



The Inter-American Division MESSENGER

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No. 9

GREATER THINGS

"I am the vine, and my Father is the husbandman." "Ye are the branches." John 15:1, 5. These were among the last words that Christ spoke to His disciples before His crucifixion. This beautiful figure represents the intimate relationship that exists between the Father, the Son, and His chosen people. The connection between the vine and the branch is so close, so vital, that the very life of the branch is dependent moment by moment upon the constant, uninterrupted flow of the life-giving energy from the parent stock to the branch.

"This spiritual relation can be established only by the exercise of personal faith. This faith must express on our part *supreme preference, perfect reliance, entire consecration*. Our will must be wholly yielded to the divine will, our feelings, desires, interests, and honor, identified with the prosperity of Christ's kingdom and the honor of His cause, we constantly receiving grace from Him, and Christ accepting gratitude from us."—*Testimonies*, Vol. V, p. 229.

"He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit." "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit." The fruit borne on the branch that abides in the vine, and that has patiently endured the process of pruning, will be abundant. Rich clusters of precious fruit, the fruit of the Spirit, will be borne as the result of this union.

"Christ Himself calls our attention to the growth of the vegetable world as an illustration of the agency of His Spirit in sustaining spiritual life. The sap of the vine, ascending from the root, is diffused to the branches, sustaining growth and producing blossoms and fruit. So the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Saviour, pervades the soul, renews the motives and affections, and brings even the thoughts into obedience to the will of God, enabling the receiver to bear the precious fruit of holy deeds."—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 284.

The fruit on such a branch will be of a spiritual character and will bear witness to the transformation of life and character wrought in the individual through the power of the Holy Spirit. Such a life will reveal Jesus, and as He is lifted up from the world, many will be drawn to Him. Thus the life will be made fruitful in gathering souls for the kingdom. The Master said further, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that *ye should go and bring forth fruit*, and that *your fruit should remain*." John 15:16.

We have now come to a time when the Lord is cutting away the tendrils that are clinging to the earth and training them heavenward. He would prune the branch that it may bear an abundant harvest of fruit. The nearer we approach to the end the more quickly the work of gathering souls from the world and preparing them for the kingdom must be accomplished. Under the influence of the latter rain, fruit will ripen rapidly; the work of character-building will be done quickly. "For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth." Rom. 9:28.

We are living in a time when sin abounds on every hand. In speaking of the signs of the approaching end, the Saviour said, "Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." Matt. 24:12. "But where sin abounded, grace did much abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." Rom. 5: 20, 21. "With God nothing shall be impossible." Luke 1:37. Because of constant contact with sin the minds of men have been enfeebled, their power of resistance weakened. It requires a greater miracle today to bring men and women into complete harmony with God, and to enable them to live the life of Jesus, than, perhaps, at any former period; but God has provided for this emergency. He is today pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh. He has sent this blessed gift to men to break the power of sin, to enable them to overcome all their hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own image upon their hearts. Just as He created the heavens and the earth in six days, completing this marvelous work is such a brief period of time; so today, in the closing hours of probation, while the sun of salvation's day is rapidly sinking in the west, soon to set to rise no more, that which would ordinarily require a much longer period of time to accomplish, God will do in a very brief period.

"The completeness of Christian character is attained when the impulse to help and bless others springs constantly from within. It is the atmosphere of this love surrounding the soul of the believer that makes him a savor of life unto life, and enables God to bless his work.

"Supreme love for God and unselfish love for one another,—this is the best gift that our heavenly Father can bestow. This love is not an impulse, but a divine principle, a permanent power. The unconsecrated heart cannot originate or produce it. Only in the heart where Jesus reigns is it found. 'We love Him, because He first loved us.' In the heart renewed by divine grace, love is the ruling principle of action. It modifies the character, governs the impulses, controls the passions, and ennobles the affections. This love, cherished in the soul, sweetens the life, and sheds a refining influence on all around."—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 551.

Souls that are born into the kingdom as the result of the travail of soul of such devoted, spirit-filled workers will rapidly develop strength and beauty of character. In a very short time God will prepare such men and women for the holy ordinance of baptism and for the sacred relationship of members in the Lord's family. Such fruit as this will "remain;" it will prove to be the luscious fruit of the kingdom that will not perish.

With a ministry filled with the Holy Ghost, with a church anointed with divine power, and all aglow with "supreme love for God and unselfish love for one another," the miracle of the loaves and fishes will be repeated, the earth will be made to bring forth in a day, and a nation will be born at once. Isa. 66:8.

E. E. ANDROSS.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

A Call to Prayer and Fasting at this Hour

(READING FOR SABBATH, AUGUST 24, 1929)

Greetings to the brethren and sisters around the whole world on this day appointed for prayer and fasting. Last Sabbath the action of the General Committee at the Spring Council doubtless was read to you, telling why this Sabbath was appointed as a day for special seeking of the Lord. I cannot add to the force of the statement by the committee. Also I must be brief, for the time should be yours.

While the burden that presses most heavily upon us today is our own personal need in the churches, you will, I know, pray also for the great world work. Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers, brethren. Australasia sends us word that they, one union conference alone, finds it impossible to enlarge their work to care for all the South Sea Island districts where people who have been in savagery, and some of whom are even now cannibals, are calling to us to come and teach them the way to God. If we delay, other societies will go in and occupy and teach error where our own brethren have sown the seed of this truth with toil and peril to life. What can we do? We must enlarge. Pray God for enlargement.

Wonderfully in Africa and Asia and all lands God is speaking to hearts away beyond us. Did you hear of that experience in the forests of South America where Missionary F. A. Stahl was making a journey down a river through new regions? From a distant place in the forest a woman came, dignified and earnest, an Indian woman. She begged for "someone to teach us about the true God." Brother Stahl knew he had no workers to send to that distant part. He told her that first her people must give up the use of their native beer. She answered, "We have already done this."

Then he said, "You must leave off the use of cocaine," which nearly all the Indians use.

She answered, "This we have done long ago."

Then he told her that they must give up witchcraft and the killing of people because of this. She answered again, "This we have done long ago."

Then he asked, "How is it that you have done this? How have you known these things?"

She said, "We have heard that the true God at the mission wants us to leave off these things."

Brother Stahl found also that they were keeping the Sabbath as best they knew. Here they were—living far off in the dark forest, moved upon by the Spirit of God to set about reforming their lives in harmony with the truth of

which they had heard only rumors from our far-distant mission station.

Pray, brethren and sisters, for God to help us lengthen our cords. How quickly the Lord can bring this work to the finish when His people are ready. If He should do in a thousand places what He is doing here and there before our eyes, the whole outlook would suddenly change.

But first of all today, brethren, our burden is to pray God to prepare our own hearts to be what He wants us to be now. It is a cleansed church that He will use to do the final work. The Lord says to us, "Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord." Isa. 52:11. Let us pray for His cleansing power to work yet more deeply in our lives. We thank God for the souls you are winning, brethren and sisters. But we all know that God desires to work far more mightily with us. Pray for the evangelists and field workers and pray God to help you win souls all round about the local church while the evangelists are out in new fields. God can bring more souls to us when we are better ready to care for them.

The word that He spoke to His people of old is still a message for us. "The heathen shall know that I am the Lord," He said, "*when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.*" Ezekiel 36:23. The Lord wants to sanctify us and cleanse us, so that the world about us may know that indeed God has power to save sinners from their sins. He will not rest until the righteousness of His church go forth as brightness "and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth." Isa. 62:1. Then, He says, the gentiles, all the nations, shall see His righteousness. Brethren and sisters, it must bring humbleness of heart and repentance into every soul to consider that the Lord now wants to manifest through us to all about what His grace can do for a church fully surrendered to Him. Truly must every heart cry out, "Blessed Lord, how much I need thee!"

We live in a perilous time. Satan has come down in great wrath, knowing that he has but a short time. Jesus warns us of this last generation to be careful lest "the cares of this life" take our attention away from the one great thing. "Take heed to yourselves," He says. Luke 21:34. It cannot be long before our names—your name and mine—shall come in review in the closing judgment work. Actually our names will be called in heaven while down here in the world we are busy with our daily work. Shall we be ready?

The great peril of the last days is that

many shall be found "having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." 2 Tim. 3:5. It is so easy to rest in the knowledge of the doctrines of righteousness and come short of living the righteousness itself. Only Jesus can live that in us. We must have Jesus, the living Saviour, abiding in our hearts and in our homes. It means taking time for prayer, and for listening to His voice in the Bible. Brethren and sisters, let us repent of our lack of prayerfulness and of our neglect of the Bible, and lack of warmth and earnestness in our lives. My own heart tells me that I need this repentance. I am with you, brethren, in confessing my lack and my need of uttermost pardon and help. It is easy to believe in the close of probation and the soon coming of the Lord as a doctrine; but oh, how difficult to realize what it will mean to come right into the closing scenes. Well did the Apostle Peter ask, "What manner of persons ought ye to be?" seeing we look for such things. We shall not drift through these times into the kingdom. Jesus said in Luke 13:24, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." We must pray for this spirit of downright and constant striving.

Are there things and ways and plans in the life that are wrong? Let us this day examine ourselves. Let us break up the dry ground of our hearts, for, as the prophet says, "It is time to seek the Lord, till He come and rain righteousness upon you." Hosea 10:12. Again the word of the Lord to us is, "Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field." Zechariah 10:1. With humbling of soul and repentance before God, and yet with joy and confidence, let us ask, knowing that the Lord desires to send us showers of blessing, and to give every one of us "grass in the field," the upspringing of the fruits of the Spirit.

We know what that fruitage is, for the apostle Paul says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." Gal. 5:22, 23. So, brethren, the General Conference Committee sends out this call, according to the word of the Lord: "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children." Joel 2:15, 16.

For our own hearts, preachers and people, we need this day. We need power for the winning of souls all about us. And we need power to hold those

who come. Many are drifting out of our churches, slipping back into the world. Let us seek God to know how to save them. We must work in love and deeper earnestness for these souls who come in among us for a time and then drift out into the world again. Set yourselves, brethren, in every church to save the feet that are slipping.

And the call is to "gather the children." Never did the world present so many temptations to the young. Let us seek God for an experience that will help us to save the children of the denomination. In fact, brethren and sisters, standing on the verge of eternity, face to face with the last things, we do need this day of fasting and prayer to help us to lay aside every weight and to put aside every sin and to lay hold of the Arm of Might which alone can carry us through to the end and strengthen us for the work of helping others. To us the message comes today with greater force than ever in past years, "Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought His judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger." Zeph. 2:3. May the blessing of God be upon us in all lands this day as we pray for ourselves and our children, and for the straying, and for the work for souls all about us.

W. A. SPICER,

President General Conference.

Washington, D. C.

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

Genaro Sanchez 11, Vibora, Havana, Cuba

A. R. OGDEN Superintendent
N. L. TAYLOR Secy.-Treas.

A TEMPLE IN HAITI

"O Lord, Thou art my God; I will exalt Thee, I will praise Thy name; for Thou hast done wonderful things; Thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth." We are thankful to the Lord for the wonderful blessing He has given us in permitting us to have the new church building in Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti.

When the work began in that city about sixteen years ago, the believers had to meet on a small porch; then in a small room. Eight years ago an excellent property was secured. This is located just one block from the national palace. A small building on this property has served as chapel until now. The work has moved forward constantly and for the past two years it has been impossible for all the members to get into the church at one time. This past summer, two sessions of the Sabbath school have been held every Sabbath morning in order to accommodate all the members.

Plans were laid for the construction

of a simple but commodious place of worship, and we were happy last summer when it was voted that Pastor C. J. Foster of Cuba could come to superintend the work of construction. Although not familiar with our island nor the French language, he came and worked hard from early morning until night that the work might be finished as quickly as possible. Pastor and Sister de Caenel left their home at our mission headquarters in Cape Haitien and went to Port-au-Prince to aid in the building of the church. Pastor de Caenel worked side by side with Brother Foster and translated into French for him.

We have a stone building forty by eighty feet. The walls are twenty-five feet high and two feet thick. The building was put up in less than ten weeks and all over the city were heard such remarks as, "We never saw anything like it. How did you do it?" The building will seat approximately four



The beautiful temple built recently in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

hundred without crowding.

The erection of this temple has created a great stir in the city. Many thought that the work of Adventists had come to a standstill or was making only little progress. People from all classes inquired about our work and promised to be present for the dedicatory service.

It was a privilege for us to have Pastor A. R. Ogden present with us for this special occasion. The service had been announced for 7:30 P. M. Friday, February 22. A full half hour before the service, the church was packed to the doors and even the windows were filled. Approximately seven hundred persons were there for the dedication, and of these, fully two hundred and fifty remained standing with respectful attention during the entire service. Many government officials as well as many from the higher classes of society were present. The greater part of these had never before been in an Adventist meet-

ing. In a very convincing manner Pastor Ogden presented the work of Seventh-day Adventists in all the world and the meaning of the Message which we bear.

For the Sabbath services the church was well filled, and all rejoiced in the privilege of worshiping in the new temple. Pastor Ogden spoke at the morning hour, emphasizing the point that while the dedication of the building was good, the most essential point is our own relation to God, and the dedication of each heart to the work of God. Every one left the services with this question ringing in his ears, "Who shall be able to stand?" The afternoon service was filled with praise and thanksgiving. Pastor Philip Giddings led out in the meeting. Many expressed their joy and happiness in having the privilege of re-dedicating their lives to God on this special occasion.

The Sunday services were devoted to studies with the workers and reports

from the field. God is pouring out His Spirit in a marked way. Everywhere we see interested groups asking for the Word of life. Our need of small chapels in these centers is very great. There is nothing which will place the work on a more permanent footing. Some of our faithful believers walked for two days over mountains and cross rivers that they might be with us at the dedication. We

were especially glad to see the church packed on Saturday and Sunday evenings as Pastor Ogden presented the distinctive phases of our name and the reasons why we believe as we do.

We wish to take this occasion of thanking our dear brethren and sisters for their sacrifices which have made possible this monument to the truth. We are sure that the erection of this temple of worship marks the opening of a new era in the work of the Haitian Mission. We rejoice that God has given us the privilege of laboring with our loyal group of devoted workers and believers.

ORVILLE DUNN.

Cape Haitien, Haiti.

PASTOR O. P. REID TO THE BAHAMAS

Pastor O. P. Reid, who recently went to the Bahamas from Jamaica, and who was ordained at Mandeville just before

his departure, sends the following interesting letter regarding his work in Nassau, where our mission headquarters are located:

"My first two Sunday night sermons seem to have made a good impression on the public, which was obvious from the large attendance and splendid attention. Therefore, we started a three weeks' effort. I have been surprised to see the crowd. We have had to bring many of the school benches to the church, and even so we could not seat the crowd. This is my second week, and the interest is real good. We have averaged three hundred every night during the past week. Among the crowd we have had lawyers and doctors. All seem to be deeply interested. The public has been stirred up and a spirit of reformation is taking hold of the church.

"The testing truths have not been presented yet, but on Sabbath there were many new faces in the church. In the testimony meeting one gentleman got up and said he had always trampled on the Sabbath of the Lord, but he was determined by the help of the Lord to do so no longer.

"And so, Pastor Ogden, from the interest we are having I am confident that as soon as this effort closes I shall be having a good baptismal class. From what I see there is room for another church in the thickly populated section of the town. I am keeping busy all the time, having more calls than I can answer. Please remember me in your prayers."

I am sure that the many friends of Brother Reid will greatly rejoice with him and will pray that God may bless his efforts with a large ingathering of souls, not only in Nassau, but in other places where he may labor in the Bahama Mission. Let us pray for one another in the work that is being carried forward.

A. R. OGDEN.

Havana, Cuba.

WORD FROM PORTO RICO

Upon arriving home in Porto Rico after the union meeting in Jamaica last April, I found the work progressing well.

In Mayaguez where Brother Achenbach is located the work seems to be advancing rapidly. There are classes almost every night, including singing classes. The people are very anxious to learn songs which tell of the Message. We pray that many in that stronghold of Catholicism shall come out and be numbered among those who are looking for the glorious appearing of our Lord.

We ask your prayers for the work here in this island and for the sick workers in the mission. Several are very sick and the work naturally suffers because of this. But all the way we see the hand of God directing us and our desire is to be faithful always. The brethren here send greetings to fellow-believers through the MESSENGER. We look forward to its visits with eagerness and hope it will never cease coming to our shores.

L. J. BORROWDALE.

Santurce, Porto Rico.

NEWS ITEMS FROM THE ANTIL- LIAN UNION MISSION

Encouraging reports are being received from all our fields in the Antil-

lian Union. Already more than 140 have been baptized in Haiti, and reports of people accepting the truth and numbers being baptized are coming from other fields as well.

Pastor A. A. Davis, superintendent of the Cuba Mission, reports the baptism of several at three different places in the eastern end of the island.

We are especially pleased with the increase of tithe and with the splendid returns from the Harvest Ingathering work as reported from most of our fields for the first half of the year. The Santo Domingo Mission had an increase of about \$1,600.00 Harvest Ingathering this year over 1928. The Sabbath school offerings, in most of the fields also show an encouraging increase. All these things are only evidences that God has set His hand to the speedy finishing of the work.

Brother and Sister J. W. Grounds, who have labored very faithfully and earnestly for several years in Porto Rico, and later in the Jamaica Conference, returned to the States recently for a much needed and well-earned furlough.

Brother and Sister N. L. Taylor, of the union office, recently went to the States. Sister Taylor will spend the summer there with their son, but Brother Taylor will return shortly, stopping at Nassau to audit the Bahama Mission books.

Brother C. J. Foster and family, who have labored in the Cuba Mission for the past eight years or more, recently returned to the States. They leave in Cuba many friends and a goodly number who have been brought into the Message through their faithful efforts.

Pastor R. J. Sype and family left Jamaica, June 22 for the Bahamas. Pastor Sype is to act as superintendent of the Bahama Mission. We are sure that Brother Sype's long and successful experience in connection with the work in the West Indies will bring to the Bahama Mission a real inspiration and blessing.

Good reports come from Nassau, of the meetings recently held by Pastor O. P. Reid.

Pastor B. E. Beddoe, one of the associate secretaries of the General Conference, and wife are spending a little time with their son and daughter, Brother and Sister H. E. Beddoe, in Nassau, Bahamas. Brother Beddoe is taking a rest for recuperating his health.

We rejoice to learn that Professor O. W. Tucker and wife, of the Southwestern Junior College at Keene, Texas, arrived in Jamaica early in July. Brother Tucker will take up his duties as principal of the school at Mandeville. While Brother and Sister Tucker come to our field as strangers to us, we are confident that their coming will bring a great blessing to the work of the West Indian

Training College.

At a recent meeting of the Cuba Mission committee it was voted to move their mission headquarters from Matanzas to Santa Clara, a more central location. While in attendance at this meeting Pastor Davis and I visited the Moron church made up largely of Jamaican believers in that section. There Brother J. N. Williams, who has labored faithfully and successfully in the cause for several years, was ordained to the gospel ministry. Pastor R. E. Stewart was present and assisted Pastor A. A. Davis and the writer in the service.

Recent improvements have been made in the Cerro, Havana church building which adds much to the comfort and appearance of the place. The work was done by Brother Perez, a contractor, who is studying the truth and accepting the Message. The church in its present arrangement will seat almost twice as large a congregation as previously, to say nothing of the improvements made.

Pastor and Sister I. G. Knight, who have given many years of faithful service in the Inter-American Division, have accepted the invitation of the Antillian Union to take charge of the work in the Cayman Islands. These islands have been a part of the Jamaica Conference, but are now to be operated as a separate mission field. Brother and Sister Knight will be located at Georgetown, Grand Cayman.

Brother W. A. Bergherm, field and home missionary secretary of the union, returned to Havana, June 28, having been gone more than three months. He visited Jamaica, Haiti, Santo Domingo, and Porto Rico in the interests of the departmental work in the union.

Havana, Cuba. A. R. OGDEN.

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION

Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica

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

ANOTHER NEW COMPANY SPRINGS UP

A few months ago Sisters Anderson and Ramirez, of the Cristobal Spanish church, went across the lake from Gatun by launch, then a few hours up the river by canoe, and finally by horseback. At last they arrived at Circito, Panama, where they faithfully began self-supporting missionary work.

The kind-hearted inhabitants of that community had never before heard of the wonderful teaching found in the Bible. They had been taught that the Bible should not be read by the common people, and as it was now opened to them, they accepted its teachings with glad hearts. Several weeks ago these sisters returned home with the glad news that five in their mission field were keep-

ing the Sabbath and paying tithe. One of these is the *alcalde* (mayor) of Circito.

Later Brother Andrean accompanied these sisters to that place. Upon his return he reported that seventy-five there are trying to keep the Sabbath the best they know how. We have received \$37.75 tithe, besides other offerings from them.

Our sisters feel that for their missionary efforts there is a rich reward in this life and a far greater reward in the life to come.

A. V. LARSON.

Cristobal, Canal Zone.

COMING INTO THE LIGHT

You will be glad to hear that our work is going forward nicely. We are at present conducting an effort in our church here in the capital. Every night the meetings are well attended, and we hope to see some take their stand with the Lord.

In Antigua one of our colporteurs stirred up quite an interest, and several families are keeping the Sabbath. A man from there came to our office recently and paid us \$75.00 in tithe. He asserted his belief in our doctrines, and asked if it would be possible to baptize him the next Sabbath; but he was willing to wait until the others out there will be baptized. In other parts of the republic the work is going forward in a similar way, for which we give the praise to the Lord.

J. R. McWILLIAM.

Guatemala City, Guatemala.

OUR CHURCH SCHOOL IN CORN ISLAND

After a vacation of two months in Bluefields, I am back again in Corn Island with fresh vigor to resume my school work. In spite of great obstacles the work of the Lord is onward here.

Many plans have been laid to close our church school, but to no avail. The parents see the good their children are gaining from this school and they encourage others to attend. Our attendance this year is larger than it has ever been, and the children all seem to enjoy their school work.

We are of good courage for we know that the work of the Lord will triumph, and we want to triumph with it. Truly, we are living in serious times and probation is soon to close. We must train our boys and girls to be true to God in every respect. My prayer is that there may be found many faithful soldiers in Corn Island church school when the victory is won.

EUFENIA A. SALMON.

Corn Island, Nicaragua.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."—*Solomon.*

FIRST FRUITS AMONG THE SPANISH

Thursday it was my privilege to baptize four persons in a beautiful pool near Managua. It was a wonderful occasion for us here, for these are the first fruits among the Spanish people of Nicaragua. One is the daughter of the chief of police of Managua. They are all fine people and unusually intelligent. Amid strong opposition, they have left their former church. The minister and the church committee tried by argument and then by threats to dissuade them, but to no avail.

I marvel as I see how these dear people have grasped the truth so quickly and have presented unanswerable arguments to their opponents. Others are in the struggle, and some have succumbed to promises of free education for their children up to sixteen grades.

The first time I met the minister referred to above was in the home of two of his members. He had just finished explaining about Lazarus and the rich man, and the souls under the altar, as I entered. He then reviewed it in my presence and requested me to answer. I first made sure that he accepted all Scripture as inspired. Text by text we advanced, he accepting all. Finally he began to discard a portion of the Scriptures; then his own people turned on him and said, "You can't do that." Well, we are having an interesting time. Several Catholics are becoming interested.

ELLIS P. HOWARD.

Managua, Nicaragua.

OUR CHURCH SCHOOL AT PORT LIMON

I must tell you a little about the work here. We are of the best of courage and feel to press on and do our best. I just returned for a few days from Cahuita where I was holding some meetings. The people came out well and the church has been helped as well

as people not of our faith. We have only ten members at that little place, but the prospects are good for bringing others into the truth. Before leaving we organized a class of fifteen; and two were taken into the church, one by baptism. Another was baptized who was not satisfied with her past life.

I went back the next Sunday to close the effort. I had to leave for a few days as the railroad company here gave us a train for taking the children for a day's outing, and I had to come to sign up the papers to get the train. We were permitted to keep all fare receipts; and you will be pleased to know that they amounted to more than \$110.00 after the expenses were met. We are putting this into the fund for a new school building that we need here so badly.

We have about a hundred and seventy in the school here at Limon. Brother and Sister Harriott are of good courage and are working hard. They had a little program the other evening and it brought in about fifty dollars. There are two other places that we hope to start church schools. You will be glad to know that the little church at Cairo that was organized in 1927 on the 29th of October with seventeen members now has forty-six baptized members and fifteen in the baptismal class. The members are anxious for a church school, and we hope that they will be able to get one soon.

C. B. SUTTON.

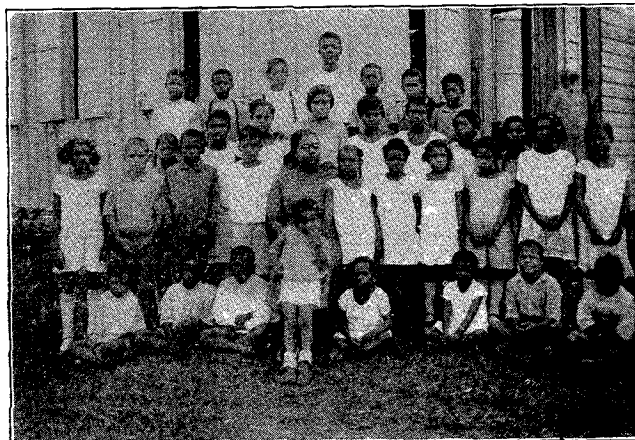
Port Limon, Costa Rica.

OPPOSITION TO OUR WORK IN SALVADOR

Not long ago we decided to secure a hall and conduct a series of meetings in Santa Tecla, or new San Salvador. We were able to get the use of an old theater for paying the lights and cleaning up the place; and it seemed that the Lord was directing in this matter. We already have a little company of about 30 believers there and many

more are manifesting an interest in the truth.

After considerable delay, I received assurance from the mayor of the city that he would grant us the necessary permission to hold public meetings in the town. We had some handbills printed and distributed them among the people Sabbath afternoon before the meetings were to begin on Sunday night. The mayor's



Sister Salmon and the children in her school on Corn Island

office had been vacated, and we were unable to see him until Sunday. When Brother Holder arrived Sunday morning with the chairs, the police informed him that the mayor wanted to see us.

We went to his office but were unable to see him for the crowd which had gathered to protest against our holding meetings there. They even resorted to personal threats against the mayor should he grant us permission to hold the meetings. Finally he gave his word that he would not allow them to be held that night, and then the mob dispersed. When we visited him again that afternoon, he told us what had happened and that he had not enough police at his command to protect us against the mob that might attack us should we hold the meeting that night. He advised us to wait until Monday night as most of the people from the country, who were the most pliable agents of the priests, would have gone back to their homes by that time. He agreed to grant us permission to hold the meetings on Monday night, and advised us to meet the crowd that night and announce that the meetings would be held Monday night.

When we arrived at the theater in the evening, we found a number of police guarding the door and refusing to let the people enter. The police would not even let us speak to our own brethren who had gathered there.

When we returned on Monday, we found that the priest had intimidated the man who rented us the theater; and he was unwilling to let us have the use of it. The mayor also informed us that he had word from the central government, that we would have to solicit permission there in order to insure adequate protection. This we did and after considerable delay, permission was obtained. Although rent is high and it is hard to find a suitable hall, we rented a house and announced that the lectures that had been advertised for the theater would be given there. When the meetings began there were ten or more policeman in or near the door. The people were rather timid about passing such a formidable array. Furthermore by that time the priest had misrepresented us, from the pulpit and through the press, and condemned all who would attend the meetings or in any way help us even by renting us their houses.

At the end of one week, I heard that the priest had called his people together in mass and was planning to attack us the following Sunday night. I spoke on health and temperance. The meeting began as usual, and everything seemed very quiet for a few minutes; but when the meeting was well under way, we heard a terrible noise in the street. A mob which the priest had gathered in the Catholic church a few blocks away had come to attack us. The first to ar-

rive were some fanatical women whose business it is to care for the church and the personal wants of the priest. They were urging the men, and all were clapping their hands and yelling: "Down with the Protestants. We don't want them here. We are Catholics." Brother Holder tried to prevent their entering, but they beat the door and showered rocks and plaster against the weak partitions. While Brother Holder and some of the other men did all they could to barricade the door, I continued to hold the crowd, for if any one had gone out he probably would have been killed.

Leaving temporarily my lecture on health and temperance, I read the ninety-first and forty-sixth Psalms; and the Lord gave me faith to assure the people that they would not be killed if all remained together. We then offered prayer, and I continued my lecture as though nothing at all had happened, merely referring to what was going on outside as the fruits of intemperance. Meantime the police, hearing the commotion, came and dispersed the mob. They had torn down the sign which was over the door and were carrying it away. The police recovered the sign and arrested the one who was carrying it and some others. They were kept in jail for a few days and then acquitted.

Although our faith in God is bright and strong, I can assure you that an experience such as I have just related makes one think as never before. If such things can be done when the law and government officials are in our favor, what will it be when the protection of the law is removed and the angry mob given permission to kill us? Certainly His arm will be made bare and the deliverance will be glorious. But we must develop a faith now in these light afflictions that will enable us to endure the more trying times that are coming.

WALLACE A. LUSK.

San Salvador, Salvador.

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

Box O, Balboa, Canal Zone

H. E. BAASCH	Superintendent
C. L. STILSON	Secy.-Treas.

PROGRESSING IN SPITE OF DIFFICULTIES

Recently Brother Luis Urbina, after a very successful canvassing trip, visited the office. He settled up his account in full, and, when he left, took with him eleven boxes of books and *Centinelas*. He already has orders for a large part of this literature. Among other interesting experiences he related the following:

Last year when he was canvassing in —, a certain man ordered a copy of "Our Day." When the time of delivery came, he refused to take the book, but subscribed for *El Centinela*. This year

Brother Urbina visited him again, and he said that he would renew his subscription with much pleasure. Then he confessed that the year before he had refused the book because the priest told him to, but he said that from reading *El Centinela* for a year he was convinced that the literature was good, and that later he was going to take one of the books.

In — he was showing the books to some young people when an ex-Capuchin monk entered the house and, seeing our brother, he said in a loud voice, "What is this? Don't buy any of these, for they are Seventh-day Adventist books. The true religion is the Apostolic Roman Catholic."

Brother Urbina went out, and at the corner of the house he met a man who must have heard all that had been said inside. Evidently it aroused his favorable curiosity, for he ordered a copy of "Our Day." He said he was a free-thinker, but liked to read, and added, "Perhaps after reading this book I may come to believe."

Then our brother started for the house across the street, although he feared that the lady had heard the speech of the monk, and would not come for the book; but when he reached her home, and made the presentation, she took it readily. He had a good visit with her. She had a Bible and evidently wanted to understand it; so he explained some things to her. She promised to take another book on his return.

In — he went to deliver a book, but the man told him to go immediately to a certain house, because the priest was going around warning all the people not to take their books. He did so, losing only four orders, and returned later to deliver the book to the man who had given him the friendly warning.

At another place he met a young man, who had just left the police force and who said he would like to buy a Bible. Brother Urbina promised to bring him one on his return from Barranquilla. The young man said that was too bad, for he would leave town before our brother's return. Just then a telegram from our office reached Brother Urbina, asking him to get a package of Bibles and *Centinelas* that Brother Valdés had ordered sent there some time before, and had not been able to come to claim.

So there was a Bible to deliver to the man, and he bought a *Centinela* also. As he was reading the latter, he came upon an article about a young man who left his mother because he wanted to be free to do as he pleased. Soon Brother Urbina saw that the young man was in tears, and asked him the reason. He said that sixteen years before, he had done the very same thing as the young man in the story, leaving his mother at home and that during all that time he had not heard from her. He went to

the telegraph office, and sent a telegram to a friend who knew his mother, asking if she was still alive.

When Brother Urbina was ready to leave that place the agent for one of the steamers that run on the river asked him why he wanted to visit such little places, where there would be only very few sales for his book. The reply was that this was an important Message, and that all the people ought to know about it. The man then said, "If that is the case, I ought to help along such a good work, so I will give you passage free to the next port."

Brother Christiansen was recently under arrest for forty-two hours in a little town in Santander. (The list of those who have this honor is growing.) He is having good success in his work, and is laying the foundation for a good harvest of souls among the mountains in eastern Colombia.

On Sabbath, May 25, we celebrated a baptism in Barranquilla, when four candidates went forward. The aviation company very kindly allowed us to use the cement runway where the hydro-planes take off at the airport and also their dressing rooms. This made a very convenient place for the ceremony. When the manager gave the permission, he asked what kind of a ceremony it would be. He and others of the company were present at the service. Three of those who were baptized were young people of Adventist parents, and had attended our church school.

Sister Justina Colon reports from Sincelejo that there are several awaiting baptism there. We hope to visit that church and baptize them soon.

E. W. THURBER.

Barranquilla, Colombia.

A SABBATH IN TULUA

Tulua is about 80 miles from the headquarters of the Central Colombia Mission. April 27, 1929 Sabbath school opened in the usual way, except for one extraordinary feature. At the announcing of the first hymn, the ladies who had hats with them put them on, and the rest of them, including the little tots, placed clean towels over their heads, and thus they remained until the close of the meeting. I was puzzled at this unusual display of headdress.

After the meeting, I invited them to ask questions, for it is only occasionally that these friends have a minister with them, and they always have questions ready for us. Their first questions solved the mystery of the headdress exhibition. They had found Paul's instructions to the Corinthians to the effect that a woman should have her head covered when in prayer and, with no hesitation, had applied the literal inter-

pretation and obeyed the instructions absolutely.

The church at Tulua really believes that the Word of God is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path, and they are not stumbling in the darkness as they cross over the dark mountains.

GEORGE C. NICKLE.

Cali, Colombia.

PIONEERING THE WAY

On the last Sabbath before we moved to another part of the city, our Sabbath school attendance doubled and we surely had an interesting time studying the lesson together. One man was there for the first time. Pastor Trummer tells us he is coming soon to visit us and we also expect an evangelist, so we are looking forward to having a large Sabbath school some day. No doubt a goodly number of our *Centinel*a subscribers will come to the meetings.

Some of our subscribers did not care much about the paper at first, as was the case of an influential doctor, to whom I have been giving instruction in English. Yesterday he told me that when he wrote his name down for a subscription, he did not care for the paper, but that now he and his wife enjoy it very much. I have only thirty-eight subscribers, but there are from one to five persons reading each paper. So we do not know how far these papers will go, nor how much good each one will do.

Our literature is creating confidence in other phases of our work. We are of good courage and enjoying good health and many other blessings of the Lord.

MRS. C. G. CHRISTIANSEN.

Bucaramanga, Colombia.

BREAKS DOWN PREJUDICE

There seems to be a greater awakening among the people here in Caracas than I ever have seen before. One of our sister works in a shoe factory and the man in charge has been making life miserable for her. He scorns all the papers and tracts she offers him. A short time ago he hurt his foot very badly and he was not able to walk on it for about sixteen days. When I learned of his trouble, I called on him and massaged his foot and put on a cold compress. The next day I returned and gave him another treatment; and soon he was able to walk.

When he went back to the factory, he was very kind to our sister, and wanted to pay her for what I had done for him. She would not take anything: but, when he insisted, she told him that if he wanted to give anything, she would take it for the church. Later I met this man and gave him a copy of the temperance number of the *Centinel*a, and after explaining to him the effect that cigar-

ettes have on the body, I asked him to quit smoking.

I pray that this man may soon give his heart to the Lord.

ANA HANSEN.

Caracas, Venezuela.

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION CONFERENCE

Box 221, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

W. R. ELLIOTT *President*

M. D. HOWARD *Secy.-Treas.*

CARIBBEAN TRAINING COLLEGE

(Concluded from last month).

The school farm contains about 300 acres of land in the narrow Maracas Valley, and on the steep sides of the mountains, eleven miles east of Port of Spain, and not far from the base of Mt. Tukuchu, the highest peak on the island, towering to an elevation of 3,200 feet. Nearly all the farm is scattered on mountain slopes so steep that it is impossible to plow it, and so must be cultivated by hand. The farm has an ample supply of good water, coming from high up in the mountains back of the school. It is in one of the most healthful spots on the island, and is almost entirely free from mosquitoes and malaria.

The brethren are trying hard to clear the farm and bring it into a high state of cultivation. The farm has paid much better this year than it did last. \$800 was received from the sale of cocoa this year. The gardens have done quite well, too, and a good market for vegetables is found in Port of Spain. There should be some income from cashew-nuts, tonca beans, cocoanuts and other fruits. There is a small field of pineapples on the farm that will produce fruit next year. Aside from the farm, the school operates a sawmill, a shoe repair shop, a carpentry department, etc., and is installing other industries.

The girls' dormitory is not yet completed, but the girls are living in it and are quite comfortable and satisfied. Professor and Sister Gardiner, Sister Williams and the girls live on the second floor. The classrooms and office are also on this floor. The kitchen, dining room and work shop are all located on first floor. Seventy-two loyal boys and girls are enrolled in the school. A few are working all their way. These for the most part are young people who came in the first days of the school and have helped in getting it started. We should have two teachers' homes, and a dormitory for the boys also is needed.

Our committee has given some study to the equipment of a treatment room in connection with the school. We feel that in training the students it would be splendid if they could receive some instruction in simple remedies and in the use of water in the treatment of diseases.

Influence of the School

A number of people, who have come in contact with our students, have told the brethren that when some of the boys are ready to leave the institution, they would like to have them, for they are far more efficient, energetic, and industrious than many other laborers on the islands. Of course, the primary purpose of the school is to train our young men and women for the Lord's work, but there will be some who will not go directly into organized lines of work, and it will be to their advantage to receive a thorough training in various lines of labor which will fit them to render better service to their fellow-men. We believe the school will accomplish much good for the young people in the East Caribbean Union.

In closing, let me say that the workers in the East Caribbean Union are of good courage. We are sure that God is directing the work throughout the field, and our hearts are cheered with evidences on every hand showing that the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. We are determined to press on, doing our part to complete the work as speedily as possible.

W. R. ELLIOTT.

Port of Spain, Trinidad.

CARIBBEAN TRAINING COLLEGE NOTES

It certainly sounds good to hear the shriek of our sawmill whistle ring out in the valley. One of the influential men of Maracas said after looking over the mill, "It has been said, 'Can any good thing come out of Maracas?' I say, 'come and see.'"

A few days ago we finished an order of matched flooring for the Cadbury Estates. This is the first of such work that our mill has turned out. Mr. Lovell, superintendent of the estates, was well pleased with the job and promised us future work.

We are at present mounting a 60-inch circular saw which will soon be humming through the large Mora logs that are waiting for it.

Our Carpentry Department has just finished an order for over \$300.00 worth of folding benches for the tabernacle which the South Caribbean Conference is using at Tunapuna. We have also finished the roof on the entrance to our girls' dormitory which adds very much to its appearance.

We have just finished planting about 30 acres of corn, pigeon peas, and beans.

Our student body averaged nearly \$1.00 a member in the Harvest Ingathering Campaign. Those students in our midst who are not Adventists took an active part in the work, and brought home a good report of their first effort in Harvest Ingathering.

L. H. GARDINER.

St. Joseph, Trinidad.

EXPERIENCES IN GUIANA, No. 2

From a place not far from Georgetown comes a call for help. Twenty-five persons desire to know more of this Message and to unite with the church by baptism. These souls are seeking the truth that will stand the Bible test. In another town near by is another group of interested ones, but we have no one to send to them.

God's Spirit seems to be searching out the honest in heart everywhere. I really believe that there is no other work that gives so much satisfaction to the missionary as personal evangelism. In Bible work one comes close to the people, and, by closely observing them, is able to render just the help that is needed. To be a successful Bible worker, one must study to be a close observer, which will help in using tact and in choosing subjects and making the application.

The other day I received an urgent call to come at once to visit a very sick sister. The husband said: "Come at once or you may not find her alive." So, accompanied by another sister, I hastened there. When we entered the room of the sick one, she apparently did not recognize us. All the family were gathered around the bed weeping. As I looked upon that sick sister I said, "Sister, what would you like for me to do for you?" She answered: "Pray, pray." So we knelt around that bed, husband and father, children and grandchildren, and we asked the great God over all to manifest His power in behalf of this dear sister, if it would be for His glory and her good.

God heard from Heaven, His dwelling place, and rebuked the sickness. When we arose, we saw an immediate change. She had received help. Five days later the husband sent to me a message saying that God had saved his wife from death, and he felt that he owed something to Him. So five dollars was placed in my hand to be used as tithe.

MRS. DEBORA KNIGHT.

Georgetown, British Guiana.

DELIVERANCE AND GRATITUDE

Never before has this island had such a tremendous building program. The lumber merchants failed in many cases to supply the urgent calls for building materials. And it is pleasing to say that the whole island has a better aspect with its many new houses with roofs made from shingles or galvanized iron.

But in these days of reconstruction many hopes were blasted. First we were threatened with a severe drought and the high hopes of a good crop were dissipated. Added to this was the bitter disappointment that came to many who had not received the expected help

in rebuilding their homes. Our people were among the sufferers.

In that dark hour came the good news of help from the General Conference. Hope revived, and 150 suffering men, women and children with hearts overflowing with gratitude began anew the work of reconstruction, and in due time the destitute were again provided with homes.

The progress of the work continues favorably. On Sabbath the 30th of March, "the Hand that intervenes" rescued my wife and me from the jaws of death while we were returning from the northern end of the island. Because of the lameness of my horse, we had been compelled to go by auto. After leaving the church we collided with an auto truck as we came around a short and dangerous curve, but there was no serious damage. However, later as we drove down a rough road, the steering wheel broke and the right front wheel of the car went within six inches of a dangerous precipice of about 450 feet. One revolution more of that wheel and we would have been dashed over it. As we saw how the hand of God had rescued us, we lifted our hearts in gratitude to Him, pledging deeper consecration in our daily activities in His service. We left the damaged car and walked the four remaining miles.

Next morning at the baptismal service we told our people about this deliverance and we thanked God again that we had been spared to baptize thirteen during the first quarter and had been privileged to have "one more day's work for Jesus" in this unfinished task.

J. A. REID.

Montserrat, British West Indies.

THE FRENCH ISLANDS

The work on the French Islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe is more and more encouraging. Eighteen accepted the Message as a result of our first public effort and ten of these were buried with their Lord in baptism about two months ago. Approximately five hundred were present at the baptism and received a profound impression of our work.

We are praying that the Lord will send another worker here, as the calls are so many and urgent that I cannot take care of them all.

I feel sure that the Lord is going to do a wonderful work in the French Islands, and I am thankful to Him for His power that is manifest here, and for the prospects of an abundant harvest.

NORD ISAAC.

Crimite, Martinique.

"All who would enter the city of God must during their earthly life set forth Christ in their dealings."—*Test.* V. 9.

RAPID PROGRESS

Sister D. A. Parsons used a chart in connection with the conventions recently held in Mexico, which gives a remarkable report of the progress of the Sabbath school work in that union during the past five years. The following are some of the figures:

Year	No. of S. Schools	Membership
1923	22	465
1924	30	558
1925	51	962
1926	60	1,436
1927	82	1,667
1928	115	2,250

REPORT OF HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT*

It affords me great pleasure to report that there has been marked progress in the organization and development of the layman's movement in the Inter-American Division during 1928. The percentage of our membership engaging in active missionary work is rapidly increasing from quarter to quarter; and the amount of work accomplished shows an encouraging advance in nearly every item of missionary endeavor. The following is a comparison of a few items of work accomplished in 1927 and 1928.

Items of Work	1927	1928
Reporting members	6,141	7,088
No. added to church	874	695
Missionary visits	180,246	233,220
Bible readings given	89,700	137,400
Treatments given	25,883	37,572
Literature given away	126,234	147,826
Tracts distributed	129,100	162,100
Books distributed	27,374	35,159
Hours Christian help work	126,238	154,862
Letters written	22,167	23,641
Letters received	12,353	18,036

Nine hundred and forty-seven more members reported missionary work in 1928 than in 1927. It is encouraging to notice the rapid increase in the percentage reporting missionary work since the beginning of 1927.

Reporting Percentages in Division

Year	Quarter	Percentage
1927	1st	51.2
"	2nd	46.1
"	3rd	54.1
"	4th	58.1
1928	1st	62.7
"	2nd	65.2
"	3rd	73.1
"	4th	73.4

When we compare these figures with the reports from the other world divisions, we see that Inter-American is leading the world in the percentage of membership reporting missionary work:

Reporting Percentages

	1927	1928
Inter-America	62.7	68.6
Europe	39.8	42.9

* Report given at the Division Council.

Far East	28.0	38.7
Australasia	31.5	38.5
Africa	2.8	31.4
Southern Asia	28.0	31.1
North America	21.4	22.6
South America	13.7	18.5

The Harvest Ingathering receipts for 1928 were \$26,464.19, which is an increase of \$1,872.26 over the receipts of 1927. The Antillian Union heads the list with an increase of \$1,761.31; and the Central American Union comes second with an increase of \$852.38. The 1928 Big Week receipts were \$3,395.89, which is \$633.35 above the amount received in 1927. The Colombia-Venezuela Union takes first place in the 1928 Big Week effort with an increase of \$510.21 above the amount raised in 1927; and the Central American Union is second with \$154.28 increase.

The financial returns are only a part of the definite results of these two important campaigns. We are glad to report that more souls were won in connection with the 1928 campaign than ever before. Sister Trinidad, who was baptized a little over a year ago and is now a member of the Tampico church in Mexico, won 21 souls in connection with her Harvest Ingathering solicitation last year. Eight of these are already members of the church and the others are preparing for baptism.

The prospects are bright in the Inter-American Division for a great forward movement in soul-winning. We have a people who are wonderfully responsive to the Lord's plan for accomplishing a "quick work" in the earth, and who are willing to make any sacrifice of time or means if they can be instrumental in winning souls for the kingdom. Let us encourage them to press forward with ever increasing earnestness until the work is finished.

C. E. WOOD.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION OF INTER-AMERICA

The interest manifested in the Ministerial Reading Course is increasing year by year in the Inter-American Division. At the time of our last division committee council we reported that forty-eight of our workers were taking the 1928 course. The subscription list has increased to sixty-nine this year. Thirty of this number are taking the Spanish Reading Course. Eighteen young men in our academies in Inter-America are taking advantage of this opportunity also.

Many of the workers who have reported having completed the 1928 course express their appreciation of the books selected for the past year, and state that the Ministerial Reading Course is proving to be an important factor in broadening their education, deepening their

Christian experience, and in preparing them for efficient service.

We have received only words of commendation concerning the periodical, *The Ministry*, and we are confident that this monthly publication is providing just the help that our workers need. As the Inter-American Division furnished the *Ministry* free to all its workers in 1928, they had an opportunity to learn its value, and we believe nearly all have subscribed for it this year.

Balboa, C. Z. C. E. WOOD.

THE PUBLISHING REPORT*

We thank the Lord for the progress that has been made in the Inter-American Division during the last two years. In actual deliveries we did much better last year than during 1927:

1927	\$115,313.16
1928	116,917.36

To the above must be added two reports that arrived too late to be included in the December report of 1928. Adding these it brings our 1928 increase over 1927 to \$8,444.41.

But we are not satisfied. The Inter-American Division will not rest content until \$200,000.00 worth of literature is actually delivered every year.

Why should we not circulate more literature when we think about that wonderful picture that was seen in vision by the servant of the Lord?

"I saw them holding papers and tracts in one hand, and the Bible in the other, while their cheeks were wet with tears; and bowing before God in earnest, humble prayer, to be guided into all truth,—the very thing He was doing for them before they called upon Him. And when the truth was received in their hearts, and they saw the harmonious chain of truth, the Bible was to them a new book; and they hugged it to their hearts with grateful joy, while their countenances were all aglow with happiness and holy joy.

"These were not satisfied with merely enjoying the light themselves, and they began to work for others. Some made sacrifices for the truth's sake and to help those of the brethren who were in darkness. The way is thus being prepared to do a great work in the distribution of tracts and papers in other languages."—*Life Sketches*, pp. 214, 215.

J. A. P. GREEN.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER REPORT*

Some one has said that "wherever in history you see a great movement you find a young person at its heart or at its head." And friends here in Inter-America we have at least six thousand young people in our ranks looking to the leadership in this division to lead them nearer the heart of this great movement. They must be the greatest asset of the Inter-American Division. They are our precious heritage. You all

realize this. You have spent years in building about them a bulwark and smoothing out before their feet paths that would keep them from stumbling. God has rewarded your efforts, and instead of having 130 societies with 2,626 members as we had in 1924, we had 276 societies with 5,323 members at the close of 1928. In that host of young people we have many who are endeavoring to study to show themselves approved of God, workmen that need not to be ashamed, and who at the same time are trying to help those around them as the chart below reveals:

Missionary Activities

	1924	1928
No. of societies	130	276
Members	2,626	5,323
Reporting members	1,466	2,841
Young people converted	319	716
Missionary visits	44,758	85,622
Bible readings, cottage meet.	19,146	36,980
Hours Christian help work	57,693	62,287
Treatments given	5,252	11,130
Periodicals distributed	27,548	58,102
Tracts distributed	47,498	54,710
Books distributed	8,372	10,936
Missionary letters written	7,013	9,590
Missionary letters received	5,179	12,213

Certificates Issued

Although we are not satisfied with our past record in self-improvement lines and are determined by the grace of God to make better records from now on, we do feel to thank God for the story of progress told in the chart below which shows the number of certificates issued in 1924 and 1928:

Unions	Bible Year	
	1924	1928
Antillian Union	38	317
Central American Union	..	96
Colombia-Venezuela	..	30
East Caribbean	154	169
Mexican	..	93
Division	192	705

Stand. of Attain.	Read Course	
	1924	1928
13	82	10
3	23	..
..	3	..
20	168	7
3	65	..
39	341	17

Our Aims

First: To enroll every Seventh-day Adventist young person in Inter-America in the Missionary Volunteer organization. We believe our organization should reach out to place its arms around the most isolated young person in our division as well as those in our largest churches. And further we believe that every society should be provided with the best leadership a church can give.

Second: Every society should be organized for prayer and study and service. Wherever the band idea has been given a fair trial I think it has given entire satisfaction.

We are endeavoring to make the slogan ring through this entire division which has been sounded forth from the division office for more than a year. That slogan is, "Something for Jesus

* Report given at the Division Council.

every day." When you stop to think that if each of our 5,000 Missionary Volunteers wrote one missionary letter every week it would mean 260,000 missionary letters every year. Think what the same earnestness in every other line would mean.

Our Needs

First: The burden that lies heaviest upon my heart regarding the work of our young people in Inter-America is some special work for our boys and girls. I feel that more must be done for them. It is not for lack of interest that more has not been done, but for lack of leadership, time, strength, and equipment. To promote successfully the work for our young people, and especially for our juniors, we must educate, educate, educate.

Second: One other thing that is a great drawback to our Missionary Volunteer activities is the lack of material; but here I want to pass on a big thank you to those who have helped turn the hearts of our friends in the United States to Inter-America, for many hundred pounds of papers, booklets and tracts have been sent to place in the hands of willing young people that they might have ammunition for their campaigns.

Third: Last year when we met in council the Missionary Volunteer workers assembled called your attention to the great need of temperance work by our young people and a recommendation was passed encouraging our young people to take hold of this neglected work. Something has been done, but there is still great need of a revival along this line.

Fourth: One of our greatest and almost all-embracing needs, is the need of conventions for training leadership in our churches and companies, and for experienced leaders in our fields who can come in personal touch with the problem as it exists in the homes and churches, and then for sufficient continuity of such leadership to guide our forces in learning to do by doing.

With these notes of progress and expression of needs I will leave this report with you. I know you realize with me that we have not begun to touch the possibilities of the Missionary Volunteer work. In behalf of Sister Parsons and Sister Baxter who stand nobly at the head of two of our unions and in behalf of our splendid army of leaders in our conferences and missions, I solicit a continuation of your earnest prayers. May the Lord greatly bless the youth whom the Master has appointed to be His helping hand in the finishing of the work in Inter-America.

REPORT OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL WORK*

As I look back over the years and notice the splendid growth in this important branch of our work, my heart cries out for that closer walk with the Master which will give Him a freer hand in the Sabbath school work in the future. I feel to thank Him greatly for the progress which I can attribute only to His special blessing and to the faithful service and whole-hearted cooperation of our great family of believers. And among our workers, I wish to express special gratitude to Sister Parsons and Sister Baxter and the host of loyal Sabbath school workers throughout the division.

I feel sure you will be very happy to notice that on an average we have been welcoming a new school into our division circle almost every week since 1924 and 130 new members every month, or 6,247 new members in four years. Our attendance has improved until there are 7,500 more in our Sabbath schools than by the close of 1924.

Sabbath School Aims

With hearts full of courage and gratitude for the past and with determination for better service in the future, we are pressing on towards certain aims in our Sabbath school work:

First: We are working definitely to enroll every Seventh-day Adventist in the Sabbath school from the leaders in our work to the lonely, isolated members in the new mission field. It is a little difficult to show by figures the progress we have made in this line; for, when we first inaugurated our missing members campaign, it took a long time to get every field to report her missing members. Once for instance, when we thought a certain field had enrolled all her members, we found that the reason for the good looking report was the lack of diligence in taking inventory of missing members. When a search was made about three hundred missing members were found in that field. I think without exception we can report that every field in Inter-America is reducing her 'missing members'; and we are glad to say that Haiti, Porto Rico, Honduras, Antioquia, Venezuela, Salvador, Central Mexico, Sierra Madre, Tehuantepec and Yucatan report no missing members.

Second: Another phase of our Sabbath school work that is closely akin to number one is the stress we are laying on regular and punctual attendance. I have been distressed as I have noticed the large number of absences from Sabbath to Sabbath, but we are encouraged when we realize that progress has been made. Two years ago we were reporting over 2,000 absences on an average every week. During 1928 we drew almost half of this large army of absent ones into the Sabbath school. And we shall see greater progress for we have a faithful army of Sabbath school members in this widely scattered field—members who love the Sabbath school and who are working earnestly to get out of this splendid organization the greatest possible blessing.

Third: With regular attendance we are earnestly endeavoring to stress the importance of daily study of the lesson. Basing our calculations on the last quarter's report, 17% of our church members during the fourth quarter of 1928 received honor cards. That means that a number equal to 17 out of every hundred of our church members were present every Sabbath during the fourth quarter and had studied their lessons daily. For the last quarter Yucatan and Cuba held the best records in daily study and attendance. That progress has been made in this line is evident from the fact that during 1928 our division issued almost twice as many honor cards as in 1924. The increase in membership was 54% while the increase in honor cards stood at 93%.

Fourth: You will not forget the place the Sabbath school holds in gathering mission offerings for the advancement of the Lord's work. Last year when we assembled in division council we passed a recommendation to encourage our Sabbath schools to raise \$1,000 a week for missions. While we regret that we have not yet attained to that goal, we rejoice that we passed the \$900.00 mark per week to missions, in spite of the destruction wrought by hurricanes in several of our islands. This year we hope to sweep past the goal. The Sabbath schools in our division during 1928 gave more than \$13,000.00 more to missions than in 1924.

There are two phases of our Sabbath

school offerings that we feel should be presented a little more earnestly in our division—Birthday offerings and the Investment Fund. Some of our friends are doing splendid work in birthday offerings and a number of our Sabbath school members, I am told, are not only commemorating their birthdays by an offering, but also their baptism, their marriage, or certain special personal victories. The Investment Fund is taking root. In 1926 the division received through the Investment Fund \$546.28, and in 1928 \$1,231.39. This fund I believe has great possibilities. That the Lord has placed His approval upon it we cannot doubt. Let me relate briefly the experience of one of our members in Bocas del Toro:

"I attended the last biennial conference (1927) in Panama City and heard a story about a brother who had a hen in his yard that would not lay eggs; he gave her to the Lord and she became one of the best layers. Upon my return home one day I walked through my little property and passed by an orange tree I have on it. It has borne only seven oranges since I bought the property over thirty years ago. This tree was fully twenty years old when I bought the property and had never yielded any fruit in all those twenty years. The seven it bore was over ten years ago. As I passed by, I looked at the tree which is still small and said, 'You have been standing here over a half century and have only borne seven oranges. Now the Lord who made that old hen lay eggs can make you bear fruit and if you do, I shall sell every orange and give the money to the Lord.'

"About three months after, I passed by and I counted over 50 small oranges on the tree. I was encouraged to return and see it after a few weeks and I saw more. Well, it has yielded quite a few hundred which I have sold and placed the money in our Investment Fund which we started last June. At the end of the year we were able to hand in \$7.87. There are over fifty on the tree now. I am sending you and Elder Hutchinson the only ripe ones I can find so that you can have a taste of the Lord's oranges."

Fifth: Last but of greatest importance is our soul-winning program in the Sabbath school. I like the goal that the Panama Conference placed before the Sabbath school members at the recent conference session. It was a recommendation that every Sabbath school member endeavor to win at least one person during each year. Let us cause this slogan to ring through every Sabbath school in the division; and I believe that instead of rejoicing over winning 1,383 as we did last year, we shall see a much larger army brought into the fold.

Our Needs

First: Sabbath school helps. In order to build up strong Sabbath schools our members in the local schools should have the best helps we can provide. We are glad that the Sabbath school *Worker*, instead of going to 115 schools as it did in 1924, is now helping to improve the efficiency of 315 Sabbath schools in our division. But what about the 242 schools that have not such help?

Then there are other Sabbath school helps,—the picture roll and the memory verse cards, that mean so much to the children. According to our last report only 122 schools are using the picture roll and 217 the memory verse cards. In behalf of the children I appeal to you to give careful consideration to providing them with these very essential helps.

Second: Training of workers. We have been glad for every convention that has been held in

the division; however, this is a line of work, so far as the Sabbath school and Missionary Volunteer departments are concerned, that we have only touched with our finger tips. Can we not plan for more definite instruction along these lines? If we can be provided in every field with strong efficient leadership in our Sabbath school work long enough for the leaders to cooperate with the churches in training our local school workers, I believe we shall see greater advancement in our Sabbath school work.

Third: Training of workers through the Training Course. We feel very grateful for the new Sabbath school manual. I wish every English speaking school might have a permanent training course based on that book. Each year a number of the Sabbath school members who show a willingness to be burden bearers in the school could take up a thorough study of that book. And while we think of having this book for our English constituency our hearts go out for our rapidly increasing members in the Spanish language, and I believe at this meeting we should give some consideration to the question of translating this manual.

With this glimpse of our hopes and our needs I will close the report. Soliciting your prayers and your continued cooperation for those upon whom the burden of the Sabbath school work rests most heavily, I remain yours in the hope of the Sabbath school organization in Inter-America becoming the strongest possible instrumentality for winning souls for the kingdom and for the finishing of the Master's work.

MRS. E. E. ANDROSS.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

THE BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE

When I consider how the Book and Bible House can best promote our literature distribution, my mind centers on two principal words,—cooperation and service. Upon these depend the success of any undertaking, but they are especially indispensable in every phase of Christian business.

Book and Bible House cooperation and service demand accuracy, promptness and system on the part of the office secretary. They also demand that the Book and Bible House secretary have a broader view of his position than merely to receive and fill orders. He should manage his work, using proper methods of filing, that no time be lost in searching for previous data. Each item of business should be filed in its proper folder.

By virtue of his position, the Book and Bible House secretary is looked upon as a source of information regarding our literature business, hence it is necessary that he be cognizant of all these matters, passing on to the colporteurs and church missionary secretaries information regarding all new literature. Where possible a literature bulletin may be sent regularly to each family in the field with good results.

Together with the field man, the Book and Bible House secretary should sympathize with and seek to encourage those who are directly engaged in gospel sales-

manship. Many times theirs are lonely careers, and frequent letters of encouragement to these soldiers of the cross will do much towards helping to swell our literature sales.

As these few principles are put into practice by a prayerful, God-fearing, business secretary, the Lord will bless abundantly the efforts of the Book and Bible House for the salvation of souls.

J. W. COLE.

San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

NEWS NOTES

Word has just been received from our workers in far-away Camaguan, Brother and Sister R. E. Greenidge, that they are enjoying good health and have opened up the first term of their second school year in that place. Last year they enrolled 76 students and they expect a larger enrolment this year. They also report a class of 15 preparing for baptism. Recently their son, Luis, graduated from the West Caribbean Training School and has now joined his parents to assist in the work.

Sister W. E. Phillips, from the Inca Union in South America, passed through the Canal Zone recently on her way to the States where she hopes to recuperate her health so that she can return to the field she has learned to love.

We are happy to announce to our French-speaking and French-reading Missionary Volunteers the publication of a new paper for the young people, *L'Ami des Jeunes*. This will be a monthly publication and will contain eight pages. The subscription price is 75 cents. Order through your Book and Bible House.

Doctor W. C. Dunscombe and family, who have been in Porto Rico for several years, passed through the Canal Zone recently and spent a few days at the division office. We were glad to have them with us.

Brother Wood tells us that two Harvest Ingathering donations received from oil merchants in Trinidad amounted to \$320.00. Surely, the Lord is "causing the wealth of the Gentiles" to flow into His treasury.

Brother and Sister W. R. Mulholland have joined our division family now. Sister Mulholland is assisting in stenographic work in the office while Brother Mulholland is busy with his colporteurs in the Panama Conference. One of the girls from the West Caribbean Training School is leading the colporteurs in the Panama Conference this summer. Do not forget to pray for the young people who are out earning scholarships this year.

Brother C. L. Stilson and his son, Homer, have been in Costa Rica for a much needed rest and change.

Pastors G. C. Nickle and L. V. Cleaves are holding an effort in Bogota and they report a remarkable interest. One night Brother Cleaves preached a second sermon to those who crowded into the hall when the first audience was dismissed.

We deeply regret that it has become necessary for Brother and Sister R. J. Christian of the South Caribbean Conference to return to the homeland because of failing health. Our prayers go with them.

Sunday, July 21, Sister F. L. Harrison and Marjorie and Thelma sailed on the government boat for the States. While we are very glad that they can return to the homeland for a well earned furlough, they will be greatly missed at the division office during their absence.

A DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

Through the ages, whenever God's people were facing a crisis or were in imminent danger, when they were required to undertake extraordinary tasks or to remove mountains of difficulty athwart their pathway, God never failed them, as with contrite hearts they unitedly turned their faces heavenward in earnest prevailing prayer with fasting. God heard their petitions and the necessary help or deliverance was provided. He has never failed them once. He is the faithful covenant-keeping God.

We are now facing the greatest crisis of the ages; the whole world is rapidly approaching the great day of God—the decisive day of times, the commencing day of eternity. The church as yet is unprepared for the close of probation, and is greatly in need of a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit, for a higher, holier life, and for greater power for witnessing for Christ and His truth. The light of truth must shine forth in clear, bright, steady rays, dispelling the darkness, and bringing hope, and joy and peace to thousands of hearts that are now deeply troubled, and longing for deliverance.

It will scarcely be necessary to urge our dear people anywhere to respond to this timely call to prayer and fasting that comes to us from the General Conference. Wherever you congregate on Sabbath, August 24, or if you be an isolated believer, you will gladly approach the throne of grace with humble, contrite, broken spirits. Unitedly, importunately, you will seek God for grace and power from on high that the church of God may now awake, and with unsullied garments and with irresistible power go forth on her final mission of warning to the impenitent and of giving the tenderest, sweetest invitations of love and forgiveness to the repentant.

The division committee have taken the following action to which, I am sure, you will one and all heartily respond:

DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

To Church Elders and Leaders:

On Sabbath, August 17, will you please read to the churches the following action taken by the General Conference Committee at their spring meeting in Washington, appointing Sabbath, August 24, as a day of fasting and prayer for our brethren and sisters in all the world:

A Message From the General Conference Committee

"We have reached the closing days of earth's history. Fast fulfilling signs indicate that the coming of the Lord is near, that the great controversy between truth and error which has existed through the centuries is about to reach its consummation. The conflict is deepening in intensity; the forces of evil are combining for the last great struggle. The days before us are full of peril to the church. Dangers from without and from within threaten her spiritual life and power.

"While we thank God for the many devoted brethren and sisters who are pressing on into a deepening Christian experience, we deplore the growing indifference and worldliness taking possession of others. We need to cry mightily to God to stay the tide of evil and to restore to their first love the backslidden and indifferent. The call of the hour is for a new consecration, for a greater infilling of divine power for service. It is a day in which we as a church should humble ourselves with contrition of soul, confessing and forsaking our sins, seeking God to be gracious unto us and to cause His face to shine upon us. We should pray for power for holy living, wisdom for the proclamation of the Message, and that God will grant free course to the gospel of His grace by removing obstacles to its progress and holding in check those elements of opposition which would impede its proclamation to all the world.

"We believe it is particularly appropriate at this time that a special day of fasting and prayer be appointed for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in every land. We therefore commission the officers of this committee to designate some Sabbath during the coming summer for this occasion, and to provide for an appropriate call to prayer to be sent to our churches throughout the world."

So, brethren and sisters, let us in our hearts and mind make the appointed week a thoughtful, prayerful week, and be prepared to seek the Lord unitedly with prayer and fasting Sabbath, August 24.

Elder W. A. Spicer, President of the General Conference, has been asked to prepare a reading for that Sabbath.

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Washington, D. C.

"Believing that the call to prayer and fasting issued by the General Conference Committee at its Spring Council is timely, we approve of the action setting apart Sabbath, August 24, for a day of fasting and prayer, and we earnestly request our brethren and sisters throughout the Inter-American Division to observe this day as recommended."

E. E. ANDROSS.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

GLEANINGS FROM THE QUARTERLY STATISTICAL REPORT

It is encouraging to report the progress which has been made during the first quarter of 1929, as revealed by the statistical reports which have been received from the union offices. There may be times when figures are not so interesting; but as they tell of the advancement of the Message in the different parts of Mexico, Central America, Colombia, Venezuela, and the West Indies, surely we shall want to notice them carefully.

March 31 there were in Inter-America 318 churches with a membership of 13,244. The baptisms totalled 269 for the first quarter. This is somewhat below the first quarter of 1928, but with the efforts which are being held we expect to see a material change for the second quarter. There are 446 laborers throughout the different fields:

83 ordained ministers
50 licensed ministers
201 licensed missionaries
112 canvassers

The tithe for the first three months was \$30,448.32 and the offerings to missions were \$15,320.31—an average per week per member of .10 plus, while for the first quarter of 1928 it was .11 plus. We have fallen short one cent per capita per week over the same period of last year. The per capita per week for two of the unions stands the same as for the first quarter of 1928, one a fraction more, while two unions have fallen short. Following is a comparative report:

	1928	1929
Antillian Union	.12+	.12+
Central American Union	.11+	.11+
Colombia-Venezuela Union	.36+	.30—
East Caribbean Union	.08	.05—
Mexican Union	.10—	.10+

F. L. HARRISON.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

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Editor—Mrs. E. E. ANDROSS

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