

THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

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No. 1

Our Time and Its Demands Upon Us

E. E. ANDROSS

AS SUMMER follows winter, as day succeeds night, so certainly is time bearing us on to eternity. "As it is appointed unto men once to die, but after that the judgment," so with the unerring certainty of the visit of the "last enemy"—death—the decisive hour when the eternal destiny of every soul will be irrevocably fixed is silently, imperceptibly approaching. With the suddenness of the lightning flash that brings destruction and death will be the coming of the Son of God to the unprepared. It will fill every soul with consternation and paralyze every heart with nameless terror.

"When they shall say peace and safety then sudden destruction cometh upon them. . . and they shall not escape." As the wild beast noiselessly steals upon its prey; as the thief at midnight with muffled tread approaches his victim; so will this great decisive day break upon the ungodly. "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief."

As we draw near the great day of God those who love the appearing of their Lord will grow more and more watchful. As faithful sentinels they will correctly interpret the true significance of the rapidly fulfilling signs of the times, and their zeal for the truth of God will grow in proportion to their ever-deepening love for their crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour.

The year 1926—now in the past—has been marked by a succession of events that are fraught with deep meaning to the student of prophecy. Bold robberies; frequent murders, terribly destructive storms on land and sea, increasing perplexity among the nations, all tell us that probation's hour is fast closing, and that the end is near.

"One of the most momentous decades in the history of the world, we are reminded, has ended. It has witnessed tremendous changes in every field of human endeavor, and contains the seeds of still more radical evolution. Perhaps no organization has been more widely and more deeply affected by the fever of change and movement than the Christian church. It has entered upon new paths, become involved in every great issue, whether national or world-embracing. It has sat in the seats of empires and advised parliaments; it has formed world-parliaments of its own. . . . It has stepped into affairs that were considered as belonging to the State alone, and actively participated in legislation."

Perhaps more deeply significant or truer words could not have been written than those quoted above which appeared in the *Literary Digest* of January 30, 1926. All too truly they tell us of the sad change that has come over the professed churches of Christ during the ten years that closed with the passing of 1925.

Because of our knowledge of the teaching of the prophetic scriptures we have long looked forward to the time when there would be a serious departure from the fundamental principle of religious liberty so clearly taught in the Word of God, and so thoroughly inwrought into the Constitution of the United States. Yes, we have looked forward to the time when this great and glorious truth which was such a powerful factor in the Protestant struggle to free the world from the spiritual despotism of Papal Rome during the Reformation, would be abandoned and there would be erected in the United States another spiritual despotism—an image to the Papal beast of Revelation 13.

Unquestionably we are now witnessing the beginning of the fulfilment of this prophecy. The leading Protestant churches of America have united their forces in an effort to secure the enactment of a law enforcing the observance of the Sunday institution—a child of the Papacy, the mark of her authority, the sign of her power—upon the people. They are now boldly and authoritatively demanding that such a law be enacted by the United States Congress.

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

Josefina 56, Havana, Cuba

J. A. LELAND - - - - - Superintendent
N. L. TAYLOR - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

OUR SCHOLARSHIP EARNERS.

For the second time since the reopening of the Aibonito Training School we have had the pleasure of seeing some of our students make good in earning scholarships by the sale of our literature.

Five girls have returned to school this year with funds earned from their sales in the colporteur work. Four of them have had good success in that they were able to keep their funds intact for scholarships. They have had no help excepting the instruction given them by the field man. But all the workers and friends have prayed for them and encouraged them.

During their vacation they sold 858 "Por Sendas," 606 thirty-cent books, 2,354 single copies of the *Centimela*, took 165 subscriptions to the same magazine, sold two copies of "Practical Guide," three of "Christ Our Saviour," and many tracts besides. The total of their work amounts to 5,622 books and periodicals of 276,241 pages, the value of which is \$1,012.50. It required 1,711 hours for them to do the work. The capital city, as well as many other of the larger cities and towns in the island, were visited.

Last year in Porto Rico four girls went to school on scholarships earned this way. One earned one-half and another a part. These girls have done good work at the school, and their experience in the work has made them very energetic and ready for any task. One of the girls was trained in the work by her companion, and another has taught another young lady who is now working to earn money for the coming term.

We can say, too, that these girls have been faithful in tithing, and in the giving of offerings. They took part in the Big Week and the Week of Sacrifice. They have paid their accounts faithfully at the office. Already they are talking about going out next year, and are making territory reservations.

LEO ODOM.

AFTER THE HURRICANES

Last summer three severe hurricanes brought death and ruin to our islands, and reversed the financial standing of our mission. Instead of having a small surplus we now have a deficit.

Aside from the loss of property, however, only two of our people lost their lives. Many churches were destroyed in these storms, but only one of our church buildings went down.

Nearly all boats have been lost by sinking or being dashed to pieces on the shores of our numerous islands. And scarcity of boats makes travel, which is always difficult, much more trying. Small boats, mostly sloops, are the only means of travel, and they are overloaded in nearly every instance.

Recently I returned from a three weeks' trip to Long Island. Twelve days of this time was spent on the water. The voyage was made on a small sloop where the open deck with scarcely

and only five meetings had been held in it before the storm. So with what they had done for the church and with their individual losses, their pockets are empty and their families are destitute. They are not discouraged, however; and if the material is supplied them they will soon have the church in shape again.

I saw families living under pieces of roof—in some cases pieces of board; mats laid upon pieces of wall are the only shelter from sun and rain that many have; and I am told that many are living in holes in the ground.

That in brief is a picture of some parts of the Bahamas. But our courage is good and amid it all we see much fruit to be gathered. We do not ask to be returned home but are glad we can share in the sacrifices that must be made to save souls in this land of spiritual darkness.

W. E. BIDWELL.

"OVER THE TOP":

Over the top—to another year,
Over the top to no man's land;
All the future belongs to God,
All our times are in His hand.

Over the top—to we know not what!
Over the top, the world in ferment
Plunges anew on its mad career,
The nations all on destruction bent.

Over the top,—there's work to do;
Over the top with high desire
To do, or die, for our fellow men,
Our hearts aglow with living fire.

Over the top—to work for God,
Over the top with a message to bear;
Men are dying who might be saved,
If we but gave them a chance to hear.

Over the top—to a better life,
Over the top to seek the Lord,
Fully surrendering our wills to Him,
Fully conforming our lives to His word.

Over the top—God help us now!
Over the top to conquer sin;
Greatest of battles we have to fight,
Greatest of victories we must win.
—C. P. Bollman.

room to lie down, was the only place to eat and sleep. We had much bad weather. Frequently the waves broke over us and it rained nearly every day. Much of the time my clothes, including my blankets, were wet. The food for the most part was rice and grits cooked with fish, salt beef, or pork; but the cook kindly left the pork out of my portion.

We have baptized ten this year and others are ready for baptism.

It was the church built by Brother G. W. Lawrence that was lost in the last hurricane. But we are hoping to get enough help to rebuild it as only a small sum is needed to put it in shape once more. The believers there put all their money into the building,

ORGANIZING A SABBATH SCHOOL
IN INTERIOR JAMAICA

Early one morning Brother William Thompson from Port Antonio and I drove to the Rio Grande River which is as far as we can go by car. From there I went horseback. I forded the sulky and treacherous Grande on my way to Tuscany, the cozy, pleasant district nestled in the bosom of the hills of the lofty Blue Mountain Peak.

"See yonder hill," exclaimed a brother,—for by this time we were joined by some other brethren who had come down to attend our harvest festival services at Port Antonio. "That red spot in the distance," he continued, "is the meeting house." This is the latest asset to our building program. How easy of access if only we were equipped with one of the winged conquerors of the air; but no, I must content to travel on, depending on poor four-footed "Mike" on which I was mounted.

On we journeyed until we came to another stream. It dealt kindly with us that morning, for it seemed very calm, though very easily ruffled; and at such time they are very hard foes to encounter. We forded the stream; then off we went until we reached another. When I gazed upon the rocky bed stretched out before us I was tempted to exclaim, "Woe is me, if ever I am caught in one of your angry moods." Other streams, bringing similar experiences were crossed. Then began the actual climb of the mountain. This was now only a mountain trail. Up we climbed round and round, hugging the mountain-side. Occasionally we had to dismount and take to 'safety-first'—the trusty

shanks. Steep and rough was the trail before us. Through the bushes, down into some glades and up again we traveled, now and then by the edge of the deep ravines with only an eleven inch path; but the servants of God are cognizant of the divine presence to protect, for "He shall give His angels charge."

At last we reached our destination. On the mountainside here and there, hidden around bends and wooded corners, are the tiny thatch dwellings of these mountain dwellers. The little meeting house was next discovered.

I was tired and very hungry, for being anxious to get an early start, I had omitted my morning meal. After satisfying the appeals of an empty stomach, I was now ready to become acquainted with my new found friends.

When I returned to the meeting house I found a number of people in it; and soon it was packed with interested listeners, some of whom had to remain outside. Our meeting continued for five hours. As I looked into the eager and appreciative faces of those simple, neglected people, and saw how they were drinking in the precious truth of our dear Saviour's soon return, I felt more grateful than ever for our wonderful message.

After an interesting Bible study I organized a Sabbath school. When the call was made for those who desired to join the Sabbath school to give their

names, the responses were quick and many, and soon the list totaled 52. I was also privileged to leave a class of twenty candidates for baptism, and received application from three couples for marriage.

With the threatening shades of evening lengthening and knowing the journey back, I soon bade good-bye to my new friends; and without waiting for my horse I started down the mountain side afoot. Down, down I skipped until I was overtaken by the horse. I gladly mounted at the foot of the ascent, but with the horse's head turned downward and the threatening motion underneath the saddle, I felt it more prudent and safe to resort again to my poor "shanks." By this time my knees had begun to transmit danger signals. But by riding some and walking a little I finally reached the place where I had left my car. I was stiff and aching, but filled with joy for the day's experience, which I hope to repeat again before long.

How did the message find this far away corner? When the laymen's movement was started in connection with the Port Antonio church, a brother who possessed no education and could not even sign his name, but whose heart is filled with zeal for this message, was given a portion of these mountainous districts to work. He purchased tracts himself and visited all the homes in a district, leaving a tract in each, then he

would return and talk with them of the things they had read.

This brother, William Thompson, heard of these people living away in the mountains and decided to visit them. Accompanied by Brother Rogers, he started out one Sunday last year and after experiencing the difficulties of the way, he at last found the district. He was not greeted with the welcome I met on the occasion of my visit. But he was not discouraged. He kept going until I was privileged to baptize seven at Port Antonio, and these faithful ones would come over those hard mountain trails on Sabbath to church and return.

My description of the journey but faintly describes the real difficulties in going in and coming out of Tuscany. When it rains there the narrow trail in some places is converted into a slough of mud. The rivers are raging torrents. Sometimes Brother Thompson would be almost washed away; then after divesting himself of some of his clothes, he would wade through the mud to his waist; but still this one-talent layman kept his fire of missionary zeal burning.

Another believer, Brother Ewers, joined him. I advised that a meeting house be erected so that the believers could worship there and not have to come to Port Antonio. There were by this time old folk and children, many of whom were keeping the Sabbath. This brother Ewers, on one occasion while going by muleback to visit this



The students enrolled in the West Caribbean Training School during 1925-1926 numbered more than one hundred fifty.

district, had to tie the mule's tail to the saddle to keep it out of the mud, but in spite of his precaution he emerged plastered from his hat down.

Would that God's people were fired with the true missionary spirit and would endure hardship as good soldiers of Jesus Christ!

We have more calls than we can answer for some one to come and give the message to the people of these mountainous districts. We are also greatly handicapped in our work through lack of church buildings or suitable places of worship. In many places where we have believers they have been meeting in thatched huts for years. We need to erect suitable places of worship. Will it pay to have these? Yes, a hundredfold.

W. FLETCHER.

CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION

General Delivery, Willemstad, Curacao, D. W. I.

W. E. BAXTER Superintendent
A. P. CHRISTIANSEN Secy.-Treas.

BEGINNING ANOTHER YEAR

On November 10 the West Caribbean Training School opened its doors again for the year. Since many students go forth at vacation time to earn for future school expenses, a large per cent do not return for the opening. Those who are in the colporteur work must set the delivery at a time of the month when money is most plentiful. Those at a distance are compelled to return when boats are available. Therefore, the opening day usually is only a beginning enrolment that grows quite rapidly for two or three weeks. At the present time, one month after the opening, the chapel seats are approaching their capacity and students are entering frequently.

In general, the student body for the present year is composed of earnest, industrious young people. Each one wants to progress in the school course as rapidly as possible. In many cases very decided advice is necessary to prevent students from attempting too much.

The school management is very pleased to have, in the person of Professor Glen Ray, an experienced, efficient head for the Spanish Department. With his assistants he is working out a well organized program. Progress is being made by the Spanish students both in their own tongue and in learning English. The school requires two years of Spanish for all the English graduates. A class is conducted also in conversational Spanish.

A spirit of good fellowship prevails in the school and the testimonies of the students in their Friday evening services indicate personal activity in and through devotion to the cause of God.

C. L. STONE.

ATLANTIC-COLOMBIA NOTES

It was a great pleasure to have Pastors Andross, Wood, Green, and Brother Harrison visit our office November 29 while their boat was in Puerto Colombia. Their presence and counsel was greatly appreciated. Brother Green remained in the field for a short time to assist some who are entering the colporteur work, and has been of great help to them. We are thankful that the division consented to this arrangement, as we have no field missionary secretary.

Brother Carl Christianson arrived in Colombia December 6 to take up the book work in the Antioqueña Mission. We were sorry he could not remain with us, but we rejoice that Pastor Trummer can have an able and experienced man to assist him in his needy field.

Brother Antonio Redondo and his daughter Carmen are planning to spend most of December in Cartagena in Harvest Ingathering work and renewing subscriptions to *El Centinela*.

Brother Castro reports that another family in Fundación has come into the truth.

In Barranquilla two of our sisters go out every Sunday with *Centinela* magazines and usually sell about twenty-five copies each, besides some small books. What these sisters are doing many others can do if they are directed in the work.

Brother Jorge Escandon, our sixteen-year-old agent in Barranquilla, is renewing many subscriptions which expire in December. One man told him he had been a subscriber for several years, and paid him for four years in advance. The people appreciate the *Centinela*.

From over in San Juan de Cesar, that fanatical town where some of our brethren nearly lost their lives, Brother Urbina writes:

"Dear Brother:

"We are keeping on faithful to the Lord, and hope that He will always give us His divine grace to confess Him before men. There are many around here who tell us without prejudice that we have the truth. We believe that the Lord has many souls still in these parts."

One of the chief persecutors of our brethren recently died, so we are hoping

that conditions may change somewhat.
E. W. THURBER.

HOME PHYSICIAN BREAKS DOWN PREJUDICE

By divine guidance, Dionicio, a young man of Costa Rica, met Brother Holder at our mission in San Jose. There he began to learn the truth of God, and when the students of the West Caribbean Training School matriculated in January 1926 he was among them. Later in the school year he was among the students who went forward in baptism and at the end of the school year he went out in the field as a colporteur. Being naturally quiet and slow to express himself, he found that after three or four weeks he had not sold any books and was somewhat discouraged. However, he continued to hold to God's promise until victory came.

When the time came for the delivery of his books in one place, Dionicio was hard at work in another village, therefore I took the books on a boat and headed for the place of delivery. The boatman asked if I was also a book-seller, and added that Dionicio had preached to him from the Bible the full time he was on the boat, and that now he also wanted one of those books so he could learn more.

Later Dionicio went southward with me along the Atlantic coast from Colon to Nombre de Dios. Here, among the many who bought a "Home Physician," was one who had been very prejudiced against our message. One of our isolated believers, Brother Rowe, who lives near him had failed in seeing any response to his efforts of missionary work. But after this man began to read his "Home Physician," he came to our brother living near him and asked if he still had some Bibles to sell, and explained that a doctor book he bought referred to the Bible frequently and he wished to purchase one. In short, the man's heart is softened, and now our brother is giving him Bible studies.

From this village Dionicio went on down the coast for forty miles, carrying books with him and selling in each village as he went. Nor was it an easy task for him; the trail led over narrow passes where horses could not travel so he was compelled to go on foot all the way there and back.

Now he is rejoicing that \$481 worth of books are being read in those Spanish homes where our colporteurs have never before gone. When our Leader orders a march we may not feel able to go, and for us it is impossible, but

as we begin in faith holding on to the power given us, the victory is sure.
A. V. LARSON.

FOUND HIS MONEY

A brother in the West Caribbean Conference left his field on a Sunday afternoon. Arriving at home, he found that the three dollars which he had tied in a cloth and put in his pocket was lost. He asked God not to allow him to lose it. "Part of it is yours, Lord," he explained; for he had not yet tithed the money. Monday morning he returned to the field and made a thorough search, but no money was found. Tuesday the search was renewed, but to no avail. Wednesday morning, however, his efforts were crowned with success, when, about noon his dog brought him the piece of cloth containing the money.

So Jesus does care and does help in the affairs of every day life. "O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer."
E. FREDERICKSON.

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION

Box 66, Port of Spain, Trinidad
M. A. HOLLISTER - - - - - Superintendent

HARVEST INGATHERING

I must tell you some of my experiences in Trinidad where I engaged in the Harvest Ingathering campaign. The Lord prepared the hearts of the people to give liberally to His cause. We visited the business men in the city and in the country. Among these were Chinese, Indians, Portuguese, and other foreigners. When the work is explained to them they give liberally.

As we traveled in the various places the people cried hard times. But there are no hard times with the Lord, and when He impresses them to give, their pocket books will be emptied. Two men gave all they had in their cash drawers. One man who had already given two dollars to one of our church members, and promised something to another, gave us ten dollars and remarked that he didn't give because of our faces, but because it was God's work. He was an Indian.

The total collections are as follows:

Chinese	\$734.00
Indians	137.00
Portuguese	130.00
Others	824.00
Total	\$1,825.00

One person gave \$75.00; seven gave \$25.00 each; twenty-eight \$10.00; one

hundred and thirty-four \$5.00; sixty-eight \$3.00; ninety-seven \$2.00; two hundred \$1.00.

Two days after returning to St. Kitts from Trinidad, I visited the business men in this little town. Comparing it with Port of Spain, it is like a drop in the ocean, yet the Lord helped me to collect in nine hours \$70.00 in cash, and \$17.00 in promises. Four persons gave ten dollars, four others gave five dollars, and the rest in smaller amounts. I will soon be visiting the estate men around the island.

I feel very grateful to the Lord for what He has done. It brings joy to my heart to see funds roll in for the work, but above all let us pray that many souls may be led to Christ as a result of this campaign. The Lord is fulfilling His promises to His people. Bear us up before the throne of grace continually.
GEORGE RICKARD.

A BUSY DECEMBER

As I write, two new book cases are being made in the conference office. In these we expect to instal about seven or eight hundred volumes which I brought from the States on my return from the General Conference. These are a part of more than a ton of literature which I was able to secure. We have also been making improvements in the environments of the office and the church. We are getting our Book and Bible House sign repainted in harmony with the recent recommendation.

Professor Boyd is making excursions into the country for detailed investigation of certain sites that he has in mind for the industrial school.

We are also getting busy for the general meeting. I believe that our general brethren are going to be greatly pleased when they see the enthusiasm that Brother Yip and Sister Fitch have manifested in the preparation of graphs and outlines and devices for the conference session. While we are working diligently also to be prepared from a physical standpoint for the conference session, we have not forgotten the most vital detail—that of soul preparation for this feast of good things.

D. D. FITCH.

MEXICAN UNION MISSION

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OLD MEXICO

A panoramic view of the ever-changing events in the national life of Old Mexico is intensely interesting. For a hundred years the struggle between national leaders and Rome has been in progress. The former have sought to release the government from the death-like grip of the latter. At times success seemed to crown their efforts, but too often the apathy of the masses, steeped in the doctrines of Catholicism, and stupefied by the influence of the clergy, turned apparent victory into defeat; or, to say the least, the noble effort to separate church from state has been arrested.

One year ago the smoldering embers of this spirit of restlessness again broke forth into flame. Hundreds of churches were closed and hundreds of foreign priests and nuns were sent back to their native land. It was made a crime for any minister of the gospel to interfere with national affairs, and all religious schools were closed. Laws were formed forbidding the holding of any divine services in any building or place except those buildings set forth by the government as places authorized for worship. The Mexican government has decided, once for all, to settle this hundred year old argument with the church, and to bar Rome from interfering again in political affairs. May Mexico succeed in rendering unto Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and unto God the things that pertain to God, is our prayer.

But what has been the effect on our work? Millions in Mexico are stretching forth their hands eagerly for better conditions, and for better life. And that is what we are here to help them find. Therefore whatever be the early influence of this struggle upon our efforts to help the people to a better life is only temporary. The immediate effect of any conflict is no measure of the final results. Otherwise the liberating of the slaves and casting them upon their own resources after long years of slavery would be deemed a failure, an unjust and an unwise act; for their condition, until they can adjust themselves, is always worse for a time.

So it is with our work. During this present time of conflict and upheaval we have suffered with the masses. Our schools have been closed and many of our churches have been scattered; but God will watch the seed and bring in the harvest. Our native ministers can teach and preach in government appointed places, but our missionaries from without, under pain of expulsion, are forbidden to preach. However,

they may teach the Word from house to house. In some places one-half of all offerings are demanded by the officials.

We believe that, when the smoke of battle has rolled away, our work will go on with even greater freedom than before. But even now our work is progressing steadily. From every quarter we hear of new converts. Nearly three hundred have been baptized this year and many are still awaiting the sacred rite.

With the great nation-wide boycott declared by the Catholic church in full swing, and the economic conditions in a worse state than for many years, or even during war time, we are amazed at our book sales. Surely the Lord has decreed that the people shall have the message of our merciful, soon-coming Saviour who can save His people from their sins.

That the covering hand of God is protecting His servants as they travel through bandit infested sections has been seen by both believers and unbelievers. Our workers have repeatedly been held up, robbed, beaten over the head with guns, and more than once shot at, but God has in a most marvelous manner protected and delivered His servants. His angels certainly encamp about His people to help them. And in it all, and through it all, there is not a worker in the union who would choose to return to the homeland to labor.

Many leaders in Mexico recognize and appreciate the attitude of our people in these dark hours of their struggle. Recently I went into the office of a high official and found there a pile of Harvest Ingathering papers on his desk. He handed over a donation card. On inspection it was found that this official had gathered over 10.00 gold. Since then I have learned that his wife had gathered even a larger sum. Neither are members of our church but they appreciate our work.

And so the Lord is working in Old Mexico. We are not discouraged. Our hope is bright; our courage is good. It could not be otherwise with the rapid advancement of the truth and the unity and harmony which pervades our churches and all our workers.

D. A. PARSONS.

"The Harvest Ingathering is going well in our field" writes Brother Mickle of the Central Colombia Mission. "Already we have collected over \$500.00. The Colombian people seem really to appreciate our efforts here, and the most of them are glad to help."

Home Missionary Department

THE CALL TO SERVICE

When the Lord drew nigh to Saul as he journeyed on the road to Damascus, it was for the purpose of changing the heart of the persecutor, and enlisting him for service. Paul, in relating the experience before Festus and Agrippa, repeated the words of the heavenly Messenger upon that memorable occasion, "For I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness. . . ." Then follows the significant words, "Wherefore, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision."

Saul had come to the parting of the ways. He heard the definite call of God, and his eternal destiny depended upon his attitude toward it. His words, "I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision," indicate that he recognized the speaker, and was willing to respond to the call. God is calling men today from the office, the work-shop, and the field. The call is urgent because the harvest is ripe, and the time for service is short. Many have responded to the call, but others are yet disobedient to the heavenly vision.

The heavenly vision today calls men to carry the light to those who are sitting in "gross darkness," to warn men of the wrath to come, and to tell them of the way of escape. The writer is wondering if the reader has heard the call to service. He also feels impressed to emphasize the importance of not being disobedient to the heavenly vision. To grieve the Holy Spirit at this time when the Spirit will soon forever cease to strive with men, is one of the greatest mistakes it is possible for men to make.

C. E. WOOD.

A letter from Pastor E. J. Lorntz, superintendent of the Honduras Mission, dated November 4 gives the following encouraging report:

"We have reached our goal of \$600 in the Harvest Ingathering, and have gone considerably over it. We have set another goal of \$800, and we will surely go beyond that, with the Lord's help. The first call Brother Cole and I made we received a donation of \$100, and within an hour we had \$155. One of our native brethren in Ceiba gathered \$30 in the campaign."

Pastor E. M. Trummer, superintendent of the Antioqueña mission, states that the arch-bishop of the city in which

he was laboring published an article in the paper entitled "Beware," warning the people against our work. Notwithstanding this opposition, Brother Trummer gathered \$160.00 in that city.

The Honduras Mission is planning to greatly strengthen the Home Missionary work in that field during the coming year. At a recent meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Mission, the following actions were taken:

"Recognizing the value of personal work in Home Missionary endeavor for the salvation of souls,

"VOTED, That we recommend to all our churches that the first part of every prayer meeting be devoted to testimonies, the mailing of papers, and other work in the interest of Home Missionary promotion for the encouragement of all who attend.

"VOTED, That we do more to encourage all our members, both old and young, to be faithful in reporting every item of missionary endeavor made by our Home Missionary and Young People's Missionary Volunteer societies."

Missionary Volunteer Department

STOP! LOOK!! LISTEN!!!

Stop for a moment to think what it means to be a young person whom God has chosen to be "His helping hand" in the greatest work on earth.

Look back over the past and see where you failed to follow truly in the footprints of the ideal Missionary Volunteer who, forgetting self, lived to bless others; and now, kindly

Listen while I tell you about our aim for 1927, as Missionary Volunteers in Inter-America. Before the year closes, we aim to have at least:—

5000 M. V. Members by Dec. 31, 1927
3000 Morning Watch Observers
600 Bible Year Certificates
250 Standard of Attain. Certificates
350 Reading Course Certificates
3000 Members in the King's Pocket League

300 Young people converted and added to the church.

PRAY! PLAN!! WORK!!!

Pray that you fail not to do your part as God's "helping hand." Let Him use you in reaching every part of this goal—in finding the missing ones of the 5000, in seeking the lost around you, in studying to be workmen "that needeth not to be ashamed."

Plan definitely for this work. You are the Lord's "helping hand." Did your

hand ever fail to do your bidding? It is ever waiting on you, ever ministering to your needs. If God's "helping hand"—which we are—is not paralyzed, or broken, or asleep,—it will be serving Him faithfully. Plan firmly and definitely that, so far as you are concerned, it shall do its appointed work.

Work as the life-saver does at sea. Remember there are many laudable ambitions for the human heart, but there is only one all consuming passion for those who are called to be God's "helping hand," and that is a passion to save the lost for whom Christ died.

THINK!

5000 strong marching forward under the blood-stained banner! Yes, think what that will mean as they press on to deeper consecration, more thorough preparation, and better service! Can we do it? Yes, young friends, we can do it, if God can count on you and me! Yes, we can do it, if we will! Shall we not say:—"By God's help we can do it, and we will!"

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Influence of reading on you will be similar to what it has been on others. One of our former General Conference presidents, who now rests from his noble work, once told of two young men who through the reading of exciting stories landed in a state prison. One day in this prison cell one of these young men found a Bible and a copy of "Daniel and Revelation." At first neither book interested him; but for lack of anything else in his dreary cells to read, the young prisoner kept turning the pages of these books listlessly. To his surprise, however, those strange books became intensely interesting, and gripped his heart.

Day after day he feasted on those books. And what was the result? His prison cell became the vestibule of heaven. He found in Jesus a personal Saviour. Then, as did Philip of old, he put these books into the hands of his brother in crime; and here, too, by the grace of God they wrought a transformation. So these two good books brought two prodigals to their Saviour.

When their prison sentence expired, they went to Battle Creek, Michigan, to tell Elder Uriah Smith of the blessing his book had been to them; and then they went forth to sell soul-winning literature to others.

Reading always elevates or degrades; strengthens or enfeebles; lifts up or

drags down; ennobles or destroys the character; enriches or impoverishes the mind; blesses or curses life, and largely determines one's destiny.

What will your reading do for you during 1927? You will never regret making a Missionary Volunteer Reading Course a part of your reading! Then do it!

ONLY TEN CENTS

"Worth a dollar, but you can get it for ten cents," said some one about our little Denominational History leaflet prepared by Mrs. H. J. Edmed.

Every Missionary Volunteer should have one, and every other church member who desires to become acquainted with the prominent points in our denominational history would do well to obtain one also. Be sure to get it.

Order at once! Only 10 cents!

Two of our leper brethren in the South Caribbean Conference drew Bible Year certificates for 1926.

Publishing Department

THE WORK IS ONWARD

There is a wonderful change in Colombia. In 1917 or 1918 when I was here for the first time, we had no members, and no colporteurs. To come back here and associate in labor with men who have had the courage to step out and obey the commandments of God, gives me a new vision of what God is doing and what He will do.

There are about seventy Sabbath keepers in the eastern part of Colombia. Our books and periodicals have done a marvelous work. The *Centinela* is appreciated greatly by many. One young Sabbath keeper renewed a man's subscription and the man paid him for four years in advance. Fifteen hundred copies of the *Centinela* are being sold in this territory every month.

J. A. P. GREEN.

Sabbath School Department

Some time ago Sister I. G. Knight of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, wrote:

"I tried to get a picture of the banner class in the Sabbath school. Miss Kate Cuming, the teacher, has eight girls,

seven years old, who have been perfect in each goal the entire quarter."

That is a splendid record for children seven years old. How many of us who are older have done as well? How many will earnestly endeavor to emulate these worthy examples during 1927?

At the time of the General Conference the Inter-American Division was given a Sabbath School membership goal of 140% of the church membership. Let every school help to reach it. Let us extend the blessing of the Sabbath school by drawing into its membership every believer, all the children in Seventh-day Adventists' homes and others who will join us in the study of God's Word.

THIS AND THAT

You will notice that the "Aztec Union" is missing in the MESSENGER this time. At the division meeting held in Lafayette the name of this field was changed to the "Mexican Union." You will also notice that a new union has been formed. By studying the directory on the last page, you will observe that the new union is formed from the three English speaking fields which formed the eastern part of what was formerly the Caribbean Union; and that the union now known by that name comprises the Spanish speaking countries lying between the Republic of Mexico and the territory of the East Caribbean Union.

The work is growing rapidly in the division and this new arrangement it is believed will strengthen the lines of missionary endeavor for still greater advancement while the opportunity for service lingers.

Letters from the division workers who are away from the office at present, state that they had a very pleasant voyage over to Trinidad where the first meeting began December 12.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the next biennial session of the West Caribbean Conference will convene in the City of Panama, March 17-27, 1927. Each church organization will be entitled to one delegate for the organization and one delegate for each fifteen members or major fraction thereof.

All persons attending the conference are requested to provide themselves with bedding, etc. The conference will provide rooms for the delegates.

W. R. Pohle, *President*.

WIN ONE

The following illustration never fails to arouse serious thought concerning the wonderful possibilities of multiplied soul-winning endeavor:

A blacksmith was asked by a man who came to have his horse shod whether he would accept five dollars for the shoeing of the horse, or be paid at the rate of one cent for the first nail, two cents for the second nail, four cents for the third, and so on, doubling the price of each nail. Thinking that he would receive the more remunerative payment, he accepted the five dollars. Study the following figures and decide whether he made a mistake or not. (The calculation is made on the basis of 24 nails in four horse shoes.)

1st nail	1 Ct.
2nd nail	2
3rd nail	4
4th nail	8
5th nail	16
6th nail	32
7th nail	64
8th nail	1.28
9th nail	2.56
10th nail	5.12
11th nail	10.24
12th nail	20.48
13th nail	40.96
14th nail	81.92
15th nail	163.84
16th nail	327.68
17th nail	655.36
18th nail	1,310.72
19th nail	2,621.44
20th nail	5,242.88
21st nail	10,485.76
22nd nail	20,971.52
23rd nail	41,943.04
24th nail	83,886.08

Total cost of 24 nails \$167,772.15.

This illustrates the possibilities of soul-winning. The Lord, who understands the possibilities of multiplication better than we do, has chosen this method of passing on the good news of the coming kingdom. The souls we win are to go forth and win others, and they other, so the work would be quickly finished.

There are approximately 225,000 Seventh-day Adventists in the world. If each one won only

one soul for Christ each week, and all the converts were equally successful, the total number of converts in thirteen weeks would be 1,843,200,000, which would be more than the population of the world, and, of course, impossible. The illustration is used to direct attention to work," which is comprehended in the few words of the Lord's plan for accomplishing His "short of the following quotation:

"God expects personal service from every one to whom He has entrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time."—*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. IX, p. 30.

Shall we not decide to put forth a definite soul-winning effort during the year 1927?
C. E. Wood.

THIS YEAR'S RESOLVE

To live each day unfettered by desire.
To work betimes, yet ever looking higher.
To trust and love, and then to watch and wait
With firm resolve; be architects of fate;
And while we work, to leave behind regret
And failure too; and every day to let
The present hour bring us the proper task;
Then, what we lack in strength to humbly ask.

All this to do! And when at last the year
Is old again, without a doubt or fear,
We then can gladly trust to God the rest
And know, for us, this year has been the best!
—*Florence M. Freeze.*

STILL SERVING

In a letter from Sister Hurdon, wife of the president of the Jamaica Conference, she incidentally refers to her husband's mother in these words:

"Grandma is feeling fine these days, and still goes out to do missionary work. She has sold several small books such as "Epidemics" and "Marked Bible." She is happier at it than we are to have her do it, for she does not hear well, and I am always afraid of something happening to her."

Pastor D. D. Fitch, president of the South Caribbean Conference could render a similar report of his ambitious mother who is also seek-

ing the lost here in the land of her sojourn.

These dear mothers in Israel, now far past the three score years and ten, are setting a worthy example for all of us. Surely those who know this truth can not sit with folded hands now! No, no; "Those who know it best" are "hungry and thirsty" to give it to "the rest." May God help all of us to follow in the train of those who having been to Mt. Moriah heed neither weariness nor persecution but ever press eagerly on in their search for the lost.

Beginning with the month of January the MESSENGER will be printed in the Spanish language as well as in the English. And until a mailing list is made up copies will be sent out directly from the Inter-American Division office in Balboa, Canal Zone.

GENERAL MEETINGS

ANTILLIAN UNION

Haitien Mission	February 17-27
Porto Rican Mission	January 20-30
Santo Domingo Mission	February 3-13
Union Mission	February 28 to March 4

CARIBBEAN UNION

Venezuela Mission	January 14-23
West Caribbean Conference	March 13-27
Union Mission	March 28 to April 1

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION

Leeward Islands Mission	February 3-13
Division Council	April 3-12

INTER-AMERICAN MESSENGER

Editor—Mrs. E. E. ANDROSS

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