

# THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

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## SABBATH OBSERVANCE

By Mrs. E. G. WHITE

“THE Sabbath is a golden clasp that unites God and His people. . . . At the very beginning of the fourth commandment the Lord said, ‘Remember.’ He knew that amid the multitude of cares and perplexities man would be tempted to excuse himself from meeting the full requirement of the law, or would forget its sacred importance. Therefore He said, ‘Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.’ Ex. 20:8. . . .

“While preparation for the Sabbath is to be made all through the week, Friday is to be the special preparation-day. . . . On Friday let the preparation for the Sabbath be completed. See that all the clothing is in readiness, and that all the cooking is done. Let the boots be blacked, and the baths be taken. It is possible to do this. If you make it a rule, you can do it. . . . We should jealously guard the edges of the Sabbath. Remember that every moment is consecrated, holy time. . . .

“Before the Sabbath begins, the mind as well as the body should be withdrawn from worldly business.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

“Before the setting of the sun, let the members of the family assemble to read God’s word, to sing and pray. There is need of reform here, for many have been remiss. We need to confess to God and to one another. We should begin anew to make special arrangements that every member of the family may be prepared to honor the day which God has blessed and sanctified.”—*Testimonies*, Vol. VI, pp. 351-357.

“When the Sabbath commences we should place a guard upon ourselves, upon our acts and our words, lest we rob God by appropriating to our own use that time which is strictly the Lord’s. . . . Nothing which will in the sight of Heaven be regarded as a violation of the holy Sabbath should be left unsaid or undone, to be said or done upon the Sabbath. God requires not only that we refrain from physical labor upon the Sabbath, but that the mind be disciplined to dwell upon sacred themes. . . .

“All Heaven was represented to me as beholding and watching upon the Sabbath those who acknowledge the claims of the fourth commandment and are observing the Sabbath. Angels were marking their interest in, and high regard for, this divine institution. Those who sanctified the Lord God in their hearts by a strictly devotional frame of mind, and who sought to improve the sacred hours in keeping the Sabbath to the best of their ability, and to honor God by calling the Sabbath a delight,—these the angels were specially blessing with light and health, and special strength was given them.”—*Id.* Vol. II, pp. 702-705.

## HERE AND THERE

## No. 1

Every day our thoughts and prayers visit the various fields around the circle in Inter-America, and we are thankful for every letter that comes, telling us of our fellow-believers in the field that has become inexpressibly dear to our hearts.

It was July 7 that our boat, the S. S. "Ariguani," left Cristobal and steered out into the choppy Caribbean. On the ninth we stopped in Jamaica, and were happy to meet quite a large number of friends in Kingston. It is always an inspiration to step onto the pier in that city, for we always recall the splendid army of believers in that little island, and, somehow, as we leave that field it is always with a prayer that every member there may continue to press forward in loving, faithful service for the Master.

Leaving Kingston, our good old boat that seems to have learned the art of riding the waves gracefully, again turned her bow toward the northeast. And each day, for about two weeks, she kept to her chosen course unswervingly. Some days the sea was calm and the sun bright; others it was rough, while clouds and fog hid the sun and drew the horizon snugly around the ship. Still we kept on plowing along through the trackless deep.

After passing Cuba and the Turk Islands, we did not see land until we neared the coast of Ireland, and we noticed only two boats in that distance of travel o'er the briny deep. But with good books and plenty of work, and a deck on which we walked miles for exercise, we were very happy, knowing God is on the water just the same as on the land.

We spent two Sabbaths on the voyage. Each Sabbath we had Sabbath school in our cabin. Five of us attended—Sister Evans of Jamaica, her husband, and a young woman who was accompanying them to Europe. We appointed officers and followed a set program, except we were very generous in the time allowed for the lesson study. We look back upon these precious hours in our S. S. "Ariguani" school with gratitude and pleasure.

Sunday, July 22, we disembarked at Avonmouth, where a special train for the boat passengers picked us up and, with almost uncomfortable swiftness, hastened us past the beautiful fields of England with their lovely flowers, stately trees, characteristic hedges, velvety lawns, substantial houses, and peaceful herds of well fed cattle and sheep on the undulating pastures or beside the sparkling streams. Some of the fields had yielded their harvest of grain and hay. Others were calling for reapers to come to fill their barns with the gifts of another year. And interspersed among the

fields, or shyly creeping up into the road bed of the railway, were gardens laded with vegetables. It fairly made my mouth water to see them in all their freshness in the patch.

Presently we were in the heart of London with its teeming millions. Of course, seeing London is something like seeing the ocean on a cloudy day. We do not see very much of it at a time; and can scarcely realize its enormous size. However, we were told that in this great metropolis are seven or eight million people. How the thought that they are hastening toward the judgment bar of God solemnizes our hearts.

About four o'clock in the afternoon

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## THE FIELDS OF THE COMMONPLACE

"Do the work of today as it comes to hand  
Though it seems only commonplace,  
For the small things done with a lofty aim  
Will lead you from grace to grace.

What matters to you where He bids you toil  
Or the task which His love assigns?  
It will seem all right when you reach the goal  
And He shows you His great designs.

The acid that eats out the joys of life  
And spoils every blessing sent—  
Which turns life's beauty to ashes here—  
Is the acid of discontent.

Fret not that some other one is given  
The place which you thought was yours;  
Remember He offers a crown of life  
To the one who just endures.

Then gather the roses while they bloom;  
Rejoice while the sky is clear,  
Trusting the God who cares for all  
When the shadows of earth appear.

And send out the light of this holy trust  
On the fields of the commonplace;  
For there are no other fields, you know,  
For most of the human race."

—Ernest Lee Thompson.

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we reached our sanitarium at Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts. This is a wonderfully quiet and delightful retreat about seventeen miles from London. Here, among friends, we were soon made to feel at home.

That same evening we attended service in the new church erected in Stanborough Park. This was very interesting, especially to Pastor Andross who had charge of the work in England more than twenty years ago when the Stanborough Park property was secured. On this property are now several monuments to this blessed truth. We have mentioned the church and the sanitarium. There are also the college, the church school, the British Union office, the publishing house, and the food factory. I wish I could take you through each one of these very interesting institutions. They are another reminder of the wonderful system of truth God has given us and of the marvelous way in which this message is going into all the world.

As we arrived one week before the opening of the meetings which Pastor Andross came to attend, we decided to visit some of London. One forenoon was spent in Westminster Abbey, that place of world-wide interest, where for centuries England's kings and queens have been crowned and where rest a host of her honored heroes. We saw the resting places of kings and queens, of statesmen and warriors, of poets, of scientists, etc. We saw the old wooden and badly scarred coronation chair which has been used for centuries. Under the seat is a large stone with six rectangular sides, which tradition says was the stone on which Jacob slept.

Everything was interesting to us. But it was the tablets to John and Charles Wesley and the resting place of David Livingstone that held our attention longest. On the tablet to the memory of the Wesley brothers are these inscriptions:

"The best of all is, God is with us."  
"I look upon all the world as my parish."  
"God buries His workmen, but carries on His work."

The slab over Livingstone's resting place was full of writing, and in the left-hand margin was this verse:

"Other sheep I have which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice."

During the afternoon of the same day we visited the Tower of London—that place which flowed with the blood of statesmen and heroes of the cross in by-gone days. It is a large enclosure of about eighteen acres and contains several towers. In one of them, known as the "Tower of Jewels," are the crowns of some of the kings and queens of England. These are indescribably beautiful. In the same case are golden scepters. One of these scepters has in it, we were told, the largest diamond in the world.

Outside of the towers, but within the enclosure, is the beheading block; and down in the deep caverns under some of these towers we saw some of the dark cells where many a martyr awaited his further undeserved fate. There we saw some of the terrible instruments of torture and shuddered as we thought of what wicked deeds Satan can cause the human hand to do. On a slab by the door of one dark windowless cell were the words which had been carved in stone by some of its lonely occupants almost four hundred years ago. Here they are:

"He that endureth unto the ende shall be saved.—R. Rudston, 1553."

"Be faithful unto the deth, and I wil give the a crowne of life.—T. Fame, 1554."

One day we visited the famous St. Paul's Cathedral, another huge, massive structure calling England to worship. Much of it, however, is undergoing repair and cannot be seen by the passing

visitor. Still we felt repaid for coming as we stood before the original painting of "The Light of the World," with its appealing inscription, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me." Near this exceptional picture hang two others of great value. As the tourist gazes at the one he reads: "He that observeth the wind shall not sow, and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap." Turning to the other picture, he faces the question: "Watchman, will the night soon pass?" under a painting that must hold the passerby long enough to speak to his heart.

In each of these places we mingled with hundreds of people intent on seeing the same sights; and I suppose that each one carried a different memory away with him. But, surely here are "sermons in stone" for him who will give ear to their messages.

Sabbath was spent in the new church in north London and on the following Monday, July 30, we went to Birmingham to attend the union meeting. It has been a feast of good things. We feel quite at home with the dear believers here; and daily we thank God for the wonderful message that binds our hearts together into one great family around the world. We hope to write you soon again. Let us cooperate so completely with God and with one another that the Master can give us a greater harvest of souls this year than we have ever yet gathered in Inter-America. God bless and keep you every day.

MRS. E. E. ANDROSS.

*Birmingham, England.*

**ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION**

Josefina 56, Vibora, Habana, Cuba

A. R. OGDEN - - - - - *Superintendent*  
N. L. TAYLOR - - - - - *Secy.-Treas.*

**A TRIP THROUGH THE ANTILLIAN UNION**

I have now had the privilege of visiting all the missions of the Antillian Union except the Bahamas.

In company with Elder E. F Hackman, of the Home Missionary Department of the General Conference, and Brother N. L. Taylor, secretary-treasurer of the Antillian Union, we enjoyed a very pleasant, and we trust profitable, two weeks in Haiti.

Missionary conventions were held Sabbath and Sunday, June 30 and July 1 at Port-au-Prince, and July 7 and 8 at Cape Haitien. Evening meetings were also held at Gonaives, Limbe, Grande Rivere, and Port de Paix. It was an inspiration to us to meet our people in all these places and to find that their hearts are filled with love for the message of God. From what we

have seen during our brief stay in Haiti, we feel confident that this field is ripening for a great ingathering of souls.

While in the field, we gave special consideration and study to the various phases of the work in connection with the mission and training school. Brother Howard, who has served faithfully several years as secretary-treasurer of the mission, has responded to the invitation of the Division Conference to go to the East Caribbean Union as secretary-treasurer of that union conference. After careful consideration, it was voted to ask Brother Dunn, who has been laboring so untiringly and unselfishly in the interest of the school, to act as secretary-treasurer of the Haitien Mission. With Brother de Caenel leading out in a strong way in the direction of the mission, and Brother Dunn as secretary-treasurer, we believe the work will move forward with increasing success.

We are also making strong efforts to strengthen the work by securing teachers of ability from France who can give efficient help in the work of the school. So we believe, from every viewpoint, the work in the Haitien Mission will be blessed of God in accomplishing greater things for the advancement of the message.

We spent one week in Santo Domingo, and had the privilege of meeting with the churches at Santiago, Jábaba, Santo Domingo City, and S. P. de Macoris. The Lord is working in this field in a very remarkable manner, and there is evidence of advance and growth.

We want to assure all our dear people in these fields, of our most earnest and sincere desire to do everything possible for the success and speedy finishing of the work.

We are now in Porto Rico. In company with Elder Borrowdale, the superintendent of the Porto Rico Mission, we have visited all but two of the sixteen churches and companies in this field. During the month of July, I had the pleasure of preaching thirty-three sermons in the three missions visited, besides assisting in conventions, and holding workers' and committee meetings in the various fields. The work has been rather strenuous, but it has been pleasant, indeed, and we trust profitable to the fields as we endeavored to inspire courage and confidence in the hearts of the many hundreds of believers that we have met in all of the churches visited.

One feature of the work that has been especially interesting was the large number of people in attendance at the meetings. In nearly every place the churches and places of meeting were more than filled; often, as many were standing outside as there were inside. I am impressed that the outstanding and most crying need in all of these fields is more and larger church buildings. I verily believe that if we had the means to

erect suitable places of meeting in all the fields of the Antillian Union, within a very short time our present membership could be doubled; for wherever we have held meetings in these islands we found an earnest spirit of inquiry and a deep interest on the part of the people to hear the truth. Surely the time has come for the "quick work" and for the outpouring of the Spirit in this part of the Lord's great vineyard.

We now have in the Antillian Union more than five thousand baptized members with hundreds, yes, thousands interested and studying the message; so the time is fully ripe for a large ingathering of souls. We greatly appreciate the help of Pastor Hackman in the conventions conducted in Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Santo Domingo, and Porto Rico, as well as for the general help rendered by him in these fields.

After spending a few days more in Porto Rico I will pass through Santo Domingo, Haiti, and Jamaica, and spend the months of August and September in giving further help and counsel in these fields. In Jamaica I expect to hold a workers' meeting with Elder Edmed's assistance. He has recently arrived from England to carry the responsibilities of president of the conference. I hope to reach the Bahamas the latter part of September, and this will complete my tour through the various fields of the union. Pray for the work in this large, important, and interesting field, that there may be greater advancement in all lines of missionary activities.

*Havana, Cuba.*

A. R. OGDEN.

**ANOTHER ISLAND ENTERED**

On Sunday, June 3, I sailed from Kingston, Jamaica, on the motor schooner "Cimboba," for Cayman Brac to prepare for baptism the six persons who decided to obey the message when Pastor Spey and I visited the island in April. Upon my arrival on the island I discovered that nearly all had given up the Sabbath as the result of the influence of one who had visited the island and preached against the doctrines of Seventh-day Adventists. He told the people that we preach that man does not possess a soul, and that there is no such place as hell. The members of his church did everything in their power to prevent the message from becoming established on the island. In the evening they patrolled the streets and persuaded every one they met not to attend the meeting. They succeeded so well that only five persons were present at the meeting the first night. The number did not increase for a whole week, and on some nights we had only three present.

Our opposers rejoiced greatly, thinking that our work had come to naught. While they were doing their work, I

was pleading with God for the fulfilment of His promises. The second week the tide turned and some who had been influenced by our opposers began to attend the meetings. As the subjects—the state of the dead and the punishment of the wicked were studied, hearts were melted and people saw God as a God of love. One man said, "My heart was hardened against religion by the teaching that God would burn the wicked throughout eternity, but now my heart is touched with the love of God." Our opposers became more desperate in their efforts, but were unsuccessful. God had set His hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people, and no power on earth could keep them back. At the end of the fourth week I had planned to leave, but eight had made their decision for the message, and others were deeply interested; so I decided to remain two weeks more. At the end of the fifth week fifteen took their stand for the truth, and I was able to organize a Sabbath school of sixteen members. I preached my last sermon on the night of July 6. The subject was on the days of Noah. Next morning I heard that four more had decided for the message. This will increase the number of converts to twenty. Brother Frank Fletcher is now following up the interest, and I am certain that he will soon have a Sabbath school of thirty or forty.

One brother who accepted the message is a trained teacher, and has been teaching for forty-three years. He has served as catechist in a number of churches. His assistant, a promising young lady who has held various church offices, has also accepted the truth. Another brother has deeded to the conference a splendid piece of land for a church lot. One man who is deeply interested in the message has given all the hardwood to be used as pillars for the building. Others who are interested have promised to assist in the erection of the building. Among those who have accepted the truth are some who are reckoned as the best carpenters on the island. It will be very easy to have a church building put up if we can give them the material.

Thus another island has been entered for God. Let us remember these new converts in our prayers. This commencement of our work in Cayman Brac is only the entering wedge. Greater results are to follow. "To God be the glory, great things He hath done."

H. P. LAWSON.

*Lamb's River, Jamaica.*

#### BAHAMAS NEWS NOTES

The Big Week receipts in the Bahamas this year were 500% greater than last year's receipts. Over one hundred

dollars' worth of books were sold, half of which went to the the Extension Fund. I had the privilege of selling over thirty dollars' worth of books after closing school in the afternoons. This served not only as an encouragement to me, but also to the church. We will plan for still greater progress in the 1929 Big Week.

Our Nassau church school which Mrs. Beddoe and I have been teaching, closed for the summer holidays at the end of July. Rewards were given the most faithful for punctuality and the highest scholarship. Monica Butler received first place for punctuality with neither absence nor tardiness against her name for the whole school year, and her brother John, who was three minutes tardy once, received second place. The three highest in scholarship with their final standings are: Thelma Weich 95%; Monica Butler 94½%; Elizabeth Antonio 93½%.

Pastor Bidwell is at present visiting our church on Andros Island.

HARRY E. BEDDOE.

*Nassau, Bahamas.*

#### CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION

Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica

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

#### GUATEMALA

On a plateau 4,880 feet above the sea, and two hundred miles from Puerto Barrios, is located Guatemala City, the largest city in Central America. Here we held our colporteurs' institute from July



Company of believers recently organized in Cayman Brac Island.

12-17,—the first to be held in the Central American Union this year. We had a good attendance during the five days we spent together, and the Spirit of the Lord came very near. The colporteurs were impressed with the importance of their work, and with enthusiasm they set their goals, not only for literature to be sold, but also for souls to be won. They seemed happy in setting their personal goals for the Big Week, and promised to give the profits of the biggest day to the Extension Fund.

Appropriate and inspiring charts were hung on the wall. One of these was, "Forward With Increasing Success." These messengers of truth in Guatemala are surely living up to this motto. During the first six months of this year the literature sales amounted to the splendid sum of \$4,725. And best of all, their leader, Brother J. R. McWilliam said: "We are going to pass the division goal of \$7,000 set for us this year."

We were glad Pastor E. P. Howard could be with us part of the time previous to leaving for Nicaragua, his new field of labor. The first Sabbath of the institute it was our privilege to see thirteen believers buried with their Lord in baptism, and it was also our joy to welcome some of them to the colporteur work. Pastor L. H. Connolly from our Puerto Barrios church was also present and furnished us with plenty of music. Although he did not understand all that was said in Spanish, nevertheless he entered into the spirit of the meetings, and became enthusiastic about the Big Week campaign. He also set a goal for himself.

Following the institute, Brother J. R. McWilliam and I went to the city of Esquintla, about fifty miles from Guatemala City, to spend our Big Week. Although many of our books had been sold in this place we were given a royal welcome, and in thirty-eight and one-half hours we sold \$200 worth of books. I must confess that never before have I seen people so much interested in gospel literature, and although most of them are Roman Catholics, they put aside their strong prejudices and listened to the presentation of the good book, "Our Day in the Light of Prophecy." The time has come for us to canvass Central America, because many have lost all their faith in Catholicism and some are losing confidence in *Los Evangélicos*, (Protestants). As we told them about the prophecies and their fulfilment, and of the many signs that tell us we are living in the very end of time, they at first refused to hear, and said that they were Roman Catholics and had no time for any other religion. But as they listened to the straight testimony given from the word of God, it changed their tone of voice and, often, to our surprise, they would say,

"We must have your book." A Catholic young man employed in the government office said, as he was writing his name in the prospectus: "Maybe I will find the way of salvation in this book." We are praying that not only this young man, but many more in the Republic of Guatemala, may find redeeming love, and eternal salvation through reading the message of truth that we have for the world today.

One of the most touching experiences was told in a barber shop. As we entered, the owner had one side of his face shaved. When we approached him with the book he hesitated and seemed anxious to finish the other side regardless of visitors. But when he heard the name "Jesus," and reference made to the wonderful prophecies telling of His second coming, he immediately turned around, and forgetting all about the other side of his face, paid undivided attention to the canvass of the book. One could see by the expression on his face that he seemed very happy at the thought of having a home in that kingdom where Jesus rules as Lord and King. When we told him of the home of the saved, and that it is the privilege of all to be there if they will give their lives to Christ, he opened up his heart and told us some sad experiences. Spiritualists had invited him to their home; but he found no comfort in any of their meetings. They gave him their books, which he was reading, but he saw nothing but deception in Spiritualism. He told us about his family and of a terrible experience that had come to them. He had a nineteen-year old brother to whom his father gave money to go to the port town of San José, a distance of about twenty-seven miles from home, to start a barber shop; thus enabling him to make a living for himself. But instead of following the advice of his father he fell into bad company that not only robbed him of his money but of all his character and manhood. Later when the father's eyes again rested upon his son's face, marked and marred by debauchery, he could hardly recognize it as the face of his once promising boy. The young man, discouraged with life by his mistake, decided to commit suicide. He threw himself before a fast approaching locomotive and ended his life of sin. The news of his son's tragic death broke the father's heart. As he talked with us that day and recalled that terrible experience, he realized that the wages of sin are cruel and hard. We read to him many of the promises of the Bible, and before we left he purchased "Our Day," and promised to read his Bible and have nothing to do with Spiritualism.

Later we entered a printing establishment, and when we finished our canvass the owner said to us: "If you will come to Esquintla and preach to the people

this kind of doctrine, inside of five years you will have every one turned away from Catholicism." These experiences surely impress us that the Holy Spirit is preparing hearts for the reception of the message. It is high time that we should arise with a new determination to carry the truth to the homes of the people before it is forever too late.

We have every reason to rejoice, and believe that the truth contained in our good books will triumph in Guatemala. The promise of the Lord is, "The truth is soon to triumph gloriously, and all who now choose to be laborers together with God will triumph with it."—"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 135.

J. A. P. GREEN.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

### OLD PROVIDENCE AND SAN ANDRES

In response to repeated invitations from patrons of the West Caribbean Training School who live on the islands of Old Providence and San Andres, it was the privilege of myself and family to spend five weeks on these islands; becoming better acquainted with the parents as well as the young people who should be planning to avail themselves of the opportunities offered at the West Caribbean Training School. Incidentally, this visit was to be a vacation from work and a time for recreation.

San Andres is a one crop island, and that crop is coconuts. This does not mean that nothing else is cultivated or grown, but almost all the surface of the island supports waving coconut palms and almost nothing else is sold for the export trade. During the late war, coconuts could not be obtained from their usual sources, and the little island of San Andres not only carried on a flourishing trade, but every few weeks following a shipment of a million coconuts there came back a sizable stream of gold, for the price was many times the price today.

The Third Angel's Message has had representatives in this island for many years, and faithful teachers have had a wonderful influence on the young people who today are entering upon life's responsibilities. But for two or three years we have had no school there and the people stopped me many times and begged that we open a school. The little church there was only too glad to cooperate in this, and plans were definitely laid to open a school soon. Luther Archbold, one of our recent graduates of the West Caribbean Training School has accepted a call to this island.

Old Providence is an island of very different characteristics from San Andres. It rises high above the sea, and rocks are very plentiful almost all over the island. One town is called Rocky Point, but as I travelled over the is-

land I discovered many points that the name would fit perfectly. There are several different recreations to be enjoyed here, such as boating, swimming and horseback riding. Six former students kept their brains busy planning new surprises for us.

There are many young men and women there who are longing for an education, and it was a great pleasure to plan with these for their future. Already some of the young people from these islands are actively engaged in giving the message, and it is with renewed interest that we watch younger ones planning to enter the training school that they, too, may soon engage in the Master's work.

Catholicism is very strong in these islands, and threats of arrest were made when Pastor Hutchinson was quoted as having spoken against the church, while visiting there. However there are many who are anxious to know what the Bible teaches, and I was pressed into presenting those scriptures which relate directly to the work of the papacy. So seldom do our conference workers visit these parts of the field that all seem hungry to hear some preaching. Meetings were held several times a week and the attendance was good.

Our work and people are held in high repute and there are, from time to time, new ones embracing the faith. This comes as a result of the influence of our brethren and sisters and of the work done by Captain Sheridan Archbold who is in direct charge in both islands. Three persons were baptized on the last day of our visit at Old Providence, and we left for Colon with the deepest gratitude to God for the pleasant and profitable visit. Shall we not unitedly pray that God may hold in check the wrath of the dragon until all the honest ones have taken their stand with the people of God?

C. L. STONE.

Obispo, Canal Zone.

### COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

Box O, Balboa, Canal Zone

H. E. BAASCH - - - Superintendent  
C. L. STILSON - - - Secy.-Treas.

### FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF COLOMBIA

Sailing from Balboa on the 18th of June, I arrived in Buenaventura, on the Pacific coast of the Republic of Colombia, the following Thursday. We had to wait for the tide to rise before we could enter the shallow mouth of the River Cuaca, which issues at that point into the Pacific. It was late in the afternoon when we were piloted into the river, and darkness had already fallen when the little launch which carried passengers and baggage unloaded its freight by the side of a flight of

steps which led up to the pier, and which was crowded by a mass of humanity. They set up a regular battle for the possession of our trunks and hand baggage. Before I was aware of it, my luggage was being hurried off by some unknown lad to an unknown direction. It was very dark; the pier was dimly lighted, and I had an excitable time trying to follow a shadow over railway tracks and around rolling stock and big automobile boxes. At last I arrived at the custom house, where, even at this late hour, the baggage was submitted to the minutest examination. Everything was opened, even the smallest parcel and the most insignificant little box. A flashlight was unscrewed and the official took a good look into the hollow barrel. Finally the examination was ended, and I was glad to find rest in the nearby hotel, where the breeze from the sea affords a refreshing change from the sultry and dusty streets of Buenaventura.

Early next morning I made ready to proceed on my trip. The next part of the journey was to take me by train to Cali, where Brother Nickle has his headquarters. Once settled in the train, I began to read from my Bible. Presently a well proportioned *Señor Cura* took the seat opposite, and engaged me in conversation. He showed extraordinary enthusiasm for the Bible and said that everywhere he went he encouraged people to read and study it. I was glad to find a representative of another church with whom I could agree heartily, at least on one point.

The ride on the train took us along the beautiful Dagua river, hemmed in on both sides by impenetrable tropical jungle, often leaving just sufficient space for the railway track. Higher and higher we climbed, and it grew perceptibly cooler. After about five hours, we reached the top of the mountain range at a station called *La Cumbre*. Here we were about 5,000 feet above sea level. To the right of the railway track we noticed a set of buildings conspicuous for orderliness and general arrangement. We learned that it was a sanitarium conducted by an American doctor.

We then descended until we were about 3,000 feet above sea level. Here we pulled into the station of Cali, where Brother Nickle was awaiting us with his "Cockroach." The natives of this country are fond of giving nick-names to particular cars, and Brother Nickle's car has not escaped this idiosyncrasy of the Colombians. On this "Cockroach" we loaded our baggage, and took seats next to the driver.

It was Friday afternoon, and as the sun set I thanked the Lord for the privilege of being in the midst of a few brethren of like faith.

In Colombia we are living in the days

of small things; but they are very precious and are the first shadows of the big things which we expect in the future. The Sabbath school was held in the home of Brother and Sister Nickle. There were eight members present; one of these, a young man, was buried in baptism the same afternoon, in the beautiful Cali river. Another member of the Sabbath school is a young German who accepted the truth not long ago through contact with Brother Christiansen. This young man is now canvassing and the Lord is blessing him signally. He has just finished his first six weeks in this work, and has taken orders for and delivered \$1,200 worth of books. Colombia is receiving our literature with avidity. We have a number of faithful men who carry the printed page to the people; but there are vast territories that are still waiting for the tread of the toiling colporteur and for the word of the preacher.

Colombia is, at the present time, peculiarly prepared for the reception of the Third Angel's Message. The country is in a state of ferment—not politically so much as commercially and intellectually. The opening of the Panama Canal has brought the entire western slope of the country into closer touch with the industries of the north; new roads across the high *cordilleras* are opening more and more hinterland, and are affording wider scope for trade and traffic. The whole country is in a semi-raw condition and ready for a rapid advance toward the benefits of modern civilization. Almost any experienced craftsman or farmer can thrive here, and for this reason foreigners are flocking to this country in increasing numbers. In this part of Colombia the climate is altogether healthful, and such as a northerner can endure well.

Last Sabbath Brother Nickle and I visited a small group of believers who live about eighty miles from Cali. They received the message through the printed page and rejoice in its light. We arrived in time for Sabbath school, which was conducted in much the same way as Sabbath keepers hold it the world over: the opening song, prayer,

a good secretary's report, the review, the lesson, and closing song and prayer. All had their song books and joined heartily in the singing. Those who could read had Bibles. It is less than twelve months since these good people who were living in darkness and ignorance began to see the light. Yet we were surprised at the splendid grasp they have of the message and the absolute faith they put in it. A year ago they attended Sabbath school barefoot and in ragged clothes; now they come in good, clean clothes and well shod. It is truly a miracle of grace, for the change is wonderful in effect. In the afternoon there was a young people's meeting. A young man was the leader and every young person took part in the lesson, reciting from memory the texts for which the leader called by just citing the reference. In view of the absolute mental sluggishness into which a false religion has kept the people down for centuries, we could not help but marvel again and again, as we heard these simple farm boys and girls recite Scripture verses.

Picture Rolls are much appreciated in this country. The pictures are quite easily sold for 25 cents each, and in some instances as much as \$5.00 has been paid for a Picture Roll.

We encourage these brethren to do personal missionary work with their neighbors. We could see that they have not been hiding their light, for on both sides of and above the entrance to the room in which the meeting was held, Bible verses were written in large conspicuous letters. It reminded me of the sign "on the two side posts and on the upper door post" which saved the life of the firstborn in Goshen.

We left a happy and joyous company, as we bade them goodby after the Sabbath was ended. We started home in the "Cockroach" but were caught twice for not having our lights burning. In the first instance we proffered the official copies of *El Centinela* and some tracts, which were gratefully received and we were allowed to pass on. The second time, however, we were detained for good and were obliged to walk the

Pastors Baasch and Nickle preaching to the Cuchus Indians on market day in Tuza, Colombia.





silent streets of the little town until daybreak.

There are a few Protestant missions in Colombia, but their efforts are quite limited. On the other hand, this appears to be the opportune time for the advent message to reach the people. A large proportion of them are on the point of breaking loose from the old regime, and are looking for anything that will bring them progress and opportunities and greater personal liberty. We believe that under this persistent urge for advance, many of them will recognize in the advent message the truth for which they have longed. Would to God that we who are privileged to work in this field might be equal to the providential openings!

HENRY E. BAASCH.

*Calí, Colombia*

### ATLANTIC COLOMBIA

On Sabbath, August 25, I had the privilege of baptizing four believers in Fundación. We were glad to have with us, on that occasion, Brother J. A. Castro, who first brought the message to that town. Others are preparing for baptism, and we hope to celebrate the rite again before the close of the year. On my way home from Fundación I stopped at another town of the banana zone, and held a Bible study with a man and his wife, both of whom are teachers in the public school. They seem much interested. I also found newly interested ones in Ciénaga. Doubtless there are others, also, in those parts who have had their interest awakened by the good work of Brother Manhertz, who has been canvassing there for a number of months.

Brother Redondo continues his work in the Sinú river country, and reports new ones having accepted the truth in Cereté and Montería.

Doubtless before this paper reaches its readers, Brother and Sister Lien will have arrived from the States to take up work in this field. We shall be glad to welcome these new workers, and know that they will find a wonderful field of usefulness in the Lord's cause here.

E. W. THURBER.

*Barranquilla, Colombia.*

### EAST CARIBBEAN UNION MISSION

Box 221, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

M. A. HOLLISTER - - - Superintendent  
M. D. HOWARD - - - Secy.-Treas.

### INDIANS WAITING FOR HELP

Indians! Indians! Patamonas, Arauaks, Macusas, Akawaias and Arekunas, (Davis Indians)! These are a few of the many tribes that are scattered throughout the Guianas, Venezuela, and northern Brazil, adjacent to our Mount

Roraima Mission. The territory in which these Indians live, would require about 18 days to cross from the boundary of the Patamonas to the boundary of the Arekuna country. While the tribes are not large in the immediate vicinity of our mission, there are many of them scattered over a very extensive territory.

There are many opportunities for teaching, healing, and preaching among these Indians. While they are not afflicted with many of the diseases with which civilization is familiar, they have afflictions that should be given attention. They also stand in great need of instruction in the care of the body. The Indians about our mission are probably 350 miles away from the nearest doctor. But that is not their only problem. They have no money with which to pay for medical attention. They use any commodity, such as food, clothing, pocket knives, fish hooks, that they can obtain as a medium of exchange. They have no use for money except for decoration. The sick could not get to the doctor, for their friends would not help them. They would not even go near to feed them, for the only cure they know of for sickness is death.

They have medicine men whom they call upon in case of sickness. The medicine man comes with his drums, beads, painted face and body, and uses magic. He consults with the spirits to determine the nature of the disease. When this is done to his satisfaction, those with him begin chanting, and beating the drums, and waving some leaves of supposed magic over the patient. They often lay the leaves upon the affected part, and the patient is supposed to get well. If he does not, his release comes with death.

Most of the Indians suffer with eye troubles, caused chiefly by putting pepper juice into the eye to drive away evil spirits, or for the cure of a common cold. Taking a green leaf, the medicine man rolls it into a funnel shape and puts the patient into such a position that the point of the funnel can be directed to the eye. He sits down on the ground beside the patient whose face is turned upward. Then taking a small raw pepper, squeezes the juice into the funnel shaped leaf; first into one eye and then into the other. Such treatment immediately produces an inflammation which continues for days, but, of course, has no effect, so far as curing the cold is concerned.

The Indians need instruction regarding their diet. While they have native products which are grown from the soil, such as yams, cassava, and bananas, they also use fish and wild game and they eagerly eat many kinds of insects, such as grasshoppers, flying ants, and insects similar to wasps. Should they kill a deer, a pig, or a cow, they will roast it in

the fire, and never leave until they have eaten it all, whether it requires two hours, ten hours, or two days. When it is completely devoured, they may go many succeeding days with nothing to eat because they have no food left.

During holidays they go on what they call a *cassiri* spree, lasting approximately six weeks. During this time they will do no work and are drunk most of the time. *Cassiri* is a drink made by either chewing or grinding cassava root or purple yams, and water. If it is not well mixed with saliva they may add a little sugar cane juice, either of which will cause the fermentation. This will be allowed to remain untouched for weeks until ready for the celebration.

One fortunate thing for the Indians' teeth—and they do have good teeth—is the fact that they eat so much cassava bread. It is a very hard, dry sunbaked flat cake which requires strong teeth to masticate, and hence keeps the teeth in fairly good condition. Great good could be done by medical workers among any of these tribes.

M. A. HOLLISTER.

*Port of Spain, Trinidad.*

### REACHING THE HARVEST INGATHERING GOAL

Richard Halliburton, the noted lecturer and author, who recently swam the entire length of the Panama Canal, had to overcome many difficulties before he reached his objective, not the least of which was the passage of the alligator-infested Gatun Lake. When he reached the Pacific end of the canal he was nearly exhausted, but he reached his goal. The last part of his effort was the most important to him. If he had failed then, his strenuous work of the previous days would have been useless. When I read of this young man's determination to succeed, I thought of how easily we can reach our division Harvest Ingathering goal of \$33,000 if the same determination is manifested in the closing part of the campaign. By the time this MESSENGER reaches the field three quarters of the Harvest Ingathering period will be past. What does your goal chart register? Does it give promise of success? Remember that the last part of the campaign must be the most determined if success is to be achieved. Mr. Halliburton is lecturing today because he has reached his goal and has something to report. But his effort will soon be forgotten because he was striving for an earthly prize. Harvest Ingatherers are reaching for a heavenly prize, and they should not forget that the last dollars necessary to reach an earthly goal may be the very ones that will be instrumental in helping souls to gain the heavenly prize.

*Balboa, C. Z.*

C. E. Wood.

### PARENTS, HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY

You've been wanting just this chance. Now it is yours. While they last, 1926, 1927, and 1928 *Parents' Lessons* are to be sold for 50 cents a set (a year's Lessons.) Beginning with January, 1929 *Parents' Lessons* will be in book form, the books being handled through the Book and Bible Houses. In the meantime, embrace the opportunity to get these valuable *Lessons* for almost nothing. Here is a sample of the letters we get relative to these *Lessons*:

"The 1927 *Lessons* closed a five years' course of study for me. As I look back and think of all we have studied, my heart goes up to God in praise and thanksgiving for all the good things we have enjoyed.

"It has made the training of our children much easier, and although they are far from perfect, people have asked me how it is that we 'have such fine children.' At——people often came to me for advice, and I was always glad to tell them about the *Parents' Lessons*, and often lent them my own sets. Mrs. T., wife of the master of the Technical School, has had two years of my *Lessons*, and now she has sent for them herself. She says they are just what she has been looking for."

Do you want your children to be respected and valued? Do you want them to be fitted for the heavenly home? *Parents' Lessons*, carefully studied, will help you. Address: Home Commission, General Conference, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

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### NEWS ITEMS

Brother H. P. Lawson reports that twenty persons have recently accepted the truth in Cayman Brac, an island lying between Jamaica and Cuba and included in the territory of the Jamaica Conference.

During the past three months a remarkable interest to hear the truth has developed in Jamaica among the Maroon people, who for centuries have lived by themselves surrounded by their superstitions. This interest has been aroused by one of the lay members of the Port Antonio church. The readers of the MESSENGER will be interested in the following paragraph of a letter recently received from Elder Stockhausen, in which he refers to this work:

"Although Brother Stevens has not been working there three months yet, and holds meetings only on Sundays, he has already gathered in a bountiful harvest. On Sabbath (July 21) I had the pleasure of organizing a Sabbath school of seventy—48 seniors and 22 children—and a baptismal class of forty. These believers are as intelligent as any we

have on the island. As soon as a truth is presented to them they try to bring their lives into harmony. Already the women have laid aside their jewels, and the men have put away their tobacco. I am planning to spend two weeks with them next month, and will not be surprised if I find sixty or more in the baptismal class when I get there. The whole district is stirred, and the interest is spreading into three neighboring districts."

The following interesting item of news appeared recently in *The Daily Gleaner* of Kingston, Jamaica:

"March Town, Hanover, July 20—Graced by the presence of His Excellency the Acting Governor and Mrs. Jelf, the Acting Custos for the parish (Mr. J. G. Robertson), the Hon. H. G. Watson-Taylor, member for Hanover, the foundation stone of the Seventh-day Adventist church building here was laid this afternoon in the presence of a large gathering of people who came from far and near."

In replying to the address which had been prepared for the occasion the Acting Governor said that he had known of the activities of the Seventh-day Adventists in the Far East, and that everybody knew they did a very sincere work, and were a power for good wherever they went. This tribute, and the three column report of the Acting Governor's visit which appeared in the daily paper, should give increased prestige to our work in Jamaica.

Brother and Sister C. H. Baker, who have been connected with our mission work in Peru for the past four years and a half, spent a few days in Balboa the latter part of August while waiting to make boat connections. They expect to return to South America at the close of their furlough period.

Brother and Sister A. C. Lien, who have accepted a call to connect with the work in the Atlantic Colombia Mission, arrived in Balboa August 31, en route to Barranquilla, Colombia. We are sure that they will receive a hearty welcome from Brother Thurber, who has been waiting anxiously and long for additional help.

Miss Lillian Schleifer of California, U. S. A., spent a few days in Balboa recently. She sailed for Jamaica on Sept. 15, where she will engage in self-supporting missionary work. Miss Schleifer spent some time in Jamaica about three years ago and raised up a company of believers among the Germans living at Seaford Town. The test of leaving home and friends to engage in self-supporting work in a mission field, surrounded by opposition and hardship, is one that gives a true estimate of consecration and character.

May the Lord greatly bless this sister's faithful work.

Pastor H. E. Baasch has decided to prolong his stay in Bogotà two weeks longer than had been planned, due to the unusual interest which has been manifested in the series of meetings he has been holding there. The increased attendance at the Sabbath services indicates that at least a portion of the forty or more persons who have handed in their names, thus expressing their determination to keep the Sabbath, have definitely taken their stand already.

The following cablegram was received at the division office Sept. 15: "Aibonito Academy destroyed by hurricane." Our hearts go out in sympathy to our brethren in Porto Rico who are facing the disastrous results of this great calamity; and to our dear people in this island and in the Leeward group who have suffered such financial reverses as the result of this terrible storm.

Two more announcements have been received from the Central American Union in August, both from Costa Rica. Brother and Sister C. B. Sutton announce the arrival of a son. The announcement from Brother and Sister A. P. Christiansen reads: Arna Lois, August 27, 1928, San José, Costa Rica.

The Central Colombia Mission reports the arrival of a baby girl in August to gladden the home of Brother and Sister Fred Brower in Bogotà.

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### OBITUARIES

Mrs. Sylvia Smith was born in Kingston, Jamaica, October 13, 1899, and died at the Gorgas Hospital, Canal Zone, July 25, 1928. At an early age she accepted the Third Angel's Message and remained faithful to the end. She is survived by her husband and five children, the youngest of which is eighteen months old.

Charles D. Cooper was born in Antigua, B. W. I., in 1903, and died at the Santo Tomas Hospital, Panama, R. P., August 9, 1928. After accepting the truth in 1923, he attended the West Caribbean Training School, and was still enrolled as a student at the time of his death. A father and mother, six brothers, and three sisters mourn their loss. A. A. GRIZZLE.

Panama City, R. P.

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### INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

Editor—Mrs. E. E. ANDROSS

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