



June 1979

baptist herald

CONSIDERING OUR ROOTS

by B. C. Schreiber

Scientists have various theories as to how the universe was created. One of them is referred to as the "Big Bang Theory." According to his theory, the planets, stars, galaxies and solar systems were scattered into their respective orbits by one gigantic explosion.

The North American Baptist Conference was not the result of a "big bang." It is more realistic to compare it to a "popgun" theory. The first shot that was fired was by no means "heard around the world," to quote Ralph Waldo Emerson. God not only "works in mysterious ways his wonders to perform" but also works in very small ways, which develop into miracles.

Our history began in slow, uncertain stages, during which it was sometimes questionable as to whether there would be a definite and permanent future to our ministry. Even as recently as the early 1940s, some thought that our Conference had served its purpose and that it would not be long before it would be assimilated into larger and more established denominations. Those who had vision remembered the question of the prophet, "For who hath despised the day of small things?" (Zech. 4:10).

In the book, *Heritage and Ministry of the North American Baptist Conference*, Dr. Frank Woyke describes vividly the slow and small beginnings of what is now our North American Baptist Conference. It was in 1842, at the age of 30, that Konrad Anton Fleischmann arrived in Philadelphia as a missionary to German immigrants. The response was slow, but after one year, he was ready to baptize five candidates. Within a short time, the group grew to nineteen. April 10, 1843, is regarded as the date of the founding of our Conference.

The seed was sown. Today we can see the continuing harvest and say, "What hath God wrought?"

Heritage and Ministry of the North American Baptist Conference is interesting, inspiring and informative. It should be read by young people and adults in every North American Baptist Conference family.

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NEWS Flash

Carter Opposed Senate Action On School Prayer

WASHINGTON (BPA)—President Carter urged Congress not to pass legislation permitting so-called "voluntary" prayer in the public schools.

At his televised news conference April 10, Carter was asked the question, "As a born-again Christian, Mr. President, what is your position on prayers in public schools?"

Carter answered: "My preference is that the Congress not get involved in the question of mandating prayer in schools. I am a Christian. I happen to be a Baptist. I believe that the subject of prayer in school ought to be decided between a person individually and privately and God. And the Supreme Court has ruled on this issue and I personally don't think that the Congress ought to pass any legislation requiring or permitting prayer being required or encouraged in school."

The President went on to say that those students who "might object even to so-called voluntary prayer when it's public and coordinated" should not be put in the position of being embarrassed by asking to be excused during the recitation of prayer.

Although acknowledging that "I don't know all of the constitutional aspects of this very difficult and sensitive question," Carter concluded his response by saying, "I think that (prayer) ought to be an individual matter between a person and God."

The question was prompted by debate in recent days in the U. S. Senate over "voluntary" prayer. Language removing prayer questions from the jurisdiction of the federal courts, thereby allowing states to permit prayer in schools, was attached April 9 by the Senate to a bill which is given little or no chance of passage in the House.

(Continued on page 31)

Crying Hearts in Japan

by Nobuko Clausen

"Dad, dad, I'm getting married!" A soft, tinkling sound accompanied her voice as the girl shyly rang the bell with a little stick. Giving a quick glance at the picture of her father in the altar, she ran out of the room, leaving her mother surprised.

"Oh, my," laughed the mother, then she turned to face the altar. "You heard her, didn't you?" Softly the woman spoke to her husband, "Yes, our daughter is getting married . . . Since you left me so suddenly, it's been a long, long time . . . But, she's getting married."

Showing the close-up of the widow's somewhat lonesome, yet contented face, smiling to her husband's picture, completed the series of the TV drama. Here again, I thought, they used the family altar, and in such an effective way. How many times had I seen the mother and daughter coming to the altar to talk to him. The monthly salary would always be put on the altar first, before even a single bill would be taken out of the envelope. The camera repeatedly caught those scenes, never failing to appeal to the TV watchers by giving a warm, yet helpless, feeling toward the two weak heroines. A typical Japanese technic!

As I'm writing this article in Winnipeg, I remember one cold, rainy day in September, when I visited my girlfriend's house in Tokyo more than three years ago. They just had the father's funeral a few days before. The moment I stepped into the "altar room," which used to be the cozy living room, the new shiny altar in the midst of all the beautiful set from the recent funeral caught my eyes. With half of the room occupied with the expensive funeral ornaments, the room looked much smaller, filled with white and yellow chrysanthemums.

"My husband used to say," the mother started, "that you can't really tell if a person had a happy life or not till he dies. If he could get the house full of friends to come for his funeral, he would be the happiest man, he used to say. Well, he did have hundreds of people come for his funeral. We did the best we could for him. We ordered the coffin out of the best cypress tree; it costed us \$50,000, but we wanted to do it. How he used to love to take a bath in the cypress tree bathtub! Yes, I know he was the happiest." The room was filled with the wafts of incense that had been constantly rising, and the mother ran her fingers through the beads as she prayed quietly. Fifty thousand dollars, to be burned to ashes. . . !

This reminded me of one Buddhist funeral that I had attended several years before. It was in April, just after I became a high school English teacher, when a young teacher's husband passed away. The funeral was held at her house; the visitors lined up in the yard in the bright sun. With the big sliding doors wide open, in the middle of the room was a new uncovered wooden coffin, beside

Nobuko Clausen is an N.A.B. missionary to Japan, now on furlough, with her husband, Reimer, residing in Winnipeg, MB.



Reimer and Nobuko Clausen, NAB Missionaries in Japan.

skrit, which nobody could understand. His voice carried on and on, like the humming of bees. All we could see was his back and the colorful garment. While he paid no attention to anyone there, each of the visitors walked through in line putting an incense stick to the incense holder and bowing to the picture. Suddenly, the chanting stopped. While we watched, they covered the coffin and started nailing it. It was at this moment that we heard the most heart-breaking, mournful agony of cry from the new widow. It gave anyone's heart a bleeding pain. "How cruel!" In the hollow of my heart I cried, "How cruel!"

The incidents mentioned above are happening every day all over Japan. People are dying, leaving the beloved in tears, not knowing where they go, not knowing what awaits them after death. Funerals are held in grief, leaving the family with no hope. No one is sure about the dead. Are they resting in peace, or are they struggling? Are they vanished forever in eternity? Tens of thousands of dollars are spent on scrolls with the picture of Buddha, decorated with pure gold foil, in hope of comforting the dead. An old man would sit all day long in front of the new altar, talking to his lifelong partner, mourning, "Why did you have to leave me like this?"

Where is happiness? Where is hope? But Jesus is living. Our work is slow, but little by little people are finding the living Jesus. We know an old lady in Kyoto, who came to our church for the first time as a miserable person. She was worried; she was afraid. She was afraid of death; she was afraid of life itself. She was faithful in taking care of the family altar; it was actually her purpose of life. It took her a long time and required a lot of courage to make up her mind to follow Jesus, but the Lord worked in her in a miraculous way. She closed the altar for good and was baptized a year ago at Easter, when she was 76 years old. Never in her life did she experience such joy as she does now. Her letters are filled with joy and thanks to the Lord. She is not afraid of anything, not even death. She has found hope, real hope in Jesus. So can other people. But the work is slow. People are not willing to open their hearts. They are bound; yet they want to stay where they are. But Jesus is living. He loves the Japanese, and they need Jesus. We must work on! □

REVELATION 1 1124 Message to seven churches:

THE REVELATION OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

CHAPTER 1

THE Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

4 JOHN to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him

which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

9 I John, who also am your brother, and partner in tribulation, and in kingdom, and in patience, which shall bring about the things which are written in this book.

called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last; and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamum, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last.

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen, and will come with the clouds, and every eye shall see me, and they which pierced me: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of me. Even so, Amen.

"Why should I study the Book of Revelation? It has nothing to say for my life." When this question was asked during a recent Bible study, I was not sure what answer to give. Yes, Revelation is a part of the Bible and therefore not only ought to be, but needs to be studied. We have the statement in Revelation itself: "Blessed is he who reads aloud the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written therein" (1:3). No doubt these matters would have been a part of the answer had it not been for someone who studied the Bible, attempted to make it a part of his life, and who then asked the question. Besides, from the way the question was stated, his real concern obviously was: "What does Revelation have to say to me and the way I am to live today? So far I have been unable to find anything relevant for my life in this book."

What does this book have to say for my life in the present? Looking back over most of what I had been taught and exposed to, I would have to agree with the questioner—it had nothing to say to me. With the exception of a few sermons and one teacher, this book had always been used either as a departure point for interpreting specific events in history, which had nothing to do with me and my life now, or to describe a world situation which lay some time in the future, and was so terrible and

The Rev. Heinz D. Rossol is the pastor of South Hills Baptist Church, Erie, PA.

WHY STUDY REVELATION?

by Heinz D. Rossol

so different from today as to hold practically no relationship to what we are experiencing now. Even though it was usually added, "This may come at any moment," there were always some conditions yet to be fulfilled, and some things that had yet to happen, so that the application to what was happening to us right now was negligible.

Let's be honest. If this is all that Revelation is, what good does it do for us to study it? If, as many believe, the church will be raptured before all the events of chapters 4 through 22 take place, why bother studying them? They will not affect us and we will not be there to interpret them for those who will be affected. These chapters would then be of value for those who must endure the Great Tribulation, but of what value would they be for us?

If, as others believe, Revelation is a series of prophecies concerning one-time events which we can identify in history, then the question, "How does that affect me today?" still remains. If I see in the locusts of the fifth trumpet (9:1-11) the rise and spread of Islam, what does that have to say to me and my life now?

If, as yet others do, we see in Revelation a picture of the future events that must yet take place before Christ returns, are we not in danger of trying to determine the time of his return? We may not think of ourselves as doing this, but every time we make the assertion that some condition, such as a restoration of a type of Roman empire, must be fulfilled, or that some event, such as the rebuilding of the temple, must take place first, are we not at least setting limits to the time of the second coming and therefore limiting God?

In all of these, the overwhelming tendency is to make Revelation nothing more than a springboard for discussion, and often argument, of when what will or should take place. In my experience, this has been the almost exclusive use made of this part of God's Word, and it has not even approached the question, "How does that touch my life now?"

Should we therefore forget about Revelation, since it has nothing to say to our present situation? Of course not, because it does speak to our present situation, that is, if we will let it. As long as we externalize this book—these are events which will or have happened some time in history—it will say little to us personally. But if we remember why this prophecy was given, and what it had to say to those who first read it, we will find in it much to help and strengthen us in our daily walk with Christ.

Why was this book written? It was not written as a scenario of coming events but, as in all the books of the New Testament, to help a certain group of people, in this case the Christians of Asia Minor in a time of persecution and

trial in which evil would seemingly be triumphant and Satan's control of the world appear to go unchallenged. If we read Revelation as a unit we will find that this is exactly what it addresses itself to. It is not concerned primarily with predicting future events, but describes the situation which the churches of Asia Minor were facing at the time. It is not an attempt to scare people into heaven, but rather, in describing conditions and events which the Christians, to whom it is addressed, knew to be a reality in their time, calls on them to endure, because Satan's control is limited and will last only for a season. It is God who is really and ultimately in control. Again and again this is emphasized. It is God who sets limits to what Satan and his agents can do. Even as he allows Satan to rage on earth, the victory has already been won and the outcome is sure. Though Christians may be persecuted, humiliated, and even put to death, they are all under God's protection, and neither Satan nor death can tear them out of his hand. "Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus . . . Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth. Blessed indeed, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!" (14:12, 13).

Is our situation today so different from that to which John specifically addressed himself? We may not suffer

persecution to the death, but is the mental and emotional persecution that we face any easier to endure? Is not evil seemingly in control today, when not only moral standards but even the law itself already calls that which is good evil and that which is evil good? Is there not just as much injustice in the world today as there was 1900 years ago? Do we not face the same, or at least similar, trials and tribulations as the churches in Asia Minor did? Is not the call for endurance and faith in Jesus needed as much today as it was then, and for practically the same reasons?

What a glorious message the book of Revelation brings to our situation today. No matter what the circumstances nor how much evil seems to triumph, God is still on the throne and therefore we can endure and need not doubt. We can remain steadfast and bold in our faith in Christ, because he has already won the victory and the outcome is assured.

This is the glorious message that we have been commissioned to proclaim to the whole world: Not what events or when they will take place is as important as the fact that God is using it all to fulfill his just purposes for the world and for us. And these purposes will be brought to fulfillment, for Christ the Lamb, in his life, death and resurrection, did all that was necessary to defeat the forces of evil and assure us of eternal life through faith in Christ Jesus.

Words

Words are just
what they make them,
Garlands of smiles
or tears . . .
They can make a year
seem just like a day
Or your days
go by like years.
Words are like
squads of soldiers
Fighting life's war
for you . . .
If they're weak
and frightened
and poorly-armed
They will never
see it through.
Some words can sting
like a whiplash
Or soothe like a
sweet refrain . . .
Words can be drugs
for the sickly . . .
Or fill those
who are healthy
with pain.

You can't call back
words that are hasty.
So weigh them
before they start
And strain them carefully,
one by one,
Through an
understanding heart!
—Nick Kenny



The Camp Nestled in the 'Little Switzerland' of Iowa

by Dorothy Norman

Awaking suddenly to the ominous sound of a thunderstorm and discovering our sleeping bags were soaked, we realized our tents included two inches of rainwater! Marlene Ginter, backpack and recreation director, relates that through situations like these, we came to realize the overwhelming force in the elements of nature. Man's basic needs of shelter, warmth, food and the knowledge of the Creator became very real to us. Such close contact with God's creation gave us opportunities to be resourceful in learning the basic skills in fire-building, putting up tents, canoeing and outdoor cooking. Banking our canoes and setting up camp were only some of the activities that showed to us the need for teamwork and responsibility.

The practicality of the passage, James 1:2-12, dealing with our attitude in various trials, came alive to each of us as muscles started aching from the weight of our backpacks, and setting up camp had to be done before a rainstorm. Sighting a doe peaceably drinking at the edge of the river, hearing the screeches of two owls, and the splash of a muskrat diving for a fish, were some of the sights and sounds we experienced.

The above descriptions of experiencing nature occurred as a result of the camping program at Central Baptist Camp, located just outside Lansing, Iowa. Vernon Heckman, resident camp manager, details some of the history of the camp

Dorothy Norman is a student at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, and formerly music director at Central Baptist Camp.



and existing procedures for management: "In late August of 1978 our fifth Christian camping season came to a close at Central Baptist Camp. Reflection of the rewarding experiences we had brought back memories of our early beginnings. For our beginning we are indebted to the North American Baptist Iowa Association Camp Committee, that located a farm they felt could be developed into church camp grounds.

"Because several of our midwest States were already meeting together at a common place for their summer camping program, it was suggested we consider a four state camp. The first meeting to explore that possibility was held in Lansing, Iowa, in December of 1970. The follow-

ing fall, four N. A. B. Associations, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, formed a combined camp board of twelve members. In January of 1972 a 200-acre farm was purchased from the Clarence Bieber family. It was an act of faith that God has blessed and prospered through five seasons so far. We anticipate many more to God's glory through his Spirit.

"The dairy barn on the farm was remodeled to serve as a chapel, sleeping quarters, kitchen, dining room and recreation room. In 1975 a new building was erected for staff housing. In 1977 a bunk-recreation building was erected, and in 1978 a three-stall garage was added. Most of the construction work was done by volunteer help from our constituents and other interested people.

"Total present camper capacity is 94. Two of the buildings are winterized and are being used for all year-round retreats for our constituents as well as others. We are members of the Christian Camping International. We participate in its conventions, food service seminars and workshops to keep current on the lat-

est techniques to maintain excellence in our operations."

Vernon Heckman was called to serve as resident camp manager when our camping operations were started in 1974. He is responsible for the buildings, the grounds and all operational procedures. He also serves as liaison to the pastors or leaders who direct the individual camping sessions. Vernon's wife, Margaret, is dietician, hostess and office typist. She creates a friendly, warm climate in which all activity is centered.

During the summer of 1978, Tanell Gerloff served as head counselor for women and reflects on the major purpose of Central Baptist Camp:

"Central Baptist Camp relies on eager

Christian volunteers each week to counsel campers whose ages range from 8 to 18. Each counselor is in charge of approximately 6 to 8 campers. Daily activity for the counselor includes attending Bible classes or teaching them. The volunteer also takes part in lots of fun things, varying from hiding for a counselor hunt, tubing down the creek, to sliding in the mud after a good challenging tug 'o war.

"But in addition to these things, the counselor shares a part of his life with the campers. The cabin group shares devotions together with the counselor in charge. One who listens, plays, but in all this, guides the camper to a closer walk with Christ sums up the camp counselor's role."

Camping is kids. The honesty and insight of children teach adults many lessons. While tubing down the creek this summer, one little boy was very frightened by the water. As one counselor con-



Vernon Heckman, camp manager, jogs every morning, keeping himself in shape for the heavy schedule of his daily duties.



The entire 1978 summer staff of Central Baptist Camp, Lansing, IA. Dorothy Norman stands at extreme left.

Central Baptist Camp

soled him that there was nothing to fear because the Lord would take care of him, the young lad said very boldly, "Yes, that's just it; you never know what the Lord has planned!" He successfully made his way down the creek, and the counselors assured him that in every detail of our lives, God can be trusted to be our comfort and guide.

I was the music director at Central Baptist Camp for the 1978 summer season. It's difficult to put into words how exciting it is to hear a musical performance by 20 to 40 young people at the end of a week, having only rehearsed a half hour each day of that preceding week. Several mini-musicals were used for the junior and senior high camps, and Gaither children's choir music was used for the junior camps. It's great to get letters from campers and their moms asking for song titles and publishers from camp music, so it can be taught to other children in the home churches!

No words adequately describe the spontaneous harmony around a campfire, with the flow of personal testimonies of how the Lord has blessed throughout the camper's week at camp, and goals he has set for himself spiritually as he plans to return home.

A young man was given a solo in one of the musicals mentioned above. While rehearsing it with the director he said, "You know, no one has ever taken time to listen to my voice to see if I *could* sing a solo. This is the first time I've ever had this chance!" That's why Christian camping, and especially Central Baptist Camp, is more than a fun place for young people each summer. While it does provide a social setting stimulating to Christian young people, it goes way beyond socializing to educating and maturing youth in Christian growth.

We owe it to these and future generations of young people to support our camps such as Central Baptist in Lansing, Iowa. In them rests the future church of Jesus Christ. □

Green Bay Baptist Camps

ADULT CAMP **June 16-22**
(Ages 50 plus) **Fee: \$66.00**
Speaker: Rev. Willy Muller,
Director of Development and Professor of
Pastoral Theology at N.A.B. College

FAMILY 1 **July 7-14**
Speaker: Dr. Gordon Neufeld,
Professor of Psychology at U.B.C. and
Executive Director of Growth Concerns.

FAMILY 2 **July 21-28**
Speaker: Rev. Norman Archer,
Pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Victoria

FAMILY 3 **August 4-11**
Speakers: Rev. LeRoy Schauer,
Pastor, Olympic View Baptist Church,
Tacoma, WA
assisted by Mr. Joe Walker.

FAMILY 4 **August 12-18**
Speaker: Dr. Herbert Dickerson,
Assistant Professor of Homiletics at N.A.B.
Seminary,
Sioux Falls, SD

FAMILY 5 **August 18-25**
Speaker: Rev. Gerhard Poschwatta,
Pastor, Grace Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC
(most programming in German).

TEENERS **July 1-7**
(13-15 years) **Fee: \$46.00**
Speaker: Rev. Dwight Englund,
Director of Children's & Jr. High Ministries,
Westminster Chapel, Seattle, WA

BOYS & GIRLS 1 **July 15-21**
(9-12 years) **Fee: \$42.00**
Speakers: Wayne & Suzanne Bertness,
Abbotsford, BC, Ventriloquists.

BOYS & GIRLS 2 **July 29-August 4**
(9-12 years) **Fee: \$42.00**
Speaker: Rev. Chucks Nilsen & his puppet,
Froggie, Castle Rocks, WA

HIGH SCHOOL **August 25-31**
(16 years to graduation) **Fee: \$58.00**
COLLEGE & CAREER **Aug. 31-Sept. 3**
Fee: \$36.00
Speaker: Rev. Wayne Bibelheimer,
Associate Pastor, Swain Oaks Baptist Church,
Stockton, California.

FAMILY CAMP FEES-1979

Family Camps 1, 2, 3 & 5*	New Lodge	Cabins
Adults	\$95	\$72
16-18 years	83	67
13-15	69	54
9-12	57	49
5-8	39	31
2-4	29	19

Children under 2 are free
*Family Camp 4 is a 6-day camp and rates are 85% of above fees.

For registration and/or information write to:

Registrar
Green Bay Baptist Camp (Kelowna)
R.R. #1, Westbank, BC, V0H 2A0
Phone (604) 768-5884

Three Years As Strangers

A Chapter in the Making of Missionaries

by Gary Ostercamp

For the last three years we have been strangers in another man's land, "who live among resident citizens without having citizen's rights yet enjoying the protection of the community."

On a warm July day, my wife and I were dropped, by the convenience of modern day airlines, into a new culture of which we knew very little. Within twelve short hours—plus time for customs and greetings—we were walking the streets of Campinas, Brazil (just two hours by bus from the metropolis of Sao Paulo) in search of basic furniture for our new apartment, that was to be our home for one year, while we were enrolled at Juratel, a local language school. For five hours a day we attended classes—individual and small groups—with intervening time for chapel and coffee break. That still allowed ample time for doing homework and experimenting with daily lessons on the street in the fine and difficult art of learning to speak another language. That is where you really find out if you're making progress!

The rest of the day also included new activities: going to the "feiras" (street markets), getting used to the flavor of Brazilian coffee—good, strong and sweet, catching buses back and forth from school or walking the distance in about forty-five minutes, when long lines of riders did not appeal, and haunting the streets and shops with all of their foreign appeal.

Sundays gave us a taste of the evangelical spirit in Latin America, a spirit which is rightfully becoming more and more Latin in its expression of the Christian faith. For many months I felt like we were congregating in the church at Corinth. Everyone was speaking in "tongues" and our interpreter (the dictionary!) could not possibly keep up with all what seemed like gibberish. Our spirits could pray, but our understanding was unfruitful (I Cor. 14:14b). Singing was much easier; at least we didn't have to comprehend to "pronounce" new words to a familiar hymn or chorus. Slowly our understanding did grow from catching a word or phrase to getting the gist of the message. It was at that point that we sat up a little straighter and began mental

Gary and Colleen Ostercamp work as missionaries in Brazil since 1975. Presently they are home on furlough and have taken a three-month leave to study at Bethel Baptist Seminary, St. Paul, MN.

dialogue with some of the points being emphasized; we were beginning to feel at home. Toward the end of that first year in Brazil, as our official schooling was drawing to a close, the Apostle Paul's clarification to the believers of Corinth finally came true: "I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with understanding also. I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with understanding also" (I Cor. 14:15b).

Shortly thereafter we departed for Caxias do Sul, Rio Grande do Sul, which was to be our new home for the next two years. Once again we were to be strangers—still standing on the edge of yesterday's securities, beholding the promises of our new city as we neared its outskirts. Caxias do Sul is known for its scenic attraction. Suddenly, coming from out of the woods, making a strong curve first to the left and then to the right leading into the city, a spectacularly beautiful view confronts the traveler.

As we reflected upon that overnight eighteen-hour bus trip, we sometimes wonder how Moses felt, as he stood gazing at the promised land from Mount Nebo on the top of Pisgah. He had sojourned for forty years in the wilderness between Sinai and the plains of Moab and finally arrived with all the expectation that only one who truly waits can feel. His heart may have ached as he thought of all those weary, long miles he had trudged, and then at the waters of Meribah of Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin, because of his unbelief and violent outburst against God, he could not possess the land. He was only allowed to gaze from afar.

Sometimes I ask myself about the relative ease of our wanderings in comparison with those of Moses: Is it possible that because our wanderings were much easier, our arrival and entrance into the promised land did not hold as much meaning? Just the same, there we were on the last phase of our journey, arriving and entering much faster than we had expected, because of the driver's anxiety to reach his destination as quickly as possible. In one sense, even though our actual stay was to be for two years, we did not remain too long, or as an author says, "only a few days in the city, pilgrims attending the feast. We were present but never to possess the land, only to dwell in the fear of the Lord."

We were greeted warmly, not only by missionary friends, but also by friends



from the local church, the neighbor lady, and two of her seven children! To be sure those initial encounters did much to ease the sense of estrangement we felt after giving up our comfortable apartment and moving to another city 1,000 kilometers to the south. The anxiety of seeing all our belongings packed into a truck and being told we'd probably see them in a couple of days was rather disheartening. When the truck arrived, we were more than ready to help the movers with their job. Even the neighbors came over to see what they could do to help. From then on our relationship grew, until we no longer knew our neighbor lady as neighbor, but mother. We felt she adopted us as part of her family. Even to this day her letters are always signed "Mother Yolanda."

For the next two years we had the privilege of sharing in the ministry with the Brazilian believers of the church in Caxias do Sul and two nearby towns, Farrou-pilha and Bento Goncalves. Although we had come as strangers, aliens to a new land, we were lovingly welcomed into our new family, "fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." Together we were reminded, especially in times of prayer and study, that we were all truly "strangers in a strange land" (Ex. 2:22). Together we were to live according to the laws of our true homeland, the heavenly city.

It was also a time of learning, a time to

observe those many nuances that give each culture its own special flavor. And what greater place to do so than the "praca"—or town square—located strategically in the center of town: shoeshine boys playing between shines, old men communicating with their hands more than with their words, a young lady without legs stopping to beg before pulling herself farther along, the guard coming out of the small public building with restroom facilities, where he and the janitor had been discussing the latest soccer news, and ladies holding their babies tightly wrapped in blankets even on a warm summer day.

One particular man, a beggar by trade, always sat on the steps at the front of the Roman Catholic church across the street from the square. A short, small-framed man with the bluest, most piercing eyes. He would wait for people to pass by and drop a coin in his little wooden money box. Never once did he refuse to give you his undivided attention from the moment you stepped into eye-meeting range until you either looked away—he surely wouldn't!—or rounded the corner of the step. His inviting stare always reminded me of a line from a song by Graham Nash, "A man's a man who looks a man right between the eyes."

Besides his intriguing blue-eyed stare, he had another habit of which I was especially fond. It always made me laugh silently when I passed by. He would be gone, but not his three major posses-

sions—a horribly wrinkled coat, a weather-gouged cane, and of course, the little wooden money box with a few coins and notes, all neatly arranged on the step. If I just came along soon after he'd taken a short break, I'd usually get a glimpse of him across the street, bent over, trudging toward the public building. Even in those moments, his presence somehow could be strongly sensed. His possessions, I believe, were such an integral part of his being that they radiated his personality. Possibly for that reason no passerby was tempted to meddle, especially with the meager sum in the small wooden money box.

Our pilgrimage in the city was quickly ending; soon it would be time to prepare to leave the land of our sojourn. With only a few months remaining, the reality of our leaving was still a dream, a mirage that only disappears as you draw nearer. But as we became more involved in the many facets of our leaving—documents to put in order, bills to pay, gifts to buy, belongings to store or take along, friends to visit, and other things to be cared for—we slowly realized that our homeland was closer each day. Still there was the feeling that, although our preparation became very involved, the land from which we had come did not really exist. We were like St. Thomas, who had to actually put his finger in the wound of Jesus' side, before he would believe that Jesus had arisen from the dead. Not until we set foot in our homeland were we

completely ready to believe that it was still a reality.

Finally that moment of departure came, the time to return to our homeland. As the plane was landing, we thought of Charles de Foucauld, a Roman Catholic missionary, returning to France from Africa in the late 1800s. The Dark Continent, long reputed to be a seducer of man's souls, had apparently already cast her notorious spell . . . The virus of Africa was in his blood for good . . . he took along textbooks of the Arabic and Berber languages and copies of the Koran both in Arabic and French translations. Brazil too had cast her spell and seduced our souls. We took along the Portuguese translation of *Good News for Modern Man*, poetry, recordings and slides covering the land from Rio de Janeiro's Corcovado, with its statue of Christ the Redeemer, to the Italian immigrant's vineyards just outside of Caxias do Sul.

Our sojourn was over, so we thought; actually we were to learn that the place of our birth had become a foreign land, a place of estrangement. Just because we had returned, we were still to be subject to the laws of our true homeland, "the city with solid foundations, whose Architect and Builder is God" (Heb. 11:10, Berkeley). We were still to live as "strangers in a strange land" with our eyes fixed on the eternal city, but our hearts yearning for salvation of the people and the strengthening of his churches in Brazil. □

A Husband According to God's Will

by Dorothy Kanwischer

If you can find a truly good husband, he is worth more than any worldly goods. He takes very seriously his role as spiritual leader of the family, and sets the example by being in Sunday school and church regularly. He accepts the position of deacon or member of the Mission Board as a privilege and performs his job faithfully and prayerfully. He leads family devotions as the focal point of the day. He does not dominate this worship period but encourages participation by all the

family, including the youngest or most willful.

His wife can depend on him, and he will take care of all her needs. He will not interfere with her responsibilities but will love and help her all his life. She can depend on him fully, and he will consult her in making decisions, including financial matters. He will undertake any work to support his wife and children, to provide their food, shelter and clothing. He will be ambitious and even work overtime to be able to fill his family's needs.

He sets aside time to be with his family individually and as a unit. The family prays, prays and interacts together.

Although he cares for his family first, he does not neglect charity to others who are needy. He tithes regularly for the Lord's work, and his gifts are blessed, be-

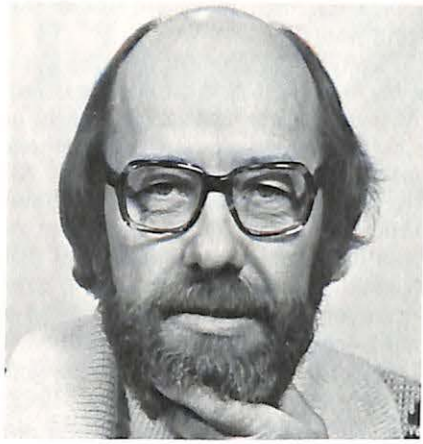
cause he gives cheerfully and with love. He serves his community also in any capacity he is able. He willingly serves on a P.T.A. board or as a member of a Neighborhood Council.

He takes care of his body by being moderate in eating and drinking. He exercises regularly, so his physical health and strength are pleasing to God.

He watches his words so that when he speaks he is heeded, and what he says does not hurt, but builds up. He depends on his behavior more than his speech to demonstrate his beliefs. His leadership is characterized by the acceptance of responsibility without being overbearing. He has the goal of bringing himself and his family to their highest potential. He is not afraid to admit he is wrong, and will ask forgiveness of one he has wronged, including his own children. He tries to be objective and sense the needs of his family by putting himself in their place.

Outward appearances are deceptive, and masculinity fades, but a man who fears and worships God shall be contented and respected. Praise him for the good he does and the standards he maintains. The Lord will bless him. □

Mrs. Dorothy Kanwischer is a member of Swain Oaks Baptist Church, Stockton, CA. She originally wrote this article as a Sunday school assignment, paraphrasing Proverbs 31.



putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

Dear Dr. Zimbelman:

My husband is a perfectionist, and he is proud of it. I can't take it any longer. Since I am considerably less than perfect, he tends to be very critical of me. I feel I have tried to be a better wife, but being a better wife is not enough.

Dr. Ernie Zimbelman is professor of Pastoral Counseling at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, and is in charge of the Sioux Falls Psychological Services Clinic. Address letters to Dr. E. Zimbelman, 1321 W. 22nd St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105.

I'm going to quit! Life is too short for this type of misery. G. L.

What is your response to this wife's reaction? What about Matthew 5:48: "Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect?" Yes, what about it? Anyone who reads this passage of Scripture—or any other for that matter—as teaching, or even condoning perfectionism, needs to reevaluate his approach to and use of Scripture.

Perfectionism is a neurotic response to the situations of life. An extreme perfectionist is really an obsessive-compulsive, who is probably just short of being psychotic.

What do these big words mean? To have an "obsession" means to focus in on a goal or goals so strongly that most other people cannot relate to them. So one can become obsessed with just about anything—food, religion, sports, music, clothes, out-of-doors—you name it. "Compulsive" means that whatever I then become obsessed with, I "give it my all." The problem with obsessive-compulsives is that they usually don't go off in a corner and do their thing, but they try to convince others of the nobleness of their goals and want them to become imitators.

That's why I can readily sympathize with the wife who speaks in this letter. The husband is neurotically perfectionistic and is proud of it. He thinks she should be the same way, but she just simply does not have his needs.

Perfectionistic needs and tendencies are developed in early childhood by parents who demand that a child excel in all of his activities. An example related to school performance would be: If the child im-

proves a grade from a "C" to a "B," he is then expected to get an "A." The next step is to get the highest "A." Of course this can go on, expecting all "As" and finally: "You do so well in school, why can't you do equally well in everything!" There just is no end!

When a child has the capacity for exceptionally high-level performance, things may work out. But what happens when a child has reached the limit of his capacity, and the demands continue? He either rebels against the unreasonable demands, or else pays the difference between the expectation level and the performance level in extreme self-criticism. This leads to a poor self-image and ultimately to depression.

Unfortunately our educational system, church and economic structures, encourage perfectionism. Our concept of family life and other deep love relationships do not. So consequently we come up with serious clashes.

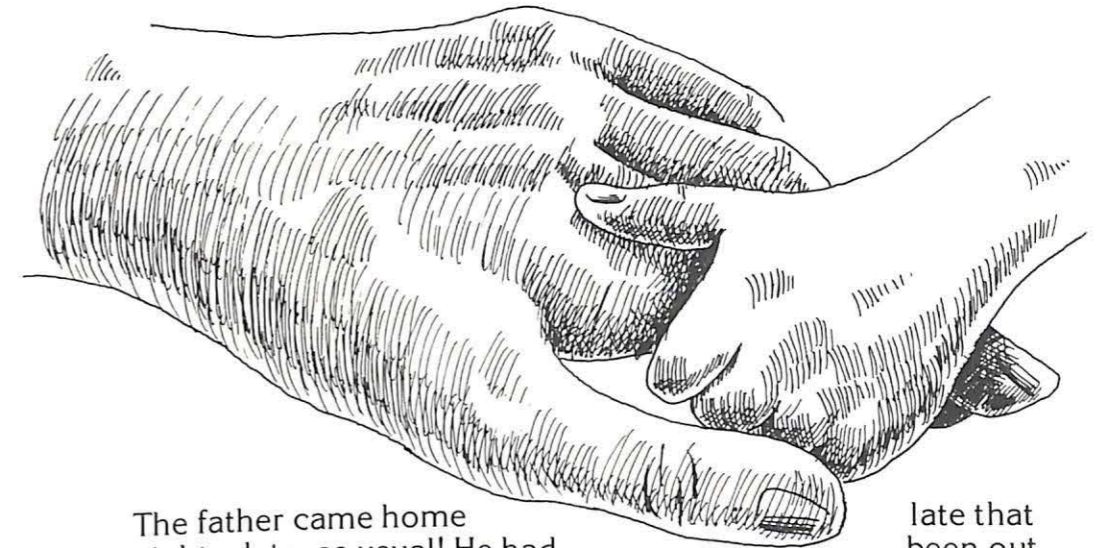
Having high standards and even wanting to be perfect does not mean I must be a perfectionist. Christ said: "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." God never acts out frantic personal needs of inadequacy. He always works from a perspective of meeting the needs of the total situation.

A perfectionist's drives come from deep-seated feelings of inadequacy and fear of rejection. Therefore they may lose perspective. A mother may be a "perfect housekeeper" but in the process destroy the persons for whom the "house is being kept," namely, her husband and children.

We literally need to strive "to be perfect," but we must do it in a godly manner—"as your heavenly Father is perfect." □

A not so short story for Father's Day, June 17

JUST A TOUCH



The father came home late that night—late, as usual! He had been out late every night for over a month and he was tired. Exhausted!

As he quietly closed the front door, trying not to disturb any of the children, his youngest son called, "Dad, is that you?" "Yes, Jimmy, I'm home," he replied wearily. "What do you want? You're supposed to be sleeping."

"Dad, would you come up here a minute?" was the reply. Something in the father told him that he had to go and so, with fatigue weighing down every part of his body, he slowly climbed the steps to his son's bedroom.

"Come over here by the bed, Dad," Jimmy said. The father approached the bed. Jimmy reached out his little hand and grasped his father's hand and squeezed it.

"Dad, I just wanted to touch your hand before I went to sleep!" Jimmy said. And with that he rolled over, pulled up the covers, and shut his eyes.—

"I just want to touch your hand.—Remember!"

"I just want to know that someone is here who loves me and will take care of me.—Remember!"

"I just want a sense of security—the feeling that I belong, that I'm a part of something . . . Remember!"
from "The Touch of His Hand"

Spring Retreat of God's Volunteers by LeAnn Wolitarsky

We all piled out of the vans and into the lodge at Lake Retreat Baptist Camp in Washington. It was here, as a team, that we would take the week from March 5 to 12 for rest and relaxation after a rigorous two months on the road since our Christmas break.

Funny as it may seem, we had a difficult time remembering how to relax. It took us a couple of days before the reality of our time of rest actually took hold of us.

During the week we had time simply to get to know one another better and draw closer as a group in Christ. It was great to be able to take time to walk together

LeAnn Wolitarsky is Baptist Herald reporter of God's Volunteers.

around the lake at our campsite and enjoy the view—the crystal clear water, tall majestic pines and snow-capped mountains in the distance.

We also had time to look at the Word of God and meditate on what he had for us to learn during those days of relaxation. The Rev. Hans Wilcke, Western Area secretary, guided us in a study of the book of Galatians. It was good to be reminded to remain in the liberty of the Gospel of Christ (Gal. 5:1). Ray Harsch, director of evangelism, opened up to us the subject of faith (Heb. 11:6). As we considered what God would have us do, we were able to set some faith goals and even see some of those goals realized during those days.

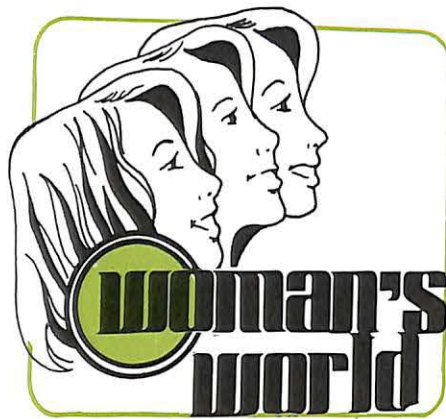
And finally, we as a team took a closer

look at the meaning of waiting on the Lord (Isa. 40:31). Here we were with plenty of time to simply wait and allow God to renew us in whatever way we needed. We had the opportunity to consider, and even learn again, what it really means to rest and wait for the Lord.

When a person waits for something or someone, it implies an assurance that whatever he is waiting for will happen. He doesn't worry, but looks forward with faith that it will take place. We can wait expectantly upon God!

Following the idea of waiting on the Lord, we found the promise of new strength. As a team we experienced during that week a renewed strength and ea-

(Continued on page 31)



North American Baptist College Can Make the Difference

by Ardice Ziolkowski
Powell, Sioux Falls, SD

When I was a missionary nurse in Cameroon, I often spoke to the African mothers on Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." I explained how closely children watch and imitate their parents and look to them for guidance.

Jesus said to the adults in the crowd, "Suffer the children to come unto me." To the Cameroonian mothers I said, "Do not stand in the way of your children coming to Jesus and learning more of him."

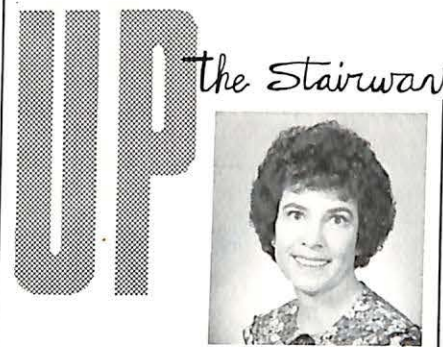
God has an open door for your children to learn more of him at the North American Baptist College. Are you urging them to go through this door or are you blocking the way? You may wonder what we have to offer that they are not able to get at home or in their own church. You may argue that it is a waste of time and money, but money cannot buy the lasting rewards of this extraordinary experience.

My time at Bible School was the turning point in my own life. In our home, my parents had family devotions faithfully. Church and Sunday school were important in my life. I wanted to follow God's will for my life, but when I finished high school, I was not sure what God would have me do. I was afraid of being thrown into the world with its temptations, for I felt I did not have the answers to many questions about my faith. I thank God my parents encouraged me to go to our own denominational Bible School, where

the teachers were of the same theological and spiritual orientation as our church. It was there that I became more sensitive to the voice of God, and I learned the joy of surrender and obedience. As is the experience of so many other young people, I discovered that God's will for my life is pleasant and satisfying.

In the process of maturing, young people have many adjustments to make in living harmoniously with others. Many of

these lessons can be learned as they become part of a family of 200 or more at North American Baptist College. As they share rooms, study, sing, play and pray together, some of the rough corners are rubbed off. As they open up to each other in honesty, they learn to know themselves better—their strong and weak points. As they pray about problems, they begin to blossom with new confidence in God and man. Through sports and social life they



by Dorene Walth,
W.M.U. president,
Sioux Falls, SD

How pathetic, I thought! Susie stood out in the group because of her unkempt appearance. Her clothes were uncoordinated and very tacky looking. She didn't seem to fit in with her lovely family—a handsome, trim husband and two colorfully dressed little boys.

She listened attentively to all the lectures at the seminar. She spoke to me during break-time about some problems she was having relating to some of her in-laws.

The Spirit of God moved in many unique ways that weekend. All of us were touched in some supernatural way. Many prayers were answered.

About three weeks later, I received a letter from Susie reiterating some of the blessings that had been jointly ours when we met at that beautiful outdoor spot. She named special insights she had gained into her own thoughts and attitudes. She said, "When I was in high school, I heard of humbleness as a characteristic of a Christian, but I didn't know what it meant or how to make it work for me. Because of my wrong interpretation, I did neither dress neatly nor make myself attractive. Thank God my attitude and understanding have been corrected! I am determined, with God's help, to be the best and prettiest wife for my husband from now on."

Humility calls for modesty, but not self-neglect! A woman's appearance is her introduction to the world. It tells others her opinion of herself, and she either gains or loses respect accordingly. When she looks her best and knows it, she feels more attractive and her self-confidence increases.

The New Emily Post's Etiquette discusses women's clothing: "The difference between clothes that are smart and clothes that are merely conspicuous is something very illusive. Vulgar clothes are those which are too elaborate for the occasion, are immodest, are too exaggerated in style, or have accessories out of harmony with the dress and the wearer.

"Beau Brummel's remark, that when someone attracts too much notice, he can be sure of being not well-dressed but over-dressed, has for years been the comfort of the dowdy. It is, of course, very often true, but not invariably so. A woman may be stared at for any one of many reasons, because she is ill-behaved, because she looks like a freak in the circus, or because she is simply 'lovely to look at.' If you are the object of frequent stares, be sure you don't delude yourself about their cause."

The Christian woman should be "lovely to look at." Her total beauty should radiate the beauty of Christ who dwells within her. Others will be attracted to this Christ, if they are attracted to her first. Psychologists agree that humans form impressions instantly. That's the way our society works.

In Matthew 22:39 we read, "Love your neighbor as much as you love yourself." The Christian woman's degree of love for herself will show in her attire. She loves herself not because she is perfect, but because she is God's handiwork, created in his image. When she loves and accepts herself properly, she is freed to love others "on the stairway."

May all who read this, desire to glorify Christ in manner of dress as well as in thought, word and deed. "And whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord Jesus. . ." (Col. 3:17).

learn to give and take, win and lose, and in this way prepare for real life.

A Christian college presents an open door for deep, concentrated Bible study and its application to daily living. Here students are assisted by dedicated teachers who mingle theory with practice. They learn how to witness to their faith in Christ, teach Sunday school, and to be more effective workers in their local church. Those who are gifted in music may become involved in singing groups, choir, band, piano or voice lessons and conducting music. In these ways they overcome the fear of performing in public. The chapel services, prayer groups, study and sharing times all help mold a more Christ-like character for those who are willing to be as clay in the potter's hand.

Conference Women's Activities

by LaVerna Mehlhaff,
women's
work director



It won't be long before we will be meeting in Bismarck, ND, for the Triennial Conference. We invite you to participate in the activities planned especially for women.

A series of workshops will be conducted on Tuesday, July 10, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Among these are two especially for women. They are "Building the Ministries of the Local Church W.M.U.," led by Dorene Walth and Iona Quiring, and "Strengthening the Women's Missionary Union Association Leadership," led by LaVerna Mehlhaff.

A special invitation is extended to each of you to attend the W.M.U. Luncheon on Friday, June 13. It will be a time when you can meet our missionaries, become acquainted with women of our Conference, and renew old friendships. The Dakota women have done much planning for the Conference, and they will have a special Women's Chorus which will be singing at the Luncheon. It will also be our privilege to hear a message by our speaker, Mrs. Daisy Hepburn of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Pray that the Conference days will be times of spiritual renewal for all who attend.

In what direction would you like your child's life to go? There are many open doors in life. That first year away from home can shape your son or daughter's entire life. Are you going to encourage

Walking with Jesus



by Ruth Anne
Stockdale,
student at
N.A.B.C.,
W.M.U.
scholarship
winner

I would like to express my appreciation to the Woman's Missionary Union for their gift toward my schooling. God bless each one of you. It is exciting to be supported by Christian sisters.

A song that "Evie" sings, entitled, "I Don't Have to Worry," expresses some of my feelings about my walk with Jesus. Here are some of the words: "I don't have to worry, trying to prove myself to you, you know before I start, what's hidden in my heart. And you can change me, rearrange me into somebody new. And best of all you've promised to see me through."

"Thank You"



by Lynmarie
Bergstresser,
student at
N.A.B.C.,
W.M.U.
scholarship
winner

When I was informed by the Campus Life Committee of North American Baptist College that I had been awarded a

W.M.U. Scholarship, my heart bubbled over. This money was a real answer to prayer. I guess if you have faith in God, he does provide, and I see that he has abundantly.

It is reassuring to know that God accepts me for who I am, imperfect as I may be. I do not have to prove myself to him. He loves me regardless!

As I complete my second year at NABC, I realize that I have been changing, reassessing and seeing things through new experiences. That is another exciting thing about walking with Jesus. If I let him, he can rearrange me to be the very best for him.

I think that if there is one thing I have been praying especially about, it is that God would change me to be the woman he wants me to be—to rearrange me into somebody new. I praise God that he has the power and the love to do this. He will see me through anything that I undertake. He will be right there with me, helping me to give my best.

A verse that I have claimed for this year is Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope."

God has promised me a future with a hope for *all* my life. He has promised to be with me each step of the way.

As I attend NABC this year, I can live *now* and be fulfilled. With him, I can look to the future and be content.

I just can't explain in words how happy and excited I am because of this Student Aid Award. I'm not only excited about the money, but excited because I can really see God working for me in my life.

The money was put on my account and my first semester is completely paid for. Praise the Lord!

May God bless you abundantly and good luck in the years to come.

Conference Corner

by Sandy Norman,
Bismarck, ND

Believe it or not, the 1979 Triennial Conference is practically here! The

N.A.B.s from the Dakotas are looking forward to the Conference with great anticipation as well as a little "fear 'n trembling" as all the previous and final stages of the plans are checked and rechecked.

You have read about various highlights of the Conference in several past issues of

(Continued on page 31)

Camping means different things to different people. To the 8 year old, it's a back yard adventure, with a tent made out of an old army blanket; to a dedicated fisherman it's a week or two driving the endless beaches of Cape Cod looking for stripers and living in a jerry-built beach buggy. It can be anything from a man alone with knapsack and wife, to an entire family; it can be a primitive commune with nature or an outdoor adventure with almost all the amenities of home.

Whatever kind of camping it is, there will be 25 million people doing it this year. Some hardy soul will attack the wilderness with little more than skill and a skillet. But, many more will be roughing it—smoothly.

Whole industries have grown up to cater to the campers. And, slyly, the manufacturer of outdoor equipment knows it's madame who has to be sold—the old man has been for it ever since his first overnight with the Boy Scouts.

The grizzled trailblazer, who claims the best home away

Camping is the economic vacation.

Whatever type of rig you decide on, there are certain things you should be sure to carry, particularly if you're going to camp some distance from town. Bear in mind the three essentials of family camping: shelter, refrigeration and means of cooking. The following list should be helpful:

- air mattresses and pillows
- canned foods and canned milk
- plastic or paper dishes
- aluminum foil
- bottle and can opener
- flashlights and batteries
- kerosene or gasoline lamp
- plastic food bags
- clothesline and pins
- short-handled shovel
- first aid kit and snakebite kit

compact and reusable . . . can be rinsed out, dried and used over and over again.

Take plenty of games, books and puzzles if you have young children. Don't let them know what you have—buy a few surprises—and ration them out daily so the kids don't get bored with everything the first day. Take a few periodicals and books for the adults, too.

If it's your first trip, get to know your neighbors. They may be veterans of the trail and able to tell you the good and bad about different types of tents and campers. There are few people who won't jump at the chance to share their knowledge.

You probably have a fairly good idea of where you want to go. All

and enjoyable. They have been good to you. Be sure you and your children are good to them. When you leave your campsite it should appear as if you have never been there.



The rough and ready stages of camping meant a tent and a can of beans for dinner. Early campers existed in the most primitive of conditions, a far cry from camping today.

Camping: The Family Affair

from home is the old miner's tent, is talking to an ever-narrowing audience. The person who serves as wife, cook, housekeeper and mother of three, who has left her push-button kitchen and laundry room, isn't interested in proving her link with the female co-pilot of an 1859 Conestoga wagon. She says those earlier Americans were trying to make a better life for those to follow. You might say she's tense about tents, morose over mosquitos, fearful of the forest.

The industry has heard her loudly and clearly. She can now have air-conditioning in her camper, built-in ovens, showers, television and stereo. Traveling is done in style in trailers that seat eight for dinner, sleep eight comfortably, with color-coordination throughout. The kitchen has a high-fire range and sink, three burner stove, a 68-quart cooler with ice water tap and a door that opens either way plus panoramic picture windows, and more, more, more.

Of course, your pocketbook will tell you how much you want to spend. Most experts in the field suggest you rent before you buy, and rentals are cheap. A family of five should be able to have two weeks in the clean air, living under the stars, for well under \$300, including everything.

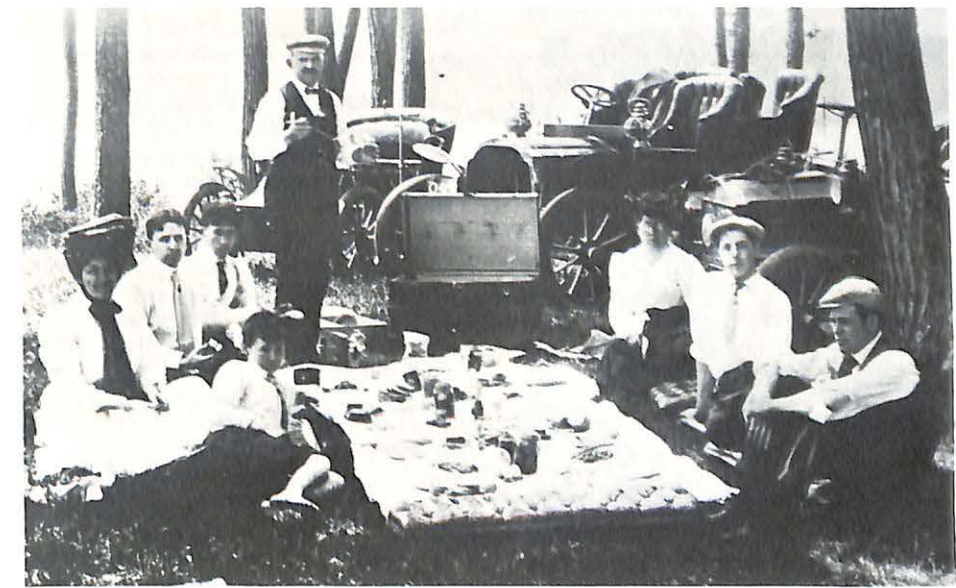
- scissors
- needle and thread
- Handi Wipes
- spices
- salt and pepper
- five gallon can of gasoline
- toilet tissue and articles
- hammer and nails
- hatchet
- irridescent plastic tape
- laundry bag
- cups
- insect repellent
- a broom
- an inexpensive recipe book

If your camper doesn't have built-in beds, the mattresses and pillows are ideal. Paper dishes make after-meal clean-up a snap. If you don't go to bed with the sunset, a cordless lamp is important. Handi Wipes, the all-purpose cleaning cloth with 1001 uses, are ideal for washing down picnic tables, mopping up bathing suit drippings, or coming to the rescue of a dropped jar of relish. They're com-

states plus the District of Columbia will send you a wealth of material on facilities available at various campsites . . . Write well in advance. In some states you can make reservations at parks. Some states charge camping fees. Many camp grounds allow pets. Some do not. Find out before you go.

Get the free book of camping regulations offered by each state and follow the rules. They are written by men who have spent their lives in the woods. They know the dangers of fire. They will tell you how and where you should pick a campsite to minimize unpleasantness or outright disaster in case of heavy wind or rain.

Camping is one recreational activity that an entire family can share in equally. If you're new at it, you'll be astounded at the enormous effort put forth by many states and federal agencies to make your camping exciting, safe



One of the earliest forms of making the outdoor scene was the outdoor picnic. Taking to the trail in their brand-new Pierce Arrow, the family escaped into the country to enjoy a meal with the ants.

Make this a game for the kids, too. They'll get into the spirit of "covering the trail."

Camping out is fun, economical and gives you the

(Continued on page 28)

the GROWING edge

Features from your Church Ministries Department

Brief, provocative articles to expand the growing edge of the mind and soul—to suggest, perhaps, new avenues of thought and action.

Denny's Column



by Denny Miller

(Denny is a college student, living in Portland, OR, and she invites youth (or parents) to send in questions. She (and other young people) will do their best to provide helpful answers.)

A real motivating force in my spiritual life is occasionally finding some time to spend with Christ apart from my daily devotions. Or, more accurately, spending time feeling Christ's presence in all that is around me. Completely stopping every-time and opening myself up and listening.

Finding myself stuck in the middle of rush hour traffic and instead of becoming irritated, I will turn off the radio, roll down the window and absorb the sounds and the smells, and the way the day feels; treating the moment as if I had never been through it before. It means thinking about how God is working in the lives of the people around you, and how he created the breeze. It means being awed at an intricate puzzle which is not complete without him.

On the first sunny day this spring (sun-

ny spring days in Oregon are few and far between!), I went out onto a hill overlooking the river and in clear sight of Mt. Hood, there to be able to say, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10)—and to feel a response within me. Not understanding all, but accepting the good and bad within and around me.

Listening to the efforts of a tugboat straining up the river, and watching young boys throw pebbles at the ducks and fall short, sitting on the damp earth, watching weeds dance in the wind, I know the mountain to be a declaration of God's magnitude.

Leave your stresses behind for a minute. Open yourself up to Christ's warmth and love, and challenge yourself: "Into thy hand I commit my spirit; thou hast ransomed me, O Lord, God of truth."

- Teens tend to be more tolerant than their elders towards persons of different religions, races and backgrounds.

- They are remarkably service-oriented in their career and occupational choices, with many looking forward to medicine, teaching, social work and other helping professions.

- They have a strong religious orientation as well. Gallup says that although they can be turned off by some kinds of organized religion, teens achieve levels of religious faith and practice that match or exceed those of their elders.

- Also on the positive side is the fact that teens say they would welcome stronger family ties and more emphasis on authority. Gallup has found that just about as many teens want stricter rules at home as say their parents are too strict.

- They are asking for a heavier load in terms of school work.

- Behavior relating to sex and drugs are still big problems, Gallup admits, but he sees teenagers as being realistic about such problems. "They appear ready to admit drug and alcohol abuse, to admit cheating on exams," he says. (Reprinted with permission from *Youth Letter*.)

ily sharing throughout the meal. As the children grew older, this time at meals became more and more meaningful.

3. We did things together as a family as much as possible—gardening, ice skating, sledding, hiking, camping and just playing.

4. The children were shared individually with grandparents and aunts at early ages to get experience with other family members.

5. Twice a year we left the children at home with relatives, friends, or baby sitters, so that we could be refreshed from

an adult perspective. This also gave the children an opportunity to develop a sense of independence and self-reliance.

6. Some time each day was spent alone with each child individually.

7. Vacations were planned as a family unit with the children involved in some of the planning.

8. As the children grew older, we developed a more formal time of family worship which became very meaningful.

9. As weekly allowances were given, the children had to keep a record of income and outgo. Ten percent was desig-

nated to the church, with the balance to be used as they wanted. Since planning had been a part of setting up the allowance, no extra money was handed out for

incidentals.

10. Real effort was made to develop independence, love for one another and

For Father's Day

Why not give dad a welcome break from the pressures, problems and irritations he faces every day? Here are some ways you can "accentuate the positive" and draw your family closer together in the process.

Decide on a time when everyone will be available—especially dad. Decide in advance the details of your favored treatment, including who will be responsible for what. Involve everyone in the family. Be creative. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

Fix his favorite meal. It can be at a restaurant, in a favorite picnic spot, or at

home. His favorite music—on recording or performed by one or more family members—will add a special touch.

Remember favorite times together. You can do this in the course of informal dinnertime conversation, or as a special presentation after dinner, with dad relaxing in his favorite chair. Advance preparation will enable everyone to recall at least one special event. Home movies, scrapbooks, diaries or journals can bring back an abundance of memories.

Recognize favorite qualities. Express sincere appreciation for the strengths that dad brings to the family. It's easy to overlook them, or to take them for granted.

respect as we grew together as a family unit.

(Dr. Harold Cope is president of Friends University, Wichita, KS.)

Depending on the age and talents of family members, and the time you have available, you can try a simple version of "This Is Your Life," featuring dad. Highlight a part of dad's life and the qualities of character, often taken for granted, that distinguish him.

Do him a favor. Write dad a simple note, expressing your love and appreciation, and mentioning specific things you plan to do to make your family's life together more abundant in the year ahead. Keep a copy and follow up. (Copyright 1978, The American Family Society, Washington, D.C., Reprinted with permission.)

The Growing Edge of Marriage

Blessed is that wife whose thoughts for her husband drive out self-pity and make him her chief joy.

Blessed is that husband whose love for his wife keeps his heart tender, and all his speech kind.

Such shall never lack for music or be without a song, for love's strings shall be in tune, and the heart will always sing.

Blessed is that marriage which con-

tinues to believe that faults will be corrected and that present problems, which press so persistently today, will pass away.

For such, each new sunrise speaks of new opportunity, and each hour holds new prospect for good.

Blessed is that marriage in which each receives the other as a gift from God, to love and cherish.

Such shall know a deepening devotion and desire for each other, and both will know God daily a little better.

Blessed is the marriage in which each learns early the primacy and power of God's Word and united prayer.

1979 — The International Year of the Child

The International Year of the Child falls on the 20th anniversary of the United Nation's adoption of children's rights. As stated, they are that each child should be guaranteed the right:

- to affection, love and understanding
- to adequate nutrition and medical care
- to free education

- to full opportunity for play and recreation
- to a name and nationality
- to special care, if handicapped
- to be among the first to receive relief in times of disaster

- to learn to be a useful member of society, and to develop individual abilities

- to be brought up in a spirit of peace and universal brotherhood

- to enjoy these rights, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national or social origin.

The church has a great responsibility to not only the children in the church, but to all children. She can fulfill many of these rights through her ministry. Is this a "growing edge" in our congregations?

Such shall know the strength and sustenance needed for daily struggle, and the joy and peace of daily faith and forgiveness.

(by John Drescher. From *Meditations for the Newly Married*, C 1969, Harold Press.)

FRANK ADVICE FOR PARENTS

Elizabeth Skoglund
You Can Be YOUR OWN CHILD'S Counselor

Good intentions aren't always enough. But with guidance you can create a warm, loving climate in which your child can grow spiritually as well as emotionally.

Here's practical, sensitive advice for Christian parents from children's counselor and therapist Elizabeth Skoglund.

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(Add 50¢ postage/handling for each copy)

GOD'S LEADING IN FLORIDA

Church Extension in Coral Springs

by Paul A. Davis



Congregation of Cypress Springs Baptist Church at worship.

Cypress Springs Baptist Church had its first worship service on Jan. 29, 1978. The attendance was encouraging for the effort that had gone into the city of Coral Springs to make this possible. Pastor Victor Gunst was the founding pastor. However, shortly after the beginning of the church Pastor Gunst left for another calling.

It was wonderful to see how the Lord had the man he wanted to use as pastor of Cypress Springs Baptist Church living already in the city of Coral Springs. Pastor Paul A. Davis received a call from the church and took up the duties of pastor on Sept. 1, 1978.

A sure conviction of pastor and congregation was that the church was founded on Christ and the opportunities in the city were great. Coral Springs is a city largely of young families. About 50 percent of the population is 17 years of age or younger. The city is growing rapidly. The population is about 29,000, and before too many years it is expected to be near 80,000. In the city there is a tremendous potential for the Lord, and the need for our church is great.

The Rev. Paul A. Davis is pastor of Cypress Springs Baptist Church, Coral Springs, FL.



Attentive listeners at the church in Cypress Springs.



Pastor Paul Davis presenting the children's sermon on Easter Sunday.

In a planned city such as Coral Springs, land is set aside for purposes such as church edifices and public buildings. We have been able to purchase three acres of land in an area called Cypress Run. This is a new area to be populated by the end of 1979. Having a church in an area such as this will be a real advantage to new families moving in.

Our fellowship is progressing steadily. Each month we have added about six people. This is encouraging. Sunday school has been started and is growing well. Ladies' Bible study draws a capacity crowd. A promising youth group meets each Sunday evening. Our conversational type home Bible study is most enjoyable.

The greatest reason why the Lord is going to bless this church is that it is founded on him, and the people of the congregation feel that they have a real contribution to make to the community. With a young church, such as this, it is exciting to have worship services and Wednesday night services that are a bit different than usual. We are building Christ's church here, and we do so gladly.

We are looking forward to the day when we will dedicate a new building to the glory of his Name. In order to see this become a reality, we are in need of your labor with us. Your interest, prayers and financial support are absolutely necessary. "For we are laborers together with God" I Cor. 3:9. □

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



ESTATE PLANNING BENEFITS

by Everett A. Barker

The question is sometimes asked, directly or indirectly, "Why does the N.A.B. Conference have an estate planning service?" There are suggestions, subtle and not so subtle, that the Conference is trying to take money away from heirs. There are others, who fear that the Conference is trying to take money from local churches.

In response to these and other questions you may have, I want to share the objectives for the N.A.B. Personal Estate Planning Service, which are part of the Estate Planning Counselor's Guidelines:

1. To communicate the biblical truth that God is the owner of all that we possess and that it is our privilege and responsibility to carefully plan the use and distribution of these material benefits. Gen. 1:1-2; Deut. 8:11-14, 17-18; Psalm 24:1; Luke 16:10-13; 1 Cor. 16:2
2. To provide reliable estate planning information regarding wills, trusts, and tax saving opportunities to our people on this important dimension of Christian stewardship.
3. To encourage intelligent and prayerful estate planning in order to benefit the individual, family members, local churches and related Conference ministries.
4. To provide a personal counseling service to North American Baptists in

The Rev. Everett A. Barker is associate secretary for estate planning of the North American Baptist Conference.

fulfilling individual estate planning goals in cooperation with other legal and financial counselors.

5. To provide investment opportunities to enable the North American Baptist Conference to proclaim the Gospel at home and overseas; to assist the local church in its ministry; to recruit and train persons for Christian service and to minister to the physical, social and spiritual needs of the people at home and overseas.

We believe that good estate planning will "... benefit the individual, family members, local churches and related Conference ministries." Estate planning is too often limited in our minds to death. Estate and financial planning can provide living benefits such as increased income, current income tax savings and joy by financial plans made for this life.

Many unfortunate actual situations can be related about the anguish, confusion and related problems of widows and family members because of no estate planning. Death is usually a traumatic disruption of life, especially when one or both younger parents die. The legal hassle, unnecessary taxes and uncertainties, can be reduced and even eliminated by good estate planning.

Local churches can benefit from our Conference estate planning service. In 1978 we estimated that individuals who used our estate planning service have designated \$1,181,840 to local N.A.B. churches through wills and trusts. It is our hope that individuals will include the N.A.B. ministries (Missions, Church Extension, N.A.B. College, N.A.B. Seminary, etc.) in their disposition, and many do so. It is not our purpose to tell people what to do with their money, but to suggest various ways to carry out their wishes.

What is this Estate Planning Service doing for people?

1. Many are getting a first-time will, and at least providing for common disaster or guardianship for minor-age children.
2. Some have developed estate tax saving wills or trusts.
3. Many have found joy in making bequests through a will or other charitable estate planning vehicles such as gift annuities, trusts and life estate agreements. Some of these plans provide living benefits such as tax savings and relief from management concerns.

Each year a growing number of North American Baptists are finding satisfaction in returning a portion of their possessions to God's work. The following list indicates how individuals helped Confer-

(Continued on page 31)

ENJOY PEACE OF MIND

on your vacation



One big concern on vacation is knowing that everything is all right back home. Did you check the doors, water, air conditioner . . . ? ? ?

A Christian WILL that is up-to-date provides PEACE OF MIND. Instead of fearing death, you can enjoy your trip better knowing that your house is in order. Get your WILL settled before your vacation. Send today for the following free brochures:

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- Eleven Things to Remember in Your Will.

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North American Baptist Conference
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Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
(312) 495-2000

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Moser, members of First Baptist Church, McLaughlin, SD, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on March 11. Friends, neighbors, relatives and the Mosers' seven children made it a very joyous day. Their children present



were Freada Mertz and Tillie Dietterle, Mobridge; Adeline Brockel, McLaughlin, and Clarence Moser, Walker. The others, Edwin Moser, Corvallis, OR, Betty Pareno, Porterville, CA, and Marvin Moser, Gillette, WY, called their parents on this special day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Weber of Emery, SD, were honored at a reception held at the First Baptist Church on Feb. 25, 1979, cele-



brating their 50th wedding anniversary. Hosts were their children. Mr. and Mrs. Weber were married on Feb. 27, 1929.

STOCKTON, CA. The Women's Missionary Union of the Nor-Cal Association met for their annual meeting on February 22 at the Christian Life Center. The host church for the evening was Swain Oaks Baptist. The theme for the evening was "Fruitful Disciples—Measure Your Love for Christ." After a dinner, the following pastors' wives participated in the program: Mrs. Donna Fischer—prayer, Mrs. Peggy Leverette—singspiration, Mrs. Miriam Brenner—offertory prayer, Mrs. Elenor Kern—new staff recognition, and Mrs. Elsie Rogalski—installation of officers. Special music was by Mrs. Lucille Yuen of Willow Rancho Baptist Church. A beautiful tribute for our pastors' wives,

who received corsages, was read by Mrs. Barbara Livingston. Our president, Mrs. Jane Filler, led us in the memorial service. Our missionary speaker, Jarvis Schlafmann, challenged us to pray for the people and missionaries in Cameroon. (Mrs. Connie Redman, reporter.)

CORONA, SD. On March 18, the Rev. and Mrs. Reimer Clausen shared their work among the Japanese people with the First Baptist Church. A Japanese fairy tale was told to the pre-schoolers. High school students were shown the art of origami, paper-folding.

Special meetings were held March 26—April 1. The Rev. Don Schell, O'Neill, NE, spoke on "The Fountain of Christian Satisfaction."

"It Took A Miracle," an Easter cantata by John W. Peterson, was presented on Palm Sunday and Easter by the combined choirs of Corona and Milbank Baptist Churches. The Rev. Harry Johnson is pastor. (Sheila Dailie, reporter.)

EDMONTON, AB. On Feb. 3, 1979, a memorable evening at Capilano Baptist Church occurred as members and friends of the church observed the burning of the church mortgage. Capilano Baptist was organized Sept. 22, 1959, with a charter membership of 70.

After a supper, historical slides and other memorabilia were viewed. Psalm 111 was read by the vice-moderator, followed by words of greeting from our first pastor, Dr. E. Wahl, and his successor, Prof. Walter Goltz. Tapes were heard from the Rev. G. Rauser, Missionary Reinhard Neuman and the Rev. Edgar Klatt, former pastors.

CAMROSE, AB. On March 18 more than 500 people crowded Century Meadows Baptist Church to celebrate the special occasion of the building dedication. Joining with the congregation were former members and pastors of the church, official dignitaries, and many visitors from other churches and the community at large.

The present pastor, Larry Froese presided at the service. The congregation heard from the Mayor of Camrose, Mr. Rudy Swanson; pastors from Camrose, and the area secretary, the Rev. Isador Faszler. Dr. J. Sonnenberg, the Rev. Arnold Rapske, the Rev. Ron Berg, the Rev. Willy Muller, and the Rev. Henry Schumacher,



The fire was kindled by Norman Kling-spon. Dr. Wahl, Rod Neske, moderator, and present pastor, the Rev. Bruno Voss, officiated at the burning. Chairman of the Diaconate, Henry Schroeder, led the congregation in a responsive reading of gratitude, followed by a prayer of dedication by Dr. Wahl. Pastor Voss challenged us to "Set for Yourself Roadmarks." (Marjorie Link, reporter.)

CARRINGTON, ND. On the evening of April 1, a baptismal service was held at Calvary Baptist Church. The new members (pictured) were received into the fel-



lowship of the church. A communion service followed. Our pastor is the Rev. Frank Unruh. We praise God for these blessings. (Vi Pepple, reporter.)

ELLINWOOD, KS. On April 1 the First Baptist Church, began celebrating their 100th anniversary. After the morning worship service, a basket dinner was enjoyed by all. The first event in the celebration was a historical pageant presented that afternoon. The pageant, written by Marian De-

former pastors, brought greetings.

After a soul-stirring address by Dr. J. Sonnenberg, president of N.A.B. College, Rev. Muller led the act of dedication, followed by the dedication prayer by Rev. Schumacher.

The afternoon was climaxed by a meal prepared by the Women's Missionary Society.

During the ministry of Rev. Schumacher, the church moved out in faith to launch this building program. The land was donated by Mr. Harvey Miller, a son of one of the church members. The church adopted the name of the new subdivision. (Winona Roth, reporter.)

Werff, Carol Potratz and LaDonna Widener, portrayed outstanding scenes from the history of the church. Many members of the church represented people who had an important part in the growth of the church. The Rev. M. D. Wolff, pastor, played the part of all the pastors.

The church first met in a schoolhouse and was chartered in May 1879 with 21 members. The first frame structure was built in 1893 at the present site of the church. There were many years of struggle as the church changed from German to English. It continued to grow, so in 1946 the present brick building was built. The educational unit and overflow room were added in 1967.

Other events in the hundredth anniversary celebration take place in July when former pastors and other guests visit the church. An old-fashioned Sunday school picnic will be held, and Marvin Dewey, a son of the church, will be ordained.

The young people are selling plates and trivets picturing the church to defray expenses to charter a bus to Bismarck, ND, to the Triennial Conference. The ladies are compiling a cookbook, and the church is publishing a pictorial directory in celebration of this year. (Mrs. Edgar Sturtz, reporter.)

CALGARY, AB. On April 1 the Laura Reddig Mission Circle (pictured) of Temple Baptist Church presented its annual program with Judy Savoy, CBC-TV weather announcer and reporter, as guest speaker.

A combined Band Program with the Thornhill Baptist Church was held March 18 under the direction of Dan Giebelhaus and Horst Lasser. As in the past, the offering was used to support Cameroonian students studying theology.



Temple Baptist Church held its annual talent night on Feb. 25, 1979; many participated in this evening. The couples of our church had a wonderful time of fellowship while ice skating in February and eating Chinese dinner in March. A devotional time was included in both outings. The Rev. Franz Schmidt is pastor. (Irene Wirzba, reporter.)

GLADWIN, MI. On Palm Sunday, April 8, 1979, three children and three adults were baptized on their profession of faith in Christ by the Rev. Winston Decker at the Round Lake Baptist Church.

On Easter Sunday, following the morning service, the hand of fellowship was extended to the baptismal candidates and

two others, by transfer, as new church members. (Mrs. Jean Kleiss, reporter.)

GRAND FORKS, ND. On April 8, the Grace Baptist Church youth choir, under the direction of Jo Derman with assistance from Angie Schauer, presented a musical consisting of music, drama and testimonies. The gospel message was clearly presented, and the young people did an excellent job. The youth choir gave this same musical at Turtle Lake Baptist Church on March 31, 1979. (Mrs. Bonita J. Shambaugh, reporter.)

GRAND FORKS, ND. On March 18-25, Grace Baptist Church was one of 12 that took part in the Red River Valley Barry Moore city-wide crusade in Grand Forks. We were greatly blessed of the Lord and appreciated his ministry.

On April 1, the mission committee, consisting of John Thiessen, John Watson and Deane Shambaugh showed a film, "The Peace Child." This film showed the work of the Wycliffe Bible Translators bringing the gospel message to a savage tribe of people in New Guinea. The Rev. Robert F. Penner is pastor of the Church. (Mrs. Bonita J. Shambaugh, reporter.)

KANKAKEE, IL. The Rev. William French, pastor of the Grace Baptist Church, Carpentersville, IL, spoke on "The Reality of God," at the 115th anniversary celebration of the church on March 16.

Mr. Patrick McConnell, chairman of the Deacon Board, presided. We were also entertained by the Puppets, a group of young people under the direction of our assistant pastor, Arthur Pearce, who also read the Scripture. The Rev. Walter Dingfield is the pastor. (Alice Luhrs, reporter.)

KANKAKEE, IL. Dr. and Mrs. Jerome Fluth, missionaries on furlough from Cameroon, West Africa, spoke at the Immanuel Baptist Church on March 25. During the morning worship service, Dr. Fluth stressed the need for people to dedicate their lives in Christ's service.

In the evening, slides were shown of the leprosy work. Mrs. Fluth also spoke briefly. After the service the Fluths were honored at a reception in the Fellowship Hall. The missionary committee, with Gilbert Luhrs, as chairman, was in charge of arrangements. Dr. Fluth invited people to spend their vacations in the Cameroons. The Rev. Walter Dingfield is pastor. (Alice Luhrs, reporter.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA. Fifteen delegates from four North American Baptist Churches met in Council on March 31, 1979, at the Pilgrim Baptist Church to consider the advisability of ordaining Charles Reilly-Edinger into the Gospel Ministry. The Rev. Dennis Kee was elected moderator of the council. The candidate gave a concise, clear, and thorough statement concerning his conversion experience, call to the ministry and doctrinal views. It was unanimously recommended by the Council that he be ordained.

The Rev. Paul Meister, pastor at Pilgrim

Baptist Church, presided at the ordination service and offered the ordination prayer. Chaplain Clinton Grenz shared the Charge to the Candidate, while the Rev. Karl Bieber offered the Charge to the Church. The Rev. George O'Carroll brought the ordination message, and the Rev. Wilmer Quiring, Eastern Area secretary, welcomed the candidate into the Gospel



ministry. The Pilgrim Church Choir, as well as the candidate's mother, Mrs. Lillian Edinger, sang. Charles attended Barrington College, majoring in biblical studies and then graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey. Charles and his wife, Kathleen, intend to remain in the area, as Charles begins Army Chaplaincy training. (Paul Meister, reporter.)

MARION, KS. A joint baptismal and candlelight communion service of Emmanuel and Strassburg Baptist Churches was held on Palm Sunday evening, April 8, at Emmanuel Church. Five were baptized, and nine came by letter or confession of faith into the Emmanuel Church, making a total of 14 added to that membership. Four were baptized, and three came by letter making a total of seven joining the Strassburg Church. A beautiful candlelight communion service led by Pastor James Brygger followed with the deacons from both churches participating. We praise God for these 21 who have followed Christ's commands. (Mrs. Herman Janzere, reporter.)

CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. Five inches of snow and treacherous driving could not chill the joyous evening of April 9 at Temple Baptist Church. Pastor Bernard Thole baptized four candidates (pictured) in a com-



bined service with our daughter church from Derby, NY. The Rev. George Brite, pastor of the Highland Baptist Church, baptized ten candidates. After the service, refreshments were served. The smiling faces of the candidates, families and friends radiated great warmth; the glory of God in Spirit was everywhere. (Bernice Hartman, reporter.)

SHEFFIELD, IA. The Rev. W. Donald Dalzell and his wife, Marjorie, held a series of special meetings from March 23-25 at Grace Baptist Church.

The Dalzells brought a musical program which included playing eight different instruments, singing many old and new gospel songs, as well as presenting a challenging message from God's word each evening.

On Sunday morning, the Dalzells assisted in the start of an eight-week Sunday school promotion in our church. The women of the church provided a lunch after each evening service and a potluck dinner on Sunday noon.

We are thankful for the ministry of the Dalzells. The Rev. William Loge is pastor. (Ken Boehlje, clerk.)

BETHLEHEM, PA. The new pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, the Rev. William H. Jeschke, was installed recently at a Sunday afternoon service. Rev. Jeschke (pictured center) began his ministry Jan. 7, 1979, coming to Bethlehem from Forest Park Baptist Church, IL.



E. J. Wamser, senior deacon (pictured at left), presided during the service. The Rev. Dr. Edwin R. Frey, executive director of the Greater Bethlehem Area Council of Churches gave the greeting. The Rev. Keith Brown, pastor of First Presbyterian

Church, read the Scripture and offered the prayer. The Rev. Frank L. Herb Jr., pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Fellowship Church, offered the closing prayer and benediction.

The Rev. John Binder, secretary of stewardship and communications, N.A.B. Conference, gave the message, "A Charge to the Pastor." During the Sunday morning service, Rev. Binder (pictured at right) presented the message, "A Charge to the Church."

KELOWNA, BC. Since the opening of the new Lakeview Heights Baptist Church building, another great day of rejoicing and praise to God for his mercies and blessings occurred on March 18. Twenty



new members (pictured) joined the church, ten by baptism and ten by letters or testimony. God is truly blessing the work here! A total of twenty-two members were added to the church since the New Year. Pastor Ed Hohn is pictured front center. (O. Zimmerman, reporter.)

MARION, KS. Members of the Emmanuel Baptist Church honored the Rev. and Mrs. O. K. Ringering with an appreciation dinner on Oct. 22, 1978, at the time of his retirement from the full-time ministry. He had served the church for six years.

Guests were relatives of the Ringerings and representatives from former pastorates at Shattuck, OK, and Bison and Ebenezer Baptist Churches near Abilene, KS. He also served the Baptist Church of Crawford, TX.

A spokesman from several of the churches gave a tribute to the Ringerings for their services to the ministry. The Rev. Bill Burger of Las Animas, CO, a former student, also paid tribute to Rev. Ringering for his help and encouragement. Mrs.

says, "He was my best friend, and he knew no strangers." Survivors include his wife, Esther; four children: Duane and his wife, Sharon, of Stafford; Leland and his wife, Cindy, Dennison, KS; Sharon Lyle, Salt Lake City, UT, and Betty Morgan and her husband, Randall, East Lansing, MI, and five grandchildren. The Rev. Elton Kirstein officiated at the funeral service.

GUSTAV H. HACKMANN, born to Gottlieb and Augusta Meyer Hackmann in Racine,

Edgar Sturtz of Ellinwood, a daughter of the Ringerings, played two violin solos and presented a group of slides commemorating the history of her father's ministry.

Letters of appreciation were read from Dr. G. K. Zimmerman of the N.A.B. Conference as well as from other ministry associates. Representatives from the local church gave appropriate remarks and presented the guests of honor with a money tree.

The Ringerings now reside in Hillsboro, KS, and are available for part-time ministries. (Debbie Hett, reporter.)

PARMA, OH. Dr. Wayne Peterson, dean of North American Baptist Seminary, spoke at special meetings held at Redeemer Baptist Church on March 22-25. Under the topic, "Realizing Your Spiritual Potential," Dr. Peterson gave Biblical instruction and real-life illustrations for the ways that members of congregations can minister to one another.

We also had a fellowship luncheon with Ohio pastors and wives, to which group Dr. Peterson explained the ministry of the Seminary. (Ruth Strauss, reporter.)

SHEFFIELD, IA. The Rev. William J. Loge, with his wife, Jean, and sons, Jonathan, Brett, and Nathaniel, began as pastor of Grace Baptist Church in mid-January. Rev. Loge's most previous pastorate was at the First Baptist Church, Valley City, ND, which he served until August 1978.



We, at Grace Baptist, look forward to his ministry here and to working with him. We started a Sunday school promotion program and an Awana ministry in April. (Ken Boehlje, church clerk.)

WI, on June 27, 1896, died on Feb. 10, 1979. When a small child, he and his family moved to Elgin, IA. In 1909 he was baptized and became a member of the Elgin Baptist Church, where he sang in the choir and served as Sunday school superintendent. On Sept. 27, 1922, he married Carrie Freiburghaus. They lived in Clermont, IA. He joined the Railway Mail Service, and the family moved to Maywood, IL. They joined the Forest Park Baptist Church, where he served as deacon. After his retirement, and the death of their daughter, Rosemarie, the first N.A.B. short-term

missionary, they moved back to Elgin. He is survived by his wife, son David, and four grandchildren. His son, the Rev. David Hackmann, the Rev. W. E. Robinson, and the Rev. Ben Hulsing officiated at the funeral service.

DAN MESCHBERGER, 89, of Stafford, KS, was born Aug. 15, 1889, on Indian Mission at Cantonment, OK, and died March 20, 1979. On July 19, 1916, he married Lena Lichte. To this union eight children were born. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church and the choir, mission treasurer of the church, and building chairman of the present church building. He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters: Zilla and Lois, and three children: Donald, Orville, and Carol. Survivors include his wife, Lena; two sons: Wayne and Marion of Stafford; three daughters: Eunice Moody of Kingman, KS, Florence Benton of Jackson, MS, and Rosalie Thiessen, Whitewater, KS; two brothers: Rufus and Silas; two sisters: Zipora and Ada; 21 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. The Rev. Elton O. Kirstein officiated at the funeral service.

ROBERT NESKE was born in Russia on Dec. 12, 1907, and died on Feb. 26, 1979, at the age of 71 years and 2 months. While still in Russia, he gave his life to Christ. He immigrated to Canada in 1928. In 1930 he married Alice Louise Link. They moved to Edmonton, AB, in 1959, where they became charter members of the Capilano Baptist Church, where he served in various capacities until his death. From 1939-54 he served as music director at the North American Baptist College. He is survived by his wife, Alice; three children: Delores (Mrs. Tymos) of Trail, BC, Riviera of Edmonton, and Rodney of Edmonton; one sister: Adeline Leinweber; four half-sisters

in Russia, and three grandchildren. Dr. J. Sonnenberg and the Rev. Bruno Voss conducted the funeral service.

SELMA REICH, born Nov. 1, 1889, in Ashley, ND, died March 27, 1979, in Chilliwack, BC. She accepted Christ as her Savior in her early youth, was baptized in 1907 and became a member of the Baptist Church at Ashley. She has been a member of the Victoria Avenue Baptist Church, Chilliwack, BC, since 1946. Her husband preceded her in death in 1969. Survivors include two sons, Fred and Arthur and his wife, Peggy, all of Chilliwack; Esther (Mrs. Jim Barrie) and her husband, Medicine Hat, AB; Marion Smith, North Vancouver, BC; 12 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. The Reverends Robert Jaster and Arthur Schlak officiated at the funeral service.

WILLIAM SCHELLER, born Nov. 23, 1902, in Springside, SK, died Jan. 27, 1979, in Chilliwack, BC. He married Emma Scheller on Nov. 25, 1928. They lived in Chilliwack since 1934. One son preceded him in death. Survivors include his loving wife; one son, Clarence; one daughter-in-law, Ruth; three grandchildren; three brothers, and two half-sisters. The Reverends Robert Jaster and Arthur Schlak officiated at the funeral service.

MRS. ALMA SCHMELTEKOPF (Freyer) was born near Crawford, TX, on Dec. 24, 1910, and died March 21, 1979. In her early youth, she accepted Christ as Savior, was baptized, and joined the Canaan Baptist Church. She married Charlie Schmeltkopf on Nov. 26, 1935. She joined the Immanuel Baptist Church, Kyle, TX, with her husband. She faithfully served her Lord

through the church in many areas. Survivors include her husband, Charlie, and three children: Charles of Dallas, Alton Ray of Austin, and Delores Arnold of Dallas; two brothers: Ernest Freyer and Johnny Freyer; two sisters: Erica Leseman and Elizabeth Harris, and eight grandchildren. The Rev. Robert Lee Schmeltkopf and Dr. Jimmy Cobb officiated at the services.

LILLIAN VON WICKLEN was born June 15, 1905, near Bessie, OK, and died March 13, 1979. She was preceded in death by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schilberg, who with the children, John of Clinton, OK; Katherine of Pasco, WA; Esther of Rolla, MO; Lydia Brooks of Farmington, MO; William of Salem, SD; Ruben and Vernon of Oklahoma City, were all active in the Bessie Baptist Church. Lillian was pianist for the church and a Sunday school teacher for a number of years. Her husband, Dr. F. C. Von Wicklen, survives along with the above named brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, some with families.

LYDIA WAGNER (Huber, Harr) was born in Venturia, ND, Dec. 11, 1891, and died April 1, 1979, at 87 years of age. She was baptized in 1912. On Feb. 22, 1920, she married Henry C. Wagner. Lydia and her family moved to Milwaukee, WI, in 1942. They joined the Immanuel Baptist Church, where they were faithful members. Her husband died in 1968. Survivors include three sons: Clifford, Norman and Gerald; one daughter, Eunice (Mrs. Howard Hoppe); one stepson, Raymond; 13 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; two sisters: Freada Trepp and Mildred Moglowsky. Pastor J. E. Jones conducted the funeral service.

news & views

BELIEVERS' BAPTISM TERMED 'MOST ATTESTED' NT PRACTICE

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Theologians from nine countries started a bridge across baptismal waters, but no one crossed it during a consultation on baptism at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The 33 participants dissected the theology around baptism, for four centuries more a source of division than unity among Christians, and agreed that believers' baptism, a traditional Baptist doctrine, is the most clearly attested practice of baptism in the New Testament.

The consultation, sponsored by the Faith and Order Commission, marked the first time a commission conference on baptism provided equal representation by

churches which baptize only mature believers and churches which baptize infants.

A report issued by the participants from the U. S., Nigeria, Jamaica, Germany, France, Switzerland, Denmark, England and the Soviet Union, was optimistic, indicating differences of opinion on baptism had not been resolved, but at least participants on both sides better understood the reasoning behind each method.

"Although the divide between the two practices of baptism remains, nevertheless, there are signs of bridge building from both sides," the report said. "Discussion indicated that for some from both groups of churches, the bridge is sufficiently complete to allow for mutual acceptance of each others' practices. For others, the gap remaining has narrowed sufficiently to permit mutual respect and growing understanding of reasons for the different practices."

The report included five significant areas of agreement: 1.) The participants agreed that believers' baptism is the most clearly attested practice of baptism in the New Testament and acknowledged that infant baptism developed within the Christian tradition and witnesses to valid Christian insight.

E. Glenn Hinson, one of the conference organizers, and a professor of church history at Southern, said that does not represent an endorsement of infant baptism by Baptists, but rather indicates an understanding of how the practice could have developed.

2.) The group agreed that personal faith and involvement in the life of the church are essential to the fruit of baptism.

3.) It recognized that both forms of baptism emphasize the importance of Christian nurture and instruction.

4.) The report recognized the effect of special circumstances and environment

in memoriam

EDGAR ALLEN, 59, of Stafford, KS, was born April 12, 1919, and died Feb. 20, 1979. He married Esther Schwindt of Bison, KS, on July 27, 1939. Together they shared the blessings of a rich family life. His wife

on both groups' practice of baptism and the need to rethink both practices in the light of contextual pressures.

5.) It was agreed that indiscriminate baptisms would seem as an abuse to be eliminated.

"We agreed we need to bring all our people to a genuine relationship to Christ, which is what baptism signifies," said Hinson, a member of the Faith and Order Commission. "But we went away disagreeing on how that's to be done." □

STRANGE LIGHT LEADS CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

KHAM PUT, Thailand (BP)—Khun Poat, a 19-year-old girl, escaped the Khmer Rouge rule in Cambodia after an arduous journey with 100 others through miles of jungle, canals, mountains and rivers.

Numerous dangers stood between them and freedom, including Communist soldiers, the elements, and a stretch of jungle ground covered with thorns. Most of the escapees either were barefoot or wore flimsy thongs, no protection against the thorns.

A midnight-like darkness hampered the struggling group as it crossed a valley between two high mountain ranges. "We could see absolutely nothing," Poat later told missionary Maxine Stewart. "We didn't even know where to step."

Suddenly hundreds of fireflies swarmed into view. Their glow made enough light for the people to see the

path. The refugees reached the next mountain by "firefly light."

After delays due to disorientation and weariness—at one point Poat, hallucinating, was sure she saw the ocean—the escapees literally staggered into Thailand. Poat had to be carried to the refugee camp. Two months of medical treatment were necessary before she recovered.

After Poat was transferred to Kham Put refugee camp, she was invited to a Christian meeting. Although she had seen enough bamboo to last the rest of her life, she agreed to attend the meeting in the bamboo-thatch enclosure.

"I know that man," she exclaimed at a picture on the wall of the chapel. "He is the one who led us and showed us the way to Thailand and freedom."

She was pointing to a picture of Jesus.

EVANGELISTIC ENTHUSIASM NOT DAMPENED BY FLOOD

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (BP)—Baptist leaders in Brazil have not let flood waters dampen their enthusiasm for a massive program to double membership and churches by their 1982 centennial.

Flood waters are receding, leaving a toll of more than 500 lives and property damage in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Recovery will be slow as farmers replant crops and factories make repairs before recalling workers.

"But all this will be insignificant in the long run," said Joao Falcao Sobrinho,

executive secretary of the Brazilian Baptist Convention.

"Christian brotherhood is proven in hours of tragedy," he explained. And he believes the cohesion which developed between churches as they ministered to flood victims will carry over into the centennial crusade.

Jose Bittencourt, executive secretary for the Baptist Convention of Minas Gerais, said, "I really think all of this is going to help" because "churches are embracing one another" in an emergency and members are finding it "much easier to witness."

Brazil, with a population of 115 million, has 2,800 Baptist churches with 450,000 members. The 1982 goal is 6,000 churches and one million members.

Doubling membership and churches seems more realistic when one looks at the recent growth in the Minas Convention, in a state a little larger than Texas. More than half of the 139 churches have been organized since 1966.

It took 41 years to organize the first 73 churches but only 17 years to organize the next 74. The major problem at present is money to purchase land and start construction. New zoning laws in Minas, for example, require more land and add to construction costs.

Minas Gerais was one of the states hardest hit by floods. Highway damage alone was placed at \$70 million, with probably two-thirds of the 25,000 Baptists affected in one way or another. □



Dr. G.K. Zimmerman, executive secretary of the North American Baptist Conference and chairman of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, introducing Brooks Hayes, congressman of Arkansas (to his left) at a recent meeting of the BJCPA in Washington, DC.

CAMPING:

(Continued from page 17)

opportunity of having a different vacation each year. As a family affair it brings everyone closer together. Try it once before making a big investment, and keep a diary to guide you in subsequent years.

And just one more thing. Don't forget the can opener!

from "Editor's Digest"

INVITATION

The First Baptist Church of Elgin, Iowa, will be celebrating its 100th anniversary on July 28th and 29th, commencing with a banquet on Saturday evening, followed by morning and afternoon worship services on Sunday, and closing with a tea following the afternoon service. All friends, former pastors and members are cordially invited to attend.

Join a Christian group for a 14-day Trans-Panama Canal cruise, Jan. 20, 1980, led by Pastor & Mrs. Wm. Hoover. Cruise includes Caribbeans, S. Amer. ports, Panama Canal & 2 Mexican ports. Free round trip airfare from 130 cities in Canada & U.S.A. is included. Write for information & reservations to: Appian Way Travel, 13544 Newport Ave., Tustin, CA 92680 or call (714) 838-5751.

■ *Mr. Bill Van Gerpen* of Avon, SD, a 1979 graduate of Southwestern Theological Seminary, Waco, TX, becomes pastor of First Baptist Church, Valley City, ND, in June 1979.

■ *The Rev. Richard D. Lord* resigned as pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Warren, MI, effective March 31, 1979. He is working at Hillcrest Baptist Hospital, Waco, TX.

■ *The Rev. Waldemar Laser* resigned, effective Aug. 31, 1979, as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, where he has served since 1973. He is entering retirement following 43 years of pastoral ministry and will be residing in Calgary, AB.

■ *The Rev. Dallas Strangway* resigned as pastor of Greenfield Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, effective Jan. 1, 1979. He has been pastor there since 1975. He is now pastor of a non-N.A.B. church.

■ *The Rev. Robert Lounsbury* became the pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Hutchinson, MN, on April 13, 1979. He formerly served as pastor of Creston Baptist, BC.

■ *The Rev. Donald N. Miller*, senior pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Portland, OR, made a recent visit to Moscow and Kiev, as well as to Zhitomir, Russia, the home place of his mother and father, who immigrated to Canada 52 years ago.

■ *The Rev. Wenzel Hanik* becomes pastor of Onoway Baptist, AB, effective September 1, 1979. He has served as minister of youth and Christian education of Pineland Baptist Church, Burlington, ON, since 1978.

■ *The Rev. Bert Jacksteit*, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA, since 1976, resigned effective April 15, 1979, to retire.

■ The address for the *North American Baptist Seminary* administrative offices is now 1321 West 22nd Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105.

■ *The Rev. Daniel Kiblin*, pastor of Twin Grove Baptist Church, Buffalo Grove, IL, was ordained May 20, 1979, by that church.

■ *The Rev. Morris Motley* resigned effective as pastor of Central Baptist Church, George, IA, where he has served since 1975.

■ *Columbia Heights Baptist Church* is the name chosen for the Church Extension project in the Tri-Cities area, Richland, WA, where the Rev. Larry Salsburey is pastor.

■ *The Rev. Fred Sweet* became the pastor of Tri-Community Baptist Church, Elk Grove Village, IL, on May 20, 1979. He previously was minister of Christian education, Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA, since 1975.

■ *Miss Linda Ebel* resigned as church staff co-ordinator at Lakeshore Baptist Church, Stevensville, MI, effective June 1979. She becomes dean of women at North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB, Aug. 1, 1979.

■ *The Rev. Len Strelau* accepted the call to Victoria Avenue Baptist Church, Chilliwack, BC, effective July 15, 1979. He has been pastor of Evergreen Baptist Church, Renton, WA, since 1973.

■ *The Rev. Everett Barker*, associate secretary for estate planning for the N.A.B. Conference, has resigned effective July 1, 1979, to accept a new position with Northern Baptist Seminary (ABC), Lombard, IL, working with a capital gifts campaign and deferred giving. He has served the N.A.B. Conference in estate planning for eleven years. Prior to this he served the following N.A.B. pastorates: Grace Baptist, Union City, NY, 1950-52; Clinton Hill Baptist, Newark, NJ, 1952-56; Bethel Baptist, Salem, OR, 1956-63, and First Baptist, Lorraine, KS, 1964-67.

■ *Dr. Gideon K. Zimmerman*, executive secretary of the N.A.B. Conference since 1968, has informed the General Council that he will not seek re-election at the Triennial Conference in July. Prior to his election as executive secretary, he was general secretary of the department of Christian education, N.A.B. Conference, 1955-68, and served as pastor of Temple Baptist, Milwaukee, WI, 1951-55; Grace Baptist, Grand Forks, ND, 1947-51, and First Baptist, Auburn, MI, 1943-47. A search committee has been appointed to look for a successor, who is to be elected at the time of the Triennial Conference in Bismarck. Dr. Zimmerman is seeking the Lord's guidance for future ministry.

■ *The Rev. Henry Ramus* brings his ministry as leadership education director with the Church Ministries Department of the N.A.B. Conference to a close on June 30, 1979. This comes as a result of

the 1979 mission and ministry budget cut. He has served in the Church Ministries Department since 1968, first as director of children's ministry and since 1974 as leadership education director. He began his pastoral ministry in Neustadt Baptist Church, Ontario, in 1956, where he served until 1965, when he became pastor of Brook Park Baptist Church, Brooklyn Center, MN, until 1968. He is awaiting the Lord's leading as to his future plans.

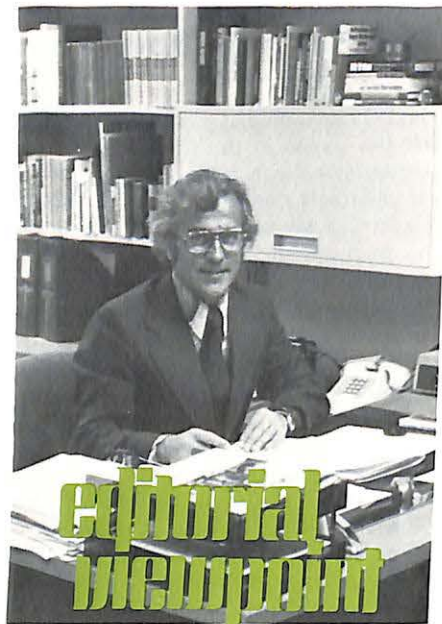
■ *The North American Baptist Seminary* has announced the appointment of the Rev. Charles Hiatt as Vice President for Development. Hiatt was pastor of First Baptist Church, Emery, SD, from 1974 to May 1979. He joins the administrative team at the Seminary during June 1979.



Hiatt is a native of Greeley, CO, where he was a member of Sherwood Park Baptist Church before his academic work at Sioux Falls College and the North American Baptist Seminary. He is married to the former Janelle Wacker and has three children.

■ *The Rev. John Binder*, stewardship and communications secretary, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from the North American Baptist Seminary at the May 20, 1979, commencement exercises in Sioux Falls, SD, in recognition and gratitude for his effective service for 19 years as an ordained minister, serving in the pastorate and in a variety of strategic North American Baptist Conference positions of leadership.

■ *Mr. Paul Clerc* became assistant pastor at Faith Baptist Church, Regina, SK, on May 1, 1979. He was counselor of men at Briercrest Bible Institute, Caronport, SK.



Other Life?

The total eclipse over part of the North American continent on February 26, 1979, has spurred the discussion among scientists and non-professionals over the possibility of life beyond the atmosphere of our earth. Articles in newspapers and magazines attempted to explain to their readers the miracle of precision with which astronomers could predict the route of the sun and the moon and its overlapping paths, causing the eclipse.

A number of authors then added the questions: "Why should there be life on the planet Earth only? Why is it not conceivable that there is life also on other heavenly bodies of the universe? Why would this God of order have created life only on one planet, when he made so many of them?"

About one year ago a scientist in the field of radio astronomy addressed a large Baptist gathering in Nashville. He challenged the audience what the dis-

covery of life elsewhere in the universe would do to their faith. As executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, Wayne Brown, a born again Christian, believes that there is life in the universe beyond the earth.

He told the somewhat skeptical audience that the largest radio telescopes ever are being constructed near the Glorieta Baptist Conference Center in New Mexico, a famous Southern Baptist retreat center.

"Just what if that complex equipment is able to pick up sounds that slipped out from another galaxy that shows there is other life?" Brown challenged the Baptist listeners. "What is it going to do to your faith?"

The Baptist scientist, who has taught Sunday school for many years, feels that the response to such a discovery should be to praise the Creator for his wisdom and greatness. But Brown quickly added that the reaction should be the same even if no sounds will be heard.

Before writing this editorial, I polled some of my Christian friends. Almost without any exception the younger set was more readily inclined to believe in life beyond the earth, whereas the older friends were more conservative in their speculations.

"Why should there be no other forms of life than those which are known to us?" replied one of my younger friends, a computer analyst. "Are we really that smart that we can make our human knowledge the standard of what exists in the universe?"

Another good Christian reminded me of the ever-expanding knowledge on earth. "Just think back 200 or 300 years. What did people then know about the immeasurable vastness of the stars for example? Have our big telescopes diminished our faith in God, after they were able to discover so many more stellar systems than man was ever before able to even imagine?" he asked. "I know that these discoveries have helped me to wor-

ship an even greater and more powerful God than my ancestors knew."

I also remember the remark of one of the Sunday school teachers in the church where I served when the first Russian cosmonaut orbited the earth. With great pathos he proclaimed:

"And now they are reaching for the moon! But God will never permit such an act. Man was created for this earth, and God will see to it that man will not overstep his boundary."

Well, man has landed on the moon. Man has sent orbiting vehicles to Mars and is heading for Venus. Seeming technological miracles have become everyday occurrences. So far he was not able to detect any form of life outside of the earth. Does this mean that there is no other life beside the one on our own planet?

"I as a Christian and a scientist think that it is important to think about the possibility of life beyond the earth," says Brown. "I will not put the line on God. I will never say that I know exactly how much God has created."

I had the privilege of watching the spectacle of the total eclipse. My heart and mind were full of deep admiration for God's omnipotence and his never ending wisdom, in which he not only created the universe—and the earth in it—but I also admired God's sustaining force which keeps the universe going.

Is there life beyond the earth? We all would like to know the answer to this question. Will man ever find it? In the meantime I see new life sprouting up all around me. After the hard frost and the record snowfall Chicago experienced during the last winter, I no longer take the beauty of spring for granted. Daily I praise God for new life in nature.

However, most of all I praise God for eternal life, that he offered to the world in his Son Jesus Christ. This to me is truly life beyond the earth. And in this knowledge I am content. Other life? Yes, God offers it in Jesus Christ. RJK

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

S	I	N	A	C	M	E	S	A	L	T		
I	D	E	B	R	E	N	O	L	E	O		
N	E	E	I	N	T	M	E	D	E			
G	O	D	O	F	P	E	A	C	E			
			G	A	P	D	R	S	A	E		
T	O	R	D	L	S	Y	A	R	D	S		
A	L	I	T	E	A	T	Y	E	A	S		
L	I	G	H	T	P	H	I	S	H	E		
L	O	E	O	S	E	R	N					
			M	Y	P	A	T	I	E	N	C	E
F	R	E	E	E	N	E				E	L	L
E	I	R	E	A	N	N	O	R	A	S		
W	O	R	K	K	A	T	E	O	Y	E		

"Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man" (Psa. 60:11).

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING

(Continued from page 23)

ence ministries and local churches through their estate planning:

ESTATE INCOME FOR 1978	
A. Matured Estates (Wills)	
Estate #1	\$10,000.00
Estate #2	3,500.00
Estate #3	13,920.85*
Estate #4	200.00
Estate #5	8,162.31*
Estate #6	60.00
Estate #7	2,000.00
Estate #8	1,320.00*
Estate #9	10,953.10
Estate #10	8,000.00
Estate #11	1,285.81*
Total	\$59,402.07
B. Matured Trust	
Trust #1	\$75,200.00
C. Matured Gift Annuities (Reserve Value—balance at death)	
	\$19,884.56
Total Income	\$154,486.63
Local Church Bequests \$55,028.00 (Includes only information which came through my office)	

*partial distributions in 1978

It is apparent that gifts vary in size, but many gifts together help considerably. Great benefit can come to Christ's cause, as North American Baptists consider a tithe or more of their possessions in their will. It is my concern that you carefully and prayerfully consider your needs and desires. You will feel better when you have those plans on paper and in proper legal form. □

WOMAN'S WORLD

(Continued from page 15)

the *Baptist Herald*. Highlights of the day-long Children's Program include Bible lessons, puppet shows, and two ventriloquists. Different missionaries will speak each day. Films on the history and culture of North Dakota will be shown, and a time for crafts will also be included. The afternoon sessions involve tours to Ft. Lincoln, Rawhide City and the Dakota Zoo, plus a picnic lunch.

I might also add that we here in Bismarck are very proud of our fine restaurants, many within three or four blocks of the Civic Center, and our Kirkwood Plaza Shopping Center which is located between the Civic Center and the headquarters motel. Downtown Bismarck is also just a couple of blocks in the opposite direction.

We know that this is a Conference your family will not want to miss, and one you will certainly enjoy!

NEWSFLASH

(Continued from page 3)

Earlier, Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., who has long sought to enact legislation which would overturn the effect of the Supreme Court's historic 1962 and 1963 decisions banning government-sponsored prayer in public schools, succeeded in having his jurisdictional amendment attached to a bill creating a new department of education.

Helms has threatened to attach his language to as many bills as necessary until both the House and Senate are forced to vote it up or down. □

GOD'S VOLUNTEERS

(Continued from page 12)

gerness to go on in the work we have before us. We're thankful for this break, because it gave us a chance to let these truths really sink into our minds and lives in a new and deeper way.

The Lord desires for us to rest in and

wait for him. No athlete can run continuously without stopping to rest, or he will soon faint from exhaustion. We need to make the most of the rest times, and times to wait on the Lord. During these times we are able to take in spiritual nourishment and to renew our strength.

"And they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint" (Isa. 40:31). □

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from page 21)

to one individual in a situation that was not controlled and "safe" than to a crowd, where he knew how things will go and what he will say.

The author deals practically with our reluctance to share. Fear of how people will react is probably the number one obstacle. Not knowing how to communicate, the belief that witnessing is "just not my gift," lack of motivation, and a distorted view of what evangelism and witnessing involve are some of the others.

Perhaps the last chapter should have been first: *How Do I Get Started?* Not everything in the book has to be mastered before you begin.

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Dear Editors:

I was converted under the Rev. S. J. Fuxa's ministry at our Baptist Church in Goodrich, ND, in 1923. Brother A. P. Mihm came through our area that winter on a promotional tour for the new BAPTIST HERALD. I subscribed and have not missed a single issue since: 1923-1979—57 years of good reading and contact with our good people! Our family church paper in those days was *Der Sendbote*. Do keep up the good work. A. H. Felchle, Carrington, ND.



letters to the editor

baptist herald

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HERITAGE AND MINISTRY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE

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Regular Price—\$11.95 plus \$1.50 postage & packaging

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