

1942

July

J F BRANDON BAPTIST MISSIONARY
Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil, South America
Wheaton Illinois July 1942

MISSIONARY BRANDON REACHES MANAOS

Manaos, Brazil June 11 1942

Dear Brethren, Family, Friends and Loved Ones: Grace, mercy and peace from our blessed and heavenly Father be multiplied unto you all through the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour; to Him be honor, glory and praise for ever and ever, Amen. If your times were in my hands, (Ps 31:15) I would no doubt change many things in your lives, giving you what I consider "Better things" which might be fatal in the end, because my vision is so limited and judgment is so uncertain. My hearts desire and prayer to God for all of you is that you may enjoy the quiet, peaceful and useful christian life, with unbroken fellowship with the Holy Spirit, ever encircled with the protection of that High and Lofty ONE who inhabiteth eternity and scaleth the destiny of the nations. May your lives be outstanding blessings as you generously serve the Lord, contented in doing well the little things.

I arrived in Belem, Para on the 14th of May and found unspeakable joy in the services I was permitted to take part in. I have some friends there who have meant much to me in the past and more to me now in the present. One is a street market inspector, a devout believer in the Lord Jesus and a lover of the Truth. He is a poor man, but that is to his advantage. His home is humble but his wife is a help-mate and his children well raised. His faith is small but seems to be well exercised. In telling me of one of his recent experiences he said "The problem was greater than I could solve and I said to the Lord I am depending on thee to help me now" then said he "I turned my attention to something I could do, and did it, and at the same time the Lord did the part I trusted to Him". A blessed experience is it not? I spent many hours in his home and felt that my faith was increased.

The other is the Vice President of the Para Branch of the National Bank of Brazil. He is a man of wealth and a cultivated intellect, a devout believer in Jesus Christ and an ardent thirst for a better understanding of the Living Word. He sought me almost daily in the hotel and each time with some of the most unexpected questions concerning christian faith. We spent hours together in the study of the Bible and my heart rejoiced to see him satisfied as the truth was opened before him.

The pastor of the First Baptist Church is a very dear brother. I enjoyed the liberty of his home while there. We passed much time in prayer, and comforting indeed were the blessings we received.

Para is a very interesting city, especially to new comers. They cling to so many of their century old customs, for example a city of about 400 000 with outstanding commercial value, in this busy age when heavy hauling is all done by truck, I was surprised to see so many two wheeled carts drawn by horses employed by the transfer companies. Do not understand me to say they do not use trucks, for they do and very many of them, yet in addition to the trucks are the carts. It is still a common sight to see when a family moves to another community, all the furniture is carried by hand, heavy pieces like pianos and wardrobes and such like are carried on the heads of four men, who march down the street swinging their hams and conversing with one another. I would say these men are masters of their profession.

Here a cafe is a place where coffee is principally served in front of these places on the sidewalks in the shade and table and chairs are for the use of the customers. The people do enjoy coming together at these places and sit and sip their afternoon coffee together as they freely converse with one another, for a conversation loving people they are.

A very popular afternoon refreshment is "Ca ca cau" the base of which is starch, highly seasoned with pepper and with each serving comes a full size crab, served in cueias which resemble a gourd cut in half, no spoons are furnished the customer, but they patiently sip it from the cueias. Assai is made from the fruit of a very thirsty palm tree which is the most appreciated of the tropical fruits. The fruit is mashed and water is added until the thickness desired is obtained, then sugar is added with farina or perhaps tapioca, to be eaten with a spoon. It is very refreshing and the people enjoy it very much as an afternoon refreshment.

Beggars are numerous among the poverty stricken, afflicted with everything that could ail a human. They go from house to house soliciting for their needs or sit in the public places with the most pitiful expressions that one could hope to see and as one passes they hear them say in the most monotonous tones, "Da esmola per o amour de DEUS" which means "Give an alm for the love of GOD." It is hard to pass them without an offering of some kind. So many lay with open sores, it is distressful to look upon.

I doubt if there are people in the world who take a greater pride in raising dogs than the Brazilians, consequently dogs are numerous in all places, and cats, they thrive as in no other country I am sure, with but little or no care, and the cats especiall are irritable.

On the day I was to embark for Manaus the man called for my baggage, which consisted of a suitcase, brief case, portable typewriter, small zipper, a large bundle of Bibles and a deck chair. This another piled on top of his head until it seemed all out of reason, but he walked off as gracefully as a soldier with his first uniform, until he reached the boat where everything was placed in order. Some of the brethren came to the boat to say goodby and after a half dozen hand shakes with an embrace with everyone I stepped on the boat and soon we were waving goodby.

Our first stop was for wood in a small place where the largest distillery in the Amazon Valley is located, it was here that on a previous journey the owner of the place came on board and I engaged myself in conversation with him and for ever so long he eagerly listened to the gospel. When he went on shore I gave him a small Testament and in return he sent me a bottle of whiskey, he thought he was giving me something to be highly appreciated and I accepted it. I suppose it is there at home yet unopened.

It is interesting to see men carry the wood on the boat, they carry ten sticks at a time on their shoulder and receive for each trip a little tin coin that has the value of thirty reis or about one seventh of a penny. These same men sell the wood to the man who owns the port and receive for it about two dollars a thousand sticks. Each stick about a yard long and about three inches thick. The owner of the boat is usually interested in getting away as soon as possible so when the men begin to show signs of weariness they give them a drink of whiskey which seems to stimulate them and often they will run and sing as they carry the wood on board.

In the most of the places where we stop, someone brings interesting things on board to sell. Not so long ago when we stopped at a place in the interior, a small boy brought on some cookies made from banana flour and aligator eggs. I thought the combination quite unusual and bought some to try and was surprised, they were not bad at all. There are some real artists hidden in these forests. Whatever they try to do, they do it well, novelties for example made from materials gathered from the forest and made by hand artistic, well made and inexpensive.

Our journey up river was 10 days. We arrived at Manaus on the 6th of June. I went to church Sunday Morning at the First Baptist Church where I met with a number of friends and brethren in the Lord, I was invited home with the Board's Missionary where I spent the day. For evening worship I had been invited to preach to the Second Church. This church has meant so much to me in the past, they have made a great investment with me in the work in prayer. They all seemed so happy and truly my cup ran over, GOD so endeared Himself to us all. There is no boat up river until June 20th and maybe later. I have rented a box in the P.O. "Caixa Postal 212" I hope you all fill it up in the next few days.

Sincerely, J F Brandon

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JUNE 1942

Report of funds received from June 1st to July 3rd 1942 for the support of Missionary J F Brandon and family:

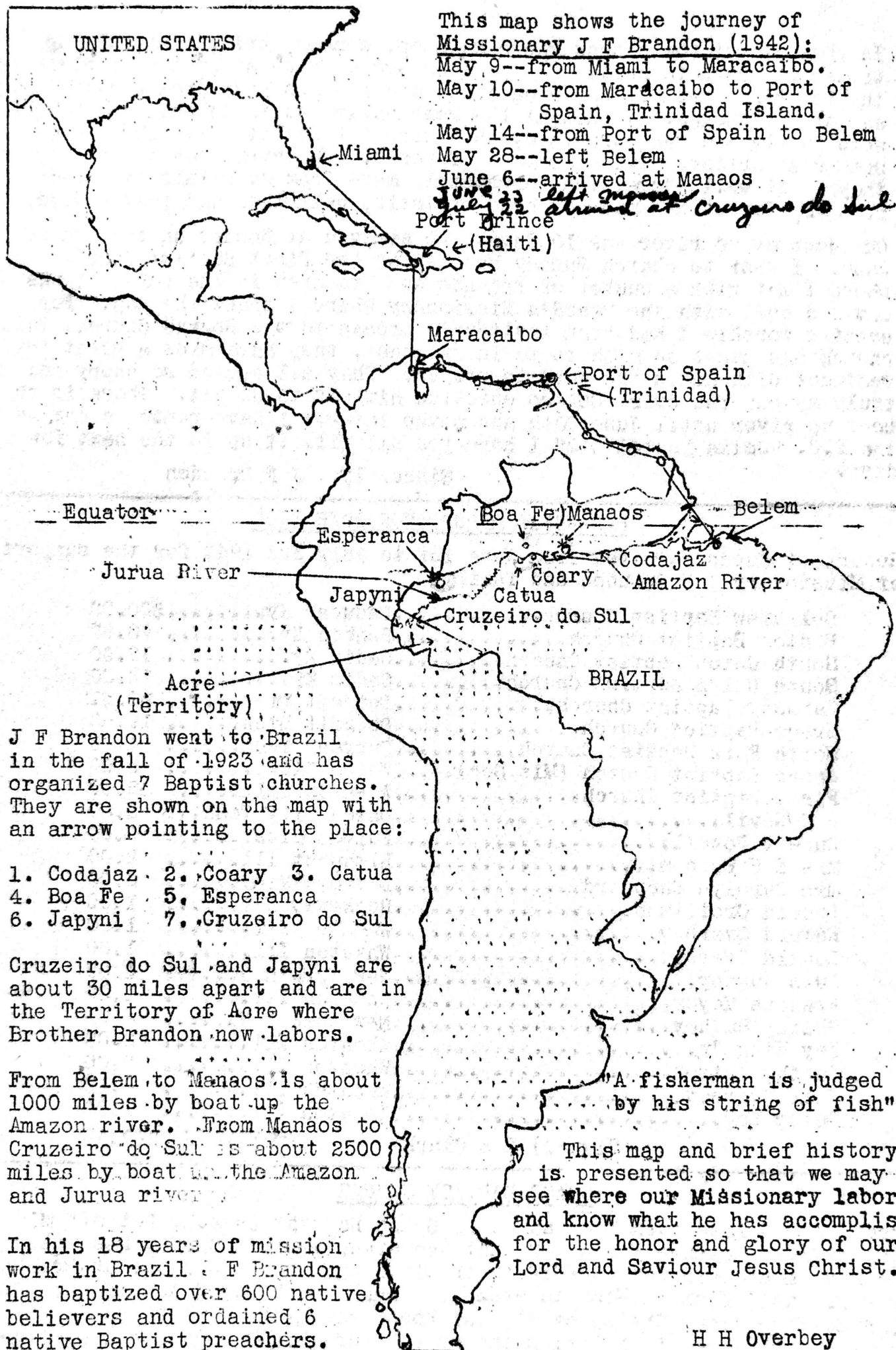
Bellview Baptist Church.....	Paducah Ky.....	\$20.00
Benton Baptist Church.....	Benton Ky.....	70.97
South Union Baptist Church.....	Cadiz Ky.....	12.60
South Union Baptist Church.....	Cadiz Ky.....	12.00
Harmony Baptist Church.....	Detroit Mich.....	30.41
Grace Baptist Church.....	Detroit Mich.....	19.80
North Fork Baptist Church.....	Puryear Tenn.....	4.00
Wasco Baptist Church (Mis.Soc).....	Wasco Ill.....	5.00
First Baptist Church.....	Wheaton Ill.....	65.00
W C Nevil.....	Union City Tenn.....	5.00
Rupert Powell.....	Fulton Miss.....	5.00
Mrs E H Purdom.....	Elmhurst Ill.....	2.00
Mrs Carolyn Shepherd.....	Detroit Mich.....	2.00
Donald Grollimund.....	Rockaway N J.....	1.00
Edward Overbey.....	Wheaton Ill.....	1.00
Donald Overbey.....	Wheaton Ill.....	1.00
Ruth Hughey.....	New York N Y.....	1.00
Frances Meyer.....	Wheaton Ill.....	1.00
Philip Hughey.....	New York N Y.....	2.00
Fay Wing Jr.....	Wheaton Ill.....	2.00
Dorothy Arison.....	Wheaton Ill.....	2.00
Dale Overbey.....	Wheaton Ill.....	2.00
Betty Day.....	Wheaton Ill.....	1.00

(Signed) Z E Clark

Total \$267.78

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Brother B G Arterburn the pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Detroit Mich has advised Brother Z E Clark that the Grace Baptist Church has voted to give a certain per cent of their offerings to the support of Brother J F Brandon' Mission Work in Brazil. Thank you beloved and to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ be all the honor and glory. There are other churches that are considering the support of this Mission Work in Brazil. We pray that we may soon hear of similar action from them. Send all offerings to Elder Z E Clark, 5216 Concord Ave. Detroit Mich.



H H Overbey
 July 1942

This map of the northern half of South America shows all of Brazil except the southern tip. It shows only the Amazon and Jurua rivers and only the States of Para and Amazonas and the Territory of Acre. The Amazon river flows through the center of these two States. The Jurua river begins near the border of Peru and flows through Acre and Amazonas into the Amazon river. J F Brandon's missionary work during the past 18 years has been on these two rivers. From Belem at the mouth of the Amazon to Esperanca at the border of Peru, and from the mouth of the Jurua through Amazonas and Acre to the border of Peru again.

Five of the Baptist churches that he has organized are in the State of Amazonas and the other two are in the Territory of Acre. A careful study of this map will familiarize you with what your Missionary is doing.

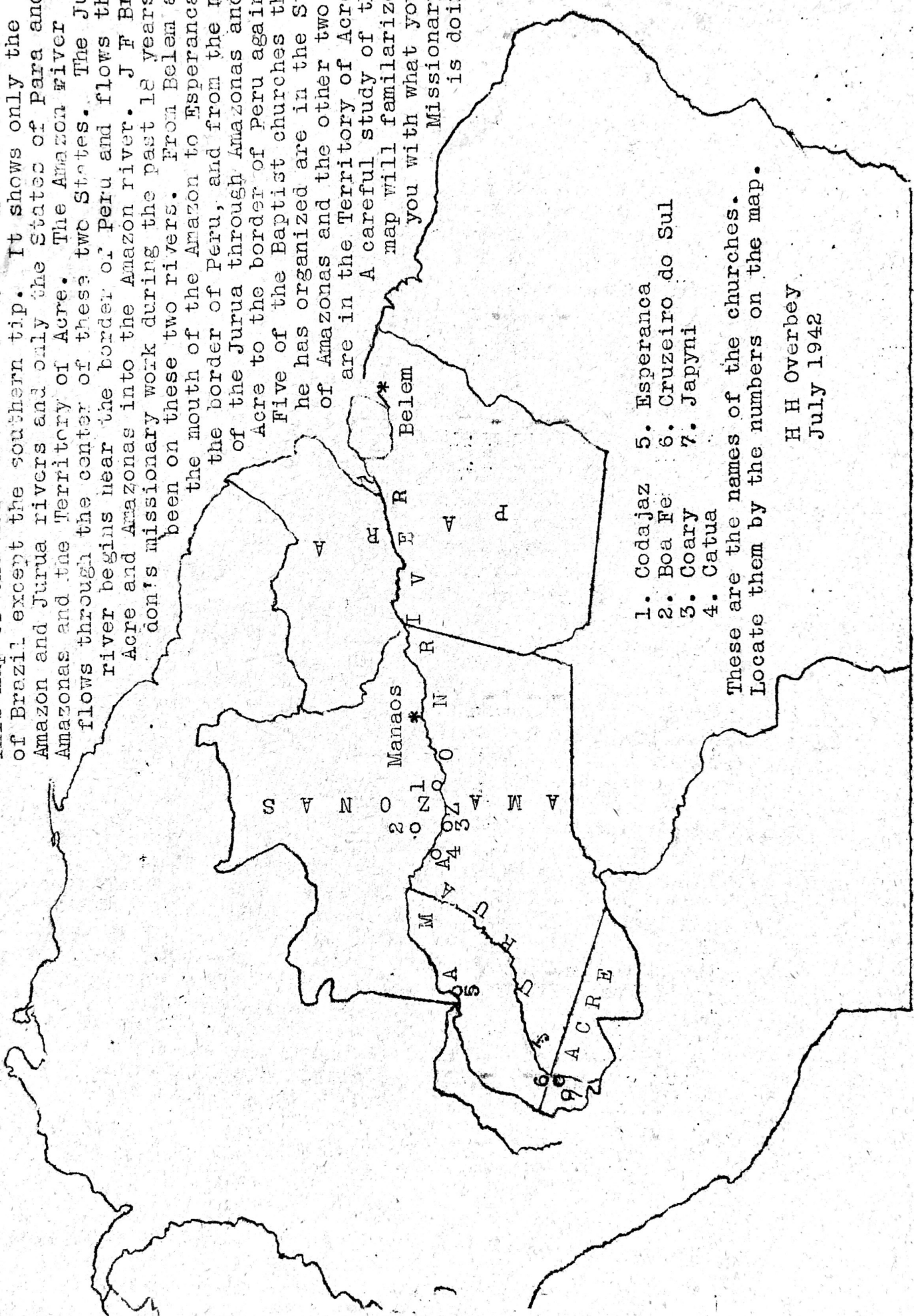
Five of the Baptist churches that he has organized are in the State of Amazonas and the other two are in the Territory of Acre.

A careful study of this map will familiarize you with what your Missionary is doing.

1. Codajaz
2. Boa Fe
3. Coary
4. Catua
5. Esperanca
6. Cruzeiro do Sul
7. Japyni

These are the names of the churches.
Locate them by the numbers on the map.

H H Overbey
July 1942



Brother and Sister Brandon have eight children. We believe that a few words about them would be in order that we may all know them better. George is 25 and the oldest. He is in the Army stationed in Orlando Fla. Joe Jr is 23. He is in the Army stationed at Chanute Field Rantoul Ill. Marie is 22. She has been attending Murray State College at Murray Ky. John is 19. He has finished High School and is working in the Henry Ford Trade School this summer. The Lord willing he will enter Wheaton College in Sept. He has secured a part time job in Wheaton and the Lord willing he will be able to work his way through school for four years. James is 17. He was born on the mission field at Santarem, Brazil. David is 15. He has spent all his life on the mission field in Brazil.

Elizabeth was born in Janurary 1929 at Manaos, Brazil. At the age of nine months she went to be with the Lord. "Absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." (2 Cor 5:8) Her little body is buried in Brazil awaiting the day when "the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." (I Thes 4:16) We can say with David in 2 Sam 12:23 "I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." She was buried by her mother at Manaos while her father was 2500 miles away at Cruzeiro do Sul preaching the gospel to the lost Brazilians, telling them of the blood of Jesus that washes whiter than snow. The church at Cruzeiro do Sul was organized this year (1929).

Rebecca is 12. She was born on the mission field at Manaos, Brazil. Betty Brown is 9. She was born at Codajaz, Brazil where one of the churches that Brother Brandon organized in the State of Amazonas is located. James, David, Rebecca and Betty Brown returned last July from the mission field with their parents. They are learning to speak English and are gaining in health. They live with their mother at Benton Ky. The pastors and women of the churches that are supporting this mission work should write to Sister Brandon. Her address is Box 65, Benton, Ky.

WRITE TO BROTHER BRANDON

Picture yourself away from home, family and loved ones in another land. Now picture yourself at Cruzeiro do Sul walking down the bank of the Jurua river to meet a boat for mail. Suppose there wasn't any. Now you can console yourself by saying "well it only takes a boat from one and a half to two months to get here from Belem. There will be another one in a few weeks if the water in the Jurua doesn't get too low, and maybe there will be some mail on the next one". You can send him a letter on a 3¢ stamp. It will go by boat all the way from New York and will get there sometime if the boat gets past the submarines. You can send an Air Mail letter for 40¢ if it does not weigh more than one half ounce. By using a light weight Air Mail envelope and paper and using both sides of the paper you can write a long letter and be under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. This is the surest way and it will get there weeks sooner. Address your envelope like this:

J F Brandon
Cruzeiro do Sul
Acre, Brazil
South America

We write to Brother Brandon about the first and fifteenth of each month and send him the mimeographed sheets in the letter of the fifteenth. If you will write to him using both sides of light weight Air Mail paper and send it to us we will forward it with ours by Air mail and save postage. We can send several without extra postage. Who will be first?

July
1942

MISSIONARY BANKS

Repentance and remission of sins should be preached in Jesus' Name among the nations "and ye are witnesses of these things."

Why call ye me Lord Lord and do not the things I tell you.

Ye are my friends if ye keep my commandments.



Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.

Jesus came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.

Jesus came not to be served but to serve others and give His life a ransom for many

The valley of the Amazon the great destitution in the western hemisphere After eighteen years of gospel preaching by one independent missionary see how God hath wrought. Many communities evangelized. Hundreds deeply interested. Seven churches organized. Six native pastors ordained. Over 600 baptisms. Wide open door for future. Missionary J F Brandon Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil, South America.

Before leaving for Brazil, Brother Brandon designed a little cardboard bank similar to the above sketch. It has a message and brief history of the work on the sides. Many say that they do not give to missions because they are not able to give much, but would give a nickle, dime, quarter or half dollar regularly if they could drop it in an offering box. This little bank is the answer. Get one of them and fill it with coins to help in the support of the mission work in Brazil.

GIVING OUT OF WHAT WE HAVE

II Cor 8:11&12 says "Now therefore perform the doing of it---out of that which ye have. ---it is accepted according to what a man hath, and not according to that he hath not." Have you ever said "when I get so much or a certain amount I am going to give to missions?" That is giving out of what you have not. Let us begin today to give out of what we have, remembering that one dollar which is the tithe out of ten is just as acceptable in God's sight, as ten dollars which is the tithe out of a hundred dollars. Everyone can give proportionately out of what he has. Do we really and truthfully believe in Missions?

SEND FOR BANKS

These little banks designed by Brother Brandon will be sent free as long as they last. Write or ask for yours today. Write to or ask:

Elder Z E Clark
5216 Concord Ave
Detroit Mich

Eld Rupert Powell
Fulton Miss

Mrs J F Brandon
Box 65
Benton Ky

H H Overbey
1629 N President
Wheaton Ill

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal 3:10

MAP OF J F BRANDON'S JOURNEY (July 1942)

We are sending you this month two maps of the mission field. One of these maps shows the State of Florida and a portion of the southeastern part of the United States and all of South America. A study of this map will show you the journey of Brother Brandon from the time he left Miami Florida on May 9th 1942 until he reaches Cruzeiro do Sul. He is now in Manaos. The Jurua river is very crooked which makes the distance from Manaos to Cruzeiro do Sul by boat 2500 miles. Study this map and trace his journey from Miami to Port Prince to Maracaibo, to Port of Spain to Belem by airplane. Now trace the journey by boat from Belem up Amazon river to Manaos then to the mouth of the Jurua river and then up this river to Cruzeiro do Sul. Japyni is on the Moa river about 30 miles from Cruzeiro do Sul. The Moa river empties into the Jurua river near Cruzeiro do Sul.

MAP OF THE MISSION FIELD

The second map shows only the northern half of South America and most all of Brazil. The purpose of this map is to show only the mission field. Brazil has several States and one Territory. On this map we show only two States and the Territory of Acre. This map shows only the Amazon and Jurua rivers. It shows Belem which is the capital of the State of Para, and Manaos which is the capital of the State of Amazonas. The churches that J F Brandon has organized are located on the map by the letter o with a number beside each one so that you can locate the name of each. These maps contain a brief history of the mission work that he has done in the past 18 years. Study these maps very carefully and see how many questions about the mission work you can answer.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS TAKE NOTICE

With the sheets going to the churches we are enclosing several of these maps with the back of the sheet plain. We suggest that you take some thumb tacks and put up one or more of each map in the class rooms so that they can be studied. Study them in the classes and then ask questions about the mission work.

MISSION BANKS

On another sheet you will find a sketch with a word of explanation of the MISSION BANKS. Brother Brandon designed these little banks and they have a messages on the sides for you. You will want one to keep as well as to fill up. First come first served while they last. Ask for yours.

GETTING OUT THE MONTHLY SHEETS

We hope you enjoy getting and reading these sheets. We enjoy getting them out and sending them to you. We do the best we can to the honor and glory of Him who purchased the church with his own precious blood. The sheets will contain news from the mission field as soon as we receive it. We hope that you will find them both interesting and instructive. We began getting these out in January with less than 100 pages. This month we have a total of five thousand six hundred or 2800 individual sheets or 700 sets stapled together with holes punched to fit either two or three ring note book backs. Are you keeping them? We are mailing out this month a large number by first class mail and by parcel post. We are sending them in quantities to about 25 churches for distribution to those who love missions. We acknowledge receipt of \$5.00 from the Harmony Baptist Church of Detroit Michigan to help in this expense. Thank you beloved, it came in a time of need. We will send these sheets free each month to anyone upon request. Remember to send all offerings for the mission work to:

Elder Z E Clark
5216 Concord Ave
Detroit Michigan

H H Overbey