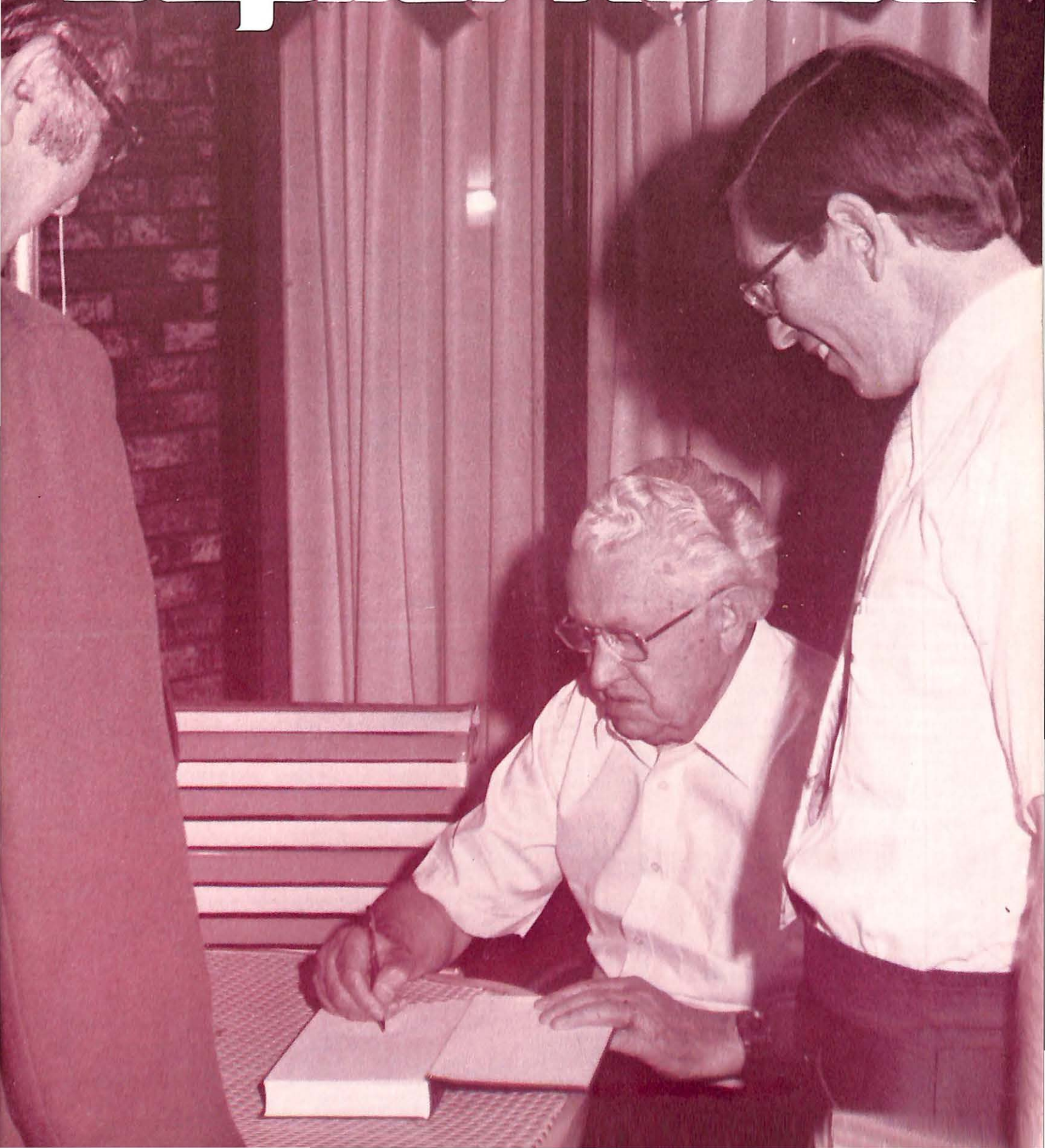


September 1979

baptist herald



Do You Want To Become Whole?

a meditation on John 5:1-9 (NEB) by Richard Goetze

Later on Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. Now at the Sheep-Pool in Jerusalem there is a place with five colonnades. Its name in the language of the Jews is Bethesda. In these colonnades there lay a crowd of sick people, blind, lame, and paralyzed. Among them was a man who had been crippled for thirty-eight years.

O God,
I see myself in that crowd.
I too belong to those
who are relationally crippled,
emotionally paralyzed
spiritually blind.
I too find myself strapped to my particular
stretcher,
tied down to my own bunk.

O God,
I'm tied down to my own way of thinking,
to my own viewpoints and prejudices
and to my own brand of theology.
I'm bound by my own dogmatism and tradition.
And I am bound to play the strong man,
bound to project the kind of image expected of
me in any given situation,—
bound to give a good impression,
though I may be bleeding inside;—
bound to role-playing.

O God,
I'm bound by my presuppositions and ex-
periences,
bound by my reactions and moods,
bound by my background and upbringing.
O God,
who shall deliver me from this bondage to
myself?

When Jesus saw him lying there and was aware that he
had been ill a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to
recover?"

O Lord,
what a strange question to ask, "Do you want to
recover?"
What does a person who is ill really want—
except health and wholeness!
Isn't this a rather silly and superfluous question?
What are you really asking, O Lord?

Or could it be
that I haven't really understood your question?
Could it be, Lord, that there is something in me
that wants to keep things as they are?
Could it be that deep down
I'm really quite satisfied with myself?
And that I've gotten so used to myself
that I don't want to change?
Or am I afraid to become whole?—
for this would mean radical soul-surgery,
and who enjoys surgery of any kind?!

Could it be, O God,
that I really don't want to give up
my illusions about life,
and my deceptions about the kind of person I am,
and all those false images about the past
and those fantasies concerning the future?

O Lord,
I am beginning to realize

that your question is threatening me.
"Do I really want to become whole?"
I wonder . . .
Perhaps I simply want to be confirmed
in my viewpoints and attitudes.
I want to be accepted, but . . .
I don't want to change,—
it's too painful.
And besides: Why should I?
Others are no better than I am!
And there is a sense of comfort and security
in knowing that we're all in the same boat.
But then . . .
what if that boat has already sprung a leak?
Do I really want wholeness—or merely ap-
proval?

O God,
it's so much more comfortable to remain as I am
and where I am;
I've gotten used to just lying around;
and yet I know
I'm not getting anywhere.
"Do I really want to become whole?"—
or simply be patched up
because some of the cracks are showing?

O Lord,
your question bothers me.
I wish you hadn't asked it.
I realize
I cannot change in one little corner of my life
without feeling the reverberations in other cor-
ners.
I realize it's either all or nothing.
And yet I don't want to experience
the shaking of the foundations.
I'm not sure I really want to become whole,
let alone expect it.

"Sir", he replied, "I have no one to put me in the pool
when the water is disturbed, but while I am moving, so-
meone else is in the pool before me."

O God,
so often I feel the cards are stacked against me.
All this time I depended on others
to carry me into the pool of renewal,—
but each one did his own thing,
no one really cares.
The others are always ahead of me
or one up on me.
I feel overlooked, left out,
neglected.
But I guess it's no use brooding over it.
The best of humans are humans at best.
People always disappoint.
And so "Blessed is he who expects nothing,
for he shall never be
disappointed."

I have been desensitized
because people are either stepping ahead of me
or all over me.
It's no use,
I just have to accept things as they are.

But Lord, somehow I hear you say:
Come off it!
You're stuck in the pit of self-pity.
Are you perhaps just trying to call

attention to yourself by refusing to assume
full responsibility for your life?
Or by withdrawing from real living
in order to play it safe
or make others feel guilty?
Are you waiting for others to act on your
behalf
and solve your problems for you?
Do you want to become whole?
Or do you just want sympathy?

I am beginning to understand, Lord.
I don't want to play this game any longer.
I want to ask myself:
Why do I have no real friends?
What in me alienates people?
Why do I erect walls between myself and
others?
Are there demands in life
that my inabilities protect me from?
Does my lifestyle in fact help me
to manipulate others?

O Lord,
I no longer want to wait for others to move me.
I no longer want to lie around
justifying my own ways and wishes.
I want to plunge into the pool of renewal
and emerge new.

Jesus answered, "Rise to your feet, take up your bed and
walk."

Don't just sit on the grace of God.
It is not meant to make you feel cozy and secure.
Grace is meant to become the motivating force
in your life.
Let this grace activate you
and mobilize your energies.

HE WHO INSPIRES YOU IS GREATER
THAN HE WHO INSPIRES THE
GODLESS WORLD.*

MY GRACE IS ALL YOU NEED;
POWER COMES TO ITS FULL
STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS.**

THEREFORE DO NOT BROOD OVER
THE PAST.
HERE AND NOW I WILL DO A NEW
THING, SAYS THE LORD.
CAN YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT?***

The man recovered instantly, took up his stretcher, and
began
to walk.

I HAVE STRENGTH FOR ANYTHING
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST WHO
GIVES ME POWER.****

*1 John 4:4
**2 Cor. 12:9
***Is. 43:18
****Phil. 4:13

The Rev. Richard Goetze is pastor of
McDermot Ave. Baptist Church, Winnipeg,
Manitoba.

baptist herald

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photo by Editor

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news Flash

BWA General Council Majors on Evangelism Human Rights, Relief and Future Planning

BRIGHTON, England—The Baptist World Alliance, which will celebrate its diamond jubilee in 1980, met here July 2-6 for five days of intensive planning and action aimed at making the international fellowship a vital force for international witness and cooperation in the contemporary world.

Two hundred ninety Baptist leaders from 40 nations participated in the week of day and evening sessions. They proposed changes in the Alliance constitution and bylaws, nominated two top officers to succeed the general secretary and president who will retire next year, and gave serious study to a variety of programs of cooperative action.

Even the first devotional service began with a demonstration of concern for suffering humanity. Joan Parajon, a physician's wife from war-torn Managua, Nicaragua, told the assembly that "war is many times worse than the earthquake that hit our country three years ago."

"There is not food enough to eat. Women and children are walking the highways with cloth bags on their backs trying to find a place to sleep."

Before the week was over, the Council approved a relief and development budget with goals of \$1,268,000 for 1979 and \$1,275,000 for 1980. The goals cover specific relief assistance in 21 countries and emergency funds for disasters wherever they occur.

Large gains were noted in evangelism. James L. Sullivan, chairman of the division committee on evangelism and education, said in his report that "in places like India, Burma and the Philippines, the moving of God's spirit is felt in great measure. Growth is phenomenal. It is our hope that similar victories shall be in evidence in every part of the world."

Four new denominational bodies were admitted to Alliance membership, bringing the fellowship's number of affiliated bodies to 115 with headquarters in 84 nations, and the total membership of 29.6 million baptized believers in 115,000 churches. The new member bodies are the Baptist Conference of the Philippines, the Ecuadorian Baptist Convention, the Baptist Conven-

(Continued on page 31)



"Hold it, men, let's first take another look at it," Dr. G. K. Zimmerman seems to say to the Council members.



Dr. Ken Fisher, Conference moderator; Dr. G. K. Zimmerman, executive secretary; Dr. Peter Fehr, vice moderator; Mr. E. B. Streuber, finance committee chairman; Dr. John Binder, secretary of stewardship and communications; Mrs. Ilse Mollenhauer, recording secretary.

General Council

The annual meetings of the General Council were held on May 24-26, 1979, in the Chicago area. General Council members, Association moderators and Conference leaders met for almost three days to transact the business of the Conference. Much time was spent in discussing numerous resolutions that in the meantime have been acted upon by the delegates of the



When one delegate speaks...



"Hold up your hands so we can count your vote," the moderator admonished the delegates.



Don Cordill from Anaheim, CA, represented the Church Ministries Department



The General Council in full session.



There was even a musical treat at the General Council Recognition Dinner. Violinist Chuck Gray from Wheaton had to compete with a noisy party in the adjacent room (as had the speakers).



Dr. Peter Fehr, vice moderator, presented the Zimmermans the gift of the General Council: a trip for two to Hawaii.

Triennial Conference in Bismarck and which will be reported in the November issue.

The following photos and captions tell the story of some of the events during the General Council days.

Sessions At A Glance



Mr. E. B. Streuber from Winnipeg, MB, is the chairman of the Finance and Stewardship Committee.



Even when you're busily concentrating, you can still smile.

Honoring Departing General Workers

Dr. G. K. Zimmerman has served as N. A. B. Conference executive secretary for 11 years. His wife, Eleanor, has been a faithful helpmate during his years as pastor and Conference leader. His duty as executive secretary ended on August 31, 1979.



Dr. Richard Schilke has been general secretary of missions since 1951. His wife, Kay, has accompanied him on many of his trips and work assignments. On Sept. 1, 1979, Dr. Schilke became the interim associate secretary for missions until his retirement in May 1980.

The Rev. Everett A. Barker has served the Conference as associate secretary for estate planning for 12 years. He has accepted a similar position with Northern Baptist Seminary.



The Rev. Henry G. Ramus, N. A. B. leadership education director of the Church Ministries Department, came to the Conference Office in 1968. He and his wife, Darlene, are trying to discern God's will for their lives.

...all others should be listening

Introducing Dr. & Mrs. Dennis Palmer

Medical Missionaries to Cameroon
by Oryn & Pat Meinerts



"Our call to missionary service has been a gradual process," writes Dr. Dennis Palmer. "Rather than a bolt-of-lightning experience, it has been the result of many of our personal interests coming together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit." Nancy, a mother and photographer, enlarged on the above statement with her comment, "In the last few years, we have come to the conclusion that helping others is only of lasting good, if they also can gain the opportunity to learn of Christ and his salvation. That is why I want to work with a mission and not the Peace Corps." Thus the Palmers, members of the Ashley Baptist Church, Ashley, ND, applied for missionary service. Their application was accepted and they left for Cameroon in August 1979.

Dennis Duane Palmer was born on Aug. 10, 1947, to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Palmer. The third of four children, he grew up in a rural area of southwest Missouri. His father was a farmer and carpenter. Dennis has many memories of taking care of cows and turkeys, and later, of doing carpentry work with his father and younger brother. When he was ten years old, Dennis accepted Christ during revival meetings at their Southern Baptist Convention church. He was baptized in a nearby river and joined that church.

Basketball and a southern belle named Nancy were two of Dennis' biggest interests during high school. Then came college and the decision of what to do and where to go. His liking for the sciences helped him to decide on pharmacy school. After his second year of college, he and Nancy were married and pursued their studies at University of Missouri, Kansas City. Dennis also got a part-time job in an Intensive Care Unit of a nearby hospital and was fas-

cinated with that work. When graduation approached, and with it a decision about military service, Dennis first became aware of God controlling his life. He was miraculously offered a position with the Public Health Service on an Indian reservation in South Dakota. This he accepted. The two years spent on that job have been the most interesting of his life—learning to know people of another culture and other philosophies, experiencing the birth of their first son, enjoying good friendships in the local church, and evidencing the work of God in their lives. They began to pray about the future, and Dennis felt led to apply to medical school. He was accepted at the Osteopathic College in Kansas City. After moving there in 1972, they found a Baptist church whose pastor had been a former missionary. God used their friendship with him to encourage their interest in foreign missions.

During medical school, they had a variety of work-living experiences. Dennis writes the following, "My wife and I began to develop our ideas of a career in medicine. We realized that God had given us skills that could be used in a career of services rather than in pursuing middle class life in this country." In 1976, Dennis earned the degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from Kansas City College of Osteopathic medicine. For his internship year, they went to Tulsa, OK, where friendship with another intern further encouraged them in Christian service. However, because of school debts and a lack of general medical experience, they felt that they should first work in private practice for at least two years.

In 1977, they moved to Ashley, ND, to work in general practice. Here they joined the North American Baptist church and became interested in the missions program of the Conference. They continued to feel God's leading into foreign missions and followed it up with their application. However, Dennis wrote in May 1979, as they were in the

throes of preparation and packing, "Remember that my call to be a physician is not different from your call to be a business person, farmer, student or whatever your job at present. Wherever we are, we are 'called' to be missionaries for Christ." He sees his work as a missionary doctor as work which will open doors for him to present Christ.

Nancy Lea was born on April 17, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Nyberg as the oldest of four children. Her father is a pharmacist. Three uncles are ministers. She grew up in an active Christian home in the small town of Buffalo, southwest Missouri. At the age of seven, she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized and joined the Fundamental Baptist Church of Buffalo. She remembers as a teenager, feeling that perhaps it would be easier to tell others about Christ if she had been a murderer or alcoholic before becoming a Christian, so that she could tell of the "real" miracles God had done in her life. Now, looking back, she can see that most of the miracles are not supernatural healings but are the miracles of herself learning to let God change her attitudes, seeing the good things he can make out of "problems," trusting that Christ is really in control of her life.

Nancy completed high school in 1967 and was married on August 11 of the same year. She attended three university level schools in Missouri and earned the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a photography major in 1976 from Kansas City Art Institute. Since then she has done some freelance photography work.

Dennis and Nancy have three children, Edward

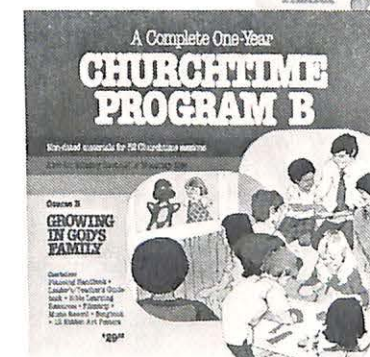
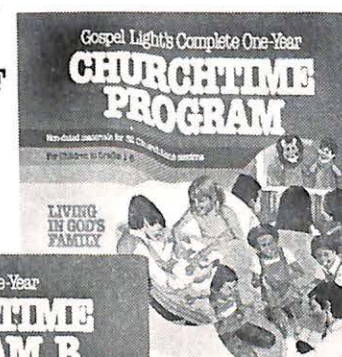
Theodore, born May 5, 1971; Jonathan Ray, born Oct. 12, 1976; and Benjamin Duane, born July 30, 1978.

In May 1979, as the Palmers were preparing for work abroad, they wrote some comments to share with you. Nancy wrote, "I'd like to remind BAPTIST HERALD readers that missionaries don't always live on the mountaintop, spiritually, either and we constantly need their prayers. Example: In April, someone wrote to us, 'I pray that the Lord will give you much peace and joy.' Pray complete your preparations to serve in Cameroon. I worry-for joy in the tasks of making lists of what to buy, the day that letter arrived, joy was the farthest thing from my mind. I was really convicted. I had been so bogged down with the work which lay ahead of me, that I hadn't even thought about thanking God for it, or for the chance to serve him soon in a new capacity. I confessed this to God, and asked him to change my attitudes and give me his joy. From then on, things began to change around our house. The work was still there, but now I could rely on his strength and wisdom, and not my own. Packing barrels became a time to share with the person helping me, about Christ's miracles in my life, instead of a time of only drudgery." Dennis added, "Remember to pray, not only for us, as we serve Christ in this new venture in Cameroon, but also for our parents as they learn to trust God for our safety, care and happiness."

Let us be faithful in supporting the Palmers with our prayers, and in doing our own witnessing. □

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Oryn and Pat Meinerts are missionaries in Cameroon, West Africa.



The Links in the White Cross Chain

by Viola Rasmussen,
White Cross secretary,
N.A.B. office,
Oakbrook Terrace, IL

White Cross is a representation of links of a chain: the missionaries on the field, where the need for White Cross originates, are one set of links; another set of links is the N.A.B. Conference office where the quotas and all related aspects are taken care of; the many ladies in our churches who make White Cross happen are the third set of links.

The middle set of links is where we coordinate, assemble, calculate, and disseminate each need as it comes to us from the field. We have the privilege and opportunity to unify the requests received from the field and relay them to the ladies in our churches.

Our challenge, as the middle set of links, is to communicate the White Cross requirements from the mission field to the ladies in our churches. Periodically we must send out an urgent request for a special need on the field as well as, at times, say "hold it, no more needed." The activity of receiving, grouping, and repacking according to the hospitals and maternity centers keeps us busy. There are rigid requirements which we must comply with to have our White Cross cleared through customs authorities in Cameroon. Detailed lists need to be compiled of every item packed in a carton stating value, weights, and sizes. We have an obligation to our missionaries to serve them in supplying the garments, linens, etc. which they need to better function by conveying to our ladies the quantities of these items which need to be made.

As we endeavor to serve, we have tried to bring about a uniformity so as not to create "jealousies" among the nationals

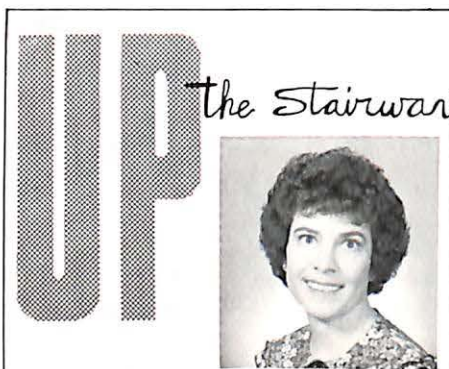
receiving or using the lovely items. By uniformity we mean quality of material, similarity in pattern and sewing methods.

It is obvious when 350 plus societies all use their worn-out sheets to make cotton squares and rolled bandages, that over a period of years we receive great quantities. For this reason we have asked the ladies to "hold back" on sending large quantities of these items. We would be happy to receive some of these worn sheets marked "for packing" as we use them to wrap together surgical sponges and cotton squares by units to be placed into cartons.

"Go easy" on sending empty bottles and paper bags. Rather than sending

boxes and boxes of these items, if a society would send only a small box of each, this would very amply fill the present needs. Imagine the huge stock if 350 plus societies each sent in two to three good sized boxes full. The dropper bottles are needed and are definitely more difficult to secure. The tins and small box styles are continuously requested. The labels stating pharmacy and patient names should be removed from all items so as to avoid these names being used for solicitation, etc.

The chain becomes stronger and longer with each lady becoming involved in the sewing of the many jackets, diapers, gowns, pillowcases, baby blankets, etc.,



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

When my sisters and I were young, our mother took occasional trips to nearby cities on business.

We never enjoyed having her gone, but we knew when she left, she would bring us something special when she returned. It might be a piece of dime store jewelry, or even candy. Frequently, however, it was something more practical like pajamas or stockings.

I remember special excitement over pairs of bright colored anklets—a fad item "just out" in the forties—fluorescent green, shocking pink, and lemon yellow. What fun it was to wear them to school and hear my classmates ask about them. With a subtle boastfulness, I could say, "My mom bought them for me when she went to the city," knowing full well that most of my peers were not so "advantaged."

When we would hear Mom drive up after an out-of-town trip, we'd often greet her with, "Hi, whatja bring us?" Her gifts were always meant to be surprises for us, but it was apparent we had begun to expect them.

I wonder if she ever had the feeling we were more interested in the gifts than in

her safe return! Ellen G. White said, "The home should be to the children the most attractive place in the world, and the mother's presence should be the greatest attraction."

Robert Frost referred to home as something we don't deserve. He said, "Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in."

How wonderful when our children come home, not because they have no place else to go, but because they want to be with us.

God wants us to love him and be delighted with his presence, not because we have no place else to go. How often he must feel that we are only interested in what he has to "bring us" or show us, rather than just to be content with his presence.

Life is full of wants and desires. To be without some of the things we want, however, is part of daily happiness. The true riches of God for the believer are not in the realm of animal, vegetable, or mineral. Wealth, instead, is to be found through the presence of his still, small voice within. True wealth is to be content even while hungry; to be happy even when tears are flowing; to be comfortable even in pain; to be alone and not feel lonely; to glory in his strength even when weak and tired.

Let's keep our "stairways" uncluttered enough to allow time alone with our Creator. He desires fellowship with us "one on one."

"In his presence is fullness of joy" (Psalm 16:11).

"Behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake; And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still, small voice" (1 Kings 19:11-12).

and in the purchase of guest house linens, etc., thus adding to the links of the work taking place at the N.A.B. office. Then the chain links on the field can more efficiently serve as our missionaries in their contact and witness to the peoples of Africa.

A Prayer About Priorities

by Gail Enfield,
Salem, OR

Dear Lord, how thankful I am that you don't procrastinate! My salvation might have been yet future if you had delayed your appointment with the cross just because there were too many other things you wanted to do. Then I would be living as Sarah, Rebekah, Hannah, Esther, and all those other dear women of so long ago—looking forward to the Messiah, the Promised One.

Forgive me, Lord, for putting off what I should have done months ago. When our White Cross quota came, Alyce and

There are extra projects available for Association or local churches upon request. The present need would be to supply matched drapes and bedspreads for larger areas of the hospitals, maternity centers and guest houses. We would encourage these projects on the Associa-

Katie so lovingly cut out all those baby jackets, diapers, blankets, hospitals gowns, and all the rest. Buying flannel for the projects is harder than when I first joined the work; and those two shop wisely and carefully, taking advantage of sale prices so as to make the best use of your funds. The delight of choosing bright colors and prints for infants is only a small part of the reward they will receive some glorious day for the many hours of joyful labor they have done. They so eagerly showed us the items all ready to be stitched up. (You know, Lord, I really do love to sew; but I wish there were some magic way to cut out the pieces.) The magic was done; so I took a stack of baby jackets thinking that with the boys in school I could have them done in a hurry and maybe take something else.

But . . . I began thinking of Christmas projects I had to get started with. So as each of those was begun, the little jackets were shuffled further and further to the bottom of the pile. "I'll do them next," I remember saying to myself. Then someone would ask for something for a special occasion. Mother usually came to the rescue. Again the jackets were forgotten. I'm not sure what happened right after the holidays; but, before I knew it, there were Easter dresses to make. Always thinking of myself, you see. Thank you,

tion level with the ladies within the Association working as a team.

Joining the sets of links together, we reach out beyond ourselves and experience the rich blessings of God's provisions for us to serve him and the people of Africa.

Lord, for being so completely selfless.

Well, the time came closer for Alyce to mail the last box of our work. I knew from before that each little jacket would require only about a half hour of my time. Items like blankets and diapers take much less. So I determined to finish them.

You know, while the sewing machine whirs, I can forget about what is going on around me. Our own precious three-year-old plays with the buttons or her dolls and toys and my mind sails far across the seas to other children no less precious in your sight. I wonder just which brown-skinned mother will clothe her black-eyed baby in one of these jackets being put together with my hands. And I'm grateful for the ability given to me by you to help. It just might be that one of those little mothers would come to find Jesus as her Savior partly because I spent a mere half hour on the jacket her baby wears. That's exciting to think about! She would surely share her joy with that child when it is older; then there would be two to share with others.

Oh, Lord, forgive me! Help me to do a bigger part when the quota arrives this year. It's truly a pleasure to serve you through White Cross work. And grant, Father, that the effects would reach into eternity. Amen.

Joy in Service

by LaVerna
Mehlhoff,
women's
work director
Oakbrook
Terrace, IL



"Commit thy works unto the Lord and thy thoughts shall be established" (Psalm 16:30).

It is a privilege to be a child of the King of kings and the Lord of lords and to serve him. He has promised to give all the strength and wisdom needed to perform each task he asks of us. Serving Christ because of our love for him results in JOY IN SERVICE. As women it is our desire to serve our God faithfully in the home and through the church.

The 1980 English and German program packets will be available October 1, 1979. They can be ordered from the Oakbrook Terrace office at a cost of \$3.00 per packet. Order blanks have been sent to the president of each society. The packets contain a wealth of materials for your use in planning for the women of your church.

Bundles of Love and Grace

by Eleanor Weisenburger,
missionary nurse in
Banso, Cameroon

We used to call little babies "bundles of love," but the "bundles of love and grace" that I will talk about are the many boxes and bales of White Cross things that I have packed into our White Cross storeroom at Banso Baptist Hospital and then distributed for use.

White Cross invoices always arrive several weeks before the shipment itself reaches Banso Baptist Hospital. As I look for much-needed items on the list, I always say a prayer of thanksgiving to God. Every item represents to me some faithful Christian woman who has given

of her time and money to show her love for Christ in this way.

When handing out a beautiful baby layette in Maternity, I am sometimes asked, "How some women who dem no sabi we go do this kind ting for we?" I can then explain that women in America show their love for Christ in this way. And this provides a wonderful opening to illustrate God's love and grace for all.

Many times these "bundles of love and grace" arrive "just in time." A new Health Center was to be opened and needed rubber sheets for the beds. Invoices said there was rubber sheeting on the way and the shipment had reached Douala in Cameroon. But roads were bad and it seemed that we would be disappointed. The shipment finally arrived a week before the opening. A tailor was put to work and the sheets were sent to the Health Center "just in time."

Our students—nurses, midwives and

(Continued on page 31)

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.

What is loneliness? Spelled out on the sheet before me were seven conditions which often indicate loneliness. Not one of them applied to me . . . they all did.

I was relatively happy except for this dull, throbbing ache that seemed to follow me everywhere. The majority of my

silent thought time was devoted to my aloneness.

I have many "acquaintances" but no one to really share my world with. No one to go places and do things with.

I kept steadily plodding along praying, "Lord, I'm lonely. Give me a friend." Nothing. "Lord?"

Someone said that to have a friend, you must first be a friend. My attempts fell flat. What was I doing wrong?

At the end of my rope, I called a friend long distance and then a member of our church, and said, "I hurt. I'm lonely. Pray for me." They did.

And I prayed, "Christ, I feel so alone. When I feel like this, don't let me be consumed with the defense mechanism of hostility. Don't let me withdraw and trick people into thinking I feel great. Change my attitude to one of love and acceptance and peace. Change me."

Funny thing. For a week nothing happened. But I had this really warm feeling inside. Peace. And I quit thinking about myself.

Look beyond, dear teachers. Look to me. I am one who is looking for meaning. I come as a child, not knowing of my future. Anxious to hear. Anxious to learn. Open for the love of God to be revealed to me.

I come as a youth—insecure, crushed by those around me who demand that I be someone I'm not. I long for a solid foundation that keeps me from sinking. Look to me . . . care for me . . . teach me about Jesus. Do not grow impatient with my laughter, my remarks, my hiding. Come. Introduce me to Jesus.

And, yes, I come as an adult. A divorced mother with an empty house and an empty bed, starved for affection, With bills to pay and children to raise . . . alone.

Then I slowly began meeting people and talked to them for ten or 15 minutes. The tough football player who said he didn't believe in God . . . the handicapped girl who kept praising God . . . the girl who worshipped a different god than I. People. And in some way, their lives touched mine. Briefly, I had a glimpse of other lives—where they hurt and the song they sang.

And someone said, "Glad to meet you!" I cried out, "No. I'm glad to meet you!"

Christ used my need to show me others—to enable me to forget myself and reach out.

What is my happiness contingent upon? If it is myself, I am certain I will be disappointed. I must become a servant. I must touch others with love.

Ken Medema has a song that speaks to me: "There's no way in the world I can do everything love means for me to do. But as long as morning breaks another day, Lord, I'm yours, I'll follow, lead the way."

A man with a wife to care for, a job I hate, children to raise, college to pay for, No time to just stop . . . and think.

And, yes, I come as a senior adult, anxious to grow, to share, to learn . . . But no one seems to want to listen anymore, out there . . .

Look beyond, dear teachers. Look to us who come searching for meaning, for a lift from the pressures of life. Look to us who come for a chance to share, to find warmth that will free us from loneliness. To find hope in the living Christ! I come to experience the Life-Giver, To feel a sense of belonging to God and to others. Will you look beyond—for me? (from *The Church School* magazine, September 1978. Copyright 1978 by Graded Press, used by permission.)

On Improving Teaching and Learning

by Mrs. Donald Pirie

We discovered ourselves fretting about the deteriorating climate of our junior department. Rather than just trying to produce something stimulating to hold

the students' interest, we set ourselves this high (but possible) standard:

1. Daily, personal prayer and Bible study on the part of superintendent and every teacher.
2. The keeping of a prayer list of student needs and problems.
3. Home visitation and participation in social activities, if possible.
4. A systematic method of reaching absentees.
5. Regular meetings with student officers.
6. Challenging pre-session activities.
7. Planned worship with correlated

- monthly themes.
8. Scripture memorization by both pupils and staff.
9. Sound teaching methods based on an understanding of specific student needs and a practical application of Bible truth to daily living.
10. A warm relationship between staff and students.

At first, reaching these standards wasn't easy, but it brought spectacular results. (Copyright © by Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc. in *Evangelizing Today's Child*. All rights reserved. Used by permission.)

Tozer on Teaching

In a very real sense, no man can teach another; he can only aid him to teach himself. Facts can be transferred from one mind to another as a copy is made

from the master tape on a sound recorder. History, science, even theology, may be taught in this way, but it results in a highly artificial kind of learning and seldom has any good effect upon the deep life of the student. What the learner contributes to the learning process is fully as important as anything contributed by the teacher. If nothing is contributed by the learner, the results are useless; at best there will be but the artificial creation of

another teacher who can repeat the dreary work on someone else, ad infinitum.

Perception of ideas rather than the storing of them should be the aim of education. The mind should be an eye to see with rather than a bin to store facts in. The man who has been taught by the Holy Spirit will be a seer rather than a scholar. (from *The Best of A. W. Tozer* compiled by Warren Wiersbe, Baker Book House.)

This Semester

by Larry L. Thornton

Just for this semester I will do my best and forget the rest, remembering that life is too long to hurry and too short to worry.

Just for this semester I will distinguish between the best and doing my best. With this insight I will experience that release which comes when I am competing only with my natural potential.

Just for this semester I will recognize that the everyday life conflicts and difficulties are never stumbling blocks for those who keep their eyes fixed on worthy and significant goals.

Just for this semester I will remember that the dictionary is the only place where success comes before work. This will remind me that the best place, humanly speaking, to find a helping hand is at the end of my arm.

Just for this semester, I will recall that Robinson Crusoe stands alone as the only person who got everything done by Friday.

Just for this semester I will see that things turn out best for those who make the best of the way things turn out.

Just for this semester I will become aware of others and their needs. I will not forget that giving, forgiving, and thanksgiving are the keys to the effective and happy life.

Just for this semester I will note that my eyes are located, by design, in the front of my head to look forward, not

backward. I will reflect upon the philosophy of Davy Crockett, who advocated decisiveness when he said, "Make sure you are right and don't look back."

Just for this semester I will learn from Thomas Carlyle, who wrote, "our business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance but to do what lies clearly at hand."

Just for this semester I will agree with Elbert Hubbard, who concluded that growth is the only thing worth praying for.

Just for this semester I will not forget that dreams are for people asleep. I will awaken to the beauty of God's creation and begin utilizing my maximum potential. (from *The Student* magazine, September 1978 issue, © 1978, The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.)

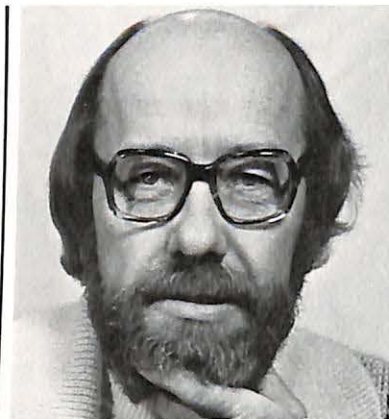
On Getting Things Done

by George Mueller,
Bristol, England

The first three years after conversion I neglected the Word of God. Since I began

to search it diligently, the blessing has been wonderful. I have read the Bible through one hundred times and always with increasing delight. I look upon it as a lost day when I have not had a good time over the Word of God. Friends often say, "I have so much to do, so many people to see, I cannot find time for Scripture study." Perhaps there are not many who have more to do than I have. For more than half a century I have never known one day when I had not more business than I could get through. For 40 years I have had annually about 30,000 letters, and most of these have passed through

my own hands. I have nine assistants always at work corresponding in German, French, English, Danish, Italian, Russian and other languages. Then as pastor of a church with 1,200 believers, great has been my care. Besides, I have had charge of five immense orphanages; also at my publishing depot, the printing and circulation of millions of tracts, books, and Bibles. But I have always made it a rule never to begin work till I have had a good season with God. The vigor of our spiritual life will be in exact proportion to the place held by the Word in our life and thoughts □



putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

The sickness of our times is loneliness. The loneliness of our times is related to the shallowness of our interpersonal contacts.

The parable of the sower (Matthew 13:18ff.) speaks of the seed that falls on rocky soil. The soil is shallow and the seeds that sprout in it "have no root."

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.

This parable is very descriptive of the majority of people today. We tend to be, or are fast becoming, rootless people.

The concept of being rootless means we have no deep attachments. Sometimes we are described as plastic people—we look real, we act real, we pretend to be real, but in actuality we are not real. We are shallow, we are hollow, we are empty, we are lonely, and life is meaningless.

"Hold on a minute!" you may shout at me. "You may be talking about yourself or my neighbors, maybe even my relatives, but you are not talking about me!"

Yes, I am talking about you, unless you can show specific steps you have taken to counteract the conditions of modern life. The dynamics of modern life are so great and intense that it is impossible to escape their powerful and pervasive influence.

There are many Christians who feel they have avoided these "modern-day influences" by withdrawal, insulation and isolation. But I am positive that in this process the person is experiencing loneliness. Avoidance of circumstances is basically a negative way of dealing with stress, and it cannot lead to a joyful life.

There are many people who convince themselves that by having less people-contact they will be able to preserve themselves more effectively in the present circumstances. Others continue to mingle freely with many people, but they keep their involvement at a surface level.

Jesus, on occasion, withdrew from the turmoil of life for rest and meditation by himself. At other times he withdrew with his twelve disciples. But Jesus would never be considered a "withdrawn person." He was broadly, fully and deeply involved with people as groups and individuals. He regularly confronted the issues of his time in the area of the social, personal, political and religious. □

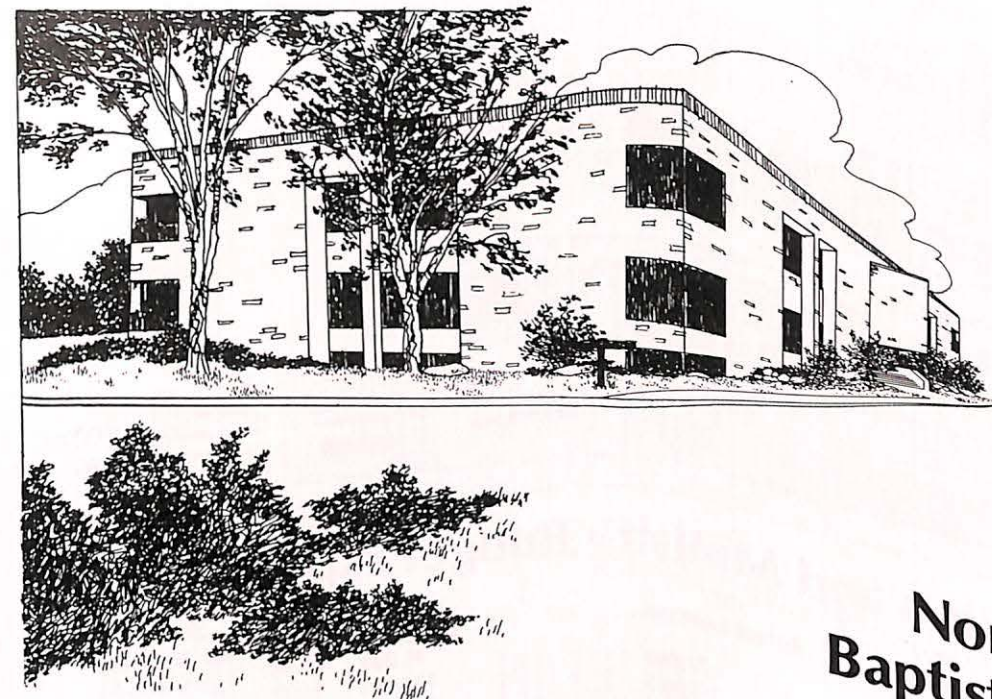
might better minister to individual churches, as well as be worthy representatives of our Conference.

This year we as the 1978/79 music section would like to introduce to you several new avenues of our ministry. First of all, we have adopted a new name. We now call ourselves "New Day" for several reasons; for example, we often sing in shopping malls, schools, etc., and a name like "New Day" appeals to youth and our modern society readily.

Our new name also serves our Conference in the area of recordings. This year, together with our producer, Wayne Buchanan of Dynamic Media in Nashville, TN, we have been able to record three albums. The first two were recorded at Pinebrook Studios in Alexandria, IN, in October 1978. One consists of songs written by Bill and Gloria Gaither and arranged by John E. Coates. The other record is of tunes by various artists and arranged by Larry Mayfield. These two albums have served as advertisement for the North American Baptist Conference via Christian radio all over the United States and Canada. The third album was recorded at Soundwest Studios in Calgary, AB, in April 1979. This album has tunes written by Jimmy Pierce and arranged by John E. Coates. We feel these albums will acquaint the ministry of N.A.B.'s with a much wider portion of the population, as well as be an inspiration right in our homes.

We also have four new members that we want to introduce to you. They are George, Toby, Washington and Heidi, our puppets. These four have been a highlight to "New Day's" ministry this year. They have won the hearts of not only the children in our audiences, but the adults seem to enjoy them with equal intrigue. These four friends have proven their value in many situations other than our church programs. We've used them to share Christ in such settings as elementary schools, children's church and neighborhood Bible clubs, and we hope to expand their use even further in future years.

We are thankful for the unique ministry God has given to us as "New Day" of God's Volunteers, and for the new opportunities made available to us this year. But in order to remain an effective ministry we must continue to improve and expand. The same is true of each of us as individual Christians. Consider these verses from 1 Timothy 4:14-16: "Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you . . . Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress may be evident to all. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will insure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you." (NAS) □



Annual Report 1979

North American Baptist Conference

What In The World Are We Doing?

"... not of the world . . . but sent into the world . . ."
(John 17:16-18).

Scripture has much to say about the world. Some of the things seem to contradict each other: "Love not the world . . . For God so loved the world." The first, of course, refers to the *things* in the world, and the second, to the *people* in the world.

In Jesus' intercessory prayer he reminds us that we are *not of the world*, yet we are *sent into the world*. Let not others' love for the things of the world distract you from the love of people in the world.

In this sinful world, against the gates of hell, Jesus is building his Church. As North American Baptist Conference, we are part of the construction crew. As individual churches we are naturally interested in our local projects. Special events in the churches are therefore important. When a building program is completed, the church needs the united effort of all members during the planning and building. When an anniversary is observed, the church not only honors the past, but it also, with God's help, plans a more effective ministry for the future.

Baptismal services are always observed as major events, because teaching and baptizing are a part of the Great Commission. Although we do not over-emphasize numbers, they are nevertheless an important index to our growth. The early church was not hesitant in reporting how many believed and were baptized.

Spiritual growth is more difficult to measure. The evidence can only be observed in the daily walk, conversation

and service. A great responsibility of the pastor is the preparation of messages and his ministry to the needs of all the people. The Christian education program must do more than impart biblical and religious knowledge. It must inspire, encourage and challenge the people to be faithful stewards who will live more Christlike lives and also become good servants of their Lord.

By their very name, Baptist churches proclaim their identity. But sometimes they are so concerned about their identity that they forget their ministry. Although it is important to know where we come from, it is even more important to know what we are doing and where we are going.

A church is sent into a neighborhood, but it is also sent into the world. As North American Baptist Conference we have a worldwide ministry that is spread over six countries. This is possible because some things can be done better together than separately.

Our contributions are also an index of our growth. The Apostle Paul takes us to celestial heights in his chapter on the resurrection (1 Cor. 15), closing with these words: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." Suddenly he takes us down to earth and says, "Now concerning the collection . . ." To Paul, this was not an anticlimax, but a necessary ministry as long as we are in the world.

The following reports present an account of our stewardship as churches and conferences at home and abroad.



A New Day in G.V.s

God's volunteers

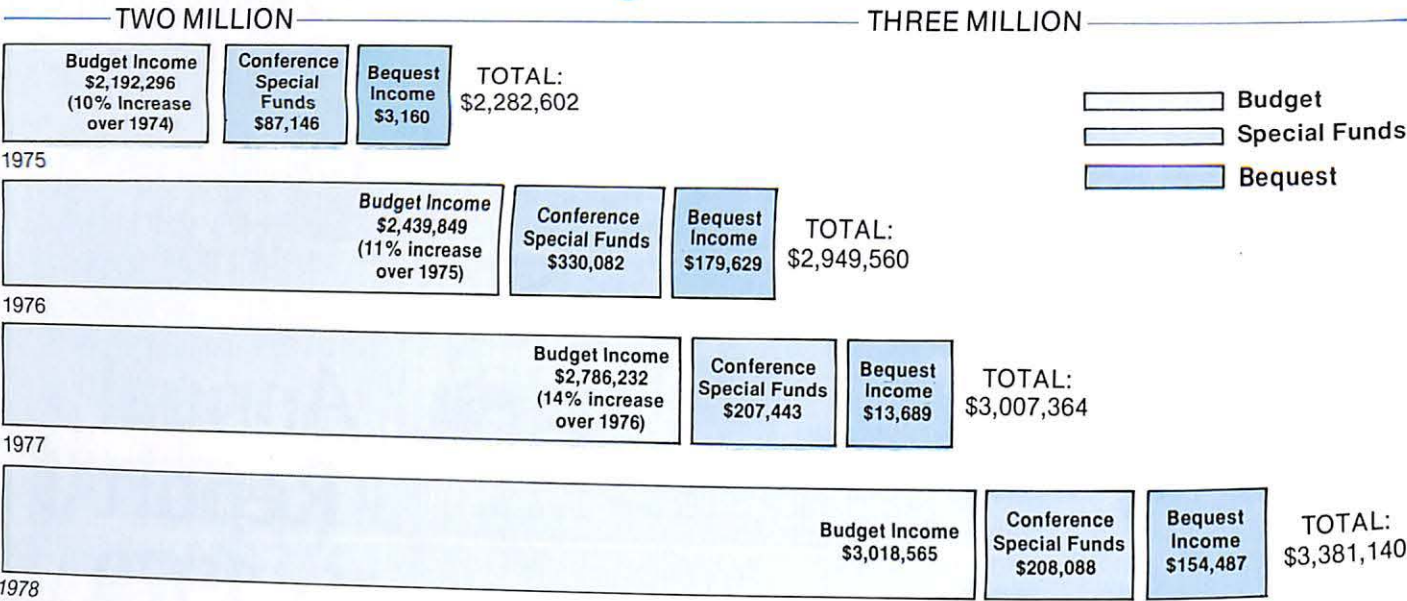
All around us we see things in a continual state of change and improvement. The same is true of the ministry of God's

LeAnn Wolitarsky is the reporter for God's Volunteers.

by LeAnn Wolitarsky

Volunteers. Many of you are aware of our Conference's traveling evangelistic team, called God's Volunteers. Each school year (September through May) the team, consisting of several college age young people, minister via music, drama, evangelism and discipleship training in many of our N.A.B. churches in the U.S. and Canada. And each year our ministry is striving to improve itself, so that we

4 Year Conference Giving Trends



1977 & 1978 Mission and Ministry Budget Expenditures

	1977 Budget	1977 Actual Expense	1978 Budget	1978 Actual Expense
MISSIONS				
Brazil Basic	84,492	77,469	96,000	84,263
Cameroon Basic	549,847	489,986	565,000	603,531
Japan Basic	161,939	182,604	179,000	246,613
Nigeria Basic	147,815	132,424	154,000	163,157
Home Basic	50,605	48,864	56,800	51,250
Administration	120,360	121,819	128,206	143,812
Mission Specials	103,100	118,256	97,000	124,426
Total	1,218,158	1,171,422	1,276,006	1,417,052
CHURCH EXTENSION				
Basic	371,260	352,392	431,952	445,441
Specials	45,000	45,401	35,000	45,084
Total	416,260	397,793	458,312	490,525
NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST SEMINARY	315,586	315,586	365,914	365,914
NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST COLLEGE	206,307	209,683	254,101	254,101
CHURCH MINISTRIES				
Basic	195,774	210,076	232,232	240,640
Specials	5,000	6,672	9,000	7,378
Total	200,774	216,748	223,770	248,018
STEWARDSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS	188,302	196,699	225,734	217,335
GENERAL COUNCIL	52,802	98,155	83,618	96,446
AREA MINISTRIES	139,205	134,804	148,932	152,559
PENSION SUBSIDY	43,223	46,598	48,000	45,325
AGED MINISTERS ASSISTANCE	8,940	8,400	8,280	9,266
CONTINGENCIES	51,943	69,854	51,338	107,814
OTHER SPECIALS	8,500	13,174	10,500	12,606
TOTAL BUDGET	\$2,850,000		\$3,200,000	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$2,878,916		\$3,416,961

1977-1978 Summary of Membership and Contributions

Name of Association	Number of Churches	Member-ship	Local Church Operating	Local Church Building	Total Church	Conference Mission & Ministry	Conference Special Fundst	Conference Educational Institutions	N.A.B. Association Ministries	Total For N.A.B.	Average Per Member	Other Than N.A.B.	Total all Purposes	Average Per Member
Alberta	40	5,590	\$1,619,173.57	\$542,087.31	\$2,161,260.88	\$418,089.06	\$25,489.36	\$63,648.48	\$161,463.69	\$668,688.59	\$120.00	\$127,342.62	\$2,957,282.09	\$529.00
Atlantic	13	1,533	370,345.55	55,447.00	425,792.55	65,916.13	4,398.28	2,570.00	10,498.47	83,382.88	54.00	14,064.15	523,239.68	341.00
British Columbia	18	3,453	809,983.42	166,791.00	976,774.42	256,861.02	8,890.96	14,704.75	99,254.55	379,711.28	110.00	48,145.87	1,402,631.57	406.00
Central Dakota-Montana	32	3,565	600,888.60	252,675.72	853,564.32	146,775.54	10,684.83	27,674.55	32,088.45	217,423.37	61.00	13,389.94	1,084,377.63	304.00
Eastern	21	2,877	730,319.79	241,589.38	971,889.17	100,933.36	5,267.35	5,090.00	22,119.05	133,409.76	46.00	23,555.00	1,128,853.93	392.00
Illinois	16	2,349	609,828.84	64,547.28	674,376.12	127,222.61	16,160.89	5,094.00	27,810.00	176,287.50	75.00	20,472.00	871,135.62	371.00
Iowa	14	2,663	499,582.83	213,572.80	713,155.63	155,346.94	4,072.51	8,312.20	35,390.08	203,121.73	76.00	56,449.93	972,127.29	365.00
Manitoba	16	2,463	517,334.33	202,343.42	719,677.75	223,945.66	17,900.92	11,192.20	57,075.15	310,113.93	126.00	51,857.26	1,081,648.94	439.00
Michigan	24	6,474	1,822,140.42	249,746.65	2,071,887.07	326,675.00	16,582.47	29,894.28	60,217.27	433,369.02	67.00	243,955.50	2,749,211.59	425.00
Minnesota-LaCrosse	13	1,626	382,684.76	96,912.60	479,597.36	99,824.55	22,539.12	6,095.50	24,347.63	151,806.80	93.00	12,623.08	644,027.24	396.00
Northern California	7	3,966	819,373.95	382,342.04	1,201,715.99	91,763.95	6,444.36	21,582.69	55,703.64	185,474.64	47.00	33,438.00	1,420,626.63	358.00
Northern Dakota	16	2,205	439,544.41	151,785.00	591,329.41	124,917.72	6,109.22	29,699.54	25,718.84	186,645.32	85.00	41,917.82	819,692.95	372.00
Oregon-Idaho	11	2,210	482,454.86	112,691.00	595,145.86	124,025.25	8,014.38	16,944.61	49,044.86	198,029.10	90.00	36,276.00	829,450.96	375.00
Pacific Northwest	13	1,973	437,557.80	71,156.01	508,713.81	90,323.69	13,293.63	7,175.90	15,593.00	126,386.22	64.00	20,472.00	675,013.95	342.00
Penn-Ohio	14	2,520	554,738.18	74,551.00	629,289.18	60,282.80	2,337.92	5,644.99	10,604.92	78,870.63	31.00	39,913.92	747,627.10	297.00
Saskatchewan	14	1,330	345,605.85	43,357.33	388,963.18	78,894.17	3,018.09	6,246.81	36,138.81	124,297.88	93.00	66,517.98	579,779.04	436.00
South Dakota	14	2,375	366,023.15	39,252.25	405,275.40	137,233.61	4,121.87	63,736.70	41,010.86	246,103.04	104.00	16,844.59	668,223.03	281.00
Southern	12	842	150,725.55	21,746.67	172,472.22	40,887.70	7,558.40	3,106.21	11,822.60	63,374.91	75.00	4,104.00	240,041.13	285.00
Southern California	7	2,014	641,902.15	45,134.00	687,036.15	87,698.73	1,314.84	10,661.80	10,950.00	110,825.37	55.00	59,348.00	857,209.92	426.00
Southwestern	27	2,817	563,703.86	68,931.90	632,635.76	176,225.22	8,740.94	8,663.95	36,586.95	232,419.06	63.00	19,727.89	864,762.71	314.00
Wisconsin	13	2,396	483,564.83	92,784.28	576,354.11	68,320.16	5,823.61	1,886.00	11,110.13	87,139.90	36.00	55,777.64	719,271.65	300.00
Miscellaneous						14,401.72	9,124.05	5,966.14		28,491.91			29,491.91	
TOTALS for 1978	355	57,241	\$13,247,476.70	\$3,189,429.64	\$16,436,906.34	\$3,018,564.59	\$208,088.09	\$355,169.30	\$844,550.95	\$4,426,372.84	\$77.00	\$1,023,278.48	\$21,886,557.86	\$382.00
Totals from 1977	*356	*57,189	12,146,166.24	2,356,318.81	14,502,485.05	2,786,261.73	207,442.97	231,427.44	816,139.43	4,041,291.57	71.00	906,976.76	19,450,703.38	340.00
Total Inc. or (Decrease)	(1)	.52	1,101,310.46	833,10.83	1,934,421.29	232,332.86	645.03	123,741.86	28,411.52	385,131.30	6.00	116,301.72	2,435,854.28	42.00
% Increase or (Decrease)	(.28)	.09	9.07	35.36	13.34	6.34	.31	53.47	3.48	9.53	8.45	12.82	12.52	12.35
Percentage of 1978 Total			60.53	14.57	75.10	13.79	.95	1.60	3.86	20.20		4.70	100%	

NOTE: Total giving through bequests of all Associations was \$134,836.92.
+ Conference Special Funds includes giving to Special Projects, MAP, New Conference Office Fund, Special Short-Term Missionaries, and World Relief.
* The 1977 statistics for "Number of Churches" was adjusted from 357 to 356 and the "Church Membership" from 57,218 to 57,189.

Comparative Financial Statement

As of December 31, 1977 and 1978

Assets	1977	1978
Cash	\$1,251,672	\$1,255,568
Receivables	103,533	108,243
Inventories	29,848	45,624
Investments	4,100,631	4,369,272
Loans & Investments in Church Properties	1,967,344	2,260,161
Land, Building & Equipment @ Cost	1,392,845	1,345,411
Other Assets	54,894	8,103
Total Assets	\$8,900,767	\$9,392,390

Liabilities	1977	1978
Accounts Payable	\$250,677	\$101,826
Loans Payable	653,253	1,200,441
Trust Fund Certificates	237,500	230,500
Pension Fund Deposits In Pool Fund	3,327,275	3,588,462
Annuities Payable	201,686	190,145
Total Liabilities	4,670,391	5,311,374
Fund Balances		
Current Unrestricted Fund Balance	(280,226)	(645,104)
Current Restricted Fund Balance	274,985	358,993
Endowment Fund Balances	1,381,855	1,484,820
Loan Fund Balance	2,044,821	2,156,658
Property Fund Balance	805,335	723,611
Annuity Fund Balance	3,606	2,038
Total Fund Balance	4,230,376	4,081,016
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	\$8,900,767	\$9,392,390

Ranking of 1978 Membership and Giving of Associations to Conference Budget

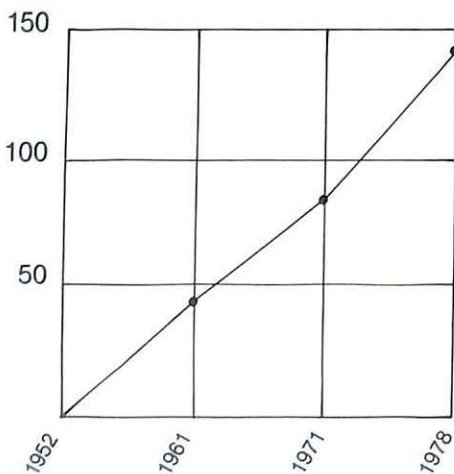
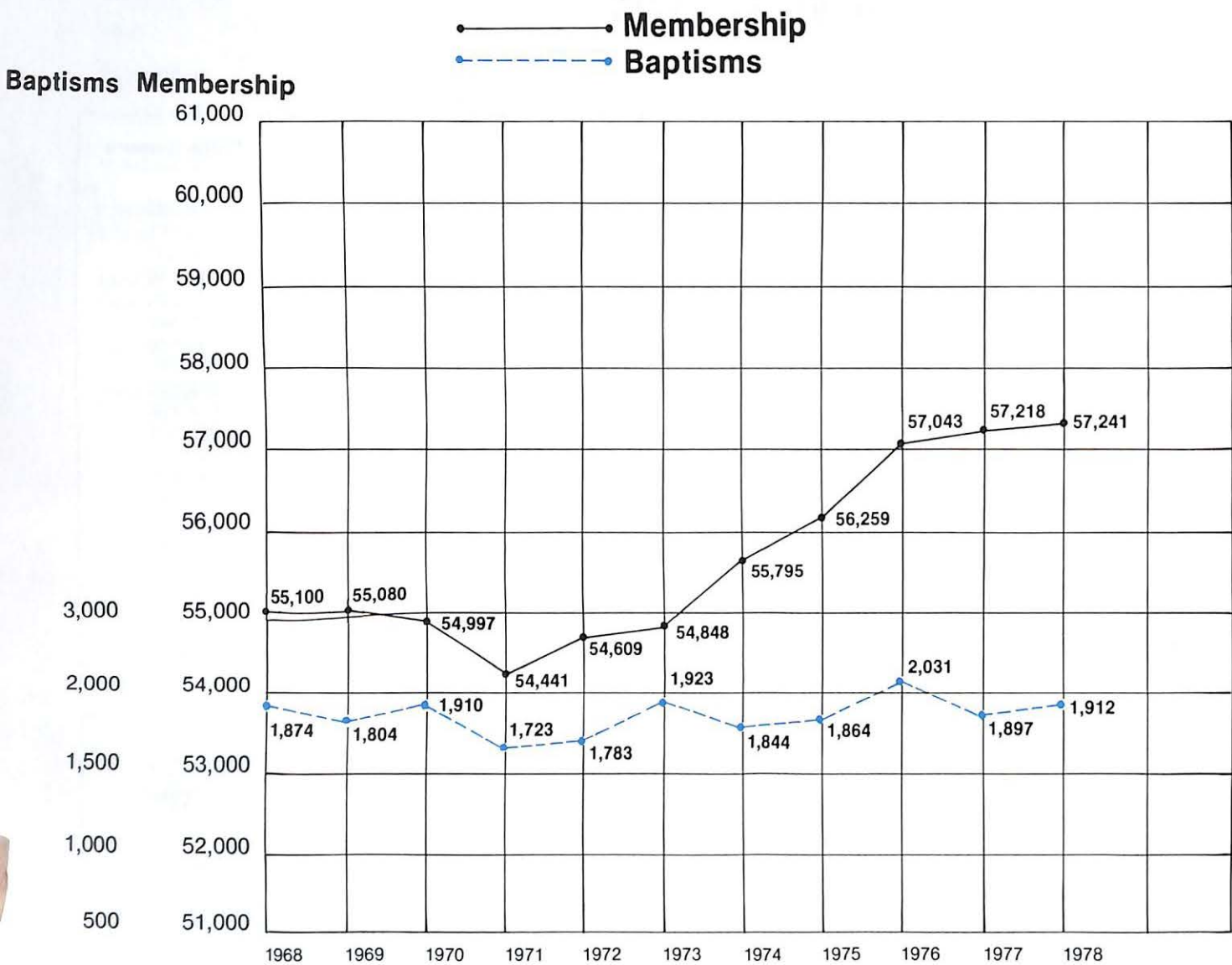
Association	Churches	Membership
1. Michigan	24	6,474
2. Alberta	40	5,590
3. Northern California	7	3,966
4. Central Dakota-Montana		
5. British Columbia	32	3,565
6. Eastern	18	3,453
7. Southwestern	21	2,877
8. Iowa	27	2,817
9. Penn-Ohio	14	2,663
10. Manitoba	14	2,520
11. Wisconsin	16	2,463
12. South Dakota	13	2,396
13. Illinois	14	2,375
14. Northern Dakota	16	2,349
15. Oregon-Idaho	16	2,205
16. Southern California	11	2,210
17. Pacific Northwest	7	2,014
18. Minnesota-LaCrosse	13	1,973
19. Atlantic	13	1,626
20. Saskatchewan	14	1,533
21. Southern	12	1,330
TOTALS	355	57,241

Association	Dollar Amount
1. Alberta	\$418,089
2. Michigan	326,675
3. British Columbia	256,861
4. Manitoba	223,946
5. Southwestern	178,225
6. Iowa	155,347
7. Central Dakota-Montana	146,776
8. South Dakota	137,234
9. Illinois	127,223
10. Northern Dakota	124,918
11. Oregon-Idaho	124,025
12. Eastern	100,933
13. Minnesota-LaCrosse	99,825
14. Northern California	91,764
15. Pacific Northwest	90,324
16. Southern California	87,699
17. Saskatchewan	78,894
18. Wisconsin	68,320
19. Atlantic	65,916
20. Penn-Ohio	60,283
21. Southern	40,888

Association	Per Capita
1. Manitoba	\$91
2. Alberta	75
3. British Columbia	74
4. Southwestern	63
5. Minnesota-LaCrosse	61
6. Saskatchewan	59
7. Iowa	58
8. South Dakota	58
9. Northern Dakota	57
10. Oregon-Idaho	56
11. Illinois	54
12. Michigan	50
13. Southern	49
14. Pacific Northwest	46
15. Southern California	44
16. Atlantic	43
17. Central Dakota-Montana	41
18. Eastern	35
19. Wisconsin	29
20. Penn-Ohio	24
21. Northern California	23
Average Per Capita giving was \$53.00 in 1978	

Association	Percentage Increase (Decrease) over 1977
1. Saskatchewan	48.65
2. Oregon-Idaho	41.74
3. Eastern	30.70
4. Minnesota-LaCrosse	30.67
5. Iowa	19.60
6. Alberta	18.05
7. Penn-Ohio	15.96
8. South Dakota	14.43
9. Southwestern	11.91
10. Illinois	11.81
11. British Columbia	10.69
12. Michigan	8.55
13. Central Dakota-Montana	7.60
14. Southern	6.19
15. Manitoba	4.83
16. Southern California	4.17
17. Northern California	1.11
18. Wisconsin	(5.16)
19. Atlantic	(6.89)
20. Northern Dakota	(11.94)
21. Pacific Northwest	(48.32)
22. Miscellaneous	36.76
Total increase was 8.34 percent in 1978	

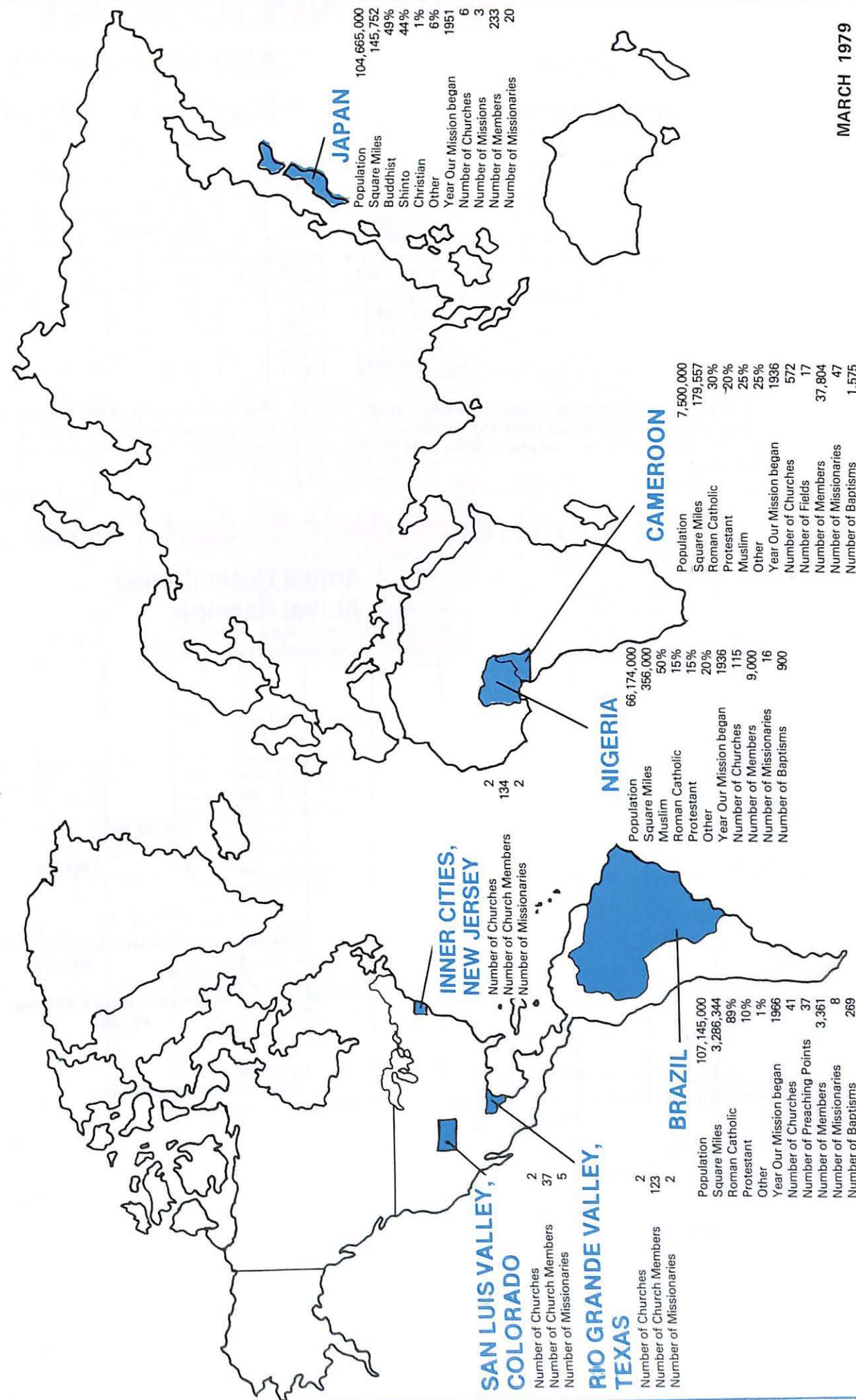
10 Year Church Membership and Baptism Trends



Church Extension

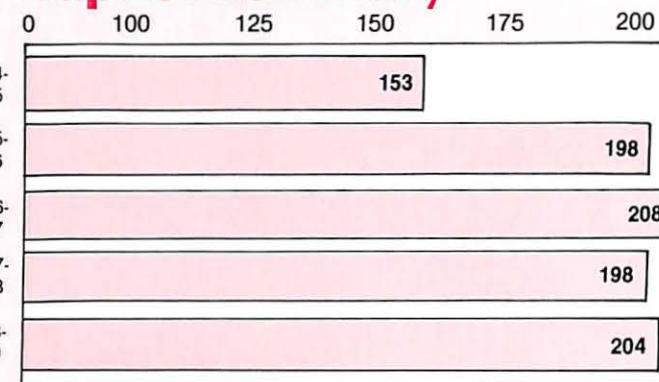
49 churches during the first ten years, 1952-61.
39 churches during the second ten years, 1962-71.
43 churches during the next six years, 1972-1978.
143 churches started in 27 years.
13,508 persons are members in these 143 churches.

HOME & OVERSEAS MISSION FIELDS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE



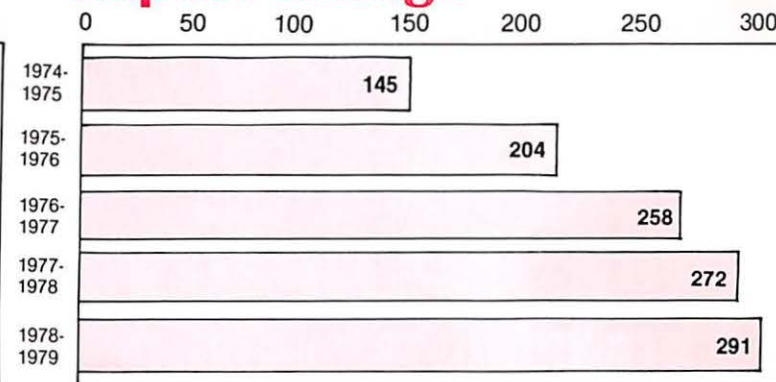
STUDENT ENROLLMENT

North American Baptist Seminary



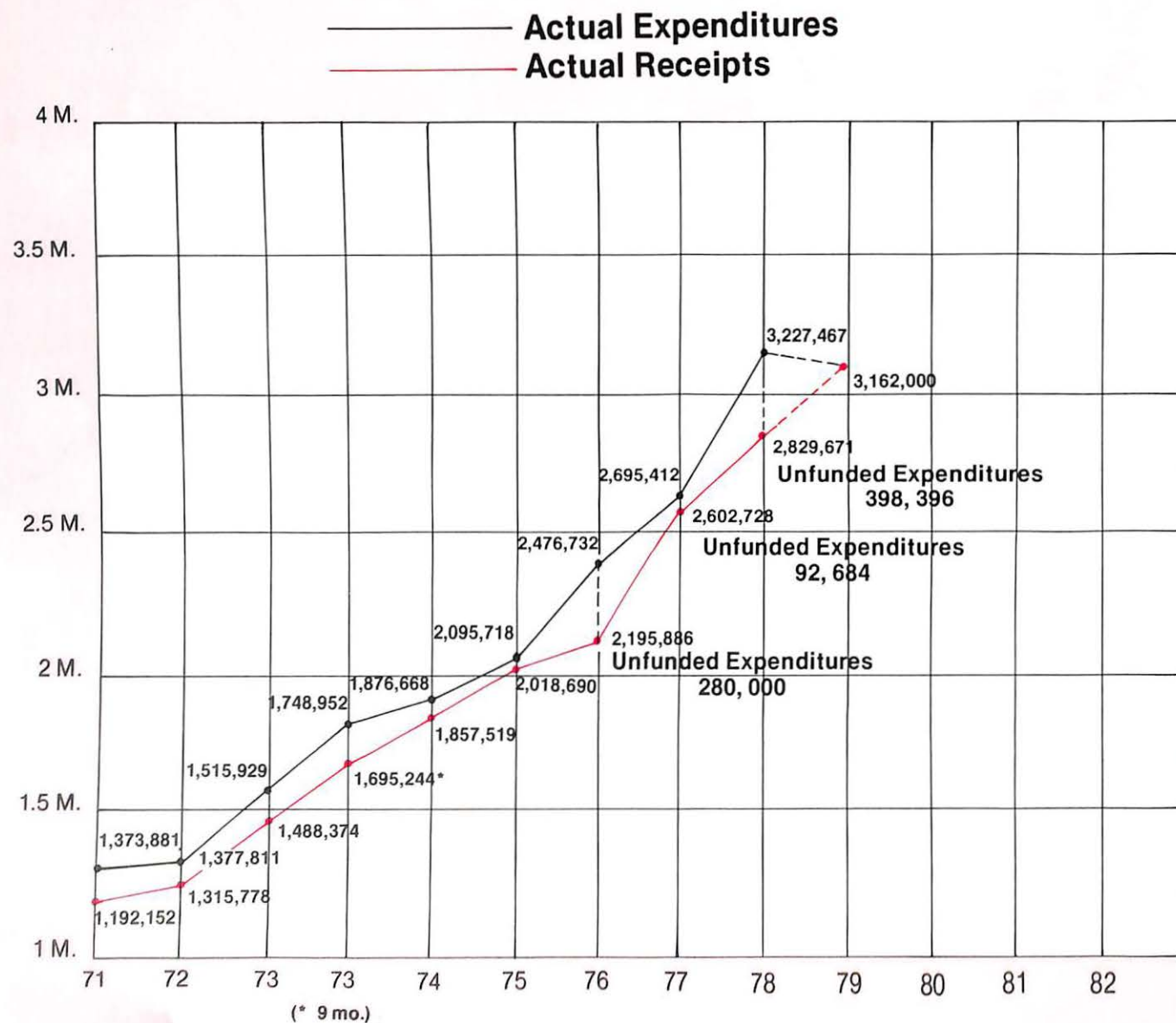
Since 1974 the total enrollment of students (including all part-time students) increased from 153 to 204 in 1978-79. This constitutes an increase of 50% over the five year period.

North American Baptist College

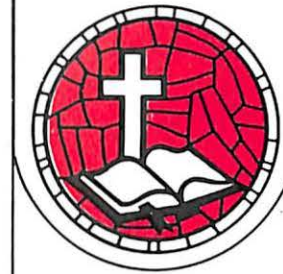


Total enrollment at the North American Baptist College has increased from 145 to 291 in the last five years or by 100%. (This includes all part-time students.)

Conference Basic Budget Trends



PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



Planning For The Marital Deduction

by Lawrence Bienert

Making the best use of the federal estate tax marital deduction is an important part of your estate planning. According to federal law, a marital deduction is the amount of money or property that an individual can transfer tax free to a surviving spouse in his or her will. Currently, the marital deduction is \$250,000 or one-half of the adjusted gross estate, whichever is greater. For many years, the federal tax marital has provided the advantage of postponing part of the tax that

The Rev. Lawrence Bienert, Beaverton, OR, is estate planning counselor, Pacific Northwest.

book reviews

by B.C. Schreiber

A MODERN STUDY IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS. By Charles Bridges, revised by George F. Santa, Milford, MI. Mott Media. \$14.50.

Very seldom is so much "book" offered for such a modest price—more than 750

pages, plus a personalized study guide. Bridges' Proverbs is a classic in its original which first appeared one hundred years ago. Santa's revision brings many concepts up to date, and in that sense it can be referred to as "modern."

The Purpose of the Marital Deduction

The basic purpose of the marital deduction is to give the residents of the great majority of the states some of the federal estate tax advantages that prevail in "community property" states. (Community property states are: Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas and Washington. Generally speaking, in community property states, property which a husband and wife accumulate during marriage is classified as "community property," and it is owned half by each spouse. Consequently, when either spouse dies, only half of the community property is included in the deceased spouse's estate. The other half is taxed in the survivor's estate at his or her subsequent death. Generally, the marital deduction does not apply to community property, but it does apply to married persons in community property states who own "separate" property.

On the other hand, in common law states, ALL jointly held property is included in the estate of the first one to die. But the marital deduction makes it possible for the spouse who dies first to leave part of his or her estate in a manner that makes it deductible for federal estate tax purposes.

The Marital Deduction Produces an Interim Saving

The primary advantage of the marital deduction is that it produces an estate tax saving when the first spouse dies. This is often called the INTERIM SAVING, and it is frequently a key factor in producing both additional income for the surviving spouse and additional capital for emergency need of the family.

Careful Planning is Required

When doing your estate planning, consider carefully whether the full \$250,000 or the one-half of the adjusted gross estate should be used. Remember, there is no marital deduction available at the

death of the second spouse. It is advisable to see your Estate Planning Counselor and your attorney to determine the estate plan which would best provide for your family.

Consider a Marital Deduction Trust

In many instances, the most desirable way to take the marital deduction is through a trust for the survivor's benefit. By using a trust that meets the marital deduction requirement, the surviving spouse is relieved of the responsibility of managing and preserving the property, and he or she is given greater security and financial protection.

In addition to all of the income from such a trust, the trustee is usually given broad discretionary powers to pay principal to the wife to cover her normal needs and to protect her against inflation and unforeseen emergencies.

Estate Planning is Essential

It is well to remember that the order of death is never certain. Therefore, while careful marital deduction planning is essential, an estate should always be planned against the eventuality that the marital deduction will not be available because of the spouse's prior death.

One must keep in mind, too, that property which qualifies for the marital deduction in the estate of the first spouse to die will be taxed in the survivor's estate at his or her subsequent death to the extent that it is retained. Furthermore, this property is taxed in the survivor's estate at its value at the time of the survivor's death—not at its value when the first spouse dies.

Wise estate planning will reduce, and in some cases avoid, the federal estate taxes to be paid. These tax savings could well be used to support the work of the Lord through our Conference mission program.

This article is not intended to provide legal advice of any nature. Any ideas and suggestions which may involve application of law to you or your estate must come from an attorney. □

group Bible studies, as well as inspirational sermon starters, this volume is invaluable.

YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND WHAT NEXT? By Roland H. Bainton, Minneapolis, MN. Augsburg Publishing House. \$3.95.

Professor Bainton is best known to readers of religious biography for his popular and classic life of Martin Luther, *Here I Stand*. To theologians he is remembered as professor of church his-

(Continued on page 31)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Reinhardt Lehmann of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Morris, MB, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 16, 1979.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kruger celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on April 8, 1979, in Telfordville, AB. A short program was held in their honor in the morning worship service in First Baptist Church in Warburg, AB. In the afternoon open house was held for them. The Rev. J. Harrison was Master of Ceremonies for a short program of songs, poems, speeches and telegrams followed by a buffet supper. Their six children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were all present. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kruger are still very active in church where Mr. Kruger served as deacon for many years and now is honorary deacon. Mr. and Mrs. Kruger are the founders of this church formerly of Telfordville, now at Warburg, AB. (Mrs. Marg Hubscher, reporter.)

Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Vogel celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the First Baptist Church on May 7. Many friends and relatives came from California and



Oregon to attend the anniversary. The open house was hosted by their sons and daughters and families. They are both active church members and sing in the choir. (Virginia Jepsen, reporter.)

KELOWNA, BC. The Grace Baptist Church of Kelowna, BC, hosted the 30th B.C. Association, May 17-20, 1979. The hospitality was great, and the weather was nice. Our theme was "The Living Church." The Rev. Paul Siewert was our guest speaker. The Letter of Ephesians served as basis for his topics. He chose the letter to Ephesians because it is one of the greatest epistles of the Church, which tells us what the living Church is like. He did not give us a lot of methodology, he rather shared some of the principles set forth in the Word of God to the living Church of Jesus Christ. God has chosen us before the foundation of the world. God in his love and mercy has redeemed us through Christ Jesus. God works particularly in and through people. God works particularly in the man Christ Jesus to redeem mankind. He emphasized that every born again person is sealed with the Holy Spirit, but we need to be filled with the Spirit. This calls for a complete yielding to

Christ in all that we are. We must allow the Holy Spirit to grip our whole being.

We were also privileged to have our area secretary, the Rev. Hans J. Wilcke, with us who was speaking in a German meeting on Friday evening. He gave us a report on our N.A.B. work in general and expressed his thanks to the Program Committee for the fitting theme, "The Living Church." He hopes we may leave here better equipped to make the Church truly alive! The Church has duties which are laid upon us by God which must be performed. Primary is the task of the proclamation of God's Word and making of disciples.

During our gatherings we also heard some challenging testimonies by new members of our Church Extension churches, these were the fruits of the living Church.

The young people had as special guests the Covenant Players, a fantastic group from California, and Stan and Lucy Spletzer from Surrey, BC. The ladies had their luncheon on Friday noon. Mrs. Iona Quiring, the English Program Packet editor of the Women's Missionary Fellowship, was their guest speaker.

Our business sessions, under the able leadership of our moderator, the Rev. Ed Hohn, went very well. The Spirit of Christ prevailed in all the deliberations. The Feasibility Study Committee report was given by the Rev. Richard Hohensee. The resolution, put forth by the committee on area secretaries and a head office in Calgary, AB, to strengthen the ministry of the four western provinces of Canada was accepted. The Hart High Way Church Extension work in Prince George, BC, was accepted for approval by the Conference Church Extension Department of N.A.B., to employ a qualified Church Extension worker on the Association level on a one-year basis, to survey a potential field in view of establishing an N.A.B. church. This resolution was also accepted. The Mission Board's proposal of our new budget for our Association of \$69,400.00, with the recommended guidelines was accepted. We had encouraging reports by the Church Ministries Committee, the Rev. Ron Habermas reporting. The Mission Committee report was given by the Rev. R. Hohensee. The Rev. J. Wollenberg reported on the Seminary and the Evergreen Baptist Home at White Rock, BC, and Mr. Al Stober on the N.A.B. College. The Rev. Larry Bienert spoke on several aspects of estate planning. The report about Green Bay Baptist Camp was encouraging, given by Bill Hemmerling.

The following workers were elected: moderator, Rev. Ed Hohn; vice moderator, Mr. Don Roller; Mission Committee—Okanagan, Rev. Richard Hohensee; Church Ministries Committee—South, Mr. Barry Lepin; pastoral representative for the North, Mr. Curtis Congo.

As BC Association churches we have been challenged to be a part of that living Church of Christ, endeavoring to make Christ known to the lost world. (Rev. Robert Jaster, reporter.)

LEDUC, AB. A recognition of ordination service for the Rev. John Martens was held at Temple Baptist on May 6, 1979. The Rev. S. Schuster officially recognized the pastor's previous ordination on behalf of the Alberta Baptist Association.



After this service, a sod turning ceremony was held at the new church location, eight and one-half acres directly south of town. Mr. Peter Ohlman, chairman of the building committee for our present church, turned the first spadeful of sod; he is also a honorary deacon. Other brethren participating in the groundbreaking were Herman Bohlman, honorary deacon; Ed Ohlmann, building committee chairman; Elmer Wambold, chairman of the deacon board; Jim Samborsky, engineer, and Pastor John Martens. The place was dedicated to the Lord for the furthering of his work.

Construction began this summer on church facilities which will accommodate a congregation of six hundred. We praise the Lord for his leading. (Vi Fleck, reporter.)

CHEEKTOWAGA, NY. What a joyous occasion we had on June 3, celebrating Pastor Bernie Thole's 10th anniversary in the ministry. The Rev. Wayne Cox of Houghton College brought the message. A reception followed the morning service. Also honored were our high school and college graduates. Perhaps some of these young people will follow in Pastor Bernie's footsteps and enter our Lord's service. (Bernice Hartman, reporter.)

PARMA, OH. Nineteen persons from Redeemer Baptist Church attended Penn-Ohio Association, May 4-6, held at Calvary Baptist Church, Fremont, OH. Fremont is a relatively new church in our association; they hosted the occasion admirably. Rev. Richard Methner is the pastor.

Business was conducted by the moderator, Helmut Lotz. Our inspirational speakers were the Rev. Ray Harsch, N.A.B. director of evangelism, and the Rev. and Mrs. Art Helwig from Cameroon. (Ruth Strauss, reporter.)

EMERY, SD. The First Baptist Church held a farewell service on May 27, 1979, for the pastor, the Rev. Charles Hiatt, and his family. An informal evening of sharing and reviewing the events in the life of the church during the past five years which the Hiatts ministered here was enjoyed by the church membership. The membership grew from 347 to 378 during Rev. Hiatt's ministry.



Rev. and Mrs. Hiatt and their three sons, Tim, Jon and Aaron, left the end of May for New Jersey, where Rev. Hiatt studied at Adelphi University, Long Island, NY. The family now resides in Sioux Falls, where Rev. Hiatt is vice president for development, North American Baptist Seminary.



Two candidates were baptized by Rev. C. Hiatt at First Baptist Church, Emery, SD, on May 27, 1979, during the morning service. They, along with another young lady, were welcomed into the church as members. (Mrs. Otto Bleeker, reporter.)

FAIR OAKS, CA. Just before Halloween last year, Pastor David Moore gave a special sermon to our youth of Sunrise Baptist Church, "Hell on Earth, A Frightening View of What Satan is Up To." Through the working of the Holy Spirit, the young people were moved to burn all rock music records, tapes and books which are not proper for Christians to have. The following Wednesday, over 600 albums were burned on the church parking lot. The church is very thankful that the young people did away with this evil.

God's Volunteers served us in February 1979 for two weeks with a great blessing.

Under the direction of Pastor Gary Vosler, the mixed choir presented the Easter Cantata, "It Took a Miracle," by John Peterson. This was presented in the San Juan High School Auditorium with about 600 persons attending on Friday and about 800 people present on Sunday. These musical presentations were received enthusiastically and thankfully.

Our Vacation Bible School was held from June 10-15, 1979. Pastor Gustav Rauser addressed the adults on the subject of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. We are very thankful for these messages. On the average 562 persons were present every evening including children.

Since the winter of 1979, we have three services every Sunday morning because

our church building has become too small. On June 10, 1979, we had a united outdoor service at 9 a.m., attended by almost 900 persons. Pastor Eugene Kern preached on "Moving with God," based on Acts 1:1-14.

On Sunday, June 17, 1979, Pastor Kern baptized 24 believers. This brings to over 70 the number of people which joined the church thus far this year through baptism. The membership has now risen to more than 600.

The Lord Jesus has been blessing us above our requests and understanding, which causes us to worship him and be full of joy and thanksgiving. (Harry Tonn, reporter.)

HILDA, AB. The W.M.S. of the Hilda Baptist Church invited the ladies of the community to share in the observance of the World Day of Prayer in March. On March 25, we had a full church, when people from our community and neighboring towns came to hear the "Christian Cowboys." The service consisted of country and western music, gospel songs and testimonies, followed by lunch and a time of fellowship.

Our delegates returned from the Alberta Baptist Association very much helped and encouraged by the speakers and also by the fellowship with members from other churches in the Association.

On April 19 our ladies had the pleasure of spending an evening with missionary Tina Schmidt. The W.M.S. also sponsored a mother/daughter evening on May 1. About 65 mothers and daughters attended the program, which used the ideas from "Through the Looking Glass." refreshments were served.

The weekly Children's Hour ministry was concluded for this term with a program for the parents, consisting of songs by the children, some slides taken of the activities during the year, and a film, followed by lunch. The Rev. Dale Schlenker is pastor of the church. (Betty Kirschenman, reporter.)

BURLINGTON, ON. Pineland rejoiced in the baptism of five young people on May 6, 1979. Pastor Wenzel Hanik officiated. It was a blessing to witness the faith of these young people, three of whom are from non-church family homes.



We were also blessed by the ministry of Reimer and Nobuko Clausen on May 13, when they shared with us in the morning service.

Our senior high young people have recently been organizing and participating in one evening service per month. This was much appreciated and well received

by our members. (Audrey Prescott, reporter.)

STRASSBURG, KS. Easter Sunday evening the combined 40-voice choir of Strassburg and Emmanuel Baptist Churches presented the Easter message through the cantata, "Hallelujah, What a Savior," under the direction of Levi Suderman at the Marion Emmanuel Baptist Church.

A mother-daughter supper was held at the Strassburg Church on May 11. About 85 mothers, daughters and friends enjoyed the supper, after which Elsie Plenert from Hillsboro showed part of her doll collection.

The ladies then gathered in the church sanctuary where a play entitled, "Through the Looking Glass," portraying yesterday, today and tomorrow, was presented by Agnes Benhardt, Mary Lou Heiser, Ingrid Brygger and Autumn Chisholm with Joy Funk and Anita Ulch at piano and organ.

Strassburg Women's Missionary Society presented its annual missionary program Sunday evening, June 17, at the Strassburg Church. The Mac Foursom Quartet from McPherson presented the program to a large audience. Since it was Father's Day, all fathers present were honored and were special guests for the evening. The offering for the evening was sent to missions. (Reporter, Mrs. Jacob Stenzel.)

MINITONAS, MB. A total of 95 delegates and many visitors of the sixteen member churches of the Manitoba Baptist Association converged on the farming community and town of Minitonas, MB, April 26-29.

The activities of such gatherings usually fall into four parts: 1) The fellowship of greeting and meeting old and new friends in prayer, at the tables and in the homes. Thanks to the excellent preparations in the church, under the leadership of pastor Hero Ulrichs, and the efforts and services of the good women, this portion became a high point of joy. 2) Sermons, lectures and music form the second part. Again we had an overflowing measure: Dr. R. J. Kerstan did the impossible by preaching six times. Sharing his life's experiences in travels and editing the various publications, added to his Bible knowledge and ability to communicate; his messages were vibrant and relevant, particularly since he had preambled every message with "Get with..." The Rev. Reimer Clausen and his charming wife, Nobuko, brought the missionary challenge. There was always lively congregational singing and beautiful special music by individuals and the church band. But the musical highlight came in the presentation of the cantata, "Make it Clear," by B. Butterworth, by a 60-voice Winnipeg youth choir under the direction of Mrs. Caroline Lohse. The modern rhythmic and strongly percussion supported music was in full blending with the meaningful and committing words, bidding listeners to a deep spiritual relationship to Jesus Christ. These young people meant what they sang. Reports about the overall Confer-

stemmed rose to show appreciation for the guidance received during the year.

The Awana Boys 20 regular attenders received 15 awards and trophies (pictured). Much self-initiative must be shown by the Clubber in order to earn these awards and the Timothy trophy is earned by a cumulative 3-year point system. The various groups represented have all shown faithfulness to their programs and as a church we are proud and happy for what these young people and leaders have accomplished this past year, because of what this will mean to their lives in the years ahead.

Following the Awards Night program, the Church Social Committee served refreshments. Displays were set up by each participating club. Many visitors responded to the invitations and many new friends were made during the fellowship time. The entire church was given the opportunity to see how much the various young people's programs accomplish through this evening's activities. (Vera Zwar, church secretary.)

GRAND FORKS, ND. During May 1-4, a prayer seminar was held at Grace Baptist Church. This seminar was open to the community. Mr. and Mrs. Elton Gillman, Campus Crusade workers from San Jose,

CA, were the leaders. The prayer-time consisted of gathering together in small groups, selecting a psalm, each person reading a verse, choosing the key thought in the verse and thanking God for it. It was a delightful, rich and rewarding time of learning and fellowshiping together. (Mrs. Bonita J. Shambaugh, reporter.)

KANKAKEE, IL. Mrs. Paul Nevinn, director of the Dorm Parents at Moody Bible Institute, spoke on "The Joy of Walking with God" at the spring banquet at Immanuel Baptist Church. Mrs. Leonard Foster presided. The program consisted of musical numbers and a reading. Mrs. Walter Dingfield, pastor's wife, closed in prayer. (Mrs. Gilbert Luhrs, reporter.)

CALGARY, AB. Both the God's Volunteers musical and follow-up teams ministered at the Thornhill Baptist Church in May. The songs of the music section encouraged the hearts of many. Their dedication to the Lord inspired especially our young people to commit themselves anew to Christ.

The follow-up team trained a number of our people in survey calling. These persons returned, reporting excitedly how God used them to lead others to Christ. Shortly after the campaign, the youth group shared what God had been doing in

their lives. Five hundred contacts were made resulting in 25 prospects. We are truly grateful for the ministry of God's Volunteers. (Wilfred Kazmaier, reporter.)

KITCHENER, ON. On June 2, 1979, the Salem Baptist Church called an ordination council of the Eastern Association for the examination of the candidate, Dieter P. Reda. Twelve churches were represented by 26 delegates. The Rev. Rubin Kern served as moderator, and the Rev. Fred Merke as clerk. After hearing Mr. Reda's presentation and numerous questions and remarks, the council voted unanimously to recommend that the church proceed with the ordination service, which was held the same evening.

The Rev. Otto Ertis presided at the ordination service. The Rev. Alfred Grams preached the ordination message; the Rev. Fritz Goliath gave the charge to the candidate. The ordination prayer was led by the Rev. Otto Ertis and the Rev. Alfred Grams. The charge to the church was given by the Rev. Fred Merke. The Rev. Wilmer Quiring, area secretary, extended the hand of fellowship into the ministry to the candidate. The Rev. John Goetze brought greetings from the home church. A love offering was presented to the candidate. (Rev. Fred Merke, clerk of the council.)

■ **Greg Grigsby** has joined the staff at Sunrise Baptist Church, Sacramento, CA.

■ **David Chase** resigned as associate pastor to youth, First Baptist Church, Elk Grove, CA, 1978.

■ **The Rev. Douglas Kellough** resigned as pastor of Bethel First Baptist Church, Prince Rupert, BC, to continue studies at Arcadia University in Nova Scotia.

■ **Mr. David Rapske**, a 1979 N.A.B. Seminary graduate, has entered the U.S. Army chaplaincy program and is stationed in Ft. Ord, CA.

■ **The Rev. David Korb** accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Emery, SD, effective Sept. 1, 1979. He previously was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, PA, since 1976.

■ **The Rev. John Terveen** resigned as associate pastor, Salt Creek Baptist Church, Portland, OR, to continue stu-

dies at Edinburgh, Scotland.

■ **Randy Cook** became the assistant pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Bethlehem, PA, on July 1, 1979. Previously he was assistant pastor of Pearl St. Baptist Church, Bridgeton, NJ.

■ **Dr. Ray Niederer** is the new pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA. He previously served Calvary Baptist Church, Aberdeen, SD, since 1974.

■ **The Rev. Dallas Strangway** resigned from the pastorate of Greenfield Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, where he has served since 1979 to accept a call to Southdale Alliance Church, Winnipeg, MB.

■ **The Rev. Herman Kersterke** became the pastor of a church extension work, the Crows Nest Pass Baptist Church, Blairmore, AB, on Sept. 1, 1979. Rev. Kersterke was pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Beulah, ND, since 1977.

■ **The Rev. Herman Pohl** resigned as

pastor of Center Baptist Church, Milwaukee, WI, where he served since 1970 to accept a call from a church not affiliated with the N.A.B. Conference, effective Aug. 1, 1979.

■ **The Rev. Michael Pennington**, pastor of the Church Extension work in the Naperville-Warrenville area in Illinois, was ordained by the Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, IL, on Oct 5, 1979.

■ **The Rev. David Priestley** resigned as pastor of North Sheridan Baptist Church, Peoria, IL, where he has served since 1974. He will pursue doctoral studies at Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, IL.

■ **The Fellowship Baptist Church of Cranberry Township**, Evans City, PA, was approved as an N.A.B. Church Extension project of the Penn-Ohio Association as of June 1, 1979, and by the Church Extension Board of the N.A.B. Conference. **The Rev. Larry Cavin** is the pastor of the church.

in memoriam

ALVINA VOTH APPELGET, 91 of Benton Harbor, MI, was born at Bingham Lake, MN, September 18, 1887, and died April 25, 1979. She married George Appelget Sept. 30, 1906, at Waldheim, SK. Since 1928 she lived in Benton Harbor, MI. In her childhood, she accepted Christ as her Savior, and was a faithful witness and member until the time of her death. She always had the Lord's work at heart. Survivors include three sons: John of Seattle, WA, Ervin of Stevensville, and Walter of St. Joseph, MI; two daughters: Mrs. Norman Moore of Bedford, IN, Mrs. Charles Davidson, Benton Harbor; two sisters: Sarah Ratzlaf and Elizabeth Mantei of Canada; three brothers, David Voth, Benton Harbor, Isaac and Henry Voth of Canada; 16 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren. Her husband, one daughter and one son preceded her in death. The Rev. Oscar Fritzke of Oakridge Baptist Church, St. Joseph, MI, officiated at the funeral services.

PHILIPINE BAUMILLER, 75, of Linton, ND, died April 22, 1979, was born Dec. 31, 1903, in Russia and immigrated with her parents

to the United States as a young girl. She accepted Christ as her Savior and was baptized. She was an active and faithful member of First Baptist Church, Linton, ND, where she was involved in the Women's Missionary Society. Her husband, Jacob, predeceased her on Aug. 19, 1973. Survivors include five daughters: Alice, Florence, Bernita, Deana and Linda; two sons, Arnold and Leroy; 15 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and one sister. The Rev. A. J. Fischer and Rev. Clyde Zimbelman were the officiating ministers at the funeral service.

ALFRED A. BREDIN, 88, was born in Cholosna, Wolhynia, on Jan. 18, 1891. He died on May 5, 1979. As a young man he accepted the Lord and was baptized. On May 29, 1917, he married Natalia Kuehn in Omsk, Siberia. This marriage was blessed with four sons and two daughters. One of his daughters, Mrs. Mary Klassen, predeceased her father. In May of 1927, the Bredin family immigrated to Canada and lived in Beausejour, MB, before coming to settle in Kelowna, BC, in 1937. Brother Bredin was a sincere Christian who served his Master in his daily life and in the fellowship of the believers. He will be deeply missed by his loving wife, Natalia; four sons: Ervin of Kelowna, Sam of Edmonds, WA, Archie of Kelowna and Erman of Honolulu, HI, and one daughter, Ida Hemmerling of Kelowna; 19 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, nieces and nephews and a host of friends. The Rev. Richard Hohensee was the officiating min-

ister at the funeral service at the Trinity Baptist Church.

MRS. EMMA FISCHER, 77, Ashley, ND, the wife of John J. Fischer, died May 6, 1979. The former Emma Schauer was born near Ashley on March 14, 1902. On May 24, 1924, she was married to John J. Fischer. She was baptized in Johannestal Station as a young person and at the time of her death was a member of Ashley Baptist Church. Surviving her are her husband; daughter, Violet (Mrs. Ernest Goehring) of Long Lake, SD; son, Clyde of Eureka, SD; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Rev. Allan Gerber conducted the funeral service.

GEORGE G. FISCHER, 81, Ashley, ND, died May 1, 1979. He was born Jan. 6, 1898, near Artas, SD. On July 19, 1918, he married Magdalena Fischer who preceded him in death in 1963. On Aug. 7, 1964, he married Margaret Dollinger. Surviving are his widow; nine children: Eugene, Eureka, SD; Alberta, Chula Vista, CA; Richard, Cedar, MN; George Milbert, Victor and Gordon of Fargo, ND; Irene (Mrs. Calvin Kost), Herreid, SD; Ruth (Mrs. Ed Gimbel), Gladstone, ND; four stepchildren; 41 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren. Mr. Fischer was baptized into the Artas Baptist Church as a young man, and at the time of his death was a member of the Ashley Baptist Church. He had served as deacon, school teacher, and janitor. Rev. Allan Gerber conducted the funeral service.

ELMER C. FRICK, 81, was born in Durham, KS, on Jan. 22, 1898. He died on April 28, 1979. Elmer was married to Miss Pearl Spring on May 19, 1921, in Okeene, OK, and returned to his farming in the Durham area. In the spring of 1976, Elmer moved to Hillsboro, KS. Elmer had served as president, and was presently a director, of the Durham State Bank. He began a long and faithful service for his Lord when he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior on Aug. 7, 1944, was baptized by Rev. Lester H. Smith on Aug. 20, 1944, and received into the membership of the First Baptist Church of Durham. For 23 years Elmer served as deacon of the church and for the past 10 years was an honorary deacon. For many years he also faithfully served as an adult Sunday school teacher. Survivors include his wife, Pearl; two daughters; and two sons-in-law, Mildred and Wilbur Hanenman of Peabody, KS, and Franches Unruh of Newton, KS; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, and Oliver. Preceding him in death were three brothers and five sisters, and a son, Marvin. His favorite and often requested song, "When the Roll is Up Yonder," is now reality.

REINHOLD GEIGLE, 80, of Washburn, ND, was born July 16, 1898, in Russia. He came to the United States with his parents and they settled on a farm near Tripp, SD. In 1914, they settled near Washburn, ND, where he grew to manhood. He was employed by the coal mines for a time, and then was employed for 37 years by the Otter Tail Power company. He was married

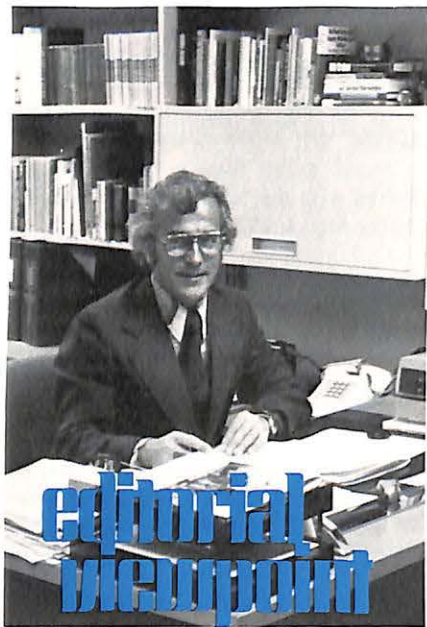
to Elizabeth Albrecht, March 22, 1924, at Washburn. He had accepted Christ early in his life, and became a member of Washburn Baptist Church after his marriage. He served as trustee of the church for a number of years, and was faithful in attendance until just a few days previous to his death. Mr. Geigle leaves his wife, Elizabeth; two daughters, Clara (Mrs. Vincent Smith) of San Diego, CA, and Marlene (Mrs. George Swanson) of Washburn; five grandchildren and one half-sister, Mrs. Frieda Baker, CA. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. Bernard Edinger.

JACOB J. GEIS, 86, was born in Durham, KS, on Nov. 6, 1893. He died on May 16, 1979. Jack was married to Miss Pauline Laufer on May 18, 1924, in Gotebo, OK, and returned to his farming in the Durham area. While attending business school in Salina, Jack accepted Christ as his Savior at the age of 21. (The individual instrumental in Jack's conversion was Evangeline Booth, the daughter of William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army.) Jack was baptized in May of 1915 at the First Baptist Church of Salina. By testimony he was accepted into the membership of First Baptist Church of Durham where he had faithfully served since. For many years Jack served the church as a trustee. Survivors include his wife, Pauline; one son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Marilyn Geis of Durham, one daughter and son-in-law, Herbert and Wilma Regier of Marion, and four grandchildren, a sister, Leah, and stepsister, Mrs. Mollie Borton of Durham. Preceding him in death were five brothers and two sisters.

EDWEN GRENZ died on June 4, 1979. He was born Oct. 17, 1904, in Napoleon, ND, where he was raised and educated. Mr. Grenz accepted Jesus as his personal Savior at the age of 15 and served many years in the church, in the choir, as treasurer, superintendent and teacher. On Oct. 15, 1931, he married Ida Goehring at Wishek, ND. The family moved to Bismarck in 1952. He leaves his wife; two sons: Kermit of St. Cloud, MN, and Chaplain Clinton Grenz of Jamesburg, NJ; five brothers, Roland and John of Bismarck, Adam, Portland, OR, Ernest, Sacramento, CA, and Jacob, Napoleon, ND; one sister, Mrs. Lydia Schauer, Napoleon, and three grandchildren. The Rev. Ron Norman was the officiating minister at the funeral service.

EDNA JACOBSON, of Hope, KS, was born Feb. 9, 1913, at Hope, KS, and died April 22, 1979. She married Karl Wolf in 1937. To this union were born three children. Karl preceded her in death in 1953. In 1964 Edna married Milton Jacobson. In 1965 Edna joined the First Baptist Church of Dickinson County, which she served faithfully until her death. Survivors include her husband, Milton; her children: Ken Wolf, Taylor, MI; Michael Wolf, Los Alamos, NM; Pam Brangaccio, Tulsa, OK; her stepchildren: Mrs. Calvin Guthals, Hope, KS; Mr. Roy Jacobson, Hope, KS; Mrs. John Eshbaugh, Herington, KS; Carol Jacobson, Herington, KS; Mrs. Loren Keller, Albuquerque, NM; fourteen grandchildren and many other friends and relatives. Jim Zier, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiated at the funeral service.

what's happening



Would You Like to Live on a Boat?

This morning, as I left for work, I made sure that all house doors were locked, the windows securely bolted, the air conditioner set slightly higher and the lights off. Once at my office, I looked through my mail. One small photo caught my immediate attention. It came from one of the world relief organizations along with an urgent appeal for financial help.

In the course of one week I receive a goodly number of appeals, so that I have developed a callus against fund-raising mail. My giving is done in "orderly" fashion, mainly through our local church and also through the channels of reputable charity and relief organizations. I don't want to leave it to chance where my money will go.

But back to the small photo. Turning it over, I read the following inscription:

"There were 88 on board the first little boat we helped—including seven Christians who wept with joy. How wonderful to be part of the answer to their prayers."

Then I studied the picture again. A small rundown boat loaded with wall-to-wall people. Although the faces of these Vietnamese refugees were marked by the hardship and stress of their recent past, yet most of them beamed a smile of hope and security. In contrast to thousands of their fellow refugees who had been put out to sea, left to a gruesome fate of dying a slow death of starvation and rejection, these 88 had received help. A rope tied them to the big ship of a Christian relief organization. The contact was made. They held on to the rope, which to them had become a lifeline.

But what about the others? Many hundred thousand refugees from Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam have not managed to convince the western nations that their escape was an attempt of naked survival. Thus Thailand and other nations have taken these refugees and loaded them on boats or buses and put them on a homeward course. The trouble is that these people no longer had a home. In their despair hundreds sought death in the ocean by simply jumping overboard.

I could not take my eyes from this photo. My main concern this morning had been the protection and safety of my house. These people had neither home nor house. They did not have to worry about locked doors and controlled air

ly after the war were our "lifeline." In a very practiced sense they really sustained us in our poverty. Yet they were more. They were the visible proof that somewhere in the world there were people who cared, there were fellow Christians who loved not just with words but with deeds of love, who were praying for us while at the same time feeding us.

It is not my intention to accuse any nation for not taking stronger action with regard to the "boat people." But it is my hope, that we as Christians will tune in our ears (and hearts) to Christ's voice when he tells you and me: "I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed



conditioning. They did not even think back to the morning. Their main concern was to stay alive.

Then I asked myself how I could help them. In the very same pile of mail I received a press release from the Baptist World Alliance, telling of the selfless efforts of Baptist missionaries and nationals in Asia. They were using their meager resources to bring help to Christians and non-Christians, to young and old, to people of all skin colors.

And suddenly I knew that here was a trustworthy channel through which I could send my help. More than 30 years ago concerned Christians had used the Baptist World Alliance organization to send CARE packages and other help to our family in war-torn Germany. No, we didn't live on a boat, and neither did we live in a slum. But we knew what starvation, danger and deprivation were. There was want everywhere. Four of us worked, lived and slept in the only liveable room of our bomb-scarred apartment. Hunger was our constant companion. Many fellow citizens committed suicide, seeing no hope for the future.

But as Christians we did have hope. Christ was our daily hope and comfort. We stayed close to him and his people. And the relief packages we received short-

ly; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me" (Matt. 25:35-36). And should we be utterly surprised at such a pronouncement from our Lord, he then will explain:

"I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did it for me" (Matt. 25:40). RJK

P.S. Contributions to aid the Vietnamese "boat people" and other refugees in the world may be sent to N.A.B. Conference International Office, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181, marked "Relief Fund."



letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

The article by Dr. A. Patzia, "Testing Our Religious Experiences" in May 1979

p. 6, was and is "A 1." Thank you. Please publish more such searching and sobering criteria of our Christianity. Helmut Dymmel, Salem, OR.

Dear Editor:

I hope we each will take time to write to our Congress people, urging them to call upon the new government of Great Britain to introduce safeguards to protect individuals from maltreatment while detained in Northern Ireland, by police, under emergency legislation.

NEWS FLASH

(Continued from page 3)

tion of Sierra Leone, and the Union of Latvian Baptists in the USA.

One full morning session was devoted to an open forum on relations between "younger" and "older" churches in the world of fellowship. Edwin Lopez of the Philippines declared that "all churches, old and new, are called to obey the Great Commission which is the unfinished work of Jesus Christ, regardless of age or resources. All of us stand on the same platform of earth, immersed in our times, to address the gospel truths to all the world."

Duke K. McCall, president of the

As outlined earlier this year, Amnesty International, the organization that was awarded the 1977 Nobel Peace Prize, said some of its concerns are:

- the isolation of persons in police custody, in particular the systematic denial of access to solicitors, which increases the risk of maltreatment during interrogation;
- inadequate machinery for investigating complaints of maltreatment by police;
- certain aspects of the emergency legislation particularly the rules relating to the

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, was nominated by the council for election as BWA president at the organization's 75th anniversary congress in Toronto, July 8-13, 1980. If elected he will succeed Hong Kong layman David Y. K. Wong, who was elected in Sweden in 1975.

Gerhard Claas of Hamburg, West Germany, was nominated for the office of general secretary. Claas has served since 1975 as the BWA associate secretary for Europe. If elected at the Congress in Toronto, he will move to the Alliance headquarters office in Washington. Dr. Denny, general secretary since 1969, will retire in 1980.

The council also adopted resolutions

WOMANS WORLD

(Continued from page 9)

nursing aides—are so grateful to have materials with which to work in learning their skills: bandages, cotton squares, dressings, and adequate bed linens. They take their final exams at the government hospital and always experience difficulties in doing their practical exams because of the lack of supplies that they feel are essential in giving nursing care. At such times they are reminded of their good for-

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from page 21)

tory at Yale where he taught for 42 years.

In his active retirement the author still thinks in terms of religious history—not merely for the sake of history, but as a measure for the understanding man. Perhaps as an elder Christian statesman he can also afford to be prophetic.

Examining fate, cycles, patterns and causation, he then introduces God and Christ to history. The meaning of history is not measured without consideration of whether it is directed by God, throws light on the nature of man and God, and whether God invests with meaning the historical mystery. Disaster, suffering and sin are not easily explained. There is still a hidden God whose ways are past

tune in working in a place which has the support and love of Christian people.

It is impossible to express in words what White Cross has meant to me. I have probably handed out more baby layettes than anyone else because I work at Banzo where we deliver over 1,600 babies a year, and I have always been in charge of our Maternity Ward and training school there. I try in a small way to express my gratitude when I meet with women's groups. The requests from the

finding out, and there is a revealed God—by Jesus Christ his only Son, through whom we have light and life.

But our responsibility goes beyond our personal relationship to God when we have great-grandchildren who will have to live in a world we created.

PAUL: A MAN OF STEEL

AND VELVET. By James T. Dyet, Denver, CO. Accent Books. \$1.45.

The author is executive editor of *Baptist Publications* and editor of *Pastor's Manual*. He is also acquainted with our Conference since he served as interim pastor in one of our Denver churches.

Mr. Dyet's assessment of Paul is best described in his short, pointed descriptions: man of steel and velvet, Christlike character and unshakable convictions.

admissibility of confessions in court, had helped to create the circumstances in which maltreatment could take place.

I hope we will also urge our Congress people to call upon Great Britain to allow an independent, impartial, international organization with particular expertise in the field of prison visiting to investigate the conditions in the "H Blocks" in the Maze Prison in northern Ireland. Many concerns have been raised throughout the world about these conditions. Richard Byrd, St. Petersburg, FL.

on world hunger, the energy crisis, the plight of dispossessed and homeless people, and religious liberty and human rights. It approved an operaget of \$561,000 for 1980 and heard treasurer Fred B. Rhodes project a budget of \$633,000 for 1981 operations.

All 12 vice presidents and two past presidents were present for the sessions. However, President Wong was absent because of a respiratory illness that struck him in New York, enroute to England.

Attendance of three representatives from Burma marked the first time in 16 years that delegates had been permitted to leave that socialist nation to participate in a world Baptist gathering. □

field were large this year. The new Chaffee Memorial Ward at Banzo was opened plus the new Health Center. Missionary doctors and nurses cannot imagine how we could possibly work without the help of White Cross. In our hospitals, maternities and health centers and out-station clinics, these "bundles of love and grace" remind us of your love and faithfulness and of God's grace that called us into his service in Cameroon. Thank you all so much.

From *the Rise and fall of a Pharisee to the finish line*, the author gives us a rare and meaningful biographical commentary on the life of Paul. Written in a free flowing style, it is valuable to the serious student of the Bible and, in particular, to the lay person.

NOTICE

The Annual Incorporation Meeting of The Baptist Home, Bismarck, ND, will be held Oct. 9, 1979 at 10:00 a.m., followed by the Annual Program at 1:30 p.m. Both meetings will be at The Baptist Home chapel, 1100 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck.

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