

Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

J. E. DAVIS, ADMINISTRADOR.

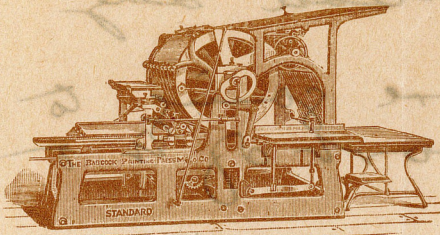
PROGRESO 54. APARTADO 90.
LEON. GTO.

DEPARTAMENTO ESPECIAL

MOVIDO POR FUERZA ELECTRICA

PARA TRABAJOS DEL PUBLICO.

F. F. FRANCO, DIRECTOR.



PUBLICACIONES

— de —

ESTA CASA:

— "El Atalaya Bau-
tista" semanario re-
ligioso; al año... \$ 1.50.

✱ ✱

— "El Expositor Bi-
blico," cuaderno tri-
mestral; al año... \$ 0.35.

✱ ✱

— "Nuestros Niños,"
semanario; al año \$ 0.25.

✱ ✱

— "La Cena Conme-
morativa del Señor,"
encuadrado, 377
págs.; ejemplar... \$ 1.50.

✱ ✱

— "Breve Historia
de los Bautistas,"
encuadrado, 344
págs.; ejemplar... \$ 1.00.

✱ ✱

— "Inmersión," en-
cuadrado, 200 pá-
ginas; el ejemplar. \$ 0.50.

✱ ✱

— "Manual para los
Obreros Cristianos"
236 págs.; el ejem-
plar. \$ 0.35.

✱ ✱

— "Católico, Roma-
no ó Protestante,"
folleto de 48 págs.;
cada uno. \$ 0.05.

✱ ✱

Leon Gto. 3/14/10

Dr. R. J. Willingham,
Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother:—
I have no typewriter ribbon
and so you will have to deci-
pher my notes for this time.
I have several things to
write about, namely:

1st. I have tried every way
to get hold of enough money
to buy this house we have
here for the printing, but
have failed completely. So I
went to see the owner and
told him what you wanted
— an extension of the time
to May 5th. He was a bit
reluctant, but said at least
that he was a friend of
ours and preferred that we
have the house than that the
Bishop buy it and he gave us
till May 5th and I called his
attention to the fact that we
would need another 5 or 6 days
on top of that to hear from
you, and he agreed to it.

I feel that you will not fail
us this time. It would cripple
our work very much to have to
move and this house will be

so much better for our work than any other I have looked at.

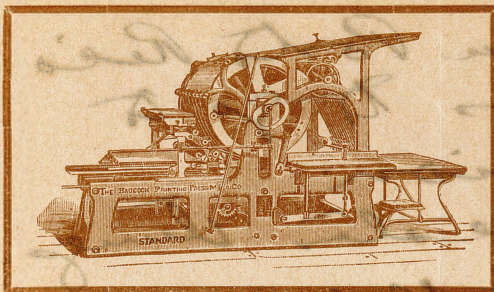
In case we buy it, we are going to make a church in one part of it & the parsonage in the other.

2nd. About the priest. I brought him here to try him. We have not even received him as a member and he is living very simply. I gave him \$40.00 this month and a room. I am going to take him on a trip with me this week to visit some towns in the country - Panindicuro, Purreandiro, Coenes & several others still smaller. He is fairly educated and he and I can translate together fine. He does not know English but I translate literally and he puts it into splendid Spanish. We are translating: "Fifty Years in the Church of Rome" by Chiriquy. He writes well and I feel that if we can hold him down he will make us a fine worker. He does real well preaching. Preached a good sermon last night.

Mr. Justiniani who recently came to work with us seems to be doing well very well. You know he recently came from the Methodists to us.

My father worries a little about my getting a Catholic priest and a Methodist preacher out of my hands all at once, but concludes his letter: "But I rather judge you can handle them, since your baptist raising has been good."

I think you should authorize me to use the



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2
appropriation made for Purná-
lin & Purnádicus and I can
keep these brethren under my
surveillance, so to speak, and
with them one or other of us
can visit our there regularly.
He should lose \$50.00 Mexican
I think. I am arranging with
him or you suggest month
by month - but we think here
he will be the man we
need for this place - that is,
the work of the editorial
department - under my direc-
tion of course.

3d Our printing work is
growing. We print 1000 copies
of El Atalaya every week,
1750 of Nuestros Niños for each
week and 2400 Expositores
each quarter.

Recently got 250 new
subscriptions from Cuba
Occidental for Expositor &
750 for Nuestros Niños. This

Morning got an order from Porto Rico
for 25 new subscriptions to go to
a Congregational Mission.

We are hoping for greater things.
I feel that God sent me to Mexico
for such a time as this. But oh,
how we need a better equipment.

As to my health, I am better
off than for a long time. I think I
have fully recovered from the
shock of the operation and am
now doing more work and that
with greater ease, than for a
long time.

God grant to stir the folks at
home and abroad to give more
money for the prosecution of this
great Cause.

This is all for this time. My
family are well, except one child
who is recovering from a lighter
attack of malarial fever.

Hoping to hear from you
soon.

I am fraternally

J. B. Davis

J. B. Davis
Mexico

Junta de Evangelismo

de la

Convención Nacional Bautista.

T. Barocio.

Geo. H. Brewer.

J. E. Davis.

León, Gto., México. March 31st, 1910.

Dr. R. J. Willingham,

Richmond, Va.

My Dear Brother:--

Your kind favor of the 22nd came duly to hand, and was awaiting my return from a missionary trip to Panindícuaro and other points which I had to visit before the rainy season set in. I am glad you have asked for the information about the house and I certainly take pleasure in giving you the following details.

The Catholics are after us, so to speak, and two of the better class priests came a few days ago to see this house in which we live, and we understand they want to buy it to put a college here. Of course this is not the house we want to buy--it is the one next to it, but we understand that they want the two houses for their college, and of course, the scheme is to kick us out into the street.

But now to the point.

1. Location.

The house is situated on the corner of Calles de la Paz y Progreso (Peace and Progress Streets), a good place for a Baptist Church and Publication House it seems to me, only four blocks from the central plaza of the city, and as you know this is a city of about 100,000 souls. It is just three blocks from the Post Office and a Street Car line passes in front of the door. This is very handy for freight to and from the printing plant, as they bring it on freight cars to the very door. Progress street is one of the principal streets of the city.

Furthermore we are on the opposite side of the square (plaza)

from the Methodists, about seven blocks from them.

2. Size.

Mrs. Davis and I have just finished measuring the house and we get the following results:

Front on Progress Street outside measurement..... 64 ft.
Length on Peace Street outside measurement.....100 ft.
Greatest length inside.....166 ft.
Width of Corral at narrowest place..... 37 ft.

You will note that a piece has been cut out on one corner and also a room of this house we live in eats into the place--a thing not uncommon in this country. I send a diagram--a rough sketch--but I think it gives a fairly good outline of the place.

3. The use we expect to put it to.

They are two:

(1) Printery and Publication House, and (2) Church.

We have the printery on the side along Peace street fronting on Progress. There are five rooms occupied by the plant, one of which is our Office. On the other side of the inner court (patio) and facing on Progress Street is the sala (parlor) of the house and just back of it another room with a thin wall between that can easily be taken out. This will give us a room 35 ft. long and 18 ft. 4 in. wide at the back and 29 ft. 6 in. wide in front. This will give us ample room for a church for some time to come. When we need more room we can easily remodel it and have a room 29 1/2 X 35 feet. But back of this is another room, so we could easily have a nice church approximately 30 X 50 feet. See diagram.

4. Number of rooms.

There are 10 rooms in front on ground floor and 2 above. There are besides these, one room without a roof, back of the kitchen, two closets, a small servants' room and a good sized corral with stables, etc.--a total of 14 or 15 rooms.

5. The walls and condition of house.

The walls are not adobe, but stone--that is, stones set in good mezcla (a sort of cement). They are thick and ~~we have~~ had to dig through them when we installed electricity, and know them to be like rock. The house needs some repairs such as painting and fixing up a little, but this is not urgent. We will cut ~~to~~ the door into the street--there is now only a window--and have our church open onto the street--a great need, so we can get the people to enter better, as they have a hesitancy about entering a private residence.

6. The roof is good.

I do not ~~think~~ think it will need any repairs for a long time to come. A second story can easily be put on the front of the house.

7. There is a well in the house.

There is no city water in the house, but a main runs along in front of the house and it would not cost a great deal to install it. However, there is no great need of this at present, as there is a hydrant on the opposite corner, not more than ten steps from the door.

8. Closets.

The closets are not good, but ~~we~~ at our own expense dug a well or sink for them, as here that is the best way, for there is an underground sheet of water. The closets will serve as they are for the use we want to put the house to without extra expense.

9. Terms.

The owner asked \$12.000 but I had a long talk with him about a year ago and after much "dickering" he agreed to \$10.000 and we pay half of the cost of transfer (it will amount to some \$200 or \$250 Mexican perhaps). This is still in vogue, as he gave us till about May 10th, as I wrote you in my last letter.

10. Opinions of missionaries.

Dr. Chastain has been here and he is going to write that he has seen the house and thinks it is well worth the money.

Bro. Neal knows the house having lived there all the time he was in León and thinks it is well worth \$10,000.

Bro. Clark is enthusiastic; he lives in one of the upper rooms.

11. City Improvements.

There is talk of electric street cars and new pavements. If this is done--and it will be done sooner or later--the property will be worth double the amount at least.

I pray that the Holy Spirit may direct and that all that is done shall redound to the glory of our God.

We are gathering funds here among us to make the changes in the house, so as to have an attractive little chapel well arranged and lighted.

Hoping to hear from you favorably before a very great while,

I am fraternally,

J. E. Davis
Manager of Casa Bautista
de Publicaciones,
León, Eto.