

'BUILDING
TOMORROW'S
MEN'

THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

JUNE 16, 1968

TEN CENTS





WHEN THE PRODIGAL PRAYED

By R. E. ORCHARD / *Pastor, Assembly of God, Willmar, Minnesota*

WE DO NOT USUALLY THINK OF THE PRODIGAL SON (Luke 15) as being a man of prayer. Most often he is described as being weak and sinful. But twice in Luke's account we find the boy speaking to his father—once before he left home, and again on his return—and in these “prayers” is a beautiful lesson for us.

As the story begins the Prodigal was looking off into the distance. The far-off world seemed so wonderful and it was bidding him come. He was excited about the possibility of taking a step of his own and assuming responsibilities out there.

Knowing his father had a sizable inheritance waiting for him, the boy made his first plea to his father: “Give me the portion of goods that falleth to me.”

Note the first two words: “GIVE ME.” He had decided that his brother was stupid, that life at home was very dull, and that the homefolk were in a rut; so he asked for what was his and left home.

This prayer, “Give me,” is all too common today. Treating God as though He were a most kindly gentleman, people have petitioned Him for health, money, clothing, food, ease, pleasure, and just about anything else—without any thought of a life of holiness or a change of ways or expressing thanks or wanting to know God for the sheer enjoyment of knowing Him. In self-will and riotous living we have appealed to God as to an all-seasons Santa Claus.

What is the result of all this? We have ended up in the pignpens. Our greed and lust and craving has been for material things which are never able to satisfy the heart.

The Prodigal Son found this out, for it was not long before the money was spent; and when his fling was over, he was of all men most miserable.

Here the Bible account inserts a suggestive phrase: “he came to himself.” This is the need—to come to ourselves, to take inventory of what we are and where we are going and what life really means.

After taking account of his condition, he decided to do the hardest thing he had ever done in his life—to go home and say, “Father, I have sinned. I am not worthy to be called thy son.” This would not be a request, but rather a confession.

Self-will does not yield easily, but it must yield in order to gain the higher prize of fellowship with God and satisfaction in the heart. Once he confessed, the whole attitude of the Prodigal changed. Whereas his first “prayer” had been “Give me”—now he prayed “MAKE ME.”

“Make me as one of thy hired servants.” Having an abundance of money, gaining the right of self-expression, being able to go out into the world and do anything he pleased, did not change his character. But his new prayer, “Make me,” suggests that an inner change was desired.

We need to heed this lesson the next time we pray. Let us ask less for things and instead desire a better character which will bless mankind and glorify God.

Isaac Watts, known as the father of English hymns, began composing music for the church at a very early age. A prodigy, he had come home from church one

morning and complained to his father that the hymns of the church were too much like dirges, without meaning or appeal to the heart. In a rather rude manner his father replied, "If you don't like the hymns, why don't you do something about them?"

Isaac Watts did, and from his pen there came such meaningful hymns as, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past," "Joy to the World," "Alas! and Did My Saviour Bleed," "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun," and the hymn which probably will never be surpassed, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

Revival was in the air in England during the lifetime of Watts, and also in the New England colonies under the renowned Jonathan Edwards. Cities were filled with joy as Samaria was when Philip preached there. Men and women sang at all hours of the day. People lifted their hands and praised God. In some towns so many people turned to God for a change of heart and life that the theaters and liquor halls closed, church building projects multiplied, Bible societies were founded and world missions increased at a great rate.

At the turn of the 20th century a great change took place. Many denominations began to cool off in their evangelical fervor, and the Sunday evening service was dropped. Following World War I there was a great letting down in the midweek Bible study and prayer service until thousands of churches across the land had nothing left but a Sunday morning service and some departmental activity during the week. Soul winning became a strange thing. Sermons became more filled with "social service" and "brotherhood" than with the powerful Bible truths of confession, repentance, atonement, and new birth. In such an atmosphere millions left the church. The church went down the steep decline to modernism. The blind led the blind into the apostasy of these last days.

But what is it that brings joy to the hosts of heaven? Is it full churches? Is it long membership rosters? Is it beautiful oratory or majestic anthems or grand facilities? No! All of these are simply means to an end. Jesus said the thing that makes God happy and causes the angels of heaven to shout for joy is to see a sinner come to repentance.

When the human heart is broken before God in honest and earnest desire for divine help, then the channel is open for the Holy Spirit to move in the heart. John 15:7 shows the premium God puts on a broken spirit: "I say unto you, that joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

In the parable of the lost coin, when the woman finally found the coin she called in her neighbors to rejoice with her. Again the Lord made the comparison by saying, "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

And when the stories of the lost sheep and the lost coin were finished, He continued by giving us the story of the Prodigal who "came to himself" and realized that life's purpose is not found in things, but in a character made anew and developed by the grace of God.

"Make me . . . O God" should be our cry. "Develop me into the image of the Lord Jesus. Stamp upon my heart His lovely likeness. May His beauty be etched upon my soul."



HIS ONLY FATHER!

IT WAS A SIMPLE, almost casual experience. Funny thing, though. I find that God often gets through to me best in blockbuster effect through ordinary little things.

From the balcony of our church I got an angle view of my squirming son as he wiggled his way all over that church pew waiting for a special Sunday school program to start. As I looked at him, my mind clicked as this thought came:

Barring accident, I'd be the only father this boy would ever have. So I'd better be a good one! The *only* window to the world he would have in the way of a father. For him, much of life would be seen as he saw it in me and as I taught him.

Family wise . . . socially . . . financially . . . affectionately . . . his *only* father. But most important, *spiritually*.

And I winced inwardly as I researched my soul to see what kind of a father I *had* been to the lad entrusted by God to me. In that quiet moment I concluded for myself and I pass it on to you, that my son needs me more spiritually than he does any other way.

So does your son.

Ephesians 6:4 leaped out at me, "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

My job. Not my wife's job. Who has more time? *Your* job, dad. *Not* your wife's.

The Christian home in North America will regain its rightful godly backbone when dad resumes the place he too often has given up—as the spiritual head of the house! It's strange but true, too, that when dad assumes his Biblical place, everything else falls in place.

Remember, you're the only father your son, or sons, will ever have. So, you'd better be a good one! May God be able to say of you, as He said of Abraham, in Genesis 18:19, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord to do justice and judgment. . . ."

Pull out your Bible on Father's Day. Gather the family around. Read some verses. Ask the children and your wife what prayer requests they have, then voice them to God as you lift your family heavenward as the spiritual head of your home.

—MEL LARSON, Editor
The Evangelical Beacon

Fathers in the Spirit

ON THIS DAD'S DAY we would like to honor our *spiritual* fathers for a change. Not that our fathers in the flesh do not deserve whatever attention they may get on their special day. Too often a father is "taken for granted." A little show of appreciation and affection is not likely to spoil him. After all, the family depends on Dad for a lot more than just a name.

So if your father is still living, don't miss this opportunity to give him that extra bit of happiness on Father's Day. And if he is in heaven, be thankful God blessed you with a Christian father. It's a blessing some have never enjoyed! But let's be thankful also for the ministers, deacons, Sunday school teachers, Royal Ranger leaders, and other *spiritual* fathers in the church. We owe a debt to them, too.

Incidentally, have you noticed how much the Bible has to say about fathers? No doubt it is to impress the male with his responsibility, rather than to appeal to his vanity, but the Scriptures speak of fathers several times as often as they speak of mothers. Evidently dads are rather important in God's sight, and *spiritual* fathers are especially so.

As far as we know, the apostle Paul had no natural sons or daughters, but he had many "children"—spiritual children—whom he loved as dearly as any earthly father ever loved his offspring.

The converts in Galatia, for example, had been saved under his ministry and he wrote to them as only a father would write—praising their good points, warning them of weaknesses, and giving them sound advice. And they, in turn, would have given their very eyes to help him if it had been possible.

Most of us can name similar "fathers in the Spirit" who have been instrumental under God in winning us for Christ or leading us deeper in Him. They have borne with us when we stumbled, shared our burdens, held on in faith for our healing when we were sick. They have lingered long at an altar of prayer while we sought the face of the Lord. They commended us, counselled us, warned us, encouraged us to keep believing.

We are thankful today for the spiritual fathers in the church who have cared for our souls with a paternal love born of the Holy Ghost. We owe them more than we can tell.

As the apostle said, "Though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel" (1 Corinthians 4:15). Paul's whole life was wrapped up in his converts. Once he wrote an entire epistle for the sake of one of his spiritual children who happened to be a slave. He spoke of him as "my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds" (Philemon 10).

A good father has a deep concern for his children. He watches out for their welfare, is patient with them, takes delight in their company, sets the right example before them, weeps over their mistakes, and takes pride in their successes.

Blessed are all they who have such "fathers in the Spirit." How can we ever repay them? The best way, probably, is to follow the path they have laid out for us.

As one great fatherly soul said long ago, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth" (3 John 4).

—R.C.C.

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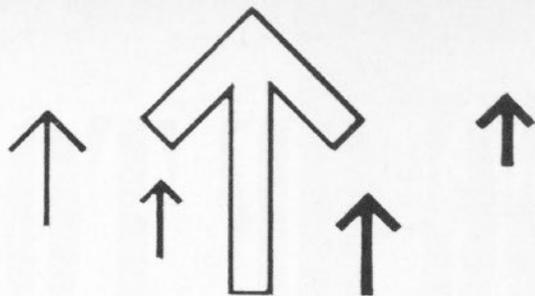
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STATEMENT OF FAITH

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.



OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

By RALPH M. RIGGS

ON FATHER'S DAY it is customary to pay some attention to our earthly fathers. It is scriptural to "honor thy father and thy mother." We who were blessed with Christian fathers should be very thankful; but regardless of the merits or shortcomings of our earthly fathers, we have a Heavenly Father whose love is infinite, whose holiness is immaculate, and whose wisdom is perfect. Let us direct our thoughts toward Him for a few moments.

The Fatherhood of God is wonderful indeed and we should take great comfort in the fact. Jesus taught His disciples to pray, "Our *Father*, which art in heaven." He is not a tyrant, neither is He disinterested in the creatures He has made. The Psalmist said, "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." Jesus promised, "If ye then being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children, *how much more* shall your father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him."

"Like as a Father" and "how much more" describe the relationship of the Heavenly Father to His earthly children. His love surpasses all human love. How beautiful and how adequate for all our needs.

God *pities* His children. His is a tender, loving concern. His love is pictured in the parable of the prodigal son in the father's deep longing.

In the sermon on the mount Jesus listed the physical needs of earthly children: "What shall we eat? what shall we drink? and wherewithal shall we be clothed?" Then He assured us, "Your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things." And He promised, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." Here is the ample provision of earthly needs plus a full supply for our spiritual needs. All the material things we need added to spiritual riches makes a compounded blessing such as only our Heavenly Father can give.

This promise is repeated through Paul: "My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). This covers our material blessings plus the riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Only a Heavenly Father has access to riches in glory. David knew this for he said, "The Lord God is a sun and a shield; he will give grace and glory; no good thing will he withhold from them that walk up-

rightly." Here again is full provision on an earthly scale, keeping back no good thing, plus the divine factor, grace and glory. Our Father weighs our spiritual lives in order to find "them that walk uprightly" and then He measures out the "good things" accordingly. How faithful He is. His love is so balanced and so complete.

Another expression of a Heavenly Father's love is shown in Hebrews 12:6, 11. "Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. . . . Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."

To change the figure of speech, a faithful husbandman purges or prunes every fruit-bearing branch that it may bring forth more fruit. He never forgets nor slackens His love for us; He is always kind, even when He finds it necessary to chastise or "cut us back." He loves us too much to let us go unchecked.

God's supreme provision for us was our wonderful Saviour. In His great love He met our deepest need by giving His only Son that our sins might be washed away and that we might have everlasting life. And "He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things." Here is the gift package of good things which comes to us in Him: wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. All this is ours, given to us in Him.

Having given us heaven's richest jewel, His only beloved Son, our Father turns to the other Person in His great triune being. "How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him" (Luke 11:13). He gives no less than the Holy Spirit, the third member of the Holy Trinity, to them that simply ask Him! How infinite the gift, how infinitesimal the price! Ours for the asking! What largess of heart in "our heavenly Father"!

Even this is not all. Having given His Son and His Spirit, God the Father also gives Himself. "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:23). This proves the completeness of His love.

Finally, just for good measure, our Father exhausts the resources of heaven on our behalf by giving *His angels* charge over us to keep us in all our ways. How exceedingly fortunate we are to have such a loving Heavenly Father keeping us constantly under His guidance and care!

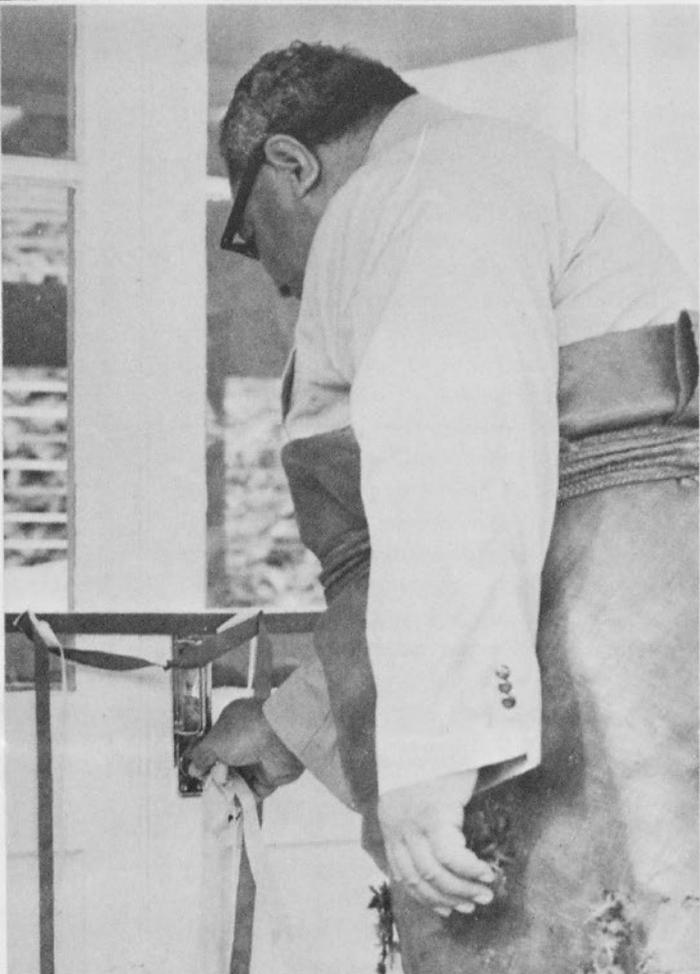
Ralph M. Riggs, former General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, now serves on the faculty of Bethany Bible College, Santa Cruz, California.



KING OF TONGA

Attends Church Dedication

By LAWRENCE R. LARSON / *Missionary to the South Pacific*



King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV and Queen Mata'aho attended the dedication of the first Assemblies of God in Tonga. The king spoke words of greeting and then opened the church door with a key provided by the church builder.



THE SKY WAS BRIGHT and clear over Nuku'alofa, the capital of the Kingdom of Tonga. God had answered prayer again. After many days of rain that had threatened the success of dedication day for the first Assemblies of God church to be built in this South Pacific country, God gave us one day without rain before the great event.

At four p.m. on Saturday, March 23, the church grounds were dry. People were crowding near to admire the beautiful new house of God.

Then all became silent in great respect as the royal car arrived and parked near the main entrance.

Their Majesties King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV and Queen Mata'aho stepped out of the car. We all stood at attention as the band played the national anthem. Then I welcomed the king and queen and the premier, Prince Tu'ipelehake, and introduced them to our visiting evangelists, Mr. and Mrs. Watson Argue.

The previous day an important ceremony had been performed in the palace grounds. After we had presented to the king and queen a customary gift, the royal spokesman made it clear that our ministers and the Assemblies

of God mission were welcome in the island Kingdom of Tonga.

Now at the door of the church, the king spoke to all of his pleasure in attending this dedication. He then officially opened the door with a key provided by the Tongan builder and led the way into the sanctuary, walking upon a carpet of woven mats. The church was soon filled with royalty, nobles, governors, and officials. The aisles were filled with church members and friends sitting on mats on the floor.

After prayer, a Pentecostal hymn, a Scripture reading on praise, and appropriate comments, Evangelist Watson Argue delivered a message of our

faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

Then followed the act of dedication. Pastor Apakuki Nacagilevu led the ceremony, while the royal family and all of the congregation helped with the response: "We dedicate this house of God."

When I finished the prayer of dedication, the national anthem was sung, and the king led the way out to a great feast provided by the church members and friends.

This dedication ceremony was recorded on tape and later broadcast over Radio ZCO for all people in the scattered Tongan Islands to hear. The radiomen described how the church was about 100- by 40-feet and situated in the center of the capital, across the street from the Tonga High School. An outstanding feature of the church is the large illuminated cross at the front. This lights up the main street in front of the church.

This spiritual lighthouse will serve to brighten the future of these islands with the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. From here several young people already have gone to Bible school in Fiji.

Immediately after the dedication we conducted a GOOD NEWS CRUSADE in the new church with the Watson Argues. Many people made decisions for Christ, including a cousin of the king, a police inspector, and the wife of a judge.

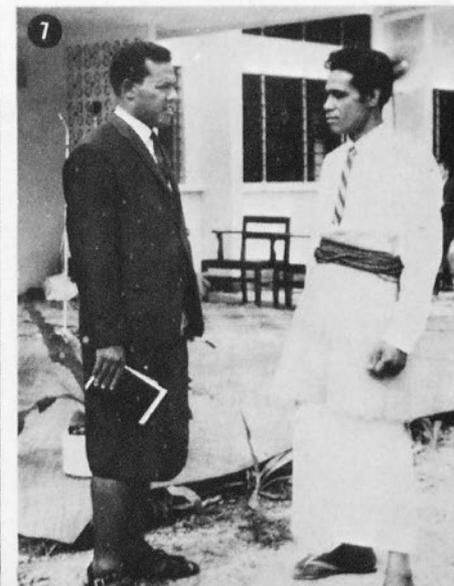
This work was started only 18 months ago with the help of funds from Light-for-the-Lost and GOOD NEWS CRUSADES. We printed 30,000 gospel tracts in the Tongan language. The evangelism tools provided by friends in America help each of us missionaries see more fruit from our evangelistic ministry than ever before.

In the short time that the Assemblies of God has been working in Tonga, we have organized three churches. There are also many preaching points. At the conclusion of this crusade we officially organized the national fellowship, the Assemblies of God of Tonga.

Our hearts are grateful to those in America who contributed to the cost of building this first Pentecostal church in the Tongan Islands. We will do our best to make this sacrifice count for eternity. You have helped many to sing with us more fervently: "Sing ye islands of the sea, echo back ye ocean caves; this our song of victory, *Jesus saves, Jesus saves.*"



1. The band. 2. Watson Argue and his interpreter. 3. Crowd attending dedication. 4. Pastor welcoming the queen. 5. Left to right: the queen, the king, the premier, and the premier's daughter. 6. The crowd outside the church before the dedication service. 7. Pastor Apakuki Nacagilevu and the builder by the church entrance.





BURMA REVISITED

A SPECIAL REPORT
By **MAYNARD L. KETCHAM**
Field Secretary for the Far East

Few men have done in a lifetime what Field Secretary Maynard L. Ketcham has done in the past few months. On a six-month tour of intensive study of the mission fields under his supervision, he visited 28 countries, flew on 83 airlines, traveled a total of 100,000 miles, and completed his 19th trip around the world! The Pan American World Airways office in Chicago said his was the longest ticket they ever issued.

When asked his impression of the work of the Assemblies of God in the Far East, he said, "Maturity... spiritual and material maturity." He was especially pleased with the development of national church leadership.

In the following article, Brother Ketcham reports on his brief return to the closed field of Burma.

MARCH 26, 1966, and September 30, 1967—both are memorable dates for the Assemblies of God work in Burma.

On the first date I was in Rangoon, Burma, to supervise the "liquidation" of all the foreign missionary activities of the Assemblies of God in Burma. The national government had given the firm edict: "By April 15, 1966, all foreign missionaries must have left Burma."

This edict caught many missions unawares. There was embarrassment, frustration, and anxiety as hastily conceived plans were put into effect. However, the Assemblies of God had been preparing for this denouement for many years. All that was necessary was to put "Plan A" into effect.

Nevertheless, the great farewell service held in the Rangoon Revival Center under the auspices of the field secretary was not a pleasurable occasion. This was the end of an era. It was the dawning of a new and uncertain day. The Foreign Missions Department had prepared a beautiful and suitably embossed plaque which was presented to the national church leaders.

Bravely and courageously they promised "to hold the torch high," to remain steadfast in the faith, and to develop the work. Thus, responsibilities were transferred. Missionary personnel were withdrawn, and the national church was left on its own behind the almost impenetrable "rice curtain" that has been raised around this fascinating and delightful country by the government of the Union of Burma.

On the second date—September 30, 1967—it was again my privilege to spend a Sunday in Rangoon. National leaders descended upon the city from the "up country" areas. A great rally was held in the now overcrowded Rangoon Revival Center. This was a joyous, almost hilarious occasion.

Reports of progress were thrilling. Since March 26, 1966, the 180 churches had increased to 300! During the same period, membership had grown from 12,000 to 25,000! The Bible school was full to overflowing, and every church in Burma was meeting its assessment to maintain the school!

At this meeting in Rangoon the na-

tional leaders enthusiastically adopted a five-year plan to take the Christian message to every home in Burma.

The political future of Burma is very uncertain. This little country, in its own way, has been trying to pursue its chosen destiny—free from Chinese influence, free from Western influence. The shadows and pressures from the "giant to the north" are steadily increasing; and Burma may soon turn toward the West to seek protection from its mammoth neighbor. Is another Vietnam in the offing?

The Assemblies of God church in Burma is a model church—self-propagating, self-supporting, and self-governing. Here is missions at its best. Yet there are ways in which we can help our friends in Burma.

Our Burmese brethren ask no help for support of pastors, for building churches, or for maintaining the Bible school. However, they do request their American friends to provide \$4,000 for the erection of two new staff quarters on the Myitkyina Bible School compound.

I left Burma with a deep sense of gratitude to God for the continued progress of our church in that land.

Special Offerings for FOREIGN MISSIONS

should be sent to:

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Foreign Missions Department

1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802



Maynard L. Ketcham was pleased with the progress of national workers. The Mogok church group (below) is one of 300 dedicated to taking the gospel to every home in Burma.



Millions worship in pagan temples in Burma, yet the Assemblies of God in that country has grown since March 1966 from a membership of 12,000 to 25,000 in their 300 churches.



CALL TO ACTION

J. PHILIP HOGAN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it" (Psalm 68:11).

If the Assemblies of God has anything to be both humble and grateful about, it is the fact that we have never had a real shortage of missionary candidates.

In this category we stand unique among most of the major missions of our times. For regular missionary work we have never recruited, yet last year we appointed or approved for appointment 71 new missionaries. Currently, there are about 110 applicants at some stage of application.

Nowadays very few young people come to us who have not graduated from one of our Bible colleges, and a considerable number have also done graduate work. This constant stream of applicants highlights the fine work our Bible colleges are doing.

Because foreign missionary ministry becomes more complex by the day, the Foreign Missions Board has authorized a full personnel division in the Foreign Missions Department to further expand our program of training and selection.

We feel most fortunate in being able to announce that Delmer Guynes, the vice-president of Southwestern Assemblies of God College, will join the Foreign Missions Department this summer to take charge of and develop this important sector of our work. He served on the mission field and now is finishing an educational program leading up to a doctor's degree in counseling and psychology.

When you think about missions, be grateful that we as yet have never had to actively solicit missionary candidates. When you pray for missions, pray for these young people who are embarking on foreign missionary careers during these days of unprecedented problems as well as unprecedented opportunities.

Israel Today

ANOTHER ARTICLE IN THE SERIES



By Z. KOFSMANN / *Pastor, Messianic Assembly, Jerusalem*

THE RESURRECTION OF THE HEBREW LANGUAGE

THE RESSURECTION of the Hebrew language, which for over 18 centuries was not spoken in everyday life, is as remarkable as the revival of Israel itself. Indeed, it is a most important factor in cementing the Jews into a united nation.

In the process of learning a common language the Jew has undergone a revolutionary change, casting off his 2,000-year shroud of exile, taking on a new aspect and mentality. Once again the language of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is heard throughout the hills and cities of the ancient homeland which has opened its arms to receive the ingathering of their descendants.

A hundred years ago Hebrew was considered a dead

language. Actually, however, the Jews never considered it so. It was the language of their Bible and the language of their prayers; and although they did not use it in secular life they always felt that at some time they would return to Zion and speak Hebrew. It remained for Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, a European Jew, to demonstrate that the time for doing so was now, not in some distant future.

So God raised up this man, born near Vilna in 1858, to lead the Jews back to a common language. The people were scattered abroad throughout the nations; they spoke the languages of the people among whom they dwelt. Many Jews in Europe spoke Yiddish, a language based

This aerial view of Jerusalem shows the walled city in the background and the Mount of Olives in the upper left-hand corner. The buildings in the foreground pertain to the Messianic Assembly, the flat-roofed portion attached to the sanctuary being the bookroom and the building on extreme right the pastor's residence.



on medieval German. Others spoke Ladino, based on medieval Spanish. In the spring of 1879 Ben-Yehuda (formerly known by the name Perlman) published an article in which he proposed that a Jewish state be founded in Palestine and that the language of that state be Hebrew. The more pious Jews were shocked at the suggestion: to them it was sacrilegious to think of using the language of the Bible in everyday conversation. A few of them spoke Hebrew, but only on the Sabbath. But Ben-Yehuda was a determined man and he was convinced his idea was right.

Driven by a supernatural force (though doubtless unaware of the fact) this young man laid aside his medical studies at the Sorbonne in Paris and, to the consternation of relatives and friends, made off with all his belongings toward Jerusalem. In 1880, on his way to Palestine, he wrote, "Today we are speaking foreign languages, tomorrow we shall speak Hebrew."

Jerusalem, the holy city, was at that period a hub of medieval fanaticism and obscurantism, unpenetrated by any ray of modernity. A few thousand pious Jews, old men for the most part, had come from all corners of the earth to live there, or rather to vegetate and die there. They concentrated in the area near the Wailing Wall and spent most of their time praying and bemoaning the loss of the Temple. There in the insalubrious Jewish quarter Elezzer Ben-Yehuda made his home and raised his family. He was the first man in Jerusalem to teach his children to speak Hebrew.

From the start he faced opposition from the ultra-orthodox Jews among whom he established himself. To them this young Jew was a heretic from the modern Sodom, who profaned the sacred tongue. How dare he speak of common things in Hebrew! He even addressed an "impure creature" (his wife) in that language, as well as his child! To them he was an enemy of God, a false messiah who ought to be obliterated, so he became an object of hatred and persecution. He and his family endured much suffering. Denunciations, threats, even the hardships of a Turkish prison became his lot. One of his children died—a little girl, the first child to "stutter" Hebrew words in Jerusalem. The orthodox saw in this the hand of God—it was punishment from heaven—and they refused to let him bury her in the Jewish cemetery. The father, crushed with grief, had to bury the child himself next to his house; but he persevered with stoic determination and courageously withstood all opposition.

He succeeded in establishing the first Hebrew-speaking family in Palestine after a span of 18 centuries. Soon a few other families who were newcomers followed his example. Little by little Hebrew became a language of conversation in various Jewish centers until its use became widespread. By 1918 some 40 percent of the Jews in Palestine spoke Hebrew. By 1948 the number had grown to 80 percent. Today it is estimated that 95 percent can carry on their daily business in Hebrew, although many still speak other languages at home and they may read daily newspapers in non-Hebrew languages.

Elezzer Ben-Yehuda created the first nonreligious Hebrew school where all subjects were taught in Hebrew. He also founded and operated four Hebrew newspapers, and was instrumental in establishing the Hebrew language council which in 1954 became the government's official Academy of the Hebrew Language. His chief



Hebrew is the language of instruction in the Jewish schools of Israel. Here young Israelis study drafting at the Ort Technical High School in Tel Aviv.

work, however, was gathering material for a 17-volume Hebrew dictionary now widely used.

In reviving the Hebrew language it was necessary to create many new words for modern use, particularly in industrial, technological, and professional areas. The Hebrew vocabulary in the Bible has only 7,704 different words. This vocabulary has been multiplied several times over. The Academy of the Hebrew Language has fixed the use of some 30,000 words.

The task of teaching the language to Jewish immigrants has been gigantic, but the Israelis, with characteristic vigor and resourcefulness, have devised rapid methods of learning. By means of these modern methods the immigrants are able to learn the language in five months. Among the 17 daily newspapers in Israel which are published in Hebrew there is one which uses simplified, voweled Hebrew for the benefit of immigrants who cannot yet read the regular Hebrew in which most vowels are omitted. Also Hebrew lessons and news bulletins in easy Hebrew are broadcast over the national radio.

Every Jew in Israel is urged to learn Hebrew and it is the language of instruction in all the Jewish schools, but Arabic is used by teachers in Arab schools. Arab citizens of Israel are not forced to learn Hebrew. There is full liberty for each race to maintain its own culture and traditions. Stamps, coins, and currency bear both Jewish and Arabic inscriptions.

The resurrection of the Hebrew language is a modern miracle—never before in human history has a "dead" language come to life again—and the man whom God used more than any other individual to accomplish this feat was Eliezer Ben-Yehuda. He died in 1922 and the whole land, particularly the Jews of Jerusalem, honored him with a grand funeral on a national scale. In every Jewish town in Israel one of the principal streets is named after him.

The advance of Hebrew, to which he dedicated his life, became a triumphal march which today overflows the frontiers of the promised land reaching toward every corner of the globe. Again Hebrew is a modern tongue which proclaims the power of God and His faithfulness to fulfill His promises—the miraculous accomplishment of His will in the past, in our time as well, and also in times to come. To Him be all the glory. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance" (Psalm 33:12).

TRUSTING IN THE LORD

Sunday School Lesson for June 23, 1968

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

PSALM 40:1-17

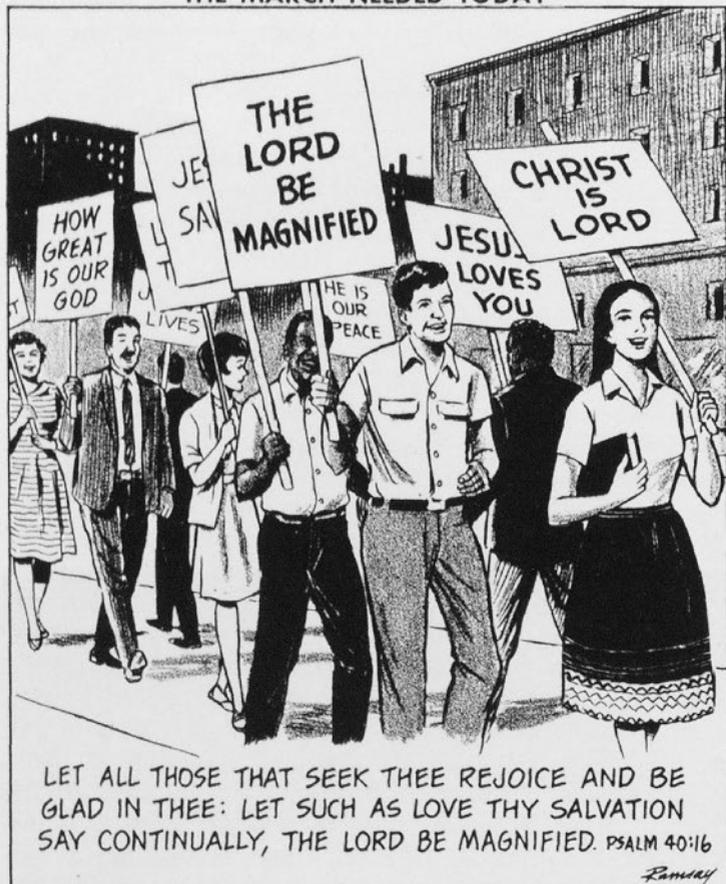
A PICTURE OF REDEMPTION (vv. 1-3)

Countless Christians have found that the three opening verses of this Psalm describe their own salvation. The words have been popularized in the familiar gospel hymn, "He Brought Me Out of the Miry Clay." Consider the steps:

1. *Patient waiting.* "I waited patiently for the Lord"—literally, "I waited and waited." The words may represent either the sinner's searching after God or the saint's seeking for divine help. Who can predict what blessed consequences would spring from individual and national waiting on God in this present hour?

2. *Providential deliverance.* "He inclined unto me." The words suggest a mother leaning over her babe, bending down in tender and loving concern. "And heard my cry." A mother can single out the cry of her own child. So God in His mercy hears the sinner and the needy Christian.

THE MARCH NEEDED TODAY



"He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay." These words indicate human hopelessness, the depths of depravity of the human heart in its natural state, and the resurrection of the sinner, "dead in trespasses and sins," to newness of life in Christ (Ephesians 2:1-8).

3. *Positive establishment.* "And set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings." A rock is a common figure of security (Psalms 18:2; 27:5). To the New Testament believer the rock symbolizes Christ in whom the believer indeed finds security and strength.

4. *Praiseful singing.* "He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God." A singing heart is a natural consequence of an experience of fellowship with God through Christ and of deliverance from the guilt and power of sin (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16).

5. *Powerful testimony.* "Many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord."

A PSALM OF PRAISE (vv. 4-10)

The song in verses 4-10 may be the "new song" referred to in verse 3. It falls into two general sections:

1. *The goodness and faithfulness of God* (vv. 4, 5). "Blessed [happy] is the man that maketh the Lord his trust [as the Psalmist had done]." Why? Because of the "many wonderful works" of the Lord. The Psalmist referred to God's past and present mercies—so multitudinous they "cannot be reckoned up in order" and counted. Not only so, but God's thoughts are constantly "to usward." (See Jeremiah 29:11.)

2. *The grateful dedication of the believer.* After considering God's wondrous loving-kindness, the Psalmist quite naturally began to think of what he could do to show his gratitude to God. "Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire." God takes no pleasure in mere formalities, however ostentatious. Samuel had already shown that "to obey is better than sacrifice." Only as outward acts of worship are the true expression of inner love and obedience to God's will and Word can they possibly satisfy the heart of God.

"I delight to do thy will... thy law is within my heart." Here is the essence of true spirituality. While these verses may express the disposition of a New Testament Christian they find complete fulfillment only in the Lord Jesus Christ (Hebrews 10:5-7). They speak of His voluntary submission to the Father's will, His infinite condescension, His incarnation ("a body thou hast prepared me"), and His fulfillment of the Father's will. (See Luke 2:49; John 4:32-34; 8:29; 17:4.) Such dedication by Christ calls for a like dedication from those whom He has redeemed.

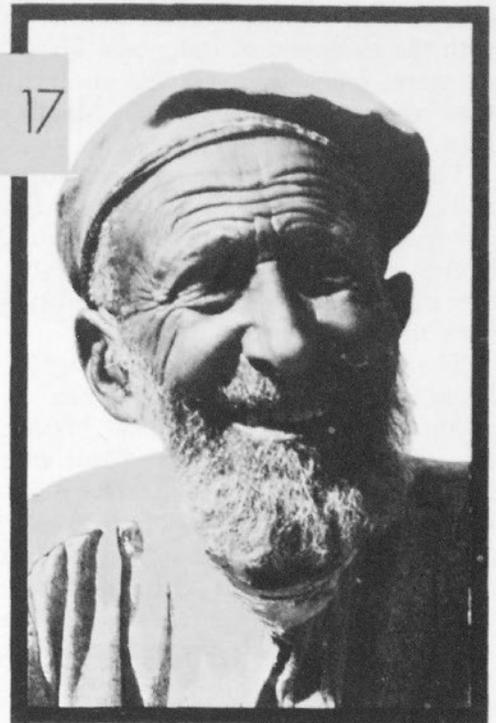
A PRAYER OF FAITH (vv. 11-17)

After considering ways in which he could show gratitude to God, the Psalmist turned to matters which have to do with continued enjoyment of God's blessing and favor. The remaining verses may be outlined as follows:

1. Need for continual mercy (v. 11)
2. Consciousness of human sinfulness (v. 12)
3. Request for deliverance from evil influence (vv. 13-15)
4. Exhortation to rejoice in the Lord (v. 16)
5. Assurance of God's love and all-sufficiency (v. 17)

Iran

By CHRISTINE CARMICHAEL



IRAN is the modern name of the ancient kingdom of Persia. The 2,500-year-old country, founded by Cyrus the Great, once extended from Greece to India. Magnificent ruins of palaces at Persepolis bear eloquent witness to the grandeur of the Persian Empire.

Iran's 26,000,000 people are spread thinly over 628,060 square miles. Persians, direct descendants of the early Aryans, comprise more than half the population. Minority groups include Armenians, Kurds, Jews, and Assyrians. The Persian language is written in Arabic script. *Azure*, *jasmine*, and *caravan* are three of many English

words that have a Persian derivation.

Iran is ruled by Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi who mounted one of the world's oldest thrones in 1941, but by choice was not crowned until October 26, 1967. The Shah delayed his coronation until he could bring about needed social reforms, produce a male heir to the throne, and "catch up with the 20th century."

Approximately 80 percent of the people pursue the age-old agricultural life. Much of the land is devoted to wheat and barley. Fifty varieties of grapes are grown, and about 120,000 tons of dates are produced annually near the Persian Gulf.

Iran's greatest source of income is its liquid gold—oil. Iran has been described as "a land of antiquity and tumult sitting atop a pool of oil." Oil moves by pipeline from five fields to the large refinery at Abadan on the Persian Gulf.

Tehran, the capital, a modern city of 2,500,000, is located in the foothills of the Elburz Mountains at an altitude of 5,000 feet. Nearby snow-capped Mount Damavand rises to 18,600 feet.

Zoroastrianism, introduced by Zoroaster in the seventh century B.C., was once the state religion of Persia. Christianity was planted by Syrian Christians in the third century A.D. Mohammed's advance in the seventh century resulted in the country's conversion to Islam, which today claims 98 percent of the population.

For centuries the spiritual needs of Iran went unheeded by the Christian church. The work of Protestant missions began when Henry Martyn, after five years in India, arrived in Shiraz in 1811. He stayed one year during which time he translated the New Testament into Persian. Due to failing health he left Iran overland for England and died in Tokat, Turkey, at the age of 31.

In 1834 Presbyterian missionaries reached Iran and developed medical and educational programs. The Church Missionary Society (Anglican) began its work in 1889. A number of societies later entered the country. The visible results of a century and a half of missions are relatively small, but



Missionaries

2

National Workers

16

Organized Churches and Outstations

13

Bible Schools

1

Enrollment

10

greater than in most Muslim countries with the exception of Indonesia. There is more religious tolerance in Iran than elsewhere in the Arab Middle East.

There were "Parthians and Medes and Elamites" present in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost, according to Acts 2:9, and no doubt they brought the news of the Spirit's outpouring back to their people in Persia.

The Pentecostal message was again taken to the land in 1909 when a group of Assyrian Pentecostal brethren left Chicago and returned to their homes in Urmia (now Rezaieh) in northwest Iran. They witnessed to relatives and friends and within a short time hundreds were saved and filled with the Spirit.

Then came the tragic years of World War I when the situation of Christians grew desperate. Many were martyred, others went to Iraq and Russia. The work revived a few years later when Assyrian refugees returned to Iran.

When Mr. and Mrs. John Warton were appointed to Iran in 1924, they established churches in Kermanshah and Hamadan and ministered in Rezaieh, John Warton's birthplace. One of the workers who assisted Brother Warton was Tooma Nasir, who continues to serve as superintendent of the Assyrian work.

Before the Wartons left for furlough in 1931, Samuel Kamber arrived followed by Philip Shabaz. Their ministry brought fresh courage and strength to their countrymen.

In 1955 an Armenian family received the Pentecostal experience, and a church was born in their home. This was the beginning of an independent Pentecostal effort which carried a burden to reach the Persian Muslim population as well as the Armenian

minority. In 1959 two talented young Armenians organized this work under the name of Filadelfia Churches. A few years later a tragic accident took the lives of both these young men, but the work continued to develop.

By 1965 this Pentecostal group numbered four growing churches which came into fellowship with the Assemblies of God the same year. This group, known as the Filadelfia Assemblies of God, is being used by the Lord in a special way through evangelism and literature to reach Muslims with the gospel message. From these churches God has called a number of young men to serve Him.

Until Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bliss were appointed to Iran in 1966, there had been no American Assemblies of God missionaries stationed there for nearly 30 years.

Mr. Bliss recognized the urgent need for trained workers and conducted two night Bible school sessions over a period of six months. Now a day school offering 15 hours of class instruction each week is being operated, with 10 students enrolled.

"To our knowledge this is the first and only full-time Bible school in Iran," writes Brother Bliss. "Our present plan calls for an overall period of two years' training. Four months will be spent in the classroom, then two months out in practical ministry. By this means we hope to lay a good Bible foundation in the lives of those who will minister God's Word to their own people."

Iran has embarked on a massive campaign to increase literacy, and this opens a door to extensive literature evangelism. Literature has proved a most effective means of reaching people in Muslim lands, for it enters places where missionaries and national believers cannot go.



Typical village women in the northern part of Iran. They too must hear the gospel.

A correspondence course was recently initiated by Filadelfia Assemblies of God with the financial help of our American Assemblies. About 4,000 are enrolled, of whom 95 percent are young Muslims. A number of the students in Tehran have been brought to the evangelistic center through the correspondence course.

The rented quarters we occupy in Iran are cramped. The evangelistic center, correspondence course operation, and the Bible school are housed in the same building. Brother Bliss writes, "Pray with us that God will open a way for us to secure our own building."

The harvest is plenteous in Iran but the laborers are few. A Pentecostal witness has been established in some cities, and there are a few groups of believers in northwest Iran; but thousands of isolated, mud-walled villages are unreached. The nomad tribespeople, who number more than a million, have been tragically neglected. Jesus came "that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

The greatest opportunity that the Christian church has ever had for evangelizing Iran may lie just ahead.



LEFT: Missionary Mark Bliss teaching in the Iran Bible School, the only full-time Bible school in Iran. BELOW: The Mark Bliss family.



DAD NEVER REALLY RETIRED

By HAZEL TIBBIT

MY FATHER MADE THE MOST OF HIS LIFE. Not even Mother's death a few weeks after his long-anticipated retirement began could put a stop to life for him.

For years he had suffered from arthritis; and his outstretched hands, swollen and stiff under the heat lamp, were a familiar sight in our home. Yet I never heard him complain.

With Mother gone, Dad was left alone with my teenage son David, who had lived with his grandparents since his father's death. Each of us four children invited Dad to make his home with us, hoping to give him companionship and relieve him of the care of the house and yard. But Dad decided not to leave the home he and Mother had shared for so many years and where they had recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. David, understandably, didn't want to leave his grandfather, and so we left them—with misgivings and questionings among ourselves about how the two (with the dog and cat) would manage to keep house and care for the yard.

Determined to help, I went over the following Saturday, prepared to spend the day cleaning house for them, only to be greeted by the hum of the vacuum cleaner and the washing machine. "I just wanted to clean the house for Sunday," Dad said cheerfully. David was doing the dishes.

Many times after that I would go to the house and find Dad ironing, sewing on a button, or stitching up a tear. Each small task once performed by Mother presented a challenge which he met with good-natured determination. The results weren't perfect, but I couldn't have been more proud.

He did agree to have Sunday dinners with me, however, and together we went to Sunday school and church—a lifelong habit for me. My earliest memories were of all of us going to Sunday school where Dad had served so long as superintendent and teacher. He had listened as his four children recited the books of the Bible in order or said the memory verses. He had instilled in us the knowledge of God's goodness and encouraged us to be thankful for the many things He provided for us and the beauties with which He surrounded us.

His Bible still rested on the small table next to his old upholstered rocker. Sometimes I would find him dozing with it lying open on his lap.

Retirement without Mother presented the problem of cooking. At first, he and David ate their evening meals at a restaurant, but after a while this lost its appeal. "Everything tastes alike," Dad said. The next thing I

knew, he had purchased a cookbook and was learning to cook.

David's school activities took Dad back to school, especially to the athletic events. He bought David some weights and taught him to use them to build his strength. He maintained a lively interest in the affairs of the community and nation, raising his voice with others to call for improvements of the sewer and water service in his community, for example, though he didn't live to see the benefits of his efforts.

I think my greatest surprise came the day I walked into the house to find one of the upholstered rockers out in the middle of the kitchen floor surrounded by piles of old covering he had stripped from it. Dad explained that he had enrolled in an upholstery class. He was then 72, and the arthritis occasionally affected his legs as well as his hands. I wondered how he would manage this project, but refrained from saying so.

He did manage, even guiding the material through Mother's old treadle sewing machine. Weeks later, when the chair was done, the neighbors came in to admire the finished product which, though not perfect, was a real triumph for Dad and a big improvement over the old covering. He went on to cover another rocker, and by this time I was not surprised at anything he might try.

Incidentally, the upholstery class had side benefits as well. I discovered that he was the only man in the class! Plates of cookies and other good things began arriving at the house—and there was more than one invitation to lunch.

Of course, all this didn't start with Dad's retirement. Throughout his life he rejoiced in the presence of God. He read God's Word daily and practiced it, grateful for all his blessings. He never lost his appreciation for the beauty of nature. To him everything worked together for good. Although there were inevitable problems, he somehow turned them into opportunities. "There is so much to live for," he would say.

Rather than avoiding responsibility, he welcomed it. And although he was never free for long from the arthritis, he refused to let it become his master or to use it as an excuse to give up. He never allowed himself to sit and brood over the loss of his life companion or to dwell on his loneliness and physical pain. He was far too busy being thankful for the blessings of God and finding things that needed to be done.

Dad retired from the daily routine as a press operator on a large newspaper, but he never retired from life. I thank God for his example and hope my own retirement years—when they come—will be as fruitful and satisfying.

Royal Rangers leaders of Montego Bay, Jamaica, gained valuable insights on the Royal Rangers program from conference with Johnnie Barnes.



These Fort Worth, Tex., Royal Rangers demonstrate "teamwork" as they work together to prepare lunch.



Royal Rangers Commander Merle Calkins gives racing tips to Trailblazer Richard Hotchkiss of Carlsbad, Calif., during a Go-Kart event sponsored by Rangers of Carlsbad, Sweetwater, and Chula Vista, Calif., outposts.

BUILDING TOMORROW'S MEN

BY JOHNNIE BARNES

National Commander of Royal Rangers

A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO a wise man said, "It is better to build boys than mend men."

What a challenge the church has to train and develop today's boys so they will become the kind of men needed in the church of tomorrow! In this generation of the new morality, in this age of crime and violence, in this hour of world unrest, in this time of crisis—may God help us begin now to build tomorrow's Christian men.

The Royal Rangers program has accepted this challenge. It is a well-rounded, consistent plan for developing boys socially, spiritually, mentally, and physically.

I was thrilled by the recent testimony of a Royal Ranger who stated he was saved at a Royal Rangers

campout. The program also inspired him to embrace the principles of Christian living; the activities helped him develop a strong physical body; being a part of the outpost taught him to get along with other people; and the program influenced him to dedicate his life to full-time Christian service. He is now in Bible school studying for the ministry.

TO DEVELOP BOYS SPIRITUALLY

The first step is to encourage boys to accept Christ. Many unchurched or unsaved boys are drawn to Royal Rangers by the attractive uniforms, the colorful badges and awards, and by the exciting activities.

When a boy joins the group, the wise leader immediately gives him an opportunity to accept Christ. As Christ is presented against the backdrop of Royal Rangers, Christianity seems to take on a new dimension. Accepting Christ becomes an exciting adventure!

Here are two examples of what is happening in many groups.

Commander Jewett of Morris, Illinois, writes: "We are thrilled that 35 boys have definitely accepted the Lord Jesus as their Saviour. Praise His name!"

Commander Baker of Santa Clara, California, com-



Royal Rangers of Carlsbad, Calif., explain the points of the emblem during an induction ceremony.



Royal Rangers of Glad Tidings Tabernacle, Everett, Mass., entered this award-winning float in the Fourth of July parade.



ments: "I'm happy to report that 28 boys now know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. About 10 have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Praise the Lord!"

At outpost meetings, during campouts, and around council fires, boys are being introduced to Jesus Christ, the Master Ranger. Annual reports indicate that over 7,000 boys accepted Christ through the Royal Rangers program last year!

The next step is to encourage boys to embrace the principles of Christian living. This is done through the Royal Rangers pledge and code. The code contains the basic ingredients of Christian character. In special ceremonies the boys repeat this code and promise to live by it.

During the weekly outpost devotions the commander has the opportunity to challenge boys in Christian living. In each step in advancement every boy is required to give evidence that he is living by the code.

Third, the boys are built spiritually through Bible study and instructions in the fundamental beliefs of the church. Besides certain chapters on these subjects in the handbooks, Royal Rangers are given a Bible study lesson they must complete each week. These lessons give a

well-rounded knowledge of certain Bible subjects and our fundamental beliefs.

To complete each step in advancement, a Ranger is required to demonstrate his knowledge of the doctrines of the church. I was thrilled by a recent incident at a Royal Rangers award presentation service. The commander asked a 12-year-old boy to share with the audience one of his advancement requirements—to give the 16 fundamental beliefs of the Assemblies of God with a Scripture reference for each.

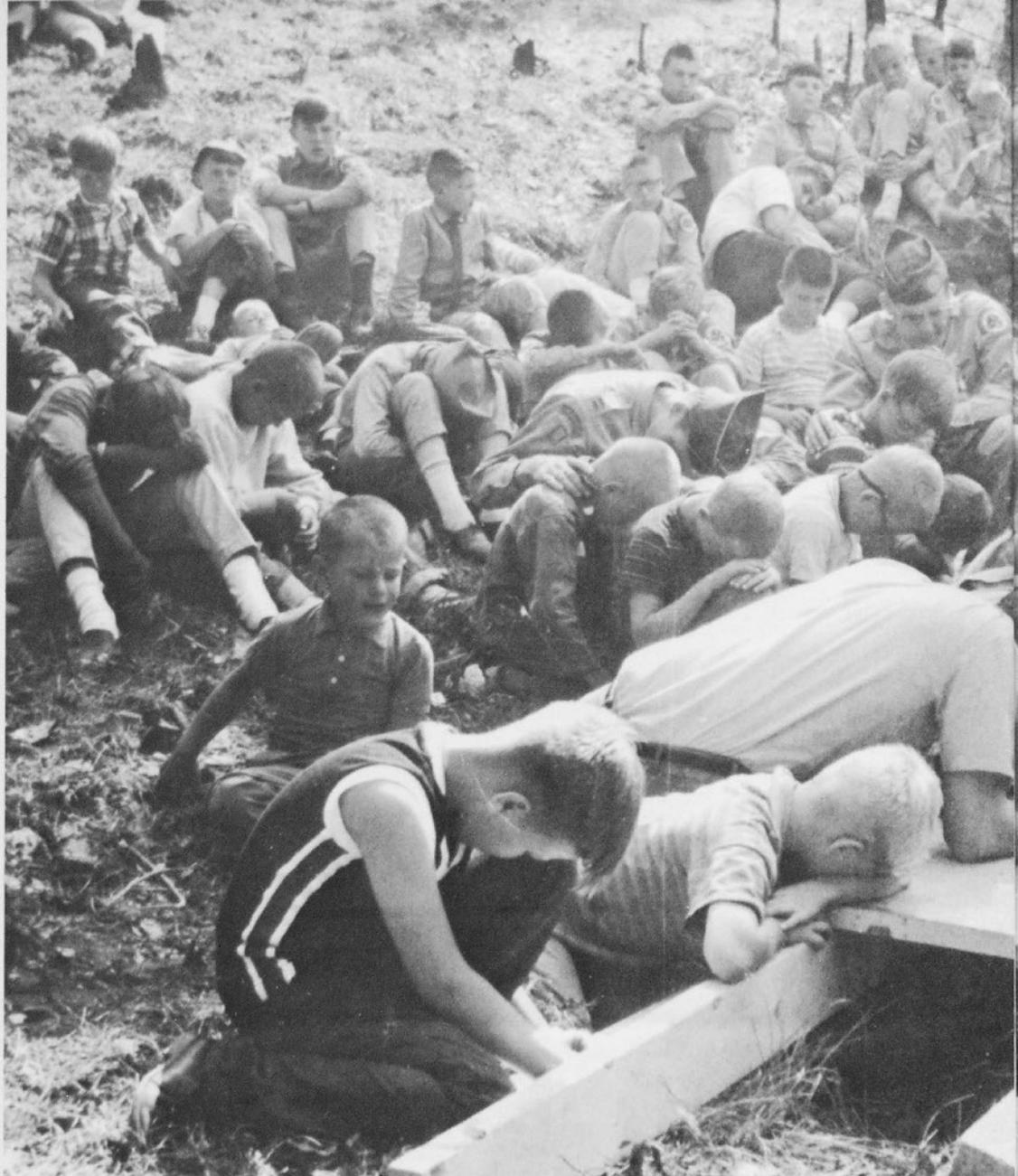
The young man stood and in rapid-fire succession not only gave the 16 fundamentals and a Scripture reference, but also quoted the Bible verse for each. With a beaming face the pastor nudged me and whispered, "I believe he did a better job than I could do."

TO DEVELOP BOYS MENTALLY

Important new knowledge is gleaned by the boys as they are taught skills in first-aid, campcraft, ropecraft, toolcraft, nature study, compass and map, safety, and other subjects. Their minds are challenged as they endeavor to meet the various requirements in the advancement program. Advanced awards open doors to vast fields of knowledge.

(Continued on next page)

The Royal Rangers code comes alive in the hands of these eight Royal Rangers from Georgetown, Guyana.



Johnnie Barnes talks with new convert Jean Pierre of Haiti.

Boys accepting Christ during campout at Clanton, Ala.

(Continued from previous page)

Boys in today's world have many opportunities to gain knowledge; however, Royal Rangers gives them that particular kind of knowledge that will make them better boys and better men.

Recently in Idaho a boy helped some injured people at the scene of a tragic accident. Later at the hospital a doctor exclaimed, "Young man, you did everything exactly right! Where did you get such knowledge?"

The boy proudly answered, "Sir, I'm a Royal Ranger!"

TO DEVELOP BOYS PHYSICALLY

A strong body is an asset. Many men have shortened their years of Christian service because they have failed to care for their bodies. Royal Rangers are encouraged to keep themselves physically fit at all times.

We realize each boy is different. Some have physical limitations. We simply encourage boys to be as fit as possible within their limitations.

Along with physical fitness emphasis, robust activities such as hiking, camping, and recreation help keep the boys fit. By learning good health habits, the importance of cleanliness, proper diet, plenty of rest, and the danger

of bad habits the boys are prepared to keep healthy throughout their lives.

An example of physical development is demonstrated in the Cascade Trail hike conducted by the Northwest District. The boys hike 28 miles over rugged mountain trails with a full pack—and love it!

TO DEVELOP BOYS SOCIALLY

Boys must learn to get along with other people. They must be prepared for the give-and-take of life. They must learn to make new friends and have a genuine interest in other people. The Royal Rangers program is endeavoring to give boys this training.

For example, Ranger Mike Brewer of Newark, California, rushed into a smoked-filled, burning building five times to rescue five people. Later a newspaper reporter asked why he did it. Mike stated that as a Royal Ranger he was taught to help other people. Those people needed help, so he helped them.

As members of the outpost they learn teamwork. During campouts, when each boy is given a definite responsibility, they learn to carry their part of the load. "Goofing off" isn't done in a group of Rangers.



Fort Worth, Tex., Royal Rangers demonstrate first-aid skills.



Fun time for Royal Rangers of Lighthouse Assembly, Ardmore, Okla., as Commander Bob Harris joins in the fun.



INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

The efforts of Royal Rangers to build boys into tomorrow's men are not confined to the USA. The program is being utilized by many countries.

Recently I had the privilege of accompanying George Davis, Latin America Sunday school coordinator, and William Kirschke, secretary of the national Sunday School Department (US) on a tour of five Caribbean and South American countries.

In Jamaica we were told that over 50 percent of the population is under 14. What a challenge for Royal Rangers! The Royal Rangers leaders in Montego Bay declared, "We are mobilizing to meet this challenge."

In Haiti a leader with tears in his eyes told us of his burden for the multitude of boys in Port-au-Prince and how he believed Royal Rangers was the answer to reaching them. (We hope to have materials translated into French for use in Haiti soon.)

In Georgetown, Guyana, we found the Royal Rangers functioning in a way that would thrill any youth leader's heart. At the church I was met by Senior Commander Frederick and several other smartly dressed commanders.

I was then escorted down a corridor of over 30 boys in full uniform. This was my honor guard! At the platform I received a royal welcome. The entire Sunday evening service was given to Royal Rangers. During the ceremony I was presented with a garland of beautiful tropical flowers. Pastor Guenther and the Royal Rangers leaders thrilled my heart with many testimonies of how the program has changed and blessed the lives of the different boys.

During the trip George Davis related how the Royal Rangers program was developing in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Bolivia. He told of observing an 80-piece Royal Rangers musical band in Chile.

Garnet Budge, our Royal Rangers director in Australia, states there are over 3,000 enrolled in that land.

It is our prayer that Royal Rangers will develop an army of Christian boys around the world who will make an impact on their generation for God.

On this week in which we give special recognition to our Royal Rangers, may we strongly urge all our churches to use this Christ-centered boys program to build today's boys into tomorrow's men.



"I MUST WORK FOR MY PLACE IN HEAVEN OR I WOULD ALWAYS BE UNCOMFORTABLE."

THE OLD PEARL DIVER

A HEAVY SPLASH was followed by many ripples and then the water below the pier was still. An American crouched on the low Indian pier, his eyes riveted on the place where a stream of little bubbles rose to the surface. In a moment a black head appeared and a pair of bright eyes looked up. Then the old Indian pearl diver was clambering onto the dock, grinning and shaking the water from his shining oiled body.

"As nice a dive as I've ever seen, Rambhai!" cried the American missionary.

"Look at this one, sahib," said Rambhai, taking a big oyster from between his teeth. "I think it'll be good."

The missionary took it, and while he was prying it open with his pocketknife, Rambhai was pulling other smaller oysters from his loincloth.

"Rambhai! Look!" exclaimed Morse. "Why, it's a treasure!"

"Yes, a good one," shrugged the diver.

"Good! Have you ever seen a better pearl? It's perfect, isn't it?" Morse, who had been turning the big pearl over and over, now handed it to the Indian.

"Oh, yes, there are better pearls, much better. Why, I have one—" and his voice trailed off. "See this—the imperfections—the black speck here, this tiny dent; even in shape it is a bit oblong, but good enough as pearls go."

"Your eye is too sharp for your own good, friend," lamented the missionary. "I would never ask for a more perfect pearl!"

"It is just as you say of your God. To themselves people look perfect, but God sees them as they actually are." The two men started down the dusty road to the town.

"You're right, Rambhai. And God offers perfect righteousness to all who will simply believe and accept His free offer of salvation. Can't you see that, my friend?"

"No, sahib. As so many times before I have told you, it's too easy. That is where your good religion breaks

down. I cannot accept that. Perhaps I am too proud. I must work for my place in heaven or I would always be uncomfortable."

"Oh, Rambhai!" Behind the missionary's words were years of prayer for this man. "Don't you see, you'll never get to heaven that way. There's only one way to heaven. And see, Rambhai, you are getting older now. Perhaps this is your last season of diving for pearls. If you ever want to see heaven's gates of pearl, you must accept the new life God offers you in His Son."

"My last season! Yes, you are right. Today was my last day of diving. This is the last month of the year, and I have preparations to make."

"You should be making preparations for the life to come."

"That's just what I'm going to do. Do you see that man over there? He is a pilgrim, perhaps to Bombay or Calcutta. He walks barefooted and picks the sharpest stones—and see, every few rods he kneels down and kisses the road. That is good. The first day of the New Year I also begin my pilgrimage. All my life I have planned it. I shall make sure of heaven this time. I am going to Delhi on my knees."

"Man! You're crazy! It's 900 miles to Delhi! The skin will break on your knees, and you'll have blood poisoning or leprosy before you get to Bombay."

"No, I must get to Delhi. And then the immortals will reward me. The suffering will be sweet, for it will purchase heaven for me."

"Rambhai! My friend! How can I let you do this when Jesus Christ has died to purchase heaven for you!"

But the old man could not be moved. "You are my dearest friend on earth, sahib. Through all these years you have stood beside me. In sickness and want you have been sometimes my only friend. But even you cannot turn me from this great desire to purchase eternal bliss. I must go to Delhi."

It was useless. The old pearl diver could not under-

stand, could not accept the free salvation of Christ.

One afternoon the missionary answered a knock at the door to find Rambhai there.

"My good friend!" he cried. "Come in, Rambhai."

"No," said the pearl diver, "I want you to come with me to my house, sahib, for a short time. I have something to show you. Please do not say no."

The heart of the missionary leaped. Perhaps God was answering prayer at last. "Of course I'll come," he said.

"I leave for Delhi just one week from tomorrow, you know," said Rambhai as they neared his house. The missionary's heart sank.

Inside, Rambhai showed his friend a small but heavy English strongbox.

"I have had this box for years," he said.

"I keep only one thing in it. Now I will tell you about it. Sahib, I once had a son."

"A son! Why, Rambhai, you have never before said a word about him!"

"No, sahib, I couldn't."

Even as he spoke the diver's eyes were moistened, "Now I must tell you, for soon I will leave, and who knows whether I shall ever return? My son was a diver, too. He was the best pearl diver on the coasts of India. He had the swiftest dive, the keenest eye, the strongest arm, the longest breath of any man who sought for pearls. What joy he brought to me! He always dreamt of finding a pearl beyond all that had ever been found. One day he found it. But when he saw it, he had already been under water too long. He lost his life soon after." The old pearl diver bowed his head. For a moment his whole body shook, but there was no sound.

"All these years I have kept the pearl," he continued, "but now I am going, not to return, and to you, my best friend, I am giving my pearl."

The old man opened the strongbox and drew from it a carefully wrapped package. Gently opening the cotton, he picked up a mammoth pearl and placed it in the hand of the missionary. It was one of the largest pearls ever found off the coast of India and glowed with a luster and brilliance never seen in cultured pearls. It would have brought a fabulous sum in any market.

For a moment the missionary was speechless and gazed with awe.

"Rambhai! What a pearl!"

"That pearl, sahib, is perfect," replied the Indian quietly.

The missionary looked up quickly with a new thought.

"Rambhai," he said, "this is a wonderful pearl, an amazing pearl. Let me buy it. I would give you ten thousand dollars for it."

"Sahib! What do you mean?"

"Well, I will give you fifteen thousand dollars for it, or if it takes more I will work for it."

"Sahib," said Rambhai, stiffening his whole body, "this pearl is beyond price. No man in all the world has money enough to pay what this pearl is worth to me. On the market a million dollars could not buy it. I will not sell it to you. You may only have it as a gift."

"No, Rambhai, I cannot accept that. As much as I want the pearl, I cannot accept it that way. Perhaps I am proud, but that is too easy. I must pay for it, or work for it."

The old pearl diver was stunned.

"You don't understand, sahib. Don't you see? My only son gave his life to get this pearl, and I wouldn't sell it for any money. Its worth is in the lifeblood of my son. I cannot sell this, but I will give it to you. Just accept it in token of the love I bear you."

The missionary was choked and for a moment could not speak. Then he gripped the hand of the old man.

"Rambhai," he said in a low voice, "don't you see? That is just what you have been saying to God."

The diver looked long and searchingly at the missionary; and slowly, slowly he began to understand.

"God is offering to you salvation as a free gift. It is so great and priceless that no man on earth could buy it. Millions of dollars are too little. No man on earth could earn it. His life would be millions of years too short. No man is good enough to deserve it. It cost God the lifeblood of His only Son to make the entrance for you into heaven. In a million years, in a hundred pilgrimages, you could not earn that entrance. All you can do is to accept it as a token of God's love for you, a sinner."

"Rambhai, of course I will accept the pearl in deep humility, praying I may be worthy of your love. Rambhai, won't you accept God's great gift of heaven, too, in deep humility, knowing it cost Him the death of His Son to offer it to you?"

Tears were rolling down the cheeks of the old man. The great veil was lifting.

"Sahib, I see it now. I have believed in the doctrine of Jesus for two years, but I could not believe that His salvation was free. Now I understand. Some things are too priceless to be bought or earned. Sahib, I will accept His salvation."



Robert Cooley, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Archaeology

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BOTH THE CHURCH
AND ITS MINISTER MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE
MINISTERS' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION

LAYING UP IN STORE...AGAINST THE TIME TO COME

By HOWARD S. BUSH

THE MINISTER AND HIS WIFE, like everyone else, would like to look forward to comfortable independence following retirement. However, this becomes increasingly difficult with the inflationary trend in the national economy. What may seem to be adequate provision today may not be so in the future.

Social Security is only a partial answer. While many of our ministers have signed up for this provision, it can only meet minimum requirements. Social Security needs to be supplemented with an adequate retirement plan based on additional savings.

The Assemblies of God Ministers' Benefit Association is a means to this end. Set up by the General Council in 1945, its provisions are contained in Article XIX of the General Council Bylaws. It permits both the minister and his church (or other employing unit) to invest in a sound retirement program.

The minister deposits not less than 1 percent of his income monthly (preferably 3 to 6 percent, if possible). It is recommended also that the church (or other employing unit) deposit 6 percent of the minister's salary monthly. These funds earn interest and also accumulate such earnings as may be gained from careful investment in marketable securities.

Growth of the fund in the past 23 years has been excellent. Some of the benefits of membership in the association are:

1. Membership fees are not required. All ordained or licensed ministers in the Assemblies of God fellowship are eligible for membership.

2. The funds deposited by the minister are credited to his personal savings account. If an emergency arises he may withdraw these funds or borrow against them at a simple interest rate.

3. The funds deposited by the church (or other employing unit) are credited to the minister's retirement

Howard S. Bush, an Assistant General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, is Chairman of the Ministers' Benefit Association. The office address is 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri 65802.

account with a tax-sheltered provision so that neither the church deposits nor the yearly interest thereon is reportable for income tax purposes until the year of retirement between ages 62 and 72.

4. A favorable interest rate is paid on both the personal savings and the church retirement accounts. For 1967 the Board of Directors declared a rate of 5 percent interest on all member accounts.

5. The unrealized appreciation on investments in marketable securities is prorated annually. The appreciation increase for 1967 was over 10½ percent on all member accounts. This was in addition to the 5 percent interest credited to all member accounts.

6. Deposits received by the 15th of the month receive interest from the first of the same month.

7. Costs of administering the plan are kept very low. During 1967 less than ½ of 1 percent (based on all credits to member accounts) was used for administrative expenses, as compared with general across-the-board costs of 8 percent or higher on most mutual funds, etc.

Past experience of the Ministers' Benefit Association has been excellent. For example, the member's average dollar of investment credit has doubled in the past seven years. By comparison, a dollar earning only 5 percent (compounded annually) will require almost 15 years to double. A dollar earning only 4½ percent will require 16 years to double.

This does not mean, of course, that all future deposits will grow at the same rate, but it does indicate that by the careful management of the Board of Directors and the investment counsel of the David L. Babson Company of Boston, Massachusetts, the fund is showing favorable results. The funds of the Ministers' Benefit Association totaled \$2,553,086 as of March 31, 1968.

Unfortunately a large number of ministers and churches have not yet begun to participate. The sooner a minister becomes a member the better it is for all concerned. By joining at age 40, for example, the minister can look forward to possibly 25 or more years for his account to grow from normal deposits. This will give him a substantial net worth at retirement, to be taken either in a lump sum or in monthly payments as he chooses. If one joins at age 55 and has only 10 years to accumulate funds for retirement, deposits by the minister and by the church need to be proportionately larger.

It is a part of good stewardship to budget funds with an eye to the future as well as the present. We commend those churches which are participating with regular deposits. They are providing a measure of security for God's servants against the time of old age and infirmity that normally lies ahead.

The Ministers' Benefit Association should not be confused with "Aged Ministers Assistance" which is a separate program of emergency aid administered by the Department of Benevolences of the Assemblies of God.

With retirement plans becoming so much a part of today's employment relationships, we consider it proper that every minister and congregation should take full advantage of the Ministers' Benefit Association. We therefore urge all members of the church official board to discuss the matter with the minister, encouraging him to join, and pledging church support of the program. An application blank will be sent upon request. 

HISTORIC PRAYER MEETINGS HAVE CHANGED THE WORLD

By W. E. KIRSCHKE / National Sunday School Department Secretary

PRAYER IS THE ATMOSPHERE in which worldwide Christian movements have been born. It is most significant in the light of the coming Council on Evangelism to see how prayer meetings became vortexes of revival and spiritual awakenings in Church history.

1. At the first "Council on Evangelism" in Antioch (A.D. 46-47), the "Antioch Five" (Acts 13:1-3) ministered unto the Lord and fasted. As a result two of the five were called to go forth into the regions beyond. The others who prayed and laid their hands on Barnabas and Saul became chosen instruments of God to set the Church off to a new start. Evangelism was foremost in the mind of God at the inception of the Church.

2. *The Moravian Prayer Meeting*, beginning August 13, 1727, in Hernhut, Germany, lasted more than 100 years, and in the first quarter-century saw 100 missionaries go to parts of the world where they were needed the most.

3. *The Noon-Day Prayer Meeting* in New York City began on September 23, 1857, when Mr. Jeremiah Lamphier called a meeting in the third-story lecture hall of the Old Dutch Church on Fulton Street. During successive days, the third floor was filled with people desiring to pray, then the second floor, and finally the first floor was jammed to capacity. Revival flames spread into Brooklyn, over the nation, across the oceans, and into many areas of the world.

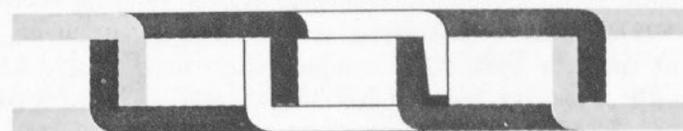
4. *The Haystack Prayer Meeting* near Williams College involved three young men who found refuge from a storm beside a haystack. Among the results of that prayer meeting was the call to foreign service of the first American missionary, Adoniram Judson, and the forming of the first Board of Protestant Missions which started streams of witnessing to remote parts of the world.

5. *The Cambridge Seven*, led by C. T. Studd, implemented a renewed thrust for the evangelization of China. The consecration and wholehearted surrender of these young men to Christ and His cause was characterized in C. T. Studd's rising at four o'clock in the morning to read and pray. Beside a flickering candle he checked all the commandments the Lord had given in the New Testament to see if he was keeping them. His devotion inspired the famous F. B. Meyer to make a new dedication of his life to Christ.

6. *The Chain of Prayer for Evangelism*. This plan, based on "prayer links" in thousands of neighborhoods all across America, can revitalize our lives and produce such a surge of Spirit-anointed evangelism that multitudes will be swept into the Kingdom. Here is the opportunity to claim the presence of God through one of the greatest prayer promises in the Bible—"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).

7. *The Council on Evangelism*. This great convocation at Kiel Auditorium in St. Louis, Missouri, August 26-29, will be an opportunity for united prayer of an entire denomination following in the steps of Paul and Barnabas, Lamphier, Judson, Studd, and other prayer warriors. With the same sense of devotion to Christ, passion for the lost, and vision of our mission in today's world, we will experience together a "turning point" to a new epoch of spiritual life and evangelism that will reverse the tide of social chaos and national crisis bringing heart hunger and awakening to the things of God instead.

Jesus said, "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint." The Greek root for "faint" means "to cave in." In this day, when the moral and spiritual life of a nation and countless churches is caving in, there is need of prayer—prayer to an unchanging God whose resources of power and revival have never diminished with time. From this Council on Evangelism and its specially planned prayer sessions will come powerful effects and blessings that will influence our lives personally, denominationally, and nationally for years to come. Will you be there to be numbered among those who called upon the name of the Lord? 



I'll form a link

IN THE CHAIN OF PRAYER FOR EVANGELISM

The links of prayer will form a mighty fence to hold back the forces of evil. Will you help? Send the coupon below to register your intention of being a part of the Chain of Prayer. Each person returning a coupon will receive a letter describing the Council on Evangelism prayer needs and a Bible marker to serve as a prayer reminder.

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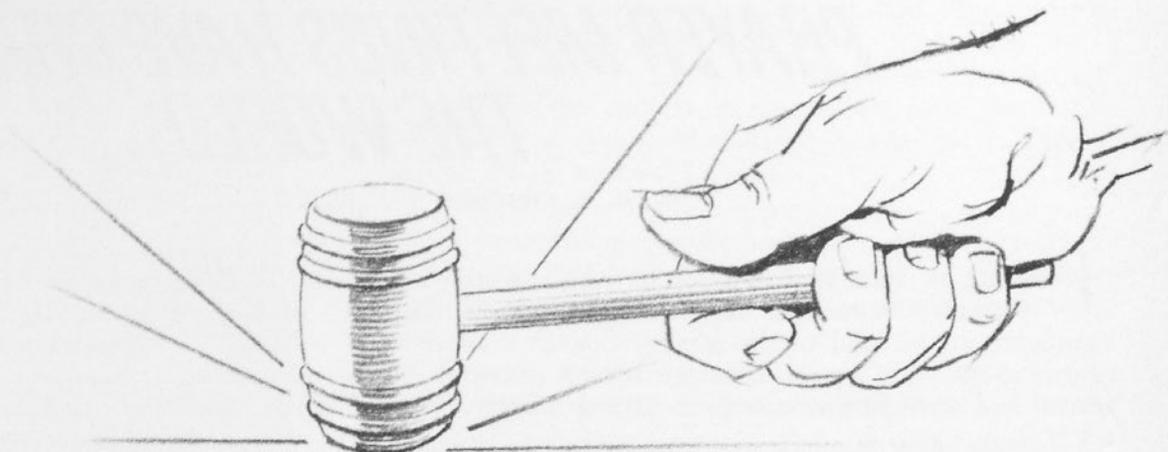
YES, I WILL PARTICIPATE in the Chain of Prayer. I will form a link of "two or three" who will endeavor to meet two or three times a week to pray for evangelism:

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- for a personal burden for souls
- for a new commitment to evangelism by every member of the Assemblies of God
- for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in today's troubled world

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THREE-TIME LOSER

By RON ROWDEN

FORTY-SIX-YEAR-OLD WALT TAYLOR surveyed the familiar furnishings of Chaplain Howard Felson's office at the state penitentiary. How many times during the last 10 years had he sat in this same chair and talked to this quiet-voiced man, now studying his file record spread out on the battered mahogany desk?

He could still recall his last visit to the chaplain's office. That had been six months ago, when his parole finally came through. Walt had vowed then he would never be back. But here he was, a three-time loser, and this time for holding up a liquor store for a paltry \$35.

The chaplain cleared his throat and looked at the rather forlorn, small-framed man across the desk.

"Walt, this is your third trip to the pen, and I guess this time you're here for good. You didn't take my advice about finding a church home, huh?"

Walt glared, "Aw, come off it, chaplain. My old lady's been goin' to church ever since I was a little kid, and what'd it get her? She's still livin' in a rathole tenement house, barely able to pay rent."

"But your mother really is happy, Walt. I've talked with her—visited her one afternoon during your last stretch—and she's got the peace of God in her heart."

"Yeah, well that's not enough for me, man," Walt retorted. "I got to have *things*. You can't eat happiness."

The minister remained silent. It seemed he had heard those lines a thousand times.

He noticed that Walt's shoulders were drawn forward more, his back hunched. "How's the arthritis, Walt?"

"Worse than ever, chaplain. That county jail is the dampest place in the world. I haven't slept good for weeks, and in the morning it takes a coupla hours before I can get limbered up."

"I'm sorry you are in pain. You know, it helps to pray."

"Now cut it out, man! I like you real fine—you're a swell guy, and that's something different for this place.

But stop buggin' me about religion. Even if there was a prayer-answerin' God, He wouldn't waste His time on a no-good bum like me. Can I go to my cell now?"

"Sure, Walt," the chaplain replied. "I'll call the guard."

Walt was assigned to the laundry work detail the next day and managed to steer clear of the chaplain for a couple of weeks. Then one Monday evening Bill Jenkins, a lifer who had been converted while in prison, came to Howard Felson's office.

"Say, chaplain, I'm worried about old Walt. That arthritis has about got him down. This morning his hands were so drawn he couldn't even pick up the laundry bags. But I think his pain goes deeper than arthritis. I believe he's under conviction."

"He's been mumbling all week about how you and his mom have been pestering him about gettin' religion. Says sometimes he wishes it was as easy as you all say it is."

"Maybe you ought to try once more. I remember the day you led me to the Lord, religion was the farthest thing from my mind. I was so bitter I hated the whole world."

Chaplain Felson thought for a moment, then stood to thank the old lifer for his advice. "It's men like you who have made my stay here worthwhile, Bill, and I appreciate your concern for Walt. Maybe I should try again."

Opportunity came two days later when Walt came to the chapel to pick up the tablecloth used in the Sunday communion service. Chaplain Felson stopped him at the door. "Say, Walt, have you ever listened to any of the tape recordings we've got here in the chapel? They're something new since you were paroled, and I think you might like them. Several of the fellows come in on Saturday evening to hear the Assemblies of God broadcast called *Revivaltime*."

Walt ran a hand through his shock of graying hair. "*Revivaltime*—that's that fellow Ward isn't it?"

"Why, yes it is. Have you heard him before?"

The names in this story are fictitious.

"Naw, but mom was always after me about listenin' to him. She always sat in the front room on Sunday nights by her old radio. Seems like I may have heard the choir a coupla times. Pretty good sound."

"Say, that's right; you do like good music, don't you? Your mother showed me your record collection. Tell you what; as a favor to your mom, will you listen to the tape this week?"

"Well all right—better than sittin' in that old cell, with nothin' to do but think about my aches and pains."

On Saturday evening Walt joined the *Revivaltime* listeners in the prison chapel. But he flatly refused the chaplain's invitation to come again.

"No, preacher, that Ward's a good talker, but he is sayin' the same things my mom always says. I just can't believe God wants anything to do with someone who's led the life I have."

During the next few days an execution and a heavy load of counseling sessions kept the chaplain very busy, but on Friday he received a request from the prison hospital to visit Walt Taylor.

When he got there, the little man was lying on the bed, face twisted in pain. "What is it, Walt?"

"Stupid arthritis, chaplain. About to drive me crazy with the ache."

"Do you want me to pray with you?"

"No, no; I just wanted to ask a favor. Mom wrote this week; said you had told her about me listening to *Revivaltime*. Said she was so happy and asked if I'd promise to listen again this week. Guess I ought to do that—you know, for her sake. Anyway I'm not feeling so good and I thought maybe you could bring the recorder up here tomorrow night. I know that's asking a lot, but..."

"Not at all, Walt. I'll be happy to bring it up and leave a set of headphones so you can listen in private."

"Thanks, chaplain."

Next evening, Chaplain Felson brought the recorder up to Walt's ward. "I'm glad you decided to listen to the broadcast, Walt. I know you will enjoy it."

"Now don't go gettin' no ideas, preacher. I'm just listenin' because Mom asked me to do it."

"Sure, Walt. Well, I'll go on back now."

Walt slipped the headset on and flipped the "play" switch. Like last week, the broadcast began with the choir singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name." The narrator spoke for a couple of minutes, then C. M. Ward was reading testimonies of answered prayer.

The prisoner listened attentively, and a faint glimmer of wonder began to glow in his mind. The testimony the evangelist was reading was from a prisoner in California—a convicted murderer. God had changed his life, and now the radio speaker read his words: "I don't feel like I'm in prison now. I feel like I'm in a bus depot waiting for my Lord to take me home."

The choir sang again, and then C. M. Ward was preaching. The sermon was powerful and to the point, and as he listened he felt the evangelist was pointing a convicting finger straight to Walt's own wrecked life. Now he was asking the audience to kneel and accept Christ.

Desperately Walt struggled with the constricting band of conviction that seemed to grip his heart. His hands seemed paralyzed, unable to turn the switch on the recorder, as the radio preacher continued:

"Have you been padlocked by that awful feeling that the whole world is against you—that no decent respectable person would bother with you? Then this message was for you. If the gospel of Jesus Christ means anything, it means that God wants to help you and will stand by you whether anyone else thinks you ought to get a break or not. There is a place at the broadcast altar for you.

"You are never too low for Christ to lift. You may lower yourself. Sin may wreck you a little more. But God won't abandon you.

"There are answers for you—mercy, forgiveness, hope, self-respect. This world is full of stones, and too many are ready to throw rocks at you. There's one thing you can do. Turn in the right direction!

"Someone cares about you. Someone understands your heartache. You have been wronging that Person. Kneel where you are, and find out for yourself that God is the only one who doesn't condemn you. He offers to save you. I'm going to rejoice with you at this altar.

"Lord and Saviour, You have the big 'welcome sign' out for us again.

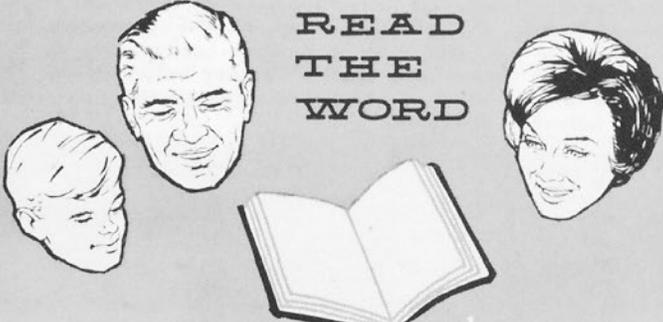
"I thank you for forgiveness. We believe that when You send us away with your Word, 'Go and sin no more,' we have the deliverance and the dominion we need.

"We leave all of our humiliating past with You. We don't know what to do with it. The facts are all there. We don't deny one bit of it. We have been as bad as everybody says we've been. But we rejoice in Your mercy. You have accepted us. And that is what matters most. We lift our heads and our hearts in the power and courage we receive from You and we are ready now to face this world again. It is Your grace that saves us. Amen."

Walt Taylor could hardly believe what was happening. He heard himself sobbing—heard his voice saying, "That's me, God. That's me. I need Your help, Your forgiveness."

Brother Ward hesitated, then said, *"And tonight I feel especially led to pray for someone hobbled by painful arthritis. Dear God, reach into that room, and lift that burden of torment from one who needs You desperately. And help us all to realize that the answer to our every need is 'not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord.'"*

For the first time in months, Walt slept like a baby.



READ THE WORD

CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 16-23

Sunday	Isaiah 49, 50	Thursday	Isaiah 57, 58
Monday	Isaiah 51, 52	Friday	Isaiah 59, 60
Tuesday	Isaiah 53, 54	Saturday	Isaiah 61, 62
Wednesday ..	Isaiah 55, 56	Sunday	Isaiah 63, 64

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7).



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP "500 CLUB" MEMBERS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN STARTING THIS NEW CHURCH IN SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND.

Carriage House Becomes Chapel



MEN AND WOMEN with a vision for souls are responsible for establishing a new place of worship in Fall River, Mass., according to Pastor Richard Turgeon. "God cannot use dried-up channels. They must be in vital contact with Him and be ready to move at His command."

The Fall River story began in 1967 when Brother Turgeon, Assistant Pastor Allen Snook, and their wives, met with one or two ladies to pray. *The city of 100,000 was without an evangelical voice of any kind.* Several denominational churches had merged for lack of members. There were many "mountains" to be moved; only prayer could change the situation.

These two young men were determined to establish a church in this city which had never had an Assembly of God. They agreed to take secular employment to support themselves and their families. By combining efforts, they could still devote time for making contacts.

In November the district purchased a three-story house at 222 Belmont Street for \$13,000. This former estate included a large, well-constructed carriage house (28-by 42-feet) suitable to be remodeled into a church. The Southern New England District gave \$1,200 and granted a \$3,000 loan for a down payment. The National Home Missions Department contributed \$2,000 to help remodel both buildings.

At this point the Men's Fellowship "500 Club" played an important role. They designated a gift of \$500 for the

1. Participants in dedication activities, left to right: David Jackson, sectional presbyter; Richard Turgeon, pastor; Allen Snook, assistant pastor; and Floyd Larson, Men's Fellowship director. Brother Turgeon and Brother Snook are holding the certificate of district affiliation. 2. The interior of this carriage house has been remodeled as a chapel for Calvary Temple. 3. This picture of the parsonage gives a partial view of the chapel in the right background. 4. Even neighborhood youth helped in a special workday before Easter. Here they enjoy an outdoor meal. 5. This is the group attending services the Sunday following dedication.



personal support of Brother Turgeon. This enabled him to leave his secular employment and spearhead the remodeling program. A carpenter by trade, Brother Turgeon kept costs at a minimum.

The house, now converted into two apartments, is a parsonage accommodating the two pastors and their families. They had been paying more than \$200 monthly for their previous housing. Now they have both a place to live and a place to worship—with mortgage payments only about \$150 a month.

On Sunday afternoon, January 7, 1968, district officials, pastors, and other friends attended the dedication of the church. A snowstorm had blanketed the area the preceding night. Despite this there was a good attendance. District Superintendent David W. Flower preached.

Pastors Turgeon and Snook laud the WMC's of the district for their generous food showers. Also they appreciate the materials supplied through the Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade and the Gospel Publishing House.

Brother Turgeon says that words are inadequate to tell

how marvelously God has led in providing for this new venture. He shares one interesting experience: "My wife and I and one of the ladies of the church were shopping for drapery material for the windows of the sanctuary. Mrs. Vincent began to testify to the two ladies who manage the fabric shop. This gave me an opportunity also to speak to them. As a result they gave 40 yards of fine material for draperies. More important, one of the ladies has visited the church and seems to be interested in the services."

Children in the neighborhood helped decorate their own classrooms. On Easter the Sunday school attendance reached 27; the average for April was 22.

Pastor Turgeon reports that many young people have responded to invitations to commit their lives to God. One young mother definitely experienced salvation. New families are visiting the services. Some are seeking the Baptism. It is clear that the Holy Spirit is moving.

Although Calvary Temple is still in its infancy, the pastors anticipate the day when it will be a strong gospel lighthouse in Fall River. 

CONVENTION FEATURES SIOUX INDIAN MINISTRY

By L. M. Reed / Pastor, Skyview Assembly, Sand Springs, Oklahoma

IT WAS OUR HAPPY PRIVILEGE to have Mr. and Mrs. Leo Bankson, missionaries to Sioux Indians in Mobridge, S. Dak., with us at Skyview Assembly on February 25, 1968, as special speakers for our 11th annual missions convention. Skyview was celebrating its 18th anniversary.

This church has a *missionary heart*, for it gives approximately \$9,000 a year to missions.

God blessed every service. As Brother Bankson concluded his message, the congregation filled out pledge cards. When the cash offering was counted, it totaled \$1,500 to be used for Indian ministry! Pledges also were encouraging. Skyview Assembly gives 15 percent of all tithes and offerings to missions. Also on the first Sunday

of each month the Sunday school offering goes to missions.

Many courageous missionaries have obeyed the Lord's command, "Preach the gospel to every creature," and taken God's message to the Indians, some at the cost of their lives. Nearly 200 Assemblies of God workers are doing it today.

The Banksons have established on the Standing Rock Reservation a thriving church, "Good Shepherd Indian Assembly," whose Sunday school averages 54.

Skyview Assembly is thrilled to have a part in this great ministry to the forgotten Americans. We find as we give freely to missions, God continues to bless our church and makes it possible for us to keep on giving.



The congregation of Skyview Assembly participated wholeheartedly in the missions convention. Seated on the front row (left to right) are Pastor L. M. Reed and the Leo Banksons, home missionary speakers. The Teen Choir (below) provided special music at the convention.



FOREIGN NEWS DIGEST

DIRECT REPORTS FROM MANY LANDS



Left to right (front row): Paul Cooper, W. R. Cooper, J. Philip Hogan. Back row: Lois Cooper, Mrs. Paul Cooper, Esther Wyrick, and Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Stewart.

Tribute to a Godly Father

"THANK GOD for Christian parents—a wonderful mother and father whose dedication to the work of God through many years greatly influenced my desire to be a missionary," says Mrs. Lois Stewart, Assemblies of God missionary to El Salvador.

"My father has told us children over and over of the many varied experiences of his ministry since the days of the organizing of the Assemblies of God in Hot Springs, Ark. Always we sensed his fierce loyalty to, his unmasked pride to belong to, and his defense of the organization that he saw bud and flower," she continues.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cooper are the parents of Mrs. Lois Stewart; Paul Cooper, an Assemblies of God missionary recently transferred from Ecuador to Mexico; and Mrs. Esther Mae Wyrick, an ordained Assemblies of God evangelist.

Paul Cooper recalls, "I was born into an Assemblies of God home, and my earliest recollections are of my father doing pioneer work in Kansas and Colorado. He rode trains, cars, and horseback in those days to preach the gospel. Mother was a quiet sort of person who stayed at home and kept the family fed and going to school—all the time instilling a simple faith in God and a deep desire to help and bless people."

W. R. Cooper, a charter member of the Assemblies of God, received the baptism in the Holy Spirit

while still a member of The Methodist Church. During the depression years he pastored a rural church in Colorado. He also traveled as "district evangelist" in Kansas and Colorado to oversee the churches.

Mrs. Stewart says, "Who can calculate the blessing of the years of ministry of a man of God like my father? How many churches of the Assemblies of God had their beginnings because of the influence of my father and others like him?"

Mrs. Stewart recalls that her father seldom mentioned anything but the joys connected with the ministry, although there were pressures too. She states, "He always wished God had let him go to a mission field, but he felt God had really called him to the work of pioneering churches."

"My father taught me through the years," says Paul Cooper, "that the Assemblies of God was not formed simply so there would be another denomination, but that this group of men and women anointed by the Holy Spirit might do an effective job of evangelizing the world. This evangelizing should be done at home and around the world."

Paul Cooper continues: "My father set this sort of example before me as a child. He would say, 'We have no reason to exist as an organization unless we dedicate ourselves to the evangelization of the world.' When the Lord laid

His hand upon me, it seemed the most natural thing in the world for me to enter the ministry and try to lead men to Him."

There is perhaps no greater influence in the lives of children than godly parents. Many other

charter members of the Assemblies of God have not only had a direct influence on our movement, but today their children are continuing to carry the torch of Pentecost because of the foundation their parents laid.

He Heard the Gospel in School

By RUBY JOHNSON, Missionary to Ghana

MISSIONARIES working in Ghana have a privilege not enjoyed in many parts of the world. We can teach all the Bible we wish in government schools.

During Franklin McCorkle's first missionary term in Ghana, he presented the gospel in some of the government schools. One young lad, the son of a chief, was among those who heard the gospel and gave their hearts to the Lord. Later the young man became a carpenter's assistant and helped build the mission bungalow for the nurses at Nakpanduri Clinic in northern Ghana.

Then the way opened for this young man, E. J. Namyela, to attend Northern Ghana Bible School. He proved himself a good student and now has been a successful pastor for 15 years.

Brother Namyela knows what it is to suffer for the gospel's sake. He has been beaten and thrown into prison because someone plotted and lied against him.

In 1965 he received his ordination from the Northern Ghana District Council and was elected presbyter of his section. At the Second General Council, held in December 1966, he was elected as assistant general superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Ghana. Some months ago, Brother



The Namyela family.

Namyela witnessed a revival in the Saboba area when 55 adults and many children were saved and 13 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. At another time 29 were converted and one was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Brother Namyela's wife Karen, a Spirit-filled Christian, is Women's Missionary Council leader of the Saboba church.

The future of missions rests in reaching young men and women with the gospel and training them for places of leadership in the national church.

Argentina Bible School Doubles

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina—The River Platte Bible Institute here has more than doubled its student enrollment this year with a total of over 65 students enrolled.

According to Missionary Paul Hoff, principal of the school, this is a record enrollment. Also the academic preparation of the students surpasses that of previous years. This is of great significance in view of the lack of trained national workers that has long hindered the full progress of the work in Argentina.

During the past year the Bible school purchased three excellent adjoining lots, obtained a large house for additional student residence, and constructed a dormitory for married couples. The leap in attendance has made it necessary to fully utilize the new housing,

Arabic "Evangel" Sparks Revival

BEIRUT, Lebanon—Missionary Bob Hoskins recently received word of a Pentecostal revival in Egypt. A man who was a member of an anti-Pentecostal group read a copy of the Arabic *Evangel* featuring the message of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

He believed the message and received the Pentecostal experience. This man then shared his testimony with the pastor and other members of the group. They started special prayer meetings in homes, and to date 26 persons have been baptized in the Holy Spirit.

and the existing facilities of the school are already overcrowded. It is urgent that the institute begin immediate construction on a large building to prepare for next year's expanding enrollment.

The amazing growth is due to several factors: The institute has been publicized through a magazine prepared by the Argentine Christ's Ambassadors; strong emphasis has been placed upon consecration and Christian service in the six national youth camps and the spiritual retreat for youth leaders; and there has been a spiritual awakening in local churches in which several hundred received the baptism in the Holy Spirit during 1967.

The genuine Pentecostal experience and the urgent call to Christ's service caused young people to forsake personal ambitions and in some cases discontinue university studies or leave lucrative positions to prepare for the ministry.

As the spiritual tide continues to rise in the churches of Argentina, more young people will seek admittance to the school.

Offerings for this project should be designated Argentine River Platte Bible Institute.



First Youth Camp in Moluccas Successful

MOLUCCAS, Indonesia—The first youth camp in Moluccas was held on the Bible school grounds at Ambon, Indonesia. The campus facilities are situated in a beautiful inner bay surrounded by hills and mountains covered with lush jungle growth.

By the second day 114 had enrolled. Morning chapel services were outstanding, and a spirit of prayer and seeking God prevailed.

Four study and recreational groups were formed which held Bible study sessions following chapel. These lasted until noon. Afternoons were reserved for rest, sports, and various games.

God began pouring out of His Spirit, and during the evening evangelistic meetings crowds of unbelievers began to stand outside to witness the power of God manifested in the service. There were 10 saved, 19 baptized in the Holy Spirit, and 8 called into the ministry.

According to Missionary Jack Willis, they hope to make this an annual event and also to establish an adult camp on a yearly basis.



The Busbys and a national.

Christ's Ambassadors Camp in Calcutta

CALCUTTA, India—The Assemblies of God in South India recently held a Christ's Ambassadors camp in Calcutta. Guest speakers for the camp were Raymond and Beryle Busby, missionaries to Indonesia.

The camp was held 15 miles from the city on the campus of Serampore College, the famous educational center founded by William Cary.

During the camp 40 young people surrendered their hearts to the Lord. One of these was a young man who was supposed to sign a contract to sing in a nightclub. He had come to the camp to please some of his friends and "to give them a bad time." He and his friends under deep conviction confessed their sins and accepted Christ as their Saviour.

WITH CHRIST



MISS BLANCHE APPLEBY, 80, superannuated missionary to the Philippines, went to be with the Lord on April 12, 1968.

Miss Appleby was first appointed as an Assemblies of God missionary to China in 1919. Later when China was closed to missionaries, she was reappointed to the Philippines and labored there until the Japanese invaded

Manila. She was one of the prisoners rescued by General Douglas MacArthur the morning they were to be executed by the Japanese.

In 1967 Vice-president Hubert Humphrey gave Miss Appleby a commendation for her long and faithful service.

After her return to the States Miss Appleby attended Faith Memorial Church in Atlanta, Ga. She conducted a weekly prayer meeting and taught a Sunday school class up until a few weeks before her death.



Filadelfo Santos (above) was baptized near his home.



108-Year-Old Man Accepts Christ

SAN ANTONIO DE MOJON, Honduras—Filadelfo Santos, 108, accepted Christ and was baptized in water here, according to Missionary Ben LaFon.

The village of San Antonio de Mojón is located near the Honduran-Guatemalan border and can only be reached by foot, horseback, or mule. Mr. Santos' pastor said that the 108-year-old man, upon hearing the gospel for the first time, immediately accepted Christ.

Missionary LaFon and Tomás López the sectional presbyter, later visited the village and conducted a baptismal service. Mr. Santos was among those baptized and he testified of God's saving power.



Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hale

MISSIONARY NEWS NOTES

Missionaries going to their respective fields of service are: the **Paul Chastagners** (Upper Volta), the **James Kesslers** (Ghana), and the **Everett Hales** (Bolivia). Mr. and Mrs. **John**

Mattox have finished language study in France and will shortly leave for Upper Volta.

Judith Foster, newly appointed to Japan, has left for the field. The **Michael Hines** family (Mexico), and the **Howard Nutts** (Bolivia), all newly appointed, have gone to language school before taking up residence in their fields of service.

Missionaries returning to the States on furlough are: the **Willis Longs** (N. India); the **Waldo Nicodemus** family (El Salvador); the **Monroe Grams** (Bolivia); the **Charles Hinsons** (Guatemala); the **Eugene Willis** family (Educator); the **Floyd Woodworths** (Colombia); the **Stevens Nolins** (Singapore); the **Glenn Dunns**, the **Gunder Olsens**, and the **Calvin Zeisslers** (Philippines).

The **Donald McMurrays** have transferred from Malaysia to Thailand. The **William Sakwitz** family (Japan), the **James Modders** (N. India), and the **David Matweyiws** (Lebanon) have transferred to the ministerial list, and **Maxine Richardson** (Spanish Literature) has transferred to the inactive list.



Howard Nutt family



James Kessler family



Michael Hines family



Judith Foster



Paul Chastagner family

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

BARCELONA, SPAIN—"We need an outpouring of God's Spirit in a greater measure upon Spain,"



Humberto Martinez, Kerry Gonzales, and Evangelist E. Howard Anderson at meeting in Barcelona, Spain.

according to Kerry Gonzales, an Assemblies of God minister from Cuba now serving as a missionary here. Brother Gonzales and his wife were among many of the people who left Cuba several years ago during the communist takeover.

Evangelist E. Howard Anderson of Stamford, Conn., recently held meetings in Barcelona with Brother Gonzales and Humberto Martinez, also a Cuban, who founded an assembly here. Several believers from Cuba attended the meetings.

Brother Martinez studied at the Assemblies of God Bible school in Manacas, Cuba, before the com-

munist came into power. He was about to be taken into a concentration camp but the Swiss Embassy arranged for his emigration to Spain.

Of the 32 million people in Spain, only about 35,000 are Protestants. Opposition against Protestants has slackened somewhat in recent years. Among other things, a ruling by the Spanish Cortes (Parliament) allows signs to be placed on buildings identifying them as Protestant churches.

CUBA, MO.—The Assembly of God here recently concluded a three-week meeting with Evangelist M. E. Sooter. Nine were saved, four were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and several were healed. Eight persons were baptized in water.

—C. F. Bryant, pastor

SAN JOSE, CALIF.—A one-day visit of Evangelist and Mrs. E. T. Quanabush to Calvary Community Church here had to be extended to two weeks when God made it evident He wanted to do something special for the church.

Lives were changed nightly as some 50 persons made decisions for Christ and more than 30 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Many were also healed.

Attendance was excellent as record week-night crowds were present for the anointed preaching of

the Word by Brother Quanabush.

The church will never be the same. Hoping to raise \$50,000 cash for a new building program, the congregation contributed some \$26,000 the first Sunday after the evangelists left.

—A. W. Ness, pastor

GREENFIELD, MASS.—The Pine Acres Assembly here recently concluded meetings with the David Lewis Evangelistic Family of North Hollywood, Calif. The meetings featured his "Audio-Visual Bible Analysis."

Several were saved, and a number of persons were miraculously delivered from bad habits and sicknesses.

The Sunday school record was broken with an attendance of 98. Well over 150 visitors attended during the services, including several ministers of other denominations.

The meetings created a tremendous interest among people of the community. Revival fires continue to burn at Pine Acres.

—Kenneth H. Taylor Jr., pastor

ESSEX, MO.—A spirit of revival still prevails in the regular services of Bird's Corner Assembly here after a recent meeting with Evangelist Glenna Byard of Fredericktown, Mo.

Five young people rededicated their lives to God, and three others

were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

The church was also edified a few months earlier during services with the Knott-Olson Evangelistic Team. A young mother was filled with the Holy Spirit.

—Kathryn Baughn, pastor

PICAYUNE, MISS.—The Assembly of God here recently held a week of special services with Evangelist and Mrs. Roy Drumm of Chalmette, La. Several persons came to the Lord for salvation, and others were healed. A spirit of revival continues.

—Paul Wellman, pastor

ROBERT CARNEY NAMED 36TH ASSEMBLIES CHAPLAIN

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Numerical strength in active duty military



chaplains for the Assemblies of God reached a new high when Robert E. Carney, 30, of El Dorado, Ark., became the Assemblies' 36th chaplain. He is a captain in the Air Force.

Brother Carney attended chaplaincy school at Maxwell Air Base, Montgomery, Ala. Following duty there, he reported to Bergstrom Air Base, Tex., on May 28.

The Assemblies of God now lists 19 Army chaplains, 10 in the Air Force, and seven with the Navy.

A Spring City, Tenn., native, Brother Carney has had 10 years of pastoral ministry in the Methodist Church in Tennessee, Georgia, and Arkansas.

He received a bachelor of science degree at Austin Peay College, Clarksville, in 1959. He attended Vanderbilt Seminary in Nashville and earned a bachelor of divinity degree in 1962 from Chandler Seminary, Atlanta, Ga.

After he had received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, Chaplain Carney was ordained by the Arkansas District Council of the Assemblies of God. He is married and the father of two children.

MISSOURI CHURCH EXPERIENCES GROWTH

EAST PRAIRIE, MO.—First Assembly here has been blessed by God during the 10 years of its existence.

The first pastor was Thomas L. Jackson who labored here for about three years. The next pastor, Lynn Drumwright, saw the congregation grow and undertake two building programs.

Dale Pollard has pastored First Assembly for the past two years. Attendance has continued to increase annually, and a new educational unit has been built.

During the past year 20 persons have been saved at the church. Several have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, and 13 have followed the Lord in water bap-

tism. Average attendance in Sunday school for a recent month was 104.

With its recently completed annex First Assembly now has 11 Sunday school classrooms, an office, pastor's study, nursery, a large kitchen, and four rest rooms.

The church property is appraised at \$35,000 but indebtedness is only \$13,000, for which the congregation thanks the Lord.



ANNOUNCEMENT

HOME COMING, Dedication, and Note Burning—June 23 at First Assembly, E. Tupelo, Miss. F. L. Langley, district superintendent, guest speaker.—by Walter N. Duncan, pastor.

WITH CHRIST

BERNICE HUNTER, 76, of Salinas, Calif., went to her eternal reward on March 11, 1968. Mrs. Hunter was ordained in 1941. She and her husband ministered in Washington, Oregon, and New England. For six years they were evangelists in Hawaii. Sister Hunter is survived by her husband

William and daughter Annie (Mrs. G. F. Emberson), both ordained ministers; and one grandson.

N. K. BIGHAM, 55, of Kilgore, Texas, was called into the presence of the Lord April 1, 1968. Ordained in 1935, Brother Big-ham was a member of the North Texas District. He served as a pastor in Texas at Gladewater, Port Arthur, Fairfield, and Kilgore. He is survived by his wife Mildred and three children.

BETTY BURTON, 77, of Los Angeles, Calif., went Home to be with Jesus February 24, 1968. Sister Burton was granted a license to preach in 1925 by the Southern California District. She

ministered in China and founded Glad Tidings Mission in Shanghai. She served as an evangelist in the States. Sister Burton is survived by one daughter, four grandchildren, and one sister, Mrs. Jewyl Williams, wife of Ralph Williams, an Assemblies of God missionary in Venezuela.

DONA WILSON, 85, of Greenville, S. C., went to be with Jesus February 19, 1968. Sister Wilson was granted a license to preach in 1927 by the old South-Eastern District and was a member of the South Carolina District. She served as an evangelist. She is survived by four daughters, two sons, 23 grandchildren, and 43 great-grandchildren.

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EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ala.	Clio	Glad Tidings	June 23-30	M. L. Green	Myrtis W. Herring
Ariz.	Cibecue	¹ Indian A/G	June 23-July 7	R. I. & Pearl Wynkoop	Robert Allen
Ark.	Palestine	Twin A/G	June 23-July 7	Arlis and Mrs. Thrasher	C. Jumper
Calif.	Alameda	¹ First	June 24-28	Bob Rannells	Lee Paino
	Alameda	² First	June 9-23	Bob Rannells	Lee Paino
	Concord	² Calvary Temple	June 23-28	Christian Hild	Raymond P. Murray
	Elk Grove	A/G	June 24-30	Mike Cunningham	Ed Weising
	Fairfield	A/G	June 18-23	Claude Wood	Eugene W. Ness
	Fresno	Clinton Ave.	June 16-28	Jim Mackey	Earl T. Hunt
	Victorville	First	June 23-July 7	Donald Rich Family	Vernon Nybakken
Colo.	Del Norte	A/G	June 24-July 7	Loyd & Patsy Singley	H. H. Reimer
Conn.	Meriden	³ First	June 23-28	Eddie Cooper	Thomas Brubaker Jr.
	Southington	Calvary	June 18-23	George DeTellis	Richard J. Baggs
Fla.	Cocoa	³ First	June 23-28	Musical Wellards	H. L. Tyus
	De Funiak Springs	A/G	June 24-30	Randall A. & Mrs. Walker	Cary Richards
	Ellisville	³ Everybody's Taber.	June 16-21	Musical Wellards	E. E. Hayes
Ga.	Columbus	Central	June 23-30	Billy & Cherie Cotton	Ulis Luker
	Moultrie	First	June 26—	Jimmy & Lenette Merritt	Clifford Coursey
	Thomaston	First	June 16-23	Barry & Charlene Bugala	Buford Collins
Ind.	Connerville	First	June 16-23	W. A. Edwards	Billy F. Boren
	Elkhart	Bethel	June 14-30	Basell-Brown Evang. Party	G. A. Uldin
	Mooreville	Full Gospel	June 23-30	G. A. & Mrs. Snavely	William Wright
	Portage	First	June 24-28	Dedelow & Friederici Tm.	Dale Owens
La.	Forrest Hill	Midway A/G	June 25-30	Mike & Linda Murdock	R. A. Rutherford
	West Monroe	³ Siegle A/G	June 23-28	A. G. & Mrs. Calaway	B. O. Smith
Me.	Augusta	³ Gospel Taber.	June 15-21	Sarah M. Bergstrom	Donald Kroah
	Mars Hill	³ Full Gospel	June 23-28	Sarah M. Bergstrom	Harrison Tilley
Md.	Hereford	A/G	June 19-30	H. B. Kelchner	A. W. Beahm
	Laurel	³ First	June 24-30	Buchwalter-Brosey Team	Paul Boyce
Mich.	St. Louis	³ A/G	June 24-30	Carl E. Gammel	Thomas E. Pace
Minn.	Paynesville	Gospel Tab.	June 9-14	Stiver-Larson Team	Wilbert Remus
	Red Wing	A/G	June 16-22	Stiver-Larson Team	Bruce Pope
	Spring Valley	A/G	June 23-28	Stiver-Larson Team	Gerald W. Smith
Mo.	Charleston	First	June 16—	Carl Tillery	E. Jerald Ogg
	Farmington	³ First	June 24-28	Tom & Helen Waggoner	J. W. Allen
	Sikeston	First	June 25—	Al D. Hewison	T. A. McDonough
Nebr.	Red Cloud	A/G	June 23-28	Kathleen Jennings	George M. Bingham
	Scottsbluff	First	June 23-30	The Tanner Team	Troy Allen
N.H.	Claremont	³ A/G	June 23-28	Gene and Esther Fiddler	Theodore Kessler
N.J.	Irvington	³ Calvary Temple	June 24-28	Dan Dugan	John Deegan
	Shrewsbury	First	June 28-30	E. Howard Anderson	Patrick O. McLane
N.Y.	Staten Island	³ Calvary	June 9-16	Jerry Scott	Charles Scrimale
Ohio	Big Prairie	⁴ Ohio District	June 24-28	Paul Hild Party	T. R. Rachels, Dir.
	Johnsville	A/G	June 19-30	Musical Vanderploegs	Terry Diehl
	Sandusky	Faith Memorial	June 25-30	Paul & Donna Wright	Robert McConnell
Okla.	Tulsa	Central	June 23-30	Watters-Parri	Richard W. Bishop
Pa.	Chester	First	June 11-23	Patrick McLane	William R. Crew
	Lancaster	³ First	June 17-21	Buchwalter-Brosey Team	James Morris
	Quakertown	³ A/G	June 24-30	Mrs. Robert S. Beisel	Walter Stuart
Tex.	Cleveland	Hi-Way Taber.	June 19-26	Fisher and Cheek	Travis Freeman
	Dallas	Grace	June 12-23	Robert & John Stephens	S. Fred Davis
	Fort Worth	Bethel	June 23—	N. B. Rayburn	Victor Ostrom
	Hereford	A/G	June 26-30	Winferd Mack	H. T. Goodwin
	Port Neches	³ First	June 16-21	A. G. & Mrs. Calaway	L. E. Tippett
	Tyler	³ Calvary	June 23-30	Lloyd Bates & Danny	Harry Coons
Wash.	Cathlamet	A/G	June 26—	Thomas Ming, Sr.	Wes Hobkirk
	Elwha	A/G	June 24-July 5	James & Beulah Pepper	B. W. Ellsworth
W. Va.	Falling Waters	³ Camp Grounds	June 24-28	Bob & Maxine Wilkes	Frank C. Mays, Dir.
Canada	Bamfield, B.C.	Pentecostal	June 23-28	L. H. & Mrs. Sheets	Mary Scholey

¹Youth Revival

²Witness Invasion

³Children's Crusade

⁴Jr. High Camp

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

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FORECAST: JUDGMENT

By R. N. KIRKENDALL

ONE DAY in the summer of 1967 we watched with growing uneasiness as clouds began to darken and roll overhead. Newscasters warned that tornadoes already active nearby could touch down in our area at any time. They strongly advised that everyone remain near shelter.

My brother and another man heard the forecasts, but because they had made plans for an evening of pleasure, they chose to ignore them. "It won't hit here," they rationalized, and drove off into the night.

As the storm intensified, the rest of our family went to a cave. The sky was in great turmoil, with boiling clouds and furious lightnings.

Suddenly the cave door opened, and my brother and his friend entered, white with fright. They had been on a dance floor when the report that a tornado would hit in a matter of minutes came over the loudspeaker. They barely made it into shelter ahead of the storm.

Weather forecasters are the first to admit that their predictions are not always accurate, so men may be pardoned for occasional skepticism. But there is One whose forecast of events has always been accurate. God's promises and God's warnings are infallible, for He not only predicts but also personally carries out His predictions—both of mercy and judgment.

He promised a Saviour, and Jesus came; He promises judgment on those who reject Him, and it will come.

When He predicted rain on an earth that had never known rain, only Noah and his family believed the fore-

cast and prepared a shelter. And only Noah and his family were saved when the rains came.

God predicted more than a mild heat wave for Sodom and Gomorrah, and only those escaped who believed that God meant it when He said He would send fire and brimstone upon the city.

Today most people in the world are aware of a gathering storm which threatens to break upon the world at any time. All of us instinctively hope it will hit somewhere else and spare us, and many are acting upon that assumption.

The dark swirling clouds above our heads are not a surprise to God. His Son gave us a clear forecast of this condition nearly two thousand years ago. He spoke of deception and wars and trouble and famines and pestilences and earthquakes and betrayal and offenses and iniquity. But He also pointed the way to shelter in the time of storm.

"A man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest . . . and the eyes of them that see shall not be dim," Isaiah had said of Jesus hundreds of years before. And Christ Jesus said, "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." And, "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh."

Certain judgment is the forecast; Christ is the only refuge. Come to Him now and be saved. 