



The Inter-American Division MESSENGER

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An Appeal for Greater Reverence*

"Whereas, 'To the humble, believing soul, the house of God on earth is the gate of heaven' and is 'God's appointed agency to prepare a people for the church above, for that loftier worship into which there can enter nothing that defileth,' and,

"Whereas, Even to the casual observer, there is evident in most of our churches a marked irreverence for the house of God as well as a growing carelessness among our people generally in their deportment and procedure in connection with our church services which grieves the Spirit of God; and,

"Whereas, Through the Spirit of Prophecy God has spoken to us many times upon the need of guarding against this tendency toward irreverence in both home and church, as illustrated by the following words:

"From the sacredness which was attached to the earthly sanctuary, Christians may learn how they should regard the place where the Lord meets with His people. There has been a great change, not for the better, but for the worse in the habits and customs of the people in reference to religious worship. The precious, the sacred things which connect us with God, are fast losing their hold upon our minds and hearts, and are being brought down to the level of common things. The reverence which the people had anciently for the sanctuary where they met with God in sacred service, has largely passed away. Nevertheless, God Himself gave the order of His service, exalting it high above everything of a temporal nature.

"The house is the sanctuary for the family, and the closet or the grove the most retired place for individual worship; but the church is the sanctuary for the congregation. There should be rules in regard to the time, the place, and the manner of worshiping. Nothing that is sacred nothing that pertains to the worship of God, should be treated with carelessness or indifference.

"When the worshippers enter the place of meeting, they should do so with decorum, passing quietly to their seats. If there is a stove in the room it is not proper to crowd about it in an indolent careless attitude. Common talking, whispering, and laughing should not be permitted in the house of worship, either before or after service. Ardent, active piety should characterize the worshippers. If some have to wait a few minutes before the meeting begins, let them maintain a true spirit of devotion by silent meditation, keeping the heart uplifted to God in prayer that the service may be of special benefit to their own hearts, and lead to the conviction and conversion of other souls.

"If when the people come into the house of

worship, they have genuine reverence for the Lord, and bear in mind that they are in His presence, there will be a sweet eloquence in silence. The whispering and laughing and talking which might be without sin in a common business place, should find no sanction in the house where God is worshiped.

"When the benediction is pronounced, all should still be quiet as if fearful of losing the peace of Christ. *Let all pass out without hustling or loud talking, feeling that they are in the presence of God, that His eye is resting upon them and they must act as in His visible presence.* Let there be no stopping in the aisles to visit or gossip, thus blocking them up so that others cannot pass out.

"The precincts of the church should be in-

ONE DAY AT A TIME

One day at a time, with its failures and fears,
With its hurts and mistakes, with its weakness
and tears,
With its portion of pain and its burden of care;
One day at a time we must meet and must bear.

One day at a time—but the day is so long—
And the heart is not brave and the soul is not
strong.

O Thou pitiful Christ, be Thou near all the way;
Give courage and patience and strength for the
day.

Swift cometh His answer, so clear and so sweet:
"Yea, I will be with thee, thy troubles to meet;
I will not forget thee, nor fail thee, nor grieve;
I will not forsake thee; I never will leave."

One day at a time, and the day is His day;
He hath numbered its hours, though they haste
or delay.

His grace is sufficient, we walk not alone;
As the day, so the strength that He giveth His
own.
—Annie Johnson Flint.

vested with a sacred reverence. It should not be made a place to meet old friends, and visit and introduce common thoughts and worldly business transactions. These should be left outside the church. God and angels have been dishonored by the careless, noisy laughing and shuffling of feet heard in some places.' *Testimonies*, Vol. V, pp. 492, 494. Therefore,

"Resolved, That we solemnly and determinedly covenant together before God to remedy this deplorable tendency toward irreverence in our churches and that we call upon our people generally for their own sake and for the sake of God's great cause, to join us in reformation in this regard; and further,

"Resolved, That we do not depend simply upon a single announcement from time to time to bring about this most desirable and important change, but that we immediately begin a consistent and continuous education in our churches and homes to turn this tide of irreverence and confusion; and that in so doing we keep in mind the following:

"1. That reverence begins in the individual heart and in the home, and that parents can do much through their personal influence and example to inculcate respect for sacred things by keeping aglow the fires of the family altar, teaching their children reverence in this sacred period.

"2. That determined and continuous efforts be made to preserve the sacred, quiet atmosphere of the holy sanctuary by eliminating conversation within the church auditorium; and that in entering and leaving the church edifice a worshipful quietness be maintained keeping ever in mind that the church is God's meeting place with His people and not a social center for common visiting. And further, that we suggest to our people the habit of a moment of individual, silent prayer in the pew immediately upon entering the service.

"3. That in the interim between the close of the Sabbath school and the opening of the preaching service, our people restrict their moving about to the gathering of the family together for the service that follows:

"4. That ministers, workers, and local church elders on the platform and in mingling with the people, ever keep in mind their influence in these matters, and their duty continually to educate by precept and example toward the ideal of perfect quietness, publicly discouraging all confusion either before or after the service. To bring this about, let the congregation whenever feasible be seated for a moment of united, silent prayer before leaving the regular service. Let ministers or elders when seated on the rostrum refrain from whispered conversation during the preaching, and con-

*This appeal comes to us from our General Conference leaders assembled in council.

tinually maintain in attitude and posture a realizing sense of the sacred presence of God.

"5. That the simplicity of our early pioneers be preserved in the order of service, and that we frown upon the trend of our day, to increasing forms or preliminaries, especially in our large city churches, thus wearying the minds of the hearers before the preaching of the Word of God.

"6. That in order to maintain uniformity and to eliminate confusion, ministers and church leaders, upon entering the pulpit to kneel in silent prayer, comply with the posture preferred in that particular church, whether it be kneeling toward the chair or facing the pulpit. In North America and other countries where the custom will allow, we favor the plan of both ministers and people kneeling facing the pulpit in the congregational prayer, so far as is consistent, but in any event uniformity in each church should be maintained, recognizing that it is not so much the posture as the spirit that is essential.

"7. That as the pulpit, or rostrum, is that special place in the church edifice from which the Word of God is preached, and from which the Sabbath school, young people's society meeting, and other departmental meetings may properly be conducted where no secondary rostrum has been provided, our church leaders so regard it, and our members be asked to refrain from using it in common way, out of harmony with its unique character; also that children be taught extreme carefulness in conduct that relates to the rostrum.

"8. That only those who represent in their dress and general conduct the principles of Christian modesty, dignity and sobriety, be placed in responsible positions in the church or any of its departments, or be invited to sing in the choir or take part in special music rendered in the public assembly. On the other hand, we recommend that all, particularly those who act in a representative or public capacity in the church, manifest in their dress scrupulous cleanliness, avoiding all that is slovenly or inappropriate in one who should be an example to the flock.

"9. That presidents of conferences bear in mind the importance of definitely keeping matters before our people, recognizing the camp meeting and other general gatherings as suitable times to instruct all our churches on these important principles."



"We have a greater and more solemn truth than was ever before committed to mortals, and we are responsible for the way we treat that truth. Every one of us should be intent on saving souls."

DEFINITE AIMS IN EDUCATION

As a denomination, we have two definite aims to be accomplished in Christian education,—the salvation of the young people to the cause of Christ and their preparation for some place of usefulness in the same. And while we are attempting to do that for them, we are at the same time giving them the training that will aid them in any of the pursuits of life with which they come in contact. It is not our primary aim to fit them for positions of trust and usefulness in worldly pursuits, but naturally the information received in this Christian training does give them valuable help in doing the things that come in the course of their every day lives if not employed in the organized work.

Decisions for life are made in early years. A careful survey in many parts of the world has led us to know that very few people change their habits of thought and practice after they are past the age of twenty-five. The average age when decisions for life are made is about the age of sixteen. It can be seen very readily that every influence possible should be thrown about the youth at that stage of life to aid them in making the decision in the right way. That which we put into the life in early years is put there for all time. We do not properly estimate the value of this work of training and educating the young in the church. From the first grade to the end of his educational course the youth should be properly encouraged and aided in this work of preparing his mind and heart for the right attitude toward his Creator.

The cause of God today needs workers in nearly every line. In the Inter-American Division we must train the young in these fields to carry on the major part of the work that is to be done. The young men must be trained to become ministers, teachers, accountants, and to step into many places where talent can be used. We cannot afford to bring from other parts of the world the help we need for these various fields and for the many needy places in our work. We must look to the young people in the different fields to become trained for this work. This will utilize the talent they have, and will greatly encourage them as well as give to the leaders the help which they must have in the fields.

So these two definite aims for our young people must be kept before us in these fields,—their salvation from sin and the pollutions of the world, and their definite training for the work of God in whatever capacity they are fitted for service. Let us work toward these aims so that we shall accomplish that which the Lord has in mind for us.

Balboa, C. Z.

W. L. ADAMS.

ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION

Genaro Sanchez 11, Vibora, Havana, Cuba

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

GENERAL MEETING IN SANTO DOMINGO

A very successful general meeting was held in Santo Domingo January 23 to February 3. The attendance and interest on the part of our own people and of the friends of the city was splendid throughout. The several churches of the mission were well represented at the meetings. A great interest was manifested by all of the members of the churches in the discussion and adoption of all of the plans considered for the advancement of the work throughout their own mission and in the great world field.

I have been attending conferences and general meetings for more than forty years in connection with this Advent Movement, but I think I never attended a meeting where was manifested a greater spirit of earnestness, unity, and desire to carry forward the work. Not one word of discontent or criticism was heard. Elder Nygaard, the superintendent of the mission, has the loyal, hearty cooperation of all of his workers and people. And a united people under God can accomplish great things for the advancement of His cause.

As an illustration of the progress that the work is making, the Sabbath schools in 1927 numbered 11 with 288 members and gave over 1,200 dollars for the year. In 1929 they had 25 schools with 811 members and the offerings amounted to over \$2,600.00. Thus within two years every item was doubled. The report of Sister R. Gideon Jones, the Sabbath school secretary, was very inspirational and encouraging.

Brother Jones, treasurer of the mission, also had a most excellent report, showing a good healthy growth in tithes and offerings. The report of the home missionary secretary, Brother J. R. Phipps, showed that our members throughout the mission are active in all lines of home missionary work. And Brother Pablo Johnson's report as field missionary secretary showed an encouraging development of the sales of books in the field. So all lines of the work mark progress. Only a few years ago the Message began in Santo Domingo. But at the present rate of progress the Dominican Mission will soon develop into one of our stronger fields of the Antillian Union. It is truly encouraging to see the Message making such advancement. Santo Domingo City has the distinction of being the oldest in the western hemisphere, and it is good to see our Message being so firmly established in this "cradle of America."

The evening meetings were largely at-

tended by the public, there being as many as 500 to 600 in attendance. A good interest was shown in each subject presented by the several speakers at the evening services among whom were Brethren Phipps, Succar and Nygaard of the Dominican Mission, and Brother Achenbach of Porto Rico and the writer. We are glad also for the presence and help of Brother Bergherm, home and field missionary secretary of the Antillian Union.

May God greatly bless the work and workers and all the faithful believers of the Dominican field that 1930 may show marked progress in all lines of work.

Havana, Cuba. A. R. OGDEN.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE WORK IN HAITI

(Note: This article has been gleaned from the annual report of the superintendent of the Haitian Mission. Editor.)

This last quadrennial period has brought many changes in the Haitian Mission. But we rejoice that a splendid missionary spirit prevails in all of our churches and that we can expect a strong forward movement during 1930.

During the past four years 828 have been added to our membership, bringing the total up to 1,361 baptized members. These members are divided into 23 organized churches and 20 companies. Four hundred are now preparing for baptism.

Five new chapels have been dedicated to the service of the Lord during 1929. Among these is the large temple in Port-au-Prince and the nice stone building in Limonade.

In our seminary near Cape Haitien, we are doing the best we can in spite of the fact that we have been without a principal for some time. Our cabinet-making and printing shops are self-supporting, and they give a great number of young people an opportunity to learn a good trade under competent teachers.

We have eight church schools operating in the field with an enrolment of 216. We should, of course, have several more schools to accommodate our young people, numbering about 500. The Catholic influence in government schools is so strong that if our young people are obliged to attend them, they are generally lost to our work.

Our local paper, the *Messenger Haitien*, is a strong factor in bringing the Message to the public. Many of the influential people of Haiti are reading it with much interest and pleasure. We print at present 500 copies and hope to reach the one thousand mark soon.

You will be interested in knowing what our members are giving to help carry the everlasting gospel to the world. As we consider the tense financial crisis in which Haiti has been for several years, and more than ever this past year, we

really marvel to notice what has been done along these lines. The total tithes and offerings for 1929 amounted to \$11,737.30.

The Sabbath schools are a real blessing to the work in Haiti. Many precious souls have accepted the truth through this medium. It is a real pleasure to see how faithfully some of our members study their lessons every day. Truly the Sabbath school has been the means, to a great extent, of solving the problems of illiteracy in Haiti among our people. In nearly every church the Sabbath school officers assemble the unfortunate members, who cannot read, in their homes at 5 o'clock in the morning to study with them the Sabbath school lesson. They are not only taking ten minutes for their daily study, but they often take one hour.

As we study the problems in our field, the need of more church buildings seems to be one of our biggest problems. It is very hard and expensive to rent rooms. In most cases, the priests are threatening to excommunicate those who rent to us for church purposes. In one town we have 43 members and over one hundred believers, but no meeting place; and it is impossible for us to find one in that town which would be within the limits of our resources. So on the Sabbath our believers have to meet in the

country under a palm leaf tabernacle. Several companies have to share a house with unbelievers. As there is only a thin partition between the place of worship and the room occupied by strangers to our faith, our people are often disturbed during their services by profane language, imprecations, domestic quarrels and the smell of alcohol and tobacco. In some places our dear people have been exposed to such difficulties for years.

Another sad lack we find in Haiti is that of the "right arm" of the Message, or the medical work. I am convinced that if we had a good medical missionary in Haiti, our work would be more than doubly appreciated. In traveling through the Haitian Mission one meets everywhere suffering from all kinds of diseases. The majority of these sick people are at the mercy of their witch doctors. It is true that in some towns there are hospitals and dispensaries, but these are largely under Catholic supervision or control. What a great and blessed work awaits a competent and consecrated medical missionary in Haiti!

J. A. DE CAENEL.

Cape Haitien, Haiti.

A COLPORTEUR INSTITUTE IN CUBA

A very profitable institute for the colporteurs of the Cuban Mission was held during the closing days of December 1929. Every colporteur was present, and also a number of others who had answered the call to service. All entered in a most enthusiastic manner into the discussion of the subjects treated. A splendid spirit prevailed throughout the entire meeting, and on several occasions God's presence came preciously near to all. New resolutions were formed, and goals were set for 1930. When we separated all felt that it was good to have been together. The interest in the colporteur work was revealed by the presence of leading workers of the mission, including Pastor A. A. Davis, the superintendent; Pastor R. E. Stewart, home missionary, Sabbath school and young people's secretary; W. H. England, the secretary and treasurer; as well as R. R. Mattison, the field missionary secretary.

In the afternoon of the last Sabbath an opportunity was given to the colporteurs to relate experiences. As usual this meeting proved to be a very interesting occasion. Among other experiences was one that deeply impressed all. It was told by Manuel Novoa, formerly of Spain. He said:

"I was working in a town in my territory called Maniabon, with the book 'Our Day.' At one home the lady said: 'I am sorry that I am unable to buy the book, but I have no money.' She then explained how her only son, a grown man, had been insane since meet-



Manuel Novoa, a colporteur in Cuba

ing with an accident a few weeks before, and stated that since that time they had been obliged to keep him in chains in order to hold him. I learned that he had fallen on his head, and the doctors had been unable to help him, although his skull had not been fractured.

"As I listened to her sad story, I felt very sorry for her and her son. It seemed that I could not leave the house without doing something to help those poor souls. At last I told the lady that she should give her son some hydrotherapy treatments. I made clear how she should proceed, and urged that she get some of her neighbors to help her. I then left the house fearing that they would not carry out the instructions, for some seem to fear the application of hot and cold water in case of sickness.

"Some time later, when again working in that town, I met a man who extended his hand in a friendly way and with a smile said, 'You are the man that saved my life!' To my surprise it proved to be the mad man, completely restored to his right mind. The simple applications of hot and cold water had done the work. He readily ordered a book from me."

For seven years Manuel Novoa, whose picture accompanies this article, has been engaged as a colporteur in Cuba. All this time he has been working on the plan of a permanent resident colporteur, going over and over the same territory with different books. Naturally he has become known as the "book-man." His consistent Christian life and zeal for souls has been used of God in winning a good number to the truth. The railroad company, an American concern, whose line runs through his field of labor, has appreciated his work, and for the last three years he has been granted free passes on the trains as a first class passenger.

W. A. BERGHERM.

Havana, Cuba.

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION
Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica

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

GOOD NEWS FROM GUATEMALA

In a little town called Genova, where probably a dozen sermons have been preached and a few subscriptions to *El Centinela* taken, we now have a Sabbath school of sixteen members, many of whom are keeping the Sabbath, but not one person among them is a baptized member; and because of the interest in so many places, we have been unable to spare a worker for that place for any length of time. These interested ones are offering to build a church in which to worship. A few months ago a church with ten members was organized. Fifteen others are studying for baptism. The whole city is stirred with the Message and even lawyers and doctors, who before were staunch Catholics, are now reading their Bibles and inquiring into our doctrines.

Two young men from Jalapa were sent to do colporteur work. They had wonderful success and in a short time took 300 subscriptions for *El Centinela*,

besides selling many books. One of these young men became very ill and had to be rushed home to his mother. She forbade his entering her home because of his new belief. He rented a room near-by, and as soon as he was able he began to teach the people. In the meantime we heard that he had died and we wired to ascertain the correctness of that report. That evening the reply assured us that he was still living. At prayer meeting we prayed especially for this young man, and later he told us that the Lord healed him *that very night*. The result is that we now have five persons keeping the Sabbath in that place, and more than twenty families interested.

A short time ago one of our brethren was offered the position of secretary to the mayor of the town near which he lives. He wrote to the official, and thanked him for the offer, and told him that he would gladly accept it if they could assure him of the Sabbath free. By vote of their executive body this action was properly recorded in their minutes. This brother was determined in his heart to seek first the kingdom of God. There are many others just as faithful in this mission. Our courage is good, our opportunities are many and the whole country is being stirred by this Message. We need schools and dispensaries and more workers to follow up the interests that our colporteurs are awakening.

J. R. McWILLIAM.

Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Brother J. W. Cole, secretary-treasurer of the Honduras Mission writes:

"We have been having some real good experiences in our Harvest Ingathering this year, for which we are very grateful. Two business firms gave us \$75.00 each and another gave us \$50.00. We have not quite reached our goal of \$2,000; but we have reason to believe that when the returns are in from all the churches we shall have passed it."

"The self-sacrifice, the sympathy, the love, manifested in the life of Christ, are to reappear in the life of the workers of God."

"God allows trials to come upon us to draw us closer to Himself."

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

Apartado 313, Cali, Colombia

H. E. BAASCH - - - - - Superintendent
J. B. ROSS - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR

The year 1929 was a successful year for our church school at Camaguan, Venezuela. After much arduous labor a good building which can accommodate more than 100 pupils has been erected on a lot adjoining the church. Ninety-five were matriculated, and a very good monthly average was maintained throughout the year. More than fifty percent of this registration is from Adventist homes.

There are three other schools here besides ours. Two of these are public and free. This competition, however, does not seem to affect us even though we do not offer free tuition.

Bible is a subject for the entire school. Although Catholics are not obliged to possess copies of the good Book, they cannot avoid benefiting in a general way by the instruction given in their respective classes. Indeed, already fruit is being seen as a result. Several pupils have come to us from great distances. We are glad that in spite of the lack of ample accommodations we were able to care for them. Our school taught seven grades last year.

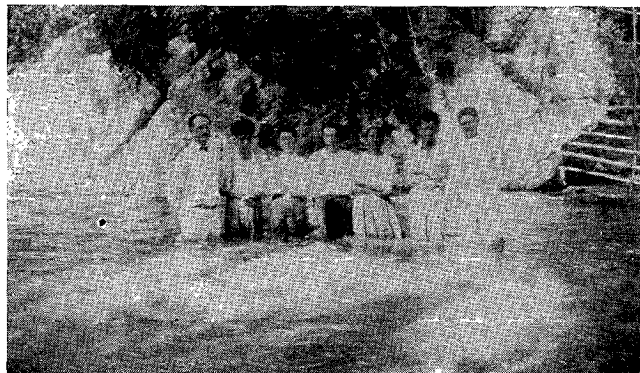
We now have a good supply of wholesome water which was made possible by the liberal gift from the Harvest Ingathering funds to build a cistern. For this benevolent act we shall never weary of giving thanks.

We closed our school year December 23 with a good program which cannot fail to have a favorable influence on those who were present.

The prospects for 1930 are very hopeful. We are greatly encouraged to lay such plans as shall make for further progress and success. Please remember us in your prayers.

R. E. GREENIDGE.

Camaguan, Venezuela.



Pastor G. C. Nickle and six precious souls who have determined to follow in the footsteps of the Master.

EAST CARIBBEAN UNION CONFERENCE

Box 221, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

W. R. ELLIOTT - - - - - *President*
M. D. HOWARD - - - - - *Secy.-Treas.*

A GOOD YEAR AND GOOD PROSPECTS

The work in the East Caribbean Union made very good progress the last year. The number of our churches increased from 71 to 78, and our membership increased from 3,504 to 3,775, with baptisms for the year totaling 416. Of this number 256 were in the South Caribbean Conference. The large increase in membership in this conference is due in part to a very successful effort Brother G. A. Coon held in Tunapuna. He is now holding another effort in San Fernando, in the southern part of Trinidad. Not very many of the East Indians have as yet responded to the truth in Guiana, or in the South Caribbean Conference; however, two of our best colporteurs are East Indians, and we have several East Indian students at the school. Book sales in the union were the highest in the history of the work here, I think. The wonderful success that attended our colporteur work in the South Caribbean Conference last year is largely responsible for this. That conference alone reached the goal set for the entire union.

The work in Guiana has gone a little hard for two or three years, and the condition of the colony is such that our work is still quite difficult. However, the Lord is blessing. Pastor Riley recently raised up a company of fifteen members in the southern part of the field. These new Sabbath keepers are meeting with severe opposition and some persecution on the part of relatives and neighbors. However, they are holding fast to the truth and seem determined to be faithful. Nothing has been done for many years in Dutch Guiana, and we have only two or three Sabbath keepers there, however, we are planning to open work in the city of Paramaribo this year.

The work at the Caribbean Training College in Trinidad is going nicely, and we have about 75 young men and women in attendance. We have a sawmill, printing plant, and farm. These afford considerable employment for our students and we are planning to erect a bakery. Money was appropriated at the last Fall Council for a small treatment room and dispensary where our students can receive some training in first aid work. Brother Hamilton now has more than \$500.00 worth of printing to do and there are prospects that he will get other work from Port of Spain.

The work in the Leeward Islands Conference is moving forward nicely under Brother Cole's leadership. The workers recently have had a very encouraging experience on the Island of

St. Lucia. A few years ago, it seems, a colporteur sold a book there, and the book was read by people living in the vicinity. Lately a number have begun to observe the Sabbath and are calling for help. It appears a church of perhaps thirty members will be organized there before very long.

We are encouraged to learn that Pastor Dexter has accepted the call to the French West Indian Islands. We are confident that the work there will make rapid progress just as soon as he can get on the ground and begin meetings. Interests are developing in various parts of these islands, and we have had a number of calls for help.

The workers in the East Caribbean Union are of good courage and we expect that the Lord will continue to bless the work in this field.

W. R. ELLIOTT.

Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Scattered all over the central states of Mexico there still remains the remnant of the ancient Aztec Empire, called Anahuac. Today there are hundreds of towns and cities which speak the Aztec language and many do not speak the Spanish language at all.

I recently had the privilege of visiting one of our all-Aztec Sabbath schools. It was wonderful to hear these people give their experiences. There are interests springing up all over this territory in these all-Aztec towns. We now have a nice Aztec boy in the canvassing work who will enter school this spring to prepare for the work.

We were surprised, a short time ago, to learn of several companies of people in the state of Morelos who have been keeping the Sabbath for several years and are not in touch with our mission. We made them a visit and found that they had built their own chapel from



Sister A. W. Cott's duties at Mt. Roraima are many and varied. Here she is teaching the Indians how to make soap.

MEXICAN UNION MISSION

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

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

EXPERIENCES IN CENTRAL MEXICO

During the time of religious difficulties in Mexico our own Sabbath schools in many places found that according to the law they were not permitted to carry on their schools. As many are too poor to build churches they were left without church services.

These simple Indian people then did the only thing that was left to do. They held their Sabbath school in the mountains in a cave which seemed to be the best natural defense at hand. I could not help thinking, as I heard earnest voices singing the songs of Zion from that cave, that that perhaps was a foretaste of what many of God's true children will experience in the days that precede the coming of our Lord.

thatch. They were pretty well organized but were using a Sabbath school quarterly a year or two old. It was an interesting sight to see these old Indian veterans singing and praising their Redeemer, who had saved them from a past life of sin and carnage.

Tacubaya, Mexico. C. E. MOON.

NEW SABBATH KEEPERS

In a personal letter to Pastor E. E. Andross, Pastor W. R. Pohle says:

"Recently I went to Guadalupe where I found 12 or more Sabbath keepers who have accepted the truth as a result of the work of a colporteur. We organized them into a Sabbath school. Brother Leyva of Cocorit just sent me a letter in which he states that a Baptist worker and about twenty of those who were following him have accepted the truth. Brother Leyva asks that we assist them in getting a meeting place because they have no adequate place in which to hold their services."

"God never forgets us, never ceases to care for us, never suffers us to enter any dark cloud of trial except when the cloud is better for us than the sunshine."

FIRST-FRUITS FROM YUCATAN

The Yucatan Mission is the youngest mission in the Mexican Union, and we are happy to report much progress in the last year.

Thanks to our colporteurs, who were first to enter this field! They have worked hard under many trying conditions and amid disappointments, and perhaps did not realize at the time that they were sowing seed which would spring up and bear fruit after many days. Now this field is ripe and the fruit is being gathered.

It was in 1924 when a silent messenger, "Thoughts on Daniel," was sent by a man living in Mexico City to his friend, a Korean, in Yucatan. With it came the request to study it carefully for it contained the truth, and also to read 1 John 2:4. "He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." This text worried the Korean very much. He and his wife studied the book and the text kept ringing in his ears day after day. Shortly afterward he sent to Korea for the book on Revelation. In prayer he asked our heavenly Father to help him to find the truth and he was not disappointed. He accepted the Sabbath of the Lord and has kept it ever since. When his former church found out that he was keeping the Sabbath, he was promptly disfellowshipped.

Standing, as he thought, all alone in this new found truth, he began to look for people of the same faith all over the peninsula, but could find none. However, he found the address of our publishing house in South America where he wrote and in return was directed to our union office in Mexico City. In 1926 he was visited by one of our workers. The truth he had found and loved so much was flaming high in his heart, and he began to preach the gospel to others, with the result that we today have a Spanish and a Korean group raised up through his labors. And in December 1828 he and his wife were the first to be baptized. They are happy and contented with their Saviour, and are letting their light shine wherever they go. They are true Christians carrying the yoke of Christ and receiving the blessings of God for their faithfulness.

This was the beginning of the work. Since then we have seen it grow and now we have five organized Sabbath schools, three in Yucatan and two in Campeche. Eleven of the 32 members of our group in Merida, our mission headquarters, were baptized in 1929. Of this number, two have entered the colporteur work, and one is helping in the mission as Bible worker and translator for the Maya Indians.

We have reasons to thank our heav-

enly Father for the many blessings received from Him, but most of all that He has helped us to open the work among the Maya Indians. These Indians are living everywhere in our mission.

It was about the time that Col. Chas. A. Lindbergh was looking for the ruins of these pure-blooded Maya Indians—at one time very highly civilized—that some of them were found in the interior by one of our faithful colporteurs. Their many questions convinced him that they were looking for something more than their heathen religion could give them. He decided to move among them in order to instruct them in the gospel. Thank God many have accepted the truth as presented to them. They are now keeping the Sabbath and studying more of the blessed Word. Only a few of the younger ones can read and talk Spanish. Our helper in Merida goes with me sometimes to talk to them in their mother tongue. They are giving up their heathen customs and are accepting the Bible as their guide and Christ as their Saviour.

These Indians have been worshipping a Maya Indian cross which has been in their family for over a hundred years. In fact they do not know how long, for it has been handed down from father to son. They prayed to this cross day by day for help and blessings. After a study on true and false worship they willingly gave it up and accepted the true way of approaching the throne of grace. I asked these brethren if they would not let me have the cross. After a little council among themselves which I could not understand they made me a present of it. It was surely a sacrifice for them but I am sure the good Lord will bless them for it.

This cross is painted green and decorated with symbols in gold, which tell of Christ's betrayal and agony, Peter's defense in the garden and his denial in the courtyard, the crucifixion and all that is connected with it. Christ's head is painted in the center. Above is His dress; below, His bleeding heart. The cup He drank from that night, the cock that crew when Peter denied Him, the spears, the swords and the lanterns that were used the night when Judas with the soldiers and priests searched for Jesus, also the thirty pieces of silver that were paid for the King of kings, are all portrayed vividly on this cross. On the cross piece are the ladders, hammer, pliers, two flags and the whip used for scouraging Jesus and the blood-dripping spear that opened Christ's side. Thus they had constantly before them the story of their Saviour, who died that painful death for sinners. If they had only understood it, but how could they if no one told them! These people know now that their Redeemer liveth and also

that they shall live too if they accept Him as their personal Saviour.

We are thankful for the privilege of teaching these poor people and telling them of the soon coming Saviour. They are listening eagerly, believing and accepting Him of whom they have heard so little. But these are not the only ones. Calls are coming in from others sitting in darkness but we have no one to send. May the Lord give us more workers, for soon the time will come when we can work no more.

Merida, Yucatan. C. L. DINIUS.

With Our Departments**ASSIGNMENTS FROM "THE SOUL-WINNING SABBATH SCHOOL"****Chapter 14: "The Primary Division"**

1. Why is it that with kindergarten children, frequently "the joy of promotion is greater in anticipation than in realization"? According to what should children be graded in classes? What is the mental attitude of the primary child? What are his general characteristics?

2. What do Mrs. E. G. White and J. R. Miller say about the teacher's preparation? What will a teachers' meeting accomplish for the primary division? Who should attend?

3. What is the place of illustrations in teaching the lesson to primary children? What kind of illustrations may be used? How may a notebook be used effectively in connection with the lessons?

4. If a child is absent, what should his teacher or division leader do? What devices may be used to stimulate daily study and prompt attendance?

5. Why should opportunities for service be provided? What forms may these take? Give a suggestive program for the primary division. What forms of prayer may be used? Who may act as secretary? Of what may the missions exercise consist? the review? Upon whom does success in this division depend? What attribute is most important?

Chapter 15: "The Kindergarten Division"

1. From what source must the kindergarten teacher obtain the preparation most essential for her work? What is to be accomplished at the teachers' meeting of the kindergarten division? What qualifications should a person have to be selected as a teacher of little children?

2. What should be the attitude of Sabbath school leaders to this statement: "The only thing that will hold her to this truth is a class of children."?

3. What incident is related, illustrating the unconscious influence of a teacher's example? From what sources should preparation be obtained for teaching the lesson? What is the maximum number of pupils for a kindergarten class? Upon what factors does the good resulting from a lesson depend? How may a kindergarten room be made attractive? What is implied in this sentence: Never allow an attractive picture to escape you?

4. Describe a sand-table arranged to illustrate Bible stories effectively.

5. Give the principal parts of the kindergarten program with approximate time of each. How should new songs be taught little children? By what exercises should a child's birthday be remembered? Describe some offering and some attendance devices.

Chapter 16: "The Cradle Roll"

1. At what time was a definite beginning made in cradle roll work? What influence has enrolment of her baby in the cradle roll often had upon a mother somewhat indifferent to the truth? Of what does the simple organization of the cradle roll consist?

2. What is a mother's class? How are the babes counted in the membership and attendance of a school?

3. Where are the cradle roll stories to be found? In telling them, what must any adult guard against? What teaching equipment is needed for the cradle roll?

CHRISTIAN HOME PROBLEMS

Good Food and Good Combinations

No. 1

"Eating has perhaps more to do with our health than any other one thing" says Brother Hansen of the General Conference Medical Department. From his little book, "Keeping Well," we glean the following thoughts that will help us all to live stronger lives:

"We should eat to live, and not live to eat. Wrong eating merely to please the appetite, can at best give only a temporary pleasure. Doctors are learning more and more that wrong eating is responsible for many diseases. There is a growing increase in diseases of the heart, circulation, liver, kidneys, nerves, and digestive organs. Errors in diet are responsible for a large share of them.

"Our bodies are made of the food we eat. The body does not grow up out of itself. It cannot supply its own building material; that must be supplied in the food that is furnished the body. Naturally, the kind of food we eat has much to do with the kind of bodies we have.

"In the erection of any building we use lumber, mortar, brick, stone, iron, glass, and other materials. Poor-grade lumber, weak mortar, second-class bricks, and other imperfect material, cannot make a strong building. No more will poor food make a sound body.

"The building of bone, the making of blood, and the formation of tissue, require suitable and sufficient material. Unless such material is supplied, the body will suffer. Nature provides plenty of the necessary building material. Our part is to supply, day by day, the food the body needs, and the body will take care of the building work.

"Besides furnishing material for building new body tissue for growth, our food supplies the necessary material for repairing the body. Every activity of the body or mind means the breaking down of tissue. This constant wear and tear of the body must constantly be made up.

"If parts of an automobile wear out we can get new ones at the repair shop. We take a watch to the jewelers when it needs a new spring or pinion. But the body is self-repairing, provided it has the materials from which to repair its broken-down tissues.

"When we fail to keep the repair of the body tissues equal to their breakdown, we wear out the health. All of which goes to show how important a part food plays in the make-up of the body, the quality of bones, muscles, and other tissues, the condition of the blood, and the general state of the health.

"The body is a living machine, made to run and to do a certain amount of work. This takes energy or power. The body must also maintain a certain temperature for comfort and for its vital processes. This requires heat.

"The energy or power for muscular or for brain work, and for the various internal activities of the body, and the heat needed to keep the body warm, must come from our food supply. Here, then, is another consideration in eating—to see that we use foods that will supply heat and energy.

"The human machine needs attention as to its regulation the same as would any machine. It is possible to regulate it so that it will run smoothly, or we can neglect it so that it will become clogged and very much out of order.

"Eating is a matter too important to fool with. Growing bodies and building health should not be the subject of unwise experiments. We should know what we are doing and not follow uncertain theories, when it comes to feeding the family."

OUR WORKERS' CORNER

Daniel 7 and the Little Horn

1. What did Daniel see in vision? Dan. 7: 1-7.

2. What did these symbols mean?

"Wind" means strife. Jer. 49:36, 37.

"Waters" symbolize peoples. Rev. 17:15.

"Lion" symbolizes Babylon. Jer. 4:7; Hab. 1:6-9.

"Bear" symbolizes Medo-Persia. Dan. 5:30, 31; 8:20.

"Leopard symbolizes Grecia. Dan. 8:21, 22.

The "fourth beast" symbolizes Rome. Dan. 8:23-25; Luke 2:1.

3. What was peculiar about the fourth beast? Dan. 7:7, 8.

4. What did the ten horns represent? Verses 23, 24.

5. Name the kingdoms represented by the ten horns, as given in history.

Ans.—The nations represented by the ten horns are as follows: Franks (French), Alemanni (Germans), Burgundians (Swiss), Suevi (Portuguese), Vandals (in northern Africa), Visigoths (Spanish), Anglo-Saxons (English), Ostrogoths (Austrians), Lombards (in part of Italy), and Heruli (also in a portion of Italy).

6. What came up in the midst of these ten? Verse 8.

7. How did it look? Verse 20.

8. In what was this power "diverse" from the others? Verse 24.

Ans.—It was an ecclesiastical power; the others were political.

9. What would it do to make a place for itself? Verse 24.

10. What three kingdoms were plucked up?—Heruli, A. D. 493; Vandals, A. D. 534; Ostrogoths, A. D. 538. These three Arian powers would not recognize the Bishop of Rome as the head of the church.

11. After this little horn was established, what words did he speak? Dan. 7:25.

12. What else would this power do? Verse 25.

13. What change has this power attempted to make in the law of God? Dan. 7:25.

Ques.—Has the church power to make any alteration in the commandments of God?

Ans.—". . . Instead of the seventh day, and other festivals appointed by the old law, the church has prescribed the Sundays and holy days to be set apart for God's worship; and these we are now obliged to keep in consequence of God's commandment, instead of the ancient Sabbath." "The Catholic Christian Instructed," p. 211.

14. What time is mentioned in God's law?—The seventh-day Sabbath.

15. What change does Rome claim to have made in the Sabbath?—From the seventh to the first day.

16. Has it really made any changes in God's law?—No, it could only think to change it. Dan. 7:25.

17. For how long would this power sway the world? Verse 25.

(A "time" in symbolic language represents a year. See Dan. 11:13, margin; Eze. 4:6; Num. 14:34.)

18. When did it end?—1798. Adding 538 to 1260 years brings us to 1798.

19. What happened this year to break its dominion completely?—Berthier, general of the French army, entered Rome and took the pope captive.

20. What great work was to follow 1798? Dan. 7:26, 9, 10, 11.

21. Who will have a part in the kingdom of God? Dan. 7:13, 14, 18, 27.

22. Which power will you obey, the little-horn power or the God of heaven?

CONVENTIONS IN THE PANAMA CONFERENCE

When was our Missionary Volunteer work organized? Who was the first Missionary Volunteer leader? How should a successful Sabbath school be con-

ducted? These and similar questions were discussed at the Sabbath school and Missionary Volunteer conventions held at Gatun, Canal Zone, and Panama City during the month of February.

Miss Viola Cooke, Sabbath school and Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Panama Conference, was assisted by Mrs. Andross, Pastor Hutchinson, and Brother J. C. Thompson from the General Conference Sabbath School Department at the Gatun convention. Seven churches were represented and there were about 50 delegates present. All manifested a deep interest in the work of these two important departments of our work. A question box proved very helpful and interesting and the delegates expressed their appreciation of the many suggestions received.

The convention in Panama City was attended by the representatives from four of the Sabbath schools and Missionary Volunteer societies on the Pacific side. Brother Thompson gave a most interesting and helpful talk on the model Sabbath school, an outline of which may be found on page 43 of the "Soul-Winning Sabbath School." Special stress was laid on the fact that 30 minutes should be given to the study of the lesson and that Sabbath school should begin and close on time.

Mrs. Andross told many interesting things about the Missionary Volunteer work, its organization and early history. The motto, aim and pledge were discussed and all were urged to keep these ideals constantly before our young people.

Professor Adams in his talk used as the key note, "Learn to do by doing." Surely, our Sabbath schools and Missionary Volunteer societies are training schools for our young people where they may become more efficient workers in this cause.

Pastor N. W. Dunn's talk on reverence and Mrs. W. L. Adams' discussion of the daily study of the Sabbath school lesson were much appreciated by all. But these are only some of the good things we enjoyed at our conventions.

We expect to see new impetus given the work in these two departments as a result of these conventions.

Balboa, C. Z. SALLIE J. JENKINS.

BE AN M. A.

Hundreds of our believers, young and old, became Members of Attainment last year. If you are not one already be sure to reach that goal during 1930. May is the time for the next regular test. Take the test then and become an M. A. Or if you are not ready to enter so soon, prepare for the next test; but be sure to reach this goal of efficiency this year!

O'ER LAND AND SEA

Since Professor W. L. Adams connected with the division as its educational secretary in December of last year, he has been very busy in the field. His first visit was to Costa Rica to help in the solution of the school problem there. Then he spent some time in the East Caribbean Union. Upon his return to the Zone he was kept busy with office duties and more local school problems on the isthmus; and on March 2 he sailed for Jamaica to give his best efforts to the advancement of our educational work in the Antillian Union also.

Brother J. C. Thompson of the General Conference Sabbath School Department, after spending some time in Guatemala and Salvador, called at the union office in San José and then came on to the Canal Zone. We were very glad to have him with us; and appreciate his help and encouragement in the conventions held at the time of his visit. We are also thankful that he is now spending some time in the Antillian Union in the interest of the Sabbath school work.

Pastors E. E. Andross and C. K. Meyers completed their visit to Colombia in the latter part of February. They had a very interesting and profitable time. Brother Meyers sailed from Colombia with Brother H. E. Baasch to attend the general meeting in Venezuela, while Brother Andross returned to the division office.

When this MESSENGER reaches you many from various parts of the world will be starting for the General Conference. Will you not join in praying that all may be granted safe passage to that important meeting and then that the Holy Spirit may give special wisdom to the leaders as they study together to lay plans for the finishing of God's work in all parts of the world? Remember also our division council which will be held just before the General Conference. We have reached the climax of the ages and we all need to pray for one another as never before that we may keep so close to our Master and to one another that the enemy shall find no place to get a foothold among us.

Let us also keep on praying for our sick among our workers and lay members as well. It takes all of us and all there is of us to finish the work. God has wonderfully answered prayers in behalf of many. Some have been restored to the line of advancing workers. We thank God and take courage. But the enemy is attacking others. Recent word from Curacao says that Brother D. C. Babcock, who has given more than 30 years to service in foreign fields, has been very ill. From Salvador comes the

disappointing news that Brother W. A. Lusk, superintendent of that mission, has been incapacitated through illness; and Pastor G. H. Nembhard, who has been laboring earnestly in the Panama Conference, is ill in the government hospital as this paper goes to press.

February 9 the election in Colombia selected a liberal candidate for the presidency of that great republic. Many earnest prayers have ascended in behalf of Colombia, and now comes this promise of greater liberty for the gospel in that land of darkness.

Another missionary has arrived. This time Trinidad is the favored field, for little Juanita came February 25 to live in the home of Brother and Sister G. A. Coon who are doing evangelistic work in Trinidad. We trust that she may ever be a great joy to her parents.

We were made sad to learn just as this paper went to press that Sister W. E. Baxter's father, Pastor W. J. Stone, died February 18 after a rather long illness. We extend to Brother and Sister Baxter and other members of the circle of his loved ones our sincere sympathy in this hour of sorrow.

BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED

In these days of much activity among the opponents of the organized work of the Lord, every loyal Seventh-day Adventist, no matter how great his interest in the Message, is not fully equipped to answer all the subtle propaganda of those who sever their connection with the organized body, unless he reads our denominational church paper, the *Review and Herald*. This paper is the official organ of the denomination and presents the denomination's viewpoint on all subjects of controversy. Subscribe for the *Review* and become an intelligent and informed member of the church.

L. L. HUTCHINSON.

Cristobal, C. Z.

TEMPTATION

In thought or in word, or in look or in action,
Don't give the devil the least satisfaction.
And even when tempted and in a real pinch
Don't yield of your principles one single inch.

Sin comes from the inside and not from without.
So hold tight your temper and don't even point.
Guard well your thoughts, for nine times in ten,
The mischief is started by one thought of sin.

God wishes us pleasure, but keep well in mind,
Our frolic is joyless, if God's left behind.
Would Jesus go with you? If "yes" you can say,
There'll be no thought of sadness at close of the day.

You're sure to be tempted, 'tis common to man,
It strengthens our purpose, prepares us to stand.
Then courage my brother, for Satan doth flee,
At sight of one Christian upon bended knee.

—James B. Ross.

REPORT OF PROGRESS

Here at Balboa we await with more than ordinary interest the annual statistical reports as they come in from the different parts of the division, because from these we learn much of what has been accomplished for the Master during the entire year throughout the fields. In order that you may share in some of this good news we are passing it to you through the MESSENGER.

This has been our most fruitful year in the number of souls baptized into the truth, and there has been a large net gain in membership.

The pledge card for missions, prepared by the General Conference, has been sent out to the various offices. If you have not received one write to your conference or mission office and one will be sent to you. This card asks that each member consider carefully what he can do systematically each week in giving to missions. The Lord asks that we give for His cause as He has blessed us.

"Let there be systematic giving on the part of all. All can lay aside each week something for the Master. Your money means the salvation of souls." "Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 55.

Surely, with the addition of our new believers, whom we welcome and wish God's richest blessings, we can do much more during 1930 than we did in 1929. We would like to see gathered in for missions \$100,000.00 during this year, and this is only \$10,384.78 above what came in last year. It is reasonable to believe this will be realized with each one doing faithfully his part.

We give the following comparisons for the year 1928 and 1929:

| | 1928 | 1929 | Gain |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Tithe | \$120,470.23 | \$133,488.40 | \$13,018.17 |
| Mission Off. | 81,219.61 | 89,615.22 | 8,395.61 |
| Baptisms | 1,763 | 2,197 | 434 |
| Membership | 13,122 | 14,602 | 1,480 |

Balboa, C. Z. F. L. HARRISON.

DIVISION DIRECTORY

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
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INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

Editor—Mrs. E. E. ANDROSS

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