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## The Place of the Lay Member in the Finishing of the Work in South America

Carlyle B. Haynes

IN THE phraseology of the church layman means someone not a preacher. It is taken for granted that the preacher is an expert in theological knowledge and activity; that he is an enlightener in holy things, an inspirer, a proclaimer of the good tidings of salvation; these things are his vocation in life.

The layman is not given over to religion as a vocation. He is, or should be, given over to religion as a life. As regards technical knowledge of theology he is a layman. But as regards activity and participancy in Christian service, he is an adept.

There come times in the work of God when the whole church, laymen and preachers together, are to unite in the doing of one great task. The work which God has to do in this world in saving men demands that the whole body of Christians should work together to carry out His purpose. This work is so pressing, of such supreme importance, so altogether essential, that when it comes to doing it, every man and woman and child *must* be at it.

The harvesting of the crop sometimes demands that the whole family go diligently and hurriedly and strenuously to work. Finishing God's work on earth is like

that. God's harvest is white. Everybody must help.

So the call has gone forth. And the layman is getting into action. He has weighed the claims of God. He sees his stewardship of time, money, energy and strength. He begins to see God's plan to finish His work on earth. And, while he is not a specialist in theological training, he is becoming one in Christian service.

It is a good sight to look upon, young and old giving their strength and time to God's great business. To see these brawny, pushing, eager men, these gentle, lovely, earnest women, these fervent, ardent, enthusiastic youth, give time, thought, love, effort to the program of God, makes a body's heart sing hallelujah.

I love to see them in the thick of God's business. They are not looking on; they are participating in it. They

have caught a great vision, the vision of a finished work, and the coming again of their Lord. I think God loves to see them at it, too.

And God's great program requires just this to be completed. The whole church must unite in this great work for the whole world. And with the whole church, working in and for the whole world, with the whole gospel of grace, endowed with the power of God's Spirit, this work of human salvation will be completed.

These are the days when God is setting great tasks for His people. And His church will respond. There is a world task before us. We are a world people. This is a world movement. And laymen are asking not how little they can do, but how much they can do.

Big as our program is, however, our activities must not engross us to the exclusion or forgetting of the Maker of the program. It is not our work. It is His, and we are His, sent by Him to do His world task. So we must not be swamped under our load like a waterlogged boat, but like a buoyant ship must bear our load like laughter. We must not be deceived by our achievements and blinded by our successes. Activity is not life; life is activity. Our clatter is not our locomotion. God is in this business, God must be in our souls. Our activity must be but the outworking of His life, planted by His own love in us.

Let us always remember that a



Waterfalls in South Brazil near which a number of souls have been baptized.

little church of holy folk, saying little of their piety, but living quietly the life of God, will do large business in any community. We must be godly folk if we would profoundly move men towards godliness. Our big business, therefore, is just being godly. And that means living close to God, living with God, and God living in us. That is a very noble program. It is God's program for His people. By such a program He proposes to finish His work on earth. God, working in and through and by His people, will soon finish the great work of human salvation in this world.

### The Church at Work Around Lake Titicaca

THE Lord's servant has written, "Every addition to the church should be one more agency for the carrying out of the plan of redemption. Every power of God's people should be devoted to bringing many sons and daughters to Him."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 222.

We have been made very happy the last year or so to note the awakening to home missionary work of the Indian brethren in this great Peruvian highland. There seems to have been a time when it was thought that the members of our Indian churches were the exception to the good motto that every convert should be another soul winner. Somehow I feel that they have always done more than they were given credit for.

That our Indian members have taken a greater interest of late in reporting their missionary work may be seen in the following figures as revealed through the reports of the home missionary department of the mission. For the first quarter of the year 58 were listed as reporting. Then came 179 and 704 respectively for the second and third quarters. The fourth quarter's reports just in, present the encouraging number of 1,669 Indian church members reporting for this quarter. Is not this then, brethren, an indication of a great awakening to home missionary work on the part of the churches of the Lake Titicaca Mission?

A bit of report here as to the missionary work done during the past year by these loyal Indian members will be of interest: 6,004 missionary visits were made, 3,411 Bible studies given, 2,934 hours of Christian help work were donated, 2,337 papers, tracts and books were loaned or given away, 336 missionary letters were written and 194 received in reply. In view of such a report I am convinced that it is time to forget our placing of limitations on our Indian brethren and in turn to dedicate a little more time and thought to organizing

this great body of members into a living, moving power for the work of saving the many thousand lost souls of this vast region.

In company with six other workers of the mission I made a trip into a distant section of the field. We met a group of believers and friends of the message. Before we left a baptism was held for eleven candidates. Near the house where we stayed, on a small elevation of ground, was an old shrine. On asking what it was, we were told that it was the place where these same people we baptized, used to worship. But now they knew the truth, the true God, and a personal Saviour, and they were happy. No more would they kneel in pagan worship before the old pile of stones.

And how did they hear the message? Here is the secret. One of their number, the chief, was making a trip to Puno on business. To reach this city he had to pass near one of our mission stations. It was Sabbath and a large congregation of people was about. Becoming curious, he entered the church at meeting time and listened. Seed was sown in his heart; it sprouted; it grew. On his return he planned his trip so that he could attend again at the mission meeting place. He heard a bit more of the gospel story. He returned to his people. Hardly could he wait to tell them the news. Over and over he told what he had heard and seen. As the truth burned in his own heart, so it spread to the hearts of others. Many believed and an interest was created. He decided to come to the mission headquarters and ask for a worker for his people. One was sent, the result of whose labors I have already stated. There today you meet a group of members, some twenty in all, with as many more in the baptismal class. A few days ago the worker came into the office bringing limes and offerings four or five times in excess of his salary for the year. And how did it all come about? The results of the home missionary efforts of a converted soul for the salvation of his family and neighbors.

One of our station directors recently visited a group of believers for the first time. A few of their number had attended meeting at a distant mission station and on coming home, told their neighbors. They organized a company and Sabbath after Sabbath held meetings, taking an offering, and conducting Sabbath school as best they knew until the director could come and teach them better. Now they have a school for the children and a large company is awaiting baptism—the result of home missionary work.

Well, dear reader, I might go on and fill this number of the BULLETIN with

experiences of this kind. Our people are working for the salvation of others. They do not have much to give from the standpoint of this world's goods, but they are giving themselves to the task of carrying this message to others. Let us pray for them that they may be blessed of God in their endeavor to serve Him who bids us "Go!" I believe we are nearing the day when every addition to the churches of the Lake Titicaca Mission will be one more agency for the carrying out of the plan of redemption.

F. E. BRESEE.

*Superintendent, Lake Titicaca  
Mission.*

### Youngest Church Elder Takes the Lead

DURING our annual meeting, held in Posadas, Misiones, October 25 to November 2, we had the privilege of receiving the new church at Alvear, Corrientes, Argentine, into the sisterhood of our organized churches of the Alto Paraná Mission.

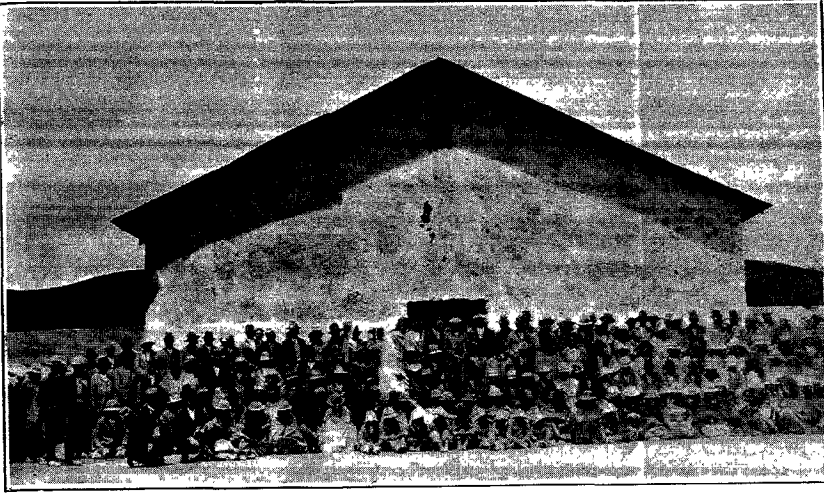
A few years ago Brother August Brack from Germany, settled with his family in Alvear. Brother Brack is one of our veteran canvassers who began to canvass in Berlin, Germany, more than thirty years ago. He had been engaged in the book work in Brazil for many years. His condition of health, however, forced him to leave the work. Nevertheless he still maintains his interest in the work and in the proclamation of the third angel's message. In spite of the many hardships through which he passed, his faith in the final triumph of the message remains firm.

It was his purpose that his children should engage in the work and be, in the full meaning of the word, home missionary workers. With this in view, his young son Samuel set to work for others. He labored first with the hired man on the farm, then with his relatives, and after a period of a little over a year young Brother Brack presented eight souls for baptism. It was the privilege of the undersigned to officiate in the baptism, which took place on Sabbath, October 20, 1928.

Afterward our young brother began to work with periodicals, tracts and other literature among the neighbors of the recently-added members, and six months later I was called to administer baptism to seven additional souls who took their stand for the Lord.

At this time we felt free to organize the little group into a church with twenty-four members, and ordain young Brother Brack as elder of the church, after he had been unanimously elected by his brethren.

We were happy to see the new church



Collana Mission Station. The truth was brought to this people by Indians from the Broken Stone Mission who came among them to buy and sell products.

take up its duties in home missionary work, such as Harvest Ingathering, Big Week, and the distribution of literature. The young elder, only twenty-three years of age, took the lead. All of the young people, together with their parents, distributed *El Atalaya* regularly. New souls have become interested and it was the privilege of our home missionary secretary to baptize eight other souls just recently. Such personal work on the part of the youngest church elder in our mission is surely encouraging. If all of our church elders would likewise engage in personal endeavor, it certainly would add greatly to the finishing of the work. Paul says, "Let the elders, that rule well, be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine." (1 Tim. 5:17.)

The Alto Paraná Mission has launched a soul-winning program throughout the field, and as we take special care in selecting leaders who will be able to educate and train our church members in personal soul-winning work, we ask the Lord to bless our humble efforts.

W. A. ERNENPUTSCH,  
*Superintendent, Alto Paraná  
Mission.*

## An Experience in Santa Catharina

A MARRIED couple in Santa Catharina, Brazil, learned of the truth in one of our churches, but before receiving baptism they moved to another location. At this new place they spread the seed of truth in the neighborhood, and although the man could neither read nor write and his wife was unable to read much, their influence was felt for good over their neighbors. Some of them

began to keep the Sabbath, turn from their vices, such as drinking and smoking; and they began to practice health reform and also to pay tithes, although they had never received instruction from one of our ministers.

I received a letter from the couple requesting me to visit and baptize them together with those whom they had instructed. On my arrival I was surprised to learn how thoroughly this company of believers had been prepared. Had a minister or Bible worker been among them they could not have done more thorough work. The candidates revealed a change in their lives. In a few months a group of twenty-five members was organized, and these members started to work for new souls. The couple who first learned of the truth lived very faithfully among the new believers, manifesting always a deep interest and love toward the lost in the world. Continually baptisms are held in this place, and not one individual has been added to the company without a good preparation beforehand. The members of this locality are poor, but on the whole they pay more tithes than any other church in our field.

Another experience that may be cited relates to our Brother Pedro Eloy de Santa Anna, who lives in Paraná. This brother is 63 years old. I baptized him in 1920. He is not a well informed man concerning world affairs, but he is a faithful member. This brother with his family lives far out in the woods. His wife and children were fervent Catholics and brought on him many trying experiences. I well remember the visit I made to his home four years after his baptism. He was sad and discouraged, for he had broken some bones in one of his feet and no doctor was available in that sparsely settled district. However,

in spite of his sufferings he told me with joy of his wonderful experiences in the Lord. He said that one of his difficulties had been giving up the use of lard. He did not want to eat food which had been prepared with lard, but no oil could be obtained off there in the woods, so he had eaten his food without oil of any kind, thus depriving himself of the seeming necessities.

Think well, brethren. Four years had passed since I had seen him, and during all that time he stood true to what he believed to be right. Such faithfulness certainly brings forth fruit, and it did with him. Last year we received word from him that souls were awaiting baptism in his vicinity. Brother A. L. Westphal visited them, remaining there about three weeks, during which time he baptized twenty-eight dear souls. He reports that a goodly number are preparing for the next baptism to be held in that place. The entire family of this brother accepted the truth; fourteen children and his wife, also his sons-in-law and daughters-in-law. What a glorious victory was his!

Last year during June I met this brother again in Ponta Grossa at a meeting. He had made an eight day trip with two other brothers, on horse-back, in order to attend these public meetings. It was a great sacrifice to him, as his foot still caused him intense suffering as result of not having received proper attention. But limping, he came up to me with a radiant, smiling face. In that face could be seen the joy of salvation, and the joy of being instrumental in the salvation of others. Oh, that all our members might follow his example; then our work would soon be finished.

GERMANO STREITHORST,  
*Superintendent, Santa Catharina-  
Paraná Mission.*

## Home Missionary Experiences

AFTER getting the Torre church together and selecting a good live committee, we started to organize for work. We picked out the ones who could give Bible studies and others who could help with singing and then asked for addresses where meetings might be held. I went around with these earnest leaders from house to house and got them started. A program was made for each week and for each group. Much interest has been raised up and more people are coming. The Sabbath school has grown and the baptismal class in that church has doubled its membership. Two weeks ago five of this class were baptized and more added to the class. If it were not for the cooperation of the lay members

at this time when we have no mission worker in this part of the field, I do not know what we would do. The church mentioned is the one dedicated in the city of Recife last year.

There is one live church leader at Arara de Fóra in Pernambuco. This little group of three has not been visited by a minister for several years. However, careful correspondence and home missionary programs have reached them. Through correspondence we organized a baptismal class of five. These were baptized last Sabbath. There were sixteen persons present. Three old members and five newly baptized ones make eight. Shortly after this a new baptismal class of the other eight was organized and they are a real live little group of workers.

Servianno Goncalves spoke to a friend about the Bible. This friend invited the lay members to visit his family. Soon cottage meetings were started and now two are preparing for baptism, and much interest is being shown as the cottage meetings continue. E. P. MANSELL.

### What One Lay Member Did

ONE afternoon just as the sun was setting and the hours of the Sabbath were drawing near, Brother Annibal Montalvo was sitting at his door. The week had been a busy one, and now, having everything done, he was waiting for the Sabbath.

Our brother mentally reviewed some of the happenings of the last few days and remembered having seen some new colonists come into the community, some of whom were now living near him. He had also noticed that his closest neighbor had looked very discouraged and that he went to his work every day with his head drooped low. Also he remembered having heard that this neighbor had passed through some hard experiences, having lost most of his possessions. Our brother had gone through similar experiences and remembered how discouraged he had been during the time. Then after the gospel message came to him everything had changed.

Just then the brother's wife called, "Annibal, it is time to begin the Sabbath." And as they sat together they sang the beautiful hymn, "There is power in the blood."

Little did Brother Annibal know that at the same time he was singing his neighbor, Adolfo Verbeno, was sitting in front of his own little house, discouraged and tired of life. Then at this moment there came to his ears the words of the hymn, "Would you be free from your burden of sin . . . there's power in the blood." What could this be? Oh, how he longed to have some

one help him and save him. He continued listening, and resolved to go where the singing was. He became acquainted with his neighbor, heard the story of the cross, its results and soon became a sincere believer.

But the story does not end here. Just a few days ago I received a letter from Brother Samuel Thomás, our Bible worker in that district, in which he said that he had been in Dona America where Brother Adolfo was teaching the truth to many persons. The letter also stated that I should come at as early a date as possible in order to baptize from twenty to thirty persons who were awaiting baptism. All this has come about as a result of one lay member's work. Naturally, the Bible worker prepared them for baptism, but the real effort was made by a lay member.

We are not yet at the end of this story, for the letter tells me that near the place where this brother lives we have an organized Sabbath school of twenty members. We hope to baptize a goodly number there before long.

Therefore, I thank the Lord for the work that has been done through the lay members, and sincerely pray that the Lord may give us a host of this kind of workers. May God bless them.

H. G. STOEHR.

*Superintendent,  
Rio-Espirito Santo Mission.*

### Missionary Experiences of Lay Members

OUR Home Missionary Department no doubt gains more souls for the truth than any other one department, for every true Seventh-day Adventist is a missionary, and has his field of labor. There is something each member can do, and the Lord expects from every one that he will do his part. It is true that we are not accomplishing what we might accomplish through the department, but we are glad to say that considerable work is being done by our lay members. I want to quote a few examples. We have an elder in one of our country churches, who has for some months conducted Sunday meetings in his neighborhood, and has a good interest. He distributes tracts and papers. I had the pleasure of preaching to his congregation a few times, and we hope that a number of souls may be won.

Another church in a city has held open-air meetings, and brought quite a number of interested ones to the church. Every Sunday they went out and held meetings in different parts of the city, scattered tracts, and then invited the people to the church.

An army officer, who was baptized a few weeks ago, told me he never goes

out on the street without his Bible and hymn-book. He told me of the wonderful missionary visits he had with his former friends, telling them of the new light he had found since becoming an Adventist. He was a strong spiritualist, and his wife was possessed of the devil. Now they are both faithful members of our church.

One old brother was selling literature in a neighborhood and held some meetings. After a while he had an interest which was followed up by one of our workers, and twelve souls were baptized. At this time another group of candidates is waiting for baptism, and the writer expects to visit this place in the near future to give the final preparation to these souls and baptize them.

Another elder was visiting in his neighborhood and gained one family, which the writer had the privilege of baptizing. It was the first baptism in the neighborhood, and many were left interested.

A church school teacher was doing missionary work together with his church, and gained a large number of the young people. People not of our faith became interested. A worker followed up this interest, and in a short time baptized forty-seven souls.

Another teacher worked with his school and church, gained a Catholic boy, and later the whole family was won and baptized.

One elder began missionary work with a certain family, took their children into his home, sent them to church school, and gained four of them for the truth, all of whom were baptized.

Thus we see that the Home Missionary Department gives opportunity for work to every one in the church. If properly organized, we have forces untold in the ranks of our lay members. These workers are not on the conference pay-role, and yet hundreds of souls may be won through them if these forces are rightly employed. It is no doubt the most economic labor we can employ, and is bringing in a large harvest of souls. Live missionary labor prepares people also to do good Harvest Ingathering work. Two sisters in one of our churches agreed to go out and raise 1:000\$000 (\$125 gold). They passed their goal. This is a high goal in Brazil. Others went out and raised good amounts. One of our young lady teachers raised 100\$000 in one day.

Let us teach our lay members what Martin Luther once said: "Work as though everything depends upon you, and pray as though everything depends upon God, and success will come." That is the secret of it all.

A. C. HARDER.  
*President, Rio Grande do Sul  
Conference.*

## Harvest Ingathering and Soul Winning

SOME time ago a colporteur passed through a certain district selling our truth-filled literature, and left one of his books with a certain *fazendeiro*. The book was read and later the man came in touch with the *Atalaia*; and became deeply convicted of the truth.

Then one day there passed some one soliciting funds in the Harvest Ingathering for missions and left an *Informe* as usual. The *fazendeiro* came across an article in the *Informe* written by Elder J. B. Johnson, editor of the *Atalaia*, which treated on obedience.

The man became so deeply convicted through this article that he decided then and there to obey and keep God's commandments. He ordered his family and all his servants to observe the seventh-day Sabbath.

He came with his family to our college to get better acquainted with our people and know more of the truth, and was later baptized by Pastor Belz in the Sao Paulo church.

But it is not only he and his family who are Sabbath keepers, but a goodly number of neighbors and acquaintances also are deeply interested. Thus the Lord uses different agencies to draw souls to Himself. We believe the believers who brought the *Informe* to that family and solicited funds for the Lord's work will never be sorry for having done so. What would have been the result had this work been neglected?

G. F. RUF.

Home Missionary Secretary,  
South Brazil Union.

## The Santiago Church Organizes for Missionary Work

OUR church, which has a little over 300 members, is divided into twelve groups. Each group bears the name of one of the apostles, and is led by one of the elders or deacons. There is also an assistant leader and a deaconess in each group. When the Harvest Ingathering or Big Week campaign comes along, the church divides its goal into twelve parts, and each "apostle" must see that his part is reached. To have the church thus organized is the best way to do great things for the Lord.

Outside of this system of activity, the spiritual and other needs of the members are carefully looked after.

There are also several brethren who render valuable help in preaching the word of God, and have been greatly blessed in their ministry.

WALTER SCHUBERT,  
President, Chile Conference.



The Belgrano missionary group who distributed 10,000 "Atalaya" supplements.

## A Working Church

SOME months ago our churches in the city of Recife experienced a severe trial when one of the native mission workers left the work and started a church of his own. About the only ones among the members we lost were some who had been extremely critical for years and were always opposing the plans of the mission. When progressive plans were laid by the church opposition was always met.

Since the "drones" in the church have left we note a wonderful change. A genuine missionary spirit is manifested among the members, and they are fairly running from house to house with the message. In one of the churches the lay members are holding cottage meetings every night in the week, and besides this they are opening up new branch Sabbath schools. They show a real cooperative spirit with the mission plans and God is blessing their efforts. A baptismal class of fifteen has been organized in one church, half of which will be baptized before the end of the present year, and *all this has been done without a mission worker right with them all the time*. This only shows what real live church members can do by way of cooperation in a mission when there is no worker right on the job all the time. We furnish the leaders with material for giving Bible studies and special instruction furnished by our East Brazil Union superintendent for baptismal classes. Great enthusiasm is manifested both on the part of the members and the interested ones.

When we returned from our public effort in the city of Natal, after being away three months, we had the privilege of visiting all these cottage meetings. The church officers in charge of these

meetings were pleased to see the mission director taking interest in their activities, and you may be sure that the writer was also pleased. We pray that the Lord will send forth more faithful laborers into the harvest. At times we cannot understand that everything works together for good to them who love the Lord, but we know that "He is a great God and doeth things past finding out."

E. P. MANSELL.

Superintendent,  
Pernambuco Mission.

## More Than a Thousand Pesos in Three Hours

NEVER have I seen such great interest manifested in the Harvest Ingathering work in the city of Buenos Aires as during the present campaign. Brother M. V. Tucker, manager of the Buenos Aires Publishing House, went out one Friday morning recently to begin his part in the campaign. His work was so richly blessed that after three hours he returned home with one thousand *pesos* Argentine currency (about \$425 gold) marked on his card. Business houses that had given fifty *pesos* in former years gave three times that amount; and not one firm refused to give a donation. The business managers with whom we spoke gave their offerings gladly, and seemed anxious to keep the *Informe Anual* (Annual Report) to read.

We have raised the Austral Union goal to 43,000 Argentine *pesos* (\$18,255 gold), an amount larger than any previous year in the history of the Harvest Ingathering work in this union. The reports that have been received give every reason to believe that we will reach and pass our goal this year as we did in 1929.

HENRY F. BROWN.

## Pioneer Light Bearers in South America



As you have read the rise and progress of our work throughout the world, no doubt you have been impressed with the fact that in the majority of cases the Lord has used home missionary means and

methods. In fact in many cases it has been some humble periodical, small tract, or one of our books that has been the pioneer message-carrier to the far-flung corners of the earth. In other cases a humble soul who has accepted the truth has gone forth to do missionary work for his relatives and acquaintances. They have commenced the work which the minister has been called to complete. This has been true of the rise of the work in South America.

The first person to bring the message to Argentine was Brother Riffel, a German-Russian settler who had gone to Kansas, and while there accepted the truth. Immediately he felt a burden for his fellow countrymen in Argentine, so returned to carry the truth to them. The first man to meet him after landing, and with whom he stayed a little while, was won immediately and is still faithful. Brother Riffel rejoiced in seeing German churches scattered all over the province of Entre Ríos, for these churches have ever been missionary churches, sustaining themselves, and spreading the truth abroad. We have some men among them who have been used of God in raising up several groups of believers. Lay-member evangelism is one of the most wonderful and successful methods, and the most economical.

How did the message start in Brazil? True to custom—in a home missionary way. Elder F. H. Westphal, in his book, "Pioneering in the Neglected Continent," recounts the following:

"A number of years before the arrival of any of our missionaries in Brazil, ten copies of our German missionary paper, *Stimme der Wahrheit*, were sent to a German settler in Brusque. His name and address had been given to some Adventist ship missionaries by the man's step-son, a sailor. Fearing that he might be called upon later to pay for the papers, the settler refused to receive them. But a neighboring German teacher said he would accept them together with any responsibilities they might entail. He received the club of papers regularly for several years and distributed them in the neighborhood. Then, for

some reason, he lost interest in the matter, and another teacher of the same nationality undertook the distribution of the papers. This man, although in earlier life had studied for the ministry, was a drunkard, and sold and exchanged cheaply for drink the books and papers he received. Sometimes he was so intoxicated when he delivered the papers that he would fall into the houses as the doors were opened.

"A number of families were converted in that neighborhood through the reading of these papers."—pp. 34, 35

The first bearers of the message to Perú were some new believers in Chile who went there to work at their trade and witness for Jesus.

The great Indian work of the highlands, which has ever been a great "lay-members' movement," I understand, was started through a *Signs of the Times* in Spanish falling into Comacho's hands, which created an interest.

From these beginnings, a mighty work has grown in South America. Today we are more than 20,000 strong. These 20,000 organized according to God's plan can soon give the message. This responsibility we leaders in the work have. We must put this great army into action. Through them God plans to finish the work. He has furnished us the ammunition. The servant of the Lord has said, "The great and wonderful work of the last gospel message is to be carried on now as never before. The world is to receive the light of truth through an evangelizing ministry of the Word in our books and periodicals."

R. R. BREITGAM.

*Home Missionary Secretary,  
South American Division.*

## Some Results of Home Missionary Work in South Brazil



SOME three years ago we had only a handful of brethren at Socorro, but some of the brethren there, and especially some of the young people, began to look for others to join their group.

The efforts were not in vain, and some time after that a baptism was held—the largest in the entire conference that year—when twenty-two souls were added to the Lord. Since that time many more have been added and their number is at present around ninety. An evangelistic effort was held in the town of Socorro, at

which a goodly number joined, and now the brethren are busy building a church.

The remarkable thing about this work is that the young people have taken and are taking such an active part. Perhaps this is the reason the work is prospering. Since the believers live some distance apart, they are not all able to meet at the same place every Sabbath; so they have three Sabbath schools which are superintended by three young men, and these usually take the after meeting also.

When visiting this place some weeks ago, the leader of one of these sections came to the station to meet us and took us to his neighborhood where a meeting had been appointed in the home of a family with whom he had been working and who were just about to decide for the truth. The next Sabbath this family was present.

This same missionary spirit is manifesting itself in many places, and it shows us that God is pouring out His Spirit upon His people to enable them to do a great and quick work for Him. The vision of that great reformatory movement of which we read in the Spirit of prophecy is meeting its fulfillment more and more.

A little over a year ago a man who had been a Presbyterian became convinced of the truth and accepted it. He, too, had a burning desire to acquaint others with this glorious truth. Since the coffee crisis has come on, he has had to leave his home town to find work elsewhere. He went out with one of his sons. They found work, and they also found souls. He sent home a report to the effect that he had several families keeping the Sabbath, others deeply interested; and pleads that our district elder make a short visit there to help him in establishing these people.

Our college young people in their literature and correspondence band have sent out, during the school year of 1929, literature to some ninety names, and kept in touch with them under the Home Bible Study League plan. To date four families have accepted the truth, and six others are taking steps to keep the Sabbath. Other replies are expected. We hope to adopt this plan in many of our larger churches.

Space does not permit telling other experiences similar and just as striking, which show that our lay brethren are working and are really getting a vision of God's plan for His church in these last days. Long lists of calls are continually registered by our brethren who are working to win others and who desire that a worker come to fully establish these interested ones and baptize them. Sometimes some of us workers become almost ashamed when we compare our record with the great things some of our lay brethren are doing.

May God bless the efforts of our faithful brethren and may many more be inspired to follow their good example.

G. F. RUF.

## The Work of a Lay Member



WHILE holding a meeting in the city of Chepen, in the north of Perú, in the interest of the colporteur work the latter part of December, I noticed a commotion in the rear of the church just before time to

begin the service. The elder of the church told me that two believers had just arrived from the district of Cochabamba, which is a six day journey across the Andes mountains.

At the close of the meeting the brethren presented me to these two new brethren who had walked barefoot most all this distance to receive baptism. The first words they said after shaking my hand were, "Brother Fernando Risco moved from Chepen over to our part of the country two years ago and taught us this precious truth, and now we have come to be baptized. Brother Risco said that one of the evangelists of the Perú Mission would be here to baptize us. Will you baptize us?" When I explained that I was not an ordained minister and therefore could not perform this sacred rite, they begged me, saying, "We have come this six day journey expecting to receive baptism before returning to our people. There are twenty more over there on the other side of the Andes, who wish to join us. They believe this truth, and Brother Risco has been teaching us for two years." With tears in their eyes they begged us to send an appeal to headquarters for some one to visit them and establish them in the truth, and to organize them into a church.

As far as I know, no Adventist worker has ever visited this region, but these two delegates brought 114 soles (\$46 gold) in tithes and offerings to leave with the treasurer of the Chepen church.

The following day they visited Brother Marín and me at the hotel. Brother Gumercindo Guerrero, one of the two delegates, told us how just one year ago he had borrowed Brother Risco's song book, the only one in that entire region, and started out to the home of a believer to practice a few hymns. In order to reach this home it was necessary for him to pass through the town. I shall give his experience as he told it to me:

"I stepped into the office of the mayor to pay some taxes, and while the treasurer was making out the receipt the

governor of that district came in with several of his friends and started to make sport of the heretic. But as I paid no attention to them, they became very angry, and the governor told one of them to beat me up with a stick which he was carrying. He struck me across the back, hitting the bag in which I was carrying the song book. Then they cried out, 'The Protestant has his Bible with him. We will burn it publicly in the plaza.' They took the book and soaked it in kerosene, tied it to a pole with a wire, called the band, and set fire to the song book. They marched around the plaza with the book ablaze, and while the band played, shouted, 'Down with the heretic, and long live the Catholics!' Then they took me over to where they were building a fence in preparation for a bull fight, and forced me to work until a friend who passed by told them that I had never harmed any one. The priest hearing this declared that they would not punish me any more."

J. D. LESLIE.

Home Missionary Secretary,  
Inca Union.

## Home Missionary Experiences in Austral Union

A PREACHER WON TO THE TRUTH



A FEW weeks ago a former Lutheran minister and his wife were baptized in Florida, Argentina, as a direct result of our literature work. Brother Haak describes his experiences as follows:

Many years ago he discovered a book, "Our Day in the Light of Prophecy," in his father's house, which interested him very much. Later, while studying in the Lutheran Theological Seminary, he found other Adventist books. Finally Brother Meier, the elder of our church in Concordia, visited his church at that place distributing tracts among his members. One of them was given to Brother Haak. Later Brother Meier visited him and gave him Bible studies. This, together with the friendship of Elder Godofredo Block Sr., convinced him of the truth and he abandoned the Lutheran ministry to become a Seventh-day Adventist. He has now gone to the States to enter one of our schools and prepare himself to become an Adventist worker.

### "ARRIAGADA'S MAGAZINE"

One of the most enthusiastic supporters of the *Atalaya*, our great missionary paper, in Chile is Brother Fernando

Arriagada, the colporteur leader. His friendship for the paper started many years ago when Elder Schubert, now president of the field, was the home missionary secretary. At that time Brother Arriagada accepted the truth, and Brother Schubert, knowing that the way to establish a man in the truth is to get him to work, initiated this brother into the mysteries of the art of selling.

A short time after this the young man was called to do military service, but instead of leaving his religion at home he took it with him to the barracks. The boy had a hard time there, but succeeded in keeping the Sabbath in the right way. He was nicknamed "Saint Matthew," and due to the fact that he always read *El Atalaya*, this magazine was termed "Arriagada's magazine." All this left such a deep impression on the soldiers that they never forgot him or his favorite magazine.

In time Brother Arriagada became a good colporteur. Several years were passed at the school in Chillán and every time he went to the field to visit the military officials he had good success. One of his greatest desires was to be able to return to visit the barracks at Traiguén, at which place he had served his "time." At last he was able to satisfy these desires, and what was his surprise when he heard the soldiers shout: "There comes Saint Matthew!" remembering also "Arriagada's magazine." But now instead of its being an ignominy it was a title of affection. The officers called together all the soldiers, and Brother Arriagada took several orders from them for the book he was selling.

Brother Arriagada, now the director of the colporteur work there, writes: "My goal is to take 5,000 subscriptions for *El Atalaya* during 1930." The colporteurs there are all filled with their leader's enthusiasm, and before long all Chile will be talking about "Arriagada's magazine."

### A CHRISTIAN LIFE WINS SOULS

A name that is being made known in the Adventist work in Perú is that of Brother Alfredo Marín, native of Spain. He lived in Valparaíso occupied in the laundry business. Part of his house was rented to Elder Gil when he was in Chile, and although they did not endeavor to win him to the truth except by their Christian life at home, they gave him *El Atalaya* and dealt with him as with a friend, going with him many times on his hikes to the hills. This happened in 1922.

The paths of these two families were separated. Elder Gil's family returned to Argentine, and the Marín family without accepting the truth went to the south of Chile. It seemed that the seed

sown would not germinate. But in 1926 they returned to Valparaíso and began to attend our meetings there. They became very much interested, and after a few months were baptized by Brother Schubert. Brother Marín then entered the colporteur work. After several months of colporteur work a call came through for him to lead out in the publishing department in Perú. Brother Marín is now teaching others how to have success in the missionary work, for he is home and field missionary secretary of the Perú Mission.

One of the faithful workers in the Buenos Aires Publishing House is a Czecho-Slovakian. There are many of his nationality in South America, but just a handful of believers among them. So this brother, because of his love for his kinsmen, obtained as many addresses as he could find of these people, and for some time has ordered our magazines from Europe to send to them free of charge. But he wanted to give them Bible studies, so he purchased a typewriter and each week makes a stencil of a Bible study and sends it free of charge to as many as he can get the addresses of his countrymen.

At this time he is sending 150 copies, paying all the expenses of paper, ink and postage. What love! What an interest in winning souls! Brethren, how many of us would show such an interest in our countrymen as this brother does in his?

#### "ATALAYAS" USED BY NURSES

Inspired with the desire of spreading the message, a small group of nurses from the River Plate Sanitarium went out with the May number of the *Atalaya*, being able to put 150 numbers of this magazine in the hands of the people.

Sister Beatriz Biaggi, one of the group, not being satisfied with leaving the paper in the hands of the public, went to the Catholic church with the idea in mind of selling a magazine to the priest. The priest immediately recognized *El Atalaya*, and did not want to buy it. But when urged by our sister to be an example to his congregation in reading good literature, he bought it. Not satisfied with this victory she went to the convent, where without difficulty she was able to sell the paper to the mother superior, telling her that the priest had bought it also.

Our literature should also reach these religious persons, for may they not also become inhabitants of the kingdom of God?

#### THE HARVEST INGATHERING GIVES RESULTS

During the Austral Union council held in Puiggari, a couple by the name of Schneider were received into the

church. Doctor Westphal explained the manner in which they came to the knowledge of the truth.

This couple was raised in the Lutheran faith, but by the study of the word of God, were convinced that they should be converted. But in the Lutheran church, just as in the Catholic, they do not believe in conversion, because a person enters the church before he knows what conversion is. Therefore, these brethren decided to take the first step towards Jesus, and they joined a Lutheran sect that preaches conversion, the United Brethren.

But God did not want to leave them just half way on the road to the kingdom. The One who had started this good work in them, was resolved in finishing it. Therefore, in continuing the study of their Bible, they saw the need of being baptized, so they joined the Baptist church. This is the place where the part taken by the Harvest Ingathering enters in. God has put into the heart of His people to hunt and fish those sincere hearts who long for the truth in all parts of the world. This couple received the *Informe Anual*, our Harvest Ingathering paper, for several years from Brethren Block and Rossi, and by this means they became interested in the Sabbath and the prophecies. They then were given Bible studies by Doctor Westphal and soon accepted the truth.

They had property, but they wanted to live near the college where they would be able to educate their children in the fear of God and tried to purchase a lot from one of Brother Schneider's brothers. But his brother is a firm Lutheran, so offered a lot free providing they would not abandon their old religion. Nevertheless, our Brother Schneider chose to pay several thousand pesos for a lot rather than to renounce the faith that is today the motive of his greatest happiness.

The Harvest Ingathering is one way in which the truth reaches the hearts of the sincere people.

#### OTHER SOULS WON BY THE HARVEST INGATHERING

Every once in a while you hear some one say that the Harvest Ingathering does not justify the expense it causes, but that it takes from the worker more time than the fruit received from it, etc.

Brother Mallán is a Waldensian. For many years he desired something better, for the Waldensian church is rapidly apostatizing. For several successive years Elder Luis Ernst found him while working in the Harvest Ingathering, and each time he received a donation, also finding a rapidly growing interest. Bible studies followed, an interest grew, and finally this faithful Waldensian and

his wife were baptized in the truth. The Lord has many sincere hearts scattered all over South America whom we should find, and one of the best methods with which to find them is the Harvest Ingathering.

Yes, brother, it is worth while to take part in the Harvest Ingathering in search of sincere hearts who want to know this blessed truth. "Souls before possessions" should be our motto.

#### HOW HE BECAME ELDER OF THE CHURCH

Several years ago a brother began to take subscriptions for *El Atalaya* in Valparaíso, Chile, being able to take a subscription from a man that labored in the marble works there.

Month after month the magazine was received, but the man did not become interested in the truth. Later he saw an article that attracted his attention and became interested in the message that was brought in the magazine periodically. Brother Schubert visited him and before long he was in the baptismal class.

Years have passed, and Brother Luis Casanovas has been elder of the church for several terms and is an enthusiastic worker in the city of Valparaíso. He is a strong advocate for the *Atalaya* because the *Atalaya* won him. His wife has been home missionary secretary of the church for several terms. They have dedicated a room in their house to hold the meetings on the hill upon which they live, at which place they preach to their neighbors. He is a real soul winner.

Was Brother Casanovas' soul worth the time and labor the missionary took in trying to get him to take a subscription to *El Atalaya*? Yes, a thousand times yes. Do not forget, brethren, that more *Atalayas* mean more souls.

#### CHILDREN WHO HELP SCATTER THE "ATALAYA"

Some time ago, while doing Harvest Ingathering work in the province of Entre Ríos, while crossing a hill, I met a man who was reading *El Atalaya*. The fact that this man was reading this truth-filled magazine away in the interior among the hills impressed me, so I asked how it came into his hands. He then told me that one time while on a trip to a distant village, when passing a school the children had come out and sold him the paper. Later I learned that the children from the church school at Centenario were doing this good work.

Even the children can sell *El Atalaya*. Let this be an incentive to the adults.

HENRY F. BROWN.

*Home Missionary Secretary,*  
*Austral Union.*



## Our 1929 Harvest Ingathering Campaign

SINCE this issue of the BULLETIN is a special Home Missionary number, it will not be amiss to mention a word about our Harvest Ingathering campaign. For several years we have had a heavy, uphill road in this work, and it seemed that we could not touch the fifty *contos* (\$6,250 gold) mark even though for three successive years the goal had been set at fifty-five *contos*. We felt finally that if we could not even hit the fifty mark, we should perhaps lower our goal the next time. But we determined to try once more, and this time do more than our level best.

The Lord has rewarded our faithful efforts, and in 1929 we reached fifty-five *contos* in a few days more than the allotted six weeks for the campaign. The ball kept rolling and by the end of November we had around sixty-eight *contos*, and the December report should bring us near the seventy mark, beating our 1928 record by about twenty *contos*. Every field has more than reached its goal, and the Santa Catharina-Paraná Mission went more than seven *contos* over its goal.

At our Ministerial Institute held in December, a worker told us how he had, through the Harvest Ingathering campaign, come in touch with a number of former Adventists whom he had the privilege of bringing back into the fold.

Many names and addresses of interested people have been gathered and even though some have already accepted the truth and been baptized as a result of missionary work done in connection with the Harvest Ingathering, we know that the total results of this work will never be fully known until we enter the heavenly Canaan.

We have felt a united front among our workers from the Division down to each individual worker, and this concerted effort and spirit will result in greater victories in the future.

G. F. RUF.

## Sao Paulo Conference Session

ON THE evening of December 25, 1929, the first meeting of the biennial session of the Sao Paulo Conference was held. The Templo Adventista in the city of Sao Paulo was practically full. Elder Haynes, president of the South American Division, spoke at the opening meeting.

We were very much pleased to have with us in many of our sessions, and speaking at most of our important meetings, Elder A. G. Daniells, for 21 years president of the General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists. Our people gave Elder and Mrs. Daniells a most hearty welcome into our midst, and we were sorry when they left us. They surely won a warm place in the hearts of our people, and will not soon be forgotten. We heard many times the expression: "I have had a new birth listening to the messages of Elder Daniells."

The meeting Sabbath morning was a glorious event in the experience of the Sao Paulo Conference, and in particular the Sao Paulo church. More than 600 souls were present and drank at the living fountain of life as Elder Daniells pointed out the way, the "new and living way" to the city of God. All of those present had the privilege of shaking his hand and hearing a word of cheer from him as they past out of the auditorium.

At the close of the morning meeting, after a sincere consecration on the part of nearly all present, Brother Jeronymo G. Garcia was set apart, by the laying on of hands and prayer, to the gospel ministry. At the ordination service Elder Daniells offered the prayer, Elder Haynes gave the charge and Elder Neilsen the welcome into the service of joys and difficulties of the ministry. It was a solemn hour, and the presence of the Holy Spirit was felt in a marked manner.

At the five o'clock meeting, devoted especially to the youth, Elder Daniells gave a message to the young. At the

close of his talk some 200 young men and women came forward to the altar and gave their hearts, talents and future, into their Maker's hands. What a power for God!

The past two years have been filled with rich blessings for the Sao Paulo field. The reports given by the secretaries were full of cheer and courage and progress. A vote of gratitude to God for His leading and help during the last period was taken by all officers and delegates present.

Many resolutions were made with reference to the progress of the gospel work in our field and its many interests. These resolutions will be sent out to our brethren in the churches in due time.

As we face the new year we are full of confidence and courage in the Lord. Many are the interested souls who are calling for help and more Biblical instruction. Our workers are few, but we are glad to say that they are a consecrated group. They love the Lord and His message. Their hearts and souls are in it, and they have no other object but its finishing in this generation.

Brethren, let us pray for the advancement of the message of the advent in our glorious state. We as workers need the prayers of all of God's people.

ENNIS V. MOORE.

*President, Sao Paulo Conference.*

## The Austral Ministerial Institute

Carlyle B. Haynes

THE Ministerial Institute for the Austral Union held at the River Plate Junior College January 7-18 will long be remembered by those who were privileged to attend. It was a meeting in which God came very close to His servants.

Here, as in Brazil, we were privileged to have the instruction of Elder A. G. Daniells, secretary of the Ministerial Association of the General Conference, who is visiting South America in the interests of these series of ministerial institutes.

Brother and Sister Daniells came directly from the Uruguay annual meeting in Montevideo to the River Plate Junior College for this institute. The studies which Brother Daniells gave night after night to a large congregation which assembled in the large college chapel, on the subject of the place and work of the Spirit of prophecy in connection with this movement, deepened the confidence of all who heard him, and united our hearts as never before in the assurance of the divine leadership of this great movement.

His studies on the development of the spiritual life of the ministry were



Brother Kuémpel, (left) a lay member, who has been instrumental in winning many souls to the truth. Elder J. H. Meier, (right) president of the North Argentine Conference.

also of the utmost value. The workers present from all parts of the Austral Union with the exception of Chile, expressed themselves on several occasions as getting greater help out of these meetings and the instruction which Brother Daniells gave than any meeting which they had attended before.

The closing day of the institute was spent by Elder and Mrs. Daniells at the Viale church, about forty-two miles from the college, where there is a large group of German-speaking brethren. These brethren came in from widely separated parts to the number of about five hundred, and were greatly stirred as Brother Daniells presented to them some of the certainties of this great movement.

Following the institute Brother and Sister Daniells came to Buenos Aires and for six days remained at Divisional headquarters. On Sabbath, January 25, there was a large general gathering of the believers in and around Buenos Aires which assembled in Belgrano for the two meetings; one in the morning and the other in the afternoon, at both of which Elder Daniells spoke. The meetings were a source of real uplift to the believers of this center.

On Sunday, January 26, Elder and Mrs. Daniells, together with Elder and Mrs. Westphal, Elder E. L. Maxwell, and the writer, started for Chile in order to hold a ministerial institute at Santiago in connection with the biennial session of the Chile Conference.

## Sao Paulo Items

A SERIES of public meetings is being held at this writing in the prosperous city of Campinas, the third city of the state of Sao Paulo, and the largest in the interior. Elder A. E. Hagen is leading out and is being assisted by Elder Jeronimo G. García, as well as their wives, and Iracema Zourob, as Bible worker, and Godomar Barreto as helper and colporteur evangelist. A hall has been rented in the center of the city.

Let us pray for the work in this important place. We believe God has many honest hearts in this place. The work will be difficult and confidence must be placed in God and His Spirit, and then careful planning and hard work must be done by all who are connected with the effort. Let us unite our prayers for a rich harvest of souls.

WE REGRET to announce that our friend and brother Emilio Döhnert, who has served us well as director of the colporteur work, is leaving us to accept the same work in the Rio Grande do Sul Conference. We wish him and his

family Godspeed and pray that His blessings will follow them.

BROTHER Godofredo Ludwig has been chosen as an assistant to Brother Margarido in the book work in our field for the time being. Brother Ludwig has the confidence of our colporteurs and we believe will be a help to this branch of the Lord's work. He plans to canvass the last three months of 1930, and then continue to study at the Brazil Training School during 1931.

WE REGRET to announce that Pastor Belz has been released from the secretaryship of the Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath School Departments of our conference. His work was greatly appreciated throughout the conference. Our people have learned to love Rodolpho and they miss his visits, sermons and songs. Especially have our youth appreciated his interest in their spiritual welfare. However, we are glad to tell our dear people that the brethren have placed greater responsibilities on Pastor Belz. He was chosen pastor of the Sao Paulo church, where we have more than 400 members to be counseled and cared for. The work is heavy, the opportunities many and the responsibilities taxing. Let us pray for Pastor Belz and his helpers.

WE GIVE Brother and Sister Meier a hearty welcome into our group of workers. Brother Meier is a graduate of the River Plate Junior College. They will take up their work in the city of Sao Paulo as Bible workers under the direction of Pastor Belz.

WE ALSO welcome into our group of workers Maria Rodriguez da Silva, who comes to help us as a Bible worker. Sister Maria is a graduate of the Brazil Training School, in Santo Amaro. For the time being she will assist Pastor Belz in the city of Sao Paulo.

THE Missionary Volunteers will be delighted to know that they have a true friend in their new secretary, Brother Germano Ritter, who was elected at the time of our conference session.

ON THE last Sunday of our Conference Elder Braun baptized in the Sao Paulo church three precious souls into the kingdom of our Lord. They were all from the interior of the state.

PASTOR Belz baptized three more souls on Sabbath, December 4. During the year 1929 there were 54 new members baptized in the church of Sao Paulo.

"BE SINCERE; others noting your sincerity will give their confidences and be likewise sincere with you."

## The Brazil Ministerial Institute

ON THE evening of December 18, at the Brazil Training School, in Santo Amaro, Sao Paulo, the Ministerial Institute for Brazil held its first meeting. Elder A. G. Daniells, for more than twenty years the president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, was present and spoke to the leaders and workers of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination gathered from all of Brazil.

Mrs. Daniells, who has accompanied her husband in his ministry in practically every continent of the globe for more than 51 years, was also present. Elders C. B. Haynes, president of the South American Division; J. W. Westphal, ministerial secretary; and J. L. Brown, secretary of the publishing work of the same division; N. P. Neilsen, president of the South Brazil Union Conference; E. H. Wilcox, superintendent of the East Brazil Union Mission; along with the leaders of the institutions and all of the conferences and missions, and ministers from all Brazil, were present at the first meeting.

For many years Adventists have hoped for the visit of Elder Daniells to Brazil. He has grown gray and aged in the service of the Master, and we had nearly lost hope that a visit would be possible. The day arrived and it was indeed with grateful hearts that we heard his soul-thrilling messages, that came from a heart of love and devotion to this advent cause.

Especially were we encouraged by the remarkable incidents related by Elder Daniells in connection with the early days of our work in Australia, and the leadings of the Spirit of prophecy, and to see how God has led this people all during the years since that time. He also told us of the early developments of the publishing work, in direct fulfillment of the visions of Mrs. E. G. White.

Elder Daniells spoke as an eye-witness for he was in direct communion with Mrs. White for more than 23 years, having associated with her eight years in Australia before he became president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He was always under her counsel and guidance until the time of her death.

Elder and Mrs. Daniells are on a mission tour of South America, and after attending the Sao Paulo biennial Conference went on to Montevideo, Uruguay, after which they were to go to Buenos Aires, Chile, Bolivia, Perú; returning home about the middle of March by Panamá. Elder Daniells left us a very comforting message and counsel. May the Lord help us to follow his advice. Here is his message:

"May I say to the younger men here today that I feel very anxious that you shall grow in spiritual life and develop into strong, reliable burden bearers in the cause in Brazil. I wish to assure you that your future growth and strength will be influenced very greatly by the faithfulness with which you carry out the instruction given our ministers through the Spirit of prophecy. This instruction covers every phase of the minister's life. It is vital and cannot be neglected without serious loss.

"I would not boast, but wish to tell you that I owe my development in the ministry very much to the faithfulness I have given to the counsel the Lord sent us through the Spirit of prophecy. I came from the farm, where I had very limited advantages in all that relates to education and public life. I realized my great limitations, and was very timid in meeting and associating with people of superior attainment, but from the very beginning of my ministry I turned to this instruction for ministers, which came through the Spirit of prophecy. Through the whole period of my ministry I have endeavored to live and to work according to this counsel. For all that I have been able to do I give the praise and the glory to Him who was good enough to send me such helpful instruction."

We are sure that all those who had the privilege of hearing Elder Daniells greatly appreciated his messages. May the Lord bless him with many years of service, or until the coming of our Lord and Master.

ENNIS V. MOORE.

### South Brazil Union Notes

ON SABBATH, January 4, Elder Rudolpho Belz, pastor of the Sao Paulo church, baptized four precious souls.

LAST month Elder Luiz Braun baptized three persons at Sao Joao da Boa Vista, and one at Novo Horizonte, in the state of Sao Paulo.

THE number baptized in our union conference last year was 320. During the last four years 1,448 have been baptized and united with our people. This is more than our total membership in 1914.

OUR membership at the close of 1929 was 4,293, or nearly double what it was ten years ago. We thank the Lord for the souls which have been born into the message, for the saving of souls is the greatest work there is in this world. Would to God that we could have done more!

ON SABBATH, February 1, Elder Gustavo Storch spoke in the Sao Paulo

church. He and his family were on their way from Rio Grande do Sul to Pernambuco, where Brother Storch will take the superintendency of the Pernambuco Mission. Our prayers are that the blessings of the Lord may follow him to his new field of labor.

OUR mission offerings last year were 178:187\$500, an increase of 17:100\$500 over the previous year, and more than seven times as large as they were ten years ago. We rejoice in this increase, and hope that our people may continue to be faithful in their offerings to the Lord.

ELDERS A. E. Hagen and Jeronymo Garcia began a series of meetings in a theater in the city of Campinas on Sunday evening, January 19. Sister Iracema Zourob is associated with them as Bible worker. Word received from there states that the attendance is good. Let us pray that the Lord may give them success and many souls as the fruit of their labors.

### God Working Among the Heathen

DURING the past year that we have been among the Indians of Brazil (the first year was occupied in transportation) our friends have anxiously waited to hear of the conversion of Indians to the gospel.

We read continually of the wonderful movement among those in other lands, how large numbers are accepting Christ, and we long to see the same result here. But often the years of seed sowing which preceded such ingatherings are forgotten. In some fields five, ten, and in one place fifteen years of hard, apparently fruitless labor was put forth before a break came. Now we have many hundreds of believers in those same fields.

The following quotation from the pen of inspiration has always given us courage when the Indians seemed indifferent and entirely satisfied in their paganism.

"Among all nations, kindreds, and tongues, He sees men and women who are praying for light and knowledge. Their souls are unsatisfied. . . . They are honest in heart, and desire to learn a better way. Although in the depths of heathenism, with no knowledge of the written law of God nor of His son Jesus, they have revealed in manifold ways the working of a divine power on mind and character!

"At times those who have no knowledge of God aside from that which they have received under the operation of divine grace, have been kind to His servants, protecting them at the risk of their own lives. The Holy Spirit is implanting the grace of Christ in the heart of many a noble seeker after truth, quickening his sympathies contrary to his nature, contrary to his former education. The 'Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world' is shining in his soul; and this light, if heeded, will guide his feet to the kingdom of God."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 376, 377.*

God is certainly moving on the hearts of the Carajá Indians, and Satan is fighting hard through many instrumentalities to hinder. Repeatedly the sick brought to us have begun to improve only to be taken away by their medicine man. Twice in the last few days he came and gave medicine to patients I was treating, and each time death claimed the victim in about two hours. Now some are losing their faith in him.

Again it was reported among the Indians that we were going to bring a plague of crocodiles to destroy all of them. Then when we had gained their confidence again, two fine young couples came to stay with us. But they say some unkind words by a man who at the time was working here discouraged them and they left. Now one of these young men and one of the young women are dead. Then when a number of families were planning to move near us and establish farms, the enemy caused it to be talked that the mission was going to



Group of believers at Chepen, Ecuador.



## South American Bulletin

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be moved to some other place, so they lost confidence again.

But we went ahead in faith and put up a chapel and school building. And before it was finished influenza broke out among them, and they began coming for help. At one time we had 23 here either sick or caring for their sick. The chapel floor was covered with the sick, and night and day we sought to relieve them. We fed them, took our own blankets to cover them; Mrs. Allen nearly wore herself out bathing and giving them treatments. All recovered but three, two of whom died at the hands of the medicine man. The other was a very old woman with tuberculosis.

The deaths have left a number of broken families. The widows now come to me bringing seed corn and other seeds asking me to plant it for them and their children. And this we plan to do.

Since the Indians experienced living in a real house for a time while they were sick, they see the advantages of being thus protected. Now they all want to have a house. Some plan to build on their farms. Others who have children want to live right here at the mission.

In order to avoid a lot of poorly built huts scattered everywhere about the mission, we are giving them some help and they will repay us with labor. We have staked out a row of houses which we feel are necessary at this crisis to hold the Indians with us, although no appropriation has been received for the houses.

Last week, immediately upon the arrival of our daughter Esther who has just graduated at our school in Santo Amaro, we opened a school for the children in the morning, and Brother Carlos Rentfro began school with the men in the afternoon. Also Brother Ernesto Bergold has begun night classes for the Brazilians working for us who wish to

learn to read. The coming of these new workers has saved the situation, as our health was just at the breaking point.

The mothers attend school with their children, and seem as enthusiastic as the little folk. Each Sabbath they come all washed and neatly dressed in the clothes sent to us from some of our churches. Gradually they are beginning to show interest in spiritual things. But Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him." And through the prophet Hosea He tells us how, "I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love."

God has placed in our hearts love for these very needy people, and we desire to draw them to Jesus with bonds of love which may never be broken.

Repeatedly of late we have again seen the fires of the wild Cheventas in the forest on the other side of the river, as they make their yearly foraging raids to the south. We long to meet these people too and tell them of Jesus' love.

A party has just returned from a visit to the Javea Indians. They report visiting different villages, and state that one had over a thousand Indians. Then there are the Bororos, Tapirapes, Canoefos, and Cayopos, all in our territory. Farther down the river an aeroplane made a trip of exploration recently, and they report seeing a real city of Javes Indians. It is God's purpose that all these shall receive a knowledge of the gospel. Pray for us that we may be strengthened physically and have wisdom to continue till this work is finished.

A. N. ALLEN.  
Superintendent, Araguayan  
Indian Mission.

### Home Missionary Notes

RECENTLY a call was made in the Santiago, Chile, church for those to stand who had accepted the truth as result of reading our missionary paper, *El Atalaya*. Seven fine appearing people arose. One woman said that her husband purchased the *Atalaya* in his saloon and brought it home to her.

ONE brother sold *Atalayas* on the train and offered a copy to a Catholic priest. The priest asked, "Is this Protestant?" The brother replied that it was. "Do you keep the Sabbath?" continued the priest, and after receiving an affirmative reply he said, "Then I have nothing to say to you," and bought a copy of the paper. Both the *Atalaya* and the Sabbath are signs of true Protestantism these days.

CHILE is steadily though slowly climbing up the *Atalaya* scale. The goal is "six per member." Brother Eliel Almonte, secretary of the literature de-

partment of the conference, has set his immediate goal at 5,000 for Chile. This is a great advance over Chile's past record, but is still considerably short of the individual goal.

THE missionary paper *El Atalaya*, for the Spanish-speaking countries of South America, reached a circulation of 226,043 during 1928. In 1929 it realized an increase of 22,900, making a total circulation of 274,700 copies. This does not include the four-page supplement on the Roman question which had a circulation of 185,000.

THE Harvest Ingathering papers printed by the two publishing houses in South America amounted to 44,000 Portuguese, 27,500 Spanish, and 7,800 German; making a total of 79,300 papers distributed into the homes of the people.

### Divisional Notes

CHANGES are the order of the day at Divisional headquarters. Elder and Mrs. J. W. Westphal, making preparations for their permanent return to the United States, have vacated their apartment which has been redecorated and is now occupied by Professor A. W. Peterson, the new Divisional Educational secretary, who with Mrs. Peterson and their son Keene Parker arrived in Buenos Aires February 11 on the s. s. "American Legion."

ANOTHER addition to our Divisional family is Miss Gertrude E. Hansch, formerly of the General Conference office in Takoma Park, D. C. Miss Hansch has taken up her duties in the Stenographic Department.

BROTHER C. L. Bauer, the Divisional treasurer, left Buenos Aires on January 25 for La Paz, Bolivia. He will audit the books there and go on to Puno, Perú, and then on to Lima to attend the Inca Union Committee meeting March 5-12.

BROTHER J. L. Brown, secretary of the Divisional Publishing Department, is still attending institutes in the territory of the East Brazil Union Mission.

IT CAME as a source of real sadness to all of us at the Divisional headquarters to receive information of the death by drowning of the oldest child, Eldora, of Brother E. P. Mansell, superintendent of the Pernambuco Mission in East Brazil. This sad occurrence took place during Brother Mansell's absence from home, and was made the more sad by the fact that he returned home just one day after the burial of his daughter. We extend our sincere sympathies to Brother and Sister Mansell in this time of sorrow.