

INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER

VOL. II

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IN THE AZTEC UNION

"Onward, ever onward" was the watchword in the publishers' convention and the annual meeting of the Aztec union committee held recently in Mexico City. How can we more quickly fulfil our Saviour's command ("Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature") as related to the territory included in the Aztec union, was the theme of our daily study. Elder W. W. Eastman of the General Conference united with the representatives of the union and the local missions in the study of our problems; and his help was greatly appreciated.

In many parts of the Aztec union God's providence is far ahead of us, moving onward much faster than our thin line of workers has been able to advance. The superintendents of the various missions brought most encouraging reports of progress; but at the same time they presented appeals for additional help to enable them to care for the rapidly developing interests that were most distressing, when considered in the light of the fact that without a materially increased budget for 1926, we shall be utterly unable to provide the help called for.

But, however urgent the needs, no note of discouragement was sounded. The assurance that God is leading His people, that He will in some way provide all that is essential to the completion of His work, filled every heart with courage to undertake larger things for God, and to enter new fields, knowing that such a course would greatly increase the demands for more help.

It is impossible for the faithful missionary to obey the Spirit's call to step into God's opening providences, to enlarge the borders of his habitation, to carry the bread of life to those beyond, whose pleading cry for the heavenly manna appeals overwhelmingly to his heart. It is not at all surprising that the demands for more help are ever

"Go Ye into All the World"

"Go ye into all the world!"
'Tis this the great commission:
"And preach the gospel to all men,"
 What'er the place,
 What'er the race,
 Whatever their condition.
Yet to "go" is not enough
 To make a missionary;
To *keep* linked up to power divine.—
 With God to walk,
 With God to talk,—
 Each day is necessary.
God has spoken, then by none
 The call should be unheeded;
Yet leaving native shores behind
 The heart and mind
 New problems find,
 And strength divine is needed.
True 'tis needed by us all,
 And yet in fullest measure
By those who at the Lord's command
 With busy hand
 In foreign land
 Are seeking souls for treasure.
"Go!" Yes, go, but when this call
 The heart is set to follow,
If God Himself be crowded out
 And Heaven's power
 Fill not each hour,
 The life, indeed, is hollow.
What availeth it to "go"
 To light some darkened section,
If with the Light of all the world,
 By thought and care
 And constant prayer,
 One keep not close connection?
"Go ye into all the world,"
 Yes, go, but *keep on* going,—
Advancing daily in the light,—
 While onward spurred
 By God's blest Word,
 And by it daily growing.
"Go," and with the Source of power
 Unbroken keep connection:
As instrument for Him to use,
 Spend and be spent,
 Nor rest content
 With aught save Christ's perfection.
Go thus, neither Satan's hosts
 Nor powers of darkness fearing;
Seed sown in tears you'll reap in joy;
 Though hard the field
 Full rich the yield
 Will be at His appearing.

PEARL WAGGONER HOWARD.

more and more urgent. This will continue to the end; but the harvest we shall reap as the result of faithful seed-sowing will be blest far beyond all compare.

To help meet the demands of our growing work some changes in our plans seemed necessary. The means of transportation between Guatemala and Salvador have greatly improved during the past year, bringing the capitals of the two republics within a few hours of each other instead of days, as heretofore. A recommendation, therefore, was adopted, for consideration by the Division committee looking toward their union into one mission, thus releasing some help for aggressive evangelistic work. This plan seems to make possible the response to an earnest appeal from the Indians about lake Atitlan in the western part of Guatemala, that we open up work in their country. Definite plans to this end are now laid, and a call for a family to locate among them is going forward.

Brother Lorntz, superintendent of the Honduras mission, reports very encouragingly for his field. Revolutionary uprisings in that republic have materially retarded progress hitherto; but conditions now seem more stable. Interests among the Spanish speaking people of the interior, as well as along the north coast, are springing up, loudly calling for additional help. Arrangements were made at this committee meeting to answer these calls at least partially.

The English work in the Bay Islands and along the north coast of Honduras is taking on new life. Our training school in Jamaica is furnishing teachers for several church schools in Honduras. At La Ceiba is now a successful church school with an average attendance of 45 pupils.

For some time it has been apparent that the work in Mexico could not be properly developed from one central office. An attempt had been made to divide the field into separate missions; but because of the small appropriations

at our disposal, we have not hitherto been able to carry out this plan. Now, however, this plan will be put into operation with six separate organized missions. Four of these newly organized missions now have a well developed work established in each. They are separated by long distances, making the present organization a necessity. From the Sonora mission located in the north-western part of Mexico comes a very urgent appeal from the Yaqui Indians that we open work for them. The brethren laid plans to enter this open door as soon as the workers can be found.

Brother G. G. Brown, who for the past year has had charge of the Tehuantepec mission, told of 150 in the baptismal classes in that field, many of whom will soon be ready for this sacred rite. In that part of the field, amid great opposition from the poor people who ignorantly are held in spiritual bondage to their Catholic leaders, interests are springing up in various places much more rapidly than they can be cared for by the three lonely, but faithful, toilers there. Our colporteurs have done faithful work, and now we must not fail to care for the fruit that is ripening under the gentle showers of the latter rain. If the 1926 budget will permit, we hope to increase slightly this little, but courageous band by adding two or three native workers that are urgently needed.

More favorable conditions for the advancement of the message prevail throughout the union than have existed for a long time. Just now is the opportune time for an advance move all along the line. A strong effort is being made to place our literature in every home; and success is crowning the efforts of our colporteurs. Pray for the workers who are toiling amid hardships and dangers with which but few are familiar. Pray that at this favorable time additional help may be provided, and that upon many in these lands of spiritual darkness the Sun of Righteousness may arise with healing in His wings.

E. E. ANDROSS.

INTERIOR FOES

A few evenings ago I, with others, was enjoying a quiet hour on the beach. We were just outside the city of Panama at a spot where had been constructed a concrete wall about five hundred feet long and six feet high. The visible base of the wall began just a little above the line of high tide; and the side facing the sea, vertically was

a symmetrical compound curve. The wall probably was three feet thick and apparently strong enough to resist the force of the sea if it should reach that far. On a level with the top of the wall a recreation building had been erected upon the earth and sand, and the place has a name that means "Beautiful View."

At the present time about one third of the wall is broken down, due to a great storm that occurred some six or seven years ago, when the tide was so high and the violence of the water was so great, that it undermined one end of the wall; and this, having nothing to rest upon, collapsed, and now lies in a broken condition. The building site just back of the ends of the wall evidently was not supported or strengthened by any wall running back toward the land; and the high waves must have washed out the sands at the ends, and permitted the water to get at the base of the wall from the inside, thus leaving no support from the land. The ruin, therefore, was caused by an undermining of the base, or by the force of the water circling around to the inside, or both.

In meditating upon the matter for a few moments, there came to my mind the comparison the Saviour made between building upon a rock and upon the sand. The wall that I was contemplating seemed to be well made; but when it lost its support from the inside by the earth and sand being washed out, the force of the waves demolished it. The words,

"But of all the foes we meet,
None so apt to turn our feet,
None betray us into sin,
Like the foes we have within,"

expresses the truth as presented in the above illustration, whether they be foes within our own selves, or whether we be speaking in a more collective sense regarding the church. With reference to the latter, this is experienced to a mild degree in our own denomination; but emphatically so is it true of the great popular modern church. The live controversy between the modernist preachers and the fundamentalists must eventually either overthrow the churches where it exists, or result in separation on the part of those who will not be shaken from their foundation, which embraces the prominent fundamental principles of the Bible.

Continuing a little farther with the illustration of the broken wall, we might liken the failure to protect or strengthen the ends by making a square turn and extending it to the solid ground,

to an army in battle that does not protect its flanks. The flank is a vulnerable point unless supported; and often the first movement of the enemy is to obtain an advantage by attacking that position.

When religious teachers deny or even minimize the supernatural in patriarchal, prophetic or gospel eras, they are taking the part of interior foes in undermining the faith of church members; and because they have the confidence of these, their influence is all the more effective. It is not possible to save the structure from confusion and ruin, if the ends of the wall are unprotected by lack of complete faith in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A little over a year ago a well known newspaper published an extract from a sermon of the pastor of one of the most popular churches of New York City. That sermon seems to be about the extreme of a modernist preacher's idea of the world's Redeemer. The main part was as follows:—

"Jesus was more the artist than the moralist, for morality was the 'technique' of living safely and comfortably, while Jesus was one constantly in rebellion against the rubber stamp of society.

"He characterized Christ as a 'mad Jesus' who was more interested in the 'beautiful' than in the 'good.' He pointed out that the word 'good' really meant 'beautiful' in the Greek text, but that its meaning had become subverted in translations. Christ actually talked about 'beauty,' he said, and it was translated as 'good.' Christ did not care for the veracity of his statements. He did not care whether or not a thing was even possible. He was an artist and spoke as an artist. He spoke in parables, and sometimes the parables were impossible and even naughty."

"Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21) were the fundamental principles of Paul's teaching that won so many souls to the gospel; but there is nothing in modern preaching of the class just cited that will inculcate reverence for God and truth. The lines are being more clearly drawn now than ever between truth and fables, and the same utterances that undermine the faith of some will send sincere, truth loving souls out of Babylon to join those that will stand triumphantly redeemed.

C. E. KNIGHT.

"The young as well as those who are older, will be required to give a reason for their hope." *Vol. I, p. 125.*

WORKERS' ROUND TABLE
For Studying Our Mutual Problems

SABBATH KEEPING

1. What is the purpose of the Sabbath?

"The observance of the Sabbath is the means ordained by God of preserving a knowledge of Himself and of distinguishing between His loyal subjects and the transgressor of His law." *"Testimonies," Vol. 8, p. 198.*

"He gives it to man as a day in which he may rest from labor, and devote himself to worship and the improvement of his spiritual condition. What a flagrant outrage it is for man to steal the one sanctified day of Jehovah, and appropriate it to his own selfish purposes!" *"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 249.*

2. Why should we study carefully what is meant by Sabbath keeping?

"Not all our people are as particular as they should be in regard to Sabbath observance. May God help them to reform." *"Testimonies," Vol. 7, p. 123.*

"Far more sacredness is attached to the Sabbath than is given it by many professed Sabbath-keepers. The Lord has been greatly dishonored by those who have not kept the Sabbath according to the commandment, either in the letter or in the spirit. He calls for a reform in the observance of the Sabbath." *"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 352.*

"The worshippers of God will be especially distinguished by their regard for the fourth commandment, since this is the sign of God's creative power and the witness to His claim upon man's reverence and homage." *Testimonies," Vol. 9, p. 16.*

3. What is one danger of careless Sabbath keeping?

"You have so long excused yourself in your disobedience on one plea or another, that your conscience has been lulled to rest, and ceases to remind you of your errors. You have so long followed your own convenience in regard to keeping the Sabbath that your mind has been rendered unimpressible as to your course of disobedience; yet you are none the less responsible, for you have brought yourself into this condition." *"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 254.*

"Let our people beware of belittling the importance of the Sabbath." *"Testimonies," Vol. 7, p. 106.*

"I pray that my brethren may realize that the third angel's message means much to us, and that the observance of the true Sabbath is to be the sign that distinguishes those who serve God from those who serve Him not. Let those who have become sleepy and indifferent, awake. We are called to be holy, and we should carefully avoid giving the impression that it is of little consequence whether or not we retain the peculiar features of our faith." *"Testimonies," Vol. 9, p. 251.*

4. What will be the influence of wrong Sabbath keeping?

"A partial observance of the Sabbath law is not accepted by the Lord, and has a worse

effect upon the minds of sinners than if you made no profession of being a Sabbath-keeper. They perceive that your life contradicts your belief, and lose faith in Christianity. The Lord means what He says, and man cannot set aside His commands with impunity." *"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 248.*

5. How are many led to desecrate the Sabbath?

"Love of worldly gain leads to desecration of the Sabbath; yet the claims of that holy day are not abrogated or lessened. God's command is clear and unquestionable on this point; He has peremptorily forbidden us to labor upon the seventh day. He has set it apart as a day sanctified to Himself." *"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 147.*

"The sacred rest-day of Jehovah is not observed as it should be. Every week God is robbed by some infringement upon the borders of His holy time; and the hours that should be devoted to prayer and meditation are given to worldly employments." *"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 247.*

6. How should we greet the Sabbath?

"On Friday let the preparation for the Sabbath be completed. See that all the clothing is in readiness, and that all the cooking is done. Let the boots be blacked, and the baths be taken. It is possible to do this. If you make it a rule, you can do it. The Sabbath is not to be given to the repairing of garments, to the cooking of food, to pleasure-seeking, or to any other worldly employment. Before the setting of the sun, let all the secular work be laid aside, and all secular papers be put out of sight. Parents, explain your work and its purpose to your children, and let them share in your preparation to keep the Sabbath according to the commandment." *"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 355.*

"Before the Sabbath begins, the mind as well as the body should be withdrawn from worldly business. God has set His Sabbath at the end of the six working-days, that men may stop and consider what they have gained during the week in preparation for the pure kingdom which admits no transgressor. We should each Sabbath reckon with our souls to see whether the week that has ended has brought spiritual gain or loss." *"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 356.*

"There is another work that should receive attention on the preparation-day. On this day all differences between brethren, whether in the family or in the church, should be put away. Let all bitterness and wrath and malice be expelled from the soul. In a humble spirit, confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed." *"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 356.*

THE SABBATH

"How sweet upon this sacred day,
The best of all the sev'n,
To cast our earthly thoughts away,
And think of God and heav'n!

"How sweet the words of peace to hear,
From Him to whom 'tis giv'n
To wake the penitential tear,
And lead the way to heav'n!

"And if to make our sins depart,
In vain the will has striv'n,
He who regards the inmost heart
Will send His grace from heav'n."

—Mrs. Follen.

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

J. A. LELAND - - - - - *Superintendent*
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A MISSIONARY CAVE

The missionary activities in Jamaica still continues unabated. Last week I visited a church which has been holding open-air meetings in a district a few miles from their place of worship. About three weeks ago a rainstorm developed while they were in the midst of their service; and they were compelled to take refuge in a cave, where they continued their study. Finding that this cave was well ventilated and suitable for their meetings, they have continued to hold them there. Eight have already responded to the message. These Jamaican Christians are not compelled by persecution to worship in this underground cavern, as were the early Christians; but they meet there because it is a perfect shelter during the rainy season; and it is evident that the Lord is meeting with them, for the leader stated that he expects many to join the eight who have already taken their stand for the truth.

C. E. Wood.

The Antillian union committee has just closed a very profitable meeting at the union headquarters. A bookmen's convention was held there at about the same time. Workers who gathered from the various islands of this insular mission field to attend these meetings brought cheering reports of progress, and turned their faces homeward determined to render more and better service in the rapidly closing work.

AZTEC UNION MISSION

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WORDS OF CHEER FROM AZTEC

A letter just received from Brother C. P. Martin, superintendent of the Gulf Mission, contains the following: "Will spend a week at home in San Luis Potosi, following my return from the annual meeting in Mexico City; then I plan to spend some time in and about Tampico where we have seven companies of believers. The enemy is working hard to scatter the sheep. We

must study the truth with the new ones that are attending, and help those that are so much in need of assistance. It has been about a year since the company at Tuxpan has had any appreciable help.

"Sister Verduzco, a Bible worker located at Saltillo, a city with a population of 40,000, the capital of the state of Coahuila in the north, writes that she has twelve ready for baptism. These should be organized into a company. We must lose this worker from our field for the sake of the larger work demanding help in Mexico City. It is a bit perplexing to know how to arrange to care for the work in these larger cities that should have growing churches in them."

During the past year Brother G. G. Brown has carried a burden on his heart for Yucatan. While he has been fully occupied in looking after the interests of the work in the Tehuantepec mission his heart has been in the peninsula that has been so long passed by. As we separated, on the train from Mexico City to Vera Cruz and to the Isthmus, he expressed the hope that he would be ready to start within a fortnight on their trip to Yucatan.

Brother C. E. Overstreet and family are now located in Belize, British Honduras; and the report comes to us through the superintendent, Brother Lorntz, of very favorable prospects for the enlargement of our work in that field. Brother Cary, formerly of Belize, is now laboring for the English speaking people on the north coast of Spanish Honduras.

Brother I. D. Sanchez, who is of Mexican parentage but born and reared in Arizona, is now successfully laboring in the Tehuantepec mission. He was formerly a student in the Pacific Union College. It was most encouraging to see his heart all aflame with holy fervor. As he spoke at the Aztec union committee meeting of the wonderful openings for the truth in his field, it was apparent that his heart was wholly in the field where he was laboring, and that he carried a heavy burden to proclaim the message to that people in earnest words of warning. We need more such trained and consecrated native workers in our field.

"These are perilous times for the church of God, and the greatest danger now is that of self-deception." *Testimonies*, Vol. I, p. 214.

CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION

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BOOKMEN'S CONVENTION

As the blood cells travel toward the heart, they are joined by others until, as they reach the center or the heart, they form quite a stream. Before leaving the heart for the return voyage through the system, these cells change their complexion and take with them a fresh supply of life giving oxygen which is essential to the upbuilding of the body. This was the picture that came to me as our delegates from various parts of the Caribbean union traveled toward the bookmen's convention in the Canal Zone.

Seventeen days before the beginning of this convention, Elder Edmed, his daughter, and Brother Rickard started from the extreme northeast of the Caribbean union. At the same time Elder Babcock and Brother Hutchinson started from the southeastern part. These five met at Trinidad and were joined in the procession by Brethren Yip, Shakespeare, and myself. A day later the number was swelled by the addition of Elders Sutton, Borrowdale, and Brother Steeves at La Guaira.

Simultaneously with our movements, two other corpuscles had been traversing the arm, as it were, and two days previous to our arrival at headquarters, June 13, Elders Baxter and Trummer increased our number to thirteen delegates.

We had the best of weather and none on board were seasick.

As the blood cells return from the heart laden with fresh life-giving blessings, so we trust that each delegate will be a blessing to the extremities of the union as they return from their trip to headquarters. D. D. FITCH.

WEST CARIBBEAN TRAINING SCHOOL

Life with its results is illustrated over and over in the Bible as planting seed and reaping a harvest. This figure is equally applicable to our schools. Sowing is the order of the day every day, and the reaping invariably comes sooner or later.

Soft-stemmed annuals bring a harvest the same year, and soft-stemmed perennials usually bring a harvest each year for a period of years. Hard-stemmed perennials, however, require a longer

period to bring fruitage; a period lengthening in most cases into years.

Our carpentry department can yield a crop of desks or tables or chairs in a few weeks. A broom department can show many artistic bunches of brooms at the end of a week's effort. Our dress making department can show many finished dresses at the end of a full day's effort. Once a year for a period of weeks the farm department reaps the sugar crop. The season just closed shows a net result of approximately nine thousand pounds of sugar. This harvest was possible only because a liberal acreage of cane had been started two years previous.

Many of the students who enter the West Caribbean Training School come with not more than five or six grades finished. This means that before completing the twelve grades, five or six more years of work stretches out before them. The school is now four years old; and the management looks forward with satisfaction to 1926 in the firm belief that then the first group of eight or ten trained young people may be graduated, and sent forth into the needy fields of the Inter-American division.

The farm department needs not to wait even for months to harvest a crop, for the bananas are gathered once or twice a week the year 'round. With pineapples, alligator pears, mangoes, oranges, and many other kinds of fruit and vegetables, harvest time seems continuously to overtake the sowing time.

This is true also in the literary and spiritual work of the school. With the daily work of the classes, with the good Sabbath-schools, with the Missionary Volunteer society's meetings, there are apparent results daily.

A most gratifying result of the four years' work of the school has just recently appeared. This has been expected, planned for, and prayed for in the months of the recent past. This plant of slower, more stable, and more solid growth is the ministerial band. The fragrance of this fruitage has reached out into the neighborhood where meetings are being conducted weekly. Members of the band have responded also to calls from the Colon and the Panama churches. Although this band has been formally organized not more than four weeks, yet the interest and the increase in its membership stamp it as a live, potential factor in the future work of this field.

Knowing that many parents and friends of the school are interested in the welfare and success of its work,

may not those who are bearing the responsibility of teaching, guiding, and molding the youth here expect your daily prayer that God may have His way fully in the grave work of preparing laborers for the great fields yet so needy?
C. L. STONE.

COURAGE AND PERSEVERANCE

We have reached the hour in the history of this last warning message when conference workers, colporteurs and all other church members must possess courage and perseverance that will not be turned aside by the trials of the enemy. Many battles have been lost with the powers of darkness because man's courage has failed. The Lord cannot accomplish His work through hearts that become fearful. All along the great highway to the eternal city, the redeemed have had the privilege of reading on the great signboards, "BE OF GOOD COURAGE, FEAR NOT." May the Lord help us to possess the courage of Caleb and Joshua in the trying experiences we meet daily on our journey to the promised land.

One of our brethren in Venezuela, whose courage has not failed, felt impressed that God was calling him to the colporteur work; and although he had a wife and three children, he responded to the call with a determination to render faithful service to his Master. The test came to this colporteur as it does to many of God's workers; but we are thankful he had sufficient courage to endure. He had the trying experience of walking sixty miles in the heat of this tropical sun, to deliver a book; and, in addition, the Lord permitted the man, who ordered the book, to be away from home. This colporteur was so interested in His Master's service, that he waited two days for the man to return. His heart must have leaped for joy when he saw him coming in the distance; but the dark hour came when the man refused to pay the colporteur, because the book was Protestant.

"Did that colporteur still feel that he was called of God after passing through such a trying experience?" you ask. Yes, he had courage to press on, and was not turned aside by this trial, but made it a stepping-stone to a deeper and higher Christian experience. Returning to Caracas in December after having been away from his family over nine months, he remained at home three weeks. During this time he attended an institute for colporteurs; and then he bade his wife and three children good-bye to go away back into the

Andes, where Brother Lopez laid down his life for the sake of the colporteur work.

He plans to be away for a whole year on this trip. This is the kind of courage and perseverance it is going to take to finish this message. You will be interested to know that this faithful colporteur stood at the head of our colporteur band in the Caribbean union during the month of April, having sold \$519.40 worth of "Patriarchs and Prophets" to these Catholic people.

The following statement comes to us from the Spirit of Prophecy: "Christ did not fail, neither was He discouraged; and His followers are to manifest a faith of the same enduring nature. They are to live as He lived, and work as He worked, because they depend on Him as the great Master-worker. Courage, energy, and perseverance they must possess. Though apparent impossibilities obstruct their way, by His grace they are to go forward. Instead of deploring difficulties, they are called to surmount them. They are to despair of nothing, and to hope for everything. . . . They are to have power to resist evil, power that neither earth, nor death, nor hell can master, power that will enable them to overcome as Christ overcame." *Gospel Workers*, p. 39. C. B. SURRON.

WEST CARIBBEAN NOTES

Friday, April 24, I sailed from Panama for the Chiriquí District where Brother Ismael Ellis is working. It is at Concepción, in that district, that the one church there has the distinction of being a Seventh-day Adventist church. Even though many attempts have been made by the bishop and others to establish the Catholic church there, all efforts have failed so far.

Brother Ellis and the writer spent several days visiting around the country where an interest has been created. At several points in and around regular meetings in the Spanish language are held by Brother Ellis. Before leaving Concepción, we had the privilege of baptizing six more Spanish believers.

At David, too, a demand is made for meetings. Several persons are now ready to embrace the truth there. One young woman, who became acquainted with our work in Panama, is keeping the Sabbath; and we expect to see the other interested ones come along with her.

The people all around there are calling for schools. We need right now

for Chiriquí two consecrated Spanish speaking school teachers; one for La Concepción, and another for San Andres. At Concepción, a former student in a school taught by Brother Ellis is teaching all she can until a regular teacher is provided. One of our lay brethren has volunteered to open the work in San Andres until a teacher can be provided.

After returning from Chiriquí, I went to Costa Rica, where Elder Rashford and I visited the churches in Limón, Cahuita, Cairo, and San José.

The church at Cahuita was greatly encouraged. The brethren pledged themselves anew to the cause of truth; so we expect to hear good reports from Cahuita as in the days of old.

While in Limón, we held several meetings with the church there. At San José a new family of four has accepted the truth. Should they prove faithful, as we pray that they may, we will have good help for our Spanish propaganda. The daughter and son are fine young people, about 19 and 22 years of age respectively.

In Costa Rica, the Seventh-day Adventists have a good name. On hearing of our arrival at Cairo, a man who is not an Adventist came to see us about our school in the Canal Zone. After a little talk he said to me. "I want you to take my daughter to your school. She is all I have in the world." Later he came around and paid me almost enough money for a whole year's expenses, and wanted me to take her along right away. This was not possible, as she was not quite ready; but we expect her here within a week.

This last trip to Costa Rica is the best I have had since visiting that field. If other parts of the conference respond to the call of the Spirit of God as has Costa Rica during these days, we will have a refreshing through the whole conference. W. R. POHLE.

"Christianity has a much broader meaning than many have hitherto given it. It is not a creed. It is the word of Him who liveth and abideth forever. It is a living, animating principle, that takes possession of mind, heart, motives, and the entire man. Christianity—O that we might experience its operations." *Testimonies to Ministers*, pp. 422' 421

"Satan is enraged at the sound of earnest prayer, for he knows that he will suffer loss. Prayer is the great strength of the Christian and will assuredly prevail against Satan." *Vol. I.*

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BIG BOOKS IN ENGLAND

In some sections of our world field undue attention has been given to the smaller books by regular colporteurs. The results are decreased value of sales and a failure to pay one's way. The following from a letter just received from Brother C. E. Weak, secretary of the Publishing Department for Europe, points out the better way:

"In England the small books are largely to blame for the backward drop in hourly averages. I found strong young men, capable of big things, spending their time largely selling 'Bed Time Stories.' One of their finest men was spending his time on this and a few other books. His sales averaged \$32.96 per week for the year. He averaged 37 hours per week for the year, showing that he worked hard. We finally persuaded him to take 'Bible Readings'. For his first five weeks on this book he has averaged \$97.40 per week."

These small books are just the material our church members need for their work around home. Some specialists will group them in four or more in a package and sell them exclusively and do well. But the average colporteur will find the good old books to be the siege guns with which to batter down the defenses of the enemy. When we place a well bound copy of "Great Controversy" in the home we know that there is a witness that is always presentable and always convincing because of the fullness of its message. Let us not underestimate the ability of the people to buy these full-message books. Some cannot, it is true, but many can. Let us give them the opportunity. H. H. HALL.

A FAITHFUL COLPORTEUR'S HARVEST

Sometime ago I received a letter from one of our colporteurs, Brother J. T. Zephirin who is now in Colonges, France, in our school. I am sure that many will be interested to read about his success in Cuba as an evangelist colporteur. He tells his experience in the following words.

"I sailed from Port au Prince, Haiti, the 12th of November, 1920, for Santiago de Cuba. After arriving in Santiago I went on to Habana, hoping to find my brother who was living there. Knowing that there was a Seventh-day Adventist church somewhere in the city, I started out to look for it, but as I did not know any

Spanish at that time, I found it a little difficult to find the church. Finally I succeeded in finding the church and got the pastor to understand that I was an Adventist.

"As I found it very difficult to find any work, the pastor gave me some magazines to sell, but how was I going to sell them, not knowing any Spanish? Here was a problem to be solved. Well, the pastor gave me a little write-up about the paper, and this I was to show to the people. They would read it and look at the paper, and if they liked the magazine they would buy. But I soon found that no one wanted to buy papers after this fashion.

"Well, when I saw that it was impossible to sell papers this way, the Lord showed me another way. I now knew how to say a few words in the native language, and I would say, 'Sir, here is a very interesting magazine,' and show him some of the pictures. In this way, with the help of the Lord, I was able to sell a goodly number of papers.

"After working this way for five months I started in as a regular colporteur, selling the larger books. I continued in the work for three years and nine months, selling during this time over 9,500 large and small books and magazines, at a value of something like \$10,500.00 gold. Of the literature sold, 2,000 were 'Our Day'; 300 'Heralds' and 'Guide'; more than 800 little books like 'World's Hope' and 'Marked Bible'; and over 6,000 'El Centinela'; besides over 300 little books and papers which I gave away.

"My greatest delight is in knowing that more than ten people have accepted the truth, and are keeping the Sabbath, and of these, five have already been baptized. One of these is the wife of the pastor of the Habana church.

"My prayer shall ever be, that these souls will ever be faithful, and that they may be saved when the Saviour of the world returns to earth again."

G. D. RAFF.

THE CONVENTIONS IN HAVANA AND CRISTOBAL

Last month reference was made to the bookmen's convention held in Mexico City, where the publishing interests of the Aztec union were considered. The conventions for the other two union missions have been held since then, and a very brief report of these two conventions will be of interest to all the readers of this paper.

All the superintendents, field missionary, and tract society secretaries in the Antillian union joined in the meeting held in Havana, Cuba, beginning late in May. Brother H. H. Hall, of the General Conference Publishing Department, and Brother J. H. Cochran, from the main office of the Pacific Press, were in attendance and joined with Brother G. D. Raff, the union field missionary secretary, in directing the convention work. A profitable time was spent in studying the various phases of our literature ministry. Elder E. E. Andross came in from Mexico before the convention had progressed very far, and shared in the study and discussion of the various topics.

The Spanish, English, and French fields in the Antillian union have their portion of problems. Their difficulties are real and perplexing. Yet one could not help but be impressed with Brother Raff's chart, showing the value of literature that has been sold year by year in the Antillian union as a whole. There is a connection between the growing lines on the chart of literature distribution and the increasing membership of the fields constituting the union.

Though it is not possible in these few lines to tell of the work accomplished at the Antillian convention, I will not pass on to the third and final convention without first stating that I feel sure the time spent in planning for the future of the work of the publishing department in the Antillian union was time well spent, and that stronger work will be developed as a consequence.

All the delegates from the outlying portions of the Caribbean union—and that includes the superintendents and office and field men of the Colombia, Venezuela, Leeward Islands and Guiana missions and the South Caribbean conference—came to Cristobal by the same

boat, along with the union superintendent and the union field missionary secretary, Elder C. B. Sutton. These workers, those from the local conference, and the employees of the publishing house and a few other believers spent a little more than a week in studying a well-prepared outline of topics. The fact that all the delegates were able to be there beginning with the very first meeting contributed definitely to the success of this convention. Brother Sutton led out in the greater part of the meetings, with Brethren Hall and Cochran doing their part to assist.

The greatest freedom prevailed in this as in the other two conventions. The problems in each field were studied and we believe God helped us to formulate plans for better, more effective work in the future. Through various means our readers will learn of the actions of the conventions in their respective unions; and we feel sure that our brethren generally will be glad to cooperate with the workers in their efforts to bring the work up to the standards set at these meetings, and that they will pray God to give success to the men and women who bear the burdens of this branch of the work of God.

SALES REPORT BY UNIONS, JUNE, 1925

CENTRAL AMERICAN BRANCH, PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSN.

Antillian Union	1,972.50	179.10	....	18.05	2,169.65
Aztec Union	8,617.25	127.35	....	....	8,744.60
Caribbean Union	3,422.65	143.05	5.40	6.85	3,577.95
<i>Inter-America</i>	14,012.40	449.50	5.40	24.90	14,492.20
<i>Total, June, 1925</i>	14,012.40	449.50	5.40	24.90	14,492.20
<i>Total, June, 1924</i>	6,843.35	389.65	21.05	36.50	7,290.55
<i>Increases</i>	7,170.25	59.85	15.65	11.20	7,203.25
			(Decrease)	(Decrease)	

SALES REPORT, JANUARY TO JUNE, 1925

Bahamas	207.25	194.80	13.10	2.50	417.65
Cuba	9,000.25	352.55	6.25	83.65	9,442.70
Dominicana	630.00	73.80	....	41.00	744.80
Haiti	15.40	118.45	....	....	133.85
Jamaica	929.50	603.80	71.70	14.25	1,619.25
Porto Rico	1,003.00	233.25	.90	31.10	1,268.25
<i>Antillian Union</i>	11,785.40	1,576.65	91.95	172.50	13,626.50
Guatemala	3,231.50	90.70	....	68.50	3,390.70
Honduras	3,704.00	340.80	68.70	22.00	4,135.50
Mexico	16,038.75	454.90	1.10	103.55	16,598.30
Salvador	1,255.00	76.35	....	10.90	1,342.25
<i>Aztec Union</i>	24,229.25	962.75	69.80	204.95	25,466.75
Colombia	6.00	44.50	12.75	18.90	82.15
Guiana	....	33.45	....	....	33.45
Leeward Islands	1,478.00	333.35	....	12.05	1,823.40
South Caribbean	5,763.50	213.70	31.75	14.75	6,026.90
Venezuela	5,224.05	47.35	7.00	....	5,278.40
West Caribbean	4,262.90	740.85	400.40	45.25	5,449.40
<i>Caribbean Union</i>	16,734.45	1,413.20	455.10	90.95	18,693.70
INTER-AMERICA	52,749.10	3,952.60	616.85	468.40	57,786.95
P. P. Branches	1,281.90	1.00	....	4.60	1,287.50
Other S. D. A. Houses	4.40	.50	....	....	4.90
Miscellaneous	....	10.00	2.95	.25	13.20
<i>Total Misc.</i>	1,286.30	11.50	2.95	4.85	1,305.60
GRAND TOTAL	54,035.40	3,964.10	619.80	473.25	59,092.55
Jan. to June 1924	33,681.35	3,476.70	495.70	239.10	37,892.85
<i>Increases</i>	20,354.05	487.40	124.10	234.15	21,199.70

With new help recently added to the working force of the publishing house, we expect very soon to be able to mail out *EL CENTINELA* on time. The August issue, the Harvest Ingathering Special, will be ready for the mails about July 15. The September number, God willing, will be ready to mail the first few days in August, to reach the fields by September 1 or sooner. Subsequent issues will follow a similar schedule.

"EL CENTINELA" CIRCULATION
JUNE 1925

Cuba	3,523	
Dominicana	400	
Porto Rico	516	
<i>Antillian Union</i>	4,439	
Guatemala	201	
Honduras	164	
Mexico	2,383	
Salvador	226	
<i>Aztec Union</i>	2,974	
Colombia	232	
Venezuela	537	
West Caribbean	296	
<i>Caribbean Union</i>	1,065	
INTER-AMERICA	8,478	
Arizona	56	
California	21	
Central Calif.	28	
Florida	25	
Northern Calif.	17	
Southern Calif.	193	
Southeast Calif.	54	
South Texas	194	
North Texas	53	
Misc. States	30	
<i>United States</i>	671	
Philippines	30	
Misc. Foreign	33	
<i>Total Outside Inter-America</i>	734	
TOTAL, June, 1925	9,212	
<i>Circulation, May, 1925</i>	<i>9,126</i>	
<i>Circulation, June, 1924</i>	<i>13,058</i>	

GOOD NEWS FROM AFRICA

Things are breaking here in Satan's kingdom of darkness, as in all the world. Old Africa is astir. I am not saying it as merely a good thing to say. It is a fact. This division has doubled its membership in four years. There is a new move on for evangelism in the European sections. Good fruitage is being seen. And new areas are opening among the tribes and tongues to the northward. Word just comes down from Nyasaland that Elder Ellingworth on a four weeks' tour along the outposts with two groups of native evangelists saw 431 new souls give their hearts to God.

Speaking of calls from chiefs in the Congo, Elder Branson said the other day at the Johannesburg meeting: "Places where a few years ago we would have thought it impossible to enter for years are already being entered. A chief in the Congo, formerly uninterested, is calling for a school in every village. This old Ethiopia that has been in darkness for millenniums is arousing and literally stretching out its hands unto God."

Do you know, brethren, this field has over ten thousand students in our schools. Its Sabbath schools have over 14,000 members. When I contrast the situation now with what I saw here ten years ago, I am astonished to see how God is setting His hand to the work in Africa.

Tell the believers what God has wrought through their gifts, and let them know how on every mission station eyes are turned toward the old home churches with prayer to God to help them to send on the means and the missionaries in increasing stream. These missionaries are ready to pay the price. They are fighting hard against a special Africa-wide rage of malaria this year. The other day I met Brother Davey, of Western Canada. He had just buried his wife and come down from Nyasaland with three little children. He pleads to be allowed to go back to the same old station as soon as he can place the little ones at the Cape, and go on with the work of shepherding those children of the wilds who are coming into the light.

From our first day in Africa, this visit, Brother Mace and I have heard the note of courage and advance sounded by these workers. Stand by them and know that they are praying for you and for the believers who hold the ropes. —W. A. Spicer.

THE HEAVIEST GRADE

"When we come to Priest canon, you may all have to walk up," said the man at the wheel. That was the steepest part of the road to the top of the Royal Gorge in Colorado; and some of us, who remembered well that very heavy grade, did not wonder at the driver's remarks.

Often as I have thought of the power it took to reach the top of that steep road, have I found my mind racing on to other grades that we come to in our yearly travels in the work that we have been called to do. And sometimes it seems to me that the last six months might well be likened to Priest canon.

In many ways the last half of the year is the heaviest grade in the annual climb. And the slower we have traveled through the first half, the more mistakes we have made, the fewer opportunities we have seized for self-improvement and for service, the steeper is the climb of the remaining six months.

Nor is this all. Satan is desperately in earnest about keeping us from climbing the annual hill according to our good plans. He tries to discourage us. "It is too bad that you cannot carry out the fine plan you laid for this year," he whispers, "but then you have gotten so far behind that you cannot hope to reach your goal. Its no use to try longer.

Better just forget about your good resolutions for a while. Lay them aside till another new year comes. In the mean time you can think about why it is that you have failed. You will find the solution; and then there will be no reason why you should not succeed next year. But I just wouldn't try any more this year."

Did he ever come to you in this sympathetic way? Well, there is the battlefield where many a would-be hero has fallen. There Satan has won many of his great victories. He never attacks our good resolution and intentions. He is too wise for that. In fact some one has said that "the road to hell is paved with good intentions."

Satan does not object to our planning to be faithful, in prayer and Bible study, in our Sabbath school, Missionary Volunteer, and other church duties, or in our home relationships, so long as he can keep us excusing ourselves as he sees us keep on putting off the missionary work we have been planning to do.

And now, friends, we have reached the heaviest grade in the year. But there is a way to climb it. There is a way to climb it with Jesus. He will lead us upward to quiet places for prayer and Bible study and then out to help others. Helping the poor, cheering the lonely, passing out the soul winning page, and blessing those around us in a hundred others ways—just as we planned to do this year—that is the way to climb the grade. We need not let Satan discourage us, for this is the Master's work; and He has placed all power at our disposal.

It cannot be done in one short day, But in all the short days along the way— Not in climbing and then standing still, But in climbing and climbing each day up the hill.

So, the heaviest grade in our annual hill, We all may climb if we only will!

LAYING UP TREASURE

The colporteur smiles as he bids goodbye
To the home group with the tearful eyes;
He hides the aches in his heart, and goes
To meet the world the worker knows,—

A world at best that is hard to meet,
On the country road or the city street;
A world that frowns at the men who roam
And makes them long for the folks at home.

But some glad day in the home on high,
We'll all forget how to say goodbye,
No more sad partings our joy will mar;
We'll be at home where the angels are.

The colporteur then will his mansion build,
Enjoy the land that his hands have tilled;
And live for aye with his loved ones dear,—
The "home, sweet home" of the worker here.
—Robert B. Thurber.

WITH THE DIVISION OFFICE

In a letter written June 2, Sister M. A. Altman says: "We have now been in the States almost six weeks; and I am thankful to be able to tell you that our coming has not been in vain. After the first week or so, Mr. Altman began to improve; and at the present time he is having no fever and his cough is also leaving him. He has a good appetite, and has gained a few pounds in weight. . . . The Lord has been very good to us and we wish to serve Him faithfully as long as we are spared."

Brother F. L. Harrison, recently appointed secretary-treasurer of the Inter-American Division, began his work in this field by attending

the meetings of the Aztec and Antillian union committees; and at the same time he audited the books in each of these union offices. He entered heartily into the study of the problems of the publishing as well as of the general work in the unions. The trip from Mexico City to Havana, Cuba, in company with Pastor Andross, proved to be his introduction to sea travel. The waters of the Gulf of Mexico were on their best behavior; and as they were also favored with good accommodation on a large French transatlantic liner, the trip was very delightful. We hope that subsequent experiences may not dampen the ardor of his first love for the beautiful and sometimes placid seas of the tropics.

Brother and Sister F. A. Brower spent a short time in Balboa, June 15th, on their way to Colombia, where Brother Brower will have charge of the book work and Sister Brower will take up school work. They are attending the bookmen's convention in Cristobal, Canal Zone, before going on to Colombia.

Brother H. H. Hall, from Washington, D. C., representing the publishing department of the General Conference, and Brother J. H. Cochran from the Pacific Press in Mountain View, California, are in the Zone attending the bookmen's convention. The workers in the division greatly appreciate the help of these faithful leaders who have had many years of experience in our publishing work.

Delegates from all parts of the Caribbean union have arrived in Cristobal to attend the bookmen's convention and the meeting of the Caribbean union committee. Pastors W. E. Baxter and C. B. Sutton from the union office, Pastor E. M. Trummer from Colombia, Pastor D. C. Babcock and Brother Fred Hutchinson of Guiana, Pastor H. J. Edmed and his daughter, Ethel, and Brother G. Rickard, of the Leeward Islands, Pastor D. D. Fitch, and Brethren Benjamin Yip and Paul Shakespeare, of the South Caribbean, and Pastor L. J. Borrowdale and Brother Fred Steeves of Venezuela, are the workers who have come across the sea to join with their fellow workers here in studying the problems that await solution in the finishing of the work in the Caribbean union.

On July 2 the Inter-American Division committee convened in their annual meeting in Balboa. Pastors J. L. Shaw, treasurer of the General Conference, J. A. Leland, D. A. Parsons, arrived the 2nd. Pastors W. E. Baxter, H. H. Edmed, superintendent of the Leeward Islands mission, his daughter, Ethel, who is secretary-treasurer of the same, and Pastor E. M. Trummer, superintendent of Colombia, had already come. On Sunday we were privileged to add to our circle Brethren H. H. Hall, J. H. Cochran, C. L. Stone, of the training school in the Zone, and W. R. Pohle, president of the conference in which the division office is located. Sister C. L. Stone, and daughter, Margaret, and Sister W. R. Pohle, were among the visitors at the office during the meeting. The division family greatly enjoyed this happy reunion of busy workers from near and far.

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