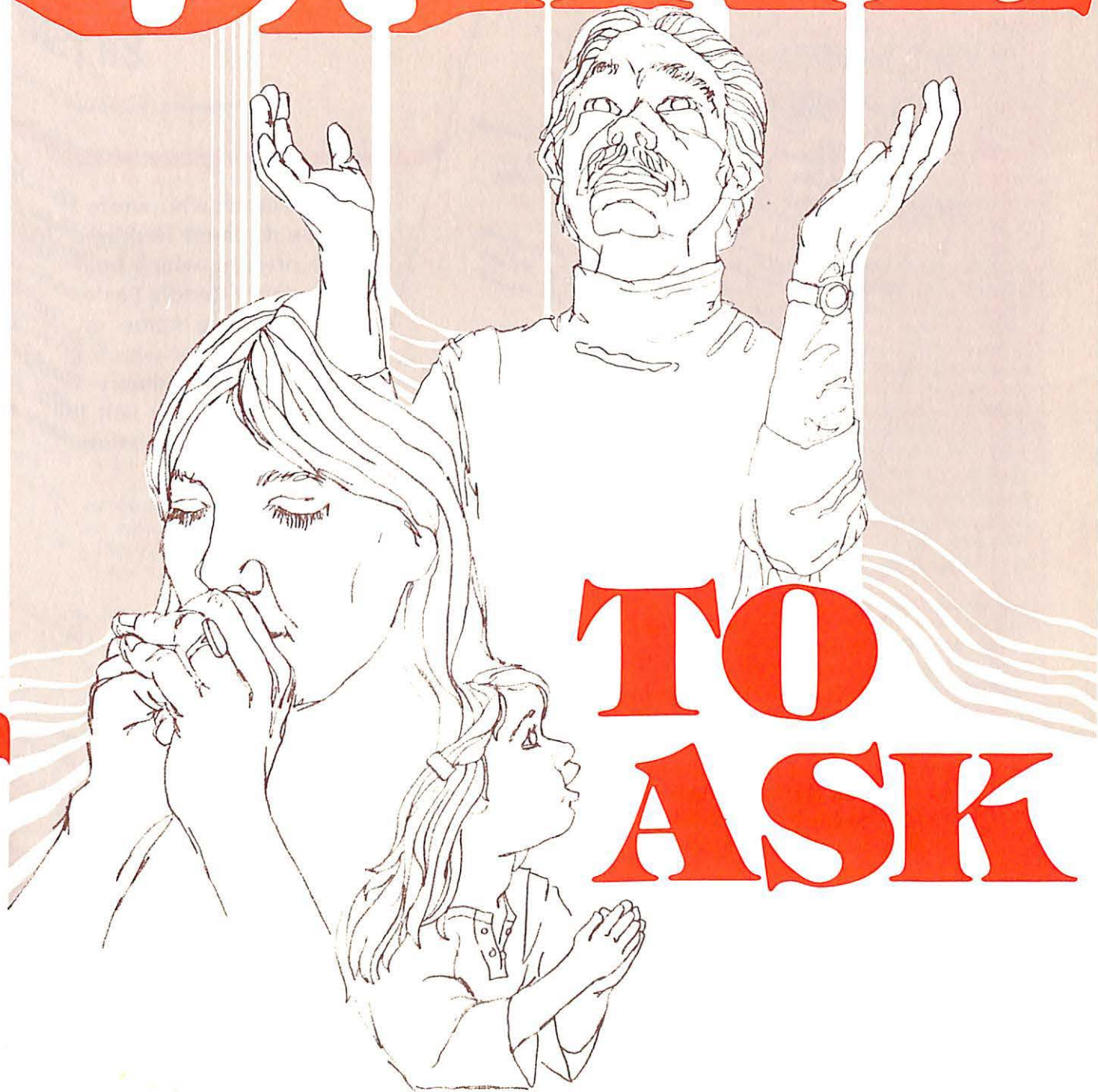


Baptist Herald

DARE



**TO
ASK**

March
1980

**1980 Laura Reddig
Easter Mission Offering Goal**

\$300,000

Dear Friend,

I heard in a round about way that a dear lady said to Laura Reddig, "Don't you think it's about time that someone else gets the Easter offering?"

Evidently she was under the impression that Laura gets the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering and not the N. A. B. Conference

As have it understood that she does not receive the offering but that it goes into the N. A. B. Mission & Ministry Budget.

In our church the are going well our per excited over

The person who wrote this letter is correct. Laura Reddig does not get the offering which bears her name. The Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering is the name of the annual Easter offering which goes for the Mission and Ministry Budget. The goal of \$300,000 will help support more than 100 missionaries serving in five countries.

Here are samples of what the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering will help provide:

IN CAMEROON

- \$ 1,000 Radio work
- 2,000 Scholarships
- 2,600 Theological Education by Extension
- 3,900 Youth and women's work
- 9,000 Accounting department on the field
- 13,000 Training assistance—missionary children
- 16,000 Towards mission vehicles
- 19,000 Maintenance of twelve mission stations
- 19,000 Coordination and direction of field ministries
- 27,000 Evangelism by missionaries in all fourteen fields
- 40,000 Training Cameroon pastors

- 5,700 Insurance and legal expenses
- 6,400 Public transportation and communications
- 9,000 Mission vehicles and travel
- 12,000 Training assistance—missionary children
- 18,000 Rent for missionaries and Japan church workers
- 30,000 Japan church workers' salaries

IN BRAZIL

- \$ 450 Language study
- 800 Training of pastors
- 850 Church supplies and equipment
- 2,000 Communications
- 2,000 Maintenance of buildings and equipment
- 3,000 National workers' salary
- 3,000 Training assistance—missionary children
- 6,000 Missionary home rentals
- 14,000 Mission vehicles and travel

IN NIGERIA

- \$ 3,000 Evangelism in two fields
- 6,200 Maintenance of two mission stations
- 7,000 Training for Nigerian pastors
- 7,500 Towards mission vehicles
- 8,000 Coordination and direction of field ministries
- 9,600 Training assistance—missionary children

IN COLORADO AND TEXAS

- \$ 1,500 Camping program for Del Norte and Monte Vista
- 2,150 Coordination and direction of ministries in Rio Grande and Edinburg
- 3,000 Subsidy for Baptist Health Center, Monte Vista
- 6,000 Travel expenses of missionaries

IN JAPAN

- \$ 2,000 Language study
- 2,500 Christian education and evangelism
- 3,000 Maintenance of buildings and equipment

baptist herald

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NEWS FLASH

Canada Says "Welcome" In 18 Languages

In an hour-and-a-half, a driver can leave Canadian immigration at Niagara Falls, drive along the fruitbelt on the shoreline of majestic Lake Ontario, cross Hamilton Harbor at the Burlington Skyway, and drive right up to Toronto's famed CN Tower—the world's highest free-standing building. That same CN Tower throws its thin shadow over the site of the 1980 Congress of the Baptist World Alliance. Here, more than 10,000 Baptists will converge by auto, camper, train, plane or boat, July 8-13, 1980. They will pray, sing, listen, speak and share Christian experiences.

Canadian Baptists are putting out the welcome mat. Moreover, it spells "welcome" in quite a few "tongues," for Baptist ministries in cosmopolitan Toronto are conducted in 18 languages.

Baptists should start planning now to visit Toronto. Thousands of hotel rooms are reserved for would-be guests. Many will bring a tent and trailer and try some of the campgrounds. A few might take a train ride for more than 4,000 miles across the country. Others might arrive as early as June 21 to travel far north to the land of the midnight sun, then move south to Toronto.

Canadians are calling the 1980 Congress "Inspiriholiday" because it combines the best of touring in Canada with an experience of prayer, praise and spiritual profit. □

BWA News Release

After a five year's absence from West Africa, I have seen tremendous progress in Nigeria and Cameroon. The bustle and improvements are seen on all sides. Nigeria and Cameroon are in the busy process of nation building.

Stepping Ahead in Nigeria and Cameroon

by Fred Folkerts

In Nigeria

The Hillcrest School in Jos continues to offer a high caliber education for children of missionaries, but also is expanding its intake of non-mission children to offer a Christian education to many international students—Nigerian children included. Many of them come away from school with a new-found faith in Jesus Christ as personal Savior.

High up on the Mambilla Plateau at Mbu, the Mambilla Baptist Theological School is forging ahead with an increased staff, many new buildings and a record enrollment



Fred Folkerts addressing the Belo Field Bible Conference.



Belo Field churches honor Fred Folkerts with a beautiful native robe.



Student pastor's wife and child at Mambilla Baptist Theological School, Mbu.

of forty students. The total operating budget for this pastor's training school is met by the local Christians. Not included in the local operating budget are the salaries, housing and program costs for missionaries, which are met by North American Baptists. Our Nigerian brethren need and ask for our continued help.

Missionary nurse Miss Barbara Kieper plans to begin an entirely new program of preventive medicine and rural health clinics. This much needed service has been started to replace the hospital work at Warwar which we transferred to government administration in 1976. A new home will be built soon for Miss Kieper at Mayo Daga, where 18 new churches have sprung up in the past several years. It is a new area for missionary effort.

A new mission station also has been established this year at Mbanga. Missionary Ed Hoepner now has completed construction of this station and will use it as a springboard for an aggressive program of Theological Education by Extension. The 115 churches of the Convention desperately need more trained pastors, and on-the-job training is

The Rev. Fred Folkerts is general secretary of the N.A.B. Missions Department.

Within this context the Mambilla Baptist Convention, the Cameroon Baptist Convention and the missionaries who work with them are stepping briskly ahead to build and broaden the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

under way to upgrade the performance of young untrained pastors through supervision, study and practice.

Missionary field secretary, the Rev. Peter Schroeder, shepherds the various programs through a maze of hardships and frustrations, while treasurer Curtis Radke keeps a sharp eye on expenses. A bag of cement costs \$16-\$18 at Gembu.

The Convention leaders enthusiastically are concentrating on church growth. Their goal for the next two years is "Each One Reach One." Also, they are making efforts to conserve small pastorless congregations. A recount of Christians this year indicates that many have become dis-

couraged without a pastor and have left the church. Pray for these efforts in Nigeria.

In Cameroon

With amazingly good success, Baptist primary school administrators have taken determined steps ahead to save their schools from a tremendous debt. Externally regulated school fees, a declining government subvention and many changes in school and financial administration led Baptist primary schools over several years into a debt of over 50 million francs (approximately \$240,000). The picture has changed by disciplined collection of school fees, increased ratio of students to teacher, and frugal employment of teachers, so that the debt has been reduced to 16 million francs (approximately \$76,000). School buildings had fallen into disrepair, but efforts on the part of communities and parents have helped to keep the buildings useable. Much still needs to be done to upgrade the furniture and premises of most of the primary schools.

The post primary colleges are thriving with continued high enrollment. The new Schroeder Memorial Chapel at Kom Baptist Technical College in Belo has enhanced the facilities there and has strengthened the spiritual life of the

college. This school has struggled through a shaky period of transition from teacher training to technical education. Much equipment and additional buildings still are needed to ensure the well-being of the program. The Boys Secondary School at Soppo is forging ahead with construction of a permanent science department. By careful management, the school built up a reserve to pay for the new construction. This school has good chances to become one of the



Mothers in waiting at prenatal clinic, Bansa Baptist Hospital.



Dr. Dieter Lemke and young patient, children's ward, Bansa Baptist Hospital.



Short-term missionary Teresa King and student at Saker Baptist School.



Winning Choir at choir competition during Belo Bible Conference.



Missionary Bert Milner and Bansa Field pastors.

furlough of Dr. Schmidt. Mbingo Hospital has established an effective health clinic at Bamenda where its services are greatly in demand. It is fully self-supporting, and Mbingo is considering establishment of other much needed clinics. Leprosy treatment and control are still a major concern at Mbingo, where a full general hospital is in operation along with farming and other self-help projects.

Two years ago the Cameroon Baptist Theological College at Ndu began a new course to upgrade the level of instruction at the school and to offer a higher certificate for five years of post primary education. The new course is equivalent to a secondary school education. As the previous course phased out and the new course began the enrollment dropped, but it will increase again when all five years of the new course are in operation. This new course will make it possible for selected pastors to continue their education into university and toward a master of divinity degree.

Over 300 on-the-job pastors have completed at least one course of Theological Education by Extension over

nation's strategic colleges in the Southwest Province capital.

Saker Baptist College at Victoria and Joseph Merrick Baptist College at Ndu are flourishing with a high demand for entrance into these well-managed schools. JMBC has waited patiently for a student chapel, because school funds have not been adequate to build it.

Plans have been in place for several years to extend the facilities and services of the dispensary-maternity at Mbem. The "Bread for the World" organization in Germany recently announced its grant of funds for this purpose. Nearly \$120,000 will be spent to bring better curative medicine and public health to the people of the Mbem area. Dispensary maternities at Belo, Bangolan and Jikijem have demonstrated during the past five years that medical facilities managed and staffed by dedicated Cameroonians are very effective self-supporting agencies for healing and spreading of the Gospel of Christ.

Bansa Baptist Hospital completed the Chaffee Memorial Children's Ward and has it filled to overflowing this year. A volunteer dentist set up a modern dental clinic at the hospital. And missionary doctors Lemke and Schmidt have added a specialty in eye surgery to the many other cases they treat. Presently, Dr. Dieter Lemke alone carries the whole staggering load of doctor services during the

past five years. Many of these pastors are young and some have not completed primary school. These TEE courses are offered to allow them to complete 20 courses and receive a regular certificate equivalent to the previous three years of training at the Theological College.

Evangelism Crusades have been planned each year for the past three years for all of the seventeen fields in the Convention. Missionaries and local pastors have organized them, and hundreds of new converts have resulted from the Crusades. Careful follow-up is being organized to add these new converts to local Baptist churches.

Hurdles to Cross

More than 50 percent of the population of Cameroon is under age 25. There is a tremendous challenge before us to reach these youth for Christ. They are eager to pursue goals, and we need to offer them worthy ones. Only a few of the older generation have higher training and fill posts of responsibility. There is an enormous task ahead of us to help train another generation of youth for leadership in the church of Jesus Christ.

(Continued on page 31)

Pray for Your Missionaries

by Larry Scheffler

Have you ever prayed, "Lord bless the missionaries out in the foreign fields?" Did you ever receive an answer to your prayer? How would you know?

I realize that it is hard to pray for a missionary who is 10,000 miles away on another continent, especially when the last time you heard from him was six months ago. How can you pray for a crisis on the mission field, if it is already ancient history when you first hear about it? It is true that Jesus promised his followers that they would receive great things if they would ask. But how can you intercede specifically for missionaries when you don't have the faintest idea what to ask for?

You can pray effectively for us, who serve as your missionaries, even though you haven't had a last minute news update from the field. As a missionary, I highly value the daily prayer support of dedicated Christians at home. Many of the struggles we face are spiritual struggles. These struggles are further aggravated by living in a distant land and a strange culture. We need your prayers daily, if we are to minister effectively.

What are some of the struggles we face overseas, and how can you pray for them more effectively? We all need to be upheld in prayer in the struggle we face in loving others. The Scriptures command us to love one another. Yet most of us would readily admit that we struggle when it comes to putting love into action. Most of us find it hard to love people even within our own church and community. We are impatient with people and criticize their actions without a second thought. It is infinitely harder to love people on another continent, where attitudes and customs are so different.

When I first arrived in Cameroon, I suddenly found myself in a situation that was totally different than anything I had ever experienced. I found I couldn't even communicate with people, much less get close to them. It took several months before I was able to understand and accept my Cameroonian brothers as real people, with whom I could really share and care. Even then it was easy to fall into the trap of not loving those with whom I was called to work. People didn't always respond the way I expected. Often they regarded my "perfectly normal actions" as strange. It was easy to find fault and harp on the imagined failures of my co-workers rather than try to understand the struggles they faced.

Love for your missionaries is not automatic. Pray daily that our love will abound and that we will be able to communicate that love effectively to our brothers on the mission field.

We also need your prayers for spiritual wisdom and discernment. Most problems that our churches face here in

The Rev. Larry Scheffler is missionary to Cameroon, presently on furlough. Larry is assisting in the Missions Department at the N.A.B. International Office.

North America are also present on the mission field. In addition, many thorny problems arise as a result of the different cultural setting. We missionaries sometimes have difficulties understanding the problems our national co-workers face. As a result we are tempted to offer simplistic solutions to what are very complex problems. Issues such as sorcery and polygamy seem remote to American churches, but they are real issues on the mission field. It is not enough to quote a few verses from the Bible and expect the problems to go away. If we missionaries are to offer spiritual leadership, we must endeavor to understand what our national co-workers are feeling. We must be careful not to substitute a western bias for a biblical solution. Pray daily that your missionaries will have spiritual discernment to deal with spiritual problems which are foreign to their background and training.

Missionaries are always on display. It is difficult to live a transparent life and be the kind of Christlike example we should be. Missionaries seldom understand all of the underlying social implications of their actions. We misinterpret and we are misinterpreted. What may appear to be good and right from our perspective, can turn out to be a curse when implemented in another society.

Americans are by nature very time conscious. We insist everything begin and end on time. We get very restless when a speaker goes to ten minutes overtime. Many African societies do not place the same value on punctuality. Thus for missionaries to insist that church meetings begin exactly at the appointed hour, in a society where the clock has little meaning, could actually distract from the gospel. We could easily give a national Christian the impression that we worship time more than the Lord. After all, punctuality is not necessarily a biblical virtue. God is not hemmed in by two hands on the face of a clock. American missionaries must recognize that they bear witness to Jesus Christ and not a western lifestyle.

Likewise missionaries need to be considerate of local customs. In some parts of Cameroon it is considered an offense to give or receive an object with the left hand. While national Christians may be patient and sympathetic, receiving objects left-handed still goes down as being about as uncouth as blowing one's nose at the dinner table.

Missionaries sometimes become weary of being on display. It is a constant challenge to know what is appropriate in any given situation. Pray that your missionaries will be good examples as they represent Jesus Christ in a foreign land.

Above all, missionaries need patience. Most of us go overseas full of energy and enthusiasm. Unfortunately progress does not always come as fast as we would like. We may lack the personnel and resources to carry out our plans. We may become impatient with those who do not recognize the value of our proposals. We become frustrated with delays. It is easy to get discouraged when landrovers break down, letters get delayed, supplies are out of

stock, and financial resources are short. There is a tendency to blame ourselves when the response to the gospel is not all that we expected.

Pray that your missionaries will have the strength to live with discouragement and the patience to wait for God's time, as they communicate the good news of Jesus Christ.

Most missionaries I know are highly motivated people. They have learned to adapt to the difficulties and frustrations that arise in trying to relate the gospel of Jesus Christ to people of another culture. They really care about people. They gladly make sacrifices in order that God's work

can go forward.

As missionaries we are not supermen, we are human beings. The problems and frustrations of the mission field can be very real, and life can be lonely at times. You can fill some of these gaps in our lives with your prayers. As you pray, pray for specific missionaries and pray for specific needs in our lives. And pray consistently. We are counting on you to intercede on our behalf. Remember, when you forget to pray for your missionaries, you could be retarding the progress of the gospel and the growth of the church! □

Because You Prayed

by Lois Ahrens

Sitting at the breakfast table with open Bible, empty coffee cup beside her, Ellen thinks, "Lord, how often we pray for the missionaries, but are you really answering our prayers? Why don't we hear of these answers more often if you are?"

We are probably typical of most missionaries, in that daily we thank God for prayers on our behalf. Frequently, just the knowledge that we *are* being prayed for is a spot encouragement.

Somehow it is comparatively easy to relate to supporters how God is blessing in material or general ways, such as our recent fellowship-Sunday school addition, and how God has used this facility to promote a "family" feeling. It becomes a more difficult matter when wanting to tell of living people.

Most missionaries have become somewhat wary of relating answered prayers in individual lives. Too often, after a public exposure, it is as if Satan suddenly refocuses attention on them at their most vulnerable spots, and they fall back. But N.A.B. people *do* pray, and God *does* answer. Perhaps this then obligates the praying supporters to continue in prayer for growth in people, who have been reported on.

The past year evidenced some real answers to prayer in our work. As you read, will you commit yourselves to further prayer?

During special meetings with the God's Volunteers several years ago, a young couple accepted Christ. Their conversion was an indirect result of our clinic ministry. They began following the Lord falteringly. It seemed evident very soon, that the young father had quite a problem. He would become easily offended, usually over very trivial matters, become angry and withdraw from fellowship for weeks on end, refusing reconciliation. We

Lois Ahrens is the wife of Dr. Earl Ahrens. Both are missionaries to the Spanish-Americans in Monte Vista, CO.



Lois Ahrens

agonized through a number of such episodes, asking God to work forgiveness, love and a hunger for the Word in him by the Holy Spirit. In the last year, we saw only one such outbreak, and then for a briefer period of time.

Recently, in a morning worship service, this same man thrilled us all by telling how he has found joy in sharing Christ with his coworkers on his custodial job. God even led him to begin a prayer meeting with them at work. Just three weeks ago he brought one of these men with him to a special service. Two of his children are in our Bible club. Often, when the Bible lesson begins, one of them will say, "Oh, I know that story—my dad read it to me from the Bible at home!" This is surely God at work, as "Dad" has always hated reading, having had the benefit of less than a junior high school education. This whole family has become more consistent, with a beautiful love. They have even found joy in the grace of hospitality. We often asked you all to pray for consistency in our converts. Some of you prayed, and God answered. Thank him with us.

In November and December 1978, we visited a number of supporting churches in the midwest and California. During those visits we asked our supporters to pray with us for some lay help, a prayer burden we had had for a long time.

In January 1979, we had a telephone call from a young man named Charles Stillings. He asked whether he and his wife could come over and visit for a while. Even though we had other plans, we asked them to come right over. After five minutes of trivial conversation they told us this amazing story.

Charles had grown up in Alamosa, a town 17 miles away, where he attended a church which taught salvation but had little real Bible teaching. There he accepted Christ at an early age. Later he studied agriculture in a state college and met various Christians who sparked his spiritual interest. Behind him, also, were praying parents with consistent lives.

Later he married Margaret, a sweet Christian girl, who also had little exposure to in-depth Bible teaching. They now have an adorable little three-year-old girl. This quiet young mother was later in an interdenominational Bible study I belonged to, but we really didn't get well acquainted.

They farmed in Alamosa with Charles' father until about two years ago, when they moved to the grandparents' farm just outside of Monte Vista. At that time they started attending a fine Baptist church in our town, and loved it. They were invited to become active leaders, but each time they thought they'd join and become active, they experienced a peculiar but real restraint. They began praying about it. Each time they prayed about it, our name came to mind, so they thought God must want them to come and see us.

Now here they were in our living room

(Continued on next page)

asking, "Could it be that God wants us to join your mission fellowship and help?" I was ready to jump at this offer, but my husband Earl cautioned, "Let's take it slowly. You come regularly for a month or so. You folks pray and seek God's will, and so will we. Then we will see how God leads."

We were afraid of being hurt. There have been others who were going to help. Some did, beautifully. But eventually they had to go back "home" before anyone was trained to replace them. Others could not take the ups and downs of this difficult work or the depressing circumstances. Besides, what did we really know about this young couple? We had, however, felt a need for an integrated congregation, where Spanish-American and "Anglo" Christians would meet without barrier and in love.

Well, they did come! They fit in, and very soon a reciprocal love developed on the part of most. They loved the teaching in the Word and just glowed. After a month and a half they went forward one Sunday morning, gave their testimonies, and asked to join and become a working part of our fellowship. They were unanimously accepted.

Since that time we have seen how they are indeed one of God's "more than you can ask or think" answers to prayer: 1)

Charles began a long-needed, before-service men's prayer time. 2) They help teach Sunday school. 3) Margaret has taken several under-achieving girls under her wing to train in home skills; and we have watched these girls blossom. 4) They have opened their home to all with beautiful, warm hospitality. 5) They have exercised the gift of encouragement. 6) Charles has shared musically, using his beautiful voice to enhance the worship service. 7) Most importantly, they are a beautiful example of Christian consistency. Charles was recently elected to be on the Board of the Wycliffe (Translators) Associates; so he needs to be away once quarterly, but even this has been beneficial to the local body.

In answer to the same prayer for lay help, two of the ladies have volunteered to help with the Children's Bible Club and are being blessed as they do so. One of them also plays the piano for the church services.

On a different level, we have seen a refreshing answer to prayer. I recently felt led to begin a series of lessons for the ladies on Self-Image, a badly needed study. Too many had experienced the "rejection syndrome" for years. Several ladies confessed to never having been cuddled or told verbally that they were loved as children. As you might expect, they in turn find touching, verbal expres-

sions of approval or love and asking forgiveness very difficult. We had long prayed about how to help. This class has been a partial answer.

Very recently one young mother came to our house just to say, excitedly, "I'm sending my children to school with a hug and an 'I love you' every day now. At first they were so embarrassed, but now they even behave a little better!" For quite some time we had prayed for this troubled family. There are still a lot of hurdles, but a partial answer is here, and we believe God has the rest waiting. Please help pray for complete harmony. (There are many families like this.)

Another first occurred this year, when one woman finally decided to "try it God's way," and asked for forgiveness of someone she had wronged. She has asked God's forgiveness two years ago, but went no further. She wondered why things went from bad to worse. We advised her to handle it the Scriptural way (Matt. 5:23, 24). She at first said, "I'd be killed if I did that," but decided to obey in faith. Later, she phoned and said excitedly, "I did it! I did it God's way, and it really works!"

This is the way we feel about prayer. It really works! Praise God, *he* really works, just as he promised! Thank you for working with him. □

How a Missionary Conference Has Benefited Me

by Gerald Scheel



Gerald Scheel

1. CONFIRMING SPIRITUAL TRUTHS

In Matthew 6:21 it says, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." We immediately think of money when we refer to this verse and this is good, because that is its primary meaning. However, there has been a more relevant blessing to me in this area, and this is in regard to time. Time is treasure. In our fast moving

society it seems that we have little time to do the things that we really want to do, or feel compelled to do. By investing time in the missionary conference, I have noticed that I am thinking a lot more about missions. As a pastor, I am much more sensitive to people around me regarding God's claim upon their lives for missions, especially young people. I have also found it personally easier to give financially to missions since I have heard of the needs.

God is never any man's debtor. He constantly confirms the truths that appear in his Word, so that our faith may grow and that we are equipped to do his task.

2. COOPERATION WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS

To coordinate a conference with twenty-four churches involved takes planning, because it has its problems. How-

ever, the job is lighter because we are blessed in the Edmonton area with people who are willing to give of their time and talents to help with the missionary conference.

There is a good spirit and a sense of mission that compels the various committees to complete their task so that the work of Christ will go on. In the Book of Ezekiel God spoke and said, "I look for a man among them who would build the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land" (Ezek. 22:30). God has looked and called many people to stand before him in the gap regarding bringing the needs of missions to the people in our area.

I have greatly appreciated getting to know the other members of the committee. Their special burden for missions has really encouraged me to reconsider my commitment to missions. The fellowship at the committee meetings was very special, when we realized that God was using our humble efforts for his glory, and that we would reap eternal benefits.

The sense of cooperation spills over into the churches as well. Each church is asked to give a certain amount to the operating expenses of the conference, so that the total offering can be sent to the current project. Each church has been willing to participate, and there has always been money left over from the operating expenses to help meet the project goal.

3. MEETING THE MISSIONARIES

Missionaries, I have found, are very special people. Yet they are just people. I have a fresh realization that the missionaries are brothers and sisters in Christ who have joys and sorrows, good days and bad days, great visions and disappointments. I found it so much easier to pray for our missionaries since I have had the opportunity to hear of specific needs and meet them personally.

The missionaries are very special people in that they have the ability to share the work to which they have been called, thereby giving people great blessings. The enthusiasm and the dedication are contagious. The positive attitude with which they share the work is fantastic. I've observed that many of them realize that, for various reasons, the work of missions is being held back, whether through lack of funds or personnel. Yet they have the ability to see that they are not responsible for what others do not do, but

responsible to God for what they do with their lives. I have found this attitude to be of great benefit to me, as I consider my own personal commitment to the task of ministry to which I have been called.

4. SEEING GOD MOVE

The most rewarding aspect of the missionary conference for me was to see the hand of God move in so many ways. We praise God that he saw fit to keep the missionaries safe during their stay here, and he blessed them with good health and a great spirit.

We praise God that we could see his hand at work in the area of financial giving in 1979. October is a financially difficult month. We have Canadian Thanksgiving, and our churches support the missionary project at that time. Two weeks later we had our own Missions Conference and we asked people to give liberally again. Our goal this year was \$18,000.00, which we as a committee felt was rather high, yet God compelled people of the Edmonton area to give more than \$20,750.00 toward the project. But for me personally, the most significant aspect was that this year's giving was up 40 percent over last year's. This indicates that God's people are willing to make sacrifices so that the work of missions goes forward, and that we can see people won for Jesus Christ.

Financial giving is good, but when you see people, especially young people, willing to give their lives to missions this is really exciting. Over the past two years thirty young people have indicated that they are open to missions if God would lead that way. There are several who are at this very moment responding to God's call and preparing for missionary service. We praise God because the excitement in the lives of these young people is contagious, for they know God is going to do great things through them as they give themselves to his work.

Not only the young, but also the old are responding to God's call. An older brother in Christ indicated to me that because of the missionary conference he is devoting 30 minutes a day to pray specifically for our mission work and the special needs of our missionaries. With this type of commitment we know that we have great years ahead because God is faithful. When we call upon his name, he will not turn a deaf ear, but will hear and answer. □



Rev. Clarence Walth

Walth Accepts Staff Position at Sunrise Baptist

The Rev. Clarence Walth, associate director of Development at North American Baptist Seminary since 1977, is now the Associate Pastor of Membership Care at Sunrise Baptist Church, Fair Oaks, CA.

While at the seminary, Walth has had primary responsibilities in giving leadership to the school's fund raising activities. He has been actively engaged in many church-related programs across the United States and Canada on behalf of

the seminary. He has also served as faculty representative on various student committees.

Rev. Walth's wife, Dorene, has taught school in Sioux Falls and conducted workshops for women, "Image Of Loveliness," during their time in South Dakota. She is currently the president of the North American Baptist Women's Missionary Fellowship. □

The Rev. Gerald Scheel is pastor of Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta



Part of the Family

by Helga Kahler

I like to think of world missions as one aspect of "the family of God." Each child of God performs a specific function as "part of the family of God." However, if each child of God spoke "of what we have seen or heard" as the Apostle Peter did, would it be necessary to have special Missions promotion? (Acts 4:20)

R. C. Halverson draws some interesting conclusions from Acts 2 which are relevant for evangelism and Missions. "When all who believed were together and had all things in common . . . they had favor with all the people as a result of which evangelism happened." "All things in common" includes an attitude toward possessions, as well as the act of worshipping God. In the first church "the Lord added to the church . . ." (Acts 2:47). In effect, God continues to add daily to the church on a worldwide basis. We, too, are witnesses of what God is doing.

In this article I would like to share "what I have seen and experienced" in relation to the N.A.B. mission program. Also, I would like to share some responses of some pastors and church members to my presentations in Manitoba churches.

The direct contact with the N.A.B. missionaries began over fifteen years ago. Since then, at least two letters annually were mailed to every missionary in behalf of the Rowandale Baptist Church in Winnipeg (prior to 1965 called "Third German Baptist Church"). Over the years many letters arrived from the mission-

Helga Kahler is a public school teacher. She lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where she belongs to Rowandale Baptist Church. In the past she has written several articles for BAPTIST HERALD reporting about her experiences on the mission fields.

aries. These letters were and still are being shared with the church members. Personally, instead of vacationing at popular resort spots, I chose to visit the mission fields to meet the "pen pals" at their place of service: Cameroon in January 1975; Japan in December 1977; Brazil in July 1979.

These visits strengthened the ties of the fields with the church. When missionaries pass through Winnipeg, they have often commented, "We know more about the Rowandale people through the letters than about our home churches. Letters give us encouragement." Meanwhile, the Rowandale members feel closer to the missionaries, too. This relationship has resulted in receiving letters with requests and concerns such as the following recent examples from Japan: 1) "Thanks for the pen pals for the two male English students. Both have since accepted Christ and have been baptized. Could you find another pen pal for this female English student?" 2) "I appreciate the stamps which I distribute among my English students. At present I am physically in low gear. Please pray for health and the new contact, Mr. A."

Beth Rabenhorst from Brazil considers a pair of gusseted panty hose "a very special gift." So would each lady reading this article, if you saw the nylon ringlets of the national product there. (By the way, our female missionaries in Japan appreciate the North American fit, too. The average Japanese women are slightly smaller, and so is the clothing. To find out if the men would appreciate good fitting socks, write them. They'll be glad to give sizes and color preferences.)

A lot more could be written about the joys of the correspondence. However, let me now share responses to my reports and slide presentations of the visits. A senior deacon of the Rowandale Baptist Church stated: "A lay person gives a dif-

ferent perspective of the field, relates some problems which help to understand the mission work better. It adds interest in wanting to know the missionaries better."

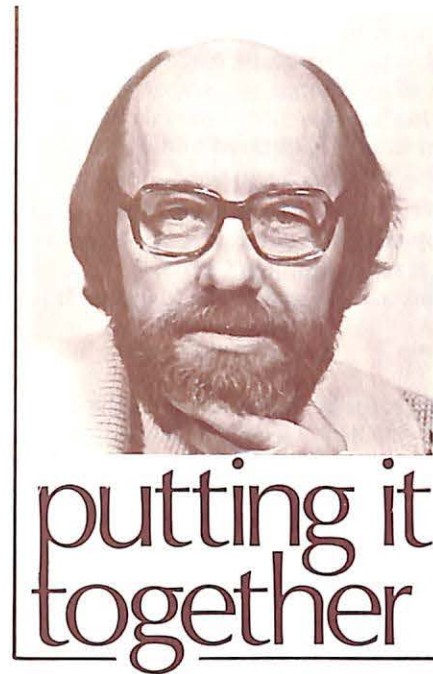
A church board member from a rural church in Manitoba added the following response: "It is good to see missionaries in person. A lay person's report about the mission fields gives different perspectives of the work and stimulates more incentive to support the work. A missionary's report might leave the impression that he or she is seeking support. Because missionaries live in those countries they take so much for granted, and sometimes they even neglect to share cultural aspects with congregations. Some cultural information makes a great impact on the younger generation."

A pastor felt quite strongly that sharing cultural information, as well as disappointments and encouragements, help to understand the work of the missionaries. "It was the first time we heard that the living quarters in Japan are basically quite small, including the washroom facilities. While the response to the Gospel is slow in Japan, it is encouraging to hear about the relative openness to the Gospel in Brazil and Cameroon. From a first-hand impression we can appreciate much more the inflation rate problems." (Example: In December 1979 a gallon of gasoline sold for \$2.68 in Brazil. No doubt, the prices are similar in Japan and Cameroon.)

Despite cultural or economic differences in the various countries, all missionaries have the same goal: *To tell the Good News to all who will hear* so that the "family of God" might grow. God's Word offers salvation through Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit continues to convict the unsaved and to minister to the missionaries—our representatives on the fields.

On each of the N.A.B. mission fields there are "precious pearls" like Florinda, the ex-nun novice of Caxias do Sul in Brazil (Matt. 13:45-46). When Florinda became a child of God, her family dissociated themselves from her. God's people are her family; and some foresee the day she will be greatly missed in the church, should God decide to call her home soon. Despite being a victim of cancer, Florinda serves her Lord wherever possible. Many of you might remember Florinda from the BRAZIL SINGERS.

I, too, am "so glad I'm part of the family of God" which exists in the above mentioned fields and around this globe. I appreciate the friendships which started in response to the letters many years ago. And I am also glad for the Rowandale ladies, who have been encouraged anew to send little tokens to members "of the family of God." □



putting it together

by Ernie Zimbelman

The young African teacher spoke with deep emotion. He was talking to his fellow student teachers at the Baptist Teacher Training College at Soppo,

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

book reviews

KRINKLE NOSE. By Dean Turner, Old Greenwich, CT, the Devin-Adair Company. \$4.95.

This is a story of a man who became a father later in life. As the subtitle indicates, it is a prayer of thanks to God for being given the responsibility of a tiny life. As he describes his interaction with his little son, he often prays for wisdom and guidance so that he can make him aware of what life is all about. The parents in turn also learn what Jesus meant when he talked about children and the kingdom of heaven.

Every new father should read this book. Mothers, too, will find it fascinating.

ACTS, AN EXPOSITION, VOLUME I CHAPTERS 1-8. By W. A. Criswell, Grand Rapids, MI. Zondervan Publishing House. \$9.95.

Cameroon: "When I realized that the words of Jesus, 'But if any of you causes one of these little ones who trusts in me to lose his faith, it would be better for you to have a rock tied to your neck and be thrown into the sea' (Matt. 18:6) were said about me, I was frightened and I changed."

I was impressed by this young teacher's words. As a missionary I knew that many African teachers and parents, in the name of discipline, practiced severe child abuse. I was amazed how the Holy Spirit had convinced this young teacher of his wrong ways.

Recently there have been several books, numerous articles, and television shows dealing with the problem of child abuse. Only the worst cases are written up in the newspapers. But there are many Christian parents who are guilty of simple child abuse and rationalize it as "the necessity of discipline."

Jesus said: "Let the little children come to me, and don't prevent them. For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matt. 19:14).

Paul said: "Fathers (parents), don't scold your children so much that they become discouraged and quit trying" (Col. 3:21).

Child abuse in ordinary Christian homes can take several forms. A parent may be physically abusive and give spankings which are really beatings. Some parents do this during neurotic fits of anger, while others are very cool and calculating about it. Other forms of

severe punishment used by parents are various forms of deprivation. This may involve locking children in closets or attics, or out of the house. It may involve the denial of food, keeping a child naked, or making them sit or lie in uncomfortable positions.

In addition to the concept of physical abuse, there are many forms of mental and emotional harm. This may involve open and abusive language to various kinds of more subtle hurting by negative comparisons or deliberate emotional neglect—real or threatened abandonment.

The tragedy about the child abuse situation is that usually parents or teachers who are child abusers were abused children. This means that the children they are now abusing may likely become abusers.

"But if any of you causes one of these little ones who trusts in me to lose his faith, it would be better for you to have a rock tied to your neck and be thrown into the sea" (Matt. 18:6).

If you have any question about the way you relate to children, discuss it with a competent person. Don't rationalize it or ignore your concern. The young teacher learned new ways of handling children. There are books and courses available that deal with child management concerns. You do not have to deserve "a rock around your neck."

Read Dale Evans Rogers' book on this subject: *Hear the Children Crying*, published by Fleming H. Revell Company. □

Dr. Criswell has been the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, for 35 years, and served as a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention. As an outstanding expository preacher, he is much in demand.

Even his sermon topics are appealing and thought-provoking: *The Matchless Ministry, Invincible Conviction, Shadow Ministries, Simony in the Sanctuary*. With these, and others, Dr. Criswell makes the *Book of Acts* come alive with emotion and action.

ADOPTED IN LOVE, CONTEMPORARY STUDIES IN ROMANS. By Burton H. Throckmorton, Jr., New York, NY. The Seabury Press. \$3.95.

This book is a rewritten form of the author's earlier little work, *Romans for the Layman*. Since *Romans* is considered to be the most theological book in the New Testament, the lay person should not be forced to confront all the intricacies and the theologically significant allusions and presuppositions that it contains. Dr. Throckmorton is true to the biblical text but is careful to take into account the lay person's pace. He tackles the difficult and

especially theological chapters 6-8, clarifying them without compromising the intention of the great apostle. However, when he comes to Romans 7:15-20, it is difficult to understand why the words, "wretched I, a human being! Who shall rescue me from this body of death?" should be the lament of a soul in gnosticism and not the experience of Paul himself.

Although Dr. Throckmorton has taken unusual pains to make Romans clear to the lay person, it must be emphasized that this is for a well-informed lay person and not for a novice.

THESSALONIANS. By David A. Hubbard, Waco, TX. Word Books. \$4.95.

Dr. Hubbard's aim is to open up the main themes of the faith, and is not intended to be a verse-by-verse study of Thessalonians. He digs down to the roots of our faith to discover what it really means. One way to do this is to look at what happened to people when they first heard the good news of God, like the first Christians in Thessalonica who were

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Coffee, Tea or Thee

by Shari Hildebrand

"Coffee, Tea or Thee" is the message given at the ladies' evangelistic coffees which we have in the discipling ministry of God's Volunteers!

A lady at the church hosts a coffee for her neighbors and friends. Two team members attend the social and present a program of interest to the ladies, and then tie in a devotional which shares the gospel or challenges them spiritually.



Linda (right) and Leeann share how to make a macrame hanger at one of the Ladies' Coffees.

One woman who hosted a coffee shared what a good experience it was for her to go and greet her friends. They were excited about the idea of getting together. The program gives an added spark to the coffee. For instance, one of the programs is on gift wrapping. It shows creative ideas to decorate gifts for all occasions. The devotional begins by sharing how people resemble presents, and then moves into God's gifts to us.

As the team has worked with "coffees," we have seen that they have much benefit to the people spiritually. The hostess' faith is stretched as she asked her friends and neighbors to come to a tea and explains that there will be a devotional. One hostess shared with us the struggle she had because some of her neighbors really intimidated her, but she decided to go ahead and invite them and love them by

Shari Hildebrand is the reporter for God's Volunteers.

faith. Surprisingly enough, the ones who bothered her the most were the ones who came and really responded.

By having a coffee in the home we are often able to reach people who wouldn't be reached if only a church setting were available. The home is a relaxed and comfortable environment, and the hostess can begin seeing a pattern of witnessing as a lifestyle. These coffees open the door, so that the guests may approach the hostess in future conversations about a personal relationship in Christ.

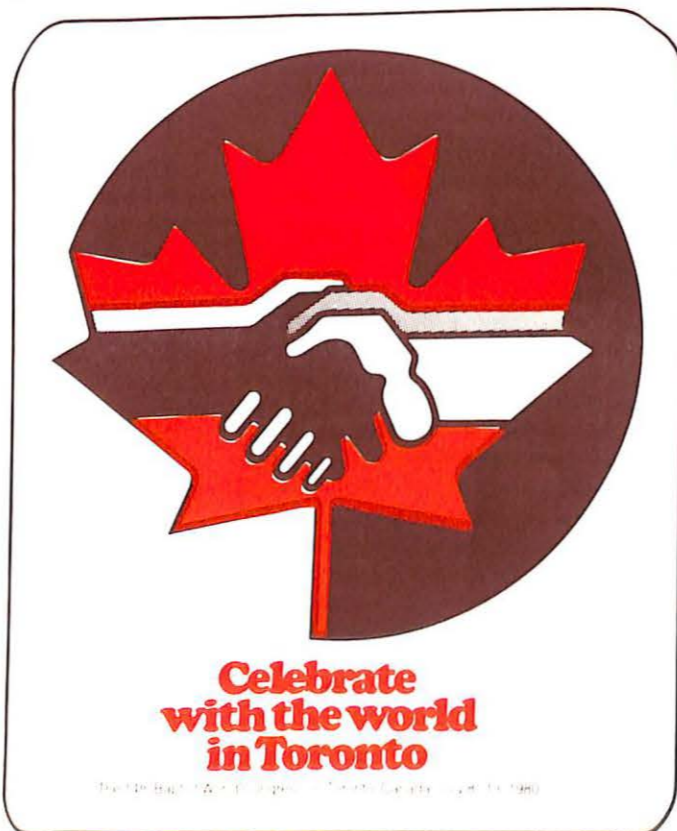
One woman, who was a guest at a coffee, became inter-

ested in having a neighborhood Bible study and offered her home as a meeting place.

A Christian woman attending one of the coffees saw how she could share her faith in Christ in a similar way. She's talented in crafts and is often asked to give programs at local clubs. She felt she might be able to connect the craft programs with the sharing of her personal faith.

One young woman began to see a relationship with Christ become more real. She said, "God hasn't come into my life, but I'm working at it. The spiritual part of the program wasn't 'pushy.' It makes a person want to know a little more instead of being turned off by the whole thing."

So, as the Apostle Paul writes in I Cor. 10:31, "Whether therefore ye eat or drink or whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of God." Perhaps an appropriate paraphrase would be "coffee, tea or THEE." □



THE TORONTO STAR, 1980

Yaounde Church Administers First Baptism

by Shey Peter T. Mabu

The Yaounde Cameroon Baptist Convention church, a familiar item on the prayer lists of Baptist Christians in Cameroon, increased its membership by eight last summer, when the young church baptized three sisters and five brothers in Christ.

The baptismal ceremony, conducted by the Rev. Ray Hoffman, Cameroon Baptist Convention area coordinator, who lives in Victoria, went so successfully, that by the time all was over members of the young church beamed with smiles of joy and good hope.

JUSTIFIED FEAR

When the acting chariman of the Church, Mr. Jacob Taku, returned from Bansa after the C.B.C. Grassland Regional Conference to announce the date fixed for the baptism, some Christians received the good news with mixed feelings. Not that they did not welcome the long awaited occasion in their church. Their fears were brought about by the present problems the church faces.

There is for example the acute problem of having no church building. Our services are being held in the classroom of a secondary school. As far as the baptism ceremony was concerned, the Christians had to think of a suitable pool and the construction of booths in which the immersed Christians would change their wet apparel. All this made some people fear that the church might attempt what could end up in a fiasco.

However, as Christians most of them knew that with God nothing is impossible. And God actually proved that with him all is possible.

BUSY PREPARATIONS

After the date for the first baptismal service in the Yaounde Baptist Church had been announced, the board of deacons was summoned to decide that the authorities concerned be contacted for permission to use the Yaounde Municipal Lake.

Peter T. Mabu is editor of the National English weekly, the Cameroon Tribune, and one of the deacons of the C.B.C. Church in Yaounde.

Fortunately the permission was granted, and on May 12, 1979, the deacons' board, some elders of the church, the candidates for baptism, the



The church marching to the lake.



The Yaounde church at worship in secondary school building.

Hoffmans and Mrs. B. Nokuri, C.B.C. Women's leader, who had arrived from Victoria that morning, went to the lake to examine the site chosen for the baptismal ceremony.

A cleaning of the site followed as also the preparation of booths, in which the baptismal candidates could change after the baptism. In fact, contrary to what some people in the provinces would imagine, the excitement with which the cleaning at the lake was done was such that anyone would have envied the personal joy of contributing one's quota in the service of his Lord. The cleaning did not take long. Afterwards the working crew went home full of anticipation, eagerly awaiting the next day.

SUCCESSFUL BAPTISM

Church services the following day were expected to begin at 8:30 a.m. Unfortu-

nately not many people were there on time, so that the service started at 9 a.m. with beautiful choral singing followed by an interesting Sunday school lesson delivered by Mrs. Esther Hoffman.

The lesson on God's plan of salvation, taught with the use of pictures, was so captivating, that were it not for the exhaustive program that was to follow, many would have wished the continuation of the lesson for some extra time.

After the Sunday school lesson and prayers, the church, led by its choir, proceeded to the Yaounde Municipal Lake, where in a solemn occasion punctuated by



Ray Hoffman baptizing.



Baptismal candidates after baptism.

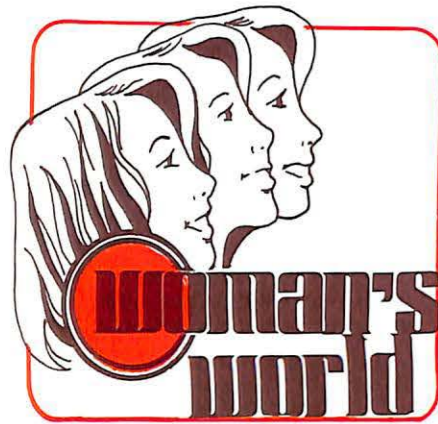
beautiful singing, the ordinance of baptism was administered for the first time in the Yaounde C.B.C. Church. And every thing went so well, that the singing and marching back to the church was marked by pomp and gaiety.

Back at the church, Rev. Hoffman preached a befitting sermon which doubtless must have sown the seeds for another baptism in the future. In his sermon Missionary Hoffman called on those, who have accepted Christ as their personal Savior, not to be double-minded, because no one looking back is fit for the kingdom of God. He called on all Christians to be committed to the calling of their faith in Christ, and he challenged the Yaounde Baptist congregation in par-

(Continued on page 29)

Housewife, Not Housebound

by Joanne Penner, Grass Lake, AB



"Mommy, how come you're nothing?"
 What was that? Had I heard correctly? The questioner was my lovable four-year-old son.
 "Uh, what do you mean—I'm nothing?"
 "Well, mommy, you used to be a nurse, but now you're nothing!"
 Wow! Mustering my explanatory resources I explained to my young son the whys and wherefores of my present status

in his life; to which he replied, "Well, I guess then you're just my farmer-mother!"

Do you as a wife and mother ever consider yourself to be "nothing"? One of woman's most controversial roles to come under attack in recent years is that of housewife. Negative overtones attached to this role are almost deafening. If women have never before questioned the worth of their traditional roles, pressure to do so has certainly mounted.

Allow me to suggest that being a housewife can be one of the most creative roles known to woman. Yet, restriction of activities, feelings of decreased self-esteem, and futility are seen as synonymous with "housewife." Many women inflict upon themselves or allow to be inflicted upon them, the label "house-

bound." How, may I ask, can one be an effective wife if functioning within this mind set?

Wifehood brings with it household pressures and routines which are, in themselves, binding. Certainly these become mundane and wearisome unless we see them as a means to an end, a framework of service to our families and not as a preoccupation or end in themselves.

Within the scope of family routines lie uncultivated areas of interpersonal relationships. These require careful tending and nurturing. Scripture reminds us, as wives, to love our husbands and children with unconditional, "no-strings-attached" love. Methods of mending,

strengthening, and deepening these relationships are largely dependent on our own creative resources. As housewives we often have greater freedom to invest the time which many of these relationships require.

Taking time to celebrate large or small family and individual successes, supervising the daily music practice, sewing an Indian rock slight for that special game, planning family nights with extra surprises, teaching spiritual values, listening, encouraging, rejoicing, and praying can be powerful demonstrations of love.

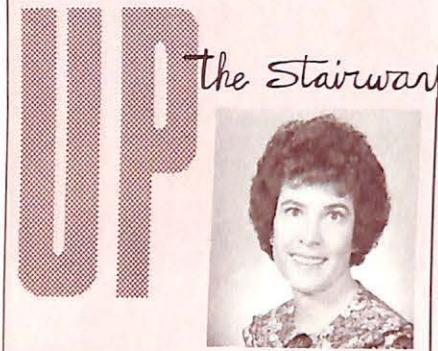
Although a university graduate, my education did not prepare me to employ, consistently, the attributes of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. However, I am now afforded the best training facilities to develop these qualities—my home. There is only one qualification for training, which is that I must be available to be taught by the greatest teacher, Jesus.

If I begin to think primarily of myself and my circumstances, I may come to feel "housebound." But when I view my role as that of availability to the Lord Jesus Christ, and in turn to those I love, I experience a freedom which knows no limits. Availability is not binding! With young preschool children, a housewife may feel more than housebound—I used to feel like a permanent fixture! How-

ever, when I consider the freedom in being available to my family, the sky's the limit!

Availability also extends my environment outside my home. No two days are ever the same. Whether sharing time with a neighbor who calls, seeking out a friend in need, trucking for my husband, judging a 4-H speak-off, or attending a school assembly, variety is the word. And many days, any attempts to apply management skills go "down the tube"! Community Bible studies are a most enjoyable activity through which I am able to share God's love and develop many new friendships. PTA and school functions have become of special interest to me, for my energies must be directed to areas where my children are *now*. The more of their world I understand, the better equipped I become to meet their needs. As well, each week I have the privilege of preparing a Sunday school lesson and participating in the life of our church. Opportunities to entertain and share our home also come with availability.

The opposite of being bound is to be free. Only as I allow the Holy Spirit to fill me with himself, and make myself totally available to him, do I become free—completely free to accomplish, to love, to serve, to reach out for him within my home, my church, my community. There are no chains here. I have a tremendous privilege, that of being a housewife. □



by Dorene Walth, WMF president

ROOTED, GROUNDED, GROWING!
 "Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught and overflowing with thankfulness."

Through the Women's Missionary Fellowship, God has given North American Baptist women this verse and theme around which to center their thoughts in program planning and ministry for the coming triennium.

Is there a place for women's work in the contemporary church today? This writer definitely feels there is.

It is a fact that the spectrum of over 400 N.A.B. women's groups reaches from the very traditional local WMF with its White Cross work, missionary offerings, and fellowship to the yet unorganized body of women in new churches which does not sense the need for a structured women's organization because all are so uniquely involved in church planting with their families.

Vonnette Bright recently stated that

in working with women, one is to aim where women are going. They are a moving target these days, according to her.

Today's leaders among N.A.B. women recognize the changing image of women in our present day society. They are aware of the overall goals of seeking to achieve unity among all the women of the church and striving to meet the needs of all—young, older, singles, mothers of young children or teens, and the career oriented as well as the homemaker. This is no small task, however!

To accomplish such goals, answers to current problems must be sought. Present functional illnesses in local groups include difficulty in:

- enlisting willing workers as officers and committee members;
- getting women under 35 years of age to attend meetings;
- having two women's groups work together within one church body;
- having interesting, worthwhile programs; and
- attracting non-Christians and non-church members to meetings.

There are no easy solutions to these dilemmas.

The beginning of a new triennium is a good time for each local society to take a good look at its ministries. Inventories and evaluations are important to all of us. Women are "creatures of habit" and often feel comfortable with the "same old thing," even though it may have lost its relevance and usefulness.

Most of us have a favorite old sweater or jacket and an old comfortable pair of shoes we hate to give up. Adjusting to something new may be a bother, but when the adjustment is made, we see the benefits and feel so much better about ourselves, we wonder why it took so long to make the change!

Prime priorities for women's organizations should be to bring other women to Christ and to help each person in the fellowship reach her highest potential for the glory of God.

Too often the ladies meeting becomes nothing more than the S.M.O.T.S. (Secret Meeting of the Saints)! Oh, yes, "The meeting announcement was in last Sunday's bulletin and all ladies were invited," you say. May I suggest that an invitation for "everybody" is often an invitation to "nobody"!

There is no substitute for a personal invitation and offer for transportation to WMF. If the guest does come, does she feel the evening was worth giving up a night with her family? If you find your meetings boring and are attending out of obligation or habit, you can be certain a visitor will quit coming before she has a chance to become a part of such an organization.

Many creative women are making their women's night so vital and so attractive that attendance has doubled, offerings have tripled, and White Cross quotas are being met easily and cheerfully with extra projects and outreach ministries growing effectively.

Any woman who would want to help women's ministries in her church must begin with her own deeper commitment to Christ. To climb higher on any stairway, her spiritual roots must constantly go deeper.

The new WMF theme song, by C. P. Jones, will become a part of all of us these years, but may it not only be lip service! "Deeper, deeper in the love of Jesus, daily let me go; higher, higher in the school of wisdom, more of grace to know. Oh, deeper yet, I pray, and higher every day; and wiser, blessed Lord, in thy precious holy Word!"

Happy triennium! □

Our Women's Ministries

by LaVerna Mehlhaff, women's work director



We are grateful for the many glowing reports of retreats held by our women in recent months. The retreats were planned for fellowship, spiritual growth and outreach, and, as women prayed and planned, God blessed. God bless you as you continue to pray, plan and participate in the next retreat in your area.

Thank you for your prayers and for the cards and letters sent to missionary children during the Christmas season. Thanks, too, for the offerings sent toward the education of missionary children.

March 7 is the World Day of Prayer. The program guide on the theme, "God's Freedom," was written by Mrs. Sara Pasiciel of Steinbach, Manitoba. We suggest that the offering taken be designated for evangelism on all stations in Cameroon. Remember that all offerings sent to our Conference Office by our women go toward the \$675,000 goal which is used for the support of missions at home and overseas. If you need extra copies of the goal chart, which shows the distribution of monies sent toward the WMF goal, please feel free to order the amount you can use, and we shall send them to you by return mail.

Continue to pray for the women's ministries of our Conference. Our goal is that programs be planned for each meeting which will meet the needs of the women of today. □

Planning for Growth

by Sylvia Auch, WMF secretary-treasurer, Bismarck, ND

The officers and editors of the WMF spent a profitable time last September 6 through 8, as they met at the International Office in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois. Six of the eight members are new to this committee, so one of the purposes of meeting was to become acquainted with each other. After introducing ourselves, sharing our testimonies, joys and problems, our feeling toward each other was that of true sisterhood. Another purpose was to review the goals and program already set for this triennium by the past executive committee and to begin thinking ahead for the next triennium.

Reports given by each of the office staff were informative and offered a challenge to us as to what can yet be done by the women in our churches. One interest-

(Continued on page 31)

Did You Know...

that there is a new, up-to-date *Missions Profile Revised* with facts and background information about our missionaries? (Cost \$3.50) Ask your pastor about it or write to the N.A.B. International Office. When you have your copy, check to be sure your missionary bulletin board pictures are up-to-date, too!

These Are Your Pages:

We invite you to send in articles or suggestions for topics; ideas for women's group meetings that have worked at your church; original poetry or devotionals; names of women you know who have made a difference for Christ in your church or community. Send these ideas or manuscripts to Mrs. Sara Pasiciel, Baptist Herald Women's Editor, Box 533, Steinbach, Manitoba R0A 2A0. (Use of these contributions will be determined by space and theme development.)

PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING



Questions People Ask

by Everett A. Barker

QUESTION: WHAT IS ESTATE PLANNING AND DEFERRED GIVING?

Deferred giving means gifts indicated now but actually given at a later date such as through a will. Estate planning is broader and has to do with the accumulation and disposition of one's possessions, so as to direct them to the intended recipients, saving time, taxes and expense. For a Christian, it is carefully and prayerfully done in the light of God's will for his possessions.

QUESTION: I ALREADY HAVE A WILL. WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?

Congratulations, if you have a will, because it is estimated that 2/3 of the people in the United States and Canada do not have a will. Have you checked to see whether your will carries out your present intentions? Does your will include the Lord's work in it? Have you reviewed your will with a competent estate planning lawyer to see whether your will is affected by the 1976 tax reform act in the United States? A will needs to be periodically reviewed to be kept up-to-date.

The Rev. Everett A. Barker is the former estate planning director of the N.A.B. Conference. He is now working at Northern Baptist Seminary.

QUESTION: WHAT HAPPENS TO MONEY RECEIVED BY THE N.A.B. CONFERENCE THROUGH WILLS?

If the bequest is designated for a specific Conference ministry such as the College, Seminary or overseas missions, the gift goes to that cooperating agency. We try to be very careful about honoring designations. If the gift is undesignated, it goes to the denominational budget reserves, and the Finance and Stewardship Committee uses the funds for needs as they arise. The estate planning ministry is funded through these gifts.

QUESTION: WHAT SERVICES CAN THE N.A.B. CONFERENCE OFFER ME?

The Conference is incorporated in the United States and in Canada. We have a full range of services through investment and gift means, such as gift annuities which provide an income tax deduction now and reduced taxes each year; charitable remainder trusts which provide an income tax deduction now and can unlock highly appreciated securities or land into a larger income; revocable trusts provide no immediate tax benefits but they save time and probate expense and relieve you of management worries. The Church Extension Investors Fund provides you with a reasonable income and at the same time helps build new churches. Our Conference uses Babson & Company of Boston, MA, as professional investment counsel, and they have done an outstanding job of advising our Conference for many years. We do not do legal work, although we have charitable giving legal counsel available through a Wheaton law firm and also through the Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago, IL. Also our estate planning counselors are already to help you.

QUESTION: IF AN ESTATE PLANNING COUNSELOR VISITS MY HOME, WHAT HAPPENS?

A counselor will meet with you in the privacy of your home and will keep confidential information you provide. We use the four simple P's of estate planning:

- P1—What properties do you own?
- P2—What persons are you concerned about?
- P3—What plans do you have for your possessions?
- P4—Who are the planners such as lawyers, brokers, insurance advisors, etc., to help carry out your plans?

Basically, a counselor will try to help you think through the process of estate planning and to counsel regarding various gift possibilities. We do not give legal advice.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE COST FOR SUCH A VISIT?

There is no cost or obligation to you. This

is a service to you. We hope that many of our people will remember our local churches and Conferences ministries in their wills, but regardless there is no cost. If you use the services of a lawyer or other professional person you will be billed by them directly.

QUESTION: DOES THE CONFERENCE TAKE REAL ESTATE OR STOCKS FOR GIFTS?

Yes, these can be used for current gifts and it usually pays to give appreciated property rather than cash. It is highly advantageous to fund charitable remainder trusts with appreciated real estate stocks. We have received stocks and farm land and are serving as trustee for trust.

QUESTION: I DON'T HAVE MUCH MONEY. HOW RICH DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO HAVE A TRUST?

It isn't the amount of money or the type of property you have, because trusts vary in size and purpose. There are trusts created by will, called testamentary trusts. There are living trusts for use during life. A trust is a very flexible instrument, and it can save time and money, because trusts do not go through probate. You can even put your home, stocks or bank accounts in a trust. Your lawyer can advise you concerning details about trusts.

QUESTION: WITH THE HIGH COST OF LIVING AND OLD AGE UNCERTAINTIES, IF I INVEST WITH N.A.B. CAN I GET MY MONEY BACK IF I NEED IT?

There are revocable trusts and agreements which permit you to get your assets or money back. These are designated for the very reason you ask about. We try to be very careful, and we do, in fact, steer people away from irrevocable agreements when in our judgment their financial status suggests such. All of the agreements are different tools to meet different needs and goals that people have.

We have run out of space. Yet I would like to emphasize that our Conference Personal Estate Planning Service has a three fold purpose:

1. To assist individuals in gaining living benefits from their assets;
2. To assist families through good estate planning to face the day of family loss with their affairs in order;
3. To assist North American Baptists in their desire to remember our Conference ministries in their estate plan.

Neither the author nor the organization is seeking to give legal advice. This information is of a general nature only. For specific applications of law, you should consult with your legal advisor. □

RESOLUTION ON ABORTION

adopted by the
Delegates to the Triennial Conference of the North American Baptist Churches
July 10-15, 1979

WHEREAS North American Baptists believe the biblical teaching that man is created in the image of God and therefore that human life is a sacred trust and gift (Gen. 9:6), and

WHEREAS Christians have a responsibility to oppose moral and spiritual evils which threaten society, including the practice of abortion as a means of birth control, and

WHEREAS all abortions destroy innocent fetal life, and the practice of abortion for selfish non-therapeutic

reasons dulls our society's moral sensitivity, and leads to a cheapening of all human life,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we as North American Baptists reaffirm the biblical sacredness and dignity of all human life, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call on North American Baptists of Canada and the United States to work to change those attitudes and conditions which encourage people to turn to abortion as a means of birth control, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we oppose any governmental actions which encourage the use of abortion for birth control, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the best interest of our society we reject the current practice of abortion as contrary to the biblical view, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that our families and churches emphasize and strengthen the teaching of the true biblical value and meaning of life, love and marriage. □

Thank You!

The Rev. Reinhard Neuman has returned to Canada from missionary work in Nigeria for health reasons. He says to BAPTIST HERALD readers:
"I deeply appreciate the concentrated and faithful prayers of thousands of our people in the churches. We are still receiving letters and cards and messages from many who refuse to cease to pray.

God never makes mistakes. Rather than to heal me on the spot in Nigeria, he chose the better course, his choice, and how wonderfully precious he has become. Some mountains are for casting, and others are for climbing. The Lord has been so faithful and gracious to me as we climbed the impossible mountain with him, with whom all things are possible. Praise his name!

People, praise the Lord for his goodness. Always balance your prayers of petition with prayers of praise. God bless you dear people."

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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



Someone comes up to me and says, "Do you know Sally? Well, she has a lot of problems and, since you're the same age, I thought maybe you could talk to her—encourage her, be her friend."

I nod my head and say yes, because I really do care about other people. And I believe my attitudes and my actions may very well be my most vocal witness.

But sometimes I just dread the idea of having to put myself out to help someone else. However, I do pick up the phone and call Sally. She's not there, so I leave a message. I call three times and she's not there, so I figure I've done my part, and I let it drop. Actually, I tell myself, I'll probably run into her later and her problems will have worked themselves out. And I am really pretty busy.

Inside I am relieved, because what would've happened had she answered the phone? What could I have said that would have helped her? I would have had some superficial conversation with her

and accomplished nothing or bumbled around until I lodged my foot firmly in my mouth. How humiliating!

"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger, and you invited me in . . ." (Matt. 25:35).

If I believe the message and promise of Christ is one of love, then my mission, my purpose, must be to care for others. Many of us do not receive any opportunities to care for another person's physical needs. Therefore, we need to look for other avenues to express love.

A couple of arguments come immediately to mind.

Priorities. "I don't have enough time to put myself out more than marginally. People are so demanding of your time and once one person knows you care, everyone wants a piece." We need to be realistic about the amount of time in a day and sometimes judge the needs of those around us and our own needs and learn to say, "No, this is all I can handle right now." Or to re-schedule talks to freer times or for shorter lengths. But we must be open to encounters with other people—leave space or make time for them. We must be spontaneous and flexible.

"Sometimes I don't feel like it." I'm a believer in the words of a song: "Make believe you're brave and the trick will take you far, for you may be as brave as

you make believe you are." I don't think we should be fakes or hypocrites, but haven't you ever had a bad day and then tried to smile and be happy for someone else and suddenly you got caught up in the spirit of it—and you were happy? Our emotions don't have to rule us. We have free will to refuse to accept certain moods.

Inadequacy. For me, that is the biggest argument. I'm not professionally trained. I don't know that much. I wonder what I can give another person. I certainly don't have ready made answers. But more and more I am learning that it is not the giving that really matters. What really matters is caring. Caring enough to be available even if only to listen.

Keith Miller in *The Passionate People* says, ". . . listening with genuine interest is received by the one being heard as perhaps one of the deepest experiences of being loved . . . A listening attitude is the foundation for all other loving and helping."

Somehow, it doesn't seem as tough to give if all it takes is listening and letting someone know that regardless of what they've done or feel, I'm standing behind them.

I also have the confidence that if I can make the effort to listen, and if more needs to be done, Christ will use me as a tool. He will do the real work, not me. □

in mind, or so it seemed. The silver-haired lady, who told the stories and distributed the dabs of paste, had smiling eyes and a gentle voice. She made me feel important.

One particular Sunday morning, as the family scurried about preparing for church, someone mentioned the orchids. I didn't know what orchids were, but I followed the procession to the refrigerator. My mother took out three miniature, lavender blossoms.

"These were imported especially for the delegates at the convention," my father said. He obviously felt proud that he had thought to bring the flowers home for the ladies in our family.

I immediately thought, when I saw the flower, that baby orchids and Mrs. Burgess belonged together; like clouds and raindrops or chocolate cake and vanilla ice cream.

"I'm going to give this to my teacher," I said.

Mrs. Burgess received her corsage as if she had been presented with a rare jewel. Her eyes glistened as she spoke of the beauty of God's delicate creation and smelled the sweet fragrance. I felt a warm glow inside.

At Christmastime, Mrs. Burgess made a surprise for each child in our class. I eagerly tore open the wrappings and

found a six-piece nativity set molded from plaster and painted by hand.

At the time, I didn't comprehend what a token of labor and love I had received. Neither did I guess that the nativity set would become a part of our family tradition and a treasured keepsake. I only knew how I enjoyed arranging and rearranging the figures to tell the Christmas story.

Mrs. Burgess did not lose contact with me when I "graduated" to the Primary Department. I continued to seek her out on Sunday mornings, because she seemed

always to have time to talk. She was interested in me.

When I was 13, I bought a copy of Mrs. Burgess's first published book, *This Side of the Stars*. She autographed it for me.

Dear Koralee—I love you extra special for the baby orchid you gave me, the dear, refined, poised person you are now, and the dreams you have of what you want to do and be! Louise Bailey Burgess.

Those words were like Calomine lotion smoothed on itchy mosquito bites. I think I would have long forgotten the orchid incident, but she always remembered. Being called dear, refined and poised came as a

welcome change from the labels I had acquired at home and school: difficult, mouthy and headstrong.

Mrs. Burgess concentrated on the positive. It felt special to have someone cheering me on from the sidelines.

Louise Burgess was a preschool Sunday school teacher who approached her task as an important mission. She invested time and love in her pupils. The dividends did not mature rapidly, but they were immeasurable. (Reprinted with permission from *THE LOOKOUT*, © 1979, the Standard Publishing Company.)

Little Old Man

The following poem is one that Martina Rist, Warren, MI, wrote based on an experience she had one afternoon at the Triennial Conference in Portland, Oregon. It deals with a question that we need to ask ourselves: Are we going along with the crowd and laughing at people and ignoring their problems, or are we loving them and loving them to Jesus no matter what their situation?

Little old man sitting on the park bench,
Why are the people all laughing at you?
Can't they see that you're hurting inside?
Don't they care to help?

The group by the fountain is singing
A song about God's love.
You stand close by
With your arms outstretched;
Reaching for love,
For peace and joy.
The policeman comes.
He tells you to stand away
To the side.
"Don't bother the people," he says.
You ask for a favorite song.
It's "The Old Rugged Cross."
You're searching for something,
For fulfillment in life.
Your request is not granted,
And they keep on singing their songs.
The singers perform our country's anthem.
You stand and salute.
The audience just sits and stares.

The program is finished.
The people all walk away.
You stand and wish
That they would stop
And talk to you
For a little while.
Maybe it's your breath,
Tainted with beer,
Or your unshaven face
And dirty old clothes
That drives them on.
But isn't it a shame
That they can't see past that
To the person inside
Crying out for help?
A person just like me,
Who loves and who hates,
Who hurts just as I do.
Little old man sitting on the park bench,
Why am I laughing at you? □

Why Some People Drop Out of Church

Recent studies indicate that an aggressive church evangelism program may need to begin with the people in the church's own pews. A "dropout cure" may be the first step in any church's evangelism program. The cure may well be a warm, vibrant congregation that feels good about itself, has a strong sense of direction, is sensitive to the needs of its people and discourages irrelevant committees and unimportant "busy work." Such a church allows free discussion of congregational issues and uses the gospel to decide priority issues. It not only draws other people but also sustains and nurtures the people it presently has—thus preventing "church dropouts." The following three areas are the primary reasons that most "churched" people drop out of church life.

1. Personal and Family Reasons: major illness in the family; family crisis, such as divorce, separation, loss of job, etc.; marriage to member of another faith;

family member withdrawal and enticement of others to do so; loss of interest in what was going on, or lack of serious interest in the first place; need for leisure and decision that Sunday is the best time.

2. Congregational Problems: never fully accepted or people were too "stiff"; felt overworked in church activities and "they wouldn't give me a break"; felt lack of creativity in worship and other programs—nothing ever changed; got nothing out of worship; involved with controversial congregational decisions.

3. Pastor Dissatisfaction: preaching poor or unvarying; disagreement with the way he related to people; political or theological stance problematic.

These are not meant to be a conclusive list of the problems causing church dropouts. However, they do pinpoint some of the areas which sensitive churches may want to probe for insight into their own problem of dropouts. A church may want to conduct its own research via telephone or personal interviews to determine why people are "dropping out." A number of similar reasons can be a trend which could predict future trouble if the church does not act swiftly. (From *The Torch*, published by American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.) □

Abraham Lincoln Said It

"I have always thought that all men should be free; but if any should be slaves, it should be first those who desire it for themselves, and secondly those who desire it for others. Whenever I hear any one arguing for slavery, I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally." *Happy Birthday! Mr. Lincoln.*

Sentence Sermons

Greatest handicap . . . Fear
Best day . . . Today
Greatest mistake . . . Giving up
Greatest stumbling block . . . Ego
Easiest to do . . . Find fault
Top comfort . . . Work well done
Greatest need . . . Common sense
Best gift . . . Forgiveness
Greatest knowledge . . . God

Tributes to Edward J. Russell 1893-1979

A Talented Man

by Kenneth W. Miller

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. . . Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Ed Russell took these scriptural precepts into his heart and lived by them. His life, his character and the manner in which he conducted his affairs plainly attest to an unswerving fidelity to the two commandments which our Savior himself declared to be "all the law."

When a man employs his talents in accordance with such purpose, he must inevitably succeed, and Ed was a success in business. He labored hard and well at what he did, and he prospered, often expressing his contempt for shoddy work or half-hearted and irresponsible performance. An astute business sense enabled him to recognize opportunities and capitalize on them. But the acquisition of material things was never allowed to intervene in his determination to serve his God. There are many whose lives are marked by accomplishment above the ordinary, but I am convinced that Ed derived a special joy from the idea that he was conducting himself as a good steward, working with and for the Lord. And as time went on, he gave increasingly of substance and time to his local church and others, and to the wider aspects of our Conference enterprise.

Lay people with such special talents and insights are sorely needed in the work, so it is not surprising that Ed was soon drafted for service on the Finance and the Investment Committees of the

Ken Miller is chairman of the N.A.B. Conference Investment Committee. He lives in Brookfield, WI.



Mr. Edward J. Russell in his earlier years.

North American Baptist Conference. He accepted these additional responsibilities with the same dedication and determination that marked his approach to any task. In our sessions he expressed himself in concise and direct fashion, always to the point. I shall always remain deeply appreciative of his very substantial help in carrying out the work of the committees, and recall with fond amusement the fact that often his suggestions, opinions and decisions were rendered with a touch of wry humor, that in no wise detracted from their fundamental good sense. What a delightful and gratifying experience it was to serve the Lord in the company of this brother!

In recent years Ed was compelled to curtail active participation in these affairs, but his interest never diminished. Now he has found rest. For a time we shall grieve over this separation, but looking to that great day of promise, we know that the glad memory of him will ever endure in our hearts and that the influence of his life on our Conference and each one of us will not fade. □

A Valuable Man

by Frank H. Woyke

In recent years I have had the sad experience of bidding final farewell to a number of friends with whom I had the privilege of being associated in the work of our Conference. The latest of these was Mr. Edward J. Russell of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, who passed away on Dec. 7, 1979.

Ed Russell was born in Poland on Oct. 16, 1893. At the age of fifteen he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and was baptized by Pastor Henke. Although he had a happy youth on the family farm in Poland, he came to the conclusion that it would be very difficult to establish himself there.

In the spring of 1914, at the age of twenty, he decided to emigrate to the United States, specifically to Detroit, MI. At the time it was his intention to remain in America only until he would save enough money to return to Poland and buy a farm there. As the train was speeding toward the harbor, where he was to board his ship, he made an important decision, one that was to influence his whole life: praying for success in his undertaking, he promised God that he would endeavor to be a faithful steward all his life. The last time we had lunch together he related this experience to me and that he had always tried to keep that pledge.

Arriving in Detroit, he soon found a spiritual home as a member of Burns Avenue Baptist Church, now Grosse Pointe Baptist Church. His original plan

Dr. Frank H. Woyke, N.A.B. Conference executive secretary from 1946 to 1968, lives in retirement in Southbury, Connecticut.

of returning to a farm in Poland, however, was destined to be thwarted. First came the outbreak of World War I, which made his plan impossible, at least for a time. Of more importance to Edward personally, however, was a visit to a service at the Second German Baptist Church of Detroit in 1916. Although he later did not remember much about the service itself, he was very much impressed by a lovely young lady of eighteen, who sang a solo. It was Anna Petrat, a native of Lithuania. Soon he was courting Anna, and on Nov. 25, 1919, they were married.

Edward Russell's first work in Detroit was as a carpenter and floor layer. Being a creative and ambitious young man, he was soon in business for himself as a residential builder. His business prospered, so that his firm eventually built thousands of attractive homes in the Grosse Pointe area. In recent years his two sons have been carrying on the business.

His work for his church and denomination was very important to him. In his church he served in many capacities: he sang in the choir, taught a young men's Sunday school class, and served as a trustee. Naturally, he played a major role in the relocation of the church to Grosse Pointe Woods. The Russells have also long been generous contributors to the work of their church.

My own association with Edward Russell was, of course, primarily in the work of our Conference. He first became prominent in the Central Conference and as a member of the General Council. It soon became obvious that he ought to be making a vital contribution to the Finance Committee. When his name was first mentioned, some hesitated, for it was well known that Edward Russell was a man of strong views and that he had the courage to express them. It was then pointed out that such men were exactly what we needed. Soon he became a highly valued member of the Finance Committee. To be sure, he expressed his opinions forcefully and with conviction; but he never hesitated to cooperate, when the

final vote did not turn out as he might have wished.

His expertise became especially valuable in situations such as the one that faced the Christian Training Institute, now North American Baptist College, before its relocation. The alumni of the school wanted to purchase, at a very favorable price, 27 acres of farm land some miles south of Edmonton. There was considerable opposition in the General Council, but after Brother Russell had gone to study the situation and made a favorable report, the purchase was approved. All who view the beautiful campus today surely must thank God for the decision that was made.

Mourning Brother Russell's passing are his wife Anna; his three children—Esther, Edward J. Jr., and Richard; nine grandchildren as well as a number of great-grandchildren. Joining them and supporting them in prayer are thousands of North American Baptists who knew and loved Edward J. Russell. □

An Achieving Man

by G. K. Zimmerman

Mr. Ed Russell was a man of God who had genuine concern for the advancement of the Lord's work. His special gift from God was to manage well his own construction corporation, which made him an expert financial counselor.

My visits to the home of Ed Russell dates back to 1938, when I was a guest in their home as a seminary student. Over the four decades, I visited in the home of the Russells on numerous occasions and always found Brother Russell keenly interested in the welfare of the Conference.

Dr. Gideon K. Zimmerman is past executive secretary of the N.A. B. Conference. He now works as Estate Planning Counselor for the Conference.

He wanted to know how our mission ministries for Christ were doing at home and overseas. Since he served on several Conference committees, including Finance and Investment Committee and the General Council, he used his experience of a successful businessman also to further the ministries of Christ through the Conference. In retrospect, if his recommendations regarding financial matters in the Conference had been more fully followed, there would have been greater capital gains in some of the funds held by the Conference.

Brother Russell was also highly regarded in his own church and community. A special "Ed Russell Day" Service was held a few years ago in the Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, in which both the church and civic leaders honored him for his developmental help in the community and church. The achievements of this devout and dedicated man of God were highlighted. It was good to be present at such a gathering and sense the fact that in our lifetime there are men of valor, courage and unwavering faith, who stand firm upon the foundation of the teaching of God's Word.

Mr. Russell and his beloved wife, Anna, who survives him, also had a burden to preserve for the future generations the historical ongoings of the N.A.B. Conference. To achieve this, they committed themselves to underwrite a goodly portion of the cost for research and publishing of the N.A.B. Conference history. This book under the authorship of a good friend of the family, Dr. Frank H. Woyke, was published in 1979 and is entitled, HERITAGE AND MINISTRY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE.

My own life and the lives of many others have been influenced and motivated for greater service for Christ because the man, Ed Russell, crossed our pathways these many times in the past. Words from the Scripture, which I shared at the Memorial Service, serve well as a farewell testimony for our Brother Russell: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (II Timothy 4:7, 8). □



CHURCH EXTENSION PROJECT

Land Available- Money Needed

by Larry Messer



Fellowship Bible Hour.

Evangelism, discipleship and prayer constitute the main thrust of the ministry of Fellowship Bible Church in Kalamazoo, MI. Since April 1979, the church has canvassed over 230 homes in its immediate community. The results have been very gratifying. One of the couples that was reached through an evangelistic Bible study has been in follow-up studies for several months. They are memorizing Scripture on a regular basis and have taken part in our calling program. Presently we are recontacting and starting Bible studies with those who said they were interested. We have one evangelistic Bible study in progress with one couple and anticipate their salvation soon. Three couples from our congregation are actively involved in doing evangelism and in discipleship training.

Fellowship Bible Church is located in Oshtemo Township of Kalamazoo, MI. The predicted growth rate for Oshtemo is 40,000 more by the year 2000. Oshtemo is a young family community with many new homes and apartments going up. During the fall of 1976, the work was begun in Oshtemo, which had no evangelical witness. The church became a part of the Michigan Association in the fall of 1977 and has greatly appreciated the prayers and support of the Association.

The objectives of the church are threefold: To promote and engage in (1) active evangelism; (2) active discipleship; and (3) to promote and grow in maturity in the areas of

The Rev. Larry Messer is pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church, Kalamazoo, MI.



Pastor Messer with attentive congregation.



Children presenting the first church Christmas program.

biblical love, faith and hope. In the three years of our existence, God has sustained the church in difficult circumstances and taught us the importance of obeying him and not trying to please men. God is beginning to solidify the ministry of discipleship at our church, and we are enjoying a stability and unity that we have not experienced before. Our people are now more concerned with reaching out to others than in having their own needs met.

On Dec. 9, 1979, the fellowship unanimously voted to purchase nine acres of land that the Lord has provided for us. There is a beautiful large two-story home on the land with swimming pool and attached three-car garage. This facility will more than meet our present needs, make us visible in the community, and give us plenty of acreage to build on later. An acre in Oshtemo is selling for \$15,000. This Christian owner is willing to sell the nine acres and his \$90,000 home to us for only \$139,000. In order to purchase this facility we need your assistance. We believe that God wants us to have this facility so that we can effectively reach Oshtemo for Christ. We appeal to all of our fellow North American Baptist Churches to support us financially in this project. Without your help we will not be able to purchase this facility. If each church in the Conference would give \$2.50 per member toward this project we could purchase it and have no debt.

We appreciate your prayers and financial support for us at this time. Send your gifts designated for Fellowship Bible Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan, to the North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. □

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Buchholz, members of Terrace Heights Baptist Church, Spokane, WA, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Dec. 22, 1979.

Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Kolschefski (Magdalena Kandt) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 21, 1979, at Rosenfeld Baptist Church of Rural Drake, ND, in which they got married on Nov. 28, 1929, and where they are still active members. The Rev. Myrl Thiesies was master of ceremonies, which consisted of devotions, songs, family history, poems by the three grandsons and a congratulatory poem read by their son, Vernon. A duet, "My God and I," was sung by the Rev. and Mrs. Thiesies. A buffet supper followed the program. About 150 guests attended. Mr. Kolschefski served for many years as Sunday school teacher and deacon and now is honorary deacon.



Mrs. Kolschefski is a member of the Ladies Mission Society. Their son, Vernon, and wife, Geraldine, grandsons, Alvern, Dean and Leon, hosted this event.

PARMA, OH. Redeemer Baptist Church enjoyed a Family Life Conference with Dr. Henry Brandt. Visitors from the surrounding area also attended. Dr. Brandt was interviewed on the local Moody station giving him the opportunity of sharing his advice for couples from Phil. 2:2, "... be likeminded." Two people can be headed in the same direction physically, but unless they are "likeminded" they aren't really together. Dr. Brandt hopes to minister in Africa for about six months in 1980. (Ruth Strauss, reporter.)

WESSINGTON SPRINGS, SD. Last November the Immanuel Baptist Church had the privilege of having Mr. Danny Grueneich, a young man of our N.A.B. Conference, in our church for Deeper Spiritual Life Meetings. It was a tremendous time of blessing and spiritual revival. Danny is the son of the Rev. Reuben Grueneich, one of our N.A.B. ministers presently pastoring our church extension

work in Rock Rapids, IA. Danny has been called of the Lord to a unique ministry of music and testimony, whereby he shares the life-changing power of the gospel of Jesus Christ. His ministry and friendly personality appeals to young and old alike, and his puppets have a message for children too.

Danny has been ministering for the Lord for about a year. He sang at our recent Bismarck Triennial Conference. He seeks, above all, to honor the Lord Jesus, to call people to faith in Christ, and to encourage fellow Christians in their walk of discipleship. Danny quickly became a beloved part of our church family.

Danny's motto or theme of ministry, "Singing the Shepherd's Song," is one that speaks highly of love for Christ and his desire to share that love with others. (Darwin Stahl, pastor.)

LA SALLE, CO. On Nov. 11, a beautiful stained glass window with an open Bible pictured in it was dedicated to God in the First Baptist Church in memory of William Roth. May the beauty of this window reflect our reverence to God in our worship services.

On Nov. 18, a turkey dinner was held as a farewell for the Rev. Ron and Maryann Stevens. After dinner a program was presented by Deacon Gotlieb Vogel. The Triumphs Ladies Trio sang, the Rev. Phillips read Scripture and spoke, as well as several church officers. We sincerely thank Pastor Ron and Maryann for their work here in LaSalle and wish them God's blessings in their new work. (Virginia Jepsen, reporter.)

BRIDGMAN, MI. Sunday, Oct. 28, 1979, our pastor and his wife, the Rev. Rubin Herrmann, Dorothy and family, were honored along with new members at an evening reception and program for five years of ministry at Woodland Shores Baptist Church. At the morning service seven members were baptized and ten others joined our congregation by letter of transfer or confession of faith. The Herrmanns were leaving Bridgman to move to Lenexa, KS, to start church extension work in that area. We will always be grateful to them for sharing the work and blessings of this church extension project, which now has a membership of 132 and a new church edifice which was dedicated in May 1978.

Coming to us from Auburn, MI, Rev. Herrmann has blessed our members and friends with biblical preaching, a ministry of love, and a close personal relationship with the body of believers. His wife also contributed to many worship services by accompanying our singing at the piano. We thank God for their Christian witness to our congregation and our community. (Janet Walker, reporter.)

our conference in action

The 1979 Northern Alberta Missionary Conference was a great success. We praise God that several young people committed their lives to missionary service and that God's people responded extravagantly to the offering goal. The offering exceeded \$20,750.00, and this is a 44 percent increase over last year. The spirit was excellent during the conference week, and we thank God for his goodness to us. (Rev. Gerald Scheel, Missionary Conference chairman reporting.)

GOODRICH, ND. A baptismal service was part of the Sunday morning worship at First Baptist Church, December 30.



Five young people were baptized and, at the close of the morning service, welcomed into the church fellowship by several individuals representing various organizations and departments of the church. The young people are pictured with Pastor Daniel Heringer. (Judie Seibel, reporter.)

MINOT, ND. On Labor Day weekend, our church sponsored a retreat at the State Park, Lake Metigoshe, ND. This is located in a beautiful setting in the Turtle Mountains and is equipped with outstanding facilities. Pastor and Mrs. Ron Mayforth and Pastor Byron and Marcia Brodehl ministered to adults and youth. A trained children's worker ministered to children.

Our theme was CARE—Concern, Awareness, Reaching, Each. The menus and arrangements were planned by a committee. There was also time for boating, swimming, hiking, outdoor and indoor games. It was a worthwhile weekend of inspirational growth and fellowship.

On a recent weekend our church was host to Ralph and Martha Nelson, our missionaries to Brazil. Friday evening was spent with the youth. Saturday the ladies honored Martha at a luncheon. Delicious food, an autumn decor and special music provided the setting for Martha to share with us, and all appreciated coming to know her better.

Ralph spoke at both morning and evening services. Both visited Sunday school classes on a progressive basis. Sunday evening an all-church reception was held

our conference in action

to get better acquainted, plus the occasion of our Pastor Ralph Cooke's birthday. A special cake and remembrances were presented. (Inez Rhone, reporter.)

ANAHEIM, CA. With Mr. Lee Mims, moderating the occasion, the Bethel Baptist Church joyously celebrated the arrival of its new pastor and family, Dr. Ray Niederer, on Aug. 12, 1979. Greetings were extended by various officers of the church as well as pastors of our sister churches of the Southern California Association of N.A.B. churches. A representative of the Anaheim Ministerial Union extended words of welcome and an invitation for our pastor to join the Ministerial Union. Several musical numbers were provided by members of the church, and a spirit of joy prevailed.

After a response by Dr. and Mrs. Niederer, Dr. Niederer offered the closing prayer, and an invitation was extended for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

We wish the Lord's blessing upon the Niederer family, as pastor and church labor together in God's kingdom. (Eva Gooden, reporter.)

RAYMORE, SK. Special Harvest and Missions Day services were held on Oct. 14, 1979, with Mrs. Myrtle Wipf, former missionary to Africa and at present the teacher of missions at Briercrest Bible Institute. The morning service centered on Thanksgiving, and we were challenged by Mrs. Wipf from Psalm 23 with five things we can be thankful for. A potluck dinner, following the service, gave opportunity for fellowship. For the afternoon rally, members of the Nokomis Baptist Church joined us. The special emphasis was missions, and we were again challenged to take up our responsibilities in this area. The challenge of the day was evidenced in an excellent offering for our N.A.B. mission work. The special music in both services was also a particular blessing. A fellowship lunch brought the afternoon to a close. (Dorothy Lemke, reporter.)

KESWICK, NJ. A rather unique subject was developed by Mrs. Dot Worth in three sessions at our 16th annual retreat of the Atlantic Association Women's Missionary Fellowship. Mrs. Worth, best known for her ministry through WOMEN ALIVE radio broadcast (heard five days each week in eleven states) was our guest speaker for the weekend.

Our retreat was held again in Keswick, NJ, Nov. 2-3, 1979, "where God speaks to hearts," and the theme was, "Triumph in Christ." Mrs. Worth challenged us with messages from the book of 2 Corinthians. Our theme verse for the weekend was 2 Cor. 2:14, which tells us about the arena in which God has placed his

church to function, to bear witness and to rescue the perishing.

The beauty of Keswick grounds, fellowship with one another, music, good meals, and thought-provoking messages all make the retreat a time of special and spiritual blessing. There were 117 ladies who attended and our missionary offering amounted to \$400.00 (Mrs. Lynda Kosik, secretary.)

CORN, OK. Our retiring pastor, the Rev. Albert Epp, is on the left with the pastor-elect, the Rev. Tom Klose, in the center and the Rev. Connie Salios to the right, who was guest speaker during the Oklahoma Fellowship which we hosted Nov. 2-3, 1979, and for our Harvest Thanks Festival.



The Calvary Baptist Church of Corn, OK, hosted the Oklahoma Fellowship with pastors, delegates, and member representation from six churches. Guest speakers were Rev. Milton Zeeb, area secretary; the Rev. Connie Salios, headquarters; and Dr. and Mrs. Earl Ahrens, missionaries in the San Luis Valley, Co. On Nov. 4, 23 observed our Harvest Thanks Festival with the Rev. Salios speaking in the morning worship and in the evening at the dinner. Special music was a piano solo by our choir director, Joel Haas, and vocal solo by Miss Kimmie Evans. The dinner prayer was given by our pastor-elect, the Rev. Tom Klose, who with his wife, Regina, took over the pastorate of our congregation in January. Mr. Klose, a 1979 spring graduate of the Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, TX, with a Master of Theology has accepted his first pastorate and is looking forward with great joy to become part of the N.A.B. Conference. Pastor Epp is retiring but will remain in our fellowship. (Greta Nikkel, church clerk.)

MINNEAPOLIS, MN. Sunday afternoon, Sept. 16, 1979, members and friends of Faith Baptist Church, gathered to officially welcome Pastor and Mrs. Harvey Mehlhaff, Mark and Jill to our church. Pastor Mehlhaff began his minis-

try at Faith on Wednesday, Sept. 5. Alvin Quiring, moderator, officiated in the service. Pastors of N.A.B. churches also participated. Greetings were brought by Dr. Peter Fehr, Milton Hildebrandt and the Rev. Anthony Guenther. A buffet supper followed the service. All of the Twin Cities area N.A.B. churches were represented.

On Sunday evening, Oct. 14, Mr. C. Edward Thomas of Bethel College, gave a concert on the new Allen digital computer organ at Faith Baptist Church. Mr. Thomas is well known for his musical artistry as a concert pianist and organist, composer and conductor. The program he presented included "music for everyone's taste." (Ellen Lehr, reporter.)

CHANCELLOR, SD. November 11 was an exciting day for First Baptist Church as we broke ground for our new church building. The morning worship service emphasized the consecration of worshipers, the appreciation of our heritage, the recognizing of our foundation and the dedication of tithes and offerings. Pastor Richard Person and numerous laypeople and the choir shared in the four segments of the service. The actual groundbreaking followed immediately as we moved in a caravan of cars to the new church site on the west edge of Chancellor.

The 15,000 square ft. structure location had been staked out previously and the approximate location of the pulpit had been determined. Using an old fashioned "walking-plow" with six ropes attached, a furrow was plowed in each of four directions beginning from the pulpit location. Each furrow indicated a particular area of the new building for worship, education, fellowship and administration.

Pulling on each of the ropes to break the ground was a member of the Building Committee and a member of the Finance Committee with the chairman of each holding the plow. Friends and members in attendance pulled on the ropes with the committee members in an expression of cooperation.

God granted us a beautiful mild fall day for this memorable event in the life of our church. When the ground was broken the furrows of newly plowed earth were in the form of a cross indicating the central theme of the Gospel of Christ and the purpose for which the church is being built.

The offering for the building fund totaled \$86,841.93. May God grant us a continued unity of Spirit and purpose as we build to his honor and glory. (Ray DeNeui, reporter.)

CHICAGO, IL. A very special baptismal service was held at the Baptist Mission Church, on Sept. 30, 1979, when three

candidates followed the Lord in baptism.

Rev. Peter Duncan is our new minister. We welcome him in our midst and are glad to have such an able minister who can bring God's Word in both English and German and who is very concerned with our community outreach. (Mrs. Eva Helwing, reporter.)

CRESTON, NE. The annual sessions of the Nebraska Fellowship convened at Creston Baptist Church, September 7 and 8. Delegates attended from the four churches: West Side, Beatrice; Redeemer and Shell Creek, Columbus; and the host church. Singing and devotional periods were led by the respective pastors at each session. The theme of the Fellowship was "New Testament Pattern for Congregational Church Life," centered on I Cor. 14:40. Timely and thought-provoking messages were developed on this topic by the Rev. Fred Folkerts and the Rev. Milton Zeeb, followed by discussion periods led by the local pastors. Moderator, William Effa, and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Ruth Effa, were returned to office, with Kenneth Prang, elected vice moderator. An offering of \$464.50 was received at the missionary service on Saturday evening, which was forwarded to the General Mission Fund. (Mrs. Ruth Effa, secretary-treasurer.)

LODI, CA. On Nov. 20, 1979, an ordination council of the Nor-Cal Association convened at the Temple Baptist Church in Lodi, in order to examine Paul McNeff for ordination. Paul is the minister of music at the church. He is a graduate of Cal State University, Long Beach, and did graduate work at Cal State University, Fullerton. The council recommended that the church proceed with the ordination. The ordination service was held on Sunday, December 16. The Rev. Wayne Bibelheimer gave the charge to the candidate; the Rev. Ernie Rogalski (clerk of the council) gave the charge to the church;



the mother of the candidate, Mrs. Twyla McNeff, sang a solo; Mr. Allan McNeff, the father of the candidate, led in the ordination prayer; the Rev. Jon McNeff, a brother of the candidate, preached the ordination sermon; and Dr. Kenneth L. Fischer welcomed the candidate into the

ministry. Dr. Kenneth L. Fischer, pictured, handing the certificate of ordination to the Rev. Paul McNeff. (Ernie Rogalski, clerk of the council.)

MORRIS, MB. The Emmanuel Baptist Church held its annual fellowship supper in November. A musical group from Steinbach, MB, that served in music and testimony, was the highlight of the evening.

On December 2, we shared in a wonderful evening of praise and thanksgiving as five people were baptized and five others accepted into the church fellowship by testimony. The Rev. Morley Schultz is the pastor. (Joanne Neumann, reporter.)

JAMESBURG, NJ. In December members and friends of the First Baptist Church enjoyed the annual Christmas family dinner held in fellowship hall. Bible related quiz games, singing of Christmas carols, and a filmstrip entitled, "It Began in Bethlehem," completed the evening's program.

Our missionary to Japan, the Rev. Richard Mayforth, was with us the following day at the Sunday evening service. His talk was interesting and informative regarding his work in Japan. He told of the need of short-term missionaries.

Six new members were recently welcomed into the church fellowship. One adult came by letter of transfer from Milwaukee; three children and two adults came by baptism and confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Our pastor is the Rev. Karl Bieber. (Marguerite Lee, reporter.)

GRAND FORKS, ND. On Dec. 30, 1979, twelve people were received into the membership of Grace Baptist Church. Four came by letter and experience and eight were baptized by the Rev. Robert F. Penner. We praise and thank God for the growth in our church. (Mrs. Bonita J. Shambaugh, reporter.)

GRAND FORKS, ND. During the evening worship service on Dec. 23, 1979, we celebrated "Christmas Around the World" in the Grace Baptist Church. Eight countries were represented with individuals telling what Christmas is like in these countries:

Africa, Rev. Bill Keple; England, Mrs. Rex (Camille) Thompson; Germany, Jor-dell Brose family; Japan, Diane Penner; Norway, Odd Gjovik; Philippines, Manny Mariano family; Thailand, Mrs. George (Sonny) O'Neal; Vietnam, Lloyd Rath.

Special music, "Away In The Manger," by Mr. and Mrs. Terry Mertz and daughter, Angela, and "Sweet Little Jesus Boy," by Mrs. Kerris (Nancy)

our conference in action

Wright added a loving touch to the service. The Rev. Robert Penner is the pastor. (Mrs. Bonita J. Shambaugh, reporter.)

LINTON, ND. On Dec. 2, 1979, the First Baptist Church held a baptismal service followed by the Lord's Supper. The Rev. Clyde Zimbelman baptized eight young



men (pictured) and at the time of the Lord's Supper received them together with two others by testimony into the membership of the church. (Barbara Zimbelman, reporter.)

PLEVNA, MT. On Aug. 24, 1979, the Ladies Mission Circle had their annual salad supper with former missionary Laura Reddig as their guest speaker.

On October 21, we held our Harvest Mission Festival with Jack Martin from the Rescue Mission in Billings, MT, as our guest speaker. He was also with us on October 22 and 23 for special meetings.

On October 26, the Rev. and Mrs. Elmo Tehran and the Rev. and Mrs. Walter Hoffman were with us for a night of singing and inspiration. (Paula Fuchs, reporter.)

GRAFTON, ND. Installation services for the Rev. Douglas Sathren were held at Grafton Baptist Church on Dec. 2, 1979, with Loran Corum presiding. The Rev. Ron Mayforth, area secretary, gave the charge to the pastor, while the Rev. Robert Penner of the Grace Baptist Church in Grand Forks gave the charge to the congregation. The Rev. Bill Keple of Grand Forks brought greetings for the Northern Dakota Association Ministries Committee. Carl Carlson, moderator of the Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, brought greetings from the congregation of the mother church. Speaking for the Grafton Baptist congregation were Calvin Emerson and Evelyn Roseno. The Rev. Alvin Harsch of Grand Forks brought special music. The service was followed by a coffee fellowship.

The Rev. Douglas and Arlyce Sathren began their ministry in the Grafton Baptist Extension Church in October, replacing the Rev. Phillip Voss. During the interim, the Grafton pulpit was supplied by pastors Keple, Harsch and Albus as well as laymen Paul Wright and Lloyd Om-

our conference in action

dahl, all of the Grace Baptist Church in Grand Forks. Special musical concerts were also given by the Marvin Zimmerman and Darlene Derman families during the interim.

COLUMBUS, NE. At the Shell Creek Baptist Church on Sunday, September 23, the Rev. and Mrs. James Wright, missionaries on the Island of Dominica, West Indies, and survivors of the storm, Hurricane David, shared a graphic account of seeking shelter and enduring six hours of waiting out the fierce winds which literally pulverized the tiny island on Aug. 29, 1979. Its entire economy was destroyed. Three-fourths of the populace is homeless, and it will be two years before electricity will be restored, water available and a banana crop harvested. There is no food, housing materials, money or ship-

ping; nothing but devastation, and total dependence upon relief from other nations for the people to survive.

The Wrights returned to the United States on a Navy flying box car, along with all other American and Canadian citizens on the island, on September 4, leaving behind all their possessions except what they could carry in suitcases. They are presently residing in Central City, NE. At one time they had been members of the then Carroll Avenue Baptist Church in Dallas. Mrs. Wright is the sister of Mrs. William Effa, pastor's wife at Shell Creek. (Mrs. Ruth Effa, reporter.)

MC CLUSKY, ND. The Rev. Myrl E. Thiesies resigned as pastor of the McClusky and Rosenfeld Baptist Churches, effective Dec. 10, 1979. He became the pastor of Evergreen Baptist Church, Ren-

ton, WA. He served McClusky for over six years and Rosenfeld for four years.

SURREY, BC. Dec. 9, 1979, was a special day for the Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church. Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Hiller visited with the church family. In the morning service Dr. Hiller spoke, and in the evening the King's Daughters Society held its annual program at which Mrs. Hiller gave a slide presentation. Everyone was invited to meet the Hillers over a cup of coffee.

Because of the large participation, the Sunday school Christmas program was held in the Seaquam School Auditorium which had been rented.

We are grateful to God for the way the church has progressed this year. The Rev. C. Wiebe is the pastor. (Margaret Pahl, reporter.)

membership at Grosse Pointe Baptist Church. (See also the three tributes to Mr. Russell on pages 20-21.)

WILLIAM D. SORGE, 88, was born in Russia, Aug. 2, 1891, and died on Aug. 25, 1979, in Lodi, CA. In 1914 he married Martha Falkenberg in Edmonton, AB. They farmed in the Hobbema and Manaik areas, moving to a farm at Olds, AB, in 1979. He was a charter member of East Olds Baptist Church. His wife died in 1948 and in 1950 he married Lydia Hoffman at Lodi, CA. He is survived by his wife Lydia; three daughters: Mrs. Fred (Irma) Dusdal and Mrs. August (Ivy) Weiss of Olds, AB; Mrs. Calvin (Hazel) Helwig of Lodi, CA; two stepdaughters, one stepson, five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; two sisters: Mrs. Natalie Forness and Mrs. Alvina Fandry of Canada. Pastors Jake Leverette and G. Rauser officiated at the funeral service in Lodi, and R. White at funeral and interment services at Olds, AB.

EVA YUNG, 77, was born in Austria/Hungary on March 21, 1902, and immigrated to Philadelphia, PA. As a member of Pilgrim Baptist Church she devoted her many talents, time and energy to God's work as well as served in the Atlantic Association and the larger family of N.A.B. Church organist for 40 years, Sunday school teacher and officer in the Missionary Society were but a few of the responsibilities that she accepted in serving the Lord. She had unusual organization and management ability and was concerned that the Lord's work be done as well, if not better, than secular work. Our sympathy is extended to Katie, her sister, and Adam, her brother, and to the remainder of the family. The Rev. James Correnti officiated at the funeral service.

EDWARD SCHMAUTZ, born July 10, 1900, died Sept. 28, 1979, at the age of 79. He was united in marriage to Margaret Fetter in July 1922. They established their home in Missoula, MT. Brother Ed was predeceased by his parents, all his brothers and sisters, and two of his children; Verna, in 1957, of an illness and Harvey, in 1970, in a train accident. Besides his wife, Margaret, survivors include seven sons: Norman of San Bernadino, CA; Don of Kirkland, WA; Marlin and Marvin of Spokane, WA; Gary of East Glacier, MT; Arnold and Ralph of Missoula, MT; two daughters: Joann Wornath and Janice Wechtler of Coos Bay, OR; 30 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. The Rev. Hero Ulrichs officiated at the funeral service.

REV. RUDOLPH WOYKE was born near Windom, MN, March 8, 1910. He remained in this area until 1925, when his family moved to Minneapolis. Following graduation from Bible School, he enrolled in the Rochester Baptist Seminary in 1936, grad-

He is survived by his wife, Jeanette; one son, Mark, at home; four daughters: Lynelle and Cindy of Bismarck, and Brenda and Terri at home; his father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Faul of Harvey; one sister, Mrs. Joan Kelley, Denver; two brothers: Wayne of Martin and Leslie of Powers Lake, ND. The Rev. Myrl E. Thiesies officiated at the funeral services.

daughters were born into this family, both of whom mourn the passing of their beloved father. Mr. Huber was a Christian and actively involved in the life and ministry of the local church. For years he served as deacon, Sunday school teacher and, until shortly before his death, enjoyed singing praises to our Lord in the male choir of Trinity Baptist Church of which he was a member since 1971. Mourning his passing are his loving wife, Mrs. Leona Huber; two daughters: Mrs. Bernice Gilfooy of Vancouver, BC; and Mrs. LaVerne Dickau of Leduc, AB; five grandchildren; two brothers: Mr. Philip Huber of Olds, AB, and Rev. Adam Huber of Portland, OR; one sister, Mrs. Anna Ortner of Turner Valley, AB. The pastors, Richard Hohensee, Adam Huber and Ron Habermas, officiated at the funeral service.

EDWARD J. RUSSELL was born Oct. 16, 1895, in Poland, and was taken to be with his Lord on Dec. 7, 1979. Mr. Russell came to the United States just prior to World War I where he established himself as a builder and an outstanding servant of Christ. He was married to Miss Anna Petrat on Nov. 25, 1919, and together they have been actively involved in the work of their church and the N.A.B. Conference. The Russells have one daughter, Mrs. Esther Knopf of Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, and two sons, Mr. Edward Russell, Jr. and Mr. Richard Russell, both of Grosse Pointe Shores, MI. In the church, Mr. Russell served on the Board of Trustees and was appointed as an honorary lifetime member of that board. With the N.A.B., Mr. Russell served on the Finance Committee and on the General Council. The theme for the memorial service was, "Moses, My Servant, is Dead," taken from Joshua 1:1-7. Participating in the service were the Rev. William O. Taft, pastor of Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Dr. G. K. Zimmerman, former executive secretary of N.A.B., and Dr. Herbert Hiller, minister of

MRS. HATTIE HAIT, nee Landgraff, 72, was born on Feb. 18, 1907, in Roseshcha, Russia, and died on Nov. 25, 1979, in Kelowna, BC. With her parents she immigrated to Canada in 1913. She made her home in Kelowna, BC, since 1947. As a ten-year-old, she was converted and baptized and received into the membership of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Ebenezer, SK. On Feb. 18, 1927, she was married to Mr. Otto Hait. This marriage was blessed with three sons and six daughters. Among her mourners are her loving husband, Otto Hait; three sons: Al, Donald and Reinhold; six daughters: Betty Klym, Erna Weiser, Dorothy Unrau, Frieda Dickinson, Joyce Jones and Leona Holmberg; 29 grandchildren; three brothers: Bernard, Leonard and Lawrence; four sisters, Adeline, Alma, Ruth and Gladys and other friends and relatives. Pastors Richard Hohensee and Ron Habermas officiated at the funeral service.

JACOB HUBER, 71, of Kelowna, BC, was born on Dec. 9, 1908, in Serath, SK. He died on Nov. 22, 1979, in Kelowna, BC. In the home of his Christian parents, he made his decision to follow Jesus in his childhood years, was baptized and received into the fellowship of the local Baptist church of Serath, SK. On Sept. 7, 1937, he married the former Miss Leona Wohlgemuth, with whom he shared a harmonious married relationship for 42 years. Two

uating in 1939. He began his ministry with the Washburn and Underwood Baptist Churches in North Dakota, and was ordained there on July 18, 1939. Later that same year, on November 30, he was united in marriage with Margot Cavender of Dallas, TX. He pastored First Baptist Church of Watertown, WI, for 6½ years and at the same time attended Northwestern Lutheran College, from which he received the B.A. degree. For the next 6½ years he served Bethel Baptist Church of Salem, OR, followed by 13 years ministry with Temple Baptist Church of Milwaukee, WI. Because of ill health he felt led to retire from the ministry in May 1968. During the

next 11 years he worked at a number of secular jobs before complete retirement in May 1979.

On Nov. 1, 1979, after a lengthy and painful illness, he entered into the presence of his Lord at the age of 69.

He is survived by his wife, Margot; one son, Justin of Stewartville, MN; one daughter, Margot Ann Osborne, of Plano, TX; three sisters: Justine and Anna Woyke of Minneapolis, Alvine Hirsch of Bruton, OH; four brothers: Henry and Willis of Minneapolis, Frank of Southbury, CT, and Bennie of St. Paul; five grandchildren. Dr. Robert Schreiber was the officiating pastor at the funeral service.

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	Youth 13-19	US \$15
All other continents	12 and under	No charge
	Adults each	US \$20
	Youth 13-19	US \$15
	12 and under	No charge

Name _____
Address _____



in memoriam

RUDOLPH BENERT, 86, was born in Wolinia, Russia, on May 11, 1893, and died on June 14, 1979. He received the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior while a boy and was baptized in Neudorf, Russia, at the age of 15. While still a young man he immigrated to St. Paul, MN, and joined what is now the Redeemer Baptist Church, where he was a member for 61 years. He served his Lord through the church in numerous ways, but is best remembered for his singing. His first wife, Emma nee Patet, died while he was still in his 20s, leaving him with two small children. Shortly thereafter he married Alma nee Bartel on May 20, 1922, and enjoyed the benefits of this union for 57 years. He is survived by his wife, Alma; three sons: Bob, Bill and Dick; two daughters: Margaret and LaVerne; 14 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. The Rev. Leo H. Reck conducted the funeral service at the church.

BURTON J. FAUL, 47, was born Nov. 2, 1932, at Harvey, ND. His childhood years were spent in Wells County where he attended school. He attended the Harvey Mennonite Church where he accepted Christ as his personal Savior and was baptized at an early age. Burton married Jeanette Hirschkorn on June 2, 1955. They moved to a farm in McClusky in 1962. Burton was called to his heavenly home as a result of a farm accident on Nov. 10, 1979. He was an active member of McClusky Baptist Church, having served as trustee, Sunday school superintendent and usher.

MEMPHIS 'CHURCH' FEATURING SLOT MACHINES LOSES APPEAL

WASHINGTON (BP)—The Southgate Chapel and Recreation Center in downtown Memphis, TN, is out of business.

The U.S. Supreme Court has let stand a lower court ruling affirming the conviction of Paul E. Vance, who described himself as the minister of what turned out to be a gambling establishment.

Vance was convicted three years ago, sentenced to two-to-three years in the state penitentiary and fined \$1,000.

Vance argued throughout his lengthy appeal that the chapel and recreation center, sponsored by the so-called Christian Church of Faith, was discriminated against by Memphis police. He said that if the vice squad looked into his operation, it ought also to check out local Catholic church and Jewish synagogue bingo games.

He also said that his church was legitimate because it held services every Sunday, had a minister, held group sessions, helped drug addicts and the homeless, and gave away money to children for bus fares.

Tennessee's assistant attorney general, on the other side, argued that although the state could not subject Vance and his "church" to "a test of orthodoxy or good faith," it nevertheless "can and frequently must determine what groups and activities are religious" in the context of the First Amendment. □

BAPTISTS CALL FOR RELIEF FUNDS FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS IN CAMBODIA

WASHINGTON—The Baptist World Alliance has asked its 115 member unions/conventions in 90 countries to contribute immediately to the relief of a *holocaust-by-starvation*, that has already claimed almost half the population of Cambodia.

Cambodia, a nation of South East Asia, had a population of 8 million before military turmoil moved into the country to destroy factories, schools, hospitals, machines, farm instruments and fishing materials. Only 20 percent of the usual rice crop could be planted this year.

Robert S. Denny, general secretary of the BWA, said that the population has dropped to 4.7 million and that thousands of these are dying daily of malnutrition. He said that a consultation of the Overseas Development Council, held in Washington, termed the tragedy "a second holocaust," comparable with the death of Jews in Nazi Germany in the 1940s.

Dr. Denny said that the 33 million Bap-

tists in the Alliance's affiliated national bodies are being asked to take collections, sending gifts to their national conventions marked for Cambodian relief.

The funds will be used by BWA through Christian relief agencies already in the field, primarily for the supply and equitable distribution of food.

The meeting of the Overseas Development Council in Washington made a *direct appeal to President Carter of the United States and Secretary General Waldheim of the United Nations*, and asked religious and other charitable bodies to add their help to government efforts.

Two representatives of U.S. Baptist mission agencies, W. Eugene Grubbs of the Southern Baptist Convention and J. Chester Jump of the American Baptist Churches, also attended. Dr. Jump is chairman of the BWA Division of Relief and Development.

Dr. Jump stated, "The Cambodian tragedy represents an on-going need and contributions are helpful in meeting long-term relief strategies there."

John Cheyne of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board explained that Baptists have long been at work supplying food and medical service to Cambodians in refugee camps in Thailand. This will continue as a regular part of Southern Baptists' mission outreach.

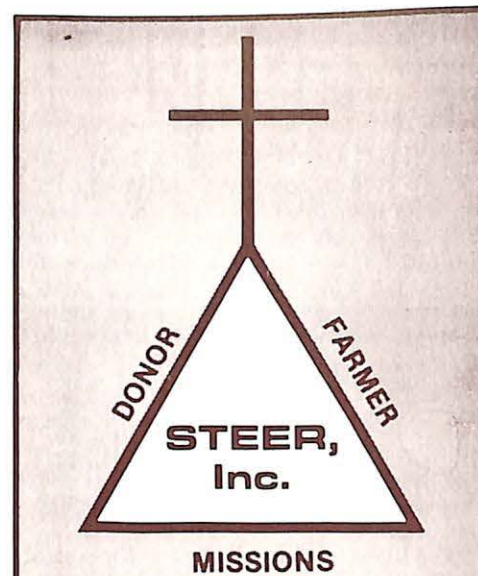
Problems in Cambodia began during the Vietnamese war, when American bombers overflew the country in search of Vietnamese supply lines. Civil strife erupted at the war's end, when Cambodian Prime Minister Lon Nol deposed Prince Sihanouk. Khmer Rouge communist forces later ousted the Lon Nol government. This led to a Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia and the destruction of Cambodian industry and agriculture. □

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY RETIRES

LONDON—Following the example of his predecessor, Dr. Donald Coggan is retiring in January 1980, at seventy years of age "to make way for a younger man." He went to Canterbury from York in 1975. His successor will be chosen by a new process. The Crown Appointments Commission, including several bishops and other Anglican leaders, will present two names to the Prime Minister, who will recommend one of them to the Queen.

chuckle with bruno

A gossip is someone who can turn an earful into a mouthful.



"The STEER Plan" is a down-to-earth missionary endeavor that gives Christian farmers-ranchers the joy and opportunity to double or even triple or more their giving to missions.

Every farmer-rancher sharing in "The STEER Plan" needs no cash. STEER, INC., an evangelical missionary organization with headquarters in Bismarck, North Dakota, Box 1236, will furnish you the money to purchase beef or dairy cows, feeder calves, hogs, sheep or the capital to purchase gas, seed, fertilizer and spray for planting and harvesting crops, called "The God's Acres Plan".

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The most difficult arithmetic is the art of counting our blessings.

Folks who think they know it all are amusing to those of us who do.

When a man sees eye to eye with his wife, it's a sure sign that his vision has been corrected.

■ *Dr. Richard Houts*, professor of Church Administration and director of Field Education, N.A.B. Seminary, was ordained into the ministry on Nov. 25, 1979, at the Trinity Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, SD.

■ *Mr. Walter Foth* was ordained into the Christian ministry on Dec. 9, 1979, at Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB. He will become pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Milwaukee, WI, when his immigration visa has been cleared.

■ *Mr. Arthur Pearce* resigned as assistant pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Kankakee, IL, effective January 6. He is the director of youth at Moody Memorial Church, Chicago, IL.

■ *The Rev. Ron Norman* has been pastor of Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, IL, since January 6. Previously he served Bismarck Baptist Church, ND, since 1974.

■ *The Rev. Eric Coulon* resigned as associate pastor of youth at First Baptist

Church, Lodi, CA, to become pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Harvey, ND, effective March 1.

■ *Mr. David Stockdale* accepted the pastorate of Hilda Baptist Church, AB, and began his work in Hilda in December 1979. He graduated from N.A.B. Seminary in 1978.

■ *Mr. Terrence Branham* is the new assistant pastor at Riviera Baptist Church, Salem, OR.

■ *The Rev. Frank Veninga*, pastor of Forest Park Baptist Church, Forest Park, IL, has given his resignation, effective "no later than April 30." The full working schedule of the pastorate did not permit him enough time to be of assistance to his handicapped wife. In the future he will be available for interim ministry only.

■ *Dr. R. Lee McDonald*, associate professor of New Testament studies at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, presented his resignation, effective with the end of the 1979/80 school year.

He is open to the leading of the Lord for further Christian ministry.

■ *The Rev. Clifford Pederson* resigned as pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Jansen, SK, and became a member of the pastoral staff at Sturgeon Valley Baptist Church, St. Albert, AB.

■ *The Rev. Harold Kokot* is the new pastor of Bethel First Baptist Church, Prince Rupert, BC.

■ *The Rev. Jim Dick* accepted the pastorate of Temple Baptist Church, Jamestown, ND.

■ *The Rev. Dieter Gohl* began his ministry as pastor at Mary Hill Baptist Church, Port Coquitlam, BC, on January 15. He was pastor of Hudson Bay Park Baptist Church for seven years.

■ *The Rev. James Porterfield* resigned as pastor from the Isabel and McIntosh Baptist Churches in South Dakota. He has accepted the call to Washburn Baptist Church, ND, effective February 1.

Zimmerman Appointed Counselor

by Connie Salios

Dr. Gideon Zimmerman, former executive Secretary of the North American Baptist Conference, has been appointed by the General Council as area Estate Planning Counselor for one year, January-December 1980.

His ministry will be in Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Florida. He will work out of his home in Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

The Rev. Connie Salios is secretary of stewardship and communications of the N.A.B. Conference.

YAOUNDE CHURCH . . .

(Continued from page 13)

ticular to witness Christ in Cameroon's capital city.

The baptismal service ended with the administering of the Lord's Supper.

DIGNIFIED RECEPTION

In the Cameroon provinces a baptismal ceremony ends with dancing and feasting in the homes of the newly baptized Christians. In Yaounde our "afterglow" was

Dr. Zimmerman is highly qualified for this position because of his knowledge of financial matters, his familiarity with our people, his pastoral concern, and the confidence that people have in him as a man of utmost integrity.

We welcome Dr. Zimmerman to this position and ask that you pray for God's blessing upon his endeavors.

The Estate Planning ministry is a service provided by the Conference to encourage intelligent and prayerful estate planning in order to benefit



Dr. G. K. Zimmerman.

the individual, family members, local churches and related Conference ministries. □

done in a different way. The congregation and all newly baptized Christians gathered at Mrs. Lydia Lantum's house, where they were treated to a reception co-offered by the parents and relatives of the new brethren and the church.

It was during the reception that the C.B.C. Womens' leader, Mrs. B. Nokuri, talked to the women about their role in the growth of the church.

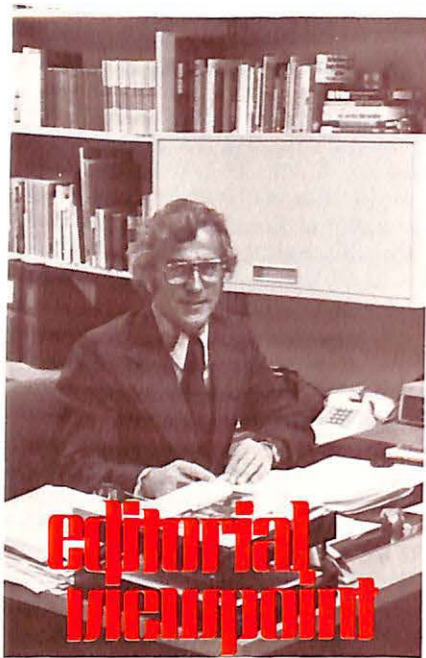
FUTURE

Even though the guest speaker and the

missionaries had to fly home after some hours, the Christians in Yaounde, in fact, had just started what actually must continue Cameroon's capital city. There is growth in C.B.C. church in Yaounde. But what about a place of worship? Shall the church services continue in the classroom of a secondary school?

The search for land on which to build a chapel continues with prayer and prudence. No one, for now, knows how long

(Continued on page 31)



People With a Great Spirit

"Missions—missions! That's all I hear. Don't you see that there is so much more to be done and said about the Lord's work than sending out missionaries and converting heathens?"

I thought I hadn't heard correctly. The man in front of me had been my friend for many years. I knew his zeal for the Lord. He was a Sunday school teacher and actively involved also in other church activities.

"Come on," I countered, "you can't mean that. I know that you rejoice with me over any people who become Christians, be it in North America or in any other country of the world."

"That's not it," my friend corrected me. "You are missing the point. I AM in favor of mission work overseas. I just feel that we shouldn't neglect our obligations here at home. There are plenty of pagans right in my office."

Naturally, he was right with regard to the many non-believers right at our doorstep, or in his office, as he put it. But he was wrong in assuming that we had neglected our obligations towards them.

During the past year, North American Baptists have been involved in a great variety of outreach ministries. Even though the Church Extension Department, as also all of the other Conference departments, had to curtail its goals, there was still an exciting amount of growth and progress right here in the U.S.A. and Canada. Both our N.A.B. Seminary and N.A.B. College had record registrations and graduated the largest classes in our Conference history.

The Church Ministry Department was able to minister in many churches with Church Growth Seminars and especially 'Body' Building Seminars.

The Stewardship and Communications Department had the joy of seeing thousands of North American Baptists respond generously to the financial needs of our Conference. There was loud rejoicing at the Conference Office in Oakbrook Terrace on January 15, when the accounting books were closed and it became apparent that North American Baptists had not only made the budget but had surpassed it by more than \$200,000. Praise the Lord for faithful brothers and sisters, who offered substantial help when it was needed most!

Back to missions: yes, it's true, as the N.A.B. Conference we have a missions program that is constantly taxing our financial strength. In 1979, none of those 13 missionaries who had to terminate their overseas services for one reason or

another, could be replaced. We just had to hold back, even though this meant cutting back on existing programs. Yet our missionaries did not give in to the pressure caused by financial and personnel shortages. They stood their ground, teaching, preaching, healing in Christ's name and for his sake. And souls were won to Christ. The lives of individuals, families, clans and entire tribes were transformed. Christ's message of redemption and New Life was proclaimed by North American Baptist missionaries on four continents. Thus, we have much reason to be grateful to the Lord.

At Easter, there is again the challenge before us to give sacrificially toward the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering. Last year, North American Baptists displayed a most generous spirit. In 1980, the goal is \$300,000. We can do it, because in the recent past we have proved that we can climb over much higher "mountains"—and be victorious.

What is impossible to be achieved by a small group, is a small thing for a large group. The amount of \$300,000 being brought together by 57,241 North American Baptists spells out to \$5.25 per member. Is this really too much?

We "dare to ask" God and you for a special offering of \$300,000, "for God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control" (II Tim. 1:7).

I will not use this editorial to tell you how to do it. My suggestion is that you and I, we all together, approach the Lord's throne, bow in prayer of adoration and listen to his voice. The Lord Jesus will not hesitate to suggest some ways that will enable you and me to be among those for whom the Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering is not a chore, but rather a joyful occasion to pay some of the debt we all owe our Lord Jesus, who gave his life for us. RJK

have a clear position on this matter and need to know the position of our leaders on such things. This article gave us no argument for or against the issue.

Using a basically biblical foundation, we must conclude that there is a theological base against this issue in that God constructed the Bible with man as the head of woman and Christ as the head of the Church (designated by "she"). Also, through Paul, God expressly forbids the practice of ordaining women as elders and deacons.

Secondly, the paragraph comparing the practice to witchcraft further clouds the position of Dr. Zimbelman. If women put their desire for leadership ahead of the desire to serve the Church, they are indeed not Christians. Yes, then the natural result is to turn to anti-Christian move-

ments, but do we want them leading our churches?

Further, witchcraft is "anti-God," and Dr. Zimbelman states, it "is an area in

STEPPING AHEAD . . . (Continued from page 5)

A recent decision by the Cameroon government requires that all missionaries pay into the Cameroon National Social Insurance Fund—a program similar to the U.S. and Canadian Social Security programs. This requirement places a heavy burden on the Missionary Society

BOOK REVIEWS (Continued from page 12)

probably the first church to receive a letter from Paul.

Beginning with the themes of a life turned around and a mission fulfilled, the author continues with his exposition on love, faith, hope, vigilance, discipleship, persecution, judgment, deception, beliefs, confidence and discipline.

Through these letters Dr. Hubbard has presented an apostle at work and a church come alive. But we see only its beginning, not a log of its entire journey.

THE TABERNACLE OF GOD IN THE WILDERNESS OF SINAI. By Paul F. Kiene, Grand Rapids, MI. Zondervan Publishing House. \$16.95.

This is an unusually attractive volume with its padded cover and 40 full-color photographs printed on high quality glossy paper. Originally prepared in German, it is now available in English, translated by John S. Crandall.

No information is given on the author

WOMAN'S WORLD (Continued from page 15)

ing fact is that there are 32 new extension churches that do not yet have a women's organization. Another interesting fact is that we have 90 societies using the German language.

Emphasis on the changing role of women in our secular world is presenting problems never before encountered among members of our WMF. New insight is needed to help us as leaders communicate effectively to keep our women united and working for the Lord. New

YAOUNDE CHURCH . . . (Continued from page 29)

it may take to get a suitable place, but with everything committed to God in prayer and support being received from

which women have traditionally been leaders." What does that tell us?

We are praying for Dr. Zimbelman and our Conference, as we face this and many

and will result in an increased overall cost per missionary by about 10 percent.

Due to heavy inflation and a short fall in N.A.B. budget income, it was necessary in 1978 and 1979 to defer replacement of ten missionaries in Cameroon. We North American Baptists have a great challenge before us to return our missionary number to the previous level. God helping us, we should expand in coming

who has assembled an amazingly authentic reconstruction—in scale—of the original tabernacle and its furnishings.

One becomes aware of a holy zeal as the author works, while studying the blueprint God gave to Moses for building the tabernacle. The text, which accompanies the photos, is from the King James Version.

A set of slides and text are also available for \$24.95. Either the book or slides could be used to make a fascinating study of one of the most holy eras in the history of Israel.

THE EXPLODING MYSTERY OF PRAYER. By Helen Smith Shoemaker, New York, NY. The Seabury Press. \$3.95.

The key word in this volume is "mystery." But for every mystery, Helen Shoemaker gives the reader a key. It may not open the door completely, (for who is able to understand fully the wonder, power and beauty of God?) but studying this book prayerfully and carefully, the reader will discover that God's sublime

and old methods of encouraging women to become interested in WMF must be activated. Christian fellowship is in demand—for the woman in the home, on the job, and especially for the single woman with and without children. These are some of the issues we are keeping in mind as we will be meeting again in September 1980.

Our task is large. We are depending upon wisdom from God. We have a wonderful Fellowship of 400 societies made up of women determined to serve the Lord. Pray that God will be honored in all that we do! □

Baptists at home and abroad, we are optimistic that it will not be long before we have our own place in which we can freely worship our Lord. Your prayers and cooperation are our strength. □

other controversial issues. May we seek God's help as we commit ourselves to the truth found in his Word. Mr. and Mrs. William Menke, Columbus, NE.

years.

I believe that North American Baptists will respond to these needs. The Laura Reddig Easter Mission Offering is an avenue to demonstrate it. I encourage us all to consider Jesus Christ, who endured such suffering for us all, and to offer financial sacrifices of our own to carry forward the work of Christ—steps of faith which will bring eternal rewards. □

mystery will become less mysterious.

The author writes from personal experience and from the experience of others. No matter what your need may be, you will find some identification with others who have prayed in darkness, in fog, in storm and in trouble, until God revealed himself.

Running through it all has been the mysterious power of living, persistent, passionate prayer, because a few have been inspired to care so deeply that they have taken Jesus at his word, when he said to his disciples, "Pray without ceasing."

Helen Shoemaker is the widow of the Rev. Samuel Shoemaker, known primarily as pastor of Calvary Church in New York, and leader of "Faith at Work." □

INVITATION

The First Baptist Church, Lodi, CA, will observe its 75th anniversary on April 12-14, 1980. An invitation is extended to all former members and friends, to join in this joyful celebration.



Dear Editor:

Regarding "Putting It Together" (Dec/Jan issue), we are very concerned about Dr. Zimbelman's position on the ordination of women, and thus, that of our seminary, also.

The people of our Conference need to

missionary:

Webster says: an individual "sent forth..." For many it still produces images of pith helmets and jungles. Actually the range of places you can serve Christ is incredible. For example, Intercristo knows of nearly 20,000 different openings—right now. They're openings for every kind of specialty—probably yours! Truck driver or teacher, or a hundred vocations in between—you can get complete information on where you're needed by writing or calling.

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