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MY VISIT TO SOUTH AMERICA

By
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General Conference of S.D.A.



It is hard to believe that day before yesterday I was on the medical launch on the Amazon river and now I am in Washington dictating this article two days later. The memory of my visit to South America is pleasant, indeed. The great surprise of my life was the large audiences and the good membership that we have in many cities.

It was a privilege to attend the entire Division Council at Montevideo. The brethren carried on the work with dispatch and many strong, aggressive plans were laid for the future of God's work.

I visited all five of the union conferences, including their headquarters, as well as many local conference headquarters. I am greatly pleased with the fine colleges and academies throughout the Division. I believe that the work has gone forward in South America in a strong way because of the strong educational program along with the medical work. I am glad also for the wonderful emphasis that is being placed on the church schools. During my visit my contact with hospitals and clinics was an inspiration. It is wonderful to see our doctors and nurses giving their lives in sacrifice for the caring of those who are ill and less fortunate.

I found the spirit of our workers in South America excellent. I believe the future is bright for God's work. The record of baptisms in the past is excellent and we believe that with all our lay members and ministers working together, 1961 will be a banner year. I shall pray with more intelligence for our

great work in the South American Division.

My trip was most enjoyable throughout the Division.

We face a world of stern realities. Only those who fortify their characters with the promises of God's Word will be able to remain true during these strenuous times. We need to pattern our lives after the strong qualities of our Bible heroes. Of Daniel it is written, "Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not."

We read: "The king did not com-

pel the Hebrew youth to renounce their faith in favor of idolatry, but he hoped to bring this about gradually. By giving them names significant of idolatry, by bringing them daily into close association with idolatrous customs, and under the influence of the seductive rites of heathen worship, he hoped to induce them to renounce the religion of their nation, and to unite with the worship of the Babylonians.

"At the very outset of their career there came to them a decisive test of character. It was provided that they should eat of the food and drink of the wine that came from the king's table. In this the king thought to give them an expression of his favor and of his solicitude for their welfare. But a portion having been offered to idols, the food from the king's table was consecrated to idolatry; and one partaking of it would be regarded as offering homage to the gods of Babylon. In such homage, loyalty to Jehovah forbade Daniel and his companions to join. Even a mere pretense of eating the food or drinking the wine would be a denial of their faith. To do this would be to array themselves with heathenism, and to dishonor the principles of the law of God.

"Nor dared they risk the enervating effect of luxury and dissipation on physical, mental, and spiritual development. They were acquainted with the history of Nadab and Abihu, the record of whose intemperance and its results had been preserved in the parchments of the Pentateuch; and they knew that their own physical and men-

tal power would be injuriously affected by the use of wine.

"Daniel and his associates had been trained by their parents to habits of strict temperance. They had been taught that God would hold them accountable for their capabilities, and that they must never dwarf or enfeeble their powers. This education was to Daniel and his companions the means of their preservation amidst the demoralizing influences of the court of Babylon. Strong were the temptations surrounding them in that corrupt and luxurious court, but they remained uncontaminated. No power, no influence, could sway them from the principles they had learned in early life by a study of the word and works of God.

"Had Daniel so desired, he might have found in his surroundings a plausible excuse for departing from strictly temperate habits. He might have argued that, dependent as he was on the king's favor and subject to his power, there was no other course for him to pursue than to eat of the king's food and drink of his wine; for should he adhere to the divine teaching, he would offend the king, and probably lose his position and his life. Should he disregard the commandment of the Lord, he would retain the favor of the king, and secure for himself intellectual advantages and flattering worldly prospects.

"But Daniel did not hesitate. The approval of God was dearer to him than the favor of the most powerful earthly potentate—dearer than life itself. He determined to stand firm in his integrity, let the result be what it might. He 'purposed in

his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank.' And in this resolve he was supported by his three companions.

"In reaching this decision, the Hebrew youth did not act presumptuously, but in firm reliance upon God. They did not choose to be singular, but they would be so rather than dishonor God. Should they compromise with wrong in this instance by yielding to the pressure of circumstances, their departure from principle would weaken their sense of right and their abhorrence of wrong. The first wrong step would lead to others, until, their connection with heaven severed, they would be swept away by temptation". — **Prophets and Kings**, pages 481-483

It is just as necessary for us to determine that we will not do certain things as well as to determine we will do certain things. The slogan "Dare to be a Daniel", is still good.

Recently I talked to a minister of another denomination who had traveled extensively abroad. He said, "I like the Seventh-day Adventists. Wherever I have met them they are so clean in their lives; so upright and interested in clean living and clean bodies".

"Present your bodies a living sacrifice" (Rom. 12:1) "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost?" (1 Cor. 6:19).

With the signs of Christ's coming being fulfilled every day, let us consecrate our lives to the giving of the third angel's message quickly to the millions of South America.

The second hour of the morning and the first of the afternoon were dedicated to the business of the session. Each report gave a note of progress which was very cheering indeed. At December 31, 1960, the Central Argentine Conference had 30 churches and 4,183 members. During the past two years, the fifty workers held 35 evangelistic series. There were 48 Sabbath School with 4,502 members. The Bible Correspondence School had 1,328 applications more than in the former period, and 2,937 active pupils at the end of the last two years, furthermore, 155 Bible School students were baptized. The lay members held 98 series of evangelistic meetings. Eleven colporteurs sold 3,774,746.00 Argentine pesos worth of books during the last period. (About US\$ 52,427.00). There were 834 pupils in the 20 elementary schools. For all these achievements, every delegate and brother present was very thankful to the Lord.

The last hour of the morning was spent in a very profitable way with Bible studies on the doctrines pertaining to the last days of this world's history. These studies were delivered with the idea of helping everyone to be ready for the Lord's return.

The Nominating Committee proposed the re-election of Elder Pablo Seidl as President, Elder Benito Kalbermatter as Secretary-treasurer, and Elder Enrique Block as Educational, MV and Temperance Secretary. It also proposed the election of Brother Walter Weiss as Home Missionary, Sabbath School, and Radio-TV Secretary, and Brother Armando Grau as Publishing Department Secretary. The assembly adopted all these names unanimously, and Elder Peverini dedicated all of them to the Lord with an earnest prayer.

The Plans Committee presented many projects very interesting in deed. We shall report only two of them: to begin new work in new places with the help of self-supporting nurses, and to ask the Conference Committee to choose a worker to visit the far-off Bible Correspondence School students and the isolated members.

Sabbath was the great day of the feast. About two thousand people were in attendance, of which more than 400 were children. Elder H. J. Peverini spoke to the adults in the temple, and Elder Mario Rasi preached to the young people in the school hall. Both meetings were very spiritual and the audience responded very well.

Sabbath afternoon time was dedicated to the workers' experiences. These were very thrilling, but

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The 41st Central Argentine Conference Session

By
 J. G. Clouzet, Radio-TV Secretary
 Austral Union

Beginning January 24 and ending January 28, 1961, the 41st. biennial session of the Central Argentine Conference took place at River Plate College, Puiggari, Entre Rios. Many times during these days we felt the presence of the Lord and we were very thankful for it.

The South American Division was represented by Elder L. H. Olson, Secretary, and Elder Mario Rasi, Sabbath School and Radio-TV Secretary. From the Austral Union came Elder H. J. Peverini, President, Elder Delfin Gomez, Pu-

blishing Secretary, and the writer.

All the Conference officers were present, and most of the workers. Hundreds of brethren and sisters came from the four corners of the field, and under the able leadership of Elder Pablo Seidl, we had one of the most outstanding sessions ever held in this territory.

Every morning the activities began with a devotional meeting which attracted most of the delegates and church members to drink of the Eternal Fountain. Every night the meetings were closed with a sermon which provided additional spiritual food for everybody.

space enables us to mention only two: Elder Godofredo Block, a retired minister, delivered a six-month series of meetings which attracted hundreds, and on more than one occasion, more than a thousand listeners, in Villa Ramírez, Entre Ríos. The members of three neighboring churches assisted him enthusiastically. These meetings resulted in more than 60 baptisms in the year, the best baptism rate in Elder Block's life as a preacher.

The second experience we shall refer to is about a member of another church who was a terrible enemy of the Adventist faith, in Rosario; in fact, he discouraged many people who were studying the Truth and prevented their becoming members of the remnant church. The Adventists considered him such a dangerous foe that they hindered his coming to our meetings. However, after a while, he began to study the Bible doctrines earnestly and concluded that the Adventists were right after all. He had to conquer the prejudice he had aroused in the hearts of the brethren, but at last he was able to convince them that he was really converted, and they allowed

him to come in. He was baptized, and was present as a delegate during the meetings of the session.

The special offering was of more than a million Argentine pesos. It will be dedicated to the building of some churches and the preaching of the Gospel. One brother gave 500,000.00 Argentine pesos, and we thank the Lord for this offering. We pray this money will help in the winning of souls in this Conference.

The meetings came to a close with three very interesting color films on the needs of Central America, the Philippines, and New Guinea, presented the last evening by Elder L. H. Olson. After seeing these we had a wider concept of the work we love, and how we can help to provide the means needed to go to these countries to heal the illnesses and save the souls of these poor people.

The 41st session of the Central Argentine Conference is over, but the impression of the blessing of the Lord on the Work in this section of His vineyard, and of the strong leadership of Elders Seidl and Kalbmatter and their associates, remains with us. May the Lord bless this field always, until His coming.

PARAGUAY SANITARIUM

by
Mrs. L. D. Cleveland
Paraguay Mission

"Isn't there something you can do for my little boy?" The mother sounded desperate.

"Bring him in and we will have a look at him," was the reply on the other end of the telephone line.

Minutes later the barefoot mother dressed in a faded dress appeared carrying a half unconscious child.

"He hasn't eaten for days and has had diarrhea for almost a month," was her pitiful answer to the question the doctor asked her.

Luisito was about a year and a half old but looked no bigger than a normal ten-month old baby. His skin was pulled tight over his little body and his sunken eyes were half open. Dr. Bailie knew right away what the problem was, the child was infested with parasites besides suffering from malnutrition. In checking the child's hemoglobin it was found he only had one gram (normal 12 gms.) and the red blood cell count was 600,000 (normal 3.5 million or more). It was a wonder the child was still alive.

With the benefit of good food, several transfusions, expert medical attention, and the tender care of the nurses, Luisito regained his

health, but this did not happen overnight. It took three months before he was ready to go home. His parents were miserably poor and of course unable to pay much of the hospital bill out of their meager earnings, but Luisito received the same care as the other patients with more means.

This story, but with different circumstances and different actors, is repeated time and time again. Thanks to our mission program, Luisito and others are receiving the needed medical attention.

Paraguay is a country with many needs, the people are very poor with a per capita income of about \$ 14.00 a month. Although the work here was started about fifty years ago, as yet we have only 500 members. Some years ago it was felt the medical work should be started. Soon thereafter treatment rooms were opened in the capital, Asunción, by Arnol Treiyer and Miguel Esparcia, with good success. Later on, the Thirteenth Sabbath School Overflow Offering was designated to build a clinic and small hospital in Asunción.

Dr. Brailie arrived in 1954, but before he could practice he had to revalidate his title which is quite a process in Paraguay. Every test

for all six years of medicine has to be taken in Spanish, so this takes time. In the meantime the hospital was being built. By January, 1959, the hospital finally opened its doors to the first outpatients and on July 20, 1959, the dedication ceremonies were held.

The hospital has a well-equipped outpatient department for private and semi-private patients as well as a charity clinic. There is room for ten inpatients besides the newborn nursery. The operating-delivery room and X-ray departments are adequately equipped, and there is a small laboratory. The original work started with physical therapy and pedicure, and this continues to be quite active. The head nurse, María Triantafilo, the only registered physical therapist in this area, took her training at the College of Medical Evangelists and is frequently called upon to use her skills. All the personnel are Adventists which makes the workers a close-knit family.

Not all the patients are poor. A well known American rancher came to Paraguay many years ago and established a thriving cattle ranch in the Chaco. He commuted from the ranch to his lovely home in Asunción in his private plane on week-ends. Quite suddenly he became very ill with chills and fever which became so severe he was hospitalized at the Paraguay Sanitarium. Soon after arriving at the hospital, he went into severe circulatory collapse which almost took his life. It was found that on one of his trips to the interior he had contracted both typhoid fever and malaria at the same time. He was quite impressed with the care he received and the Christian atmosphere. Some months later when Pastor Adan Meyer of the Austral Union was visiting in Paraguay, he showed some of the pictures of the relief work we did in Chile after the earthquakes, to an audience in a hotel in Villarrica. After the pictures some of the people came up to him and asked if this was the same organization that had the Paraguay Sanitarium in Asunción. When he replied in the affirmative, they told him of their rancher friend whose life had been saved at our hospital.

The volume of work and interest aroused has been such that the Paraguay Sanitarium and the work it is doing are becoming well known. Not long ago, a young doctor on a scholarship in Chile, happened to be talking with one of our Chilean doctors. Of course he did not know his colleague was an Adventist when he mentioned that although the social security system and pu-

blic health work in Paraguay was very backward there were institutions like the Paraguay Sanitarium which were giving expert medical care to the indigent people and meeting a real need.

As of now, the hospital has been keeping almost every bed full, and there is need of expansion. Dr. Lanz and his family arrived last July, and he is starting on his revalida-

tion. Arnol Treiyer, one of the original nurses, when seeing the need for welltrained physicians decided to take the medical course and in another year will be graduating. Plans have been made and some lots next to the present clinic have been purchased to build an addition to the hospital to satisfy our ever-growing needs.

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SOUTH BRAZIL UNION

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LAY PREACHERS WIN HUNDREDS IN SOUTH BRAZIL

By
 R. E. Adams,
 Home Missionary, Sabbath School

Secretary South Brazil Union
 The greatest thrill that can come to young workers in the United States is a call to the mission field. During the past eleven years it has been my personal privilege to experience this thrill first-hand, and have had the opportunity of working as Home Missionary and Sabbath School secretary in two of the unions of Brazil. It is thrilling to have an active part in this great finishing work and see prophecy being fulfilled before our eyes as the laymen go out into the highways and byways preparing and bringing in souls by the hundreds to the feet of Jesus. It is to this end that we as overseas workers are sent to the ends of the earth, that the church of God in the earth can be prepared to fill its proper place at the proper time. A great training program is necessary for the preparing of our people in order that each one will find his place, his personal place, in this great closing work. To me, the following statement from the Spirit of Prophecy is the greatest challenge found anywhere in the writings of Ellen G. White:

"The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers".

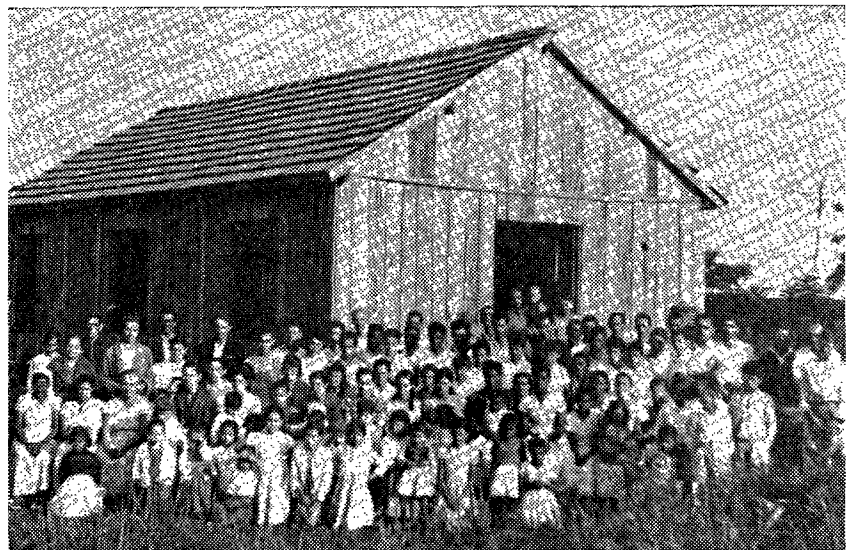
—Gospel Workers, page 352.

May God give us Spirit-filled workers in the great mission outposts around the world. May God give us wisdom and a clear understanding of our responsibilities in this tremendous hour, and help us to so organize the program and guide our membership that this greath work can soon be finished

and we can all go home with our Master with many souls we have won.

I would like to bring a few stories to the readers of the **South American Bulletin** which show without the shadow the shadow of a doubt that the Spirit of God is being poured out in a marvelous way upon our laymen as well as upon the eager multitudes who are only waiting for someone to bring the message to them. A few short weeks ago I had the privilege of visiting our Mato Grosso Mission. While there, I had the pleasure of traveling with the Mission president, Elder Lindquist, who carries the Home Missionary Department as well. We traveled all over the southern part of the State, visiting more than twenty of our isolated churches and groups. During this visit, I met one of the leading soul winners in the South

Brazil Union, Brother Diomar Alves Pereira. Diomar is married and has two fine children. His wife is one of the church school teachers in the Mission. The early part of 1960 brought news to the Mission office that there was a group of people in the southeastern part of the State, who called themselves the "Church of the Sound Doctrine" who wanted to contact our people. Brother Diomar went on his faithful bicycle to begin visiting these people. He found over 100 families, and he found something else very interesting. There are really two church groups of the same name. There is the "Heavenly Church of the Sound Doctrine" and the "Earthly Church of the Sound Doctrine". The only difference between the two church groups is the following: The heavenly church believes in the Holy Spirit, while the earthly believes in the spirit of Satan. Brother Diomar was received with open arms wherever he went. He spent four solid months visiting, preaching, giving Bible studies, and answering the questions in the minds of these people. As a result, 42 families have accepted the Truth to date, nearly 100 having been baptized, and the future looks bright for an even greater harvest of souls among these dear people in the near future. The accompanying pictures show Brother Diomar and his faithful bicycle beside the little rustic church which is the only meeting place of these new members, and where they met with me for Sabbath School. As you can see, the church is very simple, for the people generally are



New members won by layman Diomar Pereira

materially poor but rich in their hope in Jesus.

It was my privilege to spend a week among these people, two of these days in the home of the former spiritual leader of their church who is now a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist church. His home is very simple, with a thatched roof, mud walls, and dirt floors. The first night we had a meeting for his non-Adventist neighbors and over sixty attended. We were tired from a hard day of travel, so when ten o'clock came, I told him I would like to go to bed. He put a large canvas down on the floor, and two improvised mattresses filled with corn leaves. That was the bed for Elder Lindquist, the district pastor and myself. We were tired, and even though the entire family stayed there to watch us go to bed, we were soon fast asleep. When I awoke early the next morning, I had the laugh of my life. There with us, and asleep, were four others - the man of the house and his wife and a neighbor and his wife. They had waited until we were asleep before they too went to bed beside us. We were really packed in like cord wood, seven people on two small ticks. These are some of the interesting experiences we meet as we travel and visit with these dear, simple people in their homes.

Brother Diomar has proven himself such a good soul winner that the Mission sent him to Sao Paulo to attend summer school at Brazil College. I spoke to him yesterday and he is almost ready to return to the interior and continue his great soul-winning crusade among these people. We hope he will win another 100 this year. Truly the Spirit of God is being poured out upon all flesh at this hour.

While traveling in the northern part of the State of Santa Catarina a short time ago, I was thrilled to see our faithful lay preachers in San Francisco do Sul in action. After a week-end laymen's congress, a group of laymen invited me to see the work they were doing. We took a small private launch across the bay to visit a group of interested people who live on an island, with whom they were studying. First we came to the home of Jorge Alves Ledoe, who, with his family, had been brought up in harmony with the beliefs of his parents. He had been the treasurer of his own church on the island for many years, but the Spirit of God was speaking to his heart during this time. He wanted a Bible and requested one



Diomar A. Pereira and his faithful bicycle

from the leader of his church, but was told that if he began reading the Bible he would stop keeping Sunday and would keep the Sabbath. He told him it was dangerous because he didn't know how to interpret the Bible. Brother Jorge then went to another church on the island and requested a Bible which he received and began reading.

It has been seven years since he received the Bible, and he has been keeping the Sabbath together with his family, almost from the time he received the Bible. There were no other Sabbath-keepers on the island but he continued keeping the day as best he could, and at the same time keeping Sunday and continuing as treasurer of his former church. All this time he was preaching the Sabbath in that church, much against the will of the pastor. Finally, a little over a year ago he was put out of the church, but not he alone, for twenty others went with him.

A little over a year ago, our zealous lay preachers in that area began holding meetings on the beach of the island, and Brother Jorge, together with his family and friends, attended the meetings. For the first time they heard there were others who were keeping the Sabbath, and they were very happy. Today our lay preachers are continuing an organized program among these dear people. We now have a fine Branch Sabbath School

of over twenty meeting each week, keeping the Sabbath faithfully, paying their tithe, and preparing for the soon coming of Jesus.

As mentioned in the beginning of this article, it is a thrill to be a worker in the mission field where the work is going forward with leaps and bounds as it is here in the South Brazil Union where we are seeing the outpouring of God's Spirit upon His church and where the work is fast closing. To give you a little picture of the progress of the work in this part of the world field, let me cite a few statistics.

In the South Brazil Union in the past four years we had the thrill of adding 10,671 new members to our Sabbath Schools, or 7 new members every day during the four years. Every 11 days saw the organizing of a new Sabbath School. For every 2 minutes during the four years, a lay preacher was giving a Bible study. There were 3,266 missionary letters and contacts made every day during the four years, and 3,228 pieces of literature were distributed every day during this period. In the year 1960 we raised more Ingathering funds than in all the five year period of 1950-1955. Yes, now is the hour for God's church to arise and finish the task. Now is the opportunity for each of us to catch a new vision of the need and put our all into the finishing of the work. My daily prayer is that God will give me the vision, the strength, and the understanding needed at this hour.

On April 2, 1960, throughout the entire South Brazil Union field 1,623 new lay efforts were begun. This was the greatest single missionary effort in the history of Brazil. According to latest reports, over 2,800 were added to our churches last year, won by the work of laymen. More than 500 projectors and sets of film are in constant use for God, and at the moment we are placing an average of 10 new projectors a week in the hands of our laymen. We have an Adventist in Sao Paulo who is making the projectors and producing our color film sets. We are doing our best to leave no stone unturned as we seek to have a prepared and well-equipped church to give this closing message.

During the first four Sabbaths of April, 1961, the membership of the South Brazil Union will distribute over 1,000,000 tracts prepared especially for the great program. We have prepared four tracts, one for each Sabbath, in color that will really call the attention of the

people to the tremendous hour in which we live. We have every hope that this great tract program will be the means of opening up at least 2,500 new Bible studies in May, as well as help us reach our goal of 1,000 Branch Sabbath Schools. I believe these one million tracts distributed in one month will be the greatest single tract program for one month put on by any union conference or mission in the world field, and if we reach

our goal of 1,000 Branch Sabbath Schools—which by God's help we will—we will also lead the world field in Branch Sabbath Schools.

We ask an interest in the prayers of every reader of the **South American Bulletin** to the end that through the united efforts of the ministry, church officers and each individual member, we can soon finish the work in this corner of the Lord's vineyard and go home with our Saviour. Pray for us.

ENCOURAGING RESULTS OF THE COLPORTEUR WORK

by

Nicolas Chaij, Publishing Secretary
South American Division

A few weeks ago two colporteurs visited a printing press in Sao Paulo. They explained to the manager the campaign of cultural and spiritual uplift they were carrying on in favor of the workers by means of their books. They showed their books and the Bible to the manager and asked permission to offer these books to his employees in a group.

On the day set, the manager gathered his employees together and the colporteurs explained their books. When they came to the end of their presentation the manager interrupted them and anxiously asked them, "Aren't you going to bring the Bible too?"

"Of course," they replied. When the employees understood that together with the set of books they would receive a complete Bible, the colporteurs took 94 orders for the set they were selling.

Recently a colporteur in the city of Belem located at the mouth of the Amazon river, went to deliver his books in the barracks and met with a great surprise.

This colporteur sells a set of two large books, the Bible, and four magazines. Many of the soldiers who had not ordered the books, when they saw them, and "especially the Bible" bought them on the spot. In this way the colporteur sold 40 additional sets of books. On this one occasion he delivered a total of 540 large books, 285 Bibles, and 1,180 magazines.

Offering the Bible with our books is increasing the sales of our publications. If the Bible Societies would supply us with Bibles we would diffuse them in even larger quantities. We began to include the Bible with our publications in the middle of 1959. That year the colporteurs sold 37,000 Bibles in the South American Division, 30,000 more than in the previous year.

Another great factor in this increased sale of our publications is the larger number of assistant secretaries in the local fields. In the first quarter of this year, ten Assistant Publishing secretaries were added so that now we have 35 assistants in the Division.

The Sao Paulo Conference, which is the highest in the world field for number of colporteurs and number of books sold, has seven assistant secretaries. The Rio-Minas Conference has five, and the Buenos Aires Conference three, and so on. Furthermore, for the first time in our history, all the fields in the Division have a Publishing Department secretary. Until January last year there had been two fields without directors but in the first months of 1960, the picture of directors was completed: 27 local fields and 27 colporteur directors.

Thanks to these factors, the blessing of God, and the wise and consecrated work of the colporteur directors, there are now in the Division, 100 colporteurs more than were a year ago, and from January to May of 1960 there is a 61 per cent increase in the sale of our publications.

The colporteurs are selling 2,000 books each day of work. These books, together with the magazines, are winning many souls, more than in former years. Although we do not have the complete report at this writing, of the souls won by the colporteurs in all the Division, we know that in the South Brazil Union in 1958, 148 persons were baptized who were won by the colporteurs. In 1959 this figure rose to 310 souls. In the East Brazil Union the colporteurs won 121 souls in 1958 and 158 the following year.

Worthy of special mention is the work of the colporteurs along the Amazon. Recently Pastor Aldo Carvalho, president of the Lower Amazon Mission, took a trip to confirm the interest awakened by the colporteur, Pedro Almeida, and found nearly 20 groups of interested peop-

le, a large part of these keeping the Sabbath. Immediately the Mission Committee designated Pastor Americo Quispe to take care of this lively interest.

On one of his trips in the colporteur launch, Pedro Almeida had a very encouraging experience. He spent a certain Sabbath on a beach where he and his companion on the launch had morning worship. Some of the neighbors heard them sing and saw them studying the Bible. They came and talked to them and then spread the news among their neighbors.

That afternoon canoes began to arrive with their human cargo until they formed a congregation. "We have come so that you will teach us the Word of God", was their moving petition which they directed to the colporteur. Such is the interest of the people here for the light of God!

Although the Lower Amazon Mission would have ten colporteur launches, they could not reach the 800,000 inhabitants along the rivers with the Message. It is sad to say but they have only one little launch.

On each trip which Pedro Almeida makes in this launch--the trips last about three weeks--he sells from eighty to one hundred books and gives hundreds of Bible studies to people hungering for the Heavenly manna. On every trip he either raises up interests or finds dozens of people already interested, many keeping the Sabbath, due to the reading of our books which were sold there before.

The colporteurs in the Amazon region are very missionary-minded. The champion for colporteur sales in the North Brazil Union, José Santana, last year held three series of evangelistic meetings and 28 were baptized, and still others are preparing for baptism.

A similar work is going on in the Central Amazon Mission. It is painful to say, but this Mission has only one small colporteur launch. In this launch works Brother Raimundo Victorica, who with his courageous wife, endure sacrifice passing weeks and months in this tiny bark, facing the dangers of swollen rivers, to carry the Adventist Message to souls.

Brother Raimundo has already won many victories with this only colporteur launch of the Mission. During the day he canvasses, and in the evening, where he sees there is opportunity, he gives public lectures. He makes his meetings more attractive with hymns which he plays on his phonograph, and with slides. Hundreds of avid listeners have attended his meetings. On a recent trip of 3 weeks he sold 120

books and interested 50 people in the Truth. Many asked him to baptize them.

The Central Amazon Mission has 44 municipalities, with a total population of 600,000. Brother Diogenes Melo, director of the colporteur work there, tells us that the colporteurs have barely entered in 16 of these because there is no way to reach these people unless one goes on the rivers.

This solitary launch which the Central Amazon Mission now has is the fruit of a generous heart which loves God and humanity. A certain brother saw the necessity of these people to have the light from God and, although his resources are scanty, he donated the money for the construction of this launch which today is the happy medium for carrying hope and new life to these people.

In these vast regions there are no trains, no roads, and the planes reach only a few points. The only

highways are the numerous rivers, 60,000 kilometers of navigable rivers, and the only medium of communication is the river launch.

There the colporteurs are real missionaries, self-sacrificing and skillful to combat the currents which are often dangerous. The only thing they lack is material means. These launches cost the equivalent of three thousand dollars each, constructed economically in the region.

The colporteur director in that Mission, deeply moved by the necessity of the inhabitants and impressed by their quick acceptance of the Message, writes:

"We appeal to the brethren that they interest themselves in souls, and ask for their prayers in favor of this vast region. Oh that God would touch the hearts of generous brethren so they would send us the money to construct other launches so that more hearts and homes would be added to the fold of God."

Union, and therefore knew the needs. As we entered the home of Brother Chambi that evening for supper, there was another person talking to him. We listened and heard the man explaining:

"I was afraid to enter your church last night as I saw that stranger (Pastor Elick) talking, and as I have never been in a church before, I was afraid, but I did want to find out who you people are, and that is why I have returned tonight. I am looking for a group of people that keep the seventh-day Sabbath. Can you tell me where I can find them?"

Pastor Chambi took the opportunity to explain to the inquirer that this was the church and people that he was looking for. After the explanation, the man continued,

"I live in a village of several hundred people, and one day I received a Bible and started reading. While reading my Bible, I found that the seventh day of the week is the day that the followers of Christ are to keep. I was keeping Sunday until I read that verse, and since that time I have been keeping the Sabbath day holy, and now have six others keeping it with me. Since I arrived here in Chachapoyas, I found out that there was a church that kept the Sabbath holy and I was looking for them."

"You have come to the right place," remarked Brother Chambi. "Where do you live?" he asked.

"I live in a village with several hundred people that is up over the mountains, five days walk from

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URGENT CALLS FROM HIGHLANDS AND VALLEYS

by
C. C. Case, President
Upper Amazon Mission

field. He had been the president of this Mission before going to the

"Please, Pastor Chambi, can't you come up and visit our village? There are so many people waiting to hear the message we love. We have prepared ten souls that are awaiting baptism now. Can't you come?"

"Where is your village?" asked our pastor.

"One day from here by truck, and then several days' walk. It is close to Jumbilla."

Turning to me, Brother Chambi said.

"Pastor, will it be possible to give us some more help here in the mountains?"

Without giving me a chance to answer, he continued,

"I have these people coming into my home three or four times a week, asking me to go to this village or that village and I just cannot answer all the calls. Will you send us some more help?"

That evening, Pastor J. W. Elick, president of the Inca Unión, talked to me about the great need in our



Baptism of those won by lay workers near Chachapoyas, Peru. Pastor Tillman officiating

here. We need your help and instruction, will you come?"

Turning to us, Brother Chambi said,

"Brethren, you have seen and heard what I hear several times a week here in this area. How can I answer all these needs when they are so far away and I am only one. I am doing all I can to meet these calls, but I cannot reach them all. Will you send more help?"

Here we were, faced with a definite and urgent need. Brother Chambi is in the fastest-growing mission station that we have in the Upper Amazon Mission. He is answering all the calls that he can, but then the question comes back to us again and again, "Will you send more help?" What can we do? The budgets are set and there is not enough to meet all the needs. The work of the Lord is increasing, and the budgets cannot keep up with the constant increase. The work is large and the workers few. How can we answer the calls? We cannot, it is impossible to answer

them all. Many are waiting for this Message and we must get to them, for "the night cometh when no man can work." Let us work while it is day.

(continued from page 4)

The medical work is giving added impetus to our work in Paraguay, and the work is growing, though it seems slow at times. Last year two new chapels were dedicated in some isolated communities in the interior, and this year the church school building in Encarnación has been renovated and plans are being laid to have a thriving school there this fall. A part-time chaplain is now assigned to the hospital to follow up the interest there, and we plan to have a full-scale evangelistic effort here in Asunción in the near future. Soon we hope to start some medical work in the interior, as well as more schools. We pray the Lord will bless our efforts and that there will be many souls won for His kingdom.



Pastor G. M. Kretschmar
and family.

Pastor and Mrs. G. M. Kretschmar, with their children Suzanne and Joseph, arrived in Rio de Janeiro during the latter part of 1960 en route to their field of labor in the Espirito Santo Conference where Brother Kretschmar will serve as Home Missionary and Sabbath School secretary in that field.

After graduation from Walla Walla College in 1953, Pastor Kretschmar has labored in evangelistic and pastoral work, and has also given special attention to different phases of departmental work in the conference where he labored. Construction of church edifices also was one of his special activities.

We welcome this new family to our Division field and are confident their endeavors will be greatly appreciated by their fellow workers and church members in Espirito Santo.

WELCOME



Mr. & Mrs. L. G. Larrabee

Recently the workers in the Inca Union were privileged to welcome a new family of missionaries who have come to join their ranks, namely, Lawrence G. Larrabee and wife who have responded to the call to connect with the Lake Titicaca Mission where he will serve as Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary.

Brother Larrabee is the son of Pastor and Mrs. Harry Larrabee who served many years in the Inter-American Division, where Lawrence was born. Pastor Larrabee lost his life in an airplane ac-

cident some years ago while in the Inter-American Division, and Mrs. Larrabee is now completing a term of service in the Inca Union. Lawrence therefore comes to our field with a full knowledge of the Spanish language and can enter immediately upon his labors.

We are pleased to welcome this new family to our Division.

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SOUTH AMERICAN BULLETIN

L. H. Olson	Editor
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