



The Inter-American Division MESSENGER

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No. 11

FACING THE CRISIS

Before the servant of the Lord, Mrs. E. G. White, died, she was led to utter the following solemn warning:—"I see a crisis before us and the Lord calls for His laborers to come into line. Every soul should now stand in a position of deeper, truer consecration to God than during the years that have passed." No doubt the present situation we face in our world work constitutes at least a part of the crisis she saw. Truly it is the most serious condition we have ever faced in our work. Hitherto we have been able to maintain our rapidly multiplying missionary outposts throughout the world. Other societies have had to retrench on almost every field, but the Advent people have held all ground taken and continued to advance year by year. We have made no retreats and have abandoned none of our outposts for lack of means.

But we now face the crisis. We had hoped that it might be averted but it is upon us. The decrease in mission funds due to the world financial depression has become so serious that it seems inevitable that our mission staff will have to be reduced. The last statement issued by the General Conference treasurer estimates that the income to the mission fund this year will be much less than our regular annual appropriation to the fields.

In an effort to meet the situation, wage reductions have been made in almost every field as well as by the General Conference staff, but this is not adequate to meet the situation. Unless far greater and immediate relief is found, the only alternative will be reduction in the mission staff. Even though this should happen we know that it will be no evidence that God has forsaken His cause, for He will eventually make it triumph; still we believe that a serious retrenchment in our world work would bring great sorrow and disappointment to all our believers. We trust that it may even yet be averted.

To help meet the present crisis the General Conference Committee earnestly appeals to every worker and layman in our ranks for a 100 per cent co-operation in the coming "Week of Sacrifice," the date of which is set for November 21 to 28. If every member of our churches around the world would at that time bring to the treasury a special offering equal to their full income of that week, it would go very far toward meeting the situation.

When we faced a somewhat similar situation in the autumn of 1922, the "Week of Sacrifice" offering saved the day and our work was not only maintained but advanced. Why should it not be so again? It can be if every one will bear his full share of responsibility in this hour.

What is given in the "Week of Sacrifice" offering should, of course, be in addition to what is given in other offerings during the year, and to what is gathered in the Harvest Ingathering work. This is a special sacrifice gift to be made by our own people. Every denominational employee is urged to co-operate fully by giving his full week's income to this fund and in encouraging others to do likewise. We earnestly appeal also to every believer to join our laboring force in this sacrifice. Come, brethren and sisters; the cause which we love so dearly is in difficulty. It needs your help, and we feel sure that you will not fail to respond. Shall it not be true of this people now that "every soul" shall "stand in a position of deeper, truer consecration to God than during the years that have passed"? Only thus can His cause be saved from reproach and only thus can we ourselves be clear before Him.

W. H. BRANSON.

Washington, D. C.

The Time of Trouble

No. 3

It is in this life that we are to separate sin from us, through faith in the atoning blood of Christ. Our precious Saviour invites us to join ourselves to Him, to unite our weakness to His strength, our ignorance to His wisdom, our unworthiness to His merits. God's providence is the school in which we are to learn the meekness and lowliness of Jesus. The Lord is ever setting before us, not the way we would choose, which seems easier and pleasanter to us, but the true aims of life. It rests with us to co-operate with the agencies which Heaven employs in the work of conforming our characters to the divine model. None can neglect or defer this work but at the most fearful peril to their souls.

The apostle John in vision heard a loud voice in heaven exclaiming, "Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." Fearful are the scenes which call forth this exclamation from the heavenly voice. The wrath of Satan increases as his time grows short, and his work of deceit and destruction will reach its culmination in the time of trouble.

Fearful sights of a supernatural character will soon be revealed in the heavens, in token of the power of miracle-working demons. The spirits of devils will go forth to the kings of the earth and to the whole world, to fasten them in deception, and urge them on to unite with Satan in his last struggle against the government of heaven. By these agencies, rulers and subjects will be alike deceived. Persons will arise pretending to be Christ Himself, and claiming the title and worship which belong to the world's Redeemer. They will perform wonderful miracles of healing, and will profess to have revelations from heaven contradicting the testimony of the Scriptures.

As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air, "Christ has come! Christ has come!" The people prostrate themselves in adoration before

him, while he lifts up his hands, and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed His disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. He declares that those who persist in keeping holy the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth. This is the strong, almost overwhelming delusion. Like the Samaritans who were deceived by Simon Magus, the multitudes, from the least to the greatest, give heed to these sorceries, saying, This is "the great power of God."

But the people of God will not be misled. The teachings of this false

Love and Sacrifice

The love expressed on Calvary should be received, strengthened, and diffused among our churches. Shall we not do all we can to give power to the principles which Christ brought to this world? Shall we not strive to establish and give efficiency to the benevolent enterprises which are now called for without delay? As you stand before the cross, and see the Prince of Heaven dying for you, can you seal your heart saying, "No; I have nothing to give"?

Meet around the cross of Calvary in self-sacrifice and self-denial. God will bless you as you do your best. As you approach the throne of grace, as you find yourself bound to this throne by the golden chain let down from heaven to earth, to draw men from the pit of sin, your heart will go out in love for your brethren and sisters who are without God and without hope in the world.—*"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 256.*

christ are not in accordance with the Scriptures. His blessing is pronounced upon the worshipers of the beast and his image, the very class upon whom the Bible declares that God's unmingled wrath shall be poured out.

And, furthermore, Satan is not permitted to counterfeit the manner of Christ's advent. The Saviour has warned His people against deception upon this point, and has clearly foretold the manner of His second coming. "There shall arise false christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. . . . Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, He is in the desert; go not forth: behold, He is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even

unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." This coming, there is no possibility of counterfeiting. It will be universally known—witnessed by the whole world.

Only those who have been diligent students of the Scriptures, and who have received the love of the truth, will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive. By the Bible testimony these will detect the deceiver in his disguise. To all, the testing time will come. By the sifting of temptation, the genuine Christian will be revealed. Are the people of God now so firmly established upon His word that they would not yield to the evidence of their senses? Would they, in such a crisis, cling to the Bible, and the Bible only? Satan will, if possible, prevent them from obtaining a preparation to stand in that day. He will so arrange affairs as to hedge up their way, entangle them with earthly treasures, cause them to carry a heavy, wearisome burden, that their hearts may be overcharged with the cares of this life, and the day of trial may come upon them as a thief.

As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment-keepers shall withdraw the protection of government, and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places. Many will find refuge in the strongholds of the mountains. Like the Christians of the Piedmont valleys, they will make the high places of the earth their sanctuaries, and will thank God for the "munition of rocks." But many of all nations, and of all classes, high and low, rich and poor, black and white, will be cast into the most unjust and cruel bondage. The beloved of God pass weary days, bound in chains, shut in by prison bars, sentenced to be slain, some apparently left to die of starvation in dark and loathsome dungeons. No human ear is open to hear their moans; no human hand is ready to lend them help.

Will the Lord forget His people in this trying hour? Did He forget faithful Noah when judgments were visited upon the antediluvian world? Did He forget Lot when the fire came down from heaven to consume the cities of the plain? Did He forget Joseph surrounded by idolaters in Egypt? Did He forget Elijah when the oath of Jezebel threatened him with the fate of the prophets of Baal? Did He forget Jeremiah in the dark and dismal pit of his prison-house? Did He forget the three worthies in the fiery furnace? or Daniel in the den of lions?

"Zion said, Jehovah hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that

she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of My hands." The Lord of host has said, "He that toucheth you, toucheth the apple of His eye."

Though enemies may thrust them into prison, yet dungeon walls cannot cut off the communication between their souls and Christ. One who sees their every weakness, who is acquainted with every trial, is above all earthly powers; and angels will come to them in lonely cells, bringing light and peace from heaven. The prison will be as a palace; for the rich in faith dwell there, and the gloomy walls will be lighted up with heavenly light, as when Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises at midnight in the Philippian dungeon.

God's judgments will be visited upon those who are seeking to oppress and destroy His people. His long forbearance with the wicked emboldens men in transgression, but their punishment is none the less certain and terrible because it is long delayed. "The Lord shall rise up as in Mount Perazim, He shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that He may do His work, His strange work; and bring to pass His act, His strange act." To our merciful God the act of punishment is a strange act. "As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked." The Lord is "merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, . . . forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." Yet He will "by no means clear the guilty." "The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked." By terrible things in righteousness He will vindicate the authority of His downtrodden law. The severity of the retribution awaiting the transgressor may be judged by the Lord's reluctance to execute justice. The nation with which He bears long, and which He will not smite until it has filled up the measure of its iniquity in God's account, will finally drink the cup of wrath unmixed with mercy.

When Christ ceases His intercession in the sanctuary, the unmingled wrath threatened against those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark, will be poured out. The plagues upon Egypt when God was about to deliver Israel, were similar in character to those more terrible and extensive judgments which are to fall upon the world just before the final deliverance of God's people. . . . [Read Rev. 16: 2-6, 8, 9.]

By condemning the people of God to death, they have as truly incurred the guilt of their blood as if it had been shed by their hands. In like manner Christ declared the Jews of His time guilty of all the blood of holy men which had

been shed since the days of Abel; for they possessed the same spirit, and were seeking to do the same work, with these murderers of the prophets.—"Great Controversy," pages 625-628.

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"WHAT MUST WE DO?"

It was in June that Brother Willoughby and his corps of helpers began to erect our tabernacle on George Street, Belleville, Barbados,—a part of Bridgetown. The Lord opened the way for us to get a fine spot just across the street from the Catholic convent. In a little less than two weeks the tabernacle was ready for use; and Sabbath, June 27, we divided our congregation at King Street, which was so large that all could not get inside the church. About half of them went to the tabernacle for services, so now we have two large companies in Bridgetown worshipping God on holy time.

The next Sunday evening we began services for the public and continued every night for six weeks. The attendance was good throughout in spite of its being the wettest July that Barbados has had in fifty years. It rained nearly every day during the whole effort, but He, Who, while on earth, said to the waves, "Peace be still," was watching over His work and allowed it to rain only twice during the time of the services, and then only for a very short time. But the next week after the effort closed it rained every evening. I never saw a clearer demonstration of the Master's control of the elements.

The tabernacle will seat about 400 people, but there were at least 600 in attendance the first night. Our average attendance during the week was from 400 to 450 with a Sunday night attendance of 600. This did not decrease during the testing truths, but held up until the last. It was a marvel to the other churches how we could get such crowds during the rainy season, as the people usually will not come out for fear of getting wet. But as one man put it: "We were forced to come." The Spirit of the living God seemed to compel them to come and listen, and the same Spirit moved upon their hearts until they said, as did the men of old to Peter and the other apostles: "Men and brethren, what must we do to be saved?" As a result we have a class of seventy preparing for baptism, and by the time this reaches you it will be much larger.

We were assisted by Oswald Walker and Miss Mable Baptiste of Bridgetown, whom the conference put on full time. Besides these the members of the Bridgetown church threw their whole

souls into the work. Every minute they could spare from their daily toil for bread, they spent visiting and holding Bible readings with their neighbors.

Mrs. Gardiner led the music. It was quite a novelty in Barbados for a lady to lead out. Some of the neighbors would shut off their radios and sit in their galleries and listen during the entire song service. God blest in this part of the service also.

Pastor Baptiste baptized six Sunday morning, August 16, and left Barbados August 26 for his new field of labor. May God give him many souls for his hire in Montserrat.

Pray for the work in Barbados.
 L. H. GARDINER.
Bridgetown, Barbados.

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CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION
 Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica

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

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WITH THE SUFFERERS IN BELIZE

In the following letter written to Brother and Sister W. E. Baxter, Sister C. B. Sutton gives a vivid word picture of the destructive hurricane and tidal wave that brought such terrible disaster to Belize, British Honduras:

"I am writing you by air this morning to hurry on a few lines. I understand there is air mail every day for both north and south, so this should reach you in a couple of days. The scene before us is so desolate and sad that I hardly know where to begin to tell a little of what we have experienced in the last few days. But it is appalling, indeed. We have experienced a most terrible hurricane which has left desolation and devastation everywhere. Belize certainly is a city of desolation and pitiful to behold! There is not a house standing that has not been damaged to some extent. Across from our place on the Dumps there is nothing left but a huge pile of debris and wreckage. Yesterday noon it was officially reported that the dead already found numbered 1,500, and hundreds under fallen buildings are not included in the list. It is believed that the number of dead will reach 2,000 or more. Folks, I cannot find words to explain the ruin that has been wrought; but it is great indeed.

"You are deeply concerned, I know, about our safety and our home, so I will tell you of our deliverance. We were all at home when the wind began to blow, except Charley, [her husband] who is on the Spanish coast with Brother Cole. Brother and Sister Henriquez had arrived a few days before on their way to Corozal; and, I assure you, we appreciated having them with us in such a time of distress. The morning of the tenth was rather dark and cloudy and there was a soft west wind, but toward noon it developed considerably, and we then realized that a storm was on. How the house did shake! It seemed to us that each gust of wind was the last for our home, but the worst was yet to come. After an hour there was a calm of about fifteen minutes. During this time we set a little lunch on the table but did not even have a chance to partake of it, as there was disaster just ahead.

"Eleanor [the daughter] happened to look out through our front door and saw the neighbor's yard flooded; and, as we went out on the porch to investigate, we found our yard in the same condition. You know how near we are to the sea. The water was flowing in with power. We decided to leave the house and go a little more inland as the water was rising fast. When we went down the water was already knee deep

and rising higher as we walked. Brother Henriquez carried Arthur [Brother Sutton's little boy]. We were able only to cross the street. There we found shelter in the home of one of our sisters. Suddenly the hurricane in all of its power burst upon us. The wind blew at the rate of 160 miles an hour so you can form an idea of the terrible speed. Buildings all around us crashed and fell to the ground. St. Andrews' Hall is down flat (You will remember the hall right across from us where they did so much dancing). It seemed that any moment ours would crumble; but we prayed on and reminded the Lord of His promises. Then we trusted. That was all we could do. We sang "Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus" while the water kept rising higher and higher. We knew that unless the Lord intervened we would all perish. The water rose almost in line with the veranda when suddenly a strange thing happened. The wind changed its course from north to south, resulting in a drawing back of the water that was gushing in so rapidly. We watched it closely and our hearts leaped with gratitude when we realized that the waters were surely abating. The wind continued to blow violently just the same and continued its work of destruction, but the house we were in stood.

"You will be even more astonished to know that our house is the only other building standing intact in the neighborhood where we live. The front stairway is off a few inches, the north-east corner of the house is leaning some, and one pillar is loose, but everything else is intact. It was indeed a source of strength to us to look out and see our home still standing. We praise God indeed for His wonderful care. When we came home at about 7:30 that evening we found the book case open and several of our books on the floor. Upstairs in the office the iron safe had been rolled off twenty-four inches from where it was standing. Our piano box under the house is in the neighbor's yard and all of our chickens, except one, are gone. We are very thankful for such deliverance as we have had.

"Our chapel still stands. The large two-story house right next to it is destroyed and the top floor is right against the side of our chapel but the little building stands firm and not a pillar loose. The little room to the back, where Brother Garbutt stayed, is broken down but that is about all the damage done. It is really the only place standing on that block. Our members are all safe but one. Sister Reid and her two babies we have not been able to locate and we feel pretty sure they were drowned. Her husband is in Castilla and she has been here for several months. She has been a faithful sister and has been trying to live a Christian life. Every one else is safe as far as we have been able to learn.

"Several boats in the harbor went down including the 'Pasajero' and the 'Brunswick.' The crew of the latter has not yet been found.

"The American Consul was here yesterday, inquiring of our safety. I have not heard from Charley since he left Belize a week ago today. I am very anxious to get word from him. I understand that the coast was not hit. I wired him at La Ceiba that we are safe. The lines have been broken, but there is communication now.

"Well, this is just a little report. I thought I would send it along as the plane is leaving. There is so much to write about that I have barely touched the conditions! It is heart-rending to look around and see what havoc has been wrought. The Methodists have suffered greatly. Mr. Fowler, the second in charge of their mission, and the wife of the director are dead. All of their buildings are down to the ground. The Anglican churches are down also. The large Catholic college for boys crashed, killing 125 boys and six priests. There are over a hundred buried under the Methodist church. Conditions are terrible. Our members are destitute of home and clothing. Very few were able to save any of their clothing. Some are staying at the chapel.

"I must not write further today as Brother Henriquez is ready to take the mail down. I hope that it will be possible for Mr. Sutton to

come home soon as I am sure he is needed here at this time. Trust that this will find all well and of good courage there in San Jose. We are all as well as can be expected under such unfavorable conditions, and are very grateful for what the Lord has done for us. With kindest Christian greetings to all."

PRaise GOD FOR DELIVERANCE

Below are a few paragraphs from a letter which Brother E. C. Henriquez wrote to Brother W. E. Baxter: These add a little more to the sad picture already sketched by Sister Sutton's pen:

"We are truly thankful to the Lord for His mighty deliverance. We can clearly see the good hand of our God in sparing our lives.

"September 10 was a day that has been celebrated in Belize for many years as their most important holiday. As usual everything was organized for a grand time. The previous night a good exhibit of fireworks was displayed. On the morning of the tenth, although somewhat rainy, the lodges marched. At twelve the school children, preparing to march, lined up before the Wesleyan church; but it began to rain so they were not able to march. Many of them took shelter in the Wesleyan church and most of them perished there.

"The storm continued in its fury for more than two hours. Then began to abate. What a sight greeted our eyes! Desolation everywhere. As far as I have seen or heard, there is not a single house that has not received some damage. I think I can safely say that fully three-fourths of the houses are total wrecks.

"The death toll is very high. Yesterday forenoon there were 1,500 reported dead. Hundreds of others are missing. As far as I can ascertain, the total may reach two thousand. The population is about 12,000. This is the worst hurricane that I have ever heard of. Thousands of those who are living are entirely destitute.

"God has been merciful to us. Our little church is standing firm. Much of the zinc roofing is blown off and the small room attached lost one side due to other buildings being blown onto it. As far as I know every person has suffered some loss. The large stores have lost heavily. The water entered every house that was not five feet off the ground and damaged everything that the water reached. While writing this letter, word was sent to us that another gale of 120 miles per hour was coming. We stopped and besought the Lord and He heard our cry for in less than half an hour later, we received word that the course of the storm had changed and we were safe from that one. Praise the Lord.

"The dead bodies are being burned as fast as possible. The city is getting very offensive. Heaps of dead fowls are seen in different places. Men are working hard to get things cleared up. We are truly in the end of time."

DELIVERED FROM VENEMOUS SNAKES

There are many things out here in these wilds for which we must thank the Lord. One of them is His help against snakes and other venomous creatures. More than once our good Saviour has saved us from snake bites. We have killed fifteen bad snakes in and around our house here at Chichica.

One was in the house all night with us, and we killed it the next morning. It measured nearly four feet. Some nights ago as I was going from one house to another at Cerro Iglesia, I came near stepping on one. It was only because something told me to turn on

my flash light at the right moment that I escaped being bitten by that ugly viper. I was about two feet from it.

A little before this I came near to a chameleon and only the mercy of God saved me from a bite on my face. The distance was only a foot when I saw it in time to pull back my horse.

About three weeks ago, my eldest daughter, Carlota, was going to the creek for some water just before dark. She was gazing here and there when she happened to look down just in time to take her foot off a huge six-foot viper all ready to bite. She stepped back, called to the house and my wife ran to help her.

Sometimes it is very dangerous to attack such an animal with a stick, but my wife hated to see the snake get away and so went after it. She struck it next to the neck at the first blow. The strange thing about it was that this snake, in spite of being wide awake, did not try to get away until it was struck. My wife expected me the next day and kept the snake for me to see it. When I saw the flat V-shaped head, I felt very grateful to my Saviour for saving my daughter from what might have meant death.

We are getting along nicely in spite of snakes and other enemies. Three Sabbaths ago we were glad to have Chief Jose Clemente Luis Jimenez among our Sabbath school visitors. He was made paramount chief recently with the title of Governor General for this territory. He is a nice young man and can read and write. Ten days ago in company with Brother Pedro Montero, I paid him a visit. He treated us in the very best way he could. When I asked him how he was getting along with the Message, he showed me a copy of "Easy Steps" and said, "I am working with this now" and began to read to the people who had come to him on legal matters.

Our school at Cerro Iglesia is getting along nicely. We were glad to have Pastor Lorntz and Brother Brower with us for a few days recently. Our candidates for baptism are twenty in number just now, but there are hopes of about five more before the end of the year.

We have two more groups of interested ones who are asking us to come and help them but this we cannot do just now for lack of some one to teach them. Please remember us in your prayers.

ISHMAEL ELLIS.
Chichica, Panama.

BY FASTING AND PRAYER

Stann Creek, where we held an evangelistic effort, is a small village about thirty miles south of Belize. The interest was very good from the first. It was the first time a gospel tent had ever been pitched in this village, and the people enjoyed coming to it. After we

had been preaching about two weeks, a heavy wind came up in the middle of the night and blew the tent down. It was the tail end of a cyclone, which, about nine miles west of Stann Creek, had destroyed thirty-four houses. We were very thankful that it did not reach Stann Creek in its full strength.

Brother Garbutt, Miss Elwin and my daughter Eleanor assisted me in the meetings. Brother Garbutt had to be away most of the time as there was no one in Belize to look after the work and we have a large class there receiving instruction prior to baptism. We continued the meetings in Stann Creek for eight weeks and there was a very good interest manifested on the part of the people during the time. There were about fifteen keeping the Sabbath at the close of the meetings; and we hope to see a good church organized in the near future. This week I received a letter from Brother Garbutt and he says the interest is keeping up and he is of good courage.

At the close of the first quarter of this year four were baptized here in Belize and on the 28th of June at the close of the second quarter five more were buried with their Lord in baptism. We have twenty here in the special Bible class and we hope to see a number take this step at the close of the third quarter.

The work in Barrios is moving along nicely. Brother Bourne writes that the church is of good courage. On my way to the union meeting, I had the privilege

of baptizing at that place ten who are now rejoicing in this blessed truth. From La Ceiba also comes the cheering word from Brother Nebblett that a special Bible class has been organized for those preparing for baptism.

Brother Henriques writes that, in Coxen Hole, there are about six interested in the Message and two of these are planning to be baptized soon. We hope that the others will see their way clear to come along with us.

We are of the best courage in this field and we believe that the Lord will go before us in winning many souls to this great work. Sabbath, August 29, was set apart as a day of fasting and prayer. A little program to encourage our people to be faithful in tithing was sent out for that day of fasting and prayer. We are very anxious that not one shall become careless in bringing to the Lord that which is His own in these pressing hours of financial depression. Omens on every hand tell us that we are nearing home. Let us not slacken on the very border of the Promised Land. Now is the time for us to be strict in Sabbath-keeping, tithing, and in improving every effort and opportunity in our missionary endeavors. The harvest is great and workers are few, but let us gather while the probationary sun lingers on the horizon.

C. B. SUTTON.

Belize, British Honduras.

Soon after Pastor Sutton wrote the above article, probation closed for many in Honduras.

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

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

AT THE CAPITAL

In a personal letter, written to Pastor L. V. Finster, September 7, Pastor H. E. Baasch says:

"A few weeks ago you wrote me about the Calendar Campaign; and you will be interested to know that we have devoted some time to this since arriving in the capital. I preached on the question before a full house the first Sunday I was here; and our members are active gathering signatures for the petition. Some have been quite successful.

"*El Tiempo*, Colombia's first paper, has accepted an article which will be published this week in four instalments. I was also privileged to give an address in Spanish over the radio last Saturday night. Telephone calls came in almost immediately, saying the lecture was well understood.

"We are arranging for a visit with the president of the republic. His secretary thinks he can arrange it for Wednesday or Thursday of this week. In our address to him we refer to the Calendar issue; we also shall leave in his hands a copy of the General Conference petition to the League of Nations. As soon as I have a few copies of that petition prepared, Brother Kinzer and I will visit the local office of the League, leaving with them a copy of the petition and copies of 'The Story of a Lost Day.'

"I shall remain in Bogota another week to help Brother Westphal in the Harvest Ingathering work.

"You will be glad to know that we have found a very suitable place for a church building; and after seeing the architect a few minutes ago, I may add that he would be able to build us a fine little church, seating 350 people, for \$3,000."

Pastor Trummer, who is toiling alone in Colombia writes encouragingly. His wife recently had a major operation in America and is making a good recovery.



Bogota (Colombia) Sabbath school, September, 1931

MEXICAN UNION MISSION

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C. E. WOOD - - - - - Superintendent
J. G. PETTEY - - - - - Secy.-Treas.**WORTH WHILE BOOK WORK**

Some time ago it was the writer's privilege to visit our brethren in the state of Veracruz. One Sabbath we went to a village about one half hour's ride from the port of Veracruz. I had never visited that school before, but as we were walking down the main street, we met a young lady who had a bouquet of roses in her hand. She seemed quite interested to know who the newcomers were and was intently watching us. As we passed her she smilingly said, "You are one of us, aren't you?" Upon assuring her that we were Adventists looking for the church, she replied that she too was an Adventist and was on her way to Sabbath school, and would take us there. Whatever the race, there is a similarity when the love of Christ enters the heart.

It was a pleasure to greet these faithful brethren who are looking for the soon coming Saviour. Upon inquiry Brother Martinez told us of his conversion. He, with his wife and family of ten, had never read the Bible. About a year ago one of our colporteurs canvassed this village and sold him "Patriarchs and Prophets" in Spanish.

Since their children are in the college in Veracruz, the mother stays part of the time with them and the rest with her husband at home. It happened that when the book was delivered, she was in Veracruz. He glanced through it, and, thinking that she might be interested, he sent it to her.

Some time elapsed, and one week-end when he went to visit his family, he was surprised on Saturday to receive a *seca* (dry), or warmed-over dinner. When he asked her why, she replied: "You sent me the book in which it says that Saturday is the Sabbath. I cook all my meals on Friday now, and keep the Sabbath. Didn't you read the book before you sent it to me?" He had to acknowledge that he only glanced over it; but he promised to take it back home and read it carefully. As a result of this he is now the superintendent of our Sabbath school in El Tejar, Veracruz.

They have dedicated one of the rooms in their home to the services, and while they have only known the truth about six months, they are faithful and are seeking more light daily. They are interesting their neighbors and friends in the study of the Third Angel's Message.

Satan has tried to discourage them by sending a man who endeavored to show them that all days are holy and that today one does not pay tithe; still they were able from the Bible to show him that they had the truth, and have remained true to their convictions. May

God bless and keep these dear people faithful till He comes is our prayer.

MRS. F. L. E. ULMER.

Puebla, Puebla, Mexico.



Pedro Cruz and José Quintero

TWO HEROES OF THE CROSS

Sometime ago Pastor C. E. Moon of Mexico told us of the experience of Brother Quintero. A man threatened to kill him. As he was going along the road where the would-be assassin was hidden, he was impressed to stop at a certain place to make a missionary call. Meanwhile the man who had threatened his life attacked another man who was coming along the road, mistaking him for Brother Quintero; but he lost his own life instead of taking that of another.

After a time Brother Quintero learned how wonderfully the Lord had delivered him to go on with his soul-winning work. Brother Quintero is seen at the right in the picture above. On the left stands Brother Cruz, another faithful soul winner. When the truth found Brother Cruz he was a saloon keeper in Tampico and a leader in spiritualism. Speaking of his experience after his conversion, Brother Moon says:

"He began to work for his friends and soon left Tampico for the Huasteca region where he was born. He raised up many companies and was asked to enter the colporteur work in which he had extraordinary success. He has been able to place some of our books on the Message in a number of government offices. At present he is in charge of the work in the state of Morelos. It is wonderful what the Lord can do with a man when he surrenders all to Christ."



"We often do more good by our sympathy than by our labors."

THE GERMANS IN MEXICO

There are thousands of Germans in the Mennonite colony eighty-five miles west of Chihuahua City, Mexico, and since March 1931 our mission has been sending them the German paper, the *Christlicher Hausfreund*. Each month we send out several hundred copies.

The Brookfield Branch of the Pacific Press co-operated with us by making a call to many of the German churches for funds to pay for the papers: This request met with a hearty response,—for which I am very thankful,—and the Press sent us fifty copies each issue. Later this was increased to 100 copies. These we are sending out to the heads of families.

These people are very isolated and do not mix with the people of the country. They have their own school system and their own churches. They have their own farms and make their own living and do not need the help of their brethren financially. They all have their own Bibles, and study them.

Brother Pohle and I passed through their settlements, and stayed over night with a family, and, as I can talk a little German, I was thinking of offering to study the Bible with them. Just about that time the lady handed me the German Bible and I gave them a study on Matthew 24. They were pleased. This is probably the first Bible study ever given in these colonies. Some day, we hope to have a German worker to follow up the interests created by the many papers that are now being circulated among them.

Today I have received a bundle of MESSENGERS and I wish to express my appreciation for this interesting paper. I am thankful for the good articles which the workers send in from time to time, and also for the privilege of contributing to it.

As we learn of the faithful work that is being done in other places, we receive new courage to overcome the many obstacles by which we are confronted in these troublous times.

W. F. MAYERS.

Chihuahua, Chih., Mexico.

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSIONCalle Segunda No. 31, Arroyo Apolo
Havana, CubaA. R. OGDEN - - - - - Superintendent
F. I. MOHR - - - - - Secy.-Treas.**WHEN THE HURRICANE CAME**

From a personal letter received from Brother F. I. Mohr, the Antillian Union secretary-treasurer, we get a glimpse of the destructive hurricane that visited Puerto Rico while he was there auditing the mission books last September. He writes:

"The other day we sent a cable to the division office, saying we were safe, but perhaps you would like to know a little more about what

happened here the night of Thursday, September 10.

"At noon we learned through the Weather Bureau that a hurricane was on its way to San Juan, and that it would strike sometime before midnight. At four o'clock it was very dark. The breeze seemed to change from one direction to another. At six-thirty it began to rain a little. We prepared for the storm by getting the office machines into what seemed the safest place, and putting into the safe all we could of books and vouchers.

"At seven-thirty Brother Borrowdale and I went to see an old sister to help make her as safe as possible. As we returned it began to rain harder. About eight-thirty the wind began to blow from the southeast; then forty-five minutes later the storm broke. The trees began to bend toward the ground, the palm branches to give way, and coconuts dropped everywhere.

"Soon we heard a bang. The roof was giving way. The corrugated iron was torn loose, and the water began to stream into the front room. As quickly as possible we rolled up the rugs. Then we rescued some books. But the piano was soaked, and about ruined, we fear. Sister Borrowdale and the children moved clothing and such like to the west side in the house, while we tried to rescue the beds from getting wet. Piece after piece of the iron roofing banged against the church and other objects. We did all we could to save things. We thought of going to the office to see if all was well there, but, because of the iron roof-pieces flying through the air, we did not venture out.

"About eleven o'clock the wind blew the hardest. Having done all we could, we went to a dry spot, and there we kneeled down and asked God for mercy. When we arose there was a lull in the storm, which lasted for ten or fifteen minutes. Then the wind changed to the northeast, but blew with somewhat less force. At one o'clock the wind had gone down considerably, and Brother Borrowdale stepped out to see if the church was all right. He found it still standing. We thought that would be the first to go. He stepped into the office and found things there were still dry. We were happy for this good report.

"Then we lay down for the remainder of the night, for we were very weary. By two o'clock a few machines passed; and by five we were out picking up the pieces of sheet iron. It took us two hours to replace the thirty-two pieces that had been displaced by the storm.

"Having finished our work on the house, we went to the office. Only a little water had entered. There was more in the school room, for a window upstairs had blown in. There was no school Friday as it was thought best to dry things out first. We were thankful to see the sun come out in full splendor to dry wet clothes, books, etc.

"After breakfast we went to San Juan. On the way to the city we noticed trees down, plate glass blown in, and houses with roofs blown off. It might have been worse, but we are thankful that it was not. God was very good to us; and we thank Him for His protection."



ENCOURAGING FRUITAGE

Encouraging fruitage seems to only await the ingathering throughout the mission fields. Wherever earnest faithful work is being done there is a fruitful harvest.

Sometime ago it was my privilege to spend two weeks at Nassau, Bahamas. Pastor O. P. Reid, our Jamaican minister in that field, during the past two years has held three regular series of meetings in the new church at Grants Town, with a splendid ingathering of souls. Up to this writing forty-one persons have been baptized and there are

nearly thirty in the baptismal class, making about seventy that have accepted the Message in this short period.

But such results would have been impossible without a continuous and persistent effort both publicly and in personal house to house work, for Brother Reid is not only a public speaker but also a most earnest and faithful worker in the homes of the people, going from house to house visiting, praying, and studying with them. Such a combination of faithful service cannot result otherwise than in soul winning and a continuous increase of church membership.

The accompanying cut, which gives only the new believers baptized with those at present in the baptismal class, will give a little idea of the splendid group gathered in to this new church as a result of one minister's work. Other equally encouraging results are developing wherever earnest, continuous endeavor is being put forth for the proclamation of the Message throughout our island field. If every worker would put forth the same earnest, continuous effort as some of our workers are making, we should soon have a baptized membership of more than ten thousand in our Antillian Union Mission. May this good result soon be realized.

Havana, Cuba. A. R. OGDEN.



"It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed."

JAMAICA

Brother Meeker in writing of the Harvest Ingathering campaign over in Jamaica says:

"We are glad to tell you that we are meeting with some success. There has been only one gift of twenty pounds. Pastors Edmed and Hutchinson collected over seven pounds. I went out alone among the Chinese; they tell me that they are giving to the flood relief in China. Sisters Edmed and Grounds worked hard this morning and gathered a little over four pounds.

"With all the troubles coming and many avenues of financial support cut off, it seems that we will be driven to depend on God even more than we ever have before. We are encouraged when we learn that souls are coming into the truth in greater numbers than in years of financial prosperity."



SANTO DOMINGO

It was cheering to read a letter that came from Brother Nygaard, superintendent of the Santo Domingo Mission, the other day. Among other good news items he said:

"God is blessing the work here. Santo Domingo, with the blessing of the Lord, is not doing less than last year. Tithes are a little better than last year—and offerings are too. This is no time for lowering either one. . . . God forbid that we should be careless in regard to tithes or offerings these days. This is just our opportunity to show whether we really love God and His work. . . . It looks as if we shall pass our goal of 150 baptisms this year."

Calendar

Week of Sacrifice	November 21-28
Division Council	Nov. 22 to Dec. 5
Week of Prayer	December 12-19



New believers in Grants Town, Bahamas

O'ER LAND AND SEA

Brother M. E. Lowry, field missionary secretary of the Caribbean Union, sends this encouraging item: "We have just found a company of six here in Trinidad keeping the Sabbath as a result of the reading of 'Great Controversy.' They are the hardest to win of all races represented in our field, too, for they are East Indians."

More and more the airplane is being pressed into service in the Lord's work. Brethren J. A. P. Green and W. A. Bergherm recently went by plane from Haiti to Cuba in the interest of the colporteur work. Surely the airplane is one of the inventions that will help man to co-operate with God in the work that must be done so quickly in these last days.

This month Miss Viola E. Cooke, one of our faithful workers in the division office, is enjoying a well-earned holiday in Costa Rica. We hope she will be greatly benefited by the change.

Sailing on the same boat with Miss Cooke were two new recruits for our school up in Costa Rica, Brother and Sister W. A. Wild. They both speak the Spanish language fluently, and are ready to press forward in service at once. We heartily welcome these young people to our field, and pray that good health, much happiness and increasing success in the Master's service may be their daily portion in Inter-America.

In Mexico City and in Bogota, Colombia, our workers used the radio for acquainting the public with our position in regard to the proposed blank-day calendar. None of us know how large were the audiences to which the Message was given in this way; but what seems to be one evidence of the interest created is the fact that Brother and Sister Wood alone obtained 1,400 signatures against the proposed Calendar in Mexico City. We have not learned of the success of the others there. Colombia sent in a many signatures. So also did Panama.

Pastor C. E. Wood of Mexico also has this cheering message for us: "A report just received from the state of Guerrero says that 700 are keeping the Sabbath in that district. The previous estimate was 250. So it is evident that the Spirit of the Lord is working in a marked way in that part of our field."

Brother F. L. Harrison has passed on to the MESSENGER the following note from a letter from A. A. Davis, superintendent of Cuba:

"Tithe decreased \$2,300 the first seven months. Our people are nearly all without work and are suffering for the necessities of life. These conditions are causing the people to think more seriously about their souls' salvation, and in all parts it is easier to gather crowds

NOVEMBER 21-23?

For some years, one week during the closing part of the year has been named the "Week of Sacrifice." The date for 1931 has been set for November 21-23. As the time has drawn near in past years to give our income for one week, in addition to our regular offerings, we know that it has really seemed impossible to some; but those who have denied themselves and sacrificed in order to give this special offering have received the blessing which the Lord promises.

Last year, in calling attention to the "Week of Sacrifice," we told of the financial condition, especially affecting the income of the Mission Board Treasury. The situation is more serious at this time. When the November MESSENGER reaches you, our leading brethren will be at the Autumn Council where careful study will be given and decisions reached as to what the Mission Board Treasury will be able to appropriate to carry on the work in the Inter-American Division for 1932. According to reports which have come to us we may expect a heavy reduction.

We are making an earnest appeal to each laborer in the division in behalf of the "Week of Sacrifice." Plan, even though seemingly impossible, to contribute the week's income for November 21-23. Our believers, too, are earnestly invited to give their income during this special week of sacrifice. "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself." Prov. 11:24, 25.

F. L. HARRISON.

Balboa, C. Z.

to hear the truth. Sixty-three were baptized during the months of July and August."

Writing September 24, Sister C. B. Sutton gives additional information regarding the terrible hurricane disaster in Belize, Honduras, September, 10, and also a bright picture of the loyalty of our dear people there. She writes thus:

"The dead have gone beyond 2,500 and they are still being found. American navy relief doctors were here for three weeks after the disaster, and certainly did a noble work in caring for the sick and injured. Sister Henriques, and Eleanor went down every day to assist in the

relief work. Over 5,000 were treated during the three weeks.

"In spite of conditions here our dear people have proved loyal to our Sabbath school endeavors. On the thirteenth Sabbath an offering of \$10.51 was given by these poor, homeless followers of the Master. They are also bringing their tithes and offerings in faithfully. Their hearts are profoundly grateful for God's remarkable deliverance."

PROGRESS

It is not possible to record on paper all that has been accomplished for the Master during the first half of 1931; but as the statistical reports have reached us from the unions, we have been encouraged to note the progress made. In the thirty-six organizations of the division on July 1, there were 521 laborers, including ordained ministers, licensed ministers, licensed missionaries, and book and periodical colporteurs. During the first six months there were 973 baptisms and a net gain in membership in the division of 673, making our total membership 16,301. There were 1,593 in the baptismal classes in four of the unions—from the other union we had no report giving the number in the baptismal classes.

With the large number in the baptismal classes and those attending the Sabbath schools, it seems we may expect this to be our largest year in the winning of souls to the truth.

We solicit the prayers of each believer for our workers, that they may put forth earnest effort and accomplish the most possible in carrying the Message to those who have not learned of the plan of salvation and that Jesus is soon to return.

F. L. HARRISON.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

PLEASE WRITE. THANK YOU!

The clerk of the Colon Seventh-day Adventist church, Brother Oswald L. Robinson, Box 900, Cristobal, Canal Zone, would be pleased to have all absent members of the church communicate with him, telling him of their plans regarding their absence and whether they expect to return to Colon.

DIVISION DIRECTORY

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F. L. Harrison	- - - - -	Secretary-Treasurer
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Editor—MRS. E. E. ANDROSS

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