



SOUTH AMERICAN BULLETIN

VOL. II.

BUENOS AIRES, ARG.

FEBRUARY, 1926

No. 2

Fishers of Men

"FOLLOW me and I will make you fishers of men," said Jesus. Strange, 't it, that such was the inducement Jesus held out to the twelve. One would think He would have said, "Follow me, and you shall have a rich reward, a heavenly inheritance, a home far exceeding in glory anything your eyes have ever seen," or something similar to that. But He did not. He held out no promise of earthly reward.

Once an interested listener said to Him, "Master I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest." The Master replied, "The foxes have holes, the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of man hath not where to lay His head." He did tell the twelve that God would provide food, raiment and shelter to His followers; but He also assured them that in following Him they would be hated of all men, they must endure persecution, trials and privation, and some of them would even be put to death.

What power of attraction did Jesus possess that made men want to follow Him? What was the Jesus influence that drew men to Him? Not only the twelve, but thousands, yea millions down through the ages have said, "We would be like Jesus." The disciples imitated Him so closely, they came to resemble Him so minutely, that they were called Christians, because, said their observers, "They have been with Jesus and learned of Him." This drawing power of Jesus was His bait in catching souls. A fisher uses bait. The bait induces the fish to bite. Jesus Himself was a fisher of men. He was a winner of souls. He drew souls to Himself. There was something about Him that made others love Him. Everybody liked Jesus. It was religious prejudice that played the role against Him and finally terminated in His crucifixion. His most bitter opponents said of Him when He was hanging on

the cross, "He saved others." That was the universal testimony about Jesus.

The whole life of Jesus was given up to help others. One writer says of Him, "He went about doing good." Another says "He came to seek and to save that which was lost." A man fell among robbers, and was badly beaten. A priest passing by saw the helpless man. He should have helped him, but did not. A Levite, one of the ministers of the Sanctuary, also passed by. He drew near and looked at the wounded man; his sympathies were awakened, but he also went away offering no help. Then came a Samaritan, a stranger, one hated by the Jews; for the

Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans. And the wounded man was a Jew. This Samaritan poured oil into the wounds of the unfortunate man. Then he lifted him onto his own beast and took him to the hospital to be cared for, paying the hospital fee. The Samaritan represents Jesus. Everybody loved Jesus because he helped them.

Jesus' message was one of optimism and cheer. At one time He was asked to preach in the synagogue. When He stood up for to read He found the text where it is written, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." The eyes of all in the synagogue were fastened upon Him. He had secured the attention of His entire audience. His message, like his life, drew people to Him. His life, His message, was the bait that Jesus used in winning souls.

At one time He came to the country of the Gadarenes. The inhabitants there took offence to Him. He had rebuked them of a wrong. In reproving them of this wrong He had caused a large herd of swine to plunge headlong into a lake and be drowned. But the demons that took possession of the herd of swine had previously possessed two men, causing them to be raving maniacs. Jesus cast the demons out of the men and brought the sufferers to their right senses. The populace demanded that Jesus should leave. Later He returned to the country of the Gadarenes. Now the people clung to Him. For three days and three nights they stayed with Him, fasting, eating nothing, so enrapt were they in His teachings, and so attached were they to Him. This same people who once

The Valley of Silence

N. P. Neilsen

I walk down the Valley of Silence,
 Away from the noise of earth;
 Away from the din and the bustle
 With all of its pleasure and mirth.
 Alone with my God in this valley,
 I hear Him whisper to me
 In a language that never was written,
 Like waves from the heavenly sea.

Far out on the ocean are billows
 That never will break on the beach;
 There are songs in the Valley of Silence
 That never will float into speech;
 There are gems down deep in the
 mountain
 Where no miner will ever be near;
 There are radio waves beyond us,
 That no human ear can hear.

Then go to the Valley of Silence
 And be alone with thy God;
 He will tell thee there of His glory
 Or of His chastening rod.
 Go, hear the heavenly radio,
 Shut in with thy God alone,
 And list to the whisper of angels
 Broadcasting now from the throne.

drove Him from their coasts now said of Him, "He hath done all things well."

Anciently the prophet had written about Jesus, "He had horns coming out from His sides, and there was the hiding of His power." These horns are symbolic of the wounds received on Calvary. They tell of His suffering for others. He was a true fisher of men because he lived for others, He loved them, He gave His very life that He might save the needy and lost. "And there lay the hiding of His power." "Follow Me," He said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

P. E. BRODERSEN.

A Retrospect

IT IS with great interest that we read the first number of this little paper. On its face are the outlines of the map of South America. As we looked at this map in the year 1894 there was nothing that represented developed interests. At that time there was nothing more than a few calls for help in Argentine, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay and a little later in Chile. Almost single-handed, with the help of but a few colporteurs, we delved into the work and God greatly blessed the efforts put forth. Souls accepted the call and united their efforts with ours. As new work has been established in different places the light of the gospel has scattered the dark clouds of superstition and error that for so many years have hung over all the South American nations.

While I am writing these words, I stop once more to look at the map and with the aid of the reports that the South American Bulletin brings, I can see not only the "Austral Union Conference," the "East Brazil Union Mission," the "South Brazil Union," and the "Inca Union Mission," but also the many loyal, consecrated and devoted workers whose hearts are aglow with love born from above to impart the words of life to a dying, needy people. Before signing my name I stop a moment while my companion and myself offer a prayer to God that He may bless the workers, the conferences and mission fields, the schools and the sanitarium, the medical work, the publishing department and all our people in South America. We hope that the reports that will be published in the BULLETIN will greatly aid in renewing the faith, courage, love and unity of all the workers and that all as one united band may give evidence of being Christ's disciples, of their belief that God sent Him into the world and that He is soon to return again.

F. H. WESTPHAL.

South Brazil Union

N. P. NEILSEN - - - - President
C. E. SCHOFIELD - - Secy. - Treas.
Address: Caixa Postal 2898,
Sao Paulo, Brasil

The Hand That Intervened

DURING the revolution in Brazil in 1924-5, a Syrian Brother who had recently accepted the truth was pressed into service by the government troops who were then leaving the city where he lived for a haul of eighty miles or more.

As he was waiting his turn to load, some Syrian friends and relatives began to make fun of him and tauntingly asked him how he would manage to keep his Sabbath now. He replied that they need have no fear as they would see that the Lord would open the way so that he could keep the Sabbath.

It was late on Wednesday afternoon when the troops left Uniao da Victoria, and after a march of five or six miles went into camp for the night. That evening our brother told the captain that it would be impossible for his horses, one of which was quite poor, to accompany them on the entire trip. The captain asked him if they could not go a little further and our brother agreed to go on for another day.

During the second day he made himself very useful in helping the inexperienced drivers get up the steep hills and the captain seemed to appreciate very much his willingness to help.

Our brother prayed continually that the Lord would open the way so that he could get home before the Sabbath, but on going into camp on Thursday night there seemed to be no way of escape for him. However, upon awakening Friday morning he was happily surprised to see that two large covered wagons, used for hauling freight, had arrived late in the night and had camped near them. He immediately sent this information to the captain who ordered that they unload their cargo and take the loads of several smaller wagons and return with the troops.

When the teamsters learned of the captain's orders they gathered at the door of his tent, each clamoring to be relieved. Our brother, recognizing this as the intervening hand of the Lord, waited patiently outside the group to see what would happen. When the captain finally appeared he

looked over the crowd until finding our brother and ordered him and a boy he had taken under his protection to unload their wagons first.

The war-chest had been placed in the bottom of an auto-truck, but this was now ordered unloaded and payment was made to the returning teamsters and our brother was released so that he reached home long before sundown. The friends who a few days before had taunted him were greatly surprised Sabbath morning to see him on his way to church. The Lord not only answered his prayer but also influenced the captain so that our brother was exempted from further service.

To God be the praise.

A. L. WESTPHAL.

God Gave the Increase

RECENTLY a lay worker told me one of her neighbors who was very much interested in our message. I visited her and asked her how it was that she first heard of the message of Jesus' soon coming and this was the simple story she told me.

More than three years ago she purchased a copy of the "Signaes dos Tempos" of a lay worker in a distant city. She was very much impressed with it for the "Signaes" took a strong stand against the use of tobacco and also alcoholic drinks. However, she was not given opportunity to buy another copy of the "Signaes" for the worker never appeared again.

Time passed and about a year ago she moved to this city where we have a small church of about 45 members. As she never heard of Adventists nor such a thing as keeping the seventh-day Sabbath she knew nothing of them and so did not search for them. A year went by when one of our sisters, with little education visited her and offered to read a portion of Bible to her. She became much interested in the Word and desired a Bible for herself and our sister promptly furnished her with a copy.

After learning of the experience of this lady with the "Signaes" our sister told her that she belonged to the church that published the magazine, and at once invited her to attend our Sabbath School. She continued to attend our meetings and study the truth and is now ready for baptism. Her husband refused to let her be baptized but during our recent convention he attended one of our meetings, is now studying the truth and has promised to be baptized when he is prepared.

One lay worker planted, another watered and "God gave the increase."

ENNIS V. MOORE.

Shall They be Denied?

EARLY one morning a worker and I left the city of Sao Paulo by train to visit one of our churches in the interior. A part of the way we were rushed over the shining rails by a powerful electric engine, later on by a coal-burning locomotive and finally by one burning wood. At times the train rushed past fertile fields and large coffee plantations, through thriving cities and villages, and again through undeveloped, desert-like stretches and uninhabited plains; but ever onward, puffing and snorting, as it whirled us along around the mountains and hills, over streams or through tunnels. All day long we were carried farther and farther away from the great centers of civilization. When darkness came our wood burning locomotive was snorting forth a veritable rain of glowing sparks, which were darting and falling like snowflakes in early winter. It looked like the pictures we see of the falling of the stars in 1833, but in this instance the shining sparks were actually whirling and falling by the tens of thousands.

Finally we reached our destination, the last station on that line. It was raining but we were met by a number of our people who had come to greet us. The night was dark and the light so dim we could not discern their faces but the hearty handshakes and the Brazilian embrace and pat on the back assured us of a genuine welcome. We were among friends.

Sabbath morning dawned bright and clear. The air was balmy, the sky was blue and the birds warbled their songs of praise. We were far away from the

noise and bustle of the great centers of activity and a spirit of calmness and solemnity brooded over us as we gathered in the primitive little brick church, erected for the worship of God. Our people were gathering for the morning service, many of them coming from their country homes, having to walk long distances in order to attend.

After a study about the results of sin and the love of God as manifested in the death of Christ on the cross, an invitation was extended to the unconverted, the backslider, and to those who were especially burdened in their souls to come forward and seek the Lord. Many crowded to the front confessing their sins and with tears coursing down their cheeks asked their brethren to forgive them. It was a time of heartseaching and rejoicing as we put away our sins and re-consecrated ourselves to God. The Spirit of God settled down upon His people.

In the afternoon we gathered again for the Sabbath School and our people kept on coming until the house was over-crowded. Every seat was full. They crowded around the little table that served as a pulpit, they stood outside the door several deep, while the windows were filled with faces pressing close to hear the words which were spoken.

After the opening exercises the children were asked to go outside for their classes and immediately others crowded in until the seats were again filled. While the older people were thus having their lesson study inside the church I went outside to see how the children fared. There was a large number of them, but they had no seats upon

which to sit. As I looked around I could see the orange trees with their luscious fruit, the mango, the mamao and other tropical trees. The children stood in the shade reciting their lesson and seemed to be contented and happy as they told the story of Jesus and His transfiguration. I was thankful that it was a beautiful day for all days are not such here, as they too have their cold rainy weather. I wondered what the children would have done if it had been rainy? Should we have crowded them out into the rain and cold? Ought we not provide room enough for them also? They are our children, members of our Sabbath-keeping families. Should they not be looked after? They gave their Sabbath School offering and in the services which followed the Sabbath school, when a call was made for help for the world-wide work, many of the young people joined the older ones and made their pledges for the support of the cause. They love this truth and they give of their little earnings for its support; then why should they be crowded outside?

At the evening services the house was again filled to overflowing, while the open windows and doors were filled with faces eager to hear the Word. A number of young people presented themselves for baptism. At the present time they are without a conference worker, and it is about a year and a half since they have had the privilege of partaking of the Lord's supper. This is a Catholic community and we have the only Protestant church there, but we find the people longing for the light. No doubt much could be accomplished if we could only send them a worker. They need a larger church building so that their children will not need to go out into the cold for their Sabbath School classes.

Such is the situation we found in this interior place, but this condition is duplicated over and over again in our field. Some of our people are even worse off than this, for in many places they have no building at all in which to worship. What can we do to help them? What can we do to bring the Gospel light to those who are sitting in the dense darkness of error and superstition? Many of them are longing for and reaching out after something to satisfy the longing of their souls. Should we fail to bring it to them for lack of means? God forbid!

N. P. NEILSEN.



The primitive little brick church erected for the worship of God

“A HOLY life has a voice. It speaks when the tongue is silent, and is a constant attraction.

One Thousand

"THAT tree there has more than 1,000 oranges on it," said a brother to me the other day. I was a little surprised, but he continued, "We've already taken off 600 and some." "But, my friend," said I, "why do you go to all the trouble to count all those oranges?" His face brightened as he added, "So we can give the tithe!"

What an example in faithfulness and honesty to God! This brother has to struggle for his existence, but he doesn't rob God not even of an orange for he believes that 900 with the blessing of God on his home and the labors of his hands are worth more than 1,000 without the blessing.

Who would think of stealing 100 oranges from a neighbor? Surely not a Christian! Would we be quicker to rob God? Let us all always give to God His own. His own is one tenth of our increase! ENNIS V. MOORE.

Week of Prayer at the Collegio Adventista

AS USUAL the Week of Prayer at our college was a blessed occasion for all present. It was the writer's lot and privilege to hold two meetings daily with the students and teachers during a good share of the week. The readings provided for the week were read by the various professors at the chapel hour each morning and in the evening preaching services and consecration meetings were held.

The Spirit of God was present operating on hearts and its benign influence could be felt by all. Not as an earthquake, nor as a fire, but as a still small voice the Spirit spoke to souls.

The whole school was divided into prayer bands which met at six o'clock each morning for prayer and Bible study. On the last Sabbath morning of the week various of these groups left the dormitories at break of day and went out amidst nature to seek God in order that they might be prepared for the reception of the blessings which God had in store for all during the day. Practically all responded to the call for a deeper and abiding Christian experience.

For several months the Bible teacher, Brother Wilbur Holbrook, has been conducting Bible studies for the baptismal class and during the Week of Prayer special meetings were held with them. On Sabbath afternoon fourteen young people gave themselves to the Lord and followed His example by being buried in the watery

grave as a sign of their rejection of the past life of sin and the beginning of a new life of victory in Christ. Pray for these youth that their feet may not slip from the Christian way but that they may be kept faithful till Jesus comes.

Thus ended fittingly the Week of Prayer at the college. All felt that God had met with His people and had drawn them close to Himself. The desire and purpose of teachers and students is to "abide" in Christ and permit Him to abide in them. May it be so, indeed!

J. BERGER JOHNSON.

Austral Union Conference

R. T. BAER - - - - - *President*
C. L. BAUER - - - - - *Secy.-Treas.*
Address: Florida, F. C. C. A.,
Buenos Aires, Argentine

Chillan Training School

THE outlook for the educational work in Chile is perhaps the brightest in its history. Several things contribute to make it so. There is awakening in the hearts of the youth in Chile a great desire to obtain an education and the parents are beginning to realize the importance of their children receiving the class of training given in our school. It is not now so difficult to secure funds with which to attend school as in former years for after a young person has been in our school for a time, the great desire to continue his studies, coupled with the practical things he has learned, enables him to go out and earn his expenses for the coming school year.

A young man came to our school last year for the first time. He lived with his grandparents who were willing to pay the greater part of his expenses. While at the school he was very much interested in the work the other boys were doing and upon returning home took such an active part in the work that his people were glad to pay all his expenses the following year. Another young man had a hard struggle to make his expenses, but took an active part in the magazine campaigns and during the vacation canvassed for some of our good books. Success crowned his efforts for he was the first one to secure his scholarship for the following year. One of our young ladies was also able to sell enough magazines in Valparaiso and Santiago to earn more than half her scholarship.

These young people are anxious to

learn and very appreciative of whatever is done to help them in this endeavor. A knowledge of how to aid the sick and suffering would be of great value to us as we have many opportunities to do this class of work. Last year a man working near the school was caught by a falling tree which crushed him badly and broke his leg. They brought him to us to see what we could do for him. After giving him temporary relief, our boys carried him on a cot to the Chillan Hospital where he could receive medical attention. This not only illustrates the spirit of helpfulness that exists among our students but it also shows how the people are turning to us for help in time of need. This little act of kindness has had a marked influence on the people and has helped to open the way for our work.

Each year we receive increased calls for the establishment of church schools. This of course creates a demand for prepared teachers and in response to this need, we are conducting an efficient Normal Course from which several young ladies will soon graduate, and thus be ready to answer some of the calls made this coming year. E. U. AYARS.

Experiences in Montevideo

A LADY who learned about our message through our literature said that from a child she had read the fourth commandment and wondered why the seventh-day Sabbath was not observed by the world. Appealing to her mother for a satisfactory answer, and receiving none, she lived in an unsettled state of mind for several years. Finally one of our faithful colporteurs visited her and she received greater light. Although her husband bitterly opposed her, she remained faithful obeying the light as it was revealed to her through correspondence.

Our missionary colporteur and his wife kept in close touch with her and from time to time would send her studies on Bible truths. They hesitated about presenting to her such testing truths as the Sabbath question and tithing, but finally when the Sabbath was mentioned the lady said that she had been a Sabbath-keeper for several months, having been convinced of her duty by reading her Bible. She had read also how Jesus was baptized in the Jordan and longed for an opportunity to follow her Lord in baptism, but having an opposing husband she did not dare to speak to him about it, and as she lived so far away from any of our ministers she saw no way

of realizing her desire only as the Lord would work upon the heart of her unsympathetic husband. She, together with our colporteur and his wife decided to pray that a way might be opened for her to visit Montevideo so that she might have an opportunity to be baptized. After a time the husband said one day, "Wife, I have some business to attend to down in Montevideo. Wouldn't you like to go down to the city with me? I think you need the change." The wife agreed with him that she needed the change and on arriving here left her husband to attend to his business while she immediately looked up our mission and told me the whole story. She requested baptism, and after giving her a thorough examination on the points of our faith, I felt justified in complying with her request. A happier soul I think I have never seen as she came up out of the watery grave. She expected trials upon returning home, but we have since learned that she told her husband about becoming a Seventh-day Adventist and that he seemed pleased to know it. Thus we see that God has many mysterious ways of reaching and softening hardened hearts.

W. B. MIRAMONTEZ.

The Paraná Effort

THE North Argentine Conference asked that I, with two students and a Bible worker from our Junior College, hold a series of meetings in the city of Paraná, capital of Entre Rios, and headquarters of the Conference. We hold four meetings a week and our Sabbath services, and are now finishing the fifth week of the series. The papers have been very liberal in publishing our sermons and giving publicity to our meetings. To date several have decided to keep the commandments of God and 28 have joined our baptismal class.

A large measure of the interest awakened has been done by personal visits on the part of the church members and workers in the effort. We have hopes of a goodly number of souls being saved to the truth.

J. H. ROTH.

Alto Paraná Annual Meeting

THE annual meeting of the Alto Paraná Mission, which embraces the Republic of Paraguay, the Province of Corrientes, the Territories of Formosa, Chaco and Misiones, Argentine, was held in Mercedes, Corrientes November 19 - 26. The attendance of our

people was very limited but an excellent spirit prevailed. The superintendent of the Mission and the workers gave encouraging reports in which all departments of the work showed progress.

The meetings were held in an Italian theater, and the evening services which were dedicated to the general public were well attended. Brother Alejandro Cecotto was invited to remain to follow up the interest.

The writer visited our work in Corrientes where the future headquarters will be located. In Asuncion, which is one of the largest churches in the Mission, I held three meetings for the public. The attendance was good. Brother Leytes is opening work in an adjoining village. Brother Sabinio and wife are doing nursing and Bible work in Asuncion. Twelve new converts were expecting to be baptized soon. The last Sabbath was spent with our little church of Posadas.

The membership of the Alto Paraná Mission is now over five hundred and we hope soon to see the day when this mission can be organized into a Conference.

ROSCOE T. BAER.

PUBLISHING

The Persuasive Power of a Godly Life

How prone we are in our Christian life and service to depend on the arm of flesh! As workers in this great cause, having the solemn message that we do, there is great danger of placing too much confidence in human reasoning and arguments when presenting the message to others. Too many times we think that our influence depends upon display or outward appearance.

These things naturally must have their place, and should be given careful study, but when we stress such to the neglect of the adornment of the inner man, we are surely on losing ground.

The following experience as related by Brother E. W. Everest, manager of the publishing house, well illustrates this truth:

"The other day while in one of the prominent business houses in Buenos Aires making a purchase one of the directors after visiting a few moments asked:

"Don't you publish a book entitled, 'El Conflicto de los Siglos?' I assured him that we do. He said, 'I bought

one from one of your men the other day.

"I replied, 'I am glad that you did for you have bought one of the best books that we publish. It is a spiritual book and I am sure that you will find it both interesting and helpful. You may not agree with all its teachings, but it will pay you to investigate them very carefully.'

"Well,' he replied, 'I hope the book is alright. The reason I bought it was because the man impressed me as being a spiritual man. There was an atmosphere about him that made me feel good. He reminded me so much of our good and beloved Brother Pensotti who used to sell Bibles all over South America.'

"I assured him that the colporteur, Brother Villafaña, endeavored to live a consistent Christian life, and that we tried to select such men to sell our literature. With that I bade him good-bye."

Notice what it was that impressed this business man and made the sale. It was not the force of the colporteur's arguments, nor his striking appearance, but the impression that he was a "spiritual man."

What the results of such impressions will be it is impossible to say, but it is certain that this dealer will never forget that short interview and every time he sees the book or even thinks of it there will come to his mind a mental picture of the godly man who sold it to him.

"The most childlike disciple is the most efficient in labor for God. The heavenly intelligences can co-operate with him who is seeking, not to exalt self, but to save souls. He who feels most deeply his need of divine aid will plead for it. . . . From communion with Christ he will go forth to work for those who are perishing in their sins. He is anointed for his mission; and he succeeds where many of the learned and intellectually wise would fail." Desire of Ages, page 436.

W. A. BERGHERM.

Following God's Leading

SOME years ago colporteurs worked their way back into the interior of Peru, visiting small isolated settlements tucked away in the recesses of the mountains. In one fanatical Catholic village four men accepted the truth. These men suffered severe persecution being beaten, put in jail, and even driven from the village at times, but they remained faithful and today we have a large church at this place.

Early in the experience of these orig-

inal four one was caught by a mob, was beaten, stoned and left for dead, but later revived. While lying helpless, with a broken leg and many other serious injuries, he prayed that God would take care of him, promising that he would devote his life to God's work in whatever way He would lead if only he could recover from this condition and his life be preserved. Having had very little education, experience or training, he had no idea how the way might be opened so that he could be of any definite service.

However, soon after his recovery, he was invited to enter the colporteur work and recognized in this a call from God to fulfill his pledge and gladly accepted it. Although confronted by difficulties and persecutions he canvassed for several years. He then decided to attend our school at Lima for one year. At a recent meeting this brother, Apolinario Ruiz by name, was appointed to take charge of the colporteur work in the Lake Titicaca Mission where he will make special efforts to develop the literature work among the Indians of that vast section.

E. H. MEYERS.

Inca Union Mission

H. U. STEVENS - - - - President
W. E. PHILLIPS - - Secy. - Treas.
Address: Casilla 1003, Lima, Peru

Satan is Still at Work

ABOUT a year ago our brethren at a place called Rio Seco, about eight leagues from Brother Stahl's mission, began asking for a teacher that their children might receive a Christian education. The mission at that time had no teacher who could answer this call. But finally one of the brethren of the church who had just recently been converted, volunteered to direct the school. This young man had been holding quite a responsible position in the world and drawing a good salary when the Truth found him. But to a man who has once tasted the joys of this Message, position and a good salary are nothing.

He with his wife moved to Rio Seco and began teaching in the school. At first only the children of our adventist brethren attended but soon some of the outside children began to come. After hearing the simple Bible stories told instead of the usual routine of the public (Catholic) school, along with the worshipping of images, crucifixes, etc., the children at once report-

ed to their friends and soon many of the parents who are not of our faith came and begged that their children might also receive the same kind of instruction. They said they could not think of continuing to send them to the public schools while one of our schools was in operation in the vicinity.

This, of course brought in friction with the public school teacher, for one by one she was losing her students. She came in person to visit our teacher and laid her complaint before him. He was very courteous and said he was willing to do most anything to avoid trouble. He told her that he was in no way encouraging the other students to come but that they were coming of their own free will. He further told her that from that day he would refuse to receive any other children who were not of our own faith.

But by this time the news of what had taken place had reached the priest in the town near by and he immediately began seeking a pretext to bring persecution upon our workers and thwart our work. In order to incite the people against our brethren he caused the burning of some of the images in the catholic church, and other images were destroyed in various ways. As was previously planned, our people were of course openly accused of the crime. Our teacher was pointed out as the instigator and the priest immediately ordered his arrest along with five more of our brethren. The governor of the country seat took them in custody, charging them publicly for the destruction of the images of the church. They were at once taken to Tarma, the capital of the province to await their trial.

Our brethren knew that they were falsely accused and went trusting in the Lord, rejoicing in the fact that they could be witnesses for Him and defend the Truth. We sent a telegram to the first judge of the Supreme Court pleading that justice be given to these brethren as we knew the charges were false. Everything possible was done that could be done. It was made a subject of prayer in our churches, then we left the rest with the Lord.

The authorities were so favorably impressed by our brethren and their sincerity that the judge finally dismissed them without even a trial. Once more the Truth of God triumphed and our brethren were free. These experiences only help to strengthen our work and unite our brethren more closely in the Message.

H. D. ISAAC.

The Opening of the Lake Titicaca Normal School

WE HAD set a goal of 100 students for the winter session of school and 200 for the summer Normal, when we have most of our native workers in attendance. The winter term came and went and we matriculated more than ninety students. That was so near our goal that we hoped the summer session might really reach the 200 mark and we made all our plans with that many students in view. We have forty-eight small rooms for students. Some of the teachers bring their wives to summer school with them, so we expected to use a number of these rooms for families and put from four to six young people in each of the others as it became necessary.

A real perplexity in our school has been to get our young people to come in time to attend the first day. In our winter term fewer than half our students arrived on time. Because of this procrastinating tendency we had not planned to fill all our rooms at once, but every one was taken the first day. A full week before our opening the Indian young people began coming in. Across the level pampas we watched little groups of travelers coming toward the school and each day brought a few more than the day before. Some came by horse, and some by train, but by far the greater number came afoot, carrying their bedding on their backs and driving patient burros laden with their food supplies. At night there were nearly as many animals in the pampa as there were persons in the houses.

On our opening day we matriculated 206 enthusiastic students. That was a week ago at this writing. Everything was as full as we had thought it could be, but when a few more young people came later we began crowding an extra person into every available corner. Now some of our ten by fourteen feet dormitory rooms have seven and even eight occupants. Three rooms at the farm house have been placed at our disposal and we have appropriated our industrial room to provide more sleeping space. Our present enrollment is 250, but it will be more tomorrow for some boys are coming in this evening.

Though this unexpected attendance is causing inconvenience in the matter of teaching and housing so many students, we are deeply grateful that God has entrusted them to our care, for we believe He is preparing them to hasten the finishing of the work in this needy Indian country.

GUSSIE FIELD COLBURN.

The Cross—The Glory

"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, . . ." Gal. 6:14.

Paul was a man that could have demanded a high position in life. Riches, honor, power, and worldly praise could have been his, but he chose rather to count it all dross and glory only in the cross of Jesus Christ.

Recently I met in the Lake Titicaca Mission an old man with his wife and daughter. A few years ago this brother, together with other believers suffered much persecution and while we are sad that all the others forsook the Lord and returned to their old ways, we are very glad that he has remained faithful. His little farm and all he possessed was taken from him. He sought work in a mine where he found employment. Friday night came and he told his employer he could not work the next day because it was the Sabbath. He was paid his small earnings and told never to return. The poor old man was sad, but he asked God to help him and promised the Lord that if He would only provide food for him and his family, he would serve Him as long as he lived. He is still faithful. He works by the day in the little fields here and there making just enough to sustain his own and to give God a little. Their home is where night finds them. You ask him about his courage and with tears in his voice he will reply that he expects Jesus to come soon and that He will give him a little home and farm where there will be no enemies to take it from him.

Oh, may the Lord help each one of us to have such a love for God that nothing shall cause our feet to lose the way. But with a steadfast faithfulness may we press forward the work and thus hasten the coming of the Master to redeem those who to-day glory in the cross of Jesus Christ.

F. E. BRESEE.

Indian Superstitions

WE FIND the Indians very superstitious. The owl is an omen of evil and they believe that the person attacked by one will soon die or experience great difficulty. If a bird flies into a house this also is considered an omen of death. The skunk is also greatly feared and if one has crossed the road the people will not pass that way for a long time for fear they will be cursed.

If a person is touched with a bone taken from a grave they believe an ulcer will break out at the place of contact.

A curse will fall upon the other animals if a cow or sheep bears twins. In any market you will find small images of folds and flocks. These are bought to keep sheep and cattle well and to prevent them from being stolen.

Small stone images of money are carried in their purses so that they may have good luck. A small red vanilla bean is also used for this purpose.

If anyone shows great attention to a baby, caressing and making over it, he must moisten his finger in his mouth and touch the baby's face for fear it may die afterwards.

In many places we find a large heap of stones at the top of a hill which have been placed there one by one by travelers from the foot of the hill. Upon arriving at the crest of the hill, and before depositing the stone on the pile, the Indian rubs himself with it so that the weariness of the ascent may be taken from his body.

In order to make a successful business trip a small stone house is built on some hill before starting out.

Near Occo Pampa there is an old crater where people going on business trips stop to throw oranges, coca, pepper-pods, or any small part of their merchandise that their trip may be successful.

But the saddest of all is the wayside stone altar where many people take coca from their mouths and throw it against the altar that their sins may be taken away. How glad we are that we have the real cure for sin to offer to these poor souls who, with all their ignorance and sin still seek for some release.

RACHEL FIELD CLARK.

A Good Report From Ecuador

IN A communication recently received from Brother Ramon Redin, our native worker in Quito, Ecuador, we find the following interesting account of how the light is breaking through the darkness in that backward field:

"It is true that for many years the Third Angel's Message has been preached in this country and some self-sacrificing missionaries have from time to time united their efforts in this work. However, in spite of the fact that they labored with courage and wisdom, their hearts were made sad by the small number that responded to their invitations. The field was not ripe for the harvest. But the promises of God are sure. The whole earth is to be lighted with His glory. The message is to go to every creature. The people that walked in darkness were to see a great light. These words

must be fulfilled. In Quito at present we have some 50 people who are glad to listen to this message. It is a pleasure to me to tell you that the darkness of error has disappeared and the morning star is shining. Many people so long asleep in idolatry are awaking to the light of the gospel. A short time ago it was useless to give out tracts and papers as they would only be torn in pieces at once, but now a change is very noticeable. Many times people stop me on the street to ask for some tract or paper, desiring to know the meaning of the troubles that are in the world. Some say, 'We have observed that you understand these things,' while others have remarked, 'You people are very upright and religious. I like your religion.' One time I was talking with an atheist who said, 'Of all religions and organizations that I know, yours is the best.'

"Surely these experiences in a country so catholic as ours are truly encouraging."

Ecuador needs more foreign workers. The field is ripe and the harvest is waiting for reapers. Now is the day of our opportunity. H. U. STEVENS.

The Lima Training School

THE year 1925 has been without doubt the most successful year in the history of the Lima Training School, both spiritually and numerically. Although there have been more inconveniences and perplexities the Lord has helped us over them all and we feel grateful to Him.

Of the forty-five enrolled, the larger part remained with us until the close of the year. Fourteen were enrolled in the Secondary Department and the remainder in the Primary grades. Because of the lack of proper facilities, five had to be turned away. The spirit in the school has been excellent for the most part and many victories in the Christian warfare have been gained. At the close of the year four followed their Lord in baptism.

The prospects for the coming year are exceptionally bright. During the past year there has been a substantial increase in the membership of the Peru Mission, our chief recruiting ground, and many young people are purposing in their hearts to come to school so that they may get a quick preparation that will enable them to help finish the work on time.

Our goal for 1926 is sixty young people in the "Instituto Industrial."

C. D. STRIPLIN.

South American Bulletin

Published monthly as the Official Organ of the South American Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 CENTS GOLD

W. H. WILLIAMS - - - - - Editor
P. E. BRODERSEN - - - - - Asso. Editor

Calle Pino 3801, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Figures That Talk

WE ARE glad to report to our fellow workers throughout the Division that \$18,059.38 Harvest Ingathering passed through the treasurer of the Austral Union during 1925. The Lord has surely blessed the humble efforts of our leaders and workers throughout the field. Each year we have seen a gradual increase in the returns from this campaign. In 1922 a little over \$13,000 gold was raised, in 1923 over \$15,000 and in 1924 more than \$17,000 was reported. In 1925, \$5,000 more was raised than in 1922. We thank the Lord for this splendid success and trust that the funds that have come in through this channel will be the means of saving souls to this message.

We are cheered to learn that souls have been won to the truth and that there are also some interested as a result of this line of missionary activity. Our people have also had an experience in missionary work that they would not otherwise receive. May the Lord help us in making our plans for this effort during this present year.

L. E. CHRISTMAN.

South Brazil Briefs

ELDER F. R. Kuempel and José dos Reis are conducting a tent effort in the city of Porto Alegre. The meetings have been well attended by a good class of people. Many are interested in the truth, and a number have already commenced to keep the Sabbath. On Sabbath, December 12, Elder Kuempel baptized ten dear souls in the Porto Alegre church. It was a blessed occasion. He expects to have another baptism before long.

THERE are times which may rightfully be called "times of visitation," times when God in a special way visits and calls upon the people to turn to Him. We believe that such a time has now come to Brazil. All over our field Sabbath-keepers are springing up, calling for help that they may be further instructed and baptized. Oh, if we only had the men and means to reach these people in the "time of their visitation!" Soon it may be too late.

DURING the latter part of the year Elder Luiz Braun and Brother Domingos Peixoto held a tent effort in Sao Joao da Boa Vista. The meetings were well attended and many became interested. This aroused bitter opposition from the Catholic priests who publicly warned the people against us and forbade their members attending. One of the priests printed and circulated a "Vigorous Protest" against the Adventists holding meetings in their town, and with abusive language and misrepresentations sought to stir up the people against us. But the interests in the meetings increased. Finally a threat was made that they would drive all the Adventists out of town on a certain day. The mayor of the city, fearing that he did not have policemen enough to protect our people in their right, sent to Sao Paulo for an additional number of soldiers. At this writing we have not yet heard the outcome, but the interest continues for on Sabbath seventy-five people attended the services, claiming to have commenced to keep the Sabbath. The truth of God will triumph. N. P. NEILSEN.

ELDER R. T. Baer and family sailed on the S. S. "Vandyck" on February 1. Elder Baer has spent more than ten years of service in the Austral Union and returns to the homeland on furlough.

ON JANUARY 28 Brother W. E. Phillips and wife left Buenos Aires via Chile en route to Lima, Perú. Brother Phillips who has acted as cashier of the Division will take up the secretary-treasurership of the Inca Union.

THE next session of the General Conference will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U. S. A., May 27 to June 14, 1926.

From the Council

THE following items of interest are gleaned from remarks by the leaders of the Union fields while attending the recent Council of the South American Division.

ELDER F. W. Spies, Superintendent of the East Brazil Union Mission reported progress in all phases of the work for 1925. During the year 188 were baptized. Of this number, 64 were from the Espirito Santo Mission. He spoke especially of the opening of the work in the state of Rio Grande do Norte. In several places of this state, almost simultaneously, believers have sprung up as a result of the colporteur work. Several of these groups have been visited and a number baptized with many more in preparation. In the state of Bahia Elder Halliwell reports progress with many calls coming from different parts. Elder Schneider in Espirito Santo also reports more new calls than they can possibly attend to.

Although without a union field missionary secretary for 1925 the sales of literature were larger than before. The workers are so few that it is a great perplexity to know how to attend to the work that is already in hand. As yet the larger cities throughout the Union are practically untouched.

The message brought by Elder N. P. Neilsen of the South Brazil Union was indeed encouraging. He said, "We have come to the time when God is visiting South Brazil. As a result of the literature that has been scattered in the past hundreds of new believers are keeping the Sabbath." He believes that the people of South Brazil who for so many years have been bound by Catholicism are seeking for something more satisfying. He says, "There is nothing that so opens their eyes and appeals to these people as does our message in all its pureness."

At one place in Rio Grande do Sul, where a worker has never visited, a new company of 50 are keeping the Sabbath and an equal number are deeply interested.

In the interior of Brazil in the state of Goyaz two Sabbath schools have been organized. A large church could be raised in each place if a worker could be sent there. One self-supporting worker has already begun work far in the interior among the Indians and there is a call for schools. One Indian chief has built a chapel and will allow meeting to be held there only on the Sabbath. Brazil is in a crisis and needs help.

Elder Baer of the Austral Union also reports a great throng of workers with calls increasing everywhere. At Mercedes in the Province of Corrientes, the people crowded to the meetings and although the priests published protesting articles against our work this only aroused still more interest.

In Asunción, Paraguay, where other societies have had to practically abandon their work we have a large growing church. Brother Leites, our worker at the place, was one day praying when a shower of brickbats and stones began to pour into the room. The brother just kept on praying and the Lord protected him so that no harm was done.

In Chile the work is progressing as never before. Uruguay reports a successful effort for the German people. A good number were baptized as a result. There are many Danish, German and Welsh people in this field among whom there are most encouraging prospects but as yet we have practically no one to begin work among them.

We had a good harvest of souls for the year 1925. Recently 22 were baptized in the Buenos Aires Conference. The Union needs men and it needs means, evangelists to work our large cities and means to aid in completing our educational institutions.

The Ministerial Reading Course

EVERY worker in the South American Division should take the Ministerial Reading Course for 1926. The books can be had in Portuguese, Spanish or English. We urge that the course be taken in Portuguese or Spanish as the case may be. We do this in order that the worker may be reading the books in the language of the country in which he labors, thus becoming more conversant with the language. In the event a worker cannot read either the Portuguese or Spanish, we urge that he take the course in English.

Why should you take the course? Because, first, the books contain valuable reading of just the kind that helps the worker in his particular line. The book "The Epistle to the Romans" by Moule in the 1925 reading course was, generally speaking, a most excellent book. Right here let me say that the books may not always advance the truth on all points of doctrine. For example, we do not agree with Moule on his presentation of the ingathering of Israel. But his exposition of righteousness by faith is sound and very good. Especially is his reasoning in regard to the place the law holds in the great doctrine of righteousness by faith excellent. Second, it is further very beneficial to train one's self to systematic reading. We spend altogether too much time doing nothing. In our traveling, on Sabbath afternoons, while waiting for meals, etc., we idle away many hours of precious time. Some men continue to grow mentally until they lay off the armour. Others cease to grow mentally before they reach the prime of life. Why? Because they are constantly giving their mind a vacation.

The writer read Moule's "The Epistle to the Romans" and the gospels of Matthew and Mark through in two days while on a trip, without any strenuous effort. If we filled our minds with the fruits of great minds, our own minds would become store-houses from which we can draw. I sat in a congregation not long ago when a certain speaker stepped to the desk. Next to me sat a listener. He leaned over and whispered this in my ear: "That preacher's sermons are musty. He has preached the same sermons for over twenty years. When he has read his text we all know what he is going to say." Moral: Don't grow stagnant. Improve your time, read, study, take the Ministerial Reading Course.

We request that all our workers take the course for 1926. There is still plenty of time. Write your union president or union secretary-treasurer for information.

P. E. BRODERSEN.