



*Castañer  
Newsletter*

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BRETHREN SERVICE PROJECT

Vol. 16 No. 5

Castañer, Puerto Rico

BRETHREN SERVICE COMMISSION

October 15, 1961

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THEN AND NOW

By Donald Parker

I have two visual images of Castañer:

One as viewed through the eyes of a ten year old boy---eternal summer, the adventures of a strange land and different peoples, mountains to climb, semi-tropical forests to roam, trips to the beach and fun with the adult fellows of the project.

The other is more of an immediate view of the on-going program, its accomplishments, its problems and its hopes. The hospital building I remember as a boy no longer stands and has been superseded by two structures, the latter one a beautiful architectural achievement known to many throughout the island. My understanding of the people and their problems has been greatly deepened; in addition to their friendliness and hospitality, their shyness at times and their emotional exuberance, I have come to see their physical and spiritual needs through the eyes of one of the medical team.

Besides life-threatening and crippling diseases, there are an abundance of health problems that nag them from childhood, that often sap them of energy and make life miserable or, at best, a chore. In spite of the almost 20 years of invaluable service the project has rendered, the untold suffering that has surely been relieved, and the measurable advance in health standards that have been accomplished, it must be said that the project still stands in a valley of need. There is still much that can and must be done, there is still a need for skilled and dedicated personnel. The hope of making the hospital truly autonomous, the pride and responsibility of the community, must be realized gradually but steadily and surely. The people must learn more about and how to deal with their own health and social problems and we must be willing to teach them and to turn over to them areas of the work as they become capable of handling them.

Gone are the carefree days of boyhood; but with the weight of responsibility there comes satisfaction in seeing difficult problems met with workable answers, people enjoying a fuller, more healthful life, and Christ's great mission to suffering humanity being carried forward in this small corner of God's World.

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DENTAL SERVICES IN CASTAÑER

By James Miller

After being in existence a little over a year now, our Dental Program is looking for new ways to expand our service. Our aim is to provide a complete dental service for complete mouth repair and a six month recall system to keep the work in good condition.

Approximate figures on the work done in the past year show roughly 3,000 patient visits, 1,000 exams with X-Rays, 4,300 extractions, 700 silver and gold restorations, 200 porcelain restorations, 150 cleanings, 75 dentures and fixed bridges, and 6 root canal treatments.

From January through June our dental staff was boosted by the addition of an Oral Surgeon, Dr. J. Thomas Nicholson. His services broadened our service to include general anesthesia. Several patients had all their dental fillings done in one appointment while they slept in the operating room under general anesthesia. Our longest procedure took 4½ hours, during which we filled 22 teeth covering 39 tooth surfaces and extracted 4 other teeth. To our knowledge this was the first and only place in Puerto Rico in which this type of service was offered. (con't)

Dental Con't.

Our most recent program has been to teach dental health in the schools. My assistant, Ernesto Diaz, is visiting schools, and giving talks in Spanish on dental care, such as proper tooth brushing techniques, regular dental visits, etc.

The work has been very satisfying and we feel we are fulfilling an urgent community need.

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#### PROJECT PERSONNEL

By Rita Kibler

Caleb Frantz is our Project Director and Hospital Administrator. He keeps things organized and listens to our problems, joys, and suggestions. His wife, Reta Jane, teaches the elementary grades in Unit School. This in itself, besides their three lively boys, keeps her busy. Irvic, 3rd grade, likes to help his Daddy fix things around the house. Elman, 1st grade, is having lots of fun discovering the exciting world of school. John David, 3 years, has fun just playing and helping take care of Linda Butler while Mother teaches. The Frantz's are from Bethel, Pennsylvania.

The Kurtz family joined us in July. Alton is teaching the high school grades plus some Arithmetic and Science to the elementary grades. He is on a sabbatical leave from Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio, where is Dean of Education and teaches Math and Science. His wife, Ruth, helps with music in Unit School besides caring for their four children. Rachel, 4th grade, enjoys being Mother's helper. Beth, 2nd grade, likes to read. Sarah, 4 years, and Stanley, 3 years, like playing games and being read to.

The Groff family has had a nice, long vacation since our last Newsletter. They spent about six weeks in the States visiting Everett's family. They left two of their daughters (Janice, 10th grade, and Carmen, 8th grade) with Everett's brother in California. There they will be able to attend better schools. Everett's nephew, Dale Barnes, came back with them to spend a year of school in Castañer. Elsa is back in the groove of working hard as Director of Nurses. Everett is teaching English in Bartolo. Joyce, 7th grade, has lots of studying to do; so does Ricky, 5th grade, but he also finds time to spend outside.

James Miller, our Dentist, and Doris, his wife, had an exciting summer also. Karla Beth came to live with them on July 4th, and she is quite a little fire-cracker. Doris does some sewing for the hospital and keeps the linen inventory up-to-date. Kristine, 2 years, loves the out-of-doors and visits all her neighbors. Jim keeps all our teeth in good shape and has a big practice among the community residents. The Millers come from Ohio; Jim is serving his Alternative Service.

Lester Kibler, head of our Maintenance Dept., and his wife, Rita, came to Castañer in January under the Alternative Service plan. The project had been without a maintenance man for quite some time so there was plenty to do. Les' job consists of anything from fixing the vehicles to painting signs. Rita is the secretary and spends her days in the office. They come from Warrenville, Illinois.

David and Winifred (Joseph) Toledo have the youngest member of the project. Rebecca Lynn was born on Sept. 7. After staying home a couple months, Winnie will resume her nursing duties. David keeps the Hospital sparkling, and does all other duties connected with the Housekeeping Dept. Winnie's two-year <sup>term</sup> has expired, but she is staying on for another year----for which we are all glad. David is from Castañer, and Winnie from Onkama, Michigan.

(Con't)

John Forbes is our Social Worker. He helps people find jobs, get government aid if they are entitled to it, settle family and medical problems, etc. Willie, his wife, is a nurse and works part time in the Out-Patient Dept. The rest of her time is spent with Ghandi their two-year old son. Ghandi likes to, among other things, visit Grandma, (John's mother, Mrs. Lena Forbes, who came to Castañer to live).

James Bingham is our treasurer. He pays all the bills, collects all the money, and keeps the books, etc. His office is a favorite visiting place on the 26th of each month. That's when we receive our allowance. Jim is in Alternative Service and comes from Lombard, Illinois.

Deanna Denton, a much needed nurse, joined us in March. She hails from Farmington, Michigan; she works on the night shift much of the time. We all try to be quiet during the day so she can sleep, but I'm afraid we wake her up sometimes.

Lee Smith, Medical Director, is able to spend more time at home with his family since the coming of our other full time doctor. From March to July I'm sure the Smith children began to wonder what their father looked like. He was busier than usual doing the work of two doctors in the Out Patient Dept., clinics, on call for all emergencies, etc. His wife, Glea, is helping in the school plus caring for their five children. Byron, 10th grade, is still interested in radios and electronics. Carol, 8th grade, enjoys baking and sewing, Janice, 5th grade, loves to read and think up tricks on the neighbors. David, 3rd grade, has a great time playing with his toys and driving his "buggy" all around Casa Larga. Then we come to Amy who is 2 years and gets a bang out of anything. The Smiths are from Lakeland, Michigan.

Edward Butler works with the chickens and has a good laying program. He also helps part time in the Maintenance Dept. Judy, his wife, keeps Casa Grande in shape for overnight guests and keeps track of housing supplies. They are adopting Linda Sue; she came to live with them in February and is now eight months old. She is everyone's favorite with her smiles and beautiful hair. We all felt deeply with the Butlers when they lost their first son a few hours after his birth on July 19. Ed's Alternative Service term will expire in January when they will be going to Kansas to farm.

We have needed another full time doctor since March and Donald Parker from Ohio came in July to fill that bill. Along with him came his wife, Joyce, and Jeffry, their three weeks old son, who was born on June 23. After helping Don through school, Joyce finds it wonderful to stay home and care for her baby and do lots of homemaking. Don was here with his folks (Dr. Daryl Parker) when he was a boy of nine, he is now serving under Alternative Service plan.

We have had several visitor-workers since the last Newsletter:

Paul Riley, student doctor from Indiana University, Indianapolis, Ind.  
 James Kase, student doctor from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Bryan Davis, pre-med student from Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio  
 Richard and Joanne Provines, student doctor from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Jay and Sandra Smith, student doctor from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Donna Carper, nurse aid from Boston, Massasschuttes  
 Dr. Ben McConnel & family, Doctor from Lakeland, Florida

Most of these spent approximately two months with us.

Nathan Leopold is helping on a short term project with The School of Tropical Nursing in San Juan. We were all happy for him when he married Trudi Garcia from San Juan in February.

(Con't.)

Several have left us since January: -

- Edward, June, and daughter, Rhonda Switzer - Teacher and secretary, Greeley, Colorado
- Thomas, Nilda, and daughter, Terry Nicholson - Oral Surgeon, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Christine Ruhl Torres - Nurse, Kleinfettersville, Pennsylvania
- Susan Graham Huffacker - Nurse, Houston, Texas
- Wilbur, Joyce, and sons, David and Danny McFadden - Medical Missionary, Indonesia

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ISLAND NEWS

Gleanings from the San Juan Star

By Caleb Frantz

In recent years, while the demands and need for modern communications have been increasing by leaps and bounds, the Island telephone service has been taxed beyond endurance. The Puerto Rico Telephone Co., has not been able to keep up. They, and the poor service, have been vilified with every deprecatory term and remark of which human thought is capable. Recently, however, the company has been successful in floating bond and stock issues totaling about \$21,000,000 for expansion and improvement purposes. As a forerunner of the good things to come, new equipment handling the seven-digit system has recently gone into operation in the San Juan area. The absence of bugs in the new system has come as a shock to habitual complainers.

A few weeks ago a group of intellectuals, mostly from the U. of P. R., wrote a lengthy note to Governor Muñoz Marin asking that he demand the withdrawal of all bases, armor, weapons, etc. from Puerto Rico. They claim that Puerto Rico is a major arsenal and the island would be one of the first to suffer a nuclear attack and virtual annihilation. Muñoz countered that Puerto Ricans must not expect to enjoy privileges of the democratic way of life without also accepting the responsibilities. A week or so later a second group of professionals signed a statement which took a view opposite to that of the first group. They enlarged upon the idea the Governor expressed.

Governor Muñoz Marin favors a "self-help shelter program with strong government incentives." He has designated John Baugher, head of University of Puerto Rico Nuclear Center, to head a technical team to work out an atomic shelter plan for Puerto Rico. Muñoz thinks "the probability of a nuclear war small" but the recent world crises make "the reality of the possibility of nuclear war" more evident.

Fomento, the Government Development Bank will extend its loan facilities to commercial establishments. These were previously limited to industrial enterprises. There is a special program to aid small business----in cooperation with the Federal Small Business Administration.

A comprehensive hospitalization and medical care plan for the whole population is under study by the Governor; he hopes to have the plan completed by the end of this year. The plan would be supported by taxes on both worker and employer pay-rolls, other revenues, and money from the workmen's compensation fund. Puerto Rico Medical Association president, Dr. Enrique Perez Santiago, declares that the government is greatly underestimating the cost of the plan and calls it harmful and unrealistic.

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"Life is a web, time is a shuttle, and man is a weaver. The principle of action is a thread in the web of life. Of that web, two things are true; that which enters therein will reapper, and nothing will appear which was not put therein."

UNIT SCHOOL

By Alton Kurtz

The English school for children of project members continues on a half-day basis, the children going to the local public schools the other half day. Eleven pupils are enrolled this year in nine different grades. Classes are being held in the old hospital, the upper grades meeting in the former nurses' classroom and the lower grades in what was once the maternity ward.

Nearly all of the textbooks are new this year, thanks to the gifts of a number of people and publishers. Chemistry is being taught for the first time since the closing of the Academy, with the old hospital lab being used as the laboratory.

The head teacher for the lower grades is Mrs. Reta Jane Frantz. Mrs. Glea Smith assists with art and Mrs. Ruth Kurtz with music. The upper grades are being taught by Dr. Alton Kurtz, on leave from Defiance College.

The pupils this year are: Dale Barnes, Irvic and Elman Frantz, Richard and Joyce Groff, Beth and Rachel Kurtz, and David, Janice, Carol, and Byron Smith.

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CASTAÑER COMMUNITY HOUSING PROJECT

By John Forles

The Land Law of Puerto Rico has as one of its aims to provide every poor rural family with a home of their own. This is a very important aim, for Puerto Rico has long been afflicted with the disgraceful social situation of the "arrimao" who lives in a house not his own, of poor construction and infrequent repairs, and the threat over his head that at any time, for some disagreement between him and his employer (the farm owner) he can lose the roof over his head. This brings as its consequence enforced abject obedience and acceptance of low wage scales and poor working conditions.

Naturally, things have improved since the passage of the Land Law and other social legislation. But the evil of the "arrimao" remains, although to a lesser extent. Castañer found out recently how the government of Puerto Rico, through its Social Programs Administration, is working to eliminate this evil.

On January 7, 1959, a low-cost mutual-aid housing project was begun in Castañer. Sixty-Five lots were divided among needy families, and the men promised to provide three days' work a week, as well as pay \$20 down of about \$400 that will be paid over a long period. Then they proceeded to work as a group, under the supervision of a foreman provided by the Administration, to start the actual construction of the houses. One by one, they laid the foundations. One by one, they raised the walls. Then the roofs. Finally the process of completion was left to each individual family. In two years the houses were built, but only 27 of the original 65 managed to survive the ordeal, and two others paid to have their houses built. In July 1961 the ceremony of turning over the houses took place.

The houses still do not have water or electricity. But as a result of working together and learning the habit of mutual aid, they are working together to achieve these things also, with the help of the Community Education Division of the Puerto Rico government. In doing so, they are leading the way for the rest of the community of Castañer to learn to work together for the good things of life.

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NEW HOSPITAL SERVICES

By Caleb Frantz

The following figures are based on records for October 1, 1960 to September 30, 1961, our first full fiscal year in the New Hospital facility. Since figures for September were not ready, I have dubbed in those of a typical month and rounded off the totals.

There were 8,000 patient days in the Hospital Department, not including 1,000 newborn infant days. Occupancy was 65.5%. There were 18,000 outpatient visits at the hospital, with 3,000 additional visits in 'remote' clinics held monthly at Cerrote, Mirazol, Rio Prieto and Pezuela.

Surgeries amounted to 740 and deliveries to 210. Family planning interviews and procedures totaled 480. Diagnostic laboratory procedures amounted to 14,000 and 1,800 X-Rays were taken.

The kitchen served 35,000 meals including those for employees. The laundry processed about 75,000 lbs. of linens and clothing. Patient income for the period was \$39,300 of which \$9,500 was dental receipts. The Dental Department is essentially self-supporting. Payments on Hospital Department bills run about 18%, and payments on Out-Patient bills, about 60%. All in all payments from patients cover about one-third of expenses. This is a considerable improvement over past performance. We note a leveling-off trend at present levels, but are not drawing any conclusions.

The hospital staff includes the equivalent of 38 full time people. Of these two are doctors and from five to seven registered nurses. There are a total of eight Brethren Service workers presently assigned to the Hospital.

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SURVEY BY MEDICAL DIRECTOR

By Lee Smith

Approaching the end of our fiscal year with this month, we anticipate a most happy ending financially. It is difficult to ascertain all the factors which have contributed to such, but among them are the activities of our Social Worker in stimulating interest in our medical services through the propaganda to sell capitalizing shares in the Medical Co-op. of Castañer. Through the good fortune of having nearly adequate personnel for the majority of the time, we were able to offer a service which approaches many of the standards we are used to in the United States, and as such, far superior to the common public health, mayor dominated type. The beautiful new structure of a most modern medical facility has not detracted from the poor entering its portals, rather it has helped to make it more truly proletarian, with all economic groups seeking aid and care here. The payments received from patients this year are about three times previous annual income from this source and will be used in forming our new budget.

Very important in the maintenance of this program has been a more adequate doctor and nurse coverage which is the core of the patient volume, with a relatively well oriented and smooth running service. In spite of problems which we anticipate, there seems to be an expectancy of meeting the growth problems, and the excitement of possibly attaining self-sufficiency to the point of releasing some of our long time financial benefactors.

With about one third of our budget for the year past coming from patients, let us not deceive ourselves about the type of medical practice we are now embracing. With the 300% increase in patient income, little of it came from the large indigent group, even though these did improve on the percent paid. Our work is still

(con't)



primarily care for a large indigent group of people and I would estimate that about 80% of the volume are partially or totally unable to pay cost for services rendered. This means that the remaining 20% paid all their cost plus some for the indigent group, a Robin Hood practice used by medical men of good repute for a long time.

With a grand total of five doctors on hand for a few days in the month of August, we also have a demonstration of the maximum capacity of use of our present space---finding it does have a limit. There does need to be some expansion to furnish space for some overlooked activities like Family Planning and the displaced Social Worker whose office space suffered administrative squeeze. A doctor's library is sadly needed for its practical aspects as well as making our unit up to standard.

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HEALTH COOPERATIVE

By John Forbes

The Castañer Health Cooperative came into existence on August 12, 1960, when the articles of incorporation were signed. The community had already given its endorsement to this idea of a pre-paid health plan on a cooperative basis. The first 12 members were the Board of Directors. When the cooperative was authorized to sell shares to others, the membership and share campaign got off to a slow start but picked up momentum. Since the cooperative must have \$10,000 share capital before it can begin to function, a minimum of \$25.00 in shares has been imposed for a person to become a member. This is quite a lot for a poor area like that around Castañer, but nevertheless the results up to now have been encouraging. Of 400 members needed, 322 have signed up. Of the \$10,000 capital, \$8,400 has been subscribed and \$3,096 collected, which minus \$155 expenses leaves \$2,941 to date.

The plan hopes to provide, for a very small premium, all the services of the hospital with the exception of some dental services for the subscriber and his immediate family. This would entitle the subscriber to clinic visits, hospitalization, surgery, anesthesia, maternity, x-rays, laboratory tests, diathermy, electrocardiogram, basal metabolism, an annual physical checkup, an annual teeth cleaning, extractions of teeth, and visits to specialists when referred by the doctor in Castañer.

These benefits, and the premium, are still tentative pending an actuarial study which has not yet taken place, and the decision of the organizing assembly which will take place when \$7,500 of the capital has been collected. Then the members will elect a Board of Directors to replace the provisional one that has been functioning at present, and will decide, on the basis of the actuarial study, the benefits and the premium. After that time, the initial 200 subscribers, required by law to have paid three months in advance, can be sought, also the lacking capital.

There is only one functioning health cooperative in Puerto Rico at the present time, that of the Transport Workers' Union, which has just finished its first year of operations. A number of others will come into being, but the experience of Castañer, in this rural area, will be unique and of great value for the rest of Latin America.

It is hoped that this cooperative can help the hospital to be more self-sustaining economically, and by stressing preventive medicine, to improve health education on the part of the hospital as well. It also provides an effective and democratic means by which the patients can air grievances and make suggestions about the clinic and hospital.

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CHURCH NEWS

By Pastor Donald Fike

The currents of the Caribbean have slowly eaten away at tiny Puerto Rico for centuries. But today other forces are surging up within this lush land and are loosening from within many long trusted moorings. Puerto Rico is in the throes of transition and many of its native sons are casting about for new anchorage.

In confusing days which simultaneously bring "freedoms" and insecurity, the Church speaks of security in Christ, and invites others to join in the joys of the Christian life.

Since the last news letter was mailed the church has witnessed and invited in a variety of ways:

By presenting a series of special Sunday evening services throughout January emphasizing and interpreting "the Christian Mission today." Major resources utilized: Gilbert and Nancy Herod for the Congo; Wilbur and Joyce McFadden for Indonesia; Homer and Marguerite Burke for Nigeria; Caleb Frantz and the Fikes for Ecuador. The variety of presentation greatly heightened listener interest and participation.

Through cooperation in community-wide pre-Easter services presented on the "Cancha" of the community center. The visiting minister, Miguel A. Morales, was at that time the executive secretary of the Evangelical Council of Puerto Rico.

Through participating in a cooperative vacation Bible school attended by 125 children of the community.

By co-sponsoring with El Guacio a two-week youth camp program (one week for boys and one week for girls) at the Monte del Estado forest preserve near Maricao.

By sending Alipio Toledo to Ecuador for six weeks as a representative of our church. There he participated in the international summer work camp, interpreted the witness of the church in Puerto Rico, and brought home excellent reports of rich fellowship with our Spanish speaking Ecuadorian brethren.

The church continues to witness and invite:

By providing Sunday morning worship services and church school classes for an weekly attendance of 98---rain and/or shine (which it does frequently!)

Through an extremely variable youth program which attempts to establish continuity of experience and growth in young lives; lives that reflect the turbulence of their times. (To illustrate: Except for 2 or 3 regular members there have been three complete changes in group membership and leadership during the year. For six inspiring weeks during the summer 35 to 50 attended weekly meetings. That peak has now been leveled by an exodus to classes, employment and other attractions. An interesting sidelight: Worknight groups for washing "miami" windows and "mowing" the lawn with machetes were among the largest and most enthusiastic!)

By moving out into various homes for Wednesday evening services of study and fellowship---any home in which the family promises to invite unchurched neighbors. Two such meetings are now held each Wednesday and the number should increase in the future with similar services being directed by responsible Puerto Rican brethren.

By periodic evaluation of and long range planning for our efforts, often aided by visits of brethren such as Paul Bowman, Jr., Harold Row, and Samuel Harley. A by-product of this most recent visit has been the formation of several small dynamic groups in Christian growth. These are deepening our understanding of who we are, who are our co-workers, and why we are all here.

And finally, the church continues to witness and invite through outreach and extension services. Our vision of what the Church must become in the future in and

through us is broadening. In addition to Sunday afternoon services in Villa Perez and Bartolo, a new group has developed in the Yahuecas area. Ample evidence of their live interest is the enthusiastic reception given the weekly inquirers' classes held in one of the homes since January. Three adult members of this family received baptism on World-Wide Communion Sunday. They too have found security for troubled days and joy in a time of fear. They invite others and the Church continues to grow.

The Church has recently heard calls from the Mirasol and Pesuelas areas. Expansion should soon take place in Bartolo and might well extend into the barrio of Rio Prieto where others have invited the church to enter and help. The days ahead are challenging ones. We may not know the future but we trust in Him who does.

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COMMUNITY WORK PROJECT

By Edward Butler

One of the largest Material Aid projects undertaken in recent years is the construction of a house for the relocation of a family from the nearby mountain area, Sillas de Calderon. The family's need was discovered by a group from the C.B.Y.F. when they were hiking in the area.

There are three people in the family; the husband (said to be in his nineties), his wife (who is somewhat younger than he), and their demented son, who must be kept confined. Their present home is probably one of the poorest constructed houses to be found in this area. It consists of a framework which is covered with banana leaves to form the roof and siding.

A site for relocating the family was donated by a man in the community. Some money has also been donated by people of the community to help defray the costs involved. The project has donated the former elementary unit school building (which has been vacant since the unit school began using part of the old hospital) for the main part of the house. A kitchen will be added to this building to complete the house.

Work has progressed slowly due to a lack of sufficient volunteer workers from the community, working only on Saturdays, and an abundance of rain. However, as September draws to a close, the site has been prepared, the floor and the foundation are poured, the "house" is moved and erected, and a hole for the latrine has been dug. Work yet to be done before occupancy consists of the building of the kitchen, putting partitions in the house, and constructing a latrine building.

This work project is under the supervision of Les Kibler and Ed Butler, and is jointly sponsored by B. S. Project and the Castañer Church of the Brethren.

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PLAY DAY

By Deanna Denton

Come this October 28th Castañer Brethren Service Project will play host to the other service projects on the island. It is customary for the projects to get together in various places two or three times a year. The spirit of the day is like that of a big family reunion. Aibonito, El Guacio, Robinson School are among the many that trek their way through the winding mountain roads to the hospital project nestled in a lush green valley.

That morning, after everyone has been tagged and groups organized, the day's activities will begin. The adults will again be off on a bouncing, exciting jeep ride up to the top of "Jose's Hill". When they arrive they will be greeted by José Francisco and his son José and taken on a tour of Señor Francisco's combination

Coffe-Banana Plantation. The functions of the finca (farm) will be explained and José will show his various agricultural experiments.

The children in the age group of 7 to 13 may go along with their parents or "stay below" and enter into the various contests and games that will be played on the village 'concha' (play area). There will be small, but interesting prizes for the winners.

Babes in arms will be cared for by three women in their homes so the other mothers will be able to join in the activities.

At noon there will be a big meal held in the church annex-dining hall. Castañer will furnish the main hot dish and beverage. After a short rest period we're off again. This time there is a choice of touring the new, (year old), modern hospital or visiting a scientific experimental farm, a few miles away from the project area.

The day closes with everyone gathering together at the church for a worship service. As all family reunions must end so must this one, with everyone saying, "See you all next year!"

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JOB OPENING

Do you know a nurse? Or know of a nurse? Let me tell you what kind of girl we're looking for: Preferably single---mature, pleasant, reliable---likes to work hard---and wants to change pace for awhile.

Does this description bring one to mind?

Well, then, let me put it this way: We need a nurse--or two. Even if she isn't perfect. Just--well--preferably single--because we have quarters for single nurses.

What do we have to offer? Hmmm. Don't get all shook up now:

1. Salary: Room and board and usually ten dollars a month (you won't get rich, but you'll experience a wonderful freedom from materialism).
2. Broader opportunities to serve because of our relatively small (33 bed, but well-equipped) hospital.
3. A foreign culture where the principal language is Spanish.
4. A forty-hour week
5. Occasional beach trips, holiday outings, hiking, visiting, exploring--al year 'round! [It's semi-tropical.]
6. What more do you want? Breakfast in bed is for the patients.

That's the deal. Can you help us? You say you're a nurse? Then write to us here at Brethren Service Project, Castañer, Puerto Rico; or to the General Brotherhood Board, Church of the Brethren, 1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, Illinois. Especially if you're single!

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NOTE: If you are no longer interested in receiving the Castañer Newsletter will you kindly drop us a card to that effect. Thanks.

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"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."  
(Phil. 2:4)