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KEEP THE CHURCH PURE

E. E. Andross

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." 2 Tim. 3:1. We are in the last days and perilous times are upon us. "We need not say, The perils of the last days are soon to come upon us. Already they have come."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 8, p. 315.*

"The days in which we live are solemn and important. The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. . . . The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones."—*"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 11.*

Under the influence of God's Holy Spirit, every reform movement has enjoyed a period of rapid development. It has won the hearts of the honest, sincere seeker after truth. The arch enemy, alarmed at the conquests of truth, rallies his forces, and in addition to the many other cunning, artful devices he employs to paralyze the movement, he has always led some of his emissaries to make a false show of conversion to the truth in order to get inside the Lord's fortress, with the hope of betraying it into the hands of the enemy. This is one great danger that always confronts the church of God whenever she is viril with life and power. The New Testament church, also the church of the Reformation, each suffered greatly from this method of attack. This danger calls for constant and vigilant watchfulness.

There is, however, another method employed by the great deceiver which perhaps is even more subtle, more fatal to every period of conquest in the life of the church; and that is the influx of those who may be intellectually, but not spiritually, converted; or who may be prompted to seek membership in the church through fear or by some motive other than sincere love to God. Not having received a change of heart, though outwardly assenting to the doctrines of the gospel, and outwardly conforming, for a time at least, to the high standard of holiness that the church must ever maintain, they bring with

them into the sacred precincts of the Lord's family, the leaven of unrighteousness that soon begins to manifest itself in the form of love for the world—its fashions, its customs, its pleasures, its lusts. Except such individuals are genuinely converted, and all these evil things completely eradicated from the soul temple, they will in time assert the supremacy. After sustaining serious loss in prestige, the church is compelled to eliminate all such worldly elements or suffer ultimate defeat.

The church is not a reform school or a house of correction. Instead it is the holy family of the redeemed. True, it

never to be contaminated by the pollutions of this world. Its ranks are to be recruited from those who have died to this world, but have been raised to a new life in Christ Jesus,—who have been born of the Spirit into the household of faith.

When ancient Israel departed from Egypt at the time of the Exodus movement, there was a mixed multitude that accompanied them. It was that mixed multitude that was the cause of the greatest trouble to Moses and his associates. Members of that group were constantly an element of weakness. They left Egypt in company with God's people because they feared the judgments of an offended God, not because they loved the God of mercy and truth.

In the days of the apostles, the Lord wrought mightily for His people, and thousands were converted and united with the church. His church was represented under the figure of a "white horse; and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer." For a time the Spirit of the Lord wrought mightily upon the hearts of the people, and the unconverted were afraid to join themselves to God's people; and yet we are told "believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women." Acts 5:14. A little later the mystery of iniquity began to work; men arose speaking perverse things to draw away disciples after themselves, and in time the church was corrupted.

Today the same dangers confront us. It is our solemn duty to do everything in our power to proclaim to all men the glorious gospel of the blessed God. As far as lies in our power, we must make disciples of all men. Under the mighty influence of the Holy Spirit in the "latter rain" the hearts of multitudes will be stirred, and unless we exercise the greatest vigilance many will unite themselves to us whose hearts are not wholly surrendered to God. The truth appeals to their intellect, but their hearts are

THE SUFFICING BIBLE

When I am tired, the Bible is my bed;
Or in the dark, the Bible is my light;
When I am hungry, it is vital bread;
Or fearful, it is armor for the fight.
When I am sick, 'tis healing medicine;
Or lonely, thronging friends I find therein.

If I would work, the Bible is my tool;
Or play, it is a harp of happy sound.
If I am ignorant, it is my school;
If I am sinking, it is solid ground.
If I am cold, the Bible is my fire;
And it is wings, if boldly I aspire.

Should I be lost, the Bible is my guide;
Or naked, it is raiment rich and warm.
Am I imprisoned, it is ranges wide
Or tempest-tossed, a shelter from the storm.
Would I adventure, 'tis a gallant sea;
Or would I rest, it is a flowery lea.

Does gloom oppress? The Bible is a sun.
Or ugliness? It is a garden fair.
Am I athirst? How cool its currents run!
Or stifled? What a vivifying air!
Since thou givest of thyself to me,
How should I give myself, great Book, to thee!

—Amos R. Wells.

has not yet attained unto perfection, but, with its face set as a flint Zionward, it is to "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:14. Its feet are ever to tread the narrow path that leads to holiness and heaven, and are

not converted. They are moved by a desire to escape the judgments of God rather than by love for Him. Unless we do our utmost to keep from our ranks this undesirable element, they will be the occasion of robbing us of much of the power of God, and of causing us great perplexity and trouble. In this way Satan will endeavor to rob us of power, and to bring the truth of God into reproach. We must build upon a solid foundation.

Today the exhortation of Paul to Timothy, "preach the Word" is most appropriate. The free use of the "Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God," will be the most effective agency in keeping this undesirable element from our ranks.

The church is represented in the Bible as a great spiritual temple, and the people of God as builders of this temple. Material is to be brought into the temple in order that it may be completed. We are exhorted by the great apostle in these words:

"Let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. . . . Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."

There are two kinds of material that are brought for this building; one is highly inflammable and will be quickly destroyed, while the other will endure the test of fire. It is our solemn duty to put into the temple only such material as will endure the fiery trials of these last days. The material that we bring to the foundation must be tested by the Word of God. If it does not measure up to that test, it should not be permitted any place in the Lord's temple. This building is to be composed wholly of gold, silver, and precious stone.

"The Christian who faithfully presents the word of life, leading men and women into the way of holiness and peace, is bringing to the foundation material that will endure, and in the kingdom of God he will be honored as a wise builder."—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 599.

"If you lower the standard in order to secure popularity and an increase of numbers, and then make this increase a cause of rejoicing, you show great blindness. If numbers were an evidence of success, Satan might claim the preeminence; for, in this world, his followers are largely in the majority. It is the degree of moral power . . . that is a test of its (the church's) prosperity. It is the virtue, intelligence, and piety of the people composing our churches, not their numbers, that should be a source of joy and thankfulness."—*Testimonies*, Vol. V, pp. 31, 32.

Every minister before administering the ordinance of baptism should exercise the greatest care in the examination of the candidates, and so far as it is possible to determine, only those who are genuinely converted to God, whose characters have been transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit and whose lives have been brought into harmony

with the teachings of God's Word should be baptized. Such a course as this may for a time seem to cause the work to move forward more slowly, but it is the only safe course to follow, and in the end, instead of retarding its progress, will be the means of keeping the church pure. Through a purified, beautified, glorified church God will work with mighty power.

Balboa, C. Z.

HEALED BY PRAYER

It was while in the port of Acajutla, Salvador, that our little Hazel, then three years of age, was taken very ill with fever, and nearly died. We were to sail from there to our new home in Guatemala City, after leaving El Salvador. Three times, previously, she had had attacks of malarial fever which reached the convulsion stage, and it was only by the most careful nursing and earnest prayer that she was saved; but this time it was evident, from a human standpoint, that her case was hopeless.

She was stricken very suddenly on Sabbath afternoon. We were in a hotel, but there were no conveniences—not even ice. But my wife had taken the precaution to have on hand the indispensable *astraginina*, a form of quinine, which we gave in regular doses. We gave her sponge baths and did everything we could, under the circumstances, to keep her fever from going too high, and our efforts did not cease until two o'clock in the morning. She then seemed safe, and we, too, soon fell asleep. But about four o'clock we suddenly awoke with a strong consciousness that something was wrong. We found our baby in terrible convulsions, and, without doubt, in one or two minutes her little life would have ebbed away. We held her head and neck over the basin while we applied the remaining half pitcher of water. And how our hearts were lifted up to God for help!

It was at this time that the enemy came to us with all power, to cause us to doubt God's leadings in our plans. Could it be that we must lose our baby when, if we had remained in California, she doubtless would have been well and strong? Was the sacrifice worth while? Was not our baby worth to us more than all the heathen, who often were not the most grateful? Was the division committee right in asking us to go to Guatemala? Dear friends, we cannot tell you the struggle that surged through our hearts, and only parents, who have passed through similar experiences can understand. But in that struggle we caught a faint glimpse of what it meant for our heavenly Father to give His Son for us. There was only one decision for us—we had set our hand to the plow, and must not turn back.

We prayed very earnestly that, if it were God's will for us to continue on to Guatemala, He would rebuke the fever in time for us to catch the boat. By nine o'clock her fever was gone. Always before it had lingered for days and was recurrent, but this time it did not return. On the boat she lay in a coma all day and night, with a subnormal temperature of three degrees. However, from that day to this she has never had another convulsion, but is well and happy; and so are we.

These experiences help us to appreciate the promises of God more fully, and we are glad to serve a God who hears and answers prayer.

ELLIS P. HOWARD.

Managua, Nicaragua.

PUBLIC PRAYER

Prayer is offered only to God—not to the congregation. The one offering it is for that time the mouthpiece of the congregation, speaking for all to their God. Practically the only exception is that in the season of prayer in the weekly prayer meeting, the prayer may be more personal. It is never appropriate for a prayer to take the form of a sermon. Generally speaking, a prayer has some special object for which it is offered, and in such cases we should confine ourselves to that object.

The principal services in which our people may be called upon to offer prayer are the Sabbath school, the church service, the young people's missionary meeting, or the weekly prayer meeting. The opening prayer in the Sabbath school should be different from that of any other meeting, in that it should be confined to the special objects of the school. In it the children and youth should be remembered, also the teachers. About the only outside interests that it is well to mention, are the absent ones and the home department members and other Sabbath schools. In connection with the missionary reading a prayer is offered in behalf of the special field to which the Thirteenth Sabbath offering is to go. This should be short—not more than a minute and a half long at most. It is not proper in this prayer to mention general objects in which the school or church may be interested. The closing prayer of any of these services should be short, consuming not more than about a minute.

The invocation at the opening of the church service, in case one is offered, is simply for the purpose of inviting the presence of the Lord by His Holy Spirit during the meeting, and for wisdom and understanding that help may be received. Half a minute is an appropriate length for this. The general prayer of the church service may very properly be longer than any of the others, as there

are more objects to be mentioned. Three minutes for the opening of Sabbath school and five minutes for the general prayer of the church service would be maximum. The offertory prayer is confined to asking the Lord's blessing upon the offering, the givers, and the object for which it is dedicated, and can be offered easily in half a minute or less.

In this article I have tried simply to make such general suggestions as will help our people to offer appropriate prayers at any time they may be called upon to do so. Please remember these suggestions. E. W. THURBER.

Barranquilla, Colombia.

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

Génaro Sanchez 11, Vibora, Habana, Cuba

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

STUMBLING IN THE LIGHT

While our church building was being erected in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, hundreds of people stepped up to and looked into the building. One day a certain lady, who was a prominent member of a Protestant church in the city, was passing the building. She felt an impression as strongly as though a voice had spoken to her, "step into that church building," but she walked on. A second and a third time the impression came to her, but she gave no heed, for she, knowing that it was an Adventist church, was strongly prejudiced. She had gone only a little distance farther when she stepped on a banana peeling and fell, breaking her limb. Had she listened to the voice speaking to her she would have missed the banana peeling and thus avoided breaking her limb. She was convinced by this experience that it was the voice of God speaking to her. After being laid up for several weeks with the broken limb, she immediately went to the Adventist church; and she and several members of her family are now in the truth.

On the occasion of the dedication of the Port-au-Prince church a very prominent Catholic lady of the city pressed her way through the throng to the front with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. This lady and her husband have become Sabbath keepers, despite strong opposition in the city.

These are only a few illustrations of how God is working. Pastor de Caenel reports that there are today over 70 in the baptismal class in Port-au-Prince. Havana, Cuba. A. R. OGDEN.

A former worker in the Antillian Union relates this experience:

"Sister Dolores Gonsales was brought up in the Catholic faith. About ten

years ago she became a Protestant. There were doubts in her mind, however, as to whether she was right in her decision. She asked the Lord repeatedly to show her the way. One night in a dream the following words were spoken to her: 'Go on for the present. You will find a church that keeps the commandments of God. When you find that people join yourself to them and stay with them.'

"In 1922, Brother Mendez, our work-

OTHERS

The night is swiftly drawing nigh—
The night which has no ending;
The wicked on the earth will lie;
No prayers to heav'n ascending;
They lie, and no one sheds a tear;
No hands a shroud will fashion;
The vultures to the feast fly near,
And claim the sumptuous ration.

The righteous, as they soar above
To heaven's shining portals,
Have passed the time to show their love
To sinful, dying mortals.
Too late to speak the kindly word,
Too late their path to brighten;
Words spoken now would not be heard;
Their load they could not lighten.

But once again the scene is changed;
The wicked dead awaken,
And like a mighty host are ranged—
They know they are forsaken.
The gates of pearl are closed and sealed;
No entrance to the city;
The doom of all is now revealed,
Too late for hope or pity.

Think of the wrath that is in store!
Think of the anguish'd mothers,
When walls of jasper stand before
The righteous and the "others!"
Your motto "others" would imply
Your service now you render.
If Christ were here, would you reply,
"I'll go, my love I tender?"

The "others" round about you live,
Who need your love and labor.
Have you no helping hand to give
To raise your fallen neighbor?
The Master calls. He bids you take
The Message to the dying;
His life was spent for others' sake;
He's now on you relying.

C. E. Wood.

Balboa, C. Z.

er at Aibonito, did some visiting in her neighborhood. He gave her and her husband a study on the second coming of Christ, and closed the study with the significant question: 'Who only may enter into life eternal?' He then answered it with the text in Revelation 22:14: 'Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.'

"Sister Dolores immediately remembered her dream, and she at once joined the Adventist believers. Through her efforts her daughter has since accepted the truth."

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ECHOES FROM REPORTS

Honduras: The workers have been conducting classes in home nursing and between thirty and forty have graduated. There are between 240 and 250 in the four church schools which they are conducting in Honduras. These schools are acknowledged by the government. They have one brother working for the Indians in Gracias, but there are no converts up to this time. They have 10 believers among the Mosquito Indians.

Guatemala: The Guatemala Mission has been very successful in the book work. There are 2,580 *Centinelas* going into Guatemala, of which 1,630 are paid single subscriptions, and 950 are being sent in clubs. About 38% of the population of Central America is in Guatemala.

Salvador: W. A. Lusk reports that 25% of the Central American Union population is in Salvador. The past year has been one of re-organization for the Salvador Mission. The treasurer of this field is from Judea, having been born in Bethlehem. They have been holding some efforts and expect to see much accomplished during 1929.

Nicaragua: Three-fourths of the population of Nicaragua is on the west coast. Since Brother Ellis P. Howard located in Managua he has been very busy, and has set his goal for 50 baptisms for 1929.

Costa Rica: Most of the work has been done on the east coast, where Brother Sutton is located.

The following goals for baptisms during 1929 were set by the different superintendents in the Central American Union:

Guatemala	50
Costa Rica	50
Honduras	100.
Salvador	50
Nicaragua	50
Panama	200

W. E. BAXTER.

San José, Costa Rica.

BIG THINGS IN GUATEMALA

It did me a great deal of good to get off the Hamburg-American steamer in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala, and meet Pastor J. R. McWilliam, superintendent of the Guatemala Mission. I had not been off long before I was informed that everything was ready for a colporteurs' institute, and the Big Week campaign.

When we began the institute every colporteur was present, and all the workers were called in to take part and to prepare for the Big Week campaign.

We studied the good book, "Great

Controversy," and made prominent the fact that the Spirit of Prophecy says, "Great Controversy *should be sold* everywhere. It contains truth for this time—truth that is to be proclaimed in all parts of the world;—and *nothing is to hinder its sales.*" As we proceeded with the studies, those present took hold with greater enthusiasm, and became anxious to get out and place this book in the homes of the people.

As in a well organized army, everything was well planned. We had eight prospectuses, and the books were already in the port, waiting to be shipped to the city. The city was mapped into so many sections, and when the right moment came sixteen workers started their campaign in groups of two. Never before had that city seen so many colporteurs, and never before had the people heard so many sermons in one week. Now notice the results as seen in the following figures:

First day	59 orders
Second day	61 "
Third day	60 "
Fourth day	51 "
Fifth day	46 "
Total	277 "

Two hundred and seventy seven copies of "Great Controversy" in one week, representing \$1,662.00! Some paid in advance and desired the book as soon as possible. On big business man was very much interested. As we explained chapter after chapter, he would say with a big smile on his face, "I know that, keep agoing." Then as we came to the chapter telling about the Roman Catholic church, he said, "I know that also." Then he said, "I am a Catholic, but also a Mason, so I cannot be a good Catholic." As we tried to explain the remaining chapters, he would keep saying, "Keep agoing, I know that; keep agoing, I know that; keep agoing, I know that." We were not sure of his order; however, as soon as we explained the price of the book, he took the prospectus and signed his name twice then reached down in his pocket and counted out twelve dollars, saying, "Here is your money. I want one in English for myself and one in Spanish for my friend."

J. A. P. GREEN.

Balboa, C. Z.

field to spend a few days in the study of better ways and plans of getting our gospel literature into the hands of the people. It was a real inspiration to me to get acquainted with these consecrated, enthusiastic colporteurs who have a vision of the wonderful work that may be accomplished through the printed page. The Lord blessed us in our meetings, and I feel that we shall now see a greater work with our literature done in that part of Colombia.

My heart was especially made glad to meet Brother Luis Urbina, who learned of the truth by reading the copy of "Our Day" which Brother Brower and I sold in Santa Marta in 1922. The man who bought the book gave it to a friend who lived near Brother Urbina. Brother Urbina was studying the Bible at that time and one day he was conversing with the man who had the book about the wonderful truths found in the Bible. The man told him that he had a book that taught the very same things of which he had spoken. Brother Urbina became interested and bought the book. After studying it for sometime, he and his friend, Brother Castro, learned that "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;" so they decided to make the long trip down to Barranquilla to find some one to baptize them.

They took the book along to study on the way, and before the first week passed, they were convinced of the Sabbath truth, and kept their first Sabbath in the little village of Fundación. When they arrived in Barranquilla, they were miraculously guided to our mission, where they studied more of the Message and accepted it in full. Brother Urbina says: "This book taught me the truth and I have a special interest in scattering it everywhere." Two of the colporteurs who attended the institute are his converts, and they, too, are selling "Our Day."

Our literature does win souls, and it is a mighty factor in warning the multitudes in these countries of the things that are coming upon the world, and in showing them where they may take refuge.

FRED STEEVES.

Cali, Colombia.

"I used tobacco for more than seventy years, having begun to use it as a little girl on account of a weakness in my lungs. I had become so addicted to the evil habit that I found myself obliged to take a number of cigars with me to bed. On different occasions I have smoked as many as fifteen cigars without using a match, lighting the one from the other. What an awful vice this tobacco habit is, and what a slave it makes of us!

"While I was in the Catholic church I used to consider it the greatest sacrifice I could make to give up my tobacco for one day. This, I felt, was the most I could do for my Saviour. But by nine o'clock in the morning such a craving would come over me that I could stand it no longer and I would break my promise by giving an alm to a poor beggar. This, I thought, would allow me to smoke my tobacco the rest of the day, as usual.

"But now I do not need tobacco for the Message has made me free from it. When I learned that the Bible says we must live clean lives as followers of Christ, I asked the dear Lord to free me from this sin. By His help I resolved to give up tobacco, and to this day I have never had a desire to use it again. I cannot praise the Lord enough for this wonderful truth for there is no greater power anywhere. Sometimes people tell me that they would like to give up tobacco too, and that they will let it go little by little; but I say, they cannot do it that way. Give it up all at once, and the Lord will take the desire away from you. We cannot serve the Lord and compromise with the arch enemy."

Sister Paulina is healthy now, aside from a lameness in her foot. She reads her Bible without the use of glasses. She is very enthusiastic in doing missionary work; and how she rejoices when she can bring a new member to the Sabbath school! She is an evidence of the saving power of this Message.

E. M. TRUMMER.

Medellin, Colombia.

HARVEST RIPE IN COLOMBIA

I have just returned to Bucaramanga from a walk of about 150 miles in our territory, and, as usual I have had some very interesting experiences.

I stopped in Cucuta on Sabbath and was very much encouraged to find a little group of Sabbath-keepers. If we had had the Sabbath school pamphlets, we would have organized a Sabbath school. How these people enjoy studying the Bible! I do not speak Spanish very well, but I studied with them for hours. This study refreshed my own soul.

From this city I went out to some wild mountain country. Some of the people in that section can read, and I made some reading racks for them. I suppose you are wondering how I did this. Well, I just put the tracts and papers in the gates. Some day some may read these papers and find the Message.

As I go from place to place and give out literature to the people, I find many who are anxious to get it and who later become interested in the truth. What a gathering of souls there would be in "Sunny Colombia" if we had the means and the workers.

CARL CHRISTIANSEN.

Bucaramanga, Colombia.

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

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C. L. STILSON - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

WHAT ONE BOOK DID

On our way from Caracas to our new union headquarters in the Central Colombia Mission, we stopped in Barranquilla and held a colporteurs' institute. Five splendid men came in from the

PAULINA'S VICTORY

Listen to the experience of Paulina, a very faithful sister in Medellin. She is now 83 years old and has been ill for two months, but in spite of that she is one of the most active missionaries we have here. She delights in telling others how much the Message has done for her and how happy she is in believing it. The other day she told me how glad she is that she does not have to use tobacco any more. Here is her own story:

Writing from Caracas, Venezuela, Sister Ana Hansen says:

"I have been giving treatments to a woman who lives not far from me. She is very much troubled about her salvation. She told me the other day that she had never asked herself if the way she was going was the right way or not. She had always burned a lamp before the church and done everything that the church demanded.

"The Catholics are giving their people permission (in this place) to read the Bible, and have Bibles for sale. The papers say that Protestants have said that Catholics will not let their people read for themselves, so now they are going to disprove that statement. Let us pray that the people will take advantage of this and study the Word of God."

The following paragraph is taken from a letter recently received from Brother Wood while he was in the East Caribbean Union:

"In Curacao I met Captain — of the S. S. — who has become deeply interested in the truth by the literature that Captain Johnson had distributed in his ship and harbor work in America. The captain believes all the doctrines of our faith, and is planning to give up his present work and enter the canvassing work very soon."

A BRIGHTER DAY

We wish to express our gratitude for the good reports of the division council which tell us that our mission has received added facilities and resources.

When we compare the days in which Mrs. Trummer and I were here alone with scarcely a budget of three thousand dollars, with the workers that are today by our side and a correspondent increase in funds, our hearts rejoice. It is very gratifying to us to know that Colombia finally has come to its own. Today we see many of the doors entered that we believe should be entered, and, what is better still, we see Sabbath keepers in a score of places, representing well the different parts of the republic. We feel to thank the Lord with all our hearts for this accomplishment. According to the words of Solomon, we were only one, and just "chasing"; now we are ten and we are putting the enemy to flight. The day of victory has come at last!

E. M. TRUMMER.

Medellin, Colombia.

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION CONFERENCE

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M. D. HOWARD Secy.-Treas.

THE ENEMY AT WORK

Since our arrival here we have been visiting every house in Tumatumari with a view of acquainting the people with the truth. A number of our tracts and papers are in circulation, and I have been holding a series of Bible studies in our home. These have been well attended. In some way the news of this work reached Georgetown, and the An-

glican minister has been here to hold special services in the little Anglican church which is about three hundred yards from our house. These meetings have been held to warn the people against us; but it seems that this object has not been accomplished, for they have served to advertize the truth more than anything else.

My wife was present at an evening service held in this church a few weeks ago. The sermon was devoted solely to Seventh-day Adventists. Some in the congregation were indignant at what was said, and Mrs. Cott had quite a group of sympathizers around her outside the church after the meeting. The church members have been informed that they will be excommunicated if they attend our Bible studies. In spite of this instruction some say they are coming to our studies anyway.

Although there are not more than fifty or sixty in this community, we have had as many as eighteen visitors with us. Sometimes we have to send out to our neighbors for extra chairs. There was a deep interest as we studied about the future home of the redeemed. The Sabbath question has not been presented in detail, but some already know the truth about it. How good it would be if we could have a company of believers gathered out here in Tumatumari before we leave, but how necessary it is that we should not trust in our own strength, but draw more and more from the Source of wisdom as we proceed with these sacred truths and approach the climax. Will you not come to our help with your prayers? A. W. COTT.

Tumatumari, British Guiana.

OUR INDIANS AT MOUNT RORAIMA AND ACURIMA

There is great improvement among our Indians. They were not honest and trustworthy at first, but now they can be trusted. I frequently leave the mission in charge of Chief Isaac, and he has looked after everything as I desired.

Our Indians at first used to go hunting and return for service on Sabbath. But now they return on Friday so as to be ready to welcome the Sabbath. We have an average of 40 Indians present at Sabbath school every Sabbath.

Our mission is located in a new habitation. Our Indians have not been there long. For this reason many of them are sometimes absent from the mission as they have their farms elsewhere; but when their provisions are ripe at Roraima there will be no necessity for them to leave except for hunting.

Our Indians, wherever they go, take the light with them. Mr. Long, who has been very faithful, left it with many others on a fishing expedition. He and others went to the Keeno River where

they met the Keeno Indians, who were also fishing. He kept services every Sabbath and Wednesday night with them, and he said they were very much interested in the truth. These Indians are not included in our Sabbath school report. These Indians brought tithes to Brother Cott.

There are also some of our Indians who usually go to the Louani River for weeks at a time, but they faithfully observe the Sabbath and teach it to the Indians there. Our Indians are very often moved to tears when they hear of the love of Jesus. I have taught them the harm of using tobacco. A man offered tobacco to some of our boys but they refused it.

A boy about 20 years of age at first gave us much trouble and was very lazy; but now he is changed and I consider him the best boy in the village. He and two others came down with me to Tumatumari to see Brother and Sister Cott, and to take them back to Roraima.

I have taught the Indians on the following subjects: the state of the dead, the coming of Jesus, the ten commandments, the resurrection, the new earth, the ministry of angels, Paul's ministry, his sufferings and persecutions, Christ's birth, His childhood, His manhood, His sufferings, His death and resurrection, and His ministry in the heavenly sanctuary.

Most of the women have taken off their trinkets. Polygamy has been abandoned, and our Indians are eager to learn. They love to sing:

- "Don't forget the Sabbath."
- "There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus."
- "When Jesus was here on earth long ago."
- "Lift up the trumpet."
- "Throw out the life line."
- "What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought."
- "There's a land that is fairer than day."
- "There was One who loved me so that for me He died."

January 20 I left Mt. Roraima for Acurima, four days journey from Roraima. The Lord is pouring out His Spirit in a remarkable way on these Indians. They are Sabbath keepers, and pleaded with me for a missionary and school-teacher. They were ready to build a house for him. They have the church all ready.

One hundred and forty-two gave their names as Sabbath schools members on the Sabbath I was there. The Lord's spirit was manifested among them. Many of them promised to give up their trinkets, which they did. This really has been the result of Elder Davis' work among them. The chief and several others were instructed by Elder Davis. The seed was afterwards nourished by Brother Cott and myself. This is about the best place to establish a mission in these parts as the land is very fertile and there are other Indian encampments in the neighborhood.

These Indians have picture rolls given to them by Brother Cott and myself. With these Chief Andre and Sahmbai conduct Sabbath school every Sabbath. I suppose there is an average attendance of about 80.

Chief Andre and some of his people came with me as far as Anandabaru with the object of taking Brother Cott back to Roraima, but were disappointed when Brother Cott did not arrive.

May God soon provide a worker for these dear Indians is my earnest prayer.

JOSEPH GONSALVES.

Mt. Roraima, British Guiana.

MEXICAN UNION MISSION

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

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

FROM THE PLOW

In a recent letter from Brother C. E. Moon of the Central Mexican Mission, he says:

"I believe that we are on the verge of greater things in Mexico, if we can step in and do the work that is indicated by the calls that in thunder tones are ringing in our ears every day. I am alone at present in the office and working hard to keep up with the books and all the correspondence; but I feel deeply over the situation that confronts us in this field.

"As the days go by I can see that the Lord is working in a personal way. He is directing in the field and inspiring people in His work to do greater things for Him.

"We do not have to look forward to the time when the Lord will raise up men from the plow to do His work. We are seeing that done right here where men from the humbler walks of life have raised up large companies of believers."

WITH OUR DEPARTMENTS

PRAY FOR EACH

We were kneeling in prayer at family worship in the home of one of our brethren. The son, who is about nine years of age, was next to me. As I prayed that he might be kept from falling before temptation, and be successful in developing a character that will fit him for the kingdom, the boy reached over and placed his hand on mine. The gesture was significant, and impressed me that our young people appreciate sympathy as they battle with temptations peculiar to youth.

Parents, do not forget to pray definitely for your children in family worship, mentioning them each by name. The enemy is putting forth a special effort to ensnare them in these last days; and they will be encouraged to know that parents and others have a special interest in their welfare; and the Holy Spirit will use this personal touch to keep them from straying from the narrow pathway to the kingdom.

C. E. WOOD.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

A GAMBLER WON

The leader of the Balata Hill church, Trinidad, received a donation from a gambler during the Harvest Ingathering campaign this year. After receiving the donation he spoke definitely to him regarding the importance of making provision for his soul's salvation. The man's heart was touched. He decided to turn from his evil life, and gave the leader his pack of cards. He is now rejoicing in the truth. C. E. WOOD.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

In the Christian Home

"That great and mighty God who created the beautiful Eden, and everything lovely in it, is a God of order; and He wants order and cleanliness with His people.

"God requires all who profess to be His chosen people, though they are not teachers of the truth, to be careful to preserve personal cleanliness and purity, also cleanliness and order in their houses and upon their premises."—"Testimonies," Vol. II, pp. 611, 614.

"I am often pained as I enter the house where God is worshiped, to see the untidy dress of both men and women. If the heart and character were indicated by the outward apparel, then certainly nothing could be heavenly about them."—"Testimonies," Vol. V, p. 498.

"Order and cleanliness is the law of Heaven; and in order to come into harmony with the divine arrangement, it is our duty to be neat and tasty."—"Testimonies," Vol. IV, p. 142.

"Special directions were given to the armies of the children of Israel, that in and around their tents everything should be clean and orderly, lest the angel of God should pass through their encampment and see their uncleanness. Would the Lord be particular to notice these things?—He would; for the fact is stated, lest in viewing their uncleanness He could not go forth with their armies to battle against their enemies."—"Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 170.

"Scrupulous cleanliness is essential to both physical and mental health. Every form of uncleanness tends to disease. Death-producing germs abound in dark, neglected corners, in decaying refuse, in dampness and mold and must. No waste vegetables or heaps of fallen leaves should be allowed to remain near the house, to decay and poison the air. Nothing unclean or decaying should be tolerated within the home. In towns or cities regarded perfectly healthful, many an epidemic of fever has been traced to decaying matter about the dwelling of some careless householder. . . .

"Perfect cleanliness, plenty of sunlight, careful attention to sanitation in every detail of the home life, are essential to freedom from disease and to the cheerfulness and vigor of the inmates of the home.

"The necessity of personal cleanliness was taught in the most impressive manner. Before gathering at Mount Sinai to listen to the proclamation of the law by the voice of God, the people were required to wash both their persons and their clothing. This direction was enforced on pain of death. No impurity was to be tolerated in the presence of God."—"Ministry of Healing," pp. 276, 279.

TWENTY-FOUR KEEPING SABBATH

In 1926 Brother C. H. Carter sold a number of copies of the book, "Our Day" to the people, living along the Demerara River in British Guiana, and thus prepared the way for a harvest of souls. Brother Mervin, a lay member

who has been giving some Bible studies in that district, reports that twenty-four are keeping the Sabbath.

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

HOW MANY OF YOU?

How many in your church are planning to take the Standard of Attainment examination before the close of 1929? Get the questions from your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary. We trust that many of the Missionary Volunteers, as well as older members of the churches, are preparing to become Members of Attainment before 1930 rolls in, and only a little time remains to us of this year.

The Missionary Volunteers should invite any and all to share with them in the blessings and privileges of the study of our denominational history and Bible doctrines, their object being first, to enrich the mind with a knowledge of the truth for their own safety, and second to lead others to safety. They believe that without an understanding of the truth it would be useless to attempt to lead others away from the numerous false doctrines that are so misleading in these days. We read in "The Great Controversy": "None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict."

Would that our dear people throughout the length and breadth of this division might feel so strongly the meaning of those words from the servant of the Lord that they would begin at once to fortify the mind according to the instruction in 2 Timothy 2:15. Have any in your church cast away their confidence? There is nothing better to restore or strengthen confidence in this movement than to know why and how the Seventh-day Adventist denomination came into existence and of God's dealings with His people all along the way.

Do you know that the leaders in this movement are so interested in this Standard of Attainment plan that many, many of them take the examinations every year and are counted among the Members of Attainment? The names of many lay members whom the calendar counts old also may be found in the list of Members of Attainment. A short time ago while looking over the examination papers of the juniors of a certain church, I found among them one bearing the name of a good brother who has served long and faithfully as treasurer of that church, and I thought: "How strange that he should be writing on the junior examination!" When my question as to why he took that in preference to the senior was answered the reply ran something like this: "He thought best to try the junior studies first." Signifying that he intends not

to make the junior Membership of Attainment a "stopping place," but rather, "a stepping-stone to senior Membership." Are there not some in your church who would do likewise if they only knew how? Let those who have been appointed as leaders take an interest in seeing that the church is organized for study with the most capable person available as the teacher of the class. Your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary will answer the questions regarding the books needed for the study.

The best way to keep the precious truths we study ever clear and convincing to ourselves is by continually imparting them to others and thus fulfil the twofold object of the Standard of Attainment plan, which, I think, is the best project ever launched by the Missionary Volunteer Movement, and the one which properly appreciated and executed by all would mean the speedy termination of the Lord's work. If, in the past, we have been guilty of wasting our moments, let us solemnly pledge from now on to redeem those lost hours by grasping this precious opportunity of storing the truth in our hearts even though it is a struggle. In the end we shall feel richly repaid.

A few weeks ago it was my pleasure to award nine junior Standard of Attainment certificates to the class that has been studying under the leadership of Sister Rashford at Bluefields, Nicaragua; and shortly after a letter from her brought an inspiring and instructive program that had been commendably rendered on the occasion of the distribution of those certificates. It certainly gave a nice conclusion to the class at the time of the presentation of the certificates. The program follows:

Remarks by Chairman

Prayer

Song: "Hymns and Tunes," No. 624.

Life of William Miller *Christina Downs*

Life of J. N. Loughborough *Henrietta Dixon*

Song: "Hymns and Tunes," No. 1150.

Life of Joseph Bates *Welton Rashford*

Work of Annie Smith *Annie Downs*

Song: "Hymns and Tunes," No. 667.

Life and work of Joseph Wolfe *Linda Rashford*

Special Music *Annie Downs and others*

The Call of William Foy and Hazen Foss

Euphrasia Downs

Mrs. Ellen White's first vision

Mrs. Maggie Anderson

Remarks on Dates

1780 *Chairman*

1833 *Euphrasia Downs*

1489 *Linda Rashford*

Special Song *Welton Rashford*

1850 *Christina Downs*

1860 *Henrietta Dixon*

1866 *Annie Downs*

1907 *Christina Downs*

Song: "Hymns and Tunes," No. 1169.

Presentation of Certificates *Chairman*

Song: "Hymns and Tunes," No. 1334.

MRS. W. E. BAXTER.

San Jose, Costa Rica.

JOHN GREEN'S POCKET

John Green was an honest, industrious farmer, brusque of manner, but withal kind-hearted and whole-souled, as became the zealous follower of Christ that his neighbors admitted him to be.

On this Sunday morning, as he followed his plow back and forth across the sixty-acre field bordering the country road, his thoughts were divided between the ever-present problem of making "both ends meet" and the outlook for the Christian in the bright and better state that he hoped would be ushered in at no distant date.

"Sunday morning," did I hear you say? Yes, for Farmer Green was not only a believer in the soon coming of Christ, but was also a firm believer in the good old Bible doctrine of the seventh-day Sabbath, and consequently had rested from his labors the day before.

The fact of John Green's working on Sunday may not affect you who are accustomed to such things, as it did a certain stranger who happened at this identical hour of the day to be passing along this particular road at this particular section of it. As his eyes rested upon the approaching plowman, mild astonishment was mingled with a rising indignation that any respectable man, as this farmer appeared to be, should show such disrespect for the day. In his time he had met a few men godless enough to work occasionally on Sunday, and being a strict church-goer himself and zealous for what he believed to be right, he had always grasped the opportunity—or made it, if one was not already made—to chide them severely for their lawless conduct. Here was an opportunity to be improved. Riding up to the fence, he awaited the approach of Farmer Green.

As the latter arrived within hailing distance, the stranger called, "Hello, Don't you know this is the Sabbath day?"

"No!" came back the decided reply, as the plow tipped at the end of the furrow, "that is something I don't know." And reaching into a convenient pocket, John Green pulled out a tract, which he handed over the fence to the astonished stranger. The tract was entitled, "Sunday Not the Sabbath." Without further remark our farmer friend turned his horses' heads and resumed his plowing.

The traveler began reading, and his astonishment grew apace. Upon the return of the plow he at once asked, "Why wasn't this known before?" Without a word, John Green went down into his pocket, handed out a little tract with the caption, "Why Not Found Out Before?" and proceeded unconcernedly on another round across the field.

The stranger sat as if spellbound, slowly turning the leaves of the little

document until the walking depository returned and gave him the opportunity to remark: "But didn't Christ instruct the apostles that Sunday was to be the Sabbath for Christians and didn't they always keep that day after the resurrection and teach it all through the New Testament?"

As if the query had been anticipated, there promptly came forth from the mysterious information bureau another tract, and with the remark, "Look that over," John Green handed over the fence, "The Sabbath in the New Testament," and proceeded to turn over another furrow.

Completely nonplussed and bewildered by this sudden shock to his lifelong beliefs and habits of thinking, the dazed traveler read until the enigmatical plowman came again within earshot. As one after the other of his questions were so astonishingly answered, his increasing wonder took on curiosity approaching awe at the man himself. He could contain himself no longer, and in a peculiar tone of voice said, "Well, what are you, anyway? You seem to be well loaded."

"Oh," came the reply, "I'm only a busy farmer. It isn't always convenient for me to stop and answer questions or go into arguments, so I keep a few of these tracts with me. They do the work better than I can, and it saves my time."

"And you keep Saturday for Sunday?"

"No; I keep the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week, the day before Sunday."

"Of course, that's what I meant. Well, I am astonished, I must say. One of these tracts speaks of Seventh-day Adventists. I have heard of them before. Are you one of them?"

"Yes, I am glad to say."

"Why are you called, 'Adventists'?"

"Because the Bible teaches that Christ will return very soon, probably in our day. This will tell you about it," and once more the handy pocket was visited, and the stranger was given a tract, "The Coming of the Lord." "Take them along with you," John Green added, "and this too. You will find plenty there to keep you studying awhile." The last one was entitled, "Scripture References."

The stranger asked a few more questions, thanked his newly-formed acquaintance, took his address, and rode away.

And I sat thinking, and this thought came: There are other John Greens, and busy men and women everywhere; and there are now many more little tracts than the John Green of a score of years ago could obtain,—precious little messengers of truth,—and there are opportunities, hundreds of them, and hungry souls as dear to the Master as you or I. Do you catch the suggestion? Have you a pocket?—A Pocket Leaguer.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE

God wonderfully used young people when the great day of modern missions dawned. Think how Robert Morrison blazed the trail into China; Robert Moffat to Africa; John Williams to the South Seas; Allen Gardiner to South America; and Adoniram Judson to India. Think of the noble young women like Mrs. Judson, Mary Reed and Fidelity Fiske who braved the seas to hunt for lost ones in heathen lands.

Then when God laid the foundation of the Advent Message, He again called upon young people to bear heavy burdens. There were James White, J. N. Loughborough, J. N. Andrews and other leaders in that movement. They developed into strong soul-winners while still in their twenties, and, as for Sister White, then only about fourteen or fifteen, she was leading her young companions to the Saviour, and at the age of seventeen she was called to be God's special messenger to the remnant people.

Never, however, were young people more surely called to seek and to save the lost than are the youth of today who have the opportunity to serve while the sun of probation is touching the western horizon. Dear young people, let our one aim be to make 1929 a great soul-winning year. To some of us will come the opportunity to assist in many ways in special evangelistic efforts. You will make the most of such opportunities, I am sure; but all of us can be prepared to seize the opportunities that drop into our paths of daily routine. Be a King's Pocket Leaguer. Carry a few tracts on vital subjects with you wherever you go, and be ready also to help in other ways to lift struggling ones into the life-boats. Each day let our all absorbing purpose be "win one." Let it ring through our ears as we work, as we visit with our friends, as we mingle with the mixed multitudes that surge across our pathways. Then as we retire at night, let us ask God to show us where we have lost opportunities and how we can avoid repeating the mistakes of the day.

The young people in Inter-America who will follow such a program during 1929 will be working to save souls from eternal ruin as earnestly as that brave West Indian boy worked to save his fellow passengers on the ill-fated *Vestris* from a watery grave. So be of good courage; let no day pass unimproved; determine to do "something for Jesus every day" to "win one" remembering always that he who would be a soul-winner must live the life of a soul-winner.

We must daily sow the seed,
And water it oft with a tear,
If we would gather many sheaves
As swiftly flies the year.

"A WANDERING SABBATH"

There is much in the proposed calendar change that appeals to the economic world; and financial prosperity seems to be the one all-absorbing thought of humanity, generally speaking, the pressure behind this attempted change is well-nigh irresistible.

But with sympathetic consideration for our friends who see not the danger in a calendar that would disarrange the weekly cycle, established by God Himself, let us pray earnestly, and work diligently by the distribution of enlightening literature, for the preservation of the Sabbath of Jehovah in its accustomed place in the week. May the Hand that so often has intervened spare us from having to experience what it would mean to have "a wandering Sabbath."

Go Work in My Vineyard

"Go work in My Vineyard! Oh who will respond
Ere the time to work be passed?
The harvest is white in the fields beyond,
And daylight is waning fast."

"The Master's command gives no time for delay.
The signs in the western sky
Show plainly the very hour of day
Is speedily passing by."

"And what shall we do at the set of sun
When the Master counts the cost,
If some of His work shall remain undone
And some of His grain is lost?"

"For He gave His life that the precious grain
Might be garnered safely in;
When He shall return, can we make it plain,
That negligence was no sin?"

"When facing His throne with an empty hand,
Will our consciences then be clear,
If to others we have left His plain command,
But counted our plans too dear?"

"The heavenly Master's own bidding, 'Go work,'
Was not said to a certain few;
In finishing it here, not one must shirk—
He is counting on me! on you!"

"'Go work in My vineyard!' Let's answer the call
With heart and soul and mind;
Make His work first; give Him your all,
While leaving all else behind."

"Unless we have faithfully done our best,
Can He ever say 'Well done'?
The field is the world, so sad and distressed,
Press on till the work is done."

THE GREATEST WEAPON

Pope Pius X said: "To build churches, preach, hold cottage meetings, establish schools, do all the good work possible is all right. But if you neglect to make use of the Christian Press, the greatest and most powerful weapon of our day, and if you fail to scatter abundantly religious literature, all your other efforts will be in vain."—*The Arsenal Pacific Press.*

DO YOU KNOW?

Brother F. L. Harrison left the division office the last of July to make a tour through the southern and eastern part of our division, while Pastor C. E. Wood, who spent several weeks in the East Caribbean Union, has returned to the office. Good reports also came in of the success Brother Green has had in the Central American Union in institute work and also in the Big Week campaign. He returned to the division office August 11.

Pastor N. W. Dunn, who works among the Spanish people in Panama has recently returned from New Orleans, where he underwent an operation on his throat. We are happy to have him back where he is so much needed.

Brother and Sister F. W. Steeves sailed from Balboa August 2 for Cali, Colombia, where Brother Steeves will take up the field missionary secretary work for the Colombia-Venezuela Union. We were glad to have them with us a few days at the division office.

Pastor Lin Rashford, who has labored for years both in the East Caribbean and Central American Unions, has been called recently to take up work again in Jamaica, his home field. We are glad to learn of his safe arrival there; and we anticipate the pleasure soon of learning that Brother and Sister H. L. Lawson of Jamaica have come to Nicaragua to look after the work on the east coast where Brother Rashford was located.

*—

The Week of Sacrifice comes in November this year. Let us get ready for this another opportunity to covenant with the Master for the salvation of others.

*—

WE ARE SORRY

Our attention has just been called to a mistake in the April issue of the MESSENGER and *Mensajero*. Under the picture of the school in Bonacca the caption, by our mistake, located this school in British instead of Spanish Honduras.

*—

DIVISION DIRECTORY

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C. E. Wood	- - - - -	Field and Home Miss. Sec'y.
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