

HEMEROTICA
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The Latin American Evangelist

January, 1929

Organ of the Latin America Evangelization Campaign

Vol. VIII, No. 1

An independent, interdenominational work on faith lines, which was founded under the guidance of God, to reach the unevangelized millions of Latin America by a forward movement of intensive evangelism, carried out in cooperation with the missionaries of all denominations working on the field.

Our Program for 1929
is a Prayer Program



"The greatest thing any one can do for God and for man is to pray.

"The great people of the earth today are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; nor those who say they believe in prayer; nor yet those who can explain about prayer; but I mean these people who take time and pray. They have not time. It must be taken from something else. This something else is important. Very important, and pressing, but still less important and less pressing than prayer.

"These are the people today who are doing the most for God; in winning souls; in solving problems; in awakening churches; in supplying both men and money for mission posts; in keeping fresh and strong these lives far off in sacrificial service on the foreign field where the thickest fighting is going on".

S. D. GORDON

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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The Latin American Evangelist

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Looking Back: The 1928 Program

After the Archilla evangelistic campaign in San Jose in March and April of 1927, it was laid upon our hearts to ask God for a suitable building in which to carry on regular preaching services and to hold special campaigns from time to time. We had found it impossible to rent any adequate building for Señor Archilla's meetings and were finally compelled to fit up a vacant lumber deposit which was packed to suffocation with a crowd numbering ten to fourteen hundred people night after night for six weeks. That campaign revealed the fact that many hundreds of people had more than a passing interest in the Gospel and many hundreds more were ready to give at least a hearing. The difficulty we experienced in securing a suitable hall for the meeting (the largest of the three evangelical halls in the city holding only about three hundred people), made it evident that if we were to hold the hundreds of new people who had become interested, as well as to evangelize the unreached, we would certainly need a suitable building.

Along about June or July of that year we began to put this project before the readers of the "Evangelist", but especially before our inner circle of prayer helpers. Later, after some months of waiting upon God, we launched a definite program for a forward move in 1928. This was outlined in a letter sent to the prayer helpers on October 20, 1927. The program contained five main items as follows:

Evangelistic Campaign in Chile (later postponed to fall of 1928); tabernacle lot, building and equipment; clinic building; occupation of unoccupied territory; and missionary's dwelling house adjoining chapel in Heredia.

The amount estimated to cover this program was fifty thousand dollars, and we felt we were indeed asking great things of God when we asked for this sum. At the time of sending out the letter outlining this program, we had practically nothing in hand toward this amount but, instead, a depleted general fund with ever-increasing current expenses for the regular work. It was indeed a venture of faith, but we knew that if the program was on the lines of God's will He would quickly make it possible to put it into execution.

And now that 1928 has gone into the past, what report can we give as to God's faithfulness in answering prayer? We seek to write for His glory alone and that many may be encouraged to also ask and receive, for "the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him".

Taking the different items in order, we would report that in the earlier part of 1928, difficulties having arisen about the Chilean Campaign, an evangelistic campaign was carried through in Nicaragua in January and February, by Mr. Strachan accompanied by Señor Alfaro, with very blessed results. Then after three months in the United States which were greatly owned of God to the consolidation of the work, Mr. Strachan went to Chile. The news of the campaign in that republic has filled us with joy and praise to God.

Next in order comes the "tabernacle" now styled the "Templo Biblico". Very soon, as our readers will remember, God laid it upon the hearts of some of His dear servants to provide the entire sum for this. A splendid central lot was secured and building operations begun about the end of April. The building

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is a handsome one and is now almost completed with funds in hand also to finish it.

Now comes the clinic building. Here indeed God has dealt wonderfully with us. At the beginning of the year we had the site, but nothing for the building. A start was made and the thing grew, we knew not how. The close of the year sees the handsome main building practically finished and the less handsome wing for the children's clinic begun, with a substantial sum in hand for equipment. Please notice that there was nothing about equipment for the clinic in the estimate. It must have been that we knew this would be a very heavy item and were afraid to put it in.

With regard to the occupation of more territory during the year, while it has not been feasible to push too far out from the center, we have opened a regular preaching center in Guadalupe, near San Jose, as well as beginning services on the farm. We had a man for five months in Guanacaste. All this in addition to the already established centers of preaching in San Jose, Heredia, and Atenas. A most important advance has been the making "El Mensajero" a bi-monthly instead of a monthly. This means sending five thousand copies into all parts of the continent twice a month. Who can estimate the value of such a messenger of the Gospel? The tributes to its usefulness are numerous and come from many republics.

Lastly, the missionary house in Heredia was built and finished early in the year and God has blessed the labours of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson throughout the year in that most difficult sphere of service.

Thus, the whole program has been worked out, although it has been materially impossible to finish the buildings before the end of the year, not from lack of funds, but

because they are bigger and better than we had anticipated at the first.

The "exceeding abundantly above":

It would have been sufficient motive for praise and for rejoicing if God had only made possible the completion of the outlined program for 1928. What shall we say then to His "exceeding abundantly above"? Let us tell it for His glory.

The children's clinic in its present form is part of the abundance of God's giving. The work for the children is to have its own sufficient accommodation and equipment. But there is more to tell about this, which must be written separately.

This work for the children is surely much on God's heart. Not only has He made possible the enlargement of our plans for taking care of them in their illness, but He has given us a small farm of some four acres within thirty to forty minutes' walk of the clinic, where we hope to have a convalescent home for our little patients and perhaps the beginnings of an orphanage.

But still more abundant has been God's giving. Adjoining the lot on which the clinic is being built was another large lot and a very good house. God has given us both lot and house, which, added to the clinic site, makes a most valuable property and gives us splendid scope for future development.

And now to crown it all, our gracious loving Father in heaven has given us a lovely rest home at the seaside. He has cared for His workers as well as for His work, and we have no words with which to praise. We are humbled before Him and would desire ever more earnestly to be faithful stewards of His gifts, seeking that they may redound to His glory in the salvation of precious souls.

"Many O, Lord my God, are Thy wonderful works which Thou hast done, and Thy thoughts which are to usward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto Thee: if I would declare and speak of them they are more than can be numbered".

Looking Forward: our Program for 1929

As the year 1928 with its record of God's wondrous dealings was drawing towards its close, we began to inquire of Him as to what the program for the coming year should be. It is always good to have something definite before one, a clear-cut program to work on. God has such a program for each life. He ordained for us our works before the foundation of the world, and He wants us to know and follow His program day by day and year by year.

1928 has been a memorable year in the history of the Latin America Evangelization Campaign. It has been a year of growth, a year of spiritual conquests, a year of salvation of souls. The Bible Institute had its best year in every sense. The evangelistic work in Costa Rica has been very fruitful. The campaigns in other republics were graciously owned and blessed of God. The Lord has seen fit to make it a year of great material prosperity which has laid the foundation for a considerable enlargement of the work.

The achievements of 1928 bring to us a New Year full of opportunity and burdened with new responsibilities. Thinking it all over, facing these new responsibilities, and with the assurance that God's grace in the past was but His call to more far-reaching service and feeling that the onward path would be even more fiercely contested by the enemy, we have been seeking unto God for clear leading as to exactly what it was His will we should stress in the coming year. It seemed that God was saying to us, as to Solomon of old: "Ask what I shall give thee for 1929". What shall we ask? What does God want us to ask? We longed that the Holy Spirit might beget the prayer in our hearts and then we know it would be according to God's program and, therefore, would be most gloriously fulfilled throughout the coming year.

As time went by the conviction seemed to deepen that the program for 1929 should be a program of prayer, that instead of seeking money for new developments, we should,

in the first place, seek fresh power from on high. "Put on a prayer campaign for 1929" seemed to be the mind and word of the Lord to us as we waited on Him for guidance.

We shall need a greatly increased income to carry the new work and the new workers, we shall need more money to develop the children's work, but we do not need to carry any burden for these things. Our supreme need is for a great new endowment of power from on high. In view of enlarged opportunities, in view of the intensified pressure from the enemy, in view of the urgency of carrying out to the limit God's program for bringing Christ back to reign, we need as never before a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. Therefore our program for 1929 will be a program of prayer.

The Need for a Campaign of Prayer:

First there is our individual need as workers together with Christ, whether it be at home in the prayer closet or by the ministry of stewardship, or on the field facing the enemy. For our individual life and ministry in this coming year we need the reviving and renewing of the Holy Spirit. We cannot live on the old levels, we must go on upward. There can be no truly efficacious praying, as there can be no really fruitful service, unless He anoints us again and again with fire from off the altar. We need to be kept from relying upon the arm of flesh, from confidence in buildings and equipment, from complacency over a prosperous routine. We need to be kept hungering and thirsting for righteousness in our own lives and in the lives of the poor prisoners of sin and Satan who surround us. We need to be torn with a passion for souls. Let us therefore constantly seek that He may meet this need of every member of the Campaign family—workers at home as well as workers on the field.

The situation all over the mission field constitutes a desperate challenge to prayer.

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The apathy that has taken the place of early enthusiasm on the part of many missionaries, resulting in apparent indifference to the need of the multitudes who are dying without Christ, modernism in some quarters and an overstressed educational program in others, make it improbable, if not impossible, that any really adequate measures will be undertaken in this our day and generation to reach the unreached millions of Latin America. Meanwhile it has been abundantly proved that the people will throng to hear the Gospel if we would get out of our routine and throw aside methods that have only been scantily successful in the past. In the theaters and in the market places the Gospel must be preached. "Go out into the highways and hedges" is the word for today.

But for this we need vision; for this we ourselves, the missionaries and helpers throughout the Continent, need to be baptized with the Holy Ghost and with fire—yes, fire. Fire to burn up our miserable differences, the petty jealousies, the small grievances that separate us and grieve the Spirit of God. We need a fresh vision of the eternal destiny of souls out of Christ; we need above all things a fresh vision of the Cross revealing to us the guilt and penalty of sin, until our hearts catch something of the dying love of Christ which will set us aflame for God. If salvation is to come to the multitudes of Latin America, judgment must begin at the house of God. God will have to do a mighty work of revival and cleansing in us, His missionaries, first. Is not this alone a tremendous call to prayer for 1929?

And then prayer must be made incessantly that God would thrust forth labourers into His harvest field. Not personality, not oratory, not sensationalism is needed to bring the message to the multitudes, but the Spirit poured out as at Pentecost upon men called of God to preach the Gospel of His Son. They must be men who will not fear the face of man but will preach man's lost condition and God's redeeming grace in the Cross of Christ. This is Latin America's supreme need. For this we must seek unto God throughout the coming year, giving Him no rest until He has done this thing also.

Beloved fellow workers, God is calling us to a campaign of prayer along these lines during the coming year. We can safely leave the material needs of the work with Him. It we "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, all these shall be added unto us".

Can God do this? Is it according to His will to do it? Will He do it?

God can do it; it is according to His will to do it; and He will to it, if we do not limit Him by lack of faith and of consecration. May we each one give ourselves afresh to Him for this work of prayer in the year that is before us.

To carry out this program of prayer we shall hope, as the Lord may enable us, to send out the prayer letter (a dear man writing us recently called it "the family letter") regularly, and, in the pages of the "Evangelist", to print such information as may lead to intelligent and definite praying.

Where The Secret Lies

At times we are humbled to the dust as we see God pouring out in abundance His supplies for the work He has committed to our charge. It is very precious and very wonderful when God sends in answer to prayer just the required amount in any crisis, but what shall we say

when invariably His giving is far beyond the measure of our asking — "abundantly above all that we can ask or think". There is no reason whatever that He should deal thus with us. We are no better than our neighbours, except perhaps that we are learning

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to ask for more. We have to look for the reason elsewhere, and we find it in the devotion and loyalty, in the faith and steadfastness, in the unceasing and prevailing prayer cooperation of the wonderful band of fellow-laborers in the homeland, whom God has raised up to be partners with Himself and sharers with us in the work of the Latin America Evangelization Campaign.

We wish so often, as we read the letters that come to us, that we could share them with others. We wish, too, and more than we can tell, that we could answer them adequately. They bring us such a wealth of comfort and inspiration and they open up the secret of God's goodness to us in the work. Our folks at home are "royal beggars". No, the term is not a suitable one. The heirs of God, co-heirs with Christ do not have to adopt the attitude of beggars. Our people take in simple faith God's word to them to make their petitions large. They are "royal askers", yes, but they are also, and in the first place, "royal givers". "They first gave their own selves". The following extracts from letters hurriedly selected will prove it. Herein lies the secret of God's grace to us throughout 1928—a precious band of God's people, royally asking, royally giving, greatly believing. These are the kind of people whom the King delights to honor.

"In view of the wonderful recovery I have been making from an accident which kept me over three months in the hospital here last winter, and the way God Himself provided for my needs during that time, I have been praying that though the years are piling up (I am sixty-four), the Lord would help me to trust Him so implicitly that I should dare to give more daringly than ever before, so as not to disgrace the Cross of Christ.

"Please, therefore, find enclosed my check (about one-eighth of writer's annual income—Ed.) for one hundred dollars to help pay for that wing to the Hospital to be used as Children's Clinic, from one who loves all children, having been for twenty years a teacher. May God supply all needs and hear all prayers

according to John 15:7 and help us more and more to, trust in His mighty power".

"Enclosed you will find a check for fifteen dollars to be used where it is needed most in the work in San Jose.

"This amount is what I had planned to use for a trip home during the Thanksgiving holidays, but since I have never really made a sacrifice before for the cause, I want to have the joy that comes from giving up things".

(The writer is a teacher who has undertaken half the support of a student in the Bible Institute—Ed.)

"In the last issue of the "Evangelist" I noticed that seats for the Tabernacle would cost about seven dollars each. Ever since reading in a previous issue of the thought of buying a seat and of praying for the occupant, I have wanted to have the joy of such a little part in your work. But since we have not much of this world's goods (although blessedly rich in Him) I did not see how it would be possible for me to buy even one seat. But last week while spreading before the Lord our needs for the winter, I asked Him if He would not let me have one seat and some fruit in Latin America.

He graciously sent the seven dollars and my first thought was to selfishly use it for the needs of the family, but my Father reminded me of the widow of Zarephath who had only enough for one meal for herself and her son and yet Elijah asked that she make him a "cake first" and then how wondrously God provided for her every need. So this seven dollars must go first to the Lord. How I wish it were more, but much prayer goes with it. I am often reminded of this true statement, the author of which I do not know: "You can pray down more than you can pry up". If only our churches would try more praying and less trying to "pry" the money out of people's pockets, how much more would be accomplished".

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'Since reading your note of the need of support for the new students this year, I have been thinking of writing to you and saying that I would be responsible for one and sending the first twenty dollars. Am sorry it is so late. You said some time ago that it was about that amount that was needed monthly. I had a raise of just a trifle over that sum, and here it is'.

"The enemy has made several drives to get me out of my little prayer room, but my Captain has vanquished him, and I am still there, and by God's grace hope to be there many a day, if the King does not come. I sought the Lord for His promises for this year (I was somewhat late in the year asking for them, but I believe I was restrained asking for them until July, when I would need them badly), and He gave me for my Prayer Room: "Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attend unto the prayer that is made in this place"; and for our Church: "For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my Name shall be there forever, and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually'. And as my own personal promise on my birthday: "Delight thyself in the Lord, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart".

These have surely set my heart singing and brushed aside all the tricks, traps, and snares of the enemy.

"It is the same God down there. I have been praying for many a day for the work in Chile. Meanwhile, I am not neglecting any part of your field — in fact, you can remember that your entire work is held up before God every hour, night and day, moment by moment. It was a great help to my heart when God showed me that the walls of my Prayer Room are before Him in prayer, even when I am not there. If it were not for this, I could not overcome all I am given to remember before His Throne. It is a real battle, and not a hit and miss, happy-go-lucky. It is a real warfare. God expects us to conduct it in a business-like (if I may use the term) fashion.

"Friends, even if we were to fail you, God never will fail you; lean on the Arm of God; He cannot but see you through. God forbid that we should fail you, for if we do, we fail God and are the losers. But if we do, remember God is true; trust in Him. I feel we must not lean upon the arm of flesh. More and more I am realizing the need of prayer. God wants us all to **LEAN HARD ON HIM!** God bless, strengthen, help, keep, and guide you all the way".

More About the Campaign in Chile

By Rev. Moises Torregrosa, Methodist Pastor

In a previous article we gave an account of the preparations that were made in Concepción for Brother Strachan and of the great success which attended the first meeting in the theatre.

The campaign continued night after night in the same theatre. The boxes and galleries and, in fact, the whole house, were packed with crowds who eagerly listened to the messages. These were original, simple, interesting, and always presented Christ, finishing with an appeal to the conscience and heart of those present, all of whom followed with the

deepest interest. The audience never numbered less than one thousand and at times reached fifteen hundred.

The handbills diligently distributed by the members of the local churches greatly helped. These bills contained the title and a short resume of the theme of the night. The leading daily papers also announced in leaded type the night's theme, giving at the same time a brief summing up of the previous night's talk. The churches carried on a prayer campaign and also did personal work from house to house. Without distinction of



National Congress, Santiago, Chile

sect they worked with one heart and with one mind for the success of the campaign.

After ten nights in the theatre, the campaign was brought to a close with a meeting, which, for enthusiasm, numbers, and theme, exceeded all the previous meetings. The preacher spoke with great unction from on high. The audience joined with fervor and devotion in the singing. Many came forward to thank the speaker. One thousand five hundred Gospels were given away, each containing a leaflet advertising the different evangelical services held in the city.

The work of Brother Strachan was not confined only to the theatre meetings. A series of Bible studies for workers and others was organized. These took place in the mornings from nine to twelve. Brothers Henderson and Hartzell took charge of the first two hours, Mr. Strachan giving in the last hour many lessons from his personal experience. All these services were full of the presence of God and with much prayer. Those who attended them testify to the great spiritual blessing they received in their souls.

But the work has merely begun. It is a new awakening and a fresh call from God to His people. Many souls have been aroused and are seeking the way of salvation. It has

therefore been judged convenient to institute a follow-up movement, and for that purpose a large hall has been rented in the center of the city, in which the different pastors of Concepción and surroundings will continue to hold services for a couple of weeks so that these seeking souls may be brought to Jesus. When these special continuation meetings shall have terminated, the work will again return to the local churches and these will follow it up by active evangelistic labors in the streets and plazas as well as in the homes of the city.

Before finishing these lines, we cannot do less than give thanks to the Lord of the harvest for having brought Brother Strachan to us. Thanks also to our brother, who, out of the treasure of his heart and his experience, gave to the people of Concepción the best he had. We would thank, too, the people who by their gifts and by their prayers made possible the visit of Brother Strachan to these regions.

Concepción has a population of 80,000 souls. We (the evangelicals) are few yet and our resources are small. Very much still remains to be done—the fields are white unto harvest. Many people are thirsting for the living water—the religion in which they

have lived has not brought them salvation nor peace. Oh, that in this our day of opportunity we might be able to bring these multitudes of souls to the feet of Jesus as on

the day of Pentecost. Lord send another pentecost! Revive us again with Holy Ghost fire, Oh mighty Saviour!

Preaching Christ from the Stage

By Rev. J. B. Arcena, Presbyterian Pastor

Days of great joy were those in which we had the evangelistic campaign in this city. For ten nights the messenger gave forth the message in the Concepción theatre with evergrowing interest on the part of the public. It was necessary to get to the theatre at least half an hour before the meeting commenced so as to get a convenient seat, for ten minutes before the service began not a seat would be vacant. From twelve to fifteen hundred listened night after night to the simple, interesting message of the speaker.

What was it that held such a large audience? Possibly the thousands of hand bills that were distributed, the notices in the daily papers, the originality of the titles of the talks, the help of the different evangelical groups, all contributed, but it was the message itself that was the real attraction. The messages were living pictures of the facts of life, they showed life itself as men today are facing it, life with its many dangers, its tremendous struggle, its magnificent opportunities, and, behind it all, Christ living, loving, tempted in all points as we are, always victor, and clothed with power and authority to help men everywhere. Has the day of miracles passed away? No, from the very stage where so many frivolous scenes have been enacted, the messenger of

the Cross preached "Christ, the same yesterday and today and forever".

The last meeting of the series brought the greatest crowd. A Gospel was handed to each person present. Each Gospel contained a slip with a space for the name and address of those who desired more teaching and more evangelical literature. Of the six hundred and sixty slips that were handed back signed, five hundred were from people entirely unknown to the local churches. This means that at least five hundred new doors are open to Christian workers.

Brother Strachan was busy also in other directions. For an hour every morning he addressed the meeting of local preachers and workers; he gave talks in the evangelical schools; he occupied the pulpit of the different local churches. On request he gave a message on Universal Peace on Armistice Day. All recognized the note of authority and of conviction with which he spoke. He was not repeating things learned from books, but spoke from his own personal experience. "From the heart to the heart" will perhaps best express the character of his talks. People are still singing his choruses and repeating his sayings. The universal prayer is that God may bless him and keep him for long years for the good of His work.

"As light to the sun, as the heart to the body, as weight to the hammer, as the foundation to the building, as point to the spear, as edge to the sword, as fruitfulness to the tree,

so is Christ in preaching; and preaching without Christ can no more enlighten the world than the sun without light, etc., etc."

JOHN BATE

Closing Meetings in Concepcion

By H. Strachan

We had splendid closing meetings in Concepción. The theatre was crowded each night until the end with most attentive and enthusiastic audiences, the great majority of them entirely non-churchgoers. Our meetings affected the other theatres in the city so much that the owners complained to the editor of the principal paper, who had been publishing reports of our meetings, stating that they had been losing heavily through the people all coming to our meetings. For this reason no further newspaper reports were published at the end. But this did not affect us in the slightest degree. Our closing meeting was held in the largest church (Presbyterian) with all their available class rooms thrown open. The place was jammed to the door, but almost entirely with church people. Hence, when I made the closing appeal, only two responded. However, I am not at all concerned about that. Probably the Lord allowed it so to prevent spiritual pride from numbers. The work, however, was done elsewhere—in the theatre and in the schools. God gave me special power and

strength, and one could not look upon these great attentive crowds night after night without feeling that the messages were going home. On the last night in the theatre we arranged for a free distribution of Gospels. The ones I had ordered from the Scripture Gift Mission had only started to arrive that day, and hence Mr. Strong, who had a good stock in hand from the same source, kindly placed these at my disposition. A leaflet was printed containing a list of the different evangelic churches in the city, together with the time of meetings, and a perforated part at the end of the slip stating that those desirous of knowing more about the Gospel or wishing further literature free, might have same by filling in their name and address on the blank space. These slips were folded up and enclosed in each portion—chiefly John's Gospel—and thus 1500 distributed. We gave them the opportunity to fill in these slips right there, and the number collected amounted to about 650, of whom, however, we believe a number to be names of church people.



Arms Park (Plaza) and Cathedral, Concepción, Chile

A Continent-wide Bible Crusade

By George T. B. Davis

The blessing of God rested upon the nation-wide distribution of New Testaments in China in such a signal manner, that a campaign has now been started for the careful and prayerful circulation of a million copies of the New Testaments in the Latin-American lands of Central and South America, Mexico and the West Indies. The plan is not merely the circulation of a million Testaments; but to water the Word with such a great volume of prevailing prayer that a great spiritual awakening will sweep over the Latin-American Republics.

The darkness of the past centuries in Latin-America is due to their being deprived of the Word of God. Four hundred years ago Spanish and Portuguese adventurers went to South America seeking for GOLD. Three hundred years ago British and Dutch pilgrims went to North America seeking for GOD.

The results that have followed from the Spanish and Portuguese lusting for gold, and the British and Dutch seeking first the Kingdom of God, have been without a parallel in the world's history. In South America—darkness and superstition and ignorance. In North America—unparalleled prosperity, and all the multiplied blessings that come from an open Bible.

Now is the hour of opportunity to inaugurate a great Bible campaign for the enlightenment of the Latin-American nations. After four hundred years of darkness the dawn is breaking. One after another of the Republics have proclaimed religious liberty. But the political release is only the first step. Now they need spiritual freedom. Most of the 90,000,000 inhabitants of Latin-America are still in darkness. They are groping about in superstition without the lamp of the Word to guide their footsteps. Their souls are starving for the Bread of Life.

A missionary in South America who is a British Professor of philosophy, and who gave up all to preach Christ, recently declared that there is scarcely an anti-Christian book published in Europe, that is not reprinted at once in Spanish in South America; but he said that in spite of all the difficulties of the work there is a great hunger after higher things in those lands.

The reports of the British and Foreign Bible Society and the American Bible Society contain striking examples of the power of the Word of God to transform and transfigure lives in Latin-America. An experienced missionary told a Secretary of the British and Foreign Society in Brazil that he felt led to offer a copy of the Scriptures to anyone who was desirous of reading the book. Then the missionary made this striking statement: "In every case the person who received the book had been led to Christ".

A colporteur, labouring in Venezuela, sent this striking testimony of the power of the Word to the British and Foreign Bible Society: "Some two years ago we were allowed to place six Bibles and twelve New Testaments in the Leper Asylum at La Guaira. Early last year Colporteur Rivera was permitted to visit this Leper Asylum with his books and to speak to the inmates. He found forty of them were professing Christians".

One of the Secretaries of the American Bible Society who is stationed in Brazil gives a glowing testimony to the power of the Word of God in that land. He says: "From missionaries of various denominations I received striking testimonies to the value of the work of Bible distribution in that land. Many churches, now vigorous and growing, trace their origin to a single copy of the Scriptures carried far beyond the range of the missionary, and making for itself a landing in

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some believing heart. The Bible in Brazil is good seed falling upon good ground and bringing forth fruit abundantly".

There are millions and millions in Latin-America who have never seen a copy of the Word of God; and great multitudes who do not even know of the existence of such a Book! Mrs. Harry Strachan, of the Latin-America Evangelization Campaign writes: "Our duty is to give the Word of God to the people who do not have it. No one can say more than a small proportion of the people have either seen or heard of a Bible. There are few children of school age that cannot read and write".

This is surely the providential moment to give the people the Word of God in their own language. Our aim is a continent-wide crusade to reach all ages and classes quickly with the Word watered by a great volume of believing prayer. The plan is to present neat pocket Testaments, through the missionaries, pastors and others, to students, officials, professional men, and the various classes who will agree to read them.

Most of the Testaments will be printed in Spanish and Portuguese, which are the chief languages of Latin-America; while others will be printed in various Indian dialects. The Testaments are attractively bound in blue-purple pluviusin, with one or more pictures, so that the very sight of the neat little Book will make one long to possess and to read it.

Surely now is the time for Christians throughout the world to concentrate their prayers upon Latin-America in order that a mighty spiritual awakening may sweep over the land. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Strachan have recently sent out an urgent appeal for intercessory prayer on behalf of Latin-America. They say: "Never before has there

been such a magnificent opportunity, such a wide-open door. We have reason to believe that God is ready to initiate a great spiritual awakening that will stir the continent, and which may really constitute Latin-America's last opportunity. On this prayer campaign to which you are called hangs, perhaps, the destiny of a continent — millions of souls whose destiny is at stake".

We wish to place quickly in the hands of God's children a quarter of a million prayer cards giving suggestions for intercession for God's blessing on the production and distribution of the Testaments; for an outpouring of God's Spirit upon the missionaries, pastors and workers; and that the hearts of the unsaved may be tender and receptive to the Word of God and the Gospel. Will you not send for a supply of these prayer cards to pass on to others to help in enlisting a great volume of believing prayer for these lands that have so long lain in darkness? The cards will be sent free of cost on application to The Million Testaments Campaign, 323 North 13th Street, Phila, Pa., U. S. A.

Each one who reads these lines, no matter in what land you may reside, can have a very real share in helping in the Million Testament Campaign for Latin-America, and in the evangelization of those lands. King David declared that those who tarried by the stuff shared alike with those who went forth to the conflict. Hence, in the privacy of your homes you can help in opening the windows of heaven in the neglected continent. Will you not determine, with God's help, to spend a little time daily, alone or with others, in intercessory prayer for God's blessing upon the Million Testaments Campaign, and for a great spiritual awakening?

"The Bible is, among other books, as a diamond among precious stones; as the most

sparkling, aptest to scatter light; as the most solid, and aptest to make impressions".

J. STOUGHTON

Institute News

A well earned vacati6n

Miss J. J. Elder leaves us on January 20 for a well earned furlough in her native New Zealand. It is almost seven years since she had her last furlough and five of these she has spent in strenuous and devoted service for the Lord in Costa Rica. As superintendent of women, as teacher in the Bible Institute, and as an indefatigable evangelistic worker, Miss Elder filled her days with unceasing and self-sacrificing labour. Many a soul from Costa Rica, won to Christ, will be her rich reward in the day when the books are opened. Her example to us all in faithfully buying up every opportunity was not the least of the services she rendered. Her evangelistic work was at all times first. She never sought her own rest if the sick or the sorrowing needed her. Her time was entirely the Lord's and she never considered her own comfort.

We are sure that the prayer family at home will join with us in prayer that Miss

Elder may have a very blessed time of rest and be used of the Lord to deepen interest



Miss J. J. Elder

in the work to which we know she will be longing to return. Her address while she is on furlough will be, Box 1017, Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr Strachan's Movements

After four months' absence Mr. Strachan arrived back in Costa Rica on December 18th in time to spend the Christmas season at home. Contrary to expectations, after an exceedingly strenuous campaign in Chile especially during the last weeks, he was in splendid health and spirits, and tremendously uplifted by the wonderful display of the power of the Holy Spirit in the meetings in Concepci6n, Temuco and Valdivia.

After two or three weeks' rest and preparation, he leaves again for Cuba where he is expected in January. Whether the time is propitious for the projected campaign — in view of the fact that a Congress on Christian work is to be held in Havana in April—will be decided in conference with the missionaries when he gets there.

From Cuba Mr. Strachan will probably visit Porto Rico. There are problems to be solved and far-reaching decisions to be made in the immediate future, for which a concentration of prayer is urgently needed. We may be able to write more fully about this soon; meanwhile prayer should definitely and constantly be made that God would separate and pour out His Spirit upon the men needed for the work, thrusting them forth to meet the great opportunities the coming year will bring. Men are needed for the work of teaching and preaching in San Jose and Spirit-filled evangelists are needed for the campaign throughout the Continent.

Let 1929 be a year of praying and it cannot fail to be a year of great achievement to the glory of God.

Wedding

On December 27 in the Bible Institute, San Jose, Esther B. Piper was united in marriage to Manuel W. Montaña. Over a year ago Señor Montaña came to the Institute from Peru where he had been bitterly persecuted by the Roman Catholic priests because he had left their ranks to preach the Gospel. During the year he has taught several classes in the

Institute besides helping with the preaching. Mr. and Mrs. Montaña sailed for Peru immediately after their wedding, where they will be engaged in the Lord's work under the auspices of the American Bible Society. We wish them God's blessing and bespeak the prayers of our readers on their behalf.

Missionary Rest Home

In a very remarkable way the Lord gave us during the past year a delightful bungalow in Puntarenas, Costa Rica's Pacific port on the Gulf of Nicoya. The house with its wide corridor is right on the sea front overlooking the harbour and is cool all day long. It is not quite finished, but nevertheless has been in continuous use since vacation began.

Our large and growing Institute family made the need for such a rest home urgent.

We are planning that our home of rest may be a resting place also for our fellow-missionaries. To get down from the altitude is a wonderful blessing to a tired missionary. Hotels in Puntarenas are beyond a missionary's pocket book at all times, even if they did not play havoc with a missionary's stomach; so we are rejoicing in this gift of our loving Heavenly Father, whose goodness and mercy are beyond telling.

Wanted

Young Men for the Campaign

Several well-prepared, consecrated young men are urgently needed for the work of the L. A. E. C. in Costa Rica and for Campaign service in other republics. They should possess ability to teach as well as to preach and should be willing to undertake any task assigned them. Men acquainted with Spanish are preferred, but this is no obstacle. There is a magnificent and varied field of labor for the right kind of young men with the Latin America Evangelization Campaign. Application should be made to the Chairman of Home Council, Mr. C. E. Mason, 437 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. In applying, state previous Christian experience and service also whether possessing a knowledge of

Spanish. To save time, a duplicate letter should be sent to H. Strachan, Box 1307, San Jose, Costa Rica.

Nurses:

There is room in our Clinic-hospital in San Jose for two or more fully-trained, consecrated Christian nurses who are willing to spend and be spent for Christ on the Mission field. A nurse with experience in children's or public health work would be very welcome. Application giving Christian experience training, etc., should be sent direct to Mrs. H. Strachan, Box 1307, San Jose, Costa Rica.

Praise and Prayer

Prayer:

We have planned to make this a praise number. It is full of cause for gratitude and praise to God. We praise Him for the abounding grace of the year that has gone and for the abounding hope for the year to come. We praise Him for our faithful Home Council and for every dear helper He has raised up for the work.

May we "praise Him not only with our lips but with our lives by giving up ourselves to His service and by walking before Him in holiness and righteousness all our days through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen".

Prayer:

Pray that the Holy Spirit may give us a special anointing for the ministry of prayer

in the new year opening before us. Let prayer be made along the lines indicated on pages five and six.

Pray for the successful termination of the Templo and the Clinic, for the inauguration of the former, that the man of God's choosing may come for the special services in connection therewith.

Pray that the workers needed may be raised up—two or three more nurses, and a couple of men for teaching and preaching in San Jose are urgently needed.

Pray that our students may be blessed in their vacation evangelistic work.

Pray that Mr. Strachan's visit to Cuba and Porto Rico may be greatly blessed and owned of God.

And all things, whatsoever ye ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive".



"The Latin American Evangelist"

Carries up to date, illustrated reports of the work of the Campaign as well as general news covering the whole field of Latin America.

Subscription, fifty cents per year, payable to Mr. E. A. Steele 124 N. 15th St. Phila., Pa.

CANADIAN FRIENDS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Mr. John J. Gartshore, 57 Foxbar Road, Toronto, has kindly consented to receive gifts for the work of the L. A. E. C.

A Suggestion

Here is a thought that has come to me. I wish that you might suggest frequently in the "Evangelist" that Christian friends make provision in their wills for the L. A. E. C. I have done this in my will, and believe that many others would do so if the matter were suggested to them".

Form of Request 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 Treas. E. A. Steele, Phila. Pa. 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 of said Legacy.