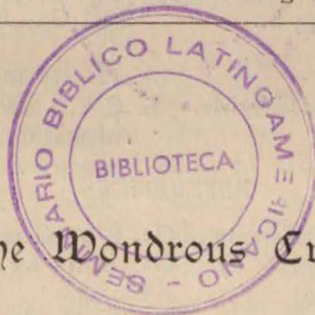


The Latin American Evangelist

July 1928 Organ of the Latin America Evangelization Campaign Vol. VII, No. 7

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 aggressive evangelism, carried out in cooperation with the missionaries of all denominations working on the field.



The Wondrous Cross

*I take, O Cross; thy shadow,
For my abiding place,
I ask no other sunshine
Than the sunshine of his face;
Content to let the world go by,
To know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self, my only shame,
My glory, all the Cross.*

*For the preaching of the Cross is to them that perish foolishness,
but unto us which are saved it is the POWER OF GOD.*

The Latin America Evangelization Campaign

INCORPORATED, 1921

OBJECT

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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

Vol VII

SAN JOSE COSTA RICA. C. A.

No. 7

God Hath Spoken

"Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith". (Héb. 12:1).

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews is God's great category of men of faith who are the "great cloud of witnesses" referred to in the first verse of the twelfth chapter. We are compassed about with a great company of witnesses. They were men who witnessed to the truth of God. They bore witness, each in his or her own way and age, to the fact that God had spoken. That is the great outstanding fact of all time, and it is a fact that God desires witnesses to in this twentieth century. He is seeking a great cloud of witnesses to this great fact—that GOD HAS SPOKEN.

All down the ages there have been men who have believed God—and the root and fount of all sin for all time has been unbelief. Men have not believed the witness of God; that constitutes sin, that is how sin began. Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden had the witness that God gave to them, and they preferred not to believe God. When they saw that the tree was good, and a tree to be desired to make man wise, they followed the course of their own reasoning and judgment, through the sight of their own eyes, rather than what God had said. That is precisely what man has done ever since, and there is a vital and eternal differentiation in the mind of God between men in those two categories. There are men who believe God;

and there are men who do not believe God.

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews is a picture gallery of men all down the ages who were witnesses to the fact that God had spoken, and they believed Him. For faith can be very simply defined in this manner: Faith is believing God. Some people have a curious idea of faith, like the little girl whose definition of faith was: "Faith is believing something when you know it is not true".

Faith and Sight

A good many people who would not say it quite so candidly have got that idea—that faith is screwing up your mind to accept things that your reason resents, and that you really cannot believe. God does not expect men to believe things that they cannot believe. But God does expect them to believe what He says, and if they will believe what He says, they will prove it to be true. God's method with man is exactly the reverse of man's method with man. Man's principle is "Seeing is believing". They sought to apply that principle to Christ when they said to Him, "What doest Thou, that we may see and believe Thee?" But Christ applied the reverse principle, the heavenly principle, and taught that the proper order is not that if you see then you believe, but that if you believe then you see. God always puts believing first. The faith of the man who believes is justified, and he comes to prove that he did not put his faith in vain in the Word of God.

There is no such thing as faith that does not produce results. If a man says he has faith, I am entitled to say: "Show me thy faith". Faith is not intellectual assent; that is not faith at all. Faith is always working. "Faith which worketh by love". Whenever a man believes, it produces certain results in his life which the Bible calls works of faith. In each of the cases mentioned in this chapter you have a man who believed God, and he believed God in face of improbability in every case; he believed God in *face of public opinion in every case*.

The Case of Noah

For example, imagine Noah building that ark. Can you imagine anything more unpopular, anything more likely to brand him as a madman? He employed the whole of his resources, all his wealth, all the labour of the countryside in erecting that huge ship—as big as any we have built since—without any means whatever of getting it launched. There, on the hillside, he built this great vessel, and it was a perfectly ridiculous thing to do, except for one fact. There was one fact that saved him from being a madman. It was this. When the crowds came round to see, he stood there preaching to them, and he said that God had spoken. If God had not spoken, Noah was mad. But God *had* spoken, and Noah was the only sane man there, for he believed God. The man who does not believe God is a fool. Noah's faith was justified, for what God had said came true.

The Faith of Abraham

Take Abraham. Abraham believed God. Abraham did a ridiculous thing. He packed up his goods and started on a trek from Ur of the Chaldees, to the astonishment of all his associates and townfolk. They asked him what he

meant by it and where he was going. He said: "I do not know". They said: "A man does not leave his home and set out on a journey without knowing where he is going". "Well", he said, "I'm doing it". "When are you coming back?" "I don't know". "Come, Abraham, give us some reason for it" "I'll give you the best of reasons. God has spoken, and I believe God". By faith Abraham, when he was called, went forth to a land that he should after inherit, of which as yet he had no earthly evidence; but he went, not knowing whither he went. The event justified it, for God kept His word, as He always does.

A Prince with God

God loved Jacob; He set His heart upon that wicked man, as upon wicked you and wicked me. Oh, what grace! What did He do? He set out to teach Jacob faith. Jacob's sin found him out, as sin always does, with all his deceitful, scheming plans to get what God would readily have given him, and it only produced sorrow and bitterness and misery in Jacob's life, all of which he would have avoided if he had walked by simple faith in God's word. But at length God brought that man to an end of himself and turned his eyes heavenward, and blessed him and changed his name; and Jacob, the mean Supplanter, became Israel, a Prince with God, and we find him then taking the attitude of a man of faith.

What is the application? The application is this: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us". The sin of *unbelief*—that is the sin that besets us; not your particular besetting sin. The sin that so easily besets us is that we will not believe God. We are living among a people that will not believe God, and we turn aside to

expediency instead of faith. The Holy Spirit says: "Put that aside; let us run with patience the race set before us, looking". What am I to look at? At that which is seen? No. "Looking unto Jesus",

crowned with glory and honour—"looking unto Jesus" who is Himself "the author and finisher of faith".

Montague Goodman. In the London "Christian".

Pioneer Missionaries Visit the Institute

It has been a great privilege to welcome to the Institute the Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Jarrett who for health reasons were obliged to leave their work in Cartagena, Colombia, for a short stay in the highlands of Costa Rica. The Jarretts are veteran missionaries whose early days of pioneering in Peru, Bolivia and Colombia constitute one of the most thrilling stories of missionary work in Latin America. The students of the Institute have been inspired and enthused by the recital of the struggles and triumphs of those early days while the story of what God has wrought in the thirty-five years since Mr. and Mrs. Jarrett first went to the field has filled all of us with praise and inspired us with faith for the greater things still to come.

When Mr. Jarrett first arrived in Peru a revolution was raging which confined his efforts to the coast. Later he went on to Cuzco where his presence provoked a storm of opposition which after six weeks of moving heaven and earth result-

ed in the expulsion of the missionaries.

Sick with smallpox, Mr. Jarrett traveled at the risk of his life and at the risk too of spreading the fell disease, but what cared the priests of Rome so long as they achieved their end and drove the heretics out. A terrible journey of three weeks overland brought them to Lima where their acquaintances were amazed to see them not having known whether they were dead or alive since the news of their expulsion from Cuzco had come through.

The authorities in Lima decided that they had been illegally expelled from Cuzco, and the government compensated them for the financial losses sustained. Mr. Jarrett recuperated his strength and meanwhile his promised wife arrived and they were married in Lima to return shortly after to Cuzco once more.

Mr. Jarrett could fill not one but several books with thrilling incidents of his long missionary service. We have persuaded him to write for our readers the following interesting narrative.

A Missionary in the Lion's Den

"It was a time of constant alarm in the city of Cuzco. There were constant meetings of our enemies and petitions were being sent to the government to have us removed. It was difficult to buy food, and help was impossible to secure. Nobody could afford to be openly friendly with us, and Mrs. Jarrett and I were

wondering how much longer we could hold out.

One afternoon I received a long letter from a priest in the Monastery of Santo Domingo. In it he expressed his sympathy with us for the persecution we were receiving and begged of me to instruct him in the truths which we held by writ-

ing to him and sending any literature I could. At the same time he indicated the means whereby we could exchange letters, for openly we could not communicate. I sent him several letters and packages and then, this means of communication becoming difficult, he told me that he would receive letters at the Convent. The window of his room was over the main doorway of the building and if I would go at night at the hour fixed he would be there to receive them. Sure enough he was there and several nights I went putting the letters into a basket lowered on a string and finding a letter for me at the same time. In one letter he said we could meet and talk over matters. If I would go at the usual hour he would admit me to the convent garden by a side door of the building. With no little misgivings I went, for there was much talk of killing the heretics and violence was threatened on every hand. I was admitted to the convent garden and met my correspondent whom I found to be a bright, intelligent young man who had, without doubt, come under the power of the pure gospel. What a wonderful time we spent under the trees of the old garden. I payed several visits, going out at night and leaving Mrs. Jarrett alone in the upper part of the house with a military guard in the courtyard below. We were arranging for the young man to leave the convent when on one visit I found him in a state of great agitation. He said that that afternoon there had been a general meeting of the monks and priests of the city presided over by the bishop and that they had resolved the next day to make a demonstration against us. For this purpose a great crowd of Indians was to be gathered, stirred up by fiery preaching and enthused by the help of rum, and he assured me that the result would most likely be fatal to us. He begged me, therefore, to get out of the house as early as possible in the morning and with Mrs. Jarrett to

hide somewhere until the storm had passed. It was a deeply laid nefarious plot (but quite like Romanism), and my friend was greatly concerned while I scarcely knew what to say. As we stood there with the situation too tense for words another priest came from the building and went towards the door by which I had entered. He was accompanied by two men carrying some implements. As soon as he saw us he placed the men by the gate and returned to the convent. Now the spell was broken and immediately my friend said, "we are discovered and must flee". Telling me to follow him he rushed towards the same door by which the other priest had entered the convent, but instead of remaining in the building he led me to another door, which led to a big garden on the other side of the building, and thrust me through and shut the door behind me.

I found myself in a large garden where corn had been cultivated and which had a ditch running across one corner. Here I was able to hide for a while. Evidently they were searching through the building for me and afterwards some men appeared in the garden where I was but they did not search very thoroughly, fortunately for me. After waiting for a while—for it was a bright moonlight night and from the building I could be seen very well walking around the garden,—and when all seemed quiet I searched for a way of escape. On one side of the lot there was a low loosely built wall and on the other side some Indian huts. Every time I tried to climb this wall a pack of fierce dogs rushed at me and a growl from some half sleeping Indian indicated that by that way escape was difficult. On two sides there was a high wall of adobe quite smooth and about twelve feet high; the fourth side of course was bounded by the Convent from which I had escaped. Escape seemed hopeless and the hours were passing. After many attempts to climb the high

wall a further search of the ground revealed two poles evidently prepared for building purposes. These I placed against the wall and was thus able to climb to the top, which I lost no time in doing. On the top I paused for a moment to gaze back over the great mass of the convent buildings, now bathed in beautiful moonlight, and to consider the next move. If the wall was twelve feet high on the inside it was sixteen or eighteen on the outside for the land was on the edge of the river bed. Commending myself to God, I dropped into some cactus bushes rolled over the stones into the almost dry river bed, crossed the wide river bed and

entered the city at the far end of the street on which we lived. Up the streets of the silent city I made my way to the house where, answering the challenge of the military guard at the door, I passed over the bodies of the sleeping soldiers and wet and bruised climbed the stairs to our rooms.

One great concern had filled my mind during the hours of this experience — what was my wife doing? Had she become alarmed and made known my absence to someone? Were they searching for me? No! She had slept and was unaware of the hours which had passed.

J. L. Jarrett

What Mr. Jarrett thinks of our work in Costa Rica

When Mr. & Mrs. Strachan made their headquarters in Costa Rica — especially when the Bible Institute was started — some of us were jealous of this little Republic and thought how much better it would have been located in one of the larger Republics — Colombia for instance — where the need appeared to be greater and the opportunities for service larger. A visit to Costa Rica has dispelled that view entirely for there are many evidences that God directed our friends to this place.

The climate — a very important feature where a number of young folks are gathered together, is certainly unique. San Jose is as easy of access as any point in Central or South America which is not immediately on the coast. A Constitution giving perfect religious freedom is in force in Costa Rica and there seems little likelihood of a reaction which would change this so that the work has nothing to fear from governmental interference — which state of affairs alas is not true of all the Republics. It is true that individual priests make a steady propaganda against the work. This is their business;

but it is such a poor propaganda—so low, so false, so personal that so far, it has resulted much more to the benefit of the work by advertising it than to its injury. All over the country the evangelists can go and find a ready hearing, and by rail and motor car the principal parts of the Republic can be reached.

The students are gathered from many parts of Central and South America—the one regret is that there are not more, because for such men and women Latin America is in desperate need. We can quite believe that a wonderful change is worked in them during their stay here. There is considerable difference even between the first and second year students. And how can it be otherwise? The regular hours, the discipline, the excellent meals, soon build up young men and women, and it does one good to see them develop physically for they will need all possible physical strength for the arduous task which is before them. Their earnestness and eagerness in play and work are likewise noticeable. This group training is especially useful as a preparation for the evangelistic work to which they

go. So many difficulties arise with national workers largely owing to their inability to get the other man's point of view. This throwing together of a group of young people in work and play, in prayer and study, is the very finest preparation and is of incalculable worth. Too many nationals are in the work to-day who have not had the benefit of such associations. The Latin American Evangelization Campaign is certainly doing a grand work in this training of young men and women and it is surely under God's guidance that it was started, just as surely as it is with His approval and support that it is being carried on. To watch these young people, to think of the countries from which they come and the work to which, in the Providence of God, they will go, the need of the lands and the possibilities of these lives in helping to meet the need, lifts the soul above the present trials, banishes to oblivion the past struggles and fills with hope and praise. God has blessed the work in Latin America — these are some of the proofs — and He will surely bless in the future.

Of the great evangelistic campaigns we cannot write for we have had no contact with them, but it must be clear to all that if a home church feels the need and enjoys the benefits of a revival meeting, how much more must struggling churches with tired and weary missionaries need such help and the results justify all the efforts and expense put into them.

It has been a great privilege to take part in some of the evangelistic meetings in San Jose and Heredia. Having been for thirty five years engaged in evangelistic work in Latin America we know what it is to gather together a company of people and instruct them so that there shall be raised up a group of true believers. Our visit was during the rainy season and we know many places where anything like a shower would render

impossible a meeting of any kind — yet we have seen a large interested group gather in a hall when it was pouring with rain outside, and had been for some time. The one fine night we had during our stay in San Jose the hall was packed with a splendid congregation. The singing is a feature of these meetings as in all the meetings of the campaign. Evidently many of the people learn the choruses by heart for a well known chorus brings forth a mighty volume of sound and good music at that. Here are gospel messages sent forth "on the wings of a haunting melody" and these messages are carried all over the city and country and must help and comfort many in difficult circumstances.

The "Templo Biblico" in course of construction will be when completed, with its large auditorium, its class rooms and offices, probably the finest building dedicated exclusively to evangelism on the continent. Simply yet well built—as the present stage of the construction denotes — it places the gospel message in the very heart of the Republic, at the very center of the National life and its influence will be immeasurable. May its walls be raised with prayer and may our friends be given all the necessary grace and wisdom for the development of this unique service to the cause of the gospel in Latin America.

We surely will be forgiven for envying Costa Rica for the Clinic which is being built and for the plans being matured for this veritable Bethesda. For long years we have battled with disease of all kinds, and Mrs. Jarrett has carried on maternity work with no more equipment than a nursing bag. Yet even under these circumstances this medical work has opened doors which were altogether closed and brought health and happiness to many. How many it has definitely led into the Kingdom it is not ours to say, but there are certainly places where there would be no gospel work to-day if the

nursing work had not opened the door. So we rejoice with heart and soul as we see this magnificent building going up as we know what it will mean to the Gospel work in Costa Rica. May its like be copied all over South America. No continent can need such institutions worse than Latin America and nowhere has the Gospel work had so few of these real christian institutions to help it on.

And now a personal word. We came to Costa Rica tired and weary, almost

despairing of the work in which we were engaged. The stay has worked wonders to us. The glorious climate, the happy fellowship, the wonderful work have filled us with strength and hope. A very happy bright page has been written in the story of our lives. We reluctantly turn over the page and return to Cartagena and... Well that page is not yet written so why anticipate.

John L. & F. E. Jarrett

New President of Costa Rica Takes Office



President González Víquez

When Don Cleto Gonzalez Viquez, took the oath of office in May he had the satisfaction of knowing that he had been elected by the free choice of his fellow citizens, for Costa Rica once again has run true to form and this little Central American republic, with its population of just over the half million and its size a shade smaller than West Virginia, has passed through another presidential election, with the winning candidate leading the party opposing the retiring administration.

History has recorded few presidential elections south of the Rio Grande with a leader of the opposition getting the majority. The host of office-holders and office seekers stands by the government in power and too often the slogan is "Vote early and often". Many a time the national police force in a Central American state has been marched down to a polling booth and then marched up to the next one, voting in every one of the booths for the government that is "about to retire".

To turn a government out, according to the Latin-American, a revolution has to take place, the "about-to-retire" President has to be captured, and the treasury and the customs houses secured.

But in Costa Rica, the whitest country between the Mexican border and Chile, they are doing things differently and the citizens point with pride to the fact that, with the exception of the little trouble in 1917, when President Alfredo Gonzalez Flores was deposed and Don Federico Tinoco Granados, his minister of war, took over the reins of government, the country has been free from revolution since its actual independence day in 1848.

In that memorable year it slipped away from the Central American federation and decided to paddle its own

canoe, and a few years later began its railroad program linking the two oceans and leading the rest of Latin America in this respect.

The retiring President, Don Ricardo Jimenez, who also headed the government during the 1911-1914 term, has carried out his promise and given the Costa Ricans a fair election, which has resulted in Don Ricardo's political opponent get-

ing the laurels.

The new President don Cleto Gonzalez Viquez served in the executive chair during the 1907-1910 term, and was succeeded by the present head of the state, Don Ricardo Jimenez. He gave a square deal in the election that put in power his political opponent, and now that same opponent assured a fair election for him.

The President and the Protestants

(From "La Nueva Prensa")

A commission of evangelical missionaries who had solicited an audience from the President of the Republic, was received by him yesterday afternoon at three o'clock. The commission was made up as follows: Representing the Central American Mission, Rev. R. Barrows and Señorita Piedades Gomez; for the Methodist Church, Revs. A. Andrade, L. Fiske, H. Rounds and M. Sequiera; for the Bible Institute, Mrs. S. B. Strachan, Señora M. C. de Bolaños and Rev. S. M. Alfaro.

Following the reading of an address in which they wished the president peace and prosperity and God's help and blessing during his term of office, the commission presented him with a beautiful Bible in Morocco leather with his name embossed in gold letters. It contained the following dedicatory inscription which was read by Señora de Bolaños.

Honorable Cleto Gonzalez Viquez.

Constitutional President of the Republic of Costa Rica:

Mr. President:

Questioned by an African Prince as to the secret of England's greatness, Queen Victoria holding up a Bible, replied, "Behold the secret of the greatness of England".

Washington, first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his

countrymen, made the following statement. "The free cultivation of letters, the unlimited extension of commerce, the growing sentiment of liberty, but above all, the Word of God, has had a great purifying influence over humanity".

These and others reasons have moved those who constitute this commission to come before your Excellency on behalf of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of the Central American Mission and of the Bible Institute, established in this republic, with the object of presenting to you this copy of the Holy Scriptures which can make of this beloved land a great power in the spiritual sense amongst the other Central American republics. While presenting to you this inexhaustible fountain of wisdom, they pray for your personal happiness and the happiness of your people, whom you lead in the path of progress and glory".

The President, visibly impressed, pronounced the following words of acknowledgement:

"I am profoundly grateful for your visit and for the gift of this Bible which I esteem, not so much for its material value as for the immense moral value it contains. As a statesman, and as President of the Republic I declare that in this country there is room for all religious creeds that work in harmony for the moral and spiritual welfare of its inhabitants. Our Constitution concedes ample liber-

ties and tolerance towards all men, it guarantees the free exercise of all religions and especially the christian religions. For which reason, I, as chief Executive of this Republic, assure you that you can work under the protection of the law in accordance with the Constitution of the country. Once more I thank you for your visit and for your gift".

After a brief prayer in which the Rev. A. Andrade invoked God's blessing on the president, the commission withdrew, highly satisfied with the cordiality of the reception they had been accorded by his Excellency President Gonzalez Viquez and impressed by his sincerity in assuring them of the freedom and protection of the laws in the prosecution of their work.

Notes from San Jose

Visitors to the Bible Institute

Amongst those who have visited Costa Rica and stayed with us in the Institute during recent weeks have been Dr. Miligan, agent of the American Bible Society in Peru, Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Jarrett of the Presbyterian Board of Missions working in Cartagena, Colombia, and Rev. Campo Elias Mayorga, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Barranquilla, Colombia. The Institute staff count it a privilege at all times to entertain angels unawares. These frequent points of contact with representatives of the work throughout the continent mean an enlarged vision for the students which cannot fail to be an inspiration to them in their future work.

Mr. Strachan back in San Jose

After a three month's absence in the United States, Mr. Strachan arrived back in San Jose on June 28th bringing with him his oldest boy Kenneth who has just graduated from Wheaton Academy. He has been away from home for the last three years so the family reunion was a happy one especially as it celebrated Mr. and Mrs. Strachan's silver wedding.

New Building

The building program is going forward most satisfactorily. The Lord has greatly favored us in giving us competent workmen. We expect to inaugurate the

Templo before the end of the year and the clinic perhaps at the same time. In this connection we desire to praise God for the gracious way He is supplying the means for going forward. Surely we have abundant grounds for the confidence that He will carry the whole program to a triumphant conclusion.

Equipment for both buildings

This is a heavy item, especially in the case of the clinic the surgery of which alone will be a costly matter. We are sure that our prayer helpers will keep all this steadfastly before the Lord that He may supply every need.

Evangelistic work

The missionaries, teachers and students of the Institute form all together a large band of zealous evangelists who are continually spreading the gospel from house to house and from town to town throughout the country. The establishment of the Bible Institute in San Jose has meant much in the providence of God for the evangelization of Costa Rica. Perhaps one of the surest signs of the results achieved is to be seen in the bitter attacks of the priests, all of which however is turning out for the furtherance of the Gospel. In the places where the students and missionaries were last year stoned and maltreated there are this year numbers of people eagerly listening to

the story of salvation. There is very much for which to praise God. Much prayer is needed for all those who are hearing the Word that faith may accompany the hearing and that the Holy Spirit may bring them from darkness into light by His regenerating power.

Periodical and tract work

The ministry of "El Mensajero", the Institute Spanish bi-monthly periodical is growing all the time. From far away countries missionaries send for quantities for free distribution paying for them in many instances. We are printing 5000 copies and expect before long to issue the paper weekly. Señor Alfaro is much to be congratulated on the growing usefulness and acceptability of "El Mensajero".

Apart from our Spanish periodical we are distributing monthly thousands of gospels and tracts. This in itself is a large and fruitful ministry. In another part of this issue will be found an article dealing especially with this subject. As God may enable us we hope to largely extend the ministry of the written word in the immediate future.

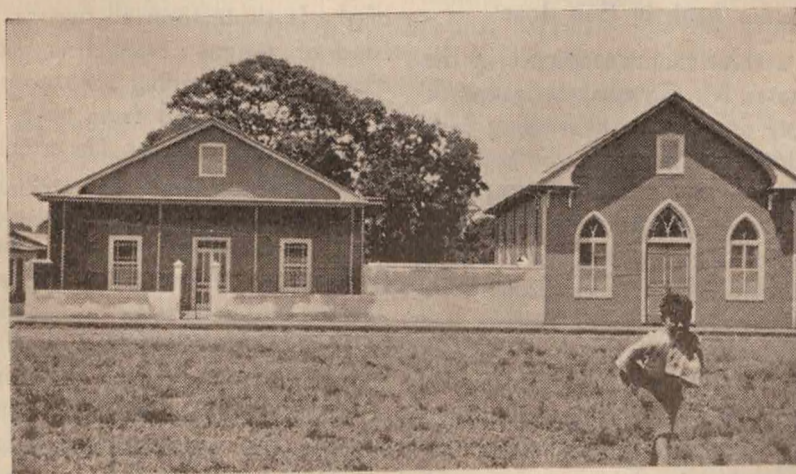
A Costa Rican priest burns books, tracts, etc.

A most unusual spectacle was witness-

ed a couple of weeks ago in a large park on the outskirts of San Jose. One of the most fanatical priests in the city held an auto-da-fe on his own account. Greatly to his regret he had to content himself with burning books instead of protestant missionaries. He made a pile of books by Dumas, Victor Hugo etc., as well as tracts and (we are assured) bibles, and with the help of some boys lit his bonfire. Of course the affair leaked out and became the subject of universal ridicule. The matter was made the subject of a newspaper article by an ex-president of the country and came in for very caustic remarks on the part of other public men who said that the bigoted priest might have been better employed if he had made an onslaught on the pornographic literature that is sold openly on the streets. By the way this same priest devotes a great deal of his undoubted gift of vitriolic abuse to the activities of the Bible Institute, a compliment for which we are duly grateful.

Heredia

Since Mr. and Mrs. Thompson settled in Heredia the work has become much more hopeful and we believe that eventually there will be a considerable body of



Church and manse in Heredia

truly believing people in that center. The visiting work becomes increasingly encouraging and although the people are still hesitant about coming to the services yet there is a group of some twenty-five people who rain or shine are present. Apart from these there are always numbers of other listeners. What has been accomplished is matter for great encouragement seeing that the priests stopped at nothing in their effort to keep us out of Heredia.

Evangelizing Guanacaste

For the last four years groups of Bible Institute students have regularly spent their summer vacation in the western province of Guanacaste, traversing it north and south, east and west, carrying the gospel to the towns and villages, and Scripture portions have been put into the hands of the people and meetings have been held in the open air in private houses in every city and town in the province. "El Mensajero", the bi-monthly periodical of the Bible Institute circulates and is a welcome visitor every where. During the last long vacation, Dec. 20th to the end of February, two students worked through the whole province. When they came back to school we sent Victor Salazar, an ex-student whom we employed for that purpose, to follow up and consolidate the results of their efforts. As an outcome of these four summers of regular itineration, Don Victor reports that groups of believers are to be found in many places, while everywhere there is an open door and a welcome for the traveling evangelist. The following is from Don Victor's report of his work:

"The province of Guanacaste offers a promising field for gospel effort. The people are like furrows ready for the seed of the Word. They are tired of the priests whose only business is to exploit the people. As one goes about one meets with priests bringing in animals for sale. They go out into the scattered hamlets to demand the first fruits and return laden

with spoil which they sell to the dealers without a particle of shame. The priest who is not a landholder is an usurer. This scandalous trafficking has turned the people entirely against them. On all sides one is told the most abominable stories of the lives and actions of these men who dare to call themselves representatives of God. The condition of Guanacaste, both materially and spiritually it at a low ebb".

Far from the capital and center of authority, the interests of the province have been neglected and it has not hitherto shared to any appreciable extent in the general progress. The climate being bad, the government finds it difficult to get teachers who will live there, and the same may be said of doctors, who are not willing to live so far from the center of things and so deprive themselves and their families of all social activities. Nevertheless the province might easily become one of the richest regions of the entire country, as undoubtedly will be the case if and when the projected international railway connects it with the rest of the republic and opens up its fertile lands to agriculture and banana growing.

Facts speak for themselves

Costaricans are justly proud of the fact that their government maintains more school teachers than soldiers. Excepting only the service of the National Debt, more money is spent annually for education than for any other item in the budget. The following table of comparative statistics has just been issued by the census authorities and it is very much to the credit of Costa Rica that she leads the way amongst the Latin America republics in the proportion of inhabitants who can read and write:

Argentina	37.9	1914
Bolivia	82.9	1900
Brazil	75.5	1918

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Costa Rica	23.6	1927
México	62.0	1925
Puerto Rico	32.50	1925
El Salvador	55.0	1926
Chile	49.7	1920
Cuba	27.0	1919
Nicaragua	72.2	1920
Honduras	74.0	1926

Germany's 0.3 percent of illiterates is of course a great contrast, but Costa Rica is making heroic efforts to reduce her percentage. In this connection we

were interested in the following note which appeared in "El Renacimiento" of Cartago a few days ago:

"According to the last census (1927) the city that has fewest illiterates is Puerto Limon. This is explained by the fact that the majority of its inhabitants are colored people, who interest themselves in the Bible. This fact explains why Limon has only a percentage of 6.3 of people who neither read nor write".

Honour to whom honour is due.

To Supply a Pressing Need

All missionaries in Latin American countries have bewailed the fact that the supply of really suitable evangelical literature for free distribution is so exceedingly limited. The greater part of the tracts that are printed for this purpose are entirely unsuitable to the people of these countries. As a rule they are translations (generally very poor ones) of tracts that were written for English speaking people and are "foreign" in every sense of the word to the mentality and background of Latin Americans. As a rule these tracts take for granted a considerable knowledge of Scripture which Latin Americans do not possess, the lack of which makes the whole argument unintelligible to them.

On a recent occasion the writer was travelling by train and had taken along a quantity of tracts for distribution, but found that out of seven different kinds there was positively not one that was really suitable for people who had no knowledge whatever of the Bible or of evangelical truth.

To remedy this situation we have determined to undertake the printing of original tracts written from the point of view of the people and to meet existing conditions as we find them throughout Latin America. We shall have no dif-

ficulty in securing the cooperation of some of the most distinguished Latin American missionaries in the production of a series of such tracts, while as far as the printing goes we can do this more economically in San Jose than in the United States.

In thus producing our own tracts, written by Latin Americans for their own people, we would not of course exclude those suitable ones that are already in circulation. We are attempting rather to solve a problem that has been felt more acutely with the passing of the years. At the same time it will considerably help to meet our own pressing and immediate need of a sufficient supply of literature for free distribution.

There can be no question that one of the most fruitful methods of evangelization is by means of the printed page. This is a ministry which is undertaken on a large scale by the Bible Institute workers and students and with excellent results. Thousands of gospels, Scripture portions and tracts are distributed every month on the streets, in the trains, in the public parks, and markets and in surrounding towns and villages. Hundreds, if not thousands of people are at last reading the Word of God themselves in spite of clerical

anathema and intimidation. "The seed is the Word" and God has promised that His word shall not return void, thus we are confident that one day the harvest to His glory will be reaped with joy.

Not only through our regular force of Institute workers and students, but also in connection with the evangelistic campaigns in other republics, our work presents one of the most unique channels that exists in Latin America for the dissemi-

ation of the truth through the printed page. We have been very grateful for the grants of free literature received from various sources and especially from the SCRIPTURE GIFT MISSION whose beautiful gospels and tracts we are so proud to distribute and which come to us quite free of cost. But we never have enough and at the present time our tract cupboards are bare.

The Scripture Gift Mission

The Scripture Gift Mission has recently published at its London headquarters a new translation of the New Testament in Spanish with brief introductions to the various books of the Testament, and sub-headings. It has the Way of Life made plain and is also illustrated just like the Daily Portion Edition that has been so popular throughout the United States.

Several hundreds of these Testaments with Gospels and other Scripture portions have already been sent down to our missionaries of various mission boards in Mexico, the West Indies, Central America, and parts of South America. Grateful appreciation of these gift Scriptures has been received, with requests for additional grants.

The American Scripture Gift Mission at

119 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, Pa., has for over fifteen years been scattering Scriptures in Latin America and in the neglected rural districts of our own land. The home field is still a needy one and the work is growing constantly. But just now while the doors are open and the missionaries in our sister republics are asking for "the seed which is the word of God", should we not supply it in a generous manner? Ten dollars will furnish thirty-five Testaments and one hundred Gospels in Spanish. Only eternity can reveal the value of such an investment. The Scripture Gift Mission makes a special appeal for funds at this time. Never before were the requests for Scriptures so numerous and insistent. Will you help?

Requests for Prayer

Please be very definite in prayer for the following requests:

The coming evangelistic campaigns in Chile and Cuba: that the right evangelists may be provided and prepared of the Holy Spirit; that the local missionaries and believers may be prepared beforehand to cooperate in a true revival of the Spirit; that all the arrangements may be according to the mind of the Spirit.

Evangelistic work in Costa Rica: for the little groups of believers in Heredia, Atenas, Guanacaste, and other places;

that there may be a real work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of the hundreds of people who week by week are reached by the students and missionaries; that our weekly services may be in the power of the Spirit.

Inauguration of new buildings: that this forthcoming event may be marked by an outpouring of the Spirit in a great soul-saving movement amongst the thousands in San Jose who have not yet heard the Gospel; that guidance may be given in preparation for this special occasion and the right speakers sent us.

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Equipment of buildings: that God may lay it upon His stewards to supply all that is necessary to equip both Temple and clinic.

New workers: that very clear guidance may be given in the consideration of several applications for service with the L. A. E. C. which are now before the directors and Home Council so that only those called of God may be brought into the work.

The L. A. E. C. family: for the Home and Regional Councils, for every individual member of the precious prayer

fellowship, for the readers of the "Evangelist", for the missionaries and students in Costa Rica, that God would give us all a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit. for the blessed ministry in which He has united us for His glory.

Let prayer become praise as we lay these requests before God, glorifying Him for all He has done in the past and thanking Him in anticipation for the greater things that He will do in the coming days.

"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 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.