

BRITISH
HONDURAS

BAHAMA
ISLANDS

The British West Indies

VISITOR

CAYMAN
ISLANDS

WEST JAMAICA

EAST JAMAICA

TURKS AND CAIGOS
ISLANDS

VOLUME V.

MANDEVILLE, JAMAICA, JANUARY, 1948

NUMBER 1

Your Last Night On Earth

By Robert H. Pierson

Earth's last hour has struck! The end of the world, long foretold by the prophets of God, has at last come. The day of Christ's promised literal return to earth is here!

Everything in nature seems turned out of its course as the fateful hour becomes a reality. A mighty earthquake, "such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty ... and so great" (*Rev. 16:16, 19, 21*) rocks a world waxed old like "a garment" *Heb. 1:11*.

Like a reed in the wind the mountains smoke and jagged rocks are scattered everywhere. The whole earth heaves and swells like the billows of a driven sea. Like the voice of demons upon a mission of destruction hurricanes shriek as they lash the waters of earth into fury.

Earth's surface is breaking up. Its very foundations seem to be giving away. Lofty mountain ranges, long since synonymous with stability and security, are sinking. Inhabited islands of the sea disappear. Wicked seaports are swallowed by angry tidal waves. The proudest cities of the world are laid low in a few seconds of time. Earth's men of wealth see their lordly palaces crumbling before their eyes.

Thick clouds still cover the sky yet now and then the sun, like the avenging eye of Jehovah, breaks through. Fierce lightnings leap from cloud to cloud enveloping the earth in sheets of flame.

Said the prophets of old, as they beheld in holy vision the day of God:

"Howl ye; for the day of the Lord is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty." "Enter into the rocks, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of His majesty. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall be upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low." "In that day a man shall cast the idols of his silver, and the idols of his gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; to go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of His majesty, when He ariseth to shake terribly the earth." *Great Controversy, P. 638*.

Then, lo, in the eastern sky a small cloud about the size of a man's hand appears. It is "the sign of the Son of man in heaven" *Mat. 24:30*. The cloud, which in the distance appears to be shrouded in darkness is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour.

Nearer and nearer it draws becoming brighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire. "And upon the cloud sat one like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown." *Rev. 14:14*.

Not now a "man of sorrows" to drink the bitter cup of shame and woe. This time Jesus comes a mighty conqueror — "the King of kings and Lord of lords." *Rev. 19:15*. Not as the Babe of Bethlehem's manger surrounded by the lowly life of a stable, for this time

(Continued on page 8)

MEET OUR WORKERS



We are happy to introduce to our Advent family in the British West Indies Union the pastor of our two churches in Nassau, the Bahamas, Elder W. E. Kuester. Prior to joining us in Nassau Elder Kuester was the Sabbath School and Home Missionary secretary of the Antillian Union.

SOUL WINNING NEWS

Two Baptisms in One Day

The 21st of December, my birthday, was a very busy day for me, so much so that this memorial of such an important event passed entirely unnoticed until I lay in bed that night weary from the day's activities.

Early in the morning I left Anchovy by car for Vaughnsfield, twenty-five miles away where I conducted the first baptismal service. When I arrived there I found a large crowd awaiting me. I spoke to the gathering on the importance and significance of baptism, taking as my text Acts 16:30, the jailer's question to Paul and Silas, "What must I do to be saved?" I then entered the little dammed-up stream where I buried seven precious souls in the watery grave with their Saviour. After the baptismal service we repaired to the church where the candidates were voted into the fellowship of the Vaughnsfield church and welcomed by the pastor and members. This was indeed a happy occasion.

It was past mid-day when I returned to Montego Bay where the second baptismal service took place at 7 p.m. in the baptistry of the church. It was indeed a solemn and inspiring service. I spoke to the large and attentive congregation on the "Importance of a Fixed Purpose" using as my text *Luke 9:51. (last clause)*, "He steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem". It was again my privilege to bury fifteen souls in the likeness of their Saviour's death. As each individual entered the pool he was asked to give public testimony as to his faith. At the close of the baptismal service all the candidates were received and welcomed into the Montego Bay church, at the same time receiving their baptismal certificates. Six of these candidates are fruits of the lay effort at Bogue Hill, started by Brother Holness and now being carried on by Brother Spence and other members of the Montego Bay church. They report that six new believers stepped out last Sabbath. Their Sabbath School membership now stands at thirty-one.

May God help these new soldiers of the cross to fight faithfully till glory shall crown the work that grace has begun.
— Frank Fletcher.

Baptisms in East Jamaica

The Lord has been blessing our district pastors in a very remarkable way in

baptisms during this quarter of 1947. Within the past few weeks baptisms have been reported to the office from Pastors Nembhard, Laing, Stockhausen, Walton, H. Nembhard, and Brother Aston Davis. Baptisms have been conducted at Hope Bay, Bartons, Blue Hole, Bellas Gate, Jackson, Bagbie, Camberwell, Hagley Gap, Somerset, Old Harbour, Spanish Town, Woodford, Mullet Hall, Moore Park, Lloyds, Manchioneal, Trinityville, Linstead, Bog Walk, Palm, Berea, Carron Hall, Clermont, Buff Bay, Cornwall Barracks, Rollington Town, Annotto Bay, Florence Hill and Brookdale. This places East Jamaica Mission beyond the 800 mark, and with the baptisms to be conducted for the coming weeks of December we are quite certain of surpassing our goal of 850 and are expecting to probably go beyond 900. These are not just numbers but are precious souls taking their stand with the people of God, joining hands with the present membership in the finishing of the work.

EDITOR'S NOTE Since this encouraging report was received, we have learned that East Jamaica's total additions to the church by baptism and profession of faith numbers 915. This is a wonderfully fine record. To God be the glory and to our East Jamaican workers and members, our sincere appreciation for your earnest efforts to save souls!

Soul Winning in Orange Walk, British Honduras

On August 10, Pastors Pierson and Williams and the writer had the pleasure of beginning a series of meetings at Orange Walk, a district situated about thirty-five miles from Corozal on the way to Belize, and approximately sixty-five miles from that town.

Pastor Pierson preached the first sermon which was well attended. The attendance, however, began waning immediately. Just as soon as the priests understood what it was all about, they became very active, not only preaching publicly against us but by every means in their power trying to retard the work. It is very hard for any one who has never had the opportunity to live in a community where it is practically one hundred per cent Catholic to understand the influence of the priests upon the people.

For a while it seemed as though we were doomed to absolute failure. Nine

people signified their desire to obey God, but at the presentation of baptism, these all turned back. Of course, one would have to know the lives of many of these people to understand why this should be so. Here, it is the exception to see a couple get lawfully married and live faithfully with each other throughout the years. This drawback is second only to the influence of the priests in retarding the work.

We started illustrating the studies with pictures which brought a revival in attendance. This served, however, only to augment the fury of the priests. So enraged did they become that it is alleged the children were punished in school, whole classes at a time, to intimidate them so they would not attend the meetings. A sight to which I soon became accustomed, although not a little disgusted, was, during a meeting to see the children suddenly begin to show signs of uneasiness, then in the next instant they would be seen jumping the rails of the verandah and scaling the high fence which divides our meeting house from the neighbouring premises as if pursued by some vile fiend. It always proved, however, to be none other than the village priest.

In spite of all these circumstances we have been able to organize a school. Many are convinced of the truth, but will not accept lest they should be turned out of the church.

There is one family in particular who, although they have not openly, fully yielded to the Holy Spirit, have had to suffer the taunts of their neighbours and priests because of their apparent belief in the truth. Unfortunately, just as we were organizing our Sabbath School the mother of this family died. I have spoken with her daughters since and they have assured me they intend to keep the Sabbath. "It was the dying request of my mother," said one.

Now, the biggest drawback is to find someone capable of leading out in this Sabbath School, and it will not be possible for me to be with them any longer as there are many other companies who are in the same condition and must be shepherded. Truly, "the harvest is great but the labourers are few." Shall we not pray more earnestly the Lord of the Harvest that He may send forth labourers into His harvest?

— GARFIELD NEWMAN.



Church Building News

Dedication of Sherwood Content

On Sunday, the 30th of November, all roads led to Sherwood Content for the dedication of the Seventh-day Adventist church there. For some weeks prior to this all was bustle and activity as the members of the church laboured unitedly for the completion of the building. Brother Clayton from Montego Bay had been occupied for the past three weeks in putting the finishing touches to the structure by painting. On the day of the dedication the neatly constructed and well painted edifice presented a beautiful picture.

At 3 p.m. the crowd began to arrive by foot, truck and car. Promptly at 3:30 Pastor Fletcher called the gathering to order and after a few words of welcome invited Mr. Gentles, the vice-chairman of the Parochial Board, to open the main door of the church. The second door was opened by Teacher Tomlinson, the headmaster of the public school. The first to open a window was Mr. Rodriguez, the clerk of the Parochial Board, followed by other ladies and gentlemen that were appointed. The congregation entered the church and a fine dedicatory service took place. Seated on the platform were Mr. Gentles, Pastor Barclay, our guest speaker, Pastor E. E. Parchment, church building superintendent of the Union, Brother Earl Parchment, Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer secretary, Mr. and Mrs. Tomlinson, Mr. Rodriguez and Pastor Frank Fletcher, who acted as chairman.

Some beautiful anthems were sung by the choir under the leadership of Brother Felix Clayton. A very impressive, dedicatory sermon was preached by Pastor Barclay, who pleaded with the congregation to dedicate their lives to the completion of the great task assigned to them and thus hasten the return of Christ. Pastor E. E. Parchment led the church in the solemn act of dedication and Pastor Fletcher offered the dedicatory prayer. A splendid talk on dedication was presented by Miss Olga Lunan. A very interesting history of the Sherwood

Church Completion Honour Roll (Dedicated 1947 Programme)

Moss Town, *Bahamas Mission*
The Bluff, *Bahamas Mission*
San Pedro, *British Honduras Mission*
Boston, *British Honduras Mission*
Georgetown, *Cayman Islands Mission*
The Brac, *Cayman Islands Mission*
Berrydale, *East Jamaica Mission*
Cornwall Barracks, *East Ja. Mission*
Linstead, *East Jamaica Mission*
Fruitful Vale, *East Jamaica Mission*
Trinityville, *East Jamaica Mission*
Harrywatch, *West Jamaica Mission*
Craighead, *West Jamaica Mission*
Vaughansfield, *West Jamaica Mission*
Jericho, *West Jamaica Mission*
White Hill, *West Jamaica Mission*
Grand Turk, *Salt Cays Mission*
Blue Hills, *Salt Cays Mission*
Palm, *East Jamaica Mission*
Dignum Mountain, *East Ja. Mission*
Sherwood Content, *West Ja. Mission*
Broadgate, *East Jamaica Mission*
Chamber's Pen, *West Jamaica Mission*
Sandy Bay, *West Jamaica Mission*

Church Commencement Honour Roll (Stone Layings During Year, 1947)

Blue Hills, *Salt Cays Mission*
Grand Turk, *Salt Cays Mission*
Lances Bay, *West Jamaica Mission*
Dignum Mountain, *East Ja. Mission*
Spaldings, *West Jamaica Mission*
Annotto Bay, *East Jamaica Mission*
Johnson, *West Jamaica Mission*
Hampstead, *East Jamaica Mission*
Olive Mount, *East Jamaica Mission*
Williamsfield, *East Jamaica Mission*
Old Harbour, *East Jamaica Mission*
Port Morant, *East Jamaica Mission*
Siloah, *West Jamaica Mission*
Buff Bay, *East Jamaica Mission*
Retreat, *East Jamaica Mission*
Somerton, *West Jamaica Mission*
Water Works, *West Jamaica Mission*
Mile End, *West Jamaica Mission*
Hope Bay, *East Jamaica Mission*
Bourbon, *East Jamaica Mission*
Bath, *East Jamaica Mission*
Croft's Hill, *West Jamaica Mission*
Chapelton, *West Jamaica Mission*

Content church was read by Miss Lea Lunan, telling of the beginning of the work in Sherwood Content around twenty-five years ago and the starting and completion of the building over a period of years.

The brethren of Sherwood Content are to be congratulated in their beautiful church. Long may it stand as a beacon light to guide lost mariners on the sea of life to the heavenly harbour.

—FRANK FLETCHER.

Well Done

As I prepare the last church building Honour Roll for 1947, my heart is truly thankful to God for what He has done and to all of the church members for their part in making this encouraging report possible.

Twenty-four churches have been added to the church completion Honour Roll during last year. Among this number can be found representatives from all six of our local missions. The East and West Jamaica Missions each completed and dedicated eight church homes, while each of the four small fields did their part by finishing up two each.

While we were finishing twenty-four buildings, twenty-three new church edifices were commenced. Twelve of this number were in the East Jamaica Mission, nine in West Jamaica and two in the Salt Cays field. We were glad to note that three who started in 1947 finished before the year was over.

To all who have had a part in this good work we wish to express our heartfelt appreciation for your labour and support. You have done nobly. Your reward will be twofold. First, you will enjoy the privilege of worshipping in your own new finished building, dedicated to the honour and glory of God. Second, in the earth made new the reward is sure for those who sacrifice to advance the cause of God.

May God abundantly bless other churches and companies who are working on their building projects during 1948 so that many more representative homes of worship may be established to the honour and glory of God.

— R. H. Pierson

* * * *

Stone Laying at Old Harbour

On Sunday, November 9, a very beautiful and well-attended stonelaying service was conducted at the Old Harbour church which was a pleasure for the ministers and all the people who attended. Pastor A. D. Laing, chairman of the day's events, expressed to those in attendance his appreciation of the interest that had been shown by both members and non-Adventists in the town of Old Harbour toward the erection of the new building. Pastor B. M. Heald from New York was the chief speaker of the day and brought a stirring message that will long be remembered by those who heard.

Pastor E. E. Parchment and Mrs. Parchment were also in attendance from the British West Indies Union, and Elder Parchment's message of courage meant

(Continued on page 7)



Home Missionary Department

W. L. BARCLAY — B. W. I. UNION SECRETARY

LOCAL MISSION SECRETARIES

Bahamas Mission — H. D. Colburn

East Jamaica Mission — H. S. Walters

British Honduras Mission — J. N. Williams

Salt Cays Mission — G. M. Premier

Cayman Island Mission — K. S. Crofoot

West Jamaica Mission — E. J. Parchment



Used Clothing for Free Distribution

From time to time we have received letters from our brethren of the General Conference telling us that they have received appeals from individuals in Jamaica asking for clothing, etc. These brethren have asked us to investigate the needs of the people who have written them. This meant a long delay before clothing could be sent.

If and when clothing was sent, the church or individuals receiving the clothing were required to pay duty. Sometimes this duty was quite high, running into several pounds, and the persons paying the duty felt that they should get at least some of their money back. This meant that sometimes clothing had to be sold for a small sum to defray duty charges, and the plan for free distribution was sometimes frustrated.

Early this year we began negotiations with the government to be permitted to bring used clothing into Jamaica for free distribution among the needy, without having to pay duty on such clothing. Recently His Excellency, Sir John Huggins, Governor of Jamaica, graciously granted permission for us to receive used clothing, duty free, for free distribution to the needy.

In order for our Dorcas Welfare Association of Seventh-day Adventists to meet the requirements of the law, it was necessary for us to draw up the following negotiations governing shipments of clothing to Jamaica. A copy of these regulations will be placed in the hands of the Customs Officers, the General Conference of S. D. A., the Inter-American Division of S. D. A., the President and the Home Missionary Secretary of each Mission in the British West Indies Union of S. D. A. Readers of the "VISITOR" are urged to clip this copy of the regulations from the "VISITOR" and file it for future reference. All church members must follow the regulations explicitly.

We are indeed happy for this forward step in the development of our Welfare work, and believe that the needy in our field will appreciate the benefits of this plan.

—W. L. BARCLAY.

Regulations to Govern Shipments of Clothing to Dorcas Welfare Association of Seventh-day Adventists in Jamaica

Inasmuch as His Excellency the Governor has granted permission to the Dorcas Welfare Association of Seventh-day Adventists in Jamaica to bring used clothing into Jamaica, duty free, for free distribution among the needy, under the provisions of Custom Tariff Resolution (No. 10) 1946, the following regulations concerning the importations of clothing must be followed by each Seventh-day Adventist Church and Dorcas Welfare Society in Jamaica.

1. The local mission Home Missionary Secretary shall notify all Church Pastors and District Leaders, Church Missionary Leaders, Elders, and Dorcas Leaders as to the proper procedure for requesting used clothing from America, or any other country, for free distribution in Jamaica.
2. The procedure for requesting used clothing shall be as follows:—
 - a. All requests for clothing should be made by the individual requiring such clothing, to the local Dorcas Society.
 - b. If there is no Dorcas Society in the local church, the request for clothing should be made to the local Pastor or District Leader.
 - c. The Dorcas Society and/or the pastor or district leader shall send the request for clothing to the Mission's Home Missionary Secretary.
 - d. The Home Missionary Secretary shall pass on the request to the Union Home Missionary Secretary, who will send the request on to the General Conference Home Missionary Department.
 - e. If the local Dorcas Society, Pastor, or District Leader desires to make a request from a particular church outside of Jamaica, for clothing for the needy, the request should still be made in the manner stated above, and the request will be passed on directly to that church by the Union Home Missionary Secretary, or in

his absence, by one of the Union Officers.

- f. All shipments of clothing sent to Jamaica for free distribution to the needy MUST be addressed to: The Dorcas Welfare Association of Seventh-day Adventists, 176 Orange Street, Kingston, Jamaica, B. W. I.
- g. If any church outside of Jamaica is requested to send clothing to a particular church in Jamaica, the above address MUST be used, with the additional words: Attention, (Name of church to receive the shipment).
- h. To meet the requirement of Government regulations in bringing in used clothing, duty free, for free distribution in Jamaica, it is necessary that a certificate be signed by the Secretary of the organization, therefore the following are authorized to sign a certificate to be presented to the custom officers when a shipment of clothing reaches Jamaica:—
 - W. L. Barclay, Secretary, Mandeville, Jamaica.
 - B. R. Hamilton, Associate Sec., 176 Orange St., Kingston.
- i. Because packages of used clothing are sometimes sent through the mails for free distribution among the poor, to our church-members, and the said church-members have to pay duty on these packages, we recommend that these church members should have these packages sent to them c/o Dorcas Welfare Association of S. D. A., 176 Orange Street, Kingston, Jamaica. The individual should then notify Brother B. R. Hamilton that such a package is expected, and when the package or packages arrive, the individual will be notified by Brother Hamilton.
- j. So that the above packages can be brought into Jamaica, duty free, the Officers of the Dorcas Welfare Association will present a letter to the customs authorities calling

(Continued on page 7)



Publishing Department

A. R. HAIG — B. W. I. UNION SECRETARY

LOCAL MISSION SECRETARIES

East Jamaica Mission — W. U. Campbell

West Jamaica Mission — B. E. Hurst



Colporteur Institute

The colporteurs of West Jamaica met at West Indian Training College for their Institute, December 29, 1947, to January 4, 1948. The time was profitably spent in training new recruits and strengthening the old warriors of the field.

Not only was learning of canvasses and drill work necessary, but also a practical knowledge of God, so this need was filled through the devotional period each morning of the week.

Elder J. C. Culpepper, from the Inter-American Division, Elder A. R. Haig, from the British West Indies Union, along with Elders E. C. H. Reid and B. E. Hurst gave interesting lectures and demonstrations on salesmanship during this time. Other visiting ministers who helped in the Institute were Elders D. V. Pond and W. U. Campbell, from the East Jamaica Mission.

On Sunday night, the colporteurs met in the college dining room for a social get-together, and after a few games and light refreshments, all went away feeling perfectly satisfied.

As a fitting climax to the series of meetings, the ordinances of the Lord's House were celebrated at 5:30, Monday Morning, when everyone was made stronger to face the grim battles of life.

No Higher Work

"There is no higher work than evangelistic canvassing; for it involves the performance of the highest moral duties." It draws from the worker every undesirable trait and lodges in him a character braced by courage, enthusiasm and faith. The Colporteur Ministry makes the child of God into a channel of blessing such as he could never have been made otherwise.

The patience and endurance necessary to deal with those who struggle miserably for the daily sustenance is heightening. In the very presence of distressful destitution, the book evangel must win his way. A colporteur received an order and on returning to deliver the book, the prospect related a lengthy tale of misfortune, which had reduced him to complete po-

verty. The colporteur was encouraging as well as sympathetic, but was determined not to be overcome, not even by poverty; so he continued his visits with this prospect and succeeded with the delivery on the eighteenth visit. Two weeks after the buyer died. What if the bookman had stopped on the seventeenth visit? And what may be the influence of the book on the rest in that home?

In the middle section of the human family there is the largest group of evangelistic difficulties. Quick and accurate thinking must be combined with the enabling grace, the serpent-like wisdom, and the proper understanding of truth. While canvassing one of the intellectuals of St. Thomas for the book "Great Controversy," with suddenness and enthusiasm he questioned, "What do you think of the Catholics?" In wise repose the canvasser replied, "The Catholics have been most outstanding. Through that body the thinking of the thoughtful has been aroused, and through this the gospel of the Kingdom has been accelerated." Early after the satisfied inquirer gave his order and was ready with blessing for the message that reached his heart.

Two per cent of the population control 25% of the wealth. Around them therefore are many protective barriers, which almost completely cut off the possibility of reaching them with the gospel. But they must be met, and the colporteur has to meet them too, and meet them first. One Student Colporteur succeeded in meeting a number of these dear people. They are repellent on the outside, but are more kind on the inside than is generally estimated. This student entered upon the towering steps of a palatial building one morning about 9:30. The gentleman was still in bed, but the rapping woke him, all to the sorrow, but afterwards to the joy of the visitor. Unexpected a frantic shout came from a side window, "What do you want? How hadn't the dogs eaten you?" Subdued between fright and fears the colporteur drew nearer his enraged prospect and said, "I am presenting a wonderful work in this form," and handed the book through the window. With more

West Jamaica Lay Preachers at Work

It was my happy privilege in recent weeks to visit many of our lay men who are conducting efforts at the present time. I thought the readers of the VISITOR would be interested in learning what they are doing, and how the Lord is blessing them in their warfare for truth.

The first lay effort I visited was at Grange Hill. Brother Andrew Robinson and Brother J. McDonald are doing a good work there. They have rented a hall and meetings are being held three times per week. On the night of my visit there were hundreds of people in attendance. Brother Robinson wrote recently stating that the interest is still good.

My next visit was to Rejoin, where Brother Arthur Heron of the Axe and Adze Church is doing a wonderful work. Brother Heron has erected a commodious booth all at his own expense. On the night of my visit, this booth was filled to capacity and scores were standing around. Meetings are continuing regularly and our good brother reports that there are six now preparing for baptism.

At Mt. Peace in Hanover, we have three loyal lay men: Brother Leonard Kerr, Brother Zaccheus Hall and Brother Clifford Hall. They are having an effort at a place known as Springfield. These lay men report a good interest, and they have started a Sabbath School at Springfield as a result of their effort.

There are two churches in Hanover today that have been raised up as a result of the labours of Brother Astley Dinham.

(Continued on page 7)

intensity in his voice the rich gentleman inquired, "How much for the book?" "Three Pounds, Sir," said the bookman softly. "Take it and go!" was the final exclamation of the buyer, as he handed him the three pounds and slammed the window, as if to extricate the colporteur from the premises.

This is high work; only angels can do it that way. May we yield ourselves to be cleaned as we bear the message of hope.

— W. U. Campbell

News from the Field

Elder Glenn Calkins Resigns

At the time of the recent Division Committee meetings our hearts were made sad by the resignation of Elder Glenn Calkins, our beloved Division President. For many months Elder Calkins has been in poor health and for this reason he has felt best to lay down his work for the present. Few Presidents have endeared themselves in the hearts of the workers as Elder Calkins has, and we all are loath to lose him. Our best wishes and prayers will accompany Mrs. Calkins and him as they leave us in the near future.

New President

To fill the post made vacant by Elder Calkins' resignation the General Conference Committee has called Elder E. F. Hackman, President of the Southern Union in North America. Elder Hackman spent a number of years in the General Conference as Home Missionary Secretary and later served many years as President of local and Union Conferences in North America, so he brings to his new work a wide experience that will well qualify him to lead our large and growing Division in the years of opportunity just before us.

Conference Status for

East and West Jamaica Missions

Upon the recommendation of the British West Indies Union Committee the Inter-American Division Committee has granted conference status to both East and West Jamaica Missions if their constituencies so desire. The final decisions, resting with the constituencies of the two fields, will be taken late in 1948 when the next mission session is to be held.

1948 Officers for

East and West Jamaica Missions

Pending the outcome of the petition for Conference Status for the two fields the British West Indies Union Committee granted permission to the East and West Jamaica Missions to nominate their Mission officers for 1948.

On November 26 the ordained ministers of the East Jamaica Mission met with the East committee and nominated Elder D. V. Pond for their Mission President and Miss E. Winnifred Parchment for Mission Secretary-Treasurer, to serve until the Mission Session if Conference status is assumed or for two years if the constituency decides to remain as a mission.

On the following day the ordained ministers of the West Jamaica Mission

met with the West Committee and nominated Elder W. S. Nation as President of their field with Miss Mertie Shakes to serve as Secretary-Treasurer for the same period of time.

May God bless these re-elected officers of our two largest fields as they face the privileges and the responsibilities of a new year.

Belvue Church Organization

At Belvue in St. Elizabeth a church building was raised up and a small company of worshippers gathered under the leadership of a sister who had been led astray by a so-called Reform Movement. However, God has graciously opened the eyes of both the leader and the followers of his church to see their mistake, and today the whole group has turned over to the Seventh-day Adventist church. A short effort was held in this church by Brother Rugless some months ago and today the Belvue church stands fully organized. To God be the glory.

Mount Horeb Organization

Another milestone was reached in the progress of the work in the West Jamaica Mission when on Sunday the 7th of December we met at Mount Horeb for the organization of the Mount Horeb church, thus adding another to the sisterhood of 102 churches in West Jamaica. In the morning we met by the riverside where Pastor W. S. Nation, our Mission superintendent, preached a stirring baptismal sermon to the large gathering of people, after which the writer buried nine precious souls with their Lord in the watery grave.

The organization was a very happy and impressive occasion. The writer gave a study stressing the importance and necessity of organization, after which Pastor Nation invited the thirty-three prospective members to join the Mount Horeb church. They were voted in one by one into the fellowship of the new church, dedicating their lives to the service of their Master in the finishing of His work.

This happy occasion concluded with the celebration of the Lord's supper in which seventy-five participated. It was a unique occasion for due to the smallness of the temporary place of worship all could not take the ordinance at the same time. The sisters were asked to partake first, then when they had finished the men filed in and filled the building, partaking also of the emblems of the broken body and spilt blood of our

Saviour. This will be a day long to be remembered in the history of the Mount Horeb church.

Our hats are off to the consecrated laymen of the Mount Carey church, whose efforts blessed by God, have borne this rich harvest for the Master's kingdom. There are many in the baptismal class who will go forward in baptism soon. How true is the promise of God's Word, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seeds shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him," *Ps. 126:5, 6.* —FRANK H. FLETCHER.

Visitors to Jamaica

The last week in December and the first two of January saw a number of welcome visitors to the island of Jamaica. Elder Roger Altman, Assistant Treasurer of the General Conference spent ten days attending committee and board meetings and visiting extensively among the churches of both local Missions during his stay.

Elder A. H. Roth, Educational Secretary of the Inter-American Division spent one week inspecting the West Indian Training College and attending a College board meeting. Elder Roth's report of his findings at West Indian Training College both industrially and scholastically was most encouraging.

Elder Culpepper, Publishing Department Secretary of the Inter-American Division spent over two weeks in the island rendering valuable assistance in the East and West Jamaica Mission Colporteur Institutes.

Annual Budget Meetings

The annual meetings of the B. W. I. Union Committee will be held February 4-11 in Mandeville. Elder E. F. Hackman, newly elected President of the Inter-American Division, and Brother Bohner, Division Treasurer, will be present for the meeting. Elder Amundsen, Division Home Missionary Secretary will arrive just as the meetings close to spend sometime with us in Lay Preachers' Institutes.

Crawfords Leave Jamaica

Pastor and Mrs. J. I. Crawford and Judy left the second week of January for the United States on furlough. On doctors' recommendations, the Crawfords will be remaining in the homeland permanently. The Crawfords have done fine work in Kingsway during 1947, and we are loath to lose them. We wish them Godspeed as they return home.

(Continued on page 7)

Stone Laying

(Continued from page 3)

much to the success of the day's programme, Pastor D. V. Pond called to the attention of those who were present the need of true sincere lives being shown among the members of Old Harbour to others who have not yet taken hold of the message. Music by the Old Harbour choir was much appreciated.

The willingness that is being put into the erection of the new Old Harbour church building is sure to mean completion in the year 1948, under the blessing of God. — D. V. POND.

Chamber's Pen and Sandy Bay Churches Dedicated

The brethren at Chamber's Pen and Sandy Bay are now rejoicing in their completed and dedicated buildings. The members of these two churches under the energetic leadership of Pastor Gouldbourne worked diligently night and day to be ready for dedication at the appointed time, and they are to be commended for their fine structures.

At the dedicatory service at Sandy Bay it was very interesting to learn of the beginning of the work in that place. Around 1933 Brother Lewis and some other brethren from the Montego Bay church went over there to hold meetings. They were threatened with sticks and stones, but they pressed on in the name of Him who pronounced a blessing upon those who are persecuted for righteousness sake. Today some of their persecutors are strong workers in the Sandy Bay church and their church building is a credit to the community. Mr. Brownie, the manager of the Tryall Hotel, opened the front door and gave a very complimentary speech regarding his contacts with the members in that area. Elder W. L. Barclay, Home Missionary Secretary of the B. W. I. Union, preached the dedicatory sermon.

Chamber's Pen church is also a monument to the good work of our lay evangelists. In 1940, Brother Astley Dinham of Askenish, started working for the people of that district and won ten souls. From that beginning the work grew into a church of over seventy members and now they have a fine building in which to worship. On the rostrum at the dedicatory service were such individuals as the Resident Magistrate, who very graciously opened the front door; the Member of the House of Representatives, who gave a very inspiring talk; the District Medical Officer, and the Post Mistress of Lucea. The cooperation of such persons show the good impression that

the lives of our members have made over there. Elder C. O. Franz, Secretary-Treasurer of the B. W. I. Union, preached the dedicatory sermon.

Truly, it is only when "the members comprising our church membership rally to the cause" that the work can be quickly finished and the coming of Jesus ushered in.

— W. S. Nation.

Regulations

(Continued from page 4)

attention to the Government recognition of the Dorcas Welfare Association of Seventh-day Adventists as a legal Welfare Association, and therefore entitled to bring used clothing into Jamaica duty free.

k. Any parcel, package, or shipment of clothing addressed to any individual c/o the Dorcas Welfare Association of Seventh-day Adventists, who is not a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in good and regular standing, will not be forwarded to the addressee, but will be kept by the Dorcas Welfare Association to be distributed where most needed.

l. Clothing received by any church or member of the Dorcas Welfare Association of Seventh-day Adventists, duty free, must not be sold, but is to be distributed free of charge to the needy.

W. L. BARCLAY,
General Secretary, Dorcas
Welfare Association of
S. D. A., B. W. I. Union.

News from the Field

Kingsway's New Principal

Pastor W. A. Holgate, Educational Secretary of the East Jamaica Mission, has recently accepted the appointment of the Kingsway High School Board as Principal of that institution. Pastor Holgate brings to his new position of responsibility a wide background of educational experience. After receiving his B. A. degree from Atlantic Union College in the U. S., Pastor Holgate spent a number of years as a member of the staff of the West Indian Training College before accepting his present position in the East Jamaica Mission.

Harvest Festival in Corozal, British Honduras

Sunday, October 26, probably not since the establishment of a Seventh-day Adventist church here in Corozal was a more interesting and heartily supported programme given to the public

than our Harvest Festival service here on Sunday. This was only one of the many enjoyable services held here over the week-end, and in this even the elements appeared to cooperate as the cloudy morning gave place to an afternoon of marked beauty and tranquility.

In an effort to help ourselves in securing a badly needed church property it was suggested that we have a Harvest Festival. Sister C. A. Gill, to whom must be given a great deal of appreciation, got busy and in cooperation with others and the members of the Calcutta church, of which Brother A. Ramcharan is the leader, was able to prepare and render an interesting and inspiring programme. We are now able to say that our Harvest was a success. Many of the brethren took their carts and brought in of the products of their fields. They also cooperated fully in the decorating of the building and truly it may be said that when all were through it was something worthy to be seen. The small building was decorated from end to end and reminded one somewhat of the garden home of our first parents. The feeling of goodwill and cooperation was clearly manifested as Anglicans gave of their fruits, Catholics helped in decorating, our guest speaker a Methodist, and our audience a combination of all these happily entertained by our own brothers and sisters in the precious faith.

Mr. Goff, our guest speaker, spoke of the great Harvester of all the earth, reminding us of the sure promise of God that in due time we shall reap if we faint not. The entire programme, which was well rendered, served not only for our entertainment, but brought home to our hearts the striking fact that in due time God will harvest His sheaves, and it is the privilege of us all to be saved as sons of God in the great harvest day.

Surely the Spirit of God is working upon the hearts of men and women to serve Him. — GARFIELD NEWMAN.

West Jamaica Lay Preachers

(Continued from page 5)

They are the Askenish church and the Chamber's Pen church. But Brother Dinham is not satisfied with past achievements, for recently he has removed into a new place known as Bleauwearie. He is now conducting an effort at this place three times per week, and the results are astounding. He has started a Sabbath School of 30 members. Pastor Greene visited Brother Dinham's effort recently and reported about 400 people in attendance. A letter just received from brother Dinham states he had to send a telegram

for Pastor Greene to come again and help him. Approximately 1,000 people were in attendance last Sunday night. A very good interest continues, and a rich harvest of souls is anticipated.

Brother Elijah Brown of Jericho church reports a very good interest at Cascade. He now has a Sabbath School of 19 members and 4 are preparing for baptism. Brother Brown is now erecting a water proof booth so as to continue his meetings. He walks six miles to his place of meeting each week, but he is of good courage and is determined to fight on until a church can be organized at Cascade.

Recently I had the privilege of attending the Mt. Carey Church. It was Home Missionary day and it did my heart good to hear the encouraging reports that were given. There is no other church in West Jamaica that has more lay preachers than Mt. Carey. The laymen from this church who are blazing the trail for Christ are Brethren Brown, Thomas, Headley, Mitchell, Davis, Stephenson, Fray and Richards. These gentlemen with the co-operation of the members of the church have raised up the following schools; Cambridge with a Sabbath School membership of 28 and 13 are in the Bible Class; Mt. Horeb with a Sabbath School membership of 64, many have already been baptized and 17 more are now preparing for baptism; Lethe with a Sabbath School membership of 28 and 3 are to be baptized soon; Kensington with a Sabbath School membership of 31 and 3 are preparing for baptism; Windsor, 5 preparing for baptism and a Sunday School of 21 children at Bechersteth.

What a wonderful work the faithful laymen of this one church are doing. May every church in our field be inspired to go and do likewise.

—Earl J. Parchment.

Your Last Night on Earth

(Continued from page 1)

"the armies which were in heaven followed Him" *Rev. 19:14*. "Ten thousand times ten thousand" angel voices, blend in the anthems of celestial melody as they attend Him on His way.

What human pen could attempt to portray the scene? What mortal mind is adequate even to conceive such splendor?

Heaven's King descends wrapped in the flaming glory of His angelic entourage.

It is impossible to describe the horror and despair of those who have trampled upon God's holy requirements — those who have failed to accept of heaven's proffered salvation. Too late they realize that all is lost. Too late they realize what it means to trifle with God and fail to obey His Word.

"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" *Rev. 6:15-17*.

Amid the reeling of the earth, the dash of lightning, and the roar of thunder, the voice of the Son of God calls forth the sleeping saints. He looks upon the graves of the righteous, then raising His hands to heaven He cries, "Awake, awake, awake, ye that sleep in the dust, and arise!" Throughout the length and breadth of the earth, the dead shall hear that voice; and they that hear shall live. And the whole earth shall ring with the tread of the exceeding great army of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. From the prison-house of death they come, clothed with immortal glory, crying, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" And the living righteous and the risen saints unite their voices in a long, glad shout of victory.

The living righteous are changed "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye." At the voice of God they were glorified; now they are made immortal, and with the risen saints are caught up to meet their Lord in the air. Angels "gather together the elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." Little children are borne by holy angels to their mothers' arms. Friends long separated by death are united, never more to part, and with songs of gladness ascend together to the city of God.

On each side of the cloudy chariot are wings, and beneath it are living wheels; and as the chariot rolls upward, the wheels cry, "Holy," and the wings, as they move, cry, "Holy," and the retinue of angels cry, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty." And the redeemed shout "Alleluia!" as the chariot moves onward toward the New Jerusalem." *Great Controversy*, 644, 645.

This is not idle talk nor wishful thinking, this is a scene that God's Word solemnly declares will become a reality in the very near future. Earth's last hour as described by inspiration will come — and soon! Where will you be then?

When that eternal morning dawns there will be just two classes of people to greet it—the righteous and the wicked

The British West Indies Union Visitor

Robert H. Pierson Editor
Clyde O. Franz Asst. Editor

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

Post Box 22, General Post Office, Mandeville, Ja.

UNION DIRECTORY

Robert H. Pierson President
Clyde O. Franz Secretary-Treasurer
Clinton Hendricks Accountant & Cashier
DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARIES
W. L. Barclay, S.S., Home Miss., Y.P.M.V. Temp. Publishing
A. R. Haig Educational
B. G. Butherus Field Secretary
E. E. Parchment Medical
Clifford Anderson, M.D., Religious Liberty
Robert H. Pierson Manager, Book & Bible House
B. R. Hamilton

— the saved and the lost. The redeemed will cry out, "This is our God, we have waited for Him and He will save us!" *Isa. 25:9*. The wicked will call for the rocks and hills to fall upon them to hide them from the face of the Lamb. You will be in one of those two classes! There will be no third group just making up their minds to get ready for the Saviour's appearing. That will have been settled long before. "Now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation." *11 Cor. 6:2*. Right now, today you must decide in which group you will be — whether you will be saved or lost! God through His Son Jesus, has made the provision for you to hail the coming King with joy, if you will, but the final decision is left to you. It must be made now, not then!

In tones of tender yet solemn appeal the Spirit of God pleads with you today. "But ye brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief... Therefore let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober." *1 Thess. 5:4, 6*.

God sets forth his way marks in the great prophetic portions of the Bible. From these we know the journey is almost o'er. We need not be taken un-awares. In His Word He makes clear His will for us—He tells us what He expects of us—He leaves us without excuse! Why, oh why, aren't we heeding and preparing now for His coming?

That last great day may be one of joy rather than regret. It may be the beginning rather than the end if we will but make it so by deciding NOW at the beginning of 1948 to make everything right and to follow Him all of the way! Won't you make this choice now, yes, right now?