

SOUTH AMERICAN BULLETIN



VOL. IV.

BUENOS AIRES, ARG.

MARCH, 1928

No. 3

Our Objectives in South America

By Carlyle B. Haynes

It is profitable every little while to consider the objectives for which we labor. Otherwise there is danger that in the pressure of our daily toil we may lose sight of them.

Let us not forget, then, that we have certain ends in view for this cause in South America. We are not here merely to do the daily round of service. We are moving toward a goal.

We have certain definite aims. There are objectives we have in mind to reach. We do well to consider what these are, so that we may intelligently decide on the proper means to reach this end. We should have in mind always whether what we are at present doing is calculated to bring us closer to our goal. That is, are we using inadequate means, and just marking time, or are we moving towards the great objective of this cause?

So we raise the questions, What are we doing in South America? Why are we here? What is the purpose of the church in North America in sending men and money into these fields? What are we to accomplish here? And are we getting on towards the goal?

Our chief objective is to prepare a people in South America to meet the Lord. To do this we have set out to preach the closing message of the gospel to all South America. In accomplishing this we purpose to plant the truth in these republics as widely as possible. And to do this we shall be required to establish churches of believers throughout all these countries.

Now, why do we establish such churches? What are they to do? How are they to be organized? What principles are to govern them? What objectives are they to have held before them? It is here I believe we should give the closest and most careful attention and study.

I am convinced that we should seek to establish churches which are self-supporting from the start in all matters, whether financial or spiritual. They should also be self-governing and self-propagating within the meaning of these terms under our denominational system of organization.

Such churches will be truly Argentinian churches, or Brazilian, or Chilean, or Indian, as the case may be. Becoming accustomed to responsibil-

ity and service, they will be vigorous and strong from the beginning, and therefore will be successful in carrying forward the work of this message in their vicinity, which is their bounden duty and the only reason for their existence.

The establishment of such churches will involve careful training, instruction and guidance when they are organized. Here is where we make our greatest mistakes. How do we train new converts when we bring them into the church? What do we lead them to expect in the way of shepherding? Are they prepared to stand alone and care for themselves, or are they taught to expect constant nursing? Are they trained to be left by the preacher, or to be dependent on him forever? What kind of Christians are you organizing into churches, full-grown, vigorous workmen for God, or spoon-fed infants?

Before the members are baptized and received into the church, they should have a systematic and comprehensive course of instruction in the fundamentals of Christian truth, the aim throughout being to prepare the believer to be an intelligent, earnest and practical Christian, and a responsible, active, devoted member of the church.

The work of the evangelist is not done when people are baptized and made into church members. God expects more than church members. The work of this message is not finished in the life of the believer when he becomes a member of the church. He is to become, not merely a church member, but a worker for souls. And he should be trained and prepared to work for souls by the worker who brought him into the truth at the time he accepts this message and unites with the church.

When churches are organized in this way they are prepared to stand alone and grow. That is the way Paul did

Stand Loyally

Just where you are in the conflict

There is your place!

E'en though you think you are useless,

Hide not your face.

God placed you there for some purpose,

Unknown though it be.

Know He has chosen you for it,

Stand loyally!

Just where you are in the conflict

Stand undismayed!

Fear not the forces of evil

Howe'er strongly arrayed.

They've but wrong's puny might!

Over 'gainst infinite right!

Where'er your place may be,

Stand loyally!

Just where the Leader has placed you

Be faithful and true.

It may be the turn of the battle

Depends upon you!

Though just to stand and wait

May seem but a coward's fate,

If that your task may be,

Stand loyally!

—Margaret B. Platt.

it. He trained his churches to be left. He trained his converts to carry on the work without him. And then he went on and raised up other churches, and the ones he had left, but properly trained, did not disintegrate, but grew and flourished. That was the apostolic way. Is it *your* way?

When such believers are founded into a church faithful instruction should be given them. It should be made plain to them that they cannot be provided a pastor, or given material assistance in the way of church buildings or school equipment. They should be urged and encouraged to provide themselves with all the material things they may need in their church life, and to rely on God and the Bible and their own fellowship, rather than upon outside assistance. They should be shown that they will grow and become strong and be living, vigorous churches far more by *doing* than by *receiving*, by bearing burdens, both financial and spiritual, rather than by being supported by others.

From the outset the responsibility for the church and its work and its maintenance and its growth, and all its activities should be placed on the body of believers who compose that church. They should be expected to carry on all the normal activities of the church—its business, its support, its workship, and its witnessing. Such responsibility brings out those "spiritual gifts" inherent in every company of Christian believers, and develops leadership in those who possess peculiar talents in any direction, and thereby goes a long way towards making churches truly Christian.

I am aware, of course, that this method will have its perils which will need guarding against. Even after the church is firmly planted there will always be danger of retrogression, of relapse, of separation from the body. These dangers will be accentuated if there is no definite progress, no constant activity. Wise leadership will always need to know how, without unduly controlling or dominating the churches, to stimulate and inspire them to go forward and take their full share in the work of winning their countrymen and others to Christ. It is here that our departments can be of most profitable service to the cause.

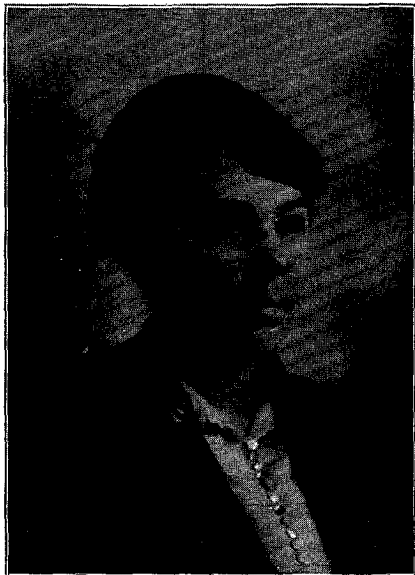
Review of Beginnings in South America—Part 3

THE FIRST COLPORTEURS (Continued)

IN SANTIAGO, while seeking a lodging place, Brethren Bishop and Davis were providentially directed to the home of a

Spanish Baptist minister by the name of Balada. This minister, upon learning that they were Seventh-day observers, began to argue with them and was quite indignant when he saw that these two helpless-appearing wanderers who knew very little of the language seemed to be trying to teach him Bible. He told his wife that these two young fellows were trying to convince him that Saturday is the Sabbath. To this his wife replied, "They are right, according to the Bible Saturday is the Sabbath." She at once began keeping the Sabbath and her husband, although resisting a bit, soon joined her.

E. W. Thomann began to keep the Sabbath just a few days after the Balada family. He soon became a devoted colporteur and was later ordained to the gospel ministry. He was destined to play an important part in the begin-



Mrs. P. Balada, the first convert to the message on the west coast. She is still a faithful member.

ning of our printing work in South America a few years later. A national by the name of Juan S. Pereira early accepted the truth and although not yet baptized, began to work with our literature in north Chile. In 1897 he started with his pack and two mules to work his way across the border into Bolivia to carry on colporteur work there. He was thus the first to plant the seed of truth in that country. He met with severe persecution but remained there about a year and a half.

The message was first carried to Peru when in 1898 J. L. Escobar and wife, with a company of six others, went to Lima to carry on self-supporting missionary work. The great Indian work in Peru opened up in 1909. Here again

the literature ministry was chosen to make the beginning, and that in two different places almost simultaneously. Note the two following paragraphs which refer to these beginnings and which appeared in the Spanish *Review* soon afterward.

"In Puno we have about twelve brethren who have begun keeping the Sabbath principally through reading the *Signs* [in Spanish] which they first received more than a year ago. . . . About four leagues from this town there is an Indian teacher who has been keeping the Sabbath for several months." (J. W. Westphal, *Revista Adventista*, June 1909.)

"There [near Lake Titicaca] some Aymara Indians had accepted the truth through the efforts of one of their own people who had first read our literature." (F. A. Stahl, *Revista Adventista*, December 1910.)

Regarding the beginning at Puno, mentioned by Elder Westphal in the first paragraph quoted, the Spanish *Signs* which played their part were no doubt placed there by Brother E. W. Thomann who had previously worked in Puno with literature. In the second case, that of the Indian teacher referred to here both by Elder Westphal and Elder Stahl, the literature was secured by this Aymara Indian teacher while on a trip to the seacoast.

In 1904 T. W. Davis, one of those pioneers to Chile, went with his family to Ecuador. After three years Mrs. Davis was taken by death. Though left lonely and sad with his two little daughters to care for, he remained there faithful at his post another year. Thus was the truth first planted in Ecuador.

As to the beginning of our message in Colombia, we quote from an article by Elder A. J. Haysmer in the Jubilee number of the *Review*: "In 1895 the first Seventh-day Adventist entered Colombia. F. C. Kelley, a self-supporting worker, went to that field and distributed a large amount of literature. He finally had to leave on account of a revolution in the republic and also because of the ill health of his wife." Brother Kelley again returned to Colombia and we find the following interesting paragraph written by Mrs. E. M. Trummer on the occasion of Brother and Sister Kelley's return to the States in 1924. "Twenty-nine years ago Brother Kelley, then a young man, landed in Bogota, alone, as a self-supporting missionary, with the one desire to set up the light of truth in this part of the world where spiritual darkness is indeed dense. Brother Kelley had with him as part of his baggage 175 pounds of literature."

The message entered Venezuela rather late, it seems, but here too the literature ministry made the beginning. In 1907 B. E. Connerly entered Venezuela as colporteur and fruit soon sprang up. It was back in the mountain range of this country where a few years ago our colporteur Rafael Lopez, risking the dangers of that interior district, was killed by bandits who riddled his body with bullets and thrust a dagger through his heart. A beginning has been made and workers there tell us a rich harvest of souls is being reaped.

There are other names not mentioned which no doubt should be included in our list of beginners. It would not be wondered at if at this late date someone who is equally as deserving were left out of the story. Mention should be made of W. H. Thurston, who, together with Elder F. H. Westphal came down in 1894 to begin self-supporting work in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and who suffered privation and sickness, but who remained uncomplainingly at his post. Another worthy worker is Elder O. Opegard, who came to South America in 1893 and did considerable literature work in Argentina where he still lives a faithful pillar in the message after having invested so unselfishly his life and most of his means in the cause. There are also A. J. and J. F. Berger who in July of 1895 came to Brazil and who labored amid constant hardships and difficulties as they continued for years in the colporteur work and pioneered in many parts of that vast and trying field.

Much more might be said regarding these our pioneering colporteurs in the South American Continent. Indeed as we think of what it meant for those trail-blazing messengers to go out as they did in those days, it seems almost inconsiderate and unfeeling to pass over these cases as it were in this formal way, giving scarcely more than a tabulation of names, dates and places.

Strange languages, loneliness, isolation, belated arrival of literature, peniless pocket books, trackless woods, desert plains, mud, rain, cold, heat, hunger, fevers, beatings, robberies, arrests, prison walls, and self-support, are all words which, along with many others of a similar nature, we would have to use to tell the story of these early efforts. But there is one other word we would also use whose glittering letters make other words fade dimly away. That word is "souls." Just as real soldiers of the cross have always done and still do, so these heroes of our story thought of saving souls and forgot themselves and their hardships.

E. H. MEYERS.

Division Pub. Department Secretary.

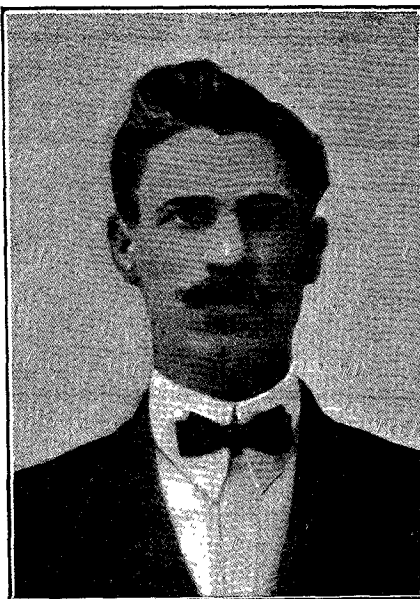
Austral Union Conference

E. L. MAXWELL - - - - President
C. L. BAUER - - - - Secy.-Treas.
Address: Florida, F. C. C. A.,
Buenos Aires, Argentine

The Work in Buenos Aires

THE 31st of December last was an occasion of joy to the churches in and around Buenos Aires, when all met in the capacious chapel of the Florida church to celebrate the baptism of twenty-two souls.

There is a goodly number of candidates, at least 25, that we confidently



T. H. Davis as Field Missionary Secretary of Chile.

expect to take part in a further baptism of like character which we hope to celebrate in the month of March. Pray, brethren, for these precious souls, who will surely have fierce battles to wage before the enemy will allow them to join the ranks of the redeemed.

The lay members of these churches and groups and the Conference and other laborers who have co-operated in winning the souls just baptized rejoiced together as they saw these fruits of their labors, and are filled with renewed zeal to press on to greater victories.

The writer of this report has just completed an effort in Villa Ballester, and at the same time is studying with the interested ones aroused in the federal capital and the surrounding towns.

LUIS A. ROJAS.

Evangelist, Buenos Aires Conference.

Printed Page Results

LAST week while accompanying a new colporteur in the city of Valparaiso we found three people interested in the truth through reading our literature. One man had been a subscriber to *El Atalaya* and wished to receive it again. Another had bought "Our Day" and liked it very much. A family who belonged to a Presbyterian church bought a "Controversy" a few years ago, and have read and studied it until they are convinced of the truth. They wanted to know where we hold our meetings and at what hour so they could attend services.

The honest in heart are seeking for the truth, and it is a blessed privilege to be able to put into their hands our truth-filled literature.

This summer we expect to have ten colporteurs working with "Our Day," eight with "Controversy," six with the combination of the three new books, and four with *El Atalaya*. The financial situation is not the best but we are of good courage and expect to have good success because it is the Lord's work.

J. D. LESLIE.

*Field Missionary Secretary,
Chile Conference.*

Progress in Paysandu, Uruguay

It is just fifteen years ago since wife and I landed in Buenos Aires to join the small corps of workers already in the field. During these years there has been a marked progress in all lines of our work. Surely, if ever there was a time when we as a people should be thankful and rejoice, it is now.

Every day there are evidences that the Lord is leading in a special way. It is most encouraging to see how the Lord opens ways so that honest souls can get the truth. About three and one-half years ago I was asked to open up work in the city of Paysandú, Uruguay. It is a country town and very Catholic. Not long after my arrival here the priests began a regular warfare against the truth and the missionary paper (Spanish *Watchman*) which we distributed in the city. They used the press of the daily newspaper as well as their church paper to publish propaganda against us, besides, openly attacking us in their sermons. We had about 250 subscriptions to the *Watchman* and as result of the attacks against us practically everybody cancelled his subscription.

Public meetings were started shortly after this experience mentioned and very few would attend; things looked a bit discouraging. However, I was sure the Lord had some way of reach-

ing these people and that they must be warned, so began to study new plans for getting the message to them. As a result, today we are placing just as many *Watchman* in the homes of the people as before, and there is a general interest on the part of the public which is keeping me very busy visiting and studying the Bible with the interested ones.

On the 24th of December we had the pleasure of baptizing five souls, and besides, there are several others who will be ready for the next baptism. We now have a well organized church of twenty-eight members in the city, also another church and group nearby that were raised up since my coming here. These dear souls, once they accept the truth, they love it with all their heart.

Last winter when the attendance to public meetings began to decrease because of illness and bad weather, I started quite a strong campaign on health and temperance, using for these occasions some practical demonstrations of hydrotherapy and some lantern slides. These had the desired effect, and during the entire winter our public meetings were well attended.

In closing permit me to leave this word with my fellow-workers: Let us not become discouraged even though the battle may be hard, for we know the victory is sure. Let us always remember: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose."

A. R. SHERMAN.

Evangelist, Paysandú, Uruguay.

Another Language Entered

IN THE baptism celebrated at the close of the Chillan Training School were two Araucano Indian boys. We believe they are the first of their race to accept the truth. They are fine straightforward young men and are now in the canvassing field. The third asked to defer his baptism until his return to school in the fall. We are hoping that this is but a beginning of a work among this warlike race which was never really conquered by the Spaniard until he succumbed to liquor.

Twenty-eight students and people won by the school during the year were baptized. At the riverside there were fully two hundred of our neighbors to whom an Adventist baptism is a strange affair. Upon these country people the example of Rome is left in drink, ignorance and fanaticism, however we are clearly seeing the impressions being made on them by the



Paysandú Church, Uruguay. Brother A. R. Sherman at extreme right.

school. Professor Howell is surgeon-in-chief for the neighborhood. All the stab wounds and ailments are brought to him and his reputation is growing rapidly. All this tends to gain friends. Then during the closing exercises of the school the children of some of these people took part, very creditably too, in the programs, which pleased their parents and friends. We hope that next year we will see many more decide for higher standards and a better life.

The three members who graduated at the close of this term have entered the work. About fifteen young men and three girls are also out in the canvassing field preparing for the next year. Construction work has begun on our new dormitory and we trust the money for the new chapel will soon be here. We can then better cope with the situation and hope to see Chile filled with a commendable class of workers for the message.

HENRY F. BROWN.

*Bible Instructor,
Chillan Training School.*

Austral Union Notes

WORD is received from Elder J. H. Roth, president of the North Argentine Conference, that 185 persons were baptized during the year 1927. About fifty others hope to receive this rite as soon as plans can be arranged for them.

As a result of a public effort held in Las Garzas, Argentine, two families were baptized on January 8. About thirty others are definitely preparing for baptism at a later date.

AN EVANGELISTIC effort was held in Pergamino, province of Buenos Aires, during January. The campaign was conducted by Elder W. E. Hancock, president of the Buenos Aires Conference, together with three other workers.

THE SUMMER School for the Argentine field was a successful one. It is believed that most of the churches desiring church schools can now be furnished the teachers needed, which will be a definite strength and encouragement to them in the education of their children.

BROTHER W. A. Bergherm, Austral Union bookman, was in Chile during December and January assisting Brother J. D. Leslie, bookman for the Chile Conference, in placing student colporteurs in the field. Their report is that the Lord greatly blessed by giving good success in the sale of literature.

RECENT word from Brother C. A. Andersen, superintendent of the Magellan Mission, tells of a missionary visit he made to La Tierra del Fuego (the land of Fire), in the southern part of Argentine. On this trip he distributed about 2,400 pages of literature, some of which he believes will yield definite results for the truth.

THE Austral Union Council met in the city of Buenos Aires during December to study plans for the field. It was an encouragement to note the enthusiasm of the field leaders as they returned to their several conferences to plan for the 1928 program. It is the belief of all that the present year will show the greatest results in the salvation of souls in the history of the Austral Union.

South Brazil Union

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When the Editor Turns Colporteur

RARELY is it the privilege of the workers in our publishing houses to come into direct contact with those who buy our books and magazines. We work away all the year and year after year making the literature that goes out into the field, but it is seldom that we try our hand at selling the product we manufacture. In view of this fact I decided to make an experiment a few weeks ago.

Brother Bainer had spoken to me some time previously about going with him into a small interior town to spend several days selling "Guia Pratico." "Nossa Epoca" had been sold there several months ago. We were on the ground early one Monday morning ready to go to work. It was with some grave misgivings that I started out to present the book to the people. It was only on the

second day that I had gathered up courage to tackle it, after having been with Brother Bainer the first day and observed carefully his manner of getting the orders. Together we visited the men higher up in the town government, recognizing that their names on the list meant much as we visited others. We were not as fortunate in getting a goodly number of these men to subscribe as is usually the case, but we did succeed in getting the name of the *prefeito*, (mayor) of the city. This name helped to get orders.

The second morning we started out each in his own district. It had been fifteen years since I carried a prospectus and so it was with fear and trembling that I approached the first few prospective customers that morning. But as the orders came in I began to gather courage and experience. A curious coincidence revealed that the orders I took during the three days I worked were in direct proportion to the hours put in canvassing. I worked twenty-four hours and got twenty-four orders. The hours worked for each of the three days were 8, 9, and 7 respectively, and the orders for the three days were in the same proportion. All the orders were in the best binding and amounted to 1:200\$000. Brother Bainer's orders for the four days were twenty-seven in the best binding with a value of 1:350\$000. He said he had not found such a hard town in a long time. He had worked another small town close by the week previous, with much better success and much less effort.

The sale of a religious book a few months prior to our going there had not made for better sales with the medical book. The reverse was the experience

where the former medical book "Lar e Saude" (Home and Health) had been sold. Illustrating this is the case of the assistant manager of a large factory. He signed up for the "Guia" without hesitation because he possessed a copy of the old book. After ordering for himself he called out four of the men in the office recommending the book highly and each of the four signed on the dotted line, all within a few minutes.

Our delivery is set for the last day of November and we are confident of good success in the completion of our work there. I learned many lessons during those few days that will help me to sense more fully the obstacles the colporteur has to meet day by day the whole year through. I think it would be a good idea if all our publishing house employees could spend one week in the field each year selling literature. It would bring in a closer bond of feeling between the manufacturing and distributing ends of our publishing work.

J. BERGER JOHNSON.
*Editor, O Atalaia and
Revista Mensal.*

Church Schools and Soul Winning

THE Rolante church in Rio Grande do Sul is known for its missionary activity. This church has grown rapidly during the last few years. Another reason for the prosperity of this church is their deep interest in Christian education; they have a church school and a good attendance.

A baptismal service was held while we were visiting this church. Nearly all the candidates were young people. During the time of their examination by Elder Harder I noticed the church school teacher manifesting an unusual interest in matters. When I enquired about this, I was told that they were his students and had received their spiritual instruction chiefly under him.

Also I learned that the parents of three of the young people were not Adventists, but these youth had learned our truth in the church school and had there decided to follow the true way. They had received permission from their parents and were glad to follow Christ in baptism. Other students whose parents are not Adventists, were ready also to be baptized, but they had not as yet the permission from their parents.

Upon further inquiry I was told that another young person to be baptized had come down from the Cam-



Baptism at the Chillan Training School held December 5, 1927.

pestre church school whose parents were not Adventists, but had been won by the school and the teacher.

It was a joyous occasion for these teachers, and for me, to witness this baptismal scene; and the fact that most of the young people had been led to this experience through the influence of the church school and its teachers, made it a most impressive occasion. God bless our faithful teachers, and give us many more of them.

G. F. RUF.

*Home Missionary and Missionary
Volunteer Secretary,
South Brazil Union.*

South Brazil Notes

Two persons were recently baptized by Elder H. B. Westcott at Guaranesia, Minas Geraes.

ON Sabbath, December 3, ten dear souls were baptized by Elder Luiz Braun at Mogy Mirim, state of Sao Paulo.

A FEW weeks ago Elder F. W. Spies baptized one sister who united with our German group in the city of Sao Paulo.

WRITING from Curitiba under date of November 17, Brother Germano Ritter, secretary-treasurer of the Santa Catharina-Parana Mission, speaks of the progress of the work in their field. We take the liberty of quoting the following from his letter: "I am glad to be able to report progress in our field. The number baptized in our Mission to date has reached 192 souls. I believe this fact should give us a reason for praising God. . . . Last Sabbath Elder A. E. Hagen made an appeal to the interested ones to see how many desired to be baptized, and a goodly number responded."

IN A letter written by Elder A. C. Harder, president of the Rio Grande do Sul Conference, under date of November 23, we find the following note of courage and progress which we take the liberty to pass on to our readers: "The Lord has been with us and we see the results in the field. I have baptized more people this year than I have ever before in one year. We have baptized 109 during eleven months. There are quite a number of others waiting, whom we have not been able to visit as yet. I am certainly glad for a new spirit that is coming into our churches. . . . If we can continue to advance as we have begun, there will be hundreds of souls brought into the truth during the next few years here in Rio Grande do Sul, and our membership ought to double in a few years. Our churches are taking hold of the missionary work, and with them, through the Home Missionary department we shall save many souls."

FROM the November number of the Sao Paulo Conference colporteur sheet, the "O Animador Paulista," we copy the following interesting note: "During the month of October Brother Fernando de Fernandes took orders to the value of 11:650\$000, and his deliveries were 11:-850\$000. The Lord has richly blessed. During the history of the book work in our Conference, this is the best record that has been made. We believe that the Lord will do still greater things in the future. The last delivery of Brother Theophilo Berger amounted to 10:440\$000. He has already duplicated his goal. Now we are hoping that his goal will not only be duplicated, but triplicated."

RECENTLY one person was buried with his Lord in baptism at Assis, Sao Paulo, by Elder Luiz Braun.

IN THE presence of a large gathering, on Sabbath, October 15, Brother Alfredo Suessmann baptized seven dear souls at Itararé. The Spirit of the Lord was present and blessed them greatly on this occasion. Brother Suessmann writes that with the help of the Lord he hopes to have about twelve more ready for this ordinance in January.

ELDER A. C. Harder, president of the Conference, and Brother Siegfried Hoffmann expected to begin a tent effort in the German language at Taquara, Rio Grande do Sul, about the first of December. Brother Harder writes; "This will be the first public effort in the German language that we have conducted since I came to Brazil. We are inviting Elder H. F. Graf to help us for a while, also Brother Otto Keppke and wife will join us in the Bible work and in visiting.

ELDER A. C. Harder baptized seven dear souls at Bage on Sabbath, November 5. He writes that "about six others expect to be baptized in January."

ON SABBATH, November 19, Elder Jose Amador dos Reis, pastor of the Sao Paulo church, had another baptism when nine persons were buried with their Lord in this solemn ordinance. Two others were received on profession of faith. On December 3, he baptized two more into the Sao Paulo church.

WHILE visiting some of our scattered Sabbath-keepers recently, Elder H. B. Westcott was given the free use of the cinema at Cabo Verde for an evening service. His subject was "Why I believe Christ is coming in this generation." There was a good attendance, among them were the country judge, the chief of police and other prominent persons.

BROTHER S. M. Oliveira, field missionary secretary of Santa Catharina-Parana Mission, writes under date of November

24, "We have commenced to work in Curitiba with 'Guia Practico da Saude' and in less than four weeks we have already taken about two hundred orders for this book at a value of more than 9:000\$000." May the Lord continue to bless the book work!

WRITING concerning the public effort which is being conducted at Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, the president of the field says, "I also visited Elder F. R. Kuempel's effort in Pelotas. He and Brother Niz, one of our colporteurs, are the sole workers in this effort. They have a good attendance and we hope that a goodly number of souls may be gathered in as a result."

East Brazil Union Mission

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Evangelistic Campaign in Nitheroy, Brazil

FIVE weeks ago a band of workers lifted their voices to the throne of God in an earnest petition for the success of the first meeting in the Nitheroy effort. Surely, they thought, there should be a band of Sabbath-keepers in this the capital city of the state of Rio de Janeiro. An attractive hall in the city—provisionally, it seemed, was vacant at this time and was secured for the meetings. Last Sabbath, (December 3) Sabbath school was held in the city of Nitheroy and opened with an attendance of fifty, more than half of whom are new believers. We rejoice in the fulfillment of the blessed promise, "My word shall not return unto me void."

At present Bible studies are being held with about forty families. Their regular attendance at the evening lectures, combined with an intense interest in the Bible studies in their homes, gives us the assurance that the Sabbath school at Nitheroy will develop into a strong organization.

With the limited funds available, strong plans were made for aggressive advertizing. Among the most effective of these plans were the use of attractive window cards, announcements on the front of street cars, and placards carried through the streets. Once each week a large sign was painted and a man hired to carry it through the business districts and near the small boat port. In spite of the opposition of Catholic priests and Protestant clergymen, the attendance has averaged from

two to three hundred for most of the lectures with not more than ten to fifteen of these people from our faith.

Elder Henrique Stoehr has had charge of the meetings and with the earnestness and power that come from communion with God, has held the same people from night to night. It was well demonstrated that the people of Brazil will attend a series of every-night meetings, and that the week-night lectures were as effective or more so than those of Sunday night. From the very first "mark X" cards were handed out each evening, and from the list of about 150 names thus secured, the forty Bible studies have developed. In the rear of the hall is a large booth where our literature is displayed and sold. The collections have averaged between twenty-five and thirty mil reis nightly. One evening a man was touched with the closing solo and placed 50 mil reis in the collection. The first Sabbath school offering was over twenty-five mil reis.

Associated with Elder Stoehr in this campaign are Clara Ebinger and Maria de Costa as Bible workers, and the writer. We ask the continued prayers of our people that a church of faithful Seventh-day Adventists may be established in this important city. Surely the message is flying with angel-like rapidity to all parts of the earth and we are confident that the spirit of God will lead in Nictheroy as well as in other parts of Brazil.

VARNER J. JOHNS.

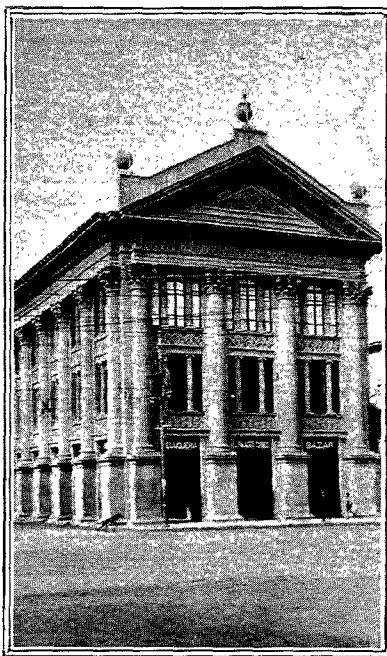
Evangelist, Rio-Espirito Santo Mission.

Inca Union Mission

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Prospects of City Evangelism in Ecuador

LEST you forget I would like to call the attention of the BULLETIN readers to our little country up here in the northwest corner of the South American Division. We do not pretend to be very big, but very important. Your idea of the size of the country will depend much upon the way you may examine. Should it be an official Ecuadorian map, then Ecuador is among the large South American countries, and comprises most of Peru, Colombia and Brazil. From the Peruvian map Ecuador is only a narrow ribbon of land along the northern coast of Peru.



The best building in Guayaquil. The hall marked "x" is where the meetings will be held.

Between the two one can form a fair average.

Probably few portions of the world this size have such a variety of the good things of nature as well as many of the bad. Our altitude ranges from sea level to nearly 22,000 feet, while the greater part of the country is either a lowland swamp or a high plateau of an average of 10,000 feet elevation. Our climate, which varies little throughout the year, varies from the most torrid to the most frigid. All the common tropical as well as temperate fruits, vegetables and cereals are produced here. Its people range from the fairest to the blackest in both heart and complexion. We have a large proportion of the volcanoes of South America. Its government is the most liberal and its people the most Catholic of the entire continent. Naturally, I consider Ecuador the nicest country I have yet seen, and not the worst as many suppose.

Ecuador has been noted as a backward country especially from the standpoint of mission work but during the last year wonderful progress has begun from the standpoint of finance and modernization. I am sure the same progress is before us if we with God's help put the same vim into our work as the national leaders are putting into theirs. In the government they are looking to other countries for counsel and at great expense brought in the Kremmer commission to arrange finan-

ce and now have expert North American counselors behind every department of the government. Ecuador is realizing that there is a better way than their old way of doing and I am sure from wide contact with the various classes here that the same feeling exists in regard to the present religious system.

Ecuador has more large cities for its territory than any other Inca Union field. In this small country we have two cities of over 100,000, one of 50,000 five of 20,000 and at least thirty-five with a population of between 5,000 and 10,000. In only one of these cities are we working publicly and there with only an untrained native worker with three years of experience. With two or three real spirit-filled evangelists doing a persevering work, we should reap a harvest of souls. Literature has been sold plentifully, but little follow-up work done. Our present plans are for three special efforts in these cities during 1928 and to follow up in a strong way throughout the year. We hope we may be able to get another worker for other efforts also.

In the city of Guayaquil, where Brother Schwerin is to hold meetings the first of January, another mission board has the largest Protestant Spanish congregation of any place throughout the Inca Union. Also they are building and will soon complete a fine concrete church building, a large portion of the funds having been provided locally by the members. I hope some day we too may have such a monument. We have, however, a contract on a very nice hall in a central location that will be a fit representation for our work and to which the better people will not be ashamed to come. I hope to be able to spend some time with Brother Schwerin in this effort before opening a similar campaign in the city of Quito. We request the prayers of our brethren for the success of soul-winning in the cities of Ecuador during 1928.

ORLEY FORD.

Superintendent, Ecuador Mission.

Mission Life

FROM a personal letter written by Mrs. Iris Dalinger of Bolivia to her aunt in Argentine, we take the following:

"We have already moved to Camilaya and are now among the real Indians, but they are so kind and loving that we feel contented among them. It is much nicer here than in other missions where we have been before as the hills are covered with trees and vegetation rather than in a barren state.

South American Bulletin

Published monthly as the Official Organ of the South American Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 CENTS GOLD

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"We live here in a hut made temporarily by the Indians for us. It is quite a big room which serves as our bedroom, parlor, kitchen, dining room, pantry, medical dispensary—and all the rest. It is covered over with straw. The first nights it rained in to such an extent that we had to put our raincoats over the bed and open the umbrellas. I felt like crying but did not want to express my sentiments to my husband, so started to sing 'Showers of Blessings,' after which I felt all right.

"We are very busy here. My husband is out visiting the nearby places almost all the time. Last Sabbath he baptized fifty-six persons at one place, and before the close of the year [1927] he will have more. There are one hundred in the baptismal class. I stay here and lead Sabbath school and church, and sometimes I get breathless and hoarse from singing with the Indians. I promised them last Sabbath that I would play the organ until they were tired of singing, and so played from three o'clock to six-fifteen with a rest of twenty minutes to attend a sick lady, and when I finally told them that my feet were getting cramped, two of the Indians wanted to work the pedals with their hands. Many of them come long distances, and it seems to them that the best way to spend the time is in singing. They always like to see the setting of the sun behind the mountain in front of the mission, at which time they want to sing, 'Day is Dying in the West.'

"Sometimes when my husband is at home we try to invite two or three people for dinner. Two Sabbaths ago we invited three chiefs. I believe they had never before sat at a table. My husband had to tell them several times to sit closer to the table, for the food would fall in their laps on the way between the table and their mouths. Their faces expressed how honored and happy they felt, and it was a pleasure

to me to have them at our table. Usually they come already washed and combed, but if sometimes they have not done so I have a basin of water, soap and a comb, and so just tell them to wash their faces and comb their hair for they are going to eat at the table, which they always do gladly. Sometimes I have to comb their hair for them as they get it parted crooked.

"I feel very happy to live in this hut, for the Indians can now see that it is possible to live comfortably and have things clean even in a hut. Many of them have already asked me to help them arrange their huts like ours, even to the whitewashing. And so a good way to teach these people cleanliness is by example. Before, they thought it was possible to have a clean house only in a substantial one, but now they see that is not true."

Inca Union Notes

MR. AND MRS. V. L. Gambetta are the proud parents of a fine baby boy. Little Ruben Victor arrived December 3. Mr. Gambetta is a worker in the Union office.

THE Instituto Industrial closed its school year with a very enthusiastic program. A very creditable exposition of scholastic work and industrial products was displayed.

WORD has been received that Brother W. H. Williams will arrive on the S. S. "Essequibo" February 8. He will audit the books of the Union and attend the annual meeting of the Inca Union Committee.

BROTHER B. L. Thompson, director of the Instituto Industrial, leaves January 4 for the north of Peru. He plans to spend several weeks in the field in the interests of the Union training school.

THE Instituto Industrial boasts of a young cow which produces 315 soles (\$126.00 gold) worth of milk a month.

ELDER V. E. Peugh spent Sabbath, December 31, with the believers at Lanca, Peru.

BROTHER Lust informs us that the Instituto has a very fine flock of young chickens that will soon be ready to bear their share of responsibility in the budget.

ELEVEN students from the Instituto Industrial are entering the work for the summer, and others for a longer period of time.

HAVE you seen the "Eco"? This is the first school annual published by the Instituto. If you have not seen this, send the equivalent of fifty centavos Peruvian money (\$0.20 gold) and a copy will be mailed to you. Address: Casilla 2102, Lima, Peru.

BRETHREN Haynes, Crager and Marshall are expected to arrive in Lima February 15 to attend the Union meeting.

THE Summer School for the teachers in the Peru Mission is in full swing. Much interest is being shown and all signs point to a very successful session.

BROTHER W. E. Phillips leaves January 4 for Bolivia and the Lake field. He expects to finish the audit for these fields and return to Lima in time for the Inca Union Committee meeting to be held February 15.

Two students of the Instituto Industrial, Raul Chavez and Samuel Condori, have started on their long trip to the Tambo and Pangoa Rivers. They must travel several days by mule after reaching the end of the railroad and then several days on foot, cutting their way through the jungles with a machete.

OUR Union office is now connected with the Upper Amazon Mission headquarters at Iquitos by aerial service. This shortens the period of communication to a few days that before took from six weeks to two months via New York.

Division Notes

ON HIS return from Brazil, Elder Carlyle B. Haynes remained at headquarters only a few days, and has now gone to Chile to attend the annual conference session at Santiago. From there he will proceed to Lima, Peru, to attend the Inca Union Committee meeting. There he will be joined by Brother W. H. Williams.

ELDER J. W. Westphal is also in attendance at the annual session of the Chile Conference, and will remain in Chile for six weeks, working among the churches.

PROFESSOR C. P. Crager is in the Lake Titicaca field dealing with educational problems. With him is Prof. J. S. Marshall, president of the River Plate Junior College. They will both attend the Inca Union meeting at Lima.

BROTHER E. H. Meyers, on his return from Brazil, stopped in Uruguay to attend the annual meeting there. From there he will come home to begin the work of packing preparatory to the return of himself and family to the United States. It has been a long, a profitable, and a successful term of service which Brother Meyers has given to the work in South America.

ELDER R. R. Breitigam also attended the annual meeting of the Uruguay Mission, and from there he goes to the North Argentine field for church officers' conventions.