

The COMMISSION

FOREIGN MISSIONS JOURNAL, SBC/AUG. '77



AUSTRIAN GIRL

NEAR SALZBURG

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COVER

Young Austrian woman strikes a happy pose in this outdoor photo introducing this month's photo portfolio on Europe. Photo by Bob Harper.

Correction: The couple appearing on the cover of the July issue were Roy and Connie Vandiver, missionary appointees to the Ivory Coast, not Tom and Diana Wade.

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EUROPE

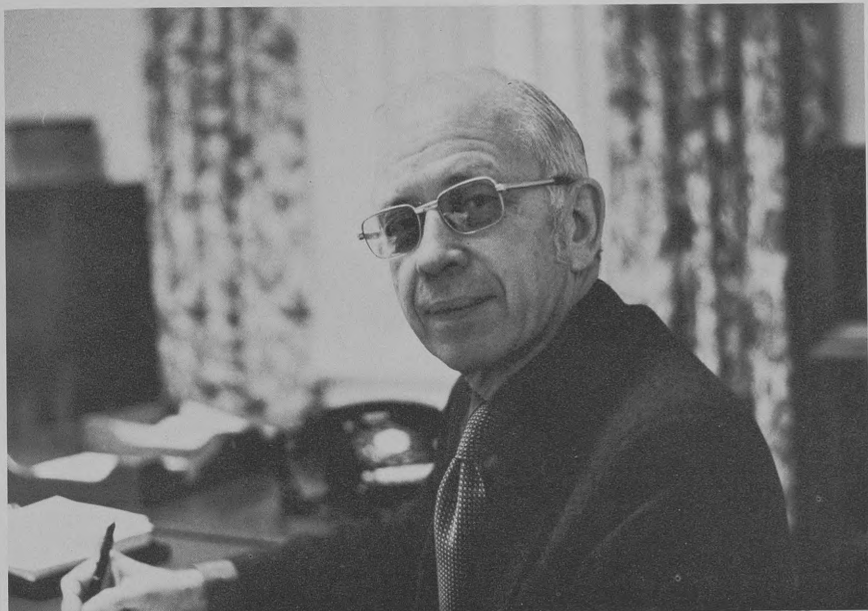
A Photo Portfolio by Bob Harper

Most of this month's issue is devoted to a photographic portfolio of countries in Europe where Southern Baptists station missionary personnel. The photos, by Art Editor Bob Harper, offer an artist's look at the people and setting in each country. Harper also selected the photos appearing in the issue and prepared the layout.

Harper visited each of the countries last fall in gathering photos for this visual glimpse of Europe. Photos of Scotland and updating on Belgium were secured this spring.

On the facing page, Area Secretary J. D. Hughey exposes Americans' roots in Europe and points to the spiritual challenges there. Brief text about each country has been prepared by the editorial staff. This issue affords lasting resources for mission study of the area.





J. D. Hughey, area secretary for Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia.

Our European Roots

By J.D. Hughey

The ancestral and cultural roots of most readers of *The Commission* are in Europe. Most of us look like Europeans, and we speak a European language. Our ways of thinking and living are basically European.

What about our religious roots? The deepest ones are in the Middle East, for that is where Christianity got started. However, it soon took root in Europe, and strength for its growth in America came from there.

The culture of Europe and America has been molded by Christianity. This began when the Apostle Paul heeded the Macedonian call. In just a few centuries Christianity became the leading religion—and unfortunately, soon thereafter, the official religion—of Europe.

Everywhere in Europe beautiful cathedrals, magnificent works of art, lovely music, and great literature remind us of our Christian origins. The laws of most European nations and of those made up of former Europeans reflect Christian concepts and customs.

Is Europe a Christian continent today? On the contrary, we read references to the present time as the post-Christian era. Several years ago a European Baptist leader said, "Eastern Europe is officially atheistic, and western Europe is unofficially irreligious." A great wave of secularism has swept over Europe.

No one should conclude that Christianity is dead in Europe. There are many faithful believers in Christ. The Roman Catholic Church, the old Protestant state churches (Lutheran, Anglican, and Presbyterian), and the Eastern

Orthodox churches have lost numbers and power but still have quite a bit of theological and spiritual vitality. The groups such as Methodists, Congregationalists, and Plymouth Brethren (known as "free churches" because of their lack of official ties with the state) still play an important role. Pentecostals have demonstrated a remarkable capacity for expansion.

Baptists have a good base in almost all the countries of Europe. In several places they have suffered attrition as a result of the general decline of interest in religion. In other countries they are growing slowly but surely. Nowhere are they even remotely considering surrender.

Baptists and other believing Christians in Europe know they have a great missionary responsibility. Their continent, so long regarded as the center of Christendom, has become a mission field. This generation of Europeans must be evangelized.

That is where we come in. We can stand beside and cooperate with our Christian brothers and sisters in Europe as they try to make the attractiveness and the power of Christ known to their neighbors.

Will what we do help to keep Europe Christian—or make it Christian? It will at least help some people to experience the transforming grace of God through personal faith in Christ.

Perhaps a nation or a continent in our present human situation cannot become Christian. But what a difference Christians make in the places where they live! **TC**

Germany

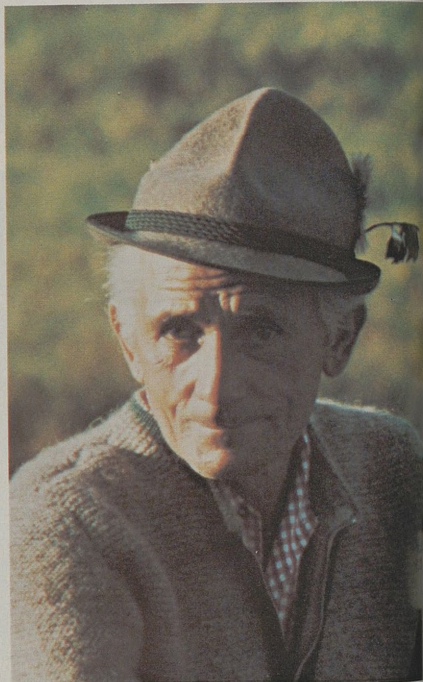


Austria

Belgium



Greece



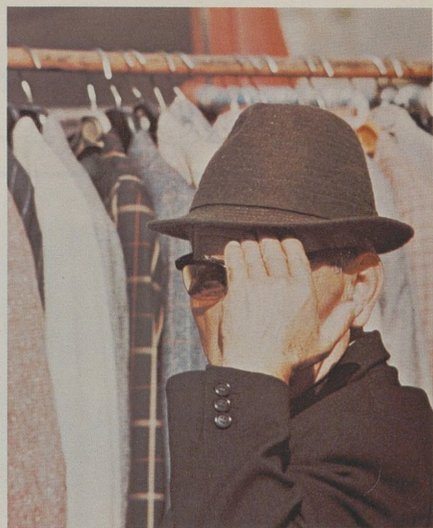
Germany

Greece





Italy



Spain



Spain

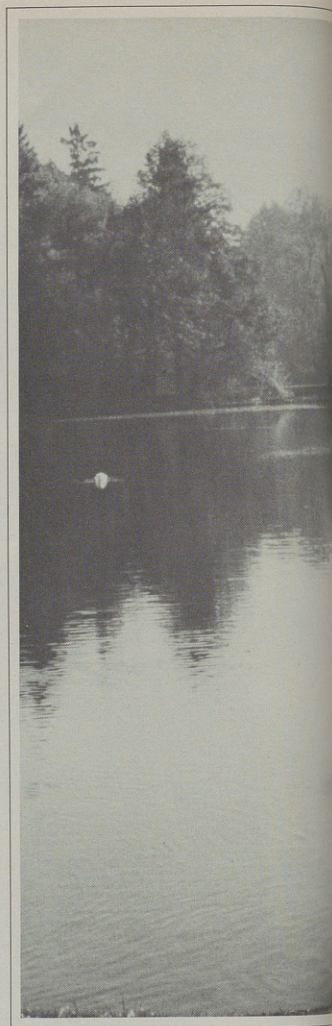


France



Austria

AUSTRIA



Most of the million or so tourists who visit Salzburg, Austria, each year and view the famous "horse fountain" in the city are unaware of the "shadowy side of its history," as Missionary Thomas A. Cleary puts it. In the 1500s followers of an Anabaptist leader were drowned in this pool.

Today the official state church is the Roman Catholic Church. More than nine out of every ten Austrians are Roman Catholics.

"It was not until the middle of the nineteenth century that a Baptist witness was established in Austria," Cleary states. "The Mollardgasse Baptist Church in Vienna was founded in 1869, resulting from the influence of German

Baptists and the British and Foreign Bible Society."

Several new Baptist churches were begun after World War II. Today there are seven Baptist churches in Austria. Membership totals about 760. Each church has its own pastor.

At the invitation of the Austrian Baptist Union, Southern Baptists have sent fraternal representatives to assist in the mission field that is Austria. The William R. Wagners were the first to go, in 1965.

"In keeping with the Foreign Mission Board policy of strengthening indigenous churches and institutions, Southern Baptist missionaries are not in charge of Baptist work in Austria now and will never be in charge of it,"





Early morning mist surrounds storybook castle near Salzburg.

Feeding the birds on a lazy afternoon.



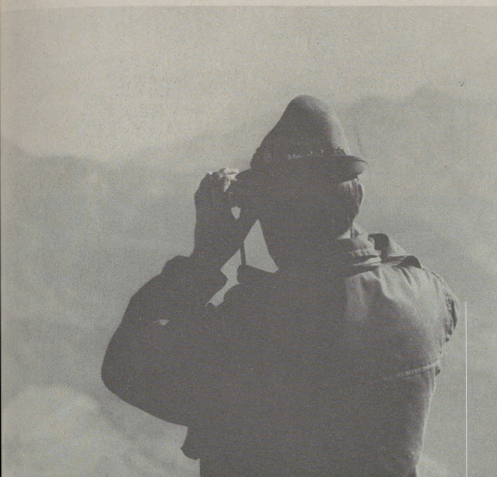
emphasizes Cleary.

Southern Baptists (as of June 1) have four career missionaries and one missionary journeyman assigned for work in Austria. In addition, a missionary couple stationed in Austria serve as fraternal representatives to the Baptists of Eastern Europe. Work is also carried on among Yugoslavians living in Austria (there are some 200,000).

Austria, with some 7.5 million people, is no larger than South Carolina. Most residents speak German.

The needs of youth play a large role in Baptist work in Austria. The Salzburg Baptist Church opened its youth center





Above: Mountain lover studies view. **Facing page:** Austrian Alps near Salzburg stand majestically.



Missionary Bill Wagner (second from l) confers with Austrian Baptist leaders.



Street scene in Salzburg.

in 1968 as an evangelistic arm. An informal evangelistic program aimed at young people is held each Saturday, along with other Christian activities.

The same church began a student ministry in 1973 in an effort to touch the lives of some of the 10,000 university students in the city. Weekly fellowship and Bible-study meetings are offered on an interdenominational basis.

Youth and student groups, both English-speaking and German-speaking, take part in the conference and retreat ministry at a ski lodge between Salzburg and Innsbruck.

The English-language ministry in Salzburg includes outreach to international students and tourists, among others. The Salzburg (English-language)

Baptist Church was established in 1971.

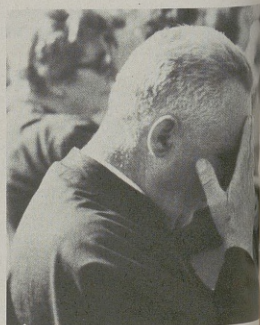
"Lay education by extension is of extreme importance in a land where there are no Baptist universities or seminaries and where little emphasis is put upon adult education in the churches," notes Cleary of yet another type of ministry. "Missionaries, working with local pastors, have developed a correspondence course with cassette tapes and workbook format," he adds.

"Southern Baptist missionaries in Austria—with the unusual role of being 'missionaries in the center of Christendom'—work alongside national Baptists in a society of prevailing secularism and traditionalism, witnessing to the power of the living Lord," summarizes Cleary. TC





Above: Water splashes
beach near Rome. **Right:**
Pope Paul
greet crowd while
priest bows in prayer.



ITALY



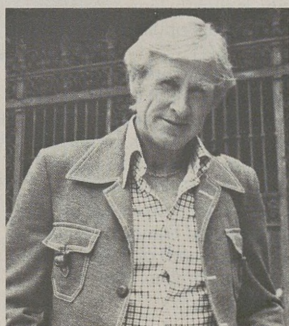
Italy, the country with the most identifiable shape in the world, became the first European field entered by Southern Baptists. That was in 1870.

With the Vatican in Rome, it is in no way surprising to find that Roman Catholicism is the entrenched religion of Italy.

Yet there is, report Missionaries Ben and Patsy Lawton, "a new status for evangelicals in Catholic Italy. Today the Catholic press is translating and selling the works of eminent Protestant scholars.

"Along with this, the Catholic emphasis in recent years upon study and distribution of the Bible furnishes solid ground for mutual witness," the Lawtons continue.

Southern Baptists were not the first Baptist missionaries to arrive in Italy. Two independent British Baptists had already opened work, with the Baptist Missionary Society partially underwriting it, in 1870. The British and American groups officially merged in



Top left: Tourist treks to Colosseum in Rome.
Left: Actor Lloyd Bridges' latest picture.



1922. And in 1967 five churches from a still independent British mission group became members of the Baptist Evangelical Union of Italy.

The union now has 86 churches, 51 of them self-supporting. Membership totals 4,319. There are 49 national pastors. Southern Baptists (as of June 1) have 18 career missionaries assigned to Italy.

Baptists doubled in number the first 20 years after World War II, though "membership seems to have reached a plateau in the political and social tensions of the last decade," the Lawtons note.

The Republic of Italy came into being as the former dictator-monarchy government ended at the close of the war. "The young republic, watchful of any force that might become too pow-

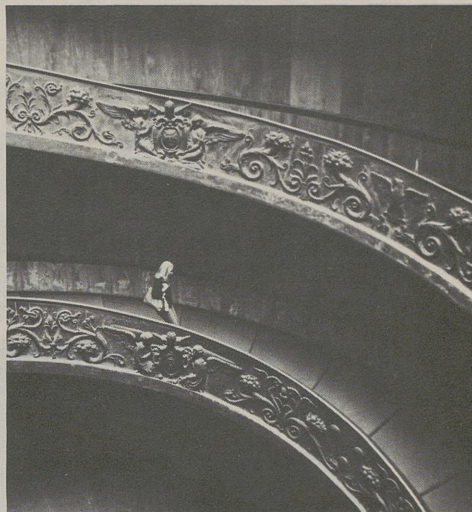
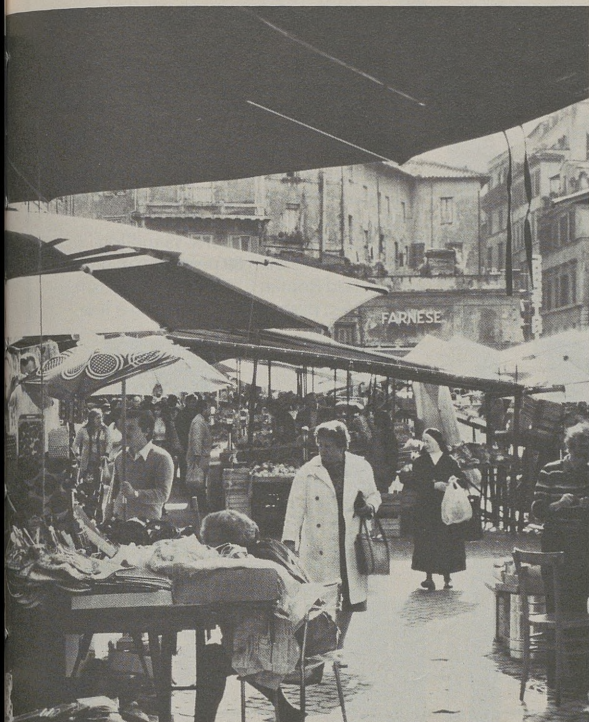
erful, maintains a slightly leftist government through a balance of power and by giving hospitality to the most divergent viewpoints," point out the Lawtons.

Total area of the peninsula country, including the large islands of Sardinia and Sicily, is slightly larger than the state of Arizona. Population totals 55.8 million.

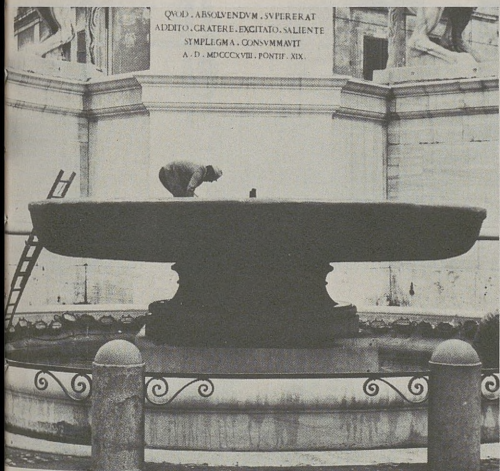
Baptists began a special emphasis on personal evangelism in the mid-1960s. One aid has been two mobile units, equipped with amplifiers, projectors, and literature. The Baptist radio recording studio in Rome produces a weekly program that reaches persons in Switzerland and France, in addition to Italy. Various kinds of literature are produced by the Italian Baptist Publishing House.



Top: Massive columns in St. Peter's Square, Rome, offer shade for weary travelers.



Girl exits from Sistine Chapel.



QVOD ARCVENDVM SVPERERAT
ADGETO GRATIE INCITATO SALIENTE
STIMPLIGMA CONVMNIT
A. D. MDCCCXVIII. PONTIF. XIX.

Top, left: Flea market is shopper's paradise.
Middle: "I know my quarter is in here someplace."



The Baptist union maintains a diversity of ministries. The G. B. Taylor Orphanage in Rome provides dormitories, kindergarten, a rest home for elderly, and other services. In some places pastors and their wives direct study halls. Dormitories are provided for students. Sailors can visit reception centers in port cities. There are three Baptist campsites.

The church in Milan provides an outpatient home for elderly, a camp for underprivileged, and a lay training center.

Italian Baptists are reaching beyond their borders. Just after World War II, Italian Baptist women contributed \$800 in their first Christmas Love Offering for missions. The offering has increased 700 percent. Gifts go to mission work in Italy and in the Cameroon, in Africa, directed by the European Baptist Federation.

"In recent years," add the Lawtons, "nine pastors and their wives and three single women from the Italian Baptist Union have gone out to serve in Canada, Switzerland, Germany, Australia, and the Cameroon."

In 62 of the 92 provinces of Italy there still is not a single Baptist church. Missionaries work alongside Italian Baptists as partners in the outreach toward Italy's millions. **TC**

FRANCE

Baptists in France "are a minority, and they know it," writes Missionary John M. Wilkes. "But they are aware of their nation's need to turn to the true Redeemer, rather than merely acknowledging him in traditional forms."

Of the country's nearly 53 million people, more than 80 percent can be classified Roman Catholics by baptism. However, perhaps not more than a few



Woman waits for Paris subway.



There's nothing like a drive in Paris to calm your nerves.





AEROPORT DE PARIS:

boutiques, services,



million would be in the "practicing" category, as defined by the Roman Catholic Church.

Membership in all Protestant churches may total one million.

"At minimum estimate," notes Wilkes, "there are left nearly 40 million souls, scarred by secularism, mocked by materialism, searching for a meaningful existence, hungering for the

Bread of Life.

"Such numbers urgently compel an exchange for evangelism."

Southern Baptists became a part of this "exchange" when they sent their first fraternal representatives to France in 1960. Now ten career missionaries and two missionary associates are assigned there (as of June 1). They work with the French Baptist Federation.

Formed in 1911, the federation today has 46 churches with 2,409 members; 24 of the churches are self-supporting. There are 45 national pastors.

The first Baptist missionaries arrived to aid English-language churches serving U.S. military families. With the withdrawal of American forces in 1966, all but one of the English-language churches closed. Today a missionary is pastor of an English-language Baptist church in Paris, serving the international community.

Baptist churches in France, it should be noted, date from early in the nineteenth century. By the time the Southern Baptist Convention was formed (1845), at least seven Baptist congregations ministered in France.

Among the work carried on under federation auspices today are five sum-

mer camps, a home for boys in Tremel, a children's home near Pierrefonds, and a geriatrics ministry in the same city.

The federation's Board of Interior Missions, a part of the Evangelism and Missions Commission, coordinates work of 20 "evangelism outposts" scattered about the country.

"Cooperative Program funds have enabled the Christian Education Commission to develop literature production," reports Wilkes. These materials are used widely in French-language countries in Europe and Africa.

The federation's Communications Commission, with a missionary as general secretary, is located at Massy, a Paris suburb. It helps coordinate publication efforts. Tracts and Bible correspondence courses for use in French-language countries are produced there.

Southern Baptists helped buy the site where the pastors' school stands at Massy. Southern Baptist support also helped install a sound recording studio there. The weekly radio program produced at the studio is kept on the air by gifts through the Cooperative Program. The studio also has been used for recording broadcasts in other languages for use in France. **TC**



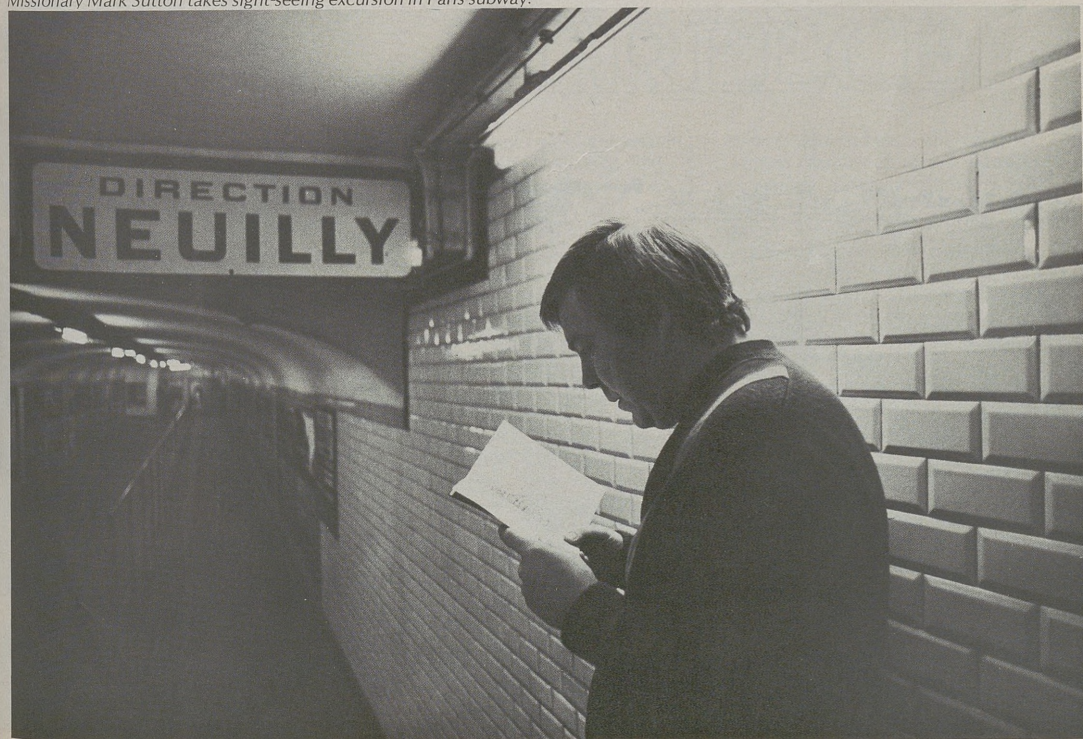
The Louvre Museum, Paris, once home of French kings and queens, now houses some of the world's greatest art works.

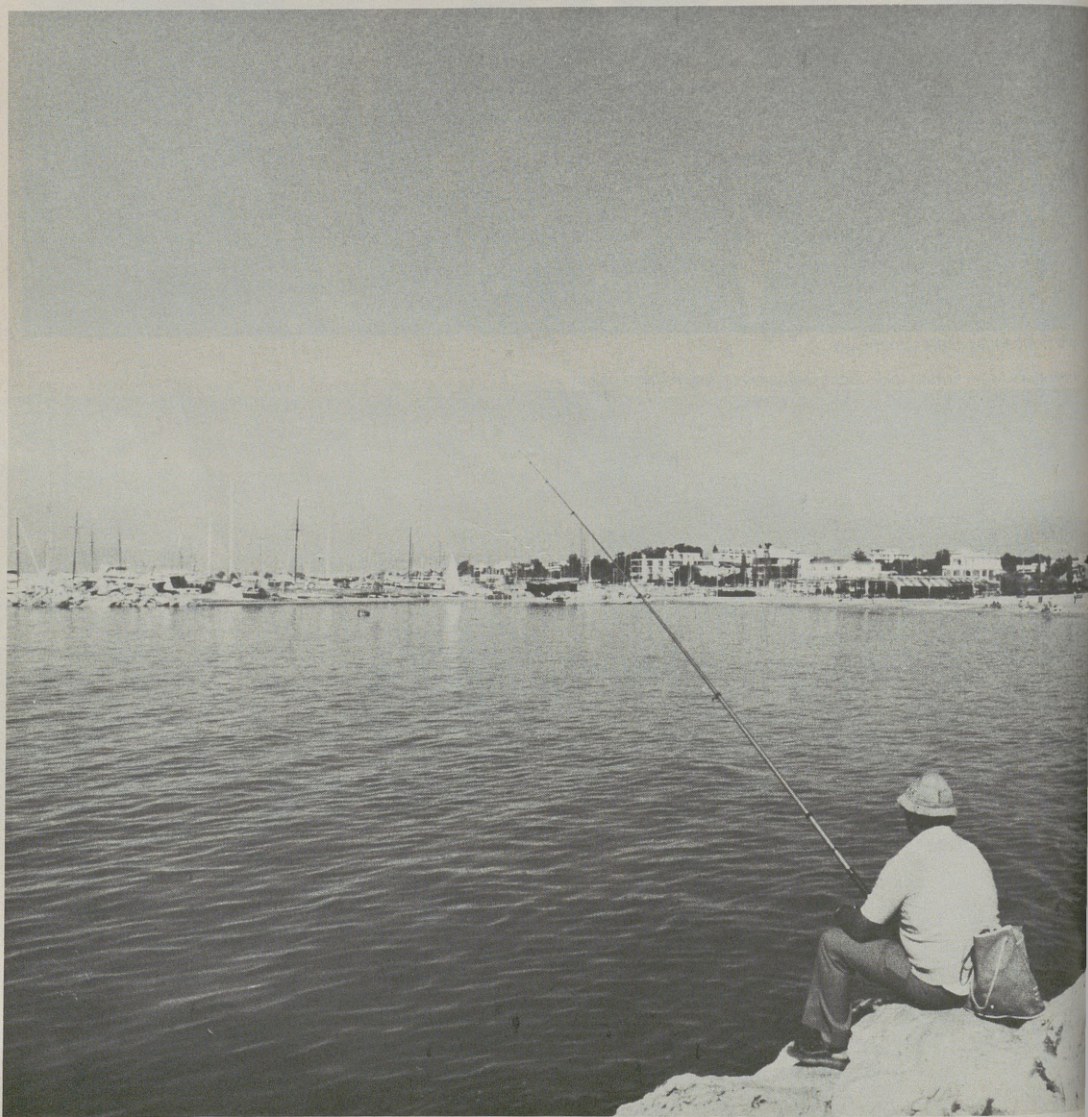


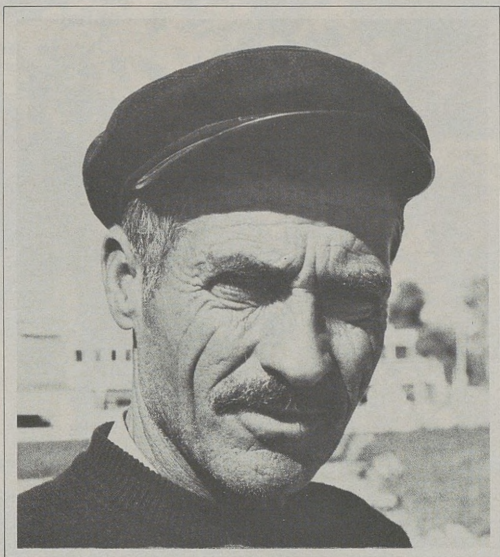


Paris policeman pauses poetically.

Missionary Mark Sutton takes sight-seeing excursion in Paris subway.







GREECE

The gospel message was carried early to Greece. The book of Acts records the preaching of Paul in Athens, for example. But the number of believers there was scattered until Constantine the Great made Christianity the state religion in the fourth century. When eastern and western arms of Christianity separated, Greek Christians remained in the part that became the Greek Orthodox Church.

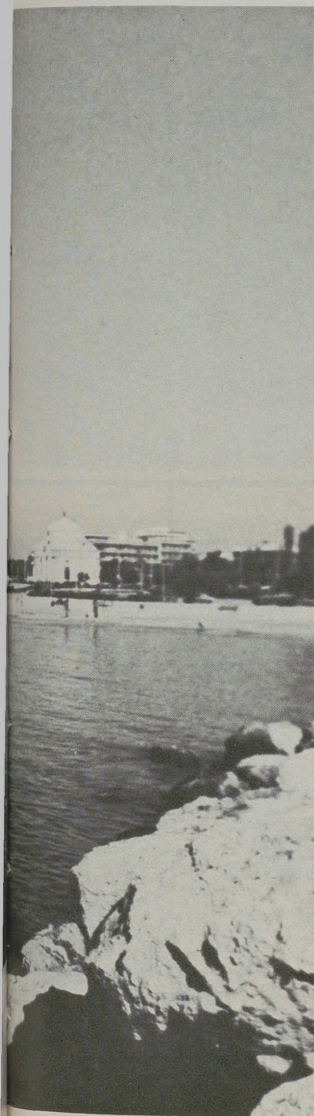
Today the Greek Orthodox Church claims as members more than eight million of the nation's nine-plus million people. The government strongly supports the church. Proselyting is illegal, even though Greeks have a form of religious freedom. A few evangelical groups exist there. But several attempts since 1930 by Baptists—both American Baptists and Southern Baptists—have not resulted in a lasting Baptist witness in Greece.

In late 1969 three American families

living in Athens began talking about starting a Baptist church. The congregation struggled at times during its early days. A Southern Baptist missionary couple was first assigned in 1972 to assist the church. Today one missionary couple, Kathryn and Norman N. Burnes III, are stationed in Athens to work with the congregation, Trinity Baptist Church, with about 130 members.

The church's application for official recognition by the government was denied on the basis that the membership is too transitory. Most members are U.S. military personnel and their families stationed in Greece, or are Americans assigned to Greece in other government work or with private companies.

The church operates as a "private worship" group of Americans and other foreign nationals. Church advertisements must be in English and directed at the English-speaking community.





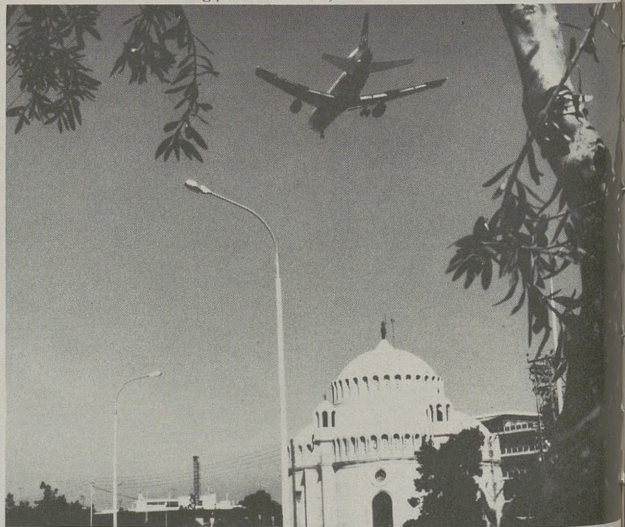
More than half of the members have become Christians since arriving in Greece, it is reported. As is usual in churches with a high percentage of military-related members, turnover among church leadership is high. Though this presents some problems, it also challenges members to take more active church roles than they had been accustomed to do in the States.

"Maybe the Lord used this kind of location to encourage people to become involved," mused one member, an Air Force man.

"Fellowship" is proclaimed as the key feature of the congregation. "We're on a first-name basis," said one member. "It is the friendliest kind of fellowship; everyone just blends in."

Even though outreach to residents is limited, the church ministers to foreign nationals and at the same time offers a potent witness just by its existence and loving fellowship in the community. TC

Airliner follows its landing pattern directly over Athens.







Berlin shoppers brave blustery weather.

WEST GERMANY

In Germany, Baptists are a minority. With some 67,000 Baptists in 340 churches and 278 missions in West Germany, the German Baptist Union is one of the largest Baptist unions in Europe. But its membership is small when compared with state churches.

"The state-aligned churches, Lutheran and Roman Catholic, have enjoyed large memberships, state support, and prestige," points out Missionary Isam E. Ballenger, Foreign Mission Board field representative for Europe. "Sometimes this has resulted in a sense of inferiority among the smaller, free churches.

"Actually," Ballenger goes on, "for years, attendance and participation in the services of the state churches have been extremely low, probably less than 10 percent of membership. More recently, large numbers have severed their ties with the church."

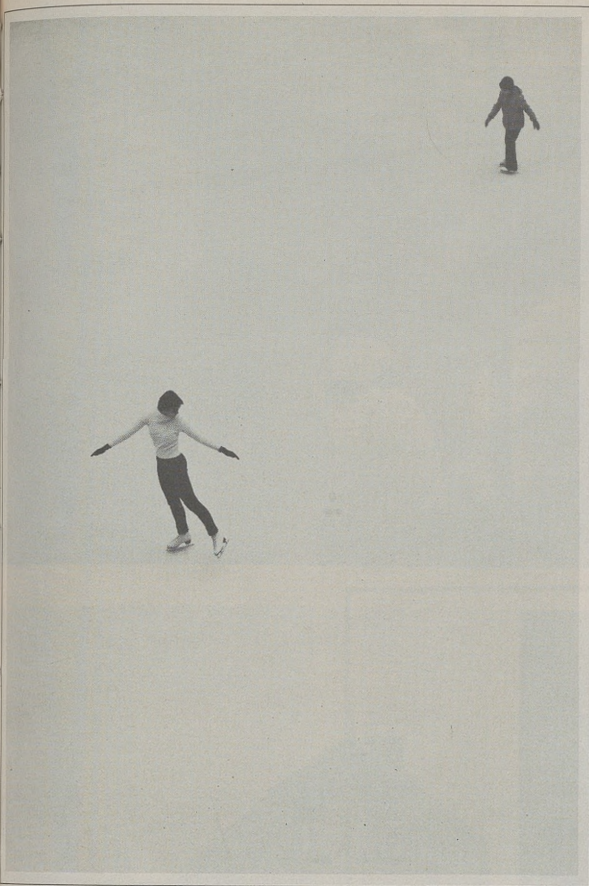
Continues the field representative, "This situation provides Baptists with a unique opportunity. One Baptist pastor foresees that the coming issue for the churches is one of freedom—a free individual in a free church in a free land."

The first German Baptist church was organized in Hamburg in 1834 under Johann Gerhard Oncken. The Baptist

union was reorganized during World War II, when German Baptist churches united with some former Brethren churches. They chose the name "Union of Evangelical Free Churches," usually referred to as the German Baptist Union.

Today the union maintains the Oncken Press in Kassell, a seminary in Hamburg, and Baptist-sponsored hospitals, orphanages, and homes for the aged.

Besides regular Sunday services and mid-week Bible hours, many German Baptists open their homes to neighbors for "house circle" meetings with an evangelistic motive.



Skater practices graceful swirl.



Bombed remains of church building stand as war memorial in West Berlin. Modern building in background poses a tribute to industriousness.

German Baptists are the largest contributors to the European Baptist Missionary Society. German Baptist missionaries serve in the Cameroon Republic in Africa.

Southern Baptist missionaries become involved in work in Germany because of the English-language Baptist churches established there by Americans and their families stationed in Germany with U.S. military installations. The European Baptist Convention (English-language) includes

The German people are very hospitable, as smiling German teenage girl and younger child reveal.

Center: Reflections in the Grafenwohr, Germany, town lake.





churches in several European countries, but the largest number, 26, is in Germany.

In 1961 a Southern Baptist missionary couple went to Germany to aid the developing English-language work and to be fraternal representatives to the German Baptist Union.

"Since that beginning," reports Ballenger, "Southern Baptist mission work in Germany has grown around these two focal points."

Currently (as of June 1) Southern Baptists have six career missionaries, two missionary associates, and one missionary journeyman assigned to Germany.

The executive secretary of the European Baptist Convention (English-language) is a missionary living in Germany.

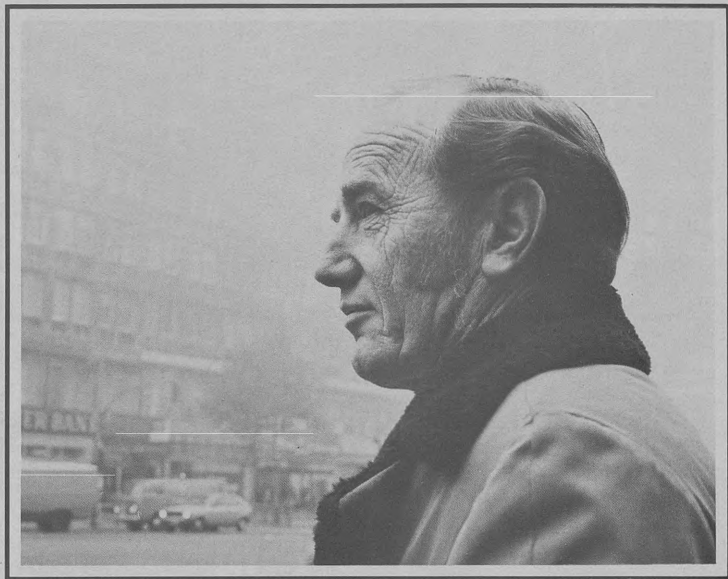
The English-language churches support a missionary working among Spanish laborers in Germany and con-

tribute to the work of German Baptists.

With an area twice the size of the state of Mississippi, the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) has a population of 6.8 million; this includes West Berlin.

The wall that surrounds West Berlin, deep in the heart of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) is a reality (see June issue), and a few years ago East German Baptists formed a separate union, also called the Union of Evangelical Free Churches. It now has about 225 churches, maintains a seminary, and supports an institution for mentally and physically handicapped persons.

"Progress and affluence, coupled with superficial ties to the church, have not served to free the individual in Germany," Ballenger states. "Baptists are preaching a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as the way to real freedom." **TC**



Above: Missionary Luther Morphis gazes across West Berlin street.

Left: Flower graces weathered fence.

BELGIUM



The country is one of the six that joined the European Economic Community—the Common Market—in 1957. One of the more prosperous nations in northern Europe, it is highly industrialized. It is also densely populated. Population totals nearly ten million in an area just slightly larger than the state of Maryland.

Yet Belgium, independent only since 1830, has a history of being oppressed. Since the 1500s it has been occupied at different times by Austria, Spain, and France; Germany occupied Belgium during both World Wars.

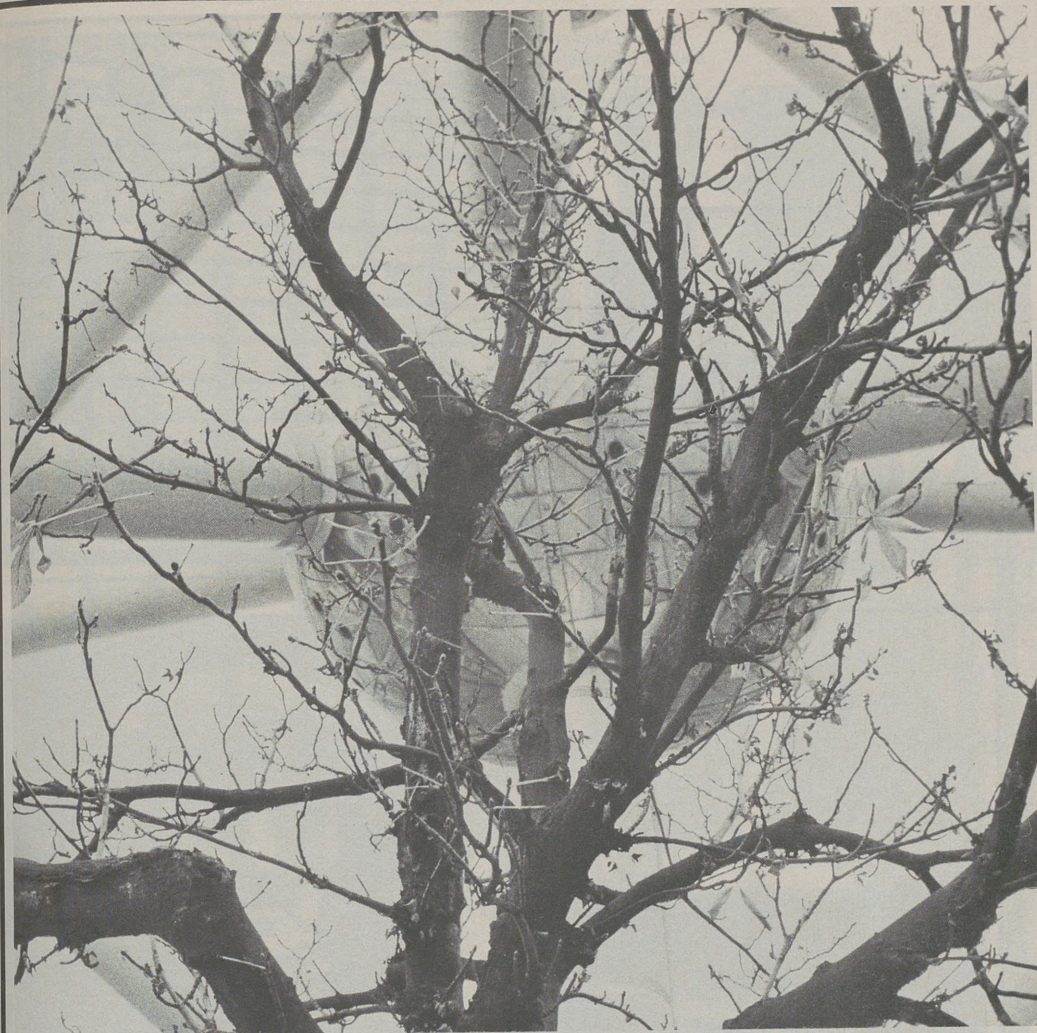
"Knowledge of their history helps one to understand the deep love for freedom and independence which the Belgian people feel, as well as the reserve they display to all but the inner family circle," points out Helen (Mrs.



Rudolph M. "Rudy" Wood, missionary in Belgium.

"Language is the most divisive factor in national life," says Mrs. Wood. "By a 1963 law, the land has been divided into French-speaking and Flemish-speaking areas, the latter being very like Dutch. Only the capital city of Brussels is officially bilingual."

Continues Mrs. Wood, "Although Roman Catholicism claims 95 percent of the population, few are active participants in the life of the churches. The constitution guarantees religious freedom, and groups representing a number of denominations and sects are at work in the country."



A study of "The Atomium," a 1958 World's Fair exhibit, through bare trees.

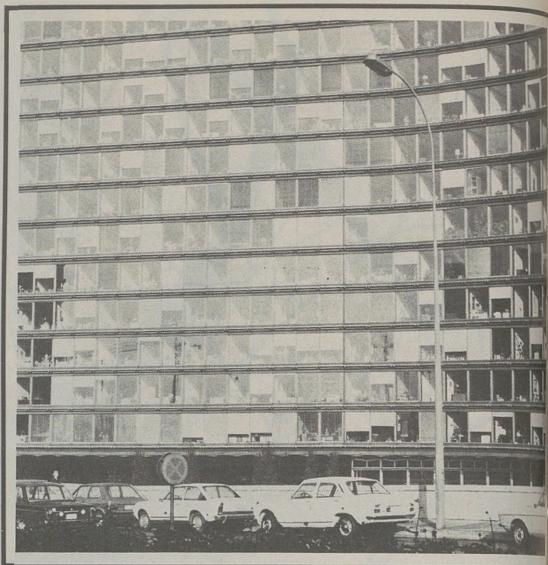
The Belgian Gospel Mission, an independent organization with support largely from groups in the U.S. and Canada, was formed following World War I. These churches, now more indigenous, continue as a strong evangelical witness. The Belgian Protestant Church was formed in recent years by the combination of Methodists, Presbyterians, and some smaller groups.

"American Baptists have contributed financial aid to Baptist brethren for a number of years and have had personnel there since 1965," reports Mrs. Wood.

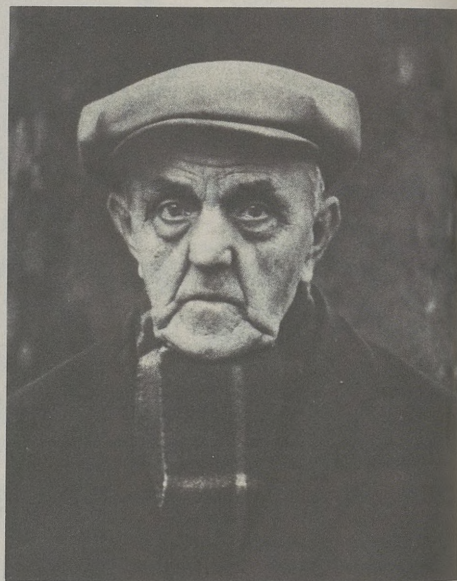
The Belgian Baptist Union now has nine churches, five of them self-sup-



Common Market building in Brussels exposes its offices to the world.



Right: Couple enjoys leisurely stroll through park. **Above:** Bicycles offer cheap transportation in Belgium.



porting, with a total of about 480 members. One of its four small missions is in eastern Belgium, where German is spoken. German Baptists have assisted this mission.

Southern Baptists became involved, as so often in Europe, because of English-language work among Americans in Belgium. When the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) moved its headquarters from France to Belgium in 1967, six families who had belonged to an English-language church



in Paris formed a new congregation. The Rudolph Woods, missionary couple stationed in Luxembourg, moved to Belgium to assist the new church.

"While Southern Baptists had previously offered financial support, this represented the first assignment of missionary personnel," notes Mrs. Wood.

A second English-language church was formed in 1968. Both churches are members of the Belgian Baptist Union.

Southern Baptists (as of June 1) assigned to Belgium four career missionaries, two missionary associates, and a missionary journeyman. TC



SPAIN

Passing through a transition era, Spain has often been in the news in recent months with the passing of its long-time head of state and the beginning of the new monarch's reign, in December 1975.

Significant progress in religious liberty has been realized under the new regime, brightening a picture that had already improved dramatically since

the 1950-60 era. A new constitution guaranteeing religious liberty went into effect in 1966. Over recent years this has allowed Baptist churches to register legally with the government, advertise their churches, hold public evangelistic rallies, and enter into religious broadcasting.

Twice the size of the state of Oregon, Spain has a population approaching 35.5 million.



What mischief lurks in young minds?

The Plaza Mayor in Madrid, Spain.





"Lover, come back to me."



Today the Spanish Baptist Union has 58 churches, 44 of them self-supporting. Membership totals about 6,800.

In addition there are the Spanish Evangelical Church (Methodists, Presbyterians, and Lutherans), the Spanish Reformed Church (Episcopal), Plymouth Brethren, Seventh-day Adventists, Pentecostals, Anglicans, and Churches of Christ.

"Baptists have been in Spain for a century," notes Indy (Mrs. Charles W.) Whitten, missionary in Spain.



"The American Baptist Missionary Union and the Swedish Baptist Union did missionary work in Spain prior to 1921, when the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention agreed to take responsibility for the field.

Today (as of June 1) Southern Baptists have 41 career missionaries and two missionary journeymen assigned to Spain.

Southern Baptist missionary representatives work within the framework of the Spanish Baptist Evangelical Union. "Nationals and missionaries labor together to evangelize and to develop strong, self-supporting churches," says Mrs. Whitten.

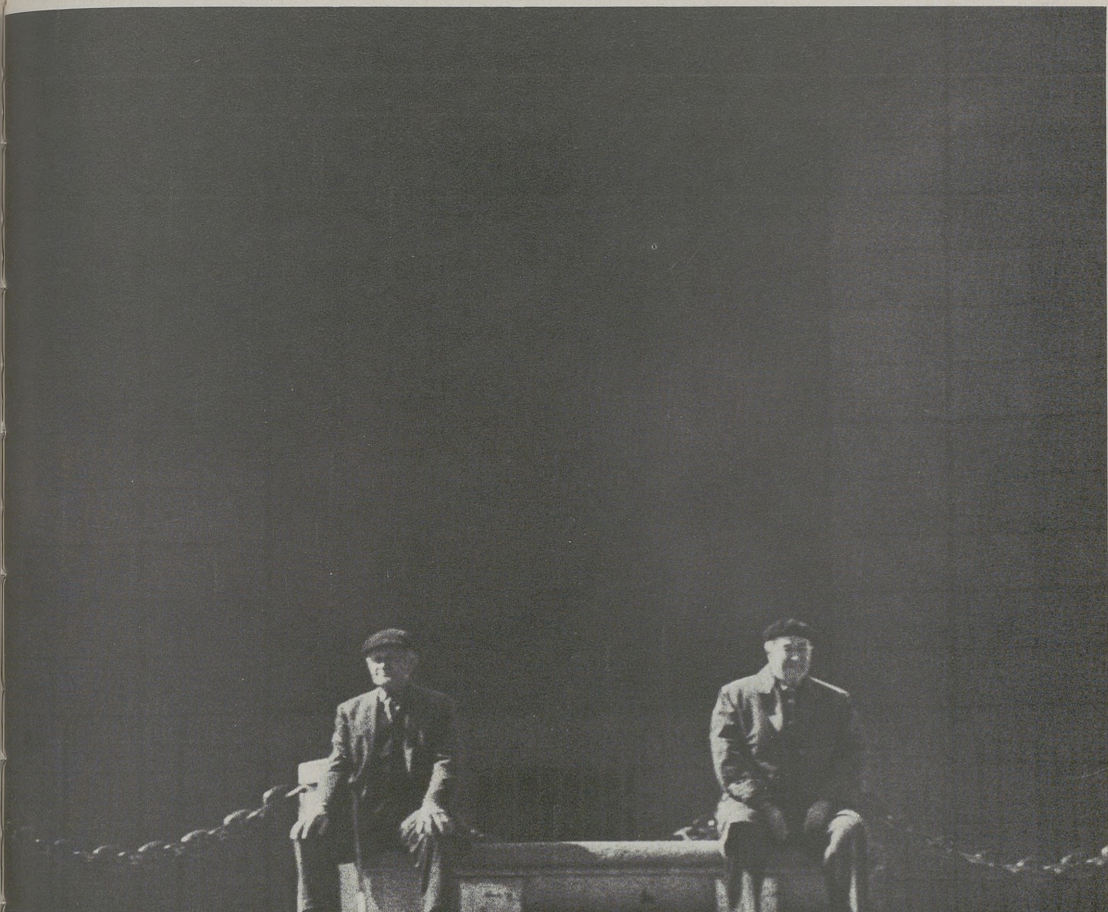
A new Baptist center was opened at Alcobendas, near Madrid, last year. The center includes the Spanish Baptist Theological Seminary and headquarters for the Baptist union, the Baptist mission (organization of mis-

sionaries), and the Bible correspondence course.

Baptist radio programs have been begun around the country. A publication center is located in Barcelona. A Baptist bookstore also is in Barcelona, and bookstores in other cities are planned. The Spanish Woman's Missionary Union sponsors an old folks' home. Contributions through the Spanish Baptist Cooperative Program have increased greatly during the past few years.

The order of the day for Baptists in Spain is expansion, declares Mrs. Whitten. "The aim is to strengthen the existing churches and to open new work in the cities that have no Baptist witness," she writes. "Home mission offerings taken in June of each year are being set aside for beginning new work in Spain." TC





Irreconcilable differences? Or just whiling away the hours?



*Missionary
Buddy
Copeland
checks cuisine.*

SWITZERLAND



The name of Switzerland may bring to one's mind images of the Swiss Alps, numbered bank accounts, and neutrality.

For Baptists, the name of Switzerland should suggest Rüschiikon, a community located on Lake Zürich, only ten kilometers from Zürich. There is located the Baptist Center, with its principal facility, the Baptist Theological Seminary. Some 20 countries are represented in the student body each year. (See April issue.)

"The seminary's basic purpose is to provide high-level theological education for students from European Baptist unions and to help them integrate that education into their ministry," explains Missionary G. Keith Parker. "Because its trustees are Baptist union leaders and heads of European Baptist seminaries, the Rüschiikon seminary is able to coordinate its work with that of the national seminaries."

The international faculty includes about one-half Americans (Baptist missionaries) and one-half Europeans.

Six career missionaries, two missionary associates, and a missionary journeyman are assigned there by Southern Baptists (as of June 1).

"Studying theology in a setting of cultural pluralism helps give the student better understanding of his own situation and broadens his perspective so that he can minister more effectively to the rapidly changing society where he will be serving," notes Parker.

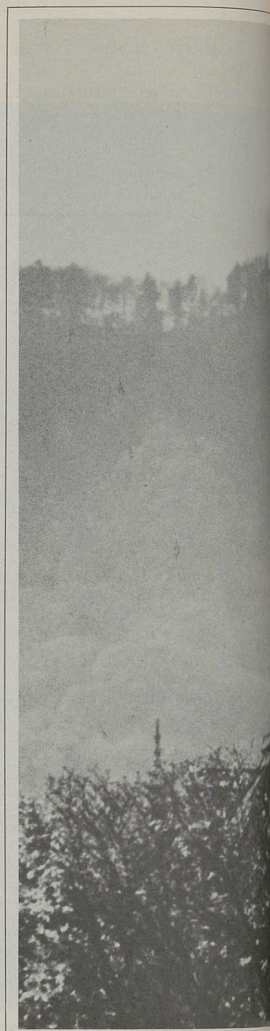
The seminary's record is impressive. Almost half of the leaders in European Baptist churches are graduates of the school. Missionaries or missionary candidates are included in every class; one out of every 13 graduates serves as a foreign missionary. About 14 percent of the graduates serve in executive and teaching capacities among European Baptists.

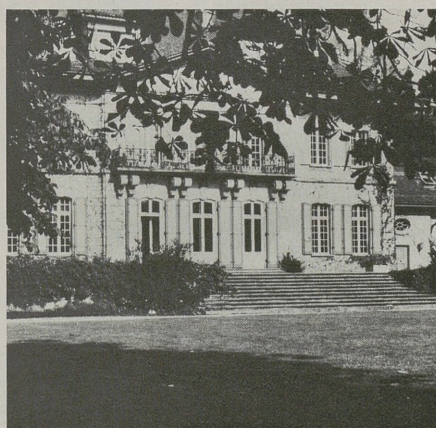
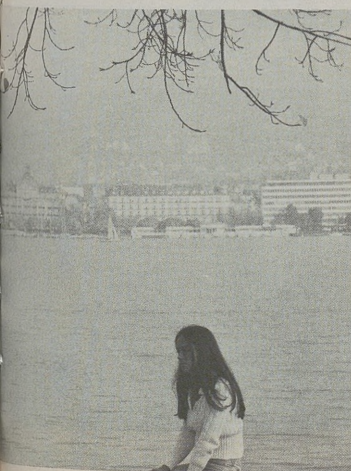
"Although the seminary's primary support and administrative direction are provided by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board," points out Parker, "in both direction and support close cooperation with European Baptists has been sought. This is a unique role that Southern Baptists play in relation to the small Baptist unions."

Besides the seminary, the Baptist center serves as a location for conferences and other activities.

Housed in the basement of the seminary's main building is the Baptist studio for radio, television, and film. Directing the studio is E. Wesley Miller, missionary associate who is the Foreign Mission Board's regional mass media representative for Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia. The facility is used both for producing broadcasts and for training European Baptists in producing their own programs.

Switzerland, nearly twice the size of the state of Massachusetts, has a population of 6.4 million. Among them are about 2,000 Baptists. **TC**

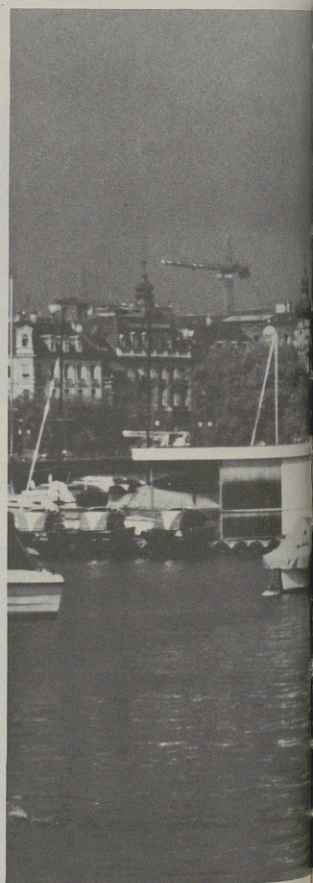
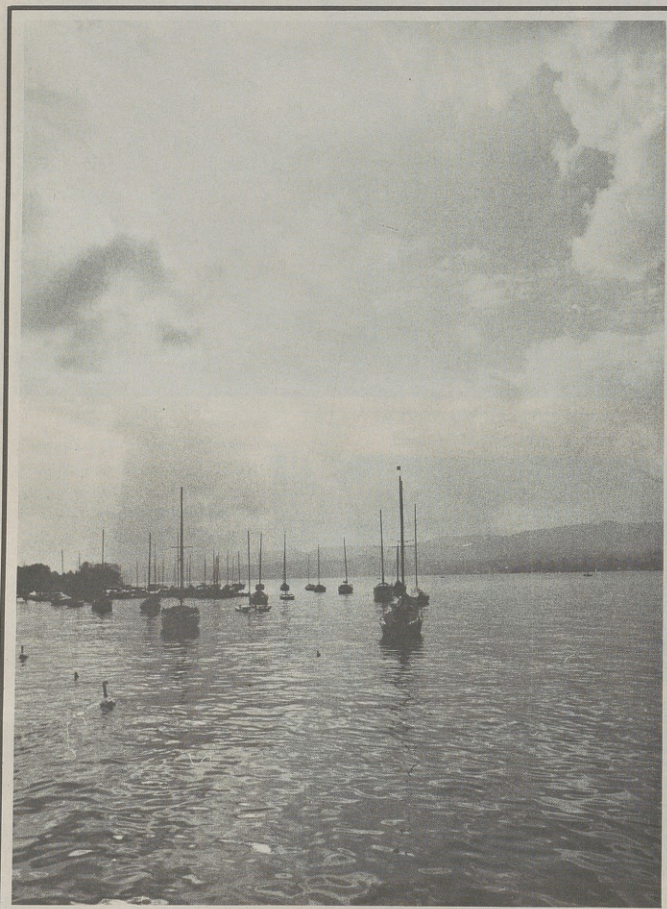


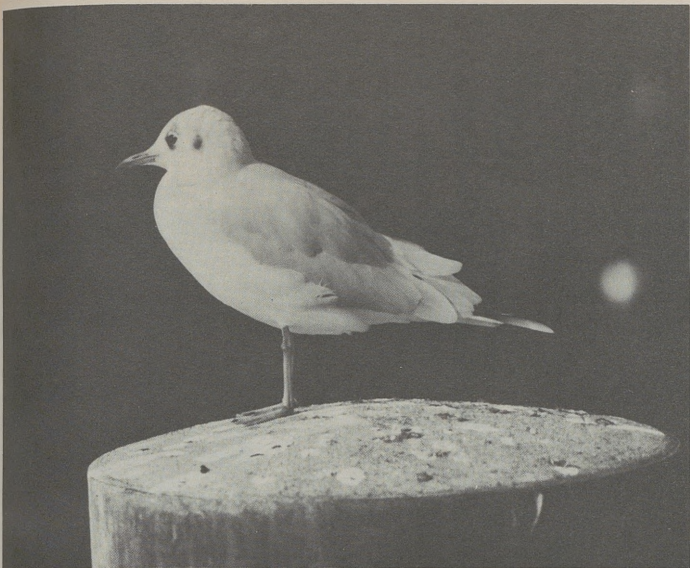


Above: Castle in Zürich rises above trees.

Left, center: Student at Baptist Theological Seminary near Zürich quietly reflects.

Left: Main building of Baptist Center at Rüschlikon.

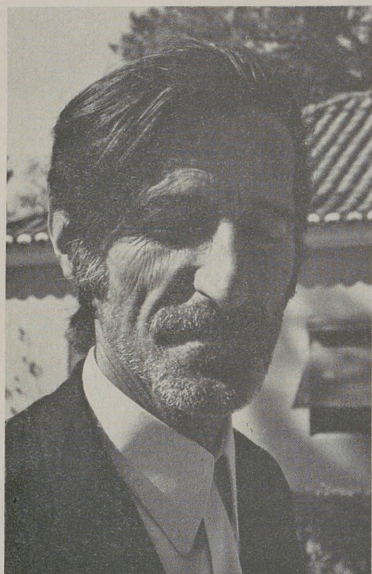




Facing page, top: Strolling in Zürich gives rise to meditations. **Facing page, bottom:** Sailboats sit serenely on lake, while storm brews in background. **Left:** "Hurry with this picture; I can't hold this pose forever." **Below:** Zürich scene.



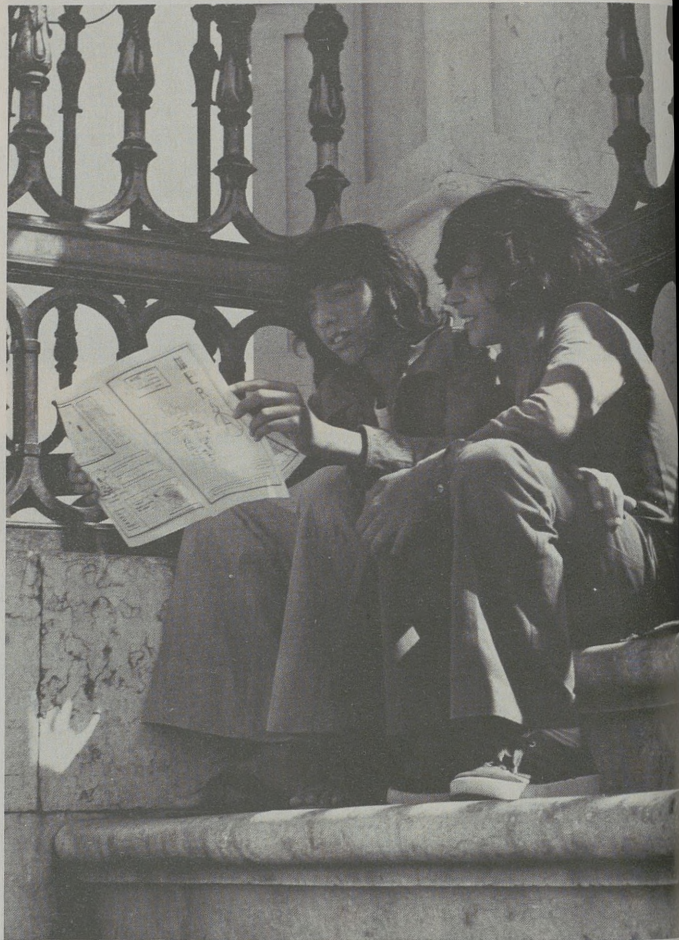
PORTUGAL



Political developments in recent months in Portugal, frequently making headlines, have raised questions about which ideological direction the country eventually may follow. The changes and uncertainties put an even greater responsibility on Baptists in Portugal to reach their fellow countrymen.

"Portugal's first known Baptist was an Englishman named Joseph Jones," relates Grayson C. Tennison, who served as a missionary in Portugal for about 16 years. Due to Jones' influence and dedication, a Baptist witness was begun as early as 1888, says Tennison.

Portuguese Baptist life officially began December 20, 1908. "It was then that Zachary C. Taylor, a Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil and acting executive secretary of the newly formed Foreign Mission Board of the Brazilian Baptist Convention, served as moderator in the organization of the first Baptist church on Portuguese soil," reports Tennison. He reorganized



a work started by Reginald Young. By 1914 there were three Baptist churches.

But "Baptist life in Portugal has been almost as turbulent as the seas that lash her shores," declares Tennison. "Small numbers and financial limitations have greatly hampered the expansion of the work over the years.

"Various mission boards have cooperated for a period, only to withdraw later. Even the Brazilian Baptist Foreign Mission Board, instrumental in founding Portuguese Baptist life, has been handicapped by periodic reverses

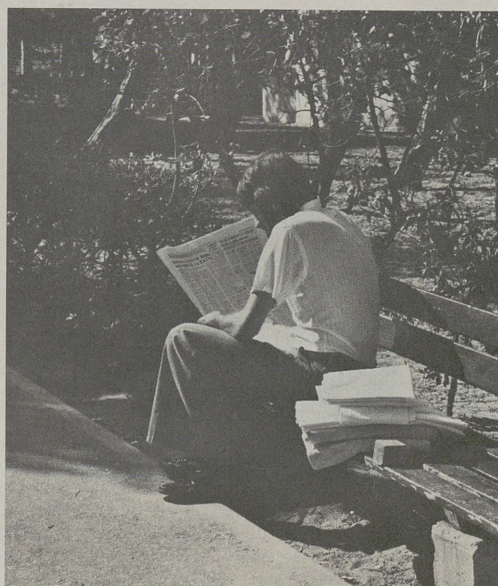
which have been reflected in Portugal."

When the Foreign Mission Board of the Brazilian Baptist Convention and the Portuguese Baptist Convention asked Southern Baptists for help, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board responded. In 1959 the board sent its first fraternal representatives to Portugal.

Southern Baptist missionary personnel now assigned to Portugal (as of June 1) include eight career missionaries and two missionary associates.

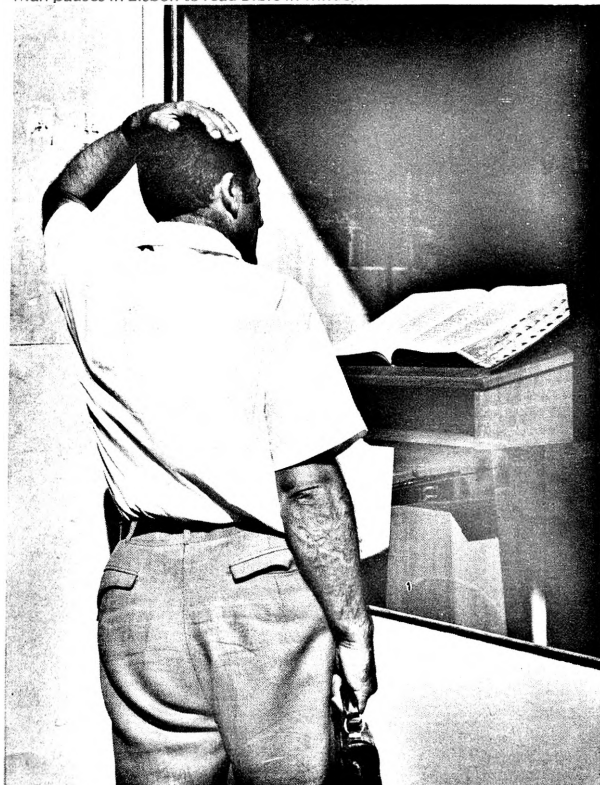


"Thou dost protest too much, methinks."





Man pauses in Lisbon to read Bible in window.



Traveler surveys surroundings.

Brazilian Baptist missionaries also serve in Portugal.

The Portuguese Baptist Convention includes 49 churches; of these 20 are self-supporting. Membership totals 2,800. There are 29 national pastors.

Besides Baptists, evangelicals in Portugal include Anglicans, Brethren, Methodists, Pentecostals, Presbyterians, and others.

Only about the size of the state of Indiana, Portugal has 8.7 million residents.

Handicaps facing Portuguese Baptists include the high cost of property for church use. Roman Catholic religious instruction is required in all schools. Building permits for church buildings are hard to get. Low income and a rising cost of living limit possibilities of growth.

There is no limitation on personal evangelism, however. The Portuguese Baptist Convention has developed radio broadcasts. Publication of literature has been increased. The Baptist Theological Seminary was opened in Lisbon in 1969, and new property for the school was bought last year.

Until political unrest arose in the Portuguese-language African countries of Angola and Mozambique, Portuguese Baptists carried on mission work there, using nearly half of their cooperative program budget for this. TC



Distant modern buildings proclaim better life—for some.



SCOTLAND



Above: Portion of Edinburgh, Scotland. **Right:** Scottish doorman. **Below:** Union Station in Glasgow. **Below, right:** Pastor A. Brunton Scott talks with worshipers after Sunday service at Queens Park Baptist Church, Glasgow.



At the request of Scottish Baptist leaders, a Southern Baptist missionary associate couple has been assigned to minister among American and Scottish oil field workers, beginning this year. The hope is for formation of a church made up of Scots and Americans. The church would be fully a part of the Baptist Union of Scotland, which has about 16,000 members in its affiliated churches.

The Church of Scotland is Presbyterian, but, besides Baptists, there are also Anglicans, Catholics, Congregationalists, Methodists, and Unitarians.

Scotland, slightly smaller in area than the state of South Carolina, has a population of 5.2 million. It forms the northern part of the island of Great Britain and is part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. TC

Needed Now

Requests for missionary personnel come to the Foreign Mission Board from Baptist missions (organizations of missionaries) overseas. More than 1,300 missionaries have been requested to reinforce and replace missionary personnel and to begin new work in 1977. These requests are divided into 45 categories of missionary service, but 65 percent of the requests are for persons in the area of evangelism and church development.

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

General Evangelism: This could involve working with local pastors, training church leaders, planting churches and mission points, helping established churches grow, and promoting church and denominational programs.

Requests from Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Macao, Korea, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Benin, Liberia, Ghana, Togo, Argentina, North Brazil, Equatorial Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Chile.

Also from Tanzania, Zambia, Kenya, Botswana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Rhodesia, Bangladesh, Iran, Gaza, Spain, Lebanon, Belgium, Panama, French West Indies, Honduras, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Surinam.

English-language pastorates: These requests are generally for missionary associates to be pastors of international churches.

Requests from Senegal, Thailand, Bermuda, Colombia, Iran, Turkey, South Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Peru, and Liberia.

Student Work/Youth Work: This could involve training programs, discussion groups, drama, films, and Bible study in connection with schools, student centers, and/or churches.

Requests from Chile, East Africa, Ivory Coast, North Brazil, Zambia, Mexico, Ghana, Philippines, Taiwan, Senegal, Indonesia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Gaza, Paraguay, South Brazil.

Religious Education: This could involve organizing and developing programs of Christian education and leadership training within the churches in the areas of Bible study, church membership training, Baptist doctrine, stewardship, and missions studies.

Requests from Hong Kong, Japan,

Upper Volta, Togo, Chile, Ghana, North Brazil, Equatorial Brazil, Colombia.

Music: This could involve developing and promoting music for the churches on a local, associational, or national level, or it could involve teaching in a seminary.

Requests from Taiwan, Korea, Japan, Philippines, East Africa, Argentina, Chile, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Portugal, South Brazil, Venezuela.

Women's Leadership Training: This could involve working with WMU organizations, leadership training, special events, camp activities, directing mission action, leading study courses.

Requests from Chile and Venezuela.

Theology: Seminary teaching—Requests from Colombia, Equatorial Brazil, Ghana, Korea, Liberia, Mexico, North Brazil, Peru, Portugal, South Brazil, Taiwan.

Theological Education by Extension—Requests from Chile, French West Indies, Honduras, Indonesia, Venezuela, Windward Islands.

Bible Institutes—Request from Uruguay.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Physicians: Requests are for general practitioners, internists, pediatricians, surgeons, ob-gyn, and urologists.

Requests from Colombia, East Africa, Gaza, Ghana, Indonesia, Korea, Thailand, Yemen, Ethiopia, India, Paraguay, Philippines, Rhodesia, Togo.

Dentists: Requests from Honduras, Windward Islands, Botswana, Ethiopia, India, Togo.

Nurses: Requests from Colombia, East Africa, Gaza, India, Korea, Mexico, Rhodesia, Yemen, Chile, Ethiopia, Indonesia.

Medically Related Specialists: Requests for medical technologists, dietitians, public health workers.

EDUCATION

Elementary Teachers: Requests from India and Taiwan.

Secondary Teachers: East Africa, French West Indies, Hong Kong, Liberia, Taiwan, Rhodesia, Yemen.

College Teachers: Hong Kong, India, Japan, Malawi, Yemen.

Literacy: Ghana, Upper Volta.

Bible Correspondence: Philippines, Senegal, Togo.

OTHER SPECIALIZATIONS

Agricultural Evangelists: Requests from East Africa, Ethiopia, Philippines.

Business Managers: Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Yemen.

Social Workers: Ghana, Honduras, Ivory Coast, Japan, North Brazil, Senegal.

Mass Media: This could include publications, radio-TV, and/or literature coordination.

Requests from El Salvador, Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Ghana, Dominican Republic, Japan, Togo.

Others: Occasionally there are requests for such specialties as school chaplain, conference/encampment director, children's worker, missionary children's dorm parent, pharmacist, veterinarian, maintenance worker, builder, radio-TV technician, librarian, secretary.

Missionary appointment is open to persons between the ages of 24 and 39 who are natural-born U.S. citizens. Missionary candidates must give evidence of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, a commitment to share his love with others, a sense of God's leadership in considering missionary service, and a meaningful membership and participation in a Southern Baptist church. Candidates for missionary service need college and seminary training and good experience in job skills they wish to share overseas. Wives are encouraged to have a college degree, but need 60 hours of college and/or seminary work to qualify.

For additional information, write: Louis R. Cobbs, Department of Missionary Personnel, Box 6597, Richmond, Va. 23230. **TC**

Offering Total: \$28.7 Million

At the final tabulation of the 1976 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions, made May 31, the total reached \$28,763,810.

This was an increase of \$2,594,389 over the total given for the 1975 offering, although the total fell short of the \$29 million goal for the 1976 offering.

The figure for 1976 includes one more month of contributions than the 1975 offering. The Foreign Mission Board, upon consultation with the Woman's Missionary Union, decided to keep the books open on the offering through May, beginning this year. In former years books closed on the offering at the end of April. During May this year \$449,293 was received.

The change allows the May receipts to be counted and have figures available for sharing at the annual meetings of the WMU and the Southern Baptist Convention. The meetings are now held in June, instead of May as in earlier years.

As you pray for missions, this daily calendar offers specific information concerning foreign missions personnel and events. Keep this calendar available for your devotional time of intercession and thanksgiving.

1. EL PASO, TEX.: Missionaries Jimmy Hartfield and Van Gladen will be leading in organizing task forces to stimulate the establishment and strengthening of churches throughout Middle America and the Caribbean. Pray for the organizational meetings today at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House.

2. MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE: Ask the Lord to give inspiration and guidance for the missionaries attending mission meeting August 2-5.

3. HONG KONG: The Hong Kong for Christ Crusade began in January with a week of prayer. Events are scheduled all year to reach every person in Hong Kong for Christ. This week, pray for music camps, that they will inspire Christians and also be a beginning to reach non-Christians.

4. JAPAN: Presently 128 missionaries compose the Japan Baptist Mission. The mission is asking God to send 32 missionaries within the next 33 months to help reach the more than 110,000,000 Japanese people who have not trusted in Christ. Pray the mission goal will be met.

5. SOUTH BRAZIL: Ask the Lord to bless the efforts of more than ten laymen from First Baptist Church, Concord, Tenn., who are assisting in a construction project at Palma Assembly in South Brazil August 5-22.

6. SRI LANKA: The transfer of a missionary couple, Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Cullen, to Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon) marks the formal beginning of Southern Baptist work there. Three other missionaries are urgently needed to utilize visas available. Pray that the people God is calling will respond.

7. UGANDA: The three missionary couples assigned to Uganda will gather for their annual mission meeting at Limuru, Kenya. During the last few months two of the couples have been living in Uganda. The third has been based in Kenya but has made occasional visits to Uganda. Pray for their continued safety and for their meeting.

8. MALAWI: Ask the Lord to be with members of the Malawi Baptist Mission in annual meeting at Salima.

9. YEMEN: Remember in your prayers today Missionary William Koehn, who suffered fractures and lacerations in an automobile accident May 14. Also injured was Rogers Smith, FMB associate to the executive director, who

Support with prayer

sustained fractured ribs. Pray that they may be restored to full strength.

10. EQUATORIAL BRAZIL: Pray for a group of lay persons from First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., who are involved in personal evangelism with the nationals in Manaus and Fortaleza, Brazil, the first two weeks of August.

11. TAIWAN: An elderly woman in a fishing village near Tainan learned about Christ from children. As a result, she has opened her home for Missionary Lynn New to begin Bible study. Thank the Lord for this opening. Pray that new believers will be won.

12. ETHIOPIA: Because of recent political events, Baptist missionaries there have reevaluated the situation to determine direction for their ministries. Pray for them as they either continue or revise their ministries in Ethiopia, or as they seek new locations.

13. ECUADOR: The Baptist Theological Institute is being transferred from Guayaquil to Quito in August. Pray for its opening.

14. JAPAN: Pray that God will provide a missionary director—one who already knows the language—for the student center in Tokyo.

15. LATIN AMERICA: The Third Congress of the Pan American Union of Baptist Men will meet in Niteroi, Brazil. Pray for the Lord's guidance.

16. KOREA: Half of the field evangelists in the Korea mission will be on furlough during the next several months. Pray that the work will be carried on effectively in their absence.

17. GHANA: Pray that all of the business confronting the missionaries in the Ghana mission will be effectively handled in their annual meeting.

18. HONG KONG: Ask God to guide the new communications center in Hong Kong as it gears up to support the Major City Evangelization program. Missionary Peyton Moore is director.

19. JORDAN: Pray for the evangelistic emphasis in Jordan this year, involving all churches and missions.

20. AFRICA: Pray that peace will come to this troubled continent.

21. TAIWAN: Pray that seminary graduates will feel led to the city of

Chiayi to work with Missionary Bob Greene in starting a Taiwanese church.

22. KENYA/TANZANIA: The final annual meeting of the Baptist Mission of East Africa (Kenya and Tanzania) will be held August 20-22. A major item of business will be preparation for division into two missions, beginning in January. Ask the Lord's leadership for these two missions.

23. KOREA: "We do not know how we will be able to adequately support the new branch seminary in Seoul," writes Missionary Al Gammage, "but we are confident the Lord will provide." Pray that the needs will be met.

24. LIBERIA: "We just completed the greatest crusade Liberia has ever experienced, to my knowledge," writes Missionary Earl Williams. Give thanks for this outpouring of God's Spirit.

25. COLOMBIA: The International Baptist Theological Seminary needs additional teaching personnel. Pray that competent teachers will be found soon.

26. BALI: For several decades no missionaries or national evangelists have had a response to Christian work in this island of Indonesia. Baptist missionaries assisted in relief work after an earthquake there last July. In one mountainous area the chief official, deeply impressed by the aid and compassion, said to Missionary Harry Bush, who was heading relief work, "Why don't you come and teach your religion here?" Pray for Bush as he follows up relief work.

27. ZAMBIA: Pray for the Zambia Baptist Convention in its annual meeting August 27 and 28.

28. BANGLADESH: A Bible reader's camp was conducted in Faridpur in February for selected village leaders. Although only six men attended, two of them prayed for the first time, giving themselves to Christ, according to Missionary Danny Hill. Pray for these two men as they witness in their respective villages.

29. URUGUAY: A young Uruguayan, Atilio Matinez, has finished two years of study in the seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and plans to enter the theological institute in Montevideo, Uruguay, for more study. Pray for him.

30. TAIWAN: Pray for young people—530 of them, ages 11 to 16—enrolled in Home Bible Correspondence Course led by Missionary Bob Greene.

31. IRAN: Ask God's blessings on the Teheran Baptist Church and for the mission the church has adopted in Esfahan, Iran. TC

Prepare to Declare

By Lawrence Webb

A popular song a few years back asked the question, "Why was I born, why am I living?", but did not answer it. Christian faith has answered the question. The answer is related to missions. Part of the answer is in the theme for the 1977 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions.

To ancient Israel God announced, "And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to show in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout the earth" (Ex. 9:16).

"Why was I born" man asks.

"I have raised thee up, for to show in thee my power," God answers.

"Why am I living?" man asks again.

"That my name may be declared throughout all the earth," comes God's missionary declaration.

Missionary application is hard to miss in this passage. Old Testament Israel and New Testament Israel (the Christian church) alike are given the imperative to declare God's name throughout the earth.

To capsule this imperative into one word, the 1977 Week of Prayer is "Declare!," based on Exodus 9:16.

As Southern Baptists enter two years of bold mission emphasis, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood are challenging the churches and denomination to bold giving through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The 1977 bold national goal for the foreign missions offering is \$34 million.

This is a bold goal because it is the largest offering challenge ever presented in behalf of foreign missions. The boldness pales when we divide that figure by the 35,000 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention. On the average, each could give \$971.43

The author prepared this article while he was editorial department director for Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to SBC.

to reach the goal.

On an individual member basis, each of the nearly 13 million church members would need to average less than three dollars to attain the goal. Not bold at all.

Truth is, large numbers of Southern Baptists have no understanding of the mandate to declare God's name throughout the earth. So the 1977 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions offers the challenge to open the eyes of many church members to the spiritual needs of people in lands where God's name has not been declared.

Dimension magazine, the WMU quarterly for pastors, other church staff members, and other general WMU officers, carries many suggestions (in the October-December issue) for helping your church declare God's challenge "that my name may be declared throughout the earth."

A special insert for pastors in the November Baptist Program will have a missions sermon outline, missionary prayer requests, and illustrative allocations which can be listed week by week in the Sunday bulletin, mailout paper, or shared from the pulpit. The allocations list will show how gifts from small, medium, or large churches could provide amounts equal to needs requested from specific countries.

Other suggestions in *Dimension* include adult or youth testimonies on "Why I Give through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering," Sunday sing-along of missions hymns, family and individual prayer observances in homes, presentation of a play on the life of Lottie Moon (*It Cannot End at Kobe*), and the showing of Foreign Mission Board-produced filmstrips (available at Baptist Book Stores) or motion pictures (available through Baptist Film Centers).

Your WMU director will receive free from your state WMU office theme posters, factual leaflets, prayer guides for home use, offering envelopes, a sample of the priced program cover, and a short filmstrip produced by the Foreign Mission Board.

Begin now. Prepare to declare! **TC**

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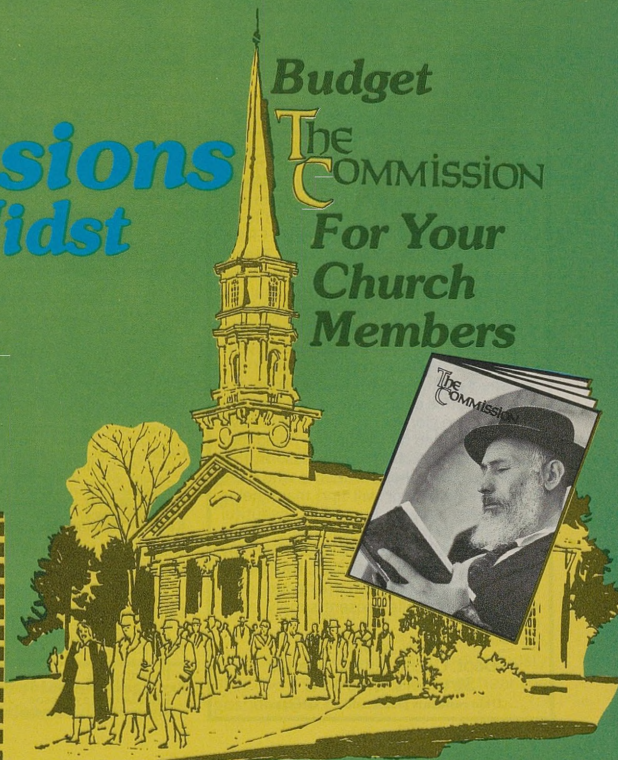
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Name of Church _____

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MISSIONARY FAMILY ALBUM

Anyone needing information regarding arrivals and mailing addresses of missionaries on furlough in your state or nearby should contact the office of the superintendent of missions in your association. If for any reason that procedure is impractical, the same kind of information may be sought at the headquarters of your state Baptist convention or association. The Foreign Mission Board supplies updated listings monthly to offices of the executive secretary, stewardship secretary, Brotherhood/Baptist Men secretary, WMU executive secretary, and editor of the state Baptist paper.

Current addresses and other information, including furlough dates, of Foreign Mission Board missionary personnel, including emeritus missionaries, are available in the Missionary Directory, published every four months by the Board's Department of Communications. The Directory is available free on request from the department, Box 6597, Richmond, Va. 23230.

Transfers

Alexander, Charles L./Betty, *Peru to Chile*, July 1.
Babb, Karl D./Susan, *Rhodesia to Philippines*, June 10.
Bryan, Jesse D./Beverly, *Spain to Bap. Spanish Pub. House*, June 9.
Cullen, Robert L./Joy, *Thailand to Sri Lanka*, May 10.
Eudaly, N. Hoyt/Marie, *Bap. Spanish Pub. House to Nicaragua*, Aug. 1.
Ray, Charles A./Mary Elizabeth (assoc.), *Thailand to Japan*, May 10.
Thomas, Bill Clark/Ruth, *Malaysia to Germany*, May 10.
Whitten, Larry F. (journ.), *Ethiopia to Malawi*, June 1.

Retirements

Garrott, Dorothy (Mrs. W. Maxfield) (Japan), Aug. 1.

Assignments Completed

Adams, David R. (journ., *Liberia*), June 30.
Brooks, Timothy E. (journ., *Zambia*), June 30.
Cato, Beverly (journ., *Colombia*), June 30.
Cobbs, Louis K., Jr./Brenda (journ., *Kenya*), June 30.
Dannelley, Rebekah (journ., *E. Africa*), June 30.
Elsenbrook, Deborah (journ., *Liberia*), June 30.
Futch, Deborah (journ., *Argentina*), June 30.
Gardner, Donald D. (journ., *Hong Kong*), May 31.
Grumbles, Mark K. (journ., *Paraguay*), June 30.
Harper, Stanley L. (journ., *Rhodesia*), June 30.
Longan, Marcia (journ., *Rhodesia*), June 30.
Lumpkin, Cynthia (journ., *Ethiopia*), June 30.
Miller, Sheila (journ., *N. Brazil*), June 30.
Mohr, Nancy (journ., *S. Brazil*), June 30.
Olmstead, Pennie (journ., *N. Brazil*), June 30.
Parks, Sue (journ., *Argentina*), June 30.
Poe, Martha (journ., *Peru*), June 30.
Porter, Janice (journ., *South Africa*), June 30.

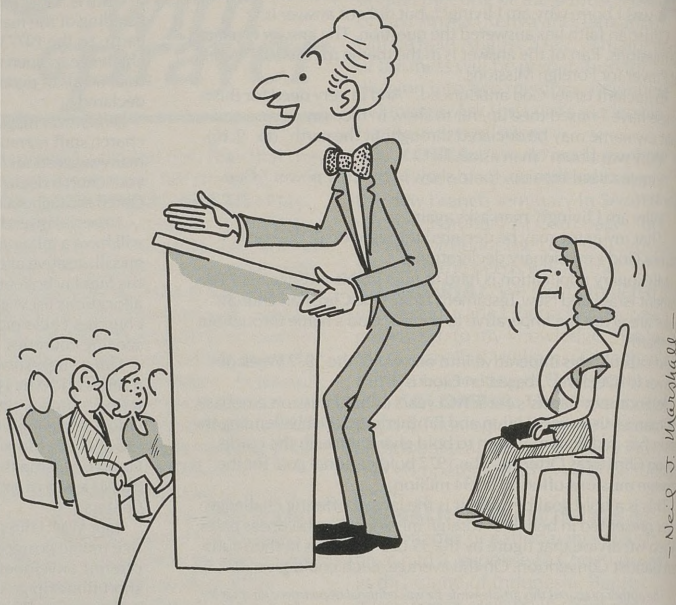
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OUT OF COMMISSION



"Today our missionary will tell us about the biblical basis for missions, our denomination's Total Missions Thrust, and why she wears those funny clothes."

Powell, John R. (journ., *Liberia*), June 30.
Purcell, Wandena (journ., *Rhodesia*), June 30.
Quarles, Samilee (journ., *Kenya*), June 30.
Robinson, C. Barry (journ., *Liberia*), June 30.
Rosell, Rebecca (journ., *Peru*), June 30.
Sanders, Teresa (journ., *Kenya*), June 30.
Schooling, R. Carl (journ., *Cayman Islands*), June 30.
Shirley, Kenneth M. (journ., *Liberia*), June 30.
Smith, Carson H. (journ., *Senegal*), June 30.
Smith, Richard L. (journ., *Rhodesia*), June 30.
Stevens, David E. (journ., *Kenya*), June 30.
Toro, Radames, Jr. (journ., *Thailand*), June 30.
Worthington, Anne (journ., *S. Brazil*), June 30.

Resignations

Atkinson, Lloyd H./Sue (Chile), May 15.
Cole, Thomas L./Carolyn (Argentina), July 15.
Shelton, Raymond L./Margie (Thailand), May 31.

Births and Adoptions

Hill, Redmond Thomas IV, son of Daniel R./Delores Hill (Bangladesh), April 28.

Deaths

Baugh, George H., father of Robert F. Baugh (Zambia), June 2.
Compton, Lloyd E., father of Patsy (Mrs. B. Lynn) New (Taiwan), May 3.
Garrett, Mrs. Dora, mother of Mary Nell (Mrs. James E.) Giles (Colombia), June 5, Texas.
Gilbert, Mrs. M. J., mother of James P. Gilbert (Ecuador) and Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. Charles A.) Ray (assoc., Japan), Mar. 16, Mississippi. (Previously noted in May issue but with incomplete information.)
Givens, Mrs. D. O., mother of Sistie V. Givens (S. Brazil), May 4.
Keyes, Roy C., father of Leslie G. Keyes (Honduras), May 14.
White, Charles, father of Daniel R. White (Spain), June 1, Waco, Tex.

Marriages

Culpepper, Cathryn Lee, daughter of Charles L., Jr./Donal Culpepper (Taiwan), to William S. Pugsley III, May 21, Waco, Tex.
Pike, Daniel Winston, son of Harrison H./June Pike (S. Africa), to Judy Ann Komorow, Nov. 26, 1976, Phoenix, Ariz.
Ray, Elizabeth Anne, daughter of Charles A./Mary Elizabeth Ray (assoc., Japan), to Darryl Nelson Myers, May 21, Brandon, Miss.

Seat, Keith Leroy, son of Leroy K./June Seat (Japan), to Brenda Kay Helland, June 4, Grant City, Mo.
Trott, Deborah Lee, daughter of Edward B./Freda Trott (N. Brazil), to Philip Stratton Pierce, May 14, Clinton, Miss.
Wakefield, John Mark, son of Robert E./Margaret Wakefield (Singapore), to Anita Frances Stout, April 2, Mountainburg, Ark.
White, Robin Elizabeth, daughter of Wayne/Winnie White (Mexico), to Paul Tinley, May 28, Guadalajara, Mexico.

Norman Price's Mother Dies

Maude B. (Mrs. Joe L.) Price, mother of G. Norman Price, associate secretary for publications for the Foreign Mission Board, died in Paducah, Ky., May 23 at the age of 94. She had been an invalid for almost ten years. She was a native of Benton, Ky.

Argentine Leader Dies

Carlos de la Torre, 78-year-old physician and Argentine Baptist leader, died in Buenos Aires, Argentina, May 28 following an extended illness. He had served Sudoeste Baptist Church as pastor for almost 50 years and was president of the Argentine Baptist Convention eight different times. He was active in all areas of Baptist work and held several other convention positions of leadership.

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Radio, television, books, magazines, films, and tapes—why are these important in spreading the gospel?

If everyone is to have the opportunity to hear the gospel by A.D. 2000, Southern Baptists will have to depend heavily upon the media. The ideal, of course, would be for person-to-person witness to reach everyone. In cases where this is possible, it will be done that way. But in other cases television and radio and other forms of mass media will be used.

The Foreign Mission Board has four Southern Baptist missionaries who serve as regional mass media representatives: Alan W. Compton, Latin America; Zebedeo V. (Zeb) Moss, Africa; E. Wesley Miller, Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia; and J. O. Terry, Asia. They met with board officials in Richmond in April 1976 to discuss the role of mass media in the Southern Baptist Convention's bold mission plans and in the board's Total Missions Thrust.

The purpose of the Foreign Mission Board's use of mass media, as drawn up by the mass media representatives, "is to work directly, and to assist areas and convention-missions, in reaching the people of the world with the gospel and in guiding those who respond toward Christian maturity as active members of Baptist congregations."

They defined mass media as instruments capable of reaching a population area in a single exposure, including broadcast, print, and audiovisual media.

The Total Missions Thrust objective for mass media is "vastly increased use of radio, television, and publications on mission fields, and penetration via mass media of areas not presently open to missionary activities."

Some new and improved methods have already been implemented. Southern Baptists are a part of a group of Christian organizations that asked the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to use a satellite for experimental community service programming. Since January 1977 the satellite has been situated where programs can be beamed to several Latin American countries, according to Fred T. Laughon, special assistant to Paul M. Stevens, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, Tex.



Total Missions Thrust

Massive Use of Media

Satellite systems are bringing television programs to people all over the world, and the message of salvation is going to have to be programmed in, according to Abe G. Thiessen, executive director of International Christian Broadcasters and one of the initial instigators of the NASA project.

Using another satellite, Baptist programs in Indonesia are aired free of charge throughout the country. The satellite makes all local service programs available throughout the country simultaneously. All of this is free of

By Irma Duke

charge. The government gives Baptists the time and pays the production costs for a 23-minute program broadcast six to eight times a year. Other Baptist films are used to fill in.

A new project using video cassettes is under way now in Japan. Because of these cassettes, Billy Graham evangelistic crusades will be brought to individual Japanese homes without incurring the high cost of television time. A video cassette player will be taken from house to house among Christians in the Kansai area of Japan. The householders will invite friends and family to view the programs with

them, according to Terry.

Bible studies, based on an 11-lesson radio Bible correspondence course, will also be available during alternating weeks or as follow-up sessions.

The cassette ministry will seek to promote use of homes for evangelism and to strengthen and encourage Christians in their evangelistic outreach, according to Terry. A goal of six non-Christians present has been set for each viewing.

If Southern Baptists are going to proclaim the gospel to the 5.5 billion or so people projected in the world population by A.D. 2000, the use of mass media will have to be vastly increased. With over half the world without missionary contact, mass communication methods must be used. Radio will be utilized to communicate the Christian message to Communist and Muslim countries where missionaries either cannot go or are prevented from preaching. Distribution of pre-tuned transistor radios will continue to expand the listening audience.

The board will continue to maintain a full and complete interrelationship with the Radio and Television Commission by working together on joint projects and by the commission's providing training and encouragement for missionary personnel.

Films, slides, filmstrips, still pictures, art, and illustrative materials of all kinds will be given increasingly larger use.

The publication of Christian literature must be increased dramatically. Adequate supplies of all kinds of Christian literature are needed for the development of churches. As more and more people learn to read, our responsibility becomes greater to provide good reading opportunities.

More missionaries with specialized training will be engaged in publication work, and more national writers and editors will be trained in all areas of literature preparation, production, and distribution.

Southern Baptists must strive to make available Bibles and adequate supportive literature for every language and age group.

Church literature produced by publishing houses will seek to be biblically sound and attractive in design. Content will reflect sensitivity to, and appreciation of, the indigenous situation.

Radio, television, books, magazines, films, and tapes—all are tremendously important if every person is to hear the gospel. TC

Sixth in a series of ten articles
on Total Missions Thrust.

Missions Update...

Volunteer Involvement in Missions, a cooperative program designed to use volunteers in "a more creative and effective way," has been launched by the Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Woman's Missionary Union, and Brotherhood Commission. The project is for laypersons who wish to give their time, gifts, and funds to short-term or long-term mission projects at home or abroad. The project features an automated data system at Home Mission Board offices in ATLANTA, GA. Persons wanting to take part will be listed on the system, along with information about skills and availability.

A new publications and mass media building in ABIDJAN, IVORY COAST, will be the center for Baptist publications and broadcasting for the five-nation area known as the Francophone (French-speaking) countries. The new \$50,000 structure will be financed through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. . . . As Southern Baptist missionaries continue to expand work in BENIN (formerly Dahomey), an office building and missionary residence have been dedicated and church property purchased in COTONOU. In ABOMEY, 90 miles north, another new Baptist church was formed recently, the first Christian church in the city of 29,000, after more than two years of Baptist efforts there.

In KAPIRI MPOSHI, a major railroad town in central ZAMBIA, the Baptist Convention has opened new Baptist work. A three-member evangelistic team held a week of services in a school. Zambia convention churches are financing the project. . . . In the first major undertaking by the THAILAND Baptist Convention, a revival in BANGKOK, 126 persons made first-time decisions for Christ.

By mid-June all Southern Baptist missionaries who had been residing in ETHIOPIA had left that country; the departure of some related to an agricultural missions conference in NAIROBI, KENYA. Before leaving Ethiopia, missionaries and the nationals with whom they work met for prayer. The missionaries' departure resulted from circumstances making it impossible for them to work effectively and not because of any feeling of danger, according to Area Secretary DAVIS L. SAUNDERS. The Ethiopian government earlier had advised the missionaries to move to ADDIS ABABA, the capital. Most of the missionaries had been working in rural areas and could not continue their ministries. Decisions about the missionaries' future work, including possible return to Ethiopia, were to be made. . . . The Baptist mission's Cessna 185 airplane had been flown to Kenya in May by Missionary DONALD KIRKLAND. It had been used to fly missionaries to remote areas for clinics and other types of community development work.

Development stage of the urban evangelism project in SINGAPORE, sponsored by the Singapore Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist missionaries, is nearing completion. Singaporeans and missionaries have begun implementing the project, reports Missionary Associate RALPH W. NEIGHBOUR, JR., who led in strategy development. He has resigned to return to his former pastorate in HOUSTON, TEX. . . . Queenstown Baptist Church in Singapore recently opened a new evangelism Bible study fellowship in a high-rise apartment complex with 40 in Sunday School. Ten church members, headed by Missionary Associate GRAHAM B. WALKER, began the new outreach project.

Helping to welcome ROSALYN (Mrs. Jimmy) CARTER on her recent visit to COLOMBIA was S. LOUIS ARMSTRONG, pastor of the English-language Baptist Chapel in BOGOTA, representing Southern Baptist missionaries and Colombian Baptist churches. Mrs. Carter expressed delight in knowing that her denomination has 71 missionaries assigned to Colombia.

In an area with a radius of more than 100 miles in northern LIBERIA where no evangelistic efforts had been made, Missionaries EDWARD and FRAN LAUGHRIDGE have opened new Baptist work in conjunction with the Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention. Invitations have been received to teach Bible in schools and to hold worship services in large villages.