

THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

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Appropriate Dress For Christians

E. E. ANDROSS

During the summer of 1925 the General Conference Educational Department held a School Homes Institute at Pacific Union College. This institute was attended by thirty-five educational workers, composed of deans of men, deans of women, matrons, preceptors, and preceptresses of the leading colleges and academies of the denomination. These educators represented the home life of our leading training centers in America. Professor W. E. Howell, the secretary of the General Conference Educational Department, and other associate workers met with these leaders.

In this pleasure-loving and degenerate age, it is no easy task to maintain proper Christian standards of deportment and of dress. A carefully studied, earnest, and prayerful effort was made by these men and women, whom God has called to guide the feet of our youth along the path of righteousness, to erect a standard of dress that would be in keeping with our holy profession as the representatives, before a lost world, of the meek and lowly Saviour. Below is a partial report of that meeting:

"DRESS FOR WOMEN

"No education can be complete that does not teach right principles in regard to dress. Without such teaching, the work of education is too often retarded and perverted. Love of dress and devotion to fashion are among the teacher's most formidable rivals and most effective hindrances." *'Education,' p. 246.*

"A person's character is judged by his style of dress. A refined taste, a cultivated mind, will be revealed in the choice of simple and appropriate attire. Chaste simplicity in dress, when united with modesty of demeanor, will go far toward surrounding a young woman with that atmosphere of sacred reserve which will be to her a shield from a thousand perils." *Id., p. 248.*

"Self-denial in dress is a part of our Christian duty. To dress plainly, and abstain from display of jewelry and ornaments of every kind, is in keeping with our faith." *'Testimonies,' Vol. 3, p. 366.*

"I have been shown that the main cause of your backsliding is your love of dress. . . . Fashion is deteriorating the intellect and eating out the spirituality of our people. Obedience to fashion is pervading our Seventh-day Adventist churches, and is doing more than any other power to separate our people from God." *Id., Vol. 4, 647.*

"For convenience, the following statements were presented and adopted in lieu of formal recommendations:

"1. In harmony with the definite instruction given in the Testimonies, the wearing of 'feathers' and 'artificial' is discouraged." (*'Testimonies,' Vol. 3, pp. 376, 379.*)

"2. Young women are required to dress in modest, simple, and healthful attire. V-shaped necks should not be cut lower than two inches below the clavicle, and the round or square-shaped necks should not be worn lower than one inch below the clavicle and proportionately on the shoulders and back. Sleeves should not be shorter than to the inside bend of the elbow, and slits in the sleeve should not come above this point. The length of the skirt may not in any case be shorter than twelve inches from the floor, the exact length depending upon the style of the skirt, the age and build of

the wearer. If the skirt is narrow, twelve inches is too short.

"3. Dresses made of organdie, georgette, thin voile, or similar material, require slips with sleeves.

"4. French heels should not be worn. Common-sense shoes are recommended.

"5. Modesty requires hose to be inconspicuous.

"6. The use of rouge, lip sticks, and eyebrow pencils cheapens a young woman in the opinion of people who do things and think thoughts worth while. Our young women are asked to abstain from the use of these. Cleanliness, careful diet, regular hours of sleep, exercise at work and out-of-doors are nature's beautifiers.

"7. Jewelry, such as rings, bracelets, necklaces, or locket, may not be worn.

"8. The hair should be simply dressed, avoiding extremes and fads, such as ear puffs and bobbed hair.

"9. These standards of dress are designed to protect our young women from the procession of ever-changing styles, that they may be fit representatives of Christian womanhood.

"DRESS FOR MEN

"References for study: 'The Desire of Ages,' pp. 137, 197, 594, 610; 'Testimonies,' Vol. 3, pp. 366, 367, 376.

"Having Christ as our pattern as an ideal young man, who dressed plainly, without adornment or display, bearing no earthly or royal badge, but clad in humble garments; and recognizing that cultured men of today are conservative in their dress;

"We recommend, That careful instruction be given our young men concerning their personal appearance, teaching them to be conservative in their dress; to avoid all extremes or fads in styles, such as bell-bottom trousers, conspicuous hosiery, and flashy ties; to avoid the display of gold chains, rings, stick pins, or gaudy watch fobs; in protection of their health to avoid the use of tight belts; and to recognize that the most becoming adornment is the meek and quiet spirit of the Master in every phase of life and upon all occasions."

Recently I received a letter from one of our honored leaders whose influence in molding the spiritual life of this people is, perhaps, second to none. He said: "For myself I am in hearty sympathy with these standards, and I believe that they ought to be enforced by every organization of the denomination."

I earnestly commend this standard of dress to every worker in the Inter-American Division and to all our dear people. Let this serve as a guide in your own personal dress, but do not make the failure of any one to meet this standard an occasion for unkind criticism. In the spirit of meekness let us exalt the standard of holy living higher and still higher till we are entirely separated from all allegiance to the world.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION PLANS

At the Annual Council of the Inter-American Division Committee held at the headquarters in Balboa, May 9-20, careful study was given to the many problems in connection with the work of this field. This was a very important council and two weeks were given by the division committee to the planning of the work throughout the entire division. The helpful counsel of Pastor Montgomery and Professor Howell from the General Conference office was much appreciated.

There are now operating in the Inter-American Division twenty-three conferences and missions and five union organizations. We are listing below the recommendations passed which are of general interest to our believers throughout the division:

GRATITUDE TO GOD

Whereas, The mercy and favor of God has been manifest in a marked manner throughout the Inter-American Division, as well as throughout the entire world, since our last council meeting, in the preservation of the lives of workers, and in enabling them to win many precious souls from the powers of darkness; in sending forth His Spirit to stir mightily the hearts of the people to hear the message of the hour; and in pointing out clearly that the time is here when we must push into unentered heathen strongholds; therefore,

We recommend, That we express to God our thanks for His help and protecting care, that we recognize anew His leadership, that we renew our determination to measure up to the stupendous task laid upon us as workers in this great field, and that by daily consecration we devote the full measure of our strength to the completion of His work.

EVANGELISM

Recognizing that we have reached the time when the Third Angel's Message is taking on the loud-cry proportions, and when every resource of our denomination should be recruited for the accomplishment of the one supreme purpose of the church—the sounding of God's last warning message and the saving of souls,

We recommend, 1. That we raise a definite rally call of "Evangelism" in the Inter-American Division, holding closely to the preaching of the distinctive truths that have made us a people;

2. That every executive and departmental worker be encouraged to set an example of consecration and enthusiastic service by leading out in, or connecting with, at least one public effort each year in connection with his other work;

3. That as far as possible it be arranged so that principals and teachers in our training schools may be connected with evangelistic efforts during school vacations, and that office workers be given regular time for personal outside missionary work;

4. That we encourage our ministers, Bible workers, colporteurs and teachers, to have faith to expect definite results from every sermon preached, and from every personal interview, and to make direct personal appeals in order to influence those who are in the "valley of decision" to take their stand for the truth;

5. That ministers and workers continue to encourage our lay members to enlist for soul-

winning service, until there shall not be one idler in our membership; and

6. That every departmental worker of our division cooperate in this great evangelistic movement, making soul-winning the chief objective of all his work.

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

We, the members of the Inter-American Division Committee, having been greatly encouraged as we have listened to the message of confidence and appreciation which Pastor Montgomery brought to us from the officers of the General Conference, desire to express to them our gratitude. We are encouraged to know that our General Conference brethren are pleased with, and have confidence in, the organization that has been effected in the Inter-American Division, and in the general leadership of the field; and we sincerely desire to merit this confidence by carrying forward the work of the division in a still more successful manner.

The spirit of unity and harmony which exists among the members of our committee, and which has characterized our Balboa meeting, prepares the way for the mighty cooperation of the Holy

ference policies, and in faithfully doing our part in the finishing of the work in the Inter-American Division.

SPANISH SCHOOL WORK

Whereas, The providences of God make it very clear that the time is ripe for a definite forward move in behalf of our Spanish speaking people in the division, and

Whereas, There is urgent need of developing Spanish native workers as early and efficiently as possible,

We recommend the following plan for co-ordinating the work of our Spanish training schools:

1. That our training school in Porto Rico be recognized and developed on the basis of providing for our Spanish young people in Porto Rico, Santo Domingo and Venezuela.

2. That in developing the strength of our Porto Rican school, we keep in mind the probability that in due time the Colombia-Venezuela Union will need a training school of its own, and that, therefore, our Porto Rican school be developed with the idea of ultimately providing suitable capacity for serving the increasing needs of Porto Rico and Santo Domingo.

3. That we encourage our believers in Venezuela to send their young people of promise to the Porto Rican school until such a time as the needs of the work require a training school in the Colombia-Venezuela Union.

4. That the Spanish department now connected with the West Caribbean Training School be transferred to a location to be selected in Costa Rica with the suggestion that it be located ultimately on land a reasonable working distance from San Jose; and that until provision can be made for its permanent home, a school be conducted on a simple scale in rented quarters.

5. That this training school be developed with the idea of serving the needs of the Spanish work in the Central American Union, and also the training needs of Colombia until such a time as the development of the work may require a training school in the Colombia-Venezuela Union.

6. That we encourage our believers in Colombia to send their young people of promise to the Central American Training School until such a time as the needs of the work require a training school in the Colombia-Venezuela Union.

EDUCATIONAL

Whereas, God's opening providence clearly indicates that a great forward move is in order in the educational work of the Inter-American Division, and

Whereas, we have in the Central American Union Conference, beyond the borders of Panama, several English speaking fields, in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, and the Bay Islands, that should be served by our English training school at Obispo, Canal Zone,

We recommend, That this school be made a union mission training school to be operated under the direction of the union, and that every effort be put forth to strengthen it and to extend its usefulness.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF CHURCH SCHOOLS

Whereas, In the financing of our schools, the following general principle is laid down in the Spirit of Prophecy, "Let all share the expense," "Counsels to Teachers," p. 217, (Vol. 6 p. 109, additional reference),

We recommend, That, in carrying out this plan, we recognize that the responsibility rests (1) On the parents; (2) On the church; (3) On the conference or mission. In harmony with this view,

1. Let every parent pay the tuition of his own children to the full extent of his ability.

2. Let every member of the church share in the expense of the school.

THE ADVENT STORIES

(Note: Sung to the tune of "I love to Tell the Story.")

I love to tell the stories,
Of things we've known and heard;
Of prophecies fulfilling
In God's most holy word.

I love to tell the stories
Of God's redeeming grace,
Transforming men and women
Of every tribe and race.

I love to tell the stories
Because I know they're true,
The advent message stories
For O, they're ever new.

I love to tell the stories
Of angel's work today,
That parallel the Bible
And drive all doubt away.

I love to tell the stories,
For those who love the Lord,
See in them illustrations
Of the fast fulfilling word.
I love to tell these stories
To those who know Him not,
Because they find that in them
His power and grace are taught.

CHORUS:

I love to tell the stories,
The thrilling advent stories;
I love to tell the stories
They thrill my soul with love.

W. W. Eastman.

Spirit as we face the work of the coming year. As we have studied together the problems which confront us in this division, we have greatly appreciated the helpful, constructive counsel given us by Pastor Montgomery and Professor Howell, the benefit of which doubtless will be seen in increased progress in the days to come.

In forwarding this message of appreciation, we desire to express our loyalty to the worldwide organization, and to our brethren in Washington who are carrying heavy responsibilities in leadership; and to give assurance of our hearty cooperation in upholding General Con-

3. Let every conference or mission provide for definite assistance to church school work.

In order to place the financial support of our church schools on a systematic and effective basis,

We recommend, 1. That before a new school or a new school year is opened, a definite budget of expenses and income for the year be prepared. This budget should include:

- (a) Teacher's salary for the year.
- (b) Other operating expenses for the year.
- (c) Amount of tuition based on a fixed rate of tuition for all pupils.
- (d) Any other income to the school.

2. That all members of the church be solicited to pledge a certain number of tuitions or half tuitions by signing a pledge card for the purpose, till the total number of tuitions and the total expense are made up. It is understood that the tuition of non-Adventist pupils is paid in full and in cash by those who send them to the school.

3. That all pledges be made for twelve months in the year, and be paid on the first of each month in advance.

4. That the budget of expenses and income be balanced by pledges or cash in advance before the school is opened, and that at the end of each month the budget for the month be checked up and balanced before the next month begins.

5. That where it proves impossible for a school to be conducted without some financial help outside of the local church, a statement of this fact be filed with the conference or mission treasurer by a representative of the conference or mission committee, and that to the extent that available funds make it possible the conference or mission provide assistance to such a school not to exceed one-fourth of the teacher's salary; and, further, that the payment of this amount be conditioned on the church's providing definitely in its budget for the rest of the teacher's salary and for other necessary operating expenses, such provision being certified to in the statement filed by the educational secretary or other representative of the conference or mission committee.

6. That the teacher be paid for twelve months in the year, his time and work during school vacation being under the direction of the conference or mission, either in the summer school, in evangelistic work, in colporteur work, or such other work as may be thought best.

7. That in cases where land is provided with the school, the teacher be encouraged to cultivate the land to aid in his support and thus relieve the payroll to some proper extent.

8. That the teacher be appointed and the salary set by the conference or mission committee, the teacher being selected on recommendation of the educational secretary or other committee representative after consultation with the local church school board. It is understood that the appointment of the teacher and the setting of the salary by the conference or mission committee does not place the teacher on the regular budget of the conference or mission but that the part of the teacher's salary supplied by the conference or mission is paid out of a special educational fund maintained for the purpose.

9. That all transfers of teachers from one school to another be under the direction of the conference or mission committee.

10. That the church treasurer or other financial agent appointed by the church be responsible for the collection of all moneys provided for in the budget of the school, and that the conference or mission part of the teacher's salary be remitted to the local church treasurer only as the report is made that the church's portion of the salary is provided for.

11. That in case a church fails for two consecutive months to fulfill its part in paying the salary of the teacher, the conference or mission is under no further obligation to pay

its part and reserves the right to withdraw the teacher.

SPECIAL FINANCIAL HELP FOR CHURCH SCHOOLS

In order to create a fund for the strengthening and extension of our church and mission school work,

We recommend, 1. That in the Inter-American Division we adopt the General Conference plan of devoting one of the regular offerings in all our churches in each quarter to the assistance of church and mission schools, these offerings to be passed on to the conference treasury through the regular channels; and

2. That to provide further assistance to this school work, beginning with 1928, twenty percent of the net receipts from the Harvest Ingathering be devoted exclusively to church or mission school work.

SPIRITUAL LIFE IN OUR SCHOOLS

Whereas, The real success of our school work depends more upon the spiritual life maintained in them than on any other one factor,

We recommend, That the faculty in the training schools adopt the following helps for maintaining the spiritual life of the school:

THE LOVE OF CHRIST
CONSTRAINETH

(Tune: "Christ in Song," No. 624)

The love of Christ constraineth;
O let the watchword ring
Till all the world adoring
To Jesus' feet it bring,
Till north and south the kingdoms
Shall own His glorious sway,
And east and west the nations
Rejoice to see His day.

The love of Christ constraineth;
At home, abroad, where'er,
By sea or shore abiding,
His name and sign we bear.
We ask not that our service
Or great or small may be,
If only Thou wilt own it,
Dear Lord, as unto Thee.

The love of Christ constraineth;
And we who trust His word,
Who know and feel its power
To gladder service stirred,
Shall neither faint nor falter,
Though dark the night and long,
Though weak our hands that labor;
His strength shall make us strong.

The love of Christ constraineth;
Then let us work and pray
And watch the glad appearing
Of that triumphant day,
When Father, Son and Spirit,
By every tongue confessed,
All earth His broad dominion
In His dear love shall rest.

Anonymous.

activities of the school as they may be invited to engage in.

5. That the school faculty plan two Week of Prayer seasons instead of one during the school year, placing the first one as near the beginning of the school year as is consistent. The aim of these seasons should be:

(a) Special effort to raise the spiritual condition of the students.

(b) Securing the conversion of all unconverted students. Further,

We recommend, 1. That we lay it on the hearts of all our workers to study faithfully the pattern of Christian education given to us in the Spirit of Prophecy, and that they be earnestly admonished to improve every opportunity to instruct our believers everywhere in the principles and responsibilities of giving a Christian education to their children.

2. That the principles of Christian education and good ideas for self-help for students and the financial maintenance of our school be presented frequently in the MESSENGER.

3. That every effort be made to educate our believers in ways and means of raising funds for the education of their children and in making sacrifices consistent with our faith in the soon coming of the Lord Jesus that will help prepare their children for that coming and for a part in the work of God.

4. That our workers keep in mind also the possibility of securing contributions from those able to give to the conference educational fund for the assistance and extension of our church school work, and also for tuition scholarships for mature and promising young people who need further education to fit them for the work.

5. That continual earnest effort be made to develop the colporteur scholarship plan because of its high value in self-help as well as in giving the truth to those not of our faith.

HARVEST INGATHERING

Whereas, Because of the expense of providing our Harvest Ingathering magazines, it is advisable and necessary to conserve in their use,

We recommend, That our conferences and missions be as careful and consistent as possible in the number they plan to use, passing the word on to our churches and people to discourage a large free distribution of the magazine where offerings are not given. In order, however, to reach many people with something printed on present truth,

We recommend, The selection and circulation of appropriate inexpensive tract literature that can be freely circulated by our people during their Harvest Ingathering campaigns.

F. L. HARRISON, Secretary.

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

Josefina 56, Havana, Cuba

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

AN ACTIVE BOY

For several years Demetrio has lived with one of our workers in Santo Domingo. From time to time he has entered heartily into our campaigns. Last year he took a part in the Harvest Ingathering campaign. He was successful in collecting two ten dollar bills,—one from the candidate for president and the other from the acting vice president. He visited a sugar mill and collected twenty dollars, and the he got

- 1. The silent hour plan of personal devotion.
- 2. That a prayer room be set apart in each school home to be open at all times for students to resort to for prayer in time of personal needs.
- 3. That weekly prayer bands be organized with student leaders in charge and that each student be invited to take part in a band.
- 4. That the students be encouraged to take active part in the Young People's Missionary Volunteer work and in such other religious ac-

another ten dollar bill from a very influential man. Two different banks gave him five dollars each, and a lawyer added three dollars to his ingathering. In all Demetrio took in over seventy-five dollars in the Harvest Ingathering campaign.

Demetrio is also one of our salesmen; and he probably is the smallest if not the youngest colporteur we have in the Inter-American Division. He is only three feet, nine inches tall, and is fourteen years old. However, he sets a good example for older colporteurs, for he saves his money and puts it in the bank. Not only has Demetrio a bank deposit; but he clothes himself and keeps neat and clean. He has had good success selling books, and has enjoyed some good experiences.

On one occasion Demetrio went through the gate and upon the porch of a very nice house. As soon as he knocked at the door, a very large vicious dog came running toward him. "That dog," said Demetrio, "looked as large as myself." The boy held out a roll of *El Centinela*, in self-defense, and the dog snapped it and ran around to the back of the lot with his prize. At that moment the owner answered the knock at the door, and looked very much surprised to see the boy unharmed. When Demetrio asked for his magazines, the man said, "I have not got your magazines;" and Demetrio explained, "No, but the dog has." Then the man went and rescued the papers.

Later in the day, while in his office, this same man bought some literature of Demetrio. This experience reminds us of the text found in Exodus 11:7 and shows how the Lord cares for His faithful ones.

G. D. RAFF.

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION
 Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica
 W. E. BAXTER - - - - - Superintendent
 A. P. CHRISTIANSEN - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

OUR MISSIONARY VOLUNTEERS

God has blessed the work of the Missionary Volunteer Department in the West Caribbean Conference during this biennial period, (1925-1926). The great objective before the Missionary Volunteer Department is "to save from sin and guide in service" the young people whom we find in our churches. Not only must these children and young people be persuaded to surrender their hearts to Jesus, but they must be led into active service for Him.

It is our purpose to lay hold of these young people where they are, lead them

to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, and give them an elementary training in His service. Twenty-five years ago Sister White wrote, "The time of temptation has come to our world and the young must be labored for, hunted for, and brought into the fold." What shall it profit a church if it gain many converts and reach all its goals, and yet lose its own young people?

We have over 650 young people in our conference, many of whom are not yet baptized. We must consider this great army of raw recruits to be saved and trained for the service. Well instructed children and youth can work in many lines for the Master, and can even in their early years be a blessing to those with whom they come in contact. It is our duty to see these young people get an education and then place them where they can do the most good in the world. It was for the organization and direction of this army of children and youth that the Missionary Volunteer Department was brought into existence. It is our purpose to provide efficient leaders, who will cooperate with the other departments of the church to save our young people and children from sin and guide them in Christian service.

At our last biennial session we reported 10 societies and we now have 22. At that time our membership was 222, and we have added 345 members, mak-

treating men to follow in their Saviour's footsteps.

Nearly six times the number of Bible readings and gospel meetings have been held during this period as were held in the previous period. This is a good increase. There is not anything that can better fit us to give Bible readings or to tell the truth to others than studying the Standard of Attainment lessons. I trust each church leader and every worker will urge all to become members of Attainment.

We have given out three papers where we previously gave out one. In all we gave out 7,832. Let us not leave our good literature lying around to get destroyed, but after we have read it, let us pass it on to someone else while it is fresh and clean. It seems like a sin for one to use our literature for wrapping paper or to start fires with, when it might be saving souls.

The number of books distributed has been doubled. 1,377 books were distributed. Surely much good has resulted from this excellent work. Through the hands of our young people 10,156 tracts have found their way into the homes of the people. Thus the light of truth has been given to souls in darkness and many lives have been made brighter by learning of Jesus and His love.

Become a member of the King's Pocket League, and never again be found without some tracts to give away. Then if a question should arise with some of your friends about the Sabbath, baptism, or some other subject, give them tracts that can help them to understand the subjects better.

During this biennial period nearly four times as many hours of Christian help work have been performed. These 5,773 hours could not have been better spent. Our young people were made happy as they went about helping those that were less fortunate than they. I find that we have had nearly four conversions this period to compare to one in the period preceding. Thus far we have given out 44 Bible Year certificates, and 20 Standard of Attainment certificates. Let us watch this item grow during the next two years.

At the beginning of 1926 we said, "1926 is going to be better than 1925," and so it was. Following is an outline of our progress during 1926: Six new Missionary Volunteer societies were organized, also one conference society, with thirteen members who, of course, are isolated and are not privileged to attend a regular society meeting. We are receiving some good reports from these isolated members. During 1926 our membership increased over two-thirds and one hundred and nineteen



Demetrio, the colporteur

ing a total of 567 at present. This biennial period we have written three times as many missionary letters as during the previous period and we have received correspondingly more answers. We have made twice as many missionary visits this period as the last one. 5,947 such visits have been made warning and en-

of our young people were baptized and added to the church. One-third more of our members are observing the Morning Watch than were a year ago.

I am also glad to see the offerings grow. The society offerings for foreign mission work were more for the last quarter alone of 1926 than was received all during the year of 1925. Our mission funds were nearly double this year over what they were for the whole of last year. The personal work is steadily growing. The report for the fourth quarter of 1926 was the best one we have received from this conference.

Now let us determine to make 1927 better than 1926. Say, "we will," and then stick to it. "That's the only way to do it."

The Spirit of Prophecy tells us that much has been lost to the cause of God because of lack of attention to the youth. Then, surely, if much has been lost because we have not given proper attention, much will be gained by giving that attention.

We need, therefore, to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to give power to our efforts. We do not need new plans, but we need new power. Let us, therefore, in His strength, press forward with the good plans we have, believing in the promise that "the Lord will have a well-trained army ready to be called into action at a word."

"The Spirit calls, He urges all to share, in saving youth and childhood everywhere." MRS. A. V. LARSON.



WEST CARIBBEAN TRAINING SCHOOL

The seventh school year has been completed, and the students are scattered. A few have gone to their homes, while a large group, who attended the colporteur's institute, are now plodding from door to door offering the Third Angel's Message in the printed page. A few necessarily remain to care for the industries and interest of the school.

Seven young people graduated from the academic course. Each one of this group has consecrated himself to the work of God, and is ready to labor wherever God's providence shall indicate. I know that all friends of the West Caribbean Training School are interested in the future welfare of this group, and will pray for them and also for the young people who in various ways are working to earn money for returning when school shall open again.

It is well known throughout the Central American Union that the school has changed management, and at the same time has limited its courses. The Span-

ish department has been organized into a separate school to be located in Costa Rica, and the general board for the school at Las Cascadas is the Central American Union Conference Committee. Necessarily some changes have been made in the financial provision of the school which are fully outlined in the 1927-1928 school calendar. Write us if you have not received one.

The present school year has not been marked by accident as was the previous year, for which we are profoundly grateful. In spite of the inability of the complete faculty to continue to the close of the school, the work of the year has been rounded out in a good, strong way, and greater activity has been seen in missionary endeavors by members of the ministerial and Bible worker's bands than ever before.

At the beginning of the Sabbath every Friday evening the school gathered for the weekly students' meeting. The main student body gathered in the assembly room of the school; an earnest group of Spanish young people, with their leader, met in one of the larger class rooms; and simultaneously representatives of the school conducted Bible studies in two of the neighboring towns. Thus the school had the semblance of a large general meeting with four simultaneous services. Much interest has been aroused by the studies given, and we hope the interests may be fully developed when the students return for their school work next year.

Near the close of the school, six of the students went forward in baptism. These had been in a baptismal class for

some weeks and were well instructed in the faith. This makes a total of 34 students baptized in the past two years.

In our recent closing exercises we were favored by the presence of five of our alumni. Three of these have been directly connected with the school, one as accountant, and the others as student-teachers. One works in the Caribbean Conference office and the other teaches in a public school in the Canal Zone. We are pleased to note that of the sixteen young men and young women, composing the graduates of the last two years, all are connected with the work of giving the Third Angel's Message or are looking forward to such connection as soon as the way opens. The faculty rejoices in the manifest development of character seen among the students and believes that the undergraduates also will become a force for good wherever they may be found.

C. L. STONE.



COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION

Box 143, Balboa, Canal Zone

E. E. ANDROSS - - - - Superintendent
F. L. HARRISON - - - - Secy.-Treas.

A CHURCH IN CURACAO

April 9 we organized a church in Curacao. This was a blessed occasion for all. Two persons who had been baptized in another denomination and who were voted into church membership on profession of faith in this message, came to us immediately after the dedication



A baptismal scene at the West Caribbean Training School

service and said: "We now desire to be baptized into this truth, for we have been strongly impressed during this meeting of the great responsibility that has been placed upon us. We now see that it means more to be a Seventh-day Adventist than to be a member of any other church." So on the following Monday they were buried a second time with their Lord by baptism.

A government wireless operator and his wife have accepted this message. They are fine young people and are already talking about being missionaries. There are about ten more who are preparing for baptism, and many more are interested.

Through the efforts of a lady who accepted the truth here, her sister living in the States has become interested. By another, booklets and tracts have been sent to the island of Saint Martin, where the truth has never been preached, and now several there are interested. And one man writes over here saying that he is praying that soon someone will come and bring the truth to them for they believe that the Seventh-day Adventists have the truth. Recently a brother by the name of Newton has gone there, and is selling our books. The people write that they like him very much, and that he is a genuine Christian.

These few words ought to encourage us to send our papers and books to our friends in other places.

Brother Lampe who went to California from Curacao writes: I am so thankful to my heavenly Father for bringing us here to this place. My children are already in church school, and I can say sincerely that I am willing to do all I can for this cause, whether here or somewhere else." MRS. DEBORA KNIGHT.

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION CONFERENCE
Box 221, Port of Spain, Trinidad

M. A. HOLLISTER President
ETHEL EDMED Secy.-Treas.

INVESTMENT FUND DAY

Pastor H. J. Edmed, in telling of his visit to some of the churches on Investment Fund Day, related these experiences: "Look at this! exclaimed my hostess, pointing to a tomato plant. 'This is my Investment Fund plant! See how it is bearing!' And without stopping to catch her breath, she added excitedly, 'Come and see my mission hen!' We found a sturdy little hen that had contributed twenty-five eggs to the 'can,' which in this case was a Cadbury's cocoa tin. I quietly remarked that this Investment plan seems to add interest

to everything—AND IT DOES!

"At Liberta one sister used a small gourd for a 'can' and told how she turned that little natural bottle into a treasury, by selling dates from a palm in her garden. Hens, kids, goats, cows, and the soil—all stepped into the missionary list, bringing great joy to all. This was one of the best sermons I have ever listened to, and the text (unannounced) was, 'All Thy works shall praise Thee.' The superintendent was all smiles when she announced the addition of \$12.24 to the soul-winning missions fund."

Sister I. G. Knight wrote from St. Thomas: "We had such a good day, today. Many of our people are down with the 'flu.' But those who were able to be present came full of enthusiasm.

NEVER SAY, "FAIL!"

Keep canvassing! It's wiser
Than be sitting aside,
And dreaming and sighing,
Awaiting the tide.
In life's earnest battle
They only prevail
Who daily march forward
And never say, "fail!"

Early every Monday morning,
Look on the brighter side,
Jesus and holy angels
Your footsteps will guide;
In storm and in sunshine,
Whatever assail,
Go forward, brave salesman,
And never say, "fail!"

Adapted by Mrs. B. E. Wagner.

From first to last the program was enjoyed.

"When the cans were brought to the table (all shapes and sizes) to be opened, interest and expectancy was written upon every face. \$20 came out of the cans—from eggs laid on Sabbath, from missionary hens, and many other sources. Sister Christian told of one of her hens that would not lay; so she decided to give it to the Lord and watch results. That hen began laying until she did better than all the other hens, and she is now raising chickens for the next Investment Fund Day. Sister Varlack, who is a seamstress, dedicated one week's work and handed in \$5. Sister Williams raised cotton, and made a beautiful cushion. After the service, several who had not yet taken part in this plan decided to do so and to share the blessings others were enjoying."

"You will be happy to hear that our Investment Fund ingathering amounted to \$22.63," wrote Sister Van Putten from Fredericksted. Then she explained,

"Some dedicated eggs, potatoes, cane, a kid, chickens, a duck, etc. I did some sewing for my offering, and my little girl gave the money from the sale of her fowl's eggs. On the whole we had a fine time."

Sister H. J. Edmed, sent several similar reports from other churches in the Leeward Islands. Surely the Investment Fund plan is helping the faithful ones in that island field to find ways and means of raising money for missions. O, the joy it will be in the home over there to know that we did our utmost to help others to share its eternal bliss!

MEXICAN UNION MISSION

Calle de Jalapa 210, Mexico, D. F., Mexico

D. A. PARSONS Superintendent
J. G. PETTEY Secy.-Treas.

AMONG THE INDIANS OF TEHUANTEPEC

It has been my privilege lately to make a trip through the Tehuantepec Mission with Pastor J. B. Nelson; and its marvelous growth impressed me deeply. We held an institute in Puerto, Mexico, for the members of the church who wished to learn how to sell our literature. With the help of Brother F. Zaynos, the local Bible worker and evangelist, we were able to drill them well. The canvasses were learned, and the general interest in missionary work strengthened.

While we were there, the leader of a company of Indians at Ixhaultlan, came for us, so we went with him in his canoes for three hours up the river. Such a greeting as we had on our arrival at the new house of worship just before the Sabbath began! With their own hands these brethren had brought the mud and adobe and sticks and straw to make their *house of prayer*, as they call it. It was roomy and comfortable. We enjoyed vespers with them that evening, and several meetings on the Sabbath. About 135 were present at one meeting.

Then we visited Minatitlan, where we have had believers for some time. As one result of their work there is now a company, a three-hours canoe ride up the river. At the Sabbath meeting in Minatitlan, the Spirit of the Lord was present, and one by one the believers got up and with tears confessed one to the other, and obtained forgiveness and peace of mind. Those who studied how to sell *El Centinela*, promised to do more with the paper among their neighbors. One man went into the field with the large books.

We next stopped at Rincon Antonio, an important railroad center before the Panama Canal was opened, and took over the work from this part of the country. There we joined three brethren who wished to go out with our books. They are now in the field. In Tehuantepec, where we have had work for some time, the believers are now scattered to different parts of the country. But we found a few faithful ones.

Then we went over to Ixtaltepec where we have a good beginning. At a Sabbath meeting 35 were present, not including the many children. Many of the believers there are the fruit of the scattering of the old *Señales* which Elder Caviness made so popular in some parts of Mexico. In Espinal we met with the young people and enjoyed taking part in their program. One of the number has been serving as our church school teacher in one of the small Indian towns in the interior.

From Espinal we went to Jelisco to meet Brother Martinez, recently transferred to this place from Puerto Mexico, where he had built up a good work. He took us down to Tonalá, and then up on "oxmobile" to Huichital. This latter place once served as a peaceful asylum for a worker when the country was in revolutionary turmoil. The good night meeting together, the plans for this company to have a church building of their own, will all be long remembered, as well as the kind hospitality of all believers there. Returning home we thanked God and took courage from what we had seen and heard, and for escaping rebels and for being unhurt on a derailed train, etc. May the Lord continue to prosper the work and workers in the Tehuantepec Mission.

H. A. B. ROBINSON.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPT.
C. E. Wood - - - Secretary

DIVISION OUTLOOK

As we view the present activity of our lay members in the various fields of the Inter-American Division, it is not difficult to realize that we have reached the time described by the servant of the Lord, when the laborers of the vineyard will line up for more definite service. The testimony to which I refer was published in the General Conference Bulletin of May 19, 1913, and reads as follows:

"I see a crisis before us, and the Lord calls for His laborers to come into line. Every soul should now stand in a position of deeper, truer consecration to

God than during the years that have passed. . . . I have been deeply impressed by scenes that have recently passed before me in the night season. There seemed to be a great movement—a work of revival—going forward in many places. Our people were moving into line, responding to God's call."

It is true that this falling into line is more definitely seen in some mission fields than in others, but it is also true that our consecrated lay members in every part of our division are deeply impressed that the time has really come for a great forward movement in the finishing of the work. This is an encouraging sign of the approaching end, for we have been told that the work will never be finished until this rallying of our lay members to the standard of service is seen.

We are, therefore, pleased to report that the percentage of the members in this division, who are engaging in definite soul-winning activity is rapidly increasing. In 1924 only 15% of our members were reporting; in 1925, 25%, and in 1926, 43%. It is true that we are yet below the 50% mark, but this division is leading the world in this respect, Europe standing second with about 42%.

One of the most important problems which faces the Home Missionary Department today is the enlisting of the other 57% of our membership, and it will require the co-operation and influence of every conference and mission worker to reach the objective.

The lay members of Inter-America are greatly interested in the finishing of the work. The time is ripe, and the prospects are bright for a great forward movement during the months to come. As leaders of the army of the Lord, let us cheer on these forces toward the goal of victory and encourage them to engage in the Lord's work so faithfully and zealously, that they will have no reason for vain regrets when that time, which is just before us, comes, when the opportunities for service will be forever in the past.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT
J. A. P. GREEN - - - Secretary

OUR BOOKS RIPENING A HARVEST FOR THE COMING OF CHRIST

The stories of struggles with evil men, deliverances from dangers and difficulties are often enjoyed by our church members as they listen to the colporteur tell of his work. But, I believe, that to the colporteur himself there is nothing

so cheering as to tell of souls who have accepted the Saviour by having read the books which he has sold with labor, that often has meant hunger, tears, danger, abuse from wicked men, and that always has been saturated with prayer.

This morning I received a letter from one of our colporteurs. It says: "Brother, you will remember that a year ago I sold a 'Christ Our Saviour' in Penuelas, and that I sent it by mail. The young woman who bought it is converted, keeps the Sabbath, and now is going to Ponce to live in order to spend the Sabbaths with the company of believers there. Is not this news of great joy?"

This colporteur had worked that territory and almost failed to deliver the few orders he had taken. I hardly think he earned enough to buy his food, yet he did his duty faithfully in giving the people a chance to buy the books. After such trials as he had there, he has reason to be joyful to know of this soul who is seeking Christ. We know there is joy in heaven over the conversion of a sinner, why should we not rejoice with greater reason than the angels?

The pastor and the women colporteurs stationed at Ponce report that several are interested in the message and some are preparing for baptism who first found the message through the colporteur. Many of us have canvassed and have left the territory sown, but will have to wait perhaps until the last great day to see the fruits of our work; but we can rest assured that our books will prepare a great many people to stand for God.

This week I have spent in a section in the interior of the island where no religious work has ever been done except that our colporteurs have passed through it with the printed page. And I sometimes wonder if the living preacher will get there. One man, a spiritist told me that he was almost persuaded to be a Protestant.

As he talked with me, he mentioned Huss, Jerome and Wycliffe. I inquired as to how he had obtained this information, and he said that a woman came from Cuba to Caguas, Porto Rico, and that she had lent him a book called "Great Controversy" which she had bought from a colporteur. He had read also "Los Videntes," a Spanish translation of one of Brother Conradi's books.

He was very glad to know that the book I had was published by the people who published the books he mentioned. I was treated with rare hospitality by this family. Fellow laborers, we must work, expecting souls to be saved by the literature ministry, *that is its end.* LEO ODOM.

AROUND THE WORLD

Early in July we were made glad to welcome more new workers for the Inter-American Division. Late Tuesday evening, July 5, Pastor C. E. Andross, son of Pastor E. E. Andross, arrived in Balboa, enroute for Trinidad where he has been called to the presidency of the South Caribbean Conference. His family will come a little later.

The following Thursday afternoon Sisters Frances Light and Viola Cooke arrived on the S. S. "Mongolia" from New York. Both of these young women come from Washington, D. C. The former went to assist in the Central American Union office at San Jose, Costa Rica. The latter remained in the Canal Zone to fill the Macedonian call of the West Caribbean Conference office—a call which for almost three years has been left unanswered. We welcome all these new workers to Inter-America, and pray that good health, a growing happiness, and an ever increasing success may be their daily portion in the Master's service here.

In the latter part of June, Brother and Sister W. F. Miller and little Ruth, spent a few days at the division office on their way home to America for rest from the high altitudes around Lake Titicaca, and in other places where they have spent a number of years in faithful service. They sailed homeward in hopes of being able to return soon to their much loved Indians.

Brother M. D. Howard writes encouragingly of the work in Haiti where he is again serving as secretary-treasurer. Brother and Sister Howard and little Betty Jean returned to the homeland in the spring of 1926, and for a time we feared they would not be able to come back to the mission field of their choice. But God blessed them with renewed health, and last March we had the privilege of welcoming them back to Haiti. We pray that they may be blessed abundantly as they struggle onward in the closing work.

From Central Colombia, Brother George C. Nickle sends this word of cheer: "About a year ago a man living near Cali bought a book from Brother Brower; and soon he began to keep the Sabbath. Recently he wrote us that four families were keeping the Sabbath and meeting at his place for Sabbath school. Brother Brower and I are going to spend some days with them now. There are also scattered believers through Huila who need help, and we are going back to Bogota that way. This state has no railroads; and we shall be obliged to ride mules for several days; but I am looking forward to some meetings with those dear believers who have written us so many times for help."

Early in the spring Brother and Sister L. V. Cleaves returned to the States on furlough. Sister Cleaves was in poor health; but we have been made glad to learn that she seems to be making a good recovery. We trust their stay at home may be pleasant and profitable, and that they may soon be back again where they are so much needed.

Sister Fred Steeves, whose name has also been on our division office special prayer list, left for America with Brother and Sister Cleaves. She had been very near death's door; but we are exceedingly thankful to learn that she is now making a splendid recovery. Brother Steeves in a letter of June 17 to Brother Green says:

"I am glad to tell you that my wife has left the sanitarium and is now with her folks going out on the farm in Idaho. This will be a fine place for her to build up. She says she at last has hope of getting strong after so many months of sickness."

Pastor William Steele, writing from Venezuela says: "Brother Lamas [an Arabian worker] is well and hard at work. He has already

secured about 80 yearly subscriptions to *El Centinela*. He also expects to visit all the homes in the city with our small books and thus prepare the place for a public effort.

"In Barquisimeto I found Brother and Sister Cabrera well and quite enthusiastic. They had three candidates ready for baptism. We had baptism, public meetings, and also a marriage ceremony. On the Sabbath we celebrated the ordinances. Many who attended showed an interest in the truth. Six promised to be ready for baptism on my next visit. Barquisimeto is a large city and we should make it a center for our work. We should own a building there as soon as possible."

THE STAR OF HOPE

I once was lost in the wilderness,
And dark was the path I trod;
The star shone on in its blessedness,
And guided me back to God.
Shine on, bright star, for the earth is drear,
And many are bowed with woe;
O, guide us home from the darkness here
Where the floods of evil flow!
Shine on, bright star, for thy love-lit ray
Leads home to the land of rest,
To the home of light and the hills of day,
To the home of the pure and blest.
Then look and live, for the hand of love
Is outstretched from the throne of God,
That love-light guides to the home above,
Through the path our Saviour trod.

C. M. Snow.

A certain church in Chile, South America is taking a club of 3,500 copies of *El Atalaya*. That is a splendid example for believers in other places.

A report of the colporteur work in two of the states of Brazil during 1926 says that 200 people are rejoicing in the truth as a result of that work.

In the June issue of the *Far Eastern Division Outlook* an editorial speaks of persecution raging in Hunan, and it mentions one of our Chinese evangelists who is under the sentence of death for preaching the gospel. Truly these are times that test the souls of men. Let us pray earnestly for our fellow believers around the world.

Under date of January 30, 1927, Brother Carlos Heinrich, in Brazil, wrote as follows to his fellow workers: "Twenty-two leagues beyond where we live is a place called Machambombe where I have a good interest in the truth, and about forty families keeping the Sabbath. They have petitioned me to come and stay with them."

The 1927 Harvest Ingathering goal for the Far Eastern Division makes no allowance, it would seem, for the disturbances caused by the clashing of armies there. Their goal is placed at \$50,000, while their colporteur goal has been set at \$250,000.00

THE BACKWARD LOOK

After having spent almost seven years in mission station work among the Lake Titicaca Indians at an altitude of 12,500 feet, we feel very much in need of the furlough which we are just beginning. However, we feel more deeply the need of the thousands of dear Indian brethren who recently have been left without shepherds.

On the ten stations, which a few years ago

were all manned with workers, we now have only three foreign missionaries. The other seven stations are under direction of native men who have not received sufficient preparation to carry these heavy responsibilities. Our hearts ache over leaving these needy souls at such a time as this, but our brethren have deemed it wise for us to have a short rest that we may be able to continue work for the Titicaca Indians whom we have learned to cherish more than the home ties.

We find comfort in remembering that *the work of God will go forward in spite of adverse circumstances*; and so we hope and trust that upon our return to Titicaca we shall find another 1,000 newly baptized believers added to our membership. That is our yearly goal.

We ask the prayers of God's people in behalf of not only the work begun, but for one many calls for new schools that constantly pull at our heart strings.

MR. AND MRS. LEVANT L. CLARK.

A NEW SCHOOL

A decided step in advance has been taken in planning for opening a distinctly Spanish school for the training of our Spanish speaking young people in the Central American Union. This was done in harmony with the recommendations passed during the division council in May. Professor G. S. Ray, who has been in charge of the Spanish department of the West Caribbean Training School, has been selected as principal of this new school which will open October 12, 1927.

The providences of God are far in advance of us in the development of our work among the Spanish speaking people of this division, and we must now quickly train the young people whom God would use in this work. Let our Spanish youth in the Central American Union and also in Colombia begin their preparation to attend this new school. Information concerning the school may be obtained by addressing Professor Glen S. Ray, Apartado 1059, San Jose, Costa Rica. E. E. ANDROSS.

FIGURES THAT CHEER

As we compiled the first quarterly statistical report for 1927, we were cheered to note that our membership in the division showed a net gain of 422, making a total membership March 31 of 10,778. There were reported from the different fields 445 baptisms. 99 of this number were baptized during the last quarter of 1926 but information failed to reach the division office in time to get into the 1926 report. Including all classes of workers, there were 412 laborers throughout the division, giving their time to the forwarding of the message. We are also pleased to state that mission funds received amounted to \$14,906.17 which was a gain over the first quarter of 1926 of \$2,852.89.

Word reaches us at the division office from many different parts of the field of interests in this message, and we believe that the remaining months of 1927 will see much accomplished for the Master. F. L. HARRISON.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

Editor—MRS. E. E. ANDROSS

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