 1925 these issued literature in 128 languages; and their sales amounted to \$4,631,706.47.

her writings? Thousands of witnesses would freely and gladly tell of the change produced in their own lives as a direct result of a careful reading of the writings of Mrs. E. G. White. They would tell you that these writings created a deeper, more profound love for the Bible than they had ever known before; that its pages shone with added luster in consequence; that a stronger desire to seek God in earnest prayer was awakened in their hearts, and a more intense longing for constant communion with God; that they felt a greater hunger and thirsting after righteousness and holiness of life, after the indwelling of Christ in the heart, the fulness of the Spirit's power, and a greater zeal for the salvation of the lost, than they had felt before.

They would say that the careful perusal of her writings had been to them a great incentive to give to Jesus their hearts' best and holiest affections, and had helped in creating a longing for a fuller, deeper sense of the Saviour's love; that from the first rays of the early dawn of Christ's glory that had illuminated their hearts, they had been led on toward "the full noontide of a perfect gospel faith."

And what has been the influence of her work, under God, upon our denomination? This cannot be computed. The success of the movement has been commensurate with the degree of faithfulness exercised in following in the more excellent way pointed out by the Lord through the Spirit of Prophecy. Where the instruction delivered by God's messenger has been heeded, success has followed. And today, although the voice that God used for almost three quarters of a century is silent, her writings bring to us messages shedding light upon our pathway, continuing to help us in our study of the Scriptures, in our daily lives, and in our service for others; and they will continue to help us thus, even unto the end.

Somehow, as we think quietly for a moment of what a wonderful blessing the Spirit of Prophecy has been and still is to the remnant church, there comes echoing down through the silent past, with all the emphasis of the ages, and and with all the solemn seriousness of the present, the earnest admonition of Jehoshaphat of old: "Believe in the

Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper."—"Story of the Advent Message," pp. 58-65.

GOD'S MESSENGER TO THE REMNANT CHURCH

On November 26 it will be 100 years since Ellen Gould Harmon, later Mrs. E. G. White, was born in Gorham, Maine. Her parents were Robert and Eunice Harmon. Ellen was a bright, vivacious child, and did well in her studies. But one day on the way home from school, when she was only nine, an older schoolmate, in a fit of anger, struck her face with a stone. The little girl suffered dreadfully from the blow. Her health failed; for two years she could not breathe through her nose; and all

THANK GOD

Thank God for fearless prophets
Who've firmly stood for truth,
And penned on earth God's messages—
Safe guides for age and youth.

Thank God for servants, willing
To face the scorn of men,
To show Christians their mistakes,
And help them back again.

Thank God for men and women true,
Who heed the Spirit's voice,
And read God's messages to them,
And make His will their choice.

Thank God that His prophetic light
Shines all along the way,
And shows us Christ will come again
In our own time and day.

through life she bore the marks of that accident.

For a time Ellen felt somewhat rebellious. It seemed that she could never again be happy. It was hard for this ambitious young girl to give up her cherished plans for obtaining a good education; but for years her health was in such a precarious condition as to preclude all thoughts of close application.

IN GREAT PERPLEXITY

In the spring of 1840 Ellen heard William Miller preach on the soon re-

turned of Jesus; and she was deeply affected. Of the struggle she passed through, she says:

"When sinners were invited forward to the anxious seat, hundreds responded to the call, and I, among the rest, pressed through the crowd and took my place with the seekers. But there was in my heart a feeling that I could never become worthy to be called a child of God. A lack of confidence in myself, and a conviction that it would be impossible to make any one understand my feelings, prevented me from seeking advice and aid from my Christian friends. Thus I wandered needlessly in darkness and despair, while they, not penetrating my reserve, were entirely ignorant of my true state."—"Testimonies," Vol. I, pp. 14, 15.

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

For two years clouds of despondency hung over her most of the time. However, it was during this period of depression that she was baptized, and became a member of the Methodist church. In 1842 she again heard William Miller; and she also attended advent meetings conducted by Elder Stockman, from whom she obtained much needed help in her Christian life. Referring to this experience, she says:

"Upon hearing my story, he placed his hand affectionately upon my head, saying with tears in his eyes, 'Ellen, you are only a child. Yours is a most singular experience for one of your tender age. Jesus must be preparing you for some special work.' . . .

"He spoke of my early misfortune, and said it was indeed a grievous affliction, but he bade me believe that the hand of a loving Father had not been withdrawn from me; that in the future life, when the mist that then darkened my mind had vanished, I would discern the wisdom of the providence which had seemed so cruel and mysterious. . . .

"I returned home and again went before the Lord, promising to do and suffer anything He might require of me, if only the smiles of Jesus might cheer my heart. The same duty was presented to me that had troubled my mind before,—to take up my cross among the assembled people of God. An opportunity was not long wanting; there was a prayer meeting that evening, which I attended.

"I bowed trembling during the prayers that were offered. After a few had prayed, I lifted up my voice in prayer before I was aware of it. The promises of God appeared to me like so many precious pearls that were to be received only for the asking. As I prayed, the burden and agony of soul that I had so long endured, left me, and the blessing of the Lord descended upon me like the gentle dew. I praised God from the depths of my heart. Everything seemed shut out from me but Jesus and His glory, and I lost consciousness of what was passing around me.

"The Spirit of God rested upon me with such power that I was unable to go home that night. When I did return, on the following day, a great change had taken place in my mind.

From the very first the Spirit of Prophecy encouraged the educational work and helped to guide the leaders in safe paths. Through His chosen messenger God gave His people the divine pattern for our first denominational school. "Let the school," said one message, "be conducted along the lines of the ancient schools of the prophets, the Word of God lying at the foundation of all the education given." Great stress always has been laid on the threefold education needed,—physical, mental, and spiritual. The heart and hand must be trained as well as the head, and in all study "the health should be as sacredly guarded as the character." Manual training, physical exercise, and heart culture, as well as the mental development, are given their proper setting in the divine pattern. And wherever that pattern has been followed, marvelous results have been seen.

In 1925 we had 1,561 schools in which 67,461 young people and children were being trained.

It seemed to me that I could hardly be the same person that left my father's house the previous evening. This passage was continually in my thoughts: "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." My heart was full of happiness as I softly repeated these words. . . .

"The night after receiving so great a blessing, I attended the advent meeting. When the time came for the followers of Christ to speak in His favor, I could not remain silent, but rose and related my experience. Not a thought had entered my mind of what I should say; but the simple story of Jesus' love to me fell from my lips with perfect freedom, and my heart was so happy to be liberated from its bondage of dark despair that I lost sight of the people about me and seemed to be alone with God. I found no difficulty in expressing my peace and happiness, except for the tears of gratitude that choked my utterance as I told of the wondrous love that Jesus had shown for me."—*Id.* pp. 29-32.

TRIALS AND DISAPPOINTMENTS

When Ellen found in Jesus the blessed, personal Saviour, He longs to be to all, she became a radiant Christian, who worked untiringly for the salvation of others. This young girl, still in her early teens, and in poor health, held meetings for the youth and did personal work among them. Some thought her too zealous; but God blessed her efforts and gave her evidence of His approval.

Ellen was among the many advent believers who were disfellowshipped during the trying times that came when the popular churches rejected the doctrine of the soon return of Jesus. She also shared with others the bitter disappointment of 1844, which frail human words cannot adequately describe. And with them she felt the brunt of the scorn and ridicule of an unfriendly world. However, young as she was, she knew Him in whom she had believed, and patiently joined with other faithful believers in earnest prayer for God to reveal His plan for them in that hour of unspeakable distress.

CALLED FOR SPECIAL SERVICE

A few months after the disappointment, God called this young woman to be His special messenger to the "remnant church" which was just then being formed by those who did not cast away their confidence during the disappointment. She was only seventeen. Her health was by no means good; in fact, some thought she would not live long. Then, too, she was timid and retiring, and shrank from public work. She prayed earnestly that God would call

some one else to do it; but the word came again and again: "Make known to others what I have revealed to you."

Finally the struggle was over; victory was won; and Ellen Gould Harmon, like Paul, "was not disobedient to the heavenly vision." God abundantly proved that with His calls comes strength to obey. Elder J. N. Lough-

A WONDERFUL LIBRARY

- Patriarchs and Prophets
- Prophets and Kings
- Great Controversy
- Desire of Ages
- Acts of the Apostles
- Mount of Blessing
- Steps to Christ
- Ministry of Healing
- Counsels on Health
- Education
- Counsels to Teachers
- Testimonies to Ministers
- Early Writings
- Gospel Workers
- Testimonies (Nine Volumes)
- Christ's Object Lessons

This list gives the names of some of the books that God has sent through His special messenger to the people of today to help them to get ready to meet Jesus, and to render efficient service for lost mankind.

orough in telling of one of her first experiences in delivering God's message wrote:

"For three months her throat and lungs had been so diseased that she could talk but little, and then only in a low, husky tone. On this occasion she arose in meeting and began speaking in a whisper. She continued thus for about five minutes, when the soreness and obstruction left her throat and lungs. Her voice became clear and strong, and she spoke with perfect ease and freedom for nearly two hours. When her message was ended, her voice was gone until she stood before the people again, when the same singular restoration was repeated."—*Rise and Progress of Seventh-day Adventists,* pp. 104, 105.

UNITED IN LIFE AND SERVICE

August 30, 1846, she was married to Elder James White; and together they labored among the few scattered believers. There was no financial support; but with their own willing hands they provided the bare necessities of life. Of their early experience she wrote:

"We entered upon our work penniless, with few friends, and broken in health. . . . In

this condition, without means, with very few who sympathized with us in our views, without a paper, and without books, we entered upon our work. We had no houses of worship at that time. And the idea of using a tent had not then occurred to us. Most of our meetings were held in private houses. Our congregations were small. It was seldom that any came into our meetings excepting Adventists, unless they were attracted by curiosity to hear a woman speak.

"At first I moved out timidly in the work of public speaking. If I had confidence, it was given me by the Holy Spirit. If I spoke with freedom and power, it was given me of God. Our meetings were usually conducted in such a manner that both of us took part. My husband would give a doctrinal discourse, then I would follow with an exhortation of considerable length, melting my way into the feelings of the congregation. Thus my husband sowed and I watered the seed of truth, and God gave the increase."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. I, p. 75.

GOD'S GRACE SUFFICIENT

For thirty-five years Elder and Sister White struggled on together to build up the cause to which they had dedicated their lives. Poverty ever faced them, a growing family brought new problems, apostacies added many perplexities, still she pressed on faithfully by her husband's side; and in 1881, when she was called to part with her companion, she arose, by the grace of God and testified, to the keeping power of her heavenly Father even in the hour of that crushing sorrow. "I feel keenly the loss of my husband," she said, "but dare not give myself up to useless grief. . . . I take up my life-work alone, in full confidence that my Redeemer will be with me."

"FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH"

Nothing ever turned her back from her original purpose to let God use her as He might choose; and so He made her life-work a mighty influence in the remnant church. In His own way God supplied her lack in education, and often miraculously healed her when death seemed imminent. He made her a writer of rare ability, and a counselor in times of need. Through her He guided in the plans that have meant success to the Advent movement all along the way, as it has, by His grace, grown into a mighty organization with witnesses in almost every land on earth, giving God's last message to lost mankind.

Faithfully she served in the homeland and in foreign fields, traveling extensively, and with tongue and pen giving her messages of comfort, sympathy,

The Spirit of Prophecy called our medical work into existence. "I was shown," Sister White said, "that we should provide a home for the afflicted, and those who wish to learn how to take care of their bodies that they may prevent sickness."—*Test.,* Vol. I, p. 439. "As unbelievers shall resort to an institution devoted to the successful treatment of disease, and conducted by Sabbath-keeping physicians, they will be brought directly under the influence of the truth. By becoming acquainted with our people and our real faith, their prejudice will be overcome, and they will be favorably impressed. By thus being placed under the influence of truth, some will not only obtain relief from bodily infirmities, but will find healing balm for their sin-sick souls."—*Id.,* p. 493. By the close of 1925 we had 65 sanitariums and treatment rooms ministering to approximately 200,000 patients.

counsel, warning, or reproof, whatever her Master commanded. Her remarkable life came to an end July 16, 1915, in her Elmhaven home near St. Helena, California. There she had spent much of her time during the later years of her fruitful, busy life. As quietly and peacefully as a weary child goes to rest, she fell asleep in Jesus, while around her bedside were gathered her children, grandchildren, secretaries, and other friends. Shortly before she died, with the unfailing assurance that had buoyed her up through her long years of service, she said, "We shall all be home very soon now."

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

Josefina 56, Havana, Cuba
 J. A. LELAND - - - - - Superintendent
 N. L. TAYLOR - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

THE GOSPEL TRANSFORMS SINNERS

In the northwestern section of Santo Domingo lives Casimiro Silverio, a man in whom the gospel of Jesus Christ has truly demonstrated its saving and transforming power. Casimiro grew up without a knowledge of God. He became addicted to the many vices to which human nature is subject. He broke every command of the decalogue. He was a terror in the neighborhood where he lived.

One day the announcement was made that a gospel service was to be conducted in a private house in that neighborhood. Casimiro, with others of his class, went to the meeting. He carried his revolver with him, hoping that the opportunity would present itself to get rid of this stranger and his new doctrines; but as the preacher spoke of the marvelous love of God, Casimiro became deeply interested in the sermon. He forgot all about his plans to kill the preacher, and felt that he should reform his life. The Holy Spirit spoke to his heart, and he was converted and gave up many of his evil deeds. At the close of the meeting the minister gave him a New Testament.

A few years ago the Third Angel's Message came to his neighborhood; and, as he listened to the explanations of the Scriptures, he was convicted that what he had heard was the truth of God for these last days. He has accepted the

message fully, and has given up all of his evil habits and customs. His earnest prayers, and the great interest that he manifests in the things of God, are an evidence of the power of God in his life. A few weeks ago the writer had the privilege of baptizing him and his devoted wife in a river near their home. Their daughter also is preparing for baptism. The marvelous transformation in their home life testifies to the power of God's message, which now is preparing a people for the coming of Jesus, and for the society of sinless beings in God's kingdom.

C. V. ACHENBACH.

ACCEPT OUR THANKS

The believers at Stevens, Long Island, in the Bahamas, together with the writer, wish to take this opportunity to express their heartfelt thanks to the fellow believers who came to our rescue when the hurricane destroyed our church. Our hearts were almost broken,

JUST TO BE FAITHFUL

Just to be faithful in things that are small,
 Just to walk steady where others may fall,
 Just to be willing if Jesus should call:
 This is my duty to Him.

Just to drive somebody's darkness away,
 Just to make brighter the world of today,
 Just to strew flowers along life's pathway:
 This is my duty to Him.

Just to let Jesus have perfect control,
 Just to know daily His grace makes me whole,
 Just to have heavenly peace in my soul:
 That is my duty to Him.

—Selected.

and our pockets were empty, for we had put all we had into the first building. But the help received furnished the material to rebuild the little chapel, which means very much to the work in these out islands.

The new church is now completed, and we are holding Sunday night meetings, which are being well attended. The natives here really must have a place in which to worship. The leaders in the church of England, who by the way, call themselves priests, and teach the people to call them "father," tell the people that if they leave their church,

they will not take them back, nor will they toll the bell for them, when they die, nor bury them in their cemetery.

One who has never been here has no idea of the effect of such threats upon these natives. So with God as my Helper, I hope always to erect a neat little place of worship wherever I am prospered in gathering a company of believers.

G. W. LAWRENCE.

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION

Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica

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

ANOTHER TRIBE CALLS

There is another urgent call from the Bocas del Toro province (Panama). This comes from the Balliente Indians. They are widely separated from the Talamancans, and speak a different dialect. Brother Timothy Brown of the Bocas church has made several visits to them; and as a result, the most influential man among them is keeping the Sabbath, and studying the whole message. He is well educated, and speaks English and Spanish besides his own dialect.

A few weeks ago a delegation of Indians from the interior came to tell him that they wanted the Adventists, in preference to other denominations, to come to teach them.

Brother Brown and this new convert have planned to make a trip to the interior in the near future. When this trip is made, we can render a fuller report. But it is evident that we must hasten on with the message to this and other tribes in our republic.

I am writing from the Talamanca valley, where we now have a small, but faithful, company of Sabbath keepers. Three new ones have just taken their stand for the truth. Last June four were baptized in one church; and we hope to baptize several more there by the end of this quarter. The work here is growing beyond the power of one man's management. There are many evidences of an awakening among our church members.

Very soon we hope to baptize seven or eight in Bocas. This is the largest number that have joined the Bocas church in several years. But we are looking forward to still greater things.

The offerings on the past Thirteenth

Regarding the Sabbath school, which the Spirit of Prophecy has helped to mold, one message declared: "The Sabbath school, if rightly conducted, is one of God's great instrumentalities to bring souls to a knowledge of the truth." And such, indeed, it has proved to be as its numbers have increased, till all around the world men, women, and children are enjoying the blessings of this greatest of all Seventh-day Adventist educational institutions. By December of last year we had 3,277 Sabbath schools with 311,446 members.

Sabbath were nearly double those of the previous quarter, although times are just as hard.

The Spanish believers at Coriente Grande have completed their chapel, and are raising money for the seats. Several there, also, are preparing for baptism.

There are other calls yet unanswered. The work is expanding beyond our ability to care for it. Pray for the finishing of the work in Bocas del Toro.

G. H. NEMBARD.

FOUND JESUS AT LAST

Some months ago I met a gentleman who showed a great interest in our literature. I gave him some papers; and later I had opportunity to give him some books, which he read eagerly.

"Mr. Ellis," he said, "if any one had asked me about my religion before I met you, I should have said that I had none; for somehow I could never believe some things I saw and heard of the Catholic faith; but now I have found a religion that I like, and I am going to teach it to my children."

He is a man of about fifty, with ten children. He with his wife and six children are now members of our Sabbath school, and he is trying to win the rest of his children and relatives to this precious truth in which he is now rejoicing.

ISHMAEL ELLIS.

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION

Box 143, Balboa, Canal Zone

E. E. ANDROSS - - - - Superintendent
F. L. HARRISON - - - - Secy.-Treas.

FLYING OVER COLOMBIA

Recently I visited Barranquilla, headquarters of the Atlantic Colombia Mission. I was glad to see Pastor and Sister Thurber, who are leading out strongly in that field. In 1916, when I first visited and canvassed the city of Barranquilla, I could have walked through all the streets and visited the suburbs and found no one keeping the Sabbath. But Colombia, the long-neglected land of the "Neglected Continent," is not being neglected now. Today in Barranquilla we have a church and mission school; and throughout the republic we have 67 baptized believers, and over 100 are keeping the Sabbath.

In the Atlantic Colombia Mission everybody is alive and desirous of doing his part in proclaiming the last message for this world. Brother Jorge Escandon, seventeen years of age, has been enthusiastic about the printed page for the last two or three years. He is the

youngest colporteur in the mission, and is doing a grand work. Every month he delivers over 200 *Centinelas*; and thus far this year he has given over one hundred Bible readings. In one suburb he gave readings to three families. As a result one family is keeping the Sabbath.

Sister Dolores Escandon, Jorge's aunt, is the oldest canvasser we have in Colombia. She loves the Lord and the message that was brought to her. Testifying of the goodness of the Lord after a successful day in selling literature, she said, "The Lord is big. Today all has been well with me. God goes before with the key and opens the hearts of the people." Sister Ricarte de Luna, her daughter-in-law, is also one of the faithful workers.

Brother Moisés Valdéz was working at Sincelejo recently, canvassing and taking charge of an interest raised up by Pastors Thurber and Redondo. One Sabbath while preaching on the law of God, our brother noticed a stranger in the room, listening attentively to all that was said. After the service this stranger approached Brother Valdéz, and asked him if he had a chart on the law of God for sale. Being Sabbath, our brother took the stranger's address, and the chart was delivered Sunday morning. When Brother Valdéz entered the home, this seeker for truth said:

"My wife has many images, and I have always felt that it was wrong to have them in the house. I never had anything with which to prove my belief," and with a smile on his face he continued, "Now I have something."

The chart was nailed to the wall where every visitor who entered the room could read it. The next day some of his friends called, and it was not long before they were reading that strange chart. "Now I have something concerning images," said the man. "God condemns them, and we must not have them in our homes."

These visitors then went to the home of Brother Valdéz to purchase the "Law of God." We pray that those charts will help to turn the honest in heart to worship the God who condemns all kinds of idolatry.

To the colporteurs' institute, held in the home of Brother and Sister Thurber, seven came every day for a week to study the good book "Patriarcas y Profetas." We were glad to welcome them; and rejoice that already the Atlantic Colombia Mission has ordered over seven thousand dollars' worth of books this year. They are third on the Division Sales Sheet.

Marvelous things have happened up on the Sinu River. Not long ago a "prophet,"—so called by the natives up

the river,—preached the Sabbath truth among them, and told them of the soon return of Jesus. Naturally when Pastors Thurber and Redondo went to this same section, emphasizing the importance of obeying the law of God, and the need of a quick preparation for Jesus' soon coming, hundreds came out every night to listen.

Truly, that other angel with "the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people," is flying over Colombia today with God's last message of mercy.

J. A. P. GREEN.

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION CONFERENCE

Box 221, Port of Spain, Trinidad

M. A. HOLLISTER - - - - President
ETHEL EDMED - - - - Secy.-Treas.

STARTING THE NEW SCHOOL

For a number of years the youth of this field have been looking forward to a day when something definite should take place in providing a city of refuge where the principles of Christian education would be taught. At last the hour has struck.

Three weeks now have passed, and the sound of hammer and saw is heard in the work of arranging living quarters, and in providing temporary structures and equipment. Student applications have been examined, and already we have accepted 33 strong young men and women, who are ready for hard work. More will be received as soon as conveniences can be provided to care for them.

Sister Eloise Williams is busily fingering the typewriter in handling the correspondence with our prospective students. Professor Hamilton has no small task in opening the accounts for our enterprise, and in making acquaintances among the business men of Port-of-Spain, in the initial purchases for the school. Sister Hamilton is mother to us all, and keeps cheerful under the many household cares. Sister Linda Austin is assisting in the kitchen. Grandma Hamilton, now in her eighty-fourth year, looks out from the veranda, and rejoices that, in her declining years, she, too, can have a small part in such a missionary undertaking.

Pastor Fitch has kindly cared for our transportation, making the trip to town in his auto every other day; until we received our Chevrolet truck chassis, which the girls have christened "Bobby."

About two years ago Brother and Sister Archer donated a calf to the pro-

posed school. It has now grown splendidly and has found its place in the school savannah with the horses and the donkey.

A printing press, contributed by a friend in the United States, has arrived, and awaits its turn for instalment in the institution.

Pastor Hollister, Pastor Fitch, and I temporarily have resumed our old work of raising money for the school. One afternoon this week we received \$110.00 from a few business men. A trip to the oilfields is planned.

The first neighborhood call was made by Sisters Butterfield, Hamilton, and Austin, who gave a successful treatment to one in need.

A few of our brethren have applied for employment at the school. To such it is necessary for us to say that the labor of the estate, and the construction work, are for the students. They must have this experience so that they will know more about building houses, schools, and churches, and about developing estates, after they finish school. "Our youth need an education in felling trees and tilling the soil as well as in literary lines."—*"Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 179.*

We are confident that the new training school is a place where the youth of the East Caribbean Union Conference will delight to gather as they engage in such services as the school will offer. This will prepare them for the greater services that the stern realities of life will bring, and also for the responsibilities that a knowledge of this truth brings to us in bearing the gospel message in all lands in these last days.

C. J. BOYD.

MORE THAN LAST YEAR

In July, when reporting that the Leeward Islands Conference had already raised \$769.55 on their \$1,250.00 Harvest Ingathering goal, Brother M. E. Lowry related the following experience:

"On the evening of June 4, I was ready to go to St. Kitts in the interests of the Harvest Ingathering campaign. The voyage was pleasant except for the rain which, however, ceased in time for us to land. Brother Archbold met me. We went to church, and had a good meeting. Quite a few people, not of our faith were there, as well as most of our own members.

"The next day was a holiday. All who knew of our campaign said that we would not do so well this year as last. However, we launched into the work with plenty of enthusiasm; and, although great is the power of the Holy

Spirit when we move forward, letting though, at first, it looked as if their predictions were true, when we had finished, we found that we had collected nearly \$20 more than last year.

"We found many interested in the truth. With them we studied the Bible.

MEXICAN UNION MISSION

Calle de Jalapa 210, Mexico, D. F., Mexico
D. A. PARSONS Superintendent
J. G. PETTEY Secy.-Treas.

ONWARD 'MID DANGERS

This mission has been the most troubled with revolution, I believe. The Mexican War and Navy Secretary has been spending almost his entire time in the territory of our mission fighting rebels. For a couple of weeks things quieted down, and we hoped a better day had come; but now they have broken out again apparently worse than ever. Although the rebels have come down in sight of our house at night, even kidnapping and killing an American about three miles up the road, still we have been absolutely unmolested.

Sunday, the Lord willing, a colporteur and I are going up into the hills to visit some interested people. The last time we were up there, the Lord marvelously cared for us, as the same day we were making our way up there, one hundred thirty armed bandits were seen on the road. When we reached the two towns we had expected to visit, the men had all been taken out to fight another band of five hundred. These people have been very anxious to hear the message; and we pray that we may find them. In one of the towns the mayor promised to attend and assist us in any way possible, if we would only stay with his people.

ERNEST POHLE.

TRUE IN PERSECUTION

In a certain European town the mayor is a Seventh-day Adventist. It is a small town. They wanted to baptize some believers, but there is an organized effort all over that part of Europe to make impossible the progress of this work. So the mayor said to our brother, the preacher, and to those who were to be baptized,

"I am the mayor of the city. I have a right to permit you to be baptized, but lest there be trouble, I advise that we walk away about seven miles for the baptism."

So the little company walked up through the hills; but the priests had wind of it, and when they came to the place for the baptism, they were surrounded by soldiers and priests and the chief of police.

They said to the minister, "What are you going to do?"

He answered, "We are going to read the Bible."

They sat down for a while and studied the Bible together, while the soldiers watched them. Finally they started in to baptize the people, and the man in charge of the soldiers said:

"I have power of the government and from the church to stop any one from being baptized." He said to the soldiers, "Shoot down any one who walks into the water!"

Under those conditions the mayor said, "Let us go back to the town." So they went back, and the nearer they got to the town, the more fearful the chief of police became, for he lived in the same town. When they reached the town, the mayor turned to him and said, "Out there I was under your jurisdiction, now you are under mine, and I arrest you. I want you to come into court."

When they got into court, he said to our people, "Here, gentlemen, I am ruler," for he was both mayor and judge. "Do you plead guilty or not guilty?"

And they said, "We are guilty." They threw themselves on the mercy of the court. The court forgave them. After that our brethren could baptize in peace. This happened only a few weeks ago.

Early last winter three of our brethren in that same country were imprisoned in a low dark cell. One of them said, "This is pretty hard."

Another said, "I don't think so; I think this is a great privilege to suffer for the Lord." So they started in to sing, "The Lord is my light, my joy, and my song," and "I will follow Thee my Saviour."

The voices floated out through the open window in that cell, and the people going by heard it, went to the judge, and said, "Who are those people you put into that dark dungeon cell in the prison?"

He said, "They are communists, atheists."

"No," they said, "they are not; they are the children of God. They belong to Jesus. They sing praises to God, and they pray—we can hear them across the street."

The judge called them in, and the next day they were set at liberty."

L. H. CHRISTIAN.

AROUND THE CIRCLE

Pastor L. J. Borrowdale, superintendent of the Porto Rico Mission, writes that all their workers are preparing to become members of attainment. Further he says, "The new building at Aibonito has been completed free from debt; and we have hopes of having a good, strong school there this year. We are pressing into new places. Brethren Megrant and Vallejo report splendid interest in the communities where they are now laboring."

The following quotation from a letter recently received from Pastor George C. ... superintendent of the Central Colombia ... indicates that the spirit of service is coming a dominant influence in the lives of ... Spanish believers in that mission:

"There are four more candidates for baptism here at Bogot and two of these have been instructed by members of the church. Really, it is remarkable the way the believers take hold of missionary work. . . . Surely it would do you good to hear the studies some of these believers give. They are willing to do anything; and when I ask a man to have a study ready at a given time, I can count on his being ready."

Of his visit to Salvador, Pastor C. E. Wood, Home Missionary secretary for the division writes:

"It is very evident that we have reached a time when the message is to go more speedily into the Spanish fields, for the Spirit of God is busily working to prepare hearts for its coming. In the city of San Salvador, during the meetings held there in July, we witnessed the power of the Spirit working. Forty-two took their stand on the side of truth. "Truly, Salvador is ripe for the harvest,— ripe more so than many fields,— but the scarcity of laborers is retarding the work. The lay members of the church are manifesting a remarkable interest in missionary work, but they lack organization and instruction. If one or two laborers could be placed in that field to organize the lay members and train them for service, we would see Salvador take a leading place in missionary endeavor."

Pastor A. G. Parfitt, superintendent of the Gulf Mission, writing to the Mexican Union office, spoke of the blessing the Sabbath school rally day had been to them. In closing he said, "surely a new step was taken toward efficiency in our Sabbath school on that day of rejoicing."

In a message from Sister D. A. Parsons, she says: "A letter received recently from Brother C. E. Moon, superintendent of the Sonora Mission, brings cheer to my heart. It shows the value of our Sabbath school work. He tells of a little seven-year-old girl, a member of the Sabbath school, who was invited by a Catholic aunt to go to a party. She asked what they were going to do. Her aunt told her that they were going to confess to the priest, and if she would come, they would give her a new dress and a new pair of shoes; but the little girl said, 'I do not want to go. I do not confess to the priest. I confess to God.' And she did not go."

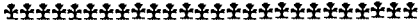


THE WORLD IS HUNGRY FOR JESUS

The world is hungry for Jesus; From many a far-off shore Come pleadings that stir the workers To efforts unreached before. They are calling for other workers, For the work half finished falls; We are near the close of the harvest, And the Master for reapers calls.

The world is hungry for Jesus, And the nations are in the dark; They would fly to some place of safety, Like the weary dove to the ark; They would hear of the "Friend of sinners," And hearing, their hearts are stirred; 'Tis the "gospel of the kingdom," And to them we need to carry the word.

—Selected.



Regarding the *Centinela*, Brother Baxter says: "It is going nicely in the Central American Union. This last trip out, I heard only words of commendation for the paper. No adverse criticism of its style did I hear from any one. So far as Central America is concerned, *El Centinela* is meeting our needs; and is appreciated greatly by all of our workers." Brother Bullard of Santo Domingo writes as follows: "I have no criticism to offer for *El Centinela*. "I like the paper very much. Our field man has placed the goal at 1,000 before the end of the year; and we hope to reach it." Brother Parsons of the Mexican Union says: "The people like *El Centinela* very much."

Brother C. L. Stilson, formerly secretary-treasurer for the West Caribbean Conference, has connected with the division office, to carry some of the responsibilities of the treasury department. The workers in the division office

Let not November pass without a Week of Sacrifice

are very glad for the privilege of welcoming Brother Stilson and his family into the larger division family circle.

Brother and Sister G. W. Chapman arrived in the Canal Zone, Oct. 13, enroute to Costa Rica to help in the Spanish school, which opened October 12. We welcome these new workers to our division, and wish them heaven's choicest blessings in their work here.

Sister W. C. Gehman, who connected with the division office the latter part of last year, has been compelled to leave because of failing health. Her fellow workers in the office greatly miss her and her faithful services; but they wish her heaven's choicest blessings as she gives her all for the finishing of the Lord's work in more favorable climes, where we trust she may grow stronger very quickly.

Brother and Sister J. A. P. Green sailed for New Orleans, La., October 15. Sister Green has been in poor health for some time; and it seemed imperative for her to leave the tropics for a time. Brother Green plans to carry out his former program for the furtherance of his departmental work in the division. Let us all pray earnestly for Sister Green's speedy restoration to health.

Paster E. E. Andross and Brother F. I. Harrison, who attended the Autumn Council in the States, write of the good meetings they had. But their report of mission funds received during 1927, and of the calls heard at that meeting, reminds us that we need to examine ourselves to see whether we really are making a covenant with God through sacrifice for the finishing of His great work. Let us not forget that it is during this month that we are asked to give the income of one week as a special offering for mission work.



Doubtless all are waiting eagerly to learn more about the two new Indian missions opened in our division. No further word has come from our Mt. Roraima workers; but a letter from Guatemala tells of the safe arrival of Brother and Sister Boehme at the place where they were called to open a mission among the Indians. Let us not forget to pray earnestly for these two new enterprises among the millions of waiting Indians in our field.



GOD'S MESSENGER AND FOREIGN FIELDS

"September 15, 1874, marked the dawn of a new era in our denominational work. The foreign mission epoch had now opened, for on that day Elder J. N. Andrews set sail for Europe. A quarter of a century before, Sister White was shown in vision that the truth, like streams of light, would in time encircle the globe. But it was a long time before the pioneers dreamed of just what that meant. . . .

"But how quickly God opened the eyes of His servants when He had prepared the way for them to go forth, and when they were ready to begin to answer the Macedonian call from the regions beyond. Explorers had pointed the way. The great ocean highway had been opened. Ships were going to all parts of the world. Over the land railroads were beginning to spin their huge webs of steel. The postal service had been greatly improved. The telegraph and the cable were drawing different parts of the world within speaking distance. Not only that, but nations were opening their doors to missionary endeavor. China had granted her people the liberty to become Christians in 1844, and that same year the sultan of Turkey extended the same privilege to Moslems. In 1853 Japan opened her doors to foreigners. 'It was as though a mighty hand swung open long-closed doors,' says Elder Spicer in 'Our Story of Missions,' and a voice from heaven cried, 'Advance!' "—"Story of the Advent Message," p. 221.

As the Seventh-day Adventist people obeyed the signal to "advance," God did not cease to guide; but all through the history of our foreign mission endeavor, He has guided through the Spirit of Prophecy in building up all phases of the denominational work and fitting them to the needs of the people according to the wonderful gospel which saves unto the uttermost. During 1925 our denomination employed 9,957 workers in foreign service, and contributed to the support of foreign missions \$2,549,050.44.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

Editor—Mrs. E. E. ANDROSS

Published monthly (except during February, when semi-monthly) as the Official Organ of the Inter-American Division Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Box 143, Balboa, Canal Zone. Price, 50 cents a year.

Decorative border containing text: Thank God for Two new mission stations Progress along other lines Pray for Those who are sick among us Those who are suffering persecution Those who are in revolutionary zones