ONE of the most unusual stories related by Jesus is the parable of the unjust steward. The story is the account of an employee found stealing from his employer. When his deception is uncovered, the employee further cheats on his employer by calling in the owner’s creditors and reducing the amount of their accounts owed. In relating the story, Jesus commended the unjust steward, not for his crookedness, but rather for his shrewdness in facing the facts of his needs and situation and then doing something about it.

This parable points out that we have personal responsibility of our stewardship in at least three areas. First of all, we need to be just as diligent and faithful in the manner in which we apply ourselves toward the cause of God and His Church as we are in the way in which we strive for the material things and goals of our earthly living. Millions of people live solely for the things of this life, and many of them are very diligent and intensive in the way in which they apply themselves after these goals. As Christians we must keep our priorities straight, and we need to be just as earnest and wise as they in applying ourselves to Christ’s kingdom.

A second fact is that God’s people should wisely measure and use their stewardship of time, talents, material possessions, and influence for Christ and His Church. We only have one life and we pass this way but once; therefore every moment, each dollar, every word counts for God’s glory. The unjust steward shrewdly considered his lack of resources, then carefully cultivated the friendship of others, so that when he lost his job, those whom he had befriended would receive him into their homes. Jesus did not commend his thievery but his shrewdness.

Finally, Jesus urges us to “make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations” (Luke 16:9). This simply states that we can invest our money, time, and ability in Christ’s kingdom until that for which we have lived and invested will accrue to our eternal home in heaven.

Jesus said, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal” (Matthew 6:19-20).

All our prayers prayed, money given to Christ and His Church, testimonies shared with others—all that we do for Him is laying up investments in the great bank of heaven!
TO PASS BY A SHOP where living artists offer their work for viewing and sale is next to impossible for me. There is a thrilling fascination to having a work of art in my possession done by someone who lives in my own time. The art of the ancients is fine. I appreciate it too. But I like to meet people in whose hand the brush has been cradled which painted the work my eyes are beholding.

Just the other day I stopped by our local art gallery-shop. It is owned by a lady who became a full-time artist in the past 10 years. She quit her job to devote full time to the pursuit and sharing of her work, as well as the work of other local living artists. In this gallery of "living art" an old and often neglected truth came home to me.

Until recently I have always felt that artists were a special breed of people. They were born with the ability to hold a brush just right and had everything fall into place so they could give their precious gift to the world. And I have read the stories which tell of people starving themselves because they were convinced they must paint or die and so would do nothing else.

Here (in Alaska) the artists seem to come from a different mold. They are persons who came here simply because they wanted to be here. They discovered, almost by accident, the beauty that is here and for their own enjoyment began to express what they saw for the sole pleasure of expressing it. Some then found that other people liked their work, and so they began selling it. They found greater pleasure and meaning in this newfound talent and its expression than in whatever else they were doing.

Erdine worked for several years as an office person in the local pulp mill a few miles from the village-town of Sitka. On her lunch breaks she began sketching the things she saw from the vantage point of the road which ends just a few hundred yards beyond the smelly old pulp mill. Her efforts were not immediately rewarded with recognition by others. No matter, she painted for the sheer enjoyment to her own soul. It was what Edith Schaeffer would call "hidden art" at first. She painted the flowers and birds best. For these she began to be known locally.

I do not presently know all the story of her rise to fame. I do know the lesson her life has already taught me. She began where she was and with what she had, and has shared with the world in increasingly wider circles a delicate beauty in watercolor expressions of native flower and scene.

One of her original watercolors was a gift to my wife at Christmas. It is a miniature of the Alaska state flower, the **forget-me-not**. It is a thing of simple and delicate beauty. Other special occasions have provided excuse for adding to the collection.

Long ago an old man was exiled to a rocky island alone. There he saw wonderful things with his inner eyes. He wrote those things down and shared them with all the world because a Voice spoke to him, "Write what you see in a book and send it . . ." (Revelation 1:11, RSV).

I too must write, must paint, must tell what I see. With whatever canvas God gives me I must begin to express the beauty and truth that is all around me. I must begin with what I have where I am, and out of this present, real moment in space and time will come things of beauty to be shared with a wider world which does not have the vantage point afforded me.

Thank you, Erdine. Thank you, John. Thank you for beginning where you were with what you had.
THE SUDDEN DEVELOPMENT of an immobilizing infection confined me to my bed caused me to renew my acquaintance with the Master of Affliction of Old Testament fame. I did not realize as I underscored what seemed to me significant portions from the Book of Job that several years would pass before I would be able to use a pen or pencil again.

As one portion of my anatomy and then another seemed determined to retire from even the simplest activity, I established residence at Job 13:15: “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him.”

Each night I anticipated the next dawn when I believed that God would deliver me. However, weeks of the harshest unabated pain I had ever experienced, interspersed with interminable tests, X rays, and hospitalization, blurred into months as the process of deterioration seemed to accelerate.

When a consultation of medical experts offered little encouragement or help, I flung myself full length upon the promises of God and assured my friends that my case was in the hands of the Great Physician. Many devout friends and churches had days of prayer and fasting for me. Each time I was aware of such a prayer effort my faith soared. I expected to recover from my slain posture and become active in the Master’s service again.

I held tenaciously to my faith, convinced that if God did not heal me today, then surely tomorrow my trust would be vindicated. Yet the months became years and my handicap seemed only to become more permanent. Some solicitous and well-meaning friends voiced their questions and expressed their observations. These did not encourage or strengthen my faith.

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**NO DAY IS LOST!**

*Sometimes you feel discouraged When evening shadows come, And you look back, regretting The “little” that you’ve done. Apparently the losses Far outweigh the gain, And wearily you question, “Have I lived this day in vain?” Remember this—No day is lost In which you’ve tried to share The blessed news that Jesus saves, And spent some time in prayer For others. For your Father knows Your heart. He paid the cost. Remember—If you’ve done your best For Him—No day is lost!*

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**FROM THE DISTANT SCENE**

*And you look back, regretting Apparently the losses Far outweigh the gain, And wearily you question, “Have I lived this day in vain?” Remember this—No day is lost In which you’ve tried to share The blessed news that Jesus saves, And spent some time in prayer For others. For your Father knows Your heart. He paid the cost. Remember—If you’ve done your best For Him—No day is lost!*

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**FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP**

*General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins*

**BEGIN WHERE YOU ARE WITH WHAT YOU HAVE**

*G. Lewis Van Dyne*

**I CHANGED MY RESIDENCE**

*Waiting on God*

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**STANDING FEATURES**

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**ANSWER CORNER**

**BY ALL MEANS**

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I CHANGED MY RESIDENCE

The necessity of living in the confines of a bed, dependent on someone to assist me in the simplest change of position, demanded a new way of life. My Bible became my 24-hour attendant. When it was placed so that I could read and derive strength from it, I resolved to establish another place of residence. As I moved to Job 23, my heart beat in sympathy with Job’s plea and cried, “Oh that I knew where I might find him!” I took up residence at verse 10: “He knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.”

I had not found answers for the queries of my friends. But after months of prayer, meditation, and reflection, I began deleting some phrases from my vocabulary. I refused to consider the questions that were posed, and cultivated the acquaintance of Scriptures that I had known only in a cursory manner. I submitted again in total consecration to the sovereignty of God. Isaiah reminded me, “Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou?” (45:9). I resolved that as His child I would not question the providence that He allowed, nor would I allow my friends to commiserate me with their queries.

I reminded them that my voice was unaffected by my affliction, and that I was determined to declare my unwavering confidence in God’s goodness and in His power to heal, as long as I could speak a word. I endeavored to counter each “but” with the adequacy of God’s grace, love, and care.

The considerate and gracious attitude of an uncomplaining husband, who has provided moral and spiritual support through more than seven years of illness, has been a living demonstration of the ministry of helping referred to in 1 Corinthians 12:28. He has been God’s instrument of blessing on many occasions.

Good books stimulated and challenged both my heart and mind as they were placed before me. They became messengers of God to my soul. The Book, God’s Word, has provided an inexhaustible supply of spiritual nourishment. My heart has been thrilled, and my spirit has soared in the heavenlies, as I have glimpsed new dimensions of God’s wonderful character and of His plan for His children. Space precludes the enumeration of other blessings that have buoyed my spirit.

I made up my mind that I would not allow the four walls of my room to become the boundary of my world. I felt again the need to change my residence, this time to Job 42. My heart affirmed with Job, “I know that thou canst do everything” (verse 2). I have settled in verse 5: “I have heard of thee . . . but now mine eye seeth thee.” I have, indeed, heard and seen much. I have been blest and edified through the years by the manifestations of God’s presence and power, but now God has opened to me a new perspective of His character, and His majesty, and His plan for the totally surrendered life. How thrilling it has been to comprehend some of the prospects that God holds in store for those who do not question His manner of dealing with His children. I do not understand why healing has been withheld, but my faith still anticipates the day of deliverance. Then when I have been freed from pain and the frustrations that this illness has imposed, my eyes shall see Him.

Recently I have been taking excursions to the land of Hebrews 11. I cannot even consider applying for residence among the worthies listed there. Their exploits of faith stagger my thinking. But I do find comfort and strength as I warm my heart by the still-glowing embers of faith documented in verses 13 and 36-40.

These unidentified stalwarts whose names are lost to history are known only as “others.” Their unenviable lot must have been extremely difficult. They were deprived of the most basic comforts. As I view their destitution and look in vain for warm hearths or supporting friends, I am forced to recognize that their values and mine have placed us poles apart. Beside their affliction, torment, torture, and martyrdom, the inconvenience and adjustments required by my condition seem insignificant.

But of this I am convinced, the God who did not deliver them did not fail them. The sufferings and privations they experienced allowed them to compile a “good report through faith.” Finally, I dimly perceive that God withheld the things they may have desired, and that our minds would deem imperative, that He might provide “some better thing.”

Now I am ready to enter my name on God’s waiting list, and keep trusting, hoping, and anticipating that their God, who is also my God, has perhaps “some better thing” for me.
The Christian Approach to Complaining

Do we complain too much? There are many reasons why we do or could. The late psychologist Hulsey Cason once listed a staggering total of 21,000 things a married man might find irritating and about which he might complain. A similar list could be developed for a married woman, someone living alone, a young adult, adolescent, and even a child.

Because there are so many reasons why we might complain, we may spend too many of life’s precious hours at life’s complaint counter. Whether we’ve developed it on our own or caught it from others, whether we initiate it or merely join those who are complaining, it’s good to periodically take stock of ourselves, determine if we are complaining too much, and then set out on a Christian course to reduce the number of complaints we voice and the hours we devote to what is basically a negative way of viewing life.

So what can a Christian do to diminish the number of complaints and the time spent on complaining?

1. Believe it’s possible to quit complaining. Every Christian knows and should believe, “With God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26). Of all people, Christians should be “possibilitarians.” Any negative habit can be managed, lessened, and reduced to a minimum when attacked with faith and prayer.

2. Remember who we are. We are the children of God, the redeemed of Christ, heirs of life eternal, members of Christ’s Church here on earth. Once the many problems and irritations which produce complaints are compared to the fact that we belong to God for time and eternity, we can view them in a different light. They are then no longer major impediments to our real life, the one we live in and to Christ.

3. Practice thought control. Complaints originate in the mind, or as the Bible puts it, “in the heart.” Long before they are voiced or expressed, the complaints have emerged in our minds, taken control of our thoughts, and for the moment become the dominant focus in our lives. It is, in a sense, similar to the biblical analysis of the criticism of the Pharisees concerning Christ: “They were murmuring in their hearts.”

The first step in the control of a complaint habit is to exercise Christian control of our minds and hearts. We can monitor our thoughts, replace those which are negative, and substitute prayer, concentration on God’s love, and a recounting of the blessings we already possess as children of God.

4. Rather than complain, act. An atheist once said to Phillips Brooks, a famous 19th-century preacher, “It seems to me that there are many flaws in the world as your God has created it. Why didn’t your God do something about these things?”

“He did,” the preacher replied. “That’s what He placed us here for, and the job He gave us to do.”

Many of the things about which we complain can be changed if someone will take the time and effort to change them. Those which can, and even those where some small constructive input can be applied, need Christian involvement rather than complaints. Not everything can be changed, but even what cannot be changed can be accepted as part of the testing which comes to us as the children of God.

5. Remember what the world is like. Ever since Adam and Eve first brought sin into the world, the human race, as well as the earth on which mankind lives, has been imperfect. As Christians we should understand the imperfections in both. A quick rereading of Genesis 3 will remind us that there will be pain, toil, trouble, and problems for everyone—paradise awaits us not here on earth but in eternity. Knowing this, that much of what irritates us is not directed personally at us but is rather a permanent state of mankind and the world, will help us place what bothers us and produces complaints into the proper perspective.

We should also remember we too, at best, are imperfect and may cause someone else to complain. So the words of Christ apply here: “Let the one without sin cast the first stone”—or the first complaint.

6. Accentuate the Christian positive. There is an aspect of the Christian faith which has a direct relationship to the problem of complaining. In his letter to the Christians at Rome, Paul wrote, “We know that all things work
together for good to them that love God” (Romans 8:28).

Rather than complain, the Christian can begin to look for the good in what comes his or her way, finding potential for Christian growth in what might produce complaints in those who don’t have faith in a loving, caring Father in heaven.

There is an entire Christian theology which deals with the problem of pain, suffering, hurt, trouble, inconveniences, irritations, and confusion which plagues the Christian as well as others. The Bible, however, speaks in different terms concerning these as they relate to those who are members of Christ’s kingdom. They may be tests of faith, a refining of faith, a redirection of our daily lives to include more time and thought for God, the things of the spirit, and the ultimate goal for which we all live—eternity. If that is so, there need be little complaining, but rather rejoicing that God has taken the time to deal with us in love and has provided us solutions through prayer, worship, the sacraments, and personal devotions.

7. Remember the command of Christ. We have a new commandment from Christ, to love one another. Since we don’t like to be put down, singled out for criticisms or complaints, we have no alternative as Christians but to treat others with the same kind of respect and courtesy we desire. Part of the commandment of Christ to love others entails the curtailing and avoidance of carping criticism, bitter faultfinding, and other abuses of the tongue and heart that lead us to complain about what is happening to us.

The impersonal things which cause us to complain come from a world created by God and tainted by sin, yet basically a world belonging to and under the control of its Creator. The good it produces so far outweighs that which may produce complaints that a little Christian reflection ought to reduce this area of unhappiness.

Since Christ is so serious about the mutual love we are to show toward others, He will hear and answer our prayers for assistance in reducing the nagging and complaining we do. The Christian’s motto for overcoming the habit of complaining should be, “With God all things are possible.”

Many years ago a pitcher for the St. Louis Browns distinguished himself in two ways: (1) he pitched a no-hitter in his first major league game, and (2) he never won another game in his major league career.

Some Christians are like that. They begin with a brilliant flash and then quickly fade into obscurity. Countless pastors have seen their dreams realized in the conversion of a person for whom they carried heavy spiritual concern only to have those dreams dashed when their new convert quickly dropped out of sight. Like dash men in a track meet, they exploded out of the starting blocks, bolted into a quick lead, then “pulled up lame” and dropped out of the race.

These kinds of persons are the “stony soil” persons of whom Jesus spoke (Matthew 13:5). Springing quickly into life, they also quickly die because they do not develop the depth of rootage necessary for sustaining both life and growth.

In contrast, there are many Christians who begin well and continue that way. They are truly converted and deeply committed. In their local churches they can be counted on. They live out the life of Christ through consistent Christian service. Through thick and thin, "in season and out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2), they demonstrate their love for Christ and His Church through a dedicated stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.

Persons like these are a joy to their pastors. What a delight it is to spiritual leaders, long removed from a given pastoral assignment, to receive word that their “new converts” of long ago are still on the job, serving Christ and others in consistent Christian service. The apostle Paul wrote often of such persons in his Epistles. With great joy he thought of them and held them in his heart (Philippians 1:3-8). Such persons are also a delight to their Lord, by whose sacrifice on Calvary they were redeemed by God’s grace (Galatians 1:4).

We are saved to serve. We cannot all be spectacular but we can all be faithful. May God help us to be so. Let us not break the heart of God by infidelity, causing it to be asked, “Ye did run well; who did hinder you . . . ?” (Galatians 5:7). Rather, let us start well and run well. If we do so, we shall finish well.
Help Grow a Church!

Excitement quickens as our church moves into the heart of its plans for church growth. This study of the science of why and how churches add and even multiply in membership is bound to promote understanding and propel expansion throughout our Zion.

Healthy growth is not easy. It brings action and reaction, pleasure and problems. This is detectable even in examining the word *grow*.

O—Surprise at new methods and people.

OW—Change can be painful; the customary is easier.

ROW—Innovation may precipitate disturbance until things are brought into line.

GROW—The result is worth the agonizing process!

To promote revival and participate in the growth of one's church is certain to “lift up Christ, the sanctifying Saviour.” “Jesus wants His body healthy,” states Dr. C. Peter Wagner. Unless there is a terminal illness, such as “people-blindness,” ecclesiastical vigor has its basis in a real desire for growth on the part of pastor and people. Moving on the wings of this desire, the exercise of setting goals for evangelism will quicken the church’s heartbeat as she moves compassionately to reach, rescue, and redeem her community.

“How may I help?” you may ask. This world-changing business of people-winning is hard to get hold of. However, we act most effectively when we begin with a definite personal commitment to reaching others. In this connection, the promise in Psalm 126:6 is instructive: “He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” Observe the scriptural factors:

The Necessity for Positive Action

Perhaps the two most important letters in the word *grow* are the *g* and the *o* which combine to make *GO*! The Psalmist starts the formula for growth by saying, “He that goeth forth...” can be assured of results. “Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee” (Mark 5:19) was the Master’s counsel to the delivered demoniac. A positive effort must be made by every Christian to increase his circle of friends for the purpose of personal evangelism. We are under the Captain’s orders who said, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 28:19).

Multitudes today are in the valley of decision. Not a few are diseased and need the Great Physician. Like sheep, they cry out for help on their chill, bleak hills of sin. Many a Zaccaeus needs to make restitution. Samaritan women by the score need to confess their waywardness and drink of the Water of Life. Many a ruler needs to come to Jesus by day or night or anytime to hear His ultimatum: “Ye must be born again” (John 3:7). Many a blasphemer needs to meet the risen Christ on his busy road of life. “If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost” (2 Corinthians 4:3).

The Importance of Proper Attitude

Just as exercise quickens the heartbeat, notice that this promise, “He that goeth forth and weepeth,” indicates that there should be a genuine concern for people. No mechanical performance of a certain procedure can cover a casual involvement. Jeremiah cried, “Oh, that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people” (Jeremiah 9:1). Paul knew the value of a broken and contrite heart as he was careful to warn the Ephesians for the space of three years night and day with tears (Acts 20:31).

The proper attitude in winning others is comprehended in possessing God’s kind of love. “For the love of Christ constraineth us,” Paul shouted; and by GEORGE W. PRIVETT, JR.

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with this motivation we are to work and pray for men to be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:14). It was this sort of attitude which flourished the day a drunken and angry young man cursed a pottery-shop foreman. The father of the late Dr. Glenn Gould had compassion toward the abusive fellow who unsuccessfully sought employment. The more he cursed, the more John Gould would say, “God bless you, son . . . God bless you . . .” An arrow of conviction struck that youthful heart and with the faithful sharing of Christ, Harmon Schmelzenbach was won to the Lord.

THE VALUE OF GOSPEL AUTHORITY

Our efforts are not a matter of speaking just of ourselves, for we also find the divine quality emphasized. We are instructed to be bearers of “precious seed” which is the Word of God (Luke 8:11). It is not of our opinions but of His Word that God makes this seed” which is the Word of God (Luke 8:11). It is not sized. We are instructed to be bearers of “precious seed, for we also find the divine quality emphasized.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ABSOLUTE ASSURANCE

Intriguing is the word “doubtless” in our text. Here is an infallible promise to all who go compassionately with the Word to win persons to Christ. God is faithful, for “there hath not failed one word of all his good promise” (1 Kings 8:56). Again, “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). While sowing in the heat of the day, there are long hours and many temptations to exhaustion and despondency. Yet great is His faithfulness. With His command, there is His divine enabling.

THE BLESSING OF JOYFUL ACHIEVEMENT

“He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”

Nothing delights the heart of God more than a child returning from the wild. Jesus told of the lost coin and the lost sheep, but the climax came when He told of the return of the prodigal. The father meets him with outstretched arms, kills the fatted calf, and the happy home is marked by feasting and rejoicing over the boy who “was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.” There is joy “in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance” (Luke 15:7). With immense delight, God writes another name in the Book of Life, adopts another son into His family, and instructs the heavenly registrar to make plans to care for another future resident.

Obviously, the new believer is filled with great reality and joy having reached a moral settlement with God. Also the witnessing Christian senses God’s approval. He has become a partner with Deity in the great business of Kingdom building! His faith stretches and grows as he becomes a firsthand observer of the melting and remolding processes of the Word applied by the Holy Spirit. The joy of Jesus in soul winning is unspeakable!

Jesus came from heaven to planet Earth. Coming to grips with man’s deep need, He was soon found weeping, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He experienced Gethsemane for us, sweating great drops of blood. He came bearing precious seed—the seed of His life, truth, and holiness. For the joy set before Him, He offered himself—the Seed out of which redemption would spring. He came to do the Father’s will and sowed the world’s heart with the blood of His own. Now after sowing in tears, He reaps in joy . . . the joy of seeing our development. He says, “Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples” (John 15:8). □

THE PASSING SCENE

They pass by—scores of them!
Old ones, careworn and weary;
Weighed down by the problems of life,
Tired of earth’s passing scene
But frightened of what’s beyond.
Young ones, some already disillusioned
With what this life has to offer;
Seeking satisfaction in new thrills,
Far-out apparel, alcohol, sex, drugs—
Anything that just for a moment shuts out
The discontent and discouragement living within.
The young look at the old
And scoff at the moderation of their generation;
The old look at the young and decry
The excesses of theirs.
Jesus looks at both
And sees people—people needing love
And His gift of salvation.
And you?

—MABEL P. ADAMSON
Kansas City, Mo.
A MEDITATION ON ANGELS AT MICHAELMAS

Most of us are scarcely aware of Michaelmas. We may have heard of “Michaelmas Daisies,” which usually bloom in the fall; and our British friends may be aware of Michaelmas (pronounced with a short i: Mick-l-muss) as a designation of the fall term of courts and schools. But the word itself as marking September 29 on the calendar or as the festival of the archangel Michael and other angels is little known today.

Our ignoring this day is probably an indication of the slight attention given in the twentieth century to the entire subject of angels. (A recent exception is Billy Graham’s book, Angels: God’s Secret Agents [New York: Doubleday, 1975]). I wonder if our hesitancy, especially in Protestant churches, to talk about angels is due to the image we have of Scholastics in the Middle Ages speculating about how many angels could dance on the head of a pin. This image is undoubtedly a caricature, but the Scholastics did concern themselves about created beings in the other world and about the incorporeality of these spirits. If man was “a little lower than the angels,” it was important to note how he was different from the angels. Angelology was a serious topic in the Middle Ages.

For whatever the cause we seem to have put angels in the category of those “great matters” and “things too high for me” about which the Psalmist in Psalm 131 decided not to exercise himself.

It is very clear that biblical writers believed in angels. The Greek word 
aggelos, from which we get our world angel, means “messenger” and was used to translate the Hebrew word meaning “messenger.” In the Old Testament the phrase “the angel of the Lord” thus means “the messenger of the Lord,” who is a visible or audible representative of God on various occasions and to various people: for example, Hagar (Genesis 16), Abraham (Genesis 22), Moses (Exodus 3:2), Hannah and Manoah (Judges 13). Angels figure prominently in the events of Jesus’ birth, and Jesus himself speaks of angels. “For the Son of man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father” (Matthew 16:27, RSV). See also Matthew 24:36; 26:53; Mark 8:38; 12:25; Luke 9:26.

It is clear from some of these last references as well as others that there are multitudes of angels. Jacob in his dream saw the angels of God descending and ascending on the ladder which reached to heaven. And when he was on his way to meet Esau, the angels of God met him and he exclaimed, “This is God’s army!” (Genesis 32:1, RSV). John’s Revelation (which, according to Young’s Concordance, contains 73 of the 181 occurrences of the word angel in the New Testament) has given us the vision of the multitude in heaven praising God. The depiction is perhaps modeled after the words of Psalm 103:20, RSV:

Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word.

This vision (as well as the setting of Job 1 and 2) may have suggested to Goethe the prologue of Faust where the three archangels, Raphael, Gabriel, and Michael, sing praises to the Lord. In the concluding act of the play there are choirs of angels and seraphim.

Praising God is, of course, only one of the functions of the angels. The nature of the archangel Michael is a reminder that, especially in the Old Testament, the angels were God’s agents of destruction. Isaiah tells us that “the angel of the Lord went forth, and slew a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the camp of the Assyrians” (37:36, RSV). Both Daniel in his prophecy (10:21) and John in the Revelation depict Michael as a warrior: “Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they were defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven” (Revelation 12:7-8, RSV). This image prompted artists and sculptors through the ages to portray Michael in warlike garb.

Milton, probably taking his cue from John, gives Michael a major role in the description of the original war in heaven:

[Satan] saw where the Sword of Michael smote, and fell’d Squadrons at once, with huge two-handed sway Brandish’d aloft the horrid edge came down Wide wasting.

(Paradise Lost, VI, 250-52)

However, there are far more pleasant functions of the angels which we contemplate in both the Old Testament and the New. We find that God’s messen-

by RUTH A. CAMERON
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ger usually came to His people to advise and direct, "to go before them," to "have charge over" them, to keep in all their ways.

In the Bible the angels are almost always audible and/or visible. At times they appear in the form of men. In fact, the account of the strangers who visited Abraham at Mamre is interesting in that they are first referred to simply as "three men." One of them is then spoken of as "the Lord," who rebuked Sarah for laughing at his prediction that she would have a child. It is the Lord who remains to listen to Abraham's intercession on behalf of Sodom. In chapter 19 we read the "the two angels came to Sodom," presumably the two men who had earlier been in company with the Lord.

There is another curious intermingling of terms in the story of Balaam. It is God who comes to Balaam and says, "You shall not go with them; you shall not curse the people, for they are blessed." But it is the angel of the Lord who stands in the road to deter Balaam's ass. And it is the angel of the Lord whom Balaam sees when his eyes are opened. However, it is the Spirit of God who comes upon Balaam when he delivers "the oracle of Balaam, the son of Beor, the oracle of the man whose eye is opened, the oracle of him who hears the words of God, who sees the vision of the Almighty" (Numbers 24:3-4, RSV).

By such distinctions we see that the angels have certain limitations and occupy a somewhat inferior vision of the Almighty. By way of warning and illustrations he says that even the archangel Michael in a dispute with the devil over the body of Moses did not presume to pronounce a reviling judgment upon the devil, but said, "The Lord rebuke you" (Jude 9, RSV).

Do we believe in angels? If we believe the Bible, we do. Very few people today seem to have had little direct contact—visible or audible—with angels. We do believe, of course, that God speaks to and intercedes for His people in various ways. We do not rule out miraculous and supernatural revelations and manifestations, but on the whole we are aware of God's transcendence and do not expect, as the ancients did, a direct contact with God or His angels.

Billy Graham, in his book on angels, cites many anecdotes to attest that God even in these latter days sometimes does use this method of guiding and protecting His children.

Many of us have had experiences of entertaining "angels in disguise." When we discussed this topic in a recent Sunday school class, we accepted the possibility that God's messengers and agents might be our friends and loved ones, perhaps even a stranger. As one of my friends put it, "I have certainly had lots of angels working in my behalf."

The writer of Hebrews also reminds us that the Christian revelation of God in Christ to some extent supercedes the necessity of the angels to be God's messengers. He is careful to point out that Jesus is "as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs" (Hebrews 1:4, RSV).

Paradoxically Christ was made lower than the angels when He became human; yet the humanity itself made Him even more superior since He could thus take upon himself man's redemption. He is the perfect Mediator between man and God. He does not bring God's message to man; He is the Word. He is not God's agent; He is God himself acting on our behalf. Moreover, the Holy Spirit dwelling within us is God present and immanent in our very lives, the "angel of His presence."

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God of the mountain,  God of the eons,  God of the sea,  God of all space,  Lord of all creation,  Lord of infinity,  Do You really care for me?  Do You know my time and place?  God of the river,  God of my being,  God of the plain,  God of my life,  Lord of clouds and thunder,  Lord of countless billions,  Can You feel my grief and pain?  Are You mindful of my strife?  God of the morning,  Yes, I care when you are weary;  God of the sun,  Yes, I hear you when you call.  Lord of midday brightness,  Yes, I know and do consider—  Can You hear the voice of one?  I will never let you fail.  God of the evening,  Yes, I feel your hurt and sorrow;  God of the night,  Yes, I hear your special plea.  Lord of moonlit splendor,  Yes, I know and will deliver—  Will You help me in my plight?  I will always faithful be.

—DENNIS E. SAYLOR  Albuquerque, N.M.  SEPTEMBER 1, 1977 11
HOW EAGER WE ARE to live wisely and well! Yet how difficult it can be to make right decisions. Not knowing beforehand what any day will bring to us, we wonder what will be best for us. What seems good now may not be so 10 years hence.

God is the only One who knows the whole journey, so He is the One who can guide us successfully. Is His guidance available to us today? How do we recognize it? What are the conditions for receiving it?

God's willingness to guide us is assured and attested throughout the Bible. The Psalmist gives us God's promise in these words: "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye [upon thee]" (Psalm 32:8). The wisest of men, Solomon, has this to say: "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:6). Isaiah gives us this assurance: "The Lord shall guide thee continually" (Isaiah 58:11). God is ever seeking to guide us. His infinite wisdom and knowledge are available to help us to live rightly today.

When our Lord was on earth, He made a promise which assures us that we can enjoy God's guidance today. "He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12). Jesus is with us wherever we go; therefore, we have not only guidance, but an infallible Guide.

How does God guide us? Principally through the Bible. A psalmist points out: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105). God will never give guidance that contradicts His written Word. This guidance does not come from helps to holy living

HOW IS YOUR SPIRITUAL BALANCE?

Most of us as children have made ourselves dizzy on purpose for fun. As youngsters we have closed our eyes and turned round and round until we couldn't walk and were delighted with the sensation of loss of direction.

This experience came to me recently in a not-so-welcome way when I developed inner-ear problems. It really is weird when one with this difficulty can't discern whether his feet are up or down; you just don't have any sense of direction at all! If someone were to hold a $100 bill out and tell me I could have it if I could reach it, there is no way I could take it.

As I thought on this dilemma, a spiritual truth came to me. There are millions of precious people in our world who have this "loss of direction" problem. They are grasping and groping helplessly for something to hold them steady. They don't know which end is up, so to speak, and desperately need something to stabilize them.

As a child of God, I can rejoice in the fact that there is something onto which we can fasten ourselves; something that will keep us in our topsy-turvy world. I must somehow reach my portion of this world and tell folk that this "something" comes in the form of Jesus Christ! When we reach up to Him in faith, He will reach down to us and settle us in our crazy, spinning world!

Paul said in Philippians 4:7, "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

—DAVID H. SLOANE
Crewe, Va.
opening our Bibles haphazardly and then accepting the first words we read as God's guidance for us. God will speak to us when we read it prayerfully and carefully each day, meditating upon what we read.

Further, the Holy Spirit indwells us (Romans 8:9) and has come to guide us. Paul says: "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Romans 8:14). As we pray about a matter, the right impression will become deeper. Presently we shall have a clear conviction of what is God's will for us.

God has given us minds and expects us to use them. The Holy Spirit can direct us while we put our powers of thought, judgment, and common sense to the fullest use. He can flash in our minds what we need to know. He can work in our minds, guiding us to a right decision. As we consider the advantages of a course of action, looking at all the facts as impartially as we can, He can show us what will be best.

God can also guide us through our present circumstances. Once we are sure that the Bible approves our course and we have the inner assurance of the leading of the Holy Spirit, circumstances that all point the same way form a further indication of God's purpose for us.

Opportunity enters into God's guidance. As we go along the path of duty and come to a brick wall, we walk up to it. God will then either remove the wall that hinders our going ahead or tell us to go to the right or to the left. As Leonard Griffiths has put it: "Not for a moment would Paul explain the closing and opening of doors as mere human frustrations and opportunities; he would simply assume that the Spirit of God was guiding him in those directions and to those areas where his work would have the most enduring results."

Although God may give His guidance while we are on our knees, He may give it through our friends. God has given wisdom and guidance to godly men and women. Their experience is invaluable. God can use that wisdom and experience to help us. Though we are always careful to check such guidance with plain instruction of Scripture, their advice may be the voice of God speaking to us.

We receive this guidance by asking God for it. This does not mean that crucial decisions are the only occasions for relying on God alone. Rather, seeking God's guidance is an attitude of life. We should seek it all the time. We may think we can distinguish between great and small decisions, but we may err in our evaluation. Large doors turn on small hinges. We shall be habitually guided if we habitually seek God's guidance. Humbly and consistently seeking God's guidance will make us sensitive to God's activity in every aspect of life, not merely in its critical events.

Having sought it, we must expect it and look for it. Only when we expect it are we sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading. Not only is this an evidence of our sincerity, but also it is the prayer of faith that God promises to answer. We are to seek it with sincerity, openness of mind, receptiveness of heart, and a will to follow it. God expects us to follow His guidance whether or not that guidance is what we would have chosen or is pleasing to us. God alone knows whether we shall follow His guidance. It would be pointless for God to grant guidance unless we are prepared to obey it at all costs. Disobedience to clear directions will dull our perception of God's voice; continuous obedience will heighten and intensify that perception. When Scripture, inner conviction, and circumstances all agree, we need have no doubt about what we ought to do. We must obey.

God will guide us a day at a time. Often we should like to see the ultimate outcome of our decisions; we seldom do. God reveals one step; we take it. He then reveals the next; we take that. The longest journey is but a succession of steps.

Yes, we can make right decisions today.

Reviewed by

MIKE A. MILLER
Licensed psychologist, Los Angeles

BOOK BRIEFS
FOR YOU

FAMILY UNDER FIRE

John Henry Jowett, world-renowned preacher of yesteryear, in one of his sermons made this statement, "The New Testament does not say very much about the home, it says a great deal about things that make a home." And that's what this book (just off the press) is all about.

To say the family unit is in trouble is an understatement. That's why this book is so timely and helpful. Seven individuals, including Dr. Dobson, with a variety of academic degrees and a broad range of life experiences questioned, confronted, shared, and eventually gave birth to an exciting book which affirms God's unit, the family.

John 14 reminds us of Jesus' preparation of God's home for God's children and family members. The family was in God's mind before creation, and He will maintain the family on earth as it is in heaven.

Family Under Fire contains much practical and supportive feedback for helping us to cope with the everyday family conflicts and pressures. Try it, you'll like it.

by Dr. James Dobson
(A Conference Book)

Beacon Hill Press
of Kansas City

To order
See page 27
THE MAHARISHI calls it Transcendental Meditation—“the direct, simple way of coming to That—which is the state of our being—and confirming our relationship to it by direct experience.” The Yogi’s sublime definition of That is: “I am That, you are That, all this is That.”

Hence all that is needed is to think about something in a way which is beyond the limits of ordinary experience. “To meditate in such a way,” says the Maharishi, “will solve world peace, do away with the crime wave, revolutionize education, restore religion, make the mind infinitely powerful, and give us all, wisdom, happiness, and contentment.”

All that is necessary is to sit down for half an hour in the morning and meditate on an Indian word or sound which the Yogi chooses. The mind does not dwell on the word, but on the sound. For the mind to dwell on the word is called contemplation. To dwell on the sound is meditation.

“Faith has had its day,” he says. “It is mental hallucination, a waste of life. No religion today is capable of giving the light of God to its followers. The modern mind seeks clarification, a realization of the light of God within you. Through Transcendental Meditation you can live with the light of God within you.”

“HIS HOLINESS”

Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, a Hindu who inaugurated a Spiritual Regeneration Movement that has persistent booksellers in every major airport, promises pure happiness and instant bliss, without money and without price. “My plan for the whole world,” says Maharishi, “is that by the time children reach maturity, their consciousness should be mature too. They will have achieved pure happiness and the search for happiness. My message is about happiness and the search for happiness.”

It is supposedly a happiness without suffering in this present world. The theme and the technique have a fascination for questing youth: “the whole world is on a mad quest for security and happiness,” said a French philosopher. “It would seem that man, though he have everything else, is not complete without this elusive gift.”

The Beatles made pilgrimage and world headlines some years ago by patronizing and praising the Maharishi’s philosophy. “It is too good to be true. That’s what it is. It is something for nothing,” said Paul

TO FLY

Broken-winged—
Tattered by the wind,
Parched beneath the sun;
Made faint and vile by the weight
And strain of rain dripping.

Vexed?
Torn between
Strength and loss.

Longing . . .
Longing for a chance
To fly—
When the sun brings warmth
And wind coolness.

Rise up, O soul,
With healing in your wings.
Accept My gift . . .
Your answer—
Courage!

—LINDA SHUPE DAVIS
Bourbonnais, Ill.
McCartney. “Drugs are square,” said George Harrison, “and the truly groovy and trendy source of bliss lies in Transcendental Meditation.”

The pursuit of happiness is guaranteed in the Declaration of Independence, but did the Beatles find it? Will those who follow the “Krishna cult” find it?

The Maharishi’s doctrine of “decibels” promises it: “What I have discovered, and what I want to promulgate in the world, is a system of meditation which will allow men to attain the kingdom of heaven on earth. It is, in fact, the summum bonum of all that Christ and Krishna, Buddha and Mohammed taught. What I do is to give a person a word. This word, suited to his particular needs, sets up ultrasonic vibrations in his body when he speaks and meditates upon it, and the cells of his brain are changed to enable him to attain that higher consciousness which should be his. After only a short time, he will be filled with energy. His whole corporal body will be rejuvenated.”

A PSEUDO-RELIGION

Transcendental Meditation makes clever play upon elements of New Testament Christianity: the necessity for meditation, an element of mysticism, the use of a Name, and the power of thought. It offers escape from an affluent, materialistic society while utilizing the “beat” background of that society. It challenges conformity and satisfies the desire for notoriety. But it is mumbo jumbo for itching ears.

Theologically it is in error. “Faith has had its day . . . no religion is capable of giving the light of God to any of its followers.” Has the Maharishi not read the words of Jesus: “He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life”? True happiness does not come through a mystic’s chosen word, but through the Living Word. Meditation cannot deal with the problem of sin, its rebellion, transgression, guilt, and shame. The Cross is the only answer.

Philosophically it is wrong. An eminent psychiatrist and psychotherapist, Dr. Wilfred Lestser, does not hesitate to write, “The Yogi has found that thought bubbles continuously come up from the bottom of the mind . . . if we could recognize the bubbles earlier, we would be using more of our brains. Now this is just scientific balderdash with a seasoning of eastern gobbledygook. The Yogi’s idea of how the mind works is childish and ignorant. His claim that his system of thinking about an Indian word could change the whole world for better is childish and ignorant . . .”

Historically it is ineffective. How much has this brand of eastern “wise men” done for their own countries? Unrest, insecurity, and unhappiness abound in greater measure than elsewhere. If chants and communes, systems and savants, “wonders and wierdies” could have saved mankind, the countries that have spawned so many should have been utopias long ago.

Blessed, happy, is a Bible testimony based upon a right relationship to God through Jesus Christ alone, Saviour and Lord.

Not the Maharishi, but “Rabboni,” my great Master!

Bread upon the Waters

SING SOFT SONGS AT SUNDOWN

Feed my hungry soul with music
   Lest it wither and decay . . .
So sing me soft songs at sundown
   At the closing of the day.
Play the great songs of the masters:
   Brahms, Beethoven, and Mozart . . .
Let their classics dance in cadence
   On the keyboard of my heart.
I am tired of twang and jargon
   And of artificial strings . . .
And the amateurs who strum them
   With hands soiled with baser things.
There is madness in the jukebox,
   And the sounds of rock ‘n’ roll
Have dulled my ears with their loudness,
   And left deafness in my soul.
I am tired of jungle rhythm
   And the turmoil in its beat . . .
My soul cries for serenity
   And hymns of the mercy seat.
My privacy is invaded
   By voices I did not buy
And echoes of a passing breed
   That time will not dignify.
I am tired of raucous minstrels
   Who have a flair for the cheap
And their “tunes” which walk, half-written,
   From their opiated sleep.
I am weary of the sameness
   And rhythms that rust my nerves . . .
Surely there is something better
   That my noble soul deserves.
So sing me the songs of Wesley,
   Toplady, and Isaac Watts,
Sing the songs of Fanny Crosby . . .
   Not those of nonpatriots.
Soothe my jangled thoughts at evening,
   Lift my soul above earth’s scars
On wings of immortal music . . .
   Music cradled in the stars.

by CHARLES HASTINGS SMITH

Bethany, Okla.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1977 15
OUR GREATEST CHALLENGE

I have been thinking about God's challenge to Abraham, "Walk before me and be thou perfect" (Genesis 17:1). From earliest times God has summoned His people to lives of perfect love, and still does today (Matthew 5:43-48).

Living holy lives in our kind of world is not easy, but it was no easier for Abraham. True, Abraham was "ninety-nine years old" when God issued this challenge. We may argue that one so old would find his temptations greatly reduced. However, Abraham would become the father of Isaac when he was pushing a hundred. It is hard enough to be a grandfather at that age! To raise a son would severely tax his strength and nerves. The truth is, at any age, under any circumstances, the life of perfect love is a staggering responsibility.

The words "before me" are significant—and comforting. God did not say, "Walk before Sarah and be perfect," or "Walk before Isaac and be perfect." Only God knows the heart. Just as "no man is a hero to his valet," so no man is perfect or blameless in the judgment of his wife or children. God called Job "a perfect man," but his wife became impatient and despaired of God and Job, saying, "Curse God and die" (Job 2:9). All persons are incompetent judges of other persons. Forman Lincicome used to say that you could be as white as snow and someone would come along wearing dark glasses and shoot you for a crow. We are to be perfect "before God," not before one another. As Paul expressed it, we were chosen in Christ before the world was made "that we should be holy and without blame before him in love" (Ephesians 1:4).

The perfection which God commanded of Abraham was a matter of the heart and not of the head. Given our fallen condition, no one can live without blunders and failures. Understanding and judgment are defective, and thus we are betrayed into saying and doing things we later regret. We often act upon incomplete information. Sometimes we are victims of erroneous information. The purest of intentions and the deepest of love, therefore, cannot guarantee perfect performance. The distinction between blamelessness and faultlessness is a valid one. We can live without blame, but not without fault.

How is this possible? The secret is found in the words of God to Abraham, "I am God Almighty," which prefaces the command to be blameless. Our strength for holy living does not come from our resolution and dedication. The power for perfect love is God dwelling in us by His Spirit.

And a glorious thing about His power is the fact that it "is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). The infirmities of age or of youth are not barriers to the fulfillment of the divine challenge. God is able to "prop us on our leaning side" and bestow His enabling grace upon His weakest children.

Is holy living really possible? Listen to Paul's testimony: "You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our behavior to you believers" (1 Thessalonians 2:10, RSV). The apostle dared to summon God himself as a character witness to his blameless life! Now Paul was made of the same mud we are, and the same victorious life can be ours.

BUILDINGS AND PEOPLE

The neutron bomb has been widely reported and hotly debated in recent days.

This N-bomb has been described as a more "humane" weapon than the H-bomb. For one thing, it kills more discriminately, according to its makers. Its effect can be more concentrated, so that fewer noncombatants would be killed or injured. For another thing, it can kill people without destroying buildings, since it kills by radiation and not by fire or blast. Another triumph for technocracy!

When buildings are valued and people are discounted, our degeneracy and barbarism have reached bottom.

The neutron bomb may be the latest thing in weaponry, but the priority of buildings over persons is as old as civilization.

Jesus faced it in His day. Once, as He was leaving the Temple complex, one of His disciples exclaimed,
There is one justification for any building, that it serves human needs and improves human lives. Otherwise, buildings are monuments to pride, repetitions of ancient Babel.

“Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here.” The disciple was awed by the magnificence of the architecture. But the Lord replied, “There shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down” (Mark 13:1-2).

The concern of Jesus was not for stones that perish but for people who will live forever. As He left the Temple, “he saw a man which was blind from his birth” (John 8:59—9:1). He paused to give sight to that blind man, for Jesus valued people above everything.

Bombs that destroy people and spare buildings can be hailed as “progress” only by a tragic distortion of values. According to Jesus, one human life is worth more than the whole world (Mark 8:34-37). The N-bomb may spare buildings but time’s relentless flow will not. Sooner or later all that man builds will become rubble and dust. Persons, however, will endure forever, and only persons are ultimately valuable.

We need to remember this when we erect church buildings. In some countries elaborate churches mock the poverty of people who exist in wretched hovels within the very shadows of those spiritual mausoleums. There is one justification for any building, that it serves human needs and improves human lives. Otherwise, buildings are monuments to pride, repetitions of ancient Babel. We spend millions for buildings. What are we spending to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, and evangelize the lost?

The N-bomb expresses the philosophy of the world. It dare not be allowed to symbolize the philosophy of the church. Buildings exist for people, not people for buildings. If the people are destroyed, it does not matter that the buildings are spared.

PEOPLE WATCHING

When you sit around airports a lot, you can't keep your nose in a book all the time, you do a lot of people watching. Few activities are more interesting or educative than people watching in crowded areas.

A mother is holding a squirming baby on her lap. The mother is smoking one cigarette after another. Smoke drifts across the baby's face, irritating its eyes. The baby writhes and cries, as the mother, growing impatient, wears a look that says, I wonder what's bothering you.

A boisterous little fellow, who looks to be about seven years old, darts here and there inspecting equipment inside and planes outside. His mother, who keeps turning up the volume knob on her vocal cords, repeats monotonously, “No,” and “Don't,” and “Come here.” He is blissfully oblivious to her negative cries, and she tiredly repeats them. How can a healthy seven-year-old sit still in an airport? Give up, mother, you don't really expect him to mind. He probably thinks his name is No-Don't.

In a corner a young couple hug and kiss. It looks easy but it must be hard to get it right for they keep practicing. They are either too much in love to care that folks are watching, or so proud of their performance that they enjoy an audience.

Others are reading. One fellow moves his lips and chuckles softly now and then.

Some are changing planes. They have been en route, and they look tired or bored. Here and there some are catching 40 winks, heads tilted, mouths agape.

The baby is reaching the scream level now in its protest. No-Don't has disappeared around a corner, pushing an empty wheelchair. Someone will need it before he gets far! Now a group surges toward the gate to greet arriving passengers. Smiles! Tears! Hugs and kisses! Camera shutters click; flashbulbs pop. A grouch pushes through, masking his jealousy with a frown.

People, all different and fascinating. The image of God competes with the image of Adam in them. They are alike in one respect—they need Jesus. They need the gospel, as old as Calvary, as modern as a jetliner.

A fellow beside me keeps glancing out of the corner of his eye, trying to see what I am writing. Hello! What's your final destination? No, I mean your final destination. Let me tell you about the world's greatest Pilot!

People watching—it stirs you to speak and act for Jesus Christ!
THE WORLD TODAY appears to be in an insane race toward nowhere. Man seems to lack a basic purpose for living. We are living for the moment and not for what that moment means. We have lost sight of God’s purpose in every moment of our lives and in all of history. God rules eternity past, present, and future. Our vision has failed to see the distant scene.

One of our problems is that we lack a real understanding of ourselves. Why exactly are we here on earth? What are we doing with our time and where are we going? The Bible clearly gives us the answers, but we are too busy to seek them out. Men are like snowflakes strewn in the wind, distracted from one distraction by yet another distraction. The hymn writer has said, “Voices of earth unnumbered I hear.” This could be the litany of any modern American. Life has become a series of events without basic integration. We have lost sight of our one great goal—heaven. We have lost sight of the distant scene.

Progress and education have become idols in our modern world. We have chosen the technological, mental side of life, preferring it to the spiritual nature within us. And now we find it wanting. Our work is not satisfying. Our home is too small. The clothes we wear are never stylish enough. We complain that our food is not tasty. Life for us has become a bland, endless chore. Knowledge should be our servant but we have become its slave. The mind is given preference over the soul. We have lost sight of the distant scene.

The home and the family are where legends are born and tradition should be transmitted. The family and home should be a refuge where love is nurtured and religion taught. The home, in many instances, has become a hotel of sorts, a place to eat and sleep, and nothing more. The warmth and fellowship of close family communion has been all but wiped out by a continual round of activities. Athletic events, parties, and television are filling our hours with nerve-wracking commotion. We live in isolated suburban cubicles without any real living going on inside of them. We have lost sight of the distant scene.

Our social values have been lost in the shuffle. Are my neighbors and friends important to me? Do I value my integrity and my life-style? These things are part and parcel of life. Jesus said, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart . . . and thy neighbour as thyself.” These values have been lost in our welfare society. “I don’t care what anyone thinks” and “Let the government do it” are general attitudes of the day. We have lost sight of the distant scene.

Life should be basically happy. It should be filled with love, joy, peace, hope, and meaning, but by and large we are not experiencing this abundant life at all. We are frantic Marthas. We should be poised Marys. We have drifted from our moorings. Our roots no longer grip the rock. As a result man is living at the end of his tether. We are not enjoying life as it should be. We have everything to make life happy, but if we don’t see these things in the proper perspective, life becomes meaningless. We have the means to make not only America but the world a better place. Instead our nation is moving toward the destruction of life’s morals, purpose, and meaning. We have lost sight of the distant scene.

Abraham was a wealthy man but he looked for a city whose builder and maker was God. Moses was a prince but he chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Job’s vision saw beyond the sufferings of the present to the glories of the latter day. God help us in all of life to see the distant scene!
The young Church of the Nazarene in Green Bay, Wis., recently obtained a commercial loan and repaid the loan which it had received from the General Church Loan Fund. That money is now being used to help another new church get the building it so badly needs. The Green Bay church was featured two years ago in an appeal for sacrificial support by Nazarenes for the General Church Loan Fund. How God has blessed the response to that appeal.

Nazarenes from around the world have given to the General Church Loan Fund, and as a result the St. Louis, Mo., Bible Way Church of the Nazarene, an inner-city Black work, has been able to purchase and remodel a large supermarket for an innovative approach to inner-city ministry that may set a pattern for other works across the country.
An Opportunity in Mission for All

Over 1,000 new Nazarene churches have been helped through the General Church Loan Fund, and the number increases each year. Presently 250 churches have GCLF loans which they are repaying in monthly installments. All loans are guaranteed by the respective districts. Everyone may participate in this opportunity for mission through gifts which are 10 percent missionary specials or through deposits which draw interest.

MINNEAPOLIS NATIVE AMERICAN

Thanks to Nazarenes who have supported the General Church Loan Fund a thriving new Native American church in Minneapolis, Minn., was able to purchase a sanctuary of their own. They are now repaying the loan while expanding their ministry among the 30,000 American Indians who live within a very few blocks of the building which you helped them to buy.

TORONTO KENNEDY ROAD

For years Canadian churches were serviced by the General Church Loan Fund-U.S.A. Now an historic moment has come, and Canada has its own General Church Loan Fund-Canada. One of the early churches to be helped toward growth by the GCLF was Toronto Kennedy Road Church of the Nazarene. This “daughter” of old Toronto First Church was averaging 96 in Sunday school and had 51 members when their GCLF loan application was made. Today the church is averaging 158 and has 131 members. Moreover, it is actively preparing to launch a new “baby” church. The results of GCLF assistance just keep on echoing down through time.
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW!

New Nazarene Churches Are on the Way!

The growth of the Church of the Nazarene demands that we be prepared to help these young congregations into their own buildings as soon as possible.

Gifts should be designated either for the General Church Loan Fund—Canada or the General Church Loan Fund—U.S.A. and sent to:

Dr. Norman O. Miller
General Treasurer
Church of the Nazarene
6401 The Paseo
Kansas City, Mo. 64131

SAVINGS, TOO!

Both loan funds are also savings banks where citizens of the two countries respectively can place their savings for interest. While your money grows in value for you, it is in the meantime being used to build much needed facilities for new churches. For more information, write to:

General Church Loan Fund—Canada
Box 3456, Station "B"
Calgary, Alberta
T2M 4M1

General Church Loan Fund—U.S.A.
Department of Home Missions
6401 The Paseo
Kansas City, Mo. 64131
THE MATHEMATICS OF GROWTH

When a German Nazarene says that in Germany one multiplies by dividing, he is not propounding a new mathematical theory. Nor need we conclude that he learned his arithmetic from Alice in Wonderland. It is simply a description of how the church in Germany is growing.

It began in 1970 when six members of the “mother church” in Frankfurt saw the possibility of a complete church growing from a branch Sunday school which they conducted, and, with the blessing of the pastor, left “First Church” to start a second one in Frankfurt. Today this church has 37 adult members, and on December 5, dedicated a new church building.

When a German Nazarene says that in Germany one multiplies by dividing, he is not propounding a new mathematical theory. Nor need we conclude that he learned his arithmetic from Alice in Wonderland. It is simply a description of how the church in Germany is growing.

The congregation is at present worshipping in the Bonames community center, where each Sunday approximately 40 people hear the Word of God from Pastor Mueller. The most urgent need is for our own place of worship, and we invite the Nazarenes around the world to pray with us for this.

The young church is off to a good start. Good planning, a well-trained pastor, and Spirit-filled, dedicated laymen have made this possible. Multiplication by division would be laughed at by the mathematicians, but we have found that it is God’s way of winning souls for His kingdom.

—T. Findlay, District Secretary
Middle European District

NEWS OF CHURCHES

The Alva, Okla., church, under the direction of Pastor V. L. Kinnett, dedicated its new sanctuary on Sunday, March 20, with Dr. Jerald R. Locke, district superintendent, officiating. Also participating in the service was Rev. Harmon Schmelzenbach, missionary to the Republic of South Africa. The new sanctuary and two-story education unit is of brick construction and is valued at $300,000. The complex is carpeted wall-to-wall, with central heat and air, and will accommodate 300 people.
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS PROMULGATE STUDY OF CHURCH GROWTH

As a follow-up to the church growth training of district superintendents, many districts are now engaging in church growth training efforts with pastors on their respective districts.

In Canada, all four of the districts have planned preachers’ meetings centering on the teaching of church growth principles, using Dr. Peter Wagger’s book Your Church Can Grow.

On the Northeast Oklahoma District, W. T. Dougaharty has completed a church growth training exercise with all of his pastors, involving four meetings on each of five zones.

The Oregon Pacific District, having previously sent a contingent of pastors to Pasadena, Calif., in a church growth seminar with Win Arn, have now engaged Rev. John Wimber of the Fuller Evangelistic Association for the ministers’ and wives’ retreat.

North Carolina has been involved in perhaps the most intensive church growth study of any district. They are now engaged in a two-year program that will thoroughly acquaint pastors and laymen with the most dynamic church growth principles.

Other meetings are in the planning stages for the training of pastors in 1977. The goal of the Department of Home Missions is to train every district superintendent and through them train every pastor in the principles of church growth during 1977. This will be a warm-up for the denomination-wide study on church growth to be carried out in February and March of 1978. At that time, the new book by Dr. Paul Orjala, Get Ready to Grow, will be the church growth study for the Church of the Nazarene.

—Department of Home Missions

WHY MILLIONS BELIEVE by Leslie Parrott

Copies of this latest release in Braille have been sent to those whose names are on file. Complimentary copies will be sent upon request to others who would benefit from this service of your Publishing House.

HOLINESS EVANGEL, the Light of Life, (published bimonthly in Braille) will also be sent without charge to those on our Braille mailing list.

Other booklets in Braille:
- THE HOLY SPIRIT TODAY—Martin
- LIFE CAN HAVE MEANING—Tidwell
- ON TIPTOE WITH LOVE—Seamands
- THE POWER OF YOUR ATTITUDES—Parrott
- WHEN GOD TAPS YOUR SHOULDER—Spruce
- WHEN YOU GET TO THE END OF YOURSELF—Purkiser

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NEW CHURCH PLANTED IN MONTREAL

Prayer is requested for the beginning of Nazarene home missionary work among the French-speaking Canadians of Montreal.

In asking the entire church for prayer, Dr. Raymond W. Hurn, executive director of Nazarene Home Missions, reported that first services in the French language were held July 10.

Twelve persons attended that first worship service which was held in the facilities of the Montreal First Church (English speaking).

Included in the 12 were the families of Rev. Roy Fuller, mission district leader, and Rev. Adrien-David Robbins, pastor.

The Yates Center, Kan., church held dedication services for their new education-fellowship building on Sunday, June 12. Included in the program were Dr. R. W. Hurn, executive director of the Department of Home Missions, giving the dedicatory address; District Superintendent James Hester, offering the prayer of dedication; Mayor Robert Morton; Rev. Wendell Johnson of the Ministerial Alliance; and Don Van Dyne of Independence, Kans. Pastor Leon Hendrix began the church 2½ years ago with 9 charter members. The church now averages 55 and the new building raises the property value to $50,000, with an indebtedness of $25,000.

“GET READY TO GROW”

Get Ready to Grow is the action-centered title of the new CST textbook that may well be studied by more people than any other book in the history of the CST program.

A record-breaking initial press run has been ordered in anticipation of an unusual number of early requests for the church growth study by Dr. Paul Orjala of Nazarene Theological Seminary.

Most of the 5,000 Nazarene churches in Britain, Canada, and the United States will study the text in February and March.

The study has been accompanied by

The newly renovated Church of the Nazarene in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, was recently dedicated with Dr. Kenneth Rice as the speaker. Cost of renovations was $43,000. The Department of Manpower and Immigration granted $18,000 under the Local Initiatives Program for the project. The gymnasium was converted to an educational unit. Educational facilities now will accommodate 225 and the sanctuary 200. District Superintendent William Bahan brought greetings on behalf of the Canada Atlantic District. Rev. Clarence Edgar is the pastor.
in-depth research by the Department of Home Missions during the preparation stage.

Dr. Orjala takes as his theme the idea that we are in the disciple-making business on the direct command of Jesus.

"We are looking to the Bible for our guide," says Dr. Raymond W. Hurn, executive director of Nazarene Home Missions. Jesus' explicit command to "go and make disciples of all nations" is a clear charter for growth.

One of the more exciting aspects of the new study is that it is an integral part of a mass training movement that has touched every level of the church. A special leader's manual will be available to augment the text with "how to do it" instructions taken straight from the record of successful, growing Nazarene churches.

This gathering for the first time of biblical strategies of growth, along with contemporary models in the Nazarene context, provides a unique opportunity to the people called Nazarenes.

Be one of the first to return a registration blank with your orders for Get Ready to Grow.

Growth comes, not automatically, but for those who plan for it. □

McNAUGHT NEW EDITOR OF "ETCETERA"

Mel McCullough, executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries, has announced that Ernie McNaught, general director of Campus Ministries, will assume the assignment as editor of Etcetera magazine. He succeeds J. Paul Turner who has joined the Department of Adult Ministries staff.

With the September, 1977, issue of Etcetera, this publication will become a leisure reading piece for college/university/career singles. This refocus from a "young adult monthly" is reflected in the new subtitle "Resourcing College/University/Career Singles." The target audience will be the 18-23 age-group. The stated objectives are:

1. to provide inspirational reading for personal encouragement of the student;
2. to stimulate new insights into the Christian faith with an occasional "think piece";
3. to stimulate the dimension of Christian discipleship;
4. to provide limited articles for doctrinal clarification. □

CNC CONFERS HONORARY DOCTOR OF MUSIC DEGREE

E. Roger Taylor was the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Music degree from Canadian Nazarene College, Winnipeg, Manitoba, at the commencement exercises on May 8, having served the Music Department of CNC for a total of 19 years. Highlighting the weekend commencement activities was a Saturday evening concert including solos by Dr. Taylor and a 65-voice choir directed by him.

Dr. Taylor has given a life of devotion and outstanding service, over an extended period of time, to Christian higher education in the Church of the Nazarene in Canada. Virtually his entire life has been devoted to students—having served in both public and private schools, including NNC, Cascade College, and a community college.

The Taylors are now retired and living in Abbotsford, B.C. □

Many Nazarenes have found that stewardship and responsible money management go hand-in-hand. Indeed, far-reaching stewardship is inoperable without the thoughtful consideration of long range personal and financial goals. Through HORIZONS confidential, estate planning assistance, Mr. and Mrs. Wheel learned they could invest in their church while investing in their future. You too can discover the joy of supporting God's Kingdom while reaping generous returns, tax benefits and the deep, lasting satisfaction of being a laborer together with God.

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Fred D. Pick, founder of the Mifflinburg, Pa., church, has served as its only pastor for over 33 years. But with the close of the church year in May, Pastor Pick retired from the full-time ministry. A farewell reception was attended by hundreds of well-wishers. This was held in the newly completed education annex which was officially named in his honor. A new Oldsmobile was presented in addition to a generous cash gift. The highlight of the farewell festivities was a two-hour "This Is Your Life" presentation spanning four decades of Christian service and including appearances by fellow-workers, relatives, and friends. Pastor and Mrs. Pick plan to reside in Mifflinburg, and he plans to remain active in church activities by serving as a special speaker and pastoral consultant. He will be succeeded by Robert S. Faulstick, formerly pastor of the West Chester, Pa., church.

ONC GRADUATION

Olivet Nazarene College graduated 308 students in commencement ceremonies held May 30 on the campus quadrangle south of Benner Library.

Dr. Eugene L. Stowe, Denver, general superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene, was commencement speaker.

W. Donald Wellman, pastor of Denver First Church, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity. He is a 1951 graduate of Olivet.

The outstanding man and woman of the senior class, selected by majority vote of the faculty, were named. Fred Fullerton of Ottawa, Ill., and Patricia Byrd of Granite City, Ill., were the choices.

About 3,000 persons attended the commencement ceremonies. In a special ceremony held outside Wisner Hall the previous day, 35 nursing students received their pins.

A ceremony was held Monday afternoon to dedicate the college's new entrance plaza at Main and Olivet streets. U.S. Representative George O'Brien presented a U.S. flag; State Representative Edward McBroome presented an Illinois flag; Indiana Senator Gene Snowden presented an Indiana flag; Rev. H. T. Stanley presented a Michigan flag; and Rev. Robert Clack presented a Wisconsin flag. About 300 persons attended the ceremony.
“Choosing a Life-style” was the theme of Dr. Bennett Dudney’s commencement address. Dr. Dudney is rector of European Nazarene Bible College. President Curtis Smith, MANC’s president since its founding, gave the baccalaureate address.

Three honorary doctoral degrees were awarded: Mr. R. R. Osborne, a prominent Olathe businessman, received an honorary Doctor of Law degree. Rev. Forrest Whitlatch, district superintendent of the Iowa District, and Rev. Gene Williams, pastor of Wichita, Kans., First Church, received honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees.

WELCH RESUMES CHAPLAINCY AT PLC

Prof. Reuben Welch, chaplain at Point Loma College from 1968 to 1976, will resume the chaplaincy this fall after teaching full time during the 1976-77 academic year. Dr. Donald W. Hall, who resigned last spring, served the college as chaplain during the recently completed academic year.

In announcing the change, Pres. W. Shelburne Brown said, "Prof. Welch will be stepping back in as chaplain carrying on the biblical ministry for which he is so well known.”

While leading the chapel program at PLC and serving on the Administrative Council, Prof. Welch will continue teaching in the Division of Philosophy and Religion on a half-time basis.

A graduate of PLC and Nazarene Theological Seminary, Chaplain Welch did further graduate study at the University of Southern California. He had pastored Nazarene churches in Hilo and Honolulu, Hawaii; Mesa and Yuma, Ariz.; and Lakewood, Calif., before joining the Point Loma College faculty in 1960. He became college chaplain in 1968, resigning that post in 1976 to teach full-time.


BAILEY, CLARENCE & THELMIA: Pennsylv., Ind., Sept. 6-11.

BAILEY, CLAYTON D.: Indianapolis, Ind. (West Side), Sept. 6-11; Indianapolis, Ind. (Ray St.). Sept. 12-18; Oil City, Pa. (1st), Sept. 19-25.

BECKETT, C. FRANK: St. Louis, Mo. (Central), Sept. 13-18.


BENDER EVANGELISTIC PARTY: Cardington, Ohio, Sept. 6-11; Knoxville, Iowa, Sept. 16-25.


BIEYER, HENRY T.: Columbus, Miss., Sept. 6-11.


BLUE, DAVID & DANA: Manteno, Ill. (1st), Sept. 7-11; Kankakee, Ill. (College Group), Sept. 8-11; Central Ill. Concerts, Sept. 12-14; Bluffton, Ind. Sept. 15-18; Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 25, Madison, Tenn., Sept. 28—Oct. 2.


BOYD, CONRAN, Tex. (1st), Sept. 4; Houston, Tex. (Spring Branch). Sept. 6-11; Anadarko, Okla., Sept. 27—Oct. 2.


DURHAM, GARY & THE CLARION TRIO: Edmond, Okla. (1st), Sept. 13-18; Marion, Okla. (1st), Sept. 20-25; Cedar Rapids, Ia. (Trinity), Sept. 26—Oct. 2.


EMSLY, ROBERT: Cayuga, Ind., Sept. 27—Oct. 2.


GORMANS, SINGING: Shepherdsville, Ky. (1st), Sept. 27—Oct. 2.

GLENDENNING, PAUL & BOBBIE: Ames, Ia., Sept. 6-11; Mooresville, Ind. (1st), Sept. 20-25; Plymouth, Ind. Sept. 27—Oct. 2.

GIBBS, BRADLEY, Okla.. Sept. 8-11; Florence, Ala. (1st), Sept. 20-25; Billings, Mo. (Union City). Sept. 20-25; St. Louis, Mo. (Chapman Chapel). Sept. 27—Oct. 2.


HUNDLEY, EDWARD: Pawtawata Point, Ohio. Sept. 12-18; Gallipolis, Ohio (1st), Sept. 25—Oct. 2.

IDE, GEORGE FAMILY: Concerts in Ohio and W.Va.; Aug. 31—Sep. 28.


JAMES, R. ODIS: Girard, Kans., Sept. 9-10.

NOTE: The evangelists' slates are printed in the Herald monthly. The full directory is published in the "Preacher's Magazine."
BROTHERS EARN EAGLE AWARDS

James H. Boardman of the Department of Youth Ministries reports that Russell Ray Reglin (l.), 18, and Jeffrey Scott Reglin (r.), 14, were inducted as Eagle Scouts, the highest earned award in scouting. On a national level only 2 percent of all scouts receive Eagle rank.

The formal induction was held June 19, at Pasadena, Calif., First Church. Dr. James Dobson was the featured speaker.

Russell recently graduated from high school where he earned varsity letters in football, basketball, and baseball, and was student body president. He was youth president at First Church.

Jeffrey, a ninth grader, has been a member of the high school varsity football, basketball, and baseball teams. He also had the male lead in his school play.

The Reglins presently reside in Olathe, Kans.

SEASONAL CROP BRINGS SPIRITUAL HARVEST AMONG SENIOR ADULTS

Love made it possible for 16 senior adults from the Zillah, Wash., church to take honors for attendance at the recent Pinelow 50+ Camp. Four days of enrichment, fellowship, and spiritual growth were enjoyed by senior adults from the Northwest District. But the big story was what happened at Zillah.

It started when Pauline Cooper, a widow, prayed with deep concern, “Lord, what can I do with that unsightly, unkempt acre-and-a-half of ground east of town? Now that I’m alone I can’t handle it.”

The answer came quickly when Frank Phelps, a young man from her church, asked, “Mrs. Cooper, what are you going to do with that piece of land east of town?” Her unhesitating reply was, “You can do anything with it you wish as long as you take care of the land.” She was happy. That was the answer to her prayer.

With the help of another young man, Frank planted and later harvested a seasonal crop. “Now,” Frank asked Pauline, “what do we do with the money?”

Pauline knew nothing of Frank’s plans, but as far as she was concerned, the money was his. Frank had been influenced by the caring, sharing, reaching-out spirit he had seen among the senior adults of his church. He suggested the money go to the “Useful Senior Adults” (USA) treasury.

So 16 senior adults who otherwise could not have gone, were at the Pinelow 50+ Camp.

The law of the harvest was at work. Four non-Nazarenes from that group are uniting with Zillah Church of the Nazarene because of the spiritual planting and cultivating done during and after the camp. “What a wonderful way to reach out!” says SAM Director Melvin Shrout.

Dr. Raymond Kratzer, superintendent of the Northwest District, started the annual camping program for senior adults 14 years ago. Susie Wilson directed the camp the past two years under the 50+ plan.

Mrs. Louise Parker Smith was recently honored by the Cincinnati Carthage Church for more than 40 years of teaching in the Sunday school. The church presented her with a basket of fruit, a plaque, and other mementos. Many former students were present to honor her. She was also church pianist for more than 20 years. All her teaching was in the children’s department. At the time of her retirement she was teaching the first grade class. Pictured are: Carl Hobbs, director of Christian Life, and Louise Parker Smith.

Enthusiasm was high at the Louisville, Ky., Greenwood Church as boys and girls competed each day in bringing missionary offerings. The money was weighed on a balance scale and counted daily. The side whose money weighed the most and/or amounted to the most was winner. An offering of $25.00 the last day brought the total over $85.00 for the five days. VBS Director Brenda Mackey reports new contacts were made through the recent VBS.

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ABS OFFERING

$50,291.35.

wider distribution of the Word! NYI NEWS for those who will receive the Youth International and GOOD relations, receives the contribution from Art Borden.

The committee also approved the least a portion of Holy Scripture into sharing in the Bible cause: to place at McCullough thanks the church for outlines for the curriculum year 1980-

Lake, Wis., July 11-15, to develop the Baptist Assembly facilities in Green

ART GREEN LAKE

Executive Director of the Department of Youth Ministries Melvin McCullough thanks the church for sharing in the Bible cause: to place at least a portion of Holy Scripture into the hands of anyone who will read it; to reach around the world in many languages; and to bring God’s Word to the newly literate, to the handicapped, and to those who cannot afford to pay.

One hundred percent involvement by the following 15 districts was the highest level ever: Central California, Illinois, Intermountain, Iowa, Los Angeles, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, North Arkansas, Northern California, Northwestern Illinois, Oregon Pacific, Pittsburgh, Rocky Mountain, and Southwest Oklahoma.

Mr. Art Borden, secretary of church relations with the American Bible Society, recently visited with Mel McCullough. He shared that the $50,000+ would enable the organization to distribute 30,000 new translations of the Polish Bible in Poland; 10,000 common language Bengali New Testaments in Bangladesh; more than 275,000 Bibles and scripture selections to high school and university students in Colombia; and more than 10,000 scripture portions in Ghana.

EWS COMMITTEE MEETS AT GREEN LAKE

The Enduring Word Series Curriculum Committee met at the American Baptist Assembly facilities in Green Lake, Wis., July 11-15, to develop the outlines for the curriculum year 1980-81. The committee also approved the outlines for 1979-80 that were written in Vail, Colo., last year.

Pictured are the members of the committee and some of the wives and children who attended. This year the committee included: Dr. Jack Adams, Rev. Bill Burch, Dr. Frank G. Carver, Rev. Bill Coulter, Dr. Chester Galloway, Rev. Kenneth Harlan, Mrs. Barbara J. Lewis, Mr. Richard A. Lint, Rev. Albert J. Lown, Dr. Chester Meyering, Rev. Dallas D. Mucci, Dr. Armor Peisker, Dr. W. T. Purkiser, Dr. Oscar F. Reed, Mr. Justin C. Rice, Dr. Willard Taylor, Rev. Gene Van Note, Dr. Mildred Bangs Wynkoop, and Rev. John B. Neilson, committee chairman. Dr. Kenneth S. Rice, executive director of the Department of Adult Ministries, convened the meeting at the opening banquet. Dr. E. G. Benson served as convention coordinator. Gene Van Note was elected secretary.

Guests who attended during part of the week were W. Lloyd Hogg and Isaiah B. Harley, observers from the Brethren in Christ Church. Each brought greetings and spoke appreciatively of the Enduring Word Series project.

The outlines, developed by the committee which has representatives from five holiness denominations, are given final approval by the General Board at its annual meeting each January.

The next Enduring Word Series Curriculum Committee meeting is scheduled for July 10-14, 1978, at Jackson Lake Lodge, Moran, Wyo.

PUERTO RICO/ VIRGIN ISLANDS DISTRICT REELECTS SUPERINTENDENT ROMAN

At the 29th annual assembly of the Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands District, July 14-15, Rev. Benjamin Roman, superintendent for the past six years, was reelected to serve for an additional four years. He received an almost unanimous vote.

Rev. James Hudson, area coordinator, presided.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION

SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA—September 8-9. The place of the District Assembly has been changed to Oklahoma City Western Oaks Church, 7901 N. W. 16th, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73127, with host pastor Richard Reed. General Superintendent: V. H. Lewis.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

INTERMOUNTAIN

The sixty-fifth annual assembly of the Intermountain District convened at Boise, Idaho. District Superintendent Hoyle C. Thomas, serving by appointment, was unanimously elected to a one-year term.

Dr. William M. Greathouse, president general superintendent, ordained Russell Franklin Martin.

Elected to the advisory board were (elders) Jarrell W. Garsee, Charles E. Higgins, Harold M. Sanner; (laymen) Wally Howard, Wally John­son, and Ralph Shoemaker.

Mrs. Jo Kincaid was elected NWMS president and Rev. John L. Denney was reelected NYI president. Elected as chairman of the board of Christian life was Rev. Robert L. Miller.

NORTHWESTERN OHIO

The eighteenth annual assembly of the Northwestern Ohio District was held at St. Marys, Ohio, Nazarene Camp Center. District Superintendent James R. Blankenship, completing the third year of an extended term, reported.

General Superintendent V. H. Lewis ordained Eduardo L. Llanes and John Samuel Willi­mson.

Elected to the advisory board were (elders) Robert Anderson, Verdeen F. Owens, Noah A. Wyatt; and (laymen) Ronald Burton, David Granger, and George Jetter.

Mrs. Christine Blankenship was reelected NWMS president and Rev. Douglas L. McVay was elected NYI president, with Robert Anderson elected as chairman of the board of Christian life.

DAKOTA

The ninth annual assembly of the Dakota District convened at Ellendale, N.D. District Superintendent Phillip Riley, completing the third year of an extended term, reported.

Paul Dennis Gray, David Alexander James, Duane Clarence Schmidt, Daniel Hooks Tenny­son, and Darrel Keith Wiseman were ordained by General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe.

Elders George Johnson and Dave Belzer; and laymen Harold Lehrke and Steve Risdorph were elected to the advisory board.

Mrs. Phillip Riley was elected president of NWMS and Rev. Larry T. Abbott was elected president of NYI. Charles Belzer was elected chairman of the board of Christian life.
NORTH CENTRAL OHIO
The third annual assembly of the North Central Ohio District was held at Mount Vernon, Ohio. First Church. District Superintendent D. E. Clay, completing the first year of an extended term, reported. General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland ordained Lester L. Clark, James N. Moss, and Kenneth T. Salzwitter. Jack Archer, Marvin Downs, and Glenn F. Flannery (elders); and Dale Foster, Ernest R. Rhoades, and L. Thomas Skidmore (laymen) were elected to the advisory board. Re-elected as NWMS president was Mrs. D. E. Clay. Parishioner David J. Biscove, Jr., ordained John H. Blasche, and Mrs. Dennis E. Riggs; Rev. and Mrs. Jack C. Stepp; Rev. and Mrs. Wayne E. Weeks; Rev. Larry Hunt; Dr. George Coulter, general superintendent; (second row) Rev. and Mrs. Ralph L. Parrow; Rev. and Mrs. Larry E. Cornett; Rev. and Mrs. Gerald A. Carnes; Rev. and Mrs. Gerald K. Craig; and Rev. and Mrs. Wilson Deaton.

EASTERN KENTUCKY
The twenty-sixth annual assembly of the Eastern Kentucky District was held in the Newport, Ky., First Church. District Superintendent John May, completing the first year of an extended term, reported the organization of a new church at Cannonsburg, Ky. Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, president general superintendent; ordained Thomas Jackson and Mrs. Jean Rose Ratliff. NWMS president for the coming year is Mrs. John May and Rev. Michael Adams was elected as NYI president. Rev. Warren Toler was elected chairman of the board of Christian life.

SOUTHWESTERN OHIO
The eighteenth annual assembly of the Southwestern Ohio District convened at Dayton Convention Center, Ohio. District Superintendent Dallas Baggett, completing the second year of an extended term, reported. General Superintendent V. H. Lewis ordained Howard Becker and Joey Brummett. The credentials of Charles Short were recognized. Dallas Baggett was re-elected NWMS president and Marion Barber was re-elected NYI president. Rev. Ron Barber was elected chairman of the board of Christian life.

COLORADO
The sixty-ninth annual assembly of the Colorado District was held at Colorado Springs Trinity Church. District Superintendent M. Harold Daniels, completing the second year of an extended term, reported. General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland ordained John G. Bowling, Edward A. Clark, L. Edward Barker, Lance Houghtling, Dallas Johnson, Lester Trusty, David L. Scott; and recognized the credentials of Orval J. Gwaltney. Elected to the advisory board were (elders) Jim Bond, Allen Dace, and Donald Wellman; (laymen) Keith Anderson, Jarrell Gunstream, and Willis Brown. Mrs. Phyllis Chestwood was elected NWMS president and Earl Robertson, NYI president. Elected as chairman of the board of Christian life was Bob Green.

NEW ENGLAND
The seventh annual assembly of the New England District was held at Malden, Mass. District Superintendent William A. Taylor, completing the first year of an extended term, reported to the assembly. General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins ordained Thomas C. Abugelis, Donald P. Kauffman, Merritt Nelson, George D. Wolfe, and Susan A. Partridge. Harold A. Parry and Manuel Chavier (elders) and Alexander P. Cubie and Jack Laudermilk (laymen) were elected to the advisory board. Mrs. W. W. Restrick was re-elected NWMS president and Richard Pritchard was re-elected NYI president. Rev. Neale O. McLain was elected chairman of the board of Christian life.

NORTH ARKANSAS
The twenty-fifth annual assembly of the North Arkansas District convened at Conway, Ark. District Superintendent Thomas M. Cox, completing the first year of an extended term, reported. General Superintendent William M. Greathouse presided. Elected to the advisory board were (elders) Bill Lambert and Harry Evans; (laymen) Dale Webster and Don Cain. Re-elected as NWMS president was Mrs. Wyoma Cox and Rev. and Mrs. Bryan Jones was elected NYI president. Rev. Harry Evans was elected chairman of the board of Christian life.

MICHIGAN
The sixty-fourth annual assembly of the Michigan District was held at the Indian Lake Nazarene Camp, Vicksburg, Mich. District Superintendent Harry T. Stanley, completing the third year of an extended term, reported. General Superintendent George Coultier ordained David J. Kirk, David H. Green, David W. Inman, Jeff D. Dobbins, Kirk L. Starkweather, and Jon F. Rasch. Elected to the advisory board were (elders) Paul K. Mott, C. Kenneth Good, and Erwin A. Self; (laymen) William Damon, Gerald Decker, M. R. Debrilge, and James Schweigert. Mrs. Paul Moore was re-elected NWMS president and Rev. Edwin Self was elected NYI president. Elected as chairman of the board of Christian life was Rev. Joseph Polmoutter.

EASTERN MICHIGAN
The twenty-eighth annual assembly of the Eastern Michigan District was held at Flint, Mich., Central Church. District Superintendent E. W. Martin was re-elected for a one-year term. General Superintendent George Coultier ordained Gerald A. Carnes, Gerald K. Craig, Larry E. Cornett, Wilion Deaton, Ralph L. Parrow, Dennis E. Riggs, Jack C. Stepp, and Wayne E. Weeks. The credentials of Larry G. Hunt were recognized.

The ordination class of the Eastern Michigan District was the largest in the history of the district. Pictured (l. to r., front row) are: Dr. E. W. Martin, district superintendent; and Rev. Joseph Polmoutter, district superintendent; (second row) Rev. and Mrs. Dennis E. Riggs; Rev. and Mrs. Jack C. Stepp; Rev. and Mrs. Wayne E. Weeks; Rev. Larry Hunt; Dr. George Coultier, general superintendent; (second row) Rev. and Mrs. Ralph L. Parrow; Rev. and Mrs. Larry E. Cornett; Rev. and Mrs. Gerald A. Carnes; Rev. and Mrs. Gerald K. Craig; and Rev. and Mrs. Wilson Deaton.

SOUTHWEST INDIANA
The twenty-sixth annual assembly of the Southwest Indiana District convened at Seymour, Ind., First Church. District Superintendent W. Charles Oliver, who is moving to the Alabama District, reported. Dr. B. G. Wiggs was elected district superintendent. General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe ordained Robert L. Kincl, Clark, Andrew Gummins, Darrell Eugene Lloyd, Lawrence Ray Sneed, Mrs. Wanda Clark, Stuart, Anthony Lee White, and Ronald Ray Young. Elected to the advisory board were (elders) B. W. Down, Paul Byrns, and Darrell Wineinger; (laymen) Jesse Pitts, Byron Buken, and Edward Mason. Mrs. Darrell Wineinger was elected NWMS president and Rev. Roy Shuck, NYI president. Elected as chairman of the board of Christian life was Rev. Doyle Hofferbert.

NAZARENE CAMP MEETINGS
September 13-18—The Eastern Indiana Nazarene Indoor Camp Meeting: Connersville, Ind., Corner Memorial Church. Workers are Rev. Ray Lassell and the Singing Jewels.

MOVING MINISTERS
LONNIE BALTZ from East Liverpool (Ohio) LaCroft to Barberton (Ohio) Mt. Summit A. TIMOTHY BESS from Mt. Juliet, Tenn., to Newport, Tenn.
GARDEN BRACKEN from associate, Glasgow (Ky.) First, to student, Trevecca Nazarene College, Nashville, Tenn. GROVER BRANSON from Grinnell (Ia.) Bresee to Tabor (Ia.) Weaver Memorial ARLIN CHESNEY from Macon (Ga.) First to Griggsville, Ill. DON DAVIS from Teli City, Ind., to Charleston (S.C.) First HARRY G. FLINNER from missionary, Chile, South America, to Bell Gardens, Calif. J. DAVID GARRISON from student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., to Roche­ville, Md. LEWIS S. GUILLE from Buckingham, Va., to Abilene (Tex.) Baker Heights JOSEPH HARSHMAN from Chandler, Ind., to Destin, Fla. DOYLE HENDERSON from Centerville, la., to Sandwich, Ill. CHESTER HENNEMAN from Celina, Ohio, to the Plains, Ohio GLENN L. KELL from Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., to Grafton, N.D. ROBERT S. LECCE from Cleveland (Ohio) West Side to Mentor, Ohio BILL MEDLEY from Cleveland (Ohio) Calvary to East Liverpool (Ohio) LaCroft RICHARD E. PHELPS from Leavittsburg, Ohio, to Toronto, Ohio CARL POWERS from Columbia (Tenn.) First to Huntsville (Ala.) Mastin Lake KEN REMMERS from Veja, N.D., to Redford, Mo. KENNETH L. SALZWITTER from Rittman, Ohio, to Rowsburg, Ohio RONALD C. SCHAFFER from Mercer, Pa., to Kent, Ohio GENE SCHANDORF from associate, Anaheim (Calif.) First, to Long Beach (Calif.) Bixby Knolls MARK R. SHUHE from international Falls, Minn., to associate, Grand Rapids, Mich. CHARLES W. SMITH from Oklahoma City Southside to Lawton (Okla.) First
ANNIE LOIS BUCHANAN, 60, died June 12 in Crowley, La. Services were conducted by Revs. Byron E. LeJeune and Ray Faulk. She is survived by her husband, Gene; one son, Michael E.; three grandchildren; one sister; and two brothers.

W. J. ELY, 78, died July 1 in Beaumont, Tex. Services were conducted by Rev. Byron E. LeJeune and Rev. Frank Kemedo. Surviving him are his wife, Velma; two sons, G. A. and Hugh Ray; two daughters, Cynthia Jean and Billie; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

LOIS G. FELTER, 61, died July 17 in Tampa, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Drs. J. V. Morsch, P. F. Elliott, and Rev. S. Nicholson. Mrs. Feiter traveled with her husband in the field of evangelism for many years. Survivors include her husband, Rev. Jason; two sons, Rev. David and Rev. Edwin; and five grandchildren.

NELLIE O. FETTERS, 83, died July 13 in Baidwin Park. Calif. She was the widow of Evangelist Fred W. Fellers. She is survived by two grand children.

REV. R. B. FREDERICK died July 21 in Portsmouth, Ohio. Most of his ministry was spent on the Central Ohio District. Services were conducted by Rev. Terrell Sanders, Rev. Noah Sulli van, and Rev. E. L. Jefferson. He is survived by his wife, Hazel; one son, Rev. Wesley B.; and one daughter, Joann Drumme; and three grandchildren.

JOAN GAWTHORP, 39, died July 23 in Mahomet, Ill. She was survived by her husband, Evangelist Wayland Gawthorp.

ELURA W. HARRIS, 77, died July 15 in South Portland, Me. Services were conducted by Revs. Jack Shankel, George Whetstone, Marvin Mili bury, and John L. Perry. Survivors include her husband, Elwin; two brothers; and two sisters.

ANDREW J. JOHNSON died June 27 in Harlan, la. Services were conducted by Rev. Merle Manselle and Rev. Lawrence McCoy with Evangelist Jack Shankel. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy; three brothers; and two sisters.

HENRIETTA KERNOZICKY, 58, died July 10 in Keene, N. H. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. James M. Kelley. She is survived by her husband, Joseph; and three sons, Dayton and Philip Darling and Gary Kernozicky.

REV. CARL H. KRUZE, 75, died July 2 in Oklahoma City. He pastored in Oklahoma and Kansas and served as an evangelist for many years. Services were conducted by Dr. Jerald R. Locke and Rev. Sam Stearnam. Survivors include his wife, Mabel; one son, Carl W.; and four grandchildren.

ELSIE LOUISE McBRIDE, 86, died June 20 in Lake Charles, La. Funeral services were conducted by Revs. Ralph West, Gary Smith, and John Hansen. She is survived by her husband, Rev. Marion K.; 3 sons, Lloyd, Roland, and David; 4 daughters, Joyce, Mary, Hazel, and Shirley; 27 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

LEONARD C. NORTON, 84, died June 14 in Three Rivers, Mich. Services were conducted by Revs. Louis Musatits. Surviving him are 5 sons, Rev. Stanley M., Arvid E., Charles C., Harold L., and Dr. L. Wesley; 18 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

RAY SMITH died April 6 in Parkersburg, W. Va. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. T. James Boshell. He is survived by his wife, Sophia, and two sons, David and Paul.

FRANK STEVIERSON, 68, died April 26 in Newberg, Ore. Services were conducted by Rev. Spurgeon Hendrix and Rev. Fal Hendrix. Survivors include his wife, Tina; 1 son, James; 2 daughters, Ina Smith and Donna Littleton; 12 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; 2 brothers; and 1 sister.

REV. JAMES B. TRIPP, 87, died June 7 in Orlando, Fla. Services were conducted by Revs. Paul Bickes, J. V. Morsch, Howard Trip, Chester Smith, and Larry Leeper. He is survived by his wife, Myrlissa; 5 sons, Francis, Albert, Rev. Howard, Thomas, and Clarence; 2 daughters, Louise and Dorothy; 26 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

MATTIE BEE WILSON died July 13 in Dallas. She was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Elzie C. Wilson. Survivors include her 1 son, Elzie C. Jr.; 4 daughters, Peggy Donakey, Wanda Vance, Juanita Skierski and Kay Tilley; 13 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

GUY H. WOOTEN, 89, died April 2 in Richland, Wash. Services were conducted by Rev. Ron McGivra. He was succeeded by one son, Harold; three daughters, Ila May Eystone, Helen Crawford, and Norma; several grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

BIRTHS to REV. LARRY AND KITTY (FULTON) ADAMS, San Antonio, Tex., a girl, DeAnna Marie, June 24

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ACT NOW!
NEW BOOK SAYS LINCOLN BECAME A CHRISTIAN AT GETTYSBURG. A new book on the religious life of Abraham Lincoln says he became a Christian after his address at the Civil War battlefield at Gettysburg.

The book, *A Heart That Yearned for God*, was written by Frederick Owen, a retired evangelist and biblical scholar.

Owen quotes Lincoln as telling friends after the Gettysburg Address, "When I buried my son, I was not a Christian. But when I went to Gettysburg and saw the graves of thousands of our soldiers, I then and there consecrated my life to Christ."

The idea that Lincoln was an atheist apparently arose out of a campaign smear in the 1846 Congressional race, Dr. Owen said. Although Lincoln made a prompt rebuttal, the reputation pursued him throughout his career, he added.

NEW STATISTICS PUBLISHED FOR PROTESTANT MINISTRIES OVERSEAS. An estimated 55,000 Protestant missionaries are serving in world areas, according to statistics compiled by the Mission Handbook: North American Protestant Missions Overseas, Edward R. Dayton, editor.

Missionaries from the U.S. and Canada number 36,950 as of January 1, 1976, and represent about 67 percent of the total Protestant missionary force. Twenty-eight percent are involved in evangelism and church planting, 25 percent are assisting the national church, and 47 percent are in supportive roles such as education, medicine, etc.

STATEMENT ON HEALING AND CHURCH ADOPTED BY BRITAIN'S METHODISTS. After a relatively short debate, the British Methodist Conference adopted a revised statement on the Church and the Ministry of Healing.

"Because God is the source of all good and all salvation," it said, "the Church expects to work in partnership with all agencies, both public and private, for the promotion of healing and the alleviation of human suffering. This includes physical, mental, and spiritual health."

The statement went on to say that "there are individuals who possess special insight, knowledge, faith and power which enable them to exercise distinctive healing ministries. Other individuals may receive a particular gift of healing from God for a specific occasion. All these gifts should be carefully examined by the Church to ensure that they do not degenerate into spiritual or emotional manipulation of the sufferer."

LIBRARY ACQUIRES REFORMATION BOOKS. A collection of 850 early editions of Reformation works by Martin Luther, John Calvin, and others was acquired by the Folger Library in Washington, D.C. The collection was assembled by Swiss bibliophile/author H. C. E. Stickelberger, who died in 1962.

In the collection, 516 items are dated before 1531, nearly 200 more between then and 1551. Included are 180 original impressions of Luther writings.
I question the article by the professor from Eastern Nazarene College concerning the use of a more up-to-date version instead of the King James. More readable, more knowledgeable, but what about the memory of scripture? Knowledge puffeth up. Using a new translation as a reference, yes, but not for the main reading. Could this be a touch of heresy? What Bible is the main source of the pastors of the large and growing fundamental churches? What would some of the old-line preaching, evangelists, and general superintendents think of the good professor’s article?

If “knowledge puffeth up,” could not the knowledge of the KJV inflate a person as well as the knowledge of the NASB or NIV? I think so, for I have personally known men who crusaded against modern English translations and who wore terribly bloated with self-esteem.

As for memorizing Scripture, must we restrict that activity to the KJV? A study of NT quotations of OT passage would discourage an affirmative answer. Take Paul, for instance. Sometimes he quoted from the Hebrew OT, sometimes from the Greek (Septuagint), and sometimes employs a sort of interpretive paraphrase. If an apostle did not restrict himself to one version of Scripture, why should we? Surely the use of an up-to-date English translation in preference to the KJV is not “heresy.” If so, by the same logic, those who used the KJV when it was first published as a modern English translation were guilty of heresy.

You ask, “What would some of the old-line preaching, evangelists, and general superintendents think of the good professor’s article,” and I must say that I don’t know. But if they objected it could mean merely that they were mistaken. I don’t believe in the inspiration and infallibility of church leaders past or present. The question that matters is, Is God blessing the work of those who read, teach, and preach his Word, utilizing the resources of modern translations? To that, the answer is yes.

I am among those who love and use a number of English translations, including the KJV. The KJV is so precisely what the Herald article called it, “an old friend,” an old, trusted, honored friend with its own special place in my heart, memory, and work.

I have a question in regard to the last answer in the Answer Corner, February, 15, 1977, where you said, “As to the others, where they go immediately after death depends upon whether death ends their probation, a question over which evangelical scholarship is divided.” I have been unaware of any teaching that there was a second chance after death. If you could guide me to the scriptures that are used to substantiate this position or writings that advance it, I would be grateful.

I should have been more specific. I am not advocating “purgatory” or any “second chance” for those who have rejected the gospel in this world. I was thinking about a first chance and the problem is not what Scripture says but what it does not say. The Bible is not clear and detailed about the fate of those who die without ever hearing the gospel, as millions do. To deny that God can confront them with the revelation of himself in Jesus Christ as an offer of salvation beyond death seems to be an arbitrary and unwarrented restriction upon His sovereignty and freedom. To say that He will not seems to go beyond what is written. One thing we are sure of, they are in the hands of a just God who will do what is right.

Your letter, of which just a part appears above, was most welcome, for it was much kinder in tone and fairer in content than several I received. I was accused of being a heretic, which I am not, and of teaching a doctrine of demons,” which I do not. Your brotherly spirit “becometh holiness” and is much appreciated.

MARRIAGES
NANCY DAWN DOBSON and GARY BRACKEN at Nashville, Mar. 12
SUSAN C. EBY and MICHAEL B. BLANKENSHIP at Nashville, May 21
BARBARA ANN HANCE and LEON EDWARD BLAISE at Baltimore, Md., June 11
LEANNE CONNER and JERRY L. RUTHERFORD at Cleveland, Tenn., June 24
PENNY RENE PENDERGAST and KEVIN LYNN BAINS at Dallas, June 25
MARcia MONETTE GIBSON and WILLIAM DOUGLAS STUART at Oxnard, Calif., June 25
CAROL ELIZABETH JONES and ALLEN TREVOR SWINDEN at Langley, British Columbia, Canada, July 23
CONSTANCE BEA SANDIFER and STEVEN JOSEPH CALLIS at Brandon, Fla., Aug. 12
SUSAN TAYLOR and MIKE PATTON at Brandon, Fla., Aug. 15
LAURIE YVONNE DAVIDSON and JOHN HERBERT GIBSON at San Luis Obispo, Calif., Aug. 20

ANNIVERSARIES
MR. AND MRS. VERNON J. DIMBATH, members of the Kettering, Ohio, church, celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary on August 21. They have four children: Mark of Centerville, Ohio; Carol and Mrs. JoAnn Schuster of Kettering; Mrs. Nancy Landis of Celina, Ohio; and nine grandchildren.

MR. AND MRS. HARLEY C. GREEN celebrated their fifty-ninth wedding anniversary on June 18. They are members of Milwaukee First Church. They have 4 grandchildren, 13 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren.

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT T. GOODSON were honored May 29 on the occasion of their sixtieth wedding anniversary. They are charter members of the Wichita, Kans., Eastridge Church, having joined the Church of the Nazarene in El Dorado, Kans., in 1923. Pastor Byron Strange gave the morning service in honor of the couple. Special music was presented by the family members. Their daughters, Deoris Johanson and Verla May Eastman; sons James, Marvin, Joe, Morris, Albert, and George; and the grandchildren were present to celebrate the event.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK E. STREATHC, of the Langley, B.C., church, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at an open house held in the Helen Wells Memorial Hall of the church, July 21. The Streatches have attended the church from earliest days, when it was known as the Jericho Hill Church of the Nazarene. Relatives from Calgary, Edmonton, and Red Deer, Alta., and from Vancouver Island, were among those who gathered for the occasion.

MR. AND MRS. COY PARKER of Conway, Ark., First Church, who were married July 18, 1913, at Prescott, have begun their sixty-fifth year of married life. They have two sons, Milo Troutfin and George Richard Parker, both of Houston, Tex.; a daughter, Mrs. O. M. (Ophelia) Buckewal of Conroe, Tex.; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

The Dallas, Tex., Casa View Church honored MR. AND MRS. EMMETT J. WILSON, June 12, with a plaque commemorating their fiftieth wedding anniversary at an open house given by their children.

DIRECTORIES
BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS—
Mr. and Mrs. Emmett J. Wilson, Convoy Church, Colorado Springs, Colo., Vice-chairman; Eugene L. Stowe, Secretary; George Coulier; William M. Greathouse; V. H. Lewis. General Superintendents Emeritus and Retired.
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THE ANSWER CORNER
Conducted by W. E. McCumber, Editor
WILLIS SNOWBARGER
CHAIRMAN OF
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dr. Willis Snowbarger, academic dean of Olivet Nazarene College, was elected chairman of the finance committee of the General Board, June 28. He replaces Gordon Olsen.

Dr. Ponder Gilliland, pastor of Bethany, Okla. First Church, was elected vice-chairman, the post formerly held by Dr. Snowbarger. —NCN

CHRISTIAN BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION MEETS

The annual convention of the Christian Booksellers Association was held in Kansas City, July 11-14. Registrants numbered 7,298 and represented 36 countries.

The annual banquet was held in Municipal Auditorium, July 14, at 7 p.m. The featured speaker was Charles W. Colson. He was introduced by John Sherrill, president of Chosen Books which published Colson's Born Again. Mr. Colson was presented with another bound copy of his book—the one millionth. Among the special artists appearing at the banquet was the John Mathew Family representing Lillenas-Tempo.

Charles Colson, former legal advisor to President Nixon, told of his work in prison ministries since his conversion. He says there is good news—a genuine revival is going on throughout the world. But there is also bad news—religion is increasing, but morality is losing.

The major problem facing the Christian today is to confront men with the bankruptcy of men's ideas and the power of God to change individuals. Mr. Colson believes that what is happening in prison ministries is an illustration of what God wants to do everywhere, if His people will trust Him. —NCN

SUMMER TIME IS TOUR TIME

Typical of the literally hundreds who stop to see their publishing house in action is a recent group of Nazarenes from various parts of the Midwest. In the foreground, Lonnie, Todd, and Stacy Richardson from Grandview, Mo.; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Myers, Karen, Beth Ann, and Jamie from Racine, Wis.; Mr. and Mrs. Ken Short from Indianapolis.

And Hawaiian Nazarenes from the middle of the Pacific, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Ikeda with their two daughters from Kailua, Hawaii, made it a point to include Kansas City and their church headquarters during a tour of the mainland. Kayla Davis (L) escorted them on a tour of the publishing house.
BNC ALUMNUS NAMED ALUMNI COORDINATOR

Charles Crow, an alumnus of Bethany Nazarene College, has been named as coordinator of alumni affairs. His appointment ended a search that began almost 18 months ago, following the results of an institutional self-evaluation, which noted the need for increased contact the BNC alumni.

Crow graduated in 1968 from BNC and received his master’s from the Nazarene Theological Seminary in 1971. While working on his master’s, Crow served on the staff of the Department of Evangelism for the Church of the Nazarene from ‘73 to ‘76. During this period, he became known in the fields of evangelism and church growth.

In 1974, he attended the International Congress on World Evangelism in Lausanne, Switzerland, and was named as coordinator of a national committee on instituting new churches for the Lausanne Continuation Committee.

Last October Crow served on the planning committee of the National Consultation on Evangelism and Church Growth. He presented a national seminar on “Non-Metropolitan Church Growth” for the National Association of Evangelicals last May. Crow has been employed as a field consultant for Church Growth and Long-Range Planning for the Fuller Evangelistic Association while residing in Olathe, Kans.

He assumed his new responsibilities at Bethany in mid-August.

CORRECTION

A sentence in the article “God Is Still with Us,” by M. A. (Bud) Lunn (July 15 Herald of Holiness), read, “I recalled hearing, at age five, Rev. Elmer Schmelzenbach throw out the challenge of missions at old First Church in Kansas City—and I gave.” The missionary cited should have been Rev. Harmon Schmelzenbach.

The Schmelzenbachs have been represented in the missionary work of the church for three generations. Harmon originally journeyed to and pioneered our mission work in Africa in 1907. His son, Elmer, now living in Bethany, Okla., served in Africa for 40 years and is a contemporary of the author of the above article.

Two of Elmer’s sons, Harmon III and Dennis, are currently in Africa carrying on the tradition which has characterized this illustrious missionary family.

Mr. William Bailey of the St. Louis Webster Groves Church was honored as “Mr. Nazarene” in recognition of his 69 years as a charter member of the Church of the Nazarene. Mr. Bailey joined the church in West Point, Ark., in 1908. A plaque was presented to Mr. Bailey by Pastor Herbert L. Rogers (r.) in appreciation of his outstanding Christian spirit and example. The presentation was made on the occasion of his eighty-fifth birthday and on Father’s Day, June 19.

ADULT MINISTRIES

Reading Packet

Books of importance to ALL involved in adult ministries

IT’S O.K. TO BE SINGLE edited by Gary R. Collins
A look at the phenomenon of singleness in the twentieth century and the challenge it poses both to the individual and the church.
The authors write to single people including the widowed and divorced, urging them to adopt a full and meaningful lifestyle and become whole persons, determined to follow Christ. 168 pages. Paper. $3.95

PROBLEM SOLVING IN THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY by David A. Seamsand
Important guidelines for those interested in building or rebuilding a Christian home.
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The Unlovable

The parable of the Good Samaritan reminds us that in that particular situation two out of three persons were unable to love the unlovable. If one has this problem, a sure remedy would be association with a Christian mission where eyes of love are washed with tears daily in compassion for unlovely people. And one sees those same unlovely persons as the neighbor the Good Samaritan ministered unto. Or, even more importantly, the neighbor for whom Christ died.

Such an unlovable person was Ruby. It was near midnight when the office phone rang. "Police Department," a gruff voice said. "They don't come any worse than this one. Female, 50 or 60. Beaten up bad and may have fractures. Kicked down hotel stairway and into the gutter. Can you take her?"

"Bring her out," we answered. "We have a place for her."

They arrived shortly. Two patrolmen almost carried the poor intoxicated and battered person up the steps and through the entrance door of the home for women and children. Her stringy hair was matted with the gutter filth she had been kicked into that rainy night. Her blackened eyes were swollen and inflamed, staring and expressionless.

"She has no fractures," my wife told me 30 minutes later, after removing her rags, washing her, and putting her into a warm bed with clean linen. "But," she continued, "her body is battered and bruised more than the average that have been beaten up."

The next day she would neither eat nor talk, but love and compassion seemed to be getting through to her as we assured her that she was our guest and a person for whom Jesus cared.

The second day she took some nourishment, and tears spilled from her swollen eyes in response to words of encouragement and kindness from us and from other guests who were themselves receiving rehabilitation.

The third day she told us her story. It was similar to others we had heard from those unfortunate women who came to us through the Police Department, Highway Patrol, Crisis Clinic, Mental Health, and city clergymen. She finished her story by saying, "I have lived almost 60 years now and became what you found me to be because—yes, because I thought that loving and caring like I found it here had departed from the world. Always I have hungered for the love and caring I have found here, but I guess I had to be kicked into the gutter to find it."

Ruby was rehabilitated and helped to find an environment where she wouldn't be kicked anymore. And because of Ruby and others God gave us to love and lift, our love for the unlovely became a consuming passion.

Maybe too many are kicked into the gutter because the church does not care soon enough!

"By All Means... Save Some"
FAR EAST SEMINARY SITE SOUGHT

On August 2, Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive director of the Department of World Mission, and Dr. Donald Owens, professor at Nazarene Theological Seminary, flew to the Republic of the Philippines to study the feasibility of locating a new post-graduate seminary for the Far East there.

In its annual meeting in January, 1977, the General Board approved such an institution which would be operated administratively under the Department of World Mission, and, possibly, functionally under the Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City, with a target date of mid-1978 for opening. The General Board further voted to locate the seminary in the greater Manila area. Dr. Donald Owens was elected to head up the founding of the suggested new seminary.

The plan is for the seminary to serve Nazarene graduate students from Asia, the Far East, and the South Pacific. Countries in which the Church of the Nazarene is working and which are to be served by the new seminary are: Australia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Taiwan. Courses will be taught in English.

—NCN

TYPHOON DAMAGE TO NAZARENE PROPERTY IN TAIWAN

Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive director of the Department of World Mission, received word by cable and telephone that churches, missionary homes, and Bible college buildings in Taipei had sustained considerable damage from high winds of the typhoon which struck Taiwan the last of July.

Rev. Phillip Kellerman, mission director, said it was the worst storm he has seen in the 15 years he has been in Taiwan. No bodily injuries to Nazarenes have been reported.

Repairs are urgently need to avoid further damage from rain. It is estimated that repairs will cost at least $15,000. Anyone wishing to assist in this project may send contributions to Dr. Norman Miller, general treasurer, marked “Taiwan Typhoon.” Local churches will receive 10 percent credit for this offering, according to Dr. Johnson.

—NCN

COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE SITE FOR 1985 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 21st General Assembly is scheduled for June, 1985, five years after the 20th assembly which will be held in June, 1980, in Kansas City. This change was voted by the 19th General Assembly in Dallas, June, 1976.

Thirty-three cities, including two outside the United States, have indicated their interest to host the (normally) quadrennial meeting of the denomination.

The possibility of an international location is being explored. Dr. B. Edgar Johnson, general secretary, has offered an invitation. This project may send contributions to the General Assembly Site Committee, which will meet to decide which of the 33 invitations to accept. The announcement will give Nazarenes seven years to prepare for the 21st General Assembly in 1985, put forward one year from the regular date to get away from the U.S. presidential election years. It will be the first General Assembly following the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the church in October, 1983.

Members of the 1985 General Assembly Site Committee are: Rev. Edgar Johnson, ex officio. □

CHURCH JOINS COALITION IN TV PROGRAM PROTEST

Ten national religious and civic organizations, including the Church of the Nazarene, have formed a coalition to protest the proposed new ABC-TV comedy series “Soap,” according to a news release by the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights. The news release further stated:

“The coalition has sent letters to the ABC network executives, urging them to drop the program from the fall schedule; to the heads of local ABC affiliate stations, urging them not to carry the show; and to the 100 leading television advertisers, requesting them not to sponsor the ‘Soap’ television series.

“The coalition charges that ‘Soap’ violates the rights of parents by exposing their children to unsuit-
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Let these specialized materials challenge each member in reaching new people and experience the excitement of a record high attendance this October.

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