

V I S I T O R

Bahamas

East Jamaica

West Jamaica

Caymans

Turks & Caicos

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Ingathering Time Is Here Again

Ingathering time is here again! What memories come with the announcement! Our thoughts review quickly the providences of God over the years, and as we think of His leadings through the campaigns of the past there comes over our souls a sense of gratitude and thanksgiving that He has provided for us a place of honour in having been called to have a part with Him in the finishing of the work.

It has been in these previous campaigns, possibly to an even greater degree than in any other single endeavour for God, that we have been most conscious of His leading and guiding and continual assistance, as we worked on and on toward our individual and collective goals. And, having successfully reached our respective objectives, there has always come a sense of satisfaction in having realized that, by having united our feeble efforts with His mighty power, glorious success came. It was always with a sense of pride that we displayed our Minute Man Pins which had been given us as awards of merit for a job well done, for this was a token; a vision emblem of what God had been able to accomplish through us as we yoked ourselves with Him and went forth to do a work with and for Him.

There has always been joy in knowing that our efforts had been successful in making possible the "lengthening of the cords" and the "strengthening of the stakes" throughout the world. We were proud that we, as an integral part of a great world movement, had done our part, and we rejoiced over the advance strides being taken all around the circle of the earth, knowing that at least in a small degree we had individually made possible the progress.

It is with these memories in our minds and with the assurance of God's presence with us, that we now enter the 1954 campaign with confidence of another victory. Remembering that "we have nothing to fear for the future only as we forget how God has led in the past," we accept our individual responsibilities and go into action for our Saviour. Let

H. D. COLBURN, *Home Missionary & Sabbath School Secretary, British West Indies Union Mission.*

us remember in addition to how He has always been with us in these annual Ingathering adventures for Him; the promise: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Remembering His presence with us in the past and His promise for the present and future, will remove timidity and fear of failure. Remember too, that this greatest of all Home Missionary projects has Heaven's endorsement. God has indicated through the Spirit of Prophecy that the plan devised by Brother Jasper Wayne back in 1907 has His divine approval. The years since then and the millions of dollars pouring into the treasury of the church has proved it. The tremendous advance all through the world of the Advent movement has proved it. And lastly, what it has meant to our own individual experiences has proved it.

Just think for a moment what this campaign has meant in our own British West Indies Union Mission territory through the years. When we recall that it is largely from this annual income that our conference and mission committees vote appropriations for church buildings, school buildings, school supplies, educational subsidies for worthy students, lay preacher's equipment, evangelistic efforts and other worthy projects, we can see at a glance what a valuable asset it has meant in a material way toward the strengthening year by year of our denominational programme. Then, most of all, it has been directly a means of saving souls, for in every campaign there are those who are contacted and brought into the truth as a direct result of the missionary visits of those taking part in the campaign.

And so, fellow Seventh-day Adventists of the British West Indies Union, twenty thousand strong, let us move into action on every front. Let us dedicate our time, our talents, our energies to God for another successful Ingathering campaign. Let us not be satisfied until we reach our individual, church, district, conference and Union goals.

And while we labour together toward these objectives, let us look beyond the discomforts of the present as we work in sun and rain, to the time when the task will have been completed and we shall have entered into "the joy of our Lord," beyond the valleys and shadows of this present life. "There the redeemed ones greet those who directed them to the uplifted Saviour. They unite in praising Him who died that human beings might have the life that measures with the life of God. The conflict is over. All tribulation and strife are at an end. Songs of victory fill all heaven, as the redeemed stand around the throne of God. All take up the joyful strain, 'Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God.'—*Ministry of Healing*, pages 506, 507.

Faithful Ingatherers, keeping this supreme objective ever in your vision, the 1954 Ingathering campaign will be more than a successful adventure for God. Yes, Ingathering time is here again! Let us thank God and move forward in the wake of His providential leadings.

Family Worship

"Fathers and mothers, each morning and evening gather your children around you, and in humble supplication lift the heart to God for help. Your dear ones are exposed to temptation. Daily annoyances beset the path of young and old. Those who would live patient, loving, cheerful lives must pray. Only by receiving constant help from God can we gain the victory over self."

—*Testimonies for the Church*,
Volume 7, page 44.

EAST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

Pres. R. E. DELAFIELD

Secy.-Treas. MISS E. W. PARCHMENT

Ingathering—"More Than Before in '54!"

The month of March finds Ingathering in full swing in East Jamaica. Our dear Brother Campbell has been hard at work in his office getting all the supplies ready for all of the churches. Miss Parchment also gave her assistance, and we have been visiting the churches and passing on the supplies to the pastors. All together we have launched forth together for Christ in the happiest and most wonderful Ingathering for our Saviour we have ever had.

Ingathering is a glorious time when every pastor, every church member working together can do mighty things for God. It is wonderful when we see a church ablaze with holy enthusiasm for God. Sister White has told us that one of the new plans to reach unbelievers is the Harvest Ingathering plan for missions. Taking our precious literature and carrying a great burden on our hearts we can go forth to our neighbours and friends and invite them to give toward the medical, educational and evangelical work of the church.

The wealth of the gentiles really belong to God and He will impress even unbelievers to give to support His precious cause. Remember the goal for East Jamaica in every phase of Christian activity is "MORE THAN BEFORE IN '54."

With every church organized into bands, —Sabbath school class bands, perhaps, or Young People's bands, and with every member working, East Jamaica under God can have the shortest, sweetest, happiest and most wonderful campaign in our history. Remember, prayer paves the way. Pray for those you go to visit, mentioning them by names that God will miraculously work upon their hearts to give. We count on every church to go over the goal on time for Christ. Remember: "Were our numbers half as large, and all of these devoted workers, we should have a power that would make the world tremble."—Vol. 5, page 405.
—R. E. DELAFIELD.

News Notes

The members of the Spanish Town Church are eagerly looking forward to the time when they will have a more representative church building. With this objective in mind, a very fine programme was held on January 10 to help raise needed funds. Friends from Regent Street and Trench Town Churches, members of the Golden Melody Quartette and students from the West Indian Training College went to their assistance and the returns were most satisfactory on this new church building project.

A baptismal service concluded the two-week revival in the Kencot Church. This was followed by a "Good-will" service which took the form of a farewell for Brother L. Herbert Fletcher, who for two years was the associate pastor of the Kencot Church. Brother Fletcher had endeared himself to the entire membership, and the regret at his leaving was only tempered by the thought that he would be more free to proclaim the message of salvation that they had grown to love so much. Tokens of appreciation were given and Brother Fletcher made a vow to give himself fully to the finishing of the work, thus hastening the glad reunion day. He is called to take up an appointment in the East St. Mary district.

* * *

East Jamaica Conference extends a hearty welcome to Miss L. Brown, from West Jamaica and Misses D. Grant and C. Stone from West Indian Training College. Miss Brown has joined the teaching staff of Kingsway, Miss Grant the secretarial, and Miss Stone the teaching staff of the Branson's Academy. We wish for you God's richest blessings as you assist in training the youth for a place in the Lord's work.

—VINETTE WALKER.

WEST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

Pres. ... H. S. WALTERS

Sec.-Treas. L. A. MORRISON

West Jamaica's Ingathering Banner Year Envisioned

The events of the time have brought us face to face with another Ingathering campaign. Each year this endeavour gives us an opportunity to demonstrate our faith in service for Christ and for humanity.

The churches of West Jamaica have all been mobilized for a quick and successful campaign in 1954. We have determined, with heaven's blessing, to achieve £4,000 for the Lord this year. We are conscious of obstacles and barriers which might tend to beset our path, however, with Christ as our leader we shall march forward and never turn back, until victory is achieved.

Throughout the conference our members join in singing as they move forward to victory, these words:

Sound Ingathering, cry, members far and nigh,

Raise a larger goal for the Lord.

Now in '54, more than e'er before

Early victory shall be insured.

Chorus:

Rouse then, Christians, rally for Ingathering.

Lucea, May Pen, pass your last year's goals.

Mo Bay, Springfield, Cooto Savannah, Newell

We shall bring in money and the souls.

There is greater need, churches more, we plead,

See one hundred more, to complete.

From Manchester's hills to Trelawny's coast

We shall see each week who brings in most.

God is calling all, bigger ones and small

Help to bring in four thousand pounds.

When all campaigns o'er on that

Brighter Shore

We shall live where joy and peace abounds

(Tune—Sound the Battle Cry).

—H. S. WALTERS.

West Jamaica Conference News Notes

Conventions for 1954 started off with a bang at May Pen on Sunday the 7th of February. The No. 1 district—Clarendon—came out in large numbers. Elder Vaz and Brother Henry with renewed courage urged the brethren to let the Clarendon district be No. 1 in every aspect of the work. At the close of the day all felt that it was good to have been there and went back to their churches with new zeal to not only help finish the work in their section of the vineyard, but to make sure that it is also finished in their own lives.

* * *

Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Dent of Riverside Sanitarium in Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A. spent four days of their vacation with us here in Jamaica. It was our privilege to hear Dr. Dent give a very inspiring talk at our Youth's Rally in Montego Bay. We were also happy to see the pictures he brought along of the Sanitarium, which he showed at the Collège. The Dents brought real inspiration to us and we hope that some time in the future they will find it possible to visit us once again.

* * *

As usual EVANGELIZE is the password in West Jamaica. The following efforts are already in progress or will be very soon:

Elder Holness	—	Palmyra
Elder Vaz	—	Hayes
Brother Henry	—	Bryant Hill
Brother Allen	—	Camp Savannah
Elder Greene	—	Dias
Brother McLean	—	Axe & Adze
Elder Douglas	—	Asia
Elder E. C. H. Reid	—	Falmouth
Elder Palmer	—	Bogue
Elder Walters	—	Resource
Elder Fletcher	—	Royal Flat
Elder Morrison	—	Kendal
Brother Hyatt	—	Vaughnsfield

—VALERIE RYAN.

Educational Progress in South Brazil

On one occasion 104 teachers and directors of Brazilian government schools visited our Sao Paulo College to study our teaching methods and also our food and religious principles. One of them, an ex-governor of the large and important state of Sao Paulo, stated: "The government needs hundreds of schools like this one scattered throughout the state."

Why do you think he made this statement? I do not hesitate to say that it is because of our Christian principles. These same principles are the foundation for all of our schools here in Brazil.

Four of these educational institutions are located within the boundaries of the South Brazil Union. The baptized membership of this Union is over 20,000 at present and there are approximately 8,000 children and youth of school age. A real educational problem faces our leaders because our present school capacity cannot accommodate nearly this many Adventist youth.

The Rio Grande do Sul Conference has one school with about 150 students and the church membership is approximately 5,000. This represents a school-age total of about 2,000 young people. But our academy as yet has no suitable boys' dormitory and the nearly 100 boys are living in an old structure built 56 years ago.

The Parana-Santa Catarina Conference also has a large membership totaling nearly 6,000 at present, with over 2,000 young people. Their six-year-old academy also is without proper dormitory facilities for the boys, and it is necessary for them to crowd six and seven in a room in an old wooden building long ago unfit for use.

The largest conference, Sao Paulo, has a membership of over 8,500 with nearly 4,000 young people. Our five-year-old academy faces the same dormitory problem for the boys as the other two just mentioned.

The Brazilian Adventist College, an inter-union institution has cared for as many as 300 students in its dormitories, plus 300 students living in the nearby communities. The great problem facing school directors is that of paying salaries to maintain a necessarily strong teaching force. The answer would be to have accommodations for 500 to 600 dormitory students.

As is generally true in other fields, our members are not wealthy and we can hardly expect large offerings for the cause. For this reason we are sending a plea for help to our brethren in order to construct the necessary dormitories for our schools in the South Brazil Union.

Our schools have been the means of breaking down prejudice among the Catholic people in our country. Many non-Adventists who are acquainted with our schools and our high standards are asking us to accept their boys and girls,—but there is no room. The few we have received are ready to pay more than Adventists but we have been able to find no place to keep them. However, we wish

that we could accept some of these non-Adventist youth because in a short time many of them become church members and when they go to their homes they carry this present truth to their friends and relatives. Their influence at home and in society has been beneficial and they are a living testimony of what the truth can do to transform lives.

Every year there are baptismal classes and dozens of young people are being baptized. Had it not been for our schools, many of these young people would never have had the opportunity of knowing Jesus as their personal Saviour.

South America is the continent of great opportunities. And of the South American countries, Brazil is one of the greatest lands of opportunities. We firmly believe that our schools are the means of preparing our young people to finish God's work in the different interior cities of this great nation.

Many personal experiences could be related of student conversions and of the excellent missionary work they are doing. Now the doors are open as never before to receive our message. It is now that students are interested in preparing themselves as ministers and missionaries.

This coming Thirteenth Sabbath, March 27, you will be given an opportunity to help in the building of these necessary dormitories for our schools in the South Brazil Union. Now is the time for us to go forward and we are looking to you, our brothers and sisters.

—JERONIMO G. GARCIA, *Bible Instructor,*
Brazil Union College.

Trinidad Girl Saves American Soldier in Prison

One of the most picturesque statements found in the Spirit of Prophecy reads as follows: "The humblest workers, in co-operation with Christ, may touch chords whose vibrations shall ring to the ends of the earth, and make melody throughout eternal ages." —*Ministry of Healing*, page 159.

Elder T. J. Kroeger, pastor in the Illinois Conference, told me a thrilling story last week that beautifully illustrates this statement.

During the war Elder Kroeger was camp pastor for Seventh-day Adventist men who were stationed at Fort Scott near St. Louis. One day he received a phone call from the camp that a Seventh-day Adventist boy was in trouble and in the guard house at the camp. The pastor learned that a Seventh-day Adventist soldier boy had shared his faith with a Catholic boy in the army, and the Catholic boy decided to become an Adventist. The very first week after he made his decision he was in difficulty regarding Sabbath privileges and bearing arms. He was attached to a combat unit. As a result, the officer sent the new Adventist soldier to the guard house.

Elder Kroeger knew that his first step was to contact the camp chaplain. He also knew that the chaplain was a Catholic priest. He did not know just what attitude the chaplain would take since a Catholic boy had become an Adventist. The pastor prayed hard and asked God to help him make a tactful approach to the chaplain so he could get his co-operation.

He found the chaplain in his office. After a cordial greeting he wanted to know what he could do. Brother Kroeger asked him if there were any regulations in the army that would forbid a man changing his religion while he was in the army.

The chaplain said, "Why, no, not that I know of. A man could change his religion if he wanted to."

"Suppose a Protestant boy decided to become a Catholic and ran into certain difficulties because of a changed belief, would you as chaplain be in a position to help the man? Would you feel like you would want to help?"

"Yes, certainly I could probably help and I would be most happy to do so."

"Now suppose a Catholic man decided to become a Protestant, would that make any difference?" asked Elder Kroeger.

"Not a bit. I would consider it my duty to help any man who was conscientious in doing what he considered his religion required of him," the chaplain replied.

Elder Kroeger then explained to the chaplain why he was there and asked if he would go with him to see the commanding general. The chaplain readily agreed.

When the general found out that Elder Kroeger was a Seventh-day Adventist and that the boy in trouble was an Adventist he phoned the guard house and asked if they had a man named Bob Jones there. When informed that they did he said, "Release him and send him at once to my office."

While they waited for Bob to arrive the general told the following story! A few months before they had lived in Trinidad at Waller Field. They needed another servant to help in the home so they advertised in the "Trinidad Guardian." Several girls answered, and they picked one that they thought looked like she could do a good job. She started to work on Monday. Thursday evening the girl told the mistress that she was a Seventh-day Adventist and could not work on Saturday. She explained about its being God's Sabbath and that she must have time off from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset. The mistress protested and said she had other girls who belonged to churches and they didn't have Sunday off. The Adventist girl was firm and told her that if she thought best she perhaps should get another girl to do her work but that she could not work on Sabbath.

The general's wife had been so pleased with the work that had been done, that she decided to keep her, and told her to come back on Sunday.

In the weeks and months that followed the general and his wife were very pleased with the services of the Adventist girl. They were also interested in her firm stand about the Sabbath. They thought they would test her out in other ways. They left money and sweets and other things around just to see if anything disappeared. They reasoned rightly that if she were a Christian and so faithful about her day of worship she would be dependable about other things also. Never once were they disappointed in her conduct. She worked faithfully, carefully, and was strictly honest at all times. It made such an excellent impression on the general and his wife that they decided that Seventh-day Adventist people must be very fine people indeed.

The general told Elder Kroeger that if his church will do that for people he believed in it and Bob Jones will have no further trouble. When Bob came he told his story. The general ordered him back to his unit and notified, in writing, all officers in the camp that Seventh-day Adventist boys were to have Sabbaths off and were to be assigned to noncombat units.

Brother Kroeger thanked the general for his kindness and mentioned that he might have to call on him again if anyone else ever got into difficulty. General Davies told him that he need not make the long trip down there to see him. All he had to do was to 'phone. He would see to it that no Adventist boy ever had trouble as long as he was there. He was good to his word.

Yes, our lives may start vibrations that will reach to the ends of the earth and make melody through the eternal ages. May God keep us each one faithful.

—ELDER VERNON FLORY

(From Caribbean Union Gleanings)

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This Should be the End of the Rod

It is quite apparent that a large number of Seventh-day Adventist believers in this conference received a sheet of paper recently without signature entitled, "The Shepherd's Rod Menace and How to Combat It." I am sure that all those who took time to read even a few lines of this sheet knew the source of it immediately even though there was no signature.

From the third paragraph I quote, "Finally the falsity of the Rod will be published far and wide in one or more of our papers and from then on everyone will be able to meet the Rod on its own ground. *This should be the end of the Rod.*" (Italics mine.) It is certain that the Seventh-day Church did not send out this sheet of paper. It is equally certain that those who did *made every effort to give the impression that it was sent out by the Seventh-day Adventist Church.* In fact, they tried so hard to deceive that the deception is at once apparent. Personally, I agree with the writer of the sheet that "this should be the end of the Rod." Anything based on deliberate premeditated deception sooner or later comes to an ignoble end. It is heartening and also a bit amusing to know that the ones responsible for this little sheet have been caught in their own trap, and by sending out this material fulfilled their own prophecy which I shall quote again, "Finally the falsity of the Rod will be published far and wide in one or more of our papers, and from then on everyone will be able to meet the Rod on its own ground. *This should be the end of the Rod.*" It becomes apparent that after so long a time an offshoot will club itself to death with its own tools.

Every member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church knows that whenever the denomination sends out material from its general, union, or local conference headquarters identification is always given.

—R. R. BIETZ, President,

Southern California Conference,

NOTE:- This article has been quoted from the *Pacific Union Recorder* because the same thing is true in our field.

Dr. and Mrs. Sorenson while attending school in France some years ago, Dr. Walther took this opportunity of renewing an old acquaintance.

We are happy to have Elder Leonard F. Bohner with us at the time the VISITOR goes to press. Brother Bohner is on his yearly auditing visit.

Elder Colburn, our Home Missionary Secretary, is at the time of writing in the Bahamas Mission uniting his efforts with the workers in that field in their annual Ingathering campaign.

Congratulations! "Uncle Joe" and our former Bible School worker, Mrs. Mavis Fletcher upon the arrival of your son.

The Bible School lost another worker this month, as Pastor Silburn Reid changed his abode to Christiana naturally his wife went along leaving a vacant chair. However, we are happy to welcome Mrs. Colburn to this seat, even though it be but for a brief period.

Missionary Volunteers Make History

January 21 — February 3 will go down in history as one of the most progressive periods in our Missionary Volunteer movement in sunny Jamaica. The inspiration gained and the lessons learned in Congress, Rally and Path-finder workshop like the ripples of a lake will continue to mould and to save until we reach the shores of everlasting day.

We thank God, as well as the brethren of the General Conference and Inter-American Division for sending us such godly and humble men like Elders L. A. Skinner and David Baasch. In return we promise our undivided allegiance to the flag of Prince Emmanuel.

Our youth in the hundreds and thousands and scores came together at the West Indian Training College, Montego Bay, Kingston and Gayle, and as a result have been inspired to dedicate their lives to the service of God and humanity.

The Governor of Jamaica, Sir Hugh Foot, and the Mayor of the Corporate Area joined with our youth leaders Oswald Gordon and Joe Fletcher to inspire our youth. Elder Skinner called us to a new and greater effort in the saving of other youth, and Elder Baasch told of some of the victories other youth of Inter-America are winning for Christ.

At the East Jamaica camp site in Gayle over twenty were trained in the art of child evangelism through the voices of God's out of doors. May God bless our Master Guides as they launch out with a new determination to save our youth before they reach the age of sixteen.

The outlook and uplook in 1954 are filled with omens of joyous service and youthful piety.

—A. R. HAIG.

B.W.I. Union News Briefs

A hearty "thank you!" to Elders L. A. Skinner and David Baasch for the two weeks spent in Jamaica, and a sincere invitation to come again soon.

Dr. Daniel Walther, one of the professors in charge of Church History at the Theological Seminary, Washington D.C., paid a flying visit to the College on February 7. Since last November he has been doing evangelistic work in Haiti and other French Islands, and was on his way back home to Washington. Having met