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FEBRUARY 20, 1966
TEN CENTS



R-SHELL

THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT SAITH THE LORD

NEXT SUNDAY IS
NATIONAL WMC DAY

NOW—A SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR UNMARRIED YOUNG WOMEN AGES 16 TO 24.

See page 17



THE BEST DISH

SIX DAYS AFTER THE PASSOVER, as Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem, He passed through nearby Bethany and turned aside to visit in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus as He often did.

No sooner had Jesus entered the house than Martha, the older sister, began bustling about the kitchen preparing a meal for Him. No effort or expense would be spared in entertaining the Master. For some time she boiled and baked, stirred and stewed, all the while worrying how everything would turn out.

But Mary lifted not a hand to help her sister. She was engrossed with Jesus Himself and was drinking in the gracious words which fell from His lips. One can imagine that Martha banged a pan loudly a time or two, hoping to attract her sister's attention and remind her of the kitchen duties. As time went on, the banging probably became louder. Finally she rolled her apron around her arms, stormed into the living room, and said, "Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? Bid her therefore that she help me."

Rather than comply with her request, Jesus softly rebuked her. Sweetly but firmly He said, "Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:41, 42). Moffatt translates it, "Mary has chosen the best dish, and she is not to be dragged away from it."*

Jesus was rebuking Martha not because she was busy, nor because she wanted to prepare Him a good meal, but because she did *only* that! She thought food for the body was more important than food for the soul. She placed more emphasis upon the material than upon the spiritual. Why, the Guest in her home was the Bread from Heaven, the Water of Life, the Honey out of the

Rock was there in her home—but He might have been just an ordinary visitor as far as Martha was concerned!

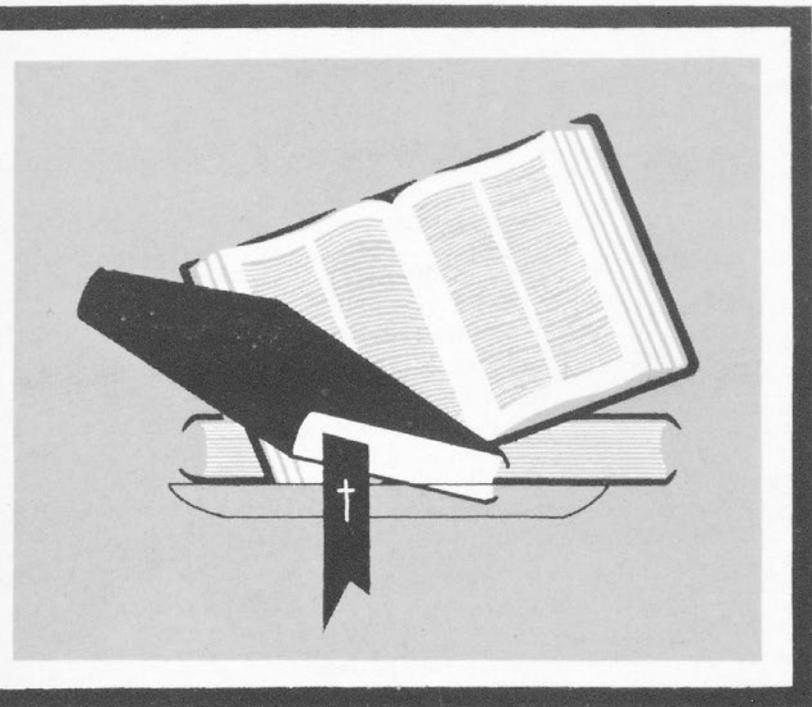
Many are making Martha's mistake today. They are emphasizing the material to the neglect of the spiritual. In seeking after the many "dishes" of the world, they are leaving the "Best Dish" untouched. They are so concerned with the things of this life they never take time to sit at Jesus' feet and listen to His Word!

To see what one is missing who leaves the "Best Dish" for lesser dishes, we have but to listen to the words of others who, like Mary, chose the "Best Dish." David said, "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (Psalm 119:103). Job knew the value of this "Dish." "I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food," he said (Job 23:12). Jeremiah declared, "Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart" (Jeremiah 15:16). Listen also to Ezekiel: "So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll . . . and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness" (Ezekiel 3:2, 3). From this we learn that the "Best Dish" is the most satisfying!

Often when one has nibbled at the many material dishes, he loses his appetite for the "Best Dish." Some scientists once caught a sea gull, put it in a pen, and fed it only hard grain, such as a barnyard fowl would eat. They wanted to see whether this bird, which has a large, soft stomach adapted to certain sea foods, would adapt to hard grain. The gull survived for only a short while. When it died, the scientists found that its large, soft stomach had shriveled and resembled a gizzard. Some Christians have fed on newspapers, magazines, novels, and television so long that their "spiritual stomachs" have shriveled and they have lost their appetite for the Word of God!

Let us not forget that our inner man must be fed daily on the Word if we are to be strong and healthy spiritually. There is *life* in the "Best Dish" (John 6:

*Moffatt sees a play on words here so he translates the Greek word *meris* by 'dish,' which the A.V. gives as "part." He comments, "Jesus means that Mary has chosen well in selecting the nourishment of His teaching."



By J. PHILLIP JOHNSON

68; 8:51). There is *cleansing* and *sanctification* in this "Dish," too (Psalm 119:9; John 15:3; 17:17). There is also *healing* for the body (Psalm 107:20; Matthew 8:8). So it is a *full* "Dish"!

This "Best Dish" is *inexhaustible*. Like the widow's meal barrel, it never gets empty. When Jesus fed the multitude with the few loaves and fishes, multiplying the food to meet their need, He had the disciples take up 12 baskets full of fragments. These fragments were not *scraps*—not fish tails and bones and crusts of bread—they were a reserve, the same material and equal quality! So the Lord who met the needs of the First Century Church and has met the needs of the Church in all ages, has not exhausted His supply. He has reserved a bountiful amount of His good provisions for us. His "Dish" is still full and satisfying.

A miner once lived on canned fish and beans while he prospected in the Yukon Territory. Finally he struck it rich and returned to civilization, loaded with gold dust and nuggets. One of the first things he did after he had filed his claim and turned his gold into currency was to look for a restaurant where he might enjoy a big feast. He tucked his napkin under his chin and scanned the menu.

"Give me one of these large T-bone steaks with all the trimmin's," he ordered.

"I'm sorry," replied the waitress, drawing a line through that item with her blue pencil, "but we are sold out of steaks."

"All right, then," he said, "bring me some turkey and dressing with cranberry sauce."

Again the waitress said apologetically, "Oh, I'm terribly sorry, sir, but we served turkey yesterday. We are not serving it today. That should have been marked off, too."

J. Phillip Johnson is pastor of Westminister Assembly of God in Seattle, Washington.

The hungry man looked over the diminishing menu and asked, "Well, do you have this roast beef?"

"No, sir, we're out of that also. May I suggest that you try our fish? And we serve lovely baked beans."

"Don't mention fish and beans to me," he thundered, and stormed out the door.

You get the point. Some have blue-penciled the Lord's menu. They will tell you the "Best Dish" is not as full and satisfying as it once was. You should not expect a heartfelt experience of salvation with its accompanying joy and peace, they say. The Lord doesn't heal the body and confirm His Word with miracles, signs, and wonders as He once did, they declare. The baptism in the Holy Spirit, with its initial evidence and its accompanying power for service, was for another day, they affirm. That is what patrons are told in some churches which are supposed to be "spiritual cafes" where hungry souls can be fed. But I thank God that Christ is "the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8), and that "all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God" (2 Corinthians 1:20). Hallelujah! The "Best Dish" is inexhaustible.

This "Dish" becomes yours for the choosing. "Mary has *chosen*..." it says. David said, "I have *chosen* the way of truth." Yes, it is a matter of choice. "Choose ye this day" which dish you will feed your soul upon.

Jesus told of a foolish man who chose "things" instead of God's "Dish" (Luke 12:15-21). He chose goods instead of grace, barns instead of spiritual blessings. He laid up treasures on earth instead of in heaven. But he found that he could not feed his soul on gold and grain. He found that although the bray of his mule could be stopped with the fruit of the field, material things could not stop the cry of his soul. He found that although the produce of the soil could satisfy his body, for it had come from the dust, his soul had to be fed on the things of God, for it had come from God. He found that material things alone do not satisfy. He found that a man's life does not consist in the abundance of the "things" which he possesses.

Money will buy *clothes*, but not *character*.

Money will buy a *house*, but not a *home*.

Money will buy *medicine*, but not *health* and *life*.

Money will buy *company*, but not *love* and *friendship*.

Money will buy *cosmetics*, but not *beauty*.

Money will buy *recreation*, but not *joy* and *happiness*.

Money will buy a *prominent place in this world*, but it won't buy an entrance into *heaven*!

The prodigal son chose the world and its dishes for a while; but when he found himself in the hogpen, he discovered that although husks will fill they will not satisfy. He began to think about Father's house and the "Best Dish." He came to himself and said, "How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!" So he humbled himself and went home. He found his father still loved him and had a place for him at his table.

Friend, have you made the wrong choice? Have you found the world's dishes tasteless and disappointing? Our Heavenly Father has made provision for you; there is a place at His table for you. Come to Him through Christ, and begin to feed your soul upon the True Bread—the "Best Dish."

What Is Happiness?

Ask five persons, "What is happiness?" and you are likely to get five different answers. The poor man will reply, "Happiness is having enough money." The aged person will say, "Happiness is being a little child." The sick man will say, "Happiness is feeling well." The uneducated will tell you, "Happiness is graduating from college."

But the highly educated person may say, "Happiness is being an aborigine who has never heard of computers, commuturs, or nuclear weapons."

In other words, happiness is obtaining that which fills a conscious need. To the man who is stiff with cold, happiness is standing before a blazing fireplace. To the person who is parched with thirst, happiness is a cool drink. To the one who feels the pressure of big business and a big city, happiness is getting away from it all.

Happiness of this sort is like taking an aspirin—it gives temporary relief but does not solve the real problem. Christ offers a deeper, more lasting happiness.

To the sinner conscious of his guilt, Jesus says, "Be of good cheer, thy sins be forgiven thee." Happiness is forgiveness.

To the person conscious of insecurity, He says, "Be of good cheer; it is I, be not afraid." Happiness is knowing Christ is near.

To the one who is discouraged, the Saviour says, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Happiness is having the victory.

Real happiness is found in knowing Christ and serving Him. Happiness is finding contentment without needing the pleasures of this world. Happiness is being free from the hungers and habits that drive people to sin.

Happiness is the Christian's trademark. The only time he loses it is when he forgets the precious promises in the Bible, or disobeys that precious Word. Over 208 times the Scripture records such words as joy, joyous, joyfulness, rejoice, gladness. Joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit. A Spirit-filled life is a life filled with joy.

Happiness, the Bible says, is finding one's delight in the law of God and meditating in it day and night. "Blessed" is that man, it says (Psalm 1). In other words, "extremely happy" is that man, for that is the meaning of "blessed." His happiness lies in negative attitudes, as well as positive. He does not pattern his life after the ungodly. He does not identify himself with sinners. He does not join with the scornors of them that pray. Instead, he conforms his life to the Scriptures. Rooted and grounded in Christ, he is like a tree growing by the rivers, the Psalmist says. He "bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." This is happiness indeed.

The Lord Jesus said that happiness is hungering and thirsting after righteousness (Matthew 5:6). Happiness is being humble. Happiness is being meek. Happiness is being merciful. Happiness is making peace. Happiness is being pure in heart, for this carries the assurance of seeing God face to face. Happiness is feeling persecution from God's enemies, to show which side one is on. Happiness is being penitent. Happiness is doing all the mourning in this life rather than storing up sorrow for the life to come. Have you found this happiness?

—R.C.C.

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WE BELIEVE the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years. WE BELIEVE in the Blessed Hope, which is the Rapture of the Church at Christ's coming. WE BELIEVE that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ. WE BELIEVE that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers, who ask for it. WE BELIEVE in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of both the saved, and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

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INSOMNIA IS A PROBLEM AS OLD AS MANKIND. Multitudes toss sleeplessly every night, keyed up, bored, distressed. Some count sheep. Others reach for a pill.

Thomas A. Edison trained himself to get along on a minimum amount of sleep, and through the night watches he often put his keen mind to work to help mankind.

Evangeline Booth kept a writing pad and pencil on a bedside table so she could write down the thoughts that came to her as she meditated on God's Word. By this means she blessed many.

When King Ahasuerus could not sleep one night, he decided to make good use of the time by going over certain records of the realm. Discovering that Mordecai had once disclosed a plot to kill the king, he inquired what honor had been bestowed upon his benefactor. When he learned that no reward had been given, the king promptly set about to correct the matter. This eventually led to the downfall of Haman, the Jews' enemy, and to the deliverance of the Jewish people.

How often God, unable to catch our ears in the rush of the day's activities, kindly causes our case to be like that of the king, when his "sleep fled away." May the outcome in our situations also be fruitful in saving and blessing others.

Because King David used sleepless nights to good advantage, he blessed every generation that followed. He said, "I remember thee upon my bed" (Psalm 63:6). He used the time for learning: "My reins also instruct me in the night seasons" (Psalm 16:7). He also used it for meditation: "...meditate upon thee in the night watches" (Psalm 63:6).

Paul and Silas used their midnight insomnia at Philippi as an occasion to pray and sing praises unto God, "and the prisoners heard them." This might not always be practical, but in their situation it was the right thing. It led to their deliverance and to the conversion of the jailer and his household. Praises in the night season will lead to triumphs in the days that follow.

Isaiah used his wakeful night hours to exercise his soul in seeking after God and thus blessed every succeeding generation. "With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea with my spirit within me will I seek thee early. For when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness" (Isaiah 26:9).

Our Lord knew the value of nights of communion with His Father. "In the day time he was teaching in the temple," but when the heat of the Palestine sun had subsided and the day's dust had settled, "he went out and abode in the mount that is called the mount of Olives." There in seclusion He loved to pray. In Luke 6:12, we read, "It came to pass in those days that he

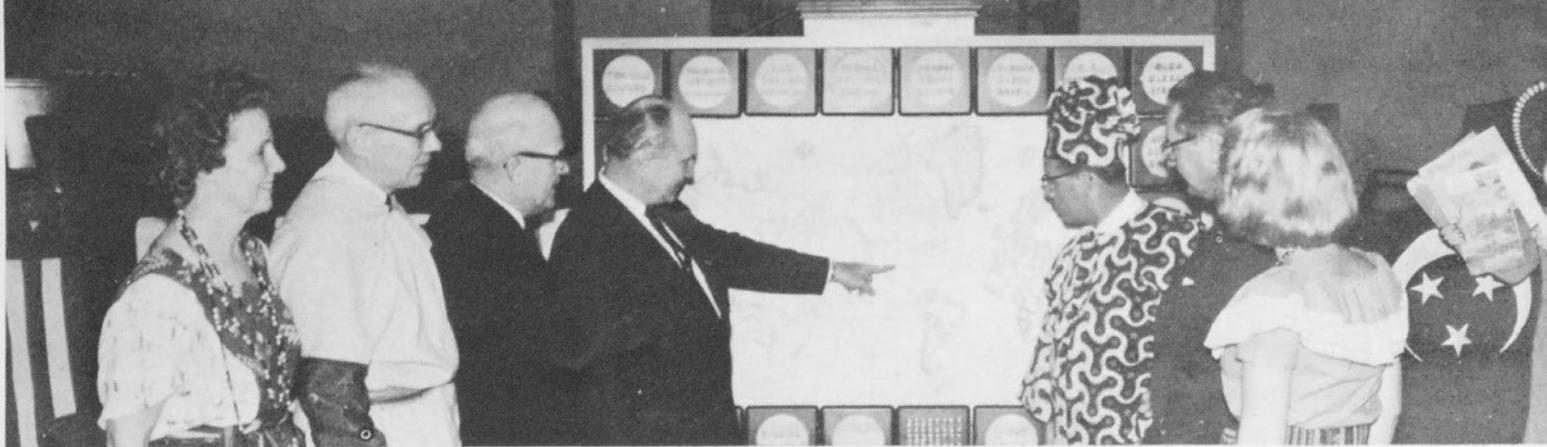
When You Can't Sleep

By Evangelist ZELMA ARGUE

went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God."

The next time you chafe at wakefulness, don't waste your time "counting sheep." Rather, pray for lost sheep, precious souls who have strayed from the Shepherd, and ask Him how you might help to bring them back.

If tension and personal problems keep you from sleeping, try meditation instead of sedation. Meditate on God's Word, applying it to your problem. Then commit the problem and the persons involved to Him. "He giveth his beloved sleep."



I Believe in MISSIONS CONVENTIONS

By E. A. MANLEY ■ Pastor, First Assembly of God ■ Rockford, Illinois

ONE OF THE BEST METHODS to promote missions is to conduct missions conventions. At least, this has been my experience for nearly 25 years as pastor of both pioneer and well-established churches.

At First Assembly in Rockford, Illinois, the sixth annual Missions Convention recently concluded with continued progress. First Assembly has advanced in missions giving from approximately \$2,000 to about \$8,000 annually in a six-year period.

The faith promise plan gives an individual the opportunity of personal involvement by designating his offerings for a particular missionary or mission field.

How was this accomplished? The congregation voted in 1961 to tithel the income of the church, including the income of all departments, to missions.

It is carefully explained that a faith promise is not the person's tithe but is above his tithe. It is also carefully explained that the believer's tithe belongs in the local church program.

Besides this, individuals make annual faith promises during the con-

vention. Thus, the Rockford Assembly has two sources of income for its missionary outreach program. First, the tithe of all church income; and, sec-



Photo above: Pastor Manley, local WMC President Rachel Reuterfors (left), and Illinois District WMC President Mary Ellen Grell inspect a machine that winds bandages for use in leper work.

Photo at right: The convention theme is displayed by Pastor Manley and Missions Editor David A. Womack.



Basically important to a missions convention is the team of missionary speakers. Pastor Manley (center) of Rockford's First Assembly and Pastor Oda Jones of Rockford's West Side Assembly meet with the speakers for the 1965 convention.

Missionaries to Latin America Arthur and Jane Lindvall and two of their children, Karen and Richard, present the needs of "Pedro Press" and his Spanish Literature Department. Missionary costumes from different lands add much interest to a missions convention.



ond, the faith promises of individual believers.

The annual income of our church has more than doubled during the six-year period! The church board and congregation are confident there is a direct relationship between the financial growth of the church and the emphasis on missions. Each year more is being done for missions, and more missionaries are added to our church responsibility of pledged support.

During the last two years, three other Assemblies in Rockford united with First Assembly in conducting simultaneous conventions in their own churches. The missionary teams thus were able to rotate among the four churches.

The Women's Missionary Council luncheon has been an annual event in First Assembly. This year the West Side Assembly WMC group provided a luncheon for the missionaries also. At the close of this last convention, the Haven Assembly WMC group expressed plans to have such a luncheon in 1966. No doubt the Glad Tidings Assembly will also do the same. This has helped to expand the missions convention to a citywide emphasis.

Besides the WMC luncheons, there is a banquet held the last Saturday night of the convention week, for all the missionaries, the ministers and their wives, and the church board members and their wives.

A missions convention, in my opinion, is one of the best ways to promote consistent advance in missions. It is also my conviction that a church will not truly be a missionary church if exposed to missionary services only a few times a year. The missions convention makes a lasting and decided impression on a congregation that occasional missionary services cannot possibly make. Missions conventions can reach untapped resources in hundreds of churches which are doing little or nothing for missions.

Contrary to the fear of some pastors, boards, and congregations, giving to missions does not take away from the local church income; rather,

the regular income of the church advances as the missionary giving advances.

Missions conventions have been good for us. I believe they would be good for any church, large or small. They may not be the only way to develop a missionary church, but they have proved a good way for us.

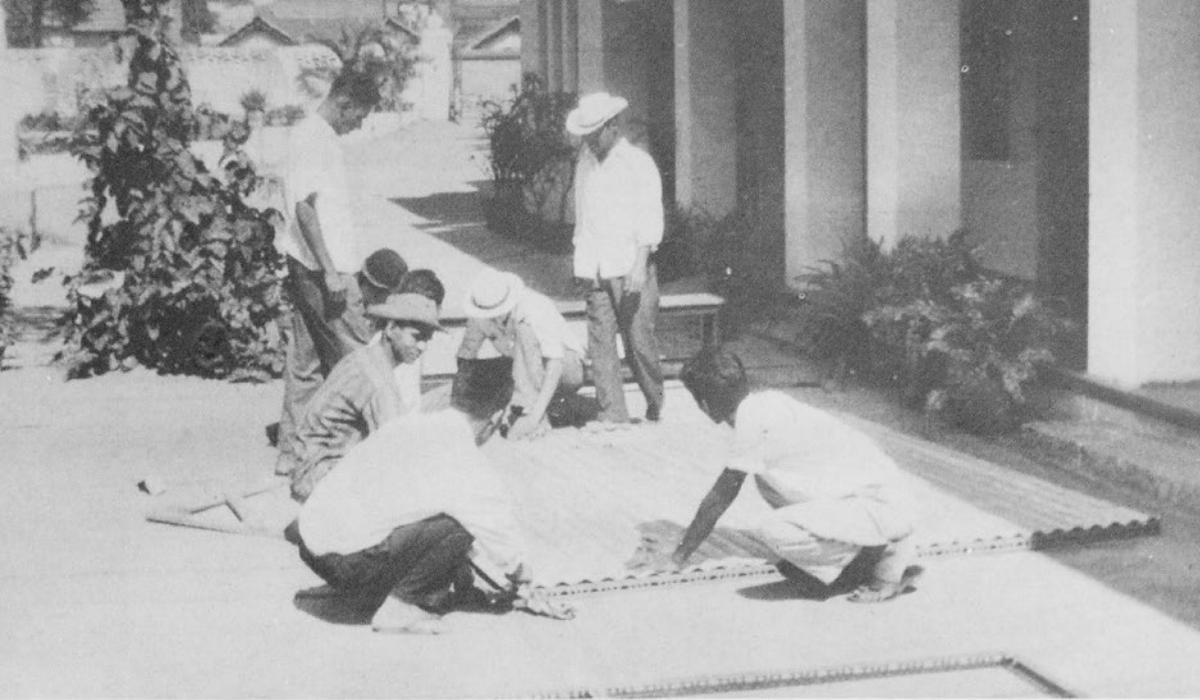
Send Foreign Missionary offerings to
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
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A SPECIAL PROJECT: BOOKS FOR EUROPE'S PASTORS

PENTECOSTAL PASTORS in Europe are in great need of books in English to help them in their ministry. They especially need Bible dictionaries, commentaries, concordances, and study books on church history and Pentecostal doctrine. Any books sold by the Gospel Publishing House will be usa-

ble. Your contribution of new or used books (in good condition) will be appreciated.

Mail all books to Charles E. Greenaway, 61 Avenue du Derby, Brussels 5, Belgium. Mail only three or four books in a package and mark the package: "Books—Gift."



The students of Southern Asia Bible Institute faithfully pioneered a new work in Hebbal, India, and secured a lot for the church building. However, they were unable to get a permit for a permanent building. Led by missionary Andrew McDearmid (below), they built a portable metal church (left) in 8 x 8-foot sections.

It took eight students four days to bolt together the slotted angle irons and cover them with galvanized metal sheets. Even the trusses, windows, and doors were made in this fashion.

Photos and information from ANDREW McDEARMID, Missionary to India



A Church for Hebbal

When the last section was put together (below), the students loaded all the material in a truck and hauled it to the building site. By late that evening a complete church was standing. A brick floor was laid and covered with cement. The new building, costing about \$700, was dedicated in a special service on November 7, 1965.



So You Want to Be a Missionary?

By **ELTON G. HILL**
Secretary for Missionary Personnel

RECENTLY A STUDENT wrote asking for a list of the advantages and disadvantages of being a missionary.

My answer was: "If God has not called you to be a missionary, the disadvantages are so numerous you should not even consider it. However, if God has called you, then the disadvantages, obstacles, and impossible situations just aren't worth mentioning—they don't make that much difference. If God has called you, you have no choice if you are to have peace of mind and a good conscience toward Him."

The apostle Paul had a sense of being chosen of God for the ministry: "For necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" (1 Corinthians 9:16); "Our sufficiency is of God; who also hath made us able ministers" (2 Corinthians 3:5, 6); "I am appointed a preacher" (2 Timothy 1:11). Paul was driven by an inner conviction and power of the Spirit: "For the love of Christ constraineth us" (2 Corinthians 5:14). That is, the love of Christ impells or compels us.

Paul's initial call did not come through any action of the Church or through a hierarchy. No one else was involved on the Damascus road except Paul and the Lord. But his call to missionary work was eventually confirmed through the Church. "The Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them" (Acts 13:2). The individuality of a call to service by the will of God will be recognized by spiritual people.

You must have that firm conviction and knowledge of this call and will of God. Otherwise you will doubt and be overcome or be ineffective in times of test. On the mission field you will be tempted to discouragement and unbelief when you have prayed and trusted God and it seems God has failed; when you pray for the

sick and you are sick; when you work, preach, pray, and believe, but nothing happens; when you give your all to a people strange to you and they misunderstand you; when you are tested by the inconsistencies of your fellow workers; when you work under someone not as well-trained as you; when you are separated from your family. In all these, and in other circumstances, you must remember that drive of the Spirit that became a firm conviction of the will of God.

How may one know the will of God?

1. *The will of God must be determined by the person concerned.* This comes through prayer and a growing inner conviction. This will only come when you are sure you want to know the will of God for the purpose of doing the will of God.

2. *The will of God is always in harmony with the Scriptures.* It never leads to actions contradicting Christian ethics; never to dishonesty or to selfish extravagance and excess. It may lead to sacrifice, hardship, and difficulty, but never to action contrary to the Word of God.

3. *Counselors can help you know God's will.* The Bible says, "In the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14).

4. *God can arrange circumstances to enable you to do His will.* A Welsh preacher said if God told him to jump through a brick wall, it would be his part to jump and God's part to make the hole in the wall. God never asks us to do what is impossible, but very often He makes the impossible possible.

How can you know the will of God for your life? Be yielded; desire His will. Trust Him to direct you and to arrange your circumstances so you will be led in a plain path. In Psalm 32:8 God says: "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go." 



CALL TO ACTION

J. Philip Hogan

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

CONFERENCES IN 1966

DURING THIS YEAR, two of the most significant missions conferences of the century will be called. The first will be the *Congress on the Church's Worldwide Mission* which will meet on the campus of Wheaton College. It will be jointly sponsored by the IFMA (Interdenominational Foreign Missions Association) and the EFMA (Evangelical Foreign Missions Association).

The other conference will convene in West Berlin, and has been called the *Worldwide Congress on Evangelism*. It will be sponsored by *Christianity Today*, with Editor Carl F. H. Henry as chairman and Dr. Billy Graham as honorary chairman. This may be the greatest conference to study the Church's worldwide task since the Edinburgh Conference in 1911.

In the face of the tremendous demand of the harvest, why should we take time to talk about these things?

First, in recent years all the old concepts of Christian church alignments have changed. The Ecumenical Council just completed in Rome has left an embryo of change in the Roman Catholic church. How to meet these changes must be discussed.

In addition, the activities of the World Council of Churches and its worldwide program of church unity negotiations—as well as the rapprochement between the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Roman Catholic Church, Jewish leaders, and indeed all the world's great religions—must be thoroughly diagnosed so as to retain the best methods for witnessing the simple, pure gospel of Jesus Christ.

There will be a generous attendance of delegates representing the full-gospel revival of our time in both of these congresses. General Superintendent T. F. Zimmerman and I, along with a number of key national Assemblies of God leaders, will attend the Berlin congress. I would request all *Evangel* readers to make these conferences a matter of prayer.

CHRIST, MASTER OF FEAR

Sunday School Lesson for February 27, 1966

MARK 6:45-56

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

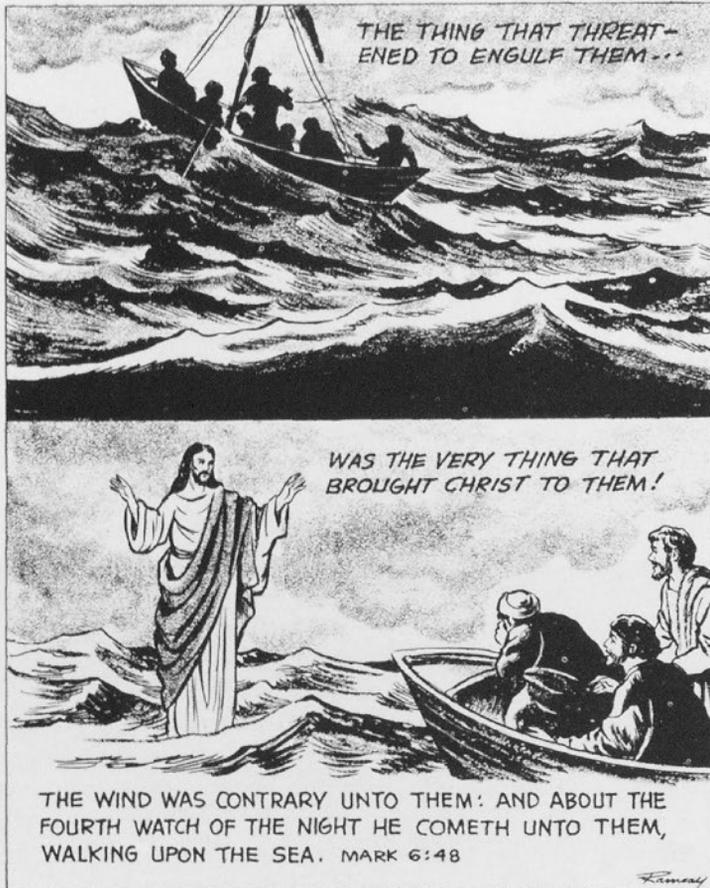
JESUS IN PRAYER (vv. 45, 46)

Immediately after feeding the 5,000, Jesus "constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side" of the Sea of Galilee (v. 45). The miracle had so excited the Jews who witnessed it that they wanted to take Jesus by force and proclaim Him King. They reasoned He was just the Man to lead them in rebellion against Rome. The disciples, who shared some misconceptions of their countrymen concerning Christ's kingdom, were also excited and may have encouraged the crowd in their efforts.

Christ dismissed the multitude and sent His disciples away from the scene. He knew that carnal enthusiasm grounded in self-interest could produce no good in the spiritual realm.

"He departed into a mountain to pray" (v. 46). We can learn much from studying the prayer life of Jesus. He prayed often. He prayed before and after important crises or victories. If He, the Son of God, needed to pray, what about the average Christian?

"A VERY PRESENT HELP IN TROUBLE"



THE DISCIPLES IN TROUBLE (vv. 47, 48)

In sending His disciples from the scene of one danger, it seemed He sent them into another. First, they had been in danger of being swept away by ill-advised enthusiasm; next they were in danger of being swept away by angry waves. What did it all mean? Observe:

(1) *The storm arose though Christ had sent them on their voyage.* Storms are no indication that one is out of God's will. Christ has not promised to save us from trouble and testing; but He has assured us He will be with us in trouble (Psalm 91:15). Paul, en route to Rome, was in the will of God; nevertheless he encountered a storm. But through Christ he overcame it.

(2) *The storm was severe; but because Christ had sent them, the disciples did not turn back.* Though troubles and difficulties beset us on every hand, we ought to press forward in the path of Christian duty, knowing Christ will see us through.

(3) *The storm was so severe that they made little progress and seemed about to be overcome.* Though a number of them were able seamen, they seemed helpless. It reminds us that natural resources are useless in spiritual conflict. Life apart from Christ is too much for any of us. Without Him we "toil in rowing" and get nowhere.

THE COMING OF CHRIST (vv. 49-52)

(1) *Christ came to them.* Just when it seemed they would become victims of the storm—for they had reached the end of their resources—Christ appeared walking on the water. So it often is with us. Christ does not adopt such a policy to taunt us, but to strengthen our faith by exercise. Then deliverance—when it does come—will be more manifestly of the Lord.

(2) *Christ's coming as He did revealed He had been aware of their need all along.* It may seem that Christ does not see our plight, but He neither slumbers nor sleeps; He is always mindful of His own.

(3) *Christ's walking on the water at first terrified them.* They thought He was a ghost. Their reaction suggests the perplexing and disturbing fear of some Christians which often arises from their mistaken ideas concerning Christ, His Person, His offices, and His dealings.

(4) *Christ's words quickly silenced their fears.* Though He had been slow to help them as they wrestled with the waves, He was quick to dissolve their fears, for He knew their fears were more dangerous.

"Be of good cheer" was His salutation (v. 50). If we are not cheerful—even in the storms of life—it is our own fault, for He always has a word for us to make courage and cheer possible.

"It is I" (v. 50). Christ's presence with us and in us is the ground for fearlessness in the face of perils.

(5) *As soon as Christ entered the boat, the storm ceased.* Here again is an illustration of the victory which is available through the believer's identification with the living Christ. "Christ in you," said Paul, is "the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). And every believer may say with Paul, "It is no longer I that live, but Christ liveth in me: and that life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith which is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me" (Galatians 2:20, American Revised Version).

THE INDIGENOUS CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

"WE ARE FOLLOWING NEW TESTAMENT PRINCIPLES"



BY MELVIN L. HODGES
Field Secretary for Latin
America & West Indies



In Latin America 8,987 men like Gustavo Guiroga preach Christ.

ONE OF THE PRINCIPLE REASONS for the success the Assemblies of God has enjoyed in its missionary program lies in the fact that indigenous church principles were early established as the guiding policy for missionary work.

Dictionaries define the word *indigenous* as "produced, growing, or living naturally in a country or climate." In regard to missionary work, the word means that missionaries establish a native church with the ability to reproduce itself, govern itself, and support itself. The General Council Constitution and Bylaws states: "The Pauline example shall be followed as far as possible by seeking out neglected regions where the gospel has not been preached, as well as by establishing self-governing, self-supporting, self-propagating native churches."

In reality, when we state that we follow indigenous principles, we mean we are following New Testament principles as exemplified by the great Early Church missionary, the apostle Paul. We follow these principles not because they are indigenous, but because they are Biblical.

The idea of developing in a foreign land a church that must depend upon the missionary for its finance and for its direction is not a New Testament concept. Rather it has grown out of the fact that in the last century missionary work was done largely in a colonial situation among primitive peoples. Since the people had neither learning nor finance, the missionaries felt they had to guide and finance the church. Buildings were erected entirely at missionary expense, and workers were supported with foreign funds because it was felt the new church was incapable of taking care of itself.

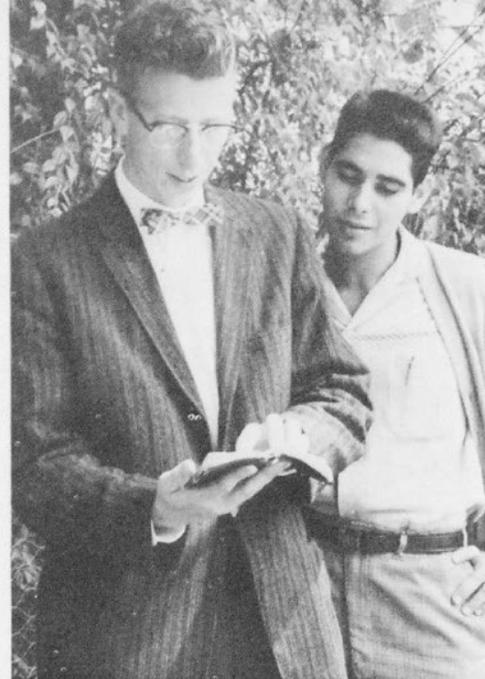
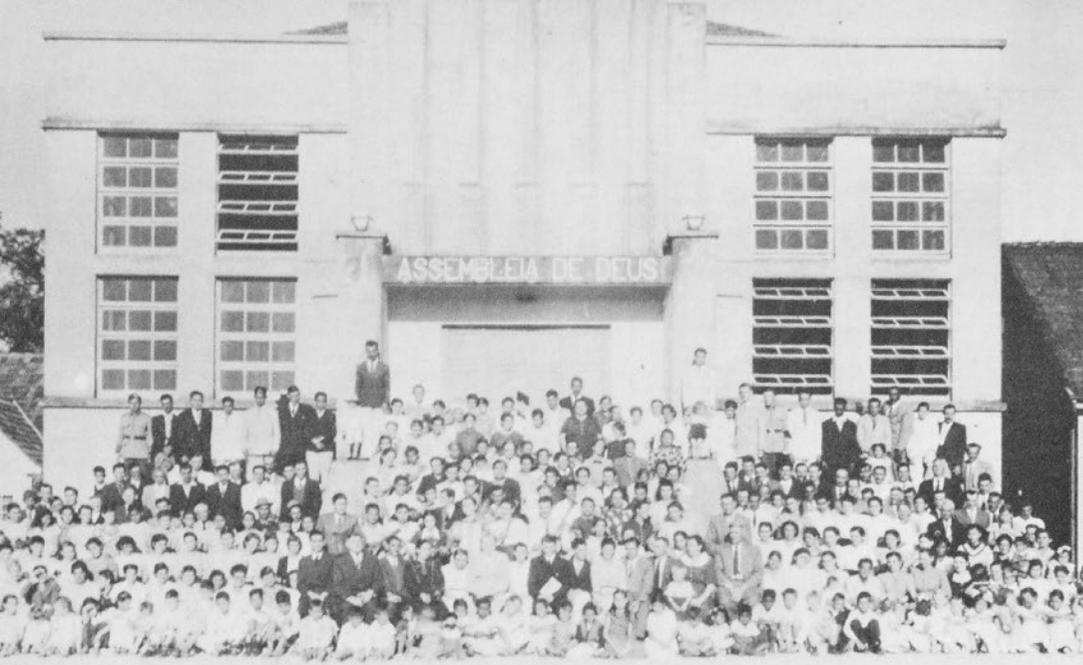
Indigenous church principles follow the Biblical pattern. The object is to make the national church itself responsible for its life and growth. It is the church rather than the missionary that becomes the center of the work. Less emphasis is given to institutional programs, and more to evangelism and church growth.

The gospel is designed by God to meet the need of all peoples. The Holy Spirit will do His work just as effectively among the people of other races as He will in an American or European culture.

Furthermore, rapid growth of the world's population makes it impossible to send enough missionaries to evangelize or take care of churches all over the world. The answer is in a native ministry; but this must be a native ministry called of God with the initiative to preach the gospel and live a life of faith just as is required of our missionaries.

Also, the tide of nationalism rising around the world makes it practically impossible for foreigners to occupy an official place in the national church. There are places

(Continued on next page)



The Assemblies of God of Brazil has more than a million adherents. Much needs to be done yet, however, to reach the 70,800,000 inhabitants of the country for Jesus Christ.

Leland Good, one of our 223 missionaries to Latin America, points to Spanish Scriptures as he witnesses to a young man.

where this can still be done on a temporary basis, while the church is being raised up, but the long-range answer to the problems which nationalism has introduced into missionary work lies in developing capable national leaders who will carry on the work of God in their own country.

It is evident that the Holy Spirit is working along these lines. The church has grown the most in places where there has been a strong emphasis on participation of nationals. Invariably there has been developed financial support of the church from local sources.

In Brazil there are an estimated one million members and adherents in the Assemblies of God of that country. In fact, no cities or towns are without an Assemblies of God church, and even most villages have at least a group of believers. Pastors are either supported by their congregations or seek employment to supplement their income. The work does not depend upon personnel or finances from outside the country. It is strictly a *Brazilian* church, the result of a Pentecostal revival.

How does the application of indigenous church principles work in actual practice? A missionary goes into an area and preaches in several towns. Eventually groups of believers are formed. He then teaches each local group the principles of Christian doctrine and practice. He explains church responsibility, evangelism, tithing, and the discipline of members. (In Latin America we have a little manual called the *Standard of Christian Doctrine and Practice*, which is used to teach believers basic truths of church life.) Eventually the little group is organized, a church board is elected, and a pastor is chosen. There are about 200 such churches in Peru; nearly 300 in El Salvador; over 200 in Guatemala—just to mention a few countries.

Each church becomes responsible to open outstations and branch Sunday schools. The young people join in and soon become the workers. As they meet the challenge of winning souls and establishing churches, many of them feel a call to full-time ministry and go to Bible school for training.

We have 32 Bible schools in Latin America and the

West Indies. The Assemblies of God has more Bible schools established in foreign fields than any other church does. We attribute this to the leading of the Holy Spirit. He knew what was coming. He showed our missionaries that to have leadership for the growing national church there must be training in the Word of God; the answer was Bible schools.

Somewhere along the line a further step in organization is taken. It is no longer sufficient to have local churches alone, but some kind of national church organization must be formed. Representatives from perhaps half a dozen churches come together to initiate the organization of the church on a national scale. A doctrinal statement is accepted, and a constitution is drawn up. Officers are elected. Later, as new churches multiply, the national work divides into districts with each district having its own presbyter.

The missionary may serve in an executive capacity as superintendent in the beginning, but as the work develops capable nationals take over. In Latin America we now have national superintendents in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Dominican Republic. In Mexico, besides a general superintendent, there are three district superintendents—all nationals—who are supported by the pastors and churches.

If the nationals are to pastor the churches and carry on the work, then what is left for a missionary to do? A missionary by calling is primarily a *church planter*. This includes evangelism and teaching in the early stages of the work. But once the church is established so that nationals are filling all the posts in the national organization, there is still plenty to do. There will be a need for teaching in the Bible school, for preparing and distributing literature, and initiating radio work. Then there usually are areas in the country that have not yet been reached by the gospel. Here a missionary may go in cooperation with the national church and again engage in his primary ministry of church planting.

The indigenous church principles require more dedication, more faith, and more activity from the missionary than any other kind of missionary work. 



THIS PRESENT WORLD

"Death of God" Teaching Creates Controversy

The latest controversy in some universities and seminaries revolves around the slogan, "God is dead."

Several young theology professors and teachers of religion are denying the existence and eternity of God. These Baptist, Methodist, and Episcopal professors insist God has died in our time. They say Christians, "instead of trying to put God back into human life, should welcome the total secularization of the modern world."

The idea of God's death is not new. It was Professor Friedrich Nietzsche, a 19th-century philosopher, who launched the "God Is Dead" movement in modern times. Nietzsche did not receive much attention until 1899 when he went insane a year before his death.

It is interesting to note that one of the movement's main leaders privately baptized his infant son at the Emory University hospital in Atlanta when it appeared the child's life was in danger after a premature birth last April. Apparently the father did not have enough faith in his own teaching to take any chances!

Walgreen Stores Remove Indecent Literature

Walgreen Drugstores, among the nation's top ten sellers of books and magazines, received wide acclaim for its decision to offer only clean literature on its newsstands. The company stated it will not offer indecent books and magazines (not even "best sellers") on its stands in the interest of the communities it serves.

Walgreen officials work closely with distributors to keep the stands clean. The company supplies distributors with lists of titles they will refuse to sell. If any illicit publications do slip through, it is the responsibility of the manager to remove them.

One Walgreen official commented, "The focus of our business is good health; and we take pride in following this same aim in our book and magazine racks."

New Hampshire Sweepstakes Receipts Dwindling

Opponents of the New Hampshire Sweepstakes, the nation's only state-operated lottery, believe it is doomed to failure. The gambling plan captured the imagination (and the pocketbooks) of many when it began in 1964, but receipts are dwindling. Ticket sales are 50 percent below expectations. The executive director of the Sweepstakes Commission, Edward J. Powers, mentioned three reasons for lagging sales of the \$3 tickets:

- (1) Lack of national publicity since the novelty has worn off;
- (2) refusal of the New Hampshire legislature to enlarge sales outlets to include state parks and hotels (90 percent of all tickets are sold to tourists); and
- (3) an error in estimating the number of tickets that would have been sold at toll road plazas. (This sales medium was added last year. Before this, tickets could

be bought only at state liquor stores and race tracks.)

One minister recently said, "It is my hope that the people of New Hampshire will get sick of it and throw it out." Many church groups opposing the Sweepstakes feel the same way.

Billy Graham: We Are Failing Today's Youth

Evangelist Billy Graham, during his 10-day Houston crusade, charged that parents, churches, and schools are failing to prepare today's young people to grapple with world problems. The evangelist asserted that "drinking fathers and drug-addict mothers are breeding a generation of unstable youngsters," and have provided them with "television sets, convertibles, and every material luxury, but not with love although they are starving for affection."

Meanwhile, he said, the church "has had theological disputes and poor quality Sunday school teaching," and has failed to talk to youths about problems "such as sex and obedience to parents."

The educational system, he continued, has "built bone without sinew, generated energy without purpose, imparted knowledge without wisdom, developed mind and body but neglected the soul."

Studies of Effects of Smoking, Drinking Found Revealing

The National Liberty Life Insurance Company reports some interesting findings in recent alcohol-tobacco studies. Some samples: the federal government was found to be spending \$5,280,000 to improve tobacco farming methods and \$3,335,300 annually to warn the public about the health hazard in smoking... a relationship was found between alcoholism and oral cancer (attributed to the fact that most alcoholics are also heavy smokers)... drivers who smoke are involved in four times as many accidents as nonsmokers (thought to be due to the distraction of finding and lighting cigarettes)... some 14.6 percent of the mental patients in state and county hospitals are suffering from acute and chronic brain syndrome associated with alcoholic intoxication.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare spends more than \$400,000 to attempt to rehabilitate less than 1,000 alcoholics with little success... stronger regulations are being sought against "drunk flying" by private pilots... forms of cancer, often a by-product of alcohol and cigarettes, produce a death rate 232 times higher than the standard death rate.

Pentecostal believers have always looked upon cigarettes and alcohol as basically harmful—simply because the Scriptures and common sense indicate this. Now there is evidence to connect these habits with devastating, fatal diseases and accidents.

Communists Softening to Christianity?

Many recent news items seem to indicate that Communists around the world are softening in their attitude toward religion. Some who have visited Communist countries affirm this; others emphatically deny it.

For the first time in many years city maps available at newsstands in Moscow, show the location of churches, synagogues, and mosques. But telephone books, directories, guidebooks, and other reference material continue to ignore the existence of religion.

Catholic Edition of RSV New Testament Published

"A major achievement of cooperation between Catholic and Protestant Biblical scholars"—that is how the newly published Revised Standard Version—Catholic Edition of the New Testament has been hailed by some. It is thought this edition will do much to "create a greater bond of unity between the churches."

This new Catholic edition, published by Thomas Nelson and Sons, contains textual variations which attempt to reconcile the RSV with Catholic tradition.

Senator to Fight for School Prayers

Everett M. Dirksen, the leading Republican senator in Washington, D. C., says he is going to do battle with the Supreme Court over the issue of public school prayers.

"I do not intend to let nine men tell 190 million Americans, including children, where and when they can worship." The immediate cause of Senator Dirksen's wrath was the court's action last December 13 rejecting an appeal from a group of parents in the New York City borough of Queens. They asked that their children be allowed to pray voluntarily in their classrooms.

The case was the first involving voluntary prayer to reach the court since its 1962 and 1963 decisions holding that prayers specifically prescribed by public school officials are unconstitutional.

Dirksen cited the FBI's annual crime report and said: "It is interesting to note that as prayer goes down, crime goes up." He refused to divulge the strategy by which he hopes to upset the court's decision. A constitutional amendment seems the most likely avenue.



Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

Why did Jesus call Himself the Son of man?

This term emphasized His humanity, the Man who was tempted, who died on the cross, giving Himself a ransom for us. He is also called the Son of God, which tells us of His deity. In Him were united deity and humanity, thus making Him the God-man.

Was Adam a holy man before he partook of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil?

Adam was innocent. He knew no sin; he was a man of unformed character. Holiness is a state of the heart, attained by overcoming evil. An untried being might be called pure, but I hesitate to call such holy, for holiness in man is tried-and-proved purity. Holiness is a work of God in the life that proves itself by living to the glory of God in the face of temptation and trials.

If Cain's heart had been right, would his sacrifice have been accepted?

I believe Cain as well as Abel knew what the proper offering should be. Cain rejected this, putting the merit of his own works in place of a blood atonement, by bringing the fruit of the ground. This was one of Israel's errors later, and it is one of the errors of modern man. "They being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God"—the redeeming substitutional atoning work of Christ (Romans 10:3, 4).

God gave Cain opportunity to correct his error, saying, "If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted?" But Cain would not (Genesis 4:7).

I have met a person who believes the use of instrumental music in church services is wrong. He uses Matthew 26:30; Acts 16:25; Romans 15:9; and Ephesians 5:19 to prove that only vocal music should be used in church. Is he correct?

It is true the disciples did not have music when they sang a hymn before going to Gethsemane (Matthew 26:30), and we could hardly expect that Paul and Silas would carry musical instruments with them into the jail at Philippi (Acts 16:25). A person redeemed should sing (Romans 15:9) and that from his heart, not only at church, but at other times as well (Ephesians 5:19). But some churches would not have very good singing if there were no music to assist and no one with ability to lead properly without music accompaniment.

Instrumental music was common in the Old Testament and is not condemned in the New Testament. The overcomers in Revelation 15:2, 3 have their singing supported by harp music. Harpists are also mentioned in Revelation 14:2, and music accompanies the prayers of the saints in Revelation 5:8-10.

If you have a spiritual problem or any question about the Bible, you are invited to write to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri 65802. Brother Williams will answer if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Hear of the Bible



GREAT CHAPTERS
DAILY READING
PROGRAM

GREAT CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 20-27

Sunday	Judges 16
Monday	Ruth 1
Tuesday	Ruth 2
Wednesday	Ruth 4
Thursday	1 Samuel 1
Friday	1 Samuel 3
Saturday	1 Samuel 15
Sunday	1 Samuel 16

PROMISE OF THE WEEK

"And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (1 Samuel 15:22).

THE REACH OF THE CHURCH must be to "every creature" and "all the world." Scripture declares this is done by living, giving, witnessing, and dying!

Sounds of the plea for help are common to the sensitive ear of the church. The plaintive, insistent cry of "a man of Macedonia" is heard again today. Shall we muffle the voice, stifle our conscience—or *reach out* toward the area of need as promptly as Paul? "There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. After he had seen the vision, *immediately* we endeavored to go into Macedonia..." (Acts 16:9, 10).

Sunday, February 27, the 15th annual National WMC

By **BARTLETT PETERSON**
Executive Director
Women's Missionary Council



THE OUTREACH OF THE CHURCH

IS OUR REACH A SELFISH GRASP
OR AN OPEN, GIVING HAND?

Day, affords a special opportunity for commending our pastors, churches, and WMC groups for faithful support and a reaching vision. Operating as an effective service organization of the Assemblies of God, the WMC (Women's Missionary Council) aids in providing for the more than 1,900 members of foreign and home missionary families. Combined WMC and Missionettes giving for the past year amounted to 1.95 million dollars (cash and cash value of new goods). It is fitting that the part of the church which has set so enviable a record should challenge the entire membership to "*Reach Out!*"

Its theme bespeaks the resolute pulsating desire of women and girls dedicated to fulfill the church's commission to witness and to win.

The call is reminiscent of God's request for the building of the temple. "Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.

And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair... rams' skins... badgers' skins, and shittim wood, oil... spices... onyx stones" (Exodus 25:2-7).

This is a united effort by over 75,000 WMC members and more than 27,000 Missionettes to help and to undergird our world missionary program through prayer, witnessing, offerings, and sacrificial service. Included in the work are efforts to gather and to conserve small gifts for the purpose of supporting the spread of the gospel at home and abroad. These heroic women are giving themselves, their time, money, and talents as an offering to our missionary and benevolence ministries.

The whole church will do well to heed the admonition to "*Reach Out.*"

Outreach is always an outgrowth of reaching up. We will reach out in the same proportion that we have reached up. The reach of the Early Church was first a reach toward heaven for enduement from on high, and subsequently a reach to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The extent of the Saviour's reach has never been successfully measured or even estimated. He has reached the one lost sheep on the barren wilderness mountain and also "descended into the lower parts of the earth."

He reached the woman at the well by asking for a drink, and a boy by borrowing his lunch.

His resourcefulness enabled Him to reach a sick woman through the hem of His garment, a palsied servant in a distant home, a quibbling Nicodemus, and a dead Lazarus.

He reached Zacchaeus up in a tree, and Saul down on a dusty roadbed. At once He reached the sinful woman with forgiveness and her accusers with searing conviction.

He was concerned with reaching out to the next house and the next town (Mark 1:38).

By the Holy Spirit He was anointed to reach the poor with the gospel and the blind with healing.

At His birth He reached nearby shepherds and distant Wise Men with His star; at His death He reached a dying thief on the next cross with a message of forgiveness and hope.

He reached the rulers of the temple and the demoniac of Gadara; blind beggars, hopeless lepers, chief priests, and self-sufficient rulers. He reached a widow and her mite with His benediction, and little children with a pronouncement of blessing.

No one was missed. No one was passed by. No one was forgotten or overlooked. His reach included all—"all that labor and are heavy laden." "Whosoever will may come."

In a wilderness He set up a "cafeteria," unsurpassed in size, and carefully conserved all leftovers (Matthew 14:15-21). When all had been fed, His inventory was larger than before He began serving, and His outreach had included 5,000 men besides the women and children.

He gathered a widow's mite, a boy's lunch, a man's donkey, and a fisherman's boat for use in reaching others. Inspired by these acts, WMC's continue to gather monies and things of various descriptions for the same great purpose.

National WMC Day Theme: REACH OUT

When He needed illustrations for truths, He reached for the readily available everyday things of life. These became vehicles for conveying the message of life. His methods cannot be improved. These dedicated women and girls insist on using the same simple, practical methods for carrying on His work.

To Thomas He said, "Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless, but believing." The same invitation, now relayed to us, will be as rewarding as to Thomas. A reach toward Him will invariably be rewarded with a new revelation of His vicarious offering for others.

He chose His dying pose to be in the form of out-reached arms, as if one was extended to man and one toward His Father for reconciling the lost to God.

The Church does well to stand in inspection of her work and resources. Are we satisfied with the work done and the 99 in the fold, or will we expend all we have left in resources, energy, and time to reach the one lost sheep?

Is our reach a selfish grasp or an open, giving hand? Why are we here?

The sun has fiery red and yellow fingers long enough to reach everyone on earth. A blazing star was used to reach the Wise Men. With a burning bush God reached Moses and caused him to turn aside from his usual everyday routine. Everyone will turn aside at the sight of a *burning* man or woman. Unless we become blazing, burning witnesses, many will pass by without turning aside. To them we will become a *burning bush* set on fire by God or just *brush!*

Reaching others for Christ is one good reason for our remaining on earth. Apart from this we really belong in heaven. In view of the purpose for our enduement with power, our directive to ourselves should probably be, "If you are not going to be a witness, go home."

Have you reached toward God and found it rewarding? Reach now toward mankind and share that wealth.

Let us join hands and efforts now and lengthen the reach of the Church toward a helplessly floundering world.

The new program for young women

YWMC, Stepping-Stone to Women's Missionary Council

YWMC (YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSIONARY COUNCIL), newest division of the *Multiple Group Plan* of the Women's Missionary Council, was created for single girls ages 16 to 24.

Senior high school students having finished the *Stairway to the Stars* achievement program find the YWMC a challenging stepping-stone to adult WMC ministry. Young college and professional women are attracted by its interesting opportunities for personal development and Christian service.

Scriptural basis for the purpose of the group is embodied in its prayer, "I pray God your whole *spirit* and *soul* and *body* be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thesalonians 5:23).

The YWMC training program, *Design for Living*, is threefold. It offers a variety of interests which will help young women to grow physically, socially, and spiritually. The course is divided into six-month units covering four years. Besides Bible lessons, study texts include subjects dealing with personal appearance, physical and cultural development, budgeting one's income, etiquette, and vocational interests. The program is designed to help participants enjoy a well-rounded Christian life.

While YWMC members work at attaining certain goals for themselves, the program is so planned that they will automatically reach out to minister to the needs of others. Thus they will develop a natural threefold ministry in their own community and mission fields of the world.

The emblem of the new group is a gold "Y" chained to the WMC open-heart emblem which symbolizes a woman's inherent openness to the needs

of all. Its motto, "Living the abundant life," and its slogan, "Grow in Christ—Minister as unto Christ," further emphasize the purpose of the organization. All materials are being prepared by the National WMC Department.

Activities of local YWMC groups will be regulated by the WMC Guide, standard of performance for local organizations of the Women's Missionary Council. Each will work under the supervision of the pastor and in coordination with other WMC groups of the church. The district WMC office in each area will give needed guidance and promotion to the organization of individual groups.

Silhouette, an explanatory pamphlet containing all necessary information for organizing YWMC groups, has been prepared by the National WMC Department. Pastors or leaders of girls groups may have a free copy by writing to the Department.

By ANN AHLF



BEYOND THEIR EXPECTATIONS



By FRED I. LESSTEN

TO SOME, IT MAY HAVE SEEMED a "day of small things" when 60 men, under divine guidance, met together in New York City on May 8, 1816, to form the American Bible Society. But they laid a foundation for a mighty worldwide movement, the necessity for which has grown with the years.

Nine denominations were represented at that initial meeting. Ministers, university and seminary professors, at least seven lawyers, four editors, 11 businessmen, an inventor, a surgeon of note, and several judges were among the founders. The novelist James Fenimore Cooper was one of them, although he was not yet a published author.

Some were organizers in the field of education and missions. These and others were concerned about the evangelization of the American Indian and of the Africans through the colonization of Africa by the freed slaves. The great westward move of the settlers, the distances to be covered, the transportation problems were all far outrunning the efforts of local evangelical societies to meet the need. As a result, when a resolution was offered that "It is expedient to establish without delay a general Bible institution for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment," it was adopted without a dissenting vote.

As a pebble dropped into a pool creates a ripple that spreads ever wider, so the influence of 60 men reaches into 1966, "The Year of the Bible." Whatever their expectations, 150 years ago, they could hardly have envisioned that from that embryonic beginning an organization would become so productive that in 150 years its achievements would include:

- publishing Scriptures in 1,232 languages and dialects;
- publishing the whole Bible in 236 languages;
- publishing the entire New Testament in 289 languages;
- publishing at least a complete Gospel or other Book of the Bible in 707 languages and dialects.

Through the efforts of the founders, 6,410 copies of the Scriptures were distributed that first year. (The population of the United States totaled about eight million.) The figures for 1964 alone would seem staggering to those who started the Society:

- distribution in the U.S. of 25,341,912 copies of the Scriptures;
- distribution of 23,333,705 copies of the Scriptures overseas, made possible by donor gifts;

- distribution of over 65,834 Braille volumes and Talking Book Records to the blind;
- production of one-minute spot announcements for 650 TV stations and more than 2,000 radio stations;
- distribution of 301,541 copies of the Scriptures at the World Fair;
- first global program of reading and sharing the Pentecost message, Acts 2, prepared and presented in an attractively illustrated booklet.

In 1965, the American Bible Society received its largest single order when the government of Ghana requested 500,000 Bibles for use as textbooks in its public schools.

On May 11, 1966, the American Bible Society will meet for its 150th Anniversary commemorative service in New York's historic old City Hall, where the American Bible Society was formally constituted in 1816.

The anniversary will not be used as an occasion for self-congratulation, but as a time to give thanks for what has been accomplished and to pledge redoubled effort to complete the task. This is signified by:

- pledging to distribute 75 million copies of the Scriptures annually;
- continuing the work of distribution and translation of the Scriptures, expanding the work now being done in 131 countries on five continents;
- completing the erection of a new 12-story Bible House in New York City.

When Mark Twain visited the Bible House in 1867, he remarked, "New York has no institution she has more reason to be proud of than this colossal Bible Society." This is even more true today, as the American Bible Society continues toward its goals of:

- a Bible in every Christian home;
- a New Testament in every Christian's hands;
- a Scripture portion for every reader;
- supplies of Scriptures for all Christians to share.

GUIDING LIGHT

The path is dark. Clouds dim the sky
And hide the stars from passers-by;
No moon or sun by night or day,
But God will lead me on my way—
I hold His Lamp. My steps are sure;
No danger now, my life secure;
For when His Word shines on the road
I shall not stumble with my load.

—Bernice B. Libby

Fred I. Lessten, Chicago, an Assemblies of God minister, is a regional secretary in the Special Ministries Department of the American Bible Society.

SHINING FORTH

HAVE YOU EVER PASSED BY a jewelry store and noticed the jeweler covering the shelves with black velvet? When you passed that way again, you noticed he had placed his lovely watches, rings, and gems on that velvet. The blackness of the background enhanced the beauty of the jewelry.

So when Christ comes back to earth to destroy Anti-christ and take over the kingdoms of this world, God is going to black out the heavens. Against this dark background, Christ will shine forth in glory and splendor.

And 2 Thessalonians 1:10 says He "shall come to be glorified in his saints." We have been dug out of the rough of sin. We have been redeemed and purified by His blood. In that day when Christ shines forth in His splendor, we shall share His glory.

—Evangelist I. D. Rayborn

HE CALLS US STILL

THE LORD JESUS HAD PRAYED in agony, anticipating the cross and accepting the cup from the Father's hand, while the disciples slept. He could have written them off as unworthy of another word from Him. But He saw in them a potential, and He continued to work with them. "Rise up, let us go," He said.

There is encouragement here for all who may have failed. There is hope in Christ. He calls us to rise again above the bitter defeat we have suffered. It is never too late to start over. The years of youth may have been

wasted, and the past may have scarred the life. Yet why should a person throw away a whole life because part has been wasted? The penitent thief cried out in his last hour for a new start. There was no time for him to do high and noble deeds on earth. But he made a confession of faith in Christ, and a glorious eternity awaited him.

Our Lord's mercies to men who failed Him when He walked on earth are proof that He will also forgive and restore us when we fail.

—Owen C. Salway

WHAT JOHN BUNYAN SAID ABOUT READING THE BIBLE

READ THE BIBLE, and read it again; and do not despair of help to understand something of the will and mind of God, though you think they are fast locked up from you. Neither trouble yourself, though you have not commentaries and expositions; pray and read, and read and pray; for a little from God is better than a great deal from man. Also, what is from man is uncertain and is often lost and stumbled over by man; but what is from God is fixed as a nail in a sure place.

There is nothing that so abides with us as what we receive from God. The reason why Christians at this day are at such a loss as to some things is because they are content with what comes from men's mouths, without searching and kneeling before God to know of Him the truth of things.

Things which we receive at God's hand come to us as things from the minting-house—though old in themselves, yet new to us. Old truths are always new to us if they come to us with the smell of heaven upon them.

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The staff of the Home Missions Department poses with the new executive director and national secretary. The three men are (left to right): Curtis W. Ringness, national secretary; Charles W. H. Scott, executive director; and Paul R. Markstrom, national prison representative.

HOME MISSIONS- LIFELINE OF OUR FUTURE

**NEW LEADERS DISCUSS SCOPE AND POTENTIAL
OF HOME MISSIONS
WITH RUTH LYON, PROMOTIONS EDITOR**

CHARLES W. H. SCOTT, recently appointed executive director of Home Missions, and Curtis W. Ringness, who became national secretary of the department January 1, both have had considerable experience in Home Missions activities on the district level.

"The challenge of Home Missions is almost overwhelming as I look at the scope of the national department," Brother Scott says. "I am really excited about the challenge of perpetuating the good work which has been done in the past and of seeking to expand its outreach even further."

Both men are vitally interested in Home Missions because it is part of the Great Commission. Brother

CHARLES W. H. SCOTT

CHARLES W. H. SCOTT, an assistant general superintendent of the Assemblies of God, has recently been appointed executive director of Home Missions, replacing Gayle F. Lewis who retired January 1. He also directs the work of the Department of Benevolences.

Active in the Assemblies of God since 1924, Brother Scott is a native of Arundel, Quebec, Canada. He attended public school in Montreal, and received Bible college training in Rochester, N.Y. (1922-24). He attended Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J. (1925-26).

Brother Scott was ordained a minister of the gospel in 1925 in the Eastern District. His first pastorate was in Trenton, N.J. (1924-26). He was married to Gertrude V. Northrop October 16, 1926, in Rochester, N.Y.

In 1927, while pioneering the church at Altoona, Pa., the Scotts started the work which provided the foundation of the church at Tyrone, Pa. They also pioneered the work which provided the beginning of the assembly at Roaring Springs, Pa.

While serving as pastor of Riverside Tabernacle, Flint, Mich. (1933-41) they opened the following churches: Bethel Tabernacle (on the east side of Flint); Goodrich, Lapeer, and Owosso, Mich. All these churches continue to serve their communities. The Scotts also pastored in Atlantic City, N.J. (1929-33) and Battle Creek, Mich. (1941-45).

When the Michigan Assemblies of God District was organized in 1945, Brother Scott was elected superintendent. He held the post until 1957 when he was named an assistant general superintendent. Formerly he served as a nonresident executive presbyter (1953-57).

While Brother Scott was serving as Michigan district superintendent, the district opened 90 new churches.

He is a board member of one liberal arts school (Evangel College), and two theological schools (Central Bible College and Northeast Bible Institute). He serves as Board Chairman of the Hillcrest Children's Home in Hot Springs, Ark.

He has traveled widely in the United States as well as Canada, England, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Central and South America.

Scott expresses it this way: "The Lord Jesus sent His disciples to preach in 'all' the villages. I have seen the gratifying effects which have followed home-missions activities in cities, towns and villages. Our full-gospel testimony has brought new life and hope to the people. Whole communities have been stirred and then changed by the impact of the gospel. Besides, a broad Home Missions base is a requisite for a strong Foreign Missions outreach. *In my opinion, Home Missions is the lifeline of our future church.*"

Supporting this view, Brother Ringness says, "The Assemblies of God fellowship is grateful for the continued increase in giving to our Foreign Missions outreach; but unless new churches are established, eventually we will reach a saturation point as far as our Foreign Missions program goes. This is also true of growth in other departments such as Sunday school, Christ's Ambassadors, Education, etc."

These men feel all areas in the National Home Missions Department's sphere of activity are important and should be promoted and encouraged.

Commenting on church extension, Brother Scott notes: "We must bear witness in our Jerusalems, Judeas and Samarias, as well as the uttermost parts of the earth. We must help our district leaders establish new churches throughout the nation in order to fulfill the Great Commission. With the population explosion and the 'de-protestantizing' of some segments of the church in America, it is imperative that we reach our goals for new churches in this decade."

Brother Ringness says: "It is interesting to note that the Latin American Branch of the Assemblies of God

opened more churches than any other Assemblies of God district in the past five-year period—and this is one of our Special Ministry fields!"

"The area of Special Ministries is a very deserving division of our Home Missions outreach. As a church we must see that our dedicated workers among the Indians, Alaskans, foreign-language groups, teen gangs and dope addicts, prisoners and other minority groups have adequate facilities and support to do the most effective work possible in all the fields of their calling."

Our special ministries have a wide scope. Brother Scott says: "When we consider that the Special Ministry fields of our national department represent an outreach to 35,000,000 people, I certainly feel that every effort should be made to continue and expand these Special Ministries. We now have 332 appointed home missionaries. They reported nearly 8,000 conversions during 1964."

According to a recent survey, our workers are doing 80 percent of all the gospel work that is being ac-

(Continued on next page)

Charles W. H. Scott and Curtis W. Ringness stand beside a model church, "The Conqueror," one of the building plans available from the Home Missions Department for pioneer churches.



CURTIS W. RINGNESS

CURTIS W. RINGNESS, who has served as secretary of the Department of Benevolences since 1956, has succeeded R. L. Brandt as national secretary of Home Missions. (Brother Brandt resigned to accept the pastorate of the First Assembly of God in Billings, Mont.)

Brother Ringness will supervise the special ministries and church extension divisions of the Home Missions Department. He will travel widely to promote these programs in local churches and at area and regional meetings of laymen and pastors of the Assemblies of God.

Active in the Assemblies of God since 1936, Brother Ringness was granted ministerial credentials by the Northern California-Nevada District following his graduation from Bethany Bible College, Santa Cruz, Calif. He was ordained in 1938 by the Peninsular Florida District. In that same year he was married to Ruth Hargis in Ocala, Fla.

The Ringnesses spent two years in evangelistic ministries in the United States, Canada, and the West Indies. They pastored the Assemblies in Avon Park and Sulphur Springs, Fla.

While pastor of Bethel Temple in Tampa (1942-56) Brother Ringness conducted a daily radio broadcast. Brother and Sister Ringness assisted in opening three new works under sponsorship of the churches they pastored. They started a rescue mission work which has grown to be one of the largest in the Southeast and Brother Ringness continues to serve as a director.

While living in Southern Florida, Brother Ringness served as district secretary-treasurer for two years, executive presbyter for one year, assistant superintendent and district director of home missions for 10 years. The district averaged better than one new church a month under his direction.

Brother Ringness was a member of the General Presbytery for 12 years. He served on the board of directors at South-Eastern Bible College, Lakeland, Fla., for nine years. He came to Springfield in 1956 to serve as assistant to J. Roswell Flower, general secretary of the Assemblies of God. In 1956, Brother Ringness was named secretary of the Department of Benevolences. In 1960, he was given the additional responsibility of developing a stewardship division.

He is an associate professional member of the American Nursing Home Association, and has served on special committees for the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Brother and Sister Ringness have a daughter and two sons: Joyce of Garden Grove, Calif.; Curtis, Jr., Santa Ana, Calif.; and Ron, a junior at Parkview High School, Springfield, Mo.

completed on American Indian reservations by groups affiliated with the National Association of Evangelicals. Yet, we are told that half the Indians have never or seldom had the gospel. We have 140 Indian churches and preaching points on reservations and in cities.

Since Alaska officially became a district at the last General Council, the national department will promote only the native works there, just as it does the American Indian work in other states. The Assemblies of God is considered the strongest evangelical force in Alaska, but much remains to be done.

Although our Jewish work has suffered for lack of workers, a number of converts were reported during recent months. We have five Hebrew Centers and are even reaching some Jewish deaf.

The Deaf and Blind work is growing rapidly. We have 95 deaf groups. Many deaf have been saved in the last year. Assemblies of God Braille literature is going to 45 states and 16 foreign countries.

We have seven officially recognized Teen Challenge Centers. Bible school students join Teen Challenge staffs during the summers and have made a great contribution to the work. Thousands of young delinquents, drug addicts, and teen gang members are saved through Teen Challenge each year.

The 600 churches of our six foreign-language branches are reaching an increasing number of the 14,500,000 foreign-speaking people in the U.S. and Puerto Rico who would otherwise be unreached by our other churches. (Puerto Rico, with some 33 assemblies, has been added to the national department's area of ministry. The new Gypsy and Chinese ministries in our nation are also included.)

The prison work of the department continues to increase. Thousands of the eight Bible study correspondence courses are supplied each year to prisoners. Since 1951, when the program began, 127,500 courses have been supplied free to prisoners.

Brother Ringness states: "As church organizations go, we are still a young church. The rapid increase, as well as the constant shift of population in the U.S., make it incumbent on us as a church to see that there is a Pentecostal witness *where the people are*." He continues: "One prominent denomination expresses its philosophy by saying that one of its churches should be located within walking distance of every citizen in the U.S.A. We should at least have one church within driving distance of every citizen!"

Referring to our Church Extension program, Brother Scott says, "I have a private philosophy which is this: be satisfied enough to be happy, but dissatisfied enough to want to improve. I am thankful for the growth of the movement, but definitely feel that with God's help

and a strong district expansion program our records of the past five years (1960—201 new churches; 1961, 137; 1962, 176; 1963, 159; and 1964, 121) can be equaled and surpassed."

Brother Ringness says, "The Breakthrough Program has undoubtedly been a great blessing and benefit to many of our districts throughout the fellowship, but I wish to emphasize attainable goals. Brother Scott and I agree, and the past administration concurs, that it would be well to reevaluate the Breakthrough Program, especially as it pertains to goals."

Brother Scott feels that since *Sites for Souls* is an integral part of the national Breakthrough Program and serves a purpose in our fellowship, its valuable aspects must continue to be emphasized and implemented.

Sites for Souls has captured the imagination of many of our constituency. "We are grateful for the fact that a number of fine churches have been established because of this program. Furthermore," says Brother Ringness, "it has alerted the leadership of our entire fellowship to the need of locating suitable sites in suburban developments, as well as in other strategic centers. In addition to the national and district emphasis, we would like to see more *Sites for Souls* activity on the sectional and local church levels."

Both Home Missions leaders agree that before any specific goals are set, the matter should be taken up with officers in each district. Brother Ringness notes that "men working at the grass roots are in better position to evaluate their own needs and project goals."

Brother Scott says, "It is obvious we must accelerate our pace in order to achieve our goals for this decade. With a great united push, this can be accomplished as our schools and colleges train our workers. Our districts provide the leadership in establishing urban missions and new suburban churches, and our established churches expand themselves as mother churches, opening branch Sunday schools and new assemblies."

Enlarging on the idea of training pioneer workers in our schools, Brother Ringness comments: "A great preacher said, many years ago, that God does not anoint organizations or programs or plans; *God anoints men*. We are facing the possibility of a critical shortage of ministers in the Assemblies of God in the future. We should challenge our young people in Bible schools and local assemblies to consider God's will and purpose for their lives before they determine what their vocation shall be. The attractions, problems, and sacrifices of the ministry should be presented to our youth. They should know we have a cause that is worth giving their lives for."

Brother Ringness says our district superintendents are concerned about the lack of ministers. He does not blame this present condition on our young people. He feels we are not effectively challenging our youth to consider the ministry. "Young people want a challenge today," he declares, "and we have the greatest challenge of all! We must place it squarely before them!"

Brother Ringness states that we have had excellent Home Missions leadership in the past and a good record of growth as a result. "However," he says, "I agree with Brother Scott that we cannot be satisfied with past achievements when there is still so much to be done. We should never be satisfied as long as there are cities and communities without an Assemblies of God witness."

Offerings for Home Missions (including Indian, Alaska, Deaf, Blind, Foreign-Language, Prison, Teen Challenge, and Jewish ministries) should be mailed to

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

1445 BOONVILLE AVE., SPRINGFIELD, MO. 65802



TESTIMONIES OF HEALING

JESUS CHRIST THE SAME YESTERDAY, AND TODAY, AND FOREVER (Hebrews 13:8)

BABY HEALED OF COLLAPSED LUNG

WE PRAISE GOD for healing our baby, Faith Elizabeth, of a collapsed lung.

Faith's right lung had collapsed when she was three weeks of age. Her skin turned black, her body went limp, and all life seemed to slip away from her. My husband's sister gave her mouth-to-mouth respiration, and the police rushed her to the hospital, giving her oxygen all the way. Our pastor met us at the hospital, and we prayed. The doctor told us that with a lot of prayers Faith had a slim chance of living.

For two days she remained in this critical condition. Her life was in the balance. Then, on Sunday, Pastor Fisher and the congregation of Watertown Assembly lifted our little Faith heavenward in prayer. From that day on her lung began to inflate, and she began to get better. In four days she was out of the oxygen tent. The following Monday we took her home—thanking God for sparing her life.

Since that time Faith has had many checkups, and her recovery is complete. The doctor admitted before other doctors and the nurses that it was not his work but that God had done this for our little girl. "To God be the glory, great things He hath done."—Bernard and Janice LaBreck, Watertown, New York.

(Endorsed by Pastor Albert R. Fisher, Jr., Assembly of God, Watertown, N. Y.)

"I CAN BREATHE FREELY NOW!"

I PRAISE THE LORD for His healing power. For 65 years my lungs did not fully expand as I breathed, but God healed me and I can now breathe normally. At the same time God healed a growth on my chest.

As far back as I can remember, I was not able to breathe very deeply. I first noticed it as I saw people sing and expand their chests. I was only six years old then. If I did any running, I had heartburn and would pant more than breathe, as my lungs would never open up. They have been like that all my life.

A few years ago my lungs started getting sore. Two years ago they became so sore I could hardly breathe at all. I knew there was nothing the doctors could do and I was afraid it was cancer. I also had a growth on my chest where a baseball had struck me about 40

If God has healed you recently, we invite you to write out your testimony for publication. This can encourage others who need healing to believe and receive the Lord's healing touch. Please make your testimony as brief as possible, and ask your pastor to sign it. Then mail it to: *The Pentecostal Evangel*, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802.

years ago. It started getting larger and became very sore four years ago.

However, I was saved in 1963 at the Assembly of God in Bridgeport, Nebr., where Brother Umphenour was pastor. A short time later, during a revival held by Sheldon Slagel, they anointed and prayed for me. My lungs were opened immediately, and I could take a full breath of air for the first time in my life. At the same time the soreness all left. You cannot imagine what a relief it was after 65 years of living as I did.

One morning about a month later, while shaving, I saw a beautiful purple spot on my chest—the size of the lump that had been there—and the growth was gone.

I praise the Lord for His healing power and pray that my testimony will be the means of many others being healed.—Frank Shurlock, Angora, Nebr.

(Endorsed by Pastor R. V. Umphenour, former pastor of the Assembly of God in Bridgeport, Nebr., and now pastor of Central Bible Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho.)

HEALED OF CALCIUM SPURS

GOD HEALED ME OF PAINFUL CALCIUM SPURS on both heels. I can now walk freely without pain. Formerly the pain was similar to walking with a large tack under each heel!

When I first discovered something was wrong with my feet I consulted a physician. He diagnosed the trouble as calcium spurs and advised me to have them removed surgically. He said the heelbone must be scraped if there was to be any healing. I learned through others who had similar surgery performed that the healing process would be slow—and there was no assurance that the growth would not return.

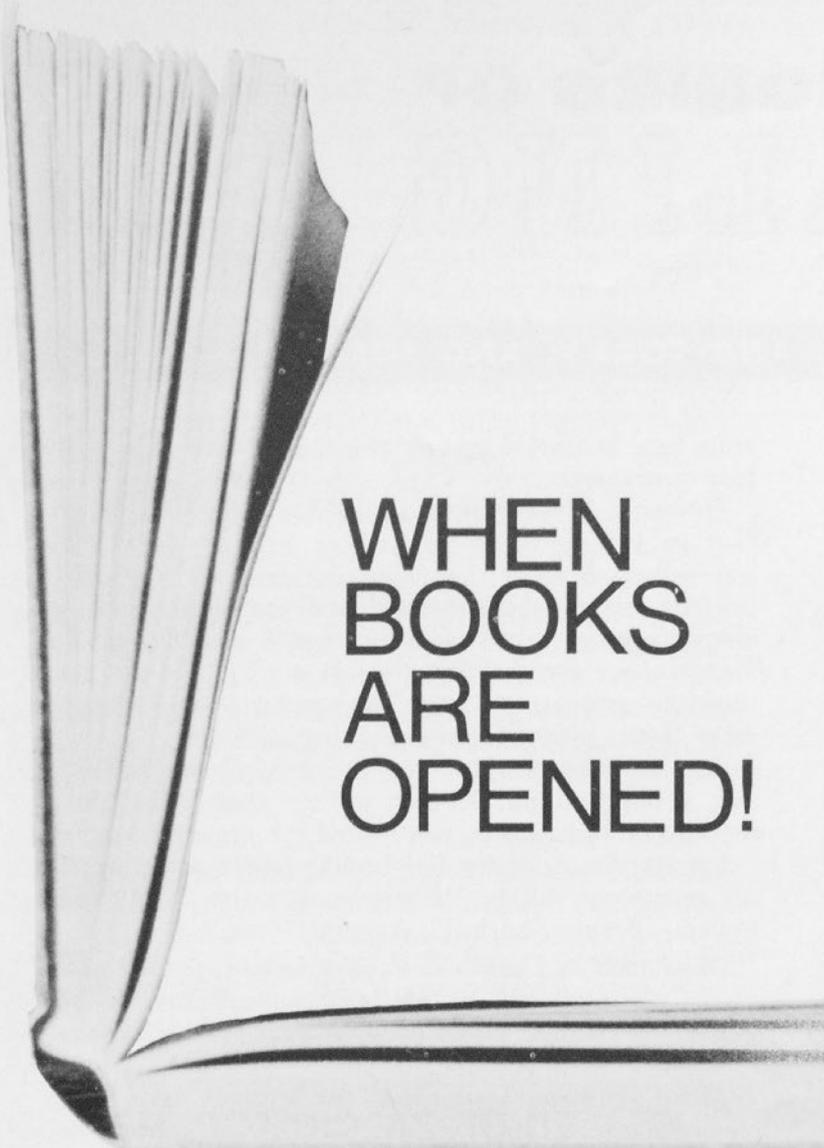
But I knew we served a great God who is also our Great Physician, so I trusted Him for healing.

Our pastor and church offered persistent prayer for me. After each prayer session my condition would improve, but the healing process seemed slow. I told the pastor I felt the complete healing would occur without my awareness of it.

About a year later, I suddenly realized I could walk freely without any pain—as if I never had the calcium spurs. I stomped my heels hard on the floor, and there was no soreness.

I do not know exactly when the complete healing took place. I simply know I am healed and I am thankful to our great Lord.—Lloyd M. Strom, New England, N. Dak.

(Endorsed by Lamar H. Kyle, former pastor, and Harry E. Heidt, present pastor, Assembly of God, New England, N. Dak.)



WHEN BOOKS ARE OPENED!

By RAYMOND L. COX

SOME TIME AGO I wanted to consult a 13-year-old copy of the Portland *Oregonian*. "They have all the back issues at the Oregon State College library," a student told me. I could hardly believe that such a mountain of newspapers could be housed in one building, even if it contained nothing else. But I went to investigate.

The librarian smiled when I asked where I might find the October, 1944, issues of the paper. "We have room to store only a few weeks' issues," she explained. "After that we destroy them."

"I was afraid of that," I mumbled.

"Wait," she exclaimed; "don't go away. In another part of the library we have all the back issues recorded on microfilm."

A few minutes later I carried a small reel of film to the viewing machine. Cradled in the palm of my hand was a month's issues of the paper. Within minutes I located the column I wanted, copied it, and left the library.

Here, I felt, was an answer for the unbelievers who denounce the concept that enough volumes could be accumulated in heaven to record all the deeds of men. Some try to turn John's earlier exclamation concerning Christ, "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every

one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written (John 21:25), against the fulfillment of Revelation 20:12 which declares that a highlight of the proceedings before the great white throne will be the austere perusal of books!

"If the world could not contain the record of the person," they reason, "how could enough books be assembled to record the deeds of all who ever lived?"

The next time a skeptic challenged me on the matter, I related my experience with the *Oregonian*.

But microfilm has become "old stuff." New methods of compacting literature offer even more spectacular prospects.

"P.C.M.I." ("photochromic micro-image") now enables them to reduce documents almost incalculably. A 30-volume set of the *Encyclopedia Americana*, for example, could be reduced to little more than one-half of one page by this method! The actual ratio of reduction with P.C.M.I. is 40,000 to one! The smallest library on earth could contain every book ever written.

But P.C.M.I. is not the last word in compacting literature. Scientists are seeking a way to arrange atoms into codes. If these efforts succeed, technicians estimate that close to 25 million volumes could be coded and placed inside a cube measuring 1/200th of an inch in width, length, and height! The Library of Congress then might be reduced to a speck of dust!

If man can so reduce in size this mountain of books, who can deny that God can produce at the judgment just what the Bible portrays in the way of books recording the deeds of men—and that other book, the Lamb's book of life in which are recorded all the redeemed and regenerated of earth?

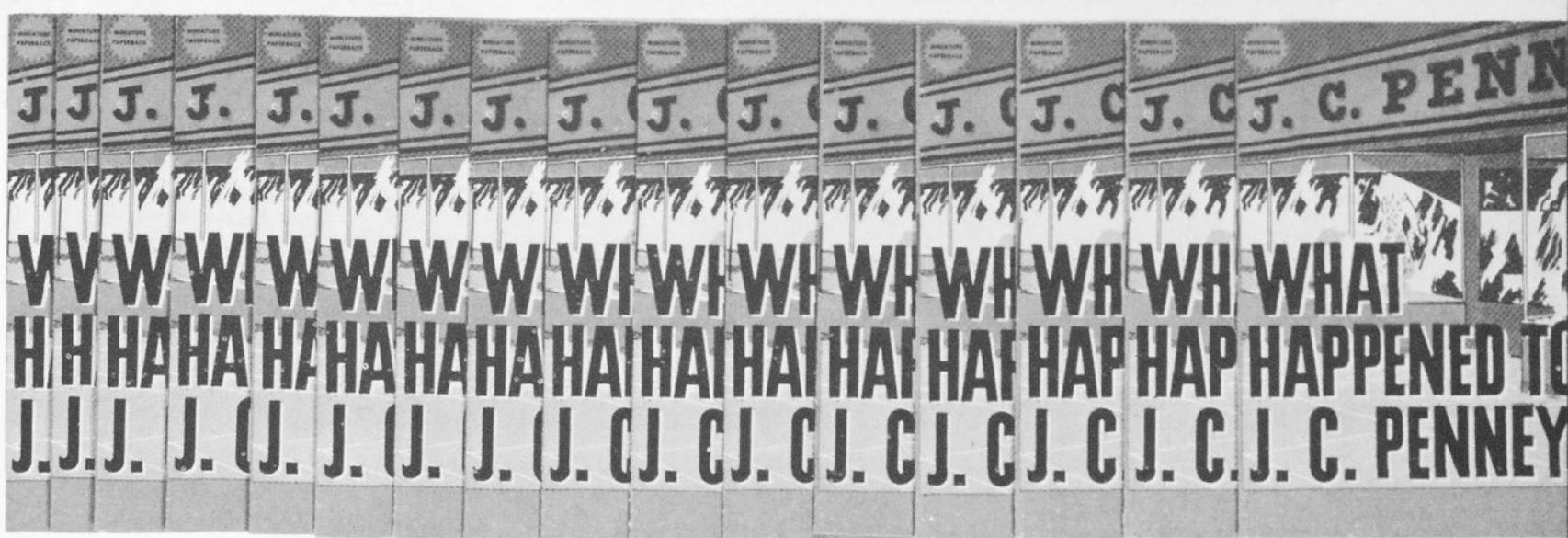
The apostle Paul declared: "Now God commandeth all men everywhere to repent: because he hath appointed a day in the which he will judge the world in righteousness..." (Acts 17:30, 31). The date of the appointed judgment remains shrouded in mystery, but the fact is plainly recorded throughout the Scripture. The judgment will be just! The evidence will be fairly presented. The books will report the record of each individual objectively. The lost will recognize the justice of their plight on two grounds: (1) their record will face them in books; (2) their names will be absent from the other book—the book of life!

But what about the accounts concerning believers in those books which record men's works?

One truth stands certain in this respect! The sins of the saints will have vanished from the record! God promises, "I, even I, am he that blot out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins" (Isaiah 43:25). The effect of the blood of Jesus is even more astonishing than scientific methods to reduce libraries to specks of dust. Christ's redemption removes completely man's mountain of sin—not to just a speck, but to absolute oblivion!

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." There is no judgment, only justification—no future but heaven—for those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life!

Is your name written there? It can be, if you will accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour.



MINIATURE PAPERBACK STILL IN DEMAND

By RON ROWDEN

DEMANDS STILL PERSIST for the unique miniature paperback, *What Happened to J. C. Penney*, by Evangelist C. M. Ward.

Designed last spring for use in *Revivaltime's* summer soul-winning crusade, the salvation-slanted booklet is still being distributed daily around the world. Circulation has reached 360,000, and orders keep coming.

Pastor Yale E. Roberts, First Assembly, St. Elmo, Ill., reports excellent results after giving out the miniature paperback:

"First Assembly conducted a literature saturation program during a recent revival with Evangelist Mick Thrasher. The Christ's Ambassadors, Royal Rangers, and Missionettes participated in the campaign.

"A copy of *What Happened to J. C. Penney*, an 'Action' issue of *The Pentecostal Evangel*, and a personal letter from the pastor inviting visitors to the evangelistic services, were distributed to more than 500 homes in the area. The group gathered for prayer and instruction before teaming up to make the deliveries."

Pastor Roberts said that while placing literature at the door of one home, Evangelist Thrasher heard a call from inside. He found an invalid woman who expressed her need to him. From her own Bible, he led her to the Lord and prayed for her healing.

"More than 70 visitors attended the evening services," relates Pastor Roberts, "and much favorable comment has been received about the literature. Wide publicity has been given to the weekly *Revivaltime* broadcast in our area, and the church is believing God for much to come from this endeavor also."

T. M. Waldron, pastor of First Assembly, Beckley, W. Va., describes how his church was blessed after witnessing to the community through literature:

"More than 500 copies of *What Happened to J. C. Penney* were distributed in 55 minutes by the C.A.'s of our church. An additional 500 copies have been ordered for distribution at the local schools.

"God is surely moving in our midst. Ten young people accepted Christ in one Sunday night service fol-

lowing the literature distribution campaign in downtown Beckley. *Literature evangelism pays!*"

Through literature saturation, you too can influence your community for Christ. Potential Christians are on every corner, in every home, on every job. They need only be reached with God's plan of salvation. *Your church can help them.*

What Happened to J. C. Penney is a dynamic, challenging piece of gospel literature that captivates the interest of the unsaved. Designed to catch the eye, its message will grip the hearts of all who read it because it points toward the one solution to man's problems—Christ Jesus.

This unique, pocket-size paperback is being printed so that your church, and other churches across the nation, may use it in an all-out crusade for souls. Order a supply today.

J. C. PENNEY MINIATURE

We want to use C. M. Ward's exciting, miniature paperback, "What Happened to J. C. Penney." Please send the number of copies indicated below at the quantity price of \$3 per hundred.

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We wish to order copies.	\$.....
Here is our special offering to further the ministries of REVIVALTIME.	\$.....
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SAMUEL, REBUKING SAUL under the anointing of the Spirit, equated the sin of rebellion with that of witchcraft (1 Samuel 15:23). But although rebellion ran its ugly course in the life of Saul, he was neither the first nor the last to know its ravages.

Long before, Lucifer had rebelled against God, and had fallen "as lightning" from heaven.

Adam and Eve rebelled against the commandment, "Thou shalt not eat," and we still suffer due to that rebellion.

Israel rebelled against God, and He mentioned it in His commission to the prophet Ezekiel: "I send thee to . . . a rebellious nation."

It may seem unlikely that New Testament Christians would also be rebellious against God, but it is possible to accept Him as Saviour, yet reject some part of His will for our lives.

The manifestations of rebellion are at first subtle, then more open. If unchecked, they can result in spiritual disaster.

REJECTING GOD'S MESSENGERS

In his introduction to J. B. Phillips' *Letters to Young Churches*, C. S. Lewis wrote: "In the earlier history of every rebellion there is a state at which you do not attack the King in person. You say, 'The King is all right. It is his Ministers who are wrong. . . .' And the first victory consists in beheading a few Ministers: only at a later stage do you go on and behead the King himself."

This reminds us of Jesus' parable of "a certain householder, which planted a vineyard . . . and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country" (Matthew 21:33). Later he sent his servants to collect some of the harvest, but the wicked husbandmen killed them all. Then came the son himself, and they said among themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance." This is really what they were after all the time.

Melvin B. Hanson is pastor of the Assembly of God in Sherburn, Minnesota.

THE RAVAGES OF REBELLION

By MELVIN B. HANSON

There are a great many people who would never think of declaring they were in rebellion against God, and yet who seem to have no compunctions whatever about criticizing God's ministers. But let it be remembered it is God who "gave some, apostles; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers" (Ephesians 4:11). They are His ministry-gifts to the Church. To resist their labors of love is to resist the One who gave them. It is easy to find fault with the King's *minister* when actually we are chafing under the King's *dominion*.

The Bible clearly declares that our Christian obligations include consideration for those who "watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that would be unprofitable for you" (Hebrews 12:17).

"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them

very highly in love for their work's sake" (1 Thessalonians 5:12, 13).

REFUSING GOD'S MESSAGE

The true undershepherd is duty bound to declare the whole counsel of God. This includes lifting up God's standards of holy living. He must challenge his hearers to obey the scripture which says, "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together," and to be active in personal witnessing and other ministries.

Those who do not feel the importance of these matters may begin to rebel, and, in order to justify their attitude, may look for some flaw in the minister. Since ministers are human, they are not perfect; but we are not to justify ourselves on the basis of another's imperfection. "They measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise" (1 Corinthians 10:12).

Not all rebellion centers in people, of course. Some who accept Christ as Saviour do not appreciate the ministry of the Holy Spirit or the emphasis on the Pentecostal experience. They would prefer a more formal type of worship service. So even though the New Testament pattern is one of highly explosive experiences that transformed lives and incurred the wrath of the opposition, they may rebel against the demonstration of the Spirit.

Usually there is an area in which they are not ready to submit to the Spirit, so they resist Him, building up plausible alibis and reinterpretations of Scripture to suit their position. Thank God, many who at first rebel are won over by the very Spirit of God they resist; and as they yield to Him, they are filled and anointed for service.

PROGRESSIVE REBELLION

The tragedy of rebellion is that unless it is abandoned, it is progressive. Those who begin rejecting some of the finer points of God's Word or some details of His will for their lives are soon confronted by the very God they are resisting. Many yield

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at this point, realizing the folly of resisting God. But those who continue to resist eventually move into the category of disgruntled backsliders.

If they do not, through repentance and submission, recover themselves from these snares of the devil, they become so completely insensible to spiritual things that they can no longer detect the voice of God. Saul came to this point; and when his rebellion had run its course, he turned to witch-

craft for help. We have his confession, "God is departed from me, and answereth me no more."

Rebellion is not a fatal sin unless it is allowed to run its deadly course. If there is some uncommitted, unsundered, undisciplined area in your life, open it up to the Holy Spirit now. One cannot reject God's will, God's messenger, or God's Word without seriously impairing his relationship with God Himself.

GOD COULDN'T SEND ME; I WAS TOO BUSY.

I WAITED SO LONG!

By VIVIAN SKIPPER

THERE IS AN OLD WOMAN in the hospital. She is dying. The doctor says she may not live more than 24 hours. She is not a Christian and she is in a coma. It will take a miracle for her to become conscious enough to understand anything; and it will take a double miracle to have anyone with her to tell her about God should she be able to understand.

Yes, there is an old woman dying. She is in her eighties. Nobody really loves her very much; maybe nobody ever did love her very much. She lived alone in a little house up on the mountain out of town, with no close neighbors; her only visitor was a married son who went up the mountain to see about her every few days. He had brought her to the hospital when he found her so sick.

Yes, she is in the hospital now. Dying. Nobody can reach her. She is in a coma, and only the family is allowed in the room with her. They cannot help her find Jesus as her Saviour, for they do not know Him themselves. But while she was up on the mountain in her cabin *anybody* could have gone to see her. Any *Christian* could have gone. Maybe she wouldn't have let anyone in—but she was there a long time, and somehow someone could have won her confidence. God makes ways when we try.

Many are concerned now. But it is too late. She is dying.

Her name? I only know her last name. Yet she was once some mother's laughing baby girl, an innocent little child, a wife. . . . Somehow she failed to find the Saviour.

Did God have anyone He could send

to her? He couldn't send *me*—I was too busy. I prayed some for her when she was brought to my attention, but not really very much. I thought a few times of going up to see her, but I never did seriously plan to do anything about it.

Now that I am concerned enough to do something, it is too late. And actually the only reason I have become so concerned is that she is about to die. Yet she has been doomed to die all along. Everybody is. And she might have been reached for God if I had tried to do something instead of drifting along till her time was running out.

Will I face her in the judgment whom I neglected to face in this life?

* * *

On my way to prayer meeting on Wednesday night God so burdened my heart for that dying old woman that I felt compelled to stop by the hospital in one last hope of finding her conscious. Oh, the mercy of God! I found her alert, fully able to converse and understand. I asked her if she wanted Jesus to come into her heart, forgive her sins, and make her ready for heaven. She said, "Yes," and bowed her head and prayed with me. The mighty presence of the Lord was with us there as she opened her heart to Him as a little child.

* * *

I learned today that the old woman in the hospital died. It was less than a week ago that I visited her and pointed her to Jesus. I trust and believe that she went to heaven. And now I won't have to weep and be ashamed when I see her again.

I'm just sorry I waited so long. . . .

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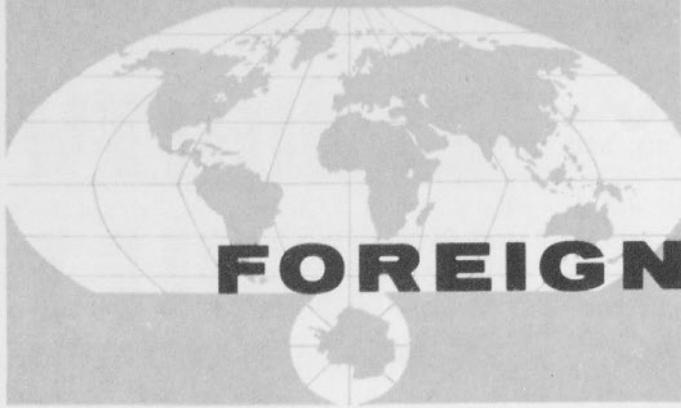
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FOREIGN NEWS DIGEST

DIRECT REPORTS FROM MANY LANDS

Tanzania

Success Through Literature

The literature outreach continues to grow in Tanzania. In the last two years a Sunday school program has been established with quarterlies and Sunday school papers in the national language.

Also the tract program prospers as national Christians are winning their own people to Christ through the printed page. The week before we left for the States, Anangisye packaged nearly 100,000 tracts for mailing. Such tracts go out to distributors at the rate of 33,000 each month.

The Assemblies of God of Tanzania recently took an important step by electing its first national superintendent—Petrosi Lwasye.

—John Friesen

South India

God Controls the Rain

The time had come to pour the cement for the second floor and ceiling of the new Bible school boys' dormitory in South India. Pastor Kunjummen had given the orders for the workmen to come, but he suddenly realized there was not enough water in the well to mix the cement.

He called on the Lord to please send rain that night, and by faith he had the drums placed under the eaves of one of the buildings to catch the water. Our faithful God sent the rain till the barrels were filled to overflowing.

But by the next morning Pastor Kunjummen's rejoicing was turned to consternation when he saw they would not be able to pour the cement with the rain coming down. Again he lifted his heart to the Lord to please stop the rain. Again God was pleased to answer His servant's cry. The rain stopped, and the cement was mixed and poured on schedule. Praise the Lord!

—Mildred Ginn

Taiwan

Evangelism Results

In our last mountain campaign, we were invited to preach in a Presbyterian church. We prayed for 141 people the first night and about 80 people on each night after that. Devils were cast out of some 80 people. Men were delivered from alcoholism; people who could not walk were raised up; and two people received the

baptism in the Holy Spirit right in the prayer line as we prayed for them.

—Garland Benintendi

Burma

Has World War III Begun?

Some authorities say that if World War III has already begun, the focal point is right here in Asia. Look at all the trouble spots in the world and see how many are in Asia. War between India and Pakistan was one; civil wars in Laos, Viet Nam, and Indonesia are others. There is trouble between Malaysia and Indonesia, communist uprisings in Thailand, and rebel groups in Burma. With a big finger in the middle is Red China.

We hear much about the underdeveloped nations of the world. Asia has more than half of the world's exploding population and the people are *undernourished* and *undereducated*. More important—they are *underevangelized*!

—Glenn Stafford



There were 125 people who signed decision cards for salvation during the meeting in Choong-Ju, Korea, with Missionaries Louis and Grace Richards and Korean Evangelist So Kyo Min.

Korea

Tent Evangelism

We have just returned from the city of Choong-Ju, located south-east of the capital city of Seoul, where revival meetings were con-

ducted for one week in the gospel tent. The Lord Jesus, ever faithful to His promises, worked with us confirming His Word "with signs following." Evangelist So Kyo Min—our own son in the

MISSIONARY NEWS NOTES

Missionaries recently returned to the United States for furlough are the **Lawrence Olsons** (Brazil), the **David Godwins** (Costa Rica), the **Sam Beckdahls** (Tanzania), **Geraldine Morrison** (Burma), and **Laura Pape** (Liberia).

The **Russell Schirmans** (Brit-

ish Honduras) returned to their field. The **Richard Hammerslas** (Malaysia), the **Norman Andersons** (Brazil), and the **Eldon Easters** (Honduras) are new missionaries who have recently gone to their appointed countries. The **Richard Larsons** (Costa Rica) are now in language school in Costa Rica.

John Weidman and his family recently left Switzerland, where he had been doing advanced language study, and are returning to Upper Volta.

The **Paul Palsers** have transferred from British Guiana to Panama, and **Florence Christie** from Lebanon to Egypt.

Missionaries who have been transferred from the missionary to the ministerial list are **Clarence Maloney** (South India) and **Delmar Guynes** (Malaysia), who are currently in home ministry; and **Elvin Irwin** (Brazil) and **David Peck** (Upper Volta), who returned for health reasons.

Edmond Dellewende Chastagner was born to Mr. and Mrs. **Paul Chastagner** (Upper Volta) on October 5, 1965.



The Russell Schirman family



The Richard Hammerslas family



The Eldon Easter family



The Norman Anderson family



The Richard Larson family



Yun Gwon (left) and Chu Chey Hwa (center) were both reclaimed and healed in the Choong-Ju meeting. Kim Hak Chun, a Buddhist, was converted and delivered from the habit of smoking.

Lord—worked with us in this campaign.

At the close of the week there were 125 signed decisions, an undetermined number were filled with the Holy Spirit, others testified they had been healed of sicknesses, and still others were delivered of evil habits.

Pastor Suk reported that an insane woman had been restored to her normal mind. A girl named Chu Chey Hwa had suffered from neuralgia since childhood. When she came to the revival meetings, she was backslidden. As soon as she repented of her sins, she stood

and testified that her sick body was healed.

A man named Yun Gwon, while backslidden, was struck by a truck and his leg was broken. After hospitalization, there was still pain and lameness. During the revival meetings, Yun came back to the Lord. He stood and testified that his leg had been completely healed.

—Louis P. Richards

Communist Bibles

Copies of Korean Bibles, their text distorted to serve North Korean Communist propaganda purposes, were included in a display in New York of counterfeit jour-

nals, books, and magazines that have recently been circulated in South Korea.

The exhibit was arranged at the Carnegie Endowment International Center on the United Nations Plaza by South Korean authorities.

Circulation of distorted publications has increased in recent years. Scientific and professional journals, popular magazines, books, and newspapers such as the *New York Times* and *London Times* have been forged, with Communist propaganda interlaced throughout the regular text. Most forgeries are in Korean but some are in English.

The material is presumably produced in North Korea and sent to South Korea through a variety of channels. Some of it arrives at a South Korean destination bearing forged foreign postage stamps and cancellations.

One of the distorted Korean Bibles has the following insertion in Luke 12:22: "The United Nations has no right to discuss the Korean question and it has lost even its moral authority to concern itself in the Korean question. Moreover... the United Nations,

having had its name abused by the American Imperialist, has been reduced to a belligerent in the aggressive war against the Korean people."

—*Evangelical Press Association*

Greece

Evangelistic Campaign

Evangelist and Mrs. Watson Argue came to Athens at a time our work needed much encouragement. The government does not permit advertising of such meetings; however, the news soon spread by word of mouth. The crowds grew until the building was packed. Many came for the first time, and we are thankful for the results at the altar night after night.

This has been our most profitable and successful evangelistic effort. The meetings continued throughout most of December; and our people were reluctant to see the campaign close when the evangelist had to leave for commitments in Africa.

Brother Argue ministered in the suburban churches as well as in Athens. Our people are hoping for a return visit.—*Mary Metaxatos*

MISSIONARIES NEEDED IN CONGO

In a recent letter to Angeline Tucker, Simon Karada, pastor of the Assemblies of God church in Paulis, Congo, wrote that 1,153 people were present at the Christmas Day service. Attendance has never been so high for that day. He said 22 new believers were baptized in water on Christmas Day, and many others are now preparing for the next baptismal service.

Pastor Karada reports that he now has the help of three other pastors to assist him in caring for the large congregation in Paulis, but that he and the other Congolese believers miss the missionaries very much. It is evident that the national church leadership has matured under the adverse circumstances of the past year. The Bible school has not been reopened, however, and no new ministers are being trained.

Concerning the pastors and other Christians being held by the rebels, he wrote that he does not know if they are dead or alive. A number of pastors in or near rebel areas have not been heard from for some months.

There is an urgent need for someone to obey the call of God to go to the Congo. Here is a direct translation (from Bangala into English) of Pastor Karada's own words:

"The workers who are with me and I are praying together much

for the missionaries so that God will pound the hearts of some of them to come and help us carry the burden of the work of God here. Please don't stop praying for us!"

Our entire missionary staff for the Congo now consists of two single ladies, Gail Winters and Lillian Hogan, who are working temporarily in the Bible school in Haiti until they can go back to their area of Congo. The area in which the Assemblies of God has worked in Congo is still only partially free from rebel control, and the city where our Bible school is located is still held by the Simbas.

The Foreign Missions Department is taking all possible action to help with this urgent need. Everett L. Phillips, field secretary for Africa, is planning an exploratory trip to the Congo to investigate what our losses have been and to see what can be done to reestablish our Assemblies of God missionary staff in the Paulis area. Any missionaries going to Paulis must learn to speak two languages—French (the official government language) and Bangala (the language spoken by the majority of the people of that area).

The Foreign Missions Department solicits the prayers of all Christians that the needs of the Congo work might soon be met.



Congolese children have not seen one of our missionaries in over a year. Bangala and French must be learned to tell them of Christ.

Though the Bible school buildings are still believed to be in rebel hands, there is an urgent need to continue training pastors.



NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

MISSOURI CONGREGATION WORSHIPS IN NEW CHURCH

GALLATIN, MO.—The congregation of the Assembly here recently dedicated a new building in ceremonies conducted by Glen Renick, district superintendent of Northern Missouri.

Construction began two years ago on facilities to accommodate the growing congregation. Much of the labor for the frame 36- by 60-foot church was donated. The building is valued at \$20,000. The Lord has blessed the church financially, and only a small indebtedness remains.

James B. Booth has been pastor of the church since 1961.



New Assembly at Gallatin, Mo. (Pastor and Mrs. James Booth, inset)

many visitors helped swell the attendance. About 23 were saved, and many rededicated themselves to the Lord.

—T. C. Moon, pastor

* * *

SOUTHINGTON, CONN.—Believers were blessed and dedications were renewed during a revival campaign at Calvary Assembly here with Evangelist and Mrs. Gene Burgess. The messages from the Word challenged all. Sister Burgess conducted a story hour at which two children were converted.

—Benton M. Tippet, Jr., pastor

* * *

ROGERS CITY, MICH.—God's blessings were enjoyed by the folk of Faith Assembly in recent revival services with Evangelist Waldo Risner. One was saved, one reclaimed, and five were filled with the Spirit. Sunday school attendance set a new record. The entire church was greatly encouraged and strengthened by Brother Risner's ministry.

—Robert H. Cilke, pastor

MELBOURNE, FLA.—The ministry of God's Word by the "Little Joe" Peterson evangelistic team of York, Pa., inspired and blessed First Assembly here recently. The ministry of music and God's Word went forth in the power of the Spirit. Some 15 accepted Christ, a number rededicated their lives, and several received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The prayer meetings following the services were especially blessed. Consistent attendance was noted, and a capacity crowd was present for the closing service.

—S. Anderson, pastor

* * *

PETERSBURG, W. VA.—One of the greatest revivals Faith Assembly here has ever experienced prompted many to accept Christ. Many believers received the Holy Spirit, and others were refilled. Several notable healings were reported. The preaching of the Word and music by Evangelists Ken and Gloria Kashner of York, Pa., moved believers nightly to make new dedications to God. Lasting effects are being seen.

—R. D. Smith, pastor

* * *

PORTSMOUTH, VA.—Some 31 came forward for salvation at the Assembly here during a great revival recently. Many were refilled with the Spirit, and a number testified to healing during the services with the "Little Joe" Peterson evangelistic team of York, Pa.

George Montgomery, who attends the church, had returned from the hospital being warned to "take it easy" because of a ruptured diaphragm. He had been in almost constant pain. After prayer

was offered, the healing of his body was completed. It has been over four weeks, and he does as he pleases without pain. Another lady was gloriously healed while waiting for prayer. The church will not soon forget this blessed move of the Spirit.

—Homer Peterson, Jr., pastor

WESTVILLE, FLA.—God mightily blessed the Assembly here during Evangelists Michael and Peggy Lord's "God Save America" crusade. The soul-winning course and distribution of literature and posters prior to the campaign helped build interest. Other churches cooperated, and

DALLAS PASTOR HONORED FOR 20 YEARS' SERVICE

DALLAS, TEX.—Oak Cliff Assembly here recently had an opportunity to count its blessings. The occasion was the recognition of 20 years of faithful service by the pastor, H. C. Noah.

The ministry of the Assembly has made notable progress. The most recent development was the opening of a new church plant

about 16 months ago. The half-million-dollar colonial red brick structure accommodates 1,450 for worship and educational activities. It is complete with an educational unit on a 17-acre tract.

Services conducted include a Thursday "Activity Night," as well as regular services. The church supports the missionary, benevo-

lent, and educational ministries of the fellowship. A daily radio broadcast and a Sunday morning program have been aired over KSKY, Dallas, for the past 20 years. Attendance at Oak Cliff has more than doubled in that time. "This is only the beginning of new ventures of faith we propose to undertake for the glory of God," Pastor Noah said.

The congregation presented Pastor and Mrs. Noah with a new automobile with thanks for 20 years of outstanding service.

Front view of the Oak Cliff Assembly which accommodates 1,450 for worship and educational activities (Pastor H. C. Noah, inset)





String band that played and sang during the meeting with Evangelist E. Howard Anderson at the Elim Assembly in Umea, Sweden.

UMEA, SWEDEN—Elim Assembly here recently experienced seasons of refreshing during 11 days of revival services with E. Howard Anderson, American evangelist. The zealous preaching, stressing complete healing for spirit, soul, and body, was a help to many. Some were saved, and 25 were baptized in the Holy Spirit. Many were healed, including one lady with severe back pains.

It often became necessary to provide extra seats to accommodate the crowds which packed the church nightly. Waves of rejoicing and ecstasy swept over the church as one after another received the Holy Spirit.

It is encouraging to know that the preaching of the full gospel still results in "signs following" those who believe.

—Emil Dahl, pastor

* * *

GREENSBORO, N. C.—Third Assembly of God here experienced a genuine move of God's Spirit during a successful revival campaign with Evangelist Freddy Clark of York, Pa. Ten came forward to receive Christ, and the Bible preaching stirred the faith of many.

—H. E. Nicholson, pastor

* * *

WEBBERS FALLS, OKLA.—The Assembly here was blessed by the ministry of the Word and song during a recent two-week revival campaign with Evangelist Ray C. Eskelin of Oak Park, Mich. Several knelt at the altar seeking God, and at least one family was added to the church.

—N. B. Rayburn, pastor

* * *

RADCLIFF, KY.—A move of God's Spirit was experienced by the believers at the Assembly here recently. Evangelist Dennis Carpenter, Paducah, Ky., ministered during the one-week effort. Souls were saved, believers filled with the Holy Spirit, including visitors from other denominations.

—Eddie L. Ogletree, pastor

EAST PRAIRIE, MO.—God answered the prayers of those believing for revival at the Assembly here with a wonderful spiritual move. Eight were saved, seven reclaimed, one was filled with the Holy Spirit, and two were refilled in revival meetings with Evangelist Glenna Byard. Attendance was very good.

A new educational unit was recently added to the church build-

ing. Attendance is up, and the church is enthused about working to increase the Sunday school.

—Dale Pollard, pastor

* * *

WINDHAM, OHIO — The Drakesburg Assembly here reports 16 saved and many drawn closer to the Lord during wonderful revival services with Evangelist and Mrs. W. W. Martin. Attendance at the meetings equaled the regular Sunday school attendance.

—Raymond L. Zents, Jr., pastor

* * *

CODEN, ALA.—The Assembly here enjoyed a divine visitation during services conducted by Evangelist and Mrs. S. P. Bostic, Jr. Souls were saved, believers received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, some were healed, and some were refilled as God moved in a special way every night.

Attendance was very good throughout the campaign, especially on Family Night when the evangelist preached on the rapture of the Church. The congregation was stirred and blessed by the anointed singing and preaching of the Bostics.

—Walter R. Elmore, pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGIONAL NAE CONVENTION—10th Eastern Regional Convention of NAE (National Association of Evangelicals), March 21-22, at Messiah College, Grantham, Pa. Begins Monday noon, continues all day Tuesday. Arthur M. Climenhaga, NAE executive director, speaking Monday night. John C. Broger, director of Armed Forces Information and Education, Department of Defense, Washington, speaking Tuesday night. For further information write College Relations Office, Messiah College, Grantham, Pa.

CHURCH DEDICATION AND HOMECOMING—Feb. 27 at First Assembly of God, St. Petersburg, Fla. Service at 2:30 p.m. at new location, 2021 62nd Ave. N. Special guests will be Arthur Graves, speaker; and South-Eastern Bible College choir.—by L. Wayne Pitts, pastor.

MISSIONARY CONVENTION—Feb. 23-27th at Milwaukee Gospel Tabernacle, Milwaukee, Wis. Speakers: Paul Hoff, Norman Rehwinkel, O. E. Carter, and Lawrence Olson.—by Ernest J. Moen, pastor.

EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ala.	Montgomery	Central	Feb. 23-Mar. 6	Ernest & Mrs. Berquist	V. V. Lambert, Jr.
Ariz.	Tucson	First	Feb. 27—	J. B. & Mrs. Essary	L. G. Gilmore
Ark.	Bauxite	First	Feb. 21-Mar. 6	G. W. Hathcock	Fagen Flowers
	Danville	A/G	Feb. 27-Mar. 13	Royce L. Lowe	H. C. Greer
Calif.	Jacksonville	First	Feb. 6-20	G. W. Hathcock	Lester Burton
	Arcata	First	Feb. 27-Mar. 13	Fisher-Cheek Team	D. L. Rhodes
	Corning	First	Feb. 22-27	Garfield J. Unruh	Jim L. Logan
	Ft. Bragg	A/G	Feb. 8-20	Garfield J. Unruh	George McQueen
	Gardena	Victory Tab.	Feb. 23-Mar. 6	E. J. Stufflebeem	Leon Quillin
	Los Banos	A/G	Feb. 27-Mar. 6	Charles Senechal	Leonard Couchman
	Paramount	First	Feb. 22—	Thomas Ming	Ted Singleton
Colo.	So. San Gabriel	Garvey	Feb. 24-Mar. 6	Harry J. Steil	Dan Ballard
	Ventura	Central	Feb. 24-27	Message for America Tm.	Sheldon Simmons
	Colorado Spgs.	First	Feb. 27-Mar. 4	Paul Fenton	Lloyd Christiansen
Fla.	Grand Junction	First	Feb. 23-Mar. 6	Glen Shinn	Kenneth Schmidt
	Orlando	First	Feb. 23-Mar. 6	Don & Dixie Cox	Crawford Railey
Ill.	Tampa	Egypt Lake	Feb. 27-Mar. 13	S. P. & Mrs. Bostic, Jr.	Maude E. Dilley
	Mattoon	First	Feb. 16-27	Winferd Mack	Truman Smith
Kans.	Scott City	A/G	Mar. 2-4	Knott-Olson Team	Ronald Mickley
	Topeka	Highland Park	Feb. 23-Mar. 6	The Singing Lunsfords	J. O. Rosenberg
Mich.	Grand Rapids	Woodmere Gardens Tab.	Feb. 27—	Charles Meppelink	Daniel D. Roehl
	Sturgis	A/G	Feb. 15-27	Joel & Mrs. Palmer	Donald Matthews
Miss.	Columbus	First	Feb. 22-Mar. 6	Geo. & Nadine Van Riper	Norwood Seymour
	Preston	Coye	Feb. 23-Mar. 6	Grover & Carolyn Dunn	C. E. Sims
Mo.	Carthage	First	Feb. 21-Mar. 6	Samuel V. Calk	G. Dean Reid
	Kansas City	Blenheim	Feb. 27-Mar. 4	Christian Hild	Milton Beckett
N. J.	Sullivan	First	Feb. 27-Mar. 20	Glenna Byard	A. W. Pettet
	Iselin	*A/G	Feb. 27-Mar. 4	David & Patricia Johnson	Harry W. Schaumburg
Okla.	Claremore	First	Feb. 23—	Bob & Alvena Wilson	R. L. Reddout
	Cleveland	First	Feb. 28-Mar. 6	Leonard Negrin	Perry A. Sanders
	Dewey	First	Feb. 27-Mar. 6	Clarence E. Lambert	L. A. Haymaker
	Sterling	A/G	Feb. 27-Mar. 13	Freddie Salisbury	Chester A. Powell
Oreg.	McMinnville	First	Feb. 27-Mar. 6	Thomas Hernandez	Warren Cornelius
	Portland	Evangel Temple	Feb. 23-27	Clifton Erickson	Joseph Dunets
	Salem	Central	Feb. 27-Mar. 6	D. L. Nultemeier	E. G. Wellman
Tex.	Ft. Worth	Liberty Tab.	Feb. 27-Mar. 13	Samuel S. & Mrs. Walley	Coyce Pollard
	Spearman	First	Feb. 27—	Charles McKnight	T. J. Taylor, Jr.
Wash.	Tyler	Bascom	Feb. 20—	Melvin McKnight	J. E. Parsons
	Packwood	A/G	Feb. 24-Mar. 6	Carl Johnson, Jr.	Bob Unruh
Wyo.	Casper	Faith	Feb. 22-Mar. 6	Wesley F. Morton	H. R. Kennedy
Canada	Vancouver, B.C.	Broadway Tab.	Feb. 22-27	Forseth Evangelistic Pty.	John Watts

*Children's Revival

Due to printing schedule, announcements must reach *The Pentecostal Evangel* five weeks in advance.

STEPS TO PERFECTION

By FRANCOIS FENELON

THE CHRISTIAN PERFECTION THAT PEOPLE DREAD (because they think it imposes gloom and constraint) is not perfection. We do not consider it constraint to do those things which we love to do. We find a pleasure in sacrificing ourselves to anyone we truly love. Thus the more we advance in perfection, the more willing we are to follow its Author.

PRAYER

When we love God, we do not ask what we shall say to Him. We have no difficulty in conversing with a friend. Our hearts are ever open to Him. We do not think what we shall say to Him, but we say it without reflection. We cannot be reserved. Even when we have nothing to say to Him, we are satisfied by being with Him. Oh, how much better we are sustained by love than by fear! Fear enslaves, constrains, and troubles

Francois Fenelon (1651-1715) was a well-known prelate and author in France. Some of his writings have become spiritual classics.

us; but love persuades, consoles, animates us; possesses our whole soul, and makes us desire goodness for its own sake.

SEPARATION

If you wish to love God, why should you pass your life in friendship with those who do not love Him and who slight His love? Why are you not satisfied with the society of those who will confirm and strengthen your love for Him?

I do not wish that you should break off entirely your connections with all those persons with whom politeness requires you to associate, and still less do I wish you to neglect any of the duties of your station. But I refer to those connections that are voluntary, and that may contaminate the heart, and insensibly weaken our best resolutions; intimacies with the vain and foolish, and the company of those who despise piety and tempt you to a dangerous dissipation. These things are dangerous for the most confirmed in virtue, and of course still more pernicious for those who have taken only the first steps in the right path, from which it is so natural for them to turn aside.

Two things only are necessary; the one is not to set a bad example, that we may never have to blush for the religion of Jesus; the other is to do without affectation and without fanfare whatever a sincere love to God demands.

SORROW

I pray to God not that He may take away your grief from you, but that He may give you strength to support it, and that He may not let you sink under it.

These great sorrows are the remedies for the diseases of our minds. It is through great suffering that the mystery of Christianity is accomplished. I mean the crucifixion of self. It is then that the grace of God is unfolded to us, and that we understand its intimate operation upon us, and that we are taught to sacrifice self. We must turn our thoughts away from ourselves before we can give them to God; and that we may be constrained to do this, it is necessary that our hearts be so deeply wounded that all created things be turned into bitterness to us. Thus touched in tenderest part, troubled in its sweetest and purest affections, the heart feels that it cannot support itself and escapes from its weakness and goes to God.

These are violent remedies, but sin has made them necessary. This is the true support of the Christian in affliction.

CONSECRATION

It is sacrificing little to relinquish this phantom called the world; they are to be pitied who think they lose much in quitting it. Every true Christian renounces it. To do so is to seek a sheltering port from the storm.

The world, it is true, promises peace, but never gives it; it yields us some fleeting pleasures, but they cost us more than they are worth. It is the religion of Jesus alone that can give peace to man; it unites him with his Saviour; it subdues his passions; it controls his desires; it consoles him with the love of Christ; it gives him joy even in sorrow, and this is a joy that cannot be taken away.