

The British West Indies VISITOR

Volume I

October, 1944

Number 4

“God Bless Our Colporteurs!”

Sabbath October 7, is Colporteur Rally day—one of the high days of our yearly programme. This is the day of days when we should pay special tribute to the work of our faithful Colporteur Evangelists and to stress the importance of the work they are doing. It is the time, also, when we expect the Holy Spirit will call out many other men and women from different parts of our field to take their place among the ranks of our British West Indies Bookmen's army.

So far this year we have had to carry on without the leadership of a Union Field Missionary Secretary, but we are happy to announce that soon after this issue of the VISITOR reaches you, Brother M. E. Lowry and his family will be here in Jamaica to take up their new work with us. Brother Lowry has had many years of very successful experience in the publishing department work and we feel sure he will give a strong spiritual lead to our book work here in the British West Indies.

In our two Jamaica fields, Brother Hurst in the West and Brother Campbell in the East, have given consecrated and energetic leadership to the book work and recent comparative reports indicate that the 1944 sales and deliveries in both fields far exceed anything Jamaica has ever done in the past.

Perhaps the most outstanding record in the Union this year has been set by Pastor Colburn and his small staff of Colporteurs in the Bahamas Mission. The Bahamas workers sold well over £1500 of literature during the first seven months of 1944. This is outstanding service in the literature field. I doubt that any other local field in the Union has surpassed it. More power to you brethren in the Bahamas!

Little British Honduras with only one full time colporteur is nearing its yearly goal this early in the year and we feel sure that Brother Waller in the Belize Book and Bible House and Brother Musgrave Arnold will hang up a new record for British Honduras this year.

While our colporteur brethren and sisters are establishing enviable records in sales we are most happy that they are not overlooking the



most important reason for their existence—the winning of SOULS.

I have been thrilled with the many fine letters I have received recently from our colporteurs throughout the Union. They breathe a spirit of courage and consecration that fills my own heart with a greater desire to be more faithful in the Master's Soul Winning work.

Norman Douglas of Half-way Tree reports that seven have responded to the preaching of the message that he has done recently and four of these are at present in the baptismal class.

R. B. Wallace of Great Valley writes: “Not so long ago a brother told me that the books I sold him won his entire family to the truth.” Brother Wallace also relates another interesting experience in which he contacted two persons in his book work who ordered books. They became interested. He invited them to Sabbath School. Today they are baptized members of the church.

Sister Enid Robinson of Kingston has been ill for some weeks but still her heart overflows with loyalty to the book work as she tells of her branch Sabbath School work in Gregory Park that the Lord has used her and others to build up.

Brother Samuel Horne of Bartons writes of his joy in the soul winning colporteur work: “At Bartons church five young men and one young lady who had been members of the Sabbath School for about two years have decided to be baptized. I found them undecided but after reading with them ‘Messages to Young People’ it has brought their minds closer to Christ.”

J. M. King of Coleyville writes: “I now have many interested people who have not taken their stand as yet but I have the assurance that they will in the near future.”

Bookman C. H. Thorpe of the Orange church has this to say, “We need the £. s. d. I am sure but I must say if it were not for souls I would not be in the work as a colporteur . . . Last year I conducted an effort at a certain place and as a result two souls were baptized.”

Colporteur Evangelist A. A. Dixon of Troy writes that he left “The Marked Bible” with a lady whom he had canvassed, “I am happy to

say now that she is a Seventh-day Adventist with her husband and five children."

And so we could go on almost indefinitely with the fine soul winning experiences of our British West Indies colporteurs. There can be no question as to the burden for the lost resting heavily upon their hearts. They are zealous for the message. Let us all pray most earnestly for these loyal men and women who are labouring so zealously to finish the work in our British West Indies Union.

WEST JAMAICA MISSION

E. E. PARCHMENT, Superintendent
15 Market Street, Montego Bay, Jamaica

CHANGE AND DECAY IN ALL AROUND I SEE

It is impossible for one to describe the present condition caused by the recent storm in the parishes of St. Ann and Trelawney. Where once vegetation flourished and fruits and vegetables could be found in abundance, there exists now only a barren waste. Scores of houses have been destroyed and hundreds of people are homeless. Nine of our churches have been completely destroyed and six have been badly damaged. Fifty-two homes have been blown to pieces and over two hundred and eighty of our fellow believers are homeless.

As I visited the various churches, companies and homes, my heart was touched with a feeling of sadness, but as I talked with these dear believers I found out that their courage is strong and their morale high. They are not sitting and worrying over the past, but they have put their hands to the plough and are erecting booths for places of worship and are making little shacks to house their families. These dear brethren have expressed themselves by saying: "These are some of the things that we have been preaching for years. Now they have come. Let us thank God that our lives have been spared so that we can continue to tell the people of what is yet to come."

Some have lost all that they possessed in this world and some have expressed themselves that the garments they now wear are all they have saved. These dear ones are being helped by the Mission and others have rushed to their rescue also. Hunger and nakedness are facing them,

"A Vital Present-day Problem!"

It is only natural that, while the world writhes in the death-throes of global warfare, the minds of people should be occupied with world events. But there is another warfare which is going on in our very midst which is taking its toll of thousands, yes, millions, destroying life, robbing men of their mental powers, making paupers out of multitudes, wrecking homes, corrupting governments, and destroying the moral fiber of the nations. It is the liquor traffic.

Seventh-day Adventists have always stood in the forefront of battle against this foe. In the United States of North America, Captain Joseph Bates, one of our denominational pioneers, founded one of the first temperance societies in America in the year 1827. There were thirteen men in the initial organization, but it quickly grew to a membership of 300,000.

We in fields outside of North America have been slow to take this work seriously. We have failed to organize our forces in order to present a solid front against this enemy of mankind. Many of the leaders in the republics and dependencies which make up our Division territory have openly expressed themselves regarding the detrimental effect which intoxicating liquors are having upon the people in their lands. From Mexico we hear voices decrying the use of these mind-robbing and moral-shattering evils.

This is the time when Seventh-day Adventists, by voice and pen, in open forums, in the churches, over the air, and through wise distribution of literature, should set forth the principles of true temperance.

Whenever possible it would be well for every church to have a Temperance Society functioning effectively for the promotion of the ideals set

forth in the Scriptures and in the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy, as relates to the question of temperance.

"Of all who claim to be numbered among the friends of temperance, Seventh-day Adventists should stand in the front ranks. For many years a flood of light concerning the principles of true reform has been shining on our pathway, and we are accountable before God to let this light shine to others. Years ago we regarded the spread of temperance principles as one of our most important duties. It should be so today."—*"Gospel Workers," page 334.*

A special programme has been prepared for Sabbath, October 14, to be presented in all our churches. This is published in the *Home Missionary Gazette* for the fourth quarter of 1944. It deals with the question of temperance in a way that we have not presented it to our own people in the past. We would urge our conference and mission leaders, together with all ministers and conference workers, to endeavour to make this programme as effective as possible. The material can well be used for presentation to non-Adventist groups also. We would encourage our churches to seek for opportunities to present this program wherever it may be possible to do so. Let us now, by the wise use of the material which God has placed in our hands present to men everywhere, in love and kindness, the heaven-sent principles for a better and a more wholesome way of life.

WESLEY AMUNDSEN

TEMPERANCE SECRETARY

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

and we must do all we can to make provision for them. I feel sure that the appeal sent out to all our brethren and sisters will meet a hearty response, and I am asking that all donations in money and clothing be sent to the West Jamaica Mission at the earliest date possible. We have formed committees in every church and company to dispose with whatever help we are able to give, and the individuals will be helped according to their needs.

One of their greatest burdens is to secure a place where they can meet together on God's holy Sabbath day, and this is the reason they give for this: "The flock must be kept to-

gether. These are the times when we must press together, press together, press together, as the Spirit of Prophecy has said."

The estimated loss of these brethren and their churches amount to about £3,000. Undoubtedly many of our readers will ask the question: How can this be replaced? But let us remember that the work is the Lord's, and these are God's dear people. The world also is His, along with the silver and the gold, and nothing good will He withhold from those that love Him.

As I have listened to the various experiences of some of these believers and the marvelous way in which God has spared their lives, I have been

greatly strengthened and my hope and courage have been more firmly established in the great God above.

It will take considerable time before these brethren will be able to feed and clothe themselves again, so let us do all that we can to help them.

It is not all darkness. Behind the darkest cloud there is always the brightest sunshine. Quite a few of these churches are requesting that we come and hold baptismal services and meetings as usual. They are working hard for their goal in souls to be reached regardless of circumstances. In the West Mission up to the time of writing we have baptized 301 souls. Many of this number are from some of the churches that have been destroyed. Although we are just a little over half of our goal for the year, yet very good reports are coming in from the field, and we feel sure that the calamities which are taking place in the world will not prevent the progress of God's work.

E. E. PARCHMENT.

NEWS NOTES

The West Jamaica Colporteurs' honour roll for August is as follows:

V. Saunders	27 10 0
A. E. Dawkins	20 4 0
C. Nebblett	11 15 0

Pastor R. H. Pierson, president of the British West Indies Union, and Pastor Stanley Bull, principal of the New Hope College, visited a number of the churches in the West Jamaica Mission. The messages delivered by these brethren were very refreshing to the hearers.

Brother Lee Gouldbourne had a baptism of seventeen souls as the result of an effort that he conducted recently. He is also preparing to start another effort in the storm-stricken area within the next few days.

Brother E. C. Henriques, our church school teacher at March Town, has been employed by the Mission for the vacation period to conduct an effort at Lapland. Pastor Frank Fletcher, who has assisted him, reports that the interest is good.

Up to the date of writing we have baptized 301 souls. Many of this number are from some of the churches that have been destroyed. This number is just a little over half of our goal, and according to reports coming in from the field, we feel sure that these calamities that are taking place in the earth will not impede the progress of God's work.

THE BAHAMAS MISSION

H. D. COLBURN, Superintendent
P. O. Box 356, Nassau, Bahamas

"At Work on Andros Island"

One of the outstanding characteristics of the true disciple of Christ is his desire to find his brother who is outside the fold of safety. Concerning Andrew we are told: "He first findeth his brother Simon, and saith unto him, 'we have found the Messiah, which is being interpreted, the Christ.'"

The very first series of meetings I had the privilege of conducting in this field was in the Andros Island district. One of the women who accepted the message then and was baptized had an unbelieving husband. She set to work by the help of the Lord to win him to Christ. After a period of five years had elapsed, I again had the privilege of returning to this same district, and I was happy to find this same sister rejoicing in this blessed hope, and what made my joy two-fold was to see her husband united with her in this truth. It was my pleasure to baptize him, and twelve others at this very place including some who took their stand from a second series of meetings five years after the first."

M. G. NEMBARD.

"Soul Winning on Eleuthera Island"

When we first started work at the Bluff, Eleuthera, we rented a little hall which we used for all services. As soon as it was noticed that some were becoming interested, the devil got into a certain group who threatened the landlord that if he didn't take the place away from us, they would burn his house down.

Notices were written and placed on the outside of the house, pencil and chalk were used to write on the floor of the hall: "We must get Lindo out of Bluff." Filled with fear of losing his house, he took it away, and we had no place to worship except on the porch of our dwelling house. By then we had two baptized members.

The landlord of the house in which we lived came along one day, and seeing us having Sabbath School on the porch, said: "Hold your service in the parlour, this is my house and I will see who can come in and molest you: put up your bell and ring it." Of course we were paying for only

a part of the house. He lives in the rest.

Through this experience many became sympathetic and even those who threatened us, the Lord allowed them and their children to be afflicted and they had to seek Mrs. Lindo's assistance. They now wish that we stay there for ten years.

The medical missionary work also helps to form the entering wedge. As a result many hearts are softened toward the truth, and some of those who were baptized accepted the message as a result.

After holding services at the house for some time, our Sabbath School grew to be twelve numerically and our M. V. S. fifteen or eighteen. Sometimes our services are so crowded that there is no place to stick a seat.

Recently, of this number, there were three who definitely took their stand for the truth. One of them was ill-treated and persecuted by many and was driven from her home several times by her husband, but the more she was persecuted, the more firm she remained. Because of the stern and threatening persecution it was not advisable to have them baptized in their vicinity and so they were baptized in Nassau by Pastor H. D. Colburn, Superintendent of the Bahamas Mission.

One of two were fore-warned that should they get baptized, not to return home. A few days after their baptism they received letters from home saying, "Come home at once, don't let the first boat leave you!"

These dear souls are very zealous for Christ and ask us to pray for them. We are inviting you to join us in prayer for them and for those who are putting off baptism because of fear of the enemies of the truth.

We are anticipating putting up a church building, and so, Satan, instead of using his influence to banish truth, establishes it.

S. G. LINDO.

BRITISH HONDURAS MISSION

F. R. Archbold, Acting Superintendent
P. O. Box 123, Belize, British Honduras

British Honduras News Notes

Harvest Ingathering is the programme of the hour in British Honduras just now. Brother Waller writes that he and Elder Archbold are working hard in Belize at present and that the prospects are good of their

surpassing 1943's achievements before the campaign closes.

Plans were being laid for a good strong Ingathering campaign in the fine Belize church where our loyal members always respond enthusiastically to the programme of the church. We feel sure that soon every Belize church member will have reached his full Ingathering goal and the church will be "over the top!" More power to Belize!

We are confident that Corozal, Monkey River, Boston, May Pen, Stann Creek, Stann Creek Valley, San Pedro, Calcutta, Pembroke Hall, Douglas, and Cowhead Creek churches will all rally to the support of God's work and reach their goals in record time this year.

Pastor Archbold reports a fine interest among the towns of the northern District and we are hoping that a large number of souls will be following their Lord in baptism before the year closes.

Brother Musgrave Arnold is at present working in El Cayo. He reports that he is doing well in his canvassing work and that his courage is good.

THE WEST INDIAN TRAINING COLLEGE

C. L. von Pohle, Acting President
P. O. Box 22, Mandeville, Jamaica

"PROF. C. L. VONPOHLE ACTING PRESIDENT"

It was with deep regret that we recently said Goodbye to Prof. M.J. Sorenson, for the past four years our successful president of W. I. T. C. Surely our prayers and best wishes go with him as he returns to old Ethiopia to help hold our work together in that important field during these days of stress.

The College Board, after much careful and prayerful consideration to the question of a replacement for Elder Sorenson has chosen Prof. C. L. vonPohle, B. A., to act as President of the College until permanent arrangements are made.

Prof. vonPohle is well and favourably known to the West Indian Training College constituency having been connected with the Institution for the past eight years as a member of the faculty and as a successful department head. We believe that Prof. vonPohle's scholastic attainments as well as his pleasant and energetic disposition will fit him admirably to carry this important work for the balance of the year at least.

Let us all pray for Brother von-Pohle in his new and heavy responsibilities and let us give him the same whole hearted co-operation that all have so generously accorded Prof. Sorenson. R. H. P.

Pastor L. S. Crawford has been spending some time at Southfield with his parents, who have been ill. We are glad to report that according to latest advices he finds them somewhat improved.

Pastor W. A. Holgate has been visiting the various churches in Jamaica contacting young people who are interested in attending the college.

Work is progressing in connection with the erection of a second large brick oven for the Bakery. This will enable that department to increase its output, as well as a reserve in case the first oven, which has not been cool for 12 years, should need overhauling.

Miss Marion Brodie, a graduate of the college who has been doing stenographic work at her Alma Mater, has left to connect with the Book and Bible House in Kingston.

Word from Aston Davis, a member of last year's graduating class who is now working in the Cayman Islands, is most encouraging. He states that while there are difficulties there to be met, the work is progressing nicely, and he sends the names of prospective students.

Mr. Alwyn Parchment, a former faculty member, is again working in the Printing Department. He plans to enter the Loma Linda School of Medicine in January.

A new college catalogue is now in preparation and will be ready for distribution shortly. In it will be found the latest information in regard to classes and fees for the school year of 1945 and anyone who is interested in attending the West Indian Training College should write for his copy.

School has now begun for the third term of 1944. Students have returned refreshed from the holiday, and are eager to get back at their studies. Many have used the opportunity afforded by the vacation to take additional classes; others have worked faithfully, both at the college and in the canvassing field, and have succeeded in earning a good share of their expenses for this term.

A one-year's scholarship at W. I. T. C., given by a prominent business man of Kingston to the student who has done the most outstanding school

The Visitor

Organ of the
BRITISH WEST INDIES UNION MISSION
of Seventh-day Adventists

Robert H. Pierson	Superintendent
W. E. Atkin	Secy.-Treasurer
M. E. Lowry	Secretaries
	Publishing Educational
	S. S. and Home Missionary & Y. P. M. V.
Robert H. Pierson	Editor
W. E. Atkin	Assistant Editor
Office Address: General Post Office, Mandeville, Jamaica, B. W. I.	

"NOTES AND NOTICES"

At present Elder Atkin, our Union Secretary-Treasurer, is away in the Bahamas where he will spend some time auditing the Mission books and giving such counsel and help as is possible to the work and workers there.

Our Inter-American Division Secretary-treasurer, Elder C. L. Torrey, arrived in Jamaica some days ago and spent almost a week at the Union office giving much needed counsel. This has really been Elder Torrey's first visit to the British West Indies Union since its organization, and we welcome Elder Torrey to our field again soon.

The Union office was also graced with the presence of Elders C. Lester Bond and A. H. Roth for a few moments immediately following our recent Youth's Congress.

MISS LILY HERON.

CORRECTION

In the September issue of the VISITOR the Ingathering total of £1025 was credited to the West Jamaica Mission. This was intended to come under the East Jamaica news notes as this was the amount collected in East Jamaica.

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the death of the wife of Brother E. Powell, leader of the Porter's Mountain company. Sister Powell fell asleep in Jesus August 22, at her home in Porter's Mountain, leaving to mourn her loss Brother Powell, six children, and many relatives and friends. We greatly sympathize with them in their loss. E. E. PARCHEMENT.

work in English, has been awarded to Herbert Holness, now in his junior year at the college.

Miss Mary Vaz, Miss Kathleen Brodie, and Mr. Curtis Parchment, members of the graduating classes of '42 and '43, were recent visitors at the college.