I wish that every believer in all the Inter-American Division could have been present at the recent Fall Council meeting of the General Conference Committee that was held in Battle Creek, Michigan, U.S.A. I have been attending these Autumn Councils for many years and always have received a great spiritual inspiration as the result; but I can truthfully say that this meeting that has just closed was the most inspiring of any that I ever attended. The recent General Conference session held in San Francisco was a wonderful meeting, but because of the large attendance at such a meeting, it was not possible to have the close, intimate contact with the fellow-workers that one enjoys at a meeting like the one recently held in Battle Creek.

The appropriations voted by the Council for the work of the General Conference overseas Divisions and home work amounted to 5,429,000 dollars. This naturally does not include the expense of operating all of the local and union conferences in the North American field, but only the expense of the General Conference. This amount represented a large increase over last year. The base appropriations in the Inter-American Division were increased some 34,000 dollars. In addition to this, we have voted to us 52,000 dollars for special projects such as training schools and so forth; and in addition to that, several thousand dollars more for help in two or three church-building projects.

While we are very grateful for this splendid financial help that has been given in addition to our regular budget, yet the needs of the field are so great and the calls are so pressing we do hope that some way may be devised by which even additional funds can be secured. We cannot depend entirely upon appropriations from the General Conference to meet these needs, but must do our best to meet some of them with funds from our own division.

I am happy that the church members in the Inter-American Division are sensing the responsibility of evangelizing the fields within our territory, and that responsibility is being demonstrated by the very splendid increase in tithes and mission offerings which you, my brethren and sisters, are giving. We are proud of what you have done, but we must do more and still more for the time to work is short. Soon “the night cometh when no man can work.”

From December 10 to 18 the Division Council was held in Balboa. Following that meeting, the Colombia-Venezuela Union session was held in Medellin; after that the session for the Central American Union convenes in San José, Costa Rica; and will be followed by the Antillian Union session in Santa Clara, Cuba; and then the last of the meetings will be the Mexican Union session in March, in Monterrey, Mexico. Inasmuch as we held a session for the Caribbean Union in September, we are omitting that from our regular union meetings for 1942. I earnestly solicit the prayers of all of our people that the plans laid at these very important committee meetings beginning with the Division Council in Balboa, may prove to be all that God expects and that His will and His mind may be fully seen in all of the decisions that are reached.

Just a word of encouragement. We are hoping and expecting that the baptisms for 1941 may reach 5,000. Our great task in the Inter-American Division is to carry the message to the many honest-hearted people who are longing for knowledge and whose minds are open to receive truth. While we shall be happy and grateful for the 5,000, when we reach that number, yet we should set as our goal for 1942 many, many more than that. I believe we should be baptizing between 10,000 and 15,000 every year in the Inter-American Division; and if we rally to the task and every member does his or her best to win souls, that goal can easily be reached.

I have great faith in the believers in this field. I have contacted many thousands of you in my trip through the division and I know that deep in your hearts there is a great love for this message and an earnest desire to spread the glorious tidings of a soon-
THE BLACK SPECK ON THE SHEET

By F. D. NICHOL

The story is told of a professor who hung up on a wall of his classroom a very large sheet of white paper purposely blank except for one small spot. He then asked his pupils to look intently at the sheet and tell him what they saw. Each, in succession, answered that all he saw was a small black spot. Their chagrin and embarrassment was great when the professor dryly observed that their powers of observation must be very limited if all they were able to see was a small black spot. He wanted to know why none of them saw the great white expanse of the paper.

This story illustrates a very common experience in life. How many times we see in some fellow only the little black specks; at least that is all we comment on. We seem quite blind to the fact that there may be a wide expanse of good and fine white qualities. Singular indeed is our capacity for discerning some little blemish, some small defect in others. What sorrow we generate in our home and in the church because of our capacity for seeing the black specks.

A Strange Phenomenon

There is something equally strange in our dealings with our families and with others close to us, like church members. When one of them dies, we are quite unable to see any black speck. We see only the great expanse of rare white qualities and we discourse at length upon them. There is no explanation for this strange phenomenon, unless it be that our tears have cleared our vision and enabled us to see things in better perspective.

Sympathy and sorrow do wonders for our eye-sight, and those rare graces of love and mercy likewise clear the vision.

What troubles we would remove from our homes and from the church if we viewed others through eyes soft with sympathy, love, and, if need be, mercy. What does the Good Book say of the God whom we serve? We read that He has not dealt with us after our sins nor rewarded us according to our iniquities, for He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust. And it is only because God looks at us through eyes of wondrous love, solicitude, and mercy, that He sees in us anything at all worth saving.

When we are tempted to look critically upon someone, would it not be well for us to ask ourselves very sternly the question, Am I viewing my brother or my sister through eyes of sympathy and mercy? Am I looking at a black speck and shutting my eyes to the white expanse of good qualities?

Why Spare Only the Dead?

We often hear the injunction, Speak only well of the dead. We would not want to question this time-honored command, but we have never been able to see why the dead, who have no feelings to be hurt, should be protected so well, while living, sensitive souls should be the rightful victims of any attack the human tongue might wish to make. This does not quite seem to make sense, certainly not for Seventh-day Adventists, who believe that the dead know not anything, but that the living are very much alive. We would not advocate one whit less of respect for the dead; we simply suggest that there would be more happiness in living both in our homes and in the church, if we treated the living as decently as we treat the dead in this matter of what we say concerning them.

Certainly all of us have black specks in these poor lives of ours, and our Lord had this in mind when He spoke of those who could see a mote in their brother's eye. He added that such persons had beams in their own eyes. Whenever we are tempted to be critical of others, to see black specks in their characters, we should find in this a warning signal that perhaps even blacker specks or greater blotches exist in our own character. We believe this to be a fair deduction from the words of our Lord.

We have also noticed that the person who has a strange capacity for seeing the specks in the lives of others is generally of a hard, critical nature. You feel not altogether at ease with such a person, and you feel even less at ease at the thought of leaving him, lest he begin to point out your defects to those who remain. If such a hard soul could only dissolve in tears at times, he would be much softer and his eyesight much better.

We have observed one thing more. That is, that when we begin praying sincerely, wholeheartedly, for someone, we cease to call attention to his failings. We try to discover something good to say about him, and to him. You just cannot be critical of a man and at the same time be sincerely, devoutly praying for him.

We need more prayers and tears. They would solve and dissolve many a problem that arises from critical tongues and from eyes strangely focused on the defects of our fellow man. Prayers and tears! What a simple formula! It is the formula that our Lord employed throughout His earthly ministry. How often He prayed for men, and how often He wept over them! Let us thank God that He both prayed and wept for us, and let us follow in His steps.—"Review and Herald," Vol. 118, No. 41, Aug. 14, 1941.

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION

A VISIT TO THE BAY ISLANDS

During my recent trip through the local fields of the Central American Union, it was my privilege to visit the three islands of the Bay Island group, in company with Elder C. E. Westphal, director of the Honduras Mission.

First, we visited the island of Utila, where we found our brethren of very good courage and the work moving along in fine shape. All three of the islands were recently visited by a terrific hurricane which destroyed hundreds of homes. Utila was severely hit, and many of our members lost their coconut crops. We have a fine church in this beautiful island, and our members were hard at work in the Harvest In-gathering in spite of the disaster.

Next we visited several churches on the island of Roatan. This larger island was badly hit by the storm, and in several sections we found 75 per cent of the houses blown down by the wind or carried away by the terrible waves that swept the seashore. Hundreds of people were left without homes, and entire coconut groves and banana plantations...
were lost. There was one particular thing which attracted our attention, and that was the fact that practically all of the church buildings belonging to other denominations were either blown off their foundations or totally lost during the storm. But God protected His houses of worship, and our nine fine little church buildings are still standing, not having lost a single shingle, in spite of the fact that several of them are right on the ocean edge and were exposed to terrible blows of the waves and wind.

At last we arrived at the interesting island of Bonacca, where we met Elder Rankin and his growing work. God has blessed this brother in his service during the last year; and up to the month of September, Elder Rankin had baptized a total of 99 souls, mostly as a result of efforts in the island of Bonacca. One of the largest churches in the Central American Union is located on the lower keys of this island. Our brethren here also lost much as a result of the storm. We found that their Harvest Ingathering, Sabbath-school offerings and tithes were coming in well, and all members were of good courage.

In the island of Bonacca our attention was called to the many young people in our churches. It is considered that we have over 150 young men and women who are in need of a school, many of them between 15 and 30 years of age. I believe that every effort possible should be made to establish a school here in these islands for these children and young people. Several of them are in our training school in San José, Costa Rica, and still others are making plans to be there in 1942.

The work in these islands has been established for many years, and I believe the Lord is finishing the work in this section of the field, for practically every soul of the islands has either accepted or has had an opportunity to accept it.

N. H. Kinzer

MATAGALPA, NICARAGUA

The year 1941 has been a year of advance for the cause of truth in Nicaragua. Another city in this needy field has been warned, and now two Sabbath schools are functioning in Matagalpa, which is one of Nicaragua's most important cities located in the mountain regions. These two schools have 45 members, six of which were baptized at the recent baptismal service held on the 19th of November.

The truth first came to Matagalpa by means of our colporteurs, and then later by Brother Antonio Guzmán's faithful little missionary family. This brother, by his missionary visits, Bible Readings and consistent living, has won many friends for the advent message in Matagalpa.

Recently it was my privilege to hold an effort for this city in a coffee-assorting shed. Our attendance was good and many heard the truth preached from night to night. An interesting comment has been that now the shed, instead of being a coffee-sorting establishment, has become a sorting establishment for the kingdom of God.

E. N. Reveño

PANAMA YOUTH'S CRUSADE

Recently the youth from the five English-speaking churches of the Pacific side of the Isthmus of Panama were privileged and blessed in their attendance at the “Panama Youth's Crusade” which was held at the Panama English church from July 18 to 27, 1941.

This Youth's Crusade, the first of its kind in the history of the conference, was conducted by Brother B. L. Archbold, the educational, home missionary and missionary volunteer secretary of the conference. He was ably assisted by Mrs. Archbold in the music of the services and in the visiting program, and in a general way by Brother S. F. Clarke. The crusade consisted of a well-planned, well-organized series of 12 meetings, the purpose of which was to give the youth of the community a new outlook on life, and to bring backsliders, old and young, to the fold of safety once again.

From the first night of the series, crowds of young people came, eager to hear the speaker, as he told about “Youth's Greatest Need,” which, he said, is Jesus, who can solve all the problems of youth. The subject was presented with such force and directness that all present resolved not to miss the succeeding nights of the series. The second subject was presented at eleven o'clock on Sabbath morning, and the auditorium could not accommodate the throng that gathered to learn from the speaker's lips the blessedness there is in ignorance, when that ignorance is restricted to the pleasures, sins, and temptations of the world, for then these things have no attraction for Christian youth. In the afternoon the young people from all the five churches gathered to hear the speaker present the subject, “The Right Kind of Music and Recreation,” and many of their questions on the subject were well answered.

Throughout the week practical subjects were presented, such as: “Discouragement of Youth in the Christian Life,” “Social Purity,” “What Shall We Read?,” “Compromise and Consecration,” and “The Touch of the Master's Hand,” which was the outstanding study of the week and dealt with the influence that Christ can exert on a human life. On the second Friday night, the subject was “The Spirit of the Prodigal,” and a special call was made for backsliders to return to God and the truth. Many responded to this call, and took their stand anew with the people of God. On Sabbath, at the noon hour, Brother Archbold spoke about the “Victorious Life,” and how to live it; then in the afternoon he again had a heart-to-heart talk with the young people on the problem of friendship and marriage.

On the last night of the crusade, young and old flowed into the auditorium from an early hour, and at a half an hour before the meeting started, there was left only standing room. Over 900 people heard the stirring message presented, which was “The Unpardonable Sin.” Preceding this, there was a half hour of special music by the choir, which was practiced and directed by Brother Archbold. Along with the music, there was a feature on “The New Earth” by Brother S. F. Clarke.

That evening a book sale was held by Brother Roy F. Williams, of the Book and Bible House, and many good books were sold. The young people took advantage of the good opportunity and many bought the book, “Messages to Young People,” at the reduced price, and other books for youth such as “Is Love Enough?,” “Marked Bible,” “Love, Courtship and Marriage,” etc. The sale was a success, and the total sales amounted to 101.07 dollars.

As a result of the Panama Youth's Crusade, 80 persons are now organized into a Bible class which meets in the Panama English church every Thursday night. Brother Archbold instructs them on the fundamentals of Bible doc-

(Continued on page 5)
THE STORY OF THE BIRTH OF HARVEST INGATHERING

It is remarkable how God has step by step led this people along the pathway of light from the very beginning back in those thrilling days of the 1844 movement. Developments did not all come at once, nor did they all start with the same person or persons. God used humble men and women of His own choosing to bring about reforms as well as new plans and developments in the course of the message.

It was in the year 1902 that God called that Christian nobleman, Jasper Wayne, of Waukon, Iowa, U. S. A., to commence the idea of Ingathering for Missions. Brother Wayne conceived the idea that by a systematic effort in the distribution of a suitably prepared publication setting forth the needs of missionary advance in all lands, a large amount of money could be gathered for foreign missions. He presented the plan to the leaders of our work, and although at first it did not meet with favor, he persisted in his plan until finally it was decided to give it at least a trial. It proved to be a heaven-born idea, and developed into a movement which has been, and continues to be, an indispensable part of our denominational program, providing annually over one-third of all our mission funds. We shall let him who is dead, and yet speaketh, tell the story. Here is the way it was narrated by Jasper Wayne in the year 1920, just before his death:

"The Harvest Ingathering work was started in a very humble and inconspicuous manner, but from the very first step an unseen hand has guided all the way, until we have the present splendidly organized Harvest Ingathering plan. As I recall the incidents and experiences of the years my kind and loving Father led me and guided my faltering steps, my heart burns within me, and my prayer is that these words may impress upon others the personal care our Father bestows upon His sons and daughters.

"In the year 1902, a small company of believers lived in Sac City, Iowa. Our hearts were filled with an earnest desire to do what we could to advance the message in our neighborhood, and in the fall of that year a special issue of the Signs of the Times appeared, known as the 'Capital and Labor' number. I ordered 50 copies of this paper, and considered the disposal of this number quite an undertaking. On receiving the papers at the post-office, I unwrapped them and began to hand them out to the people standing in the lobby of the post-office, stating that the money received would go to the cause of foreign missions. To my surprise and delight, in a very short time all my papers were gone, except three, and I had over 4 dollars in money for missions.

"About ten days later, on going to the post-office as usual, I found another package of 50 papers awaiting me. The former package had been sent from the tract society office in Des Moines, and this second package came from the office of publication in Oakland, California. I was not a subscriber to the Signs at that time, and I have never found out how my order came to be duplicated. But there is One who does know, and who knew from the first what use would be made of the papers. This was the beginning of miracles in Harvest Ingathering.

"On taking the papers home, I said to my wife, I shall see how much can be secured for these papers for our annual offering to missions. I took the papers with me in my buggy to use as occasion offered. The first man I accosted gave me 15 cents; the next, 18 cents; and a lady gave me 25 cents. This gave me courage to suggest 25 cents thereafter, which the people readily gave me, some giving large sums, until with this 50 papers I had collected about 26 dollars for missions.

"It was with feelings of deep emotion that I emptied the contents of that glass upon the table at the time of the annual offering. The possibilities in this plan of securing money for missions loomed up before me, and I at once ordered 400 copies of the Signs. These I carried with me for about a year, securing in all about 100 dollars in return for them. Not only did I receive this sum of money, but I obtained a rich experience as I explained the object and aims of our work.

"I began writing to our leading men in regard to the work, relating my experiences and the success attending my efforts. I received many encouraging letters in reply, but it seemed difficult to get the work started. The matter continued to exercise my mind night and day.

"About this time a joint camp-meeting of the Iowa and Nebraska Conferences was held at Omaha, Nebraska, and I decided to go to the meeting and try to interest the workers in this plan. Sister White was present at this camp-meeting, but I was informed that it would be impossible to interview her in regard to any details, as her time must be kept free for speaking and writing. I spoke first to one worker and then to another, but they were all so busy with their own plans that they had no time to consider what I had to say. Providence intervened, however, and an opportunity was presented for me to tell the president of the Nebraska Conference of my plan. He was interested, and said, 'You may have one of the meetings, Brother Wayne, and explain your plan to the people, and perhaps you may interest some.' Not having had experience as a public speaker, I was taken back at such a proposition, but the Lord gave me courage to speak before a large audience. W. C. White was deeply interested in what I had to say, and when I concluded my remarks, he urged the people to enter this 'open door.' He also asked me to call and see his mother, as he wanted her to hear about the plan. This was just the opportunity I desired, and again I saw the hand of the Lord leading.

"When I called to talk with Sister White, I found her engaged in writing, but she laid aside her manuscript and greeted me pleasantly, saying that her son had told her of my desire to see her, and something of the object of my call. I then related my impressions concerning the work and the experiences I had had. She manifested a deep interest, and assured me that she considered it a most excellent plan, and that she would do all she could to help bring it before the people. This interview was the event of my life. Although 15 years have elapsed since then, the scene and impression are as vivid as if it were but yesterday. I knew that the success of the Harvest Ingathering work was assured.

"From this time on the plan was taken up by the General Conference Committee, and I was entirely relieved of
further responsibility in promoting the work. However, year by year I have had a part in this blessed work, which has to date brought into the mission treasury more than 1,000,000 dollars, and has each year helped to tide the mission budget over an embarrassing situation.” See Review and Herald, Vol. 110, No. 34, August 24, 1933.

WESLEY AMUNDSEN

PANAMA YOUTH'S CRUSADE

(Continued from page 3)

GROUPS. This group consists of young people who have taken their stand for the first time, backsliders who have returned to the church, and a few older persons who have decided to cast their lot with the people of God. It is expected that a good percentage of these will join the baptismal class and become regular members of the church.

J. A. MAYNARD,
Panama City.

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

THE COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION TRAINING SCHOOL

The Colombia-Venezuela Union Training School is about to conclude its fifth term of school-work. Many things have contributed to make this the most important as well as the most difficult year in its history.

Shortly before the close of the first semester, the school was moved to its new location, where new buildings were in preparation. The distance from the old to the new school was about 10 miles. Teachers and students all cooperated heartily in making the move.

The girls' dormitory was completed before moving, but the boys' building was unfinished. It was far enough along, however, to provide sleeping quarters. Brother Foster, who had directed the construction from the first, bent every energy to complete the work, and by the second of September we were able to move the office and classrooms to the first floor of the boys' dormitory, thus relieving the congested condition in the other building.

Immediately after moving, we found that our water supply was inadequate. Now we have our second well, which has been one of our latest and most important material blessings of the year. Since obtaining the second well, we have had abundance of water, and it is calculated that we could, if necessary, duplicate the quantity of water which is now being used.

It was unfortunate that we had to begin this school-year in the old location. It was in a malarial district and we had in previous years escaped the sickness, but this year it caught us. At one time four teachers were down all at once, besides several students. Between the malaria and the construction work, there was at one time only one teacher who was able to carry on his classroom work. After moving to the new location, it was hoped that our trouble in that respect would end, but we found that the infection contracted in the former place had been carried over to the new and there are still outbreaks of malaria. Some teachers and students have been down four or five times.

Due to the repeated and severe attacks of malaria, as was the case of Brother Woodland, it was thought best that Brother and Sister Woodland take their furlough immediately, although they had not planned to do so until after the close of the school-year. That again threw extra burdens upon the remaining teachers.

We believe the situation to be somewhat improved of late. Our quarters have all been screened and we are learning better how to combat the disease. Notwithstanding all of this, there is an encouraging phase. We have two beautiful commodious buildings; a bakery, where several students are working their way through school; an increasing demand for our bakery products in the city, and a carpentry-shop now nearing completion. There were 56 students enrolled this year. Two will graduate from the twelfth grade. There are 10 in the junior class, and seven are graduating from the eighth grade. There are prospects that 80 per cent of the students will be in the colporteur work when vacation begins. All are of good courage. We believe that the trials and hardships have certain lessons for us, and that it is our privilege to profit by them. It is with this spirit that our teachers and students are looking into the future.

G. W. CHAPMAN,
Principal.

THE GREATEST SOUL-WINNING YEAR—1942

(Continued from page 1)

coming Saviour everywhere you can. But it is so easy for us to become absorbed in our every-day work that we oftentimes fail to do all that we might have done. Shall we not, at the beginning of the year, covenant again with God that 1942 shall be the greatest soul-winning year in all the history of this great field, and that we as individual members may be found doing our best in faithfully spreading the glad tidings? Remember, the Lord is depending on you and on me. He has no other way of telling the hungry, waiting souls of the plan of redemption unless we tell it. Shall we not respond to His urgent invitation which says: “Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all nations, . . . and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world?” Matt. 28:19, 20, A. R. V.

PROGRESS IN OTHER FIELDS

We have received from the General Conference Publishing Department a letter which was written by Brother H. L. Shull of the Signs of the Times Publishing House in Shanghai, China. The following excerpts from the letter give a report of the conditions and progress of the work in this field at the present time.

“In 1937-38, at the outbreak of the war, we could gather no encouragement from the struggle that was going on in China. In 1939, we moved back to Shanghai from Hong Kong and erected our new office building, but there was still no positive assurance that we were going to be permitted to carry on our normal activities. It was only by faith and belief in the triumph of this message and consciousness of a duty to proclaim it, even in troubled times, that we proceeded with the restoration of our plant and the return to normal ways of conducting our business. . . . “While the field organization has been putting forth strenuous efforts to reach goals, our publishing house staff has been strained to the limit to keep up
with the increased business. There were days when our office was receiving, on an average, 400 subscriptions to the Signs daily, and the addressing department had to put on a night shift in order to cope with the situation. Although our physical facilities are limited to adequately meet the great need in China today, there is still no reason why we cannot do more than we are now doing with the facilities which we now have at our disposal. God has marvelously blessed the literature work, and with this as a promise of what might be done in the future, there seems to be no limit to the possibilities for service among this people for whom we labor.

“Prior to October, 1940, it was found impossible to mail any books or other non-periodical printed matter to unoccupied China, and since that time the post-office has also refused to accept even magazines or second-class matter of any kind because of lack of facilities for the transport of large quantities of mail.

“Unoccupied China includes Yunnan, Kweichow, Szechuen, parts of Kwangsi, Kwangtung, Kiangsi, Hunan and Honan, and all of the North West China Union. As a result of these severe restrictions, very unusual methods were resorted to in getting books and other printed matter into the Central, West, and Northwest China Unions. Brother Longway, at great personal inconvenience and sacrifice, has taken several shipments through by truck; and Brother Loewen managed a shipment via Rangoon, Burma, some months ago. These shipments generally consisted of literature, departmental promotion materials, medical supplies, groceries, and other supplies. Each of the trips has been hazardous, and as time goes on they have become more difficult and extremely expensive to make. Several shipments of literature were made to Honan and Northwest by way of Pengpu, but this route has also been closed.

“For a time we contemplated sending the Signs to West China by way of Hong Kong, but before we could do much about this route, it was cut by the Japanese army. Some papers have been mailed to Kwangsi and Kwangtung via Hong Kong, but the cost of the postage alone by this method cost more than the total income on the magazine. All of West China and Northwest China, and the greater part of Central China, and part of the South China Unions are now without means of obtaining supplies of literature of any kind, and the colporteur work is practically at a standstill.

“At the present moment, we are working long hours, preparing books and other literature which is to be packed in boxes and sent to the unoccupied areas by freight to Rangoon and thence by truck to the West. We expect to have this shipment ready by the middle of March. It may be our last effort along this line, therefore we are sending all the literature we possibly can, including books and magazines.

“We have a big program outlined for us during 1942. A number of new books are in process of preparation. We plan to push right ahead and do all we can to produce the necessary literature for our evangelists and colporteurs in the field. We would request your prayers and the prayers of our people everywhere on behalf of the literature work in China during these troublous times.”

 Truly, “the time has come when a large work should be done by the canvassers. The world is asleep, and as watchmen they are to ring the warning bell to awake the sleepers to their danger. The churches know not the time of their visitation. Often they can best learn the truth through the efforts of the canvasser. Those who go forth in the name of the Lord are His messengers to give to the multitudes who are in darkness and error the glad tidings of salvation through Christ in obeying the law of God.” —“Colporteur Evangelist,” p. 8.

W. A. BERGERHEM

TWO INTERESTING LETTERS
(Continued from page 8)

body here is ready to help a foreigner, giving the information he needs. With reason it is commonly called the land of the tourists. In all the aforementioned cities I was able to get in touch with our people, thanks to the cooperation of the taxi drivers.

“In Washington I was out sight-seeing alone and without a guide-book one night until two o’clock in the morning. The red light which hung in the fog over the Washington monument, at about 200 meters in the air, served me as a landmark. I visited the White House, the War Department, the Navy Department, and the Federal Reserve Bank, which is the biggest bank in the world. Here they have the highest and most powerful financial authorities on the globe. They handle about 80 per cent of all the gold on earth.

“The next day I went up the Washington monument, a very high and wonderful obelisk. Everything is greatness, iron and angles. I was several hours in the Capitol building. I saw the statues of the great heroes of America, the great leaders of democracy and freedom. I visited the Lincoln monument, that of the Unknown Soldier, the Congressional Library, the museums, the Mint and other beautiful edifices of marble among tree and hills.

I visited the publishing house in Takoma Park, and the offices of the General Conference, whence our work for the whole world is directed. I had a room in our sanitarium there. It all seems beautiful, marvellous and magnificent. In th city of Takoma Park alone there are more than 2,500 Adventists. In this place there are no saloons (bars), houses of ill fame, nor gambling houses.

“In Chicago I visited our academy, with its various industries and factories. I also visited the beautiful sanitarium and hospital, the publishing house and others of our institutions there. All the workers take pains to help the missionaries who come from any part of the world, in order that they may take back with them the best of impressions. All the workers wish to go to Colombia and work, or to any other country where there is such a great interest. Here there are Lutherans, Pentecostals, Baptists, Methodists, Catholics, Jehovah’s Witnesses and worldliness. For this reason I believe that it is easier to work in our coun-

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INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

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try. With pleasure I return to labor there.

"I arrived at this city yesterday at three o’clock in the afternoon. Nobody met me upon my arrival, but a big bus which passes near the office of Mr. Dorn left me near there and I had no difficulty in getting contact with those of like faith. This brother has so many missionaries to help every day that he only has time to give each one the information he needs and let him arrange his documents for departing, and he has to arrange it the best he can. Thanks to the Lord, because I succeeded in arranging mine without great difficulty and I am now ready to leave.

"I spoke in one of the Spanish churches and had the good fortune of becoming acquainted with the wife and children of Brother Lopez, our faithful colporter who was assassinated in El Cobre, Venezuela. I found in the church some Colombians and Venezuelans. They were happy to hear how things are going in those lands.

"Fraternal greetings to one and to all in that mission. JORGE ESCANDÓN H."

AT REST

Mrs. Marietta Forbes, of San Andrés Island, in the Panama Conference, passed away at her home at three o’clock, Friday afternoon, October 3, 1941. She was buried the next day at 4:00 p. m., the service being conducted by Brother J. H. Lynton. Sister Forbes was 92 years old. She leaves an older sister and other relatives to mourn their loss. She died in full faith of the first resurrection.

Jarrett Emsley Wood was born at Grand Cayman Island, Jamaica, February 16, 1852, and died at Oak Ridge, Roatan, Honduras, September 26, 1941.

He accepted the third angel’s message under the labors of Elder F. J. Hutchins and was baptized and became a charter member of the Bonacca church in 1892. He remained faithful to the end. Brother Wood was a constant subscriber and reader of the Review, as well as a faithful distributor of all our papers. He leaves to mourn their loss, five daughters, several grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends. Words of comfort were spoken by the writer.

Mrs. Alice Lloyd, a native of Jamaica, born in the parish of Westmoreland in the year 1865, quietly passed to her rest on the morning of October 23, 1941. She came to Costa Rica in the year 1893, as Mrs. Alice Johnson. Sustaining the loss of her husband, she was remarried to Brother Lloyd; and accepted the third angel’s message in 1923, being baptized on June 24 of that year. She served faithfully as deaconess for many years. Brother Lloyd mourns her passing, but hopes to meet her on the resurrection morning.

SAMUEL FARRELL

On July 20, 1941, Brother Francisco Meléndez died in Guanare, Venezuela. Brother Meléndez, together with your writer, accepted the Sabbath message in Camagüey, in June, 1920, from the mouth of Rafael López Miranda, the noted Adventist colporter who was slain in the Andes.

Your writer began to observe the Sabbath on July 3, 1920, and Brother Meléndez started in October of the same year. Our families joined with us. In 1921 Elders W. E. Baxter and D. D. Fitch, director and evangelist respectively of the Venezuela Mission, visited us. In February Brother Francisco Cabrera, then a Bible worker of the mission, was sent to help us, and prepared us for the baptismal service which was conducted by Elder W. E. Baxter on April 21, 1921. Twenty-two persons were buried in baptism at that time.

Later Brother Meléndez returned to his native city of Guanare, where he lived faithful in the ways of the Lord until death overtook him. We believe that when our Lord shall return to the earth, the tomb of Brother Meléndez will not be forgotten.

JULIO GARCÍA D.
"DEAR ELDER BAXTER:

As I promised, I write to tell you something of what I have seen, heard and felt.

We had a very pleasant trip from Colombia to San Francisco. In Cristobal, Canal Zone, we were met by Elder R. L. Odom. In the Spanish-speaking church I told them many of the experiences we had in our field. Brother Odom and the other brethren were very much encouraged by hearing about the work in Colombia. In Havana, Cuba, we spent a whole day and enjoyed it. In New Orleans we were met by a doctor, who took us to headquarters there and arranged things with another doctor so that we could leave soon after our arrival for Los Angeles, California. He, as well as his wife, are very earnest Christians. The trip was a very pleasant one. Miss Baxter helped a great deal in driving the car. In Glendale, California, I visited the sanitarium, the academy and the two churches. Also, in Los Angeles I visited the hospital and other institutions the brethren have there.

A young physician invited us to the great Civic Auditorium of Pasadena, California, for his graduation with some 80 others. The program was wonderful. There were not less than 3,000 persons present and among them, besides those graduated, there were 20 other Adventist doctors. It was one of the most impressive ceremonies I have ever seen.

The meetings of the General Conference have been grand. The representative of the city of San Francisco pronounced a discourse of welcome. The director of the American Bible Society came all the way from New York to commend the work of the representatives of the Adventist people from all parts of the world. Over the doors of the hotels there are large signs of welcome and announcements that they serve vegetarian meals. The local newspapers have devoted special editions in praise of our work, with long articles and abundant photographs.

"The first Sabbath there were more than 12,000 persons present in the Civic Auditorium. The near by Opera Hall had about 3,300, and in the church there were a large number. I have been told that there were in San Francisco more than 18,000 Adventists. It all reminds one of what joy there will be in heaven when all the elect will be present.

"I am sure that the presence of the Spirit of God accompanied us in all the services. It is beautiful to see those aged men who have been leaders of our movement give their testimonies and tell how they have been Adventists for 40, 50, 60 and more years, and of the experiences of spiritual triumphs won. I am fascinated at seeing those old men who do not have much strength for labor but who have much power of judgment and discernment.

"I have now a new concept of our work. Over there [in Colombia] we are working with the tips of our fingers, but here the work is being sustained with the arms. Everything on the premises here is order, harmony and love. The Chinese brethren embrace the Japanese. The questions of race, color and customs do not matter here. It is the beginning of the heavenly joys. On the day when our president was re-elected, all were in accord. Everything is unity.

"There is an unusual interest in Colombia. Everybody wishes to go and work in that country. I have tried to make known to them the needs we have there. This evening I spoke for seventy minutes. It seems that all were impressed, for various persons told me afterwards of their desire to go to that country. The offering for today was a special one, and one of the brethren gave a check for 8,000 dollars (about 14,500 Colombian pesos). It is believed that the offering possibly exceeded 50,000 dollars. There is a spirit of liberality here.

"The brethren do all they can in order to cause us who have come from the mission fields to return with the most favorable impressions. I have been swamped with invitations to visit different places.

"Special greeting to the colporteurs, and to the brethren everywhere. To all regards with Christian love,

Jorge Escandón H."

[Note: This second letter was written from New York, on June 18.]

"DEAR ELDER BAXTER:

"Now I find myself in the other extreme of this beautiful country of chewing gum, precision and skyscrapers. I have visited the cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles, Fresno, Kansas City, Chicago, Washington and New York. Everything has seemed to me to be wide and vast, like the Andes and the plains [in Colombia].

"In regard to the session of the General Conference in San Francisco, I can say that it has given me a new vision of the work of God, of its truly world-wide character, and of that Power which is able to take individuals out of all nations and form of them a new people united in heart into one body. Oh that the rulers of the nations would take this beautiful spectacle to heart!

"The return trip from San Francisco to this boorulous city I made alone. I thank God that I had no trouble whatever on account of the language. Every-
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