



The Inter-American Division MESSENGER

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What Do These Things Mean?

Some years ago a special message came to this people the opening paragraph of which runs thus:

"As I hear of the terrible calamities that from week to week are taking place, I ask myself, What do these things mean? The most awful disasters are following one another in quick succession. How frequently we hear of earthquakes and tornadoes, of destruction by fire and flood, with great loss of life and property! Apparently these calamities are capricious outbreaks of seemingly disorganized, unregulated forces, but in them God's purpose may be read. They are one of the means by which He seeks to arouse men and women to a sense of their danger."
—*"Testimonies," Vol. VIII, p. 522.*

Recently our hearts were made sick by reading the reports in the daily papers and in the magazines of the terrible calamities that are coming almost daily upon some part of the earth, destroying millions of dollars worth of property, and sweeping into eternity, without a moment's warning, thousands of human beings. With this ever-increasing list of awful disasters confronting us we are forced to inquire, "What do these things mean?"

Only a few weeks ago the cities of Napier and Hastings, New Zealand, were so completely destroyed by an earthquake that it was decided they would not be rebuilt. Still later Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, was destroyed by earthquake; and for a time it was thought no attempt would be made to rebuild it. In each instance thousands of lives were lost and the property loss was almost, if not quite, complete.

Destruction and death are following in the wake of hurricanes, tidal waves, storms and tempests, earthquakes, devouring fires, and devastating floods. They are not confined to any particular quarter of the earth, but have with relentless fury visited all parts. The very elements seem to have conspired against man. The heavens and the earth are soon to "perish; but Thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; and as a vesture shalt Thou fold them up, and they shall be changed; but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail." Heb. 1:11, 12.

"The great controversy is nearing its

E. E. Andross.

end. The judgments of God are in the land. They speak in solemn warning, saying, 'Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.' . . .

"Let the message of Christ's soon return sound forth in earnest words of warning. Let us persuade men and women everywhere to repent, and flee from the wrath to come. Let us arouse them to *immediate preparation*; for we little know what is before us. Let ministers and lay members go forth into the rip-

ening fields, to tell the unconcerned and indifferent to seek the Lord while He may be found. The workers will find their harvest wherever they proclaim the forgotten truths of the Bible."—*"Testimonies," Vol. VIII, pp. 552, 553.*

Yesterday the former paragraphs of this article were written and this morning's paper brings the following additional news items. A new and formidable revolution in China, another revolt in Brazil, while "from behind the walls of a virtual fortress . . . President Carmona is ruling revolution-torn Portugal. Lisbon, the capital city, is seething with reports of rebellion, with Madeira and the Azores already in open revolt." The ink has scarcely dried on the papers that told of the overturning of the Spanish kingdom with the royal family fleeing under cover of darkness into exile. Events in these days are truly following one another in quick succession.

The paper also reports severe earthquakes in Transcaucasia, Southern Russia, also in Armenia. Hundreds if not thousands perished and 20,000 are said to be left homeless in one district. Eighty per cent of the villages in one region are reported destroyed. Heavy rains have intensified the sufferings of the entire population who were left homeless by the quakes.

Severe floods are reported as occurring in Russia near Poland, submerging many villages, menacing large areas and causing many deaths.

Earthquake in Greece and "wild tempests in Macedonia have caused widespread inundations and cut all communications."

"Dispatches from Chiaspas (Mexico) state that 90 per cent of the houses of Comitan have been unroofed by the two hour cyclone, which was accompanied by the first hail storm in the memory of the inhabitants of that region."

However, amid all these calamities our courage need not fail, for Jesus Himself has told us: "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

IN THE MIDST OF DEATH

PEARL WAGGONER HOWARD

(Written by moonlight soon after the earthquake in Managua.)

Cities perish in a moment,
Crumbling into dust;
Earth is trembling, agonizing,
As from fatal thrust.
All that can fall still is falling,
Wailings rend the air;
Desolation—stark, appalling—
Everywhere!

Food is burning, water fails,
Death stalks wild abroad;
Stoutest heart and spirit quails!
Oh, our God,
Thou, our promised Help and Refuge,
Be our Stay,
For the earth and all around
Are giving way.

Earth has shaken,—fires and bandits
Follow in the wake.
Pests are threatening; O Jehovah,
For Thy mercies' sake,
Leave us not nor yet forsake us
In this hour of need,
For Thou seest—more than we—
'Tis great indeed.

Naught is left of tranquil calmness
Save the stars, the moon;
Naught that's glad except the knowledge
Thou art coming soon!
Burn the dross, consume the evil
From our hearts, and then,
O Lord Jesus, come! Come quickly!
Even so,—Amen!

Managua, Nicaragua.

FROM LANDS FAR AWAY

We are told that 95 percent of Japan's 65,000,000 people can read. Let us pray that the Lord will greatly bless the efforts of our 700 believers there as they labor to place soul-winning literature in the hands of Japan's millions.

Last year there were 1,607 baptisms in the Philippines and the sales of our publishing house there amounted to \$61,393. The progress of our work in the Philippines has been remarkable. But the enemy seems to have been stirring up considerable opposition of late. However God is giving His laborers courage to press forward amid dangers and difficulties.

Some of our fellow believers over in Chosen have learned a wonderful lesson during these days of financial depression. Speaking of the work in the Central Chosen Mission, a Korean minister said:

"We are sorry we cannot report greater results. We have felt at times that a very limited budget has been responsible for the poor showing. However, we now realize that in the Lord's work His power stands above money, and zeal is a wonderful substitute for funds."

Through complaints of unfriendly elements our clinic in Juliaca, Peru, was closed some time ago. But our workers there have the love and high respect of the people, and immediately these people sent a protest to the president, who telegraphed to the mayor of Juliaca to open the institution. It was closed only three days. Our God is still at the helm.

The British Bible Society began its work in China in 1812, and two others entered later. According to reports these three Bible societies, which have been working uninterruptedly ever since, have circulated 200,921,534 copies of the Bible or portions of it in the provinces of China. The societies reported a circulation of 11,846,711 copies during 1930.

India, often called the Gibraltar of heathenism, had 365 baptisms last year. In the division council held there some months ago those in attendance represented twenty-five of India's many languages.

Pastor W. A. Spicer, while traveling over in Australia recently reported a remarkable interest found among a number of savage islanders. He closed his report thus:

"Think of it! Here in the last of the last days, we come upon islands where spear and killing club have reigned for thousands of years, apparently, and also witchcraft and demon worship. And on the first survey by mission launch our missionary comes back with calls from island peoples and from officials away beyond the power of our brethren to respond to. They are calling us from the wilds to come. The isles are waiting for His law—truly waiting for us and calling to us."

God in His great mercy still holds the winds of trouble in many places that His workmen may press forward in service with less difficulty. Once again the Congress of the United States of Amer-

ica closed without passing a Sunday bill. Of this miracle, Pastor C. S. Longacre, secretary of our religious liberty department in the General Conference, says:

"This is the first time that a Sunday observance bill was favorably recommended by both the Senate District Committee and the House District Committee after hearings were conducted before each committee, and was then unanimously passed by the Senate, and placed on the House calendar with a favorable recommendation for passage by the House. During the last six days of the Seventy-first Congress this Sunday bill lay on the Speaker's table as one of the bills listed for passage before Congress closed its session.

"In this critical situation, with the Labor Union leaders bringing every possible pressure to bear upon Congressmen to secure its passage, we made our appeals to God for special help, and He heard and answered prayer. He changed the most hopeless and discouraging outlook into another victory for the glory of His name, and to give His people a little longer time to prosecute His work in peace."

"THUS SAITH THE LORD"

"Thou shalt be visited of the Lord or hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire." Isaiah 29:6.

"I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a fire-brand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto Me, saith the Lord. Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel." Amos 4:11, 12.

"Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the Lord cometh out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain." Isaiah 26:20, 21.

The League of Nations is giving definite consideration to calling an International Conference on Calendar Revision this year; and our General Conference executive committee has prepared a petition to the League of Nations in regard to the proposed "blank-day" revision. Many other religious bodies stand opposed to that plan of revision, and realize that such a change would mean serious confusion and bring untold hardship to many. Let us pray.

"Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

Calle Segunda No. 31, Arroyo Apolo
Havana, Cuba

A. R. OGDEN - - - - - Superintendent
F. I. MOHR - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

GENERAL MEETINGS IN THE ANTILLIAN UNION

The general meeting in the Porto Rican Mission was held at Rio Piedras a few miles out from San Juan and San-turce, February 27 to March 8. The attendance and interest were splendid: Great blessings came as workers and lay members gathered daily from early morning until the night service in a theater which had been secured for the occasion and which was filled to overflowing especially for the night services. On the last Sunday night there were more than eight hundred in attendance.

The meeting will be long remembered because of the blessings received in every service. The daily program was filled with Bible studies, departmental meetings and sermons with but little time between services. Pastor Borrowdale, the superintendent, showed his ability to have a full crowded program, and to have every service begin on time. I think not a single meeting was begun after the hour appointed. This is as it should be in every meeting. Promptness and order is one of the first laws of heaven.

The Porto Rico meeting was a very spiritual occasion. All in attendance felt that truly God was present by His Holy Spirit in a very special way, and that showers of the "latter rain" were poured out bounteously. While the growth in membership and finances have not been so marked in Porto Rico as in some of our other fields, owing to certain conditions that have prevailed here, we believe that all the workers and lay members received a new vision of greater possibilities for the future. Many felt that within a very short time the membership in the Porto Rican Mission should reach at least 1,000. We look for a great advance movement in this field.

March 9, Pastor C. E. Wood and I left Porto Rico for Santo Domingo City, arriving there next morning. Having held a general meeting in Santo Domingo last year, we planned to hold only a short workers' meeting there. This meeting was opened in the new temporary church building erected on the site of the mission property, destroyed by the hurricane last September. While the meeting was called only for the workers of the mission, others came. Night services were conducted for the benefit of the public and from 400 to 500 people attended each evening. Pastor Peter Nygaard has the full support and cooperation of all the workers.

From Santo Domingo we came over-

land to Cape Haitien for the general meeting in Haiti. It had been arranged to hold the meeting at Limbe, about seventeen miles from Cape Haitien. There one of the oldest and largest churches of the Haitien Mission—a church of about 200 members—is located. But just a week before the meeting was to begin, a terrible flood inundated the city, taking the lives of at least twenty-three persons and many animals. None of our members, however, suffered death or severe injury, though many lost their belongings. As the flood was terrible in its work of destruction, it was impossible to hold the general meeting there as planned; so the brethren decided to hold it in the city of Cape Haitien, where the mission headquarters have been located since the beginning of the work in Haiti. A general meeting had never been held in that city, as there seemed to be no special interest there. But facts have proved the contrary, as the attendance of the people after the first night or two was most remarkable. Each evening the tent was filled while hundreds stood in solid circles all around it to hear the messages given. There were 1,000 to 1,200 present at the evening services.

The attendance and interest of our own people from the churches and companies over the field was also most encouraging. A spirit of true Christian love and unity was manifested between workers and lay members. As a result of plans laid at that meeting the work in that mission, which has been growing so rapidly for the past years, doubtless will go forth now with even increasing rapidity.

The spirit of loyalty and love for the Message was evidenced in the fact that many believers walked long distances to attend this meeting. Many walked from forty to fifty miles and some for more than 100 to attend the meeting. When people love the Message to the extent that they are willing to make such sacrifices they certainly are worthy of God's special blessings; and His Spirit was poured out in bounteous showers day after day during the entire meeting.

There are in the mission at present seven ordained ministers in active service. Pastor D. Dorsinville was ordained on Sabbath afternoon during the meeting. The occasion was a most solemn and impressive one. There are two ministers on the honorary list, not being able to give full time to the service as in their younger years. These are Pastors G. G. Roth and David Joseph Blot. While these brethren are advanced in years, their zeal and enthusiasm for the work are unabated. There are three licensed ministers and a number of missionary licentiates, who with ten church school teachers and a few colporteurs

give a working force of more than forty persons in the Haitien Mission who are giving their entire time to the advancement of the Message. With the blessing of God this force of workers and the great missionary army of earnest, enthusiastic lay members will soon gather many hundreds of others out of darkness into the marvelous light of the Message. Pastor J. A. de Caenel, the superintendent, is leading forth in strong, aggressive work for the advancement of the Message.

The evening services in each of the three meetings of Porto Rico, Santo Domingo and Haiti were conducted with special reference to the interests of the public. The wisdom of this plan was evidenced in the large attendance at all of these services. Pastor C. E. Wood of the Inter-American Division accompanied the writer in each of the three meetings and gave valuable help in preaching, in Bible studies and in coun-

A WISE MOTTO

The other day, as I was clinging to the strap of a street car, two ladies sat near me, and as one opened her purse to pay her fare, a scrap of paper pasted to the leather was disclosed.

"Is that your shopping list?" asked the other. "It doesn't look like a long one."

"No," was the reply, "it is not the list, but it is what keeps the list from being a long one," and she read:

"He who buys what he does not need, will soon need what he cannot buy."

"What a capital guardian of your capital! You must let me copy that for my leaky purse. Who wrote it?"

"I don't know, but I wish I did; for he has saved many a dollar from lightly rolling from my hands since I put it here."

I was interested in the conversation, for at that very moment there lay in my notebook a scrap which I would have brought forth but for the fact that my own corner was reached:

"We are ruined, not by what we really want, but by what we think we do; therefore, never go abroad in search of your wants. If they are real wants, they will come home in search of you; for he that buys what he does not want, will soon want what he cannot buy."

—The Christian Advocate.

sel. In the Haitien meeting Pastor and Mrs. E. E. Andross gave themselves unreservedly to the interest of the meeting. We appreciated very much the untiring services of our division workers with us in these meetings. Eternity alone will reveal the fruitage of the seed sown. The work is onward in every part of our Antillian Union. These general meetings will mark a new advance in these fields. A. R. OGDEN.

Havana, Cuba.

"Every thought influences character."

OUR WORK IN HAITI

(Report of the superintendent read at the general meeting held in Haiti, March 23-29, 1931.)

I find it a real pleasure to see you all seated under this tent as at Limbe four years ago. I am happy as I see the joy with which you have responded to the invitation of the mission committee, and I wish you all a cordial welcome. We regret, however, to notice that some are missing from our ranks. Pastor Arioste Péan, one of the pioneers, is no more. God has called him and he rests from his labors. Many others are missing. We extend our sincere sympathies to the bereaved families.

You have come to aid us in the laying of plans for the finishing of the work in this country. You have come for a new outpouring of showers of blessing. You have come, dear brethren and sisters, to unite your voices with those of our workers in the field in saying, "God has been good to us during the past four years." I wish to join with you in expressing my praise and thanks to our invisible Visitor who is with us in the tent.

The quadrennial period which ends today has been marked by extraordinary developments. The history of the people of God in Haiti is a continuation of "The Acts of the Apostles,"—that marvelous book which is being written for all time and which will soon be closed. During the period in review ten new churches and seventeen new groups have been added to the list. We have now fifty-two churches and groups. The increase in membership has been 710. During this time we had 921 baptisms. We are, indeed, thankful for these great blessings, which God has accorded us. It means that many precious souls have been torn from the enemy's grasp.

Finances: The treasurer's report, which will be read later, brings out many encouraging points. The tithe, in spite of hard times, has kept up, thanks to the faithfulness of our members. The Sabbath school offerings show a gain of \$855.00 for the past four years. However it is sad to note that the offerings for the Week of Sacrifice, Big Week, and Harvest Ingathering, show a considerable deficit. Our faithfulness should increase as we see before us the last moments of this world's history. May God preserve us from greed and may He give us liberal hearts to contribute generously to the finishing of the work.

Sabbath Schools: There is no department of the mission which shows as much progress as that registered by the Sabbath school department. Our Sabbath schools are a real blessing to this cause. Fifteen new schools have been organized during the past four years. The members of our Sabbath schools have increased from 1,395 in 1926 to 2,221 in 1930.

Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer: Considerable work has been accomplished by our lay members during these four years. I believe between fifty and seventy-five percent of those won to the truth should be credited to the missionary work done by our lay members. In many cases our pastors have all they can do to instruct those who are brought to a knowledge of the truth by the lay members. The Spirit of Prophecy tells us that the work will never be finished until all the church members enrol in this work. Surely, it is evident that the truth can never be preached in all the localities of the republic by our ministers alone. Unless each church member becomes a zealous missionary, it will be impossible to warn the 3,000,000 people in Haiti in the short time which remains before the return of Christ. There are great blessings in store for all who will take an active part in this work.

Colporteur work: I have come to our youngest department. For several months Pastor Apollon, having been called to take charge of this work, has been doing his best to place our large books in the capital city. He has been blessed in a very signal way by the help of the Holy Spirit. A goodly number of large books have been placed in the most important homes of Port-au-Prince and we have received many testimonies of appreciation for these books. During the early part of February a colporteurs' institute was held in Port-au-Prince. Seven or eight future workers for this department attended.

Brethren and sisters, let us uphold by our efforts and by our prayers our little Gideon band which is going from door to door to carry the message of peace and salvation. We address a special welcome to our valiant colporteurs.

Educational work: Little by little, our church schools, numbering eight, are be-

ing arranged and are producing results worthy of the efforts put forth for the education of the youth. This work has suffered much from a lack of equipment and furniture. We are doing our best to remedy these lacks as rapidly as possible. Our schools must not be inferior to those of the world. A special committee has been appointed to study plans for our schools and its report will be given at this meeting. The greatest obstacles confronting the development of our church schools is the indifference of our church members in regard to Christian education. The Spirit of Prophecy says, "On fathers and mothers rests the responsibility of giving a Christian education to their children. . . . They are not to allow their children to slip out of their grasp into the hands of unbelievers. They are to do all in their power to keep them from imbibing the spirit of the world."

Our training school is getting on its feet and is becoming an institution which we should all cherish. Great progress has been realized during the past years. I firmly believe that the future of our work depends largely upon our seminary.

Arrival and departure of workers: We have had the privilege of welcoming the following workers: Pastor Philip Giddings and family, Brother and Sister A. L. Christiansen, Brother and Sister H. L. Higgins and little son, and Brother and Sister Edwin Guller. The last two mentioned had to return quickly because of the illness of Sister Guller. Pastor M. N. Isaac, called as missionary to Martinique where God used him to save several precious souls, has returned to us strong in the faith and enriched by this missionary experience in a foreign country.

Properties and churches: The Haitien Mission has acquired, either by purchase or by gifts, ten properties to be used as church properties. Churches have been

constructed and dedicated in the following localities: Port-au-Prince, Jacmel, Trou, Limonade, Saint Michel, Joli-Trou, Morne St. Esprit, and La Porte. A modest chapel is under construction at Basse Terre and another at Bayonnais.

I am happy to announce to you that the General Conference has placed in the budget for Big Week \$1,000 for beginning the medical work here in Haiti. A property has already been bought in the capital where this work should be established; and further, the plan to transfer our headquarters to the capital, the logical place for the center of our work, will soon be accomplished.

Shall we not, during these days which we shall spend together, seek God and humble our hearts before Him? Shall we not strive earnestly, as did Jacob, that He may give us the pentecostal blessing? Let the name of the Lord be praised above all names. May His blessing rest upon each member of His church in Haiti, upon each worker in this mission, and upon each of our visiting workers, whose visit is greatly appreciated. I close this report with the prayer that God will make this general meeting the most profitable and the most inspiring meeting ever held in the island; and I say with John, "Lord Jesus, come quickly, amen."

J. A. DE CAENEL.

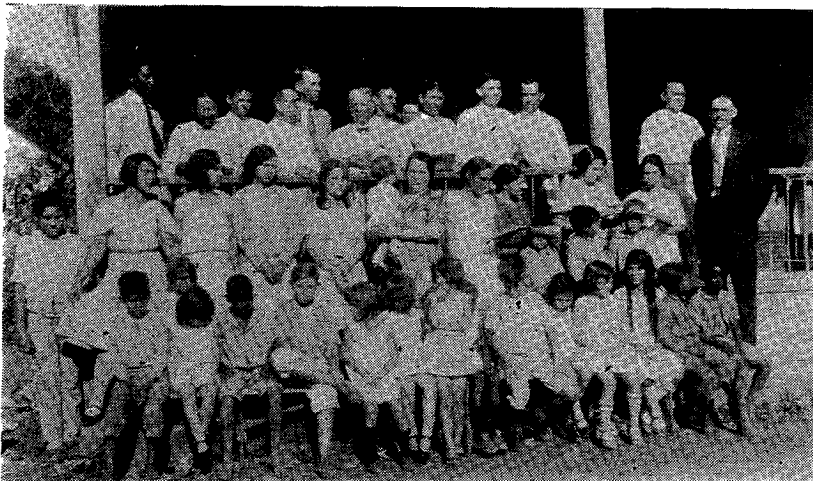
Cape Haitien, Haiti.

SANTO DOMINGO

For practically the last three months of 1930 the capital of Santo Domingo had no real building in which to hold meetings. Fortunately a temporary church building was ready for dedication by the close of the year. Between four and five hundred gathered for the dedicational service, Pastor Phipps Rodrigues from Santiago, R. D. officiating. An appropriate program was rendered that same evening prepared for the most part by the church school teacher, Mr. Juan Rivera.

January 4 an effort was begun in the new hall, and a very good interest was shown from the very start. At the close of the first week, however, the grippe became so acute and prevalent that the sanitary department closed the meetings. For three weeks we could only celebrate one meeting a week, the Sabbath school, for thirty minutes each Sabbath.

We were permitted to resume our meetings the first of February, and an extraordinary interest was manifested all through the series while the last warning Message was presented. We have never seen anything like it here. Every night the hall was filled to the last seat and some nights there were not seats enough. The same persons continued coming every evening and more than five hundred were present the last night.



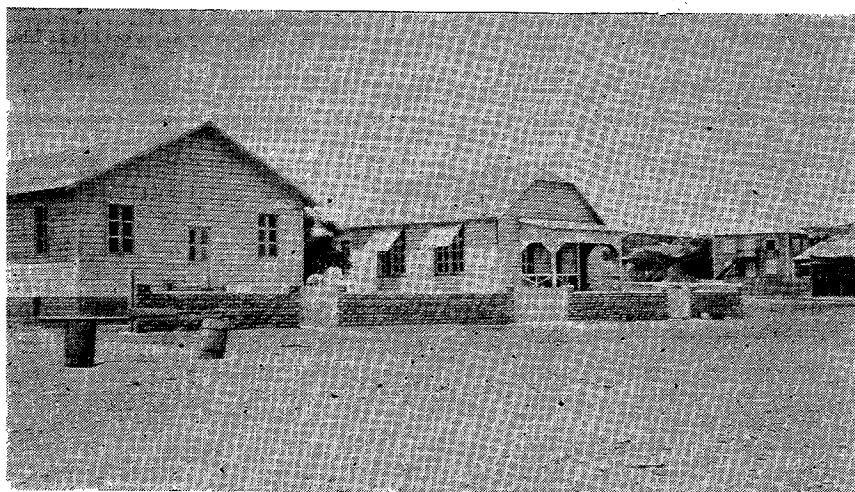
A group of believers in Puerto de Golfo, Cuba

At the close of this meeting about forty persons gave in their names as candidates for baptism. Many more are interested.

The Lord certainly is working upon hearts and calling people to repentance and to keep His commandments. Many of these interests have resulted through the faithful efforts of the lay members. We have no regular workers here at present to dedicate all their time to the work, but the members are doing a great work in inviting friends to the meetings and interesting them in the present truth. A great work could be done if we had a good Bible worker here.

PETER NYGAARD.

Santo Domingo, R. D.



Our church and mission home in Curacao

AN EXPERIENCE WITH A MEDIUM

Here in Manacas there is a sister who is the only Adventist in her family. Last month some friends from Havana visited them, and one night a spiritualist medium called. Naturally he began to talk spiritualism and to tell of some of his experiences as a medium. The girls became curious and wanted to see some of his wonders, so they all surrounded a table in the room and got ready to work.

Our sister naturally was not in favor of it but could not prevent them from doing anything as long as her parents were willing. She told them of her disapproval and explained that she could not tell them not to meddle with spiritualism, but she could do one thing, she could pray. She told the man that spiritualism is of Satan and that she believed in the living God who was stronger than Satan. The man made light of the statement and said they would see that it was not from Satan.

She told him to go ahead with his preparations and try as he might that he could rest assured that nothing would happen that night. She prayed a short prayer and then waited patiently for results. After two hours without the least manifestation the medium gave up, saying that something had prevented him from having connection with the spirits.

This was Friday night and the following day the sister and one of the girls had dinner with us. The girl was very much impressed with the results. She was fully convinced that spiritualism and God are not the same power as the medium would have her believe at the beginning of his procedures.

Manacas, Cuba. R. R. MATTISON.

MEMBERSHIP DOUBLED IN LESS THAN A YEAR

The year 1930 has been a good year in the Bahamas. We have reached our goal in souls added to the church. We began the year with a membership of

less than two hundred and closed with nearly 250. At the beginning of the year we had seven churches and at the close we had nine with two more companies awaiting the finishing touches to be organized into churches. While during 1929 we were kept busy in Nassau on account of the problems incident to the havoc of the hurricane during the latter half of 1930 we did a great deal of visiting in the out islands and found these isolated churches pressing on faithfully.

Boats are very scarce in this colony since the hurricane. In some cases it is quite impossible to procure passage to the place we wish to go. On three occasions it was necessary to make the trips in a small twenty-foot boat with two native boys as our crew. I have just returned from a trip in this small boat during which time we made about two hundred miles, most of it over the open sea. Of course this is rather dangerous business; but it is the only way to reach some of these places. In one instance we were overtaken by a severe storm while trying to make a fifty-mile passage, thinking we could reach our destination before the storm arrived, as we knew such storms usually last nine or ten days and we did not desire to be marooned in the small settlement for that length of time.

This experience in the storm was a rather thrilling one, as we were driven off our course and had to remain out all night, riding out the fury of the elements, and we were very thankful when we at last reached our desired haven. After the night spent in wet clothes, we read for our Scripture reading the 107th Psalm and then went to our task of bringing the little craft to land. After many hours of hard labor we reached the harbor of Nassau, tired but happy.

We find our brethren and sisters in these scattered islands of good courage and doing what they can to spread the

knowledge of the Message to their various settlements. The one great task which confronts us is that of reaching the islands where the Message has never yet been preached. There are some thirty inhabited islands in our field. We have churches or companies on eight of them, leaving twenty-two where there is no work. In some of these, no Seventh-day Adventist has ever worked in any way whatsoever. The problem is one which we are at a loss to solve with our small staff of workers and yet we know the work must be done. At present Pastor Reid is still held in Nassau with a fine interest in the suburb of Grants Town. This church has doubled its membership since its organization less than a year ago.

We are asking the prayers of the readers of the MESSENGER, that the gospel call may be heard in every part of this widely scattered field.

R. J. SYPE.
Nassau, Bahamas.

CARIBBEAN UNION CONFERENCE

Box 221, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

W. R. ELLIOTT - - - - Superintendent
M. D. HOWARD - - - - Secy.-Treas.

GREAT ADVANCEMENT AT MOUNT RORAIMA

We have cause to praise God for what He has accomplished in behalf of the Indians of the Mt. Roraima Mission during the last biennial term. Last year was specially outstanding in rapid progress of the Message among the aborigines who inhabit the section of Venezuela into which workers have pressed in answer to urgent calls for help.

Advancement is seen in every department of the work and it would have been still more marked had we had the additional help that is so much needed and which we had hoped so long would be forthcoming.

The Indians for whom we are laboring are not so numerous as in some other fields, but they are widely scattered over a difficult country where there are no railways, no automobiles, or even roads. Those who carry the Message must travel on foot by narrow Indian trails which lead along wide stretches of open savannahs, over high mountain ranges, through dense forests, and across rivers and creeks. The rivers must be negotiated either on foot, or in canvas boats, Indian corials, or in frail wood skins which are made from the bark stripped from forest trees.

Every pound that is carried is borne on the back of Indians on these long trails. The load comprises the bare necessities that will be needed on the trip, such as hammocks, blankets, tarpaulins for shelter in bad weather, mission supplies, and provisions, including Indian rations, which are by no means plentiful and are difficult to obtain. We must cut down our equipment to the lowest limit on these trips in order to reduce as far as possible the expense of transportation.

The various Indian settlements and mission stations are often widely separated, entailing many days' travel in order to reach them. A day on the trail usually means an early start after a hurried breakfast, and a march all day with the exception of a halt for the mid-day meal. The day's journey is usually terminated a little before sundown in order for the party to make camp before it gets dark. It is under such and similar circumstances that mission stations are established and maintained among these Indian tribes inhabiting British Guiana, Venezuela, and Brazil.

A few figures, doubtless, best will show the growth of the Mt. Roraima Indian Mission during 1930. At the close of 1929 we had two mission stations established with a Sabbath school membership of 317 and about a similar number of Sabbath keepers. We also had one mission school with thirty-six children enrolled. By December 1930 we were able to report eleven churches, either built or in process of construction, thirteen Sabbath schools with a membership of 1,182, eight mission schools, eleven home department members, and five young people's societies. With such a growth in the short space of eleven months we are confident that, under God's continued guidance, more marked results would be realized were our corps of workers increased. Perhaps a little space should be devoted to some of the above departments.

The Sabbath school in this field has proved to be a great blessing to the Indians who show great interest in it. Our largest school is at Acurima where the membership is 375. This Sabbath school is divided into fifteen or more classes,



Brother A. W. Cott on the trail in the Mount Roraima Indian Mission

most of which are conducted by Indian teachers. These teachers are anxious for all the help that they can obtain in the weekly teachers' meeting. We frequently study the Sabbath school lesson during the daily evening worship, and we find that by this means both teachers and students become well acquainted with the subject for the coming Sabbath.

Our Indians are learning to bring in their tithes and offerings with regularity, and we expect to be able to send in a good report of the above at the close of this year. The tithes and offerings of the Indians usually consist of farina, cassava bread, papayas, bananas, plantains, and other foods.

We have a number of Bible passages, texts, and songs translated into the Arecuna language, including also the Lord's prayer, and the ten commandments which the Indians are learning by heart. Typewritten copies of these are being made into folders, a number of which are now distributed. Our people are spending much time learning to read the contents of these books. As this material is in the Indian tongue they will find it of considerable assistance when they make their missionary visits to hold meetings in neighboring settlements. The Indians at Acurima can be seen at all times studying their "Bibles," as they call them, and it seems that they will not rest until they are familiar with all that they contain.

We find that the early morning is the best time for baptismal classes, missionary workers' meetings, mothers' meetings, and cooking classes. The spirit is excellent during these periods of worship and study, and this plan gives the Indians the remainder of the day for their own occupations. The missionary workers' meetings have been well at-

tended, and a number of these people are anxious to learn to read and write in their own language and to obtain a training that will enable them to labor for souls.

Class periods are being devoted to the study of soul winning methods, during which time stress has been laid upon the importance of reporting all missionary work done. The members of our baptismal classes are unable to hand us their reports in writing, so that it is necessary to obtain such reports orally from each individual. This is a lengthy process, indeed, for much time is spent in obtaining figures and facts necessary for these reports.

A new section of territory has just been opened at Uong King, from which district we can now report a Sabbath school with a membership of 150. Joaquim, the chief of this part of the field, has a large following of Indians and several settlements under his control. These Indians include the Kamarogoto tribe, many days' travel to the north, and the Pichowaguk tribe to the west. The latter tribe, up to the present time, have not looked with any favor upon efforts to civilize them. These people are feared by the other tribes on account of their wild nature, and their huts are concealed from view among the trees of the forest.

Chief Joaquim has partly completed a large church building and a mission house. We also understand that he has started to plant a garden so that the missionaries may have a source of food supply when they come. These actions surely speak as loudly as the urgent requests that are reaching us from him and his people that we come to their assistance and give them further help. I believe that the work just begun in this new location will open up another wide field of labor. We pray that we may soon have numbers of faithful believers from these tribes.

A. W. COTT.

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

LIKE THE WIDOW OF OLD

Others turned to leave the tabernacle, but one aged sister, poorly clad, but neat in appearance, turned and walked toward the rostrum. She approached, hesitatingly, as though fearful of being observed. The minister had not yet left the rostrum and standing at one side, observed her hesitancy. Her heart had been impressed, and she longed to do something for the cause she loved. She slowly took two half crowns probably, like the widow of old, it was all she had, and placed them on the pulpit, then slowly walked away unnoticed by the crowd, but God, who sees and knows all saw. He not only saw the self-sacrifice and estimated the value of the coins by the love to Him and the interest

in His work that had prompted the giver.

Do you love Jesus? Do you know what it is to sacrifice for Jesus? Let us learn a lesson from the two half crowns and lay up our mites in the storehouse of heaven and remember the promise of God that He will "open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

MRS. H. L. NIELSEN.

Castries, St. Lucia.

SELLING BOOKS IN ST. KITTS

I called at a home in St. Vincent. The lady invited me in, but it seemed to me that she could not purchase a large book, so I was inclined to canvass her for one of the Crisis series. However, after a brief canvass for my subscription book, "Patriarchs and Prophets," she readily gave an order in the keratol binding.

Her sister, who lived a few yards away, came in and also ordered the book when she learned the nature of it.

They had no ready money when I delivered the books, but a cow was sold and I received payment in full for both books. On a later visit, one of the sisters said to me, "Young man, I am glad God gave me a cow which I could sell to enable me to pay for such a book. Have you other good books like this?" I answered "Yes" and on my next visit carried a copy of "Great Controversy" which she purchased for her home.

CHARLES MANORAM.

Basseterre, St. Kitts.

WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE

While canvassing in Grenada I received an order for "Bible Footlights." The lady also purchased a small book entitled "On the Eve of Armageddon." I called a few days later to find out how she was enjoying it, and sold her "The Christian Sabbath."

Some weeks later, on my next visit, she told me she had read "The Christian Sabbath" and was convinced that Saturday was the Sabbath of the Lord. This was a revelation to her and while deciding what course she should pursue, the Lord appeared to her in a dream asking her to obey His Word and to receive instructions from me. After much prayer, she resolved to obey and had already kept three Sabbaths. I was glad to hear this and prayed with her, thanking God for His wonderful love and guidance. Arrangements were made to study the Scriptures with her. It was my esteemed privilege to see this dear soul buried with her Lord in baptism to rise and walk in newness of life.

Since then I have been called to labor in other islands, but have kept up a regular correspondence with her. She is of good courage and loves the Message.

Another Investment Plan

One of our sisters, Wilhelmina Edwards of Sandy Point, St. Kitts, gathers the little children of her neighborhood every Sabbath and teaches them about Jesus. She used the junior quarterly to good advantage in helping them to know more about their loving Saviour. The children have learned to love her dearly and to love Jesus also. Love has also grown in the hearts of the older ones for this sister and now when they are going to work, they bring their little ones and leave them with her for the day. Some of the parents are very poor. They work hard all day, come home late in the evening, and have no time to keep their children tidy. This sister washes their clothes and keeps them clean while she takes delight in teaching them the lesson and memory verse every day in readiness for the Sabbath. She also teaches them to read.

In gratitude to her for this help the parents give their children pennies and half pennies to carry to her occasionally. She promised the Lord to give these gifts to the Investment Fund. Last year she received \$1.00 and turned it in.

This work with the children caused quite a favorable stir among the older ones in the neighborhood and thus hearts that were once barred by the wall of prejudice are now anxious to receive the Message. Some come to her home for Bible studies and are seeking earnestly to understand the truth. Her influence is spreading now, for calls come from many miles away requesting her to come and teach them the truth. She lives about ten miles from our church. She is of good courage, gladly doing her best for the Master. Please remember her in your prayers.

JAMES RAMRATAN.

Basseterre, St. Kitts.

"We need not to be discouraged because of the great things others accomplish and which are far beyond the range of possibility for us. It is only our own best that is required of us—our own and not another's. To give quietly our best strength and wisdom to each task as it comes, is all that need concern us."



A group of Centinela workers in Venezuela

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION

Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica

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

GOOD NEWS FROM PANAMA

(President's report given at the seventeenth session of the Panama Conference, held in Colon, April 17-25, 1931.)

To the delegates assembled, to the faithful workers of the Panama Conference, to the union and division officers and to the faithful army of men, women and youth who comprise our conference, greetings in Christ:

Once more God through His mercy has permitted us to meet together as a band of believers in this conference to listen to the reports of the work and to lay plans for the finishing of the task. We wish to offer to our heavenly Father heartfelt praise for His keeping power in our lives, and for His constant watch-care over His blessed cause. We are cheered in our hearts as we note, in the various items of conference activity, the progress that has been made, and our hearts are humbled in the presence of those advances by the knowledge that what has been accomplished is only small in comparison to what might have been done had we all—workers and lay members—permitted God to have His way fully with us and had complete and entire consecration, unmarred by human failings, marked every effort put forth. We regret our failings and shortcomings, yet we are made to rejoice that our heavenly Father is willing to use us, frail and sinful though we may be, in the work of closing His gospel message in the earth in this generation.

Some have fallen asleep since our last conference session. We mourn with those who mourn over the loss of their loved ones, but we rejoice also with them in the knowledge of the fact that Jesus is soon coming and that we shall meet in glad reunion with those who have died in the Lord. Among those who have passed away is Pastor Nembhard and in him our English work has lost a faithful and consecrated worker. We are thankful to report that Sister Nembhard and family have been taken care of.

We rejoice that God in His providence has seen fit to withhold the hand of persecution so that we are still permitted to worship God according to the dictates of our own consciences. We rejoice that no great epidemic has swept away human lives, that no calamitous pest or disease has impoverished us; no storms, earthquakes or tidal waves have brought havoc in our midst. It seems that we are in that little time of peace that precedes the final storm, and these questions should come to each heart with unerring accuracy: Is this time of peace lulling us to sleep, or do we understand its true significance and

are we preparing for the storm? Are we hidden in Christ, or are we walking uncovered in the presence of him who walketh as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour?

I shall not seek to report exhaustively on the various items of advance during the past two years, for we shall hear from the different secretaries and workers what has been accomplished in the various lines of work. There is a sweet spirit of brotherly love and understanding binding the hearts of the workers together in Christ and we stand shoulder to shoulder in the fight for the Master's cause in our territory.

Two years ago we reported 1,182 members in our conference but since that time we have baptized and received into our churches 176 new members; and during the first three months of this year we baptized 52. Of these thirty-three were Guaymi Indians, fourteen were Spanish and five were English. Available reports also show that we have ninety-one persons in our baptismal classes.

This year has witnessed the organization of the first Christian church among the heathen Guaymi Indians of Chiriqui. We feel grateful that the Seventh-day Adventists of Panama were permitted to organize the first church among them. Thirty-three full blooded Indians were baptized in February and thirteen marriages were performed. Brother Ellis, who has struggled hard to win these Indians, will give a full report of the work among them. Brother Pedro Montero, a Guaymi Indian, is with us at the conference. This is his first trip to the civilized parts of the world.

Our secretary-treasurer will give you a complete report of the finances. Permit me to state right here that although there is a slump in our tithes and offerings I feel that the majority of our people are faithful in their obligations to God. Our total tithes and offerings for missions during the biennial period amounted to \$53,126.21. A missionary of another denomination, visiting our office the other day, could hardly believe that we as a people could raise such large sums of money, and said that we surely were leading other Protestant denominations in Panama and elsewhere in this respect. Let us not be satisfied, however, with what has been done, but let us strive to have every member of this conference a faithful tithing payer.

The Sabbath school department, which is such an important part of our conference activities, was ably served by Sister Viola E. Cooke, but since her call to the division office, Sister Arthur L. Edeburn has taken up this work in connection with the young people's department. The Home Missionary department has suffered much from the lack

of leadership, but we hope that before the conference adjourns a competent secretary will be elected to this important office. Our canvassing work has also been quite broken up, but also in this department we look for a new leader as Brother Eugenio Plata, who served us well for a short time, has accepted a call to Colombia, his home country.

Our school at Las Cascadas is fairly well filled this year and a good spirit prevails among the students and teachers. We have our difficulties but God is willing to help in everything and whatever He counsels us to do will be done.

In closing let me say that our courage in the Lord is good. We know this organization was ordained of God, and although there are at times things that discourage, this movement is going through. Individuals will fail, but it will never fail. God has given us directions that are plain and clear, and if we humbly and meekly follow them, the success of the work under our hands is assured.

I realize my own great need of heavenly wisdom and strength so I humbly give myself to Him who in His great strength is able to keep me, that, like Josiah, "I may do that which is right in the sight of the Lord." While praying that God may give us a real blessing during these eight days of our session, let us humble ourselves before Him and He will not disappoint us.

Cristobal, C. Z. E. J. LORNTZ.

Not in Vain

"If I can stop one heart from breaking,
I shall not live in vain;
If I can ease one life the aching,
Or cool one pain,
Or help one fainting robin
Unto his nest again,
I shall not live in vain."

IN THE EARTHQUAKE

Below we quote from a personal letter written April 5, by Sister Ellis P. Howard, author of the poem on page one:

"There is no time to make plans for ourselves or our future comforts on this earth; the end is surely right upon us, and only eternal things are worth while. I do not believe I can ever lose sight of it again. We have lived a lot this past week. The shock was Tuesday morning and this is Sunday and the shakes have not stopped yet; we had three this morning. Mr. Howard spent hours bracing up our foundation so the house is safe for us, but we only began to do things in it Friday. We are living outdoors still, most of the time, and still sleeping out, for the earth feels too unsettled and rumbling. It is easy to realize what 'waxing old' means.

"We do appreciate our place in the country, and it has given shelter to many families. The city is no place for Adventists to live who believe the prophecies. We know this experience

must be duplicated elsewhere, and will be still more terrible in cities with sky scrapers. All our workers are safe, also our members and believers, though we could not be sure about them until yesterday. Some have gone to other cities, but all who could, gathered on our grounds yesterday for Sabbath school and meeting. It was a solemn time. We were all so thankful to see one another. Some had miraculous escapes—in fact all did.

"Our lame sister was in her back room when the shock came and all the walls fell. She could not go forward, and only by crawling carefully underneath the wreckage could she reach the back patio, and from there through a neighbor's rooms that were not so badly piled up she came through to the street. The miracle is that the falling walls did not kill her. She was lying down, and they just missed meeting each other by a few inches—enough to give her breathing room. She was praying and singing. She has saved of her possessions three plates and a gourd.

"We took her and two others back to where they are staying, by the lake or in open spaces, and got a better look at the remains of the city yesterday. It is terrible. One man we passed with a shovel. He owned three houses and a store, worth \$40,000—the work of eighteen hard years. He has lost all. He had a bad gash in his head, but was hunting through the debris to see if anything of value remains.

"Two men came to our gate after dark last night to ask if we were Adventists; they had moved out to an open space opposite us and seeing us apparently in some kind of meeting on the lawn yesterday had inquired about us. They want to know the Bible and what these things mean, and we have arranged for studies for this afternoon and every day. Managua is in ruins and there are thousands of people camping outdoors and in patios who have nothing to do but think, and we believe that our place is right here to sow the truth in what seems softened ground. One interested family who came to our place for refuge decided Friday night to keep the Sabbath. They have gone to another city now as he is a bank employee and had his orders to go there to help get started anew. We are praying that he may have the courage of his convictions and stand true. He had a dream showing the end of the world, and fears if he does not now obey his convictions he will have no other opportunity. Times are terrible here, but we believe the Lord has had a hand in it all for the advancement of His work—though as far as goals go financially we can hardly hope to reach them this year. But we do hope for souls.

"My husband spent a good part of the second day helping to carry wounded people where they wanted to go. We now hear there are 3,000 officially reported dead, and at least another 1,000 still under ruins. Men are shoveling for them all the time. We hope plenty of good water will be available soon for it will lessen the chance of pestilence. In this hot climate the stench is awful in places.

"There is so much to say but later on we can write again. We know you will pray for us and our work here. We do not know our address as there is no post office, but write us to the same address till further notice. It will eventually reach us if sent by airmail as we are known at the aviation camp. We do not know where to find anyone any more. It seems so strange to be living here so near a city that is no more—no shops, nothing but ruins. But we got three barrels of water yesterday from the engine that went by to supply people. The track goes past our place as well as the highway. That will help all the families out here. And though there is a great strain on the other cities, some food will be coming in again shortly. I thought all of Nicaragua was destroyed, but it seems the capital and surroundings bore all the brunt.

"We hardly dare look ahead, things are so unsettled and so much banditry and shooting. The marines are surely helping out wonderfully

and we are thankful for them. They have given us food. We also appreciate our garden, but many things in it are not quite mature yet and now without water they will be lost. But we have some carrots and beets and a little more that help supply vitamins. Seventeen of our papayas dropped to the ground but only a few large enough to ripen in the sun, but we thank God continually for being so good to us and sparing us with so much when even the richest people lost all.

"We have been clearing up the wreckage in our house, scooping out broken glass and dishes, etc., which were mixed up with scrambled eggs, milk, foodstuffs, clothing, towels, books and everything else all over the floors. Our piano and table with the small portable victrola all moved out over the floor, but without smashing. The chapel organ and benches have been salvaged and brought out here and all the other things belonging to the mission workers,—at least most of them. Rains are due to begin the middle of May and we hope we can find cover for things by then. Our unfinished house is too tiny for everyone. A lot of shooting has just started up and rapid fire guns. We long for the new earth and the work finished. Battle going on in town or near, it sounds awful. We are anxious to know details.

"Keep praying for us. Nothing matters but being ready ourselves and working for souls that still remain out of the ark of safety."

INDIANS JOURNEY TWENTY MILES IN QUEST OF TEACHER

There is an Indian work developing here that I believe the Lord is bringing to us. The other day while on my way to Barrios, I met some Indians at Punta Gorda who had come twenty miles the day before, and they were looking for someone to come to teach them. They were able to speak the Spanish language and they told me there was a church of nearly sixty of them who had chosen to be Protestants.

I understood the church was in our territory; but when they came to Belize and got in touch with Brother Garbutt, they told him the church is in Guatemala but that they are living about twenty miles from Punta Gorda although connected with the church. These Indians seemed very earnest. They stayed over night in our church school, as they had their own bedding. The folks here took a deep interest in them and studied the Bible with them. Brother Garbutt, after giving them a study on the Sabbath question, told them how we kept this day. They were much interested and said it would be no trouble for them to keep the Sabbath as they have their own little places. They promised Brother Garbutt that they would write to him as soon as they returned.

We are looking for a letter from them soon. We are hardly able to spare him from the work here, but I thought Miss Wood and Mrs. Sutton would look after the work here in Belize as best they could and my daughter and Miss Elwin could go with me to Stann Creek. Surely the work is great and laborers are few, but the Lord will help us as we try to do our part.

C. B. SUTTON.

Belize, British Honduras.

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

Apartado 39, Medellin, Colombia

H. E. BAASCH - - - - - Superintendent
J. B. ROSS - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

FROM CALI TO MEDELLIN

We have received permission to pass on to you a copy of a letter written by Sister H. E. Baasch to her relatives in England. David, to whom she refers, is the son of Brother and Sister Baasch. I am sure you will read with deep interest this vivid account of their move from Cali to Medellin:

"I am sitting in an upstairs room of an old-fashioned house in Anserma, a town among the strong fastnesses of the beautiful Colombian Andes. If everyone had kept faith we should have been on our way by this time. We left dear Cali and our little home at six o'clock yesterday morning. The business of selling our furniture and packing everything we had left in a suitable way to carry on mules, and leaving our little house clean and providing for everyone to be fed and slept to the last, plus providing for a journey of from six to eight days, is all in the past.

"After about five hours' train ride, we took an automobile from Cartage to this town. The road was very rough and winding—cut out of the very mountains. But the scenery! The sight of the wonderful rivers winding their silvery ways far down in the valleys make one's senses thrill and one's heart beat with admiration akin to holy fear at the majesty of our Creator.

"At about 4:30 we came to this place. Early next morning we took a walk around town. All was green and weeded. After getting all ready, and going to the appointed meeting place to mount our horses, we found our 'man' missing. By the time we found him, it was too late to start on the proposed journey. Then we determined not to separate from him and so the animals were put into a near-by pasture and we occupied one of the two rooms for rent in the only inn. We put up our camp cots and laid down a rush matting in one corner of the room for another bed then hurried to bed by the dim candle light. At five o'clock next morning we were all astir and off in time to see the sun rise over the mountains.

"Later: It felt good to be riding horseback again and we were a merry party as we went, slowly winding our way up hill and down. The morning air was sweet and cool and we saw the sun come up behind the mountains. We stopped to drink milk at the first place we saw a farm. It is served in basins warm from the cow, and is as clean as anything available. By ten o'clock the sun was pretty warm and we were glad to avail ourselves of the hospitality of some friendly people who let us take shelter under their trees, spread out our camp cots and eat our lunch.

"During the afternoon quite a few people from the surrounding country came to visit us. They had heard of our coming from the good brother, who so kindly brought our horses and took us on a good part of our way. Many of these are interested in the truth and we were glad to meet them. This place was called Florenciana and our destination that day was Cinchea, another two or three hours' ride; so about 3:30 we set out once more guided most graciously by the daughter of one of our faithful defenders in that fanatical district. I should mention here that the country through which we were passing is where Pastor Trummer was persecuted and where my husband and Pastor Green were driven out at midnight less than two years ago.

"The road was uphill and very stony, but we arrived at our destination at last. We were as usual, objects of curiosity as our horses' feet came clank, clank, through the stony streets in a long procession so late at night, and I am smiling now, as I picture ourselves there tucked

away for the night. There were seven of us in that room. It is wonderful how skilfully these dear people, who offer the best they have to us, can creep away into their corners to sleep and in the morning disappear so completely that one has the feeling of having been quite alone.

"After a hasty breakfast, good-byes and God-speed, we were on our way again as early as possible. At midday we rested by the roadside in the shade and ate our lunch, getting some eggs from a near-by farm house.

"As we had a fairly good stretch before us before reaching the next stopping place, we did not stay long. By four o'clock we were well on the way. My horse seemed to be tired and would not move very fast, but about 5:30 the gentleman in whose home we were invited to stay, rode out to meet us. He had a lovely horse and saddle and insisted that I ride on it. How I did enjoy that ride to his home! The view as we came into town was magnificent. The mountains seemed like cultivated gardens—great clusters of feathery bamboo gently waving a soft evening glow over everything. I shall long remember the sight of Rio Sucio as we rode leisurely into the town at the hour when the pious folks of the place were returning from evening service, carrying their little stools, which they use, because the church does not provide seats.

"My beautiful steed knew the way home, and, although it was dark when we neared the home of our host, away on the other side of town, he pushed on ahead of the other horses as much as to say, 'Don't be afraid, I'll take you safely home.' And his manner was surely a reflection of the hospitality which we received in that place. We were fed enough to make up for all the meals we had missed on the way. The last thing we had—after a thoroughly good breakfast—was a large glass of rich milk for each. We were sorry to bid farewell to these good friends so soon, but we had to press on. With fresh horses we set ourselves on another day's journey—the most thrilling of all. At noon we rested and had lunch in a very funny little place in which we could hardly find shade. But we were soon in all the shade we ever want, for our path led us through the depths of great and steep mountains and long before we reached our next *pasada* (inn) the darkness of night had fallen fast upon us and the chill air had gathered us in its folds.

"Trusting to our faithful beasts and offering many a silent prayer to Him on whose mission we went, we crossed mountain streams, passed roaring waterfalls which we could not see, keeping our eyes, ever on the lookout for the lights of the next town. Every few minutes my husband would call back to me, 'Everything all well, dear?' and then a voice behind me would ring out clear and trying to seem brave. 'Everything all O. K., mother dear.' Once my horse stopped absolutely still and refused to go through a stream. I could see the white foam splashing around under us and the roar of the falls were deafening. Petting, urging and force were all in vain. Finally I saw my husband crossing the stream on a bridge of wooden poles almost above me. How thankful I was to feel his hand on my horse's bridle. He managed to climb over some high boulders and lead the poor frightened creature safely through. David's horse followed hard after.

At last we saw the lights of Caramanta and our hearts rejoiced, but those who know the mountains, know the tricks they play. We had still many a dark road to travel—once or twice getting another view of those illusive lights. When we finally arrived at our place of rest, it was very late. The people were very kind and we were soon fast asleep on our cots, but not without grateful thanks to the dear Guide who had led us safely all along the dangerous trails.

"Supperless and breakfastless we set out as soon as we could on the last part of our journey on horseback. Noon found us in a little village called Valparaisa. Here we were so hungry that we ate some lunch in a dining-room and fed our horses some native sugar as they seemed

hungry too. We were anxious to get to the next station before sundown and be ready for Sabbath so we set off early.

"Little did I know the heat of that afternoon, nor the thirst we should suffer. How we longed for the crystal streams once more and wished we had drunk more of their refreshing waters! Once I spied three or four limes lying on the road, but they were almost too hot to touch. Such scorching sun I never before experienced and when at last we dismounted after sundown I was glad to put my tired body anywhere to rest. My husband, as usual, hastened to make us comfortable and to quench our thirst, which was no small matter when every bottle of lemonade cost ten cents.

"But next day by the river we forgot all the heat. On a camp cot on top of a huge boulder out in the river I lay while we read and rested and had our Sabbath school,—perhaps the first ever held in La Pintrada. The next morning we went aboard the launch. The river had many undercurrents and is quite dangerous in parts, but we were landed safely at a little station where we got the train for Medellin. As our train drew up in the Medellin station, a familiar voice greeted us. Brother Ross was awaiting our arrival. He had a car ready and we were soon in Sister Steeves' pleasant home where we enjoyed an excellent supper. A warm bath and a clean comfortable bed in a dainty room seemed wonderful luxuries.

"Colombia is a wonderful country with so much to invite people to be clean and pure; but alas, so many seek only their own vices to make them happy. Only the gospel Message will ever urge them to look upon those surroundings as a gift from their Creator and Saviour."

"Mrs. H. E. BAASCH."

Medellin, Colombia.

MEXICAN UNION MISSION

Calle Teotihuacan 19, Mexico, D. F., Mexico

C. E. WOOD Superintendent
J. G. PERRY Secy.-Treas.

VALUE OF CHURCH SCHOOLS

You will rejoice with me at some of the openings that our church schools are making for us. At Pantepec where our Indian boy is working a young Indian brother went as a self-supporting teacher. He found that the government had not sent a teacher there this year and that the place was open for him to take the government school. So our Indian teacher is now taking over the regular school work of the town. This means much to us, as all the residents will place their children under the care of our teacher. The Department of Education has granted licenses for our six teachers. Wherever our teachers locate there is an increase in the offerings and church attendance. Our work has more than doubled in one place where we sent a teacher and the church has suffered much from persecution.

C. E. MOON.

Tacubaya, D. F., Mexico.

GOD'S PROTECTION IN YUCATAN

We certainly are living in the last days of the world's history, and must hasten to finish the work God has for us at this time. The Lord is blessing our little mission and souls have been won through the labors of His servants

and the printed page. Although the religious ban has been taken from Mexico, we still have one state in our mission where no religion whatever is tolerated. Many times our brethren have been put in jail for holding their Sabbath service, and only are they released when they pay a fine of \$20.00 or more.

Last December while in this state, twenty-one dear souls were baptized in one place. The following evening a meeting was held in a little town with the believers, and some strangers were present. Among the strangers were two men who came in but left soon afterward. The next morning as we were just ready to swing into our saddles, we were called by the *Presidente de Municipi-*

INDORSE THE CHECK

God's promises are like checks. If we have a check, we do not carry it around in our pocket till it wears out. It will do us no good that way. No, we indorse the check, and then present it at the bank, and draw the money for which it calls. Yet with our checks on the Bank of Faith we do almost everything but that.

God does His part at both ends of the transaction: He gives us the check, having made it out and signed it; and at the other end of the transaction He stands ready to make the check good in the blessing for which it calls. We have only the middle part to attend to, the indorsing of the check, which signifies our personal acceptance of it and our faith in it. Can we not do that little toward receiving payment?

Our faith must come before the payment. Our indorsement must be made before we hand the check to the paying teller. When we pray, we are to believe that we have received our answer, and we shall receive it. This is the blessed paradox of prayer.—*Selected.*

pal. There was no escape for he was standing at the corner with his gun, waiting for us.

I gave the case to the Lord and told my brother I would hold the horses while he went in. The young man of the house where the meeting was held the night before came with us. The president sent our brother to his office and while I was holding the horses, he asked this young man all kinds of questions.

Our brother told about the good work he was doing with the *Centinela* and the president said, "I know the *Centinela* and its work." Then our brother referred to the interview he had with the governor elect and was given the privilege of telegraphing to that gentleman. The president also sent a telegram. We were then allowed to visit our brethren on the near-by *fincas*, and told to return that afternoon, but just one hour later two gendarmes came for us, with instructions to take the two *propagandistas* to jail. Fortunately my name did not appear on the warrant, so I refused to

go with them. They looked a little angry but went off with our brother. He was put in prison in a damp and dirty cell where it rained in all night. It is said that many have died in that prison for lack of food. That man does not feed his prisoners. Unless someone from town brings them food, they have to starve. Our brother was even refused the privilege of seeing some of our believers.

The next afternoon he was released. His first sentence was to be sent out of the state, but the next morning this was changed to read he must never come back to that municipality. I was to be shot. Well, we thank the Lord for His protection. Two priests had been shot and I might have been his third victim. There was but one course, and that was to flee for my life. The brethren wanted a little study from the Word of God and I could not blame them for wanting me to remain. That night I traveled by horseback on an unknown road through rain and cold until break of day, then by *cayuca* toward Villahermosa. Towards evening we were picked up by a motorboat and reached our destination safely. We thanked our heavenly Father that He had helped us so far and committed ourselves for further protection to Him.

We pray that the dear Lord may do something in behalf of these poor people; that they may be allowed to worship Him as they would like to, and, also that we as leaders may have the privilege to return and instruct them in the ways of salvation.

C. L. DINIUS.

Merida, Yucatan.

THE MESSAGE BRINGS PEACE

San Buenaventura is known, not as a town of two thousand souls, but as "The Valley." Unlike most Mexican centers of population, where the people are crowded in their adobe houses, built closely together and confined to the town's limits, San Buenaventura is tucked in between two ranges of mountains and stretched out for over five miles along the fertile banks of the Santa Maria River.

In this beautiful location Brother Arteaga and family are devoting all their energies to the uplift of humanity. He is a devoted Christian as well as a good active missionary. Many are the souls in Mexico who are rejoicing in the Message as the result of his untiring efforts.

One night Brother Arteaga and his wife were visiting a newly-wed couple in the interests of the truth. Suddenly the cries of "help! help!" pierced the air, echoing through the adobe house where they were. A woman was being pursued by her husband, who was drunk with *sotol*, an alcoholic drink. He had

a huge knife about fifteen inches long with which he sought to take her life.

The next day, after reasoning that if anybody needed help in that place, certainly this man did, Brother Arteaga visited him, taking in his hand a ball that needed sewing, as an excuse to gain an entrance. He gave the first study. The man was also invited to Sabbath school the next Sabbath. When the rest day came, there was this man, his wife and children, happily uniting with the brethren in service. No more has been heard about his threats to murder his wife. Certainly the Third Angel's Message is able to change men's hearts. We rejoice with this brother as he finds souls who are willing to be transformed.

ERNEST POHLE.

Chihuahua, Mexico.

With Our Departments

M. V. QUESTION BOX

Question: "If your Missionary Volunteer society is small, is your secretary required to give a weekly report of the work done?"

Answer: If your society has weekly meetings, there should be weekly reports of the missionary work done by the members. In some places where the societies do not meet each week, I believe the reports are gathered during the ten-minute missionary service. Where this is done care should be taken to see that all reports of young people are cared for by the Missionary Volunteer society. They are included in the report of that society before they are added to the reports gathered by the home missionary secretary. Each week after getting a complete report of what all the young people have done, the Missionary Volunteer secretary should hand to the church home missionary secretary a copy of that report and record it also in her record book.

Faithfulness in reporting is absolutely necessary in order to have reliable information to pass on for the world summaries which are read so eagerly in all parts of the earth, and which are studied so earnestly in planning for advancement. The faithful secretaries in our societies who do their utmost to have accurate reports from all members and pass these on from quarter to quarter to the conference Missionary Volunteer secretary, surely will receive a rich reward in the day of final reckoning.

WON BY "PATRIARCHS"

The tailor was busy and told him to just leave the book on the table. Another man picked it up and said it was a religious book, but another replied, "No, it is a splendid book." Anselmo

Maximo, our colporteur in Santo Domingo, slipped out before more was said. Later he heard that this tailor was attending church, so he went to visit him. Upon inquiring how he liked the book, the tailor replied:

"I like the book very much, and it has done some good, too. Before reading the book my wife had no interest in the church, and spent much of my money for theaters and smoking and other things. Now she is preparing to be baptized. I also had my vices, but I am abandoning them all to give myself to Christ."

This lady has been baptized and is now one of the most active members of the church.—*The Promoter*.

Do and Dare

"Tis just to be and do and dare;
Nor lose our faith and 'vim';
And do the task that's nearest us,
And leave results to Him.
Although the task is not the one
Which we would like to do,
It leads to others further on,
Which now are out of view."

GOD HOLDS US RESPONSIBLE

The confusion that fills the whole world today and the calamities by land and sea, together with the confederating of every evil agency to make war against the fundamental principles of righteousness and of the Word of God are a constant reminder to us that the end is very near and that we must prepare for that which is so soon to break upon us as a great surprise. "GOD EXPECTS PERSONAL SERVICE FROM EVERY ONE TO WHOM HE HAS ENTRUSTED A KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH FOR THIS TIME."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 30. Two words stand out very prominently in this quotation: "God expects" and "He has entrusted." If God is counting on us, brethren, let us not disappoint Him. We alone have a knowledge of the truth for this day and surely God will hold us responsible. L. L. HUTCHINSON.

Kingston, Jamaica.

Regularity in Eating

"Regularity in eating is of vital importance. There should be a specified time for each meal. At this time, let every one eat what the system requires, and then take nothing more until the next meal. There are many who eat when the system needs no food, at irregular intervals, and between meals, because they have not sufficient strength of will to resist inclination. When traveling, some are constantly nibbling if anything eatable is within their reach. This is very injurious. If travelers would eat regularly of food that is simple and nutritious, they would not feel so great weariness, nor suffer so much from sickness.

"Another pernicious habit is that of eating just before bedtime. The regular meals may have been taken; but because there is a sense of faintness, more food is eaten. By indulgence, this wrong practise becomes a habit, and often so firmly fixed that it is thought impossible to sleep without food. As a result of eating late suppers, the digestive process is continued

through the sleeping hours. But though the stomach works constantly, its work is not properly accomplished. The sleep is often disturbed with unpleasant dreams, and in the morning the person awakes unrefreshed, and with little relish for breakfast. When we lie down to rest, the stomach should have its work all done, that it, as well as the other organs of the body, may enjoy rest.

"Many who discard flesh-meats and other gross and injurious articles think that because their food is simple and wholesome they may indulge appetite without restraint, and they eat to excess, sometimes to glutony. This is an error. The digestive organs should not be burdened with a quantity or quality of food which will tax the system to appropriate.

"Sometimes the result of overeating is felt at once. In other cases there is no sensation of pain; but the digestive organs lose their vital force, and the foundation of physical strength is undermined.

"We should not provide for the Sabbath a more liberal supply or a greater variety of food than for other days. Instead of this, the food should be more simple, and less should be eaten, in order that the mind may be clear and vigorous to comprehend spiritual things. A clogged stomach means a clogged brain. The most precious words may be heard and not appreciated, because the mind is confused by an improper diet. By overeating on the Sabbath, many do more than they think, to unfit themselves for receiving the benefit of its sacred opportunities.

"And let the meals, however simple, be palatable and attractive. Especially in families where there are children, it is well, on the Sabbath, to provide something that will be regarded as a treat, something the family do not have every day.

"Some wish that an exact rule could be prescribed for their diet. They overeat, and then regret it, and so they keep thinking about what they eat and drink. This is not as it should be. One person can not lay down an exact rule for another. Every one should exercise reason and self-control and should act from principle.

"Our bodies are Christ's purchased possession, and we are not at liberty to do with them as we please. All who understand the laws of health should realize their obligation to obey these, which God has established in their being. Obedience to the laws of health is to be made a matter of personal duty. We ourselves must suffer the results of violated law. We must individually answer to God for our habits and practises. Therefore the question with us is not, 'What is the world's practise?' but, 'How shall I as an individual treat the habitation that God has given me?'—*Ministry of Healing*, pp. 300-310.

EXTENDING EXTENSION FUNDS

Truly, "mighty oaks from little acorns grow." From the humble effort of a few colporteurs to make a "big day" excel all other days, has grown the world wide Missions Extension Fund Big Week plan. And how quickly has the idea grown to its present proportions! Hardly a full decade has been consumed in the making of a Big Week history.

It was in 1920 at the Fall Council that the first Big Week to enlist the laity was definitely planned and the first Big Week effort was launched in 1921. Approximately \$45,000.00 resulted from that first Big Week; and it was suggested that \$500,000.00 for the extension of the publishing work around the world be raised in five years. Before Big Week was five years old the plan was broadened to include educational and medical enterprises along with extension of the publishing work. And so ten years are being rounded out with the 1931 Big Week.

Only the heavenly recorder can accurately chronicle the full story of the achievements of this extension plan.

Profits from the sale of millions of books and periodicals by many thousands of workers and lay members, together with gifts, large and small, have contributed the grand total of \$1,650,000, including the 1931 budget. This fund has been expended for the benefit of 350 publishing, medical and educational enterprises scattered in every division of our world field.

In the 1931 Big Week we are helping to bear the increasing burden of sustaining native workers in many lands, and the budget also lists a total of seventy-six publishing, medical, and educational items.

So the Big Week is greatly helping to extend the work in all the world. Help us make the Big Week in 1931 the best of all.

J. A. STEVENS.

Washington, D. C.

O'ER LAND AND SEA

Constantly our workers and believers are traveling over land and sea. In April we got a glimpse at the division office of Pastor E. W. Thurber and family on their way to the homeland for a well-earned furlough. With them was Sarah Escandon, one of our Missionary Volunteers in Colombia. She joined Sister Chapman here and is now in San Jose, Costa Rica, to study further to become a stronger worker for the Master.

As April was slipping away we had the pleasure of welcoming Brother and Sister F. A. Brower and little Retha back to the division after their furlough in America. Brother Brower is the new field missionary secretary for the Panama Conference.

The Panama seventeenth conference session was a good one. It was especially noticeable that many of the delegates were young people. One of these was Brother Pedro Montero, the first Guaymi Indian ever to attend an Adventist conference. Another was a young man who had not been an Adventist more than about nine months, but he had already earned two scholarships and immediately after the meeting, he left for our school in Costa Rica.

Pastor W. E. Baxter and Brother W. D. Kieser from the union office attended the Panama conference session. We were glad to have Brother Baxter with us at the division office for a short time during this visit to the isthmus. Professor W. L. Adams, in company with

Brethren Baxter and Kieser, left the isthmus, April 29. He went to Costa Rica in the interest of the educational work. After a short visit to San Jose, Brother Adams sailed on to Cuba to study with our workers there the problem of training our children and youth for the Lord. May 1, Brother F. L. Harrison sailed for Cuba to audit the union books and to attend the union committee meeting.

May 7, all the members of the division family who were left "by the stuff" waved good-bye to Pastor and Sister C. E. Wood as they left to answer the Macedonian call from Mexico. Pastor E. E. Andross bade farewell to the division office a few days later to attend the union committee meetings in Cuba and Mexico.

WE ARE NEARING HOME

We are homeward bound. We are journeying toward a goodly land, a land where sorrow and death are unknown. Here on earth we are strangers and pilgrims; but there we shall forever be at home. Here we often meet with trials and disappointments; but when we reach that land, all our troubles will be over. Our Saviour has gone to prepare the place for us, and we know that His workmanship is fairer than any palaces of earth. The New Jerusalem is our home, and that land where sin has never entered is our resting place. We are marching homeward to Zion, the place of our inheritance. We are homeward bound.

Not only so, but we are nearing home. Just before us is the Promised Land, a land where trials never come. We can already see the gleams of the golden morning. We can almost hear the songs from that better land wafted across us, and our hearts beat with anticipation and holy joy as we press forward on our way. Only a few more years will roll, a few more storms rage, a few more struggles come, and we shall be forever at home in that peaceful land of love. We are nearing home.

—N. P. Neilsen.

SAD NEWS

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Brother and Sister Borrowdale of Porto Rico, who recently received a message from their home in the States that Sister Crummel, the devoted mother of Sister Borrowdale, was knocked down by an automobile and died two days later. In spite of the shock this has meant to our brother and sister, they take comfort from the thought that God still has charge of His own and that Sister Crummel sleeps in Jesus, awaiting the Life-giver.

And others have been called to mourn. In a recent letter from Pastor and Sister D. A. Parsons we learn of the sudden death of Brother Parsons' mother. We long for the day when there will be no more death and partings.

CHANGE IN THE DIVISION OFFICE

The division committee has been looking for someone to take up the reins of leadership in the Mexican Union, laid down last September by Pastor D. A. Parsons and carried since then by the division leader. It was a hard place to fill; but after much prayer and counsel, the Lord directed all minds to Pastor C. E. Wood, who has long served the division as its efficient and enthusiastic field and Home Missionary secretary. It was with much regret that we voted to release him from that position, for we shall greatly miss both Brother and Sister Wood from our circle. But at the same time we rejoice that Mexico is to have the benefit of their years of successful, loyal and devoted service for the Master in this and other lands.

And in our loss of these noble workers we thank God that He is sending others who have proved themselves equally devoted to God's precious cause. Pastor L. V. Finster, who has given thirty years of successful service to the Master in the mission field, has accepted the call to this division to fill the place that Pastor Wood has just left. We heartily welcome Brother and Sister Finster to our midst. Brother Finster has been here for some time and is already busy in the field; and we trust that before many months we shall have the pleasure of welcoming Sister Finster.

Our earnest prayers go out to all these workers. May God grant them ever increasing success as they press forward in His service.

OBITUARY

Cottrell.—Mrs. Leonorah Cottrell died at her home on Corn Island, March 7, 1931 at the age of about seventy-eight years. As a native of Grand Cayman, she came to this island where she accepted the truth under the labors of Pastor J. A. Reid and wife. During evangelistic efforts here in 1915 she and her husband were baptized. She leaves two sons and one daughter to mourn their loss. She was a loyal, faithful Christian, and now rests awaiting the call to life on that great day. FRED KELLEY.

Corn Island, Nicaragua.

DIVISION DIRECTORY

E. E. Andross	- - - -	President
F. L. Harrison	- - - -	Secretary-Treasurer
L. V. Finster	- - - -	Field and Home Miss. Sec'y
W. A. Bergherm	- - - -	Field Miss. Sec'y
W. L. Adams	- - - -	Educational and S. S. Sec'y
Mrs. E. E. Andross	- - - -	Miss. Vol. Sec'y
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INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

Editor—MRS. E. E. ANDROSS

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CALENDAR

Sabbath School Rally Day	June 13
Big Week	June 20-27
Educational Day	July 11
Messenger Day	August 15
Week of Sacrifice	November 21-28
Week of Prayer	December 12-19