



The Inter-American Division MESSENGER

Our Hearts and Our Destiny

W. R. Elliott

"Behold Thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part Thou shalt make me to know wisdom." Ps. 51:6.

In these words David states the great truth that sincerity and honesty must characterize all our efforts to obey God. Christ states the same great truth in His sermon on the mount in the following words: "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." Matt 5:8. Merely an outward conformity to the letter of the law is not sufficient, and does not satisfy the demands of the law or the gospel. One may obey the letter of the law in the outward life, and yet be entirely out of harmony with its holy and spiritual precepts; for, if a man hate his brother, the Bible declares that he is, in his heart, a murderer. 1 John 3:15. The word of God is a "discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb. 4:12. It looks not merely at the deeds of a man's life, but into his heart; and it measures the man by the truth, the purity, the sincerity, it discovers there.

In the fifteenth Psalm we find the following question: "Lord, who shall abide in Thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in Thy holy hill?" In various forms this question has been asked by many. Here inspiration records the question and gives the answer for our instruction. Listen attentively to the answer of the Spirit: "He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, **AND SPEAKETH THE TRUTH IN HIS HEART.**" In the verses that follow this statement the Spirit goes on to mention a number of things that will be characteristic of such a man. In the twenty-fourth Psalm the question is repeated in a little different form: "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place?" The reply is practically the same: "He that hath clean hands, and **A PURE HEART**; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully."

The life a man lives every day is but the revelation of the condition of his heart. To put it in another way: The deeds of a man's life, as he lives it day by day, are but an expression of the things that are in his heart; for it is

out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaketh. The Master said: "Every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; and a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." Matt. 7:17, 18. Men do not "gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles." Matt. 7:16. This is a law of the natural world. It is because of this law that things produce after their kind. The same law operates in the spiritual world.

No life can be pure until the hidden sources from which that life flows are pure. No fountain can yield pure water, unless its source is pure. Jericho was pleasantly situated, but the waters of the Jericho fountain carried death and barrenness everywhere they went. But, at the word of the prophet, the Lord healed the waters. The sources of the fountain were cleansed by the mighty power of God; and after that only sweet

Thy Dwelling Place

How have I kept Thy temple, Guest Divine—
The house that Thou hast digned to call Thy shrine,
And bought, at such a price, to make it Thine?

How have I watched beside its fivefold gate
Against the crafty foes that lie in wait
And never let their vigilance abate?

Is there one purpose that Thou canst not bless,
Or one desire that I dare not confess,
Or secret thought that Thou dost not possess?

Is there one room in body, spirit, soul,
Shut fast and barred away from Thy control?
Enter Thou in, O Lord! and take the whole.

Scourge from its courts whatever can defile,
Malice and wrath and selfish greed and guile,
Each word and act on which Thou canst not smile;

For Thou Thyself must cleanse Thy dwelling place,
Illumine with the brightness of Thy face,
And furnish with Thine all-sufficient grace.

Enter Thou in and make me all Thine own.
In spirit, soul, and body reign alone,
Without a rival on my being's throne.

—Annie Johnson Flint.

life-giving water flowed from the Jericho fountain. It is so with the heart. If the heart is pure, the life will be pure; and the heart must be pure, otherwise we shall be rejected in the last great day. We must be sincere, we must be genuine, we must be what we appear to be—Christians. In the following lines Cowper has expressed, in a very beautiful way, the thought I want you to get:

"He who seeks a mansion in the sky
Must view his purpose with a steadfast eye;
That prize belongs to none but the sincere,
The least obliquity is fatal here."

God looks upon the heart. This truth is brought out very clearly in the experience of Samuel. He was sent to anoint one of the sons of Jesse to be king over Israel, and when he saw the eldest, the Lord said "Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but **THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART.**" 1 Sam 16:7. The heart must be pure. This is certain; for only the pure in heart can see God, and only those who speak the truth in the heart can dwell in God's holy hill.

But "the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked." Jer. 17:9. Can a man purify a heart like that? "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots?" Jer. 13:23. How can a poor sinner make his own heart pure? How can he purify the fountain of his life, so that there shall flow out of it forever only the things that please God? Over and over, men have tried to do this, but not one has ever succeeded.

"I watch to shun the miry way,
And stanch the springs of guilty thought,
But watch and struggle as I may,
Pure I am not. Pure I am not."

Paul tried as hard, perhaps, as any man that ever lived to do this, and he failed utterly. After making what appears to have been a perfectly honest effort in his own strength, he was at last obliged to say, "For I know that in me dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to per-

form that which is good I find not." Rom. 7:18. And at last in the bitterness of his soul, knowing he had failed, he was led to cry out, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Rom. 7:24.

Only God can cleanse the heart. Through the prophet Ezekiel the Lord sends us this message: "Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A NEW HEART ALSO, WILL I GIVE YOU, and a new spirit will I put within you: AND I WILL TAKE AWAY THE STONY HEART OUT OF YOUR FLESH, AND I WILL GIVE YOU AN HEART OF FLESH. And I will put My spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments and do them." Eze. 36:25-27. Only God can do this. Only God can cleanse the heart, so that out of it shall flow the blessed fruits of the Spirit. How does

He do this? Through the operation of the Holy Spirit upon the human heart. "It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. IT IS BY THE SPIRIT THAT THE HEART IS MADE PURE."—"Desire of Ages," p. 671.

"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again [or from above], he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3. Like Nicodemus of old, we sometimes ask, "How can these things be?"

"The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.' While the wind is itself invisible, it produces effects that are seen and felt. So the work of the Spirit upon the soul will reveal itself in every act of him who has felt its saving power. When the Spirit of God takes possession of the heart, it transforms the life. Sinful thoughts are put away, evil deeds are renounced; love, humility, and peace take the place of anger, envy, and strife. Joy takes the place of sadness, and the coun-

tenance reflects the light of heaven. No one sees the hand that lifts the burden, or beholds the light descend from the courts above. The blessing comes when by faith the soul surrenders itself to God. Then that power, which no human eye can see, creates a new being in the image of God."—"Desire of Ages," pp. 172, 173.

"If any man willeth to do His will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of Myself, . . . The perception and appreciation of truth . . . depends less upon the mind than upon the heart. Truth must be received into the soul; it claims the homage of the will. If truth could be submitted to the reason alone, pride would be no hindrance in the way of its reception. But it is to be received through the work of grace in the heart; and its reception depends upon the renunciation of every sin that the Spirit of God reveals. Man's advantages for obtaining a knowledge of the truth, however great these may be, will prove of no benefit to him unless the heart is open to receive the truth, and there is conscientious surrender of every habit and practice that is opposed to its principles. To those who thus yield themselves to God, having an honest desire to know and to do His will, the truth is revealed as the power of God for their salvation."—"Desire of Ages," p. 455.

"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Prov. 4:23.

Guarding the Purity of the Church

E. E. Andross

When, in fulfilment of the promise of the Father and in response to the earnest, persevering prayers of the disciples, the Holy Spirit descended on Pentecost, thousands were converted in a day. "Every Christian saw in his brother a revelation of divine love and benevolence. One interest prevailed; one subject of emulation swallowed up all others. The ambition of the believers was to reveal the likeness of Christ's character, and to labor for the enlargement of His kingdom."—"Acts of the Apostles," p. 48.

"With great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all." "Believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women." "The Word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith." "A great number believed, and turned unto the Lord." "So mightily grew the Word of God and prevailed." Acts 4:33; 6:7; 11:21; 19:20.

The message of redeeming grace was carried by the little company of original believers, and by the new recruits with such power, after the descent of the Holy Spirit, that before the destruction of Jerusalem in A. D. 70 it "was preached to every creature which is under heaven." Col 1:23.

With such rapid development of the work of God, the church was subjected to the gravest possible danger of unconsecrated, unworthy elements coming within her sacred precincts. But just at that time God interposed in behalf of its purity, as revealed in the experience of Ananias and Sapphira, so manifestly that of such elements we read,

"durst no man join himself to them;" but at the same time "believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women." Acts. 5: 13, 14.

The watchful eye of our heavenly Father was upon the church, and He set over it faithful watchmen who ceased not day or night to warn her members of the peril of harboring evil in the heart or of allowing it in any form to find a home in the church. Shepherds who cheerfully gave their lives for the sheep bore witness to the tender care of the chief Shepherd whose the sheep were. Thus during the first century the church is represented by the figure of a white horse with a rider having a bow and a crown and going forth conquering and to conquer. Rev. 6:2.

This experience came to the church at the beginning of the "dispensation of the Spirit," and it also marked the beginning of Christ's ministry in the heavenly temple. A similar manifestation of the Spirit's power will be revealed to all the world through the remnant church just prior to the completion of Christ's ministry in the holy of holies in the heavenly temple, and before the Holy Spirit ceases His work of striving with men.

Today God is sending forth His consecrated messengers to every part of the world. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain, they are

bearing powerful testimony to the divine principles of truth. They are preparing the way for the second advent of our Lord. The standard of God's holy law is being exalted. Thousands are joyfully surrendering to the compelling power of the Message as it swells into the loud cry.

This is a wonderful time in which to live. Wonderful, not that we may be permitted selfishly to enjoy some of the luxuries of this marvelous age, but that upon us may shine the concentrated rays of spiritual light of all the ages; that we may have the privilege of reflecting that light upon a world filled with darkness so that it may be lighted with the glory of God. But with these glorious privileges come added responsibilities.

"Those who at Pentecost were endued with power from on high, were not thereby freed from further temptation and trial. As they witnessed for truth and righteousness, they were repeatedly assailed by the enemy of all truth, who sought to rob them of their Christian experience. They were compelled to strive with all their God-given powers to reach the measure of the stature of men and women in Christ Jesus. Daily they prayed for fresh supplies of grace, that they might reach higher and still higher toward perfection. Under the Holy Spirit's working, even the weakest, by exercising faith in God, learned to improve their entrusted powers, and to become sanctified, refined, and ennobled. As in humility they submitted to the molding influence of the Holy Spirit, they received of the fulness of the Godhead, and were fashioned in the likeness of the divine."—"Acts of the Apostles," p. 49.

Today the enemy of souls is working with extraordinary power to destroy the church of God. As he is not permitted to do this, he is doing his utmost to get inside the church and thus to weaken

her influence for good, and if possible, to scatter the flock of God. He would send false teachers into her midst, thus opening the door to errors by which he would dim the spiritual perceptions and shake the confidence of those newly come to the faith.

With the rapid increase in our membership, which must follow the outpouring of the Spirit, the danger of contaminating influences, and of false teachers getting within the sacred enclosure of the church is greatly enhanced. This danger calls for the exercise of the greatest possible diligence on the part of those who are entrusted with the care of the flock of God. Should they prove recreant to this trust, they should be relieved of their office and others should be chosen who will be true to their God-given trust. The importance of cleansing the church of all that defiles, and of keeping it pure and clean can not be over-estimated.

However, this work can not be accomplished arbitrarily or mechanically. It is essentially a spiritual work and must be done in harmony with the laws of the Spirit of God as revealed in His Word.

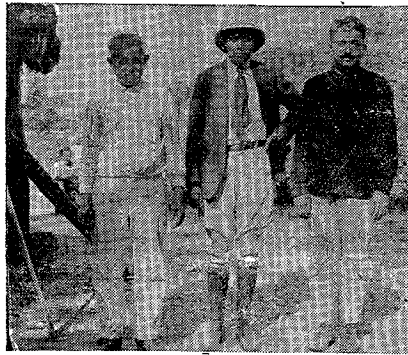
God has given to His people the form of church organization that we have, and it is designed greatly to increase our power for effective service, also to preserve the unity of the faith.

"O, how Satan would rejoice if he could succeed in his efforts to get in among this people, and disorganize the work at a time when thorough organization is essential, and will be the greatest power to keep out spurious uprisings, and to refute claims not endorsed by the Word of God! We want to hold the lines evenly, that there shall be no breaking down of the system of organization and order that was built up by wise, careful labor. License must not be given to disorderly elements that desire to control the work at this time.

"The stars of heaven are all under law, each influencing the other to do the will of God, yielding their common obedience to the law that controls their action. And in order that the Lord's work may advance healthfully and solidly, His people must draw together."—*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*," p. 489.

The power of electricity is one of the greatest powers in the realm of physical science known to man; and yet in the hands of an unskilled or unscientific workman, it is one of the most dangerous. The spiritual power resident in the church was placed there by the Master Builder and was designed by Him to be used only for the purification, the preservation, and the vitalization of a unified, beautified, glorified body of Christian believers who are to bear mighty witness for God in this last, last hour. This power may be perverted by unconsecrated, unhallowed leaders in the church and may be used to do great harm to individual members, and to the body, or it may be used greatly to bless both the church and the world.

The wrath of the Lamb will be directed against those who pervert this power to their own selfish interests and who thus destroy souls, while the faithful, devoted, self-sacrificing shepherds of the Lord's flock will be welcomed to the joy of their Lord. It is the privilege of every believer to be faithful in his sphere in the church and ultimately to share in this glorious reward.



Brother Gonzales Aguilar (in the center) with the merchant and his son

MEXICAN UNION MISSION

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WON THROUGH COLPORTEUR MISSIONARY WORK

"The colporteur work, properly conducted, is missionary work of the highest order, and it is as good and successful a method as can be employed for placing before the people the important truths for this time."

Such the colporteur work has been in this mission. It was the colporteur that sowed the seed and opened the way for the gospel. The first convert here in Yucatan, whom I had the pleasure to baptize, was found by the printed page and instructed by a colporteur. In Campeche, I came to a little town and found a man who had bought a Bible from a colporteur. He read it from beginning to end, found the Sabbath and kept the Lord's day holy the best he knew how. While the sale of our literature was still permitted in Tabasco, our colporteurs did missionary work there, and the results are seen now on every hand. New groups are springing up here and there.

About two years ago while canvassing in the state of Tabasco, Brother E. G. Aguilar passed through the town of Huimangillo where he sold some small books and took a subscription for *El Centinela* from a merchant of that town. Nothing was heard from the merchant for more than a year when Brother Aguilar passed through the town again and found him much interested. In turn

had called the attention of his customers and neighbors to his new found faith. They diligently studied the truth and soon a Sabbath school of eighty-four members was organized. The people kept coming and bringing their friends, and now we have a Sabbath school in that place with more than 150 members. In the dry season, when the weather permits them to come from afar, there are up to 180. This is a most marvelous development to us. Thus the Lord is blessing the efforts of the faithful colporteurs.

It was my privilege to visit these people last December. It was thought best to choose a little *cayuco* for our traveling; in it we spent days and nights, moving along slowly, getting but little sleep on the beaches or sandbanks of the river. Sometimes we had just spread our blankets on the ground when it began to rain and all we could do, was to get up and walk on the sandbanks or sit in the home-made, roofless scraped-out-tree *cayuco*, holding on to the sides for fear of being thrown out. There was very little to eat and only the dirty river water to drink.

We were glad when we reached our destination. Callers were sent out to gather people to the meeting and in the afternoon of the first day nearly 100 were present and more came every day. Some that had come from afar stayed over night and went home in the morning, coming back again for the afternoon meeting. The blessed Book was studied and the candidates were prepared for baptism. God worked mightily through His Holy Spirit on the hearts of the people and all praised their Saviour and promised to follow faithfully in His footsteps.

The most impressive scene was on December 30 when the 150 believers marched down to the river. Load after load in their *cayucos* they crossed to the sandbanks on the other side; and while they sang their new-learned songs, seventy-two were buried with their Saviour in baptism. What a happy people they were! The next day the church was organized. We regretted having to leave so soon but other work was waiting. Before we separated prayer was offered and many tears were shed. We were invited to come back soon. As our company was going down the stream in our home-made boat, we sang "God be with you till we meet again." I am sure this gathering will not be forgotten soon. We are glad to work for these people and pray that the Lord may bless them.

Thus the colporteur is repaid for his faithfulness, and we say, Keep up the good work and pray that more consecrated young men may enter this blessed work and become soul winners for their Saviour.
 C. L. DINIUS.

THE BENITO JUAREZ DISPENSARY

Many years ago there was a sanitarium in the city of Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. It was the only hospital of its kind in all Mexico. After a time it was closed and the equipment and supply of medicines that remained were divided among some of the missions of the Mexican Union.

It fell to the lot of the Tehuantepec Mission to get some bottles and cans of suspicious looking pills, and a few other supplies. While some of the medicines were still of value, others had long before lost their therapeutic properties.

Not long ago Pastor J. B. Nelson wrote an article on the first days of this mission, saying that a box of books in the corner of one room in his home formed the first tract society. Likewise, a cedar chest was purchased and in it were deposited all the bottles, cans and other items that had been donated to the Tehuantepec Mission, and that outfit constituted the first dispensary in this mission.

When some unfortunate person came with an ache or pain, we would give instructions how to relieve the condition by hydrotherapy in the home. Then the chest would be opened and some remedy given for the existing trouble.

But today things have changed. Instead of the cedar chest—which we still have and would not care to part with—we have a beautiful five-room dispensary. The office for the doctor is fitted up with the necessary furniture for such a room. The operating room has most of the things needful in surgery, besides a substantial supply of new remedies that are most essential in the ordinary cases that come to us.

Then there is the waiting room for the patients. This is neatly furnished. As one man remarked after he had visited the dispensary, "It is simple, but beautiful." In selecting the outfit for this dispensary, we have tried to follow the instruction given by the servant of the Lord in "Counsels on Health," pages 277 and 278.

We see great advancement today over that of the past, and we feel that God will direct this new enterprise in Tehuantepec so that through the dispensary many may be brought to a knowledge of the truth and of right principles of living. In this way many, who otherwise, perhaps, never would hear the glad tidings of the soon-coming Christ, will receive the good news. Pray for us that this right arm of the Third Angel's Message may be a strong member of the mission. F. L. E. ULMER.

Puebla, Puebla, Mexico.

WHO NEEDS JESUS MOST?

All stand sadly in need of the Saviour of men, for all have sinned. Sin, be it small or great, is a disgrace to the sinner, a dishonor to God, and if unrepented of, ends in eternal death. While in a sense there are degrees of sin, no sin is small in the sight of God.

Our moral education, our environment and home training, have everything to do with the formation of character and our present condition. This is all taken into consideration by our compassionate Redeemer. He knows the circumstances of every soul. The downcast one may say, and realize it keenly, "I am sinful, very sinful." This may be true; but the worse you are, the more you need Jesus. He turns no penitent, weeping one away. Hear His voice uttering the blessed promise as it echoes down the ages, "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37. He tells the downcast sinner who hardly dares look toward heaven, "Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." Matt 9:2.

He who forgave Peter and Simon and Mary Magdalene who in penitent tears washed His feet, says to every sin-saddened soul, "Your sins, which are great and many, are freely forgiven."

It is the backslidden Peters, the self-righteous Simons, and the sin-bound Marys of to-day who need the sin-pardoning Redeemer. The worse you are, the more you need Jesus. As in the case of Mary at the tomb, He may be found through tear-dimmed eyes.—E. Hilliard, in *Review and Herald*, May 3, 1928.

TEN MORE

Last Sabbath Brother Ulmer and I went out to Hueyapan and held two services with the brethren. The Lord blessed our efforts and ten came forward and took their stand for the truth. These people were members of the Sabbath school but had never taken their stand. Now we are sending our local minister out there to instruct them and prepare them for baptism. It gave us courage to see the Spirit of the Lord working on the hearts of these dear people. We are trusting that the great work which has been carried on here during the last few years may continue to prosper under the hand of God.

A. G. PARFITT.

Puebla, Pue., Mexico.

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THE ISLE OF PINES

One of the smallest fields in the Inter-American Division is the Isle of Pines. Politically it is a part of the Cuban Republic, but geographically it is separated from the south coast of Cuba by sixty miles of Caribbean sea. It is about forty by forty-five miles in diameter and has a very cosmopolitan population of about 7,000 people, not count-

ing about 2,665 men in the *Presidio Modelo Nacional*, Cuba's prison.

The recent census shows the population divided about as follows: 1,500 Englishmen and English subjects, 4,600 Cubans, 375 Americans, 150 Japanese, 75 Chinese, 55 Germans, 25 Swedes, also several Swiss, Jewish and Syrian families, numbering about one hundred persons.

Nueva Gerona is the principal port and largest town. Five other once-thriving towns were literally blown away in the hurricane of 1927 and have not been rebuilt since, except in part. The people are widely scattered over the island on truck farms and in citrus groves. This fact, together with the mixture of languages and of twenty-four nationalities, makes our work difficult, and the progress is slow.

At present we have one organized church and one organized company. Our baptized membership is thirty-one and our Sabbath school membership about seventy-five. Last year we held two short series of weekly meetings in English and one in Spanish in two different towns, as a result of which we gained fifteen new members.

Now we have begun the record of another year for God. Since the holidays we have begun our public meetings again in Nueva Gerona in English and Spanish, and the prospects are bright for some new believers soon. We are making Sunday visits to the *Presidio Modelo*, where two Americans and one Cuban are deeply interested in our work and message.

Our plans are for more aggressive work in personal soul-winning. Opposition is becoming stronger which indicates that the Message is doing its work. Our health and courage are good and we are thankful for the many privileges and good experiences that we enjoy in the work.

R. E. STEWART.

Nueva Gerona, Isle of Pines.

OVER FORTY IN FOUR YEARS

During the four years 1928-1931 there have been more than forty church buildings erected throughout the islands of the Antillian Union. Several are very substantial and splendid buildings. Others are made of the native materials, some being only of bamboo and palm branches. Nevertheless, they afford places for our people to meet in their services; and in the opinion of the writer nothing is of greater importance, after bringing people into the truth, than to provide them places where they can meet for church and Sabbath school. Especially is this need emphasized in the mission field. The writer always has endeavored to follow and encourage his fellow-workers to give due consideration to the following counsel given us in the Spirit of Prophecy on this subject:

"Every time you smile you vaccinate yourself against discouragement."

"When an interest is aroused in any town or city, that interest should be followed up. The place should be thoroughly worked, until a humble house of worship stands as a sign, a memorial of God's Sabbath, a light amid the moral darkness. These memorials are to stand in many places as witnesses to the truth. . . . Wherever a company of believers is raised up, a house of worship should be built. Let not the workers leave the place without accomplishing this."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VI, p. 100.

The wisdom of this instruction from Heaven has been evidenced in so many places in these islands during the last few years as we have endeavored to carry it out. As already stated, in the islands of the Greater Antilles, during the past four years we have erected between forty and fifty churches. We have especially endeavored in our larger cities to establish good, representative buildings, and the wisdom of this is truly evident in the large increase of church membership and attendance. To illustrate, in the capital city of the Haitien Republic, Port au Prince, three years ago the little company of believers was meeting in a small crowded room, about 18 by 28 feet, for church and Sabbath school. A good large building 40 by 80 feet was erected and dedicated February 22, 1929. That building is now full every Sabbath, the children filling the old building for their Sabbath school. On any night of regular service the large building is filled with worshippers. Truly, our work in the beautiful capital city of Haiti has taken on new impetus since the erection of this splendid representative building. Let me ask you how could the work ever have been thus developed without a good representative church building? The money invested in this building has been well spent. And what is said of this building might be duplicated many fold in other places. During the last four years our church membership has increased from a little over 5,000 to 7,500.

The writer knows by personal experience and observation, covering a period of nearly four decades in connection with our organized work, that there is no other one thing that does so much in giving character and permanency to our work as the providing of places of worship for the believers who accept of this precious Message. Often, especially in the mission fields, we find it almost impossible to secure halls or any place for public services, so our only recourse is to give due consideration to the counsel of the Lord on this important matter. Eternity will reveal the results. These words are as timely and applicable in mission lands as in the home fields, and the needs are more urgent.

Havana, Cuba.

A. R. OGDEN.

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SABBATH KEEPERS IN DUTCH GUIANA

For a long time we have been wishing for money to place a worker in Dutch Guiana, but circumstances have prevented our doing so, for we needed all our money for the work in other portions of the field. Often we would talk of the need in Dutch Guiana, and many times we would take it to the Lord in prayer, but we were never able to send any one into the field.

At last, however, in February of this year two colporteurs were sent to begin the sale of our literature in that needy land. Almost as soon as they began their work, they found a company of thirteen keeping the Sabbath, and five or six others almost ready to join them in its observance.

How did this come about? A gentleman in India bought a "Daniel and the Revelation" and read it. Later he moved to Dutch Guiana bringing the book with him. He loaned it to his neighbors to read, and in this way they learned of the Sabbath and began to keep it. Now, our colporteurs write that these believers are almost ready for church membership, and that others are interested in our truth.

Thus does God often answer our prayers in ways we least expect.

W. R. ELLIOTT.

Port of Spain, Trinidad.

"A thankful heart makes a melodious life. If we thought more of our mercies and less of our cares, we should fill the day with music."

WHAT TO READ

- Are you in sorrow? Read *John 14.*
- Do you worry? Read *Matthew 6:19-34.*
- Are you discouraged? Read *Isaiah 40.*
- Have you the blues? Read *Psalms 27.*
- When you have sinned, Read *Psalms 51.*
- When lonely or fearful, Read *Psalms 23.*
- If you want to be fruitful, Read *John 15.*
- If you want Christian assurance, Read *Romans 8.*
- If your faith needs stirring, Read *Hebrews 11.*
- If you want peace and rest, Read *Matthew 11:25-30.*
- When you leave home for labor or travel, Read *Psalms 121.*
- When you forget your blessings Read *Psalms 103.*
- When you want courage for your task, Read *Joshua 1.*
- When you grow bitter or critical, Read *1 Corinthians 13.*
- When your prayers grow narrow and selfish, Read *Psalms 67.*
- For Jesus' idea of a Christian Read *Matthew 5.*
- For Jesus' idea of prayer Read *Luke 11:1-13 and Matthew 6:5-15.*

—Dr. H. Frank Hall.

PROSPECTS ARE BRIGHT

In a letter recently received from Pastor W. R. Elliott, he says:

"We are all well and all the workers are of good courage. Things at the school are going nicely; and throughout our field the outlook for the year is good.

"At the close of last year Guiana reported 777 members, but the baptisms during the first part of this year brought the membership up to about 850 by the middle of February.

"Next Thursday (February 18) I sail for the Leewards and the French Islands. I expect to visit Martinique and Guadalupe on this trip.

"Word from Brother and Sister A. W. Cott says that Sister Cott has had her operation and that they plan to start for the field soon."

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION

Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica

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

THE GOSPEL IN GUATEMALA

I was away from the office most of the time from the first of November till February, holding a series of meetings in Sololá and visiting the churches.

We certainly are living in strenuous and interesting times. Surely, we will not have much longer to carry on the work unless the Lord miraculously holds back the winds. The way Japan is forcing things in the Far East makes one realize that the spirit of demons is impelling her. Seeing these rapid developments, it seems to me we should wake up.

Up this way, too, things are happening. The volcano, Fuego, in "columns of smoke," as Joel says, threw sand and ashes over the entire country,—in many places several inches thick. The ashes fell even as far as San Salvador. Here it rained ashes and sand all night. However, little real destruction resulted. In Salvador, and here also, the communists are causing trouble. Here there have been no deaths, but hundreds are in prison. In Salvador thousands have been killed. The girl from the Costa Rica school, who is to teach our church school, arrived yesterday from San Salvador and tells of the serious trouble they are having there. Here as well as in Salvador everyone must be off the street after nine o'clock. I hope this does not continue long, as it is difficult to hold meetings, but we must expect perilous times from now on.

Soul winning prospects were never brighter than now. During the past three weeks I have baptized twenty-seven and for 1931 only twenty-eight were baptized. Of course, it is last year's work to some extent; but a few months

back when I visited these places, all were baptized that were ready. As many more are in the baptismal class in each place. Among these baptized were four Cachaquel and two Mam Indians. I do not know whether there have ever been any Mam Indians baptized before or not. They were on the east coast at Genova and are real Indians in Indian clothes and speaking little Spanish.

In Sololá mission six were baptized, all young men. This is our first fruit there. Several more are keeping the Sabbath and soon will be ready for baptism, I think. I really believe we can look for a good harvest in Sololá soon. I find a class of Indians very resistant to the gospel and to all progress, but still there are a few sincere hearts and I am sure we shall find more soon. We enjoyed almost three months among them. Mrs. Ford and the children were with me there at the mission. Only two of those baptized were Indians, but another Indian attended every meeting, is keeping the Sabbath, and is waiting only to be married.

We are getting along fine up here and are really in love with this nice country. We are all in very good health as are all the workers. We only pray that the Lord will give us power to do all possible with the talent, time, and means at our disposal. It is too bad that we cannot go to every part of this country to preach. I was inspired to see how in Sololá the people just thronged our meeting hall. Very few nights in the two months of meetings, held seven nights a week, did we fail to have our little hall filled to capacity; and I am sure that there are a dozen places where we could get a better hearing than there if we could only go to them. I am taking as my goal this year to average one sermon a day, at least during the dry season and since October am ahead of my goal. ORLEY FORD.

Guatemala City, Guatemala.

SECURE IN IMMINENT DANGER

Surely these are days of "wars and rumors of wars" and Central America is having her full share of them. In our last issue we reported briefly on the trouble up in Sálvador. More recently Costa Rica has been added to the list of countries suffering from revolutionary troubles. For a time it looked as if our workers would have to leave their homes around the Central American headquarters; but God overruled and San José, the center of the uprising, was soon restored to normal quiet, and we trust that the work may now go forward there without further disturbances.

Another letter has come from one of these revolution-torn countries. Thousands have lost their lives in the revolution there, but the Lord has mercifully

spared the lives of our brethren and sisters. Here are two thrilling paragraphs from the letter:

"One of our members was taken by the police as a suspect, and beaten severely. I understand that three times it was planned to take him out and put him before the firing squad, but he firmly maintained that he was not a communist, but rather was an Adventist. Last Friday his name was read, but there was no room in the car for him. By this time the officer in charge noticed what was taking place, and commented to our brother about his escaping, and said 'You certainly are fortunate.'

"Brother ——— had been seeing some officials to get them to release Brother ———, and just at the opening of Sabbath school he walked in with his family. He just returned home that morning and as they came, his wife leaned on the pillar in the chapel and wept for joy. You may be sure that our brethren were all very happy to thus see a direct answer to their prayer."

CHILDREN WITNESSING FOR CHRIST

Training the youth to become soldiers of the Lord Jesus Christ in these closing days of the earth's history is a noble work. Our church school teachers should diligently teach the children, in a simple way, the Third Angel's Message so that they may be able to give a reason for their belief. They witnessed for Christ in the advent movement of 1844, and even in the days of Christ they sang in the temple "Hosanna to the Son of David, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord." Even so they will again proclaim the truth to the world in simplicity.

"In the closing scenes of the earth's history, many of these children and youth will astonish people by their witness to the truth which will be borne in simplicity, yet with spirit and power. They have been taught the fear of the Lord, and their hearts have been softened by a careful



New believers in Ibagué, Tolima, Colombia

and prayerful study of the Bible. In the near future many children will be endowed with the spirit of God, and will do a work in proclaiming the truth to the world, that at that time cannot well be done by the older members of the church." —"Counsels to Teachers," p. 7.

Recently we had an experience exemplifying this statement. Shortly after the hurricane I admitted two girls to our church school here in Belize. One is nine, the other seven. They first attended the Anglican school, but were sent to me while their building was being repaired. During the two weeks in our school, they learned much of the truth. Soon after they re-entered their own school, the bishop of the Anglican church, who had just returned from England, visited the school. The children are taught to bow before him saluting him with the title, "My lord." Well, these two children refused to comply with this regulation. When asked why, they explained that the Lord of creation only is to be honored thus. They were told that corporal punishment would be inflicted if they still refused; but they held firm to their conviction. Later they were sent back to our school and are doing well.

RONALD H. ROBERTSON.

Belize, Br. Honduras.

SETTING THE CAPTIVES FREE

I am glad to say that the attendance at our meeting, even on the night of the election, was the same as usual. We had thirty-one adults present last night while I reviewed the final punishment of the wicked. Every one seems to feel thoroughly convinced that we are teaching God's truth.

We are now beginning to study the various problems of Christian conduct, and are finding some eager to get the victory over their vices and prepare for the coming of the Lord; while others, like the rich young ruler, are considering that the price is rather high. Mr. ——— dearly loves his cigarettes, his pork, his liquor, his jewelry, his coffee, and his political contacts, so we are praying that God will give him a new heart. He loves the truth and has many times said that God sent us to Limón, but his attitude shows that he is passing through a great struggle.

Others are making real progress, and are giving evidence that God has visited them. One sister noticed on Sabbath morning that she had failed to purchase a certain article of food for Sabbath dinner. As she is poor, this meant that they would have to go without food on Sabbath, or purchase the necessary article. The children wanted to purchase it; but she said, "No, this is the holy Sabbath. God will provide for us. Our greatest need is spiritual food." So they came to church. When they got home, a neighbor, who lived at some distance brought them a package of food,

and among the various articles was this necessary article of food. Well, our sister was happy, you may be sure.

During the first part of our meetings this sister stood outside, refusing to come in "because," she said, "it is of the devil." She even stopped coming for a few nights for fear she would be deceived; but a voice she could not resist was urging her to attend, and she came back the very night we presented "The Sabbath that Jesus made." She was convinced, but fearing she was being deceived, she again stopped coming.

But she could not resist the urge to pass by the hall and listen; so, finally, she saw the light, gave up her job which required her to work on the Sabbath, and has been a real inspiration to all the new ones, as she is not afraid to trust God. She is a poor widow with four children to care for, but she is very happy in the truth. She has already stopped drinking coffee, using pork, etc., and without doubt will be one of the first to be baptized.

N. W. DUNN.

Limón, Costa Rica.



COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

Apartado 39, Medellín, Colombia

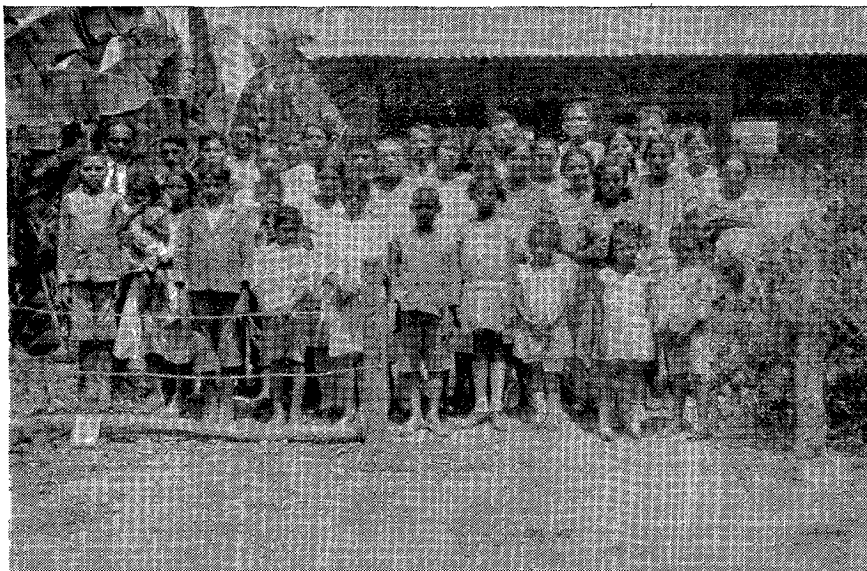
H. E. BAASCH - - - - - *Superintendent*
 J. B. ROSS - - - - - *Secy.-Treas.*

OPPOSITION SPEEDS THE MESSAGE

During the past two months it has been my privilege to work in the province of García Rovina, Santander, where our Message is going with special impetus.

Perhaps our experience will be better understood, if our readers can have an insight into the peculiar political situation which exists in that part of the country. Due to the change of the government, a feeling has prevailed for the last two years against the liberal party. Hostilities have resulted in many places. From time to time the press has given account of numerous homes being burned; and scores of men have lost their lives for no other reason than the difference in political persuasions. This unfriendly feeling has resulted, finally, in the complete separation of the political parties; and sometimes those in minority, in the small places, have been obliged to find refuge where there is a majority of their own persuasion. This has caused considerable sacrifice in leaving homes and property, but it was the only alternative for safety. The national government, in due time, sent large numbers of soldiers into the district in question to guarantee protection; and for some time the people found it necessary to ask for military protection in traveling.

Fortunately, none of our people have been molested in their worship or in



Sabbath school at Campechano, near Puerto Nutrias, Venezuela, on the Apure River. The little chapel is the best building on the owner's premises. The church there has seventeen members

their work. We were able to hold meetings every evening for two weeks in Málaga; and the good spirit and continued courage were manifested in that another baptism was celebrated. It was also our privilege to organize a good sized young people's society.

Some of the brethren of Málaga went with me to a small place, Chicacuta, where their relatives had been faithfully teaching the Message for our time to their neighbors. We prepared for a week's series of meetings and organized a baptismal class in that place. But we were not to continue our work without hindrances. The priest of the near-by village decided to hold meetings at the same time in the school house across the road from the home where we were meeting. The hostility was such that we were forced to leave the home of our brother, for a more secluded place. However, an interested family on a large ranch opened their home to us and as the baptismal class followed us we could see the Lord's hand in our move to *Grayabal*. There we had the joy of seeing eight earnest believers follow their Lord in baptism.

We thought of the statement in "Great Controversy" which tells us that in these closing days the people of God will have to seek shelter in mountain fastnesses again. But these experiences are for our good and for the more rapid enlightenment of the honest in heart. The very hostility of the enemy is causing many people to see the errors in the Catholic church and their ears are open to the call of the true Redeemer: "Come out of her, my people."

At another place on our return journey we had the kindest reception given us. More than sixty men and women

listened attentively to the message of Christ's soon coming, and begged us to return and reveal to them more of God's Word. The next day at the place we stopped for dinner, the mayor himself invited us to hold our meetings. Really, the Lord is showing us how His work can be carried on with more haste and with more success. May prayer, consecration, and the power of the Holy Spirit characterize our work more and more, enabling us to win all that are hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

E. M. TRUMMER.

Bucaramanga, Santander.



A DAY WITH A COLPORTEUR

If by some magic eye we might look into the thousands of homes that have been visited by our colporteurs and know the influence that our books are having upon the public, we would better appreciate the magnitude of the work of the colporteur. In the two weeks that I had the privilege of being with one of our good colporteurs in the cities of Valencia and Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, as never before, I was impressed with the part our publications are having in educating the people in regard to the meaning of world conditions. Follow me through just the experiences of one single day and you will be better able to estimate what is being accomplished by the faithful colporteurs in our union and in all the world.

The first man we visited this morning in a print shop said that he was fully in accord with the teachings of our books and he believed Adventists taught the only remedy for the world's problems. We also called on the chief of police, and, as we were giving the can-

vass, he stopped me and said, "A number of years ago when I was in La Victoria, a man called on me with a book like you have. Then with the Bible in hand he told me more about what we might expect in our world than I had ever heard before." The chief referred to Brother Rafael Lopez, who was assassinated while scattering truth-filled literature in the high Andean mountains. This influential man said he believed the things we are teaching and gladly gave his order. He had bought "Coming King" from Brother Lopez.

Later on in the day we came to the agent for the Singer sewing machine. As I began the canvass he said, "You are an Adventist, are you not?"

"Yes."

"I have two of your books that cost me fifty bolivars." Then he told us about having "Our Day in the Light of Prophecy" and "Ministry of Healing."

"Where I worked in a mine not long ago," he continued, "a certain Protestant tried to convert me; but I told him if I ever changed religions, I would be an Adventist as that religion appealed to me more than all the rest."

One of our customers in the afternoon was a dentist who had bought books from me several times before. He expressed his pleasure to have me call upon him again, and subscribed for the book "Edad de Oro" without our having to urge him at all.

These good experiences are only a fraction of the interesting visits that we have made in these two weeks. I am sure from my own observations that there are thousands in Colombia and Venezuela who are reading our books and learning the truth due the world at this time. The truth of the following words, sent to us by the servant of God, comes to us with emphasis: "The colporteur work is the means ordained of God to give rapidly to the world the sacred light of present truth."

FRED W. STEEVES.

Medellin, Colombia.

With Our Departments

OUR DEPARTMENTS

The human body possesses limbs, and these are quite essential to the work of the body. One or more of the limbs can be spared and the body still live; but to lose one means that the body is crippled, and its work to some degree is thereby impaired.

The church is represented in the Scriptures as the body of Christ. The limbs of this body may fitly be said to represent the various departments into which the local church has been organized for the purpose of more effectively performing its work. As the limbs of the human body were created for the purpose of

servicing the body, so the departments, such as the Sabbath school, the Home Missionary, and the Missionary Volunteer, were organized for the purpose of servicing the church. Whether a department embraces the entire church membership or only part of it, the work that it is intended to promote is highly important to the life of the church.

"The body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased Him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye can not say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary." 1 Cor. 12: 14-22.

We believe this scripture contains principles that should govern us in our departmental work in the church. The work of each department is necessary to the completion of the task assigned to the church. There may be some overlapping in the work of the departments. This is particularly true in the work of the Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer departments. I have observed that at times my tongue or the inside of my lips or cheeks get in the way of my teeth; but that is no reason for dispensing with either. It is, however, an argument in favor of exercising greater care in the use of these important members.

The question sometimes arises, which department shall be organized first? Quite frequently the Sabbath school is the first form of organization effected in the formation of a new company of believers. This may well be followed by the formation of a missionary society, which should be organized thoroughly, and its members trained for service. Where there are a sufficient number of young people, a Missionary Volunteer society may profitably be formed at the same time. It is true that the members could not be full members of the church Missionary Volunteer society till after baptism when they should be received into church membership. But their course of training in the work of the society should begin as early as possible.

Whenever and wherever there is work to be done that the departments were organized to promote, if there are believers ready to do it they should be organized, and set to the accomplishment of their individual tasks.

If we should find only one young person in a company or church, that one should be given particular attention in the organization effected. Just as far as possible he should be given the benefit afforded by direct contact with the

Missionary Volunteer department of the mission or conference. If there are too few for the organization of a Missionary Volunteer society, they should be placed in a missionary band in the Home Missionary society, and should be encouraged to take a responsible part in the work of the society, and the report of their work should be forwarded to the conference or mission Missionary Volunteer secretary.

Just as the Sabbath school is a powerful factor in the training of the entire church for efficient work, so the entire church membership will be greatly helped by taking the Standard of Attainment studies, the Bible Year, and the Morning Watch.

How thankful we should be that God has given us a form of organization that is so simple, and yet so complete in all its details. It includes all from the child to the aged—none is left out. It includes in its scope the preparation of each member of the church, and all the members of our families for effective service for the Master now, and for a place in His kingdom when our work on earth is finished.

The trumpet is sounding that summons every believer to his post of duty. The hearty co-operation of every one, both old and young, is "necessary." "Come; for all things are now ready."

E. E. ANDROSS.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

OUR NEW SCHOOL

After many months of waiting, sufficient funds came to hand to purchase a small farm and start the construction of buildings for the Spanish training school in Costa Rica. A portion of each of the two school homes are now being erected. While we regret very much that it is not possible to do more, we rejoice that we can begin to establish ourselves on our own property. And as the Lord opens the way, we shall be able to make extensions until the school plant is developed fully.

The farm finally selected is in the district of Dulce Nombre, three kilometers to the north of Tres Rios and fifteen kilometers out of San José. It is well up on the side of the mountain and consequently has a cool, healthful climate and a panoramic view second to none. Here the young people, who come for training, will be able to contemplate the handiwork of God in nature. They will be removed from the cities and the temptations flooding them, and their environment will be conducive to the obtaining of true knowledge and the development of well-balanced characters. Here the ever-changing scenery can gratify the taste and control the imagination and the great Teacher can be a constant instructor.

The school term which closed a short

time ago can be pronounced a success in spite of various interruptions and difficulties. Twenty-one students enrolled during the year and three more came in the first of December for the first Spanish teachers' institute. It is gratifying indeed that from this small group sixteen are in active soul-saving work during the school vacation.

Perplexities and difficulties on every side teach us that it is now high time for us to throw all of our man-power and woman-power into the task that God has committed to this people. God especially wants the youth because they are strong. He has a great harvest of souls awaiting the reapers. *La Academia* is here to train reapers for this service. This school is for the Spanish youth of the two great union missions of Central America and Colombia-Venezuela. Why stand unemployed through the weeks and months when the harvest is spoiling for want of reapers? Your brethren who have been in school are now gathering in the sheaves. God is inviting many others to join this small group until there may be a hundred laborers where there is now only one.

Interest is springing up and letters are coming in from almost every one of the different missions. The desire to help save the lost is gripping hearts. We believe that the small portion of the school plant that we are building this year will be insufficient to accommodate all who are preparing to come, nevertheless we invite everyone, who may or may not have a desire to come, to write us for information. Perhaps by counseling together it will be possible to arrange some plan whereby you may enter school when we open next month. In the meantime we are doing all within our power in the way of preparation to give you a hearty welcome and to make your stay with us pleasant and profitable. Remember the address: Apartado 1325, San José, Costa Rica.

W. H. WINELAND.

San José, Costa Rica.



“IS THERE NO BALM IN GILEAD?”

No. 4

I want to read a statement from a little booklet gotten out by the American Society for the Control of Cancer, page 9, under the topic, “Prevalence of Cancer”: “Birds, animals, and fishes, as well as man, have cancers.” Of the animals studied, there is just one kind of animal that doesn't have cancer, and that is the monkey. I wonder why? It is chiefly a diet problem.

Dr. William Seaman Bainbridge, professor of surgery in the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital, in his book, “The Cancer Problem,” says on page 54, “The common barnyard fowl is the frequent subject of tumors, both benign and malignant—cancerous.”

The chicken is a frequent subject of cancers. Why?—Because it is a scavenger.

Cancer is known to be particularly prevalent among fishes. The fish is also a scavenger, a flesh-eating animal. There are two pages in Dr. Bainbridge's book devoted to the prevalence of cancer among fishes.

Dr. McCarrison, the noted British surgeon of Indian, says: “I claim to speak with some authority on this subject because I have been practicing surgery in Indian for the last twenty-four years, and have had an admirable opportunity of comparing the relative resistance of meat eaters and vegetarians during the Great War.” Then he goes on to tell what he observed,—that when the Indian soldiers were wounded, their wounds healed quickly; but when British soldiers were wounded, very frequently the wounds did not heal quickly.

“In civic life they [the Indians] show a remarkable freedom from certain diseases, such as gastric and duodenal ulcers, gall bladder disease, and appendicitis. As regards the latter, I have some figures relating to the relative incidence of appendicitis in Indian and British troops respectively in India. I find that this disease is about ten times as frequent in the British as compared with the Indian army. *The rarity of cancer is so striking that a surgeon might practice for many years among this people and never see a case.*”



Reservoir at our Spanish training school in Costa Rica

The next paragraph tells why.

“I am speaking for the Punjab, not for India as a whole. The Punjab, diet is wheat bread, whole meal, pulses, vegetables, milk, and some fruit.” No meat, a simple, nonpoisonous, nonirritating diet of the natural products of the earth.

Why, my friends, the animal kingdom doesn't create an atom of food; the animal kingdom cannot take the inert elements of the soil and build them up into living, organic compounds. The plant kingdom must do that. The best we can say for flesh food, though it is food, is that it is second-hand food, a purely emergency food. Flesh foods contain poisonous excretory waste matter, which burden the liver and kidneys and raise the blood pressure. These unnatural foods are often laden with the germs of tuberculosis, cancer, gall bladder disease, and acute appendicitis.

I will close our study by reading a portion of one paragraph from a health book that has never guided us wrong; and you can depend upon the teachings of “Ministry of Healing,” as they relate to both the physical and the spiritual life. They are sound scientifically. We have had this book for a quarter of a century, and we have had the principles that are here repeated and rewritten, many of them, for three quarters of a century. My friends, does the Creator know how to make a correct diagnosis? Does He understand the science of etiology, the causes of disease? I will read from page 313:

“Flesh was never the best food; but its use is now doubly objectionable, since disease in animals is so rapidly increasing. Those who use flesh foods little know what they are eating. Often if they could see the animals when living, and know the quality of the meat they eat, they would turn from it with loathing. People are continually eating flesh that is filled with tuberculosis and cancerous germs. Tuberculosis, cancer, and other fatal diseases are thus communicated.”

When science completes the proof, when the whole world recognizes it, we believe it too; but shall we wait for the tardy O. K. of scientific demonstration to confirm these things before we are willing to plant our feet solidly upon health truth revealed by inspiration? That may be too late to save our health. God has given us the facts; the best science can do is to give the reasons for the facts.

A. W. TRUMAN.

Washington, D. C.



FACING OPPOSITION OF PRIESTS

Perhaps in no place in the Inter-American Division do our colporteurs meet with such strong opposition on the part of the Catholic priests as in Colombia. Often they will denounce the colporteur publicly, and encourage their people to have nothing to do with his books, or with the man who sells them,—not even to give him a place to stay or food to eat. In our recent institute held for the colporteurs in Barranquilla some experiences were related indicating what the colporteur must meet. Brother Jorge Escandon told of having entered one small town, and as is the custom, he went directly to visit the *alcalde* (mayor or chief official). Learning of the young man's business, this official turned to our colporteur and said:

“As a friend let me give you some advice. Don't try to work in this town, for you will do nothing, and it will only be an expense and a waste of time. The priests have already warned the people of your coming.”

In reply the colporteur stated that he was under a divine commission to go to every village and town and carry to the people the precious hope contained in his good books: so he must go. Seeing the colporteur could not be turned aside, the *alcalde* bade him good-bye.

Followed by a Priest

Shortly after starting to work Brother Jorge was made aware of the fact that a priest, accompanied by two other men, was following him down the street, entering each house where he had been. While in one small place showing his book, he saw the group of three enter the house just ahead. He wondered whether he should stop at that place, but he decided to do his duty and pass no one by. The man of the house met him at the door, and invited him in. He was given a seat in the room with the other guests. Taking advantage of the situation like a real colporteur, he showed the book to all present, and succeeded in creating a good interest and in securing from the man of the house an order for the book "Toward the Golden Age" in Spanish.

When on his way down the street again, he soon saw the priest and his two friends leave the house; the priest going in one direction while the two men started back the way they had come. To his surprise they entered the very same houses where they had been so shortly before. Later when he delivered the books, he learned that they had returned to tell the people they had been mistaken about the book. After having met the man and seen what kind of a book he had, they were sure, they said, that the book was a good one.

The Lord blessed the work of this colporteur in that small place. He took sixteen orders for the big book and delivered eighteen. While delivering, he sold two more for cash. As he was leaving for the next town, he again met the *alcalde*, who asked him how he had succeeded. When he learned what had been done, the *alcalde* was greatly surprised. The conversation that followed opened the way for the colporteur to tell him something of our Message, which impressed him. The colporteur has since heard that the *alcalde* is studying the Bible.

No Place in Hotel

Another colporteur, Brother Luis E. Urbina, a very earnest Christian man, had just returned from the interior on a trip that had kept him away from his family for eighteen months. Somehow our hearts were touched as we listened to the earnest words of this faithful brother. He said:

"I am reminded this morning of the way the Lord smoothed out the difficulties that the enemy had prepared for me in ——. The priest of that town had been informed by telegram that I would come to that place to sell religious books, and, for a number of days before my arrival, he had been warning the people against me, trying to close the door entirely to my entrance.

"At that time there was only one hotel in this place, and when I arrived the keeper, who was a lady, asked me from what place I had come, and what my business was. I told her that I was selling books. When she heard this she said: 'There is no place for you to stay in my hotel, for you are the Protestant of whom

the priest told us. He warned us to not give you anything.' Seeing the situation, I asked her if she could do me the favor of informing me where I might secure a lodging place. She replied: 'In a certain street lives a Carlos Gómez, who I am sure will give you lodging'; so I started out in search of Mr. Gómez.

"Upon reaching the house of this man, I introduced myself and explained that the lady of the hotel had informed me that he would give me a place to sleep. When he heard this he asked me, 'Are you the gentleman that was to come to sell books in this place, and whom the priest has warned us not to receive? Well, I have everything ready for you. The only thing that you will not like is the room that I have prepared. It is right by the side of the temple, face to face with your enemy.' Mr. Gómez had also arranged a place where I was to eat. I felt grateful to God for His care over me.

God Overrules

"That same night the priest heard of my arrival, and that I was lodging at the side of the church. I will tell you some of the expressions of his sermon that night, which I overheard from my room. Among other things he said: 'The heretic already has arrived, that cursed Protestant, the enemy of our sacred, holy religion. I denounce him before the Catholic people.' Then he continued, 'In the days of old there was one by the name of Judith, who cut off the head of Holofernes.'"

The experience to which the priest referred is taken from the book entitled "Judith" of the Roman Catholic Bible. Protestants, of course, never accepted it as being an inspired book, and the very contents clearly indicate that it is not. This book, "Judith," contains the account of an Assyrian general by

Measure Yourself by These Scales

Can you keep sweet when all about you go wrong and then blame you for their mistakes?

Can you be hated and not give way to hating?

Can you have faith in God . . . when the flour barrel is empty and the last dollar you have on earth is gone?

Can you wait upon the Lord, and not be tired of waiting?

Can you mingle with the modern crowd and still retain your virtue?

Can you hear your friends say nice things about you and still remain humble?

Can you hold the esteem of your friends after once gaining it?

Can you live with this fault-finding, back-biting generation, and not talk about your neighbors? —Selected.

"A word of commendation will often help another along the road to success, when a word of censure would hold him back."

"Those who try to do something and utterly fail, are much better than those who try to do nothing and succeed beautifully."

the name of Holofernes, who had laid siege to one of the Jewish strongholds. The Catholic encyclopedia has put the experience so briefly that I will quote from it so the reader may understand to what the priest referred:

"Famine undermines the courage of the besieged people of the city, and they contemplate surrender, but Judith, a Jewish widow, upbraids them and says that she will deliver the city. She goes into the camp of the Assyrians and captivates Holofernes by her beauty, and finally takes advantage of the general's intoxication to cut off his head. She returns unharmed to the

city with his head. This brings new courage to the Jews, who rally and rout the Assyrians."

With this explanation we return to the colporteur's testimony. He continues:

"After referring to this experience the priest said: 'Now at this time also we have many modern Judiths,—the daughters of Mary.'

"These words filled me with terror, and I realized my life was in danger there. I fell on my knees in prayer to God that He would protect me, and help me to do my duty. The following morning the first thing I did was to visit the *alcalde*, and make known to him my work in that place. I showed him the book 'Our Day' and *El Centinela*. He liked the book but begged to be excused from ordering it, as he had only been in office three days, having just come with his family from Medellín under heavy expense which had left him without money; but he gave me a subscription for the magazine, and offered me every guarantee of help that I might continue my work there. He then introduced me to many of the employees of the building, and a good many gave me their orders for my book and for the magazine. From there I went out to work the town. Somehow I never took orders with such ease before as in that place. I delivered every book that I had with me, but still had orders that I could not fill. Some of these were delivered a year later by another colporteur who returned to work again in that place."

It is truly wonderful how the Lord is overruling this great opposition to His own glory. All over Colombia there are living witnesses to the good work of the colporteur. Surely there never was a time such as now for active service for God. The financial depression cannot and is not preventing the sale of our large books. In fact, the very conditions that exist make splendid talking points, for many are desirous of knowing what these things mean.

W. A. BERGHERM.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP

Not all leaders possess the same qualities. There are, however, certain qualities that must be found in all leaders. Here are five which can hardly be omitted in any case of true leadership:

1. *Vision*: A leader must have vision. He must be able to see farther than other people. He must be able to see and to reckon with the latent possibilities in those he is to lead.

2. *Power*: A leader must have the ability and determination to reach a goal and to lead others along. Power implies courage, self-confidence, perseverance, unwillingness to be daunted by difficulties.

"There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done;

There are thousands to prophesy failure; There are thousands to point out to you one by one

The dangers that wait to assail you.

But just buckle in, with a bit of a grin, Then take off your coat and go to it. Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing That cannot be done, and you'll do it."

3. *Knowledge*: This means special training secured by experience of education. He must be a master of the

technique already acquired by others who have succeeded in the line chosen. He must know something of everything and everything about something. To know something of everything puts him in sympathetic touch with every one he meets. To know everything of something gives him an assured place among the world's workers.

4. *Self-sacrifice*: This means the shutting out of everything—whether it be good, bad, or second best—that would tend to dull the vision, weaken the power, or reduce the knowledge. The indispensable price of leadership is to shut out all things that hurt or hinder.

5. *Submission*: A leader must have learned to submit to a leader, whether it be as a captain to his colonel or to a motive or great example. He must of necessity have submitted to something outside his own self.

—Selected and Adapted.

AN M. V. SUGGESTION

A short time ago one of the Missionary Volunteers in the San José Young People's Society wanted to give something to the Lord for missionary purposes. She had no money so decided to sell some furniture and buy cheaper pieces, giving the difference to the Lord.

It was decided to use this money in preparing a city for an evangelistic effort. Tracts were bought and four young people were selected each Sabbath to distribute them. They carried a lunch and went immediately after church each Sabbath so as to save time for the city is twelve miles from San José and is reached by bus.

Many people have been found who are showing a marked interest and the young people are enjoying a rich experience. It is hoped that a bountiful harvest of souls will be reaped when the effort is conducted.

FRANCES LIGHT.

San Jose, Costa Rica.

My Besetting Sin

1. The sin for which I do not want to be reproved.
 2. The sin I am most ready to defend.
 3. The sin my thoughts run most upon.
 4. The sin that most easily leads me captive.
 5. The sin for which I find the most excuse.
 6. The sin that most beclouds my spiritual sky.
 7. The sin that causes me remorse of conscience the most frequently.
 8. The sin I am most unwilling to acknowledge I possess.
 9. The sin I am most unwilling to give up.
 10. The sin I am continually trying to persuade myself is an infirmity.
 11. The sin which must be put aside in order for me to enjoy full salvation.
 12. The sin which is as dear as my right eye, but which must be given up.
- "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." Heb. 12:1, 2. —Selected.

ENGAGEMENT WITH UNBELIEVERS

Tests of Love

Before giving her hand in marriage, every woman should inquire whether he with whom she is about to unite her destiny is worthy. What has been his past record? Is his life pure? Is the love which he expresses of a noble, elevated character, or is it a mere emotional fondness? Has he the traits of character that will make her happy? Can she find true peace and joy in his affection? Will she be allowed to preserve her individuality, or must her judgment and conscience be surrendered to the control of her husband? As a disciple of Christ, she is not her own; she has been bought with a price. Can she honor the Saviour's claims as supreme? Will body and soul, thoughts and purposes, be preserved pure and holy? These questions have a vital bearing upon the well-being of every woman who enters the marriage relation.

Religion is needed in the home. Only this can prevent the grievous wrongs which so often embitter married life. Only where Christ reigns, can there be deep, true, unselfish love. Then soul will be knit with soul, and the two lives will blend in harmony. Angels of God will be guests in the home, and their holy vigils will hallow the marriage chamber. Debasing sensuality will be banished. Upward to God will the thoughts be directed; to Him will the heart's devotion ascend.

Results of Disobedience

The heart yearns for human love, but this love is not strong enough or pure enough, or precious enough, to supply the place of the love of Jesus. Only in her Saviour can the wife find wisdom, strength, and grace to meet the cares, responsibilities, and sorrows of life. She should make Him her strength and her guide. Let woman give herself to Christ before giving herself to any earthly friend, and enter into no relation which shall conflict with this. Those who find true happiness must have the blessing of Heaven upon all they possess and all that they do. It is disobedience to God that fills so many hearts and homes with misery. *My sister, unless you would have a home where the shadows are never lifted, do not unite yourself with one who is an enemy of God.*

As one who expects to meet these words in the judgment, I entreat you to ponder the step you contemplate taking. Ask yourself, "Will not an unbelieving husband lead my thoughts away from Jesus? He is a lover of pleasure more than a lover of God; will he not lead me to enjoy the things that he enjoys?" The path to eternal life is steep and rugged. Take no additional weights to retard your progress. . . .

I would warn you of your danger before it shall be too late. You listen to

KINDNESS

Kindness widens the circle of friendship, and has "Thank you" written all over its face, while it hangs onto its tongue.

Kindness is the master key to all locks on barred hearts.

Kindness, like sunlight, hunts every corner in the room and bathes it with soft radiance.

Kindness begets love.

Kindness took the lifeless body of Jesus from the cross and carefully placed it in a new tomb.

Kindness is a gulf stream to a north country.

Kindness works without a knowledge of its salary.

Kindness is the chief foreman in the shop of good works.

Kindness fans the sparks of worthy motive, and smothers flames of evil desires.

Kindness places a sun in somebody's sky, and stations a full moon for the blackness of their night.

Kindness is a patch for every puncture and blowout.

Kindness is the eraser on the pencil of endeavor.

Kindness may not always seem kind. Kindness is a close relative to courage.

Kindness is the mother of confidence and happiness.

Kindness is the helm of sea-going vessels.

Kindness is the Christian's oil.

Kindness is a jewel from the mines of heaven.

Kindness is "the cup of cold water" of the Bible.

Kindness is the good Samaritan of today.

Kindness receives its reward both here and hereafter.

—The Medical Evangelist.

smooth, pleasant words, and are led to believe that all will be well; but you do not read the motives that prompt these fair speeches. You cannot see the depths of wickedness hidden in the heart. You cannot look behind the scenes, and discern the snares that Satan is laying for your soul. He would lead you to pursue such a course that he can obtain easy access, to aim his shafts of temptation against you. Do not give him the least advantage. While God moves upon the minds of his servants, Satan works through the children of disobedience. There is no concord between Christ and Belial. The two cannot harmonize. To connect with an unbeliever is to place yourself on Satan's ground. You grieve the Spirit of God and forfeit His protection. Can you afford to have such terrible odds against you in fighting the battle for everlasting life?

A Broken Engagement

You may say, "But I have given my promise, and shall I now retract it?" I answer, If you have made a promise contrary to the Scriptures, by all means retract it without delay, and in humility before God repent of the infatuation that led you to make so rash a pledge. Far better take back such a promise, in the fear of God, than keep it, and thereby dishonor your Maker.

Remember, you have a heaven to gain, an open path to perdition to shun. God means what He says. When He prohibited our first parents from eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge, their

disobedience opened the floodgates of woe to the whole world. If we walk contrary to God, He will walk contrary to us. Our only safe course is to render obedience to all His requirements, at whatever cost. All are founded in infinite love and wisdom.—Mrs. E. G. White in "Messages to Young People," pp. 439-442.

IN CHAINS FOR JESUS

Andre is chief of Acurima and of several other Indian villages. Acurima is four days' walk west of the Mt. Roraima Mission. He and eight of his people were baptized by Brother A. W. Cott while he was laboring on the plateau in 1930. Late in 1930 Brother and Sister Cott came out from the mission, and they have not been able to return to these children of the forest since.

Soon after they left the plateau, Catholic priests accompanied by officers of the government went up there, and the priests have been trying to persuade the Indians to accept the Catholic faith.

Chief Andre refused to do this, and was put in chains for a time. Later he was released from his chains, but was shut up in a house and kept there as a prisoner. At last he broke out of his prison, ran away, and joined a party of English surveyors. He has been with them for some time.

Lately the government of Venezuela sent an officer to the plateau who is more kindly disposed toward the Indians, and Andre has been reinstated as chief at Acurima, and he and his people are permitted to observe the Sabbath unmolested. They are pleading for the return of the missionaries, and we hope God will soon make it possible for us to locate workers among them once more.

W. R. ELLIOTT.

Port of Spain, Trinidad.

The Pillars of the State

The pillars of the state are not
Of oak and cedar wrought,
And ornamented with the wealth
Of human skill and thought.

The pillars of the state are not
Of carved Corinthian stone
Whereon have cunning chisels cut
The dream of art alone.

The pillars of the state are not
Of sculptured granite gray,
Tall massive columns framed to last
Though empires should decay!

The pillars of the state are not
Of iron, bronze, or steel,
No pillars such as these support
Our glorious common weal!

However critics may contend
Or demagogues debate,
Our children are, in very truth,
The pillars of the state.

And what they learn and what they spurn
Shall make them base or great;
Have care, have care, rude hands, and spare
The pillars of the state!

—Arthur Goodenough.

What Will it Mean?

What does Big Week mean? It means another special opportunity for united soul winning work. It is a time when you are surrounded in a special way with the prayers of the believers throughout the division as you go forth to scatter the pages of truth and seek for those who need a personal Saviour. Think what this means!

And Big Week means even more than this: It gathers funds to send the good news of the kingdom to still others. Think what that means!

Your help may mean more than one soul in the kingdom. Think what that will mean!

Your failure to do your best in this special effort might mean more than one soul lost. Think what that would mean!

After prayer and study the following books were chosen for our use in this special campaign:

- "The Challenge of the 20th Century."
- "A Journey to Happy Healthland."
- "Steps to Christ."

What will the Big Week mean to you this year? What will it mean to you in the kingdom? Now is the time to answer these questions?

REMEMBER THE DATE! MAY 7 TO 14.

GIDEON'S BAND

Three hundred chosen men, working under the direction of the angel of the Lord, were sufficient to put to rout the innumerable multitude of Midian, and to deliver the land of Israel from the hand of the oppressor. In these closing days of earth's history there is a similar task confronting the church of God. An innumerable multitude must hear the gospel before the Saviour will come to deliver His people from this sin-cursed world. Those who are fearful and afraid may volunteer for this service, but they will never be able to win the battle.

Schools have been raised up in the church by the Lord for the purpose of removing fear and timidity from the heart. To these institutions the fearful and afraid may come, and after a period of training the Lord will give courage and confidence to the youth. Trained young people working under the guidance of the Holy Spirit will be able to do their part in swelling the proclamation of the Third Angel's Message into the loud cry.

A new school plant is now under construction in Costa Rica. This school is for all of the young people who speak Spanish in Central America and in Colombia and Venezuela. Here the Lord designs to prepare you for a place in Gideon's Band that you may have an active part in reaping the fields that are now ready for the harvest. Are you willing to come? Are you preparing to come? Are you praying to come? Write the principal for full particulars. Apartado 1325, San José, Costa Rica.

W. H. WINELAND.

San José, Costa Rica.

ONLY CHURCH NOT CONDEMNED

I have not seen the destruction yet, but have had a number of letters from Brother Sales and Sister Baisden regarding it, and have talked with some eye-witnesses, so I am able to give you the facts relative to our work.

The quake was very bad, in fact it is the worst that they have had in Santiago de Cuba for about 150 years. Since the first destructive quake there have been over sixty tremors so the people are frightened all the time, and there is question whether it is advisable to rebuild the city. A large per cent of the houses and buildings are completely destroyed, and it is estimated that at least ninety per cent are damaged. The greater damage was in the business section; and, as it happened in the middle of the night, comparatively few people were killed. Many, however, were injured.

The Lord was merciful to our people, not allowing one to be hurt. Sister Baisden writes that the plaster fell down on them while they were asleep; and the house was so badly damaged that they had to move to another place. The church building was only cracked on the front porch and can be repaired with a few dollars. *Our church is the only religious place of worship that can be used for public meetings.* All others are condemned by the authorities, but they have given us permission to continue the use of our church, and it is filled to overflowing. Brother Sales, also, has been preaching in the park down by the sea front to large congregations of five to seven hundred people. He is stressing the signs of the times.

Santa Clara, Cuba. A. A. DAVIS.

Calendar

Big Week	May 7-14
Education Day	July 9
Messenger Day	August 10
Week of Sacrifice	November 20-26
Week of Prayer	December 10-17

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INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

Editor—MRS. E. E. ANDROSS

Published monthly as the Official Organ of the Inter-American Division Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Box O, Balboa, Canal Zone. Price 50 cents a year.

Entered at Cristobal, Canal Zone, as second-class matter under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.