

September 1977

baptist herald



The Oakbrook Terrace-Holiday Inn was the meeting place of the General Council sessions.

1977 General Council Sessions June 16-18 at Oakbrook Terrace

Holiday Inn



General Council members, Association moderators and Conference leaders shared their mutual concerns.



Mr. Milton Hildebrandt, general treasurer, presenting a budget matter, while Dr. Kenneth Fischer (left), Conference moderator, is standing by. Seated: Dr. G.K. Zimmerman and Dr. Peter Fehr.



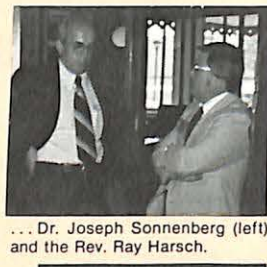
... Rev. Clarence Walth, area secretary, with his wife Dorene, president of the W.M.U.



General Council in session.



Coffee breaks were a good opportunity for informal chats ... Mr. Herman Hildebrandt (left) and the Rev. David Priestley.



... Dr. Joseph Sonnenberg (left) and the Rev. Ray Harsch.



There were opportunities for fellowship also during mealtimes.



On Friday afternoon the General Council participants toured the N.A.B. International Office, near the hotel.



As the agenda came close to the end, so did the sessions.



Participation in the discussion helped to stay alert, as Mr. Stan Johnson found out.



Mrs. Dorene Walth (left) and LaVerna Mehlhaff, women's work director, discussing an important issue.



During another brief break the Rev. Ronald Mayforth was conversing with the Rev. John Binder, stewardship and communications secretary.



Dr. G.K. Zimmerman, executive secretary, brought the 1977 Council sessions to a close.



Mr. Roy Bibelheimer from Cathay, ND, represented the Northern Dakota Association.



The hours of the Council sessions were long ...



... and tiresome. Mrs. Karen Grenz (left), communications committee chairperson, and Mrs. Edith DeNeui, member-at-large, were the other two women Council members.

A report about the General Council sessions will be published in the October issue.

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NEW LINGUISTIC CATALOG DISCLOSES WIDE EXTENT OF SCRIPTURE TRANSLATIONS

NEW YORK—"Scriptures of the World," a catalog of all the languages in which a complete book of the Bible has been translated and published, was released here by the American Bible Society. It reveals how widely the Scriptures have been translated and disseminated.

The unique catalog reports that at the end of 1976 at least one complete book of the Bible had been published in 1,603 languages and dialects. The complete Bible had been published in 262 and the New Testament in another 401.

The book lists not only Scripture publications by members of the United Bible Societies (the international fellowship of Bible Societies to which the American Bible Society belongs), but also publications by other agencies and publishers beginning with Gutenberg's Latin Bible published in 1456.

"The Bible in the language of the people" is the spirit behind the ministry of the United Bible Societies," the book's introduction states. "Scriptures of the World" is a compilation of data indicating what has happened and is happening throughout the world to make the Word of God more easily available to all." □

A Scofield Bible lay on the ledge along the back window of the car which Delmar had hired to take our group on a lecture and scenic tour of Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. Our guide, Joaquin Garcia, had been very impressive from first sight in our hotel lobby. As he related many sensitive details concerning his city, country and civilization, our appreciation increased. We were being taken to our evening dining place when I asked Garcia if this was his Bible.

"Yes, and I'm a Baptist!" Five Baptists in his car exclaimed in unison, "So are we!"

He told us that the driver of the car with the other five Baptists in our group was also a member of his church, the organist in fact. Garcia was serving as church secretary.

Garcia then volunteered the fact that prior to his conversion four years ago, he and his wife were planning to be divorced because "I didn't 'hear' my wife anymore." They had gone to their priest, but received no help. A marriage counselor advised that it would be a traumatic experience for their two young children. In the meantime, he had heard it advertised that Christ could change his life. He attended this Baptist meeting and "found Jesus as my Savior, and he changed my life!" He decided not to tell his wife right away, but "when I walked into my home, I could 'hear' my wife and she said 'something has happened to you, what is it?'" Their marriage was saved, and she too is now a baptized believer. They, with their four children, attend Sunday school and all of the meetings in their ambitious church program.

We learned he was a member of a church of 300 people, and, wishing to share his intense sense of joy in their new building, asked if we would like to see it. Of course we would!

As we entered the church, the pastor's wife was arranging gladiolas for a wedding. The pastor was brought

Mrs. Thelea (Delmar) Wesseler is a vice president of the Baptist World Alliance. She is a member of the First Baptist Church, Lorraine, KS.

THE WITNESS OF A BIBLE

by Thelea Wesseler

in to visit with us. Garcia translated his pastor's conversation. We were awed by his productive life of service.

Pastor Aurilio Mandujano Hernandez came to Merida 20 years ago, where he started the Baptist witness. He and his converts began this church. They now have 40 satellite congregations in Merida, and he wants to "plant" 20 more this year. Four years ago, doctors gave him but one week to live. With this in mind, he does not dare to slow down.

Pastor Hernandez spoke most appreciatively of our long-time friends, the Rev. and Mrs. Alfredo de Lerin, in their dedication to provide Christian literature in the Spanish language and in their leadership roles in the Baptist World Alliance.

We were graciously invited to witness the wedding, which was to take place in just a few moments. The faces and mannerisms of the wedding guests who had gathered outside reflected their love for God, as did the expressions of our drivers.

As we were preparing to go to the airport the next morning, Garcia came to tell us good-bye. My comment, "This is all because of the testimony of your Bible," caused a flashing smile to spread across Garcia's face.

Soon we were bumping along, winding through the streets, regretting our departure from this charming country. We left, marvelling at the workings of the Lord. □

Two pastors, the Rev. Leo Reck from Redeemer Baptist Church, St. Paul, MN, and the Rev. Doug Radke from Riverview Baptist Church, West St. Paul, MN, reminisce over the telephone on their experiences at the Great Plains Pastors' Conference in Sioux Falls.

DOUG: "Hello Leo, this is Doug calling. I was just thinking that it's about time we take care of the assignment John Hisel gave us at Sioux Falls a few weeks ago."

LEO: "Oh yeah, you mean our evaluation of the Great Plains Pastors' Conference, April 26-28. I personally thought it had a lot to offer, Doug. What did you get out of it?"

DOUG: "Well, I can remember I went with relatively low expectations. I think the chance to be with other pastors was initially most attractive to me, but I was pleasantly surprised. I personally appreciated the contributions of Dr. Herb Dicker-

WHEN PASTORS GO BACK TO SCHOOL

son and Dr. Ernie Zimbelman from our Seminary faculty. Dickerson's thoughts on the way our Lord took profound concepts and made them simple for his audience confronted me. I think I often reverse the process and make simple ideas confusingly profound. Zimbelman's statement that 'passiveness in a leader can only cause suffering' has also been a real bombshell, as I think of my own leadership style."

LEO: "That fits me, too. Both of them gave me some keys by which to gauge my own work and to see why I may be more effective in some areas than others. For instance, I'd bet there are many pastors in the Conference who have trouble asserting themselves with boards, other groups or individuals without becoming hostile; or, in preaching, speak visually, clearly and simply without all those abstractions and laborious technicalities and background. Dickerson called



Dr. L. Schaller addressing pastors at the Great Plains Pastors' Conference at Sioux Falls, SD.



Dr. Lyle Schaller

Dr. Richard Cunningham



that 'upper garble' and 'lower garble', didn't he? Lyle Schaller's impact, however, was a little different, I believe. He seemed to be more helpful in assessing one's overall approach to church programming and ministry. His stress on the congregation's participation in decision making and building support in this way for all kinds of ministries and programs was the highlight of his presentation for me."

DOUG: "I agree. I expected Schaller to give us a lot of specific ideas related to church growth. Instead he stimulated my thinking with some basic principles on organizing and motivating the total church for action. I remember him saying, that we treat apathy as if it were the problem, when in reality it is only a symptom of the fact that we have not set our people free to explore and develop their personal areas of interest and felt needs."

LEO: "I'm sure, Zimbelman was right when he said Schaller was not trying to sell us a program, but instead was modelling some innovative approaches that he had seen work well. His whole idea of concentrating on the potentialities in any given situation rather than on the problems was good, too. That alone could revolutionize many churches, and pastors, too, for that matter."

DOUG: "I felt that our guest from the Southern Baptist Seminary, Dr. Cunningham, made some valuable contributions in discussing the gigantic concern of responsible Christian stewardship. He reaffirmed the importance of seeing stewardship as my responsibility before God to order *all* of my life in line with his priorities as reflected in the lifestyle of Jesus Christ."

LEO: "My final impression of Cunningham's lectures changed from what it was at first. He did cover a lot of ground which, I am sure, was familiar

to all of the pastors, yet putting it all together with the idea that God also has a stewardship to exercise, made for a strong and reinforcing emphasis. Certainly he made his point that we must regard stewardship as an all-embracing biblical concept.

My response to Cunningham typifies the way I felt about the Conference as a whole. It wasn't a spiritual feast, but for our day-to-day ministries there was enough good meat for all who wanted to grow."

DOUG: "Right. It was great to get some new ideas and to have old concepts strengthened. On top of that, I enjoyed the added flavor and spice that came from interacting with fellow pastors, as we laughed together and renewed relationships. I am glad I went!"

LEO: "Doug, let's plan to attend the next Great Plains Pastors' Conference." □

Graduation days are busy days for students, faculty and parents alike. The days from May 20-22 were not any different at North American Baptist Seminary. The schedule called for the following meetings: Friday, May 20, baccalaureate service; Saturday, May 21, commencement banquet; and Sunday, May 22, commencement service.

The Class of 1977 was in charge of the baccalaureate service, which took place in the Koinonia Center at the Seminary. The large size of the '77 class permitted the program participation of about 20 graduating students, which made the service more meaningful. A

number of people in the audience had come to attend the President's Council, meeting during the same days. For many this was their first visit to the Seminary. All were impressed with the high caliber of students and academic curriculum.

Brief thank-you speeches, special music and congregational singing set the stage for the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Again the students took the leading role by officiating at the Table and by serving the communion elements to all present. This baccalaureate service was a good opportunity both for the students and the audience to get to know each other and give witness to the guiding and sustaining grace of God.

The commencement banquet, held at the Howard Johnson's Restaurant, had the theme, "Sharing the Bread of Life with a Hungry World." All of the table decorations, and even the printed program, emphasized the theme. Only the roast sirloin of beef was an unintentional reminder that Westerners like to eat well, while they are talking about a hungry world; just as we are self-con-

tentedly feasting on spiritual food, while the majority in the world is starving for at least one crumb of the Bread of Life.

The toastmasters, Jim Dick and Art Bollaert, did a great job keeping the banquet family entertained and the program moving.

President David Draewell gave tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Borchert, who have resigned from their positions, as dean and instructor respectively, to assume similar positions at Northern Baptist Seminary in September. The Borcherts then presented in slides and rhyme reminiscences of their 14 years of ministry and encounters at the Seminary.

The presentation of awards to outstanding students of the graduating class was one of Dr. Borchert's last official duties.

Dr. and Mrs. Ernie Zimbelman had the privilege of introducing the graduates, while Dr. J. Gordon Harris brought the challenge to the seniors. The Living Fire Quartet, known to many of the N.A.B. churches through their concert tour, added a touch of musical beauty to the festive program.

On Sunday morning all of the visitors took advantage of one of the many worship opportunities in Sioux Falls and vicinity.

Then it was time to get in gear for the commencement service, which was to begin at 3 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. The students nervously put on their graduation gowns and tried to decide whether the tassel was to hang down on the left or the right side of their caps (among other problems!).

The word quickly spread that the plane carrying Senator Mark Hatfield,

who was to bring the commencement address, would be delayed. However, that did not dampen the mood of the students or of the large audience. The academic procession started punctually at 3 p.m. Shortly after the invocation by Dr. Richard F. Houts and a congregation hymn, Senator Hatfield inconspicuously was guided to the platform. His address was titled "Relating Faith and Politics." Not knowing that Dr. J. Gordon Harris had used the same Scripture portion for his meditation the night before, he based his address on the Book of Numbers, chapter 22, also; although his exposition took on a totally different character. Known for his critical stand on "civil religion," he impressed upon the students the importance of faith in all realms of politics and their responsibility to keep politics out of their faith. It was quite evident that his address was not a routine job but had been prepared specifically for this occasion, reflecting the deep thinking of a responsible, Christian politician, "a Baptist" as he emphasized.

A further highlight of the commencement service was the conferring of degrees and certificates on 37 students, the largest number in the history of the Seminary. Three men received their doctor of ministry degrees. John Hisel, director of church and community rela-

tions at the Seminary, was one of the three D. Min. recipients. Twelve students graduated with the Master of Divinity degree; twelve others received the Master of Arts degree, three the Master of Ministry degree, and the Rev. James Schacher's B.D. degree was transmuted to a Master of Divinity.

Bontha Sudhaker, a pastor from India, concluded his studies with a Bachelor of Religious Education. Four students earned their certificates in Religious Education.

There was a mood of rejoicing and many sighs of relief could be heard, the latter especially among the graduates and their spouses, when the organ at First Baptist Church began to play the academic recessional march. The postlude, "Rejoice, the Lord Is King," was truly the expression of all who had come to witness the graduation of 37 servants of God, who through diligent effort had achieved their study goals.

Heavy rain prevented the reception from taking place outside on the Seminary Green. Again the Koinonia Center had to serve as the place of fellowship and sharing. But even the rain and the resulting crowded space could not spoil the mood of celebration. At last, things were looking up for these former students. Although a number of them had not been placed for pastoral

service, all were confident that God would find a place for them in due time.

An informal dinner reception for Senator Hatfield with the faculty, members of the President's Council and guests brought these exciting days to a close.

The North American Baptist Seminary has graduated students for 119 years, for many decades in Rochester, NY, and since 1949 in Sioux Falls, SD. The Class of 1977 is distinctive in several ways: It is the largest in the history of the Seminary; it includes the first graduates from the Master of Arts program who have a specialization in counseling skills; it also contains the largest number of women graduates ever. Very soon most of the '77 graduates will be serving in a church-related vocation. New students are coming in to take up studies. The so-called middler class has advanced to the rank of senior class. There is more hard work and training ahead of them. But there is also the reassuring conviction of the faculty and students that God is at work, shaping for himself tools useful in his vineyard. The day will come, when also the present middle class will march in the academic recessional, while the organ will proclaim their conviction: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King." □

It is hard to tell who of the two is prouder of the other, father Dr. Ernie Zimbelman, professor of Counseling, or son Joel, graduating with a Certificate in Religious Studies.



Linda Ebel, left, is applying a last touch to the graduation gown of Janis Mitchell.



The Class of '77 listening to Senator Hatfield's address.



Emeritus professor of Missions, Dr. George A. Dunger, with the Rev. Manasses Bunji Nji from Cameroon, who earned the Certificate in Ministry Studies.



Three of the Master of Divinity graduates: (l. to r.) Steve Corum, Dennis Frederick, Dennis Kee.



President D. Draewell (right) conferring the Doctor of Ministry degree on the Rev. John Hisel.



The Living Fire Quartet of the N.A.B. Seminary.



Senator Hatfield in an informal conversation with President Draewell at the dinner reception.



Senator Hatfield was surrounded by TV and radio newsmen.



The Honorable Mark Hatfield, United States Senator from Oregon, giving the commencement address.

North American Baptist Seminary has a problem! Unless it is solved, it will grow worse each year. Although the problem is a serious one, fortunately it is not fatal. In fact, it is probably the best of all problems which a school of higher education might face.

The problem is inadequate facilities resulting from a student body which has grown 135 percent in the past seven years. To help meet the serious ministerial shortage experienced by the North American Baptist Conference today and to provide a growing reservoir of trained leadership for its needs tomorrow, the seminary must continue to grow in the years to come.

The seminary's Board of Trustees has determined that the only viable solution to this pressing problem is to be found in a significant campus expansion program. It has developed one, therefore, which calls for the acquisition of property and the construction of four major facilities during the next five years. The total cost of the program is estimated to be three million dollars.

The four construction projects in their planned order of completion are: an apartment building to provide adequate housing for a growing student body; an educational center building to house a new chapel, additional classrooms, a world mission and cultural center, offices and storage for materials and equipment; an expanded library building to double present capacity for books and

Dr. David J. Draewell is the president of North American Baptist Seminary.

CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

AT NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST SEMINARY

by David J. Draewell

students as well as to provide space for the storage and display of the denomination's archival materials; and, finally, another apartment building for student housing.

Funds for this campus expansion program are expected to come from several different sources. For the first time in its history, the seminary will seek the financial support of the city of Sioux Falls for one of its capital projects. The Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce has approved the conducting of a Capital Funds Drive in the business community during 1979 for the seminary's library building expansion. Plans are already being carried out to provide for the success of this effort.

The educational center building will be largely funded through the seminary's portion of the \$3,200,000 conference-wide Capital Funds Campaign approved by delegates at the 1976 Triennial Conference in Portland, Oregon. This campaign, which will hopefully reach every

Text and photos by the Editor

1977 SEMINARY GRADUATES REJOICE

North American Baptist, is scheduled to be launched in the fall of 1978. Other program departments of the Conference to be assisted by this campaign are North American Baptist College, Church Extension and Home and Foreign Missions.

Both apartment buildings will be financed only in part through gift money. The remaining funds will come from banks or other lending institutions. As these buildings will be revenue producing, the rents received will be used largely to pay the resultant mortgage payments.

While the seminary already owns land needed for the library building expansion, additional land must be secured for the educational center building as well as for the two apartment buildings. As there is virtually no vacant land in the immediate vicinity of the seminary campus, this means purchasing nearby houses and moving them off in order to use the land for campus development. This is, of course, an expensive way to secure additional property. There does not appear to be, however, any viable alternative.

The first phase of the campus development program, approved by the General Council, is to buy land for the

educational center and apartment buildings and also to provide the gift money needed for the construction of the first apartment. As the cost for doing this is estimated to be \$400,000, the General Council has also approved an individual solicitation program to be carried out by the seminary in that amount. While some advance covenants and gifts have already been received, the main solicitation effort will be carried out this fall with a selected number of individuals both within and outside the North American Baptist Conference. It is anticipated that the solicitation program will be officially launched on September 15. It will continue for approximately three months.

The Seminary Board of Trustees strongly believes that the Spirit of God has led in the formation of this campus development program. It earnestly seeks, therefore, the prayer support of every North American Baptist for this effort and trusts that those who are contacted for personal gifts this fall will respond with pleasure and joy in being able to provide for the more adequate preparation of ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This will help to turn a significant problem into significant progress for the seminary and the Kingdom of God. □



reflections

by Marlene Ginter

Wow! Nine months!! And did they ever go fast! Yes, through a busy schedule and meeting many, many people our '76-'77 God's Volunteers' Tour has finished very quickly. "What has this year meant to me personally?" This is a question each one of us has paused to reflect as we end our tour, looking back on the experiences that have led to growth in our individual lives, and then as we look onward to the future to determine where we can serve our Lord more effectively.

BILL ARNDT says, "As I look back on my life, I realize just how little I really was willing to do for God. As a result, I never was able to experience the abundant life right here on earth that Jesus has for me. Being in God's Volunteers this year has really taught me to

Marlene Ginter has been reporting for the team throughout the year 1976/77.

depend on God for everything. Through surrendering my life completely to Jesus, God has been able to work many wonderful changes in my life. I now see just how good God has been to me, and how important it is to do everything I can to serve our Lord, so that others may know him as I do. I just praise the Lord for the many great experiences he has given me this year on God's Volunteers, and for the abundant, joy-filled life that I'm able to live every day through the grace of our Lord."

BETH BLEEKER shares, "I'd always been a little fearful of sharing my faith and worried about saying the 'right words'. But because of the year I've spent on God's Volunteers, I've learned that just simply sharing what Christ means to me and how he has affected my life is often more meaningful than trying to win an argument or prove a point. Therefore our own relationship to God is of vital importance—a growing and exciting relationship through prayer and Bible study. There are many situations and things I don't understand, but I'm learning the practical meaning of Proverbs 3:5, 'Trust the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding.' I pray that as I return to school this fall, I can continue to improve my fellowship with Christ and thus witness more effectively for him."

MERLE HOOTS relates, "My

ministry with God's Volunteers has been a time of growing for me. When I joined the team last fall, I had many goals set that I wanted to accomplish this year. Mainly, my goals were to learn how to effectively share with others my faith in Jesus Christ and also to grow as a Christian, becoming more stabilized in my everyday walk with the Lord. But along with this, I have developed a lot more self-confidence in myself. For several years now I have felt the call to go into a church-related ministry; however it wasn't until this year that I have become confident of being able to carry out this call. I have especially become more confident in the area of sharing with and relating to others. I am thankful for growing in these ways, and I anticipate growing much more in my relationship to Jesus Christ and trusting in him as the source of my strength and understanding."

COLLEEN HUBER makes this observation: "Evaluating and reflecting on nine months of growth and unique experiences is no easy task. What I have gained spiritually and personally far exceeds my expectations and goals! One of my goals was to understand God's love in a fuller and deeper way, as explained in Ephesians 3:17-19. It's been exciting for me to experience this in so many ways through team members, church members and from people we have met, while sharing Christ in many communities. I've realized once again that love isn't so often a good feeling inside, as it is an outward expression or action as a

(Continued on page 12)



GOD'S VOLUNTEERS: What They're All About

by Bob Walther

After one of our services with God's Volunteers, a young person asked me a series of questions. They were:

- 1) What are God's Volunteers?
- 2) What is the difference between the music and follow-up sections?
- 3) What would I have to do to apply for God's Volunteers?
- 4) How would I benefit from one year on God's Volunteers?

I was more than happy to try to answer the questions he had. The best place to start was with his first question.

What are God's Volunteers? The God's Volunteers program is a ministry for young people between the ages of 19 and 25 who are interested and eager to share their faith in Christ and who have a real desire to help teach other Christians how to share their faith. The statement that is often made to team members, either after a service or in a letter, is, "Now that I know how to share my faith, I am suddenly interested in the people around me." This kind of sharing with people is possible as the team travels throughout the United States and Canada for eight and one half months. Team members also have the opportunity to see many different places and meet a lot of interesting people. There are two sections to the total team ministry: the music section and the follow-up section.

What is the difference between the music and follow-up sections? The purpose for the two sections is the same, but the ministries are different. Both sections seek to help motivate church

Mr. Robert Walther is the director of God's Volunteers.

people to share their faith in Christ. The music section comes into the church and community first. Their ministry is to help the church people see the need of telling others what has really happened in their lives. They do this through programs each evening in the church. They also have some real outreach efforts throughout the day in various ways. Many times they sing in high schools during the lunch hour where kids have the opportunity to come and go as they wish. Sometimes there is a scheduled assembly for the whole student body. It is neat to see kids who come just to see what is going on, sit down and listen as the team shares their music. Another great opportunity is singing at shopping center malls. People stop and listen and many times ask the team, "Where can I hear more of this music?" Many people come to the services through outreaches like these. When public performances are not planned during the day, the music section goes out sharing in the community with the people of the church.

A lot of kids ask the question, "But what can I do if I can't sing?" or "What can I do if I don't want to sing?" No problem! There is a place for every young person who really wants to be involved in sharing with people. The follow-up section works in the area of training church members how to make disciples for Christ. They are involved in seminars and "on the job training." Follow-up section members are also trained to work in the area of home Bible studies, evangelistic coffees and many other kinds of ministries. The exciting part for the follow-up section is to see individuals grow in their faith and then be instrumental in motivating them to share their faith with others.

What would I have to do to apply for God's Volunteers? The easiest and best thing to do is to write for information and an application from the Rev. Ray Harsch, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Rev. Harsch will send you all of the information necessary for you to apply, and he will give you more details about the program of God's Volunteers. When you receive this information you will be able to decide if this is the kind of ministry in which you would want to be involved. I would encourage any young person, who has even thought about applying for God's Volunteers, to at least send for the information.

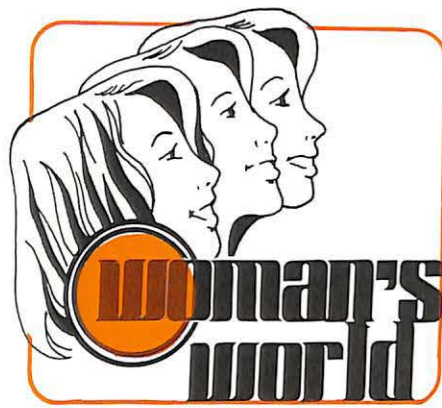
How would I benefit from being in God's Volunteers for one year? Former team members have said, "Being on God's Volunteers has been worth at least one year of college to me." College young people are often looking for a place where they can put all of the things they have learned into practical use. One year of God's Volunteers is an excellent way. Others have said, "I have really learned how to relate to people."

Every day you will meet new people from whom you can gain new experiences. Plus you are with a group of young people your age who have many of the same goals as you do. Therefore, you are constantly learning from them. This will also give you an opportunity to learn how to share your faith with others better. It will be evident that sharing Christ really needs to be a lifestyle.

I am sure that you probably have more questions, therefore, I would suggest that you ask for more information. Then, with the Lord's help, you can decide if you should apply for God's Volunteers. □



"As the church leader for teens, you'll have to find a better way to relate than that."



Life At The Baptist Manor

by Lily Wicklander,
Baptist Manor,
Portland, OR

Hi Neighbor!

"This is the day the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). What a good way to begin the day.

I am so glad that I am a resident of the Baptist Manor, where the lounges and corridors are kept spotlessly clean; where we have excellent and ample food; where we find a real substitute for the homes which we left a few weeks or a number of years ago, sometimes rather reluctantly; where we have found a friend, or many friends, who understand our virtues and failings.

When you sat down to the table for the first time, it is likely that the one sitting next to you gave us a hearty welcome and invited us to some or all of the week's activities. Or you may have been dismayed because she paid no attention to you. Later you found out that person was partially deaf and hesitated to communicate; perhaps there was a question of poor eyesight which prevented her from seeing the person across the table. Most of these people (and there are many of them with these handicaps) prove to be very interesting when you become acquainted with them. Some of them may become your closest friends.

Occasionally we may encounter a person who carries a chip on her shoulder. Perhaps she has a burden on her mind which is hard to bear, and she needs a friend who will understand her and teach her where to find the "friend who sticketh closer than a brother," who said long ago, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

We have so many advantages here at the Baptist Manor. Why not take advantage of them? We need not spend one dreary hour, for there is beauty all around us if we look for it. There are craft classes, art and writing classes, game times and a time for exercise and reflection, all under competent supervision. There are those who yearn for companionship and help, and there are those who are anxious to help in one way or another. We have religious services several times a week and a weekly sing-along to put new zeal into our living. All in all, we find this an excellent place to spend our senior years if we allow them to be so. Come neighbor, join us in some or all of our activities. You will enjoy them, and we will enjoy your companionship. We love you! □

(Editor's Note: Mrs. Wicklander is a resident of the Baptist Manor, one of the eight North American Baptist retirement homes. How wonderful it is that we have a number of homes in our Conference where our senior citizens may spend an important part of their lives. May we, as women, learn from their experiences: "The Joy of the Lord is their strength.")

Built-in Warning System

by Donna McFall,
Stockton, CA

While sitting in the emergency room of a hospital with a distraught mother, I once again realized with what precision we are made! Just as a burglar alarm shouts its warning and an overloaded circuit flips a safety switch, so our body produces a fever to call attention to a troubled spot. It is very frightening, but we can only imagine what would result if there were no warning.

We also have danger signals in our Christian lives—just not so startling; however, if ignored, the outcome will be a damaged life.

TV programs more interesting than prayer meeting? Forgetting to say a word to the Lord before our day begins? Time to read the daily paper but not the Word of God? If unheeded, these attitudes and actions can create a lifestyle of spiritual coldness.



The obvious steps to take are to get to prayer meeting, pray if you don't feel like it, force-feed yourselves on the Bible. But just getting a fever down does not cure a sickness; neither does treating symptoms of a spiritually weak life rectify that life—just the opposite.

The mother wants to get to the cause of the fever. "What is wrong with my baby?" she cries to the doctor. We, too, must get to the root problem in our lives.

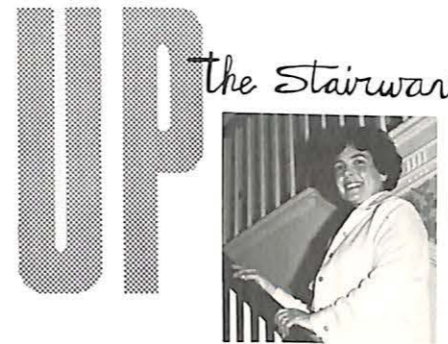
The first step should be to say, "Lord, I'm losing interest in you. I don't feel the way I used to. Sometimes I just can't be bothered. I know you haven't changed, so it must be me. Thank you for loving me, and I trust you to point out the real cause of my apathy."

Perhaps it is bitterness about something or someone years ago or just yesterday. Maybe a fear whose grip won't be loosened. It could be heavy feelings of guilt over something that the Lord Jesus paid for on the cross. Just as there are many physical reasons for the presence of fever in a child, so there are numerous causes for an atrophied walk with God.

He is faithful! We can trust him not only to show us the area that is causing the trouble but to impart his grace to heal that area.

We must look beyond the fever! Just as we would think it would be foolish for a mother to refuse to buy a thermometer, because she didn't want to know the true facts, we must also agree to the same thing about a Christian who ignores the signs of an ailing relationship with the Lord.

"... Wherefore, let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12). □



by Dorene Walth,
W.M.U. president,
Bismarck, ND

I love a hot bath to relax after a strenuous day. It is soothing for sleep; but a shower early in the morning is my tonic for the day.

The shower stall in our home was not built for regular, hard usage. When our family of five moved in, it didn't take long for us to notice that the lining of the shower was not shower proof, even though it was attractive.

We spent time and energy trying to waterproof this surface, and it helped for a time. By then, it was apparent that the base was not sealed properly either, and leaking water had swelled and rotted the wood under the lovely tile of the bathroom floor. To restore the entire thing seemed too costly.

Carpenters were called in; the flooring redone and new tile was installed. Now, after six years in the house and after repeated efforts to repair surfaces in that area, it is obvious that a major tearing out and proper rebuilding is the only genuine solution to our household eyesore. Estimates have been made and, hopefully, we will have the perfect shower before school begins.

How could one relatively insignificant problem cause so much personal irritation, let alone among family members? Several times we felt like throwing up our hands and selling the house just to get rid of the shower! (We knew full well that any other home would be free of such "bugs"!)

Lord, in many ways I've treated the sins in my life like this shower stall. I've persistently tried to cover up for my weaknesses with excuses that have no validity. Bottling up my critical spirit only results in those slow leaks of resentment, frustration and anger. How much better I feel when I release a specific sin to you and let you tear it out of my life and rebuild something beautiful and functional in that ugly spot!

How many times I've cowardly prayed to be released from my own carnal self, but no matter where I go in this world, my humanness is there to cause disturbances.

God, you require a clean heart when I come to you. "If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear" (Psalm 66:18).

Sin short-circuits my relationship to you. Reveal to me unconfessed sin in my life. Forgive me my selfishness and wrong motives. Show me when I lack compassion, am disobedient and full of pride. Help me to have a forgiving spirit and to clean up my crippling attitudes. I love you and do not enjoy being lukewarm in that love.

Cleanse me and as I enjoy your showers of blessing, let me not forget to praise only you! □

GOD'S CHAIN

Then God took the lengthening chain
In his strong and mighty hand.
He stretched it o'er the ocean
To a foreign distant land.

God began to fasten it
To the missionaries there.
And all along, he reinforced
With special links of prayer.

There were heavy links of White Cross,
And dedicated living.
Just as it turned, I caught a glimpse
Of sacrificial giving.

Oh, but suppose it breaks
Or somehow fails to move?
God took a can of spray paint
And sprayed the chain with love.

Every link was saturated.
Beauty o'er it rolled.
Till it glistened in the sunlight
And it shone like polished gold.

"There, that's what I wanted.
May it function as it should."
And God rested from his labor,
For he saw that it was good!

(Note: This poem was written for the W.M.U. Banquet at the South Dakota Association in Spearfish, SD, 1976.)

The Master stood in his house one day
And looked o'er his harvest field.
He saw the wave of the ripening grain
And noted the heavy yield.

"I need the help of women here
To reap the golden grain.
But they are scattered far and wide,
I think I'll make a chain."

So first God took the link of faith
And made that faith increase.
Then links were added one by one
Of goodness, joy and peace.

Witnessing and humility
Each fit into place.
Then a link of fellowship,
And, of course, a link of grace.

"It's shaping up," our Father said,
"But somehow it lacks style.
I think I could improve it
With a link of self-denial."

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putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

"Dear Sir:

Your article 'Families in Chaos' is well written, yet there is a serious problem you fail to mention. I know this from my daughter's unfortunate experience.

A young man can be too attached to his mother. My daughter is engaged to a Christian male. His father died suddenly, now all this young man does is cling to mama. How can a Christian mother of the girl help? Pray? Yes—but what about the hurt inflicted because of too much devotion to mama and not any to his fiancee?

Mrs. L."

The problem referred to is a common one, and a serious one. Parents raise immature children and then meddle in the marriage of the children, trying to help—but only to the detriment of the marriage.

Of course, I'm interested in your question: "How can a Christian mother of the girl help?" Why do you feel it is your responsibility to solve your daughter's problem?

One of the first statements made on the husband/wife relationship is Genesis 2:24: "Therefore a man leaves his father and mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh." Many young people who marry are fearful to cut free and be on their own. There are also many who want to be free, but because the parent is immature the young person

Dr. Ernie Zimbelman is professor of Counseling at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD. He is also the director of the Sioux Falls Psychological Services Clinic.

literally is not able to be free. A parent who is *overly* attached to a child has a harmful influence. A child who is *overly* dependent on a parent may harm the marriage relationship. Please notice that I have underlined the word *overly*!

It is possible for parents and married children to have very warm, healthy and meaningful relationships. There are many new marriages which get off to a very poor beginning because the young people want to be *too* independent. They refuse guidance and material or financial help from parents who would give it appropriately.

Personally I feel that marriages today are hurt more because we do not help each other enough, rather than because of situations as described by Mrs. L.

Mrs. L., help your daughter do one thing—get premarital counseling from her pastor or another competent person. I feel you will not be able to give her much advice, because you feel so very strongly about your daughter's future mother-in-law, and the son who clings to her.

Discussing their situation with a competent person may help them both to understand what is happening. Hopefully they can set goals regarding their own life. These will help them live together in a harmonious way. They may even have some love and time left over for mothers-in-law. □

the dawning

Yield Thy Light, O Dayspring
Remove me from shadows of fear
And the nightmare of darkness
Awake me from wasteful sleep
Shine brightly
Let me not avoid Thy Glory

As day wears on
May I reflect Thy Light
May I not be a candle
Flickering and weak
Burning away in finite strength
But a mirror
Brilliantly revealing Your holiness

Evening approaches
The darkness of death closes in
Yet a more beautiful sight is clear
There is no fear
For the luminous sunset
Is but a doorway to eternal day.

Luann Meissner
N.A.B. Student
at Wayne State College

REFLECTIONS

(Continued from page 8)

result of the love inside. God has used so many people to express his love to me this year, that my desire is to put the love I've received from God and others into action! One way I can do this is to make sharing the love of Christ a real life-style. One of the songs we have sung this year sums up my feelings the best: 'I want to thank you, Jesus, for the many ways you have shown your love to me!'

DAVE ROBINSON says, "This year has given me a whole new insight into the area of follow-up. The definition of witnessing we have used this year, 'sharing Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results up to God', is very true. But I have discovered the real importance of moving from the area of introducing Christ to others to a real sharing of our own time, energies and lives with an individual in the area of discipleship. According to the Great Commission our challenge is to make disciples so that those people in turn can be soul winners. This year has really shown me the importance of discipleship."

TANELL GERLAFF reflects, "I look back at the past nine months as being the most valuable time in my life. I say that because of the variety of things I've learned about life itself and for the spiritual growth that has taken place in my life. To learn to share what Jesus means to me in a practical way, yet loving the person whose opinions are different than mine, has been a step ahead in my life. I'm so thankful, too, for all the people I've met in our Conference and for the fellow team members who have taught me much about relating to God's people and myself."

This year has been an investment that has been very rewarding to me, as I reflect on the many experiences and opportunities God has given me to grow as a total person. I've come to a greater understanding of the involvement to which Christ calls the obedient Christian—an involvement of time, energies and abilities, so that we may truly experience that meaningful life Jesus promises in John 10:10. This life begins with and is continually a relationship of trust and obedience.

On behalf of the entire team, I would like to express our sincere thank-you to those who have helped make our year rewarding by their prayer support, financial support, and encouragement in word and deed. We thank God for this year and give him the praise and honor. □

MISSIONS DIGEST 1977

Excerpts from reports of 1976 missionary activities submitted to the Board of Missions April 1977.



NIGERIA
BRAZIL
JAPAN
SPANISH-AMERICAN
CAMEROON

PART I

Baptist Work on the Go

by Richard C. Rabenhorst, field secretary



Brazil Praise Singers. We praise God for the ministry of these Brazilian young people coming from our State of Rio Grande do Sul and for the participation and direction of the Rev. and Mrs. Herman Effa and their children, Allan and Jerilyn. We are sorry for the

BRAZIL



Rio Grande Baptist Mission

resignation of the Effas. They will long be missed because of their excellent ministry in Brazil.

New missionaries. How thankful we are for Rich and Karen Kaiser who join us in the ministry. God is blessing them in their Portuguese language study. Pray that they may know God's will concerning location on the field.

New pastor in Bento Goncalves. God answered your and our prayers for a pastor to minister at the Baptist Church in Bento Goncalves, when we came home on furlough. God provided the Rev. and Mrs. Candelario Quiroz and their family. Rev. Candelario is from Peru; his wife is Brazilian. After Baptist seminary training in Rio de Janeiro, this is his first church in Brazil.

Furlough blessings. As a family, it has been our privilege to share what God is doing in Brazil through contacts in North American Baptist churches and at the Triennial Conference. We have been personally encouraged and blessed through these contacts as we sensed a great interest in the work in Brazil.

A Brazilian executive secretary. For the first time in the history of the Brazilian Baptist Convention of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, a Brazilian, rather than a missionary, is serving as executive secretary, the Rev. Wilson Alves de Oliveira. For this we praise God and join our Brazilian brethren in counting this as a great step forward in the advancement of the Baptist work. Pastor Wilson is enthused with his new position. When asked how he feels right now about what is happening among his people, he said, "We are excited as we see what God is doing in awakening the Baptists of our State. We have already experienced previews of greater blessings in the future."

Goals. The goals for the next three years are 1) 90% self-support as a State Association; 2) growth in total stewardship; and 3) open at least six new areas of mission activity in counties where there is no organized work.

Accomplishments

by Gary L. Ostercamp, former acting field treasurer



Music. The most significant accomplishments of the past year for us have been in the area of music in the three churches of our association. We have sensed a real desire among the people to learn piano, organ, guitar and recorder. They want to help with the music in their own churches. Giving lessons has been both a joy and frustration, but because both of us gave lessons before, we can understand that pupils don't learn overnight!

Church healing. We have sensed a change in our people in the six months we've been working here. When we arrived in Caxias do Sul, the church had suffered a split, and the

bitterness left was a damper on any progress for a long time. Now we see a healing, and the people seem eager to find a new pastor and work with him. Their interim pastor, Pastor Wilson, rarely came because of his busy schedules, so much of this "healing" was done on their own, with much prayer and true help from the Lord. There is still much to be desired, but fellowship is being restored.

Goals. Our personal goals for the new year are to develop our students more fully in their musical abilities and to relate their achievements to their personal lives as they gain more confidence. Also, we hope to restart the theological extension programs in the churches of our Association.

New life. We have seen the gospel change three of our closest friends, our next door neighbor lady and her two teenagers. They have always treated us with a great deal of love, even before they accepted Christ, but their acceptance has deepened our relationship even more.

Changes

by Ralph R. Nelson, missionary



Since coming back to the field from furlough, we have been involved in evangelistic campaigns and in training laymen. Recently I conducted two baptismal services in the churches. It was a joy to hear the testimony of faith of those who were to enter the baptismal waters. Some of these had been converted during the campaigns.

Improved travel. We have noticed with interest several developments in Brazil. The program of national integration of interior areas in a more vital link with the cities has resulted in improved roads and paved highways, which before were only a dream. This has implications for our missionary work in the state due to improved conditions for travel. Whereas in the past, much time was spent on muddy or dusty highways, now because of paved areas, the missionary has more time available to devote to his actual ministry.

Brazilian Convention. During this year we have also seen changes in our Brazilian Baptist State Convention. I see our role more in the area of support personnel working under Brazilian leadership. I feel that this will ultimately bring our mission to a clear definition of strategy and goals for our work in Brazil.

Goals. My personal goals for missionary work in the coming year are in three main areas: 1) the opening of two lay theological training centers in the northern association; 2) more follow-up on campaign converts; and 3) more baptisms as a result of increased emphasis on follow-up. □

JAPAN



Japan Baptist Mission

by C. Richard Mayforth, acting field secretary



Transition. "Transition in Progress" could be the theme of developments on the Japan field during 1976. Although we had made large investments in Osaka Biblical Seminary both in personnel and finances, the school was formally closed at the end of March 1976. Mr. Hata, who came from our Kyoto Rakuyo church, was the final graduate and serves in the Muko Christian Center. Fred Moore had served as president of the school for a number of years. With its closing, the Moores went home on furlough and have subsequently resigned from the mission. On a field where adjustments to culture and language take many years, the loss of senior missionaries is felt very deeply.

The closing of the school left the problem of the division and disposal of the assets of the school among the three cooperating groups, the Baptist General Conference, the Mennonite Brethren and ourselves. When conclusive progress toward a settlement could not be made in Japan, the question was referred back to mission representatives at

home. An agreement was reached under which the Mennonite Brethren will buy out the two Baptist groups and hope eventually to retain and use one of the two school buildings.

The Theology and Education Committee continues to explore and develop the new relationship with the Japan Bible Seminary in Tokyo. Our pastors have been invited to supply both a teacher and a member to the Board of Directors, but because they are so few and the distance so great, they have postponed accepting these invitations until sometime in the future. A team of four first year students from the school will minister in our churches for two weeks this summer.

Conference. Our Japan Baptist Conference is grateful for God's blessing evident in significant growth during the past year. The five churches had a total of twenty baptisms and an overall increase of 42 members from 184 in 1975 to 226 in 1976. The five developing churches ended the year with an average total attendance of 38.

Missionaries. The missionary body was much on the move during the year. In addition to the Moores return to the U.S., the Wilfred Weicks and Lucille Wipf went on furlough. Miss Florence Miller returned to Japan and to her work in Ikeda. Reimer Clausen and his wife moved to Kyoto to begin work at the Muko Christian Center. Lois Faust and Shirley Bailey completed their respective terms as short-term missionary and as teacher of missionary children at Osaka Christian school, and both returned to the U.S. Ron Stoller also finished his term as short-termer, but during his last year Joan Youngquist became his wife; after studying for a year in Portland, they are returning to Japan for language study and student work. The three short-term missionaries continuing in Japan, Becky Heerts, Sue Pahl and Val Urquhart were joined in August by three new short-termers, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lengefeld and Linda Hartley. All continue to make many contacts for both our established churches and our mission churches through the teaching of English conversation and through their many friendships with the people of Japan.

Reimer Clausen became chairman of the mission. Douglas Woyke, in addition to his evangelistic work in Nara, is field treasurer and has been active as chairman of the joint committee negotiating the Osaka Biblical Seminary property question.

Japan has experienced a slowing of its amazing economic growth. The high cost of raw materials and the rising labor costs within the country have created a situation in which many are re-examining the orientation of their lives. Although general stability evidences again the remarkable resilience of Japan, the number of bankruptcies of small corporations is at an all time high. Many who were totally absorbed in materialism in one way or another are now asking if there is not something more to the meaning of life. With the background of strong family ties, most are looking in the direction of humanistic values in terms of family, friendships and social service. But there is also a new opportunity and openness to present a God who, although uncontained in the vastness of the universe or the aeons of time, came among us in Jesus Christ and who guaranteed with the resurrection of his Son his own promise to be a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Doubtless this new openness is one of the factors contributing to the good Japan Baptist Convention growth this past year.

Douglas Woyke reports from Nara something of the difference that God can make in a life: "Jesus Christ continues to work miracles in the lives of people in Japan. Mr. Nobufumi Ogawa and his wife received Christ as their Savior at the end of 1975. They were baptized into the fellowship of Christ at the Heijo Christian Church on Easter, 1976.

"The miracle that took place was confirmed at our first anniversary worship service in September. Mr. Ogawa testified that Christ had changed his life in very real ways. Before becoming a Christian he was always self-conscious about wearing his glasses. He said that was no longer the case. He testified that Christ had given him power to give up smoking. He testified that Christ was giving him power to stay away from pornographic movies so prevalent in Japan. He testified that joy and a spirit of thanksgiving had come into his life. That is a miracle! Praise the Lord!" □



Finances

by
Douglas B.
Woyke,
field
treasurer



More and more we realize our dependence on God and you as we continue to labor and minister in this land of constant inflation and sky-high prices.

Budget. Our main budget expenditures, pastors' salaries and rents, have to be raised yearly, but our men are receiving less than \$5,500 a year including housing. In a country where the cost of living runs fifty percent higher than most places in the United States or Canada that is a minimal existence, even though they do live differently than we do. We praise God for these dedicated workers; Mr. Sueo Kajita, Mr. Yukio Fujie, Mr. Shoji Nakae, and Mr. Yoshiharu Hata. We also partially support Rev. Hanazono in Matsusaka.

Self-support. We are attempting to have the churches on a self-supporting basis in ten years. This is indeed a matter of urgent and continued prayer, for only God can give the tangible results in the form of people and finances necessary to be independent of mission help. The churches find this difficult, because in addition to the pastor's support, they also have to put out money for their church building. It seems that most congregations in Japan tend to grow only after a church building is up, and people can see the "church." Our present Chapel Loan Fund is really inadequate to meet the needs of churches which might want to borrow money from it.

With the purchase of land in Nara and another home in Nagoya for missionary housing, all existing funds on the field have been expended. We expect to replenish the funds with the sale of our Tsu property and through a settlement of the Osaka Biblical Seminary property.

NIGERIA



Mambilla Baptist Mission

The Convention

by J. C. Yep,
executive secretary

Praise the Lord for his love and unspeakable gift of salvation and thank those who have obeyed the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ in bringing the gospel to this land of Nigeria. Their labors have not been in vain. What they have planted is now growing. The few churches have now grown into the Mambilla Baptist Convention, with two fields, ten associations and 110 churches. There were 104 baptisms, bringing the membership to 6,617.

The goal. The goal of the Mambilla Baptist Convention is to train the leadership of the church. The Christians in Mambilla are working on this goal in many ways: leadership training courses, T.E.E. and especially through the Bible School. The Christians are helping to supply the students with food and also to construct the Mambilla Baptist Bible Training Centre.

Registration. The registration of the Mambilla Baptist Convention with the Nigerian government is one big urgent need. There was no money budgeted for registration. The Christians sent in their free donations and enough money for my trip to Lagos to the Ministry of Internal Affairs. We are praying that by God's will our Convention will be registered by the end of 1977.

The Field

by Ronald
E. Hiller,
acting field
secretary



We rejoice to see the baptism of new believers and to witness spiritual growth of older Christians.

Missionary personnel. The Rev. and Mrs. Ken Goodman have been busy with leadership training classes for pastors, treasury work, directing the T.E.E. program and teaching at several centers. Ken has also been teaching Religious Knowledge at Gembu Secondary School three mornings a week.

In May 1976 the Curt Radkes moved from Mbanga to Mbu, the site of the new Mambilla Baptist Bible Training Centre, in order to begin the building of classrooms. The "Right of Occupancy" was slow in coming, and the Convention building fund was limited, so Curt also began to teach Religious Knowledge at Gembu Secondary School three mornings a week. The Radkes were blessed in June with the birth of a son, Aaron.

Barbara Kieper and the Hillers carried on the hospital work at Warwar and weekend clinics in 13 villages of Mambilla. Both Dr. Hiller and Miss Kieper were involved with teaching T.E.E. classes. Miss Kieper is also advisor to the Women's Union. Dr. Hiller is also advisor to the Convention and has three T.E.E. groups.

All the missionaries have more than one job, and there are still many opportunities of outreach that are being missed because there are too few missionaries: some secondary school classes do not have a teacher of Religious Knowledge; the Teacher Training Center in Gembu needs a qualified teacher of Religious Knowledge; many areas are requesting T.E.E. classes, and the requests can't be met; church problems are arising that require visitation and teaching; especially now that the charismatic movement is coming to Mambilla.

Theological education. Theological education has been an important aspect of our Mission's work and will become increasingly important. The 6,000 plus Christians in Mambilla need to be mobilized and trained to reach out and witness to the entire population of the Mambilla Plateau. Thus we are trying to develop Theological Education by Extension (T.E.E.) for pastors who are serving the churches (many of them have not had any Bible Training); to develop the Mambilla Baptist Bible Training Centre, training men to fill the many empty pulpits in our churches; and to encourage further training of Bible school graduates by advanced T.E.E. or advanced Bible school or seminary training in Nigeria so that they in turn can train other younger pastors.

We are also grateful for the opportunity given to us to teach Religious Knowledge in the Gembu Secondary School. We hope that

this means of outreach will challenge many young people to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. Hopefully, some of them will be called of God to serve as pastors in the future.

We do not know how much time we as a Mission have left to work in Nigeria. Please pray for us that we might know God's will in setting priorities in our work and that we might make the best possible use of opportunities for witness.

Theological Education by Extension

by F.
Kenneth
Goodman,
treasurer and
T.E.E.
director



Finances. This should have been a year of less work for the treasurer and bookkeeper of the mission. The hospital at Warwar together with all buildings were taken over by government in April 1976. However, the work so far in the treasurer's office has not decreased. The mission is still financing staff salaries until they are on permanent government payroll. The mission is still buying drugs and supplies through Christian Central Pharmacy, paying for them and arranging for transport to Warwar. However, the government had promised to pay for all drugs and supplies in the future. Eventually everything will be under government control at Warwar and all indebtedness to the Mission paid for.

Inflation still continues to plague us, especially with regard to fuel. Prices more than double by the time the fuel reaches Gembu from Jos. Building supplies continue to be short.

T.E.E. Training the leadership of the church has taken up most of our time. Two Leadership Training Courses were held—one at Gembu and one at Warwar. My wife and I both took part in writing, publishing and teaching the material together with one of our trained pastors. Religious Knowledge classes at the Secondary School occupy the rest of my time.

The town of Gembu continues to grow. Houses spring up everywhere. We give thanks for the many expatriates and high Nigerian government officers who want to be known as Christians and take an active part in our churches.

The T.E.E. Centers that have shown the most progress are those which have met every week or every two weeks. Most of these centers functioned well and produced leaders for the church. Reading, especially reading of the Bible, has improved markedly.

Exact enrollment figures are not available for all centers. Certificates were awarded at Gembu Field Bible Conference with 64 per-

sons completing one or more courses during the year. The course, *The Shepherd and His Work*, proved to be useful as a guide to what is expected of the church worker or pastor. The course, *Seven Letters to the Churches*, did much to correct error and to alert us against false teaching.

A new T.E.E. Committee has been appointed. A Seminar of two or three days is planned in which we would invite participation from the Cameroon and from nearby Texas (Serti, Biassa and Takum). It would be a sharing time and a training time. We now have handbooks for prospective writers; it is hoped that we will get one or more courses written and tested during the year of 1977.

It is good to have Minnie Kuhn back on the field to help and compare notes from her further training at Fuller School of World Missions.



Baptist Mission Hospital - Warwar

by Ronald E. Hiller,
missionary-doctor

In this past year our mission involvement in medical work changed greatly because of the government take-over of the hospital at Warwar, as well as all Voluntary Agency Hospitals in the State.

This happened very suddenly on April 1, 1976, without prior warning. Many questions arose: Will our Nigerian staff sign government contracts? Will our medical missionaries still be involved with hospital work at Warwar, and if so, on what basis? Will there still be opportunity for witness at the hospital? Will the mission be compensated for the take-over of its properties?

The people of Mambilla were very concerned. They were afraid that if the missionaries no longer work in the hospital, it may be closed down. It is very difficult to get trained people from other parts of Nigeria to come and work in a remote place like Warwar.

As time progressed some of the questions were answered. The Nigerian staff agreed to sign government contracts. Miss Kieper and I signed government contracts and are putting all of the government salaries into an Expatriate Fund which the Mission will use to support needy projects in evangelism and T.E.E.

Without our continued work at Warwar, the hospital in all likelihood would have been closed; the people would have lost a hospital facility; and the mission would have been accused of only being interested in collecting medical fees (they now enjoy free medical care). Your medical missionaries are still free in their private time to be involved in teaching of T.E.E. classes and helping in church ministries work.

An active witness has been maintained in the hospital. The chaplain continues to preach to the out-patients daily. He continues to do individual counseling with in-patients. The staff have continued witnessing to patients. In 1976 we recorded 121 decisions for Christ.

In negotiating with the government about compensation to the Mission for loss of properties, the government would not consider compensation for hospital buildings or equipment. The government feels that Missions built hospitals to help sick people and that the government now is merely continuing the work. They have agreed to pay compensation for housing, storage and resthouse facilities lost by the Mission in the take-over.

With government take-over of the hospital also comes a new system of administration, new drug suppliers, and free medical care. The free medical care has greatly increased our patient load. On two clinics last weekend, we saw over 1,200 patients! We request your prayers for us as we try to adjust to all the necessary changes and still maintain a witness for Christ.

We are disappointed to lose something that we have worked so hard to build up. But in the long term view, it may be a very good thing that the hospital was taken over: the people now have free medical care; the Mambilla Baptist Convention will never be burdened with an energy sapping institution that was a "gift from the Mission"; and at least at the present time we can still be involved in medical evangelism.

Please pray for us as we have decisions to make about our future involvement in medical work.

Mambilla Christian Youth

by P. T. Tomnyi,
youth director, M.B.C.

There are 56 churches that have boys' meetings; 71 churches have meetings for girls.

We had one leadership training course for 3-H girls. We have 14 registered guides for the two fields. Most of our boys' meetings are led by the pastors of our local churches.

The boys and especially the girls support some weak churches in our Convention. They help our Mambilla Baptist Convention office and our Bible Training Centre with some food and money.

What we propose to do: boys and girls camps will be conducted in each association; boys and girls are going to work on six badges in 1977: Bible study, song, garden, Christian marriage, Christian ethics and Christian principles badge; games will be bought and a playground prepared around

the M.B.C. office for the young people; and some useful books for young people and musical instruments need to be acquired.

Mambilla Baptist Bible Training Centre

by Timothy Yula,
principal

We started this academic year, 1976/77, at the Mambilla Baptist Bible Training Centre with three students in second year and 14 students in the first year. We have two second year women and 14 first year women who take classes, too. They account for a total of 33 students and 43 children on the school compound.

The centre is being operated by gifts from individual Christians. The churches have been trying their best to supply the students with food, but with the present number of persons they are going to find it hard.

The subjects being taught at the Training Centre are English, New Testament survey, the Gospels, evangelism, world history, Old Testament survey, pastoral theology, agriculture, Bible study, and leadership training.

The Rev. J. C. Yep, executive secretary, M.B.C., writes, "This school is the heart of the Mambilla Baptist Convention. This is where the goal (to train church leaders) will be achieved. There are three Nigerian tutors and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Radke. Textbooks are the greatest need of the students."

Hillcrest School at Jos

by Harold L. Lang,
chaplain



The Hillcrest School, Jos, is currently undergoing some very rapid changes. A few years ago the school predominantly consisted of missionary children from America. Now both Americans and missionary children are in the minority in the first eight grades. The reasons for this include more opportunities for non-mission children to be admitted, the decreasing of mission personnel in Nigeria, delays in securing visas for new personnel, and the gradual turnover of mission work to national churches and conventions. The total enrollment at Hillcrest remains at about 450

students, with increased enrollment in the elementary grades and slight reduction in high school, where the majority of the students are still American missionary children.

This past term has been a good term at Hillcrest. Beginning with a real shortage of teachers, resulting in the curtailment of a number of programs, such as high school physical education, we have seen the Lord answer prayer in the granting of new visas. During the course of the term, five new teacher visas were issued; these teachers arrived on the field. The spirit within the student body, between staff and students, and among staff has been very good.

In my own work as chaplain, along with teaching Bible in eighth grade and high school, I have had the opportunity to speak personally with a number of students, especially with the seniors, speaking of their future and their relationship with Christ. These meetings have proven very profitable. During the high school retreat, one 11th grade boy came to a very definite commitment to Christ. Others were helped through the sessions led by the Rev. Yemi Ladipo, director of Campus Crusade for Christ in Nigeria.

Woyke House at Jos

by Peter and Mae Schroeder,
houseparents



The main item to report this year is the completion of the extension of our building. The facility is now adequate for 20 children (10 boys, 10 girls). The houseparents have one large room which is divided by moveable closets into a small living area and a bedroom area. The main residence is 85 feet long and 44 feet wide, providing 3740 sq. ft. of living space. There are a total of 13 rooms and a long central hallway. Adjoining the main building at the rear is a laundry room, a carport for the school bus, and a 20 by 25 foot utility and storage building.

We had five children in the residence this year—four Fluths and Kristine Hoepner. They did well in school. The children enjoyed their studies as well as a variety of extra curricular activities. The hostels of the participating missions have formed a committee called the Coordinating Council which seeks, with the help of the school principal, to provide a healthy social atmosphere through a variety of weekend activities.

The Sunday program includes Sunday school and worship in the school chapel and an evening service in which all missions participate. There are also outreach groups in which the students can participate on a voluntary basis and get firsthand witnessing experience. □

SPANISH-AMERICAN



Spanish-American Mission

Center and Del Norte, Colorado

by David C. Keiry,
missionary-pastor



As we look back, the most significant events on our fields have been eight conversions; three baptisms; recommitment on the part of most of the believers to a closer walk with Christ and their active participation in the work; 910 visits in homes and hospitals; 364 services; increasing interest in evangelism and spiritual concern by believers; the growing Women's Bible Study in Del Norte; a "blood bank" ministry for two of our believers who needed blood replacements; Vacation Bible

schools staffed by local believers teaching and helping their friends and loved ones become acquainted with Jesus' way; awareness and growth in fellowship and meeting other believers' needs; the loss, by death, of a believer who greatly influenced her family for Christ; a growing counseling ministry which is causing people to respond to Christ; a bi-monthly film ministry to train our believers in various aspects of Christian growth; and an outreach to others through contacts with nursing homes.

Religio-cultural changes. Continuing changes in agri-business, the backbone of our economy, have caused less employment and some instability financially in the community, but the *religio-cultural* changes occurring affect the communities we minister in most. The many confrontations by a small but organized and heavily financed group of radicals have raised barriers to our work which only Christ can overcome. Threats have been made openly to many, including believers. Through it all, they have become either more Christ-centered or somewhat indifferent to the claims of Christ.

There is a greater longing on the part of believers to grow in Christ and to extend their witness and fellowship toward other believers, with the deep desire to make Christ real. They are also growing in their willingness to share in the ministry of the Word in various ways: teaching, music, writing, speaking and, of course, a day-by-day personal witness.

Goals. We have established the following goals: (1) to guide each one who turns to Christ to put his full faith and trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior, and to love *him* for himself, thus building his character in our lives, our families and our churches, so that his Word will be more effective, as our witness extends to others; (2) to overcome and remove bitterness and to develop a forgiving spirit on the part of each believer, demonstrating our love to the Lord and our loyalty to each other by giving a good report of each other; (3) to develop mature attitudes and creative responses to Scriptural authority, so that our churches will grow spiritually into a body of mature believers with a deep concern for the communities we live in; (4) to increase our commitment to Christ, so that each one will be available to him at all times, and to increase our stewardship of time, talents, and material possessions for the cause of Christ.

Illustrating Christ's conquering power and life-changing ability is one of the Christian mothers left alone to raise her family both physically and spiritually. She needed a better mode of transportation. She shared that need with the church; all prayed. God opened the door for a better car, but that was only the beginning, for a desperate need for housing came because of the ardent and faithful witness of this believer. The answer for a car had come quickly, but this need seemed unmet by God; even though the entire church prayed and looked for housing. At the exact time of need God provided very adequate housing. Still, walking by faith with her Savior, the need for a job was shared, and God provided her with a receptionist's job, which gives her many contacts with whom she can share her faith in a living, prayer-answering Savior.

David Chavez is a living answer to prayer. Having committed his life to Christ during

his bout with aplastic anemia, he made the request that God would use his life to glorify him. David now seems to have a remission of the disease. Though all danger is not past, he credits his living to God. God is using him in a special way in personal witnessing and sharing his divine will.

Because North American Baptists are giving and praying people, these and many more miracles are demonstrating the power of Christ to others who face tremendous odds with alcohol, shifting employment patterns, social disintegration, drug abuse, and any other thing which causes havoc in the human life but which Christ came to change.

Monte Vista, Colorado



by Earl H. Ahrens,
missionary-pastor

The year 1976 has produced more visible evidences of mission progress than any of the past ten or more years: The baptism of eight persons; the sending of the "Jesus Express" choir of 16 young people to the Triennial Conference in Portland; and the construction of 2,000 square feet of an education and fellowship unit to the existing worship unit.

"Jesus Express" choir. They gave nine concerts along the way. Their purpose was not to display musical talent but to give witness to what Christ meant to them and to say thank you to our Conference churches for the years of faithful missionary witness to them in Colorado.

New building addition. Much volunteer labor in construction of the building gave us maximum space at minimum cost. The climax to this project came in the last week of January 1977 with a supper and dedication service. 192 persons were present. First steps have been taken for the future, as the local membership has decided to organize officially as a congregation.

Harrassment. We have been asked whether physical and material harrassment and vandalism has continued. The answer is no. We have not even had a broken window for two years. This does not mean that all is at rest. Since we apparently could not be moved by the former methods, we have been given mental and spiritual opposition of a different sort. In the face of this we remember Paul's word in I Thessalonians to the believers, that our life is a "prey" and that we are to be willing to be "spent" for the sake of others.

Since the "Jesus Express" choir experience, six of our young people stepped forward and offered to teach Sunday school classes. They are doing a beautiful job. Multiple Vacation Bible schools will be conducted by them in summer.

The Baptist health center has met the needs of maternal and child health care and public health problems in an outpatient type of service. Miss Katherine Hunt served as full-time nurse. A physician provided the backup for Miss Hunt's ministry.

Half-Way-House. A new clinic service is the provision of room space and eventual counseling to an Alcoholism Half-Way-House. Presently we are providing facilities for six boarders. Administrative responsibilities belong to another non-profit corporation. Our purpose is to identify with those having this particular need and to give spiritual direction and deliverance to them in Christ.

We developed interest in the alcoholic and his need when Art, one of our men, was led to the Lord through our former clinic doctor, some four years ago. Art has had tremendous ups and downs as related to his drinking habit and desire for spiritual wholeness. Many months have now passed while Art has been dry. He has found employment with the local alcoholic program and has already helped two other buddies stay dry. He unreservedly attributes praise to the Lord Jesus for what he is now. There are so many "Arts" to be reached here for Christ.

Inner City Mission at Walnut St. Baptist Church, Newark, N.J.

by Emilio Lopez-Cela,
president
of Trinity Evangelical
Seminary and part-time
pastor of Walnut Street
Baptist Church.

Walnut Street Baptist Church is located in a Portuguese-speaking community, population: over 35,000. We have reached many Portuguese and Spanish-speaking persons.

Our church continues to expand its membership; the spiritual growth is remarkable. One of the most interesting experiences for all of us is the existing love among the Portuguese-American congregation, in spite of the language difference, and the importance placed in cooperation, unity and fellowship.

As the religious background of the Portuguese and Spanish-speaking communities is mainly Roman Catholic, the evangelistic campaign in which the Rev. Juan Treccani (Catholic ex-priest and nephew of Pope Paul VI) participated, caused a great impact among our people. During these days of campaign, many had their first encounter with Christ. Other Roman Catholic ex-priests have continued to visit the church and give their Christian testimonies.

The young people are faithful and enthusiastic attendants of the services. They are

presently engaged in learning to play different instruments in order to organize a band that will play not only in churches but also give concerts of Christian music in public parks.

Iglesia Bautista Central

by Lindberg J. Ake,
teacher, pastor,
Rio Grande Bible School

We rejoice with five new members who were baptized in the month of May.

During 1976, the biggest highlight in our congregation was the preparation and study of the constitution. On Dec. 1, 1976, the formal organization of Iglesia Bautista Central took place; following this, we continued immediately with evangelistic services for a week. God blessed with new decisions for Christ.

The Central Baptist Church has the following goals: to maintain a clear Christlike testimony true to God's Word; to use all of God's provisions to make the good news of the Gospel known and bring people to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To help us accomplish our goals, the following church activities have been planned: two evangelistic campaigns; one vacation Bible school, including adult Bible study; six Christian films to be shown, one every two months during a week day with evangelistic efforts; a Sunday school picnic with a devotional; a spiritual retreat for adults; a three-day family camp; and two fireside meetings for our young people with a special message.

Rio Grande City, Texas

by Robert L.
Sandoval,
missionary-
pastor



During the past year the Garcia's Ranch Baptist Church gained six new members by baptism to work and worship with us. The total membership is 78, of whom 13 are from Camargo and seven from Villa Nueva. The church and both Mexican mission stations are showing signs of numerical growth and Christian maturity.

An evangelist and a Bible teacher helped us for a week during the month of March. Together these two brethren and the missionary ministered in the home of a local school teacher whose car ran over and killed an elderly lady on the highway. The guilt-ridden

man received complete assurance through God's word about God's forgiveness.

So far no medical work has started in Camargo for our people. Although we still keep in touch with our Mexican convert, Dr. Cesar Augusto Tamez, who is presently working with a Christian clinic at San Quintin, Baja, CA, (Mexico). Our hopes are that Dr. Tamez will return to Camargo within two years and perhaps help us with some medical work to supplement our ministry.

Mexico is concentrating on the education of its children and young people. Most are becoming literate. We are taking advantage of their desire to learn. We share gospel tracts, Testaments and Bibles with them as they become the objects of their search for the truth. This year we purchased 200 Bibles and have distributed over 80. The local jail has turned out to be a real opportunity to minister to those behind bars. Including this ministry we have distributed over 1200 gospel tracts.

The devaluation of the Mexican peso has brought an added burden to the poor people. The cost of living continues to rise while wages remain stable. While making ends meet becomes more difficult, others are tempted to get into easy money by smuggling drugs. As some of these get caught, it brings the family to a crisis. Occasionally this gives us the opportunity to minister to them. The great spiritual needs of those around us press us to a greater dedication for a reaping of lives that will respond to God's invitation to try Jesus Christ for the answer.

Inner City Mission, Union City, N.J.

by C. Marcelino
de la Cruz,
pastor

In 1976 our First Spanish Baptist Church added seven people to its membership, bringing it to a total of 45 members. Four of these were accepted through testimony, and the other three were baptized in the church.

At the present time, there are among our church visitors about 90 people who have accepted the Lord but have not yet been baptized, plus occasional visitors.

The different societies of the church, such as the youth group, the men's and ladies' groups, meet regularly and work with Christian enthusiasm.

Among other activities at the church were four brotherly dinners. These carry out two purposes: (1) bringing the relationships among the believers closer together, making Christian ties more solid; (2) being able to meet the expenses of the church. □

Part II, Cameroon to be continued in BAPTIST HERALD October, 1977, pp. 13-20.

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



Financial and Estate Planning by Everett A. Barker

Financial and estate planning are the "in thing" in the United States and Canada these days. When I started in this field ten years ago, the idea of financial and estate planning was left to the rich and sophisticated people. I suspect that inflation, taxation and money problems have caused more people to be open to the idea of financial planning. Another reason is the fact that insurance companies, brokerage houses, farm organizations, colleges, hospitals and religious organizations have been doing much by way of literature, magazine articles and audiovisuals to alert a larger segment of our population to the importance of financial planning.

The need for personal and family financial planning can vary all the way from the family that is struggling to keep the bill collectors off the doorstep to people who can set aside funds for investment and to those who want to maximize investment income. At this point, it is well to understand the terms we are using. Like with other terminology, you can find as many definitions as you have books. I have chosen to define the terms as follows:

Financial Planning—The management of money and resources in order to develop and conserve them for the purpose of achieving the chosen goals of the individual or family.

Estate Planning—A plan for the prayerful and careful distribution of resources through the use of appropriate planning vehicles (wills, trusts, etc.) so as to maximize their benefit for family members and for the use in the Lord's work.

Why should a Christian be concerned

about planning for finances when God will take care of us from day to day? This is true, however, God is not against planning as long as our plans and lifestyle are within the will of God. Our Christian commitment touches all aspects of life, and finances cannot be compartmentalized and relegated as a less spiritual function of Christian living.

A new financial planning booklet called, "Bold Living for Christian Stewards," has recently come to my desk. I am relating in the broad outline the five steps which they suggest for good stewardship of resources:

STEP 1 SET GOALS FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING
"But seek ye first the kingdom of God . . ." (Matt. 6:33)

GOALS—for family needs and special ministries to others
GOALS—for this year (priority)
GOALS—for the next five years (priority)

STEP 2 EVALUATE YOUR LIFESTYLE
"Teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psalm 90:12).

1. Determine how much God has entrusted to you.
a. What you own . . . what you owe . . . result = net worth
b. Average monthly income

2. Consider your expenses
STEP 3 DECIDE HOW TO USE YOUR RESOURCES IN CHRISTIAN LIVING
". . . let us not live in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth" (I John 3:18).

1. Look for ways to claim growth in Christian lifestyle
2. Follow proven guidelines
Be personalized
Be flexible
Be written
Control credit
Include planning for lifetime—savings and investments—retirement—insurance

3. Plan your spending program
Fixed expenses . . . flexible expenses
Plan for the things your family needs and wants

STEP 4 DISCIPLINE YOURSELF IN FULFILLING A CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE
"Moreover it is required in

stewards that a man be found faithful" (I Cor. 4:2).

1. Record your income and expenses, monitor your spending plan

2. Credit card record

3. Record the location of important papers

STEP 5 EXTEND YOUR CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE
"Honor the Lord with thy substance . . ." (Prov. 3:9).

1. Plan your distribution
2. Secure information about your will

These five steps are merely a sketch of what is involved in financial and estate planning. You will be amazed what God can do through good financial and estate planning. The detailed booklet is written in understandable style and is available upon request at no charge by filling out and sending the coupon on the Personal Estate Planning page. □



To assist you further in your financial and estate planning, the above booklet is available without charge.

- Please send the booklet, "Bold Living for Christian Stewards"
- I desire a personal contact by an estate planning counselor
- Please send information about a financial and estate planning seminar for our church.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Province _____ Zip _____

Send to: Everett A. Barker, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, IL 60181. Telephone (312) 495-2000



CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDERS REPORT

MAPLE GROVE, MN, CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT by David Wick

In the family room of a suburban home, eight men sit in a circle of prayer. One by one they ask God's blessing on the activity to follow. Then they divide into teams, each team led by a man trained in personal evangelism. The team members are learning to share their faith by making evangelistic calls. Their visits completed, the men return and share the results of their experience. In the living room of the same house, their wives have been meeting for prayer, sharing and Bible study. When the evening is over, these couples will have taken another step in spiritual growth. They are part of Dayspring Baptist Church, and they are learning to be "disciplers"—growing Christians who are leading others to Christ, helping them grow and become "disciplers" themselves. Discipling was Jesus' method of evangelism; it characterized the New Testament church; it is the core of Dayspring Baptist Church.

Dayspring Baptist Church is located in Maple Grove, a suburb northwest of Minneapolis, MN. Maple Grove more than doubled in population from 1970-76, going from 6250 to 13,000; growth to 20,000 is projected for 1980. The Minnesota-LaCrosse Association surveyed the area and recommended that a work be started. The Association purchased a parsonage for the church in Boundary Creek, a 1200 unit planned community on Maple Grove's northern edge. The Rev. David Wick, his wife Pat and son Jesse, arrived in February of 1977, and the work began. Enthusiastic support from the mother church, Faith Baptist of Minneapolis, and initial response from the community, led to the formation of a core group of couples who committed themselves to the discipling process. Worship services began May 1, 1977, at Osseo Elementary School; attendance for the first month averaged 34.

Maple Grove presents a great opportunity for ministry. It is a young family community of people with good incomes but high mortgages; mobile and recreation-minded. Many do not attend church and have no spiritual dimension to their lives. Dayspring Baptist can reach these families through its "disciplers," its home Bible studies, and extensive door-to-door visitation. You can help us through prayer. Witnessing and spiritual growth are hard-fought spiritual battles that are won in prayer—we need your assistance! Also, we hope to pur-

The Rev. David Wick is the pastor of Dayspring Baptist Church, Maple Grove, MN.

chase property soon which will provide a strategic setting for our future facilities. Your gifts this month will help make things only dreamed become solid reality. Like our name, which is a delightful reference to Christ found in Luke 1:78, we want to bring the sunrise of salvation to our community. □



Men's Discipleship Group in Bible study.



Visitor's Kit for disciplers.



Pastor David Wick preaching.



Parsonage, supplied by the Minnesota-LaCrosse Association.

insight into christian education

GROW BY GOALS

by Henry G. Ramus

"Now, what would you like to see your church do next year?" With this question the pastor of a church closed his sermon on the task of a New Testament church. They had examined together a number of Scriptures, dealing with the New Testament church, such as 1 Corinthians 14:23-25, Acts 2:5-7, Acts 14:27, 1 Corinthians 14:5, 1 Corinthians 4:7, Acts 13:1-3 and others. "The question we must decide is what we as a modern-day New Testament church will do," the pastor went on.

The members of the congregation looked at their pastor, not realizing he expected them to respond. They dropped their eyes to the floor. The Sunday school superintendent lifted his head, then grinned and straightened himself in his chair.

"I'd like to see our Sunday school reach an average attendance of 40," he said.

"That's a good goal." The pastor expressed his pleasure at the response. "The goal is challenging, and it is one we can reach."

At the moment that church had 40 enrolled in Sunday school. Meeting in an unfinished building, with folding chairs and little other furniture, the church did well to reach 25 in Sunday school.

Before closing the service that morning, the pastor led the little group to accept the goal suggested by the Sunday school superintendent. He also made it clear to the group that reaching the goal would require certain commitments, such as establishing a program of visitation, possible provision of one or more new classes above the four the Sunday school then maintained, and an enthusiastic approach in all the work to be done. The church set several other goals—installation of pews, completing a baptistry and surfacing the parking lot adjacent to the church building.

This pastor applied a basic truth he had learned in the world of business:

—Adapted in part from the book *Using the Sunday School to Reach People* by Charles R. Livingstone. Copyright 1973, Convention Press, Nashville, Tennessee. Used with permission.

The Rev. Henry G. Ramus is the leadership education director of the Church Ministries Department.

persons achieve more when motivated and guided by positive goals. Most successful companies are goal-oriented in their management approach. Executives and sales managers define goals, develop methods for achievement of the goals, plan for installation and use of methods, adjust as necessary and focus on accomplishment. This process motivates and inspires; therefore it works.

It works equally well in the church. This pastor led the people to set goals; then he helped them work out the actions they would need to follow, if the goals were to be reached. Within a short time, they had begun to follow these actions. Through the year the pastor kept the goals before the people.

I. Set goals for growth

Every church has members who want to reach others for Christ. They nod agreement when the obligation to reach people is presented. They may even make a verbal commitment to outreach. Too often the commitment is only verbal. Yet, no one ever is actually reached by good resolutions. More is required. A church can help its members reach more people by setting specific reaching-people goals, goals that can be accomplished through the efforts of Sunday school leaders, workers and members.

Plans for outreach stand a better chance of being accomplished when they are stated as specific goals. Outreach goals should be definite. They should be for specific people or for a specific number of people and should have a specified time limit within which to be achieved. Goals should be attainable, but they should be worthy. Outreach goals should be church goals; a majority of the congregation should be committed to these goals. When the goals are set with enthusiasm and are adopted by the congregation, the church will have made the first important step in planning for outreach.

Goals for outreach should be interpreted to the congregation and should be kept before them at all times. Special projects for helping a church to reach goals of membership and attendance should be considered from time to time. However, the motive for reaching people should be the good of the people reached and not merely the excitement of a promotional project.

II. Guidelines for goal setting

1. Focus on a few goals

Decide the two, three, or four measurable areas that are important to your church as it works through the Sunday school. Emphasize these. As the number of goals is increased, the interest and attention each one can receive grows smaller. A goal that is actually secondary may come in for major attention, with the result that priority matters are forgotten.

2. Emphasize attendance first

Sharp focus on this goal will help channel energies and programs in the right direction. Do not make this goal an attendance average for the entire year, but make it the average you want to be reaching within a specific time limit, usually during a given month or quarter one year from the present date. Make this goal one that is worthy but attainable. Make it one that will require much work, but will give a sense of real achievement when reached.

3. Involve the people in goal setting

Goal ownership is important for achievement. Members may not accept what the pastor or the Sunday school superintendent hands down to them. They will accept the goals they set for themselves. One approach is to lead classes and departments to look at overall suggested goals and then work out objectives they can and will adopt as their share in those goals. Sometimes goals may be increases of a certain percent of present achievements; at other times goals may be numerical. Another way to determine overall goals for the Sunday school is to take the sum of goals already accepted by the classes of the organization.

4. Develop plans for reaching goals

It has been said that if we fail to plan, we are planning to fail. To make no plans is a plan in itself. Success has been defined as "thoroughly planning your work and then thoroughly working your plan."

Setting a goal of an increase from 25 in attendance to 40, and then inviting everyone present to come next Sunday and bring someone else results in absolutely nothing. The church referred to earlier did not do that. Instead they decided to reach their goal by (1) taking a census of their church community; (2) preparing a file listing every prospect discovered through the census; (3) providing two new Sunday school classes; (4) arranging a vestibule as a place for one of the new classes and a place in the auditorium for the other; (5) of-

(Continued on page 31)

Wedding Anniversary

An open house was held on June 5 at Brentview Baptist Church, Calgary, AB, honoring *Mr. and Mrs. Sam Martin* on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Martin are charter members of Brentview.

MADISON, SD. The West Center Street Baptist Church and their pastor, the Rev. Oliver Bender, experienced a blessed Easter season beginning on March 27 when nine adults (pictured) were baptized. On Palm Sunday sixteen people were extended the hand of fellowship including the baptismal candidates. In the evening the thirty-voice church choir proclaimed the Easter message through the cantata, "He Lives," by Gabriel.



On April 17-20 the Rev. Ron Mayforth, Detroit, MI, a former pastor, challenged us with messages from Ephesians on the use of our spiritual gifts. (Mrs. Graydon Rohrer, reporter.)

LA SALLE, CO. On April 3 First Baptist Church welcomed the Rev. Ronald Stevens as our new pastor. Pastor Stevens, his wife, Mary Ann, and daughter, Julie, came to us from Cleveland, OH, where he had served as an associate editor for Union Gospel Press. Words of welcome were given by the Rev. Mervin Kramer, Sierra Baptist Church, Arvada; the Rev. Victor Gunst, Meadow Hills Baptist Church, Aurora, and various other people from the community. A reception was held after the welcoming service.

On May 15 the church hosted the Covenant Players, a Christian drama group, from California. They presented a one-act play and two short skits emphasizing the importance of living one's faith. (Tylene Schmidt, reporter.)

KYLE, TX. On May 29, 1977, the Immanuel Baptist Church observed the placing of a historical marker on their church building. Special guests were the Hays County Historical Society of San Marcos and surrounding area. The guest speaker was the Rev. William Arnold of First Baptist Church, New Braunfels, TX. Other guests from surrounding area churches were present.

After the address by Mr. Arnold based on Matt. 16:18 and the reading of

the history of the church, the congregation moved outdoors to observe the unveiling of the marker.

The inscription on the marker reads: "Immanuel Baptist Church. Christian Siebenhausen and Karl Wiegand migrated to Kyle from Germany in 1883. Other German families soon joined them. In 1886 sixteen of these settlers met at the home of George Wiegand to form the First German Baptist Church of Kyle. Services were originally held in homes and Sunday school at the community schoolhouse. A church building and parsonage were erected in 1893 on land acquired from Frank Marsteller. Fire destroyed the first church in 1940. The present rock structure was dedicated in 1941, when the fellowship became Immanuel Baptist Church."

Following the service, refreshments were served in the church dining hall. Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless us and open new doors of witnessing and service. (R. Wiegand, reporter.)

GOLDEN PRAIRIE, SK. The First Baptist Church was privileged to hear the Aletia Singers from N.A.B.C. Dr. Louis R. Johnson, professor, N.A.B.C., gave us a review of what God has done for the ministry of our young people at N.A.B.C.

The annual W.M.S. missionary program, theme: "My Heart—Christ's Home," brought a real challenge. The musical part of this program was presented at the senior citizen's lodge. This was followed by a mother and daughter tea, with about 60 mothers and daughters attending. The Christian woman today was compared to a well-watered garden. The stage was artistically arranged with a decorated doorway opening into an imaginary garden.

Our W.M.S. hosted the Hilda W.M.S. at our Baptist World Day of Prayer. The W.M.S. also realized sufficient profit through the sale of cookbooks to replace much needed stage drapes and decor for a pulpit and communion table. During the winter months we studied First John.

To solicit funds for our outreach in witnessing through camp work, Grace Baptist Church presented a special musical program. The Rev. A. W. Riegel is our pastor. (Leota Fritzsche, reporter.)

GEORGE, IA. After nearly two years of service, Doug and Patty Bittle terminated their work as youth and music directors at First Baptist Church. Special numbers were presented by various groups, followed by a lunch and fellowship hour. Doug will be a senior at North American Baptist Seminary this

year. Carlo Walth, a student at the Seminary, and his wife, Jean Ann, began their duties as youth and music directors on May 29.

On May 24, seven pastors and 15 delegates of churches in Iowa and South Dakota were present at First Baptist Church for the purpose of examining Mr. Jim Arends, a 1976 graduate of N.A.B. Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, for ordination to the gospel ministry. The Rev. Dennis Dewey, Steamboat Rock, was elected moderator, and the Rev. Charles Hiatt, Emery, SD, served as clerk. The candidate was introduced by Pastor Bert Itterman.

Mr. Arends presented a well-prepared statement on his personal background, call to the ministry and doctrinal beliefs. In executive session the delegates voted unanimously to recommend to First Baptist Church that they proceed with the ordination services. (Mrs. John Arends, Jr., reporter.)

MC LAUGHLIN, SD. First Baptist Church witnessed the baptism of five persons on March 20. The baptism service centered around the theme of "Who, What, Why of Baptism." The favorite hymn of each person baptized was sung by the congregation, and a rose was given to each candidate as a reminder of the new life that each has in Jesus Christ.



On April 23 those persons plus two more were welcomed into our church membership at a communion service which emphasized that commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ should result in commitment to a local church. Ken Mercer is pastor of the church. (Mrs. Byron Dale, reporter.)

CALGARY, AB. Evangelistic meetings were held with the Rev. Daniel Fuchs, Oak Park, IL, at Temple Baptist Church. Many blessings were received during these days.

Two outstanding films, "A Stranger in My Forest" and "The Rapture" were shown in our church.

Our church band, Dan Giebelhaus, director, presented a concert. During the past 10 years, the band undertook the support of 21 African students, who are training to become pastors in Cam-

eroon. Recently they have given financial support for the construction of a church in India.

Our mother and daughter tea was held May 9, with the Pioneer Girls also in attendance. The girls sang several numbers. Carnations were presented to each mother who came with her daughter who belonged to Pioneer Girls. Mrs. Rempel was the guest speaker.

On May 1 the Brentview Baptist Church Choir presented an Easter cantata, "The Last Week."

Our church participated in the Barry Moore Crusade which was held in Calgary June 5 to 12. (Irene Wirzba, reporter.)

BROOKLYN CENTER, MN. Fourteen persons were baptized at the Brook Park Baptist Church. These, along with three others, joined the church.

Four baby girls were dedicated to the Lord by their Christian parents at a special service.

Our adult group had a delicious four course dinner served to them with the menu written in French. We had to decide what four items came in each course.

Our Philathia Society held their "Spring Thing" for the women and girls in the church featuring a style show of wedding dresses worn by our various ladies on their wedding days. Some of the women modeled their own dresses; other dresses were modeled by the daughters. Harp and organ music accompanied the show. A reception followed with wedding cake and decorations. (Jo Ann Wagner, clerk.)

WARREN, MI. Dr. Kenneth Fischer, pastor, Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, CA, was the speaker at Redeemer Baptist Church during a week of spiritual growth meetings, May 15-22. The chancel choir sang each night. Special numbers by our own members as well as from members of area churches were presented. The high point of the meetings occurred the last night when approximately 100 members came to the altar to pray for themselves, for the unsaved in their families, and especially for their church needs. (Doris Kintzer, reporter.)

EAST TROY, WI. Sixty-three men and boys enjoyed a time of recreation and renewal, May 20-21, at Timber-lee Christian Center. Mr. James Lewis, assemblyman in Wisconsin State Government, gave his testimony and told of the responsibility which rests upon the lawmaker today. Dan Stipanuk of Immanuel Baptist Church, Kenosha, proved an able song leader. Pastor Jerry Worsham, Grace Baptist Church, Ra-

cine, directed the get-acquainted hour on Friday evening and brought the closing message based on our theme: The Christian and Government. Greetings and the latest challenges of North American Baptists were given by the Rev. Willis Potratz, Great Lakes Area secretary. Progress reports on the men's project for this year of providing funds and labor for new siding on the manager's house at Central Baptist Camp, Lansing, IA, were given by Harold Kopf and Wilfried Marks. (Roger Norman, reporter.)

CARBON, AB. Under the direction of Bob and Marilyn Ohlhauser, a cast and choir of 40 presented the musical, "LIVING WITNESSES," in the home church, Carbon Baptist, as well as to capacity crowds in Temple Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, and Grace Baptist Church, Calgary, AB.



God put his seal on this ministry that united us to him, when a schoolteacher, who came from Carbon to Calgary to record the presentation, gave his life to Jesus Christ that night. The Rev. Richard Grabke is the pastor of our church. (Lynette Buyer, reporter.)

LEDUC, AB. Our theme, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness, O God, Our Father," was deeply impressed upon us June 3-5, as we gathered to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Temple Baptist Church.

We were happy to have had dedicated pastors who so richly brought forth the message of God's redeeming love and for the many who accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior. We were served in the fifty years by the following pastors: The Rev. Philip Daum, 1924-1928; the Rev. Charles Thole, 1929-1932; the Rev. Bert Jacksteit, 1934-1936; the Rev. Henry Schatz, 1937-1940; the Rev. Adam Huber, 1941-1948; the Rev. Henry Schatz, (second term) 1951-1954; the Rev. Haire, 1955-1957; the Rev. Ray Harsch, 1958-1963; and the Rev. Lloyd Kresier 1963-1977.

On June 3 the banquet was held. Many former members and three of our former pastors came to praise the Lord with us. They recalled many blessings and humorous happenings of the past. Greetings were brought by Dr. J. Son-

nenberg, N.A.B. College, the Rev. Adam Huber and the Rev. Ray Harsch. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Bohlman were honored as charter members; he had organized the first Sunday school in 1918. The Rev. Charles Thole gave the message of the evening. We were blessed by message in song. Mr. Marvin Rust, former member, was chairman for both our special services.

At our Sunday morning service, a prayer of dedication was offered by the Rev. Ray Harsch for Miss Eunice Kern who is returning to our Cameroon mission field. The Rev. Adam Huber brought the morning message.

Our church was filled to capacity. Many former members, friends and members of neighboring churches joined with us for our Sunday afternoon service. Greetings and special music were brought from Rabbit Hill Baptist, First Baptist and Wiesenthal Baptist Churches, and congratulations from Mayor Bill Lede, Leduc. Cards and letters from former members were read. Mr. Bohlmann gave the church history. Rev. Harsch brought a challenging message. Our prayer is for greater things to come as we start our next fifty years. (Vi Fleck, reporter.)

WEST FARGO, ND. Sunday evening, May 15, Grace Baptist Church held a banquet honoring their graduates. Opening remarks and introduction of the graduates were given by our youth director, Tim Walker. "The Family of God," from the Kulm area, brought the special music. The Rev. LeRoy Moser led in prayer. The Rev. Connie Salios, associate secretary for stewardship, was the special speaker. (Frances Abrahamson, reporter.)

LEHR, ND. The Ebenezer Baptist Church called for a council to ordain their pastor, Mr. Richard Uhler, into the gospel ministry. This council met on August 28, 1976.

Twenty-three delegates from nine churches formed the council. The Rev. George Breikreuz and the Rev. Arthur J. Fischer were appointed moderator and clerk respectively. Mr. Jim Ruff of Ebenezer Baptist Church introduced the candidate, Mr. Richard Uhler, who had come to Lehr in 1975 to serve the church as the pastor.

Mr. Uhler gave a biographical sketch of his life, his conversion experience, told of his call into the ministry and of his formal training. In a thorough and fervent manner, he presented the doctrinal views, beliefs, and the teachings of the church. The council declared itself satisfied with his statements and

recommended to the church to proceed with the ordination.

The ordination was held Sept. 5, 1976. The Rev. Gordon Huisinga served as chairman of the program; the Rev. Walter Schmidt, King's Highway Baptist Church, Bridgeport, CN, delivered the ordination message, "The Ministry Today."

The Rev. Edward Oster gave the charge to the church. The charge to the candidate was given by the Rev. Etan Pelzer. Mrs. Etan Pelzer spoke words of encouragement and extended a welcome to Mrs. R. Uhler to the ranks of a pastor's wife. A word of welcome to the fellowship of pastors was given by the Rev. Edwin Walter. The Rev. Richard Uhler gave the benediction. A time of fellowship followed. (Arthur J. Fischer, clerk of the council.)

LEDUC, AB. On May 29 Temple Baptist Church hosted a recognition service honoring our 1977 graduates with the following churches participating with us; First Baptist, Rabbit Hill Baptist and Wiesenthal Baptist.

Twelve graduates were honored: ten from high school, one from university and one from N.A.B. College. Special music was presented by each church. The graduates were presented with New Testaments by their respective churches.

Dr. Louis Johnson from N.A.B. College brought a challenging message for the young people. A time of fellowship with the graduates was enjoyed after the service. (Vi Fleck, reporter.)

CALGARY, AB. Twenty-three persons were baptized this year at Brentview Baptist Church. These, and quite a number more, have joined the Brentview Church.

The Naomi Guild has catered the receptions of the many young couples who have been married this year.

One Sunday evening, the unique ministry in drama by the Covenant Players from California was refreshing and inspirational. The Parschauer Trio and their father presented a lovely musical program another Sunday.

Brentview honored all graduates of high school, university and college with a banquet at which Prof. Willy Muller, N.A.B. College was the guest speaker. (Linda Ohlhauser, reporter.)

BANFF, AB. About 530 women attended the 21st Alberta Baptist Women's Retreat, May 12-14, at Banff Springs Hotel. Our guest speaker, Mrs. Betty Hagey, Cambridge ON, gave us repeated challenges from the Word and referred to her personal experiences. "Without the battles there is no victory;

without victory there is no peace," was her theme.

Mrs. Jeanine Weick of Japan was effervescent in sharing concerning the rightful position she gives her husband and family in her time, as well as an abundance of labor for God through her theme.

Mrs. Marlis Lemke, Cameroon, shared in a warm, beautiful and honest style: "It is true sacrifice when it really hurts." We are convinced Marlis' gift is hospitality. (Gloria Kokot, reporter.)

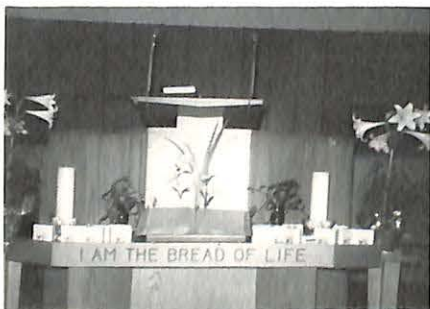
PLEVNA, MT. The Baptist Youth Fellowship of Plevna Baptist Church held a senior banquet on May 13 honoring three graduates. The mothers of the youth served the banquet dinner. "Stepping Over the Edge," a film, was shown.

On Mother's Day, in the afternoon, the youth presented a special program honoring their mothers.

The film, "The Evening," was shown following a pancake and sausage supper sponsored by the B.Y.F. on April 8.

Mrs. Walter Klempel was guest speaker at the annual spring banquet sponsored by the Ladies' Mission Circle on May 6. The Mission Circle and Men's Fellowship presented a play during the evening service on Easter Sunday. (Paula Fuchs, reporter.)

EMERY, SD. The members of First Baptist Church experienced joy on Easter Sunday morning, as the children brought their Laura Reddig Easter Offering banks to the front altar, where they presented their contributions, amounting to \$45.00, to the church offering, resulting in a total sum of \$2,249.30.



The last two weeks in April were designated "Honor Our Senior Citizens' Week." The purpose was to expand the circles of fellowship within the church family. Twenty-three homes extended invitations to more than 80 senior citizen members (age 65 or over) for a meal and a time of fellowship. Visits were made to those members who were unable to leave their homes.

On May 8 a total of 300 new church

hymnals, *The New Church Hymnal*, were dedicated. The choir sang two numbers from the hymnal. Our pastor, the Rev. C. Hiatt, offered the dedication prayer.

In the evening, a farewell service was held for Lucille Wipf, missionary. She left for Japan on May 16 after a furlough spent in deputation visits and time with her family in Emery. (Mrs. Otto Bleeker, reporter.)

RIDGEWOOD, NY. It was with sadness Ridgewood Baptist Church assembled on May 22 to wish Godspeed to five of our faithful members who will leave New York for friends and relatives in distant communities.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kosik, who have been members almost 40 years, joined their children in Denver, CO. The Kosiks were active in the diaconate, Sunday school, women's organizations and choirs.

Words of tribute to Mrs. Ethel Miller and her daughter, Judith, were given, citing their service in the Sunday school, women's organizations, and choir, since the erection of our present building in 1925.

Our organist for the past 50 years, Mrs. Hilmar Ross, retired to Florida. Her standard of excellence was reflected in the choirs and musical programs, as well as her being a faithful leader in the Women's Missionary Society and a director of the N.A.B. Home for Women in N.Y.C. The Rev. Alphonz Lamprecht is pastor of the church. (Marion von Ahnen, reporter.)

BURLINGTON, ON. The Pineland Baptist Church celebrated its 11th anniversary, May 28-29, 1977. Following an anniversary supper, we were privileged to have as our guest speaker, Charles "Tremendous" Jones, a worldwide known motivational lecturer and consultant. His enthusiasm for Christ was an inspiration for all, and many adult commitments were made as he presented "Life's Three Great Decisions."

The anniversary activities concluded with an evening of sacred music presented by the church's two choirs and a teen group, "Jesus Express."

We thank God for the leadership of our pastors, the Rev. Walter Kerber and the Rev. Arlo Grenz. (Mrs. Karen Grenz, reporter.)

STARTUP, WA. Startup Baptist Church was host to the N.A.B. College Choristers, May 9. A potluck dinner was served to the Choristers, friends, and members of the church before the program. (Pat Griffin, reporter.)

ST. CLAIR SHORES, MI. The choir of Bethel Baptist Church presented the musical, "This Is Love," from a 22-foot "living cross." The 34-voice choir, along with the organ, piano, two trombones, flute and oboe, presented the program to the congregation on Palm Sunday evening and again to our N.A.B. churches in the area for the united Good Friday service. Our sanctuary was filled to overflowing with 684 in attendance.



Our pastor, the Rev. Kenneth C. Fenner, reminded us of the symbolism of the colors which were used on the cross (black drapes, white trim, red carpet). At the close of the program the choir members lit candles. When the entire cross was lit, the choir sang "Because He Lives," and the congregation joined on the chorus. (Ruth Gerber, reporter.)

LETHBRIDGE, AB. The Rev. Erwin Kelbert accepted our call to become pastor of Bethany Baptist Church. With his wife, Lilly, and their two children, they have blessed us since arriving from Edmonton. The installation service was held May 8. Prof. W. Miller, N.A.B.C., was guest speaker. Representatives from different churches also extended greetings: Grace and Temple Baptist Churches, Medicine Hat; Temple Baptist Church, Calgary; and Grace Baptist Church, Kelowna. Special numbers were brought by the choir and young people.

Rev. Kanwischer, our interim pastor for eight months, was present. We love and appreciate him for the work he did with us. An appreciation and farewell evening was held for him on May 1.

On June 12 we celebrated the church's 25th anniversary. (Mrs. E. Serfas, reporter.)

in memoriam

BERTHA BESELT, born in Wolhynien, Poland, Dec. 1, 1896, died in St. Joseph, MI, May 13, 1977. In 1908 she immigrated to Michigan. In 1914 she married Henry Bahm, who died in 1944. In 1949 she married Albert Beselt, who died in 1968. In her adult years she accepted Christ as her Savior, was baptized, and became a member of Clay Street Baptist Church and later of Oakridge Baptist. She witnessed of what the Lord had done for her. She memorized many Scripture passages and over 150 hymns which she referred to in her time of suffering. Survivors include five children: Dorothy Brink, Lydia Brown, Ronald Bahm, Walter Bahm, and Gordon Bahm; four stepchildren, 13 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. The funeral service was held May 16 with the Rev. Oscar Fritzsche officiating.

MARIAN HANSON, 96, Milwaukee, WI, died May 18, 1977. She was born Feb. 7, 1881, at Neenah, WI. On Oct. 16, 1901, she married James Anton Hanson. Two sons, Norman and Ray, were born, both of whom preceded her in death. She accepted Christ in her youth and was baptized. In the 1940s she moved to Milwaukee and joined Bethany Baptist Church. She sang in the choir, was a faithful member, and participated in the Women's Missionary Society. She is survived by two daughters-in-law: Mrs. Alice Hanson, Detroit, MI, and Mrs. Jean Hanson, Milwaukee, WI; one sister-in-law, Mrs. Ella Olson; 4 grandsons; 10 great-grandchildren, and numerous other relatives and friends. The memorial service was conducted by the pastor, the Rev. James A. Schacher.

FREDRICH HOFFMAN, 88, of Calgary, AB, died May 19, 1977. He was born in Roumania May 3, 1889, and came to Trochu, AB, in 1909. He accepted Christ, was baptized in 1922, and became a member of Trochu Baptist Church. He moved to Calgary in 1950 and became a member of Grace Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife, Minnie; one daughter, Verena Schmidt, three granddaughters; son-in-law, Ernest; one brother, John; stepsister, Susan; and one half sister in Germany. The Rev. Remple, former Trochu pastor, and the Rev. Ed Klingenberg officiated at the service.

BEVERLY L. KECK was born Nov. 6, 1944, and died May 1, 1977. Beverly was a member of Startup Baptist Church, Startup, WA. She leaves her husband, Donald; children, LaLani and Dean; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Renchler, Sultan, and her parents-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Keck, Startup.

JACOB QUASCHNIK, 82, son of William and Sophie Weixel Quaschnik, was born near Herreid, SD, March 19, 1895, and died May 7, 1977. Mr. Quaschnik served in the U.S. Army in World War I. Following that he operated a cream station in Herreid, after which he was employed by Soo Line Railroad, until his retirement in 1960. Mr. Quaschnik married Margaret Bischke Dec. 22, 1918. Three sons and two daughters were born to this marriage. Mr. Quaschnik accepted Christ as his Savior, was baptized and joined Herreid Baptist Church on June 22, 1924. He is survived by his wife, one son, one daughter, four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, one brother, and two sisters. The memorial service was held on May 11, 1977; the Rev. Edward Kopf, officiated.

FRED STROHSCHNEIN, born May 20, 1895, in Wetaskiwin, AB, died May 18, 1977. In 1920 he married Della Krause. As a young man he accepted Christ, was baptized and joined First German Church, Wetaskiwin, (Calvary Baptist). He was a faithful and active church member, serving as a trustee and for more than 25 years as deacon. He served as a trustee on the C.T.I. Board. He will be deeply missed by his wife, Della; son and daughter-in-law, the Rev. Allan and Bernice Strohschein, Minneapolis, MN; daughter and son-in-law, the Rev. Charles and Audrey Littman, St. Joseph, MI; three grandchildren; and three brothers. Pastor Larry Parker and Dr. E. P. Wahl officiated at the funeral service, May 23, 1977.

DANIEL W. WALTERS, born Feb. 14, 1921, at Morris, MB, and died June 4, 1977. At the age of 16 he accepted the Lord as his personal Savior, was baptized by the Rev. E. Mittelstedt, and became a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church. He served in various capacities as Sunday school superintendent, Sunday school teacher, and trustee, and the choir. In 1945 Dan married Thabea Schatz. In 1960 the family moved to Winnipeg, MB. They became charter members of Grant Park Baptist Church, where Dan served as Sunday school superintendent, deacon, and was active in the choir. In 1968 the family moved to Edmonton, AB. They became charter members of Greenfield Baptist Church, where he served as deacon, trustee, Sunday school superintendent, and usher. He is survived by his beloved wife, Thabea; two sons: Gordon, Vancouver, BC, and Milton, Edmonton; one brother, Reinhold; four sisters: Lena Paschke, Elsie Edel, Mina Zilkie, and Amy Edel; five brothers-in-law; three sisters-in-law; nieces, nephews, and a host of friends.

MEADOWOOD MANOR WINNIPEG, MANITOBA Invites applications for the position of ADMINISTRATOR

Meadowood Manor is presently under construction in St. Vital. The development is expected to be completed before December 31 and will include two adjoining buildings which will house 90 personal care units and 90 elderly persons housing units.

The administrator is the chief executive officer and is directly responsible to the Board of Directors for the effective and efficient operation of the total complex with thoughtful care of residents as the objective.

This is a challenging opportunity for the right person to join us now and follow the development through to its operational stages.

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3. a basic knowledge of accounting
4. good communication skills (knowledge of the German language would be an asset)

Salary:

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Please submit full resume to: Dr. G. Schroth, 2288 Henderson Hwy., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2E 0B9, CANADA



Communication by Adolph Braun

A LETTER TO CHURCH MEMBERS

A large percentage of the members of a church in Illinois were conspicuous by their absence, so the church board decided that it was time to do something about it. The following letter was sent to the entire church membership, with a result in a 56 percent increase in attendance and support.

"Dear Church Member: This is to notify you that all church members will be required to attend Sunday services at least twice each month, from now on. Registration will be taken each Sunday morning to determine which names remain in good standing as active members of the church. Unless you have some legitimate reason for not attending, you will not be permitted to remain on the roll as an active member, if you are not really active in your support of the church.

"It may be that this requirement may anger some of you. We feel that it will not anger anyone who is already active in the church, or who knows he or she should be. If you, who are inactive, are angered enough so that you withdraw your membership and become active in another church, a great step forward will be taken. If you simply withdraw your membership and remain inactive, no ground will have been lost, and the Kingdom of God will not have been weakened, since you were inactive before anyway. Your own need may even become clearer to you.

"The challenges of this century are far too great for the church to permit false statements of loyalty from its 'so-called' members. We say then to you what we feel God may be saying to the churches of this day, 'shape up or ship out'. Read Rev. 3:15 through 16."

Isn't it a shame that some church members are far more faithful to clubs or lodges, than they are to the body of Christ. I say, "Praise the Lord" for such a church board who displays such concern and conviction for the true body of Christ. □

The Rev. Adolph Braun is the pastor of Sunkist Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA.

newsViews

WELSH BAPTISTS QUESTION COUNCIL RELATIONSHIPS

ABERYSYWYTH (EBPS)—The Council of the Welsh Baptist Union has questioned the Union's relationship with the Welsh Council of Churches, especially the member groups who have covenanted for complete Union in the future.

Congregationalists and Baptists, although members of the Council, have not committed themselves to the covenant, while Anglicans, Presbyterians and Methodists have done so.

The matter has become more pressing recently since the majority of the Church Council had decided to appoint a full-time Secretary, stipulating that the person appointed was also to serve and further the ends of the churches which had covenanted for total union. Welsh Baptists, although in favour of creating the staff position, will not support the appointment if it is to be joined with the complete union question.

INSTEAD OF GIFTS

Young people in the Netherlands showed a beautiful spirit of sacrifice when they heard the Baptist World Alliance needed funds to send 5000 Bibles into Romania. Some couples planning marriage asked their friends to omit the customary gifts to the bride and groom, and instead to make contributions to the Bible fund. At least one couple went further by asking guests at their wedding to give an offering for the Bibles.



Persons participating in the Estate Planning Workshop held in Oakbrook Terrace, IL July 7-8, were (clockwise) Robert Ihrle (back to camera), attorney, Grosse Pointe, MI; J.C. Gunst, Lodi, CA, and Alfred Weisser, Sioux Falls, SD, estate planning counselors; Robert Mayforth, comptroller; Connie Salios, associate secretary for stewardship; W.D. Dachtler, Abilene, KS; Larry Bienert, Portland, OR, estate planning counselor; John Binder, stewardship and communications secretary; G.K. Zimmerman, executive secretary, and Everett Barker, associate secretary for estate planning.

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NEW TESTAMENT IN HEBREW

A new contemporary Hebrew language translation of the New Testament has been published under the auspices of the Israeli branch of the United Bible Society in Jerusalem. Among the scholars involved in the project were Dr. Robert Lindsey, head of the Baptist Convention in Israel.

■ *Rev. Ted Faszer* has been appointed instructor in Christian Education and Music at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, beginning September 1, 1977.

■ *Rev. Samuel Ngum* of Cameroon is a student at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, for the 1977-78 academic year. He was formerly the executive secretary of the Cameroon Baptist Convention.

■ *Mr. Erwin Kelbert* accepted the call of Bethany Baptist Church, Lethbridge, AB. He began his ministry May 8, 1977. He is a 1977 graduate of North American Baptist College, Theological Department, Edmonton, AB.

■ *The Rev. Jim Arends* was ordained into the Christian ministry May 29, 1977, by First Baptist Church, George, IA.

■ *The Rev. Harvey Friez* was ordained into the Christian ministry by First Baptist Church, Durham, KS, on May 15, 1977.

■ *The Rev. Douglas Kellough* was ordained June 12, 1977. He is the pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Prince Rupert, BC.

■ *The Rev. Donald Paschke* accepted the call of Melville Baptist Church, Melville, SK, effective Aug. 1, 1977. He previously served First Baptist Church, Eureka, SD, from 1975-77.

■ *The Rev. Fred W. Pahl* resigned from the pastorate of Wiesenthal Baptist Church, Millet, AB, effective June 30, 1977. He has moved to Nanaimo, BC, where he plans to engage in pulpit supply work.

■ *Miss Linda Ebel* accepted the position of church staff co-ordinator at Lakeshore Baptist Church, Stevensville, MI, effective July 1, 1977. She is a 1977 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

■ *The Rev. Robert Brown* accepted the call to become pastor of Mountain View Baptist Church, Spearfish, SD, effective Aug. 21, 1977. Since 1972 he had served as youth pastor at Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, MI.

■ *The Rev. Lloyd Kresier* resigned from the pastorate of Temple Baptist Church, Leduc, AB, effective April 30, 1977.

■ *Dayspring Baptist Church* is the name chosen for the church extension work in *Maple Grove, MN*, where the Rev. David Wick is the pastor.

■ *The Rev. Eduard Hornbacher* died April 25, 1977, in Germany, where he had lived after his retirement from the Christian ministry in several North American Baptist churches.

■ *Dr. Samuel J. Mikolaski* has accepted the presidency of Columbia Bible Institute, Clearbrook, BC, effective Sept. 1, 1977. He resigned from his position as professor of Historical Theology and Christian Heritage, which he has held at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, since 1974.

■ *Tri-Community Baptist Church* is the name chosen for the newly established church extension project in Elk Grove Village, IL, where the Rev. Marvin Busenius is pastor.

■ *The Rev. Bert Itterman* resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, George, IA, effective Aug. 24, 1977. He has been pastor there since 1970. He will be residing in Sioux Falls, SD.

■ *Leland Bertsch* accepted the call to be pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, MB, effective Sept. 18, 1977. He is a 1977 graduate of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

■ *Mr. Perry Schnabel* has accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Mercer, ND, effective August 1. Mr. Schnabel is a 1977 graduate of North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

■ *The Rev. Terry Chrisope* has resigned as pastor of Redeemer Baptist Church, Columbus, NE, effective August 15. He has served there since 1975. He plans to continue his studies.

■ *Mr. Norris Helms* has joined the church staff of Sunkist Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA. He previously served as assistant to the pastor at Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, MI.

■ *The Rev. David Rapske* has resigned as youth pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, ND, to further his studies at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, in September.

■ *The Canora Baptist Church, SK*, is worshipping with *Ebenezer Baptist Church, SK*.

■ *The Rev. Arthur Fischer* has resigned from the pastorate of Berlin Baptist Church, Fredonia, ND, effective Sept. 30, 1977. He plans to retire in Linton, ND. He was pastor of the Berlin church since 1970. He has faithfully served churches in our N.A.B. Conference since 1935.

■ *Mr. Robert Coombe* is the assistant pastor at Riverview Baptist Church, West St. Paul, MN.

■ *The Bethany Baptist Church, Regina, SK*, held its last service Sunday, June 26, 1977. The church has voted to disband.

■ *The Rev. Paul Meister* has accepted the call to Pilgrim Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA, effective Sept. 1, 1977. He has served as pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Cleveland, OH, since 1971.

■ *The Rev. Eugene Thompson* of Altoona, IA, is the new pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Sheffield, IA. He began his ministry there July 3, 1977.

■ *Dr. Robert Schreiber* has accepted the call as pastor of North Highlands Baptist Church, Dallas, TX, effective August 15. He had been pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Portland, OR, since 1966.

■ *Mr. Edward Schellenberg*, 1977 graduate of North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB, has accepted the call to join the pastoral staff of the Ebenezer-Canora Baptist Church, Ebenezer, SK, effective June 1977. The Rev. Wes Andrei is the senior pastor.

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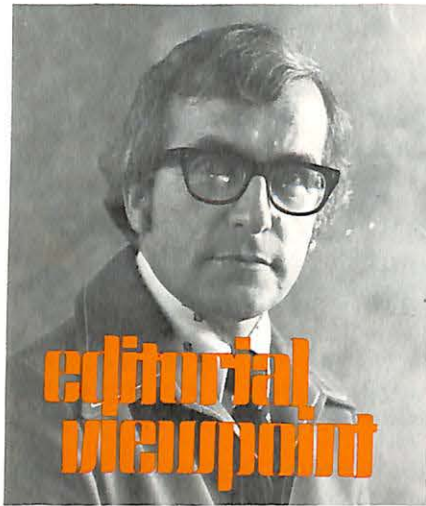
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A Small Group With A Big Task

The General Council held its annual sessions in Oakbrook Terrace, June 16-18. One of the many decisions made during these days was "that the permanent motto of the North American Baptist Conference be 'Reconciling the World Through Christ' and that the themes for the work of North American Baptists be: 1977—Priorities for a Worthy Future; 1978—Priorities for Discipling; 1979—Priorities for Serving."

Let's therefore look at the world in order to discover where we are and what the future seems to hold. The days ahead are filled with great challenges and opportunities for God's people. On the other hand, our world has become such a complex place that only God understands the whole system.

Population growth on the North American Continent and other continents, population shift, a global-system perspective, and changing family styles—these and other issues will have far-reaching effects on North American Baptists in the next 25 years. It is important not to subscribe to a "doomsday" theory of man's future; even though there are many discouraging elements and facts that alarm us.

Population growth is at the top of the list of discouraging signs. Last year, for example, the population passed the four billion mark. While the current growth rate of 1.9 percent may not seem high in itself, when it is ap-

plied to the world's population, it represents an increase of 204,932 people per day. At this rate the world's population will grow by the number of people in the U.S.'s population in only three years. Current studies expect the world's population to increase to 6.25 billion by the year 2000. This means that in only 23 years the world will be inhabited by 58 percent more people. Practically this means that there will be four more people per square mile in North America, while South Asia's growth will result in 140 more persons per square mile.

A United Nations official from India recently stated: "To cope with the population increase, India needs to build 1,000 new schoolrooms every day from now on for the next 20 years, 1,000 new hospital wards, and 10,000 houses every day for the next 20 years." The same official reported that in India "the availability of food per capita has not increased since 1936 and actually decreased in the last decade."

According to the words of our Lord, feeding, clothing, helping, teaching, preaching, discipling—all have to go hand in hand in order to fulfill God's directive. How will we meet the challenge? Consider another projection. At the present rate of energy consumption, 3.5% per year, U.S.'s energy consumption doubles every 20 years. Five percent of the world consumes 20 percent of the world's coal, 30 percent of its oil, and 49 percent of its natural gas. Can we truly call ourselves faithful stewards, or are we blind to the needs around the world? What we need is pride in saving and conserving and a concern for future generations.

Population shift in terms of mobility, growth and related problems will affect North American Baptists, as they will the rest of society. Demographers predict that the three largest urban regions will account for one half of the U.S. population by the year 2,000. The largest will remain the Atlantic Seaboard, followed by the Lower Great Lakes and California. Florida and Arizona will more than double. This observation is important for the Church Extension Department.

Although many external factors can alter the expected development, it is good to listen to what the experts have to say about future developments.

"Priorities for a Worthy Future" is a challenging theme. One of our immediate priorities may be to more rapidly open up our ministry to Latin Americans in U.S. or to Indian people in British Columbia. Very few Europeans have immigrated to the U.S. during this decade, and only about 100,000 Africans have come, compared to 2.1 million Asians and 4.3 million (!) Latin Americans.

This is not the place to suggest programs and changes. However, looking once more at our motto, I feel compelled to urge all leaders and members of the North American Baptist Conference to be alert to matters such as stewardship (waste and over-consumption), cooperation (conflict and competition), inter-generational planning, interdependence, responsible parenthood and race relations.

With God's help and in the name of Jesus we want to find our priorities for a worthy, though changing future, and then act courageously, knowing that "He's got the whole world in His hand." RJK □



Dear Editor:

I am upset over the new way of spelling "Baptist Herald." I for one, cannot read it, and several friends have said the same. I have taken the "Herald" for years and do enjoy it. Marie Eisemann, Philadelphia, PA

Dear Editor:

Re: Ron Booth's article "What Christian Kids Don't Tell Their Parents" (Youth Scene, May issue). My findings (after working with "kids" for years as a school teacher) are, that my "kids" who "hold things back" from telling their parents, have not really had a sincere experience with God. They trust their immature peers more, any day, than they'll trust God's Word, their parents or their pastor!

Oh yes, I know what you teeners will say. The same things you said when Ron Booth was listening in: no one listens to you or sits down to discuss things with you; no one understands or believes you, least of all your old fashioned, modest parents (!); no one knows and understands what terrific pressure you live with from the ungodly class mates; no one believes there is any good in you in spite of the fact that you know you are just as good or better than the average kid. "Our elders see only the mistakes we make and hold these up to us, but they never see their own mistakes and shortcomings and the despicable example they set for us kids."

Do you know (1) that self pity can destroy all initiative in people especially teen-agers who then become whining, back-biting, lack-luster brooders? (2) Do you know that your fathers' and mothers' parents had much less time to spend with your parents than your parents spend on you? Your grandparents were tied down to hard work from before dawn to near midnight with work that just had to be done, or else great privations would have been the result. (3) Do you know that the pressures that faced your parents in their teen years were not one bit less hard and confusing to them than are your pressures, to you, today? (4) Comparatively speaking, there were no less poor example setters in your parents' teen years than there are in

yours. But in many of these cases the teen became the good example setters from which the poorer-example-setting-parents could profit greatly . . . yet the teen never once "crowed" about their success as example-setters-to-parents, to anyone ever, and especially never, never to their poor unlearned parents. That was real chivalry. And God blessed those sincere young Christians mightily. (God never lets a genuinely good deed go unrewarded.) (5) Why do you suppose do parents criticize their children? Surely, you do not expect your parents to praise your half-way decent and or your slipshod jobs? You learn through criticism. It is an art, a valuable art to accept criticism as a form of instruction. Only the fool refuses to accept instruction (criticism), God's word says, and that is an invaluable fact. (6) If no one believes there is anything good in you, then there is all the more reason why you should spare no effort, through diligence and faithful workmanship, to prove to yourself and everyone else that there is good in you. (7) There is no problem too big or too complicated, but that the Holy Scripture (God) can solve to your very best advantage. But you will have to sincerely want to solve it. Most teen-age problems stem from the fact that they do not really want to solve it. They are afraid God will solve it His way, so they keep dangling on the "half-way ropes," committing themselves neither way. They are reluctant to drop their worldly-wise companions (peers) who have thoroughly brainwashed them regarding God, church-going-Christians, morals, manners, parents and freedom.

Of course church-going Christians are all, at best, only sinners saved by God's grace: and as long as they live they will make mistakes (same as all teen-agers will). There is none that is good, not one person. But your elders (because of their experience and mature reasoning power) can more easily see and make good the errors of their own, and they will try to prevent their kids from making the same mistakes.

What the "worldly-wise companions" did not tell the kids about their irresponsible "freedom" is that it is spelled "S-L-A-V-E-R-Y," because almost invariably addiction is the price tag on their freedom. And addiction invariably leads to suffering, sickness, ostracizing, loneliness, hatreds, fighting, gutter life and death. And if it were not for the wonderful love and grace of God, there would be no hope of salvation for those poor "half-way-rope-hangers" who put their trust in their sin-ridden peers, instead of in God and his Word and in their parents. After they are in the mess, the next sin Satan hands these kids is: "Your parents are to blame, not you."

And the "drowning" kid "grasps at the straw," and blames "the hand that lovingly cared for him" all his early life (!), instead of his own unworthiness. Adam did the same when he reaped the wages of sin (blamed Eve, the woman God gave him!); Eve did the same, when she blamed the snake for her own disobedience to God.

Obedience to God and your parents will keep you out of trouble and on the right track. Of course, parents do make mistakes (they are only human, like you), but God makes no mistakes. And if you are clever enough to see your parents' mistakes, you should also be clever enough to avoid doing the same mistakes and not hold your parents' (human) weaknesses against them, but show them by more love and better behavior (not by words), that they were wrong. Hiding your own sins behind someone else's sins is an age-old gimmick of the cowardly, unrepentant, hard-boiled creature who finds himself deep in Satan's power, and it is the highest time to make an about turn. If you are sincere, God is right there to help you out of the Constrictor's grasp. But you must want to be freed. Ida Hoffman, Morris, MB.

Dear Editor:

May I commend you for printing the Youth Scene article: "What Christian Kids Don't Tell Their Parents (May issue). As parents, we tend to assume that our children will come to us with all their problems and questions. This is the ideal situation and we should certainly try to conduct our lives and homes in such a manner so that our children will neither be embarrassed nor afraid to come to us. But as a member of the teaching profession for over twenty years, I know that there are times when students want to talk with an adult other than their parents. They may be seeking advice; perhaps asking for an opinion on a decision already made; or maybe, just the desire to be able to openly discuss their point of view with another individual.

Many parents, be they Christian or not, have perhaps forgotten what young people can be confronted with on a daily basis. Peer pressure and the desire to be accepted has always been present. But today's standards of morality and behavior are very different—than when we went to school. Too often they are contrary to what the Bible and most churches teach. And, like most students, the Christian teen-ager has questions. If he is unable to receive frank and honest answers to these questions; if he cannot openly discuss any subject with his parents, then he will turn elsewhere. Let the church be there offering the oppor-

tunity for such rap sessions with adult Christians present as part of the discussion group. Too often in the past, adults were excluded from such sessions, and as such, the so called "generation gap" evolved.

Personally, I believe that all Christians are one in the body of Christ. With that common denominator, plus the honesty to ask questions, the willingness to seek solutions, and the belief that the Bible can offer help and answers, no topic for discussion should be prohibited. Beatrice Scroggin, Chicago, IL.

Dear Editor:

Many thanks for the wide horizons and the healing outreach of the "Baptist Herald."

The report about Russia in the German insert "Der Sendbote" is engaging by the things left unsaid yet surmisable.

It's altogether an event to meet the monthly and embrace it with my eyes and heart and mind. Helmut Dymmel, Salem, OR

GROW BY GOALS

(Continued from page 23)

fering some training for their teachers; (6) beginning a systematic visitation which took members into every home where they had discovered a prospect; (7) to increase the force of their visitation, they began also a bus ministry. Each of these seven actions was in part motivated and inspired by their goal: to reach an attendance of 40. So make plans for reaching your goals, and work your plans. No plan works—you must work the plan.

5. *Keep at it.* □

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