



Hold Fast the Faith

BY GLENN CALKINS
President, Inter-American Division

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for He is faithful that promised; let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." Hebrews 10:23, 24.

"Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck; of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander." 1 Timothy 1:19, 20.

IN THESE two passages of Scripture we have set forth the secret of success in the Christian life. We may begin well; we may strive for the mastery over sin; we may serve for many years in the cause of God, with apparent success; but if we do not hold fast the faith once delivered to the saints, if we do not continue with a good conscience, we shall find ourselves slipping, wavering, and losing our hold upon the greatest treasures that God has given to mankind. We shall find ourselves among those who have made shipwreck of their Christian experience.

Even in the early age of the Christian church, some made shipwreck of their faith. Little is known of the two believers whom Paul mentions in particular; but we do have a clear indication of what it was that led to their making shipwreck; for in verse nine we are exhorted to hold fast to faith and a good conscience; and it is strongly suggested that some who failed to do this, made shipwreck of the most precious experience men and women can have.

Conscience is that inward monitor against which we sin when we do those things that are contrary to our holy faith. This holy faith in which we have been instructed, is the faith

which God has planted in the human heart, and which He placed in the hearts and minds of the pioneers of this message. It is the substance of God's promises, and is the very foundation of all that His children hope for. It is the very heart and life of the message they are commanded to preach to all the world.

We do well to sing, "Faith of our fathers, holy faith. We will be true to thee till death." In the last days of peril some will depart from the faith because of iniquity. Others, because they have lost their first love; and still others will be deceived by the enemy, and will be led into paths of their own choosing. How perilous is the time in which we live! Yet none need fear for the future; for our great Leader has clearly pointed out the dangers, and has provided a way of escape from every snare of the enemy. Brethren and sisters, let us hold fast the faith!

The writer was once sailing in a small mission boat away down in southern seas, and was for a time, lost in a storm. All sight of land and of the sky was shut away from view by the fury of the storm, and the strong wind swept the little vessel off her course; for we did not have a compass on deck, but had been sailing by the sight of land in the distance. Clouds and mists enveloped us. Rocks, small islands, and sunken reefs were near; and we were in great peril. The darkness of night settled down upon us, to add to the seriousness of the situation.

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In the confusion and excitement of the storm, the little lifeboat which was had in tow, broke loose and was lost in the darkness. Finally a compass was brought from the cabin below, and we found that our little bark, which was being steered blindly by native sailors, was far off its course, and we were headed southeast, out into the open ocean! After two hours of terrible uncertainty, the clouds lifted a little, and we were able to discern the point of the headland, where was the entrance to our harbor.

Reaching safety at last, storm-battered, hungry, and tired, we thanked God for His goodness in bringing us safely through this trying experience, and resolved that we would be better prepared another time, and would follow carefully and constantly, the un-failing accuracy of the compass.

Thousands of people today are losing their faith and dulling their conscience by veering away into the dangerous seas of worldliness and disobedience, and are in grave danger of making shipwreck of their lives. Let us take heed that we be found not among those who have lost their sense of direction, who have neglected to be guided by the unerring compass of the Word of God, and who are lost in the gross darkness that covers the earth in these closing days of earth's history.

What about those holy standards of the faith set forth in the Bible and in the Testimonies? What about our good intentions to hold fast to the end? What about our baptismal vows, when we pledged our loyalty and our support of the work of God, and promised to take an active part in the work of giving the truth to others?

Are worldly pleasures, fashions, and the things of this world gaining the ascendancy in our lives? Some are "stiffing conscience until it can no longer penetrate the callous heart. Some have so long sacrificed principle that they cannot see the difference between the sacred and the common. . . . The day of test and trial is just before us. Let every man put on his true colors. . . . We are safe only when we are committed to the right."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 8, pp. 95, 96.

"Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul." Hebrews 10:35-39.

And when the Sadducees questioned the possibility of the resurrection, the reply of Jesus was, "Ye . . . do greatly err," "not knowing . . . the power of God."

In these many instances which have been cited, instead of thinking of "the power of God" the people thought of the forbidding circumstances and seemingly impossible obstacles. But in every instance we find that nothing proved "to hard for the Lord."

The Lesson for Today

Today we face the finishing of God's work in the earth. As we consider this task, there is danger of our thinking of it from the human standpoint. We are likely to think of the vast, un-entered territories; the upheavals of war, which have thrown the machinery of denominational organization into chaos in Europe and other parts of the world; the impossibility of workers traveling here and there to foster the work. In fact, there are almost endless human reasons for an attitude of doubt and mistrust of the promises of God.

As we dwell upon these matters there is great danger that the question "How?" may cause many to feel that "my Lord delayeth His coming." But in all these circumstances let us remember that it is "not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord," and that "with God all things are possible."

Our God is not a victim of circumstances or world changes, no matter what they may be. We may be sure that, notwithstanding these obstacles, "He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness."—*From Review and Herald, April 20, 1944.*

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Protection of God

"In the time of trouble just before the coming of Christ, the righteous will be preserved through the ministration of heavenly angels; but there will be no security for the transgressor of God's law. Angels cannot then protect those who are disregarding one of the divine precepts."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 256.*

"While Christ is dwelling in the heart, it is impossible to conceal the light of His presence, or for that light to grow dim. On the contrary, it will grow brighter and brighter as day by day the mists of selfishness and sin that envelop the soul are dispelled by the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 134.*

GOD'S PREVAILING POWER

BY ALLEN WALKER

Man has always "limited the Holy One of Israel." The Scriptures are replete with many examples of such an attitude. When the Lord said to Abraham, "Sarah thy wife shall have a son," Sarah heard it and "laughed within herself" at the impossibility of such a thing. The Lord heard her laugh and said, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

When the children of Israel thought of the scarcity of food in the wilderness through which they were called to pass, and at the same time of the two million or more making up their large number, they said, "Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?" This they said "because they believed not in God."

After the twelve spies had returned from spying out the land, the general report was, "We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we."

An again this same attitude of doubt is manifest in the lives of the disciples, when, before sending away the hungry multitude, Jesus suggested to the disciples that they be fed. Looking over the vast throng, and thinking of their scanty supply of food, the disciples said, "We have here but five loaves and two fishes," and "what are they among so many?"

When Zacharias was told, "Thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son," Zacharias said, "Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years."

Also Mary, upon being informed by the angel that she was to be the mother of Jesus, inquired, "How can this be?"

At the grave of Lazarus, when Jesus said, "Take ye away the stone," Martha objectingly answered, "Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days."

THE GOSPEL OF TRUE TEMPERANCE

BY WESLEY AMUNDSEN

Temperance Secretary, Inter-American Division

"Who will rise up for me against the evil doers? Or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity? Psalms 94:16.

Alcoholism is doing more to keep people in poverty and rags than any other thing in the nations with which we have to do. While the industrialists who derive their wealth from the brewing of fermented liquors and the distilling of spirituous intoxicants grow fat, the people whose meager earnings are swept away in the cavernous maw of greed are growing more and more sickly and poverty-stricken.

What have Seventh-day Adventists to do with all of this? How shall they respond to the question of Cain, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Do we have any responsibility to those less fortunate than we ourselves? Shall we not heap upon ourselves the ill-will of those who are making the intoxicating liquors?

Seventh-day Adventists have a responsibility. They are to stand in the forefront as reformers. Yes, you are your brother's keeper. God holds responsible those to whom precious light has been given, if that light is not passed on to others. We endeavor to do much through clinics, welfare and Dorcas societies, for the alleviation of the poor and the needy. But it is more than food, clothing, and medical care that the down-trodden need. They need the gospel of Christ. And the gospel of Christ has to do with temperance. Notice the following statement: "When temperance is presented as a part of the gospel, many will see their need of reform. They will see the evil of intoxicating liquors, and that total abstinence is the only platform on which God's people can conscientiously stand. As this instruction is given, the people will become interested in other lines of Bible study."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 75.

In view of this pointed instruction, how far-reaching should be our endeavor to agitate the question of temperance reform?

"Oh, what a work there is before the faithful watchman who must quickly warn the people of the perils of these last days! How important it is that God's messengers shall call the attention of statesmen, of editors, of thinking men everywhere, to the deep signifi-

cance of the drunkenness and the violence now filling the land with desolation and death! As faithful co-laborers with God, we must bear a clear, decided testimony on the temperance question. . . .

"Now is our golden opportunity to co-operate with heavenly intelligences in enlightening the understanding of those who are studying the meaning of the rapid increase of crime and disaster. As we do our part faithfully, the Lord will bless our efforts to the saving of many precious souls."—*Review and Herald*, October 25, 1866.

Notice that the messenger of the Lord tells us to "call the attention of statesmen, of editors, of thinking men everywhere," to the conditions that exist, due to drunkenness. Being our "brother's keeper" will bring us in touch with all classes of people. The rich, the poor, the educated, and the ignorant are to be informed and warned of the danger that stalks through the land. None are to be passed by in our work of carrying forward the work of reform.

"Everywhere there is a work to be done for all classes of society. We are to come close to the poor and the depraved,—those who have fallen through intemperance. And, at the same time, we are not to forget the higher classes,—the lawyers, the ministers, the senators, and the judges, many of whom are slaves to intemperate habits. We are to leave no effort untried to show them that their souls are worth saving, and that eternal life is worth striving for."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 58.

One of the methods whereby this work is to be done is through the printed page. "The temperance question is to receive decided support from God's people. Intemperance is striving for the mastery; self-indulgence is increasing, and the publications treating on health reform are greatly needed. Literature bearing on this point, is the helping hand of the gospel, leading souls to search the Bible for a better understanding of the truth. A note of warning against the great evil of intemperance should be sounded; and that this may be done, every Sabbath-keeper should study and practice the instruction contained in our health periodicals

and in our health books. And they should do more than this. They should make earnest efforts to circulate these publications among their neighbors."—*Review and Herald*, June 23, 1903.

We have a wealth of excellent literature that can be used for promoting temperance, both in the churches and among non-Adventists. One of the most outstanding works is the book, "Ministry of Healing," which is available in both the English and the Spanish languages. The *Signs of the Times*, the *Watchman Magazine*, the *Message Magazine*, and *El Centinela*, are all excellent magazines in their fields. Then we have the two outstanding health journals in the English language; namely, *Health*, and *Life and Health*. And there are also small books which deal with this vital topic also. Let us use what we have; and in addition to that which is now available, we trust that a good series of temperance, or health tracts may soon be available in the Inter-American Division, for use by our church members everywhere.

Remember the program which is to be conducted in all of our churches on October 14, which is Temperance Rally Day. For further information, write to the Division Temperance Secretary, Apartado 50, General Peraza, Havana, Cuba.

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"As we near the close of time, we must rise higher and still higher upon the question of health reform and Christian temperance, presenting it in a more positive and decided manner. We must strive continually to educate the people, not only by our words but by our practice. Precept and practice combined have a telling influence."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 112.

"Life is full of opportunities for practical missionaries, every man, woman, and child can sow each day the seeds of kind words and unselfish deeds. We shall see the medical missionary work broadening and deepening at every point of its progress, because of the inflowing of hundreds and thousands of streams, until the whole earth is covered as the waters cover the sea."—*Medical Ministry*, p. 317.

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9.



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THE ESTABLISHMENT AND GROWTH OF OUR PUBLISHING WORK

BY A. V. LARSON

Manager of the Pacific Press Publishing Association Cristobal Branch, Canal Zone.

AT THE very beginning of the Great Second Advent Movement, God instructed His servants to write and publish the message. They were assured that the publishing of the message would be a success from the beginning, and later the servant of the Lord said that the publishing work would go forward with increasing success. God assured His people regarding the publishing work! The work has gone forward and is increasing.

The same assurance from God comes to the individual who is battling from within, against sin that is striving for the mastery. "Be thou faithful unto

death, and I will give thee a crown of life." This warfare is intensifying and will end only when all the Christian work on earth is done.

It is marvelous how God has used our publications in reaching into the hearts of men, convicting them of sin and leading them to repentance. Just yesterday one of our members was visiting a neighbor where death had recently claimed their son. The bereaved mother pointed to the Bible and "The Great Controversy" that lay on the center table saying, "We are reading these books now." Further conversation revealed that the book "Great Controversy"

had been purchased from a colporteur many years ago and only now did it begin to do its work in that home. The colporteur back there many years ago planted the seed that is now germinating.

The colporteurs who faithfully go to the homes of the people with God's last warning message will be happy on that golden morning to hear someone saying, "It was you who invited me here."

The relationship between our colporteurs and the Publishing House is a very close one. The following figures reveal some interesting facts regarding the work that is being done at the

Publishing House in order to comply with the constant demand for truth-filled literature. They are based on actual work done from the beginning of the year up to August 11, 1944. The total sale of books to this date amounts to \$238,233.35, of which \$219,081.25 worth is subscription books and the remaining \$19,152.10 represents the sale of trade books and tracts.

It surely will be interesting to our readers to learn something about the work that is involved to produce such important amounts of literature. Up to August 11 the presses of our plant have been turning out subscription books, making up a combined total of 54,075 copies. To this 11,072 more copies were added for the Voice of Prophecy *Book-of-the-Month* project making a grand total of 65,147.

Our Periodical Department is equally taxed with work and perhaps few know that the presses are turning out, besides the books, seven different periodicals and magazines. Here follow the names and number of copies of each periodical which has left the press this year up to August 11:

PERIODICAL	COPIES
The Messenger	47,775
El Mensajero	66,621
S. S. Mission Quarterly	15,128
La Gaceta Misionera	2,861
Home Missionary Gazette ...	2,196
Ingathering Magazine	167,600
El Centinela	306,185
Total	608,366

Besides these regular recurring jobs the Press meets the demands for the printing of a variety of blanks and forms for different departments of the organized work of the great Advent Movement. During the first 7 months 296,973 copies of these have been printed. If we add the number of books, periodicals and blanks and forms printed during the past seven months, we reach a grand total of 905,339 copies or an average of 6,287 per working day or approximately 700 per hour. Just think of it! Every five seconds a finished product leaves the press to go out into the great harvest field of the Lord to do its part in the soon finishing of His work.

To the workers of each department in the Press it means an earnest, consecrated and steady effort, but we are glad to carry our share of the burden as we too want to join the happy throng of God's servants in that not distant, glorious morning of redemption.

Antillian Union Mission

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The 1944 Haitian Mission Session

BY W. E. MURRAY, Superintendent

On April 25, in the evening, delegates representing 5,356 baptized members in Haiti, gathered at the capital city, Port-au-Prince, to attend the second biennial mission session. During the following week, from May 2 to 7, the delegates elected by 1,602 baptized members of the Santo Domingo Mission gathered in the capital city of Ciudad Trujillo for similar meetings.

These mission sessions are of great interest and profit to our believers. The picture of our church members in different countries of the world, united by the advent hope, and with the one purpose of carrying the gospel to all the world, is really most inspiring; for in such gatherings the believers share the same spiritual instruction and inspiration, and here they rejoice together as victories for the cross are related one by one. Unity of purpose unites this people. Unity of hope brings peoples of different languages and nationalities into complete harmony, and they labor together for the same objectives.

These sessions were conducted ac-

ording to the usual plan for such meetings, with morning and afternoon business sessions, and several appointments during the day for spiritual instruction, inspiration, and devotion. The delegates were duly elected by the church members of the respective districts, and committees were appointed according to the constitution under which we operate.

We had hoped to have Elder W. P. Elliot, of the Review and Herald Publishing Association, with us at our meetings in Haiti this year, for he served as director of this field for some years, and is familiar with our problems. But, due to the pressure of his work in Washington, it was not possible for him to be with us. However, the brethren passed a resolution of greeting to Brother Elliott, and sent words of appreciation to him in recognition of his missionary service in that country.

We were most happy to have with us Elders A. H. Roth of the Division staff, and Vernon E. Berry of the Antillian Union, the latter joining us at the Santo Domingo meeting.

The Haitian Mission session was opened by Pastor Andre G. Roth, who has served for some years as the director of the mission, and who has now been called to the work of the French unit of the Missions Advance Language Project, in Washington. During the session, therefore, he turned over his duties as director, to Pastor A. Orville Dunn, who had recently come from the Caribbean Union upon the invitation of



PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION, INTER-AMERICAN BRANCH
 CRISTOBAL, CANAL ZONE

the brethren, to assume directorship of the Haitian Mission.

We are deeply grateful for the years of service which Brother Roth has given to Haiti. Many hundreds of believers have been baptized during the time he has been there; and we wish him success in the work to which he is now being called. We bespeak for Pastor Dunn the same co-operation which our brethren in Haiti have given to Pastor Roth, and are sure that he also will be greatly blessed as he takes up his new duties.

During the meetings in the two missions on the island of Haiti, many experiences were related by the different workers, illustrating the victories of the Spirit of God in the field; but time and space do not permit that we go into detail concerning them in this short article. We desire, however, to give our readers a few of the high points, that they may catch a glimpse of the progress of our work in these two-fields.

During 1943 there were 680 baptisms in Haiti, bringing the baptized membership up to 5,356; and during the same period there was a total of 136 baptisms in Santo Domingo, thus bringing our total church membership in that field to 1,602. It is interesting to recall in passing, that Santo Domingo is the birth place of the branch Sabbath school idea; and that this field now has a Sabbath school membership of 2,699. In Haiti our Sabbath school membership is 9,367.

We believe that great courage and inspiration will come to our dear brethren in the homeland as they see the work of the advent movement going forward in these mission lands. When the General Conference was formed in 1853, there were about 4,000 baptized Adventist believers in all the world; and now, after just a few years of work, under the blessing of the Lord, we have more than five thousand believers in just the one country of Haiti.

We all recognize the colporteur work as an essential part of the missionary program of Seventh-day Adventists. One of the things which we greatly regret is that our colporteur work has almost stopped in Haiti during the last two or three years, because, since the fall of France, it is impossible for us to get books in the French language; for it was from France that our French literature flowed to the different areas of the world where that language is spoken.

We are happy to report, however,

that our book work in Santo Domingo is flourishing. In 1942 our colporteurs in that republic delivered \$8,486.50 worth of books and in 1943, \$12,598.00.

The mission committee for Haiti for the coming two years is as follows: A Orville Dunn, Director; Julien Craan, Secretary-Treasurer; R. H. Howlett, Bossuet Lanoix, and A. L. Painson.

The new mission committee in Santo Domingo is Harold C. Brown, Director; Arthur L. Edeburn, Secretary-Treasurer; Juan Rivera, José Alonso, and Carlos Matar.

British West Indies Union Mission

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The East Jamaica Mission

By D. V. POND, Director

In January, 1944, the territory formerly known as the Jamaica Conference, was divided into two missions, and these are known as the East Jamaica Mission, and the West Jamaica Mission. Both of these missions are included in the newly formed British West Indies Union Mission, the headquarters of which are located at Mandeville, Jamaica. The Jamaica Conference closed its official history with a fine membership of 9,255; and East Jamaica began its career with just a few members over 5,000. These are scattered among sixty-three organized churches and fifteen companies of believers. One of these churches, the North Street Church, in the city of Kingston, has possibly the largest single church membership among Seventh-day Adventists, the world around; for at the close of the first quarter its membership had reached the all time high record of 1,066.

Every church, from the largest to the smallest, in East Jamaica, has but one plan, one slogan for 1944, and that is: "A Baptism in Every Church Every Quarter." Nothing else is, nor can be, as important to our churches and to the individual members, as the winning of souls to Christ.

Pastor Tim Walters, our Home Missionary, Educational, and Missionary Volunteer secretary, has determined from the very first of the year that he will bend every effort to inspire the young people of the mission to work

for souls. To this end he has outlined a plan for each of the four churches in the city of Kingston, which is known as "the Crusade for Youth;" and he spent a week in each church holding nightly meetings for the young people.

These meetings are conducted by the presentation of nightly topics such as, "Recognizing Sin and Overcoming it," "Defeating Temptation," "Can Young People Commit the Unpardonable Sin?" and "How to Overcome Discouragement." The free discussion of the problems of young people are given rightful place in the program of the week, and the youth are made to know and understand that the church is looking to them to take their place in the completion of the Master's work.

The interest has run so high in each of the churches that bands of young people would arise morning after morning at 3:45 to meet together at 4:00 o'clock for special prayer. They would then add works to their faith by going out in smaller bands to sing their special theme song, and other gospel songs, at the homes in the vicinity. On these occasions they would leave a tract or two, and an invitation to the meeting to be held the following night.

In the smallest church in the city, where the first crusade was held, scores of outside youth and others began to attend our meetings, and at the close of the week, the interest was running so high that Pastor D. B. Reid agreed to continue the meetings while Pastor Walters went on to the next church to continue the good work.

In one of these crusade meetings Pastor Walters was conducting the service, and at its close a gentleman came up to him to ask a few questions. In the course of their conversation they both learned that each had formerly lived in Panama. Their further conversation revealed that Pastor Walters' own mother, who was formerly a Bible worker in the Panama Conference, had given studies to this man and his wife some nineteen years ago! This man's wife had accepted the message, but up to this time, he himself had not. However, he had in his possession a Bible that was given him by Sister Walters, and evidently prized it greatly. He told us that during these crusade meetings his interest had been so awakened by the messages presented, that he has now determined to take his stand for the truth. This is a time of real rejoicing for Pastor Walters, for now he has the privilege of sharing in the reaping of

the harvest that his own dear mother had sown away over in Panama nineteen long years ago! Truly, we never know the results of our missionary endeavors, or how great an influence some simple contact may have on the lives of others.

The blessing of God has been manifested in many ways in our mission thus far during 1944; and as workers, and church members, we are rededicating our lives anew to the one task of finishing the Lord's work in this field.

Caribbean Union Conference

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St. Eustatius and the Northern Dutch Islands

By R. E. CASH, Secretary
Home Missionary and Sabbath School
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The island of St. Eustatius is one of the several Dutch West Indian Islands, some of which are located within the territory of the Caribbean Union Conference. The other islands of this group are Saba and St. Martens. The only organized church is the one located on St. Eustatius, and it has been organized approximately thirty-five years. Although the government and the currency are Dutch, the people of the island speak English more than they do the mother tongue.

During my recent itinerary to the northern islands, plans were made by Elder Walker for us to visit "Statia," as it is called by all local people; and these plans were well organized and beautifully carried out. It happened to be hurricane season at the time, but a sloop was chartered to take the people from the island of Nevis and St. Kitts over to St. Eustatius. The expenses of this trip were rather heavy for our believers, for they included not only transportation, but passport fees and the cost of permits and so forth. These expenses amounted to six or seven dollars for each of those who made the trip, yet there were no complaints, nor requests for help from the mission to meet the expense of this journey. Where it was found to be impossible for individuals to finance their own trip, the local church to which each belonged planned ahead, and conducted

a program to raise funds for this purpose.

When the time came to make the trip, the only boat available was a little sloop of about thirty tons capacity. There was no cargo to be sent, so the thirty passengers allowed by law, made a very light cargo for this vessel. No boat that is unequipped for passenger service is allowed to carry more than one passenger per registered ton. So the voyage was rough, and the boat tossed up and down on the waves while crossing the channel known as the "Anquilla Graveyard." This name, by the way, seems to have been derived from the fact that at least one person out of every family on the island of Anquilla has gone down in this channel during recent years.

We had on board during this trip a government official, who had asked permission of Elder Walker to make the trip with us, as he had never been to St. Eustatius, and desired to go along just for the sake of the trip. We had hoped to arrive in "Statia" in time for the Friday evening meeting, but the rough voyage took longer than was anticipated, and it was Sabbath before we reached our destination. The people were looking forward to our coming, however, and a number of little boats came out to take us from the sloop to the island.

We shall never forget the wonderful spirit of hospitality and brotherly love that was manifested on the part of the people of this island. Nearly one-tenth of the population are Seventh-day Adventists, the membership of our church being about sixty. It is a well-organized church, too; and the Dorcas Society anticipated our needs in every detail. They had rented a house and furnished it with all necessary sleeping equipment; and this building was occupied by the visiting brethren, while the women were made comfortable in the homes of our people. Food was provided over the week end without any expense to the visiting brethren from the near-by islands. In addition to all this, a very nice temporary home was provided for Elder Walker, Brother Ward, the government official, and myself.

From what I could gather, this was the first time in the history of the church that a Layman's Institute, or a Sabbath school or Home Missionary convention had been held there. So naturally, the expressions of appreciation were profuse; and the government official himself was greatly impressed

with the fraternal spirit manifested on the part of our members. Although he is a member of the Catholic church, he attended two services upon my invitation. At the last meeting before our departure, several calls were made, during which time this man raised his hand, registering his desire for prayer that God would help him to be a better Christian. Many times he has expressed his appreciation of the privilege of making this trip with us.

Our visit was so pleasant that the time came all too soon for us to leave; and it was with great reluctance that we took our departure, but with happy memories of most pleasant associations with our brethren and sisters on the island of St. Eustatius. We shall not soon forget the quaint little narrow streets, which were swept clean every morning; nor the genuine spirit of brotherly love that was manifested by our believers toward one another on all occasions. As we gathered on the bank at five o'clock that Monday morning, ready to set out once more in the little boats that would take us back to the waiting sloop, there were many sad good-byes, mingled with tears. But when we faced again the treacherous waters of the "Anguilla Graveyard" in our lightly-loaded bark, there was no trace of fear. Only peace within. For in our ears there was still ringing the sweet music of many friendly voices; and in our hearts we thanked God for the high privilege of mingling with those dear believers in that isolated place.

They urged us to come again soon, next year, if possible. We wished most sincerely that we might assure them that this would be done; but there are other islands that we have not yet visited, and therefore we could only tell them that we would come again,—as soon as possible. Someone started the song, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," and the group joined in heartily; but it proved to be "an unfinished symphony;" for, one by one the voices tremulously dropped out, overcome by the emotions of the occasion, until the last one finally ceased to sing, before the beautiful hymn could be completed.

But in spite of all that,—stronger and still stronger grows the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love! Perhaps it is needless to add that our workers on the island of St. Sustatius are of good courage. They wish us to carry their Christian greetings to the brethren and sisters in other parts of the Lord's great harvest field.

Central American Union Mission

Superintendent N. H. KINZER
 Secretary-Treasurer and Auditor - H. L. NIELSEN
 Postal Address: Apartado 1059, San José,
 Costa Rica, Central America

Dorcas Societies in Costa Rica

BY MRS. ORLEY FORD

There are five Dorcas Societies operating in the Costa Rica Mission, three of which have been active societies for many years. The other two were organized during 1943. We are glad to be able to report that many persons in need of encouragement, as well as material help have been served by these societies.

The society in Port Limon has a membership of approximately thirty enthusiastic women. In a letter just received from their secretary, Mrs. Abbott, she says that they are thankful for the success that has crowned their efforts during the year 1943, and are determined to press more closely together and work harder during this present year. She says that fifty-five garments have been made and given to the needy poor; and that they have 376 colones in their treasury. This money was earned in various ways; but the largest amount came in through returns from a program given in the church school room in the month of October. At the time the program was given, fifty centimos admittance was charged, and the amount received amounted to 226 colones.

In San José, the Dorcas society began the year with no funds at all; but with a strong determination to do something to help suffering humanity. At the beginning of the year we had a sale of food, from which we realized a little profit; and with this money we bought material for making clothes for sale. We had sales at different times throughout the year, from which a gain was realized.

Then we worked in connection with another Women's Society, and made 114 garments for the different hospitals. During the year, 196 articles of clothing have been distributed among the needy of our own congregation, as well as to others not of our faith.

At Christmas time, bags containing several pounds each of beans, rice, oatmeal, sugar, crackers and soap, were distributed among the poor. In addition

to this, fifty-six bags of crackers and sweets were given to the children's wards in the general hospital of San José.

The society also pieced and quilted a quilt that will bring in a good sum of money when sold. We spent 110 colones from our fund for the food distributed at Christmas time, and we still have in the treasury more than a hundred colones in cash, besides the quilt that should bring in about that much more.

God has blessed our efforts during the year, and our meetings together to work in the capacity of a Dorcas Society have brought in a bond of Christian love that was not really apparent before. We expect, by the help of the Lord, to accomplish much more during the coming year.

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A Baptism in Panama City

BY A. R. OGDEN

On next to the last Sunday night of 1943 a very pleasing baptismal service was conducted by Pastor C. E. Westphal, the president of the Panama Conference, and at that time twenty-three candidates were baptized. The group consisted of a goodly number of adults, and some were well advanced in life, while others had enjoyed a good Christian experience in other churches. The younger candidates were largely youth and children from the church school.

The fruitage of our church schools is often most marked in the direct results as evidenced in the number of students baptized. Our church school of the Panama City Church, with more than one hundred students, and employing three teachers, is certainly accomplishing much in the spiritual life and development of the children of the school. This is true of those who come from Seventh-day Adventist homes as well as of those who come to us from the homes of non-Adventists. The church school is therefore serving the double purpose of being a missionary enterprise, as well as providing educational facilities for our own boys and girls.

We believe in the denominational program of church schools; for Christian education is undoubtedly a leading factor in the fulfillment of the Elijah message, which reads: "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers,

lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." Malachi 4:5, 6.

It is interesting to observe from these verses, which are the very last in the Old Testament writings, that God is mindful of the needs of the youth of the advent movement; and greatly desires that Adventist homes be united in heart and in purpose, in preparation for the coming of the day of the Lord. Surely our church schools are to play an important part in the finishing of the work of God not only among those who are already within the fold of God, but also in bringing children from other homes, to a knowledge of the truth.

Colombia-Venezuela Union Mission

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"Bring Ye All the Tithes Into the Storehouse"

BY J. ESCANDÓN, H., of Caracas, Venezuela

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3 10.

The Lord deals kindly with His erring children, but His claims are none the less binding, nor His commandments less to be regarded, because of His great love. The following experience came to our attention some time ago, and may be of interest to believers in other parts of the Inter-American Division:

"For a long time everything went wrong. My husband became ill, and for this reason he had to leave home and go to Caracas on account of his health. I was also sickly for a long time,—sick, and sad of heart. Our boarding house business failed to bring in the returns that we needed, and business grew less as the days went by. Finally the time came when I had only two boarders left. In fact, times had been so hard for us that in our distress, and in our sorrow, my husband and I had sometimes thought we would quit the work in which we were engaged, and give up the house.

"But, Brother Escandón, since I began to pay the tithes promptly, all has changed. Much of the story cannot be told, for there are (Continued on page 10)

many details but some of it I wish to relate to you in this letter. A colonel of the army who boards here with us, has gotten several more boarders for me, and travelers are coming now in large numbers. I shall continue to take faithfully the tithes to the storehouse of the Lord, in order that there may be food in my house, and that my business may continue to prosper."

So writes one of our sisters who delivered into my hand several bolivares (Venezuelan currency) of tithe, that I might take this money to the church. May the Lord use this example as an incentive to others to be more faithful in the payment of their tithes.

The Lord does not always count it for our good to bring prosperity to us; but our duty toward Him is the same, whether He sends us prosperity or adversity; for in His love and wisdom, He knows what is best for us. And when He fulfills His promises, even to those who have been wayward; when they return to Him, surely there is cause for rejoicing. Let us all be faithful to Him, doing our full duty, so far as we understand it, whether He sends prosperity or adversity.

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"Fervent in Spirit, Serving the Lord"

The following experiences came to the Division office quite a long time ago, and we regret that they could not be published sooner. However, we believe they will bring help and courage to those in other places, and we now pass them on to the field. Elder Eugenio Plata writes:

"I have been in these mountains for fifteen days now, admiring the perpetual snow of the snow-capped peak of Guicán, while working and studying with these four groups of believers. We have here approximately 160 baptized members. All have their own farms and are good farmers. They have little education, but they have a great deal of courage. They are faithful missionaries, and manifest no laziness in the matter of attending the services. They come from two or more kilometers, even when the nights are dark and the roads are bad.

"Last Sabbath I baptized fourteen persons; and about 300 interested persons attended the services. We have some twenty in the baptismal classes, and I see the need of having a regular worker here. (We wonder if the worker

has been supplied by this time, and sincerely hope that this need has been filled.)

"The meetings of the Week of Prayer were held at five o'clock in the morning, in spite of the cold, and were well attended. At night we had public meetings, with pictures projected on the screen. There were many enemies of the gospel who, by the power of God, changed their hostile attitude, and testified that they would not bother us again. We certainly thank the Lord for this, because one of them had fired his pistol on two occasions, having aimed at our brethren; and more recently he had attacked the elder of the church in a similar manner, but also with a carbine and a dagger. But God graciously delivered our brother; and now this man, formerly our enemy, promises to become one of us. To God be the honor and the glory."—EUGENIO PLATA.

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News Items From Colombia-Venezuela

Elder Wesley Amundsen has sent back to the Division office very encouraging reports from the trip which he made this summer in the Colombia-Venezuela Union. He found the training school at Medellín full to capacity, and reported an excellent Week of Prayer, during which sixteen of the students united with the baptismal class. Plans are being made, he wrote, to improve the institution by the construction of a new bakery, a broom shop, and a new barn.

The Voice of Prophecy went on the air over a new station in May,—Radio Continente, in Caracas, Venezuela. This makes a total of thirty-six stations, including long and short wave outlets, which are broadcasting our message each week in Inter-America.

The fine new church building which is being constructed in Bogotá, Colombia, is nearing completion. This edifice will indeed be a fit monument to the cause of God in Colombia's capital city. As soon as the building is in readiness, it is planned to hold an evangelistic effort there. RUTH CONARD.

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"A good teacher is a greater force in society than a great general. A fine school is a stronger, surer force for good than an army."—*Angelo Patri*.

Mexican Union Mission

Superintendent H. F. HOUSE
Secretary-Treasurer and Auditor ... J. G. PETTEY
Postal Address: Vallarta Sur 644, Monterrey,
N. L., Mexico

"Win the War in Forty-Four"

BY W. R. MULHOLLAND, *Field Missionary Sec'y
Mexican Union Mission*

The title of this brief article is one of the slogans in America for this year, and certainly we all hope that this worthy objective may be realized. But to all Christians, and particularly to each member of the Seventh-day Adventist organization, this slogan may well be taken in a deeper, a spiritual sense; for truly we are in a real spiritual warfare, a warfare against the most malignant and subtle forces of evil. This truth is plainly taught in the Scriptures, for we read: "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, . . . against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12.

Undoubtedly the enemy is now gloating over his apparent success in having set practically the whole world in terrible confusion. Men are dying by the thousands on many different fronts, and millions more of defenseless people are suffering untold agonies and privations as a result of this awful conflict. Yet Satan is not satisfied with all this overwhelming destruction. His aim and malignant purpose is to cause every man, woman, and child in the whole Christian world to lose his faith in the true God.

Yes, this is a real spiritual warfare, and whether we want to or not, we are all in it, from the highest to the lowest, from the richest to the poorest. Every moment of every day we are exposed to the darts of the enemy of our souls. He knows the weak points of every one of God's children, and attacks where we are weakest. But, thanks be to God, His children, who have chosen to walk in the footsteps of their Master, are not left alone to fight a losing battle with the forces of evil. Our mighty Captain, Jesus Christ, who trod the whole way before us, "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Heb. 4:15. He will not let His faithful soldiers be tempted above their power of resistance; "but will with the temptation also make a way of escape." 1 Cor. 10:13.

Furthermore, as our great and merciful High Priest, He has made ample provision, just in case any might be overcome with a special temptation, and fall into sin. In 1 John 2:1, we read: "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

God's purpose for His children is that they sin not; but at the same time, because of His great love, He has made provision whereby we might still win the victory over sin even after having suffered a partial defeat. Jesus entreats us: "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light." Matt. 11: 29, 30.

This is how each one may win his spiritual war in 1944. He who makes the fullest, and most undivided surrender of his natural, selfish will, to the divine will, and submits his mind to be guided and molded by the Holy Spirit, will win the most decisive victory. "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 15:57.

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Dorcas Doings Again

By H. A. B. ROBINSON
Secretary-Treasurer, Tehuantepec Mission

The afternoon of December 26, 1943 was a high day for the fourteen sisters,—members of the Dorcas Society of the Puebla church. For six months they had been working hard, as they toiled together on those twenty-nine occasions when they had met, dedicating a total of 1961 hours to this noble work of preparing clothes, food, and toys for the poor of the church and the neighborhood.

On this special occasion there were more than one hundred persons present to take part in the meeting,—and it was a good meeting, too! Twenty-six packages of clothing were given away; fifty-three bags of food were distributed, and the children received twenty-one toys, and seventy-five bags of candy. The total value of all this amounted to more than 863.00 pesos.

During the six months of this special effort, the society had received 466.00 pesos as donations and gifts. Even the candy factories co-operated; and one, Mr. Rios, gave a large lot of cotton, as well as a check for fifty pesos to help in this good work; thus permitting several of the pupils in the Montemorelos school to get some help in the form of warm clothing.

Not only the sisters, but even a few of the brethren in the church, have had a part in this Christian help work for others; for if they can't sew, still they can help in some of the heavier duties. A spirit of co-operation was manifested by all; and many of the young people have greatly enjoyed this association with the older ones of like faith.

Surely the good Lord will bless their combined efforts, and the seed sown will some day bring forth fruit for the harvest of heaven. A report of this special program was prepared by the pastor of the church, Eustano Hernández, and it was published in the local daily paper, for the encouragement of those many people who regularly contribute to our Ingathering work.

These fourteen faithful sisters have now begun their work for the new year with enthusiasm and a greater vision of the possibilities of their handiwork. Truly, in this good work for the poor, they are following the example of Him who "went about doing good."



The Journey's End

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth. Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Revelation 14:13.

McLAUGHLIN.—Mrs. Annabella McLaughlin, wife of John W. McLaughlin, died February 3, 1944, at Nueva Gerona, Isle of Pines, Cuba, at the age of seventy-four. Sister McLaughlin accepted the Seventh-day Adventist message in 1913, through the efforts of Elder Hiram Goodrich, and was a faithful member until the time of her death.

Our sister leaves to mourn: her husband, John W. McLaughlin, and a daughter, Mrs. Pearl M. Clift, a member of the Capital Memorial Church at Washington, D. C., as well as ten other children, seventeen grand children, and other relatives. She was well known throughout the Isle of Pines, and was loved by all who knew her. Those who mourn their loss in her passing are comforted by the hope of the resurrection morning, when the dead in Christ shall rise first.

The Thirteenth Sabbath Program*

By A. H. LINZAU, Secretary S. S. Department
French West Indian Mission

What is the difference between the thirteenth Sabbath and the other Sabbaths of the quarter? Is the difference in the day itself, or in something special that is done on that day? We have noticed that some of our members seek to make of the thirteenth Sabbath an occasion of festivity and parade; but we believe the real purpose of the special program is to deepen our interest in mission lands afar, and to encourage liberal offerings on the part of all, for a definite project.

Those who have painstakingly prepared the thirteenth Sabbath program have had no thought of causing anyone to spend money for special clothing to be worn on that day. Neither was it their idea to make the thirteenth Sabbath a time of entertainment. I am convinced that a display of clothing on the thirteenth Sabbath is out of harmony with the purpose of the occasion, and that it does not deepen the spirituality of our members. In fact, it may definitely detract from the desired effect. We believe that the thirteenth Sabbath program should possess the same simplicity that characterizes every other program of the quarter.

The time required for the thirteenth Sabbath program should not exceed the usual seventy-five minutes,—one hour and a quarter, that is regularly allotted to the Sabbath school session. In this length of time a carefully planned program can easily fulfill its purpose of deepening in the heart of each member the love for mission fields, and the desire to sacrifice for a special enterprise as presented during the service.

Furthermore, the Sabbath school hour on the thirteenth Sabbath should conform as far as possible to the special program suggested in the *Missions Quarterly*; for unless the Sabbath school members know something of the field to which the offering goes, there will be little inspiration to give. It seems to us that the only wise thing to do is to use the material that has been especial-

(Continued on page 12)

* This paper was read at the Secretaries' Council at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, on January 11, 1944. It contains much valuable instruction and is therefore passed on to the entire field through the columns of our Division paper.

People, Places and Projects



BY RUTH CONARD

* Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Tucker, of the Panama Conference, where he is secretary-treasurer, spent some time during the early summer in Costa Rica, and improved their time by studying the Spanish language.

* Miss Dorothy Ninaj, who for the past two and a half years has been connected with the Central American Union office as stenographer, has returned to the United States.

* Elder and Mrs. F. I. Mohr, who have labored in this Division since 1930 and who most recently have been connected with the British Honduras Mission, where he has been director, stopped over in Havana for a day the last of May. They found special pleasure in visiting Cuba, as this for a time was their field of labor

* D. A. McAdams, our Division Publishing Department secretary, made a trip to the Pacific Press Publishing Association, in Mountain View, California, in May of this year, to help in the preparation of the Spanish edition of "Your Home and Health," which is to appear before long as a subscription book for this field.

* An announcement from the General Conference indicates that the Autumn Council this year will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, October 17 to 25.

* On his return, in June, from an auditing trip to South America, W. E. Phillips, General Conference auditor, stopped for a short time in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, to give assistance in the study of financial problems.

* W. E. Read writes that there is an excellent enrollment at the Caribbean Training College this year, in spite of the increased cost of tuition. An intensive campaign is now under way in the Caribbean Union to raise funds to improve the dormitories and kitchen at the school.

* The strongest evangelistic movement in the history of the Caribbean Union has been planned for the closing months of 1944. Information has been secured

as to which sections of the field have never been entered with our work, and plans are under way to bring the light of the gospel to these "dark" sections. Tract distribution and radio promotion work are being used simultaneously with the public efforts to carry forward this work.

* Flashes from the Publishing Department office reveal the following encouraging items: The value of literature distributed by the thirty-nine colporteurs in the East Cuba Conference during the month of March, 1944, was more than the deliveries for the entire republic of Cuba during the twelve months of 1935. Puerto Rico colpor-

thus given opportunity to explain in considerable detail our medical and educational work. As a result, the President has written them a very favorable letter endorsing our work.

* Our medical missionary work in Venezuela is again in operation, and prospects are bright. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Preiner, both graduate nurses, have now been allowed to enter Venezuela, to engage in medical missionary work there.

* It is interesting to observe that at the close of 1943 the Division Sabbath school membership was more than 5,000 in excess of that of the previous year, and the highest on record in this field.

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The Thirteenth Sabbath Program

(Continued from page 11)

ly prepared for the occasion. Then, if one or two spiritual songs are added, there should be a good and satisfying program. Of course the hymns selected should harmonize with the general theme as presented in the thirteenth Sabbath appeal.

It should be borne in mind that each thirteenth Sabbath program is just what we make it. If we want a program to be spiritual, we must have spiritual persons present each item. If we desire to have a program that will be interesting and inspirational, the details must be planned with these objectives in mind. In other words, the success or failure of any program depends largely upon the choice of material first, and then upon attitude and experience of those who are asked to participate in the presentation of that material.

Those who recite must know how to recite well, giving attention not only to the words themselves, but to pronunciation and clarity of expression; and, most important of all, to the idea of presenting the message the writer had in mind, with force and with sincerity. If recitations are given in this way, hearts will be impressed, and our programs will be a real blessing to all who hear.

It is true that appearances play an important part in the effect of a program; and this thought should not be overlooked; but let it not be expressed in personal adornment and extravagant clothing. The room or chapel may be decorated with flowers and plants, and these will lend an atmosphere of quiet dignity which will dispose the heart to be impressed by spiritual thoughts.

Coming Events

With Special Programs and Offerings

Sept. 2 - - - Home Missions

Sept. 16 - - - Voice of Prophecy
(Offering for Radio Work)

Sept. 23 - - - Educational
(Offering for Elementary Schools)

Sept. 30 - - - Thirteenth Sabbath
(Offering for Southern European Division)

Oct. 7 - - - Colporteur Rally

Oct. 14 - - - Temperance Rally

Oct. 21 - 28 - Magazines Campaign
(Watchman, Message, and El Centinela Magazines)

Nov. 4 - - - Home Missions

Nov. 18 - 25 - Week of Prayer
and Sacrifice

Nov. 25 - Week of Sacrifice Offering

teurs delivered more books last year than the total books delivered for the eight-year period, 1930-1937. In five years, \$33,146.10 worth of *El Centinela* have been sold in Venezuela.

* Honduras has two new departmental secretaries. Mariano Lezcano has taken over the work of the Sabbath school, Missionary Volunteer, and Educational secretary; and Charles Jones is the new colporteur director. The former field missionary secretary, Daniel Moncada, is taking up evangelistic work in Honduras.

* Our work is being very favorably received by government officials in Mexico. Elder House, Doctor Iner Ritchie, and several others of our workers were recently granted an interview with the President of that country, and were