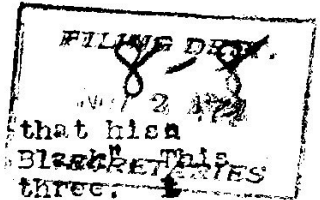


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A. J. Martin  
Personal Report  
A. J. Martin

1922



It is said of Dan Crawford that his heart was so bound up with Africa that he was even "Thinking Black". This is how we feel about Matto Grosso, not after twenty years but three. It is strange how a place that absorbs your time and energy reciprocates by planting in one's heart a great love for it. Matto Grosso to the average Brazilian is a strange land of tigers, boa constrictors and many unknown horrors, a place altogether undeliberate.

We have found Matto Grosso this year the land of opportunity. Our hearts grew faint as we waved our hats to our fellow missionaries - Mr and Mrs Landes - as their little launch slipped down the river not to return for two years or so. We turned from the river to the city and the country beyond - Our Work.

The work in Cuyaba this year has been extremely interesting. The change of government has brought about a more friendly attitude toward the Gospel. On the whole one judges that it is better for all that the Bishop lecture on the beauties of Matto Grosso in Sao Paulo than govern Matto Grosso from Cuyaba. The construction of the church is going ahead nicely. About June we decided to increase the length of the building from seven to fourteen meters, thereby doubling the capacity. This step was the result of the large increase in attendance at the Sunday services. The members of the church gave to this work this year the sum of over \$12,000.00. The Sunday School has more than doubled during the year. The primary department now having more than the whole school some time back. We rejoice at the ability shown by some of the church workers such as - Sr Amindo de Mattos, Sr Joao Alberto Dias, Jose Nonato de Faria and others who carry the burden of the S.S. Work. It has been our pleasure this year to open up a preaching point in the 'Porto'. 'O porto' is the part of the city that stretches along the river front. As missionaries and workers in Cuyaba we have longed for a chance in the 'Porto'. We have realized our longing. The meetings are well attended. One of the believers, Sr Dias, pays the rent for the hall. Our entrance into the 'Porto' was a thorn in the side of the priests as they always considered it as their special reservation. We are in to stay and hope to start a S.S. there this coming year.

Outside of Cuyaba.

As you all know the purchase of the farm for the school was completed this year. We consider that we have the best place for many miles around Cuyaba. We thank the Board with many thanks for its quick response to our call for a farm man.

This has been a good year for travel and the mules have been kept very busy for all our travelling is done by means of pack train. The work at Guia that Mr Landes opened up two years ago has developed nicely. The work was visited twice a month through the year besides two special visits of ten days each with quite a group from Cuyaba including our whole family. These campaigns meant strenuous work but certainly showed good results not only in Guia but also in Cuyaba.

We had an opportunity of visiting Pocone three times this  
The first time the meetings were not at all encouraging. The second  
asked Mr Jameson , a missionary from England who is studying the language  
in Cuyaba , to go with me. As he is a good player we carried the little  
folding organ. The priests, all French, made a foolish demonstration against  
us by means of some rowdys, even going to the extent of throwing giant  
firecrackers into the hall where we were having meetings. This demonstration  
militated against the priests and in our favor . As the people became very  
sympathetic and asked us to come again. I returned to Pocone in August with  
Mrs Martin and some friends and we had over a week of splendid services.  
I visited every family in the place and all the families were represented  
at one time or another at the services. Many decided to serve the Lord  
and are now in the study class that we formed.

The work as a whole is encouraging but it is absolutely  
impossible for one man to cover the ground in a profitable manner.

Our needs

Ordained man for Corumba and the settlements on the River Parguy.  
Doutor for feild in general and Chapada in particular.  
Raising of the mony for the Cuyaba manse.

*R. J. Martin*