



# The Inter-American Division MESSENGER

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## The Calendar Question

[In the following article Brother Maxwell gives the address he delivered before the preparatory committee on the Calendar Reform last June. He also gives a brief synopsis of a speech by Brother L. H. Christian before the same body, and closes his report with a call to every S. D. A. to do his utmost in this hour of crisis.—EDITOR.]

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee: Our delegation has been appointed by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists that we might set before this Preparatory Committee the conviction of this international body of Christian Sabbath keepers.

At the present time Seventh-day Adventists number over 313,000 adult members, and are increasing at the rate of 14,000 a year. Their principles of faith and their position with regard to the calendar reform are set forth in detail in the memoranda already handed to the committee.

At the outset we would emphasize that we are not opposed to all reform of the calendar, but only to that phase of the present proposal which would break the continuity of the weekly cycle.

### The Blank Day

As this committee is well aware, the two plans for the reform of the calendar which have received the most publicity and support, both involve the inclusion of a blank day. It may be called "year day" or "leap day" or "sol day," but the intention is to make it blank, and erase it, so far as possible, from the reckoning of time.

The effect of the institution of such a blank day is immediately obvious to all who give study to the matter. It must lead, inevitably, to the interruption of the weekly cycle.

### Effects Upon Religion

So far as business interests are concerned, this might not appear to be of serious consequence, but from a religious standpoint the effect would be disastrous.

To multitudes of conscientious people, the week is a divine institution, handed down, unbroken, from time im-

memorial, even from the creation of the world. The seventh day of that unbroken cycle has always been regarded by a considerable body as a holy rest day, and the first day thereof, at least for the past sixteen centuries, has been observed with reverence by millions. Imagine, therefore, the distressing results that would certainly follow the insertion of a blank day in the calendar. Let us suppose that we have come to the night of Saturday, December 31, 1933, and that the new calendar is in vogue. The week has ended. The next morning, calendar or no calendar, the rising sun heralds the first day of a new week. The conscientious Sunday keeper awakes with every intention to observe it as of old. But he is informed that it is not Sunday, but a *dies non*, a blank day, perhaps a national holiday,

decreed so by Parliament. What will he do? He will have to choose between two conflicting loyalties—between God and the government.

Identically the same problem will confront the Seventh-day Adventist and all others who keep the Sabbath of Holy Writ. During 1934 their Sabbath would fall upon "Friday," during 1935 upon "Thursday," and during 1936, being leap year, upon "Wednesday" and "Tuesday." In other words, their Sabbath would wander through the week for all time. What would they do? *What would this body have them do?* Either they would be true to conscience and endure the consequent hardship, or they would needs smother their conscience in order to gain their daily bread.

### Penalizing Religious Minorities

It must be obvious to this committee that the introduction of a blank day would inevitably lead to the penalizing of all who would be true to their conscientious convictions in the matter of Sabbath or Sunday observance, for no other day, mechanically provided, would satisfy them. It is useless for the calendar reformers to say, "We will give you an alternative Sabbath, equally good." That would be offering stones for bread.

Consider further, however, the difficulties that would confront the religious minorities that decided to adhere to the seven-day cycle. Where would they find employment? What business would wish to hire a man with a wandering Sabbath? Imagine the educational embarrassments they would suffer—and the fines, possibly imprisonment, they would incur through keeping their children from school on their holy day. Think of the permanent loss to the children themselves through losing two days' schooling every week.

It surely could not be right that such people, by tens of thousands, of the best type of citizen, normally law abiding, honest, and good living, the very salt of the earth, should be discriminated against in this way!

### GOD'S SABBATH

When God the earth did make  
And man in Eden placed,  
He gave to him the Sabbath day  
Which all weeks since has graced.

Through time's long, hoary ages,  
In all this busy world,  
God's banner on each seventh day  
To man has been unfurled.

A few in boldness have defied  
The time-clock by our Lord arranged,  
As if by poor, frail mortal man  
God's weekly cycle could be changed.

But now a bolder plan's devised:  
To drop a day each year—  
A day as full of blessings  
As 'most any that appear.

How subtly the deceiver works  
To change the calendar today  
That he may thrust God's Sabbath  
From its honored place away;

That he may send it wandering  
With no place to abide,  
Until he shall from many eyes  
Its sacred hours hide.

We pray, Lord of the Sabbath,  
Make bare Thine arm again,  
O, hold Thy Sabbath in its place  
In the calendar of men.

Moreover, at such a time as this, when lawless forces are gaining ground, when militant atheism is asserting itself, it would surely be in the last degree unwise to foster legislation which would impair and alienate so valuable an asset to law and order. It is never in the best interests either of business or of good government that the consciences of men should be trampled underfoot.

Furthermore, gentlemen, we would ask, with all respect, whether this august body, whose honor and privilege it is to safeguard minorities, is willing that these godly men, women, and children, solely because of their loyalty to God and to His Sabbath, should be caused, unnecessarily, to endure hardship and persecution? *Will it permit big business thus to ride roughshod over religion? Will it suffer conscience once more to be crucified on a cross of gold? Will it offer such homage to the almighty dollar? It cannot be!*

#### No Demand for Change

We would further submit that the drastic and retrograde step proposed by those who would reform the calendar is entirely unnecessary. Where is the public demand for such revolutionary changes?

Up to yesterday only fourteen national committees had even submitted their reports, and many of them, we suggest, were far from favorable. Does this demonstrate a world interest in the matter? Would any one suggest that it intimates the nations are clamoring at Geneva for a blank day?

No, indeed. On the contrary, the most noticeable feature concerning the calendar reform in every country, outside the United States, is general apathy bordering upon total indifference. But for the agitation so persistently carried on by certain American business men, we doubt whether this committee, or any one else, would ever have heard of the matter.

Take the situation in Great Britain. A large number of questionnaires were sent out, but less than 300 were returned; and not one of these revealed any desire for a radical change of the calendar. We have the assurance of Mr. Morley, the London secretary of this committee, that, apart from the fixation of Easter, there is no demand or desire for any calendar change in Great Britain. From the 1930 Annual Report of the British Chamber of Commerce, we quote the following:

"Toward the end of the year, the chamber received from the Burnham Committee a questionnaire upon alternative schemes for the reform of the calendar, to which replies were sent that, in the opinion of the council, the present calendar was not seriously inconvenient, and that the inconvenience of transition from the present to another system would outweigh the advantages of reform. The council also took the view that, having regard to the pressing and important matters demanding attention and concentration at the present time, the subject of

calendar reform was one which might well be deferred to a more convenient season. So far as the chamber was able to judge, there is no special desire for any change except as regards the fixing of Easter, to which it attached particular importance."

If it should be suggested that there is no active opposition in Great Britain, we would reply that it is because the religious bodies have not been aroused to see the serious consequences of the proposals. We venture to suggest, however, that when the Scotsman sees his precious Sabbath imperiled, when the evangelical churches realize what is afoot, when the Lord's Day Observance Society perceives that its very existence is endangered, there will be an outcry through the land which will forever prevent the acceptance of a blank day by the British Parliament.

What is true of Britain is true, we have reason to believe, in other countries, and we repeat that there is no world-wide public demand for any re-

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#### God Deliver Us

From belittling the honest achievements of any hard worker.

From sneering at the upward struggle of even the weakest soul.

From heaping criticism upon any wearied one already overloaded.

From frightening any soul who is beginning to take wing to greater heights.

From blighting with our ridicule the rising hopes of an aspiring youth.

From laying more heavily the burden of shame on any erring soul.

From taking too much credit for the victories that have come to us this day.

—Selected.

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form of the calendar of so revolutionary a character as that envisaged by the proponents of the blank-day scheme.

Even in the United States, 43 per cent of the chambers of commerce voted dead against the blank-day scheme. What is more, sixteen million Jews are opposed to it, all the Seventh-day Baptists, 300,000 Seventh-day Adventists, and 3,500,000 Disciples of Christ, besides the entire Mohammedan world of over 450,000,000.

Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, even if there should be such demand, if every business in the world were insisting upon a blank-day calendar, it would surely be the privilege and the responsibility of this body to refuse to set its seal of approval to a plan which strikes so deadly a blow at one of the most sacred traditions of mankind.

Respectfully we would remind this committee that on only two occasions in history have national governments sought to tamper with the weekly cycle. One was at the time of the French Revolution, the other in Russia of recent date. Both changes were proposed with the avowed object of destroying religion. Shall it be said that the League of Nations was party to a similar at-

tack? Shall it be said in years to come that from Geneva—birthplace of liberty, cradle of the Reformation, trysting place of the doves of peace—there went forth to the world a plan that led to the undermining of religion, the decay of the best element in social life, and the persecution of religious minorities? God forbid!

Gentlemen, this is a matter of deep concern to us. In the spirit in which David addressed Goliath, we are constrained to say to the blank-day reformers: "Thou hast come out against us with many dollars and big business and much propaganda; but we come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts whom thou wouldst defy." For the introduction of the proposed method of calendar reform, whereby the weekly cycle is interrupted, involves an act that is nothing short of impious defiance of the Almighty, and should be resisted by all who acknowledge His authority in the affairs of men.

In conclusion, therefore, we would ask, on behalf of our entire world membership, in the name of religious liberty and the freedom of conscience, that this Preparatory Committee shall refuse to give its approval to any proposal for the reform of the calendar which embodies the blank-day principle.

#### A Fair Hearing

We were given a fair and patient hearing. It was an inspiration to watch the eager eyes of some of the committee members. They had come from many nations, and perhaps had never heard of Seventh-day Adventists before. Perhaps all they would ever know about us would be what they heard at this meeting. They would judge our whole body from what they saw and heard here. It must be now or never.

Meanwhile one of the secretaries, with whom we had previously made acquaintance, acted as our tract distributor, handing out the items of literature we had brought. We were particularly struck with the immediate interest taken in "The Story of a Lost Day."

#### Address of L. H. Christian

Then the chairman granted us a special favor.

Would he be so kind as to permit Pastor Christian to speak as well, though he had come a little late? He had traveled far to be here.

"Certainly, immediately after dinner."

Upon the reassembling of the committee, Pastor Christian was given his opportunity, and right well he availed himself of it. Speaking with earnestness and authority, and drawing from his wide experience in many lands, he made a deep impression. He stressed the world-wide extent of our work, and showed how the blank-day plan would injure it in every land, greatly increas-

ing the difficulty of mission operations among native populations. A change of calendar, he said, would make for the utmost confusion among primitive peoples. Concluding on a solemn note, he pointed out how in these days of world confusion, mankind needs more than ever to anchor itself to the foundations of morality enshrined in the ten commandments.

**An Ominous Situation**

The situation is distinctly ominous. Some of the arguments are very subtle and will sweep away millions.

We were deeply impressed that, as a people, we are not doing nearly enough to combat the error. Some are doing their best, but we should all be much better informed about it. We should study it from the European as well as from the American aspect. Its world implications are most important. We should be gathering information in all countries, and teaching men how to write about it everywhere. For let us not forget that the inauguration of a blank-day calendar would be the deadliest blow the enemy has ever leveled at this people.—A. S. Maxwell in *Review and Herald*, July 23, 1931.



**MEXICAN UNION MISSION**

Ave. Magdalena No. 22, Mexico, D. F. Mexico  
 C. E. WOOD - - - - - Superintendent  
 J. G. PETTEY - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

**GREAT ADVANCEMENT IN MEXICO**

Recently Brother F. L. Harrison and I spent one month in Mexico. This was altogether too short a time to become personally acquainted with the work in various parts of that large field, especially as nearly three years had elapsed since my former visit. However, we enjoyed the privilege of meeting with all the union and local leaders, and with some of the other faithful toilers of the field. This was a source of great inspiration to us, and, we believe, of refreshing to all.

Brother and Sister C. E. Wood had preceded us to Mexico, and were highly delighted with their new field. They with Brother and Sister House and Brother and Sister Grand Pre were diligently studying Spanish and were making splendid progress.

It was very gratifying to see the marked progress that has been made in Mexico in every way since my former visit. While the world's financial depression has left its imprint on that country, it seems from outward appearance to have been one of the last of the countries in the western world to have been visited by this blight. Great material improvements have been made in the capital and in other cities, also in highway construction, in transportation facilities, and particularly in airway service. I have not seen in any other

city in my travels for several years as much building as was in progress in Mexico City; and yet it was evident that even there the peak of prosperity had been passed. The evidences of financial depression were reflected in a marked way, however, in the financial reports from the various fields as they were presented for the year 1930.

That which brought great courage to our hearts was the reports of progress presented by the leaders of the local fields. Brother Nelson had just completed a tour of his field, and told of the organization of thirteen new churches. This brings the number of churches of the Tehuantepec Mission up to forty-two and the membership to 818. There are eighty-six Sabbath schools with 2,262 members. The growth in this field has been more marked than in any other, but the years of faithful seed sowing in other fields is now beginning to yield similar returns. This is particularly true in the Central and the Gulf Missions.

I should not overlook the remarkable developments in recent months of the work in the Yucatan Mission. At the close of 1928 there were six baptized believers and at our union committee meeting, Brother Dinuis reported ninety-five. In 1928 there were sixty-four in the Sabbath schools while now there are 647 attending.

It is very apparent that one field after another is being visited by showers of the latter rain. Rich harvests are just now awaiting the reapers in every field, while in some the reaping must be done without delay or great loss will be sustained. Just as on the farm in time of harvest it is expected that the laborers will toil for long hours—day and night when necessary—so our mission-

aries are not counting the hours, but are cheerfully giving all they have in a supreme effort to gather in the sheaves ere the night come "when no man can work."

We were all glad to welcome Brother J. A. P. Green, of the General Conference,—one of the veteran colporteurs in Mexico,—also Brother Bergherm of the division. These brethren came to join the union and local colporteurs in institute work at different points in the union. A very promising company were assembled in Mexico City whom we had the pleasure of meeting.

In all our meetings in the division there has been a sweet spirit of hearty, unselfish co-operation and perfect unity, but in none has this spirit been more marked than in this Mexican Union committee meeting. With confident expectations we look forward to the fulfillment of the promise: "Be glad and rejoice; for the Lord will do great things."

Balboa, C. Z. E. E. ANDROSS.



**ANTILLIAN UNION MISSION**

Calle Segunda No. 31, Arroyo Apolo  
 Havana, Cuba

A. R. OGDEN - - - - - Superintendent  
 F. I. MOHR - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

**EVIDENCES OF GROWTH IN THE ANTILLIAN UNION**

While we ever recognize the fact that figures are generally dry and uninteresting, yet, when they show advancement in connection with the cause of God, and especially in souls won for the Message for these last days, they take on a different aspect. Hence the wish that the following report from the Antillian Union Mission will be sufficiently interesting for the readers to give it a passing notice.



Rural Teachers in Mexico

At the beginning of 1928 the total church membership of the union stood at 5,165; at the close of 1930 we had 157 organized churches with a baptized membership of 7,104, a gain for the three-year period of 1,939. This means that within three years there have been enough members added to our field to make a good sized local conference. I recite this fact to encourage our people with the assurance that as a result of the funds contributed to the work there are substantial increases in membership.

The baptisms during this three-year period numbered 2,656. However, as in all fields, there are always deaths, apostasies and removals. But we feel grateful for a net increase of nearly two thousand; and we are hoping, working and praying for better results in the future. With the large numbers of people keeping the Sabbath and in the baptismal classes in the various fields of the union, we are expecting to have much more than a thousand baptisms during the current year. Really we have some hopes of closing the year of 1931 with a baptized church membership of 8,000 in the Antillian Union.

The Sabbath school figures are also very encouragning. We have 257 Sabbath schools with a membership at the close of 1930 of 9,860, and with an actual attendance of more than 10,000. It is interesting to think of the fact that every Sabbath more than 10,000 men, women and children are wending their way over hill, mountain and vale in this island field to attend the Sabbath

school, and to receive the blessing of God that comes as a result of their contact with our Sabbath school work.

Not only do our Sabbath school members go to Sabbath school to receive of its rich blessings for themselves, but also to contribute of their meager means to help forward the work in all the world. The Sabbath schools contributed during the year 1930 the splendid sum of \$18,450.47. This is a miracle in itself. God bless our faithful Sabbath school members. A. R. OGDEN.

*Havana, Cuba.*

#### OUR UNION SCHOOL

After our union committee meeting in Bartle, I spent five weeks checking the accounts in the Cuban Mission and Bible House for 1929 and 1930. Most of July was spent at the training school at Bartle auditing the books for the two years ending May 31, 1931.

Sister D. E. Lust and little Master Lust arrived from Michigan the first part of July to join Brother Lust in the school work at Bartle, Cuba. We welcome these new workers to our union. Brother and Sister Lust are not novices in school work, having spent over four years in the Inca Union and some time in Cedar Lake Academy.

Pastor A. R. Ogden passed through Bartle on his way from Jamaica to Havana. He spent two days at the school counseling with Professor Lust about matters pertaining to improvements that are to be made before school

opens in September. The old, inadequate stairway at the rear of the boys' dormitory has given way under the blows of hammers, and a new stairway inside the building has been installed.

Prof. O. F. Montgomery and his boys are busy erecting a steel barn in which to keep farm tools and the dairy cows. This building will make a much needed addition to the school equipment. The material was purchased some time ago very reasonably and shipped to the school. The erection of this building furnishes work for the boys, and at the same time teaches them how to erect steel buildings.

Several hundred trees have been set out, such as alligator pears, oranges, etc. The heavy rains in June killed a few of them, but with a bit of foresight on the part of Professor Lust and his boys many were saved. At the present time they are making splendid growth. The bananas are doing well, but there is no market for them at this time. We hope this condition will change.

This school, the Colegio Adventista Antillano, is to serve the Spanish young people in Cuba, the republic of Domingo, and Puerto Rico. Already there are three students from the latter field, —two boys, one of whom graduated this year, and a girl who hopes to finish in 1932. It is hoped that we shall see young people from the Dominican Republic this year. The school is large enough to accommodate students from these three republics.

The new water tank is up. With its four standards, it reaches the height of forty-five feet. Thus it should be able to give the desired pressure, and in case of fire, be very adequate. Professor Montgomery and his boys have worked hard to get the tank in place for service before school starts. We are sure that the boys and girls will appreciate this very much needed equipment, especially when taking baths or showers. The tank is being painted inside and outside. We are very thankful for this splendid work. F. I. MOHR.

*Havana, Cuba.*

#### HUNDREDS WON IN JAMAICA

Following our annual union committee meeting, I came to Jamaica where I spent four interesting weeks. First I attended the annual West Indian Training College board meeting at Mandeville. There we have a splendid institution, with strong industrial departments, which are not only an essential feature to an all-round education, but also make it possible for a number of students to earn their way through college. Like all of our educational institutions, this one has its varied problems and perplexities; its urgent needs for better buildings, equipment, and all the attendant problems that are the eom-



Baptismal Scene in Puerto Rico

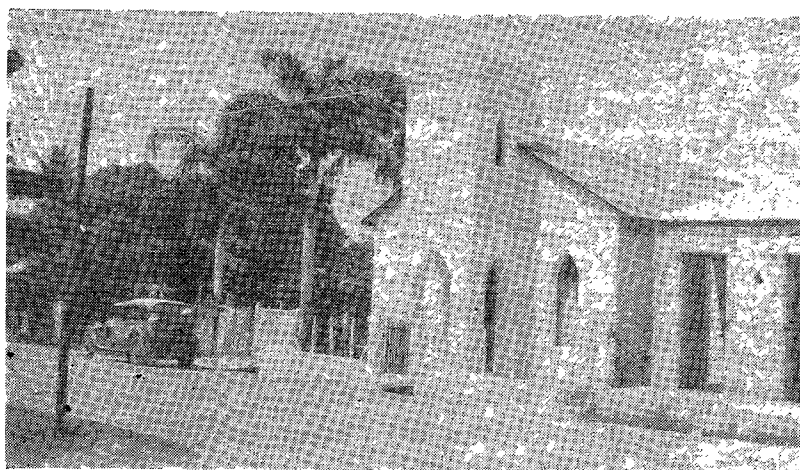
mon lot of our schools. However, we feel that the institution has accomplished much for our dear young people of Jamaica and of other fields which have availed themselves of its opportunities. The present enrolment has passed the one hundred mark. We confidently expect much from the college in the future.

I am glad to be able to report encouraging progress in the evangelical work in Jamaica. Pastor L. L. Hutchinson is pastor of the Kingston churches. There are four organized churches with a growing membership in that city. He baptized 101 persons during the first six months of the year. He hopes to baptize 175 to 200 during 1931.

Pastor Hutchinson is following a plan which, I believe, is a worthy example to all our city pastors and other ministers. Instead of devoting all, or even a major portion of his time to the central (North Street) church, which has a membership of over five hundred, he is holding a series of evangelistic meetings in each of the city churches. Following the splendid conference session of last November, he held a series continuing for several weeks in the North Street church with encouraging results. Then for more than two months he held a similar series in the Regent Street church, resulting in an addition of about forty new believers and many others convinced of the truth and interested in the Message. He plans to go next to the Rollington Pen church and after that series is over to go to Kencot, the fourth church of the city. After this round, he plans another similar campaign in each of the churches next year.

In other words, Brother Hutchinson is carrying on, as he terms it, "a continuous evangelistic effort." Such a campaign of evangelism cannot fail to strengthen greatly our city churches with a continuous inflow of new members. The only help that Pastor Hutchinson has had in these efforts, up to the present, is that of his good wife, who labors with him untiringly, visiting and otherwise assisting in this strenuous work. He has also the loyal, united co-operation of all of the church members in these efforts. The faithfulness of the singers is especially to be commended. Recently one of our native ministers, Pastor J. A. Reid, now on sustentation, has returned to Jamaica from other parts of the division where he has been laboring for the past twenty-five years. He will assist in following up the interests in the churches as his time and strength will permit.

Pastor A. C. Stockhausen, who has a large district with about twelve churches under his charge, reports that he will have a baptismal service each week for the next several weeks. Other ministers in the conference have goodly numbers preparing for baptism.



Our Church at Jacmel, Haiti

Our workers and people in Jamaica are all of good courage. The Message is marching triumphantly forward. The conference has now a membership of over three thousand and the last quarter's Sabbath school report showed over 4,300 Sabbath school members. We expect soon to have four thousand church members and at least five thousand Sabbath school members in this island.

There has been a loss of some members because of a recent apostate movement started by a man from the United States, though not nearly as many as have been reported by the leader of that new movement; and we have been thankful that many more have come in to fill the places made vacant. We are glad to see in Kingston, Jamaica, a most remarkable fulfilment of the following paragraphs in "Early Writings" in the chapter on "The Shaking":

"Some had been shaken out and left by the way. The careless and indifferent, who did not join with those who prized victory and salvation enough to perseveringly plead and agonize for it, did not obtain it, and they were left behind in darkness, and their places were immediately filled by others taking hold of the truth and coming into the ranks. Evil angels still pressed around them, but could have no power over them.

"I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect. Many had been bound; some wives by their husbands, and some children by their parents. The honest who had been prevented from hearing the truth now eagerly laid hold upon it. All fear of their relatives was gone, and the truth alone was exalted to them. They had been hungering and thirsting for truth; it was dearer and more precious than life. I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered, 'It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel.'"—"Early Writings," p. 271.

Havana, Cuba. A. R. OGDEN.

**OTHER ITEMS FROM THE UNION**

Fifteen precious souls were baptized in the Cerro church at Havana, Cuba Sabbath July 18. Pastor Miller is doing a splendid work in this metropolis

of the West Indies. He has his churches well organized for service. A number of the members, especially of the young men, are doing good work in holding public services in various parts of the city.

Pastor A. A. Davis, superintendent of the Cuban Mission, is acting also as treasurer during the absence of Brother England. Pastor Borrowdale is serving in a similar capacity in the Puerto Rican Mission office since Brother Bullard left some months ago. Under these conditions these brethren cannot do as much aggressive field work as ordinarily.

Miss Helen Suche is assisting in the Cuban Mission office during the school vacation months. While she has been suffering severely with asthmatic troubles, she is doing her best to give full assistance in the work.

Work has been begun on a new church building in the city of Santiago, Dominican Republic. This new building will fill a great need in that beautiful city. Our work is growing splendidly in that section.

Since our union committee meeting Pastor J. R. McWilliam, union field and home missionary secretary, spent four weeks in the Jamaica Conference conducting a colporteurs' institute and helping otherwise in the departmental work in that field. He is now in Havana assisting in the work in Cuba.

It is very encouraging to learn of the splendid groups of believers being baptized in the various parts of the union. We are hopeful for at least one thousand baptisms this year.

Havana, Cuba. A. R. OGDEN.

**Worth While**

"Not what you get, but what you give;  
Not what you say, but how you live;  
Giving the world the love it needs,  
Living a life of noble deeds.  
Not whence you came, but whither bound;  
Not what you have, but whither found.  
Strong for the right, the good, the true—  
These are the things worth while to you."



## CARIBBEAN UNION CONFERENCE

Box 221, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

W. R. ELLIOTT - - - - - Superintendent  
 M. D. HOWARD - - - - - Secy.-Treas.

**COMING IN BY HUNDREDS**

After leaving our interesting work in Trinidad and British Guiana, I was privileged to spend some time in the Leeward Islands Conference. A most interesting work in Barbados is going forward. Pastor Gardiner has been very successful in getting the church members of that place to co-operate with him in evangelistic work. I think of no other place that I have visited where I have seen a better fulfilment of the statements of the Spirit of Prophecy as to the part the lay members may occupy in the finishing of the work. When Pastor Gardiner was asked to conduct an evangelistic effort, there was no money in the treasury to provide a helper for him, so he set to work to train the church members in active service for the Lord. The enthusiasm soon spread until nearly every member in the church became an active soul winner.

Pastor Gardiner held a five-weeks' series of meetings at the beginning of the year, and since that time he has been more than kept busy with the interest that has been developed by the lay members. During the first six months of this year more than 150 persons were baptized there.

After Barbados my next visit was to St. Kitts. We have a small church on that island but no worker, and not even a local elder for some time ago the

elder of the church went to the training school in Trinidad to prepare for better service. Still the church is quite active in most lines of work. I was glad to find a young lady, who acts as the Sabbath school superintendent, conducting a baptismal class of nine members. I think that was one of the most liberal churches I have visited in the West Indies. I was surprised to see the large donations made by the members of that church, although most of them are very poor.

I spent a few days on the island of Nevis with our believers there. Brother Griffin, the local elder, is leading out in a strong way. He is holding cottage meetings in several places. His wife also conducts cottage meetings in other places. There seems to be a good missionary spirit manifested by most of the members of that church. We hope it will not be long before a worker can hold a series of meetings on the island of Nevis in behalf of those who are interested in the truth.

My next field of labor was Antigua. Pastor W. H. Lewis has charge of the work there. There are five or six churches with more than 400 believers on that island. Brother Lewis was just closing an effort at All Saints, where some forty had begun to keep the commandments of God. I greatly appreciated the privilege of speaking to these earnest believers. There are great opportunities for work on that island, and we believe many more will join the people of God in the near future. I was greatly encouraged to find the people living at Liberta and other near-by

places so active in missionary work in connection with the public effort at All Saints. Several of our brethren and sisters are holding cottage meetings with their neighbors. Especially Brother Williams and his good wife are doing excellent work.

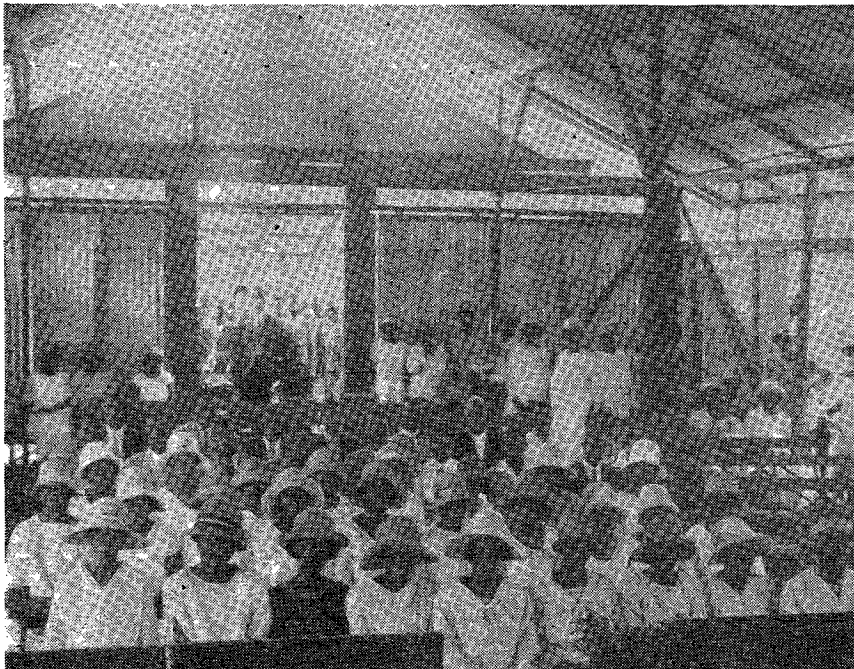
We have a very interesting church at St. Johns. Many of the members are active in missionary work and several cottage meetings are being held every week. New believers are being added to the church continuously. Pastor Elliott joined me for about ten days in Antigua and I left him at that place. He was to spend a few days longer at that church and then go on to St. Kitts and St. Thomas.

On my return trip I had the privilege of spending one evening at Montserrat. The members there have been left alone since the death of Brother Davis and seemed hungry to hear the word of God. The next day the boat was at Dominica. I went ashore and after some hunting, found the daughter of one of our believers and held a meeting in the evening. Since the hurricane swept our church away, the members have been alone on that island. I was glad to find they had won two new members. It is hoped that a worker may be located there soon.

Our boat arrived at St. Lucia Sabbath morning. Brethren Howard and Nielsen met me and we were soon in the hospitable home of Brother and Sister Nielsen. Arrangements were made for taking us to the other side of the island to visit a new company. This company is being looked after by a lay member who drives thirty-five miles in his buggy to meet with them. In the afternoon I had the privilege of speaking to the church in Castries before the boat left. St. Lucia is one of the most beautiful islands in the Lesser Antilles. We have several companies there but no minister.

Our next stop was at Barbados where I was glad to find the tabernacle all ready for a second effort. When our boat arrived at Trinidad, I was met by Pastor C. E. Andross and taken out where a baptismal service was being conducted. Seventy-eight were baptized at that service as a result of the faithful work done at the tabernacle in Port of Spain by Brethren Millard, Coon and Roberts. They were expecting to baptize twenty-five more the following week at the church. Surely the Lord has blessed the work of these brethren wonderfully. They now have one hundred more on their list preparing for baptism in the future. Pastor Yip, as a result of the effort held by Brother Warner and himself, reported twenty-seven preparing for baptism.

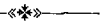
The churches in all these fields are of good courage and the lay members are taking an active part in spreading



Baptismal group seated in new tabernacle in Tobago (South Caribbean)

the Message among their neighbors. That which is greatly needed is a more thorough organization of each church into working bands, a dividing up of territory so each member may have a definite place in which to labor, a more careful carrying out of the ten-minute church missionary service, a greater insistency upon individual reporting, more field days with churches, and more week-end institutes to teach the church officers and lay members the real science of missionary service. May the time soon come when all the lay brethren shall join in the movement and lay definite plans to carry the Message to everyone in their neighborhoods.

Balboa, C. Z. L. V. FINSTER.



**CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION MISSION**

Apartado 1059, San José, Costa Rica

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

**ONWARD THROUGH DANGERS**

Brother Kieser and I left home the third of June by plane for Managua, Nicaragua. The plane took off in front of our school, and Mrs. Baxter and the children, also Sister Kieser and their children, were out to see us off. The big three-motor Ford came in beautifully and we were soon off right over the heads of those who came to see us leave. We waved to each other and one hour and fifty-four minutes later we were at Managua,—a trip which would have taken us four days by boat and train and would have cost us as much or more.

As we flew in over Managua we could get a good view of the terrible destruction caused by the earthquake. There lay flat some forty blocks of the city, and the rest of it we could see, as we walked through later, was so broken up that it seemed it might just as well be on the ground. We found the workers of good courage, though they are in great need of help to provide a place for them to live more comfortably. Houses are at a premium just now. We sought diligently for a place to rent in which to locate the chapel and Brother Hernandez. Just after I left they were able to close a deal for a place which will serve for the present. I wish we could get help at this time of need to furnish better quarters for our work and workers. There is a good interest and new ones are taking their stand for the truth.

After a week with the workers in Nicaragua, I went on to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to counsel with Brother Larson, the new superintendent, and Brother Cole, the secretary-treasurer. Brother Kieser remained in Nicaragua in the interest of the colporteur and home missionary work. They were very anxious to have me go to the north coast of

Honduras to study the problems there and baptize some new believers. We went to see the American minister to learn if it would be safe to make the trip during the revolution and he seemed to think it would.

Well, the first day the government military officials detained us to transport some guns in the car we were in and to get our car to pull one of theirs out of a broken bridge where it had gone through with a load of guns. The next morning we were on our way again early. About 9 o'clock we came to a little bridge that did not look just right but our chauffeur started across. The boards had all been loosened so that they slid under the truck and let our back wheels fall through. We took hold and directed in prying out the truck and were on our way again after an hour's delay. We noticed while we were at work that the people who lived near kept looking toward the woods uneasily. It is probable that the bridge had been prepared by the revolutionists for the government troops who should have come through at the time we did. Well, the next day when the troops did come through, the revolutionists were ready at that place and three hard-fought battles occurred in which many were killed, and among these were two chauffeurs of the same line we were traveling by who were forced to take part in the fighting. It would have been a rather unpleasant thing for us had we been twenty-four hours later or had the government troops come on at the time they were scheduled. I am glad the Lord takes care of those who are working for Him.

There was so much "revolution" that we were not able to do all we had expected. We could not reach the place where they were ready for baptism; but I feel sure we were led to make the trip as by this we will be able to lay better plans for our work at the time of the union committee meeting. In La Ceiba we held several meetings with both the English and Spanish churches. At the Sunday night meeting, (the last we held at La Ceiba) the church was crowded and a good interest was manifested. On Sunday, Brethren Larson and Cole led the Spanish members in a field day in behalf of Big Week. The effort proved to be very successful and a source of encouragement to the members who seemed to enjoy the experience. In San Pedro Sula we held a meeting one night with a good attendance of our people despite the fact that no word of our coming reached them, owing to the censorship at the time which would not allow messages to go through. The revolution has been put down and we hope for peace. We believe that the time has come when the Message must go with power to the Spanish speaking people of Honduras.

From Tela I took boat to Puerto Barrios in Guatemala. At Puerto Barrios I had time to visit some of the members and found that there is a good interest to hear the truth, and quite a number are ready to be baptized when Brother Sutton makes his next visit there.

W. E. BAXTER.

San José, Costa Rica.



**MORE VICTORIES IN CERRO IGLESIA**

We shall always remember the conference session held in Colon last April. It was a season of great refreshing. My family and I are thankful for all the more-than-kind favors which we received. But we were glad indeed to return to the Guaymi Indians. Yes, we were glad to be at our post of duty again. There was plenty of news for us when we returned—real news in these wild places. A chief, once a friend but now an enemy, had tried his very best to get a sufficient number of his followers together to destroy our mission house and to drive us out by force, but, praise the Lord, only a few responded and the chief had to give up his plans.

I spent about six days at Chichica and it did me good to see the folks attending Sabbath school again. On my way to Cerro Iglesia I passed through Remedios to see about the zinc I had shipped from Panama for our Cerro Iglesia chapel. It was all there. May 22 I reached Cerro Iglesia and we were all glad for the privilege of greeting one another, after a separation of two months. There was news for me there also. Our enemies, or opposers, had stolen Sister Mechi, Brother Ventura's wife, and had refused to give her back, in spite of every effort. My first big job was to get our sister back.

Brother Ventura had been living at Cerro Iglesia under the protection of the brethren, but had ventured to visit his own place some miles away. One day while Brother Ventura was away and Mechi was alone, her mother and some others came to the house. She saw them coming and took to the woods. After a long while Brother Ventura came back, and, seeing his visitors, he suspected right away what was going on. He left the house in search of Mechi and found her after a while. She was very hungry and he left her to get some food. Little did he suspect that he was being followed, but as soon as he was far enough away, those who followed came and caught Mechi and by force took her some miles away. It was only after much spying and an order from the *Alcalde* in Remedios, threatening to send the police, that we were able to get Sister Mechi back.

But our enemies were not satisfied. They took the matter to the governor in David. They kept piling up their

complaints against us until I was called to David. It was all nonsense, however, and came to nothing.

We had quite a job putting up our chapel in Cerro Iglesia because of the heavy rains. Our brethren did their best. July 3 found us with the roof completed, and on the sixth, Brother Chavanz was ready to begin our first church school among these dear people. We started with song, prayer, and the study of Proverbs 3. The Holy Spirit came upon us. I am sure that the Lord is the invisible Teacher of our Cerro Iglesia church school. Some of our students are mothers with their babies nursing while they are listening to the teacher. What an interest! What a lesson! Pray for us.

*Tole, Panama.* ISHMAEL ELLIS.

### BAPTISMS IN BRITISH HONDURAS

We are of the best of courage up this way and are pressing on in the battle of life. We closed our tent effort in Stann Creek a few weeks ago, and Brother Garbutt is working there instructing those who are interested. There were about fifteen keeping the Sabbath when we left, and Brother Garbutt writes that he believes we shall be able to organize a good little church there in the near future. We are glad to see the light of this great Message shining in another of earth's dark places.

The work here in Belize is moving on, and people are becoming much interested. We are planning to have a baptismal service at the close of each quarter. At the end of the first quarter, four were ready to take this step. At the end of the second quarter seven were ready, but two of these were unable to be with us. We have about twenty in the class now and we hope to have ten of these ready at the close of the present quarter.

During the month of March, I held an effort in Barrios. Brother Bourne is instructing the class there and he wrote me that thirteen were planning to be baptized next week when I go through there on the way to the union committee meeting. We are glad as we see people coming into the truth.

A letter received from Brother Henriques tells us that there were about six interested and two were planning to be baptized at Coxen Hole. He is of good courage.

Brother H. R. Robertson, who was teaching in the West Caribbean Training School, is here with us and he is a great help in our work. He is teaching the church school here. My daughter wanted to take more work with the Home Study Institute and so he is taking her place. We are thankful as we see how the Message is going and hope that it will soon be finished.

*British Honduras.* C. B. SUTTON.

### COSTA DE PALENQUE

Costa de Palenque lies on the coast of Panama between Colon and Intendencia de San Blas. A little over two years ago I was asked by the Panama Conference to pioneer this coast. But I was not allowed to remain long enough to accomplish much, as I was called to the province of Chiriqui to take up the work that Pastor Ellis laid down when he accepted the call to labor among the Guaymi Indians. However, before I left I baptized five persons—three in Viento Frio and two at Nombre de Dios—and established a little Sabbath school at Viento Frio which I left in charge of Brother Alfred Forsythe.

In the latter part of 1930, while still in Chiriqui, I received a letter from Brother Forsythe, the substance of which was "Come over to Macedonia

been contributing for a church building, which is now in process of erection.

In addition to those who have been baptized, there are several others who desire baptism, and who can soon be prepared for the rite.

That the good work will grow and produce fruit is the prayer of my heart.

*Cristobal, C. Z.* J. J. SMITH.

### COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA UNION MISSION

Apartado 39, Medellin, Colombia

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

### OUT SELLING BOOKS

In a personal letter from Brother F. W. Steeves, field missionary secretary of the Colombia-Venezuela Union, we find the following good news:

"I was in Bogota about three weeks. The first week we held an institute; and then I worked with the colporteurs in the city. We had very good success, considering present conditions; and the ladies, who are selling the small books in the homes in this city, are also enjoying encouraging success."

When writing the letter, Brother Steeves was out in the country helping some of the colporteurs deliver their books, and he was planning to go to Cali for similar work. So the precious seeds of truth are being sown, and day by day they are taking root in honest hearts.

## With Our Departments

### OUR STAR OF HOPE

We are on the eve of some great event! Existing conditions point with unquestionable certainty to this. With earthquakes, tornadoes, pestilences, and crime ever on the increase we must question: Whither are we drifting? In the midst of this troubled age there exists an inexpressible need of a star of hope, some object upon which the weather-beaten mariner, tossing upon an angry sea may fix his gaze. Is there such a star?

Oh, my brother man! There is a star of hope. That Star of hope is Jesus. Hear Him in these immortal words: "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." And again: "Let not your hearts be troubled. . . . In my Father's house are many mansions. . . . I go to prepare a place for you. . . . I will come again and receive you unto myself."

Christ, the crucified, risen Saviour, the Prince of Peace and the Helper of the helpless, is the only remedy for this sin-sick, troubled and suffering generation. His coming in this generation is an absolute necessity. Are you, my brother, my sister, preparing for His appearing?

L. L. GARBUTT.

*Belize, Honduras.*

### WHERE ARE THE CHILDEN?

Out on the street, we know not where,—  
Nobody seems to know or care;  
Spending the time we know not how—  
Hasten, some one, and find them now.

Share in their pleasures, join in their play,  
Give them a happy hour today;  
Make the home cheery and warm and bright,  
Hold them by love from the street tonight.

Boys and girls must have something to do.  
Find them something—take part in it too;  
Make them feel they are welcome at home,  
That you miss them truly when they are gone.

Don't say too much about the noise;  
Let girls be girls, and boys be boys.  
The time may come when much you'd give  
To have them at home once more to live.

Read to them something nice and new,  
And let your words of reproof be few  
And wisely chosen. A little praise  
Will often win in these precious days.

Chide them kindly when they do wrong,  
And do not keep at the chiding long;  
Try to think of some better scheme  
Than always making their faults the theme.

It is well to house and to clothe and to feed,  
But the mind and the heart have also need;  
And to freeze the heart and starve the mind  
For the want of good care is most unkind.

You may not have riches,—it matters not;  
For home is home, be it palace or cot.  
So keep the heart warm and make the home bright,  
And hold the dear children with you tonight.  
—H. Elizabeth Jones.

and help us." I felt a longing desire to obey the call, and conferred with the president of the conference, who made provision for me to do so. Arriving there, I began a series of meetings which continued for nearly two months, at the end of which I baptized four.

After attending the biennial session of the conference at Colon, I returned to Viento Frio where I remained two months and baptized three more. Later the president of the conference came and helped to organize a church of fifteen members. The new members have



**THE QUAKER GIRL'S DREAM**

I dreamed I was on my way to school when suddenly I noticed a great crowd upon the green. People were hurrying to and fro, and when I asked what all this commotion was about, a girl said:

"Why don't you know? It's Measuring Day, and the Lord's angel has come to see how much our souls have grown since last Measuring Day."

"Measuring Day!" said I; "measuring souls! I never heard of such a thing," and I began to ask questions; but the girl hurried on, and after a little I let myself be pressed along with the crowd.

There in the center, on a kind of throne under the green elm, was the most glorious and beautiful being I had ever seen. He had white wings, his clothes were shining white, and he had the kindest yet most serious face I ever beheld. By his side was a tall golden rod, fastened upright in the ground, with curious marks at regular intervals from the top to the bottom. Over it, in a golden scroll, were the words, "The measure of a perfect man."

The angel held in his hand a large book, in which he wrote the measurements as the people came up at the calling of their names in regular turns. The instant each one touched the golden measure, a most wonderful thing happened. No one could escape the terrible accuracy of that strange rod. Each one shrank or increased to his true dimensions—his spiritual dimensions, as I soon learned, for it was an index of the soul growth which was shown in this mysterious way.

The first few who were measured after I came I did not know; but soon the name of Elizabeth Darrow was called. She is the president of the Aid for the Destitute Society, and she manages ever so many other societies, too; so I thought, "surely, Elizabeth Darrow's measure will be very high indeed."

**Grew Shorter as Measured**

But as she stood by the rod, the instant she touched it she seemed to grow shorter and shorter, and the angel's face grew very serious as he said: "This would be a soul of high stature if only the zeal for outside works which can be seen of men had not checked the lowly, secret graces of humility and trust and patience under little daily trials. These, too, are needed for perfect soul growth."

I pitied Elizabeth Darrow as she moved away with such a sad and surprised face to make room for the next. It was poor, thin little Betsy Lines, the seamstress. I never was more astonished in my life than when she took her stand by the rod, and immediately increased in height till her mark was higher than any I had seen before, and her face shone so I thought it must have caught its light from the angel, who

smiled so gloriously that I envied poor little Betsy, whom before I had rather looked down upon. And as the angel wrote in the book he said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

The next was Lillian Edgar, who dresses so beautifully that I often wished I had such clothes and so much money. The angel looked sadly at her measure, for it was very low, so low that Lillian turned pale as death, and her beautiful clothes no one noticed at all, for they were quite over-shadowed by the glittering robes beside her. And the angel said in a solemn tone: "O, child, why take thought for raiment?"

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**Too Busy**

Too busy to water with prayers and tears  
Of our life as the days come and go—  
Too busy to water with prayers and tears  
The seeds we abundantly sow.

Too busy working for Jesus to pause  
And sit at His footstool of prayer;  
Too busy commanding and guarding His field  
To learn what His orders are there.

Too busy with routine of cares in the home  
To seek Him alone through the day;  
Too busy in striving to faithfully serve  
To listen to Him and to pray.

How Satan doth gloat o'er his subtle decoy  
Of winding our life in this coil!  
He knows when too busy to watch unto prayer  
Our triumph at last he will foil.

O guard us from whirlpools that threaten to wreck  
Our bark, Heavenly Pilot, we pray!  
And teach us the blessing of walking with God  
Through holy communion each day.  
—Worthie Harris Holden.

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Let your adorning be not that outward adorning of putting on of apparel, but let it be the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. Thus only canst thou grow like the Master."

**Highest Mark of All**

Old Jerry, the cobbler, came next—poor, old, clumsy Jerry. But as he hobbled up the steps, the angel's face fairly blazed with light, and he smiled on him as he led him to the rod; and behold, Jerry's measure was higher than any of the others. The angel's voice rang out so loud and clear that we all heard it, saying: "He that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

And then, oh, my name came next! And I trembled so I could hardly reach the angel, but he put his arm around me and helped me to stand by the rod. As soon as I touched it, I felt myself growing shorter and shorter, and though I stretched and stretched and strained every nerve to be as tall as possible, I could only reach Lillian's mark—Lillian's, the lowest of all—and I a member of the church for two years.

I grew crimson for shame, and whispered to the angel: "Oh, give me another chance before you mark me in the book as low as this. Tell me how to grow. I will do it all so gladly, only do not put this mark down!"

The angel shook his head sadly. "The record must go down as it is, my child. May it be higher when I come next. This rule will help thee, 'Whatsoever thou doest, do it heartily as to the Lord, in singleness of heart as unto Christ.'"

And with that I burst into tears and suddenly awakened to find myself crying. But, oh, I shall never forget that dream! I was so ashamed of my mark.  
—Measuring Rod.

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**THE CHRIST-FILLED LIFE, HOW EXPERIENCED, No. II**

For a moment we shall notice Christ's own experience and the place the Holy Spirit occupied in His life while He was in the flesh among men. Christ was dependent upon Another:

"Let the same disposition be in you which was in Christ Jesus. Although from the beginning He had the nature of God He did not reckon His equality with God a treasure to be tightly grasped. Nay, He stripped Himself of His glory, and took on Him the nature of a bondservant by becoming a man like other men. And being recognized as truly human, He humbled Himself and even stooped to die; yes, to die on a cross." Phil. 2:5-8, *Weymouth's translation.*

"The Son of God was surrendered to the Father's will, and dependent upon His power. So utterly was Christ emptied of self that He made no plans for Himself. He accepted God's plans for Him, and day by day the Father unfolded His plans."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 208.

"I can of Mine own self do nothing." John 5:30.

"Many claim that it was impossible for Christ to be overcome by temptation. Then He could not have been placed in Adam's position; He could not have gained the victory that Adam failed to gain. If we have in any sense a more trying conflict than had Christ, then He would not be able to succor us. But our Saviour took humanity, with all its liabilities. He took the nature of man, with the possibility of yielding to temptation. We have nothing to bear which He has not endured."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 117.—*Australasian Record.*

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**PROGRESS OF THE MESSAGE**

How we love to hear about it! It stirs the life current in our veins to faster motion. Our eyes brighten with a happy sparkle. Our hearts are lighter for the moment; yes, and much more tender to the needs of others, as we learn through the lips or pen of workers of the good news when some one accepts the truth, when churches are organized, when baptisms are held, or when some special sacrifice is made to help answer the increasing calls throughout the world. We like to hear that the Message of eternal life is speeding to its triumphant finish. We are all anxious for this great Marathon race between truth and error to come to a winning stop.

Just this morning my attention was arrested with these words from Ontario, Canada, where I was born, "We are holding a baptismal service and expect to baptize sixty-five candidates and bring them into church membership." I can appreciate to the full what such a splendid harvest means, garnered, as it was, among the rocks of conservatism and generations of religious training. How much more abundant harvest may we expect from the seed sown in the virgin soil of the mission lands.

I was glad to learn from a young couple now on their way to Colombia, that as a result of a Spanish effort held in California several were baptized and others in preparation for that sacred rite. Instead of quoting or repeating similar happy news from India, China, Africa, Europe, etc., another phase of the progress of the Message presents itself. Is the Message progressing in my heart and yours, as well as throughout the world?

Like a great flood, the waters of financial depression are gradually but surely creeping toward us. Doubtless many of us have been glad to increase our offerings in proportion to our income, but what about the decrease, when it comes? Will it find us holding fast to a few earthly treasures and jealously guarding them, while others full of Abraham's faith, lay their all upon the altar for God?

A few days ago a fire started in the main gas plant in the city of Panama, Fear of explosion and spreading fire caused countless numbers of women and children to leave the city, carrying their dearest possessions with them in the form of bundles, boxes, pets, etc. No definite thought of where to go, but merely to walk and save what they could. How helpless they looked, standing in groups on the streets of Balboa. Finally the danger was over, and the fire controlled, and how quickly and gladly they returned to their homes. A vivid picture of the last days. Shall we be found struggling along under burdens of earthly magnets, or hopeful and unhampered, free to help those around us?

"The reason that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of happiness is that he has formed the habit of depending upon his riches for his happiness. The man who is rich in knowledge and intellectual power does not find it easy to lay aside his wisdom and become as a little child. Scientific search may, perhaps, give him a satisfactory definition of God, but it can never give him the experience of God."—*Christian Advocate*, (N. Y.), May 21, 1931.

I am reminded of a letter from a friend which contained these earnest words: "I want the Message to be finished in my heart, as well as in the world, when Jesus comes." Friends, it must be finished in our hearts before it can be finished in the world. Is it progressing? VIOLA E. COOKE.

*Balboa, Canal Zone.*

### OUR NEIGHBORS

There are few people who can truthfully say they have no neighbors. The nearest house in a thinly settled district may be fifteen or more miles away, but its inhabitants are neighbors; and many times people separated by fifteen miles are better acquainted than neighbors living across the hall from each other in a city apartment building.

The question of our responsibility to neighbors is a serious one for every Seventh-day Adventist to consider, for it will have a bearing upon the decision of our case in the heavenly court. It is remarkable that in six books of the Bible we find the admonition, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." When we stop to think what that means and includes, we are overwhelmed with the responsibility the Lord has placed upon us; and are compelled to realize that we have not carried out the commission.

Having received the wonderful knowledge of the truth for this time, what excuse can we give for not taking the Message to our neighbors? They have a right to expect this consideration from us; and Zechariah the prophet tells us that the day is coming when they will condemn us if we have not done our duty:

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the Lord shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor."

Failure to carry the Message of salvation to our neighbors disconnects a link in the chain of service the Lord has inaugurated for the finishing of the work. Let us pray and labor that failure in this respect may not be charged to our account in the heavenly ledger.

C. E. WOOD.

*Mexico City, Mexico.*

### M. V. QUESTION BOX

*Question:* "Please tell me if it is proper to take a little rest on the Sabbath when I have worked very hard through the week and am very tired."

*Answer:* The Sabbath is a day of rest and gladness, so it must be pleasing to the Lord that His weary child should take a little rest. But so far as it is possible we should guard against being too tired when Sabbath comes to get from it the spiritual blessing God has in it for us. If you have access to the Testimonies, as I trust you have, read "The Observance of the Sabbath" in volume six pages 349 and 368. Speaking of the manner of observing the Sabbath the Testimonies say that during the week our energies should "not be so exhausted in temporal labor that on the day when the Lord rested and was refreshed we shall be too weary to en-

gage in His service." Again we are told in the same volume:

"Let not the precious hours of the Sabbath be wasted in bed. On Sabbath morning the family should be astir early. If they rise late there is confusion and bustle in preparing for breakfast and Sabbath school. There is hurrying, jostling, and impatience. Thus unholy feelings come into the home. The Sabbath thus desecrated, becomes a weariness, and its coming is dreaded rather than loved."

### NEW KIND OF REPORTS

These are days when thrilling reports are reaching us, telling of the progress of the Message in every land. Truly, as one has said, a new "Acts of the Apostles" is being written today in the experiences of our great missionary family that is pioneering the way to the very ends of the earth. Such an interesting report reached me a few days ago from one of those European fields where imprisonments, beating, persecution in many forms, are the common lot of the colporteur.

At a recent meeting, the union field secretary was giving his report covering a two-year period. Part of the report was as follows:

Colporteurs arrested	365
Days spent in prison	862
Times literature confiscated	124
Colporteurs beaten	118

It was my privilege a few months ago to attend colporteur institutes in that field. The report now reaches us that forty of those who were with us in those meetings have since been arrested. One of them has been imprisoned five different times. Another has been three times imprisoned and three times beaten. Yet despite such experiences these house-to-house literature evangelists are a courageous group. One dear brother had been arrested, thrown into prison, and finally released at a midnight hour as was Peter of old. In this case, however, it was not an angel escort that was given him, but a policeman. As they came to the edge of the city, he was left to go his way alone, the policeman returning. The policeman had little more than left our brother when a mob rose up in the darkness and set upon him, and he was left almost lifeless by the roadside. Evidently there had been an understanding between the police and the mob. Later, when this brother met with our people in testimony meeting, he was one of the first to stand up and tell of the joy he was finding in his house-to-house ministry.

We thank God for our noble band of colporteurs who are now carrying the Message to the homes of the people in nearly one hundred fifty languages. May He greatly bless them, giving them joy in service here and a rich harvest of souls for the kingdom.—*C. E. Weeks in Review and Herald, June 18, 1931.*

**THE FLY—MORE THAN A NUISANCE**

Few realize how dangerous a neighbor the common house fly is; but Nina M. Munson, an experienced nurse will help us to realize this as we follow her through the reasons she gives below for saying that the fly is "more than a nuisance."

"On a health bulletin, standing out in bold, black type as a heading, are the words: 'Beware of the Common House Fly.' Beware of him, indeed, for he is so common we may forget his presence, or overlook his particular role as a disease carrier. He is no longer considered just an annoying nuisance; he is known as altogether filthy, 'murderous,' 'a disgrace,' 'the most dangerous animal on earth,'—a thing to be looked upon with distaste, distrust, and apprehension.

"The parent fly lays eggs several times during one season, estimated at about one hundred to one hundred fifty eggs at a time. If the eggs are in a warm place which will favor early hatching, they become maggots in a few hours. From maggot develops the pupa, from pupa the winged fly. This development takes approximately two weeks, and those one hundred or one hundred fifty flies are ready to bring forth their families; and by the end of the season that one fly is capable of adding to the fly population somewhere in the vicinity of 5,000,000-000,000 flies.

"Bristly hairs cover the body and the six legs of this two-winged insect. He has no teeth, so he cannot bite and in this way spread infection but he has a digestive apparatus that quite completely makes up for the lack of teeth!

"How many times have children watched a fly walk over the window-panes or a mirror, or other smooth surface, and wondered why he didn't fall or even slip. To him it is very simple. Between the claws on each foot there is a pad that is soft and sticky, which enables him to perform this feat. Think what this sticky pad can pick up by way of filth as he flies from garbage can to decaying matter, from decaying matter to whatever form of putrefying matter he can find. He is a creature of filth. He is born in it, he thrives in it, but he won't stay in it. He likes to investigate in the pantry, kitchen, dining room, and every place where food can be found.

"We have heard children wondering and marveling at the ability of the fly to eat away a sugar lump or a piece of candy, actually leaving a hole in it in a short time where he has eaten. He simply dropped his proboscis (suction tube), and seemed to get the food by some sort of magic. This is the magic he uses: He stores his food as a liquid (as he has no teeth) in his crop. When he comes to a solid, he liquefies it by regurgitating or vomiting some of the contents of his crop through his suction tube. This, mixed with a generous supply of saliva, dissolves the solid, and it is sucked up into his stomach, or crop. There is a depression left from this process, and who knows what more? Where was he before he came to feast off the sugar, dessert, cream pitcher, or baby's tray? What made up the contents of the liquid in his crop which he deposited on the solid to liquefy it?

"Some of the diseases flies are capable of transporting through their feet, hairy bodies, contents of the substance regurgitated, and specks, are typhoid fever, summer diarrhea (which takes the lives of so many little children during the summer months), cholera and epidemic dysentery, infantile paralysis, scarlet fever, smallpox, tuberculosis. It is said that tuberculosis sputum particularly appeals to the fly. The flyspecks from flies that have feasted on tuberculosis sputum may contain germs that are capable of causing tuberculosis infection for about fifteen days from the time they are excreted. All germs can pass through the fly without their virulence being lessened.

"You have noticed light and dark flyspecks on the mirror of window panes. The dark ones are those which pass through the fly, the light ones are from his nauseating habit, while resting, of drawing a drop of liquid in his crop to the end of his suction tube. He may either deposit it where he rests, or suck it back again into his crop. When he deposits it, we have to wash off this germ-filled material from our mirrors or windows; and worse still, he may deposit it where we do not even see it.

"Think what it may mean to spoon one of these germ-laden creatures from the pitcher of milk, then pour a glass for baby sister! or to shoo the fly from the nipple on the nursing bottle, and place the nipple, without cleansing and sterilizing, into the mouth of the babe. Or, think what it may mean to leave the children to take their afternoon nap where flies have free access to their lips.

"In the July, 1930, *Southern Medical Journal*, an article appeared by Dr. Marvin Smith, stating that eggs and larvae of the common house fly have been found in human intestines.

**OUR PRAYER LIST**

*Health of workers.*—Pastors D. A. Parsons and C. L. Dinius; Sisters L. G. Jorgensen, J. B. Nelson, A. R. Ogden, E. M. Trummer, C. E. Moon, F. L. E. Ulmer, and W. D. Keiser. Of the names added recently, Pastor Dinius and Sister Kieser have had to submit to surgical operations in their search of health. God is answering prayer. Let us continue to remember these and other workers and lay members who are ill.

*Other calls.*—Evangelistic efforts, colporteurs, the Calendar Revision, the Thirteenth Sabbath offering, workers and other believers in revolution-torn countries, etc. Shall we not also pray for our dear people who are unemployed and some of whom are in need of life's necessities? Finally, forget not God's treasury.

In ten days from the time these were found and placed under screened protection, adult house flies developed. The reaction of the intestinal contents does not seem to kill the larvae. They feed off the blood they can draw from the soft mucous membrane of the colon. When the maggots are found, they are filled with red blood cells. The fly eggs are carried into the intestines on food that has been eaten, upon which flies had been permitted to light for even an instant. Dr. Smith continues: 'Every human being in the world who eats food upon which flies have been permitted to light is susceptible. . . . It is my belief that the more we study the habits of the common house fly, the greater enemy of the human family we shall find him to be. . . . We know that their eggs, and larvae can and do live in human intestine.'

"Preventing the breeding of flies is a direct aim at their extermination. They should by all means be swatted or caught, once they have grown wings; but this is secondary to eliminating every possible source of their breeding. The local board of health will gladly furnish information for treating breeding places about farms.

"Picnic grounds and camping grounds are apt to be found swarming with flies. It does not end matters simply to brush the flies aside with, 'Oh, well, you have to expect flies when you go on a picnic. You'll get used to them!' That does not lessen their danger as disease carriers, or the virulence of the germs that they leave on everything upon which they light.

"Declare war on flies this season. Every person who does so is performing a real service to mankind. Destroy their breeding places, protect windows and doors with tight screens, use a sticky fly paper that will catch both the fly and his germs, and swat, swat, SWAT!"

**PREPARE FOR SERVICE**

The annual meeting of the Antillian Union committee was held at the Colegio Adventista Antillano, Bartle, Cuba, beginning May 20. This institution is located on the railway between Havana and Santiago, and just off the new auto highway between these cities. It is about 450 miles east of the capital. The commencement exercises for the first graduating class were held during our visit. This was a very interesting occasion. Prof. Livingston, who has served this school faithfully as principal for the past three years, has just responded to a call from the River Plate Junior College, Argentine, S. A., as Bible teacher. Prof. D. E. Lust had just arrived from North America to succeed Prof. Livingston.

Three young men and one young woman completed the prescribed course of study and received their diplomas from the hands of their new principal. One young man is employed by the Cuba Mission in evangelistic work. The others are preparing themselves for active service in some department of the Lord's work.

Although the attendance at the school has been small, it has exerted a strong influence for good in the field. Poor facilities at the school and depressed financial conditions through the field have contributed to the small attendance. But funds have been provided for materially improving the facilities of the school and adding to the comfort of the students. The institution has now been made the training school for the Spanish constituency of the union, and we expect henceforth a larger student body. We heartily commend it to the confidence of the parents and young people. This school is the place where our Spanish speaking young people of school age in the union, if it is possible to meet the necessary expenses, should find a home till their Christian characters have been established and their intellectual and physical training for life's service have been completed.

Dear young people, the end of all things earthly is very near and the service of every consecrated, trained young man and woman is urgently needed in helping "make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Let the youth throughout the division, who cannot possibly attend our schools, embrace every opportunity within their reach of developing strong Christian characters and of cultivating the intellect by taking part in all the activities of the church, especially of the Missionary Volunteer society. In addition you may be able to enroll as a student in the Home Study Institute of Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

E. E. ANDROSS.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

**O'ER LAND AND SEA**

Pastors E. E. Andross, W. L. Adams, and L. V. Finster, all of the division office, and Pastor E. J. Lorntz of the Panama Conference, sailed for Costa Rica July 23. The next day Brother Harrison, our division treasurer, and Brother and Sister E. W. Everest of the Pacific Press in the Zone also sailed for Costa Rica. It was the annual session of the Central American Union committee that called these workers to the union headquarters; and we were glad that they were able to report a very good meeting upon their return.

Early in August Sister F. L. Harrison and her two daughters, Marjorie and Thelma, sailed for a well earned holiday in the cooler climate of San Jose, Costa Rica.

During July we had the pleasure of seeing a number of workers from different places. First in the list were Sister Dorland and her daughter from the United States. They stopped a few hours on their way from California to New York by boat.

Another visitor was Sister Justina Colon, who has been doing Bible work for some years in Colombia. She spent a few days at the division office when transshipping for her home in Puerto Rico.

In the last week in July Brother and Sister Chester Westphal arrived from the States. They have come to take up work in Colombia. We were indeed glad to welcome these new recruits for whose coming we have been looking forward so long. Brother Westphal was born in South America where his parents, Brother and Sister J. W. Westphal, were missionaries for many years. There Brother Westphal received his elementary and high school education in the Spanish language. He closed an evangelistic effort in that language just before leaving the States where he has been completing his college work. We pray that these young people may be granted good health, much happiness, and abundant success in their work in this division.

And here comes a bit of very belated news: How Delwin James Brower managed to come to the home of Brother and Sister F. W. Brower June 27, and the MESSENGER learn nothing of his arrival sooner, is an unsolved mystery. But we welcome heartily this new missionary in the home of the Panama field missionary secretary. We are also happy to learn of the safe arrival of two other little sunbeams over in Cuba. One

came to the home of Brother and Sister Miller, and one to the home of Brother and Sister McWilliam. May these little missionaries add much happiness to the homes to which they have been entrusted.

Brother and Sister C. G. Christiansen, who have been doing self-supporting missionary work in Colombia for several years, have returned to the States. May the seed sown by their hands yield an abundant harvest.

The readers of the MESSENGER who know Brother and Sister George Nickle will be glad to learn that they are joining our Inter-American Division family

**CAN GOD COUNT ON YOU?**

Will you do what you can to save us from a "wandering Sabbath"? The calendar committee meets in October. What we do, we must do quickly. This crisis is a call to immediate action. There is no time for hesitancy or indecision. "Unquestionably," says Brother A. S. Maxwell of England, "the Calendar Reform issue is the most wonderful aid to the propagation of God's last Message that has ever been placed in our hands." Let us seize this opportunity without delay. Here are some things you and I can do to help:

1. Pray, for "prayer changes things."
2. Study the problem.
3. Distribute literature on the subject. The issues of *Liberty* and *Present Truth* on this subject are very good.
4. Co-operate promptly with our church and conference committee in this matter.
5. Join in special prayer services in our church that God may save us from a "wandering Sabbath," and that we may make the most of this opportunity to give the truth to our neighbors and friends.

again. Brother Nickle has been called to the superintendency of the Gulf Mission in Mexico. Brother Parfitt after several years in charge of that mission has been asked to take the Tehuantepec Mission, while Brother J. B. Nelson, the former superintendent there, has been appointed to lead out in the work in the Lake Mission in hopes that the climate there will be better for his wife, who has been seriously ill for some time.

Sister W. D. Keiser, wife of the field missionary secretary of the Central American Union, has gone to our sanitarium up in Florida for an operation. We pray that she may have a full and speedy recovery.

**A GOOD WORD FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL**

No doubt you are thinking of the Overflow for the Thirteenth Sabbath of this quarter. The Inter-American Division gets the overflow this quarter, and of course we can use every cent we

can get, and then we shall not have enough to meet the imperative needs.

We are glad to know that the Sabbath schools of the division are doing so well. By a little comparison of the statistics between the first quarter of 1930 with the first quarter of 1931, we find that the church membership has gained 8.2%, while the Sabbath schools have gained 13%. We also find that the tithe has dropped 12.4% in the whole division, while the Sabbath school offerings have dropped only 8.5%. While we are sorry that we had to drop in our donations, we are glad that we dropped so little in comparison. Evidently our good people are making unusual sacrifices in order that the work of the gospel may go to all the world.

We want all to keep in mind the regular offerings from Sabbath to Sabbath, the Investment Plan for raising funds, the birthdays, and then finally that we shall keep in mind the Thirteenth Sabbath. We do wish that all the fields in the Inter-American Division may reach the goal set for the Thirteenth Sabbath.

Remember the THIRTEENTH SABBATH OVERFLOW. Ask the Lord to help us in this endeavor.

W. L. ADAMS.

Balboa, Canal Zone.

**OBITUARIES**

Pastor C. C. Ellis sends the following obituaries from Limon, Costa Rica:

"Jolley.—Sister Martina Jolley was born in 1884 and died April 1, 1931. She had been a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; and although she lost the way for a time, she returned to her Saviour before her last illness.

"Anderson.—Brother Joseph Elisha Anderson was born in Jamaica in 1864 and died June 13, 1931. He was baptized by Brother Rashford and remained faithful unto death.

"Smith.—Brother Arthur Ezekiel Smith was born April 24, 1877 and died June 27, 1931. He was baptized by Pastor Eastman in 1899, and was our Sabbath school superintendent at the time of his death."

May God comfort those who mourn; and may each of these losses bind our hearts more closely to things eternal. The Lord says "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord . . . their works do follow them."

**DIVISION DIRECTORY**

E. E. Andross	President
F. L. Harrison	Secretary-Treasurer
L. V. Finster	Field and Home Miss. Sec'y
W. A. Bergherm	Field Miss. Sec'y
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**Calendar**

Week of Sacrifice	November 21-28
Week of Prayer	December 12-19