

# The Latin American Evangelist

October 1924 Organ of the Latin America Evangelization Campaign Vol. IV, No. 1

A campaign of aggressive evangelism and sould-winning in which the missionaries of thirty denominations are co-operating to reach the millions of Spanish-speaking peoples of Central and South America, using tent and theatre buildings in strategic centers and sending out teams of trained native workers into outlying districts.

## When Joshua was Called to a Fresh Advance

"The Lord spake unto Joshua saying, Arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you... There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life. I will not fail thee nor forsake thee."

"Be strong and of a good courage for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land. Only be thou strong and very courageous."

"Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

And Joshua said unto the people:

"Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do  
wonders among you."

# THE LATIN AMERICA EVANGELIZATION CAMPAIGN

INCORPORATED, 1921

## OBJECT

This is an independent, interdenominational work on faith lines, which has been founded under the guidance of God, to reach the unevangelized millions of Latin America by a forward movement of aggressive evangelism, carried out in co-operation with the missionaries of all denominations working on the field.

## DOCTRINAL BASIS

The Directors and Executive Council of the Latin America Evangelization Campaign adhere to the verbal inspiration of the Scriptures, as originally given; the Virgin Birth and Deity of Christ; His bodily Resurrection; the doctrine of Salvation through the Blood of Christ, whose vicarious sacrifice is the only remedy for man's lost condition; the doctrine of the eternal salvation of the regenerate and the eternal condemnation of the unregenerate; the scriptural doctrine of a life of victory over sin through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit of God, and the imminency of the pre-millennial coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

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All contributions for the work should be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. E. A. Steele, at 219 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. clearly marked for "The Latin America Evangelization Campaign" so as to avoid confusion with other funds for which Mr. Steele is also treasurer.

CORRESPONDENCE for Mr. & Mrs. Strachan: Box 901, San José, Costa Rica. Cables: "Latmercam", San José. Postage from U. S. two cents.

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# The Latin American Evangelist

Vol. IV {

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, C. A.

{ No. 1

## EDITORIAL

### We are Called to a Fresh Advance

In the mass of other information about the Bible Institute of Costa Rica which we gave in our last issue, we wonder how many of our readers noticed the fact that the Bible training movement in Costa Rica had its material beginning in the promise of five dollars a month for the support of a student which came from a business girl in the United States. Under God that promise, which by the way has been kept all this time, indicated the way in which He would provide for the carrying on of a work that in all soberness we believe destined to be an immense factor in the evangelization of Latin America.

The L. A. E. C. . is an organization of recent creation, not at all widely known, and without any wealthy patrons or prestige in influential quarters, so that it would be impossible for us to undertake a work like this unless under the very clear guidance of God who alone can carry it through. The taunt which is often thrown at faith missions that "they live by faith and look to man" can in no sense apply to the L. A. E. C., for there is no one to whom we could look for the supply of our needs. And we pray God that it may be ever so in deed and in truth for His greater glory.

At the same time we believe that we owe it to God's stewards to lay the needs of the unevangelized fields before them that they may be able to take their rightful share in the task of supplying those needs. But our endeavor has always been to place the emphasis upon the prayer support rather than upon financial help. God's coffers are full to overflowing and if mere money could bring the world to

the feet of Jesus, He surely would have poured it out in plentiful streams. But such is not the way of the Cross. At the price of travail of soul, of blood and of tears are souls brought out of sin's bondage and made partakers of the sacrifice of the Son of God Himself. We have believed, and believe more strongly to-day than ever before that the prayers of God's people at home are a vital factor to the success of the missionary enterprise on the field. Where that support is lacking there is very little real spiritual success, but where it abounds the message of the Gospel "runs and is glorified", difficulties vanish, and impossible things are done.

Following out this our deep-seated conviction, we have bent our efforts to the task of gathering together a band of prayer helpers who would under the Holy Spirit's guidance, serve God in the great ministry of intercession on behalf of this work as it seeks to give the Gospel to the multitudes that have never had it in Latin America. And God, who created in us the desire has graciously given us to see its growing realization. While we can say in all sincerity that we look only to God to supply our need, yet we rejoice and are mightily encouraged as we think of the loyal band of people whom He has called into fellowship with us in the work. Any successes hitherto achieved are theirs in very large measure. They have taken up the problems one by one as they have arisen, and by faith and prayer and sacrifice have made possible all that has been done. And this is our confidence as we face the new tasks and the larger responsibilities ahead.

**God's system of promotion**

"Thou hast been faithful over a little, have thou authority over ten cities". Not less work, but more; not smaller but larger responsibilities. The war trained warriors are the ones that must go back into the fight until the battle is won and the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God and His Christ. And so we must gird ourselves for the new advance to which He calls us.

The forward movement to which we seem to be committed is the establishment in San Jose of an effective training school for young men, that will meet the needs of all the missions working in Central America, and possibly also of some of the republics of South America. The fact that we have already received ten men from Nicaragua does not at all imply that the problem is solved. We have only gone in that direction as far as the Lord led us and it was a step in faith, "not knowing whither" it would lead. It would seem that this is the beginning of such a training school and if it is we may expect God to provide everything necessary for its efficient development.

If it is God's plan to establish this work under the auspices of the L. A. E. C. we would want to undertake it in the most thorough fashion. While we would not fall into the mistake of refusing the material available, we would not be content unless we were in a position to do the very best possible with that material.

If God is calling us to this task it will not be superior to our strength and resources. We shall need faith and courage, but with such a glorious record of the power of prayer behind

us we shall be able to ask great things from God, as well as attempt great things for Him. Our immediate need is for a house for the young men students and the right man to be their director and leader. That house cannot be put on the same lot as the Institute building but we can secure a piece of ground near at hand at a cheap price on which to put up the necessary dormitory space etc., as well as rooms for the director and his wife. This is essential as the culture and discipline of such a home would be one of the most valuable parts of the training of men who have never seen that side of life.

The establishment of such a Bible Training School for men is an undertaking of tremendous responsibilities and will call for the outlay of a considerable sum of money yearly. In taking this step we must be very sure of God's leading, for only so could we face the task. We would rejoice to know that God was witnessing in the hearts of our home helpers by giving to them the vision of the wonderful possibilities of such a work and by laying it upon their hearts that they are called to a very definite partnership with Him in it. We praise God for the precious unity of spirit which exists in this, as in all other matters concerning the work, amongst the members of the Home Council of the L. A. E. C., and we have had good letters of encouragement and help from quite a few of the Campaign family with regard to the coming of the young men from Nicaragua and their needs. All this has come to us as confirming the Lord's leading and has greatly strengthened our hands as we seek and know God's will and keep step with Him in this fresh advance.

**A Challenge:—**"Evermore He sends down this challenge to His people: "Prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it." When the prayer life of the people of God comes to be the dominant feature of the Christian experience, the power of God will sweep the earth with the victories of grace."—Agnew Johnston.

## THE CAMPAIGN IN SANTO DOMINGO

The Republic of Haiti and the Dominican Republic occupy an island southeast of Cuba, lying between Cuba and Porto Rico. The Dominican Republic occupies the eastern and larger half of the island. Its area is about 18,000 miles square, and the population is estimated at somewhat over 700,000. The people are a mixed race, chiefly of European descent with a considerable mixture of Negro blood. The evangelical churches of Porto Rico have undertaken the evangelization of the Republic, which is their nearest neighbor, and are co-operating with Mr. Strachan in the present evangelistic campaign, sending as their representatives some of the best preachers their churches afford. Below we are happy to be able to give some information about two of these young men with their photographs, and hope to do the same in the case of others who are to take part also in the campaign. We had hoped to have printed in this issue some definite news about the meetings but up to this writing no letters have come to hand, due no doubt to the fact that communications between Costa Rica and Santo Domingo are very poor. But we have no doubt that God is with His servants and is blessing their work for Him in that needy country. Much prayer is needed that the results may be of the kind that abide.

### A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ

Jose L. Delgado as a boy working in his father's shoemaker's store drank in the Bible stories which that father, a fervent Catholic, used to recount. One day as he swept and cleaned the store he came upon an old book, yellow and battered, with its first pages missing. Running to his father he asked excitedly, "Tell me, what book is this?" "My son", said his father, "this is the book out of which I have told you many stories. This is the Holy Bible, the sacred Scriptures." Jose, thirteen years old at that time was deeply interested and, because the whole book of Genesis was missing, he began to read at Exodus, but when he came to the story of the plagues he refused to read farther because, to his way of thinking, the God who destroyed people with plagues was not the good God his father had always told him about.

A year afterwards he was invited by a companion to attend the evangelical Sunday School and was thus brought under definite spiritual influence which resulted later in complete surrender to Christ for His work. When his father died the boy had to shoulder the responsibility of carrying on the



Rev. José L. Delgado

business to support the family. In spite of many difficulties and of decided opposition on the part of his stepmother he studied for the ministry, taking his university course along with theological studies in the seminary. In both his hard work brought its reward and he received his B. A. degree from both the university and seminary, as well his commission as Captain of the university Cadet Corp, and lieutenant of the U. S. Army Reserves.

But above all these well-earned honours our brother looks back with joy upon the years of constant evangelistic work done during his student days. In the Seminary an evangelistic team was organized to spend the week ends preaching the Gospel in the towns and villages of the island. The Lord greatly blessed them in that work. They visited fifty-five of the seventy-seven towns of Porto Rico; they preached in the open air and in theaters, and wherever the opportunity opened; they distributed literature, and had the supreme joy of seeing in all about five hundred people confess Christ as a result of their labors.

Señor Delgado was ordained to the regular ministry last June, being called to the Baptist Church of Rio Piedras where he had already worked for some time as student pastor. He says "I still have dreams. I have before me the words of my Redeemer: "Look upon the fields for they are white already to harvest. Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature". Shall we not pray that God may pour out of His spirit upon this consecrated servant of His and use him mightily to the salvation of multitudes of his fellow Latin Americans?

## The Representative of the United Brethren

"Rev. Bernabe Natal y Martinez was born in Juan Diaz, P. R., June 11, 1892 so that to-day he may be considered to be in the very prime of life. In appearance and manners he is always pleasing and invariably manifests that courtesy for which the Latin race is justly distinguished. Mr. Natal was converted when a boy of 15 years. He remembers his first interest in the "culto" being aroused by the finding a small New Testament. Examining this he was anxious to know what they did with this book there in the "culto" and so he visited the services for the first time out of curiosity. Then he had some intimate friends who were also becoming interested in the services held in the evangelical church which was established in his home town, and so he continued his visits and was soon so much interested that he made profession of faith and after weeks of preparation he was received as a member together with others of his young friends. At that time he was in the public schools of his town. Altho extremely timid at first it was soon discovered that he would develop into a fluent speaker. After only a little more than a year as member he, of his own initiative, suggested his desire to



Rev. Bernabe Natal

preach the Gospel. He entered the High School of Ponce, and after two years there he attended the Evangelical Seminary at that time located in Mayaguez from which he later graduated. He has served three regular pastorates in the Mission of the United Brethren in Christ altho he was used as supply in other points during his student days. He is at present pastor in Ponce, P. R. His ability as a speaker is recognized not only in his own Mission but also in the associated Missions working in the island".

**STOP PRESS:** At the last moment news has come from Sto. Domingo telling of glorious meetings full of spiritual power, and of priestly opposition directed and inspired from the United States. **PRAY MUCH.**

## How it Strikes the Man on the Spot.—No. 2

The Rev. J. Francisco Lopez tells the story of the Nicaraguan campaign in the pages of "El Atalaya", of El Paso, Texas, a Baptist journal of wide circulation. We value this description of the work done as showing very clearly the impression made by the campaign in the way it stirred the whole country and forced the appeal of the Gospel on the attention of all sections of the people. The writer is the pastor of the Baptist work in Diriamba. He has suffered for the Gospel and still "bears in his body the marks of the Lord Jesus". Next month we hope to publish an account of the persecutions to which he and others were subjected for the sake of the Gospel.

"The great evangelistic campaign carried out during the months of May, June and July of this year has been for the people of Nicaragua a holy and a glorious opportunity. Revs. H. Strachan and Roberto Elphick Valenzuela were the publishers of the blessed truth of the Gospel of Jesus in the powerful campaign undertaken throughout the country. It is the first time that such a special effort has been put forth in evangelical work in Nicaragua, to win souls for the kingdom of our adorable Saviour.

### **Spiritual preparation of the Church.**

—Mr. Strachan arrived alone with the object of preparing the ground, making the necessary arrangements, and above all preparing the spirit of God's people by prayer to co-operate worthily in such a great work. "Prayer is the secret of every religious awakening. On our knees we shall advance much".

### **Methods used in the campaign.**

The methods of propaganda used were completely unknown to the evangelicals (of Nicaragua); gathering people under a great tent capable of holding about one thousand; announcing meetings through the streets by means of a band of music, handbills and great posters—these methods were strange but used for the glory of God they gave satisfactory results.

**Going through the country.**—The campaign began in Matagalpa, one of the northern departments of the country; it continued in the mountainous districts of Managua where great spiritual victories were gained.

Amongst the believers the fire of God burned. After fifteen days in Managua the campaign passed on to Leon, Masaya, Niquinohomo, Masatepec, Diriamba, Jinotepec, Granada and

Rivas. In all these regions there were multitudes eagerly, enthusiastically, and with order, listening to the preaching of the Gospel. In Leon and Masatepec cine theaters were rented and thus the timid (people who would not go to a protestant place of worship) were able to hear the message of God. In Leon and Jinotepec the municipal theaters had been promised but the authorities, overawed by the priests broke their word and refused finally to give permission. But even this turned out for the greater triumph of the campaign for we all worked with still greater Christian zeal and after the fight the results were even better, to the mortification of the intolerant ones.

**Fellow workers and helpers.**—It is only right to mention those helpers who with heart and soul united their efforts to those of the Captains of Jehovah, Brothers Strachan and Valenzuela. In the first line come our brethren don Carlos Hummel, Señorita Blackmore, and don Arturo Parajon; while in the second line there were a number of young men of the different churches, (These young men are nearly all now in the Bible Institute of Costa Rica)—all loyal fervent servants of God showing much abnegation in their service of their Lord and King.

**Bible Study.**—Every morning in all the places mentioned, there were rich blessings prepared for the workers, and for the young men helpers of the campaign as also for the members of the churches. Our brethren, the missionaries and pastors dedicated themselves to the distribution of the bread of life in the form of Bible studies, as well as studies on Homiletics, Christian Evidences, Church

History, etc. Of all these subjects we have obtained a profitable knowledge.

**Results of the campaign meetings.**— Excellently splendid! Magnificent! Glory be to God! Hundreds have made public profession of faith in the Gospel, many have offered to consecrate themselves to the Lord; others have been awakened from the sleep of sin into which they had fallen, while a great many are now convinced that it is not as the lying priests and monks had told them, but that on the contrary the Gospel of Christ is the greatest factor for the salvation of their homes. As a proof of this statement this year our Baptist school could not receive anything like the number of children who sought entrance, and registration was closed with an enrollment of more than two hundred pupils. And the Church has been greatly strengthened in the Lord to an active propagation of the Gospel from which through God's help, we expect a multiplied harvest.

**Press commentaries.**— The liberal press of the country contributed its share (to the success of the campaign) by carrying advertisements of each meeting and by publishing important

comments on the evangelical work and on sermons in particular. The clerical press, directed by the hood and frock fraternity, shone by its silence. They could neither gainsay nor detain the glorious work of our Lord Jesus Christ. On one occasion the sons of Loyola, who are the most daring, attempted a counter move by holding a meeting for men only, but the results were so poor that the orator did not even make a second appearance although a series of such meetings had been announced.

"La Antorcha" says of these servants of God; "Señor Strachan, director of the campaign is a man of God, consecrated, full of faith, of the Holy Spirit, and of enthusiasm. He burns with love for lost souls and all his thought is that Christ may be honored in the salvation of sinners. Senor Elphick Valenzuela is a powerful orator; in whose preaching are united the grace of God and the heat of his Chilian blood. These illustrious ministers are the ones whom God has used for the Great Evangelistic Campaign with the most precious results in this our much beloved land".

(Translation).



These chained prisoners are begging on the streets of Guatemala. Their armed guards are in the background. The government cannot afford to feed the prisoners who, unless they have friends to bring them food, or possess something they can sell must die of starvation, or go out under guard for the soldiers' pay does not amount to more than a few cents a day, and their insufficient rations are helped out by what charitable people give the prisoners who share with them.



## Missionary Team Work

By H. Strachan

When we first launched the big Campaign one of our plans was to carry about with us from place to place a number of young men from different congregations, who might be given in connection with the Campaign itself an excellent all-round training. We had in mind Elijah and his band of the sons of the prophets, and later the example of the Master Himself with His disciples. In Guatemala however where we started off our Campaign, the topographical conditions of the country rather militated against this part of the program. This might have been overcome in part however had there been a spirit of unanimity amongst the missionaries themselves. Unfortunately in one case that was lacking, and so this part of the scheme had to be given up, altho' some admirable training classes had been given in Guatemala City.

In Nicaragua however conditions were somewhat more favorable to the putting into operation of our scheme. The most favorable element was the fact that the missionaries were entirely at one with us as to the advantages which such a course of training might offer to young men and threw themselves unstintedly into the plan, calling in some of their best young men from different stations to join us for this purpose. Another element which rendered the plan of easier execution was the fact that all the places we were going to work—with one or two exceptions—were in contact with rail communication. And so we commenced our classes at Managua itself, where in addition to the 10 or 12 young men that had gathered together for the purpose, we had the presence of some 7 or 8 native pastors gathered in from different points for our special meetings, and a goodly number of young people from the local congregations, so that we had between 30 and 40 turn out each morning to the different classes—shared by the missionaries and ourselves—and lasting 3½ hours each morning.

When we left for Leon nine young men accompanied us and these did excellent work in distributing hand bills throughout the city, acting as ushers and doing whatever job came to hand. Our morning classes were continued but only for two hours each morning, as this work fell entirely on Mr. Elphick and myself. To these morning classes came also members of the congregation to whom they likewise proved to be a source of inspiration and stimulus.

What however is proving an invaluable factor in their training is the sending of them forth on the week ends to evangelize the neighboring small towns. Miss Blackmore, who has thrown herself unreservedly into the campaign, and to whom we cannot be grateful enough for the very thoughtful way in which right from the beginning she has anticipated and provided for all our personal needs, drew out an excellent itinerary, covering five different places to be visited. As the young men of the Leon church had also become enthused with the plan for reaching these surrounding places seven of them volunteered to accompany our young men on their evangelistic trip. Thus we had 17 men in all, divided up into 4 groups, with a local man to act as leader of each group. Each group carried hand bills announcing our meetings and also a liberal supply of Gospel literature for distribution. And as Miss Blackmore had written down the names of a few believers or interested people in each place, already suitable points of contact were established.

The night prior to their departure, we had a fine time of prayer together, and next morning they were all so excited that they were up at 4 in order to have some more prayer together before they should start forth with the early morning train. They were to divide up in groups of two, in order to work more efficiently the places allotted them, and to hold a meeting at night in the respective places visited.

The following day all returned, and

in a special meeting in the small local church each one was called upon to give his testimony of his experiences. They had all returned just brimful of enthusiasm and joy, and it surely was one of the finest testimony meetings I have ever been in. One after another arose and in simple unaffected fashion told the story of what things the Lord had wrought. Altho' all the members of one group had practically the same story to tell, yet each member had his own way of presenting things, and each one some detail or other that rounded off the story and gave it a more complete harmony. Details were given as to the different receptions accorded them, the various interesting conversations that had taken place, the wisdom given, and then as to the meetings held. In connection with the meetings they had divided up the work amongst themselves—one to pray, another to read, a third to preach, with in some cases, words of testimony from the others.

In practically every case they made reference to the fact that before entering the town to be worked, they all knelt down and had prayer together, seeking wisdom as also God's blessing. And then on arrival they would make, first of all for the house of the believer in that place when some more prayer was made. From beginning to end it was manifest that the prayer life had occupied the most important place in their ministry—a fact which filled our hearts with joy. In some cases afore-time persecutors in that place had come to the meeting and had their attitude changed, and two or three had also professed conversion. One of the believers at whose house they had called, came back to Leon with them to testify with joy as to the change of attitude that had taken place in a few in her town who had formerly been persecutors, and one or two of whom had as a result of their meeting professed faith in Christ. She was simply bubbling over with joy as she told the story. Altogether it was a most inspiring testimony meeting. Brother Elphick said he had never been in a testimony meeting like it.

The following week-end we sent

them out again, but changing them round so that they each visited different centres. And then again they recounted their experiences on their return with unabated joy.

This we propose doing at each place visited, and there can be no question as to the value of such training for these young men, both from the theoretical and practical standpoint.

As a direct outcome of what took place in Leon, Miss Blackmore was able to organize for the first time there, a definite program of evangelization for the places they visited, whereby a local group of young men have been formed into a evangelistic league and will go out each Saturday to work these places in orderly rotation. This kind of work, if successfully carried out at each place visited, promises most interesting developments and offers us great scope for earnest and prevailing prayer.

#### Distribution of the Scriptures

A very important feature in connection with all our meetings has been the liberal distribution of the Scriptures. Rev. R. R. Gregory, the active agent of the American Bible Society in Colon, grasping the magnificent opportunity presented by our evangelistic campaigns for a wide distribution of the Scriptures to people whose newly aroused interest insures their careful and sympathetic perusal, detailed one of his colportors to accompany the campaign in Nicaragua. This man, on the eve of his sailing from Puntarenas, Costa Rica, was bitten by an insect from the infection of which he died shortly after.

Fortunately however, in preparation for the Nicaraguan campaign, I had had a large quantity of Gospel literature—Gospels, selected portions and tracts, sent on before and stored at Managua against my arrival. In view therefore of the non-arrival of the colporteur, I decided to commence immediately with this, and so a very liberal distribution was made at our Managua and Leon meetings. The desire to secure this literature was so great, that on two occasions as the multitude came surging forward to receive it, I was nearly

thrown off the platform. We made a splendid distribution also in Masaya, and have a sufficient quantity to go over the remaining towns to be visited—Niguinohomo, Diriamba, Granada and Rivas.

It would be difficult to overestimate the value of this distribution, as in our meetings the old time prejudice is being broken down, and a new interest aroused in the Gospel. And it is just here at this point—what might be called the psycholological moment—when hearts are most receptive under the spell of great inspiring meetings, that Gospel distribution is calculated to yield its best results. The people will most likely forget the message and

the messenger in those meetings. He must pass on, but the written Word remains to follow up and speak with its own authoritative voice which cannot be gainsaid.

We would especially recommend this aspect of the work to all our friends. Let prayer be concentrated on this sowing of the seed of the written Word which is one of the most far reaching activities of the Campaign. In this connection we desire to thank the one or two who from time to time send special gifts for the purchase of Scriptures, as also the Scripture Gift Mission of Philadelphia for two recent consignments of their exceedingly beautiful Spanish Gospels and portions.

### WANTED: NINE "FATHERS" AND "MOTHERS"

A week ago we would have asked for ten, but a dear woman, not rich by any means in this world's goods, has become "mother" to one of the boys and so now we are praying that the Lord may put in into the hearts of nine others to do likewise. We cannot readily conceive of any greater joy than to be able to do this for God. For want of space this month we have to hold over an account of the evangelistic work the students are doing right alongside of the studies. They are missionaries even now, and of a very active and aggressive type, so that whoever wants to have a representative on the field cannot do better than to adopt a "son" from the Bible Institute.

It may be that several people would like to form a group for the purpose of fostering one of these students. This was done in the case of some of the young women and it has meant a wealth of prayer and interest on behalf of the students concerned. And then some friends give small monthly contributions for the school. One dear friend sends regularly one dollar per month and we cannot put into words how much we value the prayers that accompany that dollar.

These gifts have made possible the carrying on of the women's school which in its turn is forming the nucleus of the larger enterprise. Hitherto not one cent from the general funds has gone into this work of training native helpers. We are encouraged to believe that God will in the same way provide for the training of the men.

If the support of the ten men we have at present with us were assured we could look forward to taking in at the beginning of the school year in March, a number of others, men and women, who are waiting for their opportunity to make themselves ready for God's service. We would also be free to make plans for the house for the men students that is so urgently necessary if the work is to be carried on efficiently.

"Trained native workers are the biggest need in the whole field, and while the material available is very poor, yet it is good to make a start with, and to make the best possible of it. The project appeals to me because it is in Central America, and in their own tongue; and again because I have every confidence in you and Brother Strachan. God bless you in your great work. **It is the work we most need**".—*From a Central American Missionary.*

## Miss Elder Greets the Campaign Family

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Dear fellow workers:

It is a joy to greet you and to have the opportunity to thank those who gave me so cordial a welcome into the L. A. E. C. family and who are, I know, upholding me by prayer.

I am so glad I reached San Jose in time to go through all the experiences of the earthquake period and share and in the inconveniences of the small house as well as in the joy of moving into our own newly erected commodious building which is a memorial to the gracious care and provision of our Father and at the same time, to the consecrated thought and sacrifice of so many of you.

Those first days gave me an opportunity to get very closely in touch with our girl students and to know them in a way I would not otherwise so easily have done.

Now, as you know, we are working under far more favourable circumstances and also with greatly increased responsibilities.

We now have ten young men students, the two who were delayed owing to the illness of their father having also arrived after passing through the deep trial of having to leave their mother a widow.

I wish you could pay us a visit here. You would like to join us at 8 o'clock when breakfast (6.30 a. m.) over and a certain amount of housework done by each, the whole household, including men and women students, unite for morning worship. That would give you a chance to make the acquaintance of all, even of the latest arrival, our "Duchess" washerwoman,



Miss J. J. Elder

so called because of her slow, majestic tread. You would be interested to see her but you would have liked still better to have **heard** what I did the other night. Seeing a light past the permitted hour, I slipped along to make enquiries and heard a faltering voice reading a passage from the Bible. This I recognized to be that of Felipa, our cook, who has become converted here and is now anxious that the new arrival should find the same joy. I listened for a moment to the laborious reading and to the faltering explanation and then noiselessly crept away again much touched, greatly rejoicing in Felipa and earnestly praying that the faithful testimony of this humble servant of our Master should bear fruit in the conversion of her companion.

Monday evening is a happy time, too, when each of the students gives a report of his or her evangelistic work and we all get to work to pray that the seed sown may bear an abundant harvest. It is our hope that, before long, there may be established work, carried on by our students in several of the surrounding towns at present untouched by the Gospel.

Of the arrival of our young men before we had much preparation made for them, you know. In spite of all, we are very glad indeed they are here. They are a joy to us because they are the right sort—earnest, consecrated,

eager to learn and to be used of God.

There is such a delightful spirit of fraternity amongst them. When one is giving a message, the rest are all praying for him! The same spirit of brotherliness is shown in their studies. Most of them have had few educational advantages. One of them—Daniel—the son of a native worker, has had many more opportunities in that direction than the rest. I find he gives lessons in arithmetic, etc. to his companions and the other day he said to me "I shall not be satisfied until they all know as much as I do", showing no superiority because of his greater knowledge, only a great desire to put all his companions on the same footing as himself.

In connection with their clothing they show the same friendliness. With the kind of clothes needed in this cool climate, they are very scantily supplied, partly because they simply could not use them in the great heat from which they have come. One of the boys who has only one tie and that a very light colored one, easily soiled, naively admitted to me that one of the others who has two lent him one while his was being washed!

They are so eager to learn what will make them more useful servants of God. As one hears them quote something learned in the different lessons one cannot but think of the Master's words "For their sakes I sanctify myself" and there comes a great longing and determination to know more what this means, and to learn at the Master's feet deep, true lessons so as to be more ready to meet, with these young earnest followers of His, the problems which confront them and to help to implant in them a greater capacity for loyal service to the King of Kings.

It must be a great joy to Mrs. Strachan to hear these boys pray for her husband so often absent from her "on the business of the King". They most certainly love Mr. Strachan and have received much blessing from him.

Out of the fulness of their grateful, devoted hearts they plead that others may have the same blessing from his ministry.

It is a wonderful thing that they have found a home with Mr. & Mrs. McConnell. This must however be quite a temporary arrangement and **there is absolute, imperative need** that there should be a house for them and the **right man and woman**, consecrated, apt to teach, of understanding heart to take charge of them. God has those two prepared somewhere. We prayerfully and with very great interest await their recognition of God's call and their arrival here. All of us are united in asking our Father, who knows the need far better than we do, to supply it. When one thinks of the possibilities that lie in the future service of these consecrated young men and women one's heart cries out in deep thankfulness to God for His goodness in letting one share in this blessed work.

"Let this song go round the earth,  
Jesus Christ is King".

Marvellous, unmerited privilege that we should be instruments used of God to propagate this glorious news!

I should like to tell you more about each of our workers but space does not permit. We want Mrs. Strachan and Miss France, both of whom are feeling the strain of having "held the fort" alone for so long, to go to the coast for a change. Our dear Miss Pruitt who has been such a help in getting the household arrangements in order, is rejoicing to-day in having the stitches taken out after her operation of a week ago, and is progressing very favourably. Miss Boardman makes me envious of the rapid way in which she ticks off so much correspondence, etc. So we all go on, each seeking to do faithfully "as to the Lord" the task that comes to her hand.

May God bless you all and give you ever increasing joy in His service.

Your fellow-worker,

J. Jean Elder.

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"The basis of all successful prayer warfare lies in a clear appropriation by faith, of the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary."

## Notes from the Latin American Field

**Chile:**

The following story of a Bible is told by Rev. Paul Penzotti, agent of the American Bible Society, who was recently in Chile on the business of the Society:

"A little while back I returned from Chile where I visited many of the evangelical churches. In one place the pastor of the church told me the following incident: A colporteur took a trip to the south of the country to sell Bibles. He met a woman who was about to go on board a little steamer that was leaving for a place named Imperial, and sold her a Bible. This she read on board to pass away the time. After a little while a priest, who was also travelling, came and asked her what she was reading. On being told that it was the Bible, he roughly snatched the book from the woman's hands and threw it into the river. A fisherman near by saw the book and picked it out of the water. He took it home to his house and excited by curiosity began to read it. He and all his family accepted the truth which had in this strange way come to them. Soon they could not keep it to themselves and they invited several neighbors to read with them the precious book. The interest began to grow and others obtained Bibles and they organized a Bible Class and sought the help of an evangelical pastor. Later a Church was organized and now, in that town, a beautiful building has been consecrated to the worship of God by a congregation which had its beginning in this truly remarkable fashion.

**Modernism in Peru**

From a private source first, and later from the pages of *Renacimiento*, one of the leading periodicals of the evangelical cause in Latin America, we were informed of the series of lectures given by Senor Julio Navarro Munz6 under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. in Lima, Peru. These lectures were en-

titled, "The evolution of Religion in ancient times". Senor Munz6 brought to his audiences "the teachings of the rationalist school of higher criticism cleverly combined with a study of the evolution of the religious idea amongst the ancient Greeks". As the inspired Scriptures entirely negative his conclusions, like his confreres everywhere, he has no hesitation in adapting, correcting and refusing where necessary, the inspired text. The senor Munz6 is not so much a higher critic as a destructive critic of the most dangerous type, for inasmuch as he is a man of wide culture, a journalist of note and a well-known orator, he will impose his theories more readily on ignorant people to whom for the most part the Bible is still a sealed book.

The fact that the Y. M. C. A. should employ a man of this type and send him on such a mission into the foremost capitals of S. America, is surely a misfortune of the gravest kind. Missionaries who have given the best years of their lives to preach the Word of God, and the Bible Societies who have spent men and money freely to scatter that word, are now witnessing with bitter mortification the efforts of men of the Munz6 type to discredit and destroy that Word. And that the Y. M. C. A. should be the promoter of a work that is calculated to undermine almost a century of evangelical effort in Latin America, calls for the indignant protest of all those who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth, and who stand by the written Word as the inspired and infallible oracles of God.

We praise God that He was not without those who could well defend His cause. Rev. John Ritche, both in the publications of which he is the able editor, and in the columns of the daily press of Lima, refuted with solid arguments the conclusions of senor Munz6 to the great comfort of the evangelical body who had been humiliated by this attack from a professedly friendly quarter.

### Baptists in El Salvador

The past year has been one of blessing and of growth in the work of the Baptists in the republic of El Salvador: The number of Sunday School scholars has increased by 474, with ten new teachers and two new schools; bringing the total to 28 schools, 70 teachers and 1234 scholars. Three new churches have been organized with seven new congregations. One hundred and forty-five people have been baptized during the year, showing an increase of sixty-six over the previous year. One native preacher has been ordained and the churches have maintained a worker in the Department of Chalatenango where as a result of his work a church has been organized.

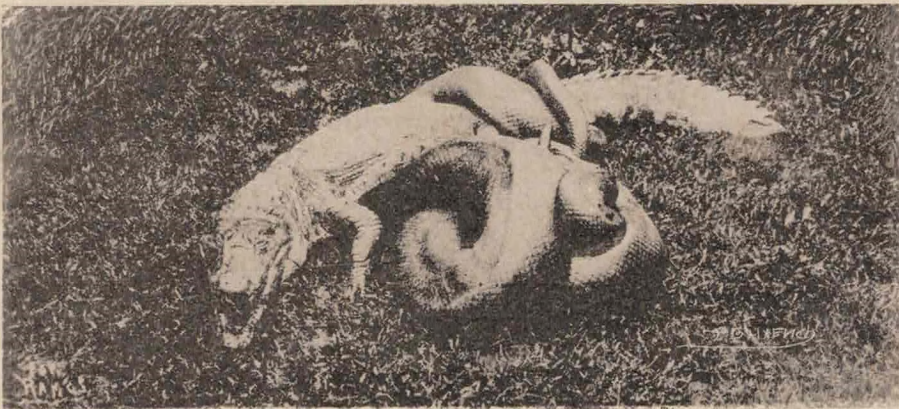
Altogether the yearly report is good reading and we join with our Baptist brethren in praising God for the solid progress achieved.

### Another inter-ocean canal

The press of Costa Rica recently occupied itself with the movements of a Japanese engineer who, in represent-

ation of his government, though traveling incognito, was making a trip through Central America. Now it turns out that the object of this secret agent of the Japanese government was to study the ground and make plans for an inter-ocean canal, which should be built by Japanese engineers and under concessions from the Central American governments whose territories would be affected.

Whether there is any foundation for the effervescence caused by these reports we cannot say, but seeing that the United States has a perfect understanding with Nicaragua about a new canal some day to be built, and that in the recent Conference of Central American republics held in Washington, an agreement was reached which does away with the possibility of any foreign power being permitted to build a canal that would not only seriously rival the Panama Canal, but would also menace the military interests of the United States, there is no reason to fear for Central America the influx of the Japanese immigration to which the United States has closed its doors.



A struggle between an alligator and a boa-constrictor in the river of Masparrito, Venezuela. This river is a tributary of the river Apure, which flows into the Orinoco River. The alligator is about 10 feet long, and the snake about 20 feet in length. The snake killed the alligator, and the men who saw the struggle killed the snake.

## Subjects for Praise and Prayer

We are praising God for the continuance of His goodness in every department of the work; for the growing interest in the homeland, for the new opportunities before us, for the campaign in Santo Domingo of which we have yet no news; for the steady work of the Bible School and all its evangelistic activities; for the supply of the financial needs and for blessings too numerous to mention.

We are praying for a great outpouring of the Spirit on the campaign in Santo Domingo; for guidance with regard to the later campaigns and workers for them; that God may raise up nine 'fathers', or 'mothers', for the nine young men students in the Bible Institute; that He may give us a house for them and the right directors for that establishment; that He may greatly bless the evangelistic work of the students, both men and women; that the financial supplies may keep pace with the increasing needs.

"To ask in Jesus' name is the same as though He asked Himself with all the assurance of answer which such a fact implies."

### To remind you that:

The Third Thursday of the month is the Campaign Day of prayer. Wherever possible our helpers should arrange gatherings for special prayer for the work on that day. Write and tell us about it.

We shall be glad to send our monthly prayer letter to any one who feels led to join with us in prayer for God's blessing upon the work of the Campaign. This letter will contain the latest news from the field. If through a mistake any of our "inner circle" have not received their copy, please let us know.

We are waiting to see what you did about the pink subscription blank sent out in last issue. A new volume of the "Evangelist" begins with this issue. We are greatly desirous of increasing the mailing list of real "live" readers and subscribers. If they read they cannot help being interested in the work and so will become prayer helpers too.

"With all prayer praying"—In place of the expected word fighting the word praying is used. The thing with which the fighting is done is put in the place of the word itself. Our fighting is praying. Praying is fighting, spirit-fighting. That is to say, this old evangelist-missionary-bishop says, we are in the thick of a fight. How shall we best fight? First get into good shape to pray, and then with all your praying strength and skill pray."

S. D. Gordon.

### *Form of Bequest to the Latin America Evangelization Campaign*

*(Incorporated under laws of the State of New Jersey, 1921)*

I give and bequeath to the Latin America Evangelization Campaign the sum of ..... dollars for the purposes of said Society, and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer, or other proper officer for the time being of said Society, shall be a sufficient discharge for said Legacy.