

The Inter-American Division *Messenger*

One Thousand Hours

By CLYDE O. FRANZ

Once again we have come to the final days of a year of precious blessings. During this year our Heavenly Father has blessed us with 365 days, each one filled with 24 opportunity-laden hours—a total of 8,760 irreplaceable hours. Where have they all gone?

Many of these hours have been spent in daily toil in order that we might have food, clothing and lodging. Perhaps one third or more of our time has been spent in this manner. Another third has been spent in sleep—that wonderful restorer of health and energy. But what of the remaining 2,500 hours? How were they used? Yes, we spent some time each day in eating. Let us deduct approximately 500 hours; and still we have a total of 2,000 for which to give account.

We went to Sabbath school and church each Sabbath. We attended prayer meeting faithfully, nor did we neglect the weekly young people's meeting. We spent approximately an hour a day in prayer, Bible study and meditation; another hour each day in wholesome recreation with family and friends. Thus we account for an additional 1,000 hours; and still there are 1,000 hours unaccounted for.

Perhaps we should ask ourselves some searching questions about that last 1,000 hours. How many were spent in missionary work? In literature distribution? In ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of our fellow man? How much time did we devote to church work in addition to attending the various services of the church? Is it possible that we wasted some of

those precious hours in pursuits that were not profitable to ourselves or those around us, or in activities that were harmful to our Christian experience?

One thousand hours. What a treasure! But a treasure now gone forever. The record has been written. Not even one moment can be recovered or lived over again. Some day we shall have to account for every one of those moments.

But wait! As we turn our eyes toward the future, we see a new year before us. It, too, has 365 days. It is filled with hours that must be used in certain ways over which we shall have little, or no, control. But here again are the 1,000 golden hours that may be used in any way we choose. During this new year, 1956, let us use them all to the glory of God. Let us devote them to his service. Let us remember each day that there is only one way to redeem the time so thoughtlessly wasted in days gone by. "The only way in which we can redeem our time is by making the most of that which remains, by being co-workers with God in His great plan of redemption. In him who does this, a transformation of character takes place. He becomes a son of God, a member of the royal family, a child of the heavenly King. He is fitted to be the companion of the angels." *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 342.

Shall we not "redeem the time" during 1956, making full use of those golden hours that are ours to use for the Master and the finishing of His work.

Evangelism

IN THE INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

A Good Report From St. Lucia

Elder N. C. Gooding has been conducting a strong evangelistic campaign on the Island of St. Lucia in the Leeward Islands Mission. Much opposition was stirred up against Elder Gooding by the clergy of the established church. His tent was stoned and ripped with knives. The people were warned to stay away from the Adventist meetings. But the people continued to come in large numbers. I wish to share with



A company of Seventh-day Adventists at Castries, St. Lucia, results of the N. C. Gooding evangelistic campaign.

Messenger readers a few words from Elder Gooding's letter:

"The angels of God have protected us. A lasting impression has been made upon the minds of the public; so today, in spite of the threats and opposition of the enemy, forty-three dear and precious souls have been baptized and are now rejoicing in their new-found faith, looking forward to a soon-coming Saviour."

Our people will desire to lift up before God in prayer the work in St. Lucia. Many souls on that island are weighing the seriousness of God's call as Elder Gooding continues to preach.

— Arthur H. Roth.

"True religion brings man into harmony with the laws of God, physical, mental, and moral. It teaches self-control, serenity, temperance. Religion ennoble the mind, refines the taste, and sanctifies the judgment. It makes the soul a partaker of the purity of heaven." — Patriarchs and Prophets, page 600.

Scattered To Save

Many of our brethren have had to leave their homes and their farms, sometimes crossing desolate lands and mountains, sometimes losing their children because of lack of clothes and food. Some have been able to reach towns where we have churches and there they have received assistance. At one time it was necessary to close the school in order to use the hall as a dormitory for the refugees. Then we had to try to find work for them as well as medicines and clothes.

Among these refugees many are full of joy for, believing that God was leading them for a good pur-

The most wonderful news that can be received by any organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church is the news of souls won to the kingdom of heaven. For that reason the Inter-American Division Messenger has allotted some of its most desirable space to a department entitled Evangelism in Inter-America. Inter-American denominational workers are invited to send reports of their soul-winning activities to the Messenger for publication.

— Arthur H. Roth.

pose, they have borne witness for Him in new places and have seen souls dedicate themselves to the service of God.

Our brother, Heliodoro Salamanca, was one of these. He emigrated toward Caqueta, and in spite of his not knowing how to read, eleven have been baptized as a result of his efforts. Among these eleven, there is one, Ernesto Saenz, who is having good success in the blessed colporteur ministry.

All these troubles show us that we should not wait for better times, but assure ourselves of our own conversion and give the gospel to others before it is too late.

— Gregorio Laguana V.

Two New Churches Organized In West Venezuela

Acarigua is the gateway to the great Venezuelan llanos. Here the Moyetones, untiring lay workers, for a long time maintained the Adventist faith alone. Pastor Alberto Acosta helped them in forming the group of Adventists in Acarigua. Later a church school was established, thanks to the efforts of Pastor Eduardo Escobar.

Glen Maxson, president of the West Venezuelan Mission, presided at the organization of the church. Since Dr. A. Ceballos, who had been the leader of the group, was moving to Caracas, Jose Moyetones was left in charge of the new church.

On the same afternoon Elder Maxson organized a church in La Yaguarita, 25 miles from Acarigua. Baptisms and weddings were also



Church members in Acarigua, West Venezuela, receive literature for distribution on a Sabbath afternoon.

celebrated. Brother Moyetones had been instrumental — together with Mackay Christianson, Armanlo Escobar and Eliseo Freitas in the past — in raising up this group also. Brother Antonio Mora was appointed leader of the new church.

This Sabbath was a day of rejoicing for the church members in these two towns.

— Teresa B. Ceballos.

M E S S E N G E R

Messages

TO THE CHURCH

GOD'S INCOMPARABLE GIFT

By W. E. READ

The sweetest name to the child of God is the name of Jesus. At Mother's knee we learn to sing, "Jesus loves me, this I know." In later years we sing in meaningful devotion, "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds." The word itself means Saviour, and salvation to the newborn soul is the most precious treasure that can possibly be known in this old world of sin.

The great apostle to the Gentiles gave thanks to God for His "unspeakable gift" (II Cor. 9:15). Jesus meant much to the apostle Paul. Paul had given himself so fully to his new-found Lord that he had become his bond-slave. To Paul He was "God blessed for ever" (Rom. 9:5). He was God's "unspeakable gift." The adjective used here is a remarkable word. The Greek word for it is used only once in the entire New Testament writings, that is, in this text. It is so full of meaning that translators have used several wonderful words in the English.

The Unspeakable Gift

Weymouth gives "unspeakably precious"; Twentieth Century, "inestimable"; Lamsa, "incomparable"; Moulton and Milligan in their Greek vocabularies, "wonderful beyond description."

During the years of His ministry Jesus commanded increasing attention from both friend and foe. His friends declared concerning Him: "Christ . . . did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth" (I Peter 2:21, 22); "in him is no sin" (I John 3:5); "my Lord and my God" (John 20:28). And even His enemies were compelled to bear testimony to His unique character and spotless life: Said Pilate, "I find no fault in him" (John 19:6), and Pilate's wife, "Have thou nothing to do with that just man" (Mat. 27:19). The centurion said, "Truly this man was the Son of God" (Mark 15:39), and the dying thief remarked, "This man hath done nothing amiss" (Luke 23:41).

"The Inexhaustible Subject"

In the world of today, contemporary literature is giving more and more publicity to the Man of Nazareth. In an issue of the *Religious Digest* several years ago, Dr. Wilbur Smith published an illuminating article entitled "The Inexhaustible Subject." His opening and closing paragraphs read:

"Probably never in the history of mankind have so many great subjects occupied the attention of thinking men as today. And yet, in spite of this, it is quite interesting to note that the Lord Jesus Christ is still the pre-eminent subject in literature, both in periodicals and new books."

"After 1900 years—and after thousands of books have been written about Christ, a man who lived in far-away Palestine,—in this country, in

The Star of Bethlehem

By Faith Burch Perry

Bright shone its beams o'er Bethlehem,
And Wise Men followed far
O'er stream and desert, hill and plain,
That lovely shining star.

It brought them to the manger where
They found the infant Christ,
And all the hunger of their hearts
By Him was there sufficed.

Oh, reverently they made their gifts
And worshiped at His feet,
And found the meaning of their lives
In Him was made complete,

A blessing poured upon them there
Too great to understand;
Exceeding joy filled full each heart
To take to his own land.

Yet in Judea there were those
Who saw not its bright glow,
Nor knew a Saviour there was born
Two thousand years ago.

And in the very town I live
Are men who do not know
How Jesus came for us to die,
His Father's love to show.

this modern age when so many great subjects are occupying the minds of men, three times as many books were written in this period concerning the Lord Jesus Christ of nineteen centuries ago than concerning Abraham Lincoln, who died less than one century ago. Even the most radical skeptics must admit that; no person in history continues to hold such a grasp on the thoughts of men as the Lord Jesus Christ."

"And should we wonder that this should be so? Let us observe that Jesus Christ made unique claims—claims no other man ever made. He declared that to see Christ is to see God (John 14:7-9); to know Christ is to know the Father (John 14:7); to believe in Jesus is to believe in God (John 12:44); he does the same things the Father does (John 5:19); He has life in Himself, as does the Father (John 5:26); He raised the dead, as did the Father (John 5:21); to honor the Son is to honor the Father (John 5:23).

These claims have been conceded by many through the centuries, even by many of those who have not consented to the teachings of Jesus. He claimed further: "all things are delivered unto me" (Matt. 11:27); "the Father . . . hath given all things into His hand" (John 3:35); "the Father . . . showeth him all things that himself doeth" (John 5:20); "the Father . . . hath committed all judgment unto the Son" (John 5:22); "the Father . . . hath given authority to execute judgment" (John 5:27); "all power is given unto me" (Matt. 28:18); God "hath put all things under his feet" (Eph. 1:22).

Let us notice the exalted position of Jesus:

He is before all. "He is before all things" (Col. 1:17); "I was . . . from the beginning" (Prov. 8:23); "his goings . . . from everlasting" (Micah 5:2).

He is above all: "Christ, . . . who

is over all, God blessed for ever" (Rom. 9:5).

The Resurrection of Christ

A further and vital thing must be remembered. He rose from the dead. Whoever in the history of the world who made any claim to Messiahship or spiritual leadership rose from the dead? Did Buddha? Mohammed? Zoroaster? or Confucius? All the world's great religious leaders died, and we have no record or even a claim made by them that they would rise from the dead. It is true that Jesus Christ our Lord died, but He rose from the dead, and became a mighty victor over the grave. Today He "ever liveth to make intercession" for His people.

After His ascension He echoed back from the courts of glory: "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death" (Rev. 1:18).

In Christ Jesus are to be found all the treasures of the Christian faith. The basic doctrines of God and creation, the teachings of Christianity, its maxims, and its precepts—all these find their center in Him.

"All center around the cross of Calvary. This is the theme, this is the song,—Christ all and in all,—in anthems of praise resounding through heaven from thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand and an innumerable company of the redeemed host. All unite in this song of Moses and of the Lamb. It is a new song, for it was never before sung in heaven."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 433.

To the apostle Paul this thought was pre-eminent; it was the all-absorbing principle motivating his ministry. In his earlier years he was satisfied with Judaism. All he longed for in spiritual things he found in his contact with the Jewish Scriptures and other Jewish writings. His membership on the Sanhedrin council, and the education he received at the feet of Gamaliel, left him self-satisfied, proud of his heritage, and full of prejudice against any other religious belief.

This was so until — he met the very One whose followers he set out to exterminate. While in his pursuit of this quest he was met with the heavenly vision. In this midday visitation he beheld the Lord—the One whom he had despised. He heard

the voice of the crucified Jesus. There was something about its pathos and its earnest appeal that brought conviction to his heart. There flashed through his mind the Messianic prophecies of the Old Testament, and he saw quite vividly their fulfillment in the resurrected Lord, and what a change was wrought in his heart and life! What a lasting benefit that change has been to the cause of God through the centuries.

Center of Paul's Emphasis.

The center of Paul's emphasis was now changed. He had found what he longed for in Judaism; now he found the fullest satisfaction of his soul in his new-found Redeemer. The expression "in him" became one of his watchwords, one of the themes he loved to talk and write about. His letters to the churches were full of this concept. No less than 130 times does he use such expressions as "in him," "in Christ," "in the Lord." The letters he wrote each seemed to have a key word, expressive of what Paul found in Jesus his Lord. Notice how this might be applied to some of his letters. He emphasizes: in Romans, **justification in Christ**; in Corinthians, **sanctification in Christ**; in Thessalonians, **hope in Christ**; in Galatians, **liberty in Christ**; in Colossians, **completeness in Christ**; in Ephesians, **fullness in Christ**; in Philippians, **joy in Christ**.

To Paul there is no other foundation than Christ Jesus (I Cor. 3:11); to Peter there is no salvation in any other: "There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). From Christ radiate all the truths of the Christian faith. He is the center of them all. When we accept salvation, we accept salvation in Christ. True sanctification can be found only in Him. The same is true of the holiness and the righteousness of God. The truths of His incarnation, of His priestly ministry, of eternal life, of the Sabbath—these wonderful truths of the Word of God can be known and experienced only as He lives in the hearts and lives of His people. Truly as the great apostle declared centuries ago: "It pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell" (Col. 1:19), and "In him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily" (Col. 2:9).

No wonder the apostle Paul refers to his Master and Lord as God's "unspeakable gift," as the incomparable, the inestimable, the most wonderful token of divine love ever bestowed on the human race.

"O for a thousand tongues, to sing
My great Redeemer's praise!
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace."

— Charles Wesley.

— Review and Herald.

ARE YOU BEARING A GRUDGE?

By FREDERICK LEE

Among the sundry laws that God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai is this one, which often is overlooked: "Thou shalt not . . . bear any grudge against the children of thy people" (Lev. 19:18).

Too many brothers and sisters in the church are going about bearing grudges. Someone has overlooked and slighted them, said something against them, made promises they did not fulfill. Thinking overmuch upon such things they build up a feeling of ill will and resentment.

There are many burdens in life that are placed upon us against our will, and we must bear them as patiently and cheerfully as we are able to do with Christ's help. But these

grudges are burdens we place upon ourselves. We need not bear them. We can be rid of them in an instant if we will let the long-suffering of the Lord fill our hearts.

Never should a passing unpleasantness, a rebuff, intentional or otherwise, or criticism of our actions take a fast hold upon us. Such things should be laid aside as soon as they happen, or else we shall find that we have taken upon ourselves a burden that is both useless and hard to bear.

Two brothers in the church refused to recognize each other for many years because of a misunderstanding that could have been corrected in a moment. Two sisters refused to speak to each other because

an unintentional slight was considered as an intentional one on the part of one of them.

How foolish, you say. Yes, to an onlooker it is. But to the aggrieved one who has nursed the offence into an irreconcilable wrong, it is a matter of great concern. "Behold," writes the apostle James, "how great a matter a little fire kindleth!" (James 3:5).

With a thoughtless flip of the hand a glowing match is tossed away by the roadside, where it ignites a few

blades of dried grass. At that moment it could be crushed out by the stamp of a foot. But a few moments later a breeze fans the flames, and soon the fire becomes a roaring holocaust that cannot be stopped. All that the helpless fire fighters can do is to quickly wall it about with an area of plowed ground and let it burn itself out. Then what a sorry sight is left.

This is a fitting parable for those who carry about burning grudges

that they do not stamp out at the first faint thoughts of them.

When God gave the law against bearing a grudge, He accompanied it with the cure. He said, "But thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Lev. 19:18). By forgetting how we may please ourselves, and by thinking of how we may please others, we are less likely to bear a grudge against anyone, and thus please God.

— Review and Herald.

"THE SABBATH A DELIGHT"

By ERNEST LLOYD

Our heavenly Father desires His earthly children to be truly happy, and He is doing countless things by day and by night to make them so. It is His constant purpose to add to man's joy. Indeed, this is the whole intent of His Word, His laws, His teachings, and His plans. They were given "for our good always" (Deut. 6:24).

True happiness, however, can be had only through loving obedience to God's laws, but man has been slow to learn this fundamental lesson. When we obey the physical, mental, and spiritual laws that have to do with us, then real happiness and peace will result, for behind all His laws is His wonderful love.

Many say, in their ignorance, that God's laws are too restraining. This is because they are not willing to study into the true meaning and purpose of those laws. It is through obedience to them that God protects His earthly children, thus keeping them in the way of life, "that he might preserve us alive."

One of God's laws concerns the Sabbath. The Sabbath is a special gift to mankind. It is not to be a burden, as it appears to be with some, but "a delight," a special blessing. The influence of the world about us tends to lower our moral tone. The Sabbath, properly observed, lifts our moral tone, elevates our thinking, inspires our spirits, and gladdens our lives. If we are in full harmony with our Lord and the Sabbath principle, we shall certainly "delight" in it even as Jesus did. He said, "I delight to do thy will, O my God."

Is the Sabbath actually "a delight" to us? If we really want to find more delight in it, we can do so by putting

into practice the excellent suggestions found in the thirteenth verse of that wonderful fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah. We are to "remember the Sabbath" as we progress through the week, and the fact that it begins at sunset on Friday. So we all have to do some definite planning for it. And then, with determination, carry out the plan. Father, Mother, and the children must have things arranged so all can welcome in the Sabbath hours. This is pleasing to God, and it is an important part of the education of the children.

Let us also be determined about the matter of retiring early Friday night so as to be able to rise early Sabbath morning. Since this is the "day of all the week the best," why not make it the longest? If we have given proper time to our lesson study each day, which everyone can do, there will be no need of staying up late Friday night. Late rising Sabbath morning means hurry and confusion, and this is certainly not pleasing to the Lord. But how good it is to be on time at Sabbath school! And to be ready to help in the song service or in doing whatever we can to make the school a real success.

Let us carry our Bibles with us to church, and thus encourage our boys and girls to do likewise. If we walk a few blocks or ride in a bus or street-car a longer distance, we shall be preaching a silent sermon just that long. Let us not be ashamed of the greatest Book in the world. One of our youth who carried his Bible to church was followed by a gentleman who was in trouble. He went into the church behind the boy, was impressed by what he heard, and met the pastor, who invited him to attend some

Bible studies. He stepped into the light, found peace and joy, and soon joined the church.

In the church service we can help with the chorus if we cannot sing the solo. We can give our best in listening to the speaker, remembering that the art of listening is as important as that of speaking. Every speaker is encouraged by seeing his listeners follow him thoughtfully in his address. As we do our part faithfully in a service, however humble the part may be, our happiness and our usefulness increase.

Beloved, beware of a heavy Sabbath dinner. It is far better for us to eat lightly on the Sabbath day, so that our minds will be clearer to understand and appreciate the many good things that God has for us on His holy day. A walk after dinner is better than a nap. Let the walk take you to some needy family, or to one who needs cheering a bit. Walking not only brings us blessing, but is also a source of "delight" on the Sabbath. Let us walk more and ride less on the Sabbath. (See Isa. 58:13-14.)

Let us look for the best as we take the Sabbath afternoon walk. Jesus said, "Blessed are your eyes, for they see." These words refer not alone to spiritual truth, but as Jesus saw love and beauty in the world of nature, so may we if we cultivate the practice of observation. And this practice will add to our enjoyment of the Father's handiwork all around us. There are many ways by which the Sabbath may become a genuine "delight" if we plan aright, and seek to do His will and not our own on that day. (See Education, pp. 250-252.)

— Review and Herald.

Adventist Youth

I Often Wonder About . . .

THAT UNREAD LETTER

By RAYMOND S. MOORE

It was a bitter wintry day in late 1943. A number of us were huddled around a big, wood-burning stove in a temporary shack on a West Coast Army reservation. It was during one of the most intense phases of World War II, and our outfit had been alerted for shipment overseas.

Those were days when everyone looked for mail call more eagerly even than mess call. Last-minute letters were coming in from wives, sweethearts, and many friends. Regardless of how much we tried to hide it, no matter how much bravado we put on, there was a tenseness in almost everything we did. Rumour had it that we were going to a "hot spot."

Then the mail boy came in. In a moment, except for a few whoops of anticipation, the entire room was as quiet as any of the hospital wards nearby.

Three times they called my name. How we like to hear our names on occasions like that! Walking quickly back to the stove, tearing open the first letter as I went, I began to read—a precious message from my wife. I had glanced only briefly at the other two envelopes.

Reading on I subconsciously dropped the open envelope into the fire. At least that is what I thought I had dropped, until a moment later I realized that I had thrown in an unopened, unread letter. Almost at once I had a deep feeling of loss and shock. Hadn't that letter had an official seal on it? Didn't it have the appearance of being unusually important? A dozen such thoughts flashed through my mind in quick succession. But it was too late. There was no chance of retrieving it from that red-hot stove, for it was already little more than ashes.

Seldom in my life have I been more remorseful than on that occasion. And to this day the thoughts haunt me: Who was that letter from?

What did it contain? Could it have been a change of orders? Did it have anything to do with a pending promotion? Was it a document of particular significance for those tense days?

These questions were never answered. And there was nobody to blame but myself. The mail boy had done his job; the letter writer had done his job; no one was interfering with me. There was ample time to read the letters. It was my own personal neglect. I went overseas with a hundred unanswered questions belabouring my mind.

Seldom since that day have I been careless in opening a letter. Always have I been careful to reread the writer's message. My goal has always been to read with the same pains that the writer took to write to me.

It has almost always been that way, almost . . . except with one Letter. I will never be able to match the pain or the love that it took for Jesus to write to me. But the more I read His Letter, the more I realize how much I have missed before.

When we open a letter it is our desire to know the truth about what the writer intends. "In order to arrive at truth, we must have a sincere desire to know the truth, and a willingness of heart to obey it."—*Steps to Christ*, p. 116.

Jesus' Letter is His Holy Word, the Bible.

Many times we must seem very strange to the Saviour. We get down on our knees and ask Him for an answer to our prayers, when, had we read His Letter, we would have already known what He wanted us to do. Then later on, when we happen to read that letter carefully, we are abashed and ashamed, if not surprised, that we had not read this message before.

Do you ever read a letter carelessly? Possibly Jesus' Letter? Do

you ever open the Word of God "without reverence and without prayer"?—*Ibid.*, p. 115. "We can attain to an understanding of God's Word only through the illumination of that Spirit by which the Word was given."—*Ibid.*, p. 114. "But without the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we shall be continually liable to wrest the Scriptures or to misinterpret them."—*Ibid.*, p. 115.

Many times, if you are like me, you kneel before your Saviour and ask Him to take wrong thoughts out of your heart. And we surely do need His help. But did you ever realise that the surest way to take such thoughts out is to place His thoughts in? If the pure and holy thoughts of Jesus are in, there will be no room for the other thoughts. His thoughts are in His Letter!

Now, years after that experience at the Army post, God is teaching me lessons through His Letter. Day by day capable young men and women come into my office. They are deep-thinking young people, and like all other teenagers, they have their doubts. But as we see them give careful attention to their Saviour's Letter we see them grow more like Him.

The Bible is not just another book. It is not just something written for older folks.

"The Word of the living God is not merely written, but also spoken. **The Bible is God's Voice speaking to us, just as surely as though we could hear it with our ears.** If we realised this, with what awe would we open God's word, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts! The reading and contemplation of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Infinite One." *Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 393.

Do not be careless with this Letter, my young friend. Let not such regret as I have had for many years from that mail call experience be the regret of eternity for you. You and I cannot afford that. Let us read that Letter carefully, and answer its messages by turning to the Lord in full surrender.

— Review and Herald.

M E S S E N G E R

In Other Lands

OUR GROWING NAVAHO MISSION WORK

By BILL OLIPHANT

"Well, it must be that Seventh-day Adventists are going to stay now or they wouldn't build such a nice building."

This remark was made by a weather-beaten Navaho who stood watching Indian students and other workmen busily erecting a new dormitory for girls at the Navaho Mission School at Holbrook, Arizona, U.S. His statement is typical of the new attitude that has developed recently toward Adventist mission work among the Navaho and other tribes in the northeastern Arizona Indian country.

To train Indian young people to do educational and evangelistic work among their own people is one of the primary purposes of the Navaho Mission School at Holbrook. Approximately one hundred boys and girls, ranging in age from six to twenty, attend this boarding school.

How much the attitude of the Indians has changed as a result of the work being done at the Holbrook school is demonstrated by this statement made to Frank J. Daugherty, principal, by a leader among the Navahos: "When Adventists made application to put a school on the reservation some years ago, it was voted down by the Indians. We doubted that you would be permanent. We thought you would be like so many other mission societies, who build little schools and make a big noise over them, but do very little work. Now we realize you are different. When you are ready to start a school on the reservation, I will give you the land and help you build."

This man's granddaughter is a student at the Navaho Mission School. She enrolled in the first grade at the age of fourteen, and was soon baptised.

"She is one of our staunchest Adventist girls today," says Brother Daugherty, "and her grandfather is very proud of her."

The principal reports that "already two graduates of this school

are preparing to enter service for the Lord as workers among their own people. They have completed high school at Thunderbird Academy, operated by the Arizona Conference, at Scottsdale, near Phoenix. We have other consecrated Indian young people who are making plans to become workers for God when they complete their training. The Navaho Mission School was established in 1947 to serve as a light of hope to illuminate the dark lives of thousands of American Indians still following their ancient practices of devil worship. This project is meeting with success, and is also winning friends for the cause of God among the citizens of Holbrook and the surrounding area.

Professor Daugherty reports that "thirteen of our mission children were baptized this year. They were the cream of the students, and they made the decision to join the church themselves. No pressure was put on them to do so. One little girl waited two years, desiring to make sure her decision to join the church was a sound one.

"A little incident that occurred during the school year reveals the sincerity of the Indian students. Five little girls, ages seven to ten, approached me as I was going across the campus toward the new dormitory building. I thought they just wanted to be recognized, so I said, 'hello,' but that wasn't enough. As I passed them one little girl called, 'Mr. Daugherty.' So I turned around, and the little girl, beaming and happy, held up a tin can. I looked inside the can. It contained a dollar bill and eighteen pennies. I said, 'Now what's this?' The little spokesman said, 'We want to help with the new dormitory. We went Ingathering among ourselves for the dormitory.' One of the children, Jeannie, who is just seven years old and in her second year at the school, had given the dollar. Her parents are very poor, and the dollar was the first money she had ever possessed.

Her brother, working for a railroad in California, had come home and given her a dollar. She gave it all to help build the dormitory. Evidently her heart is with the mission school, and her heart had been deeply touched by God."

The new dormitory for girls, which will be occupied this school year, will correct an overcrowded condition. The girls' bunks have had to be stacked three deep in a classroom. The much-needed new building will correct this situation and give the girl students comfortable living quarters. The dormitory building will also provide ample space for a cafeteria.

The students are learning the practical duties of life through the school work program. Every child works at some task. The girls operate the kitchen and laundry and help with some of the housekeeping. The boys are learning all phases of the building trade by actually working on the various construction projects, including the new dormitory. This not only gives good training for the students but also reduces building costs.

"The Indians in northeastern Arizona are pleading for us to visit their homes to teach them the Seventh-day Adventist message. The time is ripe for the message to be given to these people. We do what we can to visit nearby Indians, and they are extremely grateful. When one accepts the truth he does so in a permanent way. But we have to turn a deaf ear to most of their pleas to come, because we do not have the money with which to buy gasoline. This is heartbreaking.

Brother Daugherty says:

"Many of us at the mission have given all the money we have, and we are giving all our strength to this project for God. We want to hear the words, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant: . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.' But as we enter through the gates of the kingdom of God, we want to take hundreds of our Indian boys and girls, men and women, with us."

— Review and Herald.

For all the Family

"FAMILIES THAT PRAY TOGETHER STAY TOGETHER"

D. A. DELAFIELD

One of the signs of the new upsurge of faith is the rebuilding of the family altar James A. Bryant, director of the Christian Home League, directs forty-five teams of men and women from dozens of denominations who travel throughout America and speak only on the Christian home. Prayer keeps husbands and wives together. "I can say honestly," he declares, "that I have never known a marriage to fail where there was an altar in the home."—*The American Weekly*, July 31, 1955.

"I like the story of the little girl," he says, "whose father had rejected the home-altar idea because church is the place to pray."

"What's the matter, Daddy?" she asked. "Aren't you and God as good friends on Monday as you are on Sunday?"—*Ibid.*

People who scoff at the idea of family prayers are changing their minds.

"I recall an instance in one of the first homes in which our message stuck," he said. "Two teen-age boys in the household sneered openly when their hardworking parents designated a portion of the living room for worship. One night after they presumed everyone was in bed, they sneaked out of their room to keep a date with some other boys and a hot-rod. The sound of low voices halted them and they stopped a moment to listen.

"Their father and mother were praying together. They admitted they had failed in the upbringing of their sons and they asked God to take over. The boys crept back to bed. A few nights later they joined in the family prayers. One of them is now studying for the ministry."—*Ibid.*

The reason many children are irreverent and irreligious today is that their parents are so. Like parent, like child. H. G. Hutchinson, writing in the *Augusta, Kansas, Gazette*, said: "The most difficult job

teen-agers have today is learning good conduct without seeing any." This is a strong statement and would not apply to most Adventist homes. Our people do set our youth a good example, but even Adventists fail at times.

We must bring God's Word into our homes and make it our counselor and guide. We must teach our children the fear of the Lord and explain that the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy are the standard by which our lives will be judged. Youth must be made to see that the voice of God is addressed to them and that it is to be implicitly obeyed. Said the messenger of God:

"In too many households, prayer is neglected If ever there was a time when every house should be a house of prayer it is now. Fathers and mothers should often lift up their hearts to God in humble supplication for themselves and



DEVOTION

Have you builded an altar of love in your home

Where you and your loved ones can pray,

Where father and mother and children can come

To give thanks at the close of the day?

Have you builded an altar of praise to your God,

Where parents and children can pray

In the morn's early moments to ask Him for help

To carry you safe through the day?

Have you builded an altar devoted to song,

Where sweet hymns of salvation you sing,

Where you study His Word and earnestly long

To be ready each one for your King?

— Siegfried M. V. Sandstrom



their children. Let the father, as priest of the household, lay upon the altar of God the morning and evening sacrifice, while the wife and children unite in prayer and praise. In such a household, Jesus will love to tarry."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 143, 144.

Family worship must be planned. Time must be taken to arrange a joyful little season with the family—night and morning. Said J. R. Miller in the book *Week-Day Religion*: "The manner in which the family worship is conducted is very important. It should be made so pleasant as to be looked forward to with gladness even by the youngest children. Too often it is made tedious, monotonous or burdensome To make it dull and irksome is treason to true religion A few minutes given every day to preparation for family worship will serve to make it, as it should be, the most pleasant and attractive incident of the day."—Pages 79-81.

Wherever Abraham went he "builded an altar unto the Lord, and called upon the name of the Lord" (Gen. 12:8). This man of God was commended by God: "He will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment" (Gen. 18:19).

Neglect of family worship means neglect of God and religion. This may prove disastrous and fatal to spiritual life. In the final day of God's wrath the word will go forth: "Pour out thy fury upon the heathen that knew thee not, and upon the families that call not on thy name" (Jer. 10:25).

If we would prepare ourselves and our children for the time of trouble soon to come upon the earth, we must do all we can to gather the children in and hold them. Family worship morning and evening is absolutely essential to the spiritual reiving of our homes.

— Review and Herald.

M E S S E N G E R

With the Departments

NATURE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR YOUTH LEADERS OF PANAMA

By R. F. MATTISON

Twenty fortunate MV leaders gathered at Gamboa, Panama Canal Zone, on Sunday morning Sept. 4, 1955, eager for the clock to move on to 9:00 a.m. in order to begin the first Nature Training Course to be held in the Inter-American Division. They had been looking forward to this moment since the beginning of the year when Elder D. H. Baasch first announced that Dr. R. A. Underhill of Walla Walla College would direct the course. Thanks to the missionary spirit of the Walla Walla College Board, Dr. Underhill was permitted to leave his busy teaching schedule to conduct this nature study program. Very little has been done for our youth along these lines in the past, and this help was an answer to the prayers of many youth and their leaders.

The splendid cooperation of the members of the Gamboa church

made possible the success of this project. Cooking, making a dormitory under the church, and keeping the young people in their homes are but a few of the ways in which they cooperated.

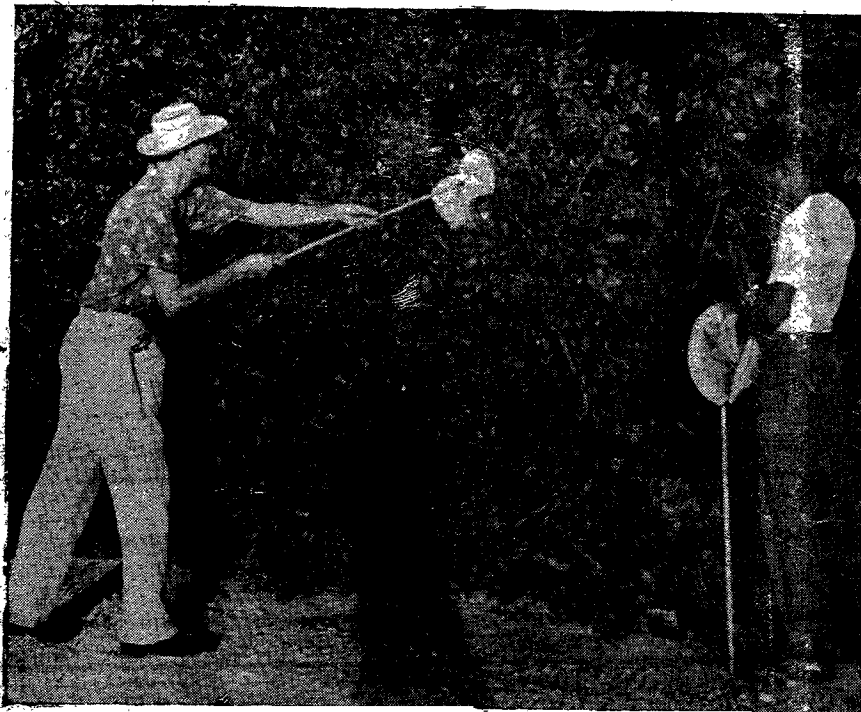
The youth leaders were delighted and thrilled by the glimpses into the Treasure House of Nature as mysteries and facts from the lives of birds, insects and plants were unfolded before them by Dr. Underhill. The challenge of leading the Juniors into the thrill of discovery was presented by Elder Baasch.

It was a great thrill to discover a new bird that had not been placed on the camp list as yet, or to go chasing through the jungle after the exotic tropical butterflies. Especially hard to catch were the beautiful blue Morpho butterflies and yet four were also caught. Two of the largest grasshoppers that many of us had

ever seen, measuring five and six inches respectively from the head to the end of the wings when folded, were taken. A large rhinoceros beetle was also caught. These, with some of the other tropical insects, which Dr. Underhill chose from the collections of MV's who wanted him to have something to remember them by, were taken to the Walla Walla College Biology department.

The high point of the course was reached Thursday when all the group boarded the train for Frijoles and from there went by launch to Barro Colorado Island, the game preserve maintained by the U.S. government in the Canal Zone. Guides led two groups through the jungles pointing out birds and animals along the trails of this beautiful island. It was a hungry group which assembled for dinner that day on the island. After a wonderful day, the nature students once more boarded the launch taking them to catch the train back to Gamboa.

Sabbath brought the climax to a wonder-filled week of adventure and discovery. The nature hike in the afternoon and the vesper service made the most thrilling Sabbath they had ever celebrated, commented some of the MV leaders and church members.



R. F. Mattison and A. McClean study nature in the field.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION MESSENGER

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Around THE UNIONS

Antillian

Dedication of the Marianao Church

A new church building—the third in the great city of Havana, Cuba—now testifies to the glory of God. On Sabbath, the 24th of September, before a congregation of more than 500 persons, the solemn act of dedication took place. Our brethren in the Marianao church have struggled for years for a building of their own, and now, thanks to the help of the Division, the Antillian Union, the West Cuba Conference and the humble and sacrificing help of the church members, they see their aspirations realized.

The building is located on one of the most important avenues of the city, only a block from the city hall. The main hall will seat 350 persons, including the mothers' room and the gallery. There are three rooms to be used for Sabbath school divisions and for the church school, a room for the Dorcas society and for literature, a raised baptistry, and in the rear there is a room for young people's meetings. The construction was done mostly by the brethren in the church under the direction of Aristides Salgueiro, from the Vibora church.

The opening service was in charge of R. L. Jacobs, C. L. Powers, and R. E. del Sol from the Antillian Union, and A. H. Riffel, L. Gonzalez, Miguel Vazquez, Roberto Cols and Miguel Leon from the Conference. The mayor of the city was present and gave an appropriate discourse. Eleven precious souls were baptized to close the service. The newspapers published articles and pictures on nine occasions. Two radio stations announced the opening and a film was made which was shown over television. This gave good publicity to the Adventist work and will be a help in the meetings that are to follow.

— A. H. Riffel.

British West Indies

Evangelism In East St. Catherine

Evangelism has taken an upward surge in East St. Catherine, Jamaica. All ten churches comprising this district are organized and energetic in this aggressive evangelistic program.

On February 13, the writer started a series of revival meetings in the Palm church, intending it to last for two weeks, but the crowds were overwhelming and the interest so encouraging that he prolonged the meetings for ten weeks. Twenty-two precious souls were baptized in a baptistry built in the church yard by energetic members.

This experience recurred some weeks later, as the writer began what he intended to be a two weeks' revival in the Bog Walk church. Crowds grew. Interest increased. Delegations came from both members and visitors requesting that the series be prolonged. Yes, this revival merged into ten weeks and 22 souls were buried with their Lord.

One girl, aged 15, studying for government local examinations, began to lose interest in her studies as her interest grew in these meetings. She was opposed by her parents. One night, attacked by them, she calmly said, "Education and money are good, but my soul comes first. The judgment is fast closing and I want to prepare to meet God." She gained the victory and was baptized with the others.

The writer is now engaged in an effort at Redwood. The opening night about 400 people crammed the little booth, and in spite of inclement weather and muddy hillsides they come night after night, listening to the good news of salvation.

The prayers of our dear people in Inter-America are solicited for such aggressive evangelistic programs in this little corner of the vineyard.

— T. O. Shaw.

"Arise shine for thy light is come,
And the glory of the Lord is risen
upon thee."

Colombia-Venezuela

Evangelism

Forty-six have already been baptized on Aruba as compared to a total of seven during the same period last year.

The laymen are on fire for God as they have just secured a fine portable hall to seat about 150. On October 1 they are opening an outpost evangelistic center under the supervision of district leader Elder R. A. Hamm. They are well organized with 23 men and women in this lay company. Pray that God will give them their goal of 30 souls by December 31.

Our MV youth of Mundo Nobo church of Curacao are opening a Share Your Faith outpost in Buena Vista district about four miles out from the church. A real live interest has developed there from systematic cottage meetings held over the past six months by Elder R. E. Gibson and Ministerial Intern Jose Leer. Over 20 have been baptized from this area already and many more are now in baptismal classes. Land has already been secured in the center of this rapidly growing suburb and plans drawn for the erection of a new church early in the year. Enough land was also included to accommodate a school of 150 students.

Elder G. F. Henriksen opened an evangelistic series in Cher Asile church Sunday night, September 18, with the entire church pledged to personally bring the interested ones with whom they have been visiting and studying in our systematic Bible school. Our Bible students who finish the 50 lessons in the three phases of the course have increased from about 15% to 80% in the past six months. Truly God is pouring out His Holy Spirit in this land where our pioneers labored so untiringly without seeing much of the harvest of their seed-sowing.

— R. E. Gibson

The Lord will more than fulfill the highest expectations of those who put their trust in Him. P. & K. p. 387

Baptisms in Bucaramanga

A letter from Bucaramanga, Colombia from Elder Luis A. Bolivar brings good news:

"The new church building is beautiful. We have already begun meetings for the public, and each night the church is full. Pray that the Lord will give us a good harvest of souls from these meetings.

"There were more than 1000 persons in the central church last Sabbath.

"This quarter I have baptized 53 new brethren. That makes 130 baptisms this year and with the help of God we expect to baptize 70 more, making a total of 200 for 1955."

Only Christ

Not long ago a lady whom I did not know sent 50 pesos to the office as an offering to the Lord. A little later she sent another 50 pesos. I was interested to know who this lady might be who could give 100 pesos in offerings in times like these. With another brother I went to visit her. I was surprised when she told me, "I know that you have the truth, and I want you to come to my home to teach us more about the gospel. Only Christ can satisfy the need of our souls."

Only God knows how many sincere persons in the midst of the darkness of these days are waiting for some messenger of the Lord to take them the Bread of Life.

— Luis C. Larrazabal.

Week of Prayer at ICOLVEN

Pastor G. E. Maxson of Venezuela was in charge of the services from Sept. 8-17 and gave a series of most helpful studies. Each day students were encouraged to read specific chapters from "Steps to Christ" which correlated with the day's subjects. On the last Sabbath seven young women and three young men were baptized and afterward joined some 180 persons who took part in the Lord's Supper. Both students and faculty felt that real victories had been won and many blessings received during the week.

There is no danger that the Lord will neglect the prayers of his people. The danger is that in temptation and trial they will become discouraged, and fail to persevere in prayer. C.O.L. 175.

Mexican

Plans for a House of Worship

The city of Frontera, Tabasco, was the first place in this state where our message was known. More than 30 years ago Pastor Nelson worked there. From there the truth has spread all over the state. But the church that had once consisted of 100 members, had many misfortunes, including the burning of the city in a revolution, so that now there are only 25 members. We have many friends in the city, but no church building where we can invite them. All our members are very poor, so we decided to visit friends who could help.

With Brother Tejada we went to solicit materials. We secured 8,000 bricks, 4 sacks of lime, 10 of cement, and promises of further help later. When Mr. X— — — knew of our lack of funds for beginning the construction, he talked with his wife and then gave us 2,000 pesos cash, and a promise of 200 pesos each month until the total is 5,000 pesos. Thanks to his help and that of the Mission, we have begun to build a church about 40 by 28 feet.

Now we know that a strong church will again be established in Frontera.

— J. R. Mansilla.

Caribbean

Evangelism

The watchword for the last quarter of the year is Evangelism. It is the same in every field. In Georgetown, British Guiana, L. A. Kraner, president of the mission, is holding an effort in the suburbs. A wealthy lady, not an Adventist, has offered a large hall on the first floor of her home to Noel Bailey, pastor of the

church for another effort. C. J. Quashie is having a good attendance in the newly dedicated building in Maharca. All the other pastors and evangelists of that mission are meeting with varying degrees of interest in their meetings. In Surinam, Jan Brinkman, who has recently arrived from Holland, is holding a series of meetings in the Paramaribo church building.

The men in the French West Indies and French Guiana are all busy. Marcel Pereaue is now reaping the harvest from an effort recently conducted in a hall in Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe. S. F. Monnier, president of the mission, is preparing to hold a tabernacle effort in a newly erected building in the vicinity of Fort-de-France. We are told that other efforts are also in progress.

O. P. Reid and W. W. Weithers are meeting with much interest in the two tent meetings they are conducting in Barbados. C. G. van Putten and Roy Hoyte report they expect splendid results from the efforts they are carrying on in Antigua.

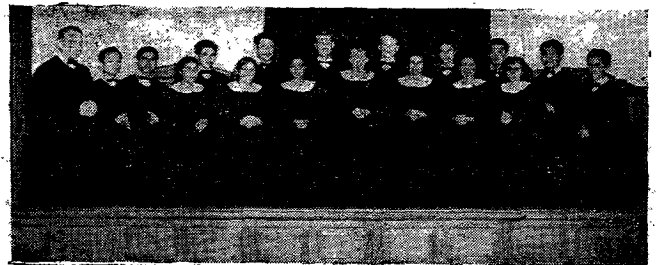
B. L. Archbold and W. W. Thompson have held a Youth's Crusade in Port-of-Spain. S. L. Gadsby has been trying to get government permission to erect a tabernacle in a community near San Fernando in Trinidad. Other men who are having evangelistic meetings in the South Caribbean Conference are: Edwin English, Edison Pascall, Rudolph Cush, John Scott, F. A. Sebros and Theophilus Billingy.

In Santa Lucia, N. C. Gooding held an effort in our church in Castries.

— F. S. Thompson.

Through conflict the spiritual life is strengthened. Trials well borne will deliver steadfastness of character, and precious spiritual graces. The perfect fruit of faith, meekness, and love often matures best amid storm-clouds and darkness. C.O.L. 61.

School choir in Montemorelos, Mexico, directed by Elder Donald Thomann. (See article in November "Messenger"; "First Choir Tour in Mexico.")



Inter-American Brevities

HURRICANE DISASTERS

Our hearts are heavy as we think of the suffering of our people on the islands of Barbados, Grenada and the Grenadines as well as in the devastated areas of Chetumal and Tampico, Mexico. On November 5 a special relief offering is being taken up in all the churches of the Inter-American Division and by the time of publication of this paper we trust all will have contributed. Tons of clothing and packages of food have also been sent from our central warehouses, but this is only a small part of the help needed.

E. C. Christie of Mexico City reports that Sabbath, October 1, was to have been a special day in Chet-

passed through the city, and deafening winds and waves swept through the streets like a giant broom. Later the heavily laden storm clouds burst and fresh torrents swept down on Tampico again, carrying ruined buildings and swollen bodies of men and animals in their wake. A few days later Janet brought fresh terror to the frightened inhabitants. Poor Tampico! We do not yet have details about our churches and members there.

We have approximately 2,500 church members on the islands of Barbados, Grenada and the Grenadines. All have lost their crops and animals. Elder B. L. Archbald was

have been damaged except one. On Grenada we have a membership of approximately 1,200 in about 12 church groups. The Paradise church and the two-story Mount Rose school building were completely destroyed.

"When our brethren and sisters on Carriacou lost their homes during that night of horror, they took refuge in the church building, and most unfortunately the church collapsed, killing some and wounding others who are in the hospital with broken limbs, broken backs and other injuries.

"As I visited in Grenada after the hurricane, I met some of our people crying. One dear sister said, 'We have lost everything—our home, our crops, our clothing. But, thank God, we have not lost our Christian experience. We have suffered but we know that our brethren and sisters in the islands and in North America will not let us suffer long, but will send help.'"



Hurricane destruction in Chetumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico, where only two buildings remained semi-intact.

umal, Quintana Roo, for the Mission president and treasurer were there for a baptism. But instead, on that Sabbath morning a telegram was delivered at the Union office:

"Pastors Leon and Carreon trapped by hurricane in Chetumal. Many persons killed and buried before identification. All attempts to locate these two workers have failed."

That evening another telegram arrived: "Entire population of Chetumal being evacuated. Leon and Carreon safe. Many church members perished. Church building swept away by tidal waves."

Tampico, Mexico was flooded even before the first hurricane struck. People were marooned on high spots along the rivers and swamps. Then the center of Hilda

in Grenada when hurricane Janet struck. He writes:

"I went through that night of horror with our people and only those who have gone through it can really appreciate the terror that it brings. . . . So far as we know about eight among our people in Grenada have been killed, but others are still missing.

"I am only waiting to get some money and to know that transportation in the islands is such that I can get around, and I shall go back to do all I can to let our brethren and sisters know that we love them and that we suffer with them.

"This was the most terrifying and the worst hurricane in living memory—unequalled for two generations in the Southern Caribbean. In the Grenadines all church buildings

Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Nikkels of Holland, who have been studying at Washington Missionary College, sailed on Sept. 16 from New York for the Caribbean Union. They will be connected with the Caribbean Training College.

Recent visitors at the Division office were Mr. and Mrs. William E. Barney, en route to Puerto Rico. Brother Barney will teach the church school at the Bellavista Hospital and Mrs. Barney will serve as a nurse in the same institution.

All our readers will be glad to know that the 13th Sabbath overflow offering for the third quarter of 1956 is coming to Inter-America. Part of this will be used to put up buildings at the Pacific Agricultural and Industrial School in Navojoa, Mexico; part will be for a hospital in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad; and another part for facilities in order to carry on the senior ministerial training course at the Antillian Junior College in Santa Clara, Cuba.