

V I S I T O R

Bahamas

East Jamaica

West Jamaica

Caymans

Turks & Caicos

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NUMBER 1

More Than Before In '54

If you were to visit the office of the president of the British West Indies Union, you would notice a motto hanging up over his desk, "MORE THAN BEFORE IN '54." This has been the motto accepted by the British West Indies Union as our goal for 1954. As we have accepted this in the Union office, I would like to appeal to each one of our members to adopt this motto also for the new year.

What does this motto of "MORE THAN BEFORE" mean? To you as individuals it should mean:

MORE LOVE. The Lord Jesus has long been waiting to see His prayer fulfilled, "That they all may be one . . . that the world may believe that Thou hast sent me." The world today is earnestly looking to us for the evidence that God has indeed sent His Son into the world. Shall we not during 1954 do all in our power to come into close union and fellowship with Christ, so that our love for each other will widen and strengthen with exercise?

MORE PRAYER AND STUDY OF GOD'S WORD. As never before I feel sure that each one recognizes that we are living in very serious and important times. We are told in *Great Controversy*, page 593, that "None but those who have fortified their minds with the study of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict." Will you not at the beginning of this year resolve that you will spend more time in your personal devotions in the the study of the Sabbath School lesson and Morning Watch each day?

MORE MISSIONARY WORK IN '54. As we spend more time than before in the study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, we will be led to recognize that there is a call for every member of the church to do active missionary work for God. If everyone of the more than twenty-thousand Seventh-day Adventists in the British West Indies Union would consecrate himself to God and pledge to spend one hour per week more than before in missionary work, I believe that many

stars would be in our crowns as the result of this extra hour per week of missionary work.

MORE FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE AT THE SERVICES OF THE CHURCH. "If every member of the church were just like me, what kind of a church would our church be?" Dear fellow-believer, if every member of the church were just like you, would it be a good church? Would there be a good attendance at the prayer meeting week by week? Would the members be present and on time so that the services of the church could always start on time? Not only must we be "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together . . . as we see the day approaching", but there should also be a willingness to participate in the various activities of the church as we are requested to.

MORE CARE FOR THE SPIRITUALLY SICK ONES OF THE FLOCK. From time to time I have called upon individuals who were not attending church and they have stated: "The church is not interested in me. I have not attended services for many months and no officer of the church has ever visited me." May 1954 be a year when "more than before" those who may be seemingly careless and indifferent will be worked for and with by the officers of the church that they may come back into the richer, fuller, deeper experience that they once enjoyed.

—THE EDITOR.

GOALS FOR 1954

(As were adopted at the year end council)

| | Inga- therring | Missions Exten. | Pub. ishing | Bap- tisms |
|----------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Bahamas | £1,100 | £50 | £4,000 | 100 |
| Cayman | £80 | 20 | 250 | 30 |
| East Ja. | £3,300 | 225 | 11,000 | 1,600 |
| West Ja. | £3,300 | 225 | 10,000 | 2,000 |

Family Worship

"If ever there was a time when every house should be a house of prayer, it is now. Infidelity and skepticism prevail. Iniquity abounds. Corruption flows in the vital currents of the soul, and rebellion against God breaks out in the life. Enslaved by sin, the moral powers are under the tyranny of Satan. The soul is made the sport of his temptations; and unless some mighty arm is stretched out to rescue him, man goes where the arch-rebel leads the way.

And yet, in this time of fearful peril, some who profess to be Christians have no family worship. They do not honour God in the home; they do not teach their children to love and fear Him." —*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. VII, page 42.

Colporteur Institutes in East and West Jamaica

Our colporteur institutes in East and West Jamaica have just come to an end. In these meetings we saw the Mighty hand of God leading in the preparation for the future.

On the morning of December 8, approximately 50 colporteurs assembled in the tabernacle on the grounds of the West Jamaica Conference office, where we spent the day in fasting and prayer. This spirit of devotion was carried throughout the entire session which came to its end on the 15th.

Our joy was mixed with sadness when we learned that Brother Sylburn Reid would be leaving the publishing department at the end of 1953. However, we were cheered to know that Brother S. A. Grant, former associate publishing secretary of the Conference, would be in charge of this department, and that Brother R. B. Wallace, a faithful colporteur for twenty years, would be his associate worker. These leaders are in dead earnest to help finish the work by scattering the printed page. We are doing all

we can to make an early start in 1954, and solicit your earnest prayers.

The meetings in the East began in a similar manner on the 15th of December with more than 100 colporteurs present. Glorious indeed was the fellowship as we sang hymns of praise and pleaded with God for victory in our own lives.

As Elder Delafield spoke of the need of the Holy Spirit among us as colporteurs, nearly every one wept while we prayed for the presence of God to lead out in the work during 1954.

Present at both of these institutes were our loyal Elder Culpepper, the Inter-American Division Publishing Department Secretary, and Elder C. L. Paddock, Sr., Manager of the Book Department of the Pacific Press Publishing Association. Their years of hard work and experience made their services extremely valuable to the colporteurs here in Jamaica. It was felt by all that the Holy Spirit of God was using these men in a definite way. We could hear expressions on every side,—“This is the best institute I have ever attended.”

The last meeting of the institute was the meeting together for the “breaking of bread.” Our sincere wish is that this spirit of fellowship and communion will be carried into every act of the colporteurs in the entire Union during 1954, while we endeavour to make this our banner year.

—B. E. HURST, *Publishing Secy.,
British West Indies Union.*

Items of Interest from Year-End Reports

Bahamas

For the first ten months of 1953 sixty souls were baptized, bringing the total up to 306 added to the remnant church for the past five years.

Over 16,000 garments distributed to the needy during 1953.

£4,410. 9. 0 worth of books sold in ten months of 1953 by colporteurs, as compared with £1,632. 8. 0 in the year 1949.

East Jamaica

Number of Sabbath schools increased from 96 in 1948 to 114 in September, 1953, while its membership grew from 7,128 to 10,573 during the same period.

Whereas church membership has increased about 34% during the past five years, the tithes have been increased by 59% and Ingathering by 79%.

Colporteurs have delivered £10,064 worth of books up to September of 1953, as compared with £9,772 for the year 1949.

West Jamaica

Up to the middle of November, 1953, 1,120 souls were baptized, while there were 831 for the year 1950.

Church membership has been increased from 7,051 at the end of 1950 to 10,018 at the close of the third quarter of 1953. At the same time Sabbath school membership has moved up from 8,550 to 10,680.

Ingathering has shown an increase of 74% since 1950, and colporteur deliveries have climbed from £6,642. 4. 11 during that year to £7,292. 5. 7 up to September 1953.

BAHAMAS MISSION

Pres. R. E. GIBSON
Secy.-Treas. MISS O. MCCARTNEY

Bahamas News Notes

We have just received word that Miss Gwendolyn Parchment, at present employed by the West Indian Training College, and a graduate of the class of 1952, along with Miss Ena Nooks, a graduate of the class of 1953, will be arriving in the Bahamas shortly to take up work in the Bahamas Junior Academy.

Our president, Elder R. E. Gibson, with Brethren W. W. Antonio and D. A. McMillan have recently returned from Jamaica. They were invited to attend the Union Council in Mandeville.

Our new vocational arts building is now completed and we are looking forward to using it in the near future.

EAST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

Pres. R. E. DELAFIELD
Secy.-Treas. MISS E. W. PARCHMENT

East Jamaica News

“And let them build me a sanctuary. . .” For many years this was the objective of the Seaforth brethren. In 1951 just as their hopes were rising high the forces of nature laid low before their eyes the struggles of former years. Each encouraged the other and again they started. With the aid of liberal gifts from the organization and other friends, the beautiful edifice on a most desirable location in the district of Seaforth was completed.

On the evening of November 22, 1953 friends from far and near gathered to take part in the dedicatory service. Elder H. D. Colburn preached the sermon and Elder N. F. Brewer of the General Conference, with Elder R. E. Delafield, president of the East Jamaica Conference assisted in the ceremony, as also did Mrs. Delafield, Miss E. W. Parchment and Pastor C. C. Nebblett, minister in charge.

On Sabbath, December 5, the believers in the city of Kingston were privileged to have Elder L. K. Dickson, Vice President

of the General Conference, and Elder Glenn Calkins, President of the Inter-American Division speak to various groups in the city churches. In response to Elder Dickson's call to a full and complete surrender to Christ so that we may claim the promise of the Holy Spirit, every one in the large gathering at the North Street church on Sabbath afternoon stood in determination to allow the Lord to clear the way for such an experience.

Another milestone has been reached in the history of the Kingsway High School as they celebrated their graduation exercise on Sunday evening December 13.

Home Visitation days were soul-thrilling and soul-stirring days as the membership of the East Jamaica Conference visited the homes of neighbours and friends November 7 and 8, speaking to them of the soon coming of Jesus, praying and singing for them and leaving in each home a piece of literature. The following are two of the many reports that have come in to us:

“Our church was organized into three different bands in preparation for the 7th and 8th visiting days. We then moved out in the power of the Almighty. Doors were thrown open as we entered homes. Prayers were made for the sick and Bible studies were given and tracts distributed. Many requested us to return. We can hardly comprehend the way in which God is improving our church. Almost every week we have new visitors among us who have made up their minds to follow Jesus. At present we have 15 in the baptismal class. . . We can see many who are very interested and have requested prayers.” —*Orange Field Company.*

“The young people of the Ewarton church went on a Home Visitation campaign in the Ivy district nearby. We visited many homes and after song and prayer left 150 pieces of literature. We held an open air meeting at the public square at Mt. Rosser, and it was attended by over 100 persons. A follow-up was made in the work and open air meetings began weekly. Since then a branch Sabbath school is being held in the home of one of the most respectable families in the district. Let us pray that God will richly bless the work here in this part of the vineyard.” —*Ewarton Church.*

New life has come to the Investment activities of the Sabbath Schools around the conference as the result of recent promotion along that line. In one church where last year only £60 was raised, in 1953 they have exceeded £280. In another church they have brought in £25 as compared to £8 last year. It is hoped that the coming Investment season will show still further marked results in offerings for missions.

Their is joy in every family when a
(Continued on Page 4)

WEST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

Pres. H. S. WALTERS

Sec.-Treas. L. A. MORRISON

Gratitude and Retrospect

I want to use this medium, first to give thanks to the great God of heaven for His blessings and guidance during the two years and nine months He called me to labour in the district of Hanover; then to express heart-felt appreciation to the dear, loyal brethren in every church who so nobly stood by me and co-operated with me for the building up and advance of God's work in that part of the vineyard.

We give glory to God and thanksgiving for the 537 precious souls gathered in during that period by the sacrifice and labour of the dear church leaders, lay-preachers and faithful church members. The tramping of the "beautiful feet" still rings in my ears as they went and returned up the hills and down the valleys, even in the dead of night, carrying the good news of salvation. The sweet voices echoing the songs and choruses of the gospel story will keep ringing in my heart. The willing forms bent to the arduous task can never fade from my memory, God grant that the toils in the "heat of the day" of opportunity may not be in vain, but that we shall all stand together to receive the reward on that day of victory not long from now when our blessed Jesus hands them out.

God by His Spirit has drawn men, women and children to the Man of Calvary; as a result five new churches have been organized, four plots of land for churches have been acquired, several buildings are now going up and several others are soon to be started.

I pause to salute the fine army of lay-evangelists in the Hanover district. Let me say, dear comrades-in-arms, the work cannot be finished without you. Were it not for your exploits the record would be quite different; God bless you all!

I must make special mention of brethren Lynford Williams and Roydel Forbes of the Dias church, and Noel Wallace of the Pondsides church. Brother Williams, supported by the leader and brethren of his church, has had over 40 souls baptized since January. Brother Forbes brought 29 of his Voice of Prophecy students to be graduated on the 11th of October, 21 of whom already have been baptized. Brother Wallace, assisted by the faithful members of the Pondsides church, walked six and eight miles a night across a river up a steep mountainside to conduct their effort. They were rewarded with 10 souls already baptized.

In almost every church lay efforts have been conducted this year. I loath to leave my beloved co-workers for another sphere of labour; it is only to join hands with every other church in West Jamaica to crash the gates of hell and to set the

captives free in Jesus conquering name. We have only let go hands to organize and clasp again for one mighty push to victory.

God bless Pastor C. S. Greene who has stepped into the fray to direct the charge from the Hanover front.

Let me now take off my hat to the president of the West Jamaica Conference who set the pace for the most aggressive evangelistic programme I have been in yet, and who has been with us in every nook and corner of the field. How could our spirits flag under such exemplary leadership.

Brethren of West Jamaica, let us arise to the call of the hour! "We are about to behold one of God's greatest moments."

—HAROLD H. FLETCHER.

Welcome to Elder and Mrs. H. E. Richards on their return from the United States. As you resume your task for the Master, may He continue to bless you abundantly.

* * *

Harrisons Memorial High School concluded another successful term with a grand school-closing concert on the night of Monday, December 14. Students and teachers alike worked hard and the concert was very successful. Onward! School of Promise, to glorious victory.

—VALERIE RYAN.

Fifteen Hundred Attend W.I.T.C. Graduation

Twenty-seven seniors received their diplomas of graduation at the commencement service at the West Indian Training College, Sunday, December 20. Fifteen hundred friends were present in the recently completed chapel of the new administration building as Doctor Clifford R. Anderson, of the Washington Sanitarium, Washington D.C., delivered the commencement address.

The Seniors of '53 were admonished by Dr. Anderson to continue their education. This service, he emphasized, was merely their commencement in life's school. They were told that they must have an education that will enable them to live through the eternal ages. This education begun here will be perfected in heaven.

The presentation of diplomas was made by Doctor M. J. Sorenson, the president of the college, assisted by Miss Laurel Marr, the registrar of the college. The seventy-voice choir, under the able leadership of Mrs. Rosalee Jones of New York City, presented as a special feature the Alleluiah Chorus.

On Sabbath, December 19, Doctor H. M. Johnston, Acting Superintending Medical Officer of Jamaica, delivered the Baccalaureate sermon. He warned the members of the senior class against receiving the cloak of hypocrisy. Christ must be enthroned in the heart then only can one reflect the life and service of the Master Teacher.

Elder H. S. Walters, president of the West Jamaica Conference led out in the consecration service Friday evening, December 18. Elder Walters spoke on the class aim, "To Be, Rather than to Seem." All the class joined in the re-dedication service. Elder Stanley Bull, who has spent ten years as Instructor of Bible at the West Indian Training College offered the consecration prayer.

The Senior and Junior classes with their class sponsors Professor S. O. Beaumont and Miss Edna Parchment are to be highly complimented for the well planned and executed services of the week end. The hundreds of people who were present could not fail to catch the inspiration of the meetings and the challenge of the Senior class motto, "From Possibility to Reality."

—R. M. MOTE.

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News Notes — West Jamaica

From the Pacific Press came Elder C. L. Paddock and from the Inter-American Division came Elder J. C. Culpepper. The occasion—the Annual Colporteur Institute held at Hazelrigg, Mandeville, which convened December 6-13. The colporteurs of West Jamaica have gone forth to the firing lines with new inspiration and courage gained at this most successful Institute. Hats off to the noble leaders and their untiring efforts.

* * *

Jointwood ablaze! The call of the hour has been answered as 94 candidates were buried with their Lord in baptism on the cool morning of Sunday, November 29. This was the culmination of an effort held by Brother John Palmer assisted by his wife and Sister Enid Robinson. To God be the glory.

* * *

A precedence was set in West Jamaica when on November 29 eleven churches were dedicated to the glory of God. They are as follows:—Newell, Copse, Falmouth, Crofts Hill, Hayes, Fairfield Mountain, Blackwoods, Royal Flat, Resource, Bamboo and Coote Savannah.

* * *

Wedding bells rang out on Wednesday, December 2, as Brother Edwin Hyatt took for his bride the lovely Miss Mavis Reid. She was a picture of exquisite grace and beauty as she walked up the aisle. Life-long happiness and much of God's richest blessing to you, Mr. & Mrs. Hyatt.

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Newman on the arrival of their son. May God continue to bless you both.

The British West Indies Union Visitor

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News Notes — British West Indies Union

Union year end meetings brought us the special treat of such visiting brethren as Elder L. K. Dickson, Vice-President, and Elder N. F. Brewer, Field Secretary of the General Conference; Elder Glenn Calkins, President, and Elder V. E. Berry, Educational Secretary of the Inter-American Division; Elder R. E. Gibson, President, and Brethren D. A. McMillan and W. W. Antonio members of the Mission's committee, Bahamas Mission and Brother N. Nosworthy of the Cayman Islands.

Besides the regular members of the Union committee, the following individuals were also in attendance at the Union Council by special invitation: Elders W. U. Campbell and C. F. Edwards, and Miss E. W. Parchment from East Jamaica; Elders L. A. Morrison and O. U. Holness from West Jamaica; Elders Stanley Bull and R. M. Mote of the West Indian Training College, and Elder W. S. Nation.

We were particularly favoured in having the services of Elder L. K. Dickson who brought to us such timely messages at our devotional service each morning. The deep movings of the Spirit of God was keenly felt and bore fruit in the fine spirit of fellowship and co-operation which was manifested throughout the meetings. We are praying that such will be our experience throughout the coming year, as we endeavour to put into effect the plans laid down for the speedy finishing of the work of God in this part of His vineyard.

Once again Elder J. L. Culpepper has brought new life and vigour into the colporteur army of both East and West Jamaica as he has united his zeal and earnestness with our local publishing secretaries in their institutes. The counsels

of Elder C. L. Paddock, Sr., of the Pacific Press, at these institutes tends to add closer co-operation and confidence between the colporteurs and our publishing houses.

"More than before in '54." Isn't this an excellent slogan for every Seventh-day Adventist in the British West Indies Union! More Bible study, more prayerful living, more diligence in working for lost souls, more self-sacrificing gifts for missions, yes, and more LOVE, genuine Christlike love for one-another.

The Cayman Islands have now been restored to the status of a mission and will begin to function as such from the first of January. Elder R. L. Klingbeil, formerly of the Curacoa Mission, has accepted the call to be president of this mission.

Due to their close proximity to other islands of the Bahamas Mission territory, the Turks and Caicos Islands have been annexed to the Bahamas Mission as of January 1, 1954.

Appreciation

A very outstanding feature of our West Indian Training College graduation exercises this year was the concert rendered by Mrs. Rosalee Jones and her 70-voice college choir.

It was estimated that not less than fifteen hundred people congregated on the hill in order to avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing this sweet singer in Israel again, or for the first time.

A sincere friend of the West Indian Training College, Mrs. Jones spent her holidays in Jamaica during 1952 giving concerts in the different townships of the island in aid of its building programme. She is the Bible Instructor of the Ephesus Church, New York City, but again she obtained ten days' leave to return to Jamaica for this one recital, which we feel sure will more than repay for the effort put forth.

The only disappointment about this programme was the impossibility of every one getting to see Mrs. Jones and her choir, but with the excellent sound-system setup, the beautiful renditions could be distinctly heard from every part of the college campus. Entire satisfaction could be seen on the faces of each one and heard in the expressions voiced on every hand.

The British West Indies Union desires to express through this medium their sincere thanks and heart-felt appreciation to Mrs. Jones and the college choir for this splendid programme.

—P. N.

East Jamaica News

(Continued from Page 2)

baby is added. So also in the family of the East Jamaica Sabbath School. Among the precious gifts bestowed by our Father are three tiny babies—Branch Sabbath Schools. One is growing near the Ken-cot Church, one near the Annotto Bay Church, and one near the Hector's River Church.

—VINNETTE E. WALKER.

Did You Know?

★ That 17,510 individuals have been baptized in the British West Indies Union since 1944.

★ That the members during the past ten years have earned over three million pounds, as indicated by the tithe.

★ That £46, 442. 16. 11 Ingathering has been raised in the last ten years.

★ That 4,576,489 needy persons have been helped through our home missionary societies in the last ten years.

★ That 1,942,440 pieces of literature have been distributed by our church members during the past ten years.

W. I. T. C. Alumni

"Dead, what a pity!" Did I hear you say? No, not the W.I.T.C. Alumni Association, since about thirty of its members took time off on Saturday night, December 19, to work on its almost lifeless form and brought it back to life again.

Were you one of those who helped to starve this beautiful means of fellowship? Here is an opportunity to repent and turn over a new leaf for 1954. Send a few lines to our president, Mr. Joe Fletcher, "Hazelrigg", Mandeville, demonstrating your old W.I.T.C. school spirit and enclose your fee. Remember it is only 5/-.

One of the soldiers from the fore-front of the battle, Mrs. Uri Morgan, was in attendance at this meeting. She with her husband have spent around fourteen years in the mission field. She told us how often they get "hungry" for news of fellowstudents, out there on the firing lines. True to our old song "those who leave today will build her up tomorrow", the Morgans have sent their two daughters all the way from Costa Rica to the college, and their son will be joining his sisters shortly.

Others of the graduates of W.I.T.C., like the Morgans, are in need of the warmth of fellowship that can be radiated by this association. Now is the time to "press together, press together, press together", schoolmates of yesterday. Let us therefore join hands, almost around the circle of the earth, and thus honour our Captain, and Mother W.I.T.C.

—PEARL NATION, Alumni Editor.