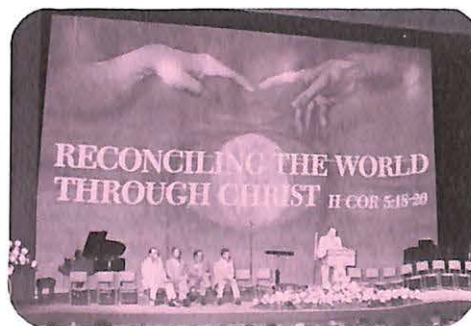


Baptist Herald

OCTOBER 1973

Triennial Conference Special Issue



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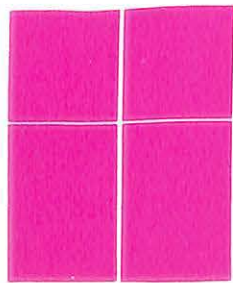
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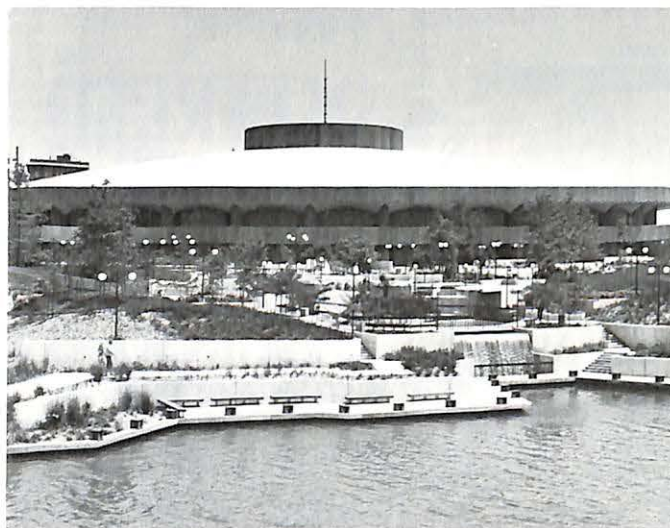
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Century II, the beautiful and spacious meeting place of the 37th Triennial Conference.

MARKED BY LOVE

by Melvin L. Warkentin

The excitement of church conferences is difficult to explain to one who has never had the experience of attending. One who has not participated in the turmoil and noise of conference activities will find it difficult to appreciate the feeling that delegates have as they greet each other every three years.

Having participated in conference activity of another denomination for some time prior to becoming an N.A.B. pastor, I looked forward with a great deal of anticipation to the first Triennial Conference I attended as an N.A.B. in 1964 at Sacramento, Calif. I was not disappointed, neither have I been disappointed as I attended each of the ensuing conferences.

The Conference this year has left several impressions that I hope will never leave me.

A concern has often been expressed for a greater emphasis on reaching out, on personal and pastoral evangelism, and on conserving the members of the church.

The Rev. Melvin L. Warkentin is the pastor of the North Highlands Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas.

It is true that we passed several resolutions this year dealing with this topic: First, to covenant to make one million contacts for Christ during the 1973-76 Triennial period; secondly, our educational institutions have been instructed to increase their efforts to challenge students toward home and overseas missionary service. During the days of this Conference, Dr. James Kennedy has challenged us toward actively reaching this goal by concluding our discussions about the need and getting down to the business of doing the contacting and reaching and evangelizing the lost. A renewed spirit of concern for evangelism among pastors and laity alike was sensed during these days.

There were those who thought that attendance at the General Conference in Wichita would be considerably less than at previous conferences because of the lack of large concentrations of N.A.B. churches and members in the area. The planning, organizing, promoting, arranging and carrying out of the various Conference activities proved that this was not true.

The impression of the first day was organized confusion; yes, it was organized, the job got done and was well done. Registering of guests and delegates is not easy. The courtesy and firmness of each of the hosts, adult and youth was honestly appreciated. One sometimes felt that the program committee might have planned five hours of programming in a two and a half hour period, however, upon questioning it was discovered that not all participants adhered to the time limit set for them. Each of the special groups, numbers, speakers and presentations was well done and spoke to the hearts of the Conference participants.

Better attendance at what previously were regarded the devotional sessions and now were the "Elective Discussion Group Series" was noted and appreciated. This gave many more an opportunity to share and participate.

The theme "Reconciling the World Through Christ" was followed faithfully. One area of reconciliation that was very evident was that of youth with adult. The N.A.B. Conferences have always had a very strong and vital interest and concern for its young people. For some time special provision has been made for youth programs during the regular Conference sessions, most often completely separate from those regular sessions. A new and refreshing wind blew — indeed raged through almost every session of the Conference that tore away the dividing wall separating youth and adults.

Evident was the building of an attitude of acceptance and understanding — youth honestly trying to share its music, witness and love with other youth and adults. Adults hoping to extend the offer of reconciliation to youth, and youth daring adults to receive the reconciliation offer that they were extending.

A renewal of openness was evidenced on the part of the staff of Forest Park who gave evidence of their faith in the constituency and a daring of the constituency to trust its staff at Forest Park.

Was it worthwhile? Yes, indeed it was. The fellowship, the friendship, the oneness in Christ has indelibly left its mark of love. □



Tea ceremony at the Missions Celebration, performed by members of the Young Ambassadors from Japan.



The Ambassadors completely enthralled in the play.



Visitors of the Japanese exhibit received Bible Verses written in Japanese.



Mr. Kenjo and his faithfully caring wife, played by Mr. Masyuki Seki and Miss Yumiko Onaka. The picture was taken at the Concert Hall where a capacity crowd saw the impressive drama.

JAPANESE ACTIVITIES AT THE CONFERENCE



The Young Ambassadors from Japan in front of KARD TV station, Channel 3, Wichita.



The Town Hall scene played here with deep involvement.



The Young Ambassadors from Japan performed their drama "The Chosen Ones" on Channel 3 before a live audience. Members of the City Council are speaking up against the Christians.



Origami, the Japanese art of folding paper into decorative shapes was performed by two Young Ambassadors.



The sick Mrs. Kenjo is visited by the pastor, much to the anger of Mr. Kenjo. Missionary Florence Miller (left) was the narrator.



Japanese flower arrangement, demonstrated by Mrs. Kiko Zimmermann and assisted by Mrs. Helen Schreier.

EDITORIAL REFLECTIONS

on the 37TH TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

If I had the resources at hand and the skill to use them, I would like to describe the Triennial Conference the way some textbooks offer information, for example, about the human body. I would provide a series of sketches, each one of which would reveal something about an important aspect of the Triennial Conference, which could be viewed in succession, but which could also be superimposed over each other so that a viewer could get the same impression he received when he sees how the bone structure of the human body relates to the circulatory system, as well as to the pattern of muscles and the network of nerves that keep the whole body in touch with the brain.

For a report of the Triennial Conference to be at all fair, it must reflect not only the activities of the delegate body in formal business sessions and the corporate experiences of worship and fellowship in major gatherings; it must also reflect a little of what goes on behind the scenes, and it must detect some of the likes and dislikes expressed in sectional meetings, group discussions and in personal conversations.

But I don't have such resources, and the readers of this article will have to imagine what I am unable to diagram. The many photos in this issue should be a good visual help to either recall or imagine what has happened at this Conference.

A total of 2,119 delegates and guests plus a number of unregistered visitors participated in the 37th Triennial Conference of North American Baptist Churches in Wichita, Kan., August 14-19, 1973. All sessions were held in the beautiful, spacious Century II Civic Center facilities.

Mr. Delmar Wesseler, chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee, officially welcomed the Conference participants on behalf of all the Kansas N.A.B. churches.

Dr. Mercer Shaw, minister of music at the Hillside Christian Church, Wichita, conducted the Kansas N.A.B. Churches Mass Choir, presenting the two hymns, "Here is My Life" and "We Have to Find a Way." These hymns spoke of the desire of all the Conference participants. They had come to rededicate their lives to Christ and to find a new way of "reconciling the world through Christ." Dr. Shaw succeeded in getting each and every person present to participate in the congregational singing.

Fraternal greetings were brought by the Mayor of Wichita, Dr. James Donnell, who welcomed North American Baptists to the "Kansas Bible Belt" and the "clean air country."

"Reflections on His World" was a dramatic musical presentation by Mr. Dennis D. Hoffman and other young people. It forcefully portrayed life's entanglements and loneliness without Christ and then the unraveling and new life through the acceptance of Christ.

The keynote address by the Rev. Aaron Buhler, General Conference Moderator (1970-73) and pastor of Parma Heights Baptist Church, Parma Heights, Ohio, dealt with "The Word of Reconciliation", based on II Corinthians 5:19. He emphasized the importance of the Word of reconciliation we as Christians are to preach and live. The reconciliation

All photos and text by the editor

has to take place quite practically through social consciousness, political opportunity, films and through the family.

The prayer by the Rev. Rudie Matheuszik, conference announcer and pastor of Memory Lane Baptist Church, Wichita, brought the first session and day to an end. More than 2,000 delegates and visitors had crowded the Concert Hall to capacity. What a wonderful start for a conference! Reluctantly the crowd dispersed to return to their respective hotels and lodging places.

On Wednesday, the first full day of the Conference, about 175 North American Baptist Seminary alumni and friends gathered at the Service Club Room in Century II for a breakfast and inspirational fellowship.

Citations of recognition were given to Missionary Edwin Kern (in absentia), to the Rev. Herman Palfenier and to the Rev. H. J. Wilcke.

Dr. David Draewell, president of the N.A.B. Seminary gave an up-to-date report about the Seminary concerning enrollment, facilities, student aid, library development and new apartment construction. Dr. Gerald Borchert, academic dean, reported on the study findings of a proposed working arrangement with Sioux Falls colleges and the hospital for clinical training program.

CITATION OF APPRECIATION TO THE REV. B. C. SCHREIBER

for 25 years of ministry
with the North American Baptist General Conference
as pastor, 1945-1950;
as Printing and Addressograph Supervisor 1953-1959;
as Assistant Editor and Communications Assistant 1960.

His stimulating ideas,
probing questions, subtle humor,
resourceful memory, keen insight into current issues,
creative writings, deep devotion to Christ,
the Conference and the kingdom of God
are hereby gratefully recognized.

Presented by the General Council
on August 15, 1973, in Wichita, Kansas,
at the 37th Triennial Session
of the North American Baptist General Conference



The Rev. B. C. Schreiber received a citation, honoring him for 25 years of faithful Christian service. Dr. G. K. Zimmerman congratulated him on behalf of the Conference.



Dr. Richard Schilke presented a citation to the Rev. Daniel Fuchs, recognizing his service and leadership as pastor and for 21 years as general worker.



The three missionaries who were honored with citations for outstanding service: Miss Ida Forsch, Miss Ruby Salzman and Miss Eleanor Weisenburger.



Dr. G. K. Zimmerman, who celebrated his birthday during the Conference days, was surprised with a 50 pound cake.

The alumni received the news with great pleasure that Dr. Norman Haupt, former Cameroon missionary, will become the Director of Continued Education at the Seminary.

Also the W.M.U. Executive Committee held its breakfast meeting. Mrs. Jeanette Stein, W.M.U. president, presided. Whereas the Seminary alumni had picked a subterranean room in Century II, the W.M.U. Executive met as high as possible, in the Holiday Inn Palm Room on the 25th floor. The marvellous view from there certainly must have enhanced their vision for the work which needs to be done.

Probably the greatest departure from traditional Conference programs was that the delegates and guests could choose from a series of seven different Elective Study and Discussion Groups. These informal groups dealt with the following subjects:

- Reconciliation Through the Individual — Rev. C. Walth
- Reconciliation Through the Family — Rev. H. Weiss
- Reconciliation Through Social Consciousness — Prof. W. Goltz
- Reconciliation Through Church Structures — Rev. J. Ziegler
- Reconciliation Through Public Affairs — Dr. Harry Hiller
- Reconciliation With Christian Groups — Dr. A. Patzia

The seventh group viewed James Kennedy's training films and discussed their application possibility with Dr. R. Seibel.

Then came the time that the Conference was organized for business. The Rev. Aaron Buhler called the Conference to order, appointed the committees which were to serve throughout the Conference days, and introduced Dr. G. K. Zimmerman, executive secretary, who in turn introduced Dr. Frank H. Woyke, former executive secretary. Dr. Woyke, now retired from the B.W.A. work, recalled that he had been connected with the work of the North American Baptists for about 45 years. Also on behalf of Mrs. Woyke he expressed their gratitude for the invitation to the Conference.

For the first time in many years, (if ever before) the Conference got an opportunity to see all of the general workers from the two N.A.B. schools and the Forest Park Office as well as the area secretaries.

Dr. G. K. Zimmerman then gave an eloquent brief report which served as introduction to "The State of the Conference" audiovisual presentation. This was an interesting and much appreciated way of presenting a unified report representing all denominational departments rather than separate reports. The Stewardship and Communication Department in collaboration with all the cooperating societies and departments and with professional help had worked on this filmstrip to make it what it has turned out to be: a beautiful, informative and challenging audiovisual which in coming months will be presented in many if not all N.A.B. churches. The two summons again and again challenged the audience: "Let us reconcile the world through Christ" and "Send us around the world with the message of your saving power."

From that morning on, the tone for the Conference was set. The final song of the audiovisual presentation, "The joy of the Lord is My Strength" resounded again and again in all of the following reports, testimonies and songs.

Wednesday morning featured the ministry of Church Extension, with the director and Two Church Extension pastors, the Reverends LeRoy Schauer, Olympia View Baptist Church in Tacoma, Wash., and Jake Leverette, Apple Valley Baptist Church in Apple Valley, Minn., reporting on this exciting ministry of outreach.



The Rev. Donald Richter led a discussion group on "Creative Activities for Older Persons."



Some of the participants of the "Older Persons" workshop.



Dr. Arthur Patzia lectured on "Reconciliation with Christian Groups."



Dr. Harry Hiller directed the focus of his discussion group on "Reconciliation Through Public Affairs."



Missionaries who were commissioned to service during the closing session of the Conference.

Each day one could see people wandering around in Century II, trying to find the meeting rooms where the Conference Ministries Report of their choice would be given. The elective groups featured Happenings in Evangelism (Rev. D. Fuchs), at the N.A.B. Seminary (Dr. D. Draewell), at the N.A.B. College (Dr. J. Sonnenberg), in Stewardship and Communications (Rev. J. Binder), in Christian Education (Rev. B. Rich), in Church Extension (Rev. L. Wacker), and in Missions (Dr. R. Schilke). But once they had found their group, many participated actively in the different discussions.

The Wednesday afternoon sessions brought something special to the Conference delegates and visitors by acquainting them with some of the cooperative ministries. Dr. James Wood, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, thanked North American Baptists for their cooperation with the Baptist Joint Committee. This committee is concerned with and involved in the issue of religious liberty and human rights.

The Baptist World Alliance was represented by its president, Dr. Carney Hargroves, Washington, D.C. Instead of giving a professional talk on the many facets of the B.W.A. work, he asked ten North American Baptists to state briefly ways in which the B.W.A. serves as a channel for our denomination's outreach to the world.

Also the U.S. Chaplaincy and the American Bible Society were given an opportunity to present their work to the Conference.

The Wednesday afternoon Conference Business Session dealt with the important recommendation of the General Council with regard to the formation of a Church Ministries Department (cf. BAPTIST HERALD, July 73 issue, pp. 6-7). After a lively discussion which brought more detailed information to the Conference floor, the motion to adopt this recommendation was passed by a large majority.

One of the most surprised and grateful delegates in the Wednesday evening session was the Rev. Bruno C. Schreiber, when Dr. G. K. Zimmerman presented him with a citation for

25 years of service with North American Baptists. The Conference gave him a standing ovation, recognizing his outstanding merits as staff worker in communications and publications.

Dr. R. Schilke, general missionary secretary then presented a citation to the Rev. Daniel Fuchs for 21 years of service as a general worker with North American Baptists. Also this citation came as a complete surprise to the recipient and was gratefully accepted.

The feature of the evening was the message on Evangelism Explosion by Dr. D. James Kennedy, pastor of the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, the fastest growing Presbyterian church in the U.S.A. Dr. Kennedy related with wit and humor of his own difficulties when he started out to be a soul winner. He then gave some basic principles of evangelism as found in God's word. He ended his dynamic message with the appeal, "Christian, change your conduct or change your name."

Dr. Kennedy was also the speaker at the Ministers' Fellowship Luncheon the following day. In that meeting he based his message on the following four insights: 1) Every Christian is to be a living witness for Christ; 2) Witnessing is to be backed up by life; 3) The ministry of the laity is the direct responsibility of the pastor; 4) The importance of on-the-job training. His message was followed by a question-answer period.

The dialogue between Mr. Jim Bisel, a ventriloquist, and his "son" was equally entertaining and inspiring.

Long before the luncheon, the N.A.B. College alumni had already met at 7 a.m. at the Regal Inn for their Conference Breakfast. Professor Willy Muller presided. Dr. Joseph Sonnenberg, president of the College and other staff members reported about the state of affairs at the College. Two new staff members were introduced to the alumni, Miss Ardice Ziolkowski as dean of women, and Miss Ida Forsch as library assistant.

The Conference Business Session on Thursday morning took care of some constitutional changes. Then the Rev. Connie Salios, Conference Nominating Committee chairman, distributed the General Conference Ballot and asked the delegates to make a number of changes on the ballot which were due mainly because of the previously adopted Church Ministries Department. Nominations from the floor were accepted and added to the prepared ballot. The voting was to take place on Friday.



Mr. George Baab was the lively Master of Ceremony at the Missionary Breakfast.



At the Missionary Breakfast three missionaries performed the Fishball Song much to the enjoyment of the audience.



The Dale Wilcke family enjoyed and participated actively in the Missionary Breakfast event.



Mr. Jeremiah Waindim represented the Cameroon Baptist Convention. Here he is addressing the missionaries and friends at the breakfast meeting.

Citation of
Honor and Recognition
The Board of Missions of the North American Baptist
General Conference

HEREBY RECOGNIZES THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF

The Reverend Daniel Fuchs

who has served the Denomination in various capacities for 21 years following his ministry in two pastorates:

As denominational Evangelist, 1952-1958;

As Director of Evangelism and Church Extension, 1959-1967;

As Assistant General Secretary of Missions, 1967-

Many churches experienced revival during his ministry. Under his congenial leadership, as Director of Evangelism, the ministry of God's Volunteers was greatly expanded.

The Reverend Daniel Fuchs' ministry has been one of loyalty to Christ and the Denomination. He has always manifested the spirit of Christ in his concern and compassion for the lost. In meekness and humility he has served his Master and others well.

Presented this 15th day of August, 1973

in the city of Wichita, Kansas

on the occasion of the 37th triennial session of the
North American Baptist General Conference

Not only the Ministers' Fellowship met for a luncheon, but in two different locations also the Woman's Missionary Union (Exhibition Hall) and the Baptist Men (Service Club Room). The W.M.U. Luncheon was attended by about 900 ladies. Mrs. Jeanette Stein presided. Mrs. Delmar Wesseler, W.M.U. Conference coordinator, told of the love and diligence of the Kansas women which had gone into the making of the beautiful centerpieces. One of the outstanding features at all of the meal events was that the Kansas hosts had added an extra touch of beauty by making centerpieces or souvenirs which depicted some particular Kansas characteristic.

The mystery guest was Mrs. Debbie Barnes, a former Miss Kansas and Miss America. She gave a vivid testimony of her faith in Christ and played an arrangement of two Christian hymns on the piano. Also Miss Illinois 1971, Miss Anita Pankratz, was at the luncheon and delighted the ladies with testimonies in word and song.

Mrs. Edwin Kern, Japan missionary, was the devotional speaker. Other missionaries also shared in the program.

The ladies adopted a new constitution as also a new \$300,000 goal chart and the new Triennial Theme, "For Such a Time as This."

The Baptist Men's Luncheon, held on the same day and attended by about 350 men, had Dr. William E. Thorn, pastor of the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Wichita, as guest speaker. Dr. Thorn, known in Kansas for his effective pulpit and radio ministry, gave a dynamic challenge to be reconciled with God and to reconcile the world through Christ.

Thursday evening belonged to the ladies. The W.M.U. was in charge of the program. Again the house was packed to the last seat. The Conference "old timers" knew that the traditional W.M.U. program always tends to be one of the highlights of the Conference. They were not to be disappointed even this time; for the ladies succeeded in thrilling the hearts of the audience with their songs and their missionary challenge. Mrs. Patricia Meinerts, Cameroon missionary, who spoke on behalf of missions in Cameroon, gave striking examples of the fact that God has great blessings in store, especially "For Such a Time as This."

The skit "Tell the Untold that Jesus Christ is Lord", written by Mrs. Adam Huber, and in which a number of short-term missionaries and nationals participated, re-emphasized Christ's commission: "Go and Tell."

Immediately following the W.M.U. program all Conference delegates and guests were invited to visit the numerous missions exhibits, where they were served samples of international food and where they got a visual impression of the cultural activities of missionaries and nationals in the various



The city model effectively demonstrates the skillful planning of Wichita's downtown area.

countries where North American Baptists are working. The N.A.B. NEWS bulletin reported about this Mission Celebration: "Never before in the history of our denomination did we have so many mission displays and missionary personnel present."

Even the television stations had been alerted to the upcoming Missions Celebration. The TV crew came and took many shots of the very colorful uniquely decorated mission exhibits. A strange, wide world had come to Wichita, and TV wanted to be right there with it.

On Friday morning, the emphasis on missions was continued; however this time not from missionaries to the "home front Christians", but from missionaries to missionaries. Mr. George Baab, Cameroon missionary, was the Master of Ceremonies at this Missionary Breakfast. About 75 missionaries, former missionaries and friends of missions experienced a most delightful fellowship. The wonderful friendship among our missionaries set the stage for several impromptu numbers such as "The Prune Song" by Dr. Laura Reddig; the famous or infamous "Fishball Song," performed by Miss Margaret Kittlitz, Dr. L. Reddig and Miss Eleanor Weisenburger; and the "Schilke Boss Song," presented by the Ndu missionaries.

The Rev. Fred G. Moore's devotional meditation was based on Psalm 37:3-6.



Douglas Boulevard, Wichita's main street, as seen from Century II.



Century II is only several hundred feet away from Holiday Inn Plaza.



The Garvey Center at the Holiday Inn Plaza was a shopping oasis for many ladies.



Program participants at the Sunday German worship service. From l. to r.: Rev. F. Merke, Dr. R. J. Kerstan, Dr. H. Hiller, Dr. H. J. Waltereit.

It was evident that especially the newly appointed and later on commissioned missionaries were impressed with the warm spirit of close-knit Christian fellowship of the missionaries.

Also the Church Extension pastors and their wives met on Friday for a breakfast. The Rev. Lyle Wacker, director of Church Extension, presided at this meeting which was a valuable sharing time.

The specially composed theme song for the 37th Triennial Conference, "Reconciling the World Through Christ," by Norma A. Beck, member of the Calvary Baptist Church, Bethlehem, Pa., was sung for the first time during the Friday morning business session.

Dr. Frank H. Woyke, former executive secretary, addressed the Conference with a report on his assignment to write the history of the North American Baptist General Conference. He hopes to have the finished product available at the 38th Triennial Conference in 1976.

Mr. Edwin H. Marklein surprised the audience with the announcement that Mr. and Mrs. Edward Russell of Detroit, Mich., had just given \$15,000 toward the production of the Conference history book.

With the help of projected visual charts, Mr. M. H. Hilbrandt gave a brief review of the 1972 budget income and then discussed the projected 1973 budget. He expressed the



The chaplains Henry E. Wake (left) and John M. Hisel in a relaxing mood, just before they were to address a young people's session.



The Rev. Theodore Frey, the oldest N.A.B. pastor present, attended the German worship service, and is greeted here by Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Waltereit.



The Rev. Wilhelm Kerstan, retired Baptist minister, brought greetings from the Baptist Union in Germany.



Cameroon missionary Dale Wilcke rendered a few of his own compositions.



Harp Dinner Music for the banquet was played by Mrs. Mary Bickford.



The Cassette Information Center, Inc., offered cassettes instantly of many of the messages, musical presentations and other events. Mr. LeRoy Griswold member of the Memory Lane Baptist Church in Wichita, is the president of this company.



The Rev. Rudy Matheuszik was a very competent announcer who could make any news item sound interesting.



Much work had to be done behind the scene. Mr. Carl Lang (left), Mrs. V. Nelson, Rev. C. Salios, Mr. E. Marklein and Mrs. J. Kells are checking the final form of the election ballots.



The newly elected Association archivists met with Miss Joyce Ringering and Dr. R. J. Kerstan for their first session.

Finance Committee's hope that North American Baptists would be willing and able to meet the about 16% increase of the projected \$1,350,000 budget for the months of April through December 1973. "We need to meet our commitment," he said, "unless we want to curtail our missionary program."

The voting took place in an orderly manner and was the main item on the Friday morning business agenda.

IN APPRECIATION OF MISS RUBY V. SALZMAN

Missionary teacher, who for twenty-seven years served with extraordinary devotion, selflessness and sacrifice in West Cameroon, West Africa, in various capacities such as: teacher, school manager, supervisor of schools, principal, field missionary and lately as secretary to the education secretary.

Presented by the Board of Missions of
The North American Baptist General
Missionary Society, Inc.

August 19, 1973

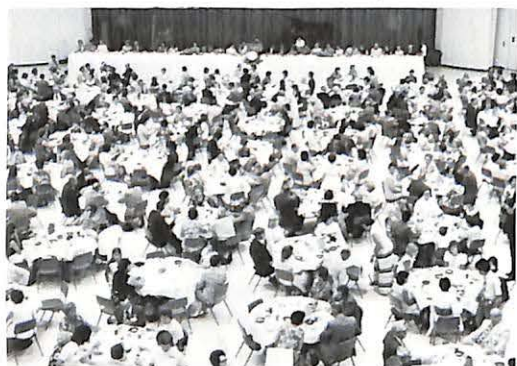
at the 37th triennial session of
The North American Baptist General Conference
Wichita, Kansas



Curt Radtke demonstrated the proper handling of Fu-Fu food. The Rev. B. C. Schreiber watched closely and put his newly gained knowledge to practice.



Dr. D. James Kennedy, (center) author of *Evangelism Explosion*, was the dynamic speaker at the Ministers' luncheon. The Rev. Bernard Fritzke (left) Portland, Oregon, presided. The Rev. Ron Mayforth is the new president of the N.A.B. Ministers' Fellowship.



More than 1,700 delegates and guests attended the Conference Banquet.

The African-robed Cameroon missionary Fred Folkerts at the Mission Celebration. On the following day he was appointed to serve as Associate Secretary for Overseas Missions, with office at Forest Park.



Dr. Laura Reddig, Miss Ardice Ziolkowski and Miss Trudy Schatz at the Cameroon display booth.



Mr. Jeremiah Waindim felt right at home in the Cameroon display area.



Japan missionaries Fred and Pat Moore explaining the symbolism of a Japanese tea party.



The Conference Youth Choir was an inspiration to the listener of all age groups.



Mrs. Majorie Baab with her Cameroon born baby girl.



The magnificent organ at the banquet hall had found a worthy master in Miss Cynthia Dobrinski.

The following Open Forum gave an opportunity to all delegates to direct questions to the heads of the co-operating N.A.B. institutions and departments, who frankly answered the questions to the best of their ability.

The Missions in Action session, led by Dr. Peter Fehr, chairman of the Board of Missions, gave the Reverends Fred Folkerts and Oryn Meinerts a great opportunity to tell North American Baptists that "our mission program is not retreating but progressing." Rev. Meinerts told of the strong Baptist witness in the school system of Cameroon. With 73 primary schools, and about 20,000 children and 470 primary teachers, most of whom were trained at our Baptist Teacher Training College at Soppo, the opportunities for a spiritual ministry are almost limitless, as is the chance with the 630 secondary school students.

A first for the North American Baptist General Conference was the meeting of the newly appointed associational archivists. Miss Joyce Ringering, N.A.B. Seminary librarian, and this writer shared with the association archivists and other historically interested people some possible procedures on how to collect and preserve historical materials.

The two discussion groups on "Witness Action," by the Rev. R. Harsch, and "Creative Activities for Older People," by the Rev. Donald Richter, filled most of the Friday afternoon program.

The Friday evening session had an exuberant start. "All God's Children," a 200 voice choir from the Central Christian Church in Wichita, assisted by a band, came running and singing into the Concert Hall and onto the stage. Their songs, testimonies and heart warming handshakes brought a flow of Christian love to all delegates and guests and set the tone for the evening. Even the Memorial Service, led by the Rev. Howard Johnson, Pittsburgh, Pa., was still under the radiance of the musical blessing. And there was more music to come. The Conference Youth Choir under the di-



More than 300 N.A.B. pastors attended the Ministers' Fellowship Luncheon.



Evangelist Ron Susek, left, banquet speaker, challenged North American Baptists to be "like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."



The dialogue between Mr. Jim Bisel, ventriloquist, and his "son" was equally entertaining and inspiring.



Some of the people at the banquet head table were: From left to right, the Rev. and Mrs. John Binder, Mr. and Mrs. D. Wesseler, Mr. and Mrs. M. Hildebrandt, Miss Cynthia Dobrinski, the Rev. K. Fischer, the Rev. and Mrs. A. Buhler, Mr. and Mrs. H. Fluth, Dr. and Mrs. G. K. Zimmerman.

The last of the "Missions in Action" presentations was led by Dr. Richard Schilke. Japan Missionary Fred Moore and Dr. Earl Ahrens, missionary to the Spanish-Americans, gave a vivid report about the joys and needs on their respective fields.

The Business Session on Saturday began with the presentation of a large birthday cake to Dr. G. K. Zimmerman. The Conference joined in singing "Happy Birthday" for him. Dr. Zimmerman who had very ably handled all the Conference business, was taken by complete surprise.

The last election business was then taken care of.

The Rev. Aaron Buhler, the moderator, reminded the Conference of the fact that on the day a year ago the Rev. William Sibley had the accident which has left him without consciousness ever since. He requested continued prayer support for Rev. Sibley and his family.

When the Rev. Wilmer Quiring, chairman of the Gratitude and Greetings Committee, presented his report, thanking all who had a share in the Conference program, but especially "all the Kansas churches for their warm Christian hospitality, and the City of Wichita for its friendly welcome," the "Amen" of all delegates and guests supported his statement.

After Dr. Robert Schreiber repeated the invitation to the Conference to meet in 1976 in Portland, Oregon, the delegates adopted the recommendation of the Time and Place Committee to hold the 1979 Triennial Conference in Bismarck, N.D.

One of the most outstanding resolutions North American Baptists adopted in Wichita, was the resolution to make "One Million Contacts for Christ" in the triennial period 1973-76 (see full text of the resolution in this issue). All delegates and guests sensed that this program would not cost much money, but rather would cost a lot of effort and commitment on the part of the churches and individual believers. But they were excitedly convinced that it *can* be done and *will* be done.

A number of other resolutions were also adopted which likewise appear in full text in this BAPTIST HERALD issue. One of the most interesting recommendations of the N.A.B. Pension Fund Committee was that the benefits to all pensioners now receiving benefits will be increased by 20 percent, effective Oct. 1, 1973, and that an extra accrued benefit of 15 percent be given to all pension fund members who are not now being paid benefits.

The delegates then took a stand on the merger issue with the Baptist General Conference, and adopted the recommendation of the Cooperative Christianity Committee, that "actual merger be considered not as an immediate goal, but as a long range possibility." The entire matter was then referred to the Conference Planning Committee.

IN APPRECIATION OF MISS IDA FORSCH

Missionary teacher, who for twenty-six years served with extraordinary devotion, selflessness and sacrifice in West Cameroon, West Africa, in various capacities such as: teacher, school manager and librarian.

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All business was finished by 12:50 p.m. The moderator praised the delegates for their splendid cooperation and genuine interest in Conference matters. There was less business to be dealt with than at previous Conferences which left more time for spiritual emphasis. Let's hope for a repeat in Portland in 1976!

The Conference Banquet was scheduled for Saturday, 6:30 p.m. The Rev. Kenneth Fenner, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, St. Clair Shores, Mich., and Master of Ceremonies, welcomed the more than 1,700 banquet guests, who assembled in the Exhibition Hall at Century II.

Miss Cynthia Dobrinski mastered the huge organ superbly in solo pieces and while accompanying the congregational singing. The harp music, played by Mrs. Mary Bickford, was a very pleasant sound in the background during the banquet meal. Special music was provided by the N.A.B. College Tribute team, The Sonshine Company, and by Mr. Richard Fuchs who played the violin, accompanied by his sister, Mrs. Dorothy Cummins.

The Rev. Jeremiah Waindim brought greetings on behalf of the Cameroon Baptist Convention. The evangelist Ron Susek then brought the banquet message. Based on the Apostle Paul's admonition to the church in Philippi, he exhorted the banquet audience to be "like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind," in order to make an impact on the world and to fulfill the Christ-given task of reconciliation.

Mr. Delmar Wessler, the moderator elect, closed the meeting in prayer.

Even the last morning of the Triennial Conference a breakfast meeting was scheduled. The Pension Fund Committee had invited all pastors and missionaries with 30 years or more of service to the Holiday Plaza Inn for a delightful fellowship.

For Sunday morning the conferees had the choice between attending the services at the Memory Lane Baptist Church in Wichita or the English and German Conference Worship Services at Century II. The Rev. Edgar Wesner, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, Wash., was the speaker in the English service. He divided his message into the following three parts: 1) Ruled by sin; 2) Regenerated by grace; 3) We are reconciled by God.

Dr. Herbert Hiller, pastor of the Ridgemont Baptist Church, East Detroit, Mich., spoke at the German Worship Service which was held in the Service Club Room of Century II. About 110 delegates and guests attended the meeting which was led by this writer. Dr. Hiller spoke of the bridges that need to be built from man to man and man to God. "As we are reconciled with God," he said, "may we build bridges to our fellow brethren."

IN APPRECIATION OF MISS ELEANOR WEISENBURGER, R.N., O.M.

Missionary nurse, who for twenty-five years served with extraordinary devotion, selflessness and sacrifice in West Cameroon, West Africa, in our medical mission outreach for many years as head matron at Banso Baptist Hospital.

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The Kindergarten children wanted and received special care and attention.



Mrs. Jeanette Stein, W.M.U. president, was in charge of the Woman's Missionary Union program on Thursday night.



Small tables at the banquet gave a good opportunity to fellowship in small groups. The photo shows the editor in one of the rare moments at the Conference when he could relax together with his wife (center), his parents and friends.

Youth was found everywhere clapping, singing, discussing or attentively listening.



The moderator elect, Mr. Delmar Wessler.

The anticipated highlight of the Triennial Conference was the Closing Session on Sunday afternoon. Mr. Henry Fluth presided. The newly elected General Conference officers were presented the audience and installed to service by the Rev. Aaron Buhler.

Dr. Richard Schilke presented the new missionaries, many of whom were to leave for their mission fields on the following day. Dr. Peter Fehr, a former Cameroon missionary and presently chairman of the Board of Missions, gave the commissioning prayer.

The assembled Conference was thrilled when it was announced that the Rev. Fred Folkerts had accepted the call to become the Associate Secretary for Overseas Missions, effective Jan. 1, 1974. In this position he will be able to relieve some of the heavy workload of Dr. Schilke.

Then the curtain went up for the Young Ambassadors from Japan. Since their arrival in America at the end of June, they had been touring many N.A.B. churches where they gave a stimulating account of their faith in Christ and presented the drama, "The Chosen Ones." Many of the delegates and guests had seen their drama presentation before, nevertheless, they were eager to see it again. The ten young people then played, or rather re-lived this drama, which is



The W.M.U. Executive in session.



The Rev. Harvey Mehlhoff, Tacoma, Wash., spoke to the Conference on Friday night.



The Rev. Aaron Buhler, moderator and speaker.



The Rev. Ruben Herrmann, president of the N.A.B. Seminary Alumni, presented a citation to the Rev. H. Palfenier.



Miss A. Pankratz, Chicago, delighted the ladies at the W.M.U. Luncheon with her testimony in word and song.



Dr. D. James Kennedy, center, speaker on Wednesday night. With him, Dr. D. J. Draewell, left, and Rev. Buhler.



Leaders of the Local Arrangements Committee who were the key to the successful Triennial Conference.



Prof. Willy Muller, left, N.A.B. College president, Dr. J. Sonnenberg and trustee Carl Lang at the N.A.B. College Alumni Breakfast.



Activities for toddlers. Japan missionary Lucille Wipf taught them to sing and count in Japanese.

IN APPRECIATION OF THE REVEREND AND MRS. F. KENNETH GOODMAN

Missionaries, who for twenty-five years served with extraordinary devotion, selflessness and sacrifice in West Africa: twenty-two years in West Cameroon and three years in Nigeria. They faithfully pioneered in evangelism and in addition Mr. Goodman served as field treasurer in Cameroon 1963-69 and as secretary in Nigeria 1970-; Mrs. Goodman served as treasurer in Nigeria 1970-

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based on a true story about a Japanese businessman whose wife had become a Christian. In his opposition to Christianity he causes much hardship for his wife and other Christians. The unwavering Christian loyalty and devotion of his wife and other Christians finally convince him of his need for salvation and he surrenders his life to Christ.

As Japan Missionary Florence Miller narrated the story, the Young Ambassadors succeeded in depicting the dramatic story so vividly that all viewers were completely engrossed in the action. A long applause proved to the drama troupe how much their performance had been appreciated.

Then the curtain came down on the drama, on the many business sessions and meetings, on the 37th Triennial Conference.

The Conference in Wichita was over. It will long be remembered for a spacious meeting hall, for its convenient lodging facilities, for the beautiful table decorations prepared by the Kansas Baptist women, for efficient and harmonious committee work, for renewed and new friendships, for the direct encounter with many missionaries, for the active participation of youth, for the beautiful music, but most of all for the working of the Holy Spirit among delegates, guests and visitors who left the Conference, challenged and better prepared to "reconcile the world through Christ." □

RESOLVED: TO MAKE ONE MILLION CONTACTS FOR CHRIST

WHEREAS the North American Baptist General Conference has adopted as its 1973-76 Triennial Theme, "Reconciling the World Through Christ,"

And WHEREAS the Conference has been challenged to adopt a goal of "One Million Contacts for Christ" in this Triennial period,

BE IT RESOLVED that this goal be formally adopted by the Conference Delegates that the North American Baptists adopt a goal of one million contacts for Christ in the 1973-76 Triennium.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each local church of the Conference set as a definite goal by action of the congregation of making six contacts per member per year,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each church report quarterly to the Church Ministries Department their progress in reaching these goals, and that a summary report be published in the BAPTIST HERALD.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Church Ministries Department be charged with the responsibility of coordinating, directing and funding this program, giving top priority to this plan,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all denominational officers, staff members, committee members including those in cooperating organizations show personal leadership in commitment to and involvement in person to person witnessing. □

MORE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN WICHITA

WHEREAS in our educational institutions the Lord has richly blessed in the past two years in touching the hearts of young men and women for the call to full-time service, BE IT RESOLVED that we appeal to our churches and our institutions to continue their prayers and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit that more young people may commit their lives for full-time Christian service.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that our institutions do not reduce but rather increase their efforts through faculty and curriculum provision in challenging our students for missionary service both at home and abroad. □

WHEREAS there is such widespread disillusionment with the institutional church in our society today, BE IT RESOLVED that each church be on the alert for new forms and means of communicating the gospel of Christ. □

WHEREAS the east coast was once the center and origin of much of our denominational activity, and whereas statistics show a startling decline in churches and membership there in deference to increased attention given to beautiful middle class suburbs further west, BE IT RESOLVED that an urgent call be given for men and women to consider ministries in the inner city and large urban areas in the east and elsewhere and that appropriate funding be made available to support this ministry for those willing to serve in this manner lest our Conference fail to communicate the gospel to an ever increasing population. □

WHEREAS there is widespread conviction that Christ will soon return and whereas we are living in a time of rapidly changing economic conditions such as: inflation, disruptive devaluation, rising prices and food and energy crises,

BE IT RESOLVED that we as North American Baptists recommit ourselves to God who promises to supply our needs,

that we carefully manage our personal spending habits and that we give highest priority to our stewardship opportunities in areas of over and above tithing, estate planning, deferred giving and investment in the Church Extension Investor's Fund and the Church Loan Trust Fund in order to help meet the critical financial dimensions of continued world-wide gospel proclamation. □

WHEREAS we as North America Baptists consider God's people to be the light and salt of society and WHEREAS recent incidents reveal the continued erosion of personal and civic morality in government, BE IT RESOLVED that we as North American Baptists reaffirm our conviction that every nation lives under the God of justice, judgment and mercy, that we deplore the apparent dichotomy between personal piety and public morality, that we urge all culpable officials to repent before the Judge of Nations, and that we demand a compliance by all elected and appointed officials to the canons of law and order. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage our young men and women to respond to God's call for service in the ministry of politics and government. □

WHEREAS the salary scales are far too low for the faculties and administrations of the North American Baptist College and Seminary and for the general workers, missionaries and church extension pastors of the North American Baptist General Conference,

AND WHEREAS the relative secrecy about the salaries of persons in these positions serves to perpetuate the low level of pay,

AND WHEREAS the constituency of the North American Baptist General Conference has a right to know what these salary scales are,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Council be directed to raise the salaries of the faculties and administrations of the North American Baptist College and Seminary, and the general workers of the North American Baptist General Conference, and that the Board of Missions be directed to raise the salaries of the missionaries and church extension pastors of the North American Baptist General Conference, all by a significant amount in order to bring them more into line with the salaries for similar positions in secular professions,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these salary scales and any and all proposed changes in these scales be published annually in the Association Reports. □

ADOPTED RECOMMENDATION OF THE COOPERATIVE CHRISTIANITY COMMITTEE

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the North American Baptist General Conference communicate its appreciation for the spirit of fellowship and cooperation expressed by the Baptist General Conference resolution concerning possible merger. The joint study of the Baptist General Conference and North American Baptist General Conference from 1967 to 1970 revealed that merger is feasible and may be practical when more concrete cooperation is in evidence and the advantages of merger are more clearly demonstrated. This conclusion is still valid.

IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED that, until such time when a broader base of acquaintance and cooperation can be realized, efforts for exploration or implementation related to the mechanics of merger be deferred, and that actual merger be considered not as an immediate goal, but as a long range possibility.

IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED that, particularly through district and associational leadership, efforts be continued and expanded to provide increased cooperative relationships and activities.

ADOPTED RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING 1979

The Time and Place Committee of the N.A.B. General Conference, held in Wichita, Kansas, Aug. 14-19, 1973, met with two delegations, the Central Dakota-Montana Association and the Alberta Association, regarding invitations to hold the General Conference of N.A.B. churches in July of 1979 in Bismarck, N.D. and Calgary, Alta., respectively. The committee, on behalf of the General Conference, is deeply grateful for the above invitations. Both delegations eloquently presented convincing reasons why their invitations should be accepted. The committee feels that facilities in both of the above cities would be very adequate. After prayerful consideration of all aspects of above invitations and places, the committee, with the concurrence of the General Council, hereby recommends that the invitation of the Central Dakota-Montana Association be accepted and the General Conference be held in Bismarck, N.D., one of the last two weeks in July, 1979. The finalization of above plan will be subject to the working out of satisfactory arrangements for the 1979 Conference. □

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST WHO'S WHO

Election Results of the Triennial Conference 1973
Executive Secretary.....Dr. G. K. Zimmerman
General Secretary for Missions.....Dr. Richard Schilke
Stewardship and Communications Secretary.....Rev. John Binder
General Treasurer.....Mr. Milton Hildebrandt, Minneapolis, Minn.
Moderator.....Mr. Delmar Wesseler, Lorraine, Kan.
Vice Moderator.....Rev. Kenneth Fischer, Lodi, Calif.

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Eastern Area.....Rev. Gordon Thomas
Mr. Carl Guenther
Great Lakes Area.....Rev. Adolph Braun
Rev. Eldon G. Schroeder
North Central Area.....Dr. Peter Fehr
Mrs. Albert Reddig
South Central Area.....Rev. Walter Sukut
Mr. Adolph Hill
Western Area.....Rev. Connie Salios
Mrs. Irma Jean Krueger
Northern Area.....Rev. Heinrich Goliath
Mr. William Rentz

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST SEMINARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (six year term)

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Dr. Constance Churchill, Madison, S.D.
Mr. James Biggerstaff, Aberdeen, S.D.
Mr. Raymond Englebrecht, Waco, Texas
Dr. Jack Wobig, Portland, Ore.
Rev. Elton Kirstein, Forest Park, Ill.
Rev. Aaron Buhler, Parma, Ohio
Rev. Paul Siewert, Minot, N.D. (3 years)

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Dr. Harry Hiller, Calgary, Alta.
Mr. Melvin Bergstresser, Winnipeg, Man.
Rev. Ron Mayforth, Troy, Mich.
Rev. Bert Milner, Edmonton, Alta.
Rev. Manfred Taubensee, Port Coquitlam, B.C. (three year term)
Rev. Donald Richter, Edmonton, Alta.
Rev. Eugene Kern, Aberdeen, S.D. (three year term)

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Eastern Area Representative.....Rev. Ted Faszter, Cleveland, Ohio
South Central Area Representative.....Mr. Harry Luiken, Steamboat Rock, Iowa
North Central Area Representative.....Mr. Wayne Heringer, Anamoose, N.D.
Northern Area Representative.....Rev. Irvin Schmuland, Medicine Hat, Alta.
Great Lakes Area Representative.....Rev. Jothan Benke, Kenosha, Wis.
Women's Representative.....Mrs. Audrey Littman, St. Joseph, Mich.
Mrs. Elsie Rogalski, Lodi, Calif.
Youth Representative.....Miss Candace Enockson, Sioux Falls, S.D.
Mr. Brian Rapski, Vancouver, B.C.

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Vice President.....Mrs. J. C. Gunst
Secretary-Treasurer.....Mrs. Harold Weiss

WOMAN GENERAL COUNCIL MEMBER, AT LARGE

Mrs. Manuel Wolff, Emery, S.D.

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Vice President.....Rev. John Wollenberg, Kelowna, B.C.
Secretary-Treasurer.....Rev. Jothan G. Benke, Kenosha, Wis.
Members at Large.....Rev. Ronald Derman, Fessenden, N.D.
Rev. Manuel D. Wolff, Emery, S.D.

N.A.B. MINISTERS' FELLOWSHIP

President.....Rev. Ron Mayforth
Vice President.....Rev. Alvin Harsch
Secretary-Treasurer.....Rev. Eugene Stroh
Counselor.....Dr. Reinhold J. Kerstan

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

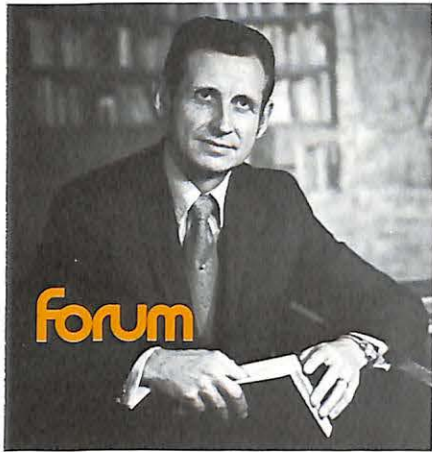
President.....Mrs. Jeanette Stein
Vice President.....Mrs. Herbert Pankratz
Secretary-Treasurer.....Mrs. Ernest Hoffman

37th TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE at CENTURY II, WICHITA, KANSAS, AUGUST 14-19, 1973

RECONCILING THE WORLD THROUGH CHRIST - II Cor. 5:18-20



Leslie R. Broadstreet Photo



by Gerald L. Borchert

Dear Dr. Borchert:
Let me thank you for your "Forum" articles. I usually turn to this section of the BAPTIST HERALD first. I want to commend you for the kindness which you have shown in your answers to some of the questions which have provoked me. I also wish to thank you for the fact that in your writing you seem to have a feeling for people in Canada as well as the United States. . . . I guess it must be difficult for some writers to remember that our Conference is on both sides of the border. . . .

Mr. D.

Dear Mr. D.: Although I have said almost nothing publicly on this issue up to this point, I want to thank you for your letter. You do not know how close it comes to my own heart. You have been very perceptive of my orientation. If you will trace back through any writing which I have done for our denomination such as in the *Baptist Herald* or *Moments With God*, I doubt whether you will find that I have ever limited my references to either the people of the United States or Canada.

The reason for this cross-national approach is that my life is in fact part

Address letters to: Dean Gerald L. Borchert, North American Baptist Seminary, 1605 S. Euclid Ave., Sioux Falls, S.D. 57105

of two countries. My wife is a citizen of the United States and I am a citizen of Canada. My two boys are registered in both countries and whenever we fly the flag at our home we always fly two flags.

That, dear friend, is my picture of our Conference, but not everybody in our denomination has such a firm picture of this fact. And nationalism in our Conference expresses itself on both sides of the border. It is not simply a matter of being aware of Canadian and U.S. days of celebration. For instance some people would like to set the N.A.B. College over against the N.A.B. Seminary, and the border seems to help them. I cannot do that. I was at the C.T.I. groundbreaking and cornerstone laying and my parents housed college students in our home before there were dormitories. Today, I am serving as the dean of the Seminary and by God's grace helping to prepare young people for the growing demands of Christ's ministry to our contemporary world. God has given us two institutions to serve his purposes, and our task as North American Baptists is to be sure that we are fulfilling our God-given purpose.

As Christians we must really learn what it means for Christianity to transcend borders. I have very close friends in both Egypt and in Israel and have learned just a little of the meaning of war and tasted a little of what was experienced by one of my former professors at Princeton who had one son in the German army and one son in the American army during World War II. The Church must never lose sight of the fact that Christ is on both sides of borders. Likewise borders do not confine the Holy Spirit in his relationship to God's children.

The fact that our North American Baptist General Conference transcends a border can be one of our greatest advantages as a denomination, because we have the opportunity—if we take it—of learning first hand what loyalty to God and loyalty to nationalism or Caesar is all about. My prayer for our Conference is that no one will speak or write simply as an American or Canadian Christian. This is a lesson every missionary must learn in order to become at home in another nation. This lesson is, moreover, not dissimilar to the lesson that we as former German Baptists are still learning as we reach out and cross borders or race, color and cultural heritage. May God give us his grace to become more Christian than Canadian or American or German. G. L. B. □

book reviews by B.C. Schreiber

God and His World. Paraphrased by Kenneth N. Taylor, compiled by John Calvin Reid, Glendale, Calif., G/L Regal Books. \$8.95.

By this time Dr. Taylor is well known for his vividly paraphrased *Living Bible*. Dr. Reid has made the Old Testament even more readable by his excellent compilation. It reads like a continuous story, eliminating all the repetition of Kings and Chronicles, all the "begats" and dietary laws in Leviticus.

The book is divided into parts and sections. There are no chapters or verses. Even the carefully selected Psalms cannot be identified by their section numbers.

In his preface, the author states that because of the new translations and paraphrases, "the Bible has been made more readable, with the result that it is more widely read." It is the compiler's intention that as you read the highlights you will become more interested in the Bible as a whole.

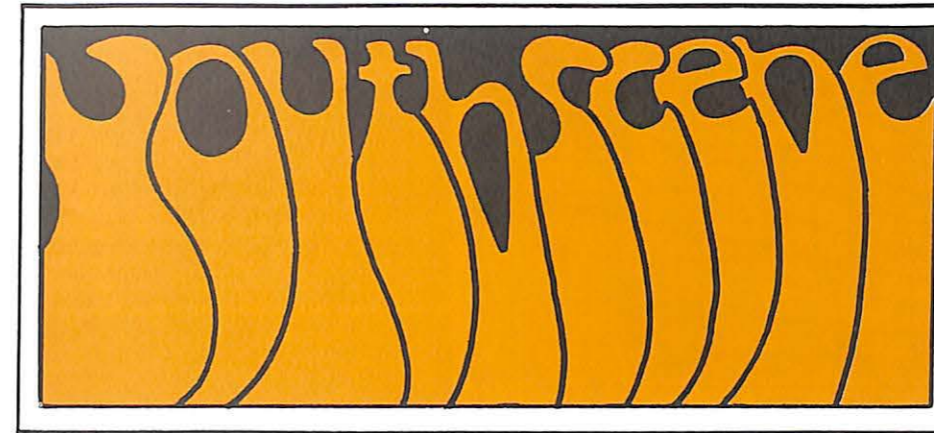
Young people in particular will find *God and His World* interesting, inspiring and challenging. □

CHUCKLE WITH BRUNO

One Sunday school boy to another:
"Are you a Junior or a Primary?"
"I don't know?"
"Do girls bother you?"
"No,"
"You're a Primary!"

The Sunday school teacher was emphasizing the importance of prayer before meals. "Sonny, don't you think God's blessing makes the food taste better?" "Well, it may help some things, but it sure doesn't do much for spinach."

The pastor was telling his visiting grandchildren a fascinating bedtime story. They listened, and when the story was finished little Peter asked: "Grandpa, was that a true story or were you just preaching?"



YOU SAW YOUTH AT WICHITA

by Bruce A. Rich

From the first session until the last, young people were much in evidence at this 37th Triennial Conference. Unofficial figures set the high school and college age attendance at 270, and the teens attendance at 150, for a total exceeding 400.

The youth were under the able leadership of the Rev. Bob Lang (youth) and Miss Marva Oster (young teens) during the week.

A packed day of events awaited the youth each morning. There were opportunities for educational and recreational tours, instructional and dialogue sessions, witness action sessions, music and involvement in the life and action of the Conference at large.

The large Youth Choir, under the direction of Dennis Hoffman, was a highlight experience for many of the young people, and was a source of joy for the Conference delegates and friends.

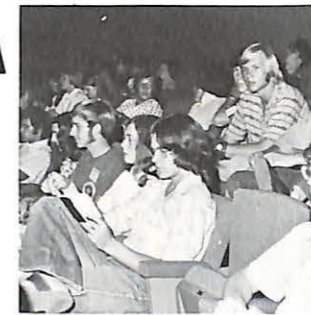
The spirit of reconciliation was prevalent among the youth, and became highly evident during the communion celebration of the young people on Saturday night. Broken relationships in the Body of Christ were healed, and the bond of love was strengthened. The words did not form empty phrases, when—joining hands—the young people sang "We are One in the Spirit" and "Praise God". They were words which had taken on a new depth of meaning for many that were present. Praise God! □

The Rev. Bruce A. Rich is general director of the Church Ministries Department, North American Baptist General Conference.

October 1973



All God's Children sang and then greeted conference delegates with handshakes.



Youth were present in most of the conference sessions.



Some of God's Volunteers who sang for the Elective Group, participants of Happenings in Evangelism.



Youth listens to the music of a God's Volunteers team at the Open Air Theater.



The Sonshine Company witnessing



The Rev. and Mrs. Bob Lang at the Conference Banquet (foreground).

The Youth Choir under the direction of Dennis Hoffman, thrilled the Conference audience.



Woman's World

CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN . . .

by Mrs. Jeanette Stein, president of the W.M.W., Winnipeg, Man.

To climb a mountain is a wonderful experience. All the people who attended the Triennial Conference at Wichita can truly say they climbed a spiritual mountain. Mountains have many peaks and as women we experienced three definite peaks.



Women's Missionary Union Luncheon at Century II.

Our first peak was scaled on Thursday at the luncheon meeting when we read the financial report and realized that we had topped our goal by one third. The business meeting went very smoothly, as with one heart and one mind we accepted a new and much higher goal for the coming triennium. Over eight hundred women attended the meeting. The tables were beautifully decorated with original seed-flower arrangements made by the ladies of the Kansas churches. The short inspirational messages by our missionaries will long be remembered by everyone who attended.

Our second peak was reached on Thursday evening at the Conference



Mrs. Patricia Meinerts, Cameroon Missionary, addressing the capacity crowd at Century II on Thursday. Seated are (l. to right): Miss Lucille Wipf, Mrs. M. Zeeb, Mrs. Jeanette Stein.

program followed by Mission Celebrations. The program featured Mrs. Patricia Meinerts, missionary to Bamenda, Cameroon. Through her message we realized again the great work done by our missionaries. The missionary dramatization brought to our attention the great need of missions. The Ministers' Wives Chorus sang two beautiful numbers that will echo in our memory for months to come. Following the program we were each given a large bag, and then we began visiting the different mission fields where we were given souvenirs, literature, tasted foods eaten in that country, talked with the missionaries, etc. This was a most rewarding experience.

The summit was reached Saturday evening at the banquet when we had the unique privilege of welcoming our first Director of Women's Work. For many years we have hoped and prayed that this would become a reality. We are anticipating great things. We expect our director to tie our work into the work of the denomination so there will be no over-lapping. We expect that she



Miss Laverna Mehlhaff, the newly elected director of women's work.

will urge and inspire us to greater works. Miss LaVerna Mehlhaff is the woman appointed for this new work, and you will read more about her in the next issue of this page. □

SUMMER ACTIVITIES IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY

by David and Priscilla Keiry

Summer activities increase the tempo of our daily living and ministry among the people here in the San Luis Valley. Summer volunteers from our North American Baptist churches generally arrive just a few days before the first classes begin, and though we stress our local people taking leadership, many times they feel their inadequacies teaching in front of "college" students. After they have become acquainted with the volunteers they warm up with lasting friendships.

This year our own responsibilities included the initial planning for camp and its direction. Without the assistance of our Board of Missions such a program would be impossible. With rising prices and inflation squeezing every penny, the camping program faces curtailment. We have seen many spiritual victories and Christian growth as a result of the program, but realistically, there is a dollar and cents limit which weighs heavily upon the spiritual aspects of the program. The local groups which instigated our camp program still help with it also, or it would have fallen by the wayside a long time ago.

The areas in which God has called us to work have been hard pressed for years under the domination of Satan with witchcraft, superstition, alcoholism and an intense militancy which disrupts the ministry of God's word. By no means do these diseases afflict only the people we work with. They inflict their damages upon all of the people and churches in the area. Even though there is a hunger for the Word of God and his blessings, the open ridicule of those who become believers makes it very difficult for them to stand fast in their faith. Grown men are called, "Sunday school boys," and mother's with families constantly have their faith thrown up to them. Social reformers and "johnny-come-latelys" sow their share of discontent among the laborers and call for strikes coupled with violence. With Center being the "lettuce capital" of the Valley, an uneasy truce exists between those who depend for their livelihood on available work in the short summer, and those who line their pockets at the poor workers' and employers' expense. Thus far, this conflict has not entered into the church but our outreach is affected, since

The Rev. and Mrs. D. Keiry are missionaries at Center, Colorado.

Center's VBS teaching staff including four of the five volunteers for 1973, with pastor Keiry teaching teens in evening classes.



Faith Baptist Church, center, God's choice of place for our outreach to the community.

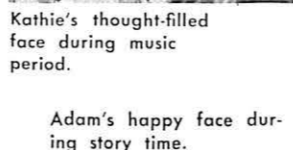
"fear" and "retaliation" have become common words. Pray that each believer will be faithful in his witness.

Mission is God's Good News given to men and reflected in the hearts and lives of those who receive his Word. Thus, it could be said that faces show the many feelings of those who become



Moises—unreached but wistful and longing.

Tina Trujillo with Ingrid de Koter ('73 Volunteer) in team teaching VBS. God has given many victories in her faith.



Kathie's thought-filled face during music period.

Adam's happy face during story time.

involved in Christ's redemptive work on our home mission field. We're here because each individual has needs which can only be met by Christ, and he is faithful in his calling and keeping ministry. People around us read our lives and interpret them as a recommendation for or against the Christianity we profess. We thank each of you for your part in interceding for believer's here, and providing for the evangelistic outreach through the volunteers and your gifts. Your Christian fellowship enables us to see above and beyond the clouds which often darken the day. □



Ramos Segura, one of our BYF's, involved in a community improvement work project—a paint job for one of our windows.



Tiny tots whose hearts were influenced by Bible stories, and VBS activities.

SUMMER VOLUNTEER WORKERS REPORT

Working in the San Luis Valley is a tremendous experience for college stu-

dents who do summer volunteer work in our Spanish American Mission. We can experience some of their excitement as we share in their testimonies. V. Huber, Editor

I can't thank the Lord enough for sending me to the San Luis Valley. Living in the back of the clinic gave us the contact with the kids. Home life is a dreaded thing for a lot of these children. Fathers come and go, and the largeness of the families creates a bitterness. They are starved for love and attention. Discipline is not issued very regularly at home, so these children do not know what it means to be reverent in church.

The church has natural air conditioning due to flying rocks! The Concelio is a few blocks. This is the Chicano headquarters (Spanish militants). Besides offering a game of pool, they feed the kids hatred for the 'gringos'. The devil is alive and working in the Concelio! Dawn Meyer, South Barnaby, B.C.

It was really a great experience for me to be a summer volunteer worker. It was a privilege to work with our missionaries. They are dedicated to their task of helping Spanish people find Christ. Their job is not always easy.

There is a real need here for more workers and financial support. The Baptist Health Center does a valuable service for the poor people here, but it needs funds to keep on going. Joanne Joslyn, Sheboygan, Wis.

As a summer worker here you get a feeling that you are doing something worthwhile for the Lord. I have learned to trust the Lord while working here! Liz Kirschman, Jamestown, N.D.

Children are the major part of the congregation. They are independent and have a hard-hearted attitude because of lack of parental supervision. To live a Christian life is a sharp contrast to the normal. It was only in the past year that the first adults were baptized in Monte Vista (1972). This is the result of many years of hard work. The tasks here are unending and always uphill. Gail Bruce, St. Paul, Minn.

I had the privilege of winning four of my girls to the Lord during camp. It meant so much to me for this was the first time the Lord gave me this opportunity. The Keirys and the Ahrens have done a great work among the Spanish-American people! There is a lot more to be done! Janet Doan, McIntosh, S.D. □

How one week can be utterly filled to the brim with both business and pleasure is a wonder, but it was done! This was my first Conference, and all I can say is that it was great! I came as one of the four girls that worked in the Office, which gave me a different perspective from those coming only to take in the sessions.

We started our day around 7:00 a.m. and didn't turn in until around 10:30 or 11:30. As workers, our day was filled with typing and taking minutes in preparations for the meetings that were to take place. As I was running up the stairs to the office, determined that the notes from the minutes were going to be typed no matter how late it got, I heard some singing from the Concert Hall that made me stop. Peeking into the auditorium, I saw a lovely group of young people called, "All God's Children." I slipped into an empty seat near the door and listened to them until they were through singing, then I slipped out again, but in a different mood than I was in before.

Two of the events that all of us girls attended was the W.M.U. Luncheon and the Conference Banquet. The messages that were shared with us at the Luncheon were a blessing. In a busy schedule these were moments of refreshment.

The facilities in Wichita were beautiful. The walk from the hotel to Century II was a pleasure because of the landscaping and beautiful buildings. The people in Kansas were most gracious as hosts. They worked long and hard in preparation for the Conference. One of the things that I will always remember were the decorations. I have conducted quite a few craft classes and have decorated from time to time at our church functions, but I was amazed at the tremendous amount of work and care that went into each function. All sorts of materials were used ingeniously by these ladies to create beautiful center pieces. The ladies used common materials such as rocks, seeds, glass jars and weeds and turned them into things of beauty. I made sketches of some of the decorations for my scrapbook. The thoughtful ladies made something for everyone to take back with them as a memento at all the meal events.

It's a lot better being at a Conference than just hearing or reading about it after it is over. I feel I have a better understanding of what the next three years will be like having heard some of the plans and goals that were made at the Conference and also I have a better understanding of the North American Baptist General Conference.

Mrs. J. Kells works as secretary for the Department of Stewardship and Communication at the Forest Park office.



"The walk from the hotel to Century II was a pleasure, because of the landscaping and beautiful buildings."



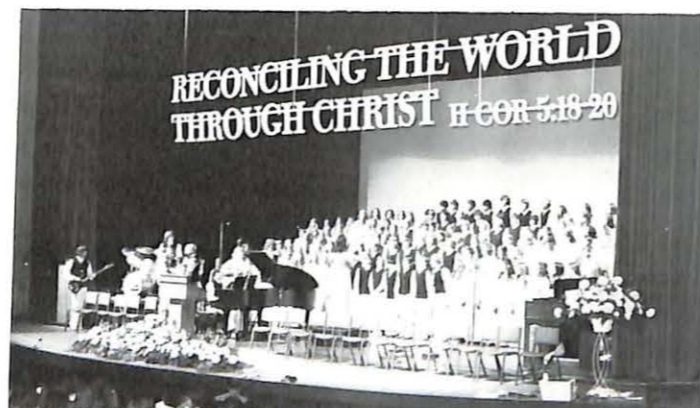
"... Our day was filled with typing and taking minutes. ..."

Refreshing Moments in a Busy Schedule

by Mrs. Joyce Kells



"One of the things I will always remember were the decorations."



"... I saw a lovely group of young people called, All God's Children. ..."

Inight into Christian Education

CHURCH BUS EVANGELISM

by Mike Johnson

This past March our church celebrated the first anniversary of its Church Bus Evangelism program (CBE). This is a program that God has used to give us growth in our church. This growth has come through much planning and believing in God's ability to work in the 1970's.

Physical Growth

For those of us who are involved in God's great work of building the Body of believers, growth has a two-fold meaning. It means physical growth; that is, increasing by getting more people into the church's programs (Luke 14:23). This is similar to putting building blocks together, making a great building—the more blocks, the larger the building. CBE has provided us with this kind of growth. In the last year we have experienced a 50 percent increase in attendance at our Sunday church school and worship service.

This has come through people committing their Saturday mornings to calling upon children found playing outside and inviting them to ride our bus to church the next day. With a "big bad green bus" parked there, it isn't difficult to build enthusiasm in the kids. By enlisting their help in convincing their parents of the idea, the results are amazing.

Before we began our program of bus evangelism, the pastor and I attended a CBE workshop where we heard amazing stories from pastors who had seen fantastic growth in their churches. One told of increasing from 34 to 300 in

Mr. Johnson is the Church Bus Evangelism director at the Grace Baptist Church, Racine, Wisconsin.

attendance in only 18 months. Many pastors told us that on their first Sunday they had 20 or more people on their buses. On our first Sunday we took our two buses (we were told to begin with at least two buses) and drove them around our routes—empty! The second Sunday—empty! The third Sunday—one rider! Those first weeks of calling on 50 homes each week, yielded lots of "no's" and sore feet, but built faith in our conviction that God wanted to work in our church through CBE. As time went by, the Lord answered prayer. I can still see the eyes of our bus captains filled with great joy and hear their "Yippee!" after getting our first rider. As the weeks passed, God provided.

Spiritual Growth

The second aspect of growth is internal growth—growth within each of those building blocks. Spiritual development within each believer is vital to any program of growth.

As our number of children increased, the Lord taught our congregation to love these children, most of whom had rarely been in church. At first some were upset over the loud talking and even an occasional disruption of the sermon. I can still remember the surprise of one of our bus captains who discovered one of her bus kids had filled his pockets from the offering plates. As time went by, God worked in our church people to genuinely love the children, to sit with them in services and visit them at home. Many changes had to be made—growing pains—but in each one, God worked. Our church is becoming more

and more united around this one program of outreach. Internal growth has resulted in the form of a stronger faith, a functional love for some who are not always very lovable and towards unity.

Evangelism

There is another aspect of CBE; it is evangelism. Yes, the children receive the good news of salvation, but it is important that the whole family be reached. Visiting is done on a time basis, two hours each Saturday morning. During this time our bus captains have had many opportunities to share Christ with the parents of the children they meet. Several of the parents come to the morning services regularly in their cars while their children ride the bus.

Involvement

Any program with growth as its aim needs to be well rounded, getting as many people involved as possible, using as many of the gifts people have as possible. Almost everyone can be involved either in visitation, driving the buses, leading the singing on the buses (our young people do this), helping in the monthly parties we have, repairing the buses, teaching Sunday school classes, working in children's church, preaching, sitting with the children during the services or just loving them.

It may not be God's will for every church to have a Church Bus Evangelism program, but I do believe that every church must develop its own program of two-fold growth in order that our Lord's Church may be filled and that our brothers and sisters may be matured. □

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CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS REPORT

TACOMA, WASH. CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT

OCTOBER 1973

by LeRoy Schauer

Contacts for Christ! The resolution at the recent Wichita sessions by North American Baptists to make one million contacts for Christ in these three years becomes an additional motivation for any extension church. By means of the developing ministry of Olympic View Baptist Church, contacts for Christ become reality almost week by week. The privilege to share Jesus Christ seems unlimited. Only foolish resistance to the direction of the Holy Spirit and lack of more personal commitment bars taking better advantage of the opportunities God provides all around us.

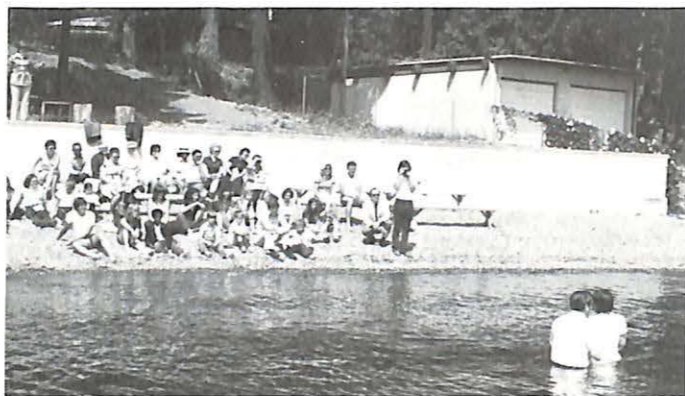
To meet persons in our group who have recently invited Christ into their lives is always exciting and refreshing. Jim Wendlandt, a young pharmacist in University Place, and his lovely wife Joyce, have in recent days committed their lives to the Lord. Their commitment was by means of a ministry other than ours. However, the contact which brought them into our fellowship was through one of our couples. For the Wendlandts a literal transformation has begun. What seems like immediate and effective witnessing to their unsaved friends is of first importance. A desire to covenant with other Christians to reach people in our community is expressed.

There is also the example of young Alan Akers, a boy of Junior High age, who made his commitment to the Lord. It was a delight to see him proudly bring his parents with him to meet people in our group. Or the testimonies of Marge Goering and Joy Folland who were influenced by means of one of the church's Bible discussion groups. These are prime hours spent by laymen and laywomen in following up contacts for Christ, dealing kindly with the needs and questions that new persons may have.

We praise God for the ministry Olympic View Baptist has with fifty families; for the answered prayer when groups have met for weekly Bible study sessions; for the thirteen Sunday school classes that help to meet the needs for each age group during this quarter; for the effective leadership of lay persons who desire to become involved in personal evangelism; for the stronger base that is being laid for the church's ministry as couples and families join in covenanting together through membership.

With the Lord's help we are planning for the beautiful building site to become the setting for a first unit building in 1974. But the real building of any church begins first with the ministry to persons. Only then are buildings a means to an end — that of contacting and disciplining persons for Jesus Christ. The words of Jesus take on new meaning as the Holy Spirit opens lives here in Tacoma. "Do you not say, 'Four

The Rev. LeRoy Schauer is the pastor of the Olympic View Baptist Church, Tacoma, Wash.



(Top picture): Vacation Bible school group in front of church sign announcing the future church site.
(Center picture): Pastor LeRoy Schauer baptizing a candidate at lakeside baptismal service.
(Bottom picture): Morning worship service conducted by one of the lay leaders at Sunset Elementary School, the temporary meeting place.

months more and then the harvest?" I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad forever" (John 4:35-36, New International Bible).

My First Triennial Conference

by Heinz D. Rossol

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice." Philippians 4:4. There is much that can be said about the Triennial Conference in Wichita, but to me the spirit of the Conference can be summed up as a fulfillment of this admonition of the Apostle. One could not help but be caught up in the joy which was so evident there. Not only was there the joy of meeting old friends and making new ones, but much more, there was a joy in the Lord, in what he has done and what we know he is yet going to do. **To me this was most evident in the enthusiastic singing through-**



Dr. Mercer Shaw was a tremendous song leader and a great soloist.

out the Conference. Not only was it a joy to listen to the choirs, the young people and the special musical numbers which were presented, but also when the Conference delegates and friends raised their voices in praise of God, it was truly a thrilling experience.

In fact, throughout the Conference, whether in the business sessions, the Elective Study and Discussion Groups, the Conference Ministries Reports, or wherever it might have been, very little — if anything — that could be considered pessimistic was heard. Yes, we were admonished in regard to our Christian commitments; we were shown our failures in that we have not been living the life of true followers of Christ; we were reminded of what our Lord has done for us and how little we have been willing to do for him in return, but we were always pointed back to the positive, to what Jesus Christ can do through us right now, if we will but allow him to use us.

It was wonderful to note the involvement of the young people at the Conference. Not only did they take an active part in the program which was planned for them, but also in that of

The Rev. Heinz D. Rossol is the pastor of the Austin Street Baptist Church, Buffalo, N.Y.



The N.A.B.C. Tribute Singers at the N.A.B.C. breakfast meeting.

the Conference as a whole. They added much to the evening sessions with their musical presentations and, not satisfied just attending meetings, went out into the streets of Wichita to witness for Christ. In a day such as ours, when it is often hard to direct youth to anything spiritual, it is a real thrill to see this take place. Truly, God is at work today.

One area of disappointment to me was the apparent lack of any real interest on the part of a number of delegates in what we as a Conference are doing and what plans there are for the future. The attendance at the business sessions and especially at the Conference Ministries Reports was poor. Though Conference business, reports and plans may not be the only, and in a certain sense not the main reason for the Triennial Conference, they certainly are an important part of it and should not be neglected in this way.



The N.A.B. Kansas Churches Mass Choir



Chaplain Clinton E. Grenz led the N.A.B.S. alumni in inspirational singing.



"All God's Children" excited the Conference with their joyful singing and Christian radiance.



The ministers' wives chorus sang during the Women's Missionary Union program on Thursday night.

This was my first opportunity to attend a Triennial Conference, but, God willing, it will not be the last. In these days I have come to know a little bit more about our churches throughout North America and about what our aims and goals are. I have always felt that as a Conference we reflected on a large scale what my personal concern as a Christian has been. This Conference has confirmed it and expresses it very well in the theme for the next triennium: "Reconciling the World through Christ." □



For the 95 year old Rev. Theodore Frey this may well have been the last Triennial Conference he could attend. But then —, who knows, for "they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength."

Some of the many display booths of the Triennial Conference which offered more information about North American Baptists in action at home and overseas.



RECONCILING PERSONS THROUGH CHRIST

by Daniel Fuchs

Brokenness is the plague of our time. People who belong together are separated and cannot get together again. The greatest problems of our society can be summed up in the cleavages and fragmentations that haunt us.

Reconciliation means bringing together what has been fractured, reuniting what has been alienated and divided. This has been our concern and purpose in our ministry of evangelism from earliest days, and this will continue to be our special emphasis in the new 1973-76 General Conference Triennium.

There are many estrangements in life, but the one with the most tragic consequences is to be separated from God. This is the epidemic inside of life which erupts in all kinds of social clashes and divisions. When the vertical dimension of life is broken, every horizontal relationship is in jeopardy! Society's fragmentations will never be mended until the vertical connection is recognized and unity of the vertical dimension is achieved in the first place. The answer is found in what God has done in Christ, and the purpose of our ministry in evangelism is to proclaim and demonstrate this message "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself" (II Cor. 5:10).

God's purpose is precisely to break down the dividing wall between God and man, and between man and man, to make all men brethren in Christ. This is what Paul was talking about: "There is no such thing as Jews and Greeks, slaves and freemen, male and female; for you are all one person in Jesus Christ" (Gal. 3:28).

Though the ministry of "reconciling persons through Christ" is the daily responsibility of N.A.B. churches, it will become our "extra" effort during the 1973-76 triennium. In cooperation with the "World Mission of Reconciliation Through Christ" initiated by the Baptist World Congress in Tokyo in 1970, we will proclaim in word and deed with renewed dedication the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people, seeking to demonstrate through varied and positive ministries the redemptive and reconciling love of God. □

The Rev. Daniel Fuchs is evangelism director of the Church Ministries Department, North American Baptist General Conference.

I FRIGHTEN CHRISTIANS!

by C. S. Lovett



Those "Christians" who like to play church and don't really mean business for Christ PANIC when they hear from Personal Christianity. "Take my name off your mailing list," they say. They resent the challenge to get busy for Jesus because He's coming soon!

You know the ones I mean. They go to church once or twice a week, but that's it. Outside those front doors, they forget about Jesus. They couldn't care less about souls or the judgment seat of Christ. They want to "do their own thing," not God's!

But—praise His name, there are people like you. People eager to win souls, resist the devil and live victoriously. I'd rather work with a few who mean business than a multitude of triflers. That's why my ministry is geared to the inner circle. Out of the twelve disciples, the Lord Jesus had an inner circle of three (Matt. 26:37; 17:1).

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THE 100% CHRISTIAN is a book that will thrill you and acquaint you with our ministry of helps (1 Cor. 12:28). It will make

you ache to serve Jesus more—and show you HOW. I wish it were free, but with its "action kit," it's costly to produce. This ½ price offer is our way of introducing you to an arsenal of more than 35 proven tools for those who really mean business for Christ!

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Mid America Sunday School Convention

America's largest convention center, COBO HALL, Detroit, will be Convention Headquarters for three great days — October 25, 26, 27, 1973. This 28th Annual Convention will draw delegates from some 40 States and Canada. With 175 WORKSHOPS offered and 200 EXHIBITORS displaying up-to-date materials, MASSA Convention is the largest of its kind in the world.

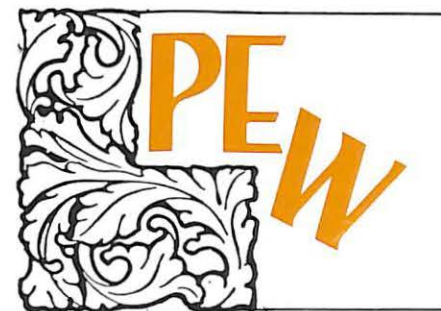
Seven GENERAL SESSIONS offer headline speakers from across America: Dr. Jack Hyles, Hammond, IN.; Dr. Tim LaHaye, San Diego, CA.; Dr. Torrey Johnson, Boca Raton, FL.; Evangelist Sam Dalton, Denver, CO.; Dr. Howard Hendricks, Dallas, TX.; Dr. Clyde Narramore, Rosemead, CA.; and Youth Evangelist Dr. Don Lonie, Farmington, MI.

The MID AMERICA DIRECTORS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION offers an all-day Seminar to Christian Educators on Thursday, 25th, featuring Dr. Norman Wright of Biola College, La Mirada, CA. Three IN-DEPTH SCHOOLS are also featured on Friday and Saturday. They are: School of Music with John Peterson; School of Psychology with Dr. Clyde Narramore; School of Youth with Dr. Jack Wyrten . . . a unique experience for those who are seeking studies that go beyond the ordinary basics. An outstanding TEEN SEMINAR will be drawing 6,000 Teens on Saturday afternoon featuring Dr. Don Lonie, nationally known Youth speaker; Ron Hafer, Biola College, and Mel Johnson, Tips for Teens, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

General Session MUSIC will feature: 1,000 voice MASSA CHILDREN'S CHOIR; ANITA BRYANT, nationally known TV and recording star; solist STEVE BOALT, Boca Raton, Florida; CANADIAN CHOIR OF MALE VOICE PRAISE; NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE ENSEMBLE; solist GERTRUDE RIBBINS; and GRAND RAPIDS BAPTIST COLLEGE QUARTETTE.

Clate Raymond, MASSA Executive Director, says we have experienced great conventions in the past, but this one looks like "the convention of the century". Pastors, teachers, Christian education personnel, Choir members, musicians, Church secretaries and Bible College students should make this Convention a must! □

THE UNCOMFORTABLE



by Pye Rho

"Young man, you are a traitor, for you have given the enemy propaganda to use against us. Your anti-government activities have created a lot of tension among your countrymen and now we must ask you to stop — or leave."

"But, sir, is a traitor one who makes a secret deal with the enemy or is he one who openly attacks his country's evils?"

"Silence, young man, for already you have caused enough trouble. You have advocated that we surrender, that our enemies will destroy us, and that we are doing wrong within our borders. Do you not know that God is on our side and that our leaders are God's anointed? Have you not heard that he will continually protect us?"

"Please, I have not spoken to the enemy, I have only spoken as a man whose conscience cannot be at ease because of the wrong I see. Whether you think I am a traitor does not matter, I know within myself the truth. I have been commanded by God to speak out against the current practices of this country."

"Young man, be quiet or the king will throw you into the dungeon."

"I cannot remain silent for this commandment has come from God."

"Guards, remove Jeremiah from here and throw him into the dungeon." (Jer. 38:1-6) □

OUR CONFERENCE IN ACTION

APPLETON, MINN. During the morning service on Feb. 18, 1973, seven candidates were baptized upon confession of their faith in Christ as their Lord and Savior. The hand of fellowship was extended to them as well as two others who came by transfer of letter. A communion service was held in conclusion. At Easter a sunrise service was held followed by a well attended breakfast. A week of Deeper Life meetings were held in March with the Rev. Harry Haas of Minot, N. Dak. The Rev. Arnold M. Friez is pastor of the church. (Mrs. A. Friez, reporter.)

BROOKLYN, N.Y. June 24 was celebrated as the 10th year our beloved pastor, Rev. A. Lamprecht, has been the shepherd of the flock at Ridgewood Baptist Church. It was also Children's Day and a number of our pupils were presented with Bibles by the Sunday school upon their promotion to the Junior Dept. Others who graduated from city schools were given suitable religious books. Children and youth participated in the worship service and the Pastor's sermon was addressed to the needs of the young.

Following the service the congregation enjoyed a dinner in the fellowship hall. Words of appreciation were addressed to the pastor and his family. H. V. Ross spoke for the choir and trustees and acted as chairman. John Steinhoff spoke for the Deaconate; Mrs. Ella Beck for the WMS, Mrs. Olga Tholl for the Willing Workers, Mrs. Tom Mangino for the Sunday school. The Lamprechts were presented with a monetary gift. Pastor and Mrs. Lamprecht responded to the grateful expressions of the membership and pointed out that the mixed experiences of the past 10 years will be profitable in carrying on the work of the Lord as they continue to serve our congregation. (Marion von Ahnen, reporter.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA. June 16, 1973, was a festive night in the history of the Pilgrim Baptist Church. The members of the Sanctuary Choir and the Male Chorus were given a dinner in honor of their faithful services. Mr. C. Fred Hofmaier was especially honored for his faithfulness in directing our choirs for the past thirty years. The members of the choirs presented him with a plaque, the church with a lounge chair, and all the members of the church who so desired, contributed well-wishes and congratulations on cards supplied for this purpose. These, along with some precious photographs

of the past, were compiled and presented to Fred. Miss Eva Yung read an original poem. Our pastor, Rev. David Wick spoke briefly on the quieting spirit of music that is felt while we are using our talents in the praise and worship of God. He expressed the hope that Fred would continue to use these talents for many years. After the singing of "How Great Thou Art" by the choir members and former members our pastor pronounced the benediction. (Mrs. William Esenwein, reporter.)

ASHLEY, N.D. Large crowds came for the Central Dakota-Montana Association, June 20-24. "The Gifts of the Spirit for Today" was the theme, brought to us in messages by Dr. Ralph Powell, Sioux Falls; Rev. Peter Jam, president of the Cameroon Baptist Convention; Dr. Laura E. Reddig, Cameroon missionary, and the Rev. Clarence H. Walth, North-Central area secretary. A panel presentation on the "Gift of Giving" was given by the Stewardship Committee. New commitments have been undertaken in the area of Church Extension in Shakopee, Minn., and Dickinson, N.D.

New officers installed are as follows: Moderator, Mr. Art Buckwitz; Vice Moderator, Rev. A. J. Fischer; Recording Secretary, Rev. Len Strelau; Statistical Secretary, Rev. Robert Hoffman; Treasurer, Mr. John Stading; General Council, Rev. Gene Kern and Mr. Art Bender; Church Extension Committee, Rev. Walter Dingfield, Rev. Reuben Grueneich, Mr. Gott. Haar, Mr. Theodore Bertsch; United Leadership Director, Rev. Kendall Mercer.

The Association for 1974 is scheduled for Dickinson, N.D. (Mrs. Edward A. Kopf, reporter.)

OCHRE RIVER, MAN. A Musical Nite, featuring Favorites Old and New, was presented Sunday evening June 24, by the junior and adult choirs and male chorus of the Grace Baptist Church.

For several weeks our pastor has been conducting classes on spiritual growth. On July 1, in a joint service with the First Baptist Church of Dauphin, we witnessed the baptism of seven young people, after which they were welcomed as members of the Grace Baptist Church.

The summer group from N.A.B.C., "Tribute," was with us for a service July 4. Their ministry in word and song was much appreciated.

Mrs. Klatt has joined her husband here for a month. The Rev. Edgar Klatt is serving us as pastor of the

church. (Mrs. Ruth Geertsema, reporter.)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

The Rev. and Mrs. Frank Friesen observed their 60th wedding anniversary on Sunday, July 22, 1973. They are members of the Salt Creek Baptist Church, Dallas, Ore.

Mr. and Mrs. George Schul observed their 50th anniversary on June 20, 1973. They are members of the First Baptist Church, Arnprior, Ont.

ANAHEIM, CALIF. The Sunkist Baptist Church held its first Family Camp (pictured) June 18-23 at Pine Summit,



Big Bear Lake, Calif. Total attendance for full and part-timers was 127. The Rev. William Hoover, our pastor, Dr. Lloyd Kwast and Dr. Vernon Doerksen were the featured adult speakers. Mr. Rick Fox, youth Director, was in charge of the youth program, and the Rev. Robert Radcliffe, minister of Christian education, supervised the children's division. The theme for the week was "Christian Family Living."

Special features included horseback riding, a tram ride to the top of Big Bear Mountain, an outdoor barbecue, canoe rides, archery and swimming. Several made important spiritual decisions.

The facilities, fellowship, food and fun were unsurpassed so plans are already underway for a similar camp next summer. (Stephanie Radcliffe, reporter.)

ANAHEIM, CALIF. A luncheon was held by the WMS of Magnolia Baptist Church in honor of two ladies who are leaving for their missionary work. Mrs. Vivian Roland, on furlough after one year of service in the Philippines, will return as a "substitute mother" for missionary children. Mrs. Truus Fikse who will leave us after many years of faithful service in our church. She and her husband, Bill, are returning to their homeland, Holland, to work for Campus Crusade for the next two years. The Rev. Ralph Cooke is the pastor of the church. (Marianne Baresel, reporter.)

LODI, CALIF. The choir of The First Baptist Church presented An Easter Festival of Music under the direction of Dave Krumpke, Director of Music and Evangelism Ministries, with Rev. G. G. Rauser sharing an inspirational Easter meditation.

On May 3 the Mother's and Daughter's observed their annual banquet. A program, "My Time In His Hands," was presented. The 130-voice Collegiate Choir of Van Nuys, Calif. presented the musical, "Come Together," at the Tokay High School Auditorium. "The New Creation," our high school and college young people, toured the churches of our southern California area. Dave Krumpke is the director.

The Rev. Jerry Hackett has resigned and will begin his position as Director of Camp Ministries for the Mt. Gilead Bible Conference in Santa Rosa, Calif. Rev. and Mrs. Hackett and daughters were honored with a farewell service.

The Rev. Willis Potratz has resigned and accepted the position of the Great Lakes Area Secretary. He will reside in the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor area. The Potratz family were honored at a farewell reception in conjunction with their 25th wedding anniversary. (Hazel Helwig, reporter.)

MINOT, N.D. During the interval in which the First Baptist Church was without a pastor, the Rev. Clarence Walth, area secretary, assisted with the services during the first Sunday of each month and helped the church in other ways until the new pastor, the Rev. Paul Siewert arrived. From January to July, six new members were



added to the church. The Rev. Walth is pictured with four who were baptized in May. (Daniel Orluck, moderator.)

PORTLAND, ORE. When the Young Ambassadors from the Japanese Baptist Conference churches arrived in the United States on June 29, they were greeted by a large crowd from the Oregon N.A.B. churches and a welcoming program with remarks by Dr. Richard Schilke, general missionary secretary. Traveling with these young people are Florence Miller, missionary to Japan

since 1951, Lucille DeBoer and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Arnold, short-term missionary teachers. On July 1 Florence Miller spoke at the morning service at Trinity Church, and in the evening the Young Ambassadors presented their dramatic message, "The Chosen Ones." These nine young people and their leader, pastor Tomokuni Aoki, presented their program in many of our N.A.B. churches, telling how God is working in Japan, and to give a better understanding of their people and problems.

Trinity Baptist is laying plans to begin a tape ministry of services this fall to be distributed weekly to shut-in members and friends. The Rev. Robert Schreiber is the pastor of the church. (Miriam P. Krueger, reporter.)

UNDERWOOD, N.D. The Northern North Dakota Association convened June 28-30, 1973. The Rev. Oliver Bender, host pastor, extended a welcome to all delegates and visitors. The theme was chosen from I Peter 4:10, "Pass It On." The guest speakers were Dr. Ben Breitzkreuz, professor at our Seminary in Sioux Falls, who centered his thoughts on the topic, "Knowing and Growing"; and Rev. Clarence Walth, area secretary, spoke on the theme "Sharing." Missionary, Dr. Laura Reddig, spoke on Friday morning and at the missionary rally on Saturday afternoon. The film, "The Gospel Blimp," was shown on Friday. Newly elected officers were installed at the closing rally service. A panel consisting of Dr. Breitzkreuz, Dr. Reddig, Mrs. Ron Derman and Miss Laurie Buechler presented their personal involvements of "Faith at Work." (Mrs. Leone Schultz, reporter.)

In Memoriam

MRS. BARBARA ALBRECHT, 86, of Bismarck, N.D., died on July 13, 1973. She was born July 2, 1887, at Bridgewater, S.D. In 1906 she was married to Christian A. Albrecht. She trusted in Christ as Savior as a girl. At the time of her death she was a member of the Bismarck Baptist Church, and living at the Bismarck Baptist Home. Surviving her are six sons: Robert, Walter, Rex, Sam, Emanuel and Arthur; three daughters: Mrs. Margaret Sailer, Mrs. Lydia Redlaczky and Mrs. Esther Pfaff; one sister, 19 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. The Rev. Walter Dingfield was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

JIM E. JOHNSON, 81, of Avon, S.D., died on Aug. 7, 1973. He was born near Shannon, Ill., on April 7, 1892. In 1919 he was united in marriage to Rosa Burma. He was converted in 1922, baptized, and became a member of the First Baptist Church in Avon. Surviving him are his widow; two sons: Roy and Jim; two granddaughters, one brother and one sister. The Rev. Henry Lang was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

MRS. JULIUS MEYHOFER, 72, of Harwick, Pa., died July 11, 1973. She was born in East Prussia on Sept. 5, 1901, and lived in the Harwick area for more than 50 years. Mrs. Meyhofer belonged to the Union Baptist Church of Arnold, Pa., for 49 years, and was a member of the Friendship Group. Surviving her are two sons: Rudolph and Lothar; one grandson and two great-grandchildren. The Rev. Allen B. Herman was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

JOHANNA DOROTHEA SIEVERS, 88, of Marion, Kan., died on July 25, 1973. She was born on July 12, 1885 in Germany. At the age of four she came to the United States with her parents. Her father was a Baptist minister who served a number of German churches. Hannah accepted Christ as her Savior and became a member of her father's church in St. Louis, Mo. At the time of her death she was a member of the Baptist church in Marion, Kan. Surviving her are two sisters. The Rev. O. K. Ringering was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

MRS. SOPHIE SCHNEIDER nee Heinle, 74, of Hebron, N.D., died on Aug. 2, 1972. She was born on July 19, 1899. As a teen-ager Mrs. Schneider found Christ as Savior, was baptized and became a member of the First Baptist Church at Hebron. Surviving her are three sons: Walter, Reuben, Raymond; two sisters, four brothers, and two stepbrothers. The Rev. Robert R. Hoffman was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

HENRY SCHRENK, 83, of Salem, Ore., died on Aug. 4, 1973. He was born near Eureka, S.D., on Dec. 27, 1889. When a young man he accepted Christ as his personal Savior. He was married to Lydia Mehlhoff in 1916. She died in 1961. Wherever he and his family resided, he found a church home and became active in the Lord's work. In 1962 he was united in marriage to Mrs. Marie Becker. Surviving him are his widow; two daughters, two stepdaughters and four grandchildren. In the absence of his pastor, the officiating ministers were the Rev. Ray Hoffman and the Rev. H. G. Dymmel.

ALEXANDER STARK, 82, of Anaheim, Calif., died July 1, 1973. He was born on Dec. 2, 1890, in Poland. He lived in Anaheim for the past 62 years. As a young man he accepted Christ, was baptized and became a member of the Bethel Baptist Church of Anaheim. He served the church in numerous offices. In 1914 he was united in marriage to Hulda Remland. Surviving him are his widow, Hulda; two children: Gustav Stark and Selma Jungkeit; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Pastor Jim Green officiated at the funeral service.

EDWIN FRANK STRAUSS, 80, of Kissimmee, Fla., died on March 11, 1973. He was born in 1893. In his youth he was born again and became an active member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich., for 40 years, and the last 30 years at the Grosse Pointe Woods Baptist Church in Detroit. Mr. and Mrs. Strauss observed their 50th wedding anniversary last year during the time their only son, Elmer, missionary in Cameroon, was home on furlough. Surviving him are his widow, Esther, and son, Elmer; two granddaughters. Burial was held in Detroit. The Rev. Larry McGillivray was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

MRS. LUELLA WOYKE nee Miller, 74, of Minneapolis, Minn., died on July 2, 1973. She was born at Randolph, Minn. on Sept. 8, 1898. She was married to Henry Woyke in 1930. In her youth Mrs. Woyke received Christ as her Savior and followed the Lord in baptism. She had been a faithful member of Faith Baptist Church in Minneapolis for more than 50 years. Surviving her are her widower, Henry; two daughters: Mrs. Loren Pfingsten, and Mrs. Henry Lang; six grandchildren, one brother and one sister. The Rev. Allan Strohschein was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

NEWS&VIEWS

EUROPEAN BAPTISTS LOOK INTO FUTURE

ZURICH, Switzerland (BP) — European Baptists went back to Zurich where their Anabaptist forefathers had suffered martyrdom but their discussions at the European Baptist Federation Congress looked forward, not backward.

Delegates came from 21 countries, representing a total of 1,140,000 church members. More than 60 percent of this membership live, worship and work in the Communist states of Eastern Europe.

The Baptists of Western Europe are a similar minority, their lands dominated by the Anglican, Catholic and Lutheran state churches.

They spoke such a variety of languages that the 1500 participants wore headsets to pick up simultaneous translations in German, Hungarian, Swedish, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish and English. Even then some people had to listen to a tongue different from their own. Most Europeans fortunately can use a second and even a third language.

They found common interest in the congress theme: "Future of the Church — Church of the Future."

The congress is held every four years as a major part of the work of the European Baptist Federation, a regional organization of the Baptist World Alliance. C. Ronald Gouling of London, is both general secretary of the EBF and associate secretary of the BWA.

The program was a program of sharing. There were many panel discussions, balanced by participants from east and west, and including youth. Visitors from mission fields spoke candidly to mission executives about their likes and dislikes of the church's work in their countries.

Panelists agreed that television, for instance, would never make the traditional Sunday worship service obsolete, because "nothing can replace the togetherness we find in Christian fellowship." However, these same persons were heartily in favor of changing the format of that service if such a revision would make spiritual truths more meaningful to communicants.

Evangelism, particularly for lay people, was given major attention in both inspirational and technical spheres. Guenter Wieske, European regional director of the World Mission of Reconciliation, a program sponsored by the

Baptist World Alliance, led the crowd in a howto session on personal witnessing.

The congregation used a hymnbook printed in three languages. A choir of 50 Hungarians was featured through the week, and a male trio from the Soviet Union sang frequently. Saturday night young people took over the full two hour program with a youth music festival.

Andrew MacRae of Scotland declared that "the future of the church is in the hand of God. But he has put some of it in our hands also. Paul reminds us that God has enlisted us in the service of reconciliation. He entrusted to us the mission of reconciliation." □

POW-MIA FAMILIES TOLD TO BE GOOD NEIGHBORS

GRANBY, Colo. — Thirty-nine families of former prisoners of war and men missing in action in Southeast Asia attending a retreat here asked for help on matters ranging from how to be kind to neighbors to integrating a husband back into the family.

Asked to identify their three most pressing problems, the military related families totaling 119 men, women and children also listed the removal of bitterness from their lives, accepting the fact that a son is missing in action, and a need for a deeper faith for mapping out a future without a husband.

During the conferences at the remote 3,000-acre resort operated by the YMCA of the Rockies, specialists in religion, psychology and psychiatry tried to help the families find answers to their problems.

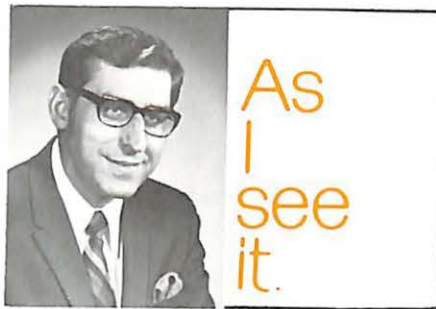
POW-MIA families attended conferences during the morning, took part in recreation during the afternoon and were entertained in the evening.

Norma Zimmer of the Lawrence Welk show sang for the guests two nights and gave her Christian testimony.

Durward Davis, leader of a conference on what the Bible says about facing problems, acknowledged the problem of overly solicitous neighbors.

"Unfortunately, neighbors don't know how to act natural around POW and MIA families. My advice to these neighbors is to try to be a friend and to give POW or MIA families the opportunity to share but to leave the decision up to them.

"Beyond that, people need to let their POW-MIA neighbors become a natural part of the community like everyone else." □



by Paul Siewert

The summer months, along with all of the charades of vacations, bear the marks of many denominational conventions. These come in all sizes. They also come in all kinds of temperaments. Some are rather vigorous because of the crucial issues they attack, while others are rather docile, or even toothless.

While Presbyterians tried desperately, early in summer, to glue together a widening theological chasm in the Presbyterian Church of the United States at their 113th General Assembly, Southern Baptists met "by still waters" in Portland, Oregon, for their 116th Annual Convention with almost no pangs at all.

Not among the least of the "conventioners" were the North American Baptist General Conference delegates, meeting in Wichita, Kansas, August 14-19. Though smaller in number, the warm fellowship and bold mission concern was undaunted.

Now that the summer is over, the hotel lobbies are quiet, the delegates have given their reports to their churches, and all that's left is the work. May it always be said in retrospect, "And the Lord went before them." It's what comes after, in the local church, that really counts! □

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■ The Rev. Harry W. Johnson is the new pastor of the First Baptist Church, Corona, S.D. He previously served the West Broadway Baptist Church, Enid, Okla.

■ Chaplain (Major) Clinton E. Grenz, stationed in Sacramento, Calif., has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. Chaplain Grenz was commissioned as a chaplain in the Regular Army, from the Reserve Army in 1965, by the N.A.B. General Conference. Since that time he has served in Germany, Viet Nam and various locations in the U.S.

■ The Rev. Harvey R. Wilkie is the new Youth Pastor at Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, Calif. He previously served the Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, B.C., as assistant pastor. He began his ministry in Lodi, September 11.

■ You can re-live the events of the 37th Triennial Conference in Wichita by ordering SCENES OF WICHITA TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE, a set of 30 color slides, available for \$10.00.

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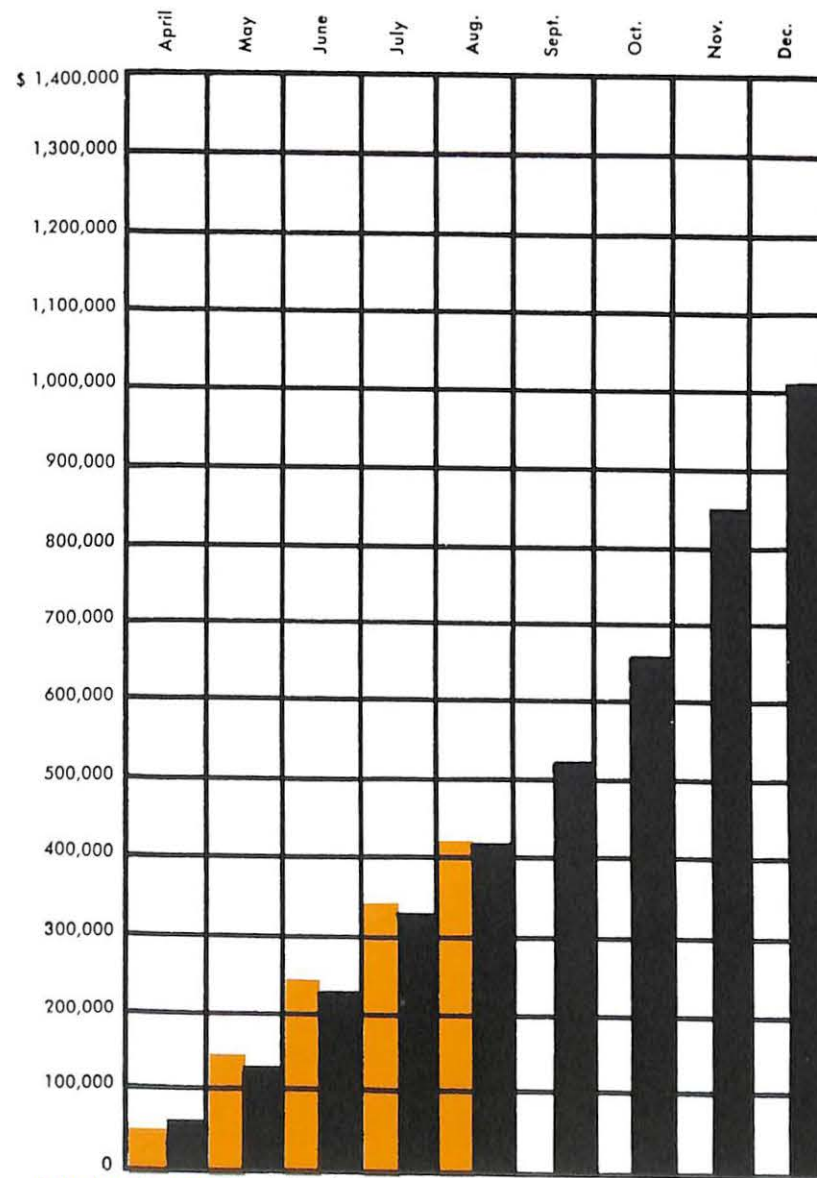
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Total for five months

April-August 1973 — \$416,808.45

April-August 1972 — \$413,867.52

Goal for 1973 \$1,350,000



Color line for 1973; Black line for 1972

What's Happening

■ The Rev. E. C. Love, who has served the Wiesenthal Baptist Church, Millet, Alta., has resigned. The church is presently without a pastor.

■ The winner of the N.A.B. Hymnal Contest for the Triennial Conference is Mrs. Norma A. Beck. She is the writer and composer of the hymn, "Reconciling the World Through Christ." A total of twelve entries for the contest were registered.

■ The executive staff of the Forest Park Office met for its second annual retreat at Cedar Lake, Ind., Sept. 14-16. The Rev. Willis Potratz, Great Lakes area secretary, was the guest speaker.

■ The Evergreen Baptist Church of Lynbrook, N.Y., founded in 1881, has been disbanded. For a number of years the church had no pastor. The low membership number necessitated this action.

■ Mr. Ronald E. Miller, a graduate from the Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., is serving as the pastor of the Canaan Baptist Church, Crawford, Tex.

■ The Rev. Reinhard Kujat, since 1960 pastor of the German Baptist Mission Church, Whitemouth, Man., is now living in retirement in Kelowna, B.C.

■ The Rev. Helmut H. Poschwatta has accepted the call to the Bethany Baptist Church, Lethbridge, Alta. He previously served the German Zion Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wis. □

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

INSPIRED WORDS — INSPIRED RESPONSE

by B. C. Schreiber, assistant editor

It is comparatively easy to remember what great Christians say, but it is not always easy to do what they say. Jesus warned us of the consequences of inaction when he said, "And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand" (Matt. 7:26).

Here is a small sample of some of the things that were said at the Triennial Conference in Wichita, Kansas:

"Persecution is closely related to evangelism . . . Most Christians are plugs in the lifeline. They are saying to the rest of the world, 'Go to hell,' — I've got mine . . . We sing 'Onward Christian soldiers,' and then 95% go to a chicken dinner. Ninety-five percent of the Christian soldiers are AWOL." — Dr. D. James Kennedy.

"Jesus could serve only because he was qualified. We, too, can serve only if we are qualified." — Rev. Ron Susek.

"There are many who can preach the gospel better, but no one can preach a better gospel." — Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff.

Of the more than 2,000 delegates and guests, how many are still chuckling as they share the new and old jokes they heard with friends who did not attend the Conference? How many are of a more serious nature and admit that they were given something to think about? How many were inspired to do something about the inspired words they heard?

If Dr. Kennedy's percentage is anywhere near the truth then there rests upon five percent of our membership an unbearable burden. How is it possible for 2,750 people to make one million contacts for Christ in this next triennium while more than 50,000 go to chicken dinners? Sometimes the best way to challenge a speaker is to prove that he is wrong. No one would praise the Lord more than Dr. Kennedy if he were proved to be wrong and 2,750 people would go to chicken din-

ners and more than 50,000 would make the million contacts.

Making contacts for Christ is evangelism, but do we relate persecution to evangelism? The idea of being persecuted for holding Christian convictions and proclaiming the gospel is foreign to North American Baptists. Only in a few isolated cases has there been evidence of persecution. The mission field in Colorado is one example. Sometimes "opposing the preacher" is thought of as persecution. But the comparative comfort, security and freedom in our Christian activities has had a settling effect upon us. Much of our evangelism has become a combination of gospel preaching and religious entertainment. And often the singer, drummer or guitar player are bigger attractions than the evangelist.

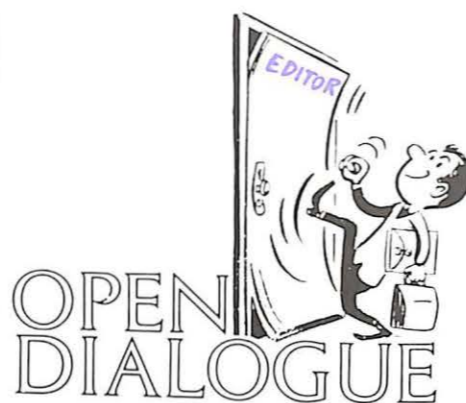
Making individual contacts for Christ is an unusual challenge because you have no stage or sound effects to take along with you. It is "eyeball to eyeball" evangelism in which you must rely on your willingness to go and contact people with a minimum of talent and ability and a great reliance on the power of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you. Whether you think of this as an advantage or disadvantage depends upon your faith. The Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff said "no one can preach a better gospel." We've got the best product on the market, and with a little practice we can all be better sales persons. Only in this way can we become qualified.

The best inspired words at the Conference are those that come from the Word of God. There is no question that the Apostle Paul was inspired by the Holy Spirit when he wrote: ". . . God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation . . . we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:18-21).

We do not know whether he received an inspired response from the members of the Corinthian church. But through the centuries they have been the inspiration of innumerable followers of Christ who have gone into all the world with the ministry of reconciliation.

To be reconciled to God is a gift so precious that we would have to consider our 37th Triennial a failure if there were no inspired response. Let us take our high calling of being an ambassador for Christ seriously. You are appointed — keep your appointments by making your contacts for Christ.

B. C. S.



letters to the editor

Dear Editor: I am replying to the Letter to the Editor which was printed in the August issue of your magazine. This letter condemned both long hair and "rock type" music. It is not my intent to take a position or give an opinion on either topic, but rather to look at the Word of God, which I believe gives the answer to both of these areas of controversy.

First, I would like to look at I Samuel 16:7. Here God tells Samuel how he evaluates a person. God does not look at the hair or clothes, but rather he looks at the heart. He looks for love, loyalty and obedience. It is not our job as Christians to condemn people for having long hair etc., but rather it is our job to see if our brother or sister is growing in the Lord and producing the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22). I believe that if a person is led of the Holy Spirit, then petty things, such as hair length, will become what they are — unimportant.

Secondly, I would like to refer to I Corinthians 10:31-33. Here Paul gives us two guidelines to live by. First, do all for the glory of God, and secondly preach the gospel in many ways, so that some may be saved. I believe that one of the ways in which we can reach people today is contemporary music. I have seen hundreds of kids accept the Lord through the ministry of musical groups such as Andre Crouch and the Disciples, Agape Force and many others. These groups all play contemporary music and the Lord is using them in a mighty way. In I Corinthians 9:22, Paul says the following "I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some." I know that God uses Christian contemporary music for the advancement of his Kingdom.

Those of us who call ourselves Christians should stop squabbling about little things like hair length and rock music (Timothy 2:14-26) and take a

look around with the eyes of Christ. If we do we will see the hopeless and lost state of the non-Christian, be he a long haired junkie or a businessman in a suit and tie. Without Christ both are in the same state — dead spiritually. It is our responsibility and call to GO and share with all people what Jesus has done for us. May we as Christians go out united, and — with the love of Christ — and help to change this world. Karl Mueller, Edmonton, Alta. □

Dear Editor: Praise the Lord! Received the BAPTIST HERALD this morning and scanned it immediately. Congratulations on the good work you have been doing as editor.

Many lines have been written about Watergate — most of which I have not read. Too much has been shown and reported via T.V. and radio, but some day it will come to an end.

Your two columns on page 30 of the August issue sound a significant note and are wholesome. The last paragraph points in the right direction, and it is the course I am and will follow. My hope is that many — very many of our N.A.B. people will not only read it but heed it, so God can heal our land. Vernon Heckman, St. Paul, Minn. □

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