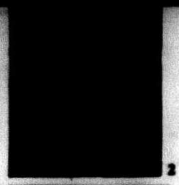
MAY 1969

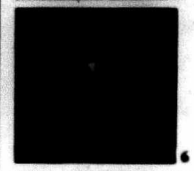
ROYAL SERVICE

ROYAL SERVICE

May 1969

Volume 63 Number 11


2


6


10


23


38


43

CONTENTS

ROYAL SERVICE is published monthly by Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203. Price: [illegible] a year, single copy, 25 cents. Annual subscription only. Alabama residents add 4 percent sales tax. Allow five weeks for renewal, new subscription, change of address (include your zip). Entered as second-class matter at the post office in Birmingham, Alabama, pursuant to the act of [illegible] postage prescribed for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized June 28, 1918.

Day by Day---Living

■ AN EDITORIAL

However briskly a spring wind blows in our faces, it cannot set to flight momentary sadness when we see an old beggar on the street. But from him we turn away quickly, unwilling to accept the demands of his real need upon our spirits. We may grudgingly send along to him some sort of compassion or pity for his plight—or give him a piece of money—even as we pass him by and immediately forget him in preoccupation with our errands. A man's need is a burden we reluctantly take upon ourselves.

We often are willing to send him goods by someone else, take a basket of food to his door, contribute money to help him in an emergency, toss a coin into his beggar's cup, give through the church budget and special missions offerings to help him who lives faraway. It is, however, in trying to minister and witness to an individual at the point of his deepest need, using our time, expressing compassion and love in person-to-person, repeated encounters that we find ourselves rejecting the whole idea of helping him.

Yet it is in personally identifying with him in love that we most surely express to a person the whole meaning of Jesus, the Messiah.

Somehow, it still is true that "the gift without the giver is bare." The giver must also give himself.

by Ethalee Hamric

Dr. Dan Gruver

by Kenneth Day and Floyd H. North

A Doctor for the San Blas Islands

The Home Mission Board has conducted missions work in the Central American country of Panama since 1905. Only in 1955 were we able to enter the San Blas Islands which stretch for many miles along the northeastern coastline of Panama. More than forty of these islands are inhabited by the San Blas Indians, whose way of life is in large measure still primitive.

In 1965 the Home Board appointed Daniel Gruver, medical doctor, to serve in this frontier area. His journal entries read almost like those of early medical pioneers who struggled against epidemic after epidemic in tropical areas. The significant difference, however, is seen in the plus which "Dr. Dan" is adding to his medical practice. While he is interested in relieving bodies of pain and disease, he repeatedly writes of his opportunities to witness for Christ to the Indian people who live on these islands. In a recent report he speaks of preaching three times on a Sunday. In another letter he reports, "The spiritual aspect of this ministry recurs again and again. There were seven decisions for Christ among the patients last Sunday and there are continuing requests for New Testaments."

After four years, Dr. Gruver is a veteran of frontier medicine. He has been able to enlisten extensive resources of the Panamanian government and the United States military forces in the Canal Zone to make possible a vaccination project for the entire country of Panama. The armed forces provided helicopter transportation for personnel and medical supplies.

Earlier the "Brother's Brother" group, headed up by Dr. Robert Hingson,* had provided measles vaccine and a jet innoculator for mass innoculation. In one week, with the aid of an airplane and a missionary aviation pilot, the entire San Blas population was innoculated. And while this ambitious program was in progress, Dr. Gruver during the week took care of twenty-five hospital patients, performed six operations, attended three deliveries, and saw an average of fifty outpatients each day.

Every week Dr. Gruver makes several trips by boat to the islands treating the sick. Still others are brought to Ailigandi where he has a small hospital, from the city of Colon, and all over Panama and the San Blas Islands. In an effort to multiply himself, Dr. Gruver has trained several men, mainly native missionaries, to hand out medicines.

There is more than he alone can ever do. Disease is much less controlled in these islands than in the US. In a recent letter he tells of a man coming from over the mountains (sixteen hours of hard running) to tell him of an epidemic on the mainland. Twenty persons in a town of one hundred people had died. A worker from the small thirty-bed mission hospital in Ailigandi went to the village with the man to bring back information. The United States Air Force, at the request of the Panamanian government, sent a helicopter to take Dr. Gruver to the town. He writes, "It was a ghastly experience. One woman had just died, and two-thirds of the population was severely ill. We treated most of the town. We took three back with us. One boy almost died in the helicopter. There are several more mountain towns which need help against malaria. Perhaps the people can be saved if I can make more trips this week by helicopter."

Dr. Dan signed his hastily written letter and returned to his patients. His wife, Jane, added the following postscript: "The army copter made several more trips to mainland villages and brought the seriously ill to our hospital. At the time Daniel had one hundred patients—this in a hospital of only thirty beds with no nurses. Out of the one hundred, only one died. They are recovering and returning home now so the situation is getting better. Many of these come from villages which have never allowed a preacher to enter and we hope this may open some doors."

The number of missionaries to work along with Dr. Gruver must be multiplied soon. The needs are overwhelming.

*Read his story in *Operation Brother's Brother* by C. E. Bryant. $4.95 from Baptist Book Stores.

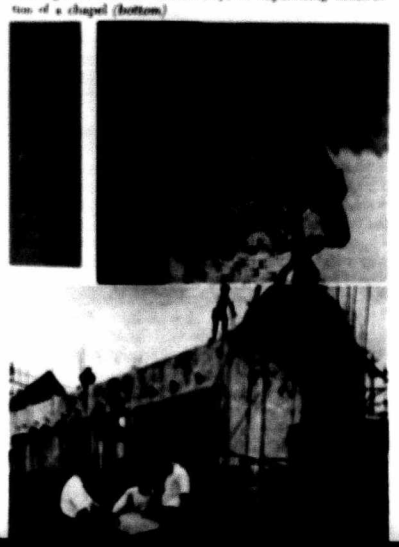
Explosion in Foreign Missions Opportunities

One of this decade's most overused words is "explosion." Who has not heard about that phenomenon in connection with the subjects of knowledge and population?

But how many Southern Baptists have learned that opportunities in foreign missionary service have also recently exploded into wide diversity?

In the early thirties an annual report by the Foreign Mission Board included descriptions of no more than a half dozen types of missionary service in thirteen foreign countries, the total number of fields then. The programs and institutions on those fields required only preachers, teachers, medical doctors, nurses, and a few publication workers. For the greater part of the century personnel needs had been expressed in a manner seeming to imply that persons in vocational pursuits other than those already being applied on missions fields could not be considered for missionary appointment.

Foreign missions opportunities include various occupations: teaching in a missions school (*top*) or supervising construction of a chapel (*bottom*)



At that time radio was the new phenomenon sweeping across the world. Remote places were becoming not nearly so remote. The electronic age was being born, and the potentials of transoceanic flight were just coming to light. Countries that had been days, even weeks, away by the best sea travel were soon to be only hours away.

With these developments and the advent of the world's first technological era came rapid change in almost every human endeavor. The work of foreign missions was no exception. We can now look back and see in those years the beginnings of change and expansion that are now referred to as the Foreign Mission Board's Program of Advance. In the eyes of those who share a deep concern over the world's need for the gospel there has occurred a gratifying growth in the outreach of Southern Baptist witness to the nations. Whereas our missionaries were assigned to only thirteen countries in 1931, the total number of countries has now reached sixty-eight. Along with this proliferation of fields has also come a notable increase in the types of specific tasks for which missionaries are needed.

Several national Baptist bodies related to our missionary efforts are developing considerable indigenous strength. More and more of the churches are becoming self-supporting and are striving to develop leadership. Instead of calling for withdrawal of missionaries, they are asking for more of them, but with special training and experience for specific jobs. Also, the Missions (organizations of Southern Baptist missionaries) are asking for more specialized personnel.

There is always a long list of needs. Month by month some of them are filled as the Foreign Mission Board appoints additional missionaries. But new requests keep coming in from the fields. A typical listing of personnel needs, by types of ministry or service, includes preaching ministries (in the language of each country), religious education ministries, music ministries, English-language ministries (churches), student ministries, and ministries in women's work; also included are physicians, paramedical personnel, nurses, dentists, elementary teachers, secondary teachers, seminary teachers, librarians, radio and television personnel; add to these house parents (MK dorms), business managers and/or treasurers, book store workers, office workers and/or secretaries, social workers, agriculturists, men's and boy's workers. As you see there is a place for almost any talent.

There were recent needs expressed for a hospital chaplain, a doctor of veterinary medicine, a building supervisor, an aircraft pilot-mechanic, and a person with experience in directing and managing encampments.

No doubt, many youth and young adults in Southern Baptist churches are aware of these opportunities for missionary service. But what about the others? Who will tell them? This explosive information needs to reach them—and many need to listen carefully to hear God's call to go.

by Robert L. Lee
Executive Secretary
Louisiana Baptist Convention

In a manner similar to a century on foreign mission fields to reach people for Christ and develop churches, programs in Louisiana have been adapted to the diverse but gradually blending historical traditions within the state. Not one but many Louisianaisms are described by Dr. Alvin Bertrand of Louisiana State University as an analysis of the contrasts and cultural islands in rural and urban areas of this state.

For many decades the extended flat counties across the southern region with its old French Catholic towns and cities along the bayous was forbidden territory to evangelicals. Even as recent a time as the 1950's found Baptist preachers threatened by local officials if they attempted to hold revival meetings or start new churches. In one instance a local sheriff declared openly that no church but a Catholic church was allowed in the area. The wise counsel of a local attorney interpreting the law guaranteeing religious liberty changed the mind of the officer. A Baptist meeting was held with gratifying results, and a Baptist church functioning there today. Scores of similar situations marked the years from frustration to victory in the southern triangle from New Orleans to Lake Charles extending north to central Louisiana.

The language missions program of the Home Mission Board in our state now assumed as a responsibility of the Louisiana Baptist Convention faced the real problem of communicating the gospel to French and Spanish language people in south Louisiana during earlier years. The Board appointed career missionaries who started missions, launched a French radio network, sustained house to house visitation programs, and distributed Bibles and tracts to people. Legion are the stories of pioneering missionary adventure, intimidating persecution, unflinching sacrifice, cooperative prayer support, and subsequent [illegible] tones written and unwritten in Louisiana Baptist history.

Southern Baptist institutions in New Orleans have for fifty years, contributed greatly to the Baptist witness in this international city and the state. The New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary located there originally established as the Baptist Bible Institute to serve as a strategic missions training center has provided a vital and energetic ministry through its students, faculty, and graduates to the growing population. Southern Baptist Hospital and the various other social service institutions minister to physical and spiritual needs and, in the course of many years, have won for Baptists community respect and appreciation.

Throughout the state Baptist ministry programs, including the goals of Christian education through Louisiana College and Acadia Baptist Academy and ministries of the Children's Home, Baptist hospitals, Acadia Baptist House (for the aging), Louisiana Baptist Foundation, and state mission departments. Direct mission requires a substantial budget to provide for new mission property, mission loans, mission pastor supplements to more than one hundred churches, and support for a complement staff of field workers who work with fifty-three missionaries.

The Department of Work with National Baptists supports extension training centers and supplements salaries of seventeen Negro workers endeavoring to strengthen National Baptist churches and their Christian witness. National Baptists number 422 churches in 17 associations in the city of New Orleans alone. Southern Baptists have 68 churches and 11 missions in the city.

Student work managed by thirteen directors reporting to the Student Department encompasses requests, improved center buildings, produced and dedicated personnel, and a contemporary mission to twenty thousand Baptist students.

Labors in Christian love for Christ in Louisiana are not exclusive but inclusive. The Sunday School Board, the Home Mission Board, and the various commissions of the Southern Baptist Convention, the Annuity Board, the seminary and hospital programs, Woman's Missionary Union and convention groups and individuals throughout the nation have invested in Baptist missions in Louisiana. The fruits of Christian friendship are known in future as good stewards.

We look to the seventies with anticipation and great hopes for increasingly effective church programs confronted with changing patterns of life in both urban and rural areas. The church is the believed agency of our Lord from which all programs derive motivation and strength under God.

What we have in the Louisiana Baptists are men united in a comprehensive mission of many denominations dedicated to bring more women and youth to Christ in Jesus Christ and to share in fulfillment with the world mission program of Southern Baptists. A long and arduous road has finally brought us to the place where we can welcome fully influences that interesting and unique state for our Lord.

Louisiana is growing in population, tapping its vast natural resources, struggling with social changes and problems, enlarging structures and facing a more challenging future. Baptist churches, associations and institutions are alert with powerful determination to be used of God to win the lost and to enlarge the memory of the gospel to serve human needs both spiritual and personal now and in the future.

by Cyril E. Bryant
Editor, The Baptist Bugle
Publication of Baptist World Alliance

WORLD POLITICS and STARVING PEOPLE

One hopes that the Nigerian civil war will be history by the time you read this page. The bloodshed from warfare, even the suffering of hundreds of thousands of women and children, may be relieved.

Let us look at this second conflict for observations that may help us understand the complications of our world community.

The Nigeria-Biafra conflict is geographically a local war. The territory of Eastern Nigeria, dominated by the Ibo tribe, declared its independence from the federal government at Lagos, organized its own army, and called itself the Republic of Biafra on May 29, 1967. The Nigerian government sought to retain this territory.

International protocol declares generally that world powers should not interfere with the local affairs of another nation. The United States, Britain, and other national states therefore permit death caused by or the loss of Nigeria. Great Britain, which is linked to Nigeria through its former colonial relationship, and Russia, which wants to strengthen Communism in Africa, furnished some arms to Nigeria and the French government provided arms to Biafra, both a minimum considered more a matter of commerce than of war-making.

Under Secretary of State Nicholas Katzenbach of the United States announced: "The tragedy of Nigeria, like so many other human tragedies, is that what seems clearly moral and clearly imperative to most of us is not what seems either clear, moral, or imperative to the people who have it in their power to end the conflict."

The war itself has not been a bloody affair. But death has come to the people of blockaded Biafra by the route of starvation. Though they had an initial stockpile of cassava and some the months beside native to central Africa, the war cut off their supply of protein. Before many months passed children and the less strong adults were dying at an alarming rate.

Church World Service, the Roman Catholic international relief agency, named Caritas, the International Red Cross, the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Baptist World Relief, and similar agencies moved into the picture with means, foodstuffs, and medicines. But these funds were meager before the vast need and their efforts were crippled by local and international red tape.

Attempts to establish a land corridor for the passage of food to the beleaguered Biafrans ran into objections by both governments. The Lagos (Nigerian) government insisted on the privilege of inspecting every shipment to make sure no military supplies were included. The Biafran chief, Lt. Colonel Odumegwu Ojukwu, refused to allow passage into Biafra of any shipment of food the Nigerians had touched for fear it might be poisoned!

Airlifts were used with only partial success. Church groups flew planes loads of food from Fernando Po in Equatorial Guinea to Biafra's last remaining open airport, known as Ar Uli. The Red Cross flew food and medicine from the Portuguese island of Sao Tome, also into Ar Uli. Some planes were shot down. And the Biafran government restricted the landing of relief flights to night hours, with a limit of about twenty landings a night. Military planes had to be given preference.

The shuttle planes were small, and though they came as often as they were allowed to land, they brought in only 150-180 tons of foodstuffs daily—less than one-tenth of what nutritionists considered essential.

In November 1968 the United Nations said that even the cassava and yams on which the people had survived were gone, and next year's "seed crop" also had been eaten. At least a million persons, predominantly children, died of starvation in the war's first seventeen months. United Nations officials guessed that another million would die before the end of 1968, and perhaps all of Biafra's six million population by mid 1969.

A worldwide ground swell of compassion coupled with the pleas of relief agencies then reaching the panic stage began to be felt on world governments. The U.S. State Department named a Biafran task force in late November 1968. Then State Department officials Katzenbach and Robert J. McCloskey described as "incomprehensible" Biafra's rejection of day-time relief flights.

New hope for solution of the tragic

[illegible] on page [illegible]

Mrs. Fling

Miss Hunt

Mrs. Mathis

Memorable Experiences

Mrs. Bamijoko

Miss Yancey

Mrs. Ramerez

Mrs. Lerin

Mrs. Robert Fling has been president of Woman's Missionary Union since 1963. During these years it has been her responsibility to plan memorable experiences for those who have attended WMU Annual Meetings.

Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union since 1948, went with Mrs. Fling to Ogbomosho, Nigeria, for the guides' and [illegible] of the Nigeria Woman's Missionary Union.

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, WMU promotion division director and past president of [illegible] the fiftieth anniversary meeting of the Mexico Woman's Missionary Union.

Mrs. Atinuke Bamijoko, president of Nigeria Woman's Missionary Union, presided at the fiftieth anniversary meeting in April.

Miss Mary Ellen Yancey, executive secretary of Nigeria Woman's Missionary Union.

Mrs. Emma B. de Ramerez, president of Mexico Woman's Missionary Union, presided at their fiftieth anniversary meeting in April.

Mrs. Olivia S. D. de Lerin, executive secretary of Mexico Woman's Missionary Union.

SURELY a great missionary gathering immediately springs to mind as an "unforgettable first" or for some other reason. Was it a summer assembly, a state convention, a Woman's Missionary Union anniversary celebration? Was it a Baptist World Congress, an Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union, a Southern Baptist Convention session? It may be difficult to select just one if such meetings have been missionary milestones in your life, as they have been in mine and in the lives of my friends.

When Dr. Kathleen Jones, medical missionary in Indonesia, comes to the States on furlough and visits Miss Alma Hunt at WMU headquarters in Birmingham, conversation inevitably turns to the WMU Golden Jubilee

Rev. and Mrs. Robert Fling live in Pine [illegible], New York. Mr. Fling is minister of a Baptist church.

What is your most memorable experience?

by Mrs. Robert Fling

President of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC

meeting in 1936 as undergraduates first for both. The eventful conversation took place in Richmond. Virginia, that year when Woman's Missionary Union returned to the organization's birthplace to celebrate its fiftieth birthday. Dr. Jones recalls with gratitude the exhilarating experience of that morning and its continuing influence. Delegates who observed the various sessions were [illegible] Kathleen, seven in her duties as page to the president, Mrs. F. M. Armstrong, did not dream she would some day forty years [illegible] work in Indonesia as well. Then could one have imagined Kathleen Jones and two missionary nurses treating thousands of patients during their first year in a Muslim land.

Neither could delegates have guessed that Alma Hunt, a fun-loving career girl whom they saw sitting with her friends would become the present executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union, Texas, the pretty blonde schoolteacher from Roanoke was already committed to missions and deeply involved in leading her organization, Young Woman's Auxiliary. But it was impossible to foresee the impact of Miss Hunt's leadership on the Southern Baptist Convention or the development of her remarkable abilities tempered by a superb sense of humor.

And what of the five friends? They were young women whom Alma Hunt had learned to love at Ridgecrest Young Woman's Auxiliary Conference. They were to travel to Richmond by car, stopping for her in Roanoke. Among them was a youthful missionary, Thelma Frith, soon to marry Albert Bagby of Brazil.

Never one to let an opportunity for discussion slip by, Miss Hunt later rescheduled an informational YWA meeting so her friends could furnish the program. In those days, she taught, the program presented many long evening devotions to such occasions. Can't you just see us standing after the meeting and swelling out again to change our regalia and drive for fast miles the night to reach Richmond? We just had to be present for the opening feature of trumpets at the Golden Jubilee.

Miss Hunt frequently speaks of that high and holy hour of the annual meeting as a pivotal experience in her life and in the lives of the five friends who shared the delightful trip. The crowded little car did indeed carry a precious cargo: not only a missionary for Brazil but also future WMU leaders for several states. One friend became state president in Arkansas and one became an approved youth worker in the same state. Another became young people's secretary in Missouri, and still another state WMU executive secretary in Oklahoma.

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, past president of Woman's Missionary Union and now WMU promotion division director, has her own unforgettable first to tell—a meeting still fresh and vivid in her thoughts.

As a young matron from Henderson, Texas, she longed to attend a Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting—just once. She seized her opportunity when the Annual Meeting convened at Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth. "It was during the depression, but I had a new red coat and ten dollars," Mrs. Mathis recalls, her dark eyes lighting up. "So I filled my car with women, very full, in fact, so they could share expenses for the trip to Fort Worth. I sat on the balcony during the sessions, awed even to be in the presence of great leaders like Mrs. Armstrong and Miss Kathleen Mallory.

However, the charming young woman in the balcony observed every colorful program detail and was moved by the stirring messages. It was truly a memorable meeting. But it was only the first of a succession of memorable meetings. Life could never remain the same for this woman, destined and endowed by God to have a dynamic influence on Baptist women around the world.

Moffat translates Jeremiah 31:21 with poignant, old-fashioned words: "Put up waymarks, set up guideposts, forthwith you of the high road by which you travelled hence."

Immediately this own heart responds in grateful remembrance of

WMU Annual Meeting

JUNE 9-10, 1969

in New Orleans, Louisiana

Theme: ***The Future Is Happening . . .***

missionary guideposts along the highroads. As a bride on a European honeymoon I attended the Fifth Baptist World Congress in Germany. What lasting impressions were made by Mrs. Armstrong, president of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, as she presided over the women's conference in Berlin. During this sectional meeting of the Alliance I glimpsed the work of Woman's Missionary Union as "my channel" for worldwide missions and my first avenue of service as a minister's wife in Jewels, Louisiana.

WMU meetings in each state where my husband served as pastor have been waymarks to increased awareness and concern. Louisiana WMU meetings quickened my love for both state and home missions, particularly among language groups. Interest first awakened by French Louisiana was later to include Spanish Americans in Texas and Indians in Oklahoma when our ministry took us to these states. In recent years Southern Baptist Convention sessions in great metropolitan centers and in pioneer areas have been significant guideposts to our present ministry in New York. Is it any wonder that I agree heartily with emphasis in our achievement guides on representation at associational, state, and national Woman's Missionary Union meetings?

Miss Fannie E. S. Heck, early president of Woman's Missionary Union, sensed unique opportunities for personal growth and the possibility of life-changing experiences in WMU Annual Meetings. She wrote: "To attend one Annual Session is never afterward stand with one's face in that direction during the second week in May."

The time has changed for this year's convention will meet in New Orleans the second week in June. The theme of the WMU sessions, June 9-10, 1969, will be "The Future Is Happening." The program is designed to make missions clear and compelling, open new vistas of personal involvement, offer new perspectives for our day. We proclaim an everlasting gospel but methods of proclamation must be fashioned anew to the demands of tomorrow. I am a leader engaged in the missionary outreach of her church needs to rediscover the urgency of her mission and reaffirm her commitment. Will you meet me in New Orleans in June?

James 4:13-16 cautions us against making sweeping plans in a self assured manner. We are planning and we take into account the Lord's will for our tomorrows. In this spirit we are making plans for these movements meetings. It is the Lord's will [illegible] the time you will be reading these lines. Miss Hunt and I will be representing Woman's Missionary Union at the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Mexican Woman's Missionary Union Convention to be held April [illegible], 1969, in Ciudad [illegible]. [illegible] month and the longer [illegible]. We expect to be away from home about a month and hope to visit missions points across the continent in East Africa also. I become Mrs. Mathis will be the WMU representative as the Union Nacional Femenil Bautista Misionera de Mexico celebrates the Golden Anniversary of its founding. The meeting will be in Puebla, Mexico, April 22-23, 1969.

Please pray for Mrs. Atsuko Hamajima and her African [illegible], for Mrs. Emma H. de Romero and her fellow [illegible] in Mexico, and for our own WMU staff and for women who will come to the New Orleans meeting. May God grant that each of these meetings will not only be memorable but also life-changing experiences for those who attend and who are willing to seek new waymarks along the high road.

How can we be more realistically related to older people's needs?

Most families face the same problems and opportunities in regard to older family members. What are our attitudes toward aged members of our families? How do parents and grandparents relate lovingly and realistically to younger members?

A vast moiety of America's aging population faces lonely years with fear, anxiety, and loneliness. They [illegible] much in vain for love, respect, understanding, and security in a society in which many of these feel unwanted and discarded.

How can you be more realistically related to older people in your family and community? Perhaps these suggestions will be helpful:

- our attitudes toward them may need to be examined
- we must be able to relate to what they are doing and not fall into the trap of scolding or looking after them unless they need us
- we must let them lead their own lives
- we need to recognize our dependence upon them for love and encouragement
- we need to reaffirm our deep belief in the sacred nature of human personality—whatever the age

The Southern Baptist Convention Christian Life Commission leaflet, "The Christian Family and Its Aged Members," says to us "Surely the Christian family should make the happiness of its older members one of the primary objectives of family life."

"The leaflets are part of the tract series, "Christian Principles Applied to Family Life." Order them from the Christian Life Commission, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee 37219. Minimum order $1.00 (unit price 2 cents). Postage paid on prepaid orders. If billing is required, postage is added to the bill.

What's important in 1969 to young people?

One of them confides: "My single greatest regret is graduating from the University is leaving the friends I have made. It is primarily from people that I have learned, from shared experiences that I have grown and matured. I believe great people are first and foremost warm, sensitive, caring human beings. There isn't anything that can be substituted for concern, commitment—caring."

Does not this simple truth say something to parents about what should take place in the home? The SBC Christian Life Commission has published a splendid leaflet entitled "Parents and Teen-agers."* The Commission speaks to Baptist families about this concern of caring for youth in the home, which is a prime concern of the university young person speaking from his experiences in college life. What are critical dates throughout the year which specially emphasize youth?

- Life Commitment Sunday, April 27
- Christian Home Week, May 4-11
- Parent-teacher meetings in church program organizations
- WMU and Brotherhood focus weeks for youth (GA Focus Week is next, May 11-17)

We may need to take advantage of certain opportunities in plan for more good times at home. The Christian Life Commission leaflet, "Recreation in the Home,"* presents excellent suggestions in this area. In the meantime think about capitalizing on your home on such opportunities as:

- birthdays
- seasonal opportunities
- commemorations
- spiritual
- traditional
- free time

To sum it up, both the old and the young need our full attention for the living of these days.

....IS THIS YOUR QUESTION

by Marie Mathis....

THE challenge OF big-foot COUNTRY

by Gerald Riddell

Patagonia (pata meaning foot, gonia meaning big) is big-foot country. It is a magic word of the far south that speaks of expansive plains, snow-covered mountains, high winds, and low temperatures. Strait of Magellan, Tierra del Fuego, and Cape Horn are words that bring to mind Mutiny on the Bounty. Hardy souls they were that "doubled the Cape" or failing that, braved the rough waters of the Strait to sail from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Surely this area tells a graphic story of man's effort to conquer the forces of nature.

THE battle in Patagonia has been won—almost. Today there are steam-driven ocean liners which plow through winds and currents that were almost too much for sailing ships. Cities with modern conveniences have been built. Great sheep ranches affirm the courage of pioneer English, Yugoslav, German, Chilean, and Argentine people on plains still so barren that four and a half acres are needed in some places to feed one sheep. Oil to run the machines of the country has been found and coal is shipped in to run industry in northern cities. Fish and crabs are caught and canned to be sent all over the world. Patagonia is very significant to the economy of the two countries, Chile and Argentina, in which the area is located.

Gerald and Virgie Riddell are missionaries in Punta Arenas, Chile, who also go into Patagonia.

Tourism is emerging to show visitors from all over the world the marvels of fjords, glaciers and towering snow-covered Andean mountains, matchless in beauty. Expeditions that explore the antarctic leave from Patagonian ports. The people live scattered in sheep, mining, and military camps, small villages, and a few cities. Though divided between south Chile and south Argentina, Patagonians feel almost as much affinity to their area as to their respective countries. Chile's city, Punta Arenas, is nearly 2,000 miles from its capital, Santiago, and Argentina's Rio Gallegos is almost 3,000 miles from its capital, Buenos Aires.

Baptists find it difficult and very expensive to travel to meetings in the center of either Chile or Argentina, so they are looking forward to the formation of some type of a fraternal organization for Patagonia—perhaps an international Baptist association.

The work of Argentine Baptists in Patagonia dates back some fourteen years. To them also goes the honor of having one of the southernmost Baptist churches of the world, located at Rio Grande on the island of Tierra del Fuego (land of fire). This church is a product of Argentine Baptist home missions work, and now this active church is reaching still farther south to Ushuaia, a military post and free port on the Beagle Channel. The other Argentine Baptist church is in Rio Gallegos, a city of some 30,000 people near Cape Virgin, the eastern entrance to the Strait of Magellan. This church is the result of the testimony of [illegible] Schmunk, a layman who, with his wife Ruth, came to Rio Gallegos on their honeymoon and, finding work to support themselves, began a Bap-

Ministering in challenging Patagonia keeps missionary Gerald Riddell busy. He helped Pastor Jose Bustamante, who is a carpenter, build a mission building in Punta Arenas (left center). The span of Mr. Riddell's ministry includes the area bordering on the Strait of Magellan (top). The missions of the area receive constant attention and counsel from Mr. Riddell (right center). Baptists of Patagonia enthusiastically at their worship services (bottom).

Patagonia is an area of South America which includes portions of Chile and Argentina

tist work. After seven years a very strong though small church exists there.

Chilean Baptists arrived in their part of Patagonia in 1963. John and Ruby Parker, Southern Baptist missionaries in Chile, and Juan Avila and his wife Mercedes, Chilean Baptist workers, spent the summer (January and February) in Punta Arenas. They found a small group of Baptists who had moved to the city. They rented a house, repaired it, and made a meeting place. They conducted a Vacation Bible School and left the work on its own.

In August of that year Jose Buentamante and his wife Ana, home missionaries of the Chilean National Baptist Convention, arrived to help this struggling group. In November of that same year, Gerald and Virge Riddell came along to help. Advance has been slow but sure and today there are two churches organized: the first in November 1965 and the other in June 1967. Another group should be ready for organization shortly.

These three groups have their own properties and carry on a full program of church activity. Weather and travel conditions are very difficult so neighborhood churches are being established. Five are planned for the city of almost 70,000 people.

Baptist work in Patagonia has several aspects other than the churches mentioned. The Riddells participate in an English work—ministering to American oil personnel, British who immigrated to the area many years ago, and people of all nations that live or visit in Punta Arenas. There is also weekly Bible study for these language people.

The farmers or sheep ranchers mentioned earlier offer an opportunity for witness. They are isolated by their work and the weather. Most of the ranches are managed by Britishers who welcome the missionary. Oil mining and military camps offer similar opportunities. As yet little has been done in this respect but there are plans to move out as time and opportunity permit.

The challenge of Argentine Patagonia is limitless. On a survey trip made several months ago the Riddells discovered towns of five and six thousand people with no church at all and many more with no evangelical work. In one town the mayor promised to help get a lot for a building free of costs. Hardly anyone knew who Baptists were! There are frontier towns similar to those of southwest USA seventy years ago.

Hardy people, creating families and fortunes on these barren, windswept plains have no provision for spiritual welfare either for themselves or their children. How they need Christ! Using the two strategically located churches there now as the southernmost part of Argentina, we hope to reach out to them.

Virge and Gerald Riddell work together in this vast and challenging field. Now that their four sons are all away from home, they travel together, living in a Chevrolet Carryall or a camper or Gerald travels the field and Virge helps in the churches in Punta Arenas where they live. She works with music, as choirs and teaching, in Woman's Missionary Union in two churches with their children's organizations, teaches Sunday School in two places, works in Vacation Bible Schools, plays the piano for English services. But the most important phase is home-to-house visitation and witnessing. Gerald's responsibilities include preaching in English and Spanish, preparation of lay workers to help pastors in the planning, coordination and carrying out of the work in this vast field.

Patagonian Baptists are actively participating in the Crusade of the Americas. Prayer groups coupled with groups in the USA began work last year. Plans include outreach as far as people live.

Prayer Requests

Mrs. Ralph Gwin

Instant Prayer!

Jesus "spake a parable . . . that men ought always to pray . . . " (Luke 18:1). Paul continued the teaching, counseling the Thessalonians (1 Thess. 5:17) "Pray without ceasing," and the Colossians (Col. 4:2) "Continue in prayer." To the Romans (Rom. 12:12) Paul's instant word is to continue "instant in prayer."

A worthwhile exercise in constant, unceasing, instant prayer may be had in reading the daily newspaper. For example, take a typical paper of last Labor Day. Some of the stories were news. Some were follow-up reports on preceding events. Newspapers carry reminders that people are in trouble, are victims of accidents, are in sorrow, are experiencing success and joy. Develop the habit of instant prayer for others as you read the newspaper. Let's look at these headlines.

Czechs Charge New Persecution Dubbed Worst

The headline can remind you to pray for Christians in Czechoslovakia for their physical safety and continued Christian influence, for freedom and peace to prevail (pray now).

Another Tremor Adds Iran Death Toll More Than 8,000

Later reports sent the death toll up to 20,000. Six years ago a similar quake killed more than 10,000. Pray for people who have lost home, possessions, and loved ones; pray for relief agencies who are helping care for the hurt and homeless (pray now).

Nine Road Mishaps Kill Pedestrians
St. Paul Ghoul Alters Two Nights of Thursdays
Man Killed in Newspaper News Boxing

Pray for an end to violence in our country, whether it stems from racial tensions or other causes (pray now).

Cop Killed in Shoot-out
Five Charts State Annual Session

Give thanks for men, many in our churches, who are dedicated to the protection of people and property (pray now).

Communists Shell Five Allied Bases in Da Nang

Pray for soldiers involved in Vietnam; for an end to hostilities with a lasting peace; for Southern Baptist missionaries in danger zones (pray now).

Texas Bring Fatigue Same Drugs as Hippies Take Over

Southern Spectators Have a 'Frightening Sound'

Pray for people of unconventional viewpoints to be confronted with the God of love in the person of Jesus Christ. Pray for our vast student population to orient themselves about true spiritual values, for thousands of internationals in our schools and colleges, for American students abroad to exert a Christian influence (pray now).

Multiple Implant Patients Doing Well

Pray for surgeons and physicians who are making history in efforts to alleviate suffering and extend life; for Southern Baptist medical missions (pray now).

Israel to Aid UN Study Sun.

Pray for Middle East nations and leaders where tensions are explosive; for missionaries who teach, preach, and heal under difficult conditions (pray now).

African Smallpox Drive at Midpoint

Give thanks for progress in eradicating smallpox, pushing incidence of the disease to its lowest level in Africa; pray for Southern Baptist hospitals there (pray now).

To read or listen to the news compassionately and prayerfully is to intercede daily for world needs.

Southern Baptist Convention

If your prayer group meets late in the month, you will not gather again before the annual sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans, June 10-13, preceded by the WMU Annual Meeting, June 9-10. Pray for high inspirational hours for WMU members in attendance, for business to be transacted at the Convention that all may be for the glory of the Lord (pray now).

Last year the Southern Baptist Convention adopted the most significant statement in its history, voting to call the denomination to far reaching efforts to help the nation in our racial crisis and to secure for every person equality of human and legal rights. The action marked a sharp turn in Southern Baptist policy on social concerns, going far beyond any previous expression on the subject. The Home Mission Board was designated to take the lead in working with other agencies to map courses of action.

Pray that the Convention will move toward definite and specific programs to implement its statement. Pray for the Home Mission Board as it leads in Christian concern and Christian action (pray now).

Call to Prayer

Prepared by Juliette Mather

1 THURSDAY Read Psalm 24.

Where Southern Baptist effort is less than twenty years old and strategic locations are mushrooming, our Home Mission Board hopes to establish five hundred churches to wield strong influence for righteousness in surrounding areas. Project 500 receives $1,500,000 from the $6,500,000 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. There should be a sponsoring church, Christian Service Corps people, and volunteers to help in this strategic thrust. Pray for Project 500.

Pray for Mike Brown, US-2, Alaska.

Mrs. John A. Cooper, worker among deaf, Indiana.

Olivia Mae Temple, weekday ministries, Ohio.

Mrs. Ben Yelvington, worker among Indians, New Mexico.

Franklin D. Hawkins, evangelistic work, Brazil.

Sandra Wisener, missionary journeyman, Nigeria.

2 FRIDAY Read Psalm 27.

In Buffalo, New York, last summer children saddened by the prospect of ending regular Bible study became wildly excited about heretofore unheard of Vacation Bible Schools. Thirty schools gave them and other children who had heard someone say there was a Jesus a chance to learn something real and vital about the Saviour. The Vacation Bible School teachers heard repeatedly, "no one ever told me before." Pray for this area where the Charles E. Magruders are missionaries.

Pray for A. F. Cabrera, worker among Spanish, New Mexico.

Missionaries are listed on their birthdays. Addresses in DIRECTORY OF MISSIONARY PERSONNEL, free from Foreign Mission Board, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230, and in HOME MISSIONS

Claudio Iglesias, worker among Indians, Oklahoma.

I. Dean Denmark, business administration, Nigeria.

Gerald S. Harvey, evangelistic work, Rhodesia.

Mrs. I. E. Williams, evangelistic work, Liberia.

Mrs. Omo Hammock, retired, Texas.

3 SATURDAY Read John 15:1-8.

Last June in its sixth commencement the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary in Beirut, Lebanon, graduated a significant group, including a Jordanian couple, a Syrian couple and an Egyptian. The seminary is well located near Beirut since it outgrew the living room of Dr. and Mrs. Finlay Graham's home where it began. As you pray for this seminary where David W. King teaches, pray for peace for the entire Middle East.

Pray for Mrs. Arturo E. Conugedo, evangelistic work, Cuba.

Daniel M. Carroll, Jr., educational work, Argentina.

Mrs. S. W. Davenport, evangelistic work, Argentina.

David W. King, educational work, Lebanon.

Mrs. D. A. Rader, evangelistic work, Zambia.

W. C. Harrison, retired, Brazil.

4 SUNDAY Read Proverbs 1:1-9.

The Baptist church of Rustburg, Virginia, made up of many nationalities for it is the seminary church. Three distinct groups emerge: Swiss members, seminary students and faculty families. Missionary Mrs. John Allen Moore asks that we pray for an increasing spirit of unity in the life and outreach of this important church.

Pray for Mrs. Carlos Alemar, evangelistic work, Cuba.

Mrs. John D. Beck, mission center, Georgia.

Dorothy Ruth Milam, mission center, Korea.

T. E. Douthit, Jr., doctor, Korea.

Mrs. J. A. Moore, educational work, Switzerland.

Maye Bell Taylor, social work, Brazil.

Mrs. A. B. Creighead, furlough, Italy.

Jimmy J. Hartfield, furlough, Mexico.

John P. Wheeler, furlough, Switzerland.

5 MONDAY Read Proverbs 3:1-10.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs with offices in Washington is maintained by eight Baptist bodies, including Southern Baptists. It is authorized "to act in the field of public affairs when a conference with government is needed, when Baptist principles are involved, and when an item is referred to it by a Baptist convention or agency." Pray for the unique and significant work of this committee.

Pray for Mrs. Charles O'Roark, rural urban work, Virginia.

Mrs. Patricia Sutton, US-2, Colorado.

James Kenneth Solomon, evangelistic work, Canal Zone.

Mark H. Dorner, superintendent of missions, Arizona.

Jack E. Mahaffey, evangelistic work, Thailand.

Mrs. D. Rogers, missionary associate, Malaysia.

Anita Roger, educational work, Nigeria.

Rosemary Spessard, nurse, Thailand.

Mrs. T. G. Smith, furlough, Zambia.

6 TUESDAY Read Proverbs 4:1-18.

Today is the birthday of three wives in Hong Kong. All are mothers, keep house, teach Sunday School classes in English or Chinese or both, serve in Woman's Missionary Union or Baptist Training Union work. Two husbands teach in the Baptist seminary, one wife teaches in Hong Kong [illegible] Spirit of the [illegible] hospital and [illegible] dentist otherwise. Busy, happy and happily. Pray for the Baptist hospital, clinics, for the Baptist college, for missionary wives and mothers.

Pray for John Bennett Henderson, teacher-missionary, Virginia.

Jack D. Hancock, evangelistic work, France.

Mrs. J. D. Hollis, evangelistic work, Hong Kong.

Alma Jackson, evangelistic work, Brazil.

Richard Allen Owen, evangelistic work, Brazil.

Mrs. H. L. Sinclair, evangelistic work, Hong Kong.

Jimmie D. Spann, educational work, Uruguay.

Melvin E. Torstrick, educational work, Chile.

Mary Cannon, furlough, Japan.

Mrs. E. J. Thorpe, furlough, Hong Kong.

7 WEDNESDAY Read Proverbs 6:16-23.

The Ralph C. Bethea arrived in India in 1966 with hope that Dr. Bethea could help build a Baptist hospital in Bangalore. Land has been purchased and he continues to look toward building. There are two mobile clinics. Rev. N. Joshua, Indian pastor, reported that since the Betheas arrived three churches have been organized and 77 persons baptized, including four from the Hindu community. There are 154 members of the three churches. Women meet together and Mrs. Bethea speaks of Christ as they sew. Pray for Indian Christians and their witness.

Pray for Mrs. Jerry A. Monroe, worker among Indians, Kansas.

Arthur A. Moore, worker among Indians, Arizona.

Garland R. Offutt, worker among Negroes, Kentucky.

Armando G. Virgen, worker among Spanish, Texas.

Henry F. Haynes III, student work, Venezuela.

M. A. Hackett, Jr., evangelistic work, Nigeria.

Mrs. T. C. Sanders, evangelistic work, Indonesia.

M. R. C. Bethea, furlough, India.

M. [illegible] McClowell, furlough, Paraguay.

8 THURSDAY Read Proverbs 15:1-9.

[illegible] your mind lead your prayer on you[illegible] of the birthday list today: the E. F. Benson[illegible] in a suburb of Japan's second city; the B. F. Emanuel's opening a new work in another city, Virginia; English missionary secretary, adviser for Japan Woman's Missionary Union. On a map go [illegible] Mississippi and over to Peru in South America, then to new work in Michigan, [illegible] and westward to the steeds 20 years [illegible] to Mr. and Mrs. Miguel [illegible] in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Praise [illegible] missionaries who circle the globe.

[illegible] Mrs. [illegible] Bragg, worker among Spanish, Michigan.

Miguel Lopez, worker among Spanish, New Mexico.

Sam Morris, worker among Indians, Oklahoma.

James R. Barron, educational work, Ghana.

E. Preston Bennett, evangelistic work, Japan.

Mrs. J. R. Dixon, evangelistic work, Peru.

Mrs. B. F. Emanuel, evangelistic work, Japan.

Virginia [illegible] work [illegible]

Mrs. R. E. Wakefield, evangelistic work, Malaysia.

9 FRIDAY Read Proverbs 20:1-11.

Mr. and Mrs. James Goodner are missionaries at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas. The Institute property includes a mission building and a missionary home. This work has been fruitful among Indian students. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Smith lead the Spanish Baptist Mission of Ulysses, Kansas. The newest language missionary couple in this area is Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Monroe, at Templo Bautista, a Spanish work in Garden City, Kansas. Pray for the students and for Spanish-language Christians in Kansas.

Pray for John E. Hubbard, worker among Indians, New Mexico.

David B. Howle, evangelistic work, Korea.

W. R. Hull, evangelistic work, Kenya.

Bobby L. Jones, evangelistic work, Indonesia.

James C. Muse, Jr., evangelistic work, Ecuador.

Mrs. R. E. Snell, evangelistic work, Korea.

W. Arthur Compere, furlough, Nigeria.

Melvin G. Gentry, furlough, Indonesia.

10 SATURDAY Read Acts 1:1-9.

A Baptist reported that recently he had a good visit with a Jewish college student completing a master's degree in business administration preparatory to entering law school in Boston. He is a highly intelligent person. Our conversation lasted more than three hours and ranged over a wide variety of subjects until we got to the subject of religion, where it stayed for at least two hours. He was intensely interested in Christianity, seeking information and soaking it up with great eagerness. He listened as I talked to him about Christianity, about Jesus Christ, about what it means to be a Christian, and how one becomes a Christian. At the end he used almost the same words of King Agrippa to Paul: "Master you almost converted me." I have faith that if I remain faithful in prayer God can send another Christian to pick up where I left off that day," he says. Pray for the salvation of this young Jewish student.

Pray for Mrs. Margie Benson, worker among Spanish, Texas.

[illegible] Santana, evangelistic work, Cuba.

Frederick H. [illegible], evangelistic work, Italy.

Wallace L. DuVall, educational work, Nigeria.

Mrs. R. N. Finley, missionary associate, Malaysia.

Cora Ney Hardy, educational work, Nigeria.

Hilda Harper, missionary journeyman, Peru.

Mrs. J. F. Humphries, missionary associate, Vietnam.

Billy H. Love, evangelistic work, Malaysia.

Mrs. J. L. Wilson, educational work, Thailand.

James P. Satterwhite, furlough, Japan.

Mrs. J. M. Young, Jr., furlough, Yemen.

11 SUNDAY Read Proverbs 31:10-31.

There is a movement among American Baptist Men whereby they are seeking to develop in home visitation. Last summer at the American Baptist Assembly in Green Lake, Wisconsin, men went into four nearby towns testing techniques they had learned. One group went to the town of Berlin, working with men in First Baptist Church. "The secret of success on the field trips," said one man, "was that there was a back-up group of men who were praying for the guidance and blessing of God on efforts." Pray for this movement and for Baptist men in all churches that they will grow in knowledge and witness for Christ.

Pray for Mrs. Amparo P. Olmedo, worker among Spanish, Panama.

Mrs. E. A. Barnes, evangelistic work, Lebanon.

Samuel Choy, missionary associate, Korea.

Mrs. Reiji Hoshizaki, evangelistic work, Japan.

H. Cloyes Starnes, educational work, Korea.

Mrs. C. E. Westbrook, furlough, Argentina.

12 MONDAY Read 1 Timothy 1:12-20.

Brazil has an area of 3,287,199 square miles (larger than the United States excluding Alaska) with an estimated population of 90 million. In its 22 states there are 300,000 Baptists in 2,500 churches. An outstanding highlight in Baptist work in Brazil last year was that a group of Mississippi Negro preachers went to Brazil for a series of revivals which were greatly blessed of the Lord. Other men from the USA as well as nearby Latin American countries are participating in revivals as a part of the Crusade of the Americas. Pray for preachers and hearers of the Word.

Pray for Mrs. Albert Casteel, worker among Spanish, Montana.

Mrs. Burton Davis, educational work, Brazil.

Helen Meredith, educational work, Colombia.

Mrs. Y. C. Woodfin III, educational work, Switzerland.

Russell R. Morris, furlough, Tanzania
Auris Pender, furlough, Malaysia
Tom G. Small, furlough, Zambia.

13 TUESDAY Read 1 Timothy 6:1-12.

Four motorcycles will make Baptist work easier and more effective in the sertao—the arid and remote interior—of the state of Pernambuco, Brazil. The use of motorcycles was proposed at the annual associational meeting, when reports indicated that Baptists in many places were not functioning because of difficulties in transportation, lack of trained workers, and lack of resources. Three used motorcycles were purchased for churches in Serra Talhada, Cabrobo, and Petrolina with money from a state Baptist missions offering. The Petrolina church bought a second motorcycle so that both its evangelists can have transportation to the ten missions which the church sponsors. Pray for Baptists of Brazil.

Pray for Mrs. George B. Joslin, worker among deaf, Texas
David H. Perkins, superintendent of missions, Vermont
Harley D. Shield, pioneer missions, California
Forrest W. Wiggins, worker among Spanish, Texas
Mrs. R. A. Hampton, evangelistic work, Brazil
Mrs. R. B. Wyatt, Jr., educational work, Colombia

14 WEDNESDAY Read 2 Timothy 1:3-14.

Are you praying earnestly and daily for the Crusade of the Americas? Preparation days are over, now is the time for reaping in revivals across the United States, Latin America, and Canada. Were your evangelistic services in April? Pray for those won to Christ in your community, and in every place that they may grow in knowledge of Christ as Lord.

Pray for Kenneth R. Lyle, pastor-director, New York
John E. Ingout, evangelistic work, Indonesia
Faye Pearson, student work, Taiwan
Roberta Ryan, publication work, Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Texas
Mrs. B. R. Yarbrough, evangelistic work, Uruguay
Jackie G. Conley, furlough, Tanzania
Mary Lee Ernest, furlough, Malaysia
Mrs. W. N. McElrath, furlough, Indonesia
Amelia Diaz, retired, New Mexico

15 THURSDAY Read 2 Timothy 2:1-15.

Talk about a difficult place to work! The Jim Leeper family are Southern Baptist missionaries in Turkey. They write, "We thank God for calling us to Turkey, and opening the way so clearly." The Galatian Baptist Church (does that recall to mind Paul's missionary journeys?) in Ankara, the capital city, has about ninety members. They have two services each Sunday because space is a problem for all who wish to come. The Leepers are fraternal missionaries who were invited by Turkish Baptists to come. Pray for this beginning work.

Pray for Jose Cantu, worker among Spanish, Texas
Marion Davis Oates, worker among Spanish, Texas
Mrs. Francisco Rodriguez, evangelistic work, Cuba
Mrs. J. F. Leeper, English-language work, Turkey
Mrs. J. T. Poe, publication work, Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Texas
Robert D. Williams, educational work, Nigeria

16 FRIDAY Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17.

Pat H. Carter, teacher in the Mexican Baptist Theological Seminary, Torreon, Mexico, in a writing contest sponsored by Guideposts magazine, won a trip to a New York workshop with noted Christian authors, among them Catherine Marshall. In Torreon, in addition to the seminary, there is a book store and Baptist congregations. Pray for the lost in this city of 220,000 people.

Pray for Mrs. Samuel M. Hernandez, worker among Spanish, Arizona
Jose M. Sanchez, evangelistic work, New Jersey
Mrs. Lawrence Stanley, worker among Chinese, Arizona
Mrs. R. W. Brubeck, evangelistic work, Uganda
Pat H. Carter, educational work, Mexico
Mrs. M. Fisher, evangelistic work, Southeast Asia
Mrs. J. W. Fuller, evangelistic work, Jordan
Mrs. Louis O'Connor, Jr., student work, Hong Kong
Mrs. D. E. Pinkston, evangelistic work, Ivory Coast
Mrs. W. L. Wagner, evangelistic work, Austria
Catherine Walker, educational work, Indonesia
James O. Watson, evangelistic work, Paraguay
Ralph A. Wilson, evangelistic work, Honduras
Mrs. J. E. Posey, Jr., furlough, Philippines
Mrs. Roe Beard, retired, Oklahoma
Mrs. F. H. Walters, retired, Canal Zone.

17 SATURDAY Read Acts 2:37-47.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel R. Sanchez are Home Mission Board missionaries in Panama City, Panama. He is pastor of a church and teaches at Panama Baptist Theological Institute. Pray for students at the institute as they study and witness among the people and for the church there.

Pray for Pascual Carrasco, worker among Spanish, Texas
Jackie G. Portain, educational work, Tanzania
William R. Wakefield, student work, Philippines
T. W. Talkington, retired, Mississippi

18 SUNDAY Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8.

Pray that the radio-TV witness of Baptists in the USA and overseas may enlarge to meet marvelous opportunities in this transistorized world. In Latin America, the Orient, in Africa, Europe, and the Middle East great strides are being made in planning and beaming programs to thousands in remote areas. Pray for money, missionaries, and know-how for this work.

Pray for Felix Torres, evangelistic work, Cuba
Jose M. Aznar, student work, Uruguay
Jerry C. Bass, missionary journeyman, Colombia
Charles W. Campbell, evangelistic work, Argentina
Alfred L. Davis, Jr., doctor, Hong Kong
A. L. Gillespie, evangelistic work, Japan
Duane Hall, missionary journeyman, Vietnam
Edward H. Laughridge, missionary associate, Trinidad
Mrs. G. E. Schlieff, evangelistic work, Rhodesia
James E. Hampton, furlough, Tanzania
Mary Jane Wheeler, furlough, Nigeria
Mrs. Rumor Medrano, retired, Oklahoma

19 MONDAY Read Titus 3:1-15.

Peter Chen is a home missionary who records messages in Chinese for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, and many who speak his language hear the good news which he proclaims. There are thirty million in our country whose language-culture must be bridged in order to bring them to a knowledge of Christ. Count the countries represented by birthdays today. There are ten. For information about these and other countries read The Commission each month so you can [illegible] Pray for the [illegible] of the [illegible] Journal and for Home Service.

Pray for Peter Chen, worker among Chinese, California
Mrs. Claudio Iglesias, worker among Indians, Oklahoma
George E. Arthur, evangelistic work, Indonesia
Charles W. Bedenbaugh, educational work, Tanzania
William D. Bender, educational work, Nigeria
Louis E. Carlin, missionary associate, Ghana
Mrs. Wayne White, evangelistic work, Mexico
Charles Allard, furlough, Brazil
James N. Westmoreland, furlough, Rhodesia
J. F. Davis, retired, Georgia
Mary Alexander, retired, China, Hong Kong
Mrs. H. H. Snuggs, retired, China

20 TUESDAY Read Philippians 1:21-26.

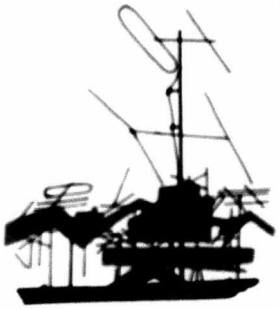
Mrs. Gene Wise grew up in Brazil where her parents were in business speaking Portuguese with no problem as she attended Colegio Batista Brasileiro in Sao Paulo. She met Mr. Wise at New Mexico State College. They married and were appointed missionaries in 1950, serving in Rio de Janeiro and now in Campinas where he is pastor. She is helpful in preaching, radio and TV programs and films for all Brazil.

Pray for Mrs. Clifford Bruffey, worker among deaf, Virginia
Mrs. Lee Streeter, Christian social ministries, Colorado
Lester L. Bell, evangelistic work, Portugal
Peter Duke, evangelistic work, Colombia
Mrs. S. McGee, evangelistic work, Nigeria
Jerry Tilford, student work, Taiwan
Mrs. G. H. Wise, evangelistic work, Brazil

21 WEDNESDAY Read Philippians 2:1-13.

Mrs. Hattie Powell, graduate of Lottie Moon Hospital School of Nursing, worked in Nigeria. The land of her birth is Liberia. From Mombasa in East Africa comes a word from Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pringle: "We are coming to an opportune time. The Chinese are bringing open door we are not aware that doors can close or quick. We must take the message, the need personally." The Pringles serve in Kenya preaching, working with women, and visiting with a Bible school. Pray for the medical women in Nigeria, West Africa, and the educational work in Malawi, which is across the continent from Nigeria.

Pray for Jimmy Coleman, US-2, Louisiana
Nobel D. Brown, educational work, Nigeria
Robert L. Cullen, evangelistic work, Thailand
Marguerite Fallin, missionary journeyman, Rhodesia
Gene E. Kingsley, evangelistic work, Malawi



22 THURSDAY Read Philippians 3:13-21.

"We who work in radio and television are part of a team seeking to gain a hearing for the gospel," says A. W. Compton, missionary radio-TV representative for Latin America since 1965. His years of experience in commercial radio-television in North Carolina are invaluable now in production and distribution of programs as he works with other missionaries making mass media tools for Christian witness. Pray for those who hear and those who preach.

Pray for Alan W. Compton, evangelistic work, Mexico
Geraldine B. Hardister, business administrator, Jordan
Maurine Perryman, educational work, Jordan
John W. Reid, evangelistic work, Mexico
John E. Schneider, evangelistic work, Okinawa
Kenneth C. Spencer, educational work, South Brazil
Roe Beard, retired, Oklahoma

23 FRIDAY Read Philippians 4:4-13.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Whitson are Southern Baptist's first missionaries in South West Africa, which is the size of Texas and Louisiana. They were there by invitation to begin a ministry at English-language Windhoek Baptist Church. They will work among local tribes and make occasional trips to small Baptist groups in other communities; one is 260 miles west, the other 500 miles southwest. Pray for these Baptists that they may have vision to see the opportunities for witnessing.

Pray for Joan Frisby, mission center, Texas
Mrs. Harold Gruver, worker among Spanish, New Mexico
Mrs. N. R. Beckham, evangelistic work, Venezuela
Mrs. R. W. Harrell, evangelistic work, Kenya
Mrs. M. S. Harvey, missionary associate, Hong Kong
W. Guy Henderson, evangelistic work, Korea
Mrs. H. T. McKinley, evangelistic work, Rhodesia
Mrs. C. D. Whitson, missionary associate, South-West Africa
Mrs. W. N. Claxon, furlough, Nigeria.

24 SATURDAY Read Acts 6:1-13.

The Home Mission Board is cooperating with many state conventions in support of missionaries who devote efforts to winning deaf people to Christ. One is Rev. Neal Peyton, North Carolina, a popular speaker in sign language. Mr. Peyton and his wife not only work in this state, but Mr. Peyton also preaches by TV to the deaf in other cities. Pray for churches which need a local ministry to the deaf in their communities.

Pray for Marcia Clark, US-2, New York
Neal L. Peyton, worker among deaf, North Carolina
Mrs. C. W. Campbell, evangelistic work, Argentina
Louis O'Conner, Jr., student work, Hong Kong
Doris Penkert, social work, Brazil
Mrs. W. W. Stennett, evangelistic work, Guatemala
Mrs. H. V. Worten, evangelistic work, Indonesia
D. Beaman, retired, New Mexico
Mrs. Earl Parker, retired, China, Korea

25 SUNDAY Read Ephesians 1:3-14.

At Come Road Baptist Church and Henrietta School on Hong Kong Island there is rejoicing that prayer which has continued for ten years has now been answered. For a decade the teachers and students of this school named for Henrietta Hall Shuck, first Baptist woman missionary to China from the USA, had prayed for a missionary for student work. Donna Kirby from Georgia is that prayed-for missionary. Pray for former students of Henrietta School and those now en-

volved at this Baptist school, and for the church nearby.

Pray for Mrs. Tommy Green, US-2, Virginia

Mrs. D. D. Boles, educational work, Brazil

Thurman E. Bryant, educational work, Brazil

Alex F. Garner, evangelistic work, Argentina

Samuel M. James, educational work, Vietnam

Donna Kirby, educational work, Hong Kong

Donald R. Smith, evangelistic work, Venezuela

Harold E. Spencer, educational work, Philippines

Mrs. C. C. Worthy, evangelistic work, Israel

Gene A. Clark, furlough, Japan

26 MONDAY Read Ephesians 2:13-22.

Are you keeping up with your prayer partner for the Crusade of the Americas? Every Crusade effort rests on a foundation of prayer, and that base must grow firm and steady as the year advances. This Crusade is the largest evangelical crusade ever projected. All of us must be in earnest prayer as believers. People in countries of North, South, and Central America must speak the great good news! Pray now.

Pray for Carter Blocker, worker among deaf, Georgia

W. D. Morgan, evangelistic work, Canal Zone

Mrs. M. R. Ford, evangelistic work, Brazil

Cecelia Morris, missionary journeyman, Vietnam

Charles H. Morris, evangelistic work, Malaysia

Mrs. W. W. Moore, furlough, Nigeria

27 TUESDAY Read Ephesians 3:14-21

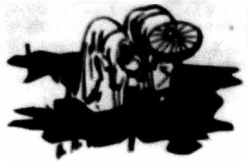
"Seinan Gakuin University is unique," writes Fred Horton, "with eager young leaders of the future enrolled. They are youth with high ideals of world peace and prosperity, impressionable minds, and a deep yearning for inner moral fibre to sustain them amid temptation. This fine school is located in Fukuoka, Japan. Many of Japan's leaders in business, government, and education today are its graduates. These are in addition to numbers serving in churches. Pray for the faculty and student body.

Pray for Thomas O. Barron, evangelistic work, Indonesia

Mrs. H. B. Bickers, Jr., evangelistic work, Malawi

Frederick M. Horton, educational work, Japan

Mrs. I. S. Perkins, evangelistic work, Brazil



28 WEDNESDAY Read Ephesians 5:6-16

Central Baptist Church serves many of eighty thousand American servicemen, civilians, and families on Okinawa and from nearby islands. All the program and activity phases of a Baptist church are there so they feel at home. There is also work among Japanese-language people on this island. Japan Baptists have missionaries there, as do Southern Baptists. Pray for Okinawa and those who are living there temporarily.

Pray for Aline Louise Mitchell, worker among Indians, New Mexico

Carolyn McClellan, nurse, Yemen

William R. Medling, evangelistic work, Okinawa

Gary K. Swofford, evangelistic work, Malawi

Mrs. J. R. Thompson, evangelistic work, Colombia

Billy J. Davenport, furlough, Brazil

J. B. Parker, retired, Texas

29 THURSDAY Read Ephesians 5:22-33

When furlough was over, Rev. James A. Foster went back to the Philippines on time. He had to in order that others could come to the USA on furlough. But Mrs. Foster's mother was in terminal illness. After her death, Mrs. Foster and son John Earl also returned to the Philippines. Sandi, the daughter, stayed in the USA for college. "We especially appreciate your recent prayer support year in and year out and your gifts through the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering," they say. Pray for missionaries separated from loved ones.

Pray for Mrs. Luis F. Gomez, worker among Spanish, New Mexico

Johnnie L. Hobbs, Baptist center, Louisiana

Mrs. R. K. Evenson, publication work, Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Texas

Mrs. J. A. Foster, educational work, Philippines

30 FRIDAY Read Ephesians 6:10-20

Dr. A. L. Davis, Jr., is a missionary doctor in Hong Kong Baptist Hospital. In the eight-story white building, the four upper floors are still only a shell, yet to be finished. With only 14,000 hospital beds for Hong Kong's four million people, will you pray for funds to finish this hospital? Hong Kong will share in the 1970 Orient crusade now in planning stage. Pray for the medical and evangelistic work of Hong Kong.

Pray for Don Contreras, worker among Spanish, Texas

Edward D. Evenson, superintendent of missions, Nevada

Gus Lee Gladney, worker among Negroes, Missouri

Hubert O. Hurt, evangelistic work, Florida

George W. Braswell, Jr., student work, Lebanon

Mrs. A. L. Davis, Jr., evangelistic work, Hong Kong

H. Victor Davis, business administration, Brazil

Mrs. J. A. Herring, evangelistic work, Taiwan

John N. McGuckin, educational work, Argentina

Mrs. J. M. Shelby, evangelistic work, Malaysia

Mrs. L. M. Southerland, Jr., evangelistic work, Japan

Mrs. J. H. Stiles, Jr., evangelistic work, Colombia

Mrs. G. D. Grider, furlough, Brazil

Mrs. Rafael Guillen, retired, Panama

Ira N. Patterson, retired, Nigeria

31 SATURDAY Read Acts 8:26-38

In the heavy snows of 1967 Navajo families in the West received emergency help, but frozen livestock could not be replaced. Last summer Alabama friends of James Nelson, Baptist missionary to the Navajos, went to Shiprock, New Mexico, to help erect a student building on the Navajo reservation. Materials for building were made available through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. The builders, composed of the site and gladly gave their services for this work. Pray for Navajo Christians and for those still unreached by the gospel.

Pray for James W. Nelson, worker among Indians, New Mexico

Mrs. Jerry F. Potter, worker among deaf, North Carolina

J. Wade Akins, missionary journeyman, Vietnam

Billy G. Collier, evangelistic work, Korea

Mrs. A. W. Compton, evangelistic work, Mexico

Jane Cooper, evangelistic work, Japan

Mrs. B. H. Lane, evangelistic work, Malaysia

Mrs. H. L. Price, evangelistic work, Japan

Mrs. William Skinner, evangelistic work, Portuguese

William W. Sherman, evangelistic work, Guatemala

DESPERATION

by Irene W. Bark

NEW ORLEANS
JUNE 9-10

Laymen in Dialogue

by Catherine Allen

TWO distinguished advocates of the importance of laymen in church life will meet in dialogue at the Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union in New Orleans June 9-10. There they will voice their views on laymen witnessing, ministering.

The two headliners are Dr. Elton Trueblood and Dr. Kenneth Chafin, both philosophers, both authors, both professors, both sought after and often quoted because of their enlightened insights into the relevance of Christianity.

Their appearance at the WMU session preceding the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans points up the main concern of the meeting—how shall Southern Baptists meet the dawning decade of the seventies? The theme for their WMU session will be "The Future Is Happening."

Dr. Trueblood, a Quaker who has won the admiration of Southern Baptists with his deep thoughts expressed before students, congregations and assemblies, and with his numerous books, will address the Monday afternoon session.

He will speak on the theme he created in his book, *The Company of the Committed*, which are sought general the role of the laity.

In the Tuesday afternoon session Dr. Trueblood will again appear this time to be probed by a panel of Southern Baptist thinkers, including students and missionary leaders.

Dr. Chafin, who is the [illegible] has been associate professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will wind up that session with emphasis on the church's witness to youth.

Dr. Chafin has [illegible] more than [illegible] a practical guide [illegible] Christians in the [illegible] *Ministry of the Laymen*. In this book and in personal testimony he acknowledges the influence of Dr. Trueblood on his thinking. Dr. Chafin wrote the thesis for his Th.D. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary on "The Apologetic Method of Elton Trueblood."

Dr. Chafin states in this book, he says, his interest in the laity, his desire to communicate with the common man, his interest in students, his appreciation for serving as a worship encouragement of other life, and his deep commitment to the church.

Dr. Chafin calls him the "[illegible] voice to the intelligent layman." He has given the laymen in the church a genuine ministry. He makes no distinction between women and men. He uses the term "man" to mean all of God's people.

Alongside the showing of [illegible] these two speakers the WMU Annual Meeting will [illegible] about the speakers. Two matters for organizational and procedural for Woman's Missionary Union beginning on October [illegible] will be considered.

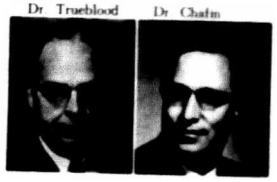
Colleagues of life in the new decade, reports about the work of home and foreign missions, elections of WMU officers will be featured.

WMU sessions will be held in the Rivergate Auditorium, a sparkling new facility on the Mississippi River [illegible] the Southern Baptist Convention of New Orleans.

Some state and associational Woman's Missionary Unions in the vicinity of New Orleans are planning group trips to the meeting. Women who [illegible] the [illegible] meeting are [illegible]

Mrs. Lee S. Allen is consultant in Press Relations, Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham, Alabama.

Dr. Trueblood Dr. Chafin



Elton Trueblood

Kenneth Chafin

AT A [redacted]

WMS Study and Activity Opportunities FOR MAY

• WMS Mission Study, Mission Prayer, and Mission Action Groups

We have now that a WMS [illegible] one of the [illegible] study groups (various [illegible] p. [illegible] and p. 31 Bible study p. 34 and p. 36 [illegible] Trueblood; a [illegible] prayer group (prayer [illegible] quotes p. [illegible]) and a [illegible] action group [illegible] WMS Four Point [illegible] which the [illegible] action [illegible]

We have now after about [illegible] months for the [illegible] for all WMS group meetings in the same [illegible] for the [illegible] activity each month.

The *prayer* [illegible] is a [illegible] study group [illegible] of [illegible]

The *prayer* [illegible] is a [illegible] prayer group [illegible] prayer for [illegible]

The *prayer* [illegible] of a [illegible] action group [illegible] action or [illegible] in getting results for [illegible] or [illegible] work or [illegible] thinking about what [illegible] where certain [illegible] will be [illegible] and [illegible] during the week.

Our [illegible] prayer [illegible] or [illegible] related activity. Each [illegible] suggestions include these:

Agenda for All Group Meetings

Call to Prayer *(see p. 14)*

Group planning led by leader: who will do certain work? who will guide your study? who will work for new members? who will make contacts about mission action projects and other work of group?

Preview of study topic at next WMS meeting (see [illegible] above and suggestions p. 41 in WMS Resources)

Announcements of WMS projects and plans

Primary activity of the group *(see left)*

Information and discussion of help by members in mission action projects as suggested from WMS basic mission action groups as members have of need with needs have relationship for work

Prepare for mission action in the community and for other groups

BOOK REVIEWS by Mary Christian

Theme: Christian Boundaries in the Orient

Aim: What responsible influences in the Orient do Christians as regards and for the future

[illegible] study of The Round Table [illegible] Guide $1.00 from Woman's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203 and Baptist Book Stores. Books are available from Baptist Book Stores.

Big Days at Da Me
Beth Porter $1.95

In this book of photographs and one and two page chapters you find stories of seldom mentioned groups in Vietnam: Christian soldiers, volunteer workers, missionaries, and national Christians.

Bette Mitchell's missionary husband was taken prisoner by Viet Cong Communists in 1967. Her faith in

God's leadership and care is unshaken. There is also the story of the New Testament repeated to the story of the Resurrection, and found on a battlefield. Again, a village is besieged; an American plane like a giant angel of mercy swoops down. Frightened mothers and tiny children pulling pet animals rush to the plane. The soldiers carefully and quickly load them all—animals, too.

This book will arouse new appreciation for American chaplains and military personnel; will call you to prayer; will lead you to a deeper desire to serve God more unselfishly.

As a Round Table book it has many possibilities for presentation. Two or three group members may pretend they have interviewed the author and each tells a story, or one could interview a chaplain and tell a story, or some impersonation or question and answers could be used.

Richer by India
Myra Scovel, $3.50

This charmingly written report of a missionary family's life in a distant land will take the reader on many mental adventures and stir a variety of emotions. The Scovels, back in the United States after twenty-one years of service in China and six months in a concentration camp, were asked to go to India. Dr. Scovel was needed in a crisis in the Christian Medical College in Ludhiana. Mrs. Scovel tells of joys and sorrows, frustrations and solutions as they make the decision to go to a new area, learn another language, make a temporary vacant residence habitable and home-like, cope with a constant flow of guests, meet wonderful national Christians, and help in medical and evangelistic work. The experiences are told with frankness and humor, but with a all-center appreciation from and appreciation of the Scovel's work and that of other missionaries. Hearing again of the passing of Mr. Hyde, Dr. Snow, and Doctor Brown of the Medical College, meeting four student leaders and organizing as the Christian activities reported are all part of the reader's experience.

Round Table groups will enjoy and profit from reading this book. Reports could be made each week or research on various people mentioned. Discussions could be led on some purposes of humanity in India and how, south there and here, Christian hospitals in India. Illustrations could be told or dramatized.

FROM WASHINGTON

(Continued from page 5)

WORLD POLITICS and STARVING PEOPLE

[illegible] begun to develop the world before Christmas, the time of year when it pays the philosophies of world peace and human compassion to [illegible] transcendent. The United States announced that an additional $25 million in relief would be allocated bringing the total American contribution to $35 million. And the British government announced that it had sent an ambassador to Lagos to seek a cease fire and settlement of the war.

Officials at the State Department were still reluctant to discuss the contingent relief plans prepared by the task force. They were understood however to include the possible dispatch of emergency food, medicine and emergency supplies under an armed guard.

They hoped to persuade the Nigerian leaders to give [illegible] guarantees of safety. They hoped also to persuade Biafran leaders that most and many of these people will die if the war continues. They hoped to persuade France and the African supporters of Biafra to cut down on their [illegible] and to persuade the Organization of African Unity to take an active role in peacemaking.

It is indeed a complicated situation, one in which thousands of [illegible] have expressed deep concern. Some have gone so far as to say [illegible] that this crisis situation recalls the phrase in the USA.

FOUR white pills. A pan of wax. A bottle of medicine, labeled. All these are essentials vividly to everyday work at the Baptist Medical Center in Ogbomosho, Nigeria.

But neither medicines nor procedures apply themselves to the sick.

Somebody has to count out the pills, and explain to each tuberculosis patient when and how they are to be taken.

Somebody has to heat the wax to just the right temperature—and instruct the leprosy-diseased patients in its proper use against the crippling effect of the malady.

Medicines have to be available for use in a moment's notice. Properly mixed. Properly labeled.

In every department of this medical center, the story is the same. Its citizens and pharmacists are at the ready, personnel on the alert. The operating theatre is in constant use. The wards are full. The outpatient clinics operate at capacity. Day after day this Ogbomosho medical centre unite the women of missionary medicine to touch the life of the whole community, to reach into many strata of Nigerian life.

Organizationally, this medical centre is composed of a 110-bed hospital, a home for motherless children, and a health service to tuberculosis patients, leprosy victims, and very young children. It is a highly specialized medical enterprise with good relations to other institutions and a growing community to the country's international commitments.

The medical staff includes physicians and nurses (male and female), chaplains, clinic attendants, laboratory technicians, nurses aides, pharmacy students, business and maintenance personnel. Currently the administrators are surgeons, an internist, nurses, a business administrator, and a pharmacist.

This work is well-established. It has been in West Africa for more than fifty years, the hospital itself dating from 1923. Behind its growth and present service is the devoted work of missionary personnel—men like the late Dr. George Green who served in Nigeria in 1903. Also involved are strong churches who have carried the hospital's reputation into countless homes and villages and, for two generations, provided patient Christian nurture for their sons and daughters, many of whom now work in the hospital and other Christian ministries in their country.

Ogbomosho is a city of almost 150 thousand people, many of whom are not only aware of Baptist medical

by Johnni Johnson

Photos by Gerald Harvey and George Green

four white pills

a pan of wax

a bottle of medicine

A photo factual story about medical missions in Ogbomosho, Nigeria

"I think medical missions is vitally important in proclaiming the good news in Ogbomosho. The concern, tenderness, and abilities of medical personnel to relieve pain, to listen to complaints, and believed charity patients makes a strong impression on heathen and Islamic peoples."

Dr. Ralph L. West, Regional Personnel Representative, *Foreign Mission Board*

"Medical missions is one of the most effective ways of personal witnessing for Christ. More people can be reached since they hear the gospel at medical services when otherwise they probably would not go to a church or other religious service."

Dr. W. L. Jeter, missionary emeritus, *Nigeria*

services, but also home of the fine seminary located in the city. It is the only seminary in Nigeria supported by Southern Baptists. From it go many of the leaders in Baptist churches and community life throughout Nigeria.

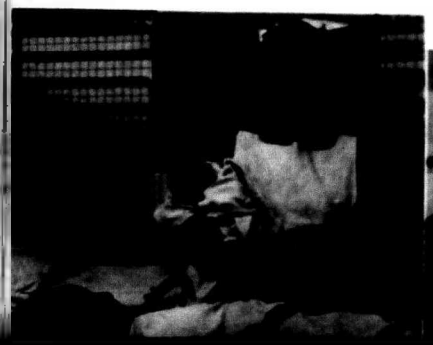
Forty missionaries, six missionary associates, and two journeymen make a total of forty-eight men and women who serve with Nigerians at this strategic city.

The cumulative effect of missionary medicine in Ogbomosho is noticeable in many ways. In patient expressions of appreciation. In the testimony of people who insist on being in the Baptist hospital when they need medical care. In the growing acceptance of preventive medicine (inoculations, TB tests and immunizations, pre- and post-natal care, and all the rest) and in the growing number of people who are responsive to the gospel message because of contact with a healing ministry.

Along with this acceptance there is also Nigerian Baptists' open door mission to put these medical facilities within reach of as many people as possible. The clinic outreach, especially as it concerns child welfare, is usually church-related. In other words, he was a pastor (probably a graduate of the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary) with that medical personnel come to his village for regular visits. This type work is limited only by how much the hospital staff can add to a chronically-overloaded schedule.

The schedule overload may be sound to missionary medicine but, according to one of the doctors, the "catch as catch can" nature of medical work in the Governor's day, for example, has given way to specialty care and now at Ogbomosho, a program of where is running.

There is another thing the Christian medical practitioner, by his understanding patients and still demonstrates for patients the power of God whom they have allowed in the chapel and the waiting room.

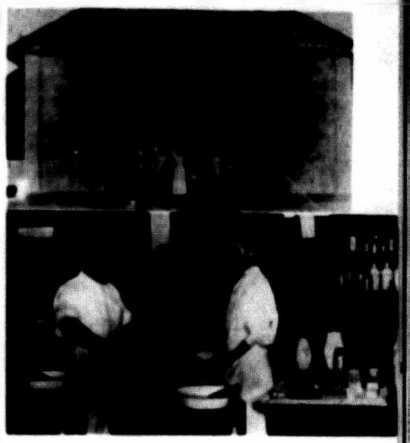


the wards

a sick child

a child welfare clinic near Ogbomosho

OGBOMOSHO BAPTIST HOSPITAL—THEN



Baptist Hospital, 1925
Dr. George Green giving medical care in missionary residence, circa 1910

and NOW

See Guide for Study, page 28

Medical Ministry at Ogbomosho

Through ministering to physical needs, medical missionaries show their Christian concern for others

Baptists of Nigeria show concern for others in varied types of medical missions work

by Monte McMahan Clendinning

MISSIONARIES visiting recently in a small Nigerian bush congregation felt especially drawn to one of the eleven converts baptized that day. Twelve year old Joshua could hardly walk because of a serious deformity. He had received no formal education because of his inability to walk the three miles to school. His parents considered his condition hopeless. The missionaries pled with Joshua's parents to seek medical help. After much persuasion, the parents agreed to take him to the Baptist Hospital at Ogbomosho (see 8OH mid-show). Surgery was performed on his right leg, the more badly deformed. Now at last, Joshua is able to walk to school.

Facilities for Joshua's operation in this modern Baptist hospital differ greatly from those used for the first operation in 1907 when the patient was a child suffering from severe contracting scars resulting from burns. Dr. George Green, medical missionary in 1907, prepared his dining room as an operating room, using the dining table as the operating table. Mrs. Green and S. G. Pinnock, another missionary, assisted in the operation, although neither was medically trained. After surgery, the little girl soon could run and play.

Some of this and other cases spread rapidly, and some eighty to ninety patients often accompanied by relatives and friends, flooded daily to the home of the Greens. The needs of the missionaries became had been transformed into a dispensary, and, with the help of fifty dollars provided by the Foreign Mission Board. The shade of a large tree outside became the waiting room, and chapel where the proper was spoken daily.

Four years later a three room native house was constructed into a dispensary. Mud and grass rooms added on either side served as male and female in-patient wards. The floor was beaten mud, there were no windows and shutters. Southern Baptists first medical missionary, Dr. Green, was now operating a Southern Baptist first hospital building in Nigeria.

Additional buildings of a more permanent nature, built since in 1923, have now been largely replaced by new modern buildings. Facilities today are a 200 outside a 110-bed hospital equipped with a modern operating room and provision for almost every type medical care. Some ten thousand patients are seen annually. Southern Baptists make medical missionary work members to share in

impact in this primitive area.

Baptist Hospital is only one of three separate institutions which together form the Baptist Medical Center. Kerney Children's Home and Baptist Health Service are also located in Ogbomosho, second largest town in western Nigeria.

Kerney Children's Home, located a mile or two from the hospital, is named for Miss Ruth Kerney, missionary nurse who served in Nigeria for thirty-five years. One day early in 1925 Miss Kerney brought home a newborn baby girl whose mother had died in childbirth. This was the beginning of the Kerney Children's Home, which has saved the lives of hundreds of motherless children. From time to time one may find on the home several sets of twins who have been abandoned because of the superstitious belief among many Nigerians that twins are a sign of bad luck.

Often the father takes his child back after the baby begins to eat normal food and no longer needs infant care. While Nigerian Baptist families adopt many of the babies, some go back into the home of a relative. Children seldom remain longer than three to four years. At the present time the home provides numerous training for mothers in manner adopting a baby so that they may learn how to care for their child.

Kerney Children's Home, directed now by missionary nurse Ruth Womack, offers recuperative care to dozens of medical missionary cases. Many fathers have been won to Christ through the home so that now the love of Christ demonstrated in home of their working there. Members of the Women's Missionary Societies in Baptist churches of Ogbomosho also share in this ministry through participation in missionary meetings at Kerney Children's Home.

The Baptist Health Service is the name now given to the various missions in patients suffering from Hansen's Disease (leprosy). A song of Hope, begun by Dr. R. L. Lovett and developed by Dr. Robert Ewalt and others, is located on a compound about three miles from Ogbomosho. This service is composed of a treatment center and hospital. Patients live in permanent dormitory type buildings and participate in an agriculture program. At one time nearly two thousand patients lived here, but now the number is largely under control with about two hundred patients remaining.

Dr. B. Cecil, secretary of the Department of Medical Ministry Personnel for the Foreign Mission Board, recently [illegible] as he accompanied missionary personnel on a tour of the medical missions in Nigeria.

I experienced a feeling of shock as what I interpreted to be a chill came from the patients of the ward where the couple sight of Lois Romano. I think I have never been in a place where the morale was higher than it was among these patients. Miss Romano introduced me to each patient with one of these backgrounds. These hospitals [illegible] and their programs. She translated my remarks from English into Yoruba so that each could understand. Obviously a remarkable change had occurred in the lives of these people as a result of Miss Romano's careful ministry of Christian love and concern."

With the founding of Hansen's disease, the doctor in charge began to emphasize tuberculosis control and preventive medicine according to standards set by the Nigerian Ministry of Health. The Service now includes Hansen's disease treatment and control, tuberculosis treatment and control, child health clinics (child unit where sufficient personnel is available), 12-bed hospital for complications and rehabilitation of Hansen's disease patients, laboratory. The Health Service has become a center from which a team composed of a doctor, nurse, and African medical assistants visit those in outlying villages.

One week before the team's visit, licensed nationals disperse throughout the villages making health talks at the Baptist churches, registering children, and giving tuberculosis skin tests. On the day the team arrives often local teachers, pastor, and men of the church help to take care of large crowds who are waiting.

Always the medical team's visit begins with devotions and a health talk. The doctor examines each child who then receives preventives for tuberculosis, polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, and smallpox. Malaria and worm medicine are distributed. Each child pays five shillings, a day's wage for a laborer. Baptist pastors have indicated that Muslims and pagans who attend the clinic often return to the church to hear more about Jesus.

Dr. Ruth Reeves, former missionary associate, who served three years as the doctor in this setting, reported that in 1963 the team saw an average of two hundred children a day with 45,000 visits in all.

Dr. Reeves is now at home in Clanton, Alabama, because of a severe heart attack which she attributed not to hard work there, but to the burden she felt when large numbers which they were unable to see had to be turned away. Missionary nurse Ruth Womack is giving part of her time to these clinics, but there is an urgent need now for a full-time doctor trained in public health and pediatrics.

Nigerian Baptists are grateful for these medical services and the Nigerian Baptist Convention contributes annually to them. A forward step was made last year when the Nigerian Mission organization of Southern Baptist missionaries voted to ask the Foreign Mission Board to give greater responsibility for medical services to the Nigerian Baptist Convention. For some time nationals have been filling key positions. For example, nationals are in charge of every part of the hospital except the positions of matron and pharmacist, filled by missionaries Emma Watts and Ida Wasson.

Throughout all medical work a strong evangelistic motivation is maintained. This reflects the objective for medical work as set forth by the Foreign Mission Board: "To provide medical assistance to people in foreign countries as an expression of Christian love and as a means of wit-

ness in order that they may be brought to God through Jesus Christ."

These three institutions have Nigerian chaplains who hold services daily in the chapel and visit bed-to-bed. Doctors and nurses also conduct a bedside ministry, and from time to time Nigerian pastors and church members visit patients from their churches. In some places a public address system brings to patients in the wards gospel messages and hymns. Every person, whether a patient or visitor, hears the way of salvation in Christ. A New Testament is given the parents for each new baby as he leaves the hospital. A large number of professions of faith are reported each year as a result of this medical evangelistic ministry.

Mrs. William L. Jester, retired missionary who for twenty years served as supervisor for the maternity section of the hospital, recalls one of her rewarding experiences. A Muslim woman who had never given birth to a live child was expecting again. When this baby finally arrived, he was alive, but had both a harelip and a cleft palate. The mother refused the child, saying it was an evil spirit and not a child. After the late Dr. I. C. Smith performed surgery, Mrs. Jester took the baby back to its mother, who still refused to accept the child.

When the baby was eleven days old, Mrs. Jester went for the woman. When she arrived at the hospital, the unhappy mother heard once again the message of God's love just as she had on many previous occasions. This time, however, she resisted no longer; the former Muslim repented her heart to Jesus. After making a profession of faith, she asked to see the baby. When Mrs. Jester tenderly placed the infant in her arms, this new Christian exclaimed, "It is really a child, and not a spirit." On the appointed day a grateful mother returned to her village rejoicing with a live baby in her arms and Jesus in her heart. Similar experiences happened over and over during the ministry of Mrs. Jester, who came to be affectionately called by Nigerians *Iya Abese* (mother who brings live babies).

All three institutions comprising the Baptist Medical Center are making significant contributions to the physical and spiritual needs of Nigerians. Suffering from improper diet and high incidence of disease, nationals have come to realize that can depend on the trustworthy standards and efficient service found at the Center. But beyond the meeting of physical needs, Nigerians, from their background of paganism and superstitions, are learning every day through the compassionate concern of Christians staff and missionaries the power to an even greater need: a right relationship to God through Jesus Christ.

for Study in General WMS Meeting

Unit theme: How Do Baptists Minister?

APRIL STUDY TOPIC: Ministry in Penal Institutions: Chaplains

MAY STUDY TOPIC: **Medical Ministry at Ogbomosho**

JUNE STUDY TOPIC: Churches Ministering in the Community

See page 26 for May study material.

Medical Ministry at Ogbomosho

Study Question for May: How can my concern for the physical and spiritual welfare of others be deepened through this study of the Baptist Medical Centre in Ogbomosho, Nigeria?

[illegible] for May.

Read pages 24 to 28 prayerfully, attaching the information to your [illegible].

Prepare a display of [illegible] study topic poster for May along with a [illegible] of pages [illegible] free from Foreign Mission Board, [illegible] Richmond, Virginia 23230. Prepare for eight minutes. AWS shows are available from Women's Missionary Union, only, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama [illegible] $1.25 for set of ten.

Ask members to bring [illegible] used in April and provide additional [illegible] for those who were not at your April meeting (see April Royal Service, p. 16).

Provide pencils and paper for each member.

Show slides or assignments if you plan to use. Preview (see p. 29).

Order from Foreign Mission Board, address left, one copy of these pamphlets to read as background for this study: Know Your Baptist Missions, 1969 and "Nigeria, Nation on the Move." Read Medical Missions at Ogbomosho (page 29) as background for study.

Ask a [illegible] to bring Mas [illegible]

If you choose Plan 1:

Enlist seven women to serve on two panels (see right), two can be from mission action group in the area.

Place two tables at front of room with five chairs behind one and two behind the other. Write on newsprint names of the three institutions forming the Baptist Medical Centre: Baptist Hospital, Nurses Children's Home, and Baptist Health Service.

Provide chalkboard and chalk.

If you choose Plan 2:

Ask three members to prepare information in article (page 29).

Enlist one member to present methods of [illegible] to see who listing which [illegible].

Provide a copy of Mission Action Group Guide. The Sale $1.00 [illegible] from Women's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203, or Baptist Book Stores.

Provide chalkboard, adding machine tape, and another tape.

SUGGESTIONS for MEETING

Song

[illegible]

Minutes

Promotional Feature

Study

Introducing Today's Study

Leader: three minutes

Ogbomosho, Nigeria, [illegible] is the setting for today's study, the second in a series entitled "How Do Baptists Minister?"

Open your folders [illegible] April [illegible] to May 1969 [illegible] write in our question for study today. *Read study question* [illegible] that all may write it in the [illegible].

Introducing Learning
(Leader—thirty minutes)

PLAN 1

Members of two panels will share interesting information and ideas which will help us individually to answer our study question. As you listen will you jot down impressions of ways you can more effectively express concern for the physical and spiritual needs of persons in our community.

Members of Panel 1 will present information to help us understand the medical ministry at Ogbomosho. At the close, members of Panel 2 will react to the presentation of Panel 1 by pointing out specific spiritual ministries in Ogbomosho.

Proceed as follows: After panel members are seated introduce each speaker, stating again the function of each panel.

Panel 1 is composed of five members who present information from the article p. 29 under the following headings:

1. Baptist Medical Center: indicate some names of the three institutions and write on newsprint for display, tell of the beginning of medical work in Nigeria.
2. Baptist Hospital: tell growth and outreach related experiences of Mrs. Jester and the Muslim woman.
3. Nurses Children's Home: tell of its ministry, also tell of its accomplishments Nigerians have assumed in medical work.
4. Baptist Health Service: tell of its ministry, also relate experience of [illegible] Clinic.
5. Evangelistic Ministry: quote objectives stated by Foreign Mission Board, discuss methods used in the Center for sharing the gospel.

Panel 2 is composed of two members representatives of a mission action group in the area of question. As they listen to Panel 1 members of Panel 2 take notes on every example, pointed emphasis mentioned. Panel 2 reports on what they have heard about strategic opportunities as our member across them on chalkboard.

Conclusion (Leader—five minutes)

Summarize briefly the ministry at Ogbomosho. Then say, As we minister to the sick in our community, are we sensitive to opportunities to witness to their greatest need which is from Christ as Saviour and Lord? (Turn again look at our study question. Let's read it together. Let us look at the suggestions we have written as well as those listed by Panel 2 (pause).

Read the editorial, page 1.

In these quiet moments, will you ask God's Spirit to impress upon your heart what he wants you to do after the meeting and in the future to minister to people around us who have physical and spiritual needs.

Closing Prayer

(Pray for missionaries, staff and nationals at the Baptist Medical Center in Ogbomosho. Also include your ministry in the community.)

Preview

Next month we study how some churches minister in a community emphasizing weekday ministries. Scope of study also will include Baptist centers and mission centers. If you wish to do so, ask two women to make a report at the June meeting on mission action work being done by your church and others in the community.

PLAN 2

Ask three members using seven minutes each to present work of the three institutions mentioned on the article pages 28 to 29.

Ask a fourth person to meeting to list on the chalkboard right to ten effective methods of ministry to the sick in your community (see Mission Action Group Guide). The Sale Cover each idea separately with adding machine tape. She uncovers one idea at a time as she reads.

Conclusion and Preview

Same as Plan 1.

STUDY MATERIAL FOR

See Guide for Study, page 33

Ministry in Jesus' Name in Chile

by Mrs. Roy C. McGlamery

Introduction to Study

Last month we studied ourselves and our own church in the light of a caring ministry in the name of Jesus. This study led us to look closely at our attitudes and actions. It probed our motives for ministry and pointed to Jesus, his commands, and his example as our pattern for caring and serving others in their distresses. In the study and analysis of the caring church, some of us felt our meeting determined to carry out a special ministry that we had neglected. Others resolved to contribute to the ministry of the church through becoming a part of a mission action group and entering into a continuing response of service and love. What did you do?

Did anyone make a visit to a sick or lonely person in the name of Jesus? Did someone inquire about a project that you could do for a mission action group? Did you find a service that needs to be rendered and report it to the church because you could not meet it alone? Did you give time, money, or goods to alleviate distress which you found? Did you share a book, a tract, or write a letter of encouragement? *Share experiences.*

A Brief Spanish Lesson

Our study this month takes us to South America. To get into the spirit, learn something new, and discover an exciting ministry in a faraway country, let's first learn to pronounce correctly the name of the city we will talk about today.

The city is Antofagasta, Chile. The name is simple enough to pronounce if you remember two sounds: *a* is always pronounced *ah* in Spanish and *O* is always pronounced *oh*. Let us say the name of this city together. *(Write the chalkboard:* Ahn-tohf-ah-GAHS. *)* Stress the accent on the next to the last syllable as you say it here. Roll it off the tongue rather rapidly, and it has real melody. *(Practice this as unison with the entire group. Then call for individuals to say it.)*

The second part of our Spanish lesson is to read and

Chilean mothers and cook learn how to care for their babies at the Baptist Baby Clinic, first one of its kind in the country.

interpret in English the Spanish sign that stands on the road as the city where our study takes place. How would it be translated into English? *(Have the sign already prepared. It reads: Construcción Bautista Internacional de Antofagasta. Clínica Bautista Baby. Clínica de Antofagasta, Chile.)*

This is enough of a Spanish lesson for our purposes in this study, but it will be interesting to see how much more we know after the thrilling interview with Miss Lois Hart, Southern Baptist missionary at Antofagasta.

Join for the fun of it before and after—we will take a quiz at your expense. Please answer the questions as quickly as possible, even if you must guess. Some are easy, some are hard.

Leader Introduces Miss Lois Hart

I am glad to introduce to you Miss Lois Hart, a Southern Baptist missionary and a registered nurse. Miss Hart chose to return to Chile where her parents gave long and fruitful service as Southern Baptist missionaries and where she spent her childhood. She was identified with the good well center at Antofagasta from its beginning in 1956 and she is now the director of the Baptist Baby Clinic. Miss Hart, we appreciate opportunity from our church and would

like to know more about the country and the type work you do. Where is Antofagasta, anyway?

Miss Hart: Well, of course, I think Chile is the most beautiful country in the world because it has always been my home. You could safely say that it boasts some of the greatest contrasts in the world. Perhaps you know that it has the longest coastline in the world—3,000 miles long. Yet the country averages only a little more than 100 miles in width. I suppose this is the reason Chile is called the "string bean" or "shoestring" country. But we like to think of it as the "backbone" of South America. I know you are going to say I sound like a Texan, but did you know that Chile claims some of the highest mountains in the world? The railroad connecting Chile and Argentina climbs more than 12,000 feet crossing the Andes. And the climate ranges from the hot dry desert of the north to the cold, wet forests of the south (prone to rain). In between we have an ideal climate with beautiful fertile valleys, marvelous lakes and mountains which makes it a famous resort for skiing from July through October. Agriculture and industry are located here. In the southern section are beautiful forests and pastureland. But you asked where I live (where Antofagasta with steeps, rugged). My city is Antofagasta. It is about seven hundred miles north of Santiago, the capital of Chile. It is on the desert area and famous for copper mines. I am one of four Southern Baptist missionaries in this city. The others are Mr. and Mrs. Ken Pratt and their family of four children, and Miss Betty Hart, my a relative of mine.

Question: Where are some of the other Southern Baptist missionaries?

Miss Hart: [illegible] Actually, we will be scattered throughout the country from the north where I live to Puerto Aysen, one of the southernmost [illegible] where the Central Baptists are doing a pioneer work (see page [illegible]). Perhaps you recall my that a greater concentration of workers would be found in the central part of the country, but none of the [illegible] Baptist Theological Seminary in Santiago and extensive work in more churches [illegible]. The capital [illegible] have probably heard more about its work in Santiago. Temples, [illegible], and a pioneer [illegible] work left behind with relief for the victims of earthquakes that brought so much devastation a few years ago. Missionaries received and distributed tons of clothing and food provided through Southern Baptist relief funds during those terrible times. Now [illegible] opened many opportunities to witness for Christ.

Question: How did you happen to visit the [illegible] well center? Was it your idea or the good will center?

Miss Hart: That's easy. The good will center and primary school in our city is presently under the direction of Miss Betty Hart, of Louisiana, who had experience in good will center work before going to Chile. Through the years of the center there have been fine Christian teachers for the kindergarten and three primary grades. The milk and immunization programs among the children were meeting only partially the overwhelming physical needs. The center serves as a meeting place for the Second Baptist Church and for literacy classes, sewing, and child care classes for adults. We have a well-equipped playground for a recreational program. But the building did not meet the need for a full-time medical ministry because of its location as well as the already full program of activities there. So we looked elsewhere. There was an urgent need for an adequate place where mothers and babies could receive proper attention, instruction, and assistance with disease caused because of overcrowded conditions at the central public health center, one of the nurses told us. "The greatest need for our city is to have clinics in the outskirts of the city, because the people do not go to the central clinic because of the distance and difficulty of bringing four or more small children on the bus, or leaving them alone at home."

At that time the city was allowing poor people to claim a plot of ground out in the northern area which had not yet been completely urbanized. It would become theirs if they built on it within a specified time. So, we asked for a small plot of land. You can imagine our surprise when the town measured off a plot twice as large as we had requested. When I told them we wanted only a small plot, thinking of the cost of building a fence around it, they replied cheerfully, "Lady, there's plenty here. Take all you want." We kept it and have been able to use the space to great advantage. We offered space to the Third Baptist Church for a building site. They were delighted with it, the most enthusiastic group included the women and girls who saw a wonderful opportunity in this area for visiting and winning people to Christ. As you can imagine, the church has been a great help to us in our clinic. When we don't have room for some of our activities in our building, we are always welcome to use their building next door.

Question: Then you just went out there and put up your building, and had the baby clinic ready in short order?

Miss Hart: Well, not exactly. For you see the city water supply, electricity, and sewage facilities are limited in this section, permits had to be secured, materials ordered and transported seven hundred miles from the capital. So it required time from 1962 until 1964 to wade through all the red tape. We had to submitted materials many times, change plans, and wait, wait, wait before the building was ready for use. But I think this makes us appreciate it even more than if all of it had come easily. We stopped and thanked God for each problem solved and each permit secured, and dreamed together of the day the building would be used.

Question: Surely you have help with a program like that. Do you have a full staff of workers?

Miss Hart: Oh, yes, we were fortunate to have splendidly trained helpers from the first, though there have been

The powdered milk and vitamins which are distributed by the Baptist Baby Clinic serve as supplements to the often meager diets of the children.

times when we could have used many more. We have a Chilean nurse, Miss Belia Perez. Miss Marta Escobar, also a Chilean, serves as our secretary. Others help from time to time. The First Church "lends" us their pastor who comes once a week to meet with patients who wish to have a conference with him. This gives him opportunity to testify of Christ's love.

Question: Would you give us some idea of what a typical day is like at the clinic?

Miss Hart: If I could take you for a day's visit, almost any morning you would see babies being weighed, vaccinated, and checked. They receive treatment when they are ill. Many babies are brought in with bad cuts and bruises. They suffer from accidents at home. Many people are still building on their little homes, and the families move in to live "on location." Each morning mothers line up at the desk to register and secure a number indicating their turn to see the nurse. They fill the waiting room and hall, where they are offered tracts and Bibles. There are Bible texts and health posters on the walls.

On certain days we have demonstrations for the mothers to learn the right way to bathe a baby, including caring for his hair and a sanitary way to prepare the baby's milk. We borrow a real baby for this when it is possible. After the mother sees how much a baby enjoys a bath, she is even more cooperative. At times we use a doll for the demonstration.

Question: Are you able to use your building for other purposes than for the clinic?

Miss Hart: Oh, yes. For instance, our secretary, a seminary graduate, teaches the children Bible stories in the morning when her work is done at the desk. We also have morning devotions with the staff, and one or two of them are favorable to the gospel. We are trusting that these will become believers as well as hearers as they attend simple worship services. The very first meeting held in our building was a revival. The demonstration room also serves as a chapel. In it we have experienced the joy of seeing several profess faith in Christ as Saviour.

Then, like a good will center we also have clubs for children once a week, and reading classes for a few adults. We really need another good will center in this section.

Leader in charge

For a final question, Miss Hart, will you tell us some of the plans and hopes you may have for the future? Perhaps there are some special prayer requests you would like to mention.

Miss Hart: There are so many hopes and plans to meet overwhelming needs in a place like this that it is hard to know where to begin. But we are in serious need of a Christian midwife for our clinic. We dream of the day when we may have a dentist and a doctor to help us. Please pray about these persistent needs.

In addition to the work of the baby clinic and the good will center in another location in Antofagasta, please remember to pray for the three Baptist churches in the city.

Pray for national workers as well as for the four missionaries.

And I do hope you will pray for new Christians who were won in the nationwide revival in 1967.

Our prayer will be crowned with results in the Crusade of the Americas.

Leader: Let us pray now for these and for spiritual renewal that will turn Christians in Chile and in America back to God. (pray)

Meditation

Read 1 Corinthians 3:6–9 [illegible] comment on the passage, bringing out these ideas:

God gives us abilities.

God works through his servants to do his work.

God brings the increase from our labors.

Conclusion

Leader: We have learned of the busy schedule which Miss Hart and her co-workers follow, and the pressing physical and spiritual needs all about them. I hope we will think more before we complain again that we just don't have time.

Will you bow your heads for a time of prayer and heart searching before we go our separate ways? Will you decide to pray daily for the needs that we have heard about? Thank God for those who work in Antofagasta in the desert area of Chile, for the fifty-three missionaries in this shoestring country. Pray for missionaries and nationals to grow in dependance on the Holy Spirit and upon the love of God to carry out their ministry. Pray for yourself—that you will "build a little oasis of regular prayer in the desert" of your life; that the love of God may flow through you to others who need his love.

Closing Prayer

for Study in Current Missions Group

Unit theme: Ministry in Jesus' Name

APRIL STUDY TOPIC: My Church Ministering

MAY STUDY TOPIC: **Ministry in Jesus' Name in Chile**

JUNE STUDY TOPIC: Responding to Physical Need in Korea

See page [illegible] for May study material

Ministry in Jesus' Name

in Chile

[illegible]

Devotion

[illegible]

[illegible]

Quiz Sheet to Duplicate

Circle the statements which are true.

1. Antofagasta [illegible]
2. North Chile is [illegible]
3. Antofagasta is located in the [illegible]
4. The clinic [illegible]
5. Children come to the clinic.

Underline the correct answers.

1. The clinic was opened in (1960, 1963, 1966).
2. The clinic has a regular staff of (three, five, seven).
3. Antofagasta is (750, 850, 950) miles north of the capital city, Santiago.

Antofagasta is an important port for the export of [illegible]

5. The railroad connecting Chile and Argentina climbs to more than (2,000, 6,000, 12,000) feet crossing the Andes.

(Each member checks her answers during the interview with Miss Lois Hart, director of the clinic in Antofagasta.)

Answers: Circle [illegible] Underline [illegible] 1966 [illegible] 12,000

AGENDA for MEETING

Announcement of general WMS projects and plans

Preview of general WMS study topic for next meeting (see Forecaster)

Information and discussion of mission action projects

Prayer for mission action projects and other WMS activities

Group planning for next month

Study:

Song "Rescue the Perishing" (No. 207, *Baptist Hymnal*)

In our study we will be pointing up a special ministry in Chile. This song gives us a picture of the kind of service that is being done. Notice the message of the words. Read them, then sing.

Call to Prayer

As the names of missionaries are called, remind the group of the varied ministries these are performing so that the prayers can be personal and meaningful. Allow time for silent prayer and meditation, urging everyone to pray for particular needs of all of these and their families, and those with whom they work. Thank God for his blessing on their efforts.

Follow with information, page 30

Bible Study for May, Lesson 8

Read 1 and 2 Thessalonians
Guide for Study, page 36

A Church Which Made a Missionary Proud

by Dotson M. Nelson, Jr.

It was in Thessalonica on his second missionary journey that Paul was accused of turning the world upside down (Acts 17:6). His stay in the city of Thessalonica was almost as short a missionary work as Paul ever engaged in. He was there over three sabbaths, less than three weeks (Acts 17:2). He preached that Jesus suffered, rose from the dead, and was the Messiah (Acts 17:3). Some believed, probably some of the Jewish proselytes, a multitude of the devout Greeks, and some women (Acts 17:4). But an uproar was raised, and Paul and Silas were sent on their way—first to Berea, then to Athens, then to the long stay in the city of Corinth.

It was here that at least the first letter to the church at Thessalonica was penned. It is important not only because it is the earliest of Paul's letters, but also because it is the oldest Christian writing about which we know. Then, too, this is the only letter that Paul wrote to a Christian community which had been in existence only a short time and who were "babes in Christ." Therefore Paul's letter is not deeply theological but keeps within the bounds of his ordinary missionary teaching.

As a good minister Paul did not perplex his hearers beyond their ability to comprehend. He stated a few simple beliefs held by the church before him and called upon them for faith. Paul must have felt badly having to leave the congregation that was so young in the faith. He must have wondered if the young church had strength enough to maintain itself. He felt that he could not return himself but sent Timothy to give strength to the church and bring back word of how the battle went. Good news had come, and as a result of this good news we have the first letter of Thessalonians (1 Thess. 3:1-11).

I. The Missionary-Church Relationship (1 Thess. 1:1 to 3:11)

Paul must have been very proud of the young church in Thessalonica for he expresses his fervent gratitude which had elicited his prayer of joy. There were definite reasons for this prayer of joy. (1) They had put their faith into practice. (2) their love had made them labor strenuously, and (3) their hope in the Lord Jesus was stable and steadfast (1 Thess. 1:3). Paul called them brothers (1 Thess. 1:4) and brought to mind again that when he had preached the gospel they had listened and hearkened to his life and imitated both Paul and the Lord (1 Thess. 1:5-6). As a result of following the example of Christ and of his missionaries, they had become an example not only to the people who lived in Thessalonica, but also to all those who lived in the province of Macedonia and the country of Greece (1 Thess. 1:7). Not even this great church of area was able to continue the message that their faith and life proclaimed. The good news of their faith Paul said had gone everywhere (1 Thess. 1:8).

Paul's description of his missionary work in Thessalonica in chapter 2 is not only a description but a defense. It was characterized by success (1 Thess. 2:1), by courage to give the good news in spite of opposition (1 Thess. 2:2), by honesty and straightforwardness (1 Thess. 2:3), by seeking to please God rather than men (1 Thess. 2:4), by straight talk and sincerelness (1 Thess. 2:5), by not being willing to get praise from anyone (1 Thess. 2:6), by being characterized by gentleness (1 Thess. 2:7), by sharing love (1 Thess. 2:8). The gospel was presented with industry and energy (1 Thess. 2:9).

This kind of giving the good news is always characterized by spiritual success. When the Thessalonians heard God's message they accepted it not as a man's message but as God's message (1 Thess. 2:13). When they accepted the good news they underwent the experiences and sufferings which were received from others (1 Thess. 2:14).

Where people have been through an experience like Paul and the Thessalonian brethren, arguments being pragmatic regret. He was still there in his thoughts but away from them in the body, and he missed them (1 Thess. 2:17). Paul was hindered from coming back to see them, but he assured them in love that they were his joy and his reason for boasting of victory. He was proud of them.

What a delightful insight this gives into the relationship between one of the earliest of the churches and the man who had founded it! There is scarcely a passage anywhere where the depth of affection is so obviously shown between a minister and his people as in this passage. The ambition of every missionary church could well be to aspire to such a loving relationship.

II. Rules for Life (1 Thess. 3:11 to 4:12; 5:12-19)

The old apostle could not resist the temptation even that he was writing to the church that gave him so much joy and pride to remind them of some of the ways that the faith which they had could work into their life. Faith and work do go together. Religion and ethics walk hand in hand. Commitment is shown by living. He tells them to love one another and to love all people so that they may have the same relationship which he and the Thessalonians have (1 Thess. 3:12). This will strengthen not only believers but will strengthen them (1 Thess. 3:13). He called the second rule "Christian faith" (1 Thess. 4:1). Paul told them to be holy, free from immorality. This included the relationship between a man and his wife (1 Thess. 4:3-4). That man ought to retain his brother right (1 Thess. 4:6). Paul said there was no need to say more about how they should love one another, but he says it anyway (1 Thess. 4:9). He urges them to do even more (1 Thess. 4:10). You quietly mind your own business, earn your own living (1 Thess. 4:11). So that was respect and independence can be complimentary.

These instructions are picked up again in chapter 5, verse 12. Pay proper respect to the ministry (1 Thess. 5:12). Live there and be at peace among yourselves (1 Thess. 5:13). Be patient and helpful (1 Thess. 5:14). Do no evil to anyone but do good to all people (1 Thess. 5:15). Rejoice, pray, be thankful (1 Thess. 5:16-18). Let the Holy Spirit move (1 Thess. 5:19-20). Put everything to the test and accept that which was found real (1 Thess. 5:21-22).

III. Handling a Particular Problem (1 Thess. 4:13 to 5:11; 2 Thess. 2:1-16)

Evidently the apostle Paul had taught the Thessalonians when he was present with them that Jesus would return so quickly that they could expect him before the natural causes of death caught them up; consequently when the Lord did not arrive and some Christians did die, they wondered. So Paul set them straight. Even as Jesus died and rose again, God will bring together with him those who have died fulfilling their faith (1 Thess. 4:14). Even those who are alive unto the day that the Lord does come shall not go ahead of those who have died (1 Thess. 4:15). The major fact is that all those who love the Lord Jesus Christ shall be together with him forever (1 Thess. 4:17). Although Jesus was not coming as quickly as first thought he was to come and there were various prophecies to be made. No one knows when the day of the Lord will come (1 Thess. 5:2-5). It follows that the Christian must be ready at any time. The three salient points about the second coming are taught here: (1) Jesus Christ is coming again, (2) no one knows when he is coming, and (3) we ought to emphasize a readiness for his coming.

The second letter to the church at Thessalonica carried this a little further (2 Thess. 2:9-12). Writing some time later, Paul felt called upon to explain a little more in detail some of the reasons why his teaching had either been premature or else had been misunderstood concerning the coming of Christ. There is a certain event or time that must precede this coming. Paul told about it (2 Thess. 2:3). The man of sin, the antichrist, or the wicked one (whichever word you choose to use) has to have his way before the triumphant coming of the Lord. This conception is not new with the apostle Paul. It is found also in Mark 13:14, Matthew 24:15, 1 John 2:18 and 4:3 and plays a central part in the book of Revelation. A major difference can be made between 2 Thessalonians and Revelation in that 2 Thessalonians portrays the Roman power as the upholder of order while Revelation considers the Roman power as the man of sin. All of this is difficult to understand, but we would well be reminded that the apostle Paul does not linger long with these concepts but returns to the practical on every occasion.

IV. Admonition, Prayer, and Example (2 Thess. 3:1-15)

The church at Thessalonica was the first but certainly not the last to experience a difficulty in interpretation of "last things." It seems that some of the Thessalonian Christians who believed that the end of all things was at hand ceased their courses in ordinary work. They evidently felt that their labor was for naught and savings futile. This had given the church a bad name for indolence among the pagan community and had placed a burden on the more energetic brethren.

Paul reminded his readers, first of all, of his own example of laboring incessantly while he was with them (2 Thess. 3:7-8). Those who refuse to work should not be recognized as a part of the Christian community (2 Thess. 3:6). The practice of religion which makes a man a burden on his fellows cannot be true Christianity. It is well to look for the return of Christ, but this must not be used as an excuse not to work and support oneself. In fact the rule was given: "Whoever does not want to work is not allowed to eat" (2 Thess. 3:10, TEV).

The relationship between the missionary and the missionary church must be one of mutual prayer and concern. Paul requested for this shared concern, admonishing his readers to pray for the missionary party that (1) the good news might spread rapidly (2 Thess. 3:1) and (2) that the party be kept safe from harm (2 Thess. 3:2). Such prayer always led to confidence in God and the missionary and his church (2 Thess. 3:3-4). Concerned prayer

always leads to confident faith.

These two letters to a church of which Paul was proud show the missionary at his "common sense" best. He never allowed flights of theological speculation to blind him to the more practical and indeed everyday duties of the Christian life. There is a blend here that shows his breadth. Even when looking for the Lord, the Christian must keep on working at his appointed task.

This lesson concludes the study of the missionary message of the letters of the first great missionary, Paul the apostle. With him Christianity broke out of the Jewish cocoon to find itself in the center of the Gentile world. The churches became the product of missions and became in their time the staging areas for still further missionary endeavor. No time in history was so important for missions as was the time when these letters were written. They formed and still form the basis for mission strategy. By means of them we can see the early workings of the early churches with all their imperfections and their possibilities. That they lived at all is a miracle. That they grew to influence is the grace of God shown in power. To them we owe much. From them we still remove [illegible] and working principles for further endeavor. Thank God for the missionary churches. Thank God for the missionary who thought enough of them to write.

[redacted] of the Missionary Message of the Bible

A Church Which Made a Missionary Proud

by Hoyt R. Wilson

Using the Bible, the lesson on page 34, and the guide, individuals or groups may study in one or four sessions.

AGENDA for MEETING

Call to Prayer
Group planning led by leader
Preview of study topic at next WMS meeting (see *Leaflet, p. 41*)
Announcements of WMS projects and plans
Study Session
Information and discussion of mission action projects
Prayer for mission action and other causes in community

Study Question for May: What can I see in Paul's letter to the Thessalonians which helps me to understand more fully the responsibilities of my church?

To Begin:

State that Paul, the great missionary, gives us insight through his writings into the missionary struggle of the early Christian church. This lesson concludes the current study of his letters.

Ask: Have you ever heard of a person who predicted the end of the world and with dogmatic certainty? (Allow time for comments.)

Say: Such people have been around for a long time. In the first century Christians at Thessalonica were expecting Christ to come in their lifetime. This is one reason for Paul's writing the letters 1 and 2 Thessalonians.

Read as background to this study: Acts 17:1-15 which gives the details of Paul's visit to Thessalonica.

I. The Missionary Church Relationship (1 Thess. 1:1 to 3:11)

Aim: What resulted from this church's relationship with Paul and Christ?

Lead members to recall from Acts 17 the beginning of work at Thessalonica. This was a free city, one that governed itself with no interference from Roman emperors. The citizens were careful not to lose this privilege. So when the Jews in the city wanted to get rid of Paul, they claimed he was teaching about another king. Afraid they might be considered disloyal to Caesar, the city's rulers put the Christians under great [illegible].

Paul could not [illegible] the city without preaching, so he made his way on to [illegible]. When Timothy and [illegible] brought good news of the work at Thessalonica, Paul quickly wrote a thankful note we call 1 Thessalonians.

Read aloud chapters 1 and 2 from a modern language translation, and name the joy which Paul expresses.

Ask members to record 1:3 and list on the chalkboard three reasons for Paul's joy (see lesson, p. 34).

Ask one member to read aloud 1:6-8 and state what the Thessalonians did and the result of their actions. They imitated Paul and Christ and became an example to all Christians in Macedonia, Greece, and elsewhere.)

As chapter 2 is read aloud, ask members to note the characteristics of success on page 34 in the lesson.

Remind members that in accepting the good news, we accept also its responsibilities and persecutions *(see 1 Thess. 2:14)*.

Look at your aim again and lead your group in discussing their answers.

II. Rules for Life (1 Thess. 3:11 to 4:12, 5:12-19)

Aim: How do Paul's rules for life relate to the witness of our church?

The responsibilities that go with the Christian life find expression in daily living. A changed state of life gives proof of change through redemptive day-to-day relationships. These are of concern to those who make up Christ's churches.

Paul deals with practical areas of living. Study as a group 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 and 5:12-22. Turn to page 35 and follow the lesson, reading references in parentheses.

As time permits, involve group members in a careful study of these practical rules. Ask, Are these rules of personal concern to us today? Which ones seem most important to you? At this point choose two or three rules for careful study and opinion sharing. You may wish to divide into small groups, each taking one particular rule for discussion of meaning and application. Allow ample time for groups to share findings.

Look at the aim and ask each group to discuss the aim in light of the rules discussed, share conclusions.

III. Handling a Pertinent Problem (1 Thess. 4:13 to 5:11, 2 Thess. 2:1-16)

Aim: What should be our attitude about the second coming of Christ?

Paul had good reason for rejoicing over the news he received from Thessalonica, but there were problems in the new church. One was the misunderstanding about Christ's second coming. The other problem relate to it and will be dealt with in another lesson.

Many at Thessalonica thought Christ would come again before they died. Where some of their members died and Christ had not come, questions were caused. Paul gives answers to these need in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

He stated further that no one knows the time of Christ's coming (1 Thess. 5:2-5).

Additional details are given in 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12.

A word of caution to the teachers of this period: Paul did not dwell at length on the second coming of Christ. Rather he [illegible] it briefly and showed us to do the same. Why? This we will want to do also. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 to see what Paul said about it. Place on a chalkboard the three points mentioned in the lesson (p. 35).

Read together these aim and discuss how these salient points affect your attitude toward the meaning of the second coming of Christ for the church.

ROYAL SERVICE

for those who read Spanish

Royal Service for those who read Spanish is called *Nuestra Tarea* and is $1.00 for a year's subscription. *Nuestra Tarea* is a source for reading and study of the common purposes, plans, and programs of Woman's Missionary Union of Baptist churches.

Order *Nuestra Tarea* $1.00 from Spanish WMU Publications, 1350 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia [illegible]

IV. Admonition, Prayer, and Example (2 Thess. 3:1-15)

Aim: What place do admonition, prayer, and example have in the cause of missions?

In addition to a misunderstanding of the teachings concerning the second coming of Christ, many in the church at Thessalonica began to refuse to work as they waited for the Lord's coming. Read together the entire passage 2 Thessalonians 3:1-15 and ask members to state the results of this attitude.

Read again 1 Thessalonians 3:6-10 and discuss Paul's advice. Look at the lesson, page 35, and discuss the meaning of this advice.

Now note the lesson, page 35, and discuss the relationship of a missionary church to one who goes as a missionary.

Read aloud the last paragraph of the lesson, page 36, and discuss the present-day relationship between mission areas and churches.

Now read your study question and review your entire study as you answer the aim for this section and the study question. Use Prayer Requests, page 13.

We Started a Kindergarten with

SIX

Pastor Thomas O. Dekle says, "In an old and changing neighborhood there are many opportunities for ministering to people."

SHENANDOAH Baptist Church in Miami, Florida, started a kindergarten in an area where there was "no need." There were sincere people in the church who honestly believed that having a kindergarten in the church was an impossibility. But fortunately there was a small group who believed differently. They began praying for God's leadership if it were his will that a kindergarten become a reality. And they began to work. The church took a sort of "wait and see" attitude, while some more daring women voted sponsorship by the Woman's Missionary Union.

We looked around our church to see if we had the facilities for pre-school teaching. Our Beginner rooms fit the bill nicely. Next, we tried to find a teacher. We had no funds so we could not promise a salary. It was during Vacation Bible School that we found our first teacher. She felt the challenge of starting a school and trusted God for the small salary that she needed.

We actually began with the church's blessing and an audacious amount of faith—and four children. Before the week was out we had gained two more children. Having no money for supplies, we gratefully accepted donations of all kinds. People were most generous in their giving.

Four of the six children were ready for first grade at the end of their kindergarten year. Many things we did were not educationally sound as we learned later to our embarrassment. But it did not seem to hurt the boys and girls. The things we tried to teach were of positive value and we felt they far outbalance our mistakes. The children learned to play together and work as a group. We taught them that God is their friend and loves them dearly, to be considerate of each other and to be friends. Trips to the zoo, the beach, a mill dress, birthday campaigns, and a bakery were interesting and informative and helped them to know our community.

Enrolled at one time during the first year were eight children. Four of them were members of a family who visited on our area for several weeks. They were from South America and adapted themselves beautifully to the routine of the school.

In our second year we had seven graduates, with a total enrollment of sixteen, about half of whom were Spanish. Some spoke no English when they enrolled; others spoke no Spanish. When the last day of school came we had a good by party for the parents and students. Some of the youngsters demonstrated parts of their routine program, singing and talking. The parents were amazed at the progress their boys and girls had made, and we were grateful for their skill in conversing in two languages.

In the middle of the year our first teacher moved out of the area, and the Lord sent us a lovely woman who speaks English very well—but name Spanish even better.

The church enthusiastically sponsors the school now and the Woman's Missionary Union helps in various ways. The kindergarten budget is in the black about $200 and summer preschool is part of our regular church calendar.

An inevitable question is "How many new members has the school brought into the church?" So far the answer is "None," but we have reached out into the community and tried to share our Lord with others. The spiritual things we have sought to teach boys and girls are coming to value, and the community has begun to see. The Shenandoah Baptist Church cares about us. Tomorrow we will know the full extent this caring will bear fruit, but right now we see the seed sown, the young plants and trust the fruit bearing up to God.

UNDER SIX

by Ida M. Clark

wms forecaster

Planned by Margaret Bruce

MAY 1969 • ROYAL SERVICE

wms president

Planning

[illegible]

For WMU Executive Committee Meeting

[illegible]

[illegible] has been designated by the Southern Baptist Convention as Christian Home Week. You may want to use these ideas during the devotional period to point up the emphasis.

- A woman's responsibility for mission education in the home
  - sharing mission information
  - praying for missionaries
  - leading members of the family to participate in mission activities
- Helping young people hear God's call to missionary work
- Ask members to read together the fourth verse of "O Zion Haste." You may want to sing the hymn
- Call to Prayer—use p. 1[illegible]. You may want to ask someone to read the following prayer previous before praying for missionaries having birthdays on the day of executive committee meeting. [illegible] Matthew [illegible]
- Intercessional meetings (each chairman meeting with group leader, actives chairman meeting with prayer and mission action group leaders)
- Reports of officers and subcommittee meetings
- Confirmation of activities for the month (each committee, mission action project, missionary or action prayer service, etc.)
- Evaluate the work of the last month
- Check up on WMU Achievement Goals
- Make transportation arrangements as needed

For WMU Council Meeting

Review with WMU study chairman her plans for the study session this month. Assist her in securing materials needed for the study.

(2) Work closely with WMU activity chairman to complete plans for mission action projects. Secure name of person responsible for leading Call to Prayer this month.

(3) Make arrangements for the promotion of each activities in your church as

- participation in the Crusade of the Americas, Project 500, and Christian Service Corps (For additional information concerning Project 500 and Christian Service Corps, write to the Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309.)
- attendance at state, associational, and national meetings
  - WMU Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, June 9-11
  - World Missions Conference, Ridgecrest, North Carolina, June 26-July 2
  - WMU Conference, Glorieta, New Mexico, July 11-14
  - WMU Conference, Ridgecrest, North Carolina, August 7-13

3. An Activity to Enlist Prospects

You may want to plan an enlistment fellowship for prospective members. A maypole idea could be used for invitations, decorations, favors.

Maypoles can be made from broomsticks or aluminum foil tubes with crepe paper streamers fastened to the top and spread over the tabletop. The streamers may be attached to small May baskets of spring flowers. For entertainment use flower songs such as "Daisy, Daisy" and "My Wild Irish Rose."

Have WMS prospects introduced by someone having the same birth month. The person introducing the prospects may secure such information as favorite flower, color, song, food, etc., and share it with the group.

Ask someone to excerpt briefly the WMS *Member Handbook, Changes and Choices* (25¢) and give information about future WMS meetings.

For refreshments, you can make May baskets out of cupcakes filled with fruit cocktail topped with whipped cream, with a handle made of pipe cleaner.

WMU chairmen

Leadership training is a must for WMS officers. The study chairman and the activities chairman assist the president in encouraging every group leader to recognize her need for studying the WMS Leadership Course.

Have you received credit for studying the course? Have all members of the executive committee completed the course? Does your WMS have a place for orienting new members as they become a part of the society? By using the WMS *Member Handbook, Changes and Choices* (25¢)* members understand more clearly the purpose and work of the organization into which they have come. Some societies have the handbook taught, some have a chapter reviewed at various times, some give the handbook to each new member. Be creative in your use of this member handbook.

Study Chairman

General WMS Study for May — The WMS study session for May can be a most interesting one. In addition to the information on page 26, consider using the photo story on page 23.

Suggest that members bring their May issues of Home Service to the meeting and at appropriate times ask them to look at specific pictures or you may want to mount the pictures on colored construction paper so they can be passed around to members who fail to bring their magazines.

The photo story gives excellent information which you will want to use regarding the strategic city of Ogbomosho. It tells of the medical center's influence throughout the area in western Nigeria.

You may want to ask two panel members to read the statements of Dr. Ralph L. West and Dr. W. L. [illegible], page 24. Suggest to WMS members that they read the article, "A Doctor for the Sea Blue Islands," page 2, and pray that some doctor may hear God's call to the Sea Blue Islands to help Dr. Daniel Graves with medical ministries there.

Activity Chairman

Family Worship — To remind WMS members of the Christian Home Week, May 4-11, and to promote family worship, you may want to duplicate the following words and distribute them among WMS members.

God, give us Christian homes! Homes where the Bible is loved and taught.

Homes where the Master's will is sought. Homes where the altar fires burn and glow.

God, give us Christian homes. God, give us Christian homes! — *B. B. McKinney.*

Does your family read God's Word and pray together? Have Christian Home Week, May 4-11, is a good time to begin.

To vary the use of Call to Prayer this month you may want to ask someone to sing a [illegible] of the hymn, "God, Give Us Christian Homes" as a part of the prayer period. Or you may want the entire group to read together the words you have distributed which are from this hymn in the *Baptist Hymnal*, number 177.

WMS Prayer Retreat — Has your WMS had a prayer retreat? Are you planning to have one? The Mississippi Prayer Retreat [illegible] emphasizes the [illegible] of the Americas.

At a glance, here are some of the questions concerning the Crusade of the Americas which you will be considering during your prayer retreat.

WHAT — [illegible] Baptists on five continents mobilizing to cover North, South, and Central America with a witness for Christ?

WHEN — [illegible] and a year of follow-through [illegible]?

WHO — the people of Jesus Christ must be prepared with [illegible] to the [illegible] million people in South America and [illegible] million people in South America?

WHERE — [illegible] Baptist leaders in [illegible] countries in North, Central, and South America, including some in the Caribbean Islands?

HOW — the Crusade of the Americas must be [illegible] according to the [illegible] of Christ and to the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.

WMU group leaders

Varying Use of Call to Prayer

In addition to the primary activity of each group, there are related activities which are shared by all groups. One of these related activities is use of the calendar of prayer in Home Service each month.

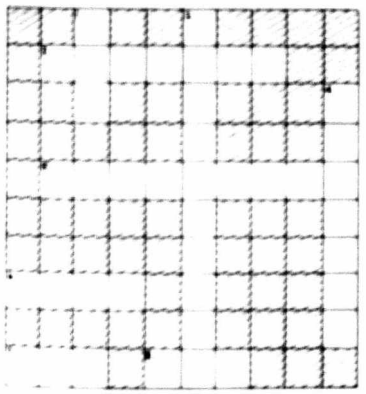
The *Prayer Group Guide* ($1.00)* is a guide for prayer group members to use in intercessory prayer for missionaries, but it suggests thirty-four different methods for varying the use of Call to Prayer. Three of these are:

- Show a video of a continent of the country where the missionaries are serving.
- Sing a missionary hymn to introduce the prayer time.
- Read newspaper for articles on the countries where the missionaries serve and relate current problems being faced in that country.

Preview June WMS Study

Are group leaders having the general WMS study topic previewed in group meetings each month to encourage attendance at general meetings? Here is a suggestion for previewing the June topic.

Duplicate the following puzzle without the words and see how many members can fill in the vacant spaces with the correct words. Explain that the June study title is "Churches Ministering in the Community." Encourage members to attend and to learn from this study about Baptist centers and how WMS members can participate in weekday Christian ministries in the USA.



See page 42 for solution to puzzle

Across

3. name of an evangelical denomination
5. of or relating to Jesus Christ
6. seven consecutive days
7. the pronoun of the second person singular
8. abbreviation of a country in North America

Down

1. a specific time or period
2. acts of helping
4. a place in or around which an activity is performed

Study Group Leader

Regardless of whether you lead a current missions, Bible study, Round Table, or mission books group, you have the concern of member participation. How do you go about getting members to become active participants? Here are three suggestions.

1. Use the planning chart on page 113 of the *Woman's Missionary Society Leader Manual* (75¢).* You may want to duplicate enough of these for each member to have one. If there is additional work to be done by your group include it on your planning chart. Encourage members to volunteer for various jobs. Most members will volunteer for work on a short-term basis.

2. Remind members that when the group is discussing, planning, and making decisions each group member has responsibility for sharing her opinions with the group.

3. Be alert to member responses. Encourage those who seem to find it difficult to speak up and allow talkative members a reasonable amount of time.

Study Group Opportunities for May

General missions groups — This month's study of Chile will delight group members. You will want to use the article, "The Challenge of Big Foot Country," page 10, as background information.

Bible study groups — To alert group members of the month's study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians, you may send a note suggesting that they read these eight chapters. Suggest that as they read they look for passages which point up:

1. [illegible] for living
2. the second coming of Christ
3. faith and works
4. the relationship of the missionary church and the missionary

Round Table groups — For those reading and discussing books on Latin America there is *An Atlas of Latin American Affairs* ($1.75)* by Robert C. Kingsbury and Ronald M. Schneider. It contains sixty maps and furnishes guidance in the tangled threads of unity and diversity in the contemporary Latin American scene.

Mission books groups — Leaders of mission books groups are aware of the fact that the *Mission Books Leaders Guide* ($1.00)* does not include procedures for teaching two of the recommended books, *Into Africa Today* (75¢) and *Search for Ali* (75¢). Doubtless, these books and the Leaders Guides were used by WMS in

your church last fall and this spring. If so, you may want to borrow them and have the books taught in your group.

Into Aztec Land is the story of a Texas Baptist choir of young people who tour Mexico to share the gospel of Christ in song.

North of 48 relates the dramatic advance of Southern Baptist witness in Alaska.

Mission Action Group Leaders

The WMS study for May is "Medical Ministry at Ogbomosho," and the current mission group will study "Ministry in Jesus' Name in Chile." Both of these studies will no doubt cause WMS members to become more aware of the needs of the sick in their community. Mission action groups ministering to the sick and to Magnas and internationals will be alert to this possibility and will be ready to suggest projects with which help is needed. In addition to the group guides you are using and suggestions which may come from mission action group members, you may find suggested projects in the *Mission Action Projects Guide* ($1.00).[1]

Is your group using the mission action group guide prepared for groups ministering in the area in which your group is working?

Is your group continuing the cycle of planning, ministering and witnessing, evaluating, and in-service training? Each of these is essential to the success of your group work.

Is your group keeping its purpose in focus? Ministry and witness in the name of Jesus Christ is the *meaning* of mission action.

Prayer Group Leaders

Discovering prayer needs.—How does your group discover prayer needs? Awareness of prayer needs is a prerequisite to prayer, so the prayer group needs to have systematic methods of becoming aware of prayer needs and of receiving prayer requests, see page 13. These are prepared with your group in mind.

The *Prayer Group Guide* ($1.00)[1] gives three guidelines for discovering prayer needs:

1. Give priority to mission needs.
2. Have a specific person responsible for looking for prayer needs in each of the following sources: RELIGIOUS SERVICE, *The Commission*, *Home Missions*, state Baptist paper, letters from missionaries, mission action groups, local church denominational emphases, local newspapers, and members of the prayer group.
3. Be open-minded and creative in looking for prayer needs.

Planning prayer experience for May.—Consider this agenda for your group's prayer experience in May:

Scripture Reading—Use the Scripture references on page 13, concerning Instant Prayer.

Report on prayer needs found in local newspaper. *(Assign this responsibility ahead of time and refer member to Prayer Requests, p. 13.)*

Pray for needs discovered in newspapers.

Call to Prayer *(Make a maypole of construction paper and attach ribbons to top of pole; at end of each ribbon place a flower seed or a live flower; now place the maypole at the center of a world map, locate with ribbons and flowers areas where missionaries having birthdays on day of meeting are serving.)*

Pray for missionaries.

Preview June WMS study topic *(see p. 41 for suggestion)*.

Plan work to be done *(see p. 5, Prayer Group Guide)*.

Announcements

Close with prayer chain *(members form a circle by crossing arms and holding hands; pray sentence prayers)*.

WMU director

Suggested Agenda for WMS Committee Meeting

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 60 WMU Watchword, Acts 1:8

Call to Prayer

Review societies' progress on WMS Achievement Guide

Call for reports of WMS presidents

Past accomplishments

Future plans

Coordinate plans which involve more than one WMS

Make announcements concerning the work of the church and denomination

Close by reading this month's editorial, "Then Are We Living," page 1.

Assisting WMS Presidents

One of your duties as WMS director is to confer with presidents of Woman's Missionary Societies and to assist them in planning, conducting, and evaluating their work.

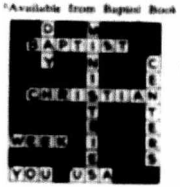
Chapter 7 of the *WMU Leader Manual*, "Planning, Coordinating, and Evaluating WMS Work," will give guidance as you prepare to give this assistance to WMS presidents.

Sources of Materials Listed in WMS Forecaster

[1] Available from Woman's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203, or Baptist Book Stores.

[2] Available free from your state WMU office.

[3] Available from Baptist Book Stores.



Solution to puzzle on page 41

As a seasoned homer, details are important. Paying attention to details can make the difference between a dress that is handmade and one that looks handmade.

Details are important in cooking, too. Many good books describe those recipes as a pinch of this ingredient and a dash of another. But such book cannot exactly have big every pinch and dash should be.

Details are important in the space program. A minute malfunction in one of its systems can keep a space craft on the launch pad. A minute miscalculation can send a hurtling hundreds of miles off course in space.

There is an art to paying attention to details without getting bogged down in them. If you would like to develop that skill, get a paper and pencil and work through the exercise that follows.

1. Break Down the Job

Almost any job can be subdivided into a variety of smaller ones. Often these can be further subdivided. The process of breaking a job down into smaller ones helps bring to light many details that might otherwise be overlooked.

Try it. Imagine that you are in charge of a training session for WMU officers. You plan to use slides as part of an inspirational feature. The job of using slides can be broken down into a number of smaller jobs. Reviewing the prospectus and screen is one. Let others on your program

DON'T BE TOO BUSY FOR DETAILS

by Margaret Sharp

feature, chances are you would have thought about the lights.

Now try again. This time you are a GA leader planning a Focus Week picnic for younger GAs. The menu will include hot dogs, potato chips, and cold drinks.

Picture the girls roasting their hot dogs over a fire. What do you need to provide and what do you have to do to make your mental picture work out right? List answers on your paper.

Your list of things to provide should include hot dogs, sticks or straightened coat hangers, and fire-making materials (matches, paper, wood, or charcoal). Your list of things to do might include cutting sticks or straightening hangers, buying hot dogs, and building the fire.

Perhaps your first list included adults to supervise. If it did, you anticipated a problem and solved it before it could arise.

Anticipating problems is another way of breaking down a job and identifying details. Look ahead to things that might go wrong. Then work out preventive measures.

Try your hand at anticipating problems in this situation. You are WMS study chairman. You are planning to use a panel of four persons for the presentation of the study material. The room arrangement is to be appropriate for this type presentation.

What problems would you anticipate in arranging the room for a panel presentation? List them. How would you solve them? Write your answers.

Did the problems you anticipated help you see the need to pay attention to details?

Were you surprised at the number of details you listed?

2. Determine Sequence

Some jobs, even big ones, can be done in such small segments that you hardly realize you have done any work at all. The secret lies in getting the details identified and lined up in the right order.

Part of the secret also lies in not saving for many details for the last minute. The last minute may not be quite long enough.

Listed below are some details relating to games for the WMA picnic. Number the items 1, 2, 3, 4 in the order in which you would do them.

Put up game equipment.
Plan games.
Return equipment.
Decide what equipment is needed.
Check on borrowing equipment.

That was the hard one, wasn't it? Your list should be numbered 4, 1, 5, 2, 3. If you were actually planning games, you would also need to decide on a date for accomplishing each item. Determining sequence is just that easy.

Only one more step is necessary.

3. Be Realistic

It is easy, when you are eager to do things right, to try to do them "too right." For example, the panel for a fellowship period might be a simple front porch music program to all young. Or it might be a complicated recipe requiring last-minute preparing and mixing. Considering time, place, number of persons involved, which dream is more realistic.

What about dessert for a business and panel? Does pseudonimous sounds

(1), (2), (3), (4)

Fancy cupcakes
Homemade cookies
Toasted marshmallows
Ice cream cones

Check the blanks in the order of course to prepare. [illegible] serve. [illegible] expected about by children of your expenses. On the basis of the time which dessert would be most?

Being realistic does not always mean selecting the easiest possible way. It does mean to decide which details are important and pay attention to them.

Choose an event you are planning. Break the job down into smaller units. Determine the sequence for doing them. Set a time for doing each. Be realistic. Don't get bogged down in nonessentials. Pay attention to details you cannot afford to ignore. Think

the wmu leader

planned in June, edited, written by resource editors may [illegible] service

WMU Watchword for 1968-69
"Ye shall be witness unto me . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

information for WMU council members

Christian Home Week, May 4-11

Many churches across the Convention will observe Christian Home Week this month. Encourage leaders to concentrate on strengthening their homes and the homes of other members.

Suggest ways leaders may observe the week in their homes and ways they may encourage others to participate in the week. Suggestions may include:

1. Planning a definite prayer time each day during the week.
2. Using Call to Prayer. Today in

Prayer or Prayer Calendar during family prayertime, or at mealtime

3 Spending an evening together

4 Participating in a family fun activity

5 Making a poster to remind family members of the emphasis

The Summer Lineup

WMU Annual Meeting New Orleans Louisiana June 9-10 1969

Southern Baptist Convention New Orleans, Louisiana, June 10-13 1969

World Missions Conference Ridgecrest North Carolina June 30-July 2 1969

WMU Conference Glorieta July 10-16, 1969

YWA Conference Glorieta July 17-23, 1969

WMU Conference Ridgecrest August 7-13 1969

For conference reservations and rates write to Manager Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly Ridgecrest, North Carolina 28770 or Manager Glorieta Baptist Assembly Glorieta New Mexico 87535

In the News

• the WMU Annual Meeting New Orleans, Louisiana June 9-10, 1969 These days offer much excitement for members of Woman's Missionary Union

The sessions will be held at Riverside the Port of New Orleans Exhibition Center located three blocks from the business district and six blocks from the famous French Quarter

The program will focus on getting ready for the seventies Division names and personnels will be unveiled Women will receive help in getting ready for the new grouping grading plan Short testimonies of church people involved in mission action will add interest and supply creative ideas

Monday evening has been designated as youth night Churches in surrounding areas are encouraged to bring busloads of youth to catch the mission spirit of the seventies

New Orleans is just the place to bring a total group adults or youth In addition to attending the sessions of the annual meeting persons may tour museums parks and historic sites

Bring your pastor to one of the sessions of the WMU Annual Meeting so that he too may experience the mission spirit of the seventies

• the Southern Baptist Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana, June 10-13 1969

The four-day Convention will consider reports of the agencies, committees and associated organizations Decisions will be made by messengers to the Convention concerning Southern Baptist life and action Participants in the Convention will hear talented musicians inspirational messages and a provocative exchange of ideas

How Do You Score?

Woman's Missionary Union has the responsibility for scheduling meeting times providing facilities and planning for finances necessary to WMU work in a church Although this is usually done at the beginning of the year it is wise to see if adequate facilities and finances have been made available It is not too late to become concerned and strengthen a weak program

The space the furnishings and the materials are not ends in themselves They are merely the setting and the tools for missions education

Take time to do the following exercise to see how your WMU is providing for organization needs

1 List the age level organizations in your WMU

2 Give the meeting time of each Is this the most convenient time or should another time be considered?

3 Which day are organizations meet? Is the meeting space adequate?

4 List equipment necessary to conduct the WMU program Place a check beside items which are provided Double check those which have not been provided Discuss the reasons why they have not been provided and the possibilities of providing them

5 List the expendable printed resources which are needed to conduct the WMU program (Include program materials leadership materials administrative materials and supplementary materials) Follow the same procedure used in number 4

6 List the nonprinted resources needed to conduct the WMU program Follow the same procedure used in number 4

7 How does your WMU provide finances for these needs?

8 What is the amount in the budget for each organization?

9 How much has each organization used? How much is currently available?

10 Review the list and determine high priorities Make definite plans for meeting these needs

An age level organization will be more effective in its job of teaching missions and leading persons to participate in missions when a WMU looks at its responsibility for planning meeting times and places securing equipment materials and supplies and providing finances for meeting needs For additional help see Chapter 6 WMU Manual

to officers

To WMU Director and Assistant Director

Balanced Program of Mission Action

A mission action program is planned on the basis of human needs Needs of persons can be discovered through a mission action survey Planning and conducting a survey are the responsibilities of the WMU and Brotherhood councils These organizations may work jointly or independently to see that a survey is efficiently implemented Coordinating the survey is the work of the church council The essential tool for planning and conducting the survey is the Mission Action Survey Guide available for 50 cents from Woman's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203 or Baptist Book Stores

On the basis of needs discovered the WMU director and Brotherhood director recommend to the church council the needs that should be met and the persons who should meet them When a church determines which needs should be met the responsibility for meeting the needs is then placed with the WMU and Brotherhood

This is a good time to plan a mission action survey so that needs can be discovered and mission action groups can be set up by October Study the Mission Action Survey Guide and chapter 3 of the WMU Manual for details

After the survey has been made and needs are discovered, you may want to look at the mission action materials which are available If you can secure copies of all the mission action group guides from your church library read the Orientation Actions section in each guide This will help you to determine which target groups in your area should receive attention You may want to offer groups in addition to those you personally have The new mission action group guides are Mission Action Group Guide The Aging Mission Action Group Guide Neighbors Mission Action Group Guide Refugees Mission Action Group Guide Military Mission Action Group Guide Robert Arms (available after July 15 for $1 00 each from Women's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street Birmingham, Alabama 35203 or Baptist Book Stores)

The survey may reveal that you have enough groups but that you need additional emphasis in some areas The WMU Year Book 1968 69 page 51 has a listing of mission action emphasis which are already available

For a survey to be beneficial the information located must be used Watch future issues of The WMU Leader for suggestions for using survey information

Church Program Guidebook 1969-70

The Church Program Guidebook 1969-70 is the sixth in a series of annual publications designed to assist a Baptist church in planning its annual program The Guidebook is prepared for the church council It is written from the perspective of a well organized church and embodies the philosophy contained in A Church Organized and Functioning It helps a church identify its specific needs

The Guidebook contains three major sections the Denominational Emphasis Section, the Planning Process Section, and the Action Planning Section

1 Denominational Emphasis Section

The specific emphasis for 1969-70 is "Loving the Spirit of Christ in Relief and Relevance" This emphasis will be designed to lead individuals to live the spirit of Christ in vital faith

The late days of 1969 and the days of 1970 offer challenging opportunities for the churches acting in God's will to change the seventies Churches must share in determining the commitment for the decade of 1970

A church should take at least from three to six months to prepare for the challenge of the seventies Four steps or phases are suggested as guidance in making preparation in the churches

Phase I Getting the Challenge

Phase II Understanding the Task

Phase III Organizing for Work

Phase IV Teaming for Action

The Church Program Guidebook 1969-70 contains ideas and materials with which churches may plan to meet the needs of a world in transition

2 Planning Process Section

A plan for planning is an important aspect of any planning endeavor The steps by which a church may plan its program are set out in the Guidebook These steps provide a logical sequence of events that will lead to a well balanced and coordinated program of church activity The nine steps are Determine Planning Needs Set Goals to Meet Needs Select Action Plans to Achieve Goals Present Goals and Action Plans to the Congregation for Approval Plan Church Program in Detail Review and Coordinate Plans into the Church Calendar Plan Program and Administrative Services Obtain Final Congregational Approval and Evaluate the Program Regularly

3 Action Planning Section

There are five areas in the action planning section These are Developing a Spiritually Vital Church Membership Sharing Christ with

Unbelievers, Performing Christ's Ministry in the Community, Extending the Church's Mission Throughout the World, and Renewing Our Church's Life Through Improved Operations. WMU is vitally involved in Performing Christ's Ministry in the Community and Extending the Church's Mission Throughout the World. Action plans to support these areas are suggested for WMU. WMU is related to several other areas and may be assigned various actions by the church council.

Action plans have been suggested in each area of need. The church council should review each of these action plans to determine which ones provide the best means of achieving the goals of the church. The council may create its own action plans as they are needed. The church council then delegates detailed action planning to church officers, organization councils, or church committees.

Because churches face such a unique challenge in the seventies, the Southern Baptist Convention will seek to assist churches in preparation for the seventies. The *Church Program Guidebook, 1969-70* is a workable tool to be used by churches. Churches are encouraged to adapt and innovate the materials as needs demand.

Council Agenda

Before the meeting

1. Secure information about church plans for the observance of Christian Home Week.

2. Secure the dates of associational and state meetings. Put this information along with that found under "The Summer Lineup" (p. 46) on flash cards.

3. If you are in the area surrounding New Orleans, investigate the possibility of bringing a tour group of adults and youth to WMU Annual Meeting. Check to see if your association has plans for such a tour.

4. When contacting council members, encourage them to read, "How Do You Score?" (p. 46) and answer the questions relating to their age levels before the council meeting.

At the meeting

1. Announce church plans for Christian Home Week. Discuss what council members can do in their own homes to observe the week and lead them to choose one activity in which they will participate as a family.

2. Use the flash cards to remind members of coming events (include associational, state, and national meetings).

3. Give facts about the WMU Annual Meeting; give information about tour groups from your area. Conduct a period of prayer for Mrs. Fling, WMU president, and Miss Hunt, executive secretary, as they make final preparation for the meeting.

4. Discuss the article, "How Do You Score?" Ask council members to answer the questions as they apply to their age levels. This process will help to determine whether the council is meeting the needs of the age-level organizations.

5. Discuss the article, "Balanced Program of Mission Action" (p. 47). Announce plans for a mission action survey.

6. Make other plans as necessary.

To: Directors
WMS
YWA
GA
Sunbeam Band

GA Focus Week, May 11-17

GA Focus Week is an opportunity for churches to place special emphasis on girls and their missionary organization. The theme for the week is "To Tell the World." GA Focus Week will be successful in your church if it is placed on the church calendar, publicized, and promoted.

GA director, share with the WMU council the plans that you and the GA committee have made for Focus Week. In presenting the plans, include the following:

1. State the purpose of the week and the goals which you hope to accomplish.

2. Describe each of the planned activities giving the purpose, time, place, and other interesting facts.

3. Present to the WMU council any needs for assistance. *(Plan to use the Focus Week Insert for church bulletin, 100 for $1.25 from Woman's Missionary Union, 600 North Twenty-ninth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203, or Baptist Book Stores.)*

4. Suggest ways to meet these needs.

The information given to the council should be presented briefly, but attractively. Consider using flash cards, posters, or newsprint in your presentation.

Summer Fun

Sunbeam Band and GA directors, present to the WMU council the camping opportunities which are available to members of your age-level organizations this summer. These opportunities will include day camping and resident camping provided by the church, association, and state. Sunbeam Band directors will have received information about associational day camps. GA directors will have received information about camps in the association and state.

The WMU council should make arrangements for sending or helping send Sunbeams and GAs to camp.

YWA and WMS directors, present to the council the camping and conference opportunities which are available to members of your age-level organizations. These may include church, association, state, and national opportunities.

The WMU council should make arrangements for sending or helping send YWA and WMS members to camps and conferences.

Important Assignment

After reading the article "How Do You Score?" (p. 46), answer questions relating to your age level. The WMU director may discuss the article and your answers at the next council meeting. This is an approach for helping the WMU council determine whether or not the needs of the age-level organizations are being met.


HOME and
FOREIGN MISSIONS
CONFERENCES
Ridgecrest, North Carolina
Home Missions Conference: August 14-20
Foreign Missions Conference: July 3-9
For reservations: Write Manager, Ridgecrest
Baptist Assembly, Ridgecrest, North Carolina 28770
Glorieta, New Mexico
Home Missions Conference: July 31-August 6
Foreign Missions Conference: August 14-20
For reservations: Write Manager, Glorieta
Baptist Assembly, Glorieta, New Mexico 87535

from Birmingham

Dear Pastor-

A trip to the third annual World Missions Conference would mean spiritual rejuvenation, mental stimulation, and physical refreshment for your family or other families in your church.

The 1969 conference will be at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, June 26-July 2. The theme is "Impact for Missions '69." Missions work in the northeastern United States will get special exposure.

We promise you one of the most beautiful settings in the entire United States. Ridgecrest is surrounded by beautiful and majestic mountains.

The World Missions Conference 1969 is the one chance for Baptist families to see the broad mission picture from a retreat setting. The conference was launched as a trial balloon three years ago, and vigorous support has kept it aloft and growing.

Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union work together to beam the conference for male and female, young and old. The Home and Foreign Mission Boards sponsor the conference and represent the scope of Southern Baptist home and overseas missions efforts.

Mornings at the World Missions Conference offer specialized mission study for each age group. Preschoolers through adults meet and talk with missionary families. Outstanding teachers work with each group in studying the missionary message of the Bible.

Afternoons offer optional activities such as films that will interest the family, although many rest or take short trips at this time.

Evening sessions are a whirl of flags, worldwide fashions, and colorful personalities—all abbreviated enough to hold the interest of the early-to-bed set.

Spectaculars such as an international dinner and world fair make the week more memorable.

To have something more tangible than renewed vigor to take home you can sit in on workshops on mission action, which this year will feature the new fields of work with Negroes and ministries to headliners, to persons in resort areas, and to the military.

Please take our advice by writing Ridgecrest for reservations today.

Sincerely,
WMU Staff