



Where Heaven **Touched Earth**

ETHLEHEM!—the most important town in all the world's geography. Christmas!-the most important day in all the world's calendar. Star of the East—which still guides us on. Bethlehem is the birthplace of Jesus, and Christmas commemorates His birthday. To know Him is to love Him, and to love Him is to honor His birthplace and birthday. One wrote a long time ago, "Though Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born, if He be not born in thee, thy heart is yet forlorn."

At Bethlehem we discover Jesus beginning His journey to Calvary to redeem lost men. Nothing is more startling and marvelous than to witness the Eternal, Infinite, leaving His throne in heaven, and coming into our world in human form seeking man.

Much has been said about the humiliation and lowliness of the Nativity, and of this we would agree; but let us never forget there was much glory there too. The angels of heaven were interested in that divine movement. They came first to Mary and whispered the great secret of His divine conception long before that glorious night. They came again that holy night to the shepherds gathered on the hillside overlooking Bethlehem and told the beautiful story of His birth.

Prophecy and song, two most important elements in Hebrew spiritual life which had been silent for four centuries, now burst forth. Zacharias', Anna's, and Elizabeth's prophecies and Mary's song of the Magnificat all become a reality, and Simeon proclaims, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel" (Luke 2:34).

Jesus came to reveal the great love which God, the Father, has for all mankind. Everywhere and throughout the ages there has been man's hunger and search after spiritual reality, the release from sin's guilt, and the assurance of eternal life. Yet, wherever Jesus is known and received into the human heart, there is light and life, peace and contentment, and the assurance of God's great love.

John declares the good news of the gospel when he says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

At Bethlehem heaven came down and touched earth. Oh, how much God gave to us that night!



T WAS CHRISTMAS MORNING. As the sparse packages were gathered together under the tree, everyone noticed a familiar return address on one of them. The family knew of at least one item that would be in that package—two pairs of pajamas for Dad.

There would not be a store label or brand name on them because they were handmade. The sender knew that the missionary father could not buy his size in the country where he lived, so she faithfully made them and kept him supplied each holiday.

Of course, there were gifts for the other members of the family also. The package was eagerly awaited every year, and it never failed to arrive for the couple and their four children.

After 25 years of service and two children born on foreign soil, this missionary family was being transfered to another field. They were now strangers in

A WHITE CHRISTMAS

Yes, I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, Of men and women cleansed from sin; Of hearts made white by sins forgiven All joy and peace within.

What a glorious, happy Christmas, When nobody harms another, When Jesus reigns as King Supreme, Brother loving brother.

Yes, I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, When souls of men are washed more

Than piled-up heaps of wind-driven snow.

Shining with heav'nly light.

-LILY S. THOMAS Horseheads, N.Y. their own country, forgotten by many.

In the interim period between moves, there was another development which always causes a stir in any family, be it missionary or moonwalker. A daughter was getting married! This meant endless preparation so that their girl could remember that happy day in the same manner as all girls want to remember their wedding day.

So, back to the starting point where it all began—their home church, to which they had said good-by so many years ago. Lastminute details, confusion, tears, laughter, and loveliness resulted in the usual beautiful shimmering bride and proud groom leading the

way to the reception.

Gratitude overflowed the missionaries' hearts when they saw the gifts lovingly given to their "little girl" from their home church of yesteryear. As gift by gift was unwrapped and admired, the room suddenly grew silent.

From a large box, the bride began to lift out item after item: lovely, lace-trimmed pillowslips, handmade linens of all kinds, and two lovely quilts. Who could have put all the loving stitches together so exquisitely and who knew and cared for them so much? The card with the gift indicated that it was none other than the faithful woman who had remembered them each holiday on the mission field.

In wonder and amazement, the missionary asked the woman the reason she had been so lavishly faithful for so long. What prompted such love from one laywoman to those long removed from her midst? Then came the beautiful revelation.

The young missionary couple had been given a farewell dinner by their home church. The dinner was lovely and the fellowship sweet. In between the lingering conversations, the young missionary lady noticed the kitchen crew standing at their post. They had not eaten. She arose from her now-finished dinner, approached the ladies, and invited them to be seated while she would serve them dinner. They thanked her but said the banquet was for her, and that it would not be proper. The missionary insisted and the ladies were seated and served by the guest of honor.

In that generous act, one of the ladies realized that she had been in the presence of a Christ-filled life. She never forgot.

For that small act of kindness, 25 Christmases were remembered, 50 pairs of pajamas were sent; and not one hope chest, but one for each of their girls was waiting.

The answer to "Why did you do so much?" was simple and direct. "How could I forget that you noticed the kitchen crew when you were laying your life on the line?"

by MYRTLE M. SIMMS

Pueblo, Colo.



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CHRISTMAS IS FOREVER

Christmas if forever . . . Christ is the Way . . . From the manger to rapture . . . He guides day by day! The Word became flesh . . . Our sins He bore . . . We beheld His glory . . . Him we adore! He makes straight the path From our earthly home . . . To mansions in the skies . . . Prepared for His own! Yes! Christmas is forever . . . Christ is the Way . . . From the manger to rapture . . . He guides day by day! -TRESSA TERRY Vallejo, Calif.

THE ESSENCE OF **CHRISTMAS**

The essence of Christmas Is found in the heart, All wrapped with loving care, In layers and layers And layers of love, And God has put it there. "For God so loved the world, That he gave his only begotten Son, That whoso . . . believeth In him should—" have No death, but live on and on. What a wonderful, wonderful

Gift is Christ!

A gift of purest love! He's the essence of Christmas, Of peace on earth, And eternal life above.

If all who've accepted God's marvelous Gift Would unwrap this Gift so rare, Unstop the essence. And scatter the love— What a heavenly atmosphere!

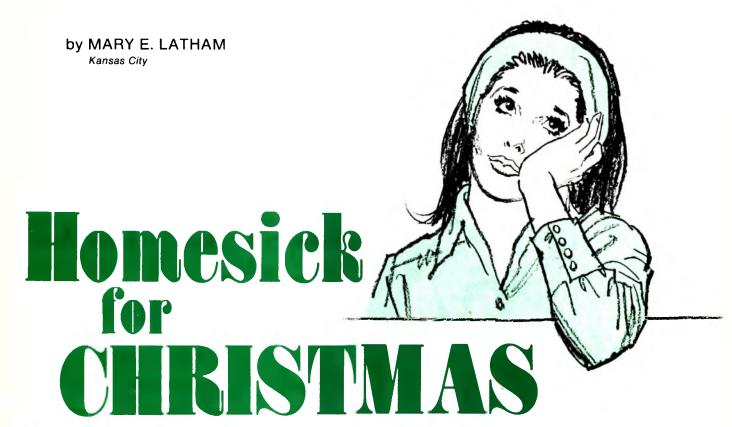
> -MARIANNE E. FLETCHER Largo, Fla.

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WOULD SOON be Christmas. The college campus was alive with plans, mostly about going home. No student would spend the holidays in a dormitory if there was any possible way to get home.

But a few were going to have to do it—to be away from home during the most wonderful season of the year. I was among those few.

It was the first Christmas in my life to be separated from my family—and I was taking it hard. But it was one of those years in a pastor's home when the budget had to be squeezed. The economy was tight and my parents had two daughters in college. Distance made the holiday trip out of the question.

My folks were disappointed too. But the chief concern was to ease the pain of separation for their college girls. They sent big boxes of presents and good things to eat. These helped but they just couldn't quite cure the homesickness. Actually I thought I would die.

Finally I told the Lord He would have to perform some sort of miracle in me to help me stand that first Christmas away from home. The answer to my prayer came in an unexpected way. The suggestion was as real as though audible, "There are others on campus who are suffering too. They need understanding and caring. Couldn't you forget yourself and minister to their needs?"

I looked around. The campus was almost deserted, but I found several students more homesick than I. At the suggestion of a Christmas party they were delighted. You could feel the atmosphere changing. Planning, preparation, fun, and fellowship led to new friendships. The whole campus mood brightened.

And the celebration turned out to be larger than

we thought possible. Many told me that what we did made their Christmas in the dormitory bearable—even enjoyable.

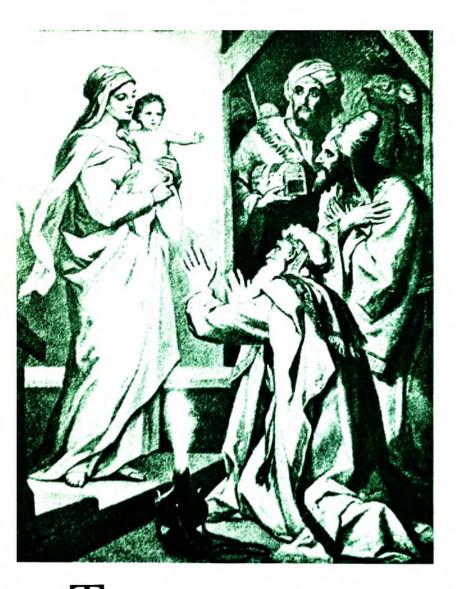
For the first time in my life I experienced completely the true meaning of Christmas. Over and over the purpose of Christ's coming was made very real: "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

Jesus was a long way from home but He gave himself completely for those who needed Him. He forfeited His own pleasure to bring joy to those who were in sorrow.

This is what Christmas is all about—losing ourselves to minister to those who need us. No matter what our own circumstances, we can always find those who need what we can do for them. Someone has said there may even be times when we are unable to get any help for ourselves—but there is never a time when we cannot give help to someone else. The Holy Season is the perfect time to discover the truth of this principle.

This is the lesson I learned on my first Christmas away from home. It stands out as one of the rich experiences of my life. Homesick at Christmas was the way I started in, only to discover that life's truest fulfillment comes when a person completely forgets himself to bring joy and blessing to others.

Homesick for Christmas is the way I now often find myself. And not only in December. The longing is there to rediscover again and again the sense of complete giving of self to minister to those who need the peace, joy, and life which Christ came to bring to every person on earth!



God-Guided Men

by MORRIS CHALFANT Norwood, Ohio

HE ACCOUNT of what took place in Bethlehem L of Judea on the first Christmas Day centuries ago is the sweetest story ever told. It had to be a wonderful story to increase in power, wonder, and influence as it has during more than 1,900 years.

Of course, it is far more than just a story. It is a revelation and a holy mystery. It is divine truth, but also a symbol of the matchless love of eternal God for His erring children.

In Matthew 2:9-10 we read, "The star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy" (RSV).

God guided the wise men by the light from a star. He will give guidance to any person who sincerely desires to find Christ and do His will. If ordinary means of guidance are not sufficient, God will employ extraordinary means.

The journey which the wise men took to find Christ was long, arduous, and no doubt beset with difficulty. But the faith by which they were inspired enabled them to surmount all difficulties. Those who truly desire to know Christ and find Him will not allow peril or hardship to hinder them in their search.

The wise men were frustrated at Jerusalem where they first went seeking Christ. They even lost track of the star which had led them thus far. Jerusalem was the world's religious center; the religious leaders were there. Was not that the proper place to look for the newborn King? But the wise men did not find Him there and traveled on until they came to Bethlehem where He was.

Wise men of today search until they find the object of their quest. Many would-be wise men come to religion, but not to Christ. Many come to Jerusalem but never go to Bethlehem. The world wants religion. It needs Christ. The world is searching for religion. It should be searching for Christ.

The world goes all out in seeking Christmas joy but fails to seek Him who is the Source of all real joy. In their search for religion, people find the pomp and ceremony and creeds of religion but fail to find the Christ.

Centuries have passed. Christmas has evolved from a semipagan festival to a wild commercial blitzkreig, full of synthetic sentiment and false heartiness. Perhaps we groan as we think of it.

Well, don't groan. Neither Santa Claus, nor Rudolph, nor the number of shopping days till Christmas can destroy what took place in Bethlehem. Nothing can wipe out history. Nor can anything impede our access to the manger to present our gifts there.

We can rush our way into the manger. Ease past lowing oxen and Magi and take a good look for ourselves at the little thing lying on the straw. This feebly kicking Infant is the expression of the way God the Son has reduced himself. He is going to share human boyhood, youth, and manhood among the tough, crude living of Galilean peasantry. He will suffer temptation, loneliness, and the withdrawal of human friendship. Eventually He will die violently in total God-forsaken blackness, wrestling as the Second Adam for humanity's salvation.

The search of these wise men was a culmination of an age-old quest for that Person of the Godhead that would fully reveal God. Later the biblical writer was to write, "In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son" (Hebrews 1:1-2a, RSV).

It is the soul of the wise men that still cries out with the prophet, "Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might even come before his presence." The finding of Jesus Christ by the wise men was for them, as it has even been for those who have followed their path, the finding of God and His redeeming grace.

The Christmas call is to get down on our knees before Him. He asks no gold, frankincense, or myrrh. He desires the things He really merits: a heart that acknowledges its King, its God, and its Saviour.

UNDERPRIVILEGED

My child has little; Mary's Child had less. The princes of His day, and palaces, Are gone, Are only names Recorded in a history book. His name lives on. Was He unhappy That no chariot paused at His door? That mother-fingers fashioned The simple garments that He wore? That figs and dates and goat's milk Were His fare? Did He care? Or did He know, even as a child, That the underprivileged are those Who know not God?

-NINA WILLIS WALTER Pico Rivera, Calif.

PEN PO!NTS

I SAW GOD SPEAK TODAY

Thunder drummed and lightning danced through the blackness. Rain crackled against the windows and beat against the church as the wind drove wave after wave ahead of it. It was the Lord's Day, dreary and threatening, but the earth needed a drink and God spoke to the need.

Upon entering the sanctuary, we were struck by the contrast. Walnut pews, ivory-colored walls, the stained-glass window which still showed clearly the lamb, the dove, the cross, and the flame in spite of subdued light of the day outside, were today appropriate backdrops to splendor.

The sanctuary was brilliantly decorated. Green wreaths added a crown before the window. Magnificent poinsettias graced the platform and altar areas. Beautiful red velvet bows and boughs of fir festooned each post down the sides of the sanctuary. All this majestically announced the Christmas season.

Carols were sung, prayers were raised in joy and faith. God's Word was opened to the Gospel of Luke, chapter 2. The pastor's message lifted up the announcement of the coming nativities to Mary and to Elizabeth. I saw God speak in His Word.

But I saw God speak in another way, too. Between me and the pulpit sat two college girls; a lovely, blonde-haired girl of about 11 years; and a handsome young man with a full, black beard. My eyes were drawn from the pulpit to the younger girl and the man.

The man was gesturing enthusiastically and the girl watched him with rapt attention. But why were they at the front of the sanctuary apparently distracting others about them? I asked myself.

Soon I had my answer. The young man wasn't watching the girl so much as he was the pastor. She could neither hear nor read lips, so he was interpreting the pastor's message through signs. Tenderly, enthusiastically, dramatically, the Annunciation was shared again. I saw God speak to her!

For a moment I turned from this sight to an inner memory. I saw again a young woman standing before a tape recorder microphone reading from the Bible, with rapture and radiance. Every pitch and intonation reflected the awe and inspiration of the Word of God. She was sharing her Saviour with the blind who could not see to read the Bible for themselves. I saw God speak through her!

Christmas—the mass or celebration of Christ! The unspoken prayer of multitudes may be that they, too, can see God speak.

What God needs are visible interpreters.

--- CHESTER O. GALLOWAY
Kansas City, Mo.

THE DESCRIPTION of the most excellent way in 1 Corinthians 13 is a picture of the experience and life of entire sanctification. Paul places it in the setting of love. The scripture is known to Bible students as the love chapter. William Barclay calls it the "hymn to love." Some preachers have substituted the phrase "God's kind of love" for the word "charity" in the King James Version.

Whatever else sanctification is to the believer, it must be put in the framework of a love relationship. In both the divine and human sense,

love is the moving force in attaining and maintaining the experience. The three basic principles of Christian holiness are: God so loved us, we so love God, we so love others. This is the only way it can work in human experience.

No law can legislate heart holiness, no man can effect it in his own strength and ability; it can only be made possible within the framework of love. It is only as we fall in love with God above everything and everyone else that it becomes a living reality to us.

Love is paramount in experience and life. In the opening verses of the chapter, Paul evaluates human achievement on this basis. Whatever heights man is able to gain is of no real moment if not set in the framework of love.

If a man becomes such a brilliant linguist that he is able to speak in the languages of men and angels, it is only discord and clamor without love. If he is able to prophesy, to fathom all mysteries, to attain all knowledge, without love the talent is nothing. Even if he has faith capable of moving mountains, devoid of love it is nothing. If a man is generous beyond belief, not only giving his total possessions but submitting himself to martyrdom, without love he gains nothing.

The principle of love takes the expression of heart holiness out of the realm of mere human endeavor or accomplishment. It is the power that maintains romance in Christian living.

What we are and what we do are the result of how much we love self, or how much we love God and others. Self-glory has no place in holy living, and mere displays of human talent in religion are shallow sham. The important thing is not what we are doing for God but what God is doing for us in our experience, life, and service.

Paul says this kind of love is powerful. It does away with carnal impatience. It is kind. It is not envious, proud, or boastful. It is never rude, self-aggrandizing, or spiteful. It does not hold a grudge, nor does it delight in tales of evil. It intercedes to protect, believes the best, and maintains a spirit of hope.

Such a life is mind-boggling to some until it is placed within the framework of love in Christian holiness. Here life's crises become challenges and gateways to spiritual victory. The divine inflow of



love in the sanctifying power makes the difference, and the power of the Holy Spirit in us is brought into effect.

Jesus had much to say about suffering in human relationships for Him. And He promised the Holy Spirit to empower and enable us, as well as to cleanse us.

Holy love is permanent. It never fails or fades away. The latter part of the chapter is given to this thought. Love may not be as spectacular as other things that people hold important, like prophecy, linguistics, or knowledge, but it wears well in every-day life. It grows with us in Christian development.

As we come to spiritual adulthood and put away childish concepts and behavior, this love helps us to meet life on the mature plane. Even when we do not fully understand what occurs to us, and can only see in part, love holds us steady until we are through the battle. We have the promise that ultimately we shall fully know even as we are known.

The apostle balances and compares faith, hope, and love, and he places love at the head of the list in greatness. We are not endowed, however, with the same measure of these graces. With some, faith and confidence may fail. Something in life may call for more faith than they can muster. They may be overwhelmed by life and find hope waning, but love will bring them through.

Measured by human standards, the experience of holiness and resultant life is impossible. But God does not demand the impossible of us, so He makes up the difference with the baptism of the Holy Spirit in the second work of grace and subsequent holy life. Only on the basis of love is such an experience lived out. Then this relationship becomes practically and victoriously "the most excellent way."

helps to holy living



MUSIC MEMOETTE:

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

by OVELLA SATRE SHAFER Gaylord, Kans.

The hymn was sung in the Portuguese Chapel in London in 1785 to the tune that is most commonly associated with the text. In some hymnals it is called "Portuguese Hymn." The credit for the splendid arrangement of the tune, handed down to us, is attributed to Vincent Novello.

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" is No. 178 in the Nazarene hymnal, Worship in Song.

ERE ARE SOME different and difficult stanzas of this hymn. They are usually omitted in current hymnals. Try them!

See how the shepherds, summoned to His cradle, Leaving their flocks, draw night with holy fear; We, too, will thither bend our joyful footsteps;

Lo, star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring, Offer Him incense, costly gold, and myrrh; We to the Christ child bring our hearts' oblation:

Child, for us sinners, poor and in a manger. Fain would we love Thee, Embrace with great awe; Who would not love Thee, loving us so dearly? (Then the refrain after each stanza)

This has been called "the world's favorite Christmas hymn." It is exceedingly popular in the United States. It is sung in all European lands. Perhaps no other Christmas carol has been translated into more different languages—over 76. There are at least 38 English translations. The one most commonly used is by Canon Frederick Oakeley.

The original form is Latin, but the origin of both text and tune is obscure. One of the first publications, if not the first, appeared in 1751 in a collection by John Francis Wade, a priest in England.

In the Handbook to the Hymnal, this significant estimate of the hymn is given, with which we heartily

"This is a great Christian hymn because it deals with the center of the Christian message—the Incarnation. God has clothed Himself with human flesh and has opened unto man the secret of the Father's heart. He has provided a way of reconciliation to God and quieted the fears of men by the praise of His own glorious triumph. Here this Incarnation is not primarily the object of theological argument, but a theme to be sung in glorious triumph. It is one of the most popular Christmas hymns. Its imagery is dignified, yet jubilant, calling upon the choirs of angels to echo their praises through the high arches of heaven.'

WHAT SIZE **IS CHRISTMAS?**

What size is Christmas? Is it king size?

Wise men searched for a young king Among the children of Bethlehem.

But what size is Christmas? Is it baby size?

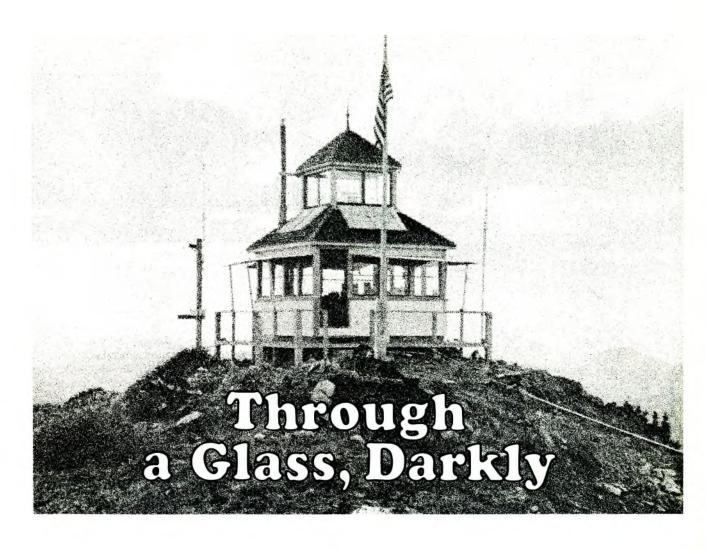
Angels told shepherds that they Would find the Babe lying in a manger.

Christmas goes over big, with Gifts and decorations and Carols and parades.

In the glitter of the tinsel, it would Be easy to lose sight of the simple Yet beautiful truth of the Babe Lying in a manger.

What size is Christmas? King size? Yes—because Christmas Is the birth of the King of Kings. But Christmas is also baby size— Because Christmas was the birth Of the Baby Jesus!

> -LINDA MOWERY Mount Vernon, Ohio



by HAL M. VON STEIN Napa, Calif.

HOUSE OF GLASS on top of a high mountain is a romantic setting, quite exciting in a lightning storm, and always offering a stupendous view. Like every other reality in this life the romance and beauty is tempered, in this case, by the arduous necessity of keeping all that glass clean.

You would think windows would not get dirty 7,400 feet above sea level, 50 odd miles from town, but the opposite is true. The wind brings fine, clinging particiles of dust and unexplainable myriads of flies which seldom light on anything but the glass.

Sunday is visitors' day, and people would never understand soiled windows. I usually begin cleaning the eight large windows in the upper cupola before the sun heats the glass. Here the view of a thousand square miles of rugged mountains intrudes on every activity and thought.

Far across the bronze green amphitheater of forested canvons blue haze marks the valley where we would be going to Sunday school if we could. One morning I found myself considering the familiar Sunday morning routine, wondering if Sam would be late, as usual, with the opening, and if Del had found a way to keep Mrs. O. from monopolizing the lesson time with accounts of her war experiences. Would the

choir members who can really sing be on hand, or, as often happens in the summer, only the unsure singers, like myself, show up, with the tone deaf boretone of the penetrating voice?

As I looked across the mountains, a shadow swept past. A pair of black vultures, balancing on the updraft, regarded me with beady eyes—the birds

In the humming, primitive silence a still, small voice said to me, "You are looking upon your church as through this dirty window. This is all wrong. Viewed through a soiled perspective, every imperfection magnifies itself."

My imagination was stirred by this good thought. Perhaps I could write an article, using Matthew 7:1-5, the comparison of the mote of dust and the beam in the eye of the hypocrite!

But I don't feel quite right. The criticial thoughts are still there. Careless, needless imperfections do continue in our religious services, and outsiders are often aware that church people are not as reliable as they should be.

I am having an awful time cleaning this glass. The sun has come up, and in its penetrating light the glass looks as though it had not been cleaned at all. This is not a new experience. It is practically impossible to clean the windows of this place. Because the glass was manufactured so long ago, aberrations and discolorations are inherent in the glass.

The only way to get a clear view is to unlatch and open the windows. It is like opening the windows of heaven! A cleansing, penetrating flood of air bearing the scent of fir balsam and lichened stone comes through. The vultures sail swiftly away.

Again this thing becomes real to me! With an open heart the true vision of the perfect holiness of our perfect God comes through. We are not a finished product! He is fashioning—creating—a perfect people. Only He can see the bride without spot or wrinkle.

Satan has little difficulty in establishing a distorted view of the organized church where Christians continue to look upon themselves from the soiled and aberrated world perspective. From the outside, a church always looks nice. Sinners expect it to be

the same from inside. But it is from the inside that the windows show the soil, the aberrations distort the vision.

The wonder is not that the Church is so imperfect. The miracle is that it exists at all, and that the power of the Holy Spirit is visible in our individual lives and in the body of believers everywhere.

The ancient, aberrated window glass in this little lookout has been doing the job successfully for over half a century. More fires have been detected and suppressed while small because of these "eyes of the forest" than any other lookout on the forest. Because this is so, the "powers that be" continue to postpone the erection of the long promised new structure.

And when it is time for the revelation of the perfect, complete Church, He will roll back the curtain! Cleanse Thou my heart, O Holy Spirit, and enlighten the eyes of my understanding that I may know the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints (cf. Ephesians 1:18).

Spirit-filled Night

by DIANE SKINNER
Shelbyville, III.

TEADILY THE MOON poured its endless pitcher of moonbeams onto our living room floor. Acclimating themselves to our new source of light, our eyes slowly focused and our vision cleared.

"My ball, Mama," little Jeremy chirped, as he excitedly pointed out fuzzy objects that were now taking shape. This new adventure was fun for a four-year-old and he too was awed at the sensation his body felt. Gently I rocked him in my arms—my little man, so spirited and full of life, perhaps thought "overactive" by some. But now he was content to snuggle near my face, his head pressing against my cheek.

Humming with him, "Come, Holy Spirit," I soon felt his little torso go limp in my arms—alseep at last! The moonbeams streamed downward on his tiny face as they bathed his golden locks. I could see a tender peace break upon his countenance.

The day had been hectic. . . . Many activities, but little time for Jeremy. Then Daddy had to go away for the night. To compensate for attention lacked during the day, I tried to make this night special. Child-

hood experiences of all types and lessons in nature we endeavored to share with Jeremy—the colors of a sunrise, the forest during a summer rain, family camp-outs, animal noises at night. This evening we had chosen the look of our home at dusk with nothing artificial—just the moonlight.

I, too, needed the gentle touch of the night! The day was too busy. Everything had seemed important, but now new values appeared. Vigorously I breathed in this refreshing peace.

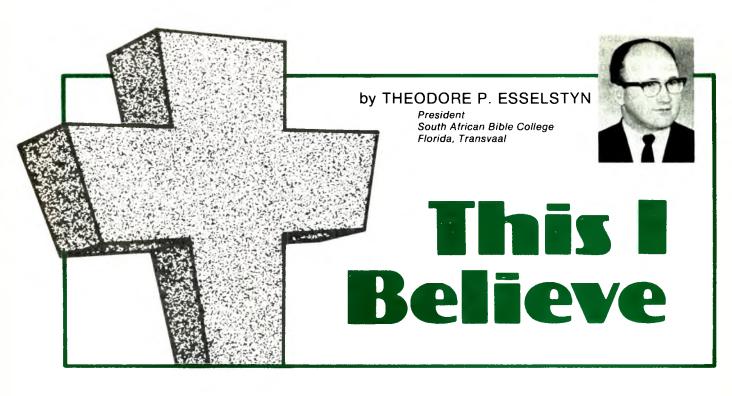
Then God spoke as the cool air rushed in. With the golden rays lighting the area around my chair, He spoke of a special life—one "lighted" by His Spirit. Gently He pointed me in a new direction through this lesson in nature. The only thing He asked was that I remove everything "artificial." Once that was done and my window laid open, His power and His light would dwell within.

Just as the moon's rays were there for all to enjoy, so too His Spirit is for all who ask. Trusting Him in this new Spirit-filled walk, He promised to clear my vision, focus in new objects, and guard my faltering steps. I, too, would be able to view things distinctly, to see the world more clearly through His eyes.

The moonbeams of the night gave a new peace to my son and me, just as God's Spirit gives inner peace and direction for broken lives. Eagerly I asked for a rich infilling, to go deeper with God, and to "inhale" more of His promised peace discovered anew in the cool of the night.

With a new outlook on life I gently rose from the rocker, conscious of a Divine Presence. Fluffing up the pillow on my toddler's bed, I quietly offered up the chorus that I had hummed earlier—but now with more meaning:

Come, Holy Spirit, I need Thee, Come, Sweet Spirit, I pray; Come in Thy strength and Thy power, Come in Thine own special way!



I BELIEVE **GOD LIVES IN CHRISTIANS**

It is startling to discover that God has devoted some 15 pages of Holy Writ to a detailed description of how to build a scale model of a holy place. This is found in the closing chapters of the Book of Exodus. Moses is warned over and over again to be sure that the model is accurately built.

In the New Testament, however, we learn that this description of the Tabernacle is in reality a description of a Christian. "What, know ye not that ye are the the temple of God?" A Christian is a home for God.

It is fascinating to look at the Tabernacle from this viewpoint. First, we see the Tabernacle is situated within the courtyard just as the Christian must live within the Church. We also see that the altar and the washbasin are outside of the Tabernacle, but within the courtyard. Both are essential to the functioning of the Tabernacle. Neither can be used secretly.

So it is in the life of the Christian. Repentance and forgiveness, represented by the altar, cannot be done in secret, for they touch the lives of others, and without them there can be no spiritual life. Likewise, the Christian must use the washbasin, setting right those wrongs which occur in the course of living in this world. As Jesus said, "If thy brother hath ought against thee go . . . set it right." To fail to clean up our hands of the mistakes and failures of daily living stifles spiritual life.

Most interesting, however, is the Tabernacle itself. Just like a person it has two rooms. One is exposed to the outside where the "best foot" can be shown. The other is deep within, without any illumination from without, curtained off so no one can see what is there, a dark recess at the core of one's being. But it is in this two-roomed tabernacle that God wants to live, and if He lives there, then the Holy Spirit abides.

The fire and the oil of the candlestick in the Tabernacle were to be tended daily. Our relationship to the Holy Spirit must also be a daily concern. Relationships die if not cherished and tended, and so morning and evening the oil must be poured and the wick trimmed. The Spirit is a Person with whom believers build a relationship, not an object to be placed upon a shelf.

Further, if God lives within me, He must be Master. I must acknowlege that He is the Lord of life and bring before Him my firstfruits, my best, and present it to Him as the loaves of the firstfruits were placed each week upon the table of shewbread.

Finally, if He abides, I must talk with Him. Deep within the Tabernacle burned the altar of incense, the altar of prayer. It was kindled from the great brazen altar without, where sin was destroyed. It burned in the morning and the evening as men cried unto God. Jesus said, "Go into thy closet," for it is deep within that prayer really takes place, yet the aroma of a prayerful life permeates the person.

God wants to live in me! Did you notice where? Not in the outer room which I have readied for visitors, but within, behind that curtain I have drawn across my soul. He would enter and cleanse it, dispelling the darkness with His great light, transforming the deepest recesses into a glorious habitation for himself. But there is more. No longer do I need to

hide my soul, secreting the evil that lurks within, for with God there it is a place of glory. Christ's death ripped the veil away; He would make me whole.

This cannot be pretense. God is not interested in an empty shell, He wants reality. Not what happened to the Temple in the Book of Ezekiel. When the prophet saw the corruption lurking within, he also saw the glory of God rising from the Temple and departing. God cannot abide hypocrisy.

But look again. When Ezekiel was led back to Jerusalem by the man of bronze, they approached the Temple with the rod and the line, measuring, checking, to see that all was right. Every detail was checked out, every door, every courtyard, every room, every wall. No aspect was too small to merit the attention of the tools of judgment.

And when they were finished, it was found to be correct, it was cleansed, set right, fit for God's dwelling place. Then Ezekiel looked up and saw the glory of God returning upon Jerusalem, returning to the Temple, descending upon it and filling it with the smoke of His divine presence.

I believe that God lives in Christians whom He has cleansed and made whole.

PUSHER TO PREACHER

by ROBERT E. MANER

Valdosta, Ga.

RD. Knight was afraid the title *pusher* would not go over well with the church members when he began preaching. But the title given him by the *Louisville Times* has stuck. In spite of the repulsive connotation to the word *pusher*, his ministry has been tremendously effective among young and old alike

Actually R. D. (he never did like his given name, Reginald) was for the most of his 28 years anything but a Christian. Although he attended a Church of the Nazarene while growing up, he admits that he hated every minute of it. It seemed, at the time, that his church attendance had no beneficial effect on him. Even his two Nazarene preacher uncles, Rev. Dennis Wyrick and Rev. Herman Ward, only irritated him.

By the time he was in his mid-teens he was a Golden Gloves champ. He really thought he could solve all his problems with his fists. The number of fights outside the ring became more numerous than the ones in the ring. His heavy use, first of alcohol, and later of drugs only increased the occasions when he had to use his fists.

Life moved rapidly after he entered the drug world. His habit became an addiction that cost \$125 a day. The only way to earn that kind of money was to sell drugs to others. The familiar story of the drug addict was reenacted in the life of another young man. The day came when he was arrested as a pusher. This was not the first time he had been arrested, but this time it was serious enough for him to get a prison term.

Kentucky State Reformatory life did not follow the expected course. The influence of three people had a telling effect on his future. First, there was little Willie Martin, a black man, who kept saying, "R. D.,

let's go to church." Willie never gave up. Almost daily he testified to the grace of God in his own life. There was also Chaplain Roscoe Plowman, whose godly influence eventually led him to Christ. Finally, there was his wife, Emma, who kept telling him he would have to give up drugs and the life it offered.

When he tried to change, he found that he did not have the power to change himself. His brute strength, that won him many fights with the street gangs, proved to be no match for the sin in his life. Like another prodigal of another day he finally came to the end of himself. It was then that he came to Christ.

When he entered prison, he was a typical longhaired radical seen so often in street demonstrations and at rock festivals. He had been in the middle of it all. He left prison a clean-cut, good-looking young man whom few of his friends of former days would even recognize. But the greatest change was not on the outside; he had experienced the greater transformation inside.

His wife, Emma, was not prepared for the announcement that he was called to preach the gospel he used to hate. But she took it in stride and has been traveling with him and making a good preacher's wife. He is now a student at Asbury College in the chaplains' program with plans to be a prison chaplain someday himself.

Meanwhile he also labors as a Nazarene evangelist, telling the story of the power of the gospel and of the grace of God that can deliver from sin, drugs, and the whole awful mess that so saturates the world. He is on parole now but hopes to get a pardon soon from the governor of Kentucky. One thing is certain, he does have a pardon from the Judge of all the earth—the one that matters most.

TENSIONS

In the Christian Life

by ALBERT J. LOWN

Keighley, Yorkshire, England

FULLY COMMITTED Spirit-filled life is often regarded as a complete answer to the tensions of life, tensions that drive some to drink and drugs, tear others to pieces, and make this an age of tranquilizers and transcendental meditation. Pills and postures multiply as people seek relief and inner harmony through groups and gurus.

Christian Science takes one vital aspect of the gospel—the power of pure, positive thinking—and makes it a complete cure-all. Scientology makes the same claim via a complete surrender of personality and property to the practitioner and system.

Where cults and heresies make unfounded claims and gains, the gospel of Christ offers release from tensions caused by the tyranny of sin and self. The Lordship of Christ makes free indeed and gives a right mind, a new outlook upon life. All things are made new by free grace.

Tensions released and removed would seem an essential aspect of the message and melodies of a gospel that enshrines the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the communion of the Holy Ghost. Yet paradoxically the Christian life itself is

ETERNAL LOVE

The earth is good— God made it so; earth, sky, and sea, soft winds that blow.

And God made us both good and whole. breathing His Spirit into the soul.

Why should we ever live apart from the warm goodness of God's heart?

For God's Son came so that we could find His deep love, His Fatherhood;

His perfect plan, His gentle care, the love of all hearts can find and share.

> -IEAN HOGAN DUDLEY Harlingen, Tex.

ONE INESCAPABLE TENSION

An absurd statement? Seemingly it is, to assert that Christianity frees from tension, yet brings tensions a Christian must learn to live with. In truth, however, it is paradoxon (Greek), that which seems opposed, contradictory, but is really complementary and correct. The Christian life has opposites that apparently cancel each other out, yet rightly belong and should not be separated. One must learn to live with and between them.

Tension itself is not a bad thing, although often used as an excuse for weakness and worry. "He or she is under tension," a sympathetic excuse. Rightly understood, applied, and used, it is life's essential safeguard. Without it muscles degenerate to flab. A violin would forfeit its potential for master playing and harmonies. Life and achievement lie in

RECOGNITION AND ADJUSTMENT

The two extremes or aspects in tension may perplex at times, particularly in viewing the Christian life. Ibsen captures one extreme, dramatizing the Emperor Julian's words: "Have you looked at the Christians closely—hollow eyed, pale cheeked, brooding their lives away unspurred by ambition; the sun shines for them but they do not see it; earth offers fullness, they desire it not; all they desire is to renounce, suffer, and die.

A Christian apologist presented the opposing view to another emperor, Marcus Aurelius: "Christians obey established laws, and surpass laws in their own lives; they love all men and are persecuted by all! They are put to death, and yet endued with life: they

are in beggary, yet make many rich; reviled, they bless; insulted, they respect; doing good, they are punished as evildoers; punished, they rejoice."

IRRECONCILABLES?

Killjoys or filljoys, sad or glad, a liability or an asset to society? A unique, healing salt in humanity's bitter-sweet waters—or a foolish, hapless log vainly attempting to jam sin's torrential river?

Which—or both? In the triumphant tensions of

2 Corinthians 6:1-10 Paul confesses both.

"By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report, as deceivers, and yet true" (v. 8). Inspired heralds of truth, highly esteemed by many: imposters, leading souls astray, derided by others. Serenaded and slandered.

"As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed" (v. 9). Nonentities who sacrifice company, position, and reputation for Christ's sake; yet well known to God, lovers of truth and hosts of hell. Moribunds, written off, dying, yet living, fully and eternally.

"As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing" (v. 10). Chasttened, tried, regarded as those who have said goodbye to happiness. Yet preserved and possessed of the true secret of joy; followers of a Man of Sorrows who is

also King of Gladness above all others.

"As poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing all things" (v. 10). Bankrupts and millionaires! Always giving, enriching others, and mysteriously gaining one's own life in deeper measure and treasure.

Baffled and bruised at times by paradox and tension, and the ceaseless choosing between two sets of values. Pulled in opposing directions by the conflicting claims of legitimate self-interest and spiritual priorities. Denying one's self, fulfilling one's self. A citizen of two worlds; a love slave to Christ and law subject of Caesar. Positive and negative-in the world but not of it.

TENSIONS ARE ACCEPTED

as the price and privilege of belonging to a Christ who reconciles supreme paradoxes. He is God and man, perfect in each without detriment to the other. A submissive Son to Mary, and stainless Saviour. Creator and carpenter; worker and wonder-worker. Fearless, but not tearless. Separate from sinners, but always loving, approachable. Human in all points and divine under all pressures. Laying down His life in Calvary's travail and taking it again in Resurrection triumph.

"As he is in this world, so are we." "When I am weak, then am I strong," confesses Paul; "crucified through weakness, yet living by the power of God." "We know not what to pray for as we ought," but, "We know that all things work together for good." Knowledge and ignorance in counterbalance.

"In the world, tribulation; in Me, peace." Troubled, and untroubled. "Every man bearing his own burden," yet "Casting all your care on him," and thus able to "bear one another's burdens." A myster-

ious cycle of sympathy and strength.

"I know how to be abased, and to abound, to have all things, and to suffer need." The swinging pendulum of Paul's experience only serves to synchronize life's time clock with God's master plan. "I can do all things," even in infirmities' depressing prison, "through Christ who pours his strength into me."

A. J. Cronin shows the contrasts and the conflicts as only a novelist could express the paradox: "We receive certain good things because we are Christians, but we start down and out. He gives peace amidst strife and misfortune, ecstasy to those who pray. We are equal to all demands, yet hand in hand there is His giving—where does the one begin and the other end? But there is no receiving unless we are willing."

BEYOND THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE

The other day I was talking with a Christian neighbor when she made a remark that reminded me of an incident that happened back in the early fifties.

While visiting an elderly great-uncle, I noticed a row of cups hanging in a long neglected china cabinet. They were beautiful and I said so.

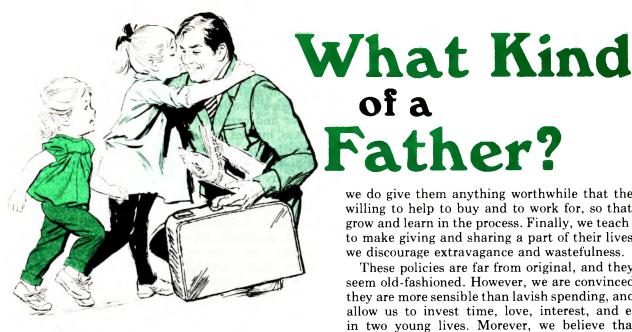
My uncle was stunned because they were covered with dust and dirt. He said, "Anyone who can see the beauty in those cups through all that dirt ought to have them."

I still have those cups, and every time I look at them I remember how I got them. But more importantly, they remind me of how I found Christ.

When I was hanging around in the world, all dusty and dirty, God looked down through all that dust and dirt and saw me. I didn't want to be in that condition, but I didn't know that I could know Him personally, that I could be washed and sparkling like those cups. I knew Christ had died for mankind but that was all.

Then He sent me where I could hear the cleansing gospel. Now just as those cups can be filled and overflowing, so I am filled and overflowing. The only difference is, I don't ever again have to be as empty as those cups. 🗀

> -MARY F. ROACH Jacksonville, Fla.



HAT DID YOU BRING US, Daddy?" "We want our presents now!"

Our two daughters always expect me to bring them something when I return from a trip. I had only been to Fort Worth for four days this time, and I had not been shopping at all.

"What is it, Daddy? Butterscotch or marzipan from England? 'Hopjes' from Holland?''

"Now, now! You girls just wait until we get home so I can unpack.'

At last, I fished around in the bottom of my bag and brought out three stones that I had picked up out in the Texas countryside.

Three stones? "Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?" (Matthew 7:9, NIV).

Now you know. A geologist is the one kind of a father who can give his children stones and get away with it. Those three stones were a piece of marbled jasper, half of an Indian lance point, and a banded chert pebble. They delighted our daughters because there are no stones like that to be found where we live. My profession adds to their interest in any sort of stone.

Jesus, of course, lived in a stony land. Palestine was less ravaged by deforestation and overgrazing when He walked there, but He could always see its rocky ribs showing clearly. Stone was the standard building material, and always conveniently close at hand for public executions. What could be more common and worthless than the flint and limestone fragments that hindered the flimsy plows of the peasants? What could be meaner than to give a stone to a hungry child?

"If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!" (Matthew 7:11, NIV).

My wife and I follow three policies in giving good things to our children. First, we do not worry about giving them everything they want, but we do try to provide what we think they need, with an occasional surprise so that they do not feel deprived. Second,

we do give them anything worthwhile that they are willing to help to buy and to work for, so that they grow and learn in the process. Finally, we teach them to make giving and sharing a part of their lives, and we discourage extravagance and wastefulness.

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These policies are far from original, and they may seem old-fashioned. However, we are convinced that they are more sensible than lavish spending, and they allow us to invest time, love, interest, and energy in two young lives. Morever, we believe that our policies have parallels in the way that our Father in heaven gives good gifts to those who ask Him.

My friend, A. B. Page, had been without a job for two years, and he was desperate. Blacky had recovered from a heart attack, but his coronary history meant that he was uninsurable in his lifetime occupation. No company could hire him again as a driller in the oil fields. Blacky knew that his recovery was an answer to prayer, so he unquestioningly continued to pray to get back his old job.

Then a former employer came by to ask him how to splice some steel cable. Working with steel cables and wire ropes amounts to nearly as much of an art as tying those elaborate rope knots that sailors once used. Blacky knew right then that the Lord had given him a business opportunity instead of a job. He went into business with God as his Partner, and retired last year after 18 highly successful years.

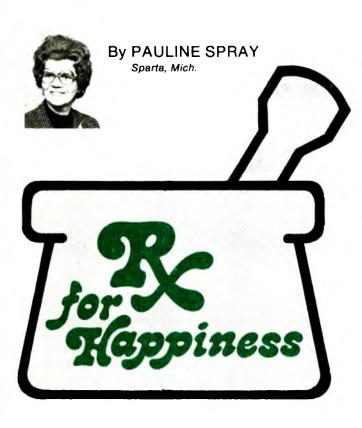
That business gave Blacky many opportunities to tell his old buddies in the oil fields about Jesus Christ. Some were men who had begun work when the oil fields ran on steam and whiskey, and they used both. They wouldn't have had patience to listen to you or me, but a few words from Blacky would have them in tears. A few more would replace tears with the joy of salvation.

Just as Blacky Page was thankful that God did not grant his prayers for a job, so Paul the Apostle came to thank God that He did not heal his affliction (2 Corinthians 12:7-10). We may not know how to pray or what to ask for (Romans 8:26), but our Heavenly Father still knows how to give good gifts to those who ask Him. He knows what to give, and how and when to give it.

In face of all this, what is there left to say? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not grudge his own Son but gave him up for us all—can we not trust such a God to give us, with him, everything else that we can need? (Romans 8:31-32, Phillips).

by RICHARD S. BARNETT

Lafayette, La.



HAPPINESS IS... GIVING IT AWAY

The following quotation by William A. Ward was taped to Sue's dresser mirror during her teen years. Now, yellowed and worn, it reposes between the pages of my Bible. "Real happiness is more of a habit than a goal, more of an attitude than an attainment. It is the companion of cheerfulness, not the creature of circumstance. Happiness is what overtakes us when we forget ourselves, when we learn to open our eyes in optimism and close the door in the face of defeat. We win happiness when we lose ourselves in service to others."

This is the season we especially turn our attention to others. Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of God's Son, His greatest Gift to mankind. Because He so freely manifested His love to us, we, in turn, express our love in special ways to others. Happiness comes by giving it away—not only at the Yuletide season but throughout the whole year.

"Freely ye have received, freely give," said Jesus (Matthew 10:8).

We've heard it said that Christmas is for the children, but love boomerangs. Adults cannot give happiness to youngsters (or oldsters, for that matter) without it coming back to brighten and enrich their own lives.

Recently while three-year-old Darla was visiting us, she came into the kitchen, smiling happily, and said, "We're having fun here, aren't we, Mama?" Needless to say, these are the things that warm the hearts of grandparents.

As a rule for mental health, someone has suggested: "Children are the hope of the world. Make at least one child happy every day." It takes so little to make children

happy, for they have the wonderful ability to enjoy the simple pleasures of life—a few cookies and a glass of milk, a stick of gum, a card or letter in the mail.

Shari was happily anticipating Christmas. She told her Sunday school teacher excitedly, "We're going to Grandma's house and I'm going to have cinnamon rolls every morning for breakfast."

It has been said, "Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself." Years ago we had planned on spending Thanksgiving Day with relatives. But at the last minute one of the children became ill and we had to cancel our plans. Disappointed, I began looking for something to do to change my mood. Remembering a pattern I had acquired in an art course, I set about to make my family a "turkey cake."

My creative attempt was a huge success as far as they were concerned, and I continued to make beautifully decorated "turkey cakes" annually for years to come. Eventually, I wove a story around the idea and it spread beyond the walls of our parsonage kitchen. Love blesses and returns to bless, also.

Giving is an antidote for depression. When times of gloom descend on us, and they will, we can find relief by deliberately putting forth some effort to ease the burdens of another. I asked our ever-cheerful funeral director how he keeps from becoming morbid in his work. Dan replied, "By helping someone else."

N. Dwight Hillis said, "Happiness is through helpfulness. Every morning let us build a booth to shelter someone from life's heat. Every noon let us dig some lifespring for thirsty lips. Every night let us be food for the hungry, and shelter for the cold and naked."

Giving calls for creative endeavor—a basic instinctive need. It means being on the alert, always watching for an opportunity to smile or cause a heart to beat faster. It means seeking out ways to go beyond the call of duty, to do something that is not expected or required.

We emphasize, and rightly so, the matter of surrender, but holiness is a two-sided coin with surrender on the one side and total commitment on the other. Since He has given so freely of himself, it is but the Christian's "reasonable service" that he devote his life to serving both young and old in Christ's name. For only as we do for others in His name are we doing it for Him. We can pray. We can care. We can share. We can let Him move freely through us to help a needy world. We can do as Martyn urged, "Now let us burn out for God."

Missionary Russell Birchard did just that. His body lies buried on foreign soil among the people he loved and for whom he labored until his body could stand no more wear. When he gave a cripple a homemade wheelchair, the man said, "You're the first man in 18 years who has taken an interest in me."

"Live generously. There is no greater joy in life than to render happiness to others by means of intelligent giving," advised Grenville Kleiser.

> Dear God, Before I close my eyes in slumber tonight, Help me to be able from my heart to say, "I have made someone's heart lighter, Have eased someone's burden, or Have made someone a little happier today."

-William A. Bixler

"Happiness is . . . giving it away."

Editorially peaking by W. E. McCUMBER

THE MYSTERY OF JESUS

The Christmas season celebrates the incarnation of the Son of God. It is a choice time to reflect upon the majestic prologue to the Gospel of John (1:1-14).

"In the beginning . . ." The opening phrase recalls the first words of Scripture but sweeps the reader's mind even farther back, back to the unsharable eternity past. No man was present, only God with God. Though human creatures did not share the eternity past, wonder of wonders, they will share the eternity future. People will be with God forever! And all because the Word who was with God, and was God, "became flesh and dwelt among us." The Word was with man and was man!

Three phrases in this prologue catch up the profound mystery and might of that redeeming visit. "He was . . . He came . . . He gave . . ."

"He was." This phrase speaks of the mystery of His person.

"He was in the beginning with God." With these words John describes his eternal existence as the creating Word, by whom "all things were made."

"He was in the world." This affirms His historical existence as the redeeming Word, when "the Father sent the Son as the Saviour of the world."

Between these two modes of existence lies the supreme miracle of the Incarnation. "The Word became flesh." He was fully and truly God, yet He became fully and truly man. That, in the parlance of today's youth, "blows the mind." The human mind cannot fathom, nor can the human tongue express, the depth of mystery that meets us here in the person of Christ. We can only worship and adore where it becomes impossible to analyze and describe. He was . . . in the beginning with God as God. He was . . . in the world with men as man. Try as we may to penetrate that mystery, we can only withdraw from the attempt, blinded by the excess of light.

"He came." This second phrase speaks of the mystery of His purpose.

The phrase is used in verse 6, where the reference is to John the Baptist as "a man sent from God." "He came to bear witness to the light."

Then the phrase is repeated in verse 11, where it refers to Jesus as "the true Light," whose mission is to shine in the darkness and overcome it, the awful darkness of our sin, guilt, and alienation. This was more than a man sent from God. This was God coming as a man! "He came to his own home."

Because He came as the Light of the World, men are given their sight. One of the seven signs recorded by John as the insignia of Jesus' deity is the healing of a man born blind. Those who behold Jesus discover that He is "the way" to the Father; He lights man's path to God. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, a light in the sky guided wise men to His birthplace. Jesus is Himself the Light, the Morning Star, that vanquishes our darkness and leads us to God as the Source of forgiveness, peace, and life.

"He gave." The third phrase speaks of the mystery of His power.

"He gave power to become children of God." Power to become—what a happy expression! Surely this is the choicest gift ever received by anyone at Christmas or any other season! Power to move from what we are to what we ought to be. Power to actualize the possible. A poet cried, frustrated with moral defeat, "Oh for a man to arise in me/That the man I am might cease to be." This is precisely the kind of transformation that Jesus gives!

How do we appropriate this power? Two factors are involved: "who received . . . who believed . . ." Welcome and trust. When we welcome Jesus to our hearts as Saviour, and trust our lives to Him as Lord, the miracle of rebirth occurs, and the new life begins which knows no ending.

It is Christ who makes Christmas, in the mystery of His person, His purpose, and His power.

"He was" what no other was—the Son.

"He came" as no other came—to save.
"He gave" what no other gave—salvation.

This Christmas let's put it all in the present tense. He is! He comes! He gives!

Is the welcome mat out for Jesus in your heart, at your home?

THE MEANING OF THE MANGER

Jesus wasn't born in a department store. This may seem strange, as commercialized as Christmas has become. He was born in a cattle stall, and His birth and life were attended by poverty, not by plenty. He was a man of sorrow, affliction, and loneliness, not of gaiety, opulence, and social whirls. I remind us all of these simple facts because the church is in danger of distorting its mission if it forgets His sufferings. The Christian life is not an "open sesame" to material wealth and social success. Being truly Christian

The human mind cannot fathom, nor can the human tongue express, the depth of mystery that meets us here in the person of Christ.

means following Jesus Christ in sacrificial service to human need.

Christmas sets some serious options before us. The manger or the tinsel? The path of suffering or the route of selfish accumulation? The giving of love which forgives and heals, or the giving of things that quickly perish? The tree of death, where one consents to die in order that others may live, or the tree of ornaments, icicles, and gifts? What does Christmas mean to you? What symbols truly express your understanding of Christianity?

God is not Santa Claus. He does not bestow upon an excited and greedy world that which costs Him nothing. He does not make an easy magical pilgrimage over rooftops to spread a seasonal happiness. God gives at the cost of self-sacrifice, at the cost of a manger and a cross and a grave, at the cost of rejected and slandered love. And He gives continually because He loves eternally. His giving has a higher aim than making men momentarily happy; it aims at making us everlastingly holy.

Jesus wasn't born at Macy's, but in a manger! □

STOCKING STUFFERS

In stores everywhere one can see small gifts, ranging from the inexpensive to the very costly, advertised as "stocking stuffers." The old tradition of hanging stockings for Santa to fill must still be observed in many homes.

Here is an idea for a stocking stuffer at this Christmas season. Fill your stockings with consecrated feet and legs! Let them carry you to the house of the Lord to worship Him, to the rooms of the sick to cheer them, to the homes of the poor to feed them, and to the doors of the lost to tell them of Jesus Christ.

For most of us the Christmas season is the happiest of the whole year. But for many people, it is miserable, because their unhappy plight is accented by the gaiety and excitement that surrounds them. Some have lost loved ones and are spending their first Christmas without a cherished companion or child. Some are terminally ill and wondering where to find peace and strength to accept the inevitable. Some are out of work and deeply discouraged because they must disappoint the little ones who are looking for bright gifts. Some languish in prisons, forgotten by society and often by their own friends. Christmas can be a very lonely, very depressing season for many persons.

We can help by stuffing our stockings with the feet and legs of people who care, who will take time to be unselfish and friendly, who will give less to themselves in order that others may have more. And that will make Christmas a good experience for all concerned.

LOVING AND DOING

In a very searching sentence John writes, "Let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth" (1 John 3:18). Love is never complete until word is wedded with deed.

> You cannot love because you say, "I love," although the word Be spoken many times a day, And every time be heard. Love isn't born and bred that way. You love or not, and if you do The word unites with deed, For love declared is only true When whom you love can read Not lips alone, but actions too.

God has not loved us in word only, but in deed and truth. As the "gospel within the gospel" puts it, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son." God's loving inspired God's acting, God's giving.

When the love of God is poured into our hearts (Romans 5:5), it will prompt us to action and sacrifice for the relief of human need. We will care that people are hungry, jobless, homeless, diseased, bereaved, and lost in sin. We will do what we can to bring them help in their distress. We will minister Christ to them in both word and deed. Such love, demonstrated by deeds, will be convincing where words alone never can be.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH UNITS HELP ESTABLISH THE VERY YOUNG IN FAITH



To make children's church a special hour of worship, the new "God Made You Special" unit is available from the Nazarene Publishing House (\$4.95).

Six sessions of undated material on timely subjects, complete with leader's guide, theme song, patterns, and visuals, are designed to fill one hour each. Children are guided through the steps necessary for a Christ-centered life of peace, joy, and service. At least five different methods of teaching are used in each session, giving the variety needed to keep children's attention. Additional or optional activities for the close of each session are also included.

Living . . . as a Christian is an attractive, illustrated booklet designed for children who have recently accepted Christ. Sixteen "Today's Question" and "I Believe" with brief devotion, scripture, and prayer are thoughtfully planned to help establish children in the faith (VE-28; 1 pkg. of 10/\$2.50).

PORTSMOUTH, VA., CHURCH **HONORS TEACHER** OF THE YEAR

Goldie Bowling gave her heart to Jesus when she was a little girl. She was sanctified 42 years ago and has faithfully served the Lord since.

Sunday school is a vital part of Goldie's life. Her 50 years of teaching

include first, second, and third grades, junior boys, junior high, teens, and, for the past 20 years, adults.

Also for the past 20 years, Mrs. Bowling has been supervisor of Christian Service Training. For 12 years she served as president of the missionary society.

Of her senior adults Friendly Bible Class, she says, "It is the best class in the Sunday school. I am not prejudiced. They are the best.'

Mrs. Bowling states it has been worth it all to see former pupils living for God and taking their places in the work of the church and Sunday school. Some of her former pupils are active in churches in other localities as well.



Asked if she would do it again, or change anything if she had it to do over, she replied, "Yes, I would do it again gladly, only praying that I might do a better job. As for changing anything, I guess I couldn't change it in any way because I feel I did the best I could. Now, with more training and experience I should hope to improve on my methods, approach, and wit-

The Portsmouth Sunday school recently recognized Mrs. Bowling with this citation:

"Mrs. Bowling, the Portsmouth Sunday school loves and appreciates you. Your exemplary Christian life, your loving attitude toward everyone, your labors for God and church, and particularly your love for Jesus make you a very special person and an inspiration to us. God bless you in a very special way for your loyal and faithful service as Sunday school teacher for 50 years.

Mrs. Bowling, we love you and salute you as Honor Teacher of 1976."

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PLANT CITY, FLA., FIRST CHURCH WINS DISTRICT CAMPAIGN



District Superintendent J. V. Morsch (r.) of Central Florida District congratulates Pastor Hadley Hall of Plant City, Fla., First Church for leading the 61 churches of the district in the fall "Lift Up Christ" Sunday school campaign.

The Plant City church had a numerical increase of 402 above their assigned goal for the campaign. Their percentage increase was 99.5 percent. This is the first time they have won top honors in a district-wide campaign.

Mr. A. L. Wagoner, news director, writes that the church is enjoying its greatest period of growth under the new pastor. Twenty new members have been received in the past 60 days. Extensive improvements and redecorating have been done to the interior and exterior of the church building.

The Sunday before Pastor Hall came, Sunday school attendance was 28. During the campaign, Plant City church reached a high of 193 and an average of 144 for the five weeks. \Box

NEWS OF CHURCHES

The Harrisonburg, Va., church celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary and dedicated a new sanctuary consisting of 3,844 sq. ft., seating approximately 400 with overflow. Dr. Edward Lawlor and District Superintendent Gene Fuller dedicated the facility October 17. Rev. Carl M. Sherman is pastor and Rev. Richard N. Shomo serves as associate pastor.

DR. FRANK CARVER **DELIVERED** WILEY LECTURES

Dr. Frank G. Carver, professor of biblical theology and Greek, and chairman of the Point Loma College Division of Philosophy and Religion, delivered the annual H. Orton Wiley Lectures October 18-22 at Point Loma College. He spoke on "How Great a Love," dealing with themes in 1 John.

The lectures were initially given by Dr. H. Orton Wiley, the late president emeritus of the college and professor of theology, and have been continued in his honor. The series, sponsored by the graduate religion personnel, usually deals with the problems of relevance to the Christian ministry in the areas of theology and philosophy. Last year the Wiley Lectures were delivered by Dr. William M. Greathouse, then president of Nazarene Theological Seminary and now a general superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene.

Dr. Carver will be the twenty-second lecturer since 1951. Fifteen have spoken since he joined the faculty of PLC

Dr. Carver has earned degrees from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland; Princeton Theological Seminary; NTS; and Taylor University, and done postdoctoral study at the Claremont School of Theology.

A member of several professional organizations, Dr. Carver has authored Peter, the Rock-Man, written the section on 2 Corinthians in the Beacon Bible Commentary, and served on the editorial board of The New American Standard Bible, New Testament.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC COUNCIL

The first missionary council meeting recently held in the Dominican Republic was a time of reporting victories.

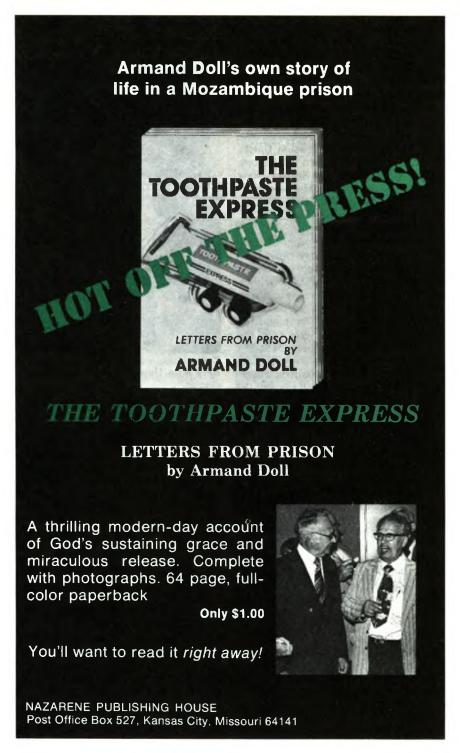
Louie Bustle reported that after 13 months in the Dominican Republic, the Church of the Nazarene now has 11 congregations. Nine of these are among the Spanish Dominicans, and 2 are among the Haitian Dominicans.

The Student Mission Corps youth, sponsors, and evangelists, were instrumental in the starting and the strengthening of these new churches.

Through the aid of building groups and individual builders, there are now four church buildings, one pastor's home, and one missionary home.

Most exciting are the 11 pastors who are pastoring the churches. Over 40 are studying in pastoral training classes with Rev. Jerry Porter.

Goals for this coming year include starting five more churches with the Dominicans and several with the Haitians.





November 5, Missionary Armand Doll spoke to a packed chapel audience of students and families at Nazarene Bible College. Pictured (l. to r.) are: Rev. and Mrs. Doll; Dr. and Mrs. L. S. Oliver, president of NBC; and Dr. and Mrs. M. Harold Daniels, district superintendent of the Colorado District.

STUDENT MISSION CORPS IMPACT ON **COLLEGE STUDENTS**

There were 7 Mount Vernon Nazarene College students who spent the summer with 46 other Nazarene students in the Student Mission Corps. Charlie Grimes, Stephen Blakeman, Cyndi Skidmore, Cindy Sutton, Doug Ringhiser, and Sandy Holstein were the fortunate MVNC collegians to share their Christian love in the Dominican Republic.

"The people were so eager to learn about the Lord that they came back to church when there were no services going on," said senior Charlie Grimes.

The SMC was divided into teams with 8 to 12 members per team located throughout the Dominican Republic country which shares an island with Haiti in the Caribbean Sea.

Until last year, there were no Nazarene churches in the country. Therefore, most of the Christians on the island are young in Christ. "But they are eager to grow and share what they know about the Lord," Grimes continued.

While Stephen Blakeman's team lived in the Dominican Republic, the students concentrated their efforts with one church that was established only one month before they arrived. "We held two services on Sunday and three during the week, doing all kinds of things," Steve related.

The team on which Grimes worked helped establish a church. The building had been rented but no services had been held. "One of our first activities was to spend a half hour before the first service, inviting people to attend. Two hundred people showed up the first night," Charlie said.

When the SMCers left the church and country, the attendance had stabilized at 150. Fifty conversions to Christ took place in the first four weeks.

During his stay in the Dominican Republic, Charlie said he learned to become dependent on God. "He called upon me to do things I didn't think I'd ever be able to do-like pray in Spanish on the spot. The Lord made me more aware of the talents He has given me."

The student talked of the slower pace of the foreigners. "Time has little meaning," said Cyndi Skidmore. "The people will talk or listen to you for hours on end.'

Between holding services and conducting vacation Bible schools, Steve's team worked on the church building and parsonage located near the home of Rev. and Mrs. Louie Bustle, head missionaries in the country, where his team lived.



Youngsters in the Dominican Republic are always eager to get their picture taken. Here Stan Doeer, Mid-America Nazarene College, is trying to invite the people to church.

Language seemed to be no barrier between the Dominican residents and MVNC students. "Even though our ability of speaking Spanish was limited, we had no trouble conveying the message of Christ," added Blakeman.

"The people are extremely openminded and eager to listen," explained. "Never once did I have a door slammed in my face when I went calling." Instead, the people would invite the students into their simple homes and offer them "refresco." a soft drink, according to Cyndi.

Miss Skidmore said she first felt uncomfortable with the foreigners. "They were always wanting to touch you and hug you, especially the kids; but the Lord helped supply me with an extra amount of love to cope with these children. Love never gives up and neither does God," she said.

The students all agreed the SMC activities taught them things they could have learned no other way. The lessons included those of patience and understanding, and it made "world missions come alive," according to Charlie. "I found out that world missions is not just for little old womenit is something for you and me."

As Steve looked back over the summer, he said, "I would not trade the experience for anything and I'm going to sign up again. Though I do not feel a call to the mission field, I know I could accept one now if I am called."

At the start young Blakeman felt differently. "I looked upon the trip as a sacrifice to God-but it didn't take me long to know it was a privilege from God, instead."

The students had little free time, but they really didn't want it since the joy of sharing God's Word was fulfilling. Their work involved calling on people, spiritual song sessions in the streets, conducting spiritual puppet shows, building churches, repairing those already built, and working on the construction of parsonages.

Patience was another subject discussed readily by the students who learned to adapt to a country where health standards in food stores are unheard of, where beans and rice are served meal after meal, and where one cannot even get a drink of water for fear of disease.

"I learned patience especially during VBS sessions," said Charlie. "Whenever I tried to plan a day on my own, it seemed nothing worked out right. But when I would commit the day to the Lord, it seemed everything went smoothly."

Like Charlie, Steve learned patience in working with youngsters. "It was nothing unusual to have the children in the paint you were trying to use," he said

'And having them put their hands through the screen of your windows to touch you was common," said Cyndi. Such happenings taught the young persons patience through the love of God.

Leaving the country was something which had to be done, of course, but the students did it with mixed feel-

"We sowed a lot of seeds; and though we will never see how much they grow, we can rest assured that the Lord will continue to nurture their growth," Steve said sincerely, "which made it easier to leave."

Though Cyndi felt sad about leaving

the Dominican Republic, she said, "I was happy because I knew we were leaving the people with a stable, growing church, deep rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ."

Looking back, she said, "The whole summer was worthwhile."

-Shirley Vandeberg, reporter

BILINGUAL REVIVAL TOUCHES CHANGING NEIGHBORHOOD

Sēnor Ismael Ramirez speaks no English.

Yet he was saved during the recent revival held at the Bell Garden Church on the Southern California District.

Sēnor Ismael Ramirez reads no English, yet he responded to revival advertising printed in the newspapers in Bell Garden.

He responded because the advertising was bilingual; he understood the preaching of Evangelist L. I. Weaver because the message was simultaneously translated by way of a separate speaker system.

Now he and his family are learning English in a special class at the church. Pastor B. Duane Sonnenberg is taking a class in Spanish from California State in Los Angeles.

While he learns English, Señor Ramirez can grow in his understanding of his new faith and church alliance through the pages of the Spanish Herald provided by the church.

All this is a recognition by Pastor Sonnenberg and the Bell Garden Church of the changing ethnic constituency of the church just off the Long Beach Freeway on Florence Avenue, six miles from Watts.

Extensive bilingual advertising preceded the revival.

Attendance averaged 45 each night with 75 Saturday night.

In addition to Ramirez, one other person sought salvation, one sanctification, and several others prayed at the altar for personal help.

The neighborhood where the church

is located has changed in the last 10 years. The city has become at least 60 percent Mexican-American.

Rev. Sonnenberg has a Master of Theology degree from Point Loma College. He is a native of Colorado Springs. His wife is a counselor with the Youth Division of the city of Los Angeles.



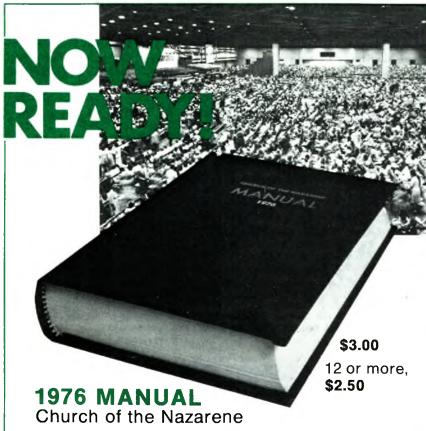
Tony Arauz translates the revival services into Spanish.



Ignacio Contreras listens via earphones



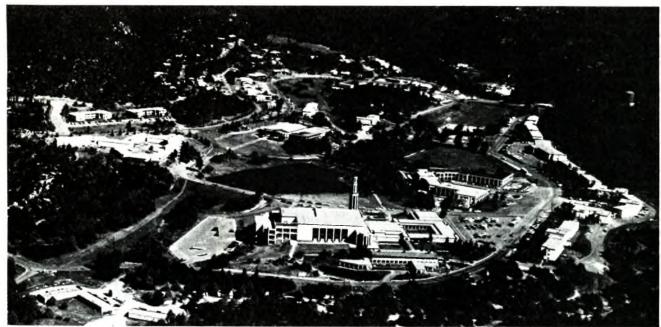
Rev. L. I. Weaver, evangelist (r.), presents a year's subscription to the Spanish Herald of Holiness to Senor Ismael Ramirez, who was converted the first night of the revival and who is now taking a home Bible study course as well as an English-language course at the church.



The official source book of the history, doctrine, ritual, and polity of the Church of the Nazarene. Bar-thumb indexing provides instant reference to 12 different sections.

Nazarene homes will want to secure a copy of this 1976 edition. Churches should order a quantity for presenting all new members. Durably bound in black cloth board with gold-stamped title.

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Glorieta, N.M., Conference Grounds

NEW RECORD NIROGA SEASON

The three Bicentennial NIROGAs— Green Lake, Wis. (August 30—September 3); Glorieta, N.M. (September 13-18); and Montreat, N.C. (October 11-15)-registered a total of 1,567 enrollees.

Glorieta, site of the first NIROGA and the largest, registered 906. Montreat is limited to just 300 and was full by July 1. Nearly every state was represented at Glorieta. Green Lake and Montreat both were represented by 25 or more states.

About one-third of each group represented new Nirogans. Several ventured to new sites and a few attended all three.

This year each retreat was managed by its own planning committee and retreat director, and each retreat differed to a degree as are the settings in which they are found.

Montreat utilized a "do it yourself" approach. Fitting perhaps in view of the fact that Director W. D. McGraw is himself a working retiree. Edith McGraw and Margaret Gould had the music. H. Dale Mitchell had "Early Christians." Senior adults were prominent in every way.

In addition to its bigness and grandeur, Glorieta has an outstanding arts and crafts program. The variety of offerings, ranging from oil painting to the less-complicated friendship boards and horseshoe nail art, evokes tremendous crowd response. Quality instruction and workmanship also contribute to making arts and crafts a notable feature. Macrame was big this year.

Exhibits where instructors may dis-

play and sell their wares plays a large role in the success of arts and crafts. To all appearances, business was good.

Green Lake was a new venture aimed at relieving the crowded situation at Montreat. A strong characteristic of the retreat derived directly from the lake and its developmental history. The missions building was a favorite attraction, and a tour of the seven-mile lake was on everyone's list of memories.

The speakers' list in each instance

was varied, outstanding, and highlighted by the representative from the Board of General Superintendents. Drs. Greathouse, Coulter, and Jenkins were on hand at Green Lake, Glorieta, and Montreat respectively. The speakers' list also included two well-known laymen, Ron Mercer and Ralph Marlow. Missionaries at the various retreats included Dr. Evelyn Witthoff, Everette Howard, Grace Prescott, and Phil Torgrimson.

Added to the list of retreats for 1977 is one in Florida, called SNO-BIRD



Dr. Ted Martin as the Yankee Doodle emcee of the banquet talking with Dr. James Van Hook, music leader.



Dr. Coulter speaking at the Friday morning service.



A typical morning worship service



Gracie Bumpus teaching acrylics to Mrs. Lawlor and Mrs. Coulter at a craft workshop.

NIROGA (February 28—March 4), and one in Alberta, Canada, at Banff Fine Arts Center (September 5-9).

Jack Abbott (Green Lake), Sam Stearman (Glorieta), and W. D. Mc-Graw (Montreat) provided excellent leadership and earned the respect and admiration of the NIROGA group. Gerald Gree (Sno-Bird) and Earl Darden (Banff) have been chosen to direct the two new retreats.

The future of NIROGA looks good. One unanimous concern is voiced in each NIROGA, "Are we going to have one again next year?" Another concern is often heard in this question,

"When are you coming to our neck of the woods with a NIROGA?'

Senior adults, as well as other churchmen, are excited about "something for the older people." Today is our day to reach senior adults. NIRO-GA is one way. Senior adult ministries is another. The greater the NIROGA success, the greater the local senior adult ministries involvement.

The 1977 fall NIROGA schedule will be ready for distribution by January 15. Requests should be sent to Melvin Shrout, Director, Senior Adult Ministries, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo. 64131. Pastors and Nirogans will receive information without sending a request.

At this writing Sno-Bird enrollment has exceeded its limitation of 431. A standby arrangement is now in operation.



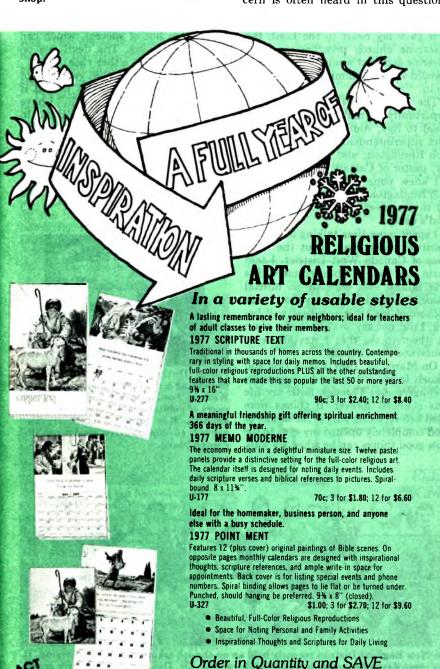
Mrs. Grace Prescott, missionary speaker



Elvin Hicks's NPH bookstand



Rev. Sam Stearman, Bethany, Okla., First Church, talking with Uncle Bud Robinson's daughter, Ruby Wise, from California.



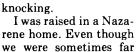
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CALGARY BANKER FINDS CHRIST: "MY LIFE WAS CHANGED FOREVER"

by Jim Scouler

Unfortunately, I spent most of my 39 years keeping the door to my heart closed despite God's almost constant knocking.





Scouler

from a church, my parents did their best to provide Sunday worship in our home

My mother wanted me to attend Canadian Nazarene College, and so I reluctantly enrolled in grade 10 while my friends attended the high school in town.

During the two years I attended CNC, I fought the religious training whenever I could. Even though down deep inside I envied my Christian friends, I thought there were just too many things going on in the world. I was determined not to be stifled by anyone.

Later I was to wonder on more than one occasion, as I stood cold in spirit during an altar call, if in fact I had denied the Saviour once too often. Perhaps He had forgotten me. It was a sobering thought.

A friend said to me this past summer, "You know, of all the boys who attended CNC, I must confess I had given up on you."

Yet, God does answer prayer, so one must never cease praying. CNC had a lasting and profound effect on my life, although it took 20 years for me to finally admit it.

The business world held new vistas and I settled for a career in banking. About 1956 I met Jeanette Kunkel, and after our first introduction I knew I had found the girl that would change my life.

Jeanette had not been raised in a Christian home but had attended a Free Methodist Sunday school for a couple of summers.

While we were going together, to please my parents I asked her to attend church services. Little did I know that the Lord would take hold of her life almost from the start. She committed her life to Christ two years after we were married.

I continued to float in a sea of confusion-Mr. Average Citizen, the odd drink now and then, the type of guy who was active in sports and considered "one of the boys," a "Good Joe" in the community.

I fought attending church with a hardened vigor, but I encouraged Jeanette in her desire to make sure our four beautiful children attended Sunday school.

Deep down inside I wanted to go too. I felt like I was among real friends at church, but still I continued to resist.

I can remember saying to Jeanette so many times that the plan of salvation was the only way. Some day I was going to get right with Jesus.

It kept me pretty miserable inside. Although I was achieving lots of worldly success, somehow I felt that life should have more purpose and fulfill-

Jeanette subscribed to the Herald of Holiness, and I watched for its arrival so that I might keep track of our denomination's growth. I felt that if I ever gave my heart to the Lord, the Nazarene church preached a sound doctrine and that would be the church I would want my family to be brought up in.

The fall of 1974 brought me an opportunity to make a banking proposal to Rev. Alexander Ardrey, district superintendent of Canada West; Bob Rimington; and Rev. Bob Lindley, pastor of Calgary First Church.

I knew none of these men except Bob Rimington. The situation that led up to the meeting was truly that of God's design.

I spent more time talking about my spiritual needs than about the business of Canada West District. I told them that God had blessed me with a fine family, but we had no official church home. I told them that I was concerned for their spiritual well-being. I did not say so, but it was plain for them to see that I was also very concerned for my soul.

On March 14, 1975, Pastor Bob and I knelt in his office and I asked Jesus to forgive me. Through faith my life was changed forever. If things were good before, being part of the family of God completely opened my eyes to see how good things can be when we walk hand in hand with our Saviour. Life does have meaning and purpose.

The Holy Spirit has been working in the lives of our children. They love Calgary First Church of the Nazarene and are very active in youth activities. I voice a prayer of thanks for a wife who, despite a sinful husband, felt the need to raise her children in a Christian atmosphere.

As for myself, life is exciting, business is booming, and I have been taking personal evangelism training along with church board duties. I am confident that as I let Jesus have His way in my life, the opportunities for serving Him are unlimited.

This testimony has not been one of tribulation but of success, which can be just as trying. The devil sits on one's shoulder in either case.

"Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." I have kept these words from the Bible in mind as God leads me in spiritual growth, because I know that through Him "all things are possible."

And as for you wives and mothers who pray daily for your loved ones, keep on praying-I know two who received their answer.



Pastor Duane Landreth (l.) is shown presenting a distinguished award to Mr. William Fowler in appreciation for 48 years of outstanding service in the Indianapolis Ray Street Church. He has served 46 consecutive years on the church board.



The New England District recently held an on-the-job training in lay witnessing. It was three days of sharing, learning, and training. Dr. Don Gibson, executive secretary of the Department of Evangelism, and his trainers worked with 26 pastors and lay persons, equipping them to return to their churches with motivation and inspiration to execute the program on a local level. Seventy-one presentations were made, and of these, 35 resulted in definite commitments to Jesus Christ.

FORTY YEARS IN 36 MINUTES

The medical ministry of the Church of the Nazarene in India will be told in *To Wipe the Tear*, which was filmed on location and has just been completed. Sunday, January 16, it will be shown in 25 churches in the greater Kansas City area.

Produced by Nazarene Communications, this 36-minute film portrays the ministry of Missionary Doctor Orpha Speicher, who invested 40 years of her life in re-



sponse to the New Testament concern for the whole person: body, mind, and soul. This heroic lady built a 105-bed hospital, the Reynolds Memorial, beginning with an eight-room mudwalled schoolhouse.

The story of her remarkable, many-faceted life has been put together in a way which captures the sights, sounds, and, most of all, the emotions of that subcontinent of 600 million people. She explains, "It is not easy for Westerners to understand this elusive country. It can be exasperating; it is alluring, hungry, and preposterous. Yet, for the past 40 years it has been my home. Because of that I hasten to say, India is also 'love.'"

With the January 16 release date the film becomes available to churches



A \$9,500 matching gift has been awarded the Mount Vernon Nazarene College from the PPG Industries Foundation. Robert James, PPG plant manager (l.), presented MVNC President L. Guy Nees with a letter of commitment regarding the matching gift made by the company to the college. The gift, which will be paid in early 1977, will be used to complete the bleacher seating in the gymnasium of the college. The present bleacher seating capacity is 800 but will reach 1,600 with the \$9,500 gift and a matching amount to be raised by MVNC. Due to insufficient funds, only half of the bleachers were installed when the building was built during the 1974-75 school year. Edward Mann, assistant to the president for corporation gifts, wrote the gift request.



for a nominal service charge. Dr. Orpha Speicher, who now makes her home in Casa Robles, Temple City, Calif., plans to travel with a print of the film to many churches in the interest of the continuing program of the hospital and medical ministry from which she has so recently returned.

Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive director of the Department of World Mission, says this is the first time the life story of a Nazarene missionary has been highlighted in a film. He predicts that *To Wipe the Tear* is a story which will live much longer than the persons whose activities it depicts.

-NIS

CHURCH OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR ETHNIC MINORITIES

Nazarenes wishing to make a positive contribution to lasting evangelism among ethnic minorities in Britain, Canada, and the United States may contribute funds to a Minority Scholarship Program.

The program is conducted under the auspices of Nazarene Home Missions for the training of church leaders among ethnic minority groups.

Previously only Blacks were included in the program; however, now the program is being expanded to include all ethnic minorities.

Applications for scholarships and approvals are all accomplished on the individual college level, not by the Department of Home Missions, whose main responsibility is the establishment of guidelines and funding.

Scholarships are available only to citizens of Britain, Canada, and the U.S. working toward full-time service in a Nazarene ministry.

Gifts for Ethnic Minority Scholarships should be so designated and sent to Dr. Norman O. Miller, General Treasurer, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo. 64131, for 10 percent missionary giving credit.

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SECOND ALL-OHIO MEN-IN-MISSIONS RETREAT

The second All-Ohio Men-in-Missions Retreat was held on September 17 and 18 at the Central Ohio District Center. Over 250 men and women from the five Ohio districts attended the exciting two-day retreat.

The program was coordinated by Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder, the Central Ohio coordinator for Men in Missions. The special speaker was Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive secretary of the Department of World Mission. Dr. Johnson supervises the work of more than 550 missionaries in 52 world areas with work in 73 church districts.

Those in attendance received a spe-

cial blessing during this retreat; Dr. Johnson, who had been working closely with the State Department for the release of Rev. Armand Doll, missionary to Mozambique, was notified by telephone that Rev. Doll had been released! Dr. Johnson provided the congregation with an immediate first-hand report of this release.

A special guest was Harold Jones, the Men in Missions coordinator for the district in British Columbia, Canada. Harold returned to Canada with an excited determination to organize Men in Mission activities in British Columbia.

A slide presentation was given on the November, 1975, crusade to Barbados. Then Dr. Gamertsfelder provided information on the forthcoming crusades to Cashe, Okla. (now completed); Grand Bahamas; and Africa.

Men in Missions is destined to become an important chapter in the history of the Church of the Nazarene. □

TO THE CITY WITH LOVE THE ONLY WAY TO GO

The massive problems of the city have left an evil taste in our mouths.

The census people tell us more and more people are leaving the city for the country.

The financial world tells us the cities are bankrupt.

Law enforcement officials in the city have to be selective in the offenders they arrest—they can't possibly arrest them all.

Why should the church go to the city at all? Why, especially, in love? Is there anything lovely there?

The answer of course is that love—the love of God—is the only motivation that will lead young men and women with spiritual zeal into the city.

For all of the reasons that so many wish to leave the city, the church should be there, with love.

These thoughts are not part of Neil Wiseman's new book, To the City with Love, introduced at the General Assembly in Dallas, but they were generated by a rereading of that powerful anthology of Nazarene ministry in the city.

In the summer of 1975, Neil Wiseman, college chaplain and chairman of the Department of Religion at Trevecca Nazarene College, visited Nazarene metropolitan ministries from east to west and north to south.

What he saw convinced him that "our church is doing much more than most people know."

So Wiseman wrote up the stories of these metropolitan ministries and included with his reports the written words of the involved pastors, telling how and where and why.

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Nashville, Portland, San Francisco, Watts, and Washington, D.C., came reports of cross-cultural ministry in the inner city.

Wiseman did not just take somebody's word for it. He went there. He knew what to look for.

As pastor, writer, editor, and professor he was as well prepared as any for such a journalistic undertaking.

The results of his study are enlight-

"To discuss models for city ministries is presumptuous," he writes,

"because it sounds as though someone knows precisely what ought to be done."

Wiseman found no universal panaceas for urban ministry. It is because there are none.

He did find patterns, reproducible patterns that can be effectively replicated in other areas sharing similar social environments.

The message of To the City with Love, says Wiseman, is simple:

1. The church need not be intimidated by the city.

2. No models for city ministries are totally transferable.

3. Many small but powerful city ministries are presently being accomplished by Nazarenes.

4. Prayer, financial support, and the encouragement of the young to consider giving their lives and love to city ministries is the privilege of all believers.

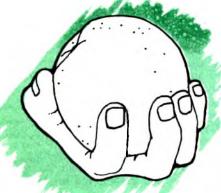
"Let's go to the cities with love," Wiseman writes. "God's love."

It's the only way to go. П

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PALCON BEGINS AT TREVECCA

PALCON, a five-day learning conference for pastors, is scheduled for each educational zone in North America. The first was held at Trevecca Nazarene College, Nashville, December 6-10. Pastors and district superintendents on the Southeast Educational Zone attended.

Directed by Dr. Neil Wiseman, the conference featured discussion on evangelism, church management, biblical preaching, ministry to families, plus personal growth and development.

A European prototype, which in-

cluded ministers and their wives representing all of the European districts. was held at the Hayes Conference Centre near Manchester, England, November 8-12. Approximately 180 were in attendance. Speakers included Dr. V. H. Lewis, general superintendent; Dr. James Hamilton; Dr. Paul Orjala; and Dr. Don Gibson. Many described the conference as the highlight in their ministry.

Dr. Gibson, assisted by Rev. Gordon Wetmore, is currently engaged in personal evangelism training workshops there before returning to the United States.

FIRST WOMAN BNC ALUMNI PRESIDENT ELECTED

With the beginning of the '76-77 academic year, Prof. Joy Beaver, associate professor of education at BNC, assumed responsibilities as the alumni president of Bethany Nazarene College, the college's first woman alumni president in its 77-year history.

An alumnus of BNC and Oklahoma State University, Professor Beaver has served public education in Oklahoma since 1946, and joined the Bethany faculty in 1967.

Currently, Beaver is the director of the Early Childhood Education program and Early Childhood Learning Center, which she organized and developed four years ago.

Professor Beaver is a member of various professional and educational organizations, including Delta Kappa Gamma.

Her service and commitment to education was spotlighted last year with the official dedication of the '75-76 edition of the Arrow, BNC's yearbook, in her honor.

Professor Beaver's first responsibility as president was the planning of Homecoming 76, held November 19-20, highlighted by a concert by the New York City Opera Company vocal duo, Robert Hale, and Dean Wilder.



At its thirtieth annual meeting in Chicago, the American Association of Bible Colleges granted full accreditation to Nazarene Bible College. On November 2, a day of celebration was held commemorating this achievement. Pictured is Dr. George Privett, dean of students, presenting a personalized Bible to President L. S. Oliver (l.) and Dean Arnold Airhart (r.) in acknowledgement of their leadership role in accomplishing this landmark goal for the college.

MOVING MINISTERS

STEWART ABEL from Oregon, III., to Lougheed, Alberta, Canada

WILLIAM C. BRABSON from Boswell, Okla., to DeQueen, Ark

GREG CHAMBERS from associate. Westland, Mich., to Attica (Mich.) Beulah

LARRY D. CLASSEN from Nazarene Publishing House, Kansas City, to Perry, Fla.

BILLY M. FORD from Conroe, Tex., to Little Rock (Ark.) Forest Heights

J. B. FUSTIN to Danville (III.) Oaklawn

EARL R. HARDYMAN from Kalamazoo (Mich.) South Side to Hillsdale, Mich.

RAY HINES from Prescott, Ark., to West Memphis. Ark

DAVID C. HOLSTEIN from Virginia Beach (Va.) Tidewater Central to Springfield (Ohio) High

CHARLES ICE from evangelism to Riverton, Wyo.

MAX JETTON from Hereford, Tex., to Kansas City Bethel Glen

DONALD K. KING from Flint (Mich.) East to Lapeer, Mich.

GAY McCABE from Alum Creek, W.Va., to Charleston (W.Va.) Northside

LORNE V. MacMILLAN from Winchester, Ind., to Anderson (Ind.) First

TIMOTHY J. MERCER from Mt. Vernon (III.) Trinity to Cuba, III.

JIMMY NIHART from Mt. Vernon, Ky., to Rarden,

IRVEN PRESSLER from Canaan Hill, Mo., to Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City,

JOHN R. ROBERTS from Phoenix Sunnyslope to Tucson (Ariz.) Mountain View

WAYNE A. ROSE from associate, Freeport (III.) First, to Galesburg (III.) Faith

LOREN E. SCHAFFER from Mt. Prospect, Ill., to Columbus (Ohio) Bellows Ave.

CLARENCE V. SPAULDING from Hampton, Va., to Virginia Beach (Va.) Tidewater Central

M. L. SURGES from Lancaster, Ky., to Dayton (Ohio) Kettering

I. ROBERT WANNER to Plattsburgh, N.Y.

CHARLES WEST from associate, Oklahoma City Britton, to Leavenworth, Kans.

RECOMMENDATION

This is to indicate the availability of REV. J. W. DOSS, commissioned evangelist from the East Tennessee District. "God is using him in this area." He can be reached via this address: Rte. 7, Box 370, Crossville, Tenn. 38555. - Glen Jones, East Tennessee district superintendent.

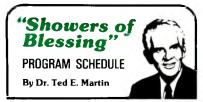
VITAL STATISTICS

DEATHS

MARY SANDERS CURRIER died Sept. 30 at Independence, Mo. Services were conducted by Rev. Culbert Maroney. She is survived by her husband, Bill; a son, Charles; four sisters; one brother; and five grandchildren

KATHLEEN ANN (HOSKINSON) DYRE died July 5 at Kent, Wash

REV. C. L. GARDNER, 69, died Oct. 29 at Louisville, Ohio. Rev. Gardner was a minister in



"The Sign of a Baby" December 19

> "A Great Light" December 26

RELIGIO

CANADIANS ORGANIZE TO FIGHT SMUT. A group calling itself Successful Living of Canada is promoting what it calls "inspirational, nondemoninational literature" in an effort to stem the tide of "pornography, smut, and objectionable-type literature" it sees invading Canada.

Walter Seward, president of Successful Living, Inc., said in an interview that his company plans to invade grocery stores, supermarkets, drugstores, and restaurants, and already has between 500 and 600 racks of books in shops across the country.

"People want something different to what is presently on bookshelves. They're tired of the pornography and smut, and we have an alternative in wholesome Christian literature," said Seward.

The idea of Christian literature being made available in secular settings began when businessman David Thornburg of Minneapolis accepted the challenge four years ago to put Christian paperbacks into supermarkets and other public places, and since then the idea spread to Canada, New Zealand, Latin America, and Africa.

"As Christians we must stop being apathetic about pornography. We must fight smut with good, solid reading and these books are the answer. They lead their readers to the Bible and then to loving God, said Seward. He described his literature as "how to" and "self-help" type books, especially touching on family, marriage, and children. He said Charles Colson's book Born Again was among the top best sellers.

MAINLAND CHINA POPULATION NEAR BILLION, STUDY STATES.

A new international population study indicates that China, with an estimated 964.4 million people, is the world's most populous nation.

China is followed by India with 652.7 million, the U.S.S.R. with 256.8 million, the U.S. with 222.2 million, Indonesia with 143.4 million, Brazil with 113 million, Japan with 112.2 million, and Nigeria with 83.8 million.

The population estimates as of mid-1976 were prepared by the Environmental Fund, a private organization. The figures were based on data of the International Statistical Program Center of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The study revealed that half of the world's population live in four countries-China, India, the U.S.S.R., and the U.S.-and the other half are divided among more than 160 countries.

CHRISTIANITY NOT DEAD IN EAST GERMANY. A traveler in East Germany was recently informed that the Christian religion there is not dead. An Evangelical pastor in one city has a youth meeting once a month. Sizable crowds of young people gather from the surrounding areas to worship.

Despite persecution and interference by government authorities these young people continue to gather to sing, testify, and witness to others. The pastor has been approached by the authorities and told that he and his family could emigrate to West Germany, but he has chosen to remain and carry on the Lord's work despite heavy pressure to discontinue the meetings.

Prayer is vital for this pastor and these young people and Christians in other Communist countries. When young people there accept Christ, they almost always lose their chance to continue their education or training that would enable them to get an adequate job in the future.



Conducted by W. E. McCumber, Editor

Who can I write to expressing my disapproval of certain programs and scenes on television? The new season has started and most of the programs make me sick. We cannot sit back and watch programs which are tasteless and portray an unhealthy and unwholesome way of life. Think what an impact Christians could make in collectively writing networks about the level of morality in their programming. Please print the addresses where we can write! Not just to express disapproval but to commend programs of merit.

If recent Gallup polling is accurate, the number of born-again evangelical Christians in our country would make up a large consumer group. Concerted protest of bad programs and praise of good ones could be effective in producing changes. We are happy to give the addresses of the networks. Letters should be directed to their public relations departments.

American Broadcasting Company 1330 Avenue of the Americas New York, N.Y. 10019 Columbia Broadcasting System 51 West 52nd St. New York, N.Y. 10019

National Broadcasting Company 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, N.Y. 10020

NET (Educational Broadcasting Corp.) 304 W. 58 New York, N.Y. 10019

Federal Communications Commission Radio and TV Programming 1919 M St., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Letters to your congressmen may help, too. And be sure to commend local officials who are trying to help in the war against immorality in media.

the Church of the Nazarene for 48 years. Surviving are his wife, Erma M.; a son, Donald L.; a daughter, Madelyn Phillips; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and two brothers.

MYRTLE A. KINGSOLVER, 78, died Sept. 4 at Redway, Calif. Services were conducted by Rev. Theo Rosenau and Rev. Dean Renfer. Survivors include her husband, Lloyd; a daughter, Mary Jo Metcalfe; nine grandchildren; three greatgrandchildren; and two brothers.

JAMES E. TRIMBATH, 42, died at Lancaster, Pa. Surviving him are his wife, Ann Rubright; a son, Jeffrey; a daughter, Kelly; his father, Rev. David E. Trimbath; one brother; and three sisters.

to GAYMON AND EVELYN (SANNER) BEN-NETT, Nampa, Ida., a girl, Maria Akiko, Nov. 5 to REV. LARRY AND JANET BLIGHT, Merced, Calif., a girl, Mandee Lynn, Oct. 3

to RODNEY AND PATRICIA (SANNER) HUL-ING, Santa Barbara, Calif., a boy, Timothy Oliver, Aug. 27

to RICHARD AND JULIE (DAUSE) LEE, Champaign, III., a boy, Jason Matthew, Nov. 9

to BERNARD AND SHERYL (GREEN) MAR-CHESE, Phoenix, Ariz., a boy, Bryant James, Sept. 8

to DANIEL AND IONA PARKER, Kansas City, Mo., a boy, David Daniel, June 3

to DAN AND GRETCHEN (SONGER) PAR-TRICH, Kaiserslautern, Germany, a girl, Kelly Jo, July 2

to GARY AND BARBARA (ZURLINDEN) ROB-BINS, Streator, III., a girl, Kendra Jo, Oct. 26

to RONALD P. AND LYNDA (DUNN) SCHWA-DA, Eugene, Ore., a boy, Paul Brian, Oct. 17 to WAYNE AND CATHY (SIMMONS) THOM-

AS, Kansas City, Mo., a girl, Dana Michelle, Nov. 10

to REV. SCOTT AND SHELLEY (ALEXANDER) VAN BIBBER, Houston, Tex., a boy, Kyle David,

MARRIAGES

RUTH HARRIS and A. L. GRIENER at Parkersburg, W.Va., Oct. 9

MARCELLA L. MILLER and REV. GREGORY L. CHAMBERS at Westland, Mich., June 12

ANNIVERSARIES

MR. AND MRS. TOM MASON of Royalton, Ill., celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary with an open house Oct. 31. The Masons are charter members of the Royalton church.

MR. AND MRS. LELAND PARSONS of Eureka, III., celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with an open house Nov. 7. They have 2 children: Mrs. D. W. (Dotty Jo) Eastman of Eureka, and Wendell of Sterling, III. They have 13 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. One son, Leland Gene, is deceased. They are charter members of the Eureka church.

MR. AND MRS. CLIFFORD RUMERY were honored on their fiftieth wedding anniversary, Nov. 6, at an open house sponsored by their family. The open house was held at Imlay City.

Mich.

MR. AND MRS. SCOTT WHITLOCK, SR., Texarkana, Ark., celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on Sept. 25 in the fellowship hall of Texarkana, Tex., First Church. Hosting the event were their children: Scott Whitlock, Jr., Sinton, Tex.; Lorraine Kounter, pastor's wife, Spring Valley, Calif.; Zelna McKamie, Dallas; Mrs. Don Wood, Houston; Mary Hamilton, Maryland Heights, Mo.; Rachel Watson, Bethany, Okla.; and Joanna Whitlock, Texarkana. There are 15 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

DIRECTORIES

BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS— Office: 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo. 64131. Eugene L. Stowe, Chairman; Orville W. Jenkins, Vice-chairman; Charles H. Strickland, Secretary; George Coulter, V. H. Lewis, William M. Greathouse.

Please comment on Matthew 27:52-53.

I take this passage to mean that the earthquake (v. 51) naturally opened some tombs, and that God supernaturally raised some dead bodies to life.

Some scholars connect the raising of these saints to the clause "after the resurrection," which would mean that they were raised after Jesus was raised. Others place the raising at the Crucifixion and the appearing of the raised to others after the resurrection of Jesus.

In either case the incident illustrates the teaching of Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:20-23, that Christ is "the first fruits" whose resurrection guarantees the full harvest, i.e., the resurrection of all His people.

Some of our young people are concerned about the issue of cremation. They are questioning the burning of bodies, since Jesus is to raise the dead at His coming. I have always believed that our bodies are the temple of God and that we have no right to destroy what God created for His purpose.

Christian opinion is divided on the subject of cremation. Some favor it because cemetery space is limited in areas, and because burial costs are so high. Others disapprove because they think cremation dishonors the body or distorts the symbolism of our belief concerning death and resurrection, for example the symbolism of sleep and awakening.

The body that is buried reverts to dust. The body that is burned turns to ashes. In neither case is it destroyed in the sense of annihilation. And in either case. Jesus has power to raise the dead whether they were buried or burned.

In the absence of any specific biblical command on how to dispose of a human corpse, I suppose we should be tolerant of one another's opinions and decisions. I confess that I am presently indifferent about the fate of my body when I no longer inhabit it. I am concerned about the surviving and abiding self, the "me."

QUANSTROM APPOINTED TO ONC POST

Rev. Roy F. Quanstrom has accepted the appointment of President Leslie Parrott as director of development for Olivet Nazarene College.



He comes to Olivet after 17 years of pastoral ministry at Avon Lake, Ohio; Brookfield, Ill.; Pontiac Hillcrest in Michigan, and the past four years at Port Huron First, Mich.

During his pastorate at Brookfield, Ill., he pursued studies for the master's degree in religion at ONC and was a part-time teacher in the mathematics department.

Rev. and Mrs. Quanstrom have four children: Mark is a senior and Joan is a freshman at Olivet; Steve is a high school junior; and Lynne Rene is a sophomore.

Dr. Parrott noted that Rev. Quanstrom's pastorates have had excellent growth in membership, finances, and new buildings during his ministry.

In related areas of service at Olivet. Dr. Parrott has named Rev. Mervyn L. Goins as assistant to the president, Rev. Normal L. Moore as director of admissions, Rev. Gordon C. Wickersham as director of publicity, Mr. Pat Duncan as director of recruitment, and Mr. Selden Marquart as director of alumni activities.

BIBLE QUIZ UPDATE

The International Quizzing, with representative teams from each of the Nazarene education zones in America, began during the first week of the General Assembly in Dallas. The eight teams represented were Bethany, Eastern, Mid-America, Mount Vernon, Northwest, Olivet, Point Loma, and Trevecca Nazarene colleges.

The quizzing started Wednesday night, and by Saturday triple elimination had left only three teams: BNC, ONC, and MVNC, to compete in the finals. Bethany Nazarene College's quiz team won in a close series of final rounds, with ONC second and MVNC placing third.

These top three teams of Nazarene quizzing then went to the World Bible Quiz in Kankakee, Ill.

The World Bible Quiz, held on the ONC campus from August 19 to 22, consisted of several teams from various denominations and church clubs. This is the highest level of quizzing in the world. Twelve teams, representative of the Church of the Nazarene, Evangelical Free church, Evangelical Methodist, Christian Union, Church of Christ in Christian Union, Free Methodist, and a club organization composed of several other denominations called Youth for Christ, met in several rounds of round-robin competition.

At the end of two days of quizzing, 6 of the 12 teams reached the semifinals. Leading the six in the number one spot was BNC, in second was ONC, in third was Huron Valley YFC, in fourth was Mountaintop YFC, in fifth was Harrisburg YFC, and in sixth was MVNC.

The next four rounds left BNC, ONC, and Huron Valley YFC to quiz in the World Bible Quiz.

Olivet Nazarene College came from second place, led by Henry Chin, to claim the honor of being the best Bible quiz team in the world. Bethany Nazarene College was second.

As far as personal scoring, BNC led by placing 3 of their quizzers in the top 10. In tenth place was Bryan Stone, Mike Staton was eighth, and Lyndell Lackey placed seventh. No other team even placed 2 of its quizzers in the top 10. Henry Chin, the leader of the ONC



You may never get to Great Falls, Mont. It is north by west where the prairies meet the Rocky Mountains. But if you ever do, mention the First Church of the Nazarene and most everyone will know immediately that it is located at 1727 Second Ave. S. Pastor John W. Bullock has a standard outdoor advertising billboard erected in a strategic location of the city. It is an attractive way of "compelling" the passerby on the highway to come in.

quiz team, placed first and earned the title of "The Best Bible Quizzer in the World."

The spirit in which these quizzes were conducted and the general attitude of all the quizzers made them both meaningful and enjoyable. All Nazarene quizzers are to be congratulated for representing the church.

In an effort to prompt further interest in Bible quizzing, an association entitled Nazarene Intercollegiate Bible Quiz (NIBQ) has been formulated, with Rick Giger as its director. Bible quizzing has already started at Mid-America Nazarene College. Dr. Robert L. Sawyer (sponsor of the intercollegiate quiz program) and the NIBQ hope to see Bible quizzing on every campus.

Anyone interested in intercollegiate Quizzing should write: Rick Giger, Box 137, Mid-America Nazarene College, Olathe, Kans. 66061.

COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTS IN MISSION BROADCASTS

Rev. D. H. Spencer, mission director of Swaziland, reported to Mr. Paul Skiles, executive director of Nazarene Communications, that encouraging progress is being made in the radio ministry in the vernacular languages of the area.

He says: "Our local broadcasts are coming along. The Afrikaans and Zulu programs have already been on the air, and David Whitelaw [district superintendent of the South African District] said that he had three letters in response to the first Afrikaans broadcast.

"I have not heard of any response to the other programs yet, but I am sure that there will be as they become better known. All except the Shangaan are on the air this month, and I am hoping that we will have Shangaan programs ready to go at least early next month."



To keep up with the fast-growing student body, Mount Vernon Nazarene College has added an apartment complex for women. Located at the northeast of the campus, the complex houses 96 women who completed moving into the buildings in mid-September. The complex has an exterior of frame and brick which fits into the master plan of the campus. Interior is similar to the apartment complex for men completed last fall. The activity center, a separate facility for the apartments, was completed November 1, according to S. P. Parry, MVNC vice-president of finance and management. Within that central unit, which augments the apartments, is a chaplain office, a prayer chapel, a classroom, a study area, laundry service area, head resident apartment, central lobby, and both informal and formal lounges.

NNC ALUMNA OF 1976

Miss Ann Kiemel, a 1967 graduate of Northwest Nazarene College, has been chosen as the NNC Alumna of the Year.

After growing up in Honolulu, Hawaii, Miss Kiemel moved with her family to Nampa, Ida., where her father accepted the pastorate at the North Nampa Church. While residing in Nampa, Miss Kiemel attended Northwest Nazarene College and completed a B.A. degree in education. She then began teaching at Nallwood Junior High School, located in a suburb of Kansas City, Kans. Two years later, she accepted the position as youth director at Long Beach, Calif., First Church.

In 1971 Miss Kiemel became one of

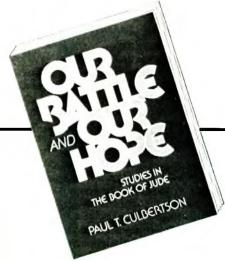
the youngest women ever to be dean of women at Eastern Nazarene College. Since then, she has spoken to various schools and organizations, including the National Bicentennial Luncheon with Mrs. Gerald Ford in March of this year.

Presently a full-time author and lecturer, Miss Kiemel finished a new book in November. The central theme of all her publications is a life inspired by Jesus Christ that is lived out every day through obedience to God and through loving others.

Concerning Northwest Nazarene College, Miss Kiemel wrote, "I have a sense of loyalty for NNC though I'm seldom a campus visitor. I owe so much of my 'becoming' to my four years there. I was treated as a person with potential and feelings, and that's redemptive."



Approximately 80 Wisconsin District Caravaners met in Kenosha, Wis., for an exciting day of craft displays, games, picnic, and special talent time. Pictured (l. to r.) are Mark Schulz, Racine, Wis.; John Sorrell, Eau Claire, Wis.; and Kirk Willard, Kenosha, who were presented Caravan's Phineas F. Bresee Award and engraved trophies. District Caravan pirector Mrs. Julia Willard is shown with them.



DECEMBER

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Our Battle and Our Hope



by Paul Culbertson

The Book of Jude is tucked away obscurely near the end of the New Testament. Furthermore, it is one of the smallest books in the Bible with but 25 verses in one chapter. But you will be reminded that "good things come in small packages," as you watch Dr. Culbertson open up a gold mine of truth found in this interesting book.

Jude writes to the Christian Church after its first flush of success when things

CLIP AND MAIL ---

were slowing down a bit and incursions of false doctrines were being felt. His is a clarion call to hold to "the faith once delivered." What a message for today!

Dr. W. M. Greathouse says: "Dr. Culbertson has given us a dramatic interpretation and contemporary application of the powerful little Epistle of Jude. Hard-hitting, pertinent, disturbing, biblical, theological, ethical . . . these are adjectives that describe this book. The

author succeeds well in letting Jude speak to our present generation."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paul Culbertson is professor emeritus of Point Loma College. Author of Building a Bridge to a Better World, More like the Master; co-authored with H. Orton Wiley in Introduction to Christian Theology.

Build your library with volumes of lasting value!

Our Battle and Our Hope

-Culbertson

64 pages

Paper

\$1.50

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Pasadena, Calif.

The End of the Quest

REG DROVE UP the winding driveway to his lovely home. The day was hot and the smog hurt his eyes. But the hope welled up in him that his long, long search was past.

Two days later the note came. "It was a pleasure to meet you . . . ," it read. The next evening, though, the night the visitors came, brought an end to Greg's aching quest of

several years.

When the bell rang, Greg himself opened the door. Two men and a teenage girl smiled a greeting. One extended his hand. "Hi, Greg. I'm Jack. We're from the church you visited last Sunday. May we come in?

Inside Jack introduced the others. "We came to thank you for visiting our church...

Unaccountably Greg felt a surge of excitement. He ushered the trio into his spacious living room and seated them. Then, for an hour they chatted. About Greg's home. His profession. His interests. Within minutes they all felt at ease with each other, like friends of many years.

During a lull, Jack spoke again, "Greg, we have a second reason for visiting you. . .

Again Greg felt that excitement. He raised his eyebrows. "Another reason?"
"Yes, Greg. We wanted to get acquainted

with you. But the other reason-even more important-is this: We want to ask you a couple of very personal questions.

The words hung in the air. Greg looked from one to another, suddenly realizing that within those questions would lie the answer to his own

questions

He nodded. "Go ahead."

"Obviously, since you visited our church," ck began, "you are interested in spiritual Jack began, things.

"Yes. That's right. Very interested. In fact, for over two years now I have been searching..."
"Searching?" Jack said.

"Yes, but go ahead with your questions."
"Okay. The first is this: Greg, have you come to the place in your spiritual life where you can say for certain that if you were to die tonight, you would go to heaven?"

Within himself Greg said, This is it! This is

why I've been searching.

He shook his head. "No, Jack. And I'm so glad you came. So glad you have asked me that question. Because I know that I have no assurance of going to heaven. And I'd like to have it . . . very much.

Jack moved closer and spoke with great simplicity. "Greg, in the next few minutes I'm going to share with you the best news you have

ever heard . .

"And the first part of that God News is this: Heaven is a free gift. It's not earned. It's not deserved. It's already provided for . . . and it's yours for the asking...

Warmly, easily, as though he knew exactly what he was doing, as though he sensed he had been destined to make this visit, Jack shared

his faith with Greg.

And Greg listened. Totally. Knowing what nobody else knew (not even his family and closest friends), that his days were numbered. His time was running out. Now and then Greg stopped Jack with a question. But mostly he just listened. And responded positively when he was asked.

Thirty minutes later Jack leaned back. No one spoke for a moment. The air was electric with a Presence, a feeling that Greg had never felt before. Jack leaned toward him again.

"Greg, does this make sense to you? "Yes. Yes, it really does!"

"Would you like to receive the gift of eternal

life? Now? Tonight?"

With no hesitation Greg answered, "Yes," aware that tears were streaming down his cheeks. But for some reason he wasn't embar-

"Then let me lead you in a simple prayer," Jack was saying. Greg nodded, his heart too full for words. Already, he was feeling a warmth, a love, a newness within him he had never known before.

Almost mechanically Greg followed Jack's words—asking Jesus to forgive his sins and to take over his life as Saviour and Lord. And even as he prayed the loneliness . . . the guilt ... the pain ... the utter emptiness of life ... they were gone.

And in its place was the sweetest peace he had ever known. Greg looked into Jack's face. "Jack, I have searched for this moment for years. I didn't know exactly what I was looking for. But now I've found it. Rather, I have found Him: Jesus. I feel like a brand-new person.

"That's exactly what you are," Jack answered, tears in his eyes, too. "You have just been born again. You have received new life from God, through Jesus-the free gift of heaven, eternal life. . . .

Editor's note: Apparently in good health, Greg died suddenly, just six weeks after he met Jesus in this personal encounter. His last days were the happiest he had ever known.

'By All Means . . . Save Some''

Reprinted with permission by World Vision magazine, September, 1976.

MRS. D. I. VANDERPOOL DIES

Mrs. D. I. (Emma W.) Vanderpool, 81, died Tuesday, November 23, in a nursing home in Phoenix. She had been ill for many years.

Funeral services were held in the Phoenix Biltmore Church Monday, November 29, at 11 a.m. Dr. M. L. Mann, Arizona district superintendent, officiated.

In lieu of flowers, gifts may be given to a scholarship fund for young ministers at Nazarene Theological Seminary.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. D. I. Vanderpool, general superintendent emeritus; three stepsons who are ministers in the Church of the Nazarene: Wilford N., Crawford T., and Ramon P.; and a stepdaughter, Ramona (Mrs. Max McLean). There are 11 grandchildren and 3 greatgrandchildren.

PIVOTAL GENERAL BOARD MEETING JANUARY 17-19

Perhaps the most definitive meeting of the General Board in recent years is slated for January 17-19, 1977.

Legislation designed to bring the general organizational structure of the international headquarters of the Church of the Nazarene nearer to the present trends within the structure of local churches was enacted at the Nineteenth General Assembly in Dallas, June 25. The far-reaching changes that the reorganizational proposal requires will be implemented at the first full session of the newly elected General Board.

Five new departments of the General Board will replace two existing commissions and two existing departments. The Departments of Communications and Stewardship will be set up. An innovative cluster of three departments named the Division of Christian Life will replace the former Departments of Church Schools and Youth. The division will be made up of the new Departments of Adult Ministries, Youth Ministries, and Children's Ministries.

Each of these departments will have an executive director, the new designation for executive secretary. An executive coordinator of the division, either one of the above or a fourth person, will be elected to function as the executive director of the division.

Further realignment of general interest will be involved in the following assignments to the Department of Education and the Ministry: advisory relationship to all educational institutions, the certification and work of



SWINE FLU INOCULATIONS FOR PUBLISHING HOUSE EMPLOYEES

Jan Parks, Kansas City Health Department employee, gave the jet injections which amounted to a very mild

sting. When the shots were completed, the appreciative employees gave her a beautiful Betsy Clark plaque which read: "Those who give have all things." (Hopefully, this doesn't include the swine flu!)

military and institutional chaplains, the Christian Service Training program, multiple staff ministries, the ministers' course of study, and inservice training for ministers.

The new Department of Stewardship will include the work of the former General Stewardship Commission and Life Income Gifts and Bequests.

This new organizational structure will mean the elimination of all present commissions of the General Board. Commissions will now be set up by the General Assembly, the General Board, or the Board of General Superintendents for specific functions, and report to the body creating them, or to the General Board. At least one additional executive director is required by the restructuring.

The agenda of the January meeting calls for a half hour plenary meeting of the General Board at 9 a.m., Monday, January 17. The first day will be given to the election of execu-

tive directors and meetings of the departments, with a second plenary session at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 18, and much of Wednesday, January 19, will be divided between departmental meetings and plenary sessions as the business of reorganizing and planning for the first full year of the new quadrennium, 1976-80, is approved.

As rapidly as possible the structure of local churches and district organizations will be instituted along the lines of the Division of Christian Life. The smallest as well as the largest local church structure will be simplified into adult, youth, and children's ministries with the denominational programs utilized as required to minister to the whole congregation.

-NIS

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 1976 Manual of the Church of the Nazarene has now been published and is available to our people; therefore all provisions of this Manual become effective as of this date, December 15, 1976.

-EUGENE L. STOWE, Chairman

Board of General Superintendents

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INTERNATIONALIZATION CONTINUES

The impact of becoming an international church will be felt in the General Board meetings January 17-19, 1977. Eight of the 44 members (22 ministers and 22 lay persons) will represent areas outside the United States.

Rev. Juan Madrid, Western Latin American district superintendent, residing in Pasadena, Calif., and Mr. Grey Forde, Barbados, represent Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America on the General Board.

Rev. Makoto Oye, Japan, and Mr. Ivan Small, New Zealand, represent Australia, Asia, and the Orient.

Rev. Richard Zanner, Middle European district superintendent, Germany, and Mr. E. W. Dlamini, Swaziland, represent Europe, the Middle East, and Africa.

Canada is represented by Rev. Neil Hightower, Canada Central district superintendent, Ontario, and Mr. Robert Collier, British Columbia.

All of these are expected to be present at the January meeting of the General Board.

-NIS

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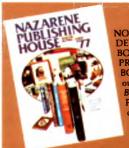
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