

HEARTBEAT



JULY-AUGUST 1967

FRANCE: A MISSION FIELD

by DANIEL MERKH

LEST I BE presumptuous, let me preface this article by explaining that I have been in France only slightly more than six months. Obviously this doesn't make me an authority on life and times in France. But the Board of Foreign Missions has felt led of the Lord to establish a witness here. It ►

**to
start
with**



THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

☐ For four nerve-racking days, the American television audience was treated to an alarmingly realistic "instant special" with exciting war shots rivaling "Combat," U.N. Security Council tirades with shades of "What's My Line?" and expert analyses complete with maps and charts akin to "Wide World of Golf."

☐ But what does it all mean, the Arab-Israeli hassle over territories in the Holy Land? How serious the overtones? How volatile the undercurrents?

☐ Fulfillment of the prophetic voice of Scripture unfolded before the cameras. As we gazed into our TV screens, such biblical references as "every eye shall behold" took on new meaning.

☐ Many Bible scholars would quickly conclude that the Middle East conflict is simply another chapter in the last history of the world, soon to be climaxed by the second coming of Christ. A well-known evangelist declared publicly that current frustrations in Palestine are the beginning of Armageddon events.

☐ This feeling was given credibility when the Israeli army in June possessed the Old City of Jerusalem and declared, in the words of General Moshen Dayan, "We are here, never again to depart." Luke 21:24 indicates that Jerusalem was to be controlled by Gentile powers "until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Is this, then, the end of "the times of the Gentiles" and an embarkation into a new and final era of God's dealings with the human family?

☐ The Middle East is seemingly far from Jacksonville, Fla., where 3,000 Free Will Baptists assemble this month in annual session. But the actions taken in Jacksonville should be no less significant in terms of God's purposes of redemption. The hour is late.

☐ What issues will be debated in Jacksonville this writer cannot predict. But if the central theme is anything less than how to reach an unreached world in the time that remains, we will appear to the Lord as children building sandcastles on the beach while a giant tidalwave roars from out of the night.



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VOLUME 7, NUMBER 7, JULY-AUGUST 1967


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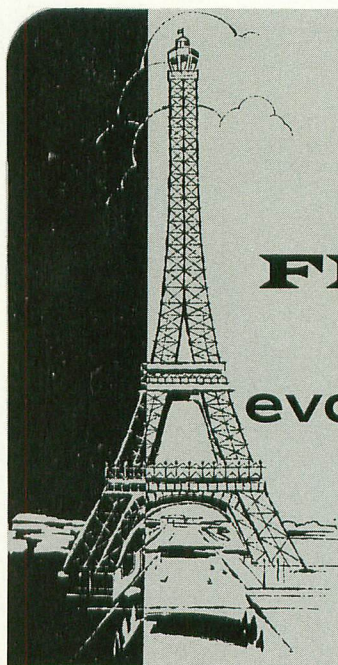
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Published monthly except bi-monthly in July-August by the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn. 37202. All correspondence and changes of address should be sent to this address. Subscription free upon request. Copyright privileges reserved © 1967. Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tenn.

MEMBER  EVANGELICAL PRESS ASSOCIATION



How can **FRANCE** be evangelized?

by
DR. ROBERT P. EVANS
European Director
Greater Europe Mission

HOW CAN France be evangelized? Let us glance at the dimensions of the need. France is the biggest country in Europe in area. With 50 million people it also has one of the largest populations. Yet only two percent of the French profess to be Protestant. Liberal theology and compro-

FRANCE: A MISSION FIELD?

► is a field that is in desperate need of workers. It is a delicate, difficult field that needs serious, mature Christian thinking and earnest, fervent prayer. Many problems confront the missionary to France. So, I feel compelled to share some of these things with you.

The glamour and prestige of missionary appointment and the wonderful receptions received during itinerary suddenly flee away when you say farewell to aged parents and friends and kiss your only daughter good-bye for the last time. The stark reality of separation, like death, falls with abrupt finality. You've left your homeland, your family and friends, those who are precious and dear to you.

You arrive in a strange land, with strange customs and a foreign language. After months of hard

ming practices have weakened Protestantism, and orthodox Calvinists and Lutherans are few. If we subtract from the two percent the unsaved, indifferent majority, a biblical remnant of perhaps 50,000 real believers remains.

Now spread these 50,000 witnesses over a France slightly smaller than Texas, but five times more populous. Scatter them through its 38,000 municipalities. Concentrating on those municipalities alone, only one witness would be available for each, with a few extra ones for the 22 big cities of more than 100,000 population. At this ratio those witnesses would be far too few to really evangelize the towns. But what about the millions of peasants in the countryside? They would get no gospel bread at all.

Are there prospects here for the much-discussed communications media? Radio and TV would seem an obvious answer. But only a few hours of gospel radio a week are aired in French. Most programs originate from outside the country and are regional in coverage. Prices for time on such stations are very high. French radio and TV, on the other hand, are government-owned and hostile to evangelistic broadcasting. Missionary stations like Trans-World Radio and the

big short-wave transmitters in South America help somewhat. Unfortunately the powerful multi-wave-length station evangelicals have sought and prayed for has not materialized. Europe is the only continent without one.

A second saturation approach is the use of literature. However, without the example of personal Christian life and witness, literature work in itself does not always arouse the sleeping conscience. Someone who loves the sinner should explain the Word to him as Philip did to the Ethiopian. Thus we return to the great void of disciples as a matter for earnest prayer.

How great is the task! France has 90 counties. A recent survey showed 24 of these in special need of the gospel. One county is Lot, in central France, with 149,929 people. Another is Creuse, with 165,515 inhabitants. Many of France's former colonies in Africa today have more of the Word than the homeland that gave them freedom.

A French leader, Marcel Tabailloux, says, "We must pray that the Lord of the harvest will send us missionaries from all over the world to labor in this hard, unresponsive soil. We French will receive them joyfully." □

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study you manage to gain a vocabulary of a ten-year old, the grammatical ability of a six-year old and the pronunciation difficulties of a three-year old. It doesn't matter how large an audience you preached to in the States, how important you thought you were, how large a church you pastored . . . now, you can't even express yourself intelligently.

Among your closest friends you are an "Anglo-Saxon," a "rich capitalist American" who represents a nation that is fighting an "abominable war of aggression," according to the French. Your friendly neighbors just voted for the Communist deputy, and your Christian friends for the Socialist. The mayor and government of your city are all members of the Communist Party and have been for 20 years. Splashed across the walls and buildings are "Yankee go Home" and "Paix au Vietnam."

And this is where the Lord called you. Yes, and this is where you are to witness for Him.

France—one of the most civilized, advanced countries in the world, educated, sophisticated, wealthy—is at the same time a nation steeped in heathen darkness and paganism. At present France, the largest nation in Western Europe with 50 million population, is open to the gospel. No hindrances to workers entering the country and almost no legal restrictions on the work that can be done in the country exist. Yet probably 3,600 towns and villages are without an organized Protestant witness, and only two percent of the population is professed Protestant. From this two percent are the few evangelical Christians who must carry the gospel to their people. In most instances the evangelical, Bible-believing churches are small

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE SIX ►

a survey of spiritual darkness
in west-central France

by DANIEL MERKH

SALVATION OR THE SKULL?



WHAT A GLORIOUS privilege it is to travel, to experience the beauty of and stand in awe at the handiwork of God. One blazing spectacle after another passed before our eyes from the breathtaking, snowcapped mountains of the French Alps through the rolling plains of central France, along the chateau-studded Loire Valley and on to the rocky coast of Brittany. Scenes like these have left their impression; we will never be the same again. The artist with all his skill cannot capture the beauty of God's creation.

Nor can we by words portray the spiritual darkness of this beautiful land. We too will never be the same again after seeing the field, so "white unto harvest." How can we be so absorbed in things of so little matter while the teeming millions plunge on toward hell? And how can we relate our experiences to the folks at home who are so necessary to the work of evangelizing France?

We left Grenoble on Tuesday, March 28, and drove toward Paris. The first night we slept in the back of our Volkswagen bus parked along the road. The next morning we drove through Paris and out to Lamorlaye. Two days were spent in interviews in and around Paris with other missionaries and workers in France. From there we drove along the Loire valley toward Brittany. For one week we made the circuit of Brittany, following the northern coast to Brest and the southern coast to Nantes. We then returned to Grenoble, completing a survey of one of the most spiritually destitute areas in the world today.

Tourists flock to this region to see the beautiful cathedrals with their relics, crucifixes and Calvaries dating back many years. We stood before these works of art and realized for the first time that these are not merely ancient monuments, but are embodiments of the beliefs of these folks affecting their way of life for centuries. These churches and relics represent the deep, ingrained superstitions of generations.

We stopped along the way to talk with a few "giants of the faith" who are laboring against strong opposition to bear a testimony in this barren land. Sunday morning at Guingamp we fellowshiped around the Lord's table with a French brother and his family who have labored here several years. In the service that morning was his family, our family,

and three other people from the surrounding area. Years of struggling, of praying and of heart-ache have produced only three or four visible signs. That evening at Lannion we met with another dear French brother and his wife. I had the wonderful privilege of speaking to the group that met in their home.

Monday evening and Tuesday morning we were in prayer services with another French pastor and his family at Douarnenez. Monday evening two persons other than the missionary family came to service and in the morning we were just "the family." Witness here is a labor of love among people blinded by Satan through years, even centuries, of heathen darkness and superstition.

An example of this darkness can be seen on May 19 each year. At Treguier, the skull of St. Yves is paraded through the streets. This is the saint of the lawyers and judges. The priest and people pray "Our father, St. Yves, save us." And the many "pardons" of Brittany are famous throughout France.

In all of our travels in Brittany we did not discover a self-supporting Protestant church. Workers are penetrating the northern coast, but most of the southern coast is totally unreached, virgin soil indeed.

Nantes, the largest city in Brittany, has figured in French history from as early as 843 when the Norman pirates landed, rushed into the cathedral where the bishop was saying mass and put the prelate, the clergy and the congregation to the sword. Nantes is a city of 246,227 people.

In the city at present are four Protestant churches. Without judging, let us look at the churches working in this area. Two of the churches in Nantes are in the Reformed group. This group practices infant baptism and is "multitudinous" in that the baptized infants are considered saved. There is little or no real emphasis on personal repentance and personal salvation. This group also is working openly with the Roman Church. Another group in Nantes is extremely Pentecostal, with strong emphasis on tongues. The fourth group is the Open Brethren. These folks are evangelical in every way, but in most instances do not have a paid or full-time ministry.

If we do not consider the Reformed church with its open cooperation with Roman Catholics and ►

► infant baptism, we find the city of Nantes' 246,000 inhabitants with only a small Brethren work and a small Pentecostal work.

Within a 60-mile radius of Nantes there are 14 other cities of importance. One city of 122,000 and another of 60,000 each have three Protestant churches. Then one city of 37,500 and one of 25,500 each have two churches. Six cities from 5,000 to 10,000 and four cities of 10,000 to 20,000 have no Protestant work whatever. This means that within a 60-mile radius of Nantes, 14 to 15 Protestant churches including Reformed, Pentecostal and Brethren witness to possibly one million people.

No decision has been made as to where our work will be established. Nantes is under consideration. However, as needy as Brittany is, and Nantes in particular, other needy areas were found. East of Paris is a large untouched region and south-central France is yet another.

France is a stronghold of the evil-one. We wrestle not against flesh and blood but against the forces of darkness in a land blinded by years of superstition and fear. Only faithful prayer on the part of God's people can break down these bastions of Satan.

Then we must seek the Lord's will in locating the work. It is all well and good to make a survey, to gather statistics and to examine the needs, but unless we are led by the Lord through the direction of His Spirit, our efforts are in vain.

And we must trust the Master of the harvest to thrust forth laborers into His vineyard. It seems futile to "attack" a field as needy as the Nantes area without more workers. Six couples could be put to good use immediately in this area, but can we even dare to begin with less than three couples?

The doors of France are open and workers can come with little or no difficulty. Let us earnestly pray that the Lord will call some of our pastors and young people to this field. This is His harvest, and it is not for us to make a choice of where we shall serve. As we pray, the Lord will thrust forth, as He has promised, laborers . . . laborers to weep, to sow and to reap in France. □

FRANCE: A MISSION FIELD?

► and unable to support their own pastors.

In a recent conversation with an evangelical leader we discussed the work in an area about the size of the State of Tennessee. Four and one half million people live in these 11 provinces with only an estimated 30 evangelical churches, many of which are very small and often with ten or 15 members.

An example of the difficult task can be seen in one of the evangelical churches in a large city in France. The French pastor, who loves the Lord and is a hard worker with 25 years experience, after five years of faithful ministry to the city's 200,000 inhabitants has established a work with some 50 faithful members. The church, however, is yet unable to support its budget and must receive help from other sources.

It would be impossible to suggest here all the many factors that complicate the task, but I shall endeavor to list a few.

First, *understanding French Christians and being understood by them* is often difficult. Some Christians in France do not look on their country as a mission field and thus do not welcome foreigners coming to evangelize. One pastor sat down in our living room before we had been here one month and bluntly stated, "We do not need American pastors in France." Another foreign worker who has labored in France for 30 years said that the statement was a bit too blunt. He added, "'Don't need' is not true, but 'don't want' is often true." Yet another French leader who is very favorable to American help stated frankly that only a few who have come have done a lasting work.

As unjust as these statements may seem, the reasons for them and the background of these faithful Christians who expressed them must be taken into consideration and appreciated. With patient understanding, Americans can be accepted and can establish a work for the Lord.

Another major problem in coming in contact with French believers is the *difference of views and standards*. One glaring example is the use of alcohol. I suppose a very conservative estimate would be that at least 80 percent of European believers drink alcohol and have absolutely no conviction against it. In fact, some who do not drink alcohol insist that

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Daniel Merkh and his wife are the first, and thus far only, Free Will Baptist missionaries to France. They soon will complete language study and begin permanent missionary ministry. They previously served in Ivory Coast, West Africa.



o you fit this description?"

there is absolutely no biblical grounds for total abstinence. This is a major, difficult problem.

I firmly believe in total abstinence and am opposed to the "sale and use of intoxicating beverages" as stated in the Free Will Baptist covenant. But what do you do with the fact, the stark reality, that most of the dedicated, consecrated Christians of Europe drink wine, intoxicating wine?

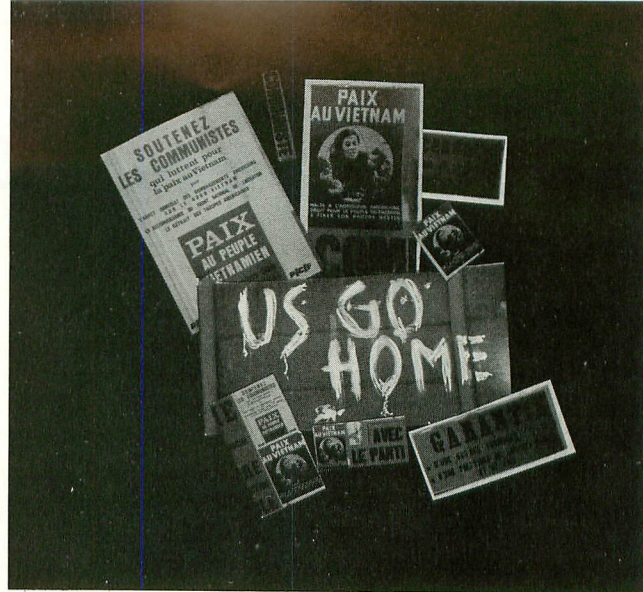
The fact that European believers, including many of the most outstanding evangelical leaders, use alcohol presents a real problem to us who firmly believe in and rigidly practice abstinence.

A complete presentation of major problems, which time and space do not allow, would include discussion of the *differences between Anglo-Saxon disposition and the Latin disposition*.

Also involved is the *modern revolt in the Catholic Church*, the renewed interest in Bible reading, the idol free churches, the modern language lethargy and the "down to earth" approach of avant-grade priests. Recently we had occasion to attend a funeral mass in a Roman Catholic church. The priest side-stepped many of the traditional aspects of the mass. He was disarmingly informal and read several passage of Scripture from the New Testament in French, not Latin, and without comment.

Along with this is the *dialogue that is being attempted between the Roman Church, the World Council and some so-called evangelicals*. Recently in Grenoble, a World Council leader from the headquarters in Geneva held a service for dialogue with the Pentecostals and the Reformed Church so that the fire of the Pentecostal Church and the refinements of the Reformed Church could mutually aid each other and, of course, that the former would come into the World Council. These actions of the ecumenical movement and the innocent Christians that are misled by them also present problems. Not only are these problems evident with French believers, but they vitally affect our witness with unbelievers, especially Roman Catholics. At the same time that it opens doors of witness, it makes the witness much more difficult.

One other major problem needs consideration, a *missing awareness of sin*. As degenerate as we may believe America has become, Americans generally have a knowledge of sin. In France an almost universal lack of any knowledge of sin exists. Sin is something unknown and never thought of. Shallow



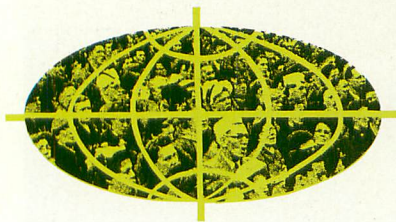
preaching will not produce a deep lasting conviction of sin. It isn't sufficient to list a series of "do's" and "don'ts" to a mind already numbed by sin and that has a natural inclination to shrink from any commitment.

The Frenchman will not take the preacher's word for it, nor is it possible to use the example of "other Christians," for in many instances the "other Christians" see no sin in the "don't" you may be preaching. Only a faithful, patient preaching of the Word in the power of the Holy Spirit will produce conviction and lead to repentance.

The Rev. James MacKintosh, moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, as reported in *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* sums up the task with these words: "The greatest need of the mission field today is careful, sound biblical instruction. The missionary's function primarily is to build up the churches, to prepare their leadership, and to stand by the younger Christians who are caught by the bewildering changes of the present age."

Many faithful, sincere French Christians are laboring tirelessly for the Lord against heavy odds—lack of personnel, lack of funds, and lack of prayer support. When is the last time you prayed for European believers and for French believers in particular? These precious saints are a part of Christ's body. We owe them our prayers.

There is a place here in France for mature Christian leaders who can learn the language, adjust to the culture without compromise and labor against seemingly insurmountable odds. France needs settled, separated, experienced pastors, students of the Word, who are willing to spend and be spent in proclaiming the gospel message. Do you fit the description? □



emphasis

EVENTS OF NEWS AND PRAYER SIGNIFICANCE

stateside: more needed

Nashville—Response to recent appeals to clear deficits in missionary accounts has caused some improvement in the picture, but much greater response must be seen if present pace of outreach is not seriously threatened, according to General Director Reford Wilson.

Total of deficated accounts reached an all-time high of \$55,703.50 in April. Special giving in May dropped the deficit total to \$51,792.21 on June 1. The seriousness of the picture is seen when this is compared to the deficit total of \$30,419.27 one year ago.

Board action in April called for a halt in new missionary appointments until all deficits are cleared and present missionaries have adequate monthly support.

Request for special offerings has been made, and some response has been seen (see "Out of My Heart," page 11). But the concern of more churches and individuals must be felt if the denomination's overseas ministry is not to be adversely affected.

Pray for each of the deficit accounts by name (see list in financial statement, page 11). Ask God to use you and your church in clearing these deficits so that the Word may continue to be proclaimed without delay to the masses who've never heard.

Lonnie Palmer shows Henry Van Kluyve (right) the truck donated by Texas. He will use it in the Ivory Coast.



brazil: campaign planned

Araras—Plans have been in the making for several weeks for a campaign designed to saturate this city with the gospel during July.

Missionary Jim Combs reports that Bible institute students will assist in comprehensive canvas of the area, distributing gospel literature, holding street services and advertising nightly evangelistic services by loud speaker.

Meanwhile, city officials approved construction plans for the Araras congregation and construction began the last of June. This is the third building project undertaken by Brazilian Free Will Baptist churches in recent months.

The local unit will serve as both sanctuary and educational facility with a permanent sanctuary planned for future construction.

Pray for salvation of many during the July campaign. Remember especially Laerte Cressoni whose wife and children are Christians, Adriano who is near decision, Ary Ramos and Orlando Gaino whose wives also are believers.

Building at Brazil Bible Institute.



brazil: another first

Jaboticabal—A first in the history of Free Will Baptist missions in Brazil took place on April 21 at the Brazilian Bible Institute when groups of Christians from all Free Will Baptist congregations assembled 150 strong for a day of fellowship and preaching. Assisted by missionaries, institute students acted as hosts. Senhor Sebastian, pastor of the Campinas church and graduate of the institute, led the devotional and testimony period.

Bible messages were brought by Ken Eagleton and Bobby Aycock.

The Araras church, largest group in attendance, chartered a bus for the special occasion. Most of these attending had never seen the institute, and a large number had never traveled that far from home. Success of this first meeting assures further sessions in the future.

Pray that God will use these fellowship meetings to unite and strengthen Brazilian believers and further gospel in this country.

Louis Coscia confers with Nelson dos Santos, ministerial student prospect at Pirassununga, Brazil. His brother pastors the Campinas Church.



india: encouraging response

Nashville—Reports relayed here from both North and South India give cause for rejoicing in what God is doing in the lives of those to whom the gospel is being given.

Peter Natesan, Indian pastor at Mettupalayam in the south, reports 37 adults and 26 children who are professing Christians in this new work. Among them, a wealthy widow who is being opposed in her belief by her family is remaining true to the Lord and desires baptism. Opposition from relatives is being felt also by a 17-year old boy who rejected Hinduism to be baptized May 24. An elderly lady from Madras, apparently visiting in the area, heard the gospel and asked to be baptized.

Pastor Nateson was trusting the Lord for 50 souls during a special series of meetings June 10-18. "We have given out 15,000 tracts and sold 500 Gospels up to now."

Missionary Carlisle Hanna writes about the Lord's blessing in the Sonapurhat area in the north. After preaching a message based on I Timothy 4, "The response was more than my weak faith expected. My seven biggest boys (tenth and eleventh graders) responded to the challenge."

Hanna also reports continuing spiritual development in the village of Junglabita where a keen group of believers worships regularly. "They are so hungry, yet do not withhold their tithes and offerings."

Pray for new converts in Mettupalayam as they face opposition from family and friends. Pray for extension of the witness there. Remember also the Carlisle Hannas and work in the Sonapurhat area.

Sonapurhat hostel girls studying.



uruguay: ellisons returning

Rivera—Three-year old John Ellison, son of Walter (Dub) and Marcia Ellison, needs stateside treatment for papillomas, according to medical doctors in Campinas, Brazil, where little John was taken recently for examination.

The foreign missions board acted in telephone conference June 13 to approve a field council recommendation that the Ellisons return to the States for an early furlough in order that John may receive necessary treatment.

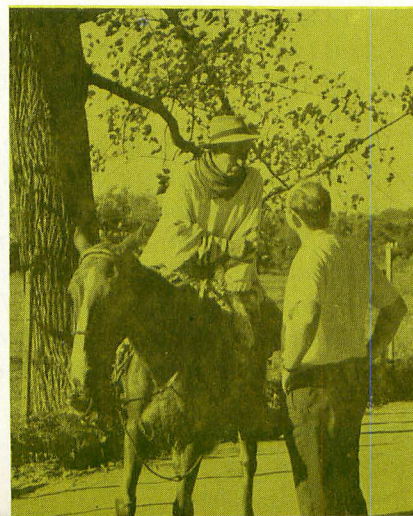
A papilloma is a benign tumor that grows out from a normal tissue surface. The seriousness of the Ellison child's condition is due to the fact that his papillomas are in the throat region, even on his vocal chords. Surgical removal requires specialists available Stateside. The Ellisons are expected to arrive there in early July.

The furlough term will allow time for observation to check any recurrence of the growths.

Field Director Bill Fulcher, who with wife Glenda and Missionary Molly Barker will be left alone in the Uruguay-South Brazil work, plans to utilize national workers more extensively to cover the personnel gap. "Perhaps this is God's way of bringing them into greater responsibility," he says.

Pray definitely for healing mercies for John Ellison. Pray for the Ellisons as they return home for rest and ministry. Remember especially those who will have increased responsibilities in Uruguay-South Brazil during the Ellisons' absence.

Ellison talks to a Uruguayan gaucho.



ivory coast: sparks home

New York—Missionary to Ivory Coast Lonnie Sparks and family arrived here the last of June to begin a year's furlough following two terms of service in that African nation.

Sparks arrived in time for the annual meeting of the National Association to convene in Jacksonville, Fla., July 10-13, where he will be the featured speaker in the annual missions rally on Wednesday evening.

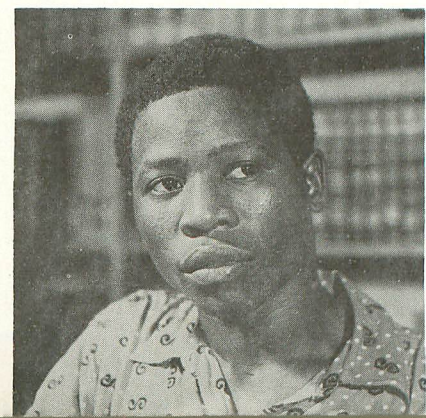
Meanwhile, the fear of the Lord is becoming known in the Ivory Coast. Victor, a young Kulango, singlehandedly destroyed the principal idol of his home village of Kpanan (Ca-pa-nan). The village elders considered beating him and accusing him before the local government official. However, they could secure no popular support to do this because Victor's fellow villagers repeated, "He's God's man!"

Twenty-two girls gathered at Doropo May 28 for the first youth camp for Lobi girls. (See "A Song of Praise," page 10.)

Also on May 28, seven more Lobis prayed for salvation, thus opening work in another village. The village chief is seriously considering becoming a Christian himself.

Pray for the National Association annual meeting July 10-13, especially for an outpouring of God's Spirit on Wednesday evening. Remember new converts such as Victor in the Ivory Coast as they make their witness felt. Pray for the conversion of the Lobi chief considering Christ.

African students hold the answer.

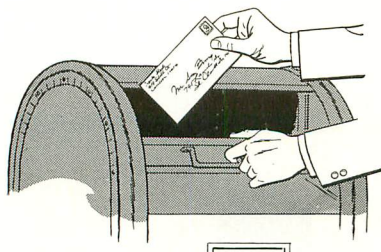




a Song of Praise

written by Lorene Miley
following the first camp
for Lobi girls
held May 28-June 4
on the Doropo Station,
Ivory Coast, West Africa:

*raise ye the Lord.
I will praise Thee, O Lord, among the people.
I will sing unto Thee among this Lobi tribe.
I will give thanks unto the God most high.
Thy people asked, O Lord, and Thou didst hear.
"O, that the girls would attend this first camp,"
We asked in Thy Name.
Some ran away by night to come,
Only to be sent back the next day.
Two were beaten for leaving the cows.
It rained; it was hot. A funeral was nearby.
Some crops were to be planted and others cultivated,
Animals guarded, quail chased from the corn,
Babies to be tended.
Yet marvelous things Thou didst in our sight.
Thou didst send more than 30 girls to us. From seven villages.
Blessed be God which hath not turned away from my prayer.
Who performeth all things for me.
I beheld the transgressors and was grieved
Because they kept not Thy Words.
We did not hide Thy laws from this people
That the generation to come might know them,
Even the children which should be born,
Who should arise and declare them to their children
That they might set their hope in God
And not forget the wonderful works that Thou hast done.
My heart fainted within me at the thought of giving devotions,
Not in my native tongue, neither in French,
But in the tribal dialect.
I cried unto Thee, Lord, with my mouth,
And Thou wast extolled with my tongue.
The hungry were made satisfied (literally),
And they that yearned for bread lacked nothing.
Thou hast made known Thy salvation,
Thy righteousness hast Thou openly shewed
In the sight of the heathen.
O, that they might continue to find magic in reading.
Let them experience anew again and again
The thrill of accomplishment in each garment they sew.
For Thou only, Lord, gave them the endurance
To thread a needle and stick with that stubborn cloth
As it took shape before their eyes.
Let them ever remember Thy Words which they have hidden in
their hearts.
May they know of a surety that He who speaks
Is true and righteous altogether,
Because He is more powerful than all the fetishes.
And they that know Thy Name will put their trust in Thee.
We believe it, O Lord, even as Thou hast spoken,
For these girls have come to know Thee in a more perfect way.
O God, the heathen are come into Thine inheritance.
Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.*



'out of my heart'

□ God uses the United States postal system to answer prayer. The response to my letter which you received recently regarding deficit missionary accounts has been encouraging, but the amount received has not been sufficient. And unless greater response is seen by concerned individuals, the continued effectiveness of our worldwide evangelistic outreach will be threatened.

□ I want to share with you a couple of the answers to prayer received during the past few days. This one came from Bethany Church in Norfolk:

□ "Our adult Sunday school class at Bethany Church has become especially burdened for the cause of missions because we have learned that no new missionaries will be sent out after July 1 until our outstanding deficit accounts are brought up to date. Because of this burden we have begun to pray that this need would be met by the deadline date. We also have decided to take one deficit amount as a special project for the coming months. We have chosen the largest account, that of Don Robirds and his family and received our first offering this past Sunday . . . We trust that the Lord will use this money both for their needs and to encourage others to give to deficit accounts. (Bill Davidson, pastor)."

□ Another came from the Central Church of Royal Oak, Mich., which sent a special gift of \$4,000 requesting \$500 to be applied to each of the eight largest deficits (Raymond Riggs, pastor).

□ As more of you who love the Lord and share His burden for reaching a lost world pray for and respond to this need, these deficit accounts can be eliminated. Will you make a special, even sacrificial offering right now for this urgent need? Pastor, will you urge your church to take those extra dollars out of its treasury and send them for this purpose, so your foreign ministry will not be hampered in these crucial days? We will watch the mails daily for your answer.

J. Reford Wilson
GENERAL DIRECTOR

the financial story

MAY 1967

CASH IN BANK
MAY 1, 1967\$32,322.90

RECEIPTS
Quotas\$44,922.63
Other720.92
45,643.55
\$77,966.45

DISBURSEMENTS
Foreign\$31,083.57
Travel and
Pro-
motion 4,448.56
Adminis. 5,887.52
41,419.65
\$36,546.80

UNEXPENDED FUNDS
Jimmy Aldridges\$ 3,403.13
Bobby Aycocks5,333.27
Jim Combes1,284.36
Louis Coscias883.52
Ken Eagletons2,237.16
Walter Ellisons881.15
Bill Fulchers3,057.75
Estenio Garcias1,567.46
Ruby Griffin838.30
Joe Haases129.56
Fred Herseys406.08
Bill Joneses3,023.20
Ella Rae Jones3,360.80
Sherwood Lees6,248.60
Archie Mayhews846.56
Dan Merks2,870.81
LaVerne Mileys11,036.34
Jim McLains7,575.23
Lonnie Palmers1,828.28
Eddie Paynes243.32
Bobby Pooles2,871.80
Mary Ellen Rice1,898.33
Norman Richardses4,246.45

Mrs. Josephine Stevens. 599.36
Patsy Tyson 4,478.11
Herbert Waids 1,199.48
Tom Willeys, Jr. 1,151.92
Africa Med. Building 1,095.20
Africa Bible Inst. 277.80
Africa Vehicle 114.15
Brazil Vehicle 1,992.19
Fur. Car Loan Fund 954.26
Mayhew House 3,660.08
N. India Building 374.27
Repatriation 3,370.73
Deed of Trust 3,000.00

DEFICIT ACCOUNTS
Molly Barker\$ 308.19
Wesley Calvers791.64
John Crafts136.34
Dan Cronks1,769.10
Earnie Deedes3,842.50
Dave Frankes725.36
Howard Gages596.09
Carlisle Hannas1,649.92
Eula Mae Martin637.02
Bill Phippses2,720.02
Paul Robinsons73.92
Don Robirds4,446.91
Lonnie Sparkses1,043.30
Sam Wilkins1,559.81
Tom Willeys, Sr. 2,551.13
Volena Wilson1,083.30
Audio-Visual16,842.58
Brazil Bible Inst. 690.74
C.E.R.F. 3,649.57
Operational Fund 6,674.77
\$51,792.21

CASH IN BANK
JUNE 1, 1967\$36,546.80

STATE QUOTAS—1967

STATE	MAY RECEIPTS	QUOTA	TOTAL RECEIPTS	UNDER (OVER) QUOTA
Alabama	\$ 1,004.02	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 4,912.19	\$ 10,087.81
Alaska		300.00		300.00
Arizona	188.64	2,500.00	1,039.02	1,460.98
Arkansas	1,407.18	15,500.00	7,641.73	7,858.27
California	2,578.19	34,000.00	11,044.35	22,955.65
Colorado	32.37	1,250.00	152.70	1,097.30
Florida	1,161.04	15,000.00	4,641.55	10,358.45
Georgia	1,591.18	23,500.00	8,702.56	14,797.44
Hawaii		250.00	45.00	205.00
Idaho	65.40	500.00	286.74	213.26
Illinois	903.82	13,500.00	4,244.33	9,255.67
Indiana	144.18	3,750.00	900.11	2,849.89
Iowa	274.43	1,500.00	971.82	528.18
Kansas	237.24	3,500.00	944.36	2,555.64
Kentucky	939.90	6,500.00	2,949.26	3,550.74
Louisiana	5.00	250.00	91.78	158.22
Maine	110.00	2,000.00	480.00	1,520.00
Michigan	4,647.16	50,000.00	16,889.93	33,110.07
Mississippi	544.54	7,250.00	1,990.75	5,259.25
Missouri	3,696.54	34,000.00	13,767.77	20,232.23
Nebraska		250.00		250.00
N.B., Canada		250.00	35.00	215.00
New Hampshire		1,000.00	153.67	846.33
New Mexico	105.61	1,000.00	415.49	584.51
North Carolina	6,305.52	60,000.00	27,792.15	32,207.85
Ohio	1,735.51	19,000.00	7,409.56	11,590.44
Oklahoma	5,234.08	45,000.00	18,746.63	26,253.37
Oregon	54.81	250.00	168.69	81.31
South Carolina	3,563.01	25,500.00	14,065.06	11,434.94
Tennessee	5,836.29	40,500.00	21,358.96	19,141.04
Texas	279.07	15,000.00	5,984.04	9,015.96
Virginia	1,360.11	15,000.00	7,280.79	7,719.21
Washington	72.60	750.00	248.09	501.91
West Virginia	845.19	12,500.00	3,863.17	8,636.83
Miscellaneous	720.92	3,265.57	3,510.74	(245.17)
Total	\$45,643.55	\$469,315.57	\$192,727.99	\$276,832.75 (\$245.17)

foreign missions board

Joseph Ange, chm.
Raymond Riggs, v. chm.
Rolla Smith, sec.
Lonnie Davoutt
Winford Floyd
Gene Rogers
R. Eugene Waddell



executive staff

J. Reford Wilson
general director
Jerry Ballard
director of communications
Rufus Coffey
director of missions education
Henry Van Kluyne
director of deputation

Forgotten

our mission in **FRANCE**

AREA: 211,208 square miles

POPULATION: 49,157,000

RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND: Roman Catholic

LANGUAGE: French

DATE OF ENTRY: 1966

NUMBER OF MISSIONARIES: 2



A people struggling to rekindle the smoldering fires of a glorious tradition, that's present-day France. All Frenchmen recall with radiating pride the political leadership of empires past, the intellectual pace-setting of the "Age of Reason," the cultural heritage that today holds France in the floodlights of fashion and culinary artistry. France was once a center of Christian witness. But French Christianity corroded through the centuries while the great missionary movements concentrated on traditional pagan cultures of the East, Africa and the islands. And France was forgotten. Now, with less than 50,000 born-again believers, France stands as one of the most neglected mission fields on earth. Free Will Baptists see the need. A couple has been sent to spearhead an advance on this frontier. More dedicated and mature men of God are needed.