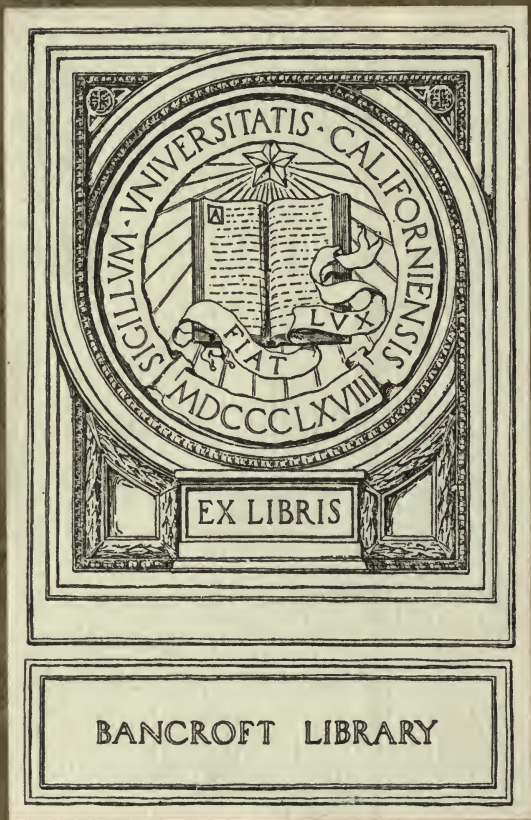


El Mexicano, July-Sept, 1917

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FALL CONFERENCE NUMBER  
**EL MEXICANO**

(The Mexican)

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE SPANISH-AMERICAN INSTITUTE, Inc.

(Southern California Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church)

Gardena, California

*Bancroft Library*

*Edited by F. RAY RISDON*

Vol. 6

July—September, 1917

No. 1

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**Our Beloved District Superintendent  
and His Family**

## INSTITUTE ITEMS

## ANNUAL REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Frank S. Wallace, President

**P**ROGRESS has marked the fourth year of the Spanish-American Institute under the leadership of the efficient superintendent, John P. Howe, and his devoted co-workers.

**New Buildings**—Three buildings have been added to the property. The principal one is a substantial two-story dormitory. The lower floor is used temporarily for industrial training and as a gymnasium. The second floor is equipped as a dormitory for thirty boys. Cost, including furnishings, about \$6000. This is the third building in the complete group of nine.

A new temporary building, 25x60 feet, includes dining room to seat ninety people, a convenient kitchen and large storeroom. Cost, with some furnishing, \$600. There is also a large new barn, built at a cost of about \$250. Several hundred dollars were spent for other furnishings and improvements.

**Financial**—Receipts from all sources for building fund were approximately \$7500; for current expense, \$7250, and for purchase of automobile, \$450. Total receipts, \$15,200. This amount has covered all disbursements, and the year is closed with a small balance in each fund. Total assets exceed \$30,000. All property is free from debt.

**New Accounts**—Your Board of Directors has welcomed the necessity of opening three new accounts.

First: "Endowment Fund," which has an initial gift of \$4200. The giver is happy in knowing that always, throughout the coming years, there will be two needy Spanish-American boys receiving Christian training and education because of the income from this gift.

Second: "Annuity Fund." This account has already been credited with two gifts of \$1000 each.

Third: "Bequests." A check for \$1111.11 came to this account from an estate now being administered. It is a partial payment of the total bequest. The money was used in building fund.

Watch these three accounts grow. Help them to grow.

**Students**—During the greater part of the year there were thirty-five boys in the Institute. In September, with the opening of the new building, the number was increased to forty-five. Other boys will be admitted as the necessary support is assured.

Best of all is the very evident influence of Jesus Christ on the lives of the boys. Their plastic minds respond to the Christian atmosphere of their new home.

## ENROLLMENT

We are opening this school year with an enrollment of 47. We are therefore entering upon our career as a large school and upon us is devolved greater burdens and greater responsibilities. We have passed the experimental stage and are now engaged, in a systematic way, in the development of the lives of the boys entrusted to our care. Those in charge of the school must look at it from a larger viewpoint, and you who are supporting it must consider the larger needs and requirements. In your giving of money, supplies, and prayers, remember the additional demand upon you. We must not fail, and with God's help we cannot fail.

Forty-seven boys is not our limit. We have room for several more. The only thing between these waiting boys is the small matter of the tuition of \$10 each month. An investment in a boy beats any other investment for returns, and in educating a Mexican boy you may be training a future national figure in the history of Mexico. Every boy has the divine right of getting a good start in life, but we are responsible in seeing that he gets that start. The boys who are waiting to come to the Institute, when there is a scholarship provided, are just as promising as these who are here. Mrs. Paul of Altadena got the vision during the program at the Annual Conference, and consequently Frederico Gomez is having a chance to become a useful man, that he might not have had otherwise. Let us help you to get the vision. Pictures and incidents will help drive home the realization of your responsibility. May we talk with you? Anyone connected with the school will be glad to do this. Send for us.

## DO THEY LEARN?

We are often asked, Do the Mexican children learn? I wish we had space to answer this question more fully at this time. We will, later. However, just a word now.

In Colton a Mexican boy stands at the head of the mathematics class, in the eighth grade.

Last year a Mexican boy carried away the honors in English in the San Bernardino school.

You, of course, read the article, in our previous issue, about Elisha Holguin receiving one hundred in all of his studies in the public school at Gardena.

And there are other cases just like these.

\* \* \*

One of the boys, in writing of his experiences during the summer, told how he had obtained work in a printing shop, delivering packages. He said he got the packages mixed and caused trouble, and that his boss did not "occupy" him any more.



**MANUAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT**

Reported by S. L. Todd, Instructor

OWING to the lack of equipment, this department, so far this year, has been confined largely to general repairs around the grounds and buildings. However, we are hoping to start the new year with all necessary tools and supplies on hand.

One end of the lower floor of Industrial Hall has been fitted up for the work shop and regular classes meet four afternoons weekly, from 1:30 to 3:30 o'clock. As equipment is furnished other classes will be added.

The cobbling outfit has been moved to this building and the boys will be taught shoe repairing along practical lines, in connection with their regular work.

We take this opportunity to make our immediate needs known to the friends of the Institute, and to urge them to supply the same, either personally, or by interesting others in this department. Following are some of the articles greatly needed at the present time:

- Foot-power emery wheel;
- Carpenter's vise;
- Saw vise, planes;
- Hammers, hatchets, saws;
- Nails of all sizes;
- Miter box and saw;
- Rose countersink for screws;
- Sandpaper, sloyd knives, mallets;
- Electric motor;
- Lumber.

\* \* \*

**IMMEDIATE NEEDS**

of the

**SPANISH-AMERICAN INSTITUTE**

**In the New Industrial Building:—**

See article by Mr. Todd, printed above.

**In the Dormitories:—**

- Rugs, 10x14 and 9x12.
- New library clock.
- Straight back chairs.
- Rocking chair.
- Window shades, 33 inches wide.
- Mirror, pictures, magazines.
- Games, puzzles, books.
- Bed spreads, wash rags, towels.
- Clothing for boys, ages 8-12.
- Mending and darning supplies.

**In the Schoolroom:—**

- Vasés, scissors, crayolas.
- Pencils, book rack, pen points.

**On the Farm:—**

- Hoes, rakes, shovels.
- Three pigs, one first-class cow.

Fifteen more boys can be admitted if the scholarships of \$10 a month are provided.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**OLD GLORY**

THIS is a time when patriotism runs high—a time when love of country and our duty should be taught and demonstrated. The Institute has the unique position of teaching loyalty to two countries and the regard that the boys must have for the land of their fathers and the land of their adoption. Do you realize the difficulty of this task, when there is no American flag on the property larger than 8x10 inches? We have a fifty-foot flag pole in the center of our plot, but for many months there has been no flag flying from it—not because we are ashamed of our beloved emblem, but because we have none to fly. In our semi-military organization we have two color bearers and two color guards; but they have nothing to do, because we have no flag to carry when we march. We need a large flag, 10x20 feet, for the flag pole and a regiyour sense of patriotism? Drop a card to the mental flag, 4x8 feet. Does this appeal to Superintendent, saying that you have ordered these flags sent to the school.

\* \* \*

**A Cold Reception**

THE previous number of this paper contained an appeal for the very "foolish" thing called an ice cream freezer. Greatly to our joy, the Ladies' Aid of our church at Venice supplied this need, and several times the boys have indulged in the rarity of ice cream. These ladies expect to visit the school soon, bringing their lunch and cake, in order to try out for themselves the excellency of this machine.

\* \* \*

The Rev. John Hedley was appointed to Gardena for the present year. We are very glad that he has come to Gardena, because of his great interest in the Institute and his missionary experience. We depend upon the local church to train the boys in religion and along Biblical lines to a large degree, and it is important that a wise, sympathetic pastor be in charge. We believe we have one in the Rev. Mr. Hedley.

\* \* \*

**LOCAL COLOR**

IN illustrating the importance of small beginnings, the story of the great Chicago fire was told. The extent of the damage had been dwelt upon, and the resulting condition. After the application had been made, urging the boys to be careful of little misdeeds, one of the youngsters raised his hand and asked: "Did the cow get burned?" Boys are boys.

\* \* \*

A. I. Inwood of St. Paul, a dear old college friend, writes: "Have been reading El Mexicano and I inclose \$5 for the unpaid evangelist. Use where needed."

## FARM DEPARTMENT

Reported by W. A. Felker, in Charge

The farm maintained by the Spanish-American Institute consists of ten acres, three of which are taken up by buildings, lawns, playgrounds, etc., the balance being intensively farmed along modern scientific lines for the purpose of instructing the boys in present-day agricultural methods, as well as reducing the high cost of living, which has been very materially decreased during the past year by reason of producing at home much of what was heretofore bought in the market.

The working schedule now used gives to each of the older boys eight hours of actual farm work each week, under the supervision of the Farm Instructor, and admits him to a special farm lecture each Monday evening, when the previous week's work is discussed and plans are made for future work. This system is responsible, in a great measure, for the very successful conference year's work. The smaller boys do one and a half hours' light work each day and are put in the agricultural class when they reach the fourth grade.

At the beginning of last year three cows were being kept; two of them were found to be "boarder" cows and were immediately sold. The third has since made a record of 12,500 pounds of milk during the twelve months and is now a permanent fixture on the farm. In addition to our own cow we have the indefinite loan of a registered Holstein, for which we are indebted to Mr. I. J. Reynolds. Two horses had also been maintained continuously before, and one was disposed of. Now, after a period of farming with one horse, we find that this horse averages but one day a week of actual farm work; therefore the two-horse gasoline tractor will doubtless take his place in the future.

Since food prices have advanced to so high a level we have made our farm feed the hogs, of which we usually keep six head, feeding them kitchen garbage, alfalfa and surplus root crops; keeping them in this way until they reach 200 pounds weight, when they are sold.

The most interesting part of the work has been in the growing of vegetables. Everything is grown at each season that can be used on the table. The average production of vegetables per acre, last year, was two hundred crates, the surplus being sold locally or shipped to the Los Angeles market, where our product, being of fine quality and being properly packed, brought returns above the regular prices.

By a properly-arranged planting calendar we find that we can produce on our ranch, with the exception of bread-stuffs, tea, sugar, coffee, etc., products that enable us to have a properly balanced ration on the table every

day, which is fresh, wholesome, and of variety.

We find that practically all the boys take an active interest in everything concerning the running of the farm. They seem to feel that they are a part of the machinery, and each boy is not only willing to do his part but is enthusiastic over details as they are brought out.

\* \* \*

## SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Reported by Miss Serena B. Handley,  
Teacher

A FOURTH-GRADER, writing to a friend of the school, speaks of vacation as follows: "I wish you would have as happy a time as I had when I was at home. It seems as if I was a wild rabbit in the forest free from studying Arith. and Spell." Some of the boys felt "the call of the wild" for some time after their return. But, boy fashion, they are accommodating themselves to their surroundings, and taking up the routine of school duties and other forms of daily work, which forms the life of the Institute and which, by the way, is one of the lessons the Mexicans need most to learn. The new boys are catching the contagion of application to business, are developing surprisingly well, and are taking up the English language rapidly.

Our time for the study of Spanish has been doubled without interfering with our regular course in English. This has been made possible, even though our enrollment has increased over that of last year, by the assistance, four mornings a week, of the Manual Training Instructor, Mr. Todd.

Some of the boys, "strange to relate," haven't quite mastered English yet. It does sound unusual to hear a dog's paw called "de hand of de leg"; or a walrus called a "wireless"; or a Samaritan, a "submarine"; or horrible monsters, "horrible moonstones"; or an anesthetic as, "to sleep somebody and wake him up again." But the teacher of Spanish, remembering the difficulties of a foreign language, is usually able to control her facial muscles.

Liberty Day was celebrated at the Institute by a short patriotic program. The Superintendent, after describing the meaning of the day, and speaking at length on liberty and patriotism, sought to make a practical application. So he asked what we could do to show our patriotism. "Pray for peace," "Not waste anything," and "Eat what is put on your plates, even if you don't want it," were some of the responses to the question. Still the "wheatless, meatless, sugarless" program of the government had not been mentioned. So he asked, "What shouldn't we eat much of?" and an enthusiastic boy said, "Oh-h-h, that there—horseradish!" (He probably was thinking of former instruction in physiology, on the excessive use of chili, pepper, etc.)





Mexican Methodist Episcopal Church of Pasadena

“MAKING MEN MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD”

(Isa. 13:12)

Fifth Annual Report, Spanish and Portuguese District,  
Long Beach, October, 1917

**Bancroft Library**

**O**VER the gateway of an old English college one reads the inscription: “Gold of head that will not lie; “Gold of heart that will not die.” and that motto might fittingly be written over the portals of our Mexican and Portuguese missions and schools, for a divine alchemy is there going on, which is “making a man more precious than fine gold.”

Officially, our field is coincident with this good Conference, which in size equals seven Belgiems, all of England and Scotland, or one-third of all Germany. If we include Lower California, which has been left to us, who can best get at it, our actual field is as large as Spain or Italy plus Portugal, or nearly six Panamas—a vast task with laborers few.

**Victories** OUR district now has twenty-two salaried workers, twenty-one regular preaching places and out-stations, and eight Epworth Leagues. During the year the workers have dealt with more than 7800 Latin-Americans in forty-five different communities. We have 345 full members—an increase of 25 per cent—and

220 preparatory members,—this notwithstanding 224 who have joined American churches or who have been lost by death, removal or sin. There have been 170 converts. Three hundred fifty-seven dollars have been given to benevolences—an increase of 86 per cent; \$1016 to self-support—an increase of 28 per cent, and \$1498 total giving—an increase of 42 per cent. Our workers, during the year, have made 27,000 visits, sold 585 Bibles, given 1321 copies of the Silent Missionary and 17,500 tracts, traveled 59,000 miles, and written 12,000 letters.

**King’s Treasure Received: 1916-1917**

BOARD of Home Missions.....	\$ 2,967.19	
Conference:		
Fresno District .....	\$ 712.90	
Los Angeles District.....	2,337.80	
Long Beach District.....	2,617.90	
Pasadena District .....	2,596.80	
San Diego District.....	2,045.28	
		10,310.68
Miscellaneous .....		1,053.60
		<hr/>
		\$14,331.47

**Gold Used to Make Manhood**

SALARIES of 22 "Sky Miners".....	\$10,824.42
Office Expense .....	514.53
Books, Printing and Periodicals.....	635.92
Furniture, Fixtures, Welfare and General Expense .....	594.11
Rent and Traveling.....	1,876.86
Loan Account .....	34.50
	\$14,480.34

\* \* \*

**ANAHEIM, FULLERTON AND  
PLACENTIA**

**Counting Our Gold** ENRIQUE NARRO and his energetic family have had fine success with more than 50 per cent advance in full members, Sunday-school scholars and in total giving. Splendid new Sunday Schools are regularly held now in Fullerton and Placentia. Not only do the new disciples attend their own outstations but they come all the way to Anaheim in their buggies, on bicycles, by jitney, or on foot, to attend the mother church. There are now thirty-five full members and thirty-four probationers, with sixty adherents, three local preachers and exhorters being trained, three other volunteer Christian workers, fifteen converts (among them a bandit, who took part in the Christmas exercises this year). The most significant event of the year was the dedication of the new church by Bishop Leonard on a week day afternoon, October 7th. The Bishop, from his unique experience in the Latin world, was able to make the services very impressive. At the close he raised nearly sufficient funds to erect the parsonage which is to be built on the fine lot where the beautiful Kittle Memorial Mexican Church now stands. Rosa Narro, one of our deaconess girls from San Francisco, has been a great aid to her father and mother. The Deaconess Training School, under Dr. Willis' fine direction, is making these young Mexican women more precious than gold. No real grip for God will ever be gotten upon Latin-America until her womanhood is reached; and nobody can reach them like these Spanish deaconess girls—three of whom are again in training this year, thanks to Mrs. Bodkin and Dr. Willis.

**HANFORD, TULARE AND INGOMAR  
(PORTUGUESE)**

JOSE L. TAVARES has had some significant results in the midst of his pioneer efforts to solve a great California problem, viz: to help God make the incoming multitudes of Portuguese into men and women who will be more precious than the gold they are making and hoarding. During the year twenty-two Mexicans and Portuguese have decided for God through Brother Tavares' ministry. We had a meeting last month with a group of very respectable Portuguese in Hanford. At the close four of them arose

and gave us their hand and word that they would live for God and work for Him in the mission. In the afternoon Brother Hull took us by auto to visit several Portuguese. One has a store. He told how, in his boyhood, he enjoyed attending the Sunday School in New Bedford, Mass., and that he wanted to help, in every way, Brother Tavares' work. He promised help toward the proposed Portuguese church.

**Words From a Dying Portuguese** WE visited a Portuguese pioneer who is soon to die. As we read from the Bible and spoke with his loved ones gathered around, there was profound attention. He thanked me, but said: "I think I will not be here long. I have invested \$300 in my niche in the mausoleum; but I like this pastor, and want him to come as often as he can. I believe some of the things you have read from John 14, but I cannot yet understand it all."

**Selling Bibles at a Wedding** ON May 20th Brother Tavares married a fine young couple of Mexicans and closed the service with fervent prayer following the reading of portions from the Bible. He sold four beautiful leather-bound copies at the close of the wedding dinner, and later found one of these Mexicans reading from the Bible to another.

Half of the Portuguese of the Nation are in this State. The Fresno Epworth Leaguers are doing valiantly in supporting their Portuguese missionary.

**LONG BEACH AND ZAFERIA**

PICTURE a bright young Mexican professor and his wife, both teaching in a large government school in Guanajuato, Mexico; nearly starved by weeks of faring on cooked bran; in terror from bandits, and heart-broken by five deaths from typhus of near relatives, including mother—picture this couple, hearing (from Dr. Salmans) of far-away Long Beach needing a Mexican pastor. They answered the call in January. Alfonso Sanchez and wife and little daughter have already organized regular meetings in two centers. The Sunday School, night school and sewing classes are well attended. The pastor has made 500 visits to over 150 different Mexicans, and has given 300 helps of food or clothing to forty-five different needy ones. The benevolences are raised in full. He has won three bright converts—one the track oiler in front of the P. E. station.

**LOS ANGELES, PLAZA AND BLOOM  
STREET**

**Great Doings at the Plaza** WE are glad to report real progress: 20 per cent increase in members, fifteen converts, eleven baptisms, \$320 given in self-support, \$20 for Foreign Missions on Self-Denial Sunday, and \$557 total giving. These are facts of really thrilling character. The benevo-



lences are more than up, in full. Brother Sein is still handicapped by being bottled up in the little dark hall which will not seat all his members. The nine Sunday-school classes jam into these quarters, some sitting on the platform. The meetings held, however, are radiant; the members have \$198 in the bank toward the new Plaza Church. Very important are the Plaza meetings Sunday afternoon, when Brother Sein addresses from 100 to 300 Mexicans upon live questions, such as: "Socialism and Religion," "Machines and Men," "The Goddess Reason," "The Battle Against Alcohol," "Is the Bible Immoral?"

**First Mexican Theological Student at U. S. C.** HERBERT SEIN is the first from our Spanish and Portuguese district to enter U. S. C. He is preparing for the ministry. He spent the summer as bookkeeper on a great ranch in the Orange Empire, earning funds for college. It was great to have the American ranch hands clamor every night for the son of our Los Angeles Mexican pastor to stand upon a bench and read to them the Billy Sunday sermon of the day before. Herbert also gave the Gospel Word to numbers of Mexicans on the ranch and sold several Bibles to them.

**Women Who Are More Precious Than Fine Gold**

MRS. VINCENT, the J. O. C. missionary, is doing a wonderful work, ministering during the year to over 300 different Latin-Americans, going like the "little mother" (as the Mexicans call her) to hospitals and needy homes, giving our food and clothing and nearly \$50 in aid of the utterly poor. She mails the 3000 El Mexicanos, each quarter.

**Some Heart Throbs** HERE is one incident from Katherine Higgins' work: "Just after opening the clinic door one morning at 8:30, a tall Mexican woman with a pretty face followed me back to the examination room and asked if we had some baby clothes. Seeing the lines of sorrow and care in her face, I asked her if I could be of further service to her. She seemed to appreciate immediately the sympathetic touch, and unburdened her heart by giving a bit of her life's story:

"I was married one month before I was 13 years old. Before I was 14 I was a mother. I never had any girlhood! I am now 26 years old, the mother of eleven children—six of whom are dead; three of my children could not walk. Yes, it was a blessing when they died! I suffered much from my husband at times. Men do not care for their wives. Oh! I am so sorry these babies came. I am so sorry I was married so young; but it is too late now!"

Her eyes brightened when she was asked to bring her children and come to Sunday School, to join the Mothers' Club, to learn to sew and to speak better English."

Employment was found in two weeks for about 250. There is a steady stream of people in chronic emergency, and the task is growing.

We have not time to tell of the utterly faithful labors of Berta Wright, Esther Turner and Mabel Holly, who are pushing on this work. We want to make special mention of Maria Soto, who is now our Bible woman in Los Angeles, having finished a year in the San Francisco National Training School. The Plaza congregation is paying \$12 monthly for her traveling expenses.

**PASADENA AND LAMANDA PARK**

**The First Spanish Deaconess in the U. S.** PASADENA has had a good year, entertaining the great District Efficiency Conference in January, along with our first District Conference, and then a big Sunday School and Young People's Convention, May 10-13. The total giving has been \$365. Deaconess Adela Chavez has come from El Paso, and the congregation is paying \$5 monthly for their deaconess. The work in Pasadena is reaching out remarkably into all the community life—day nursery, employment in the packing houses, the City Welfare Bureau, and the heretofore sporadic Mexican philanthropy. **Throwing Light on Some Rat Holes** The pastor is making city and church officials open their eyes to find out that in placing refrigerators about the Mexican colony,

whole sections got none while single families in groups got big community ice boxes with free ice. One child of a family without clothes or food received fifteen Christmas gifts from five trees. The American pastors are very cordial and their churches increasingly generous and helpful. An auto is greatly needed, likewise a parsonage.

**PUENTE**

**A New Pastor** MIGUEL NARRO has been visiting and opening up work but a few weeks in Puente. He is the nephew of our Anaheim pastor, and has had two years' academic training at Ann Arbor. Though quiet socially, he is great spiritually and intellectually. He has the drawing power among the Mexicans themselves that is notable in his Uncle Enrique. He has already reached some 120 different persons with the Gospel in Puente, has sold ten Bibles, and given away 123 Bibles and Portions. Esther Turner has explored and visited the Mexicans of El Monte, close by Puente. Pastor Narro is being supported by friends in Puente and Trinity Church, Pomona. He has a fine family and, though a young man, has held prominent appointments in Mexico, such as Durango, his last charge.

RIVERA, OLINDA, RICHFIELD AND YORBA LINDA

**A New Cana Wedding** A MONTH ago we had a glorious all-day service with our pastor, Emilio Hernandez, at Rivera. Two converts of leading families were first baptized by immersion and then married. They then formed a central group in the blessed Lord's Supper, followed by a delightful reception and closing with an evening sermon by the pastor. A pretty fair record for a young pastor, who, seven years ago, was an illiterate, gambling peon; but who is now on trial in our Conference, and reads, writes and speaks with almost equal facility in two languages! The work at Rivera, Olinda and the other points of the circuit, where there are now twenty-one members—some of whom but a short time since were far from God—would be impossible without the support of the Olinda Epworth League and the gifts and remarkably fine personal co-operation of the Whittier Epworth League and Brotherhood. This little mission has raised all its benevolences and has given \$14 in self-support. Some fine gold of Christian character is being developed in such lives as Miguel Salas, Paula Terrazas and others. As urgent needs, Brother Emilio writes: "We need many things; but more than anything else, we need prayer from our brethren. We need a little church in Rivera, where we have only a little hall, for which we are paying rent."

SANTA ANA, EL MODENA AND WESTMINSTER

**A Great Mexican Leader** It has been a year of fiery trial for this preacher, Brother Vicente Mendoza, who came from the greatest pastorates in Mexico and several years' service as editor of the Mexican Advocate, to breast the problems and heartaches of our work. Saddest of all was the death of his wife, the mother of four children—all in need of mother love. The touch of organization and culture is seen in all of Mendoza's work. The Orange County friends, led by Orange and Santa Ana, have secured a Ford for the circuit, by means of which Brother Mendoza is now able, with his talented family, to minister to Garden Grove and Delhi and to serve better the mother charge. There have been twenty-three converts, total giving doubled, also benevolences, which are up in full.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

**Salary Increased Per Cent** THIS new circuit has made a steady advance through the year. The pastor has supported his family of five with a salary of \$8 monthly and through the work of his hands. He has had thirty-six converts and thirteen baptisms, and has preached the Gospel (by

means of his bicycle) throughout the whole length of the valley. The American friends in a union meeting arranged to multiply his salary three or four times, feeling that he was a man whose whole time is more precious than gold. Brother Flores is just beginning his Conference studies.

SANTA PAULA, FILLMORE AND VENTURA

**A Vision on the Mount** ON Easter, Antonio Jimenez climbed the mount back of Santa Paula for a preparation time alone with God. He cried, "Oh, Father! I will not talk to Thee. Speak Thou to me in my heart of hearts. Tell me what to say to my people on this glorious anniversary of the Savior's resurrection, that these poor sinful lives (to whom I minister) may rise from their darkness and misery into new life with Thee." After several hours of expectant listening to God, this prophet of the "long road" came down from the mount, praying that at least one might decide for God and be converted and baptized on the glad Easter Day. At the close of his sermon forty-three of those thousand Mexicans in Santa Paula decided for God and were baptized and received into the church. We held a quarterly Conference in the fruit season when even some of the American churches were closed, but there was a large audience of Mexicans. Two of the Easter converts, heard in the oil fields, nine miles away, that the Quarterly Conference was to meet that night. The wife walked half a mile to a telephone to tell Pastor Jimenez that they were coming, and they came the nine miles in the missionary auto. Next morning I learned that they and their children slept on the bare floor in the Mexican chapel, without quilts or pillows. At four o'clock the father hastened away again, to his work up in the hills.

**A Great Testimony to this Work** THE Ventura County Spanish Board has assumed a budget which included the purchase of an auto, which makes possible an efficient ministry to all the surrounding country, including Moorpark, Piru and Nordoff. Here a prominent Mexican, once a member of the church, who had lapsed into improper conduct, has been reclaimed and is showing works meet for repentance. During the year the Mexicans of Santa Paula promptly paid their share in buying the lot upon which we hope soon to build a parsonage. Some hint as to the success of the Santa Paula Circuit is seen in the fact that a prominent Congregationalist there, after careful investigation, said recently that he was so much impressed with what had been done in Santa Paula that he wanted to give a thousand dollars to the Plaza Institutional



Church of Los Angeles. Mr. Whiteside, prominent in the county, says: "For the amount of money invested, I believe that the results from the Spanish work in Ventura county are greater than those from any other Christian work in the county."

**SPANISH-AMERICAN INSTITUTE**

**Latin American Boys and Girls Being Made More Precious Than Gold** THE report of the President of the Board to the Conference will show a fine financial condition, with three new buildings erected. Forty-four Mexican boys and one Portuguese boy are being made more precious than fine gold. The tuition has been increased to \$10 monthly. There is now room in the new building for twenty more boys. Think of it! \$120 a year, or a boy neglected. who is this minute on our lists and perhaps awaiting your word to become a leader among the Latin people! Words can never be found to express the debt we owe to Frank S. Wallace, as President of the Institute Board, who so earnestly labors and generously gives in this great enterprise. We are glad to refer with praise to the W. H. M. S. Frances De Pauw Industrial School for Mexican girls in Hollywood, where sixty beautiful girls are being trained in a wonderful way for a companion service to that of the boys of our Institute. Miss Mathias will tell you that their greatest need is the new \$10,000 building, a fund for which is now splendidly under way.

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA OPENED**

**A Sunday School Without Chairs** SACRAMENTO and San Francisco are the circuit of Francisco Olazabal, who was transferred at the last Conference. It is inspiring to have Latin-American services in our capital city and in the famous old metropolis of San Francisco, where our deaconess girls are helping to develop two fine missions. Before a morning service at First Church, we met a score of Spanish-speaking children in a little Sunday School, in the humble home of the son of a famous old Mexican General, Escobedo, to whom Maximilian surrendered, thus sounding the death knell in the New World of the autocracy that has come near strangling Europe. Twenty of those bright children, having no chairs, sat upon the floor, with the famous old General's large photo looking down benignly upon his grandchildren and the others present. We had a Sunday School without song books, organ, lesson helps, or even Bibles. In a city where Methodism has \$300,000 in American churches there is no place, yet, for the Christ of the Mexicans.

**THE BORDER: CALEXICO**

ONE of the high-lights of the year was the exploration of the Imperial Valley as a guest of Doctor Rasmus. Calexico is the center from which to work godless Lower Califor-

nia. Across the barbed-wire fence lies Mexicali, where they "assemble in troops in the harlots' houses." We have a fine young lay preacher at Calexico. Brother Ore has persuaded his people to put \$100 in their budget for the border missionary. So, at last, we are occupying the Border, where the devil has certainly sported undisturbed, these decades past.

**PLAZA INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH**

**Getting the Flame** THERE is a growing conviction that the hour has struck for launching the Plaza Church. The birthday of the Plaza Church was really the 13th of last October, when Bishop Leonard delivered his masterly lecture—"The Church and the Unemployed"—to a great audience in the Trinity Auditorium. The receipts were well up toward \$1000. Prominent Mexicans and American officials were present. The Bishop made a commanding statement concerning the enterprise. Several good contributions followed. On January 1st the lot was purchased, after having secured subscriptions more than totaling its cost of \$26,700. Subscriptions of money and property total to date \$40,182. A strong Methodist Board of Latin-American Missions is seriously at the enterprise. It has caught the imagination of the Board of Home Missions. They have given us their word that the next gift from the Opportunity Fund will be at least \$15,000 for the Plaza Church.

Meanwhile, the program is well begun. Four hundred Relief Bags are being placed in homes and Churches, to receive supplies of every sort. The department of employment has found work for hundreds. A fine memorial of a printing press has been promised. The clinic, with three doctors and a Mexican nurse and other attendants, is crowded with sufferers, who are also supplied with clothing at small cost and with Gospel messages and song while awaiting their treatment. Leading physicians and other professional men of Los Angeles eagerly await the Plaza Church in order to render service to the suffering Mexicans, whom some may not admit to their offices without damage to their practice. During the year we have been interviewed by two prominent Mexicans of Los Angeles, who have heard of our work and desire to learn more of it. They speak in highest terms of the plans for the Plaza Church.

WHAT would bring to pass the Plaza Church? If each Church of this Conference alone will send in subscriptions averaging \$2 a member, payable during the year, you will see before next Conference the Plaza Church rising commandingly where the ways part in the heart of Los Angeles. We ought to hasten at this; other foreigners are coming. They soon learn Spanish. The growth of our marvelous metropolis will soon place us

in the plight of foreigner-swamped New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

**Letting Bears Devour Our Baby** "Down in Cincinnati some years ago a mother went to the zoological Garden and stood leaning over the bear pit, watching the bears and dropping crumbs and peanuts to them. In her arms she held her babe, a year and three months old. She was so interested in the bears that the baby wriggled itself out of her arms and fell into the pit, and she watched the huge monsters rip it to shreds. What a veritable hell it will be, through all her life, to know that her little one was lost through her own carelessness and neglect!"

WE Christian American Churches are the Mother of these Latin-Americans, whom we call "Mexicans." From us they got their birth in liberty and progress; they must look to us for life eternal. While we are watching the bear-pit of vice all about us, this child of ours is slipping away and is being torn to pieces. Once more, I bid you, verify this by visiting jails, hospitals and those huts of the lowly.

How many of you pastors will meet the challenge of an average of at least \$2 a member from your charges for the Plaza Church?

God waits the time when He, through us, may make them more precious than even the fine gold of your generous sacrifices.

## LOS ANGELES WELFARE WORK

Reported by Katherine B. Higgins

### WORK NOW BEING DONE

Extract from Report of President of the Methodist Board of Latin-American Missions.

WE could not even wait for the temporary building. In the little Mission Hall at 225 Bloom Street, we have a Sunday School with five nationalities—Mexican, Spanish, Austrian, Italian and Hungarian—a medical clinic, where during the last year, with the clinic open only Monday and Thursday mornings, medical attention was given to 1,364 Latin-Americans. Avoiding the danger of pauperizing these people, and wanting to help them maintain their self-respect, we charge a small consultation fee. We have several hundred relief bags in homes, waiting to be filled with old shoes and clothing. The contents of these bags we sell at a very small price; several thousands of garments have been sold and, in cases of need, given, this year. Two hundred twenty-five dollars have been spent for medicines and provisions. We have started sewing classes where women and children are taught to sew. Employment was found for 250 men, women and children last year, legal assistance given, jails and hospitals visited, house-to-house visits. This is just touching the vast work to be done here. We hope to do much more this coming year. All of this welfare work is simply a point of contact to the spiritual life. During Christ's ministry on earth He saw the need of healing the sick, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting the widows and fatherless.

\* \* \*

### THEY NEED HELP

MOTHER HIGGINS and Mrs. Lindsey would appreciate your help in assorting and marking the clothes that come in the Relief Bags. If you will lend a helping hand in this good cause, phone us at 60089 or Broadway 6427, or write.

### HAVE YOU ONE IN YOUR HOME?

WHAT? Why, a relief bag, of course. If not, hadn't you better send for one at once? If you have not heard about them, write or phone us and we will take pleasure in telling you all about them and the good that they are doing. Yes, it will be a fine opportunity for you to get rid of those clothes, shoes, hats, and household goods that are in your way. Winter is coming on, and many poor people are in need of just the things that you have stored away. Let us tell you more about them, or send you one.

### IS YOUR MACHINE ALWAYS BUSY?

IF NOT, don't you think that it would like to do a little missionary work? Mrs. Bowler's auto seems to like the work, for it never refuses when asked to go to get some relief bags; but it cannot get them all. We have several bags waiting to be brought to No. 225 Bloom street, where the contents can be used for someone in need. Phone 60089 or Broadway 6427, if your machine would like to be a "missionary."

### ENJOYED HELPING

SOME high school or Senior Y. W. C. A. girls wrote a very beautiful letter, telling how they enjoyed gathering together and giving thanksgiving gifts to the needy Latin-Americans last year. In fact, they said that they realized more joy in their giving than those who received.

I am wondering if there are not others who would like to make a thanksgiving gift this year and be happier for it. Yes, provisions are high this year; but have you ever stopped to wonder how the poor are getting along during these hard times? Those who work among them know that the little children are having very few of the necessities of life. May we depend on you to help a little?





**ARTHUR F. WAHLQUIST**

THE first member of the Executive Committee of the Spanish and Portuguese Mission Association called into the service of our country is Arthur F. Wahlquist, a leader among the young people of the Swedish Methodist Church and formerly second vice-president of the Los Angeles District Epworth League.

He is stationed with Co. F, 364th Infantry, Camp Lewis, Washington.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with "Our First Star in Our Service Flag."

\* \* \*

**PERSONALS**

James N. Hunt of Summerfield Church in Philadelphia, along with a good monthly check, always adds practical and inspiring words, plans, etc. We sent the Mexican National Anthem to a party he suggested and that lover of music sent \$2.50 for the work.

\* \* \*

Myrtle E. Pavitt of 43rd. Street Epworth League in Philadelphia is another new "ropeholder." She and others have organized a fine Mission Study Class and expect to win a pennant. They sent money for bi-lingual (Spanish-English) Testaments for two young Mexicans at Chestnut Hill R. R. Section. "A bright light shines far!"

\* \* \*

THE recently elected officers of the Spanish and Portuguese Mission Association are as follows: F. Ray Risdon, president; Miss Lily Gribble, vice-president; Miss Lila B. MacDowell, secretary; Miss Berta Wright, treasurer; Miss Katherine B. Higgins, auditor; Herbert Sein, chairman of deputation work; Mrs. Margaret Farrell, secretary of the prayer league.

**IN APPRECIATION**

By the Editor

Someone recently stated, in effect, that a great enterprise should be linked up with a strong personality.

In the minds of many, the strong, dominant personality behind this work and all its varied activities is the Superintendent of the Spanish and Portuguese District of the Southern California Conference.

If it were not for the fact that our brother is now on an Eastern trip in the interest of this important missionary enterprise, we should hesitate to express ourselves in words of commendation, because we know that his innate modesty objects to the most commonplace expressions of appreciation or praise.

Doctor H. I. Rasmus, referring to Doctor McCombs in his report to the recent annual conference, spoke of him as a man "with an all-consuming passion for his work." Nothing further need be said.

Our cover illustration shows Doctor McCombs and his lovely family—consisting of his wife, Eva White McCombs, and their three beautiful children. This excellent cut of an interesting group speaks volumes where mere words would be inadequate.

\* \* \*

**CONFERENCE JOTTINGS**

THE Conference approved the following "askings":

Spanish Work .....	\$ 3,500
Spanish-American Institute.....	750
Mexican Border Mission.....	1,000
Portuguese Work .....	1,000
Spanish Church Extension.....	1,000
Plaza Church .....	37,500

\* \* \*

ACTION has been taken by the Southern California Conference, and likewise by the Nevada Mission Conference, the California Conference, and the Pacific German Conference, approving the suggestion of a Latin-American Mission.

\* \* \*

JOSE L. TAVARES was ordained a deacon, and L. C. Flores and Alfonso Sanchez were received on trial.

\* \* \*

THE following changes in appointments were made: A. C. Gonzales takes Lamanda Park and Glendale, with his Pasadena work; Miguel Narro was appointed to Puente. Rivera, Olinda and Bloom Street; Emilio Hernandez was assigned to Watts and Compton.

\* \* \*

MISS ADELA CHAVEZ was named deaconess to the Pasadena Mexican Church.

\* \* \*

GREAT interest was manifested in the proposed Plaza Institutional Church for the Latin-American population of Los Angeles.

"The Mexican Methodists of Los Angeles are clamoring for place to worship. Help us to get the Plaza Institutional Church".

—Suggestive motto used by Mexicans on "Billy" Sunday D

## THE PLAZA INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH

A KALEIDOSCOPE

By F. Ray Risdon

**A**N eight-story structure of concrete and steel, looming skyward.

*An imposing edifice on the Plaza of Los Angeles, where Latin-Americans congregate.*

*An architectural gem, sparkling amid the sordid surroundings of days departed.*

¶ *The heart of an exotic life "from over the Border." A community center, shaping lives, molding character. A school of Christian citizenship, influencing myriads of Spanish-speaking peoples.*

¶ *A haven of heart-rest for helpless, homeless humanity. A home-like place, where friendly folk, in Christ's dear name, extend the helping hand, and voice the kindly word of cheer.*

*An oasis along the desert-path of life, where weary, wayward, wandering souls receive the cup of water cool, the loaf of broken bread.*

¶ *A House of God, where hungering hearts may eat of the Bread of Life; where thirsty souls may drink of the Living Water.*

*An enduring monument to our loyal Methodism. A befitting memorial to the world's Ministering Master.*

¶ *Conceived in prayer; born of faith; sanctified through love.*

*Dedicated to the worship of God; consecrated to the service of mankind.*

¶ *Friends praying, planning, giving; Folks playing, loving, living.*

*Hearts made happier; lives made lovelier; homes made holier.*

\* \* \*

*Once a dream, a hope, a vision.  
Soon a glorious fruition!*

## PLAZA PROGRESS

Century-old, adobe ruins being removed.

Lot being cleared of accumulated debris and filth.

Portable chapel, welfare and clinic rooms ordered to be built.

\$42,000 in subscriptions and property already secured.

Final plans for a \$300,000 plant becoming definite.

## PRESENT GOALS

\$100,000 to build first unit—including three stories and basement for chapel, offices, and the beginning of trades and welfare work.

100 persons, giving \$1,000 each, to bring this to pass.



**Lithomount  
Pamphlet  
Binder**  
Gaylord Bros.  
Makers  
Stockton, Calif.  
PAT. JAN. 21, 1908

