

Heartbeat

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

NOVEMBER 1974



MIRACLE AT JONESBORO

MIRACLE AT JONESBORO

by Lonnie Skiles

A miracle! A real miracle took place in the church at Jonesboro, Ark.! It was May of 1973. The miracle? . . . God gave the church a vision for world-wide evangelism!

The mission program of the church had been relatively insignificant at best. Most giving had gone through the cooperative program of support. But in May of 1973 all this changed!

Let me tell you how it started: With the cooperation of the Department of Foreign Missions we planned and promoted a missionary conference. For several weeks prior to the conference, I preached world-wide missions as the ultimate responsibility and program of the church. Missionaries Earnie Deeds and Norman Richards were invited as principle speakers at the conference which was to run from Wednesday through Sunday. Henry Van Kluyve was to come on Sunday and give the final challenge. The whole program was built around the faith-promise plan of giving.

As pastor of the church, I admit I entered this conference with fear and trembling. That's why I set a goal of only \$2,000 for foreign missions in this initial conference. It wasn't that I doubted the faith-promise plan of support—I had already seen it work in several churches in Tennessee, including the Oak-

wood church where I pastored.

God had already dynamically convinced me that the faith-promise plan was His plan, and that He would honor and bless the church that really got involved in it. But the devil was opposing this conference at Jonesboro! There wasn't a soul in the church (at least to my knowledge) who believed the \$2,000 goal could or would be reached.

The missionaries came and presented their challenge. A relatively small number came out each night to hear them. Sunday came, and the prospects for reaching the goal didn't appear to be any brighter. However, I had looked too much at what Satan was doing, and failed to reckon with what God had done and could do. Consequently, when Brother Van Kluyve gave the challenge on Sunday, and all the faith promises were tallied, we were all amazed (and a bit ashamed of our lack of faith)—total faith promises for the year came to \$3,987.60.

God had not only enabled us to reach our goal, but to actually double it. This represented a miraculous and thorough defeat for Satan. Furthermore, the giving for the ensuing year (for foreign missions alone, excluding cooperative giving) actually reached \$5,157.93, or \$1,170.33 over the faith-promise total.

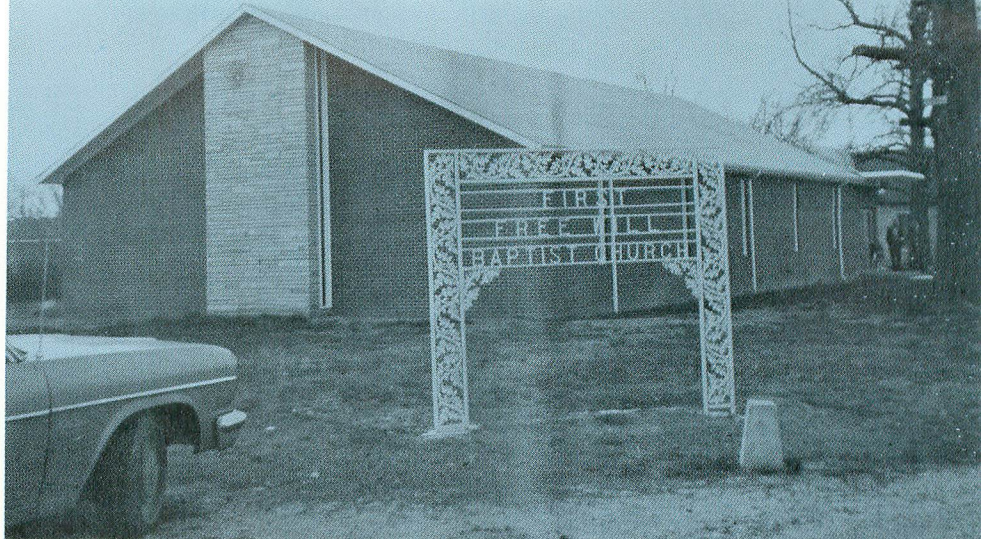
When it came time for our second conference, (May, 1974), I

began to analyze just what God had done for our church during the first mission year. Some of the blessings were obvious. Our regular giving had increased significantly, even though we gave over \$5,000 to foreign missions. Our general fund balance in May, 1973 was \$2,288.84.

During the year we spent more than usual on local building improvements and other needs. In addition, our giving to the cooperative fund and other state and national causes increased significantly. In spite of all this (or perhaps because of all this) our general fund balance at the end of April, 1974 (the close of our first mission year) was \$6,944.65. This gives some idea of the financial blessings the Lord bestowed during the year.

In addition to all the increased giving, God consistently added new people to the church during the year. New Sunday school attendance records were set two or three times. Average attendance increased by approximately 40 to 50 percent. And the spiritual condition and maturity of the church increased right along with all the other blessings.

The miracle was not over, however. At our 1974 conference we set a faithless goal of only \$5,000 for foreign missions. This time there were more than a few who believed we could go over the goal. Their faith paid off, and



we exceeded the goal. The total promised: \$8,659.20. This time missionaries Howard Gage and Lonnie Sparks came and Mr. Van Kluyve was on hand again for Sunday.

We are now able to extend the ministry of the church by supporting four different missionary families on four different continents: the Deeds in Brazil, the Richards in Ivory Coast, the Sparks in Spain and the Bishops in Japan. We also set a goal of 200 average in Sunday school in October of this year. This would represent an increase of 100% in attendance in the first one-and-one-half years of faith-promise missions giving. It is another proof that when a church enlarges its vision to see God's field, the world, it opens the doors for God's blessings in its local endeavors.

In addition to all this, the missionary program of the church can be continually expanded as more people are involved in faith-promise giving. A perpetual program of expanded world-wide ministry is thus made possible. And the final result will be God calling out workers from this church to serve in various fields of ministry throughout the world. This is the ultimate aim of a mis-

sionary program, and the fulfilling of the church's purpose.

Let me point out some final statistics that should prove interesting, informative, and perhaps inspiring:

Faith promises, May 1973—\$3,987.60.

Foreign Missions giving, May 1973 through April 1974—\$5,157.93.

Number participating in faith promises, 1973—43.

Faith promises, May 1974—\$8,659.20.

Number participating in faith promises, 1974—61.

Number participating in 1973 who did not repeat in 1974—13.

Number participating in 1974 who did not participate in 1973—31.

Number increasing promises in 1974 (over 1973)—23.

Number decreasing promises in 1974—1.

Number whose promises remained unchanged in 1974—6.

Number of new people God added to the church in 1973 and who participated in faith promises in 1974—21.

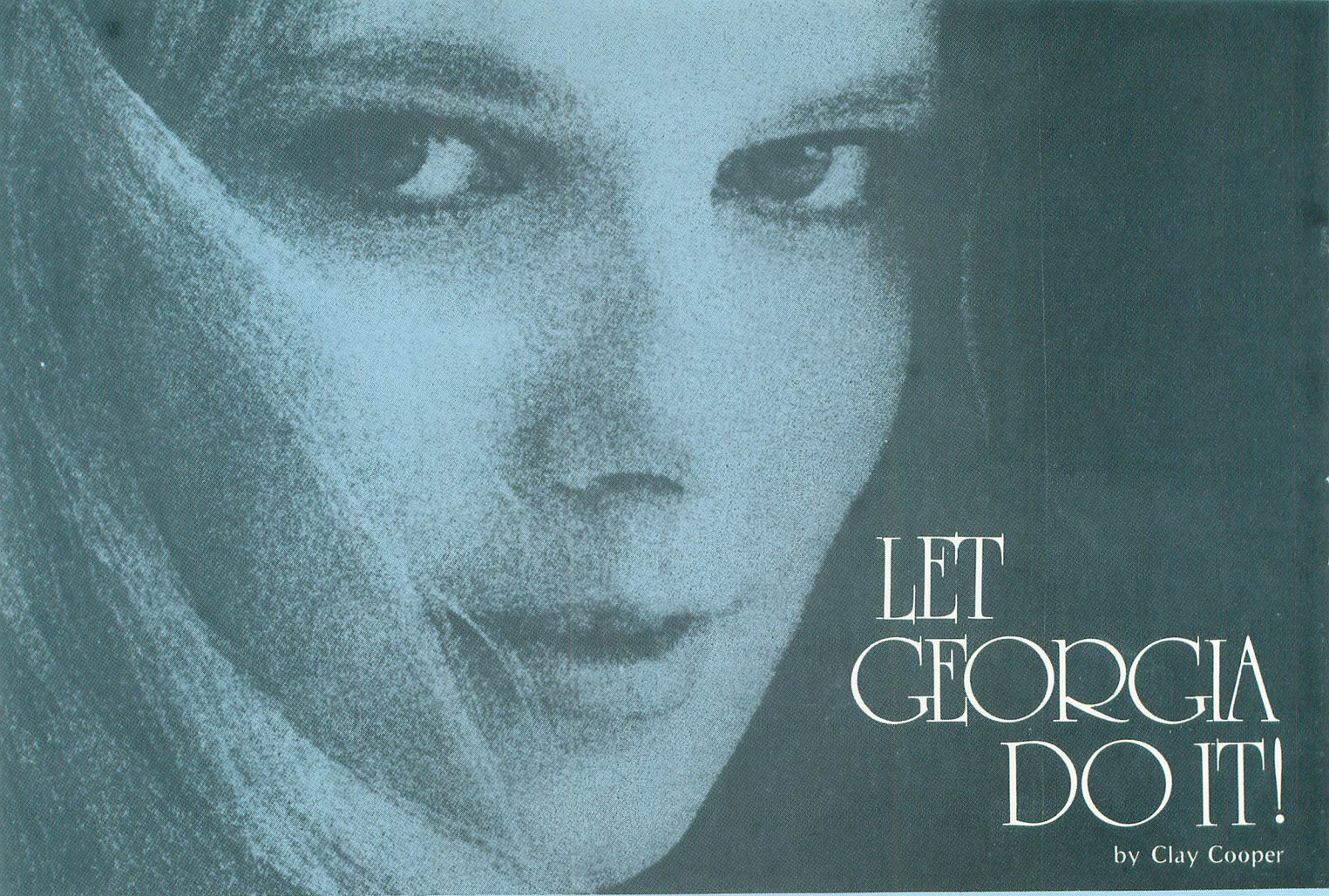
The blessings of God are awaiting the pastor and the church who will really open their hearts to the faith-promise plan of giving for world-wide missions. The size or locality of the church really makes no difference. I have seen God's blessings come to a small country church in

Tennessee, and now to a church in a prosperous university town in Arkansas. I promise, on the authority of God's Word, as well as by personal experience, that even greater blessings can and will come to any church that really gets involved in God's program for this age—world-wide missions.

The faith-promise plan for missions is the most exciting thing that has happened in all my ministry. It has brought more blessings, both individually and collectively, than any other aspect of my ministry. I am glad the missions challenge is spreading here in Arkansas. Several churches report successful first-time missionary conferences this year. It is my own personal prayer and expectation that very soon we will see the State of Arkansas with a million dollar missions budget. It *can* happen if we really lift up our eyes and see the fields white unto harvest.

I would encourage every church to schedule a missionary conference *this year*. The Department of Foreign Missions will help make conference plans. I urge everyone to find out about the *faith-promise plan of giving*. Getting involved with missions really doesn't cost—it pays—immediate and eternal dividends!





LET GEORGIA DO IT!

by Clay Cooper

The way men let women tackle the job of rescuing the race from Eden's ruin, indicates they have forgotten that Adam ate the apple too.

4/NOVEMBER 1974/HEARTBEAT

In every hemisphere communism is peeking over the ramparts and it is little wonder. There are hardly enough men (males) stationed on foreign mission outposts of the world to man two aircraft carriers with a wartime complement. Christ initiated His Program

for world conquest by hand-picking the Twelve: Simon, James and John; Andrew, Philip and Bartholomew; Matthew, Thomas and James the son of Alphaeus; Thaddaeus, Judas and Simon; all strong masculine names. Soon seventy others were recruited, making eighty-two.

After Pentecost they numbered thousands. The rank and file grew. Some were seamen, others were horny-handed tillers of the soil. A physician forsook his practice, one the toll booth, another the halls of learning to enlist.

This predominant masculinity in missions was no first-century quirk. It was in line with all scriptural precedent. Men have always been God's method. Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt. He was succeeded by the man Joshua, who employed twelve men to survey the promised land. The march around Jericho was made by men. God's instrument in Samson's day was Samson. It was Gideon who

marshalled 300 men to defeat the Midianites. The women remained in their tents.

Only two books in the sacred canon bear the names of women: Esther (she didn't write it), and Ruth (a beautiful foreign missionary narrative, probably written by the prophet Samuel).

It would only be expected that Christ would rest upon the broader shoulders of men the greater responsibility of penetrating the pagan world with His gospel. It would have been surprising had He not assigned the job primarily to them.

The ideal supporting role of the female may be dramatically illustrated by a thirteenth-century B.C. incident, when God's program called for the conquest of Canaan. Deborah, the only woman ever to judge Israel, recruited Barak to champion the cause (Judges 4:4-9). Refusing to head the campaign, she declared her willingness to go with him into battle, but only with him, not instead of him, or ahead of him.

Today it is different. Women frequently lead the way. However we have reason to believe they prefer the scriptural pattern, and resort to a leadership role with great reluctance.

Mission statistics reveal an astonishing outnumbering of males by modern Joan of Arcs who don male battle dress and march in the vanguard. On some fields the ratio may be six to one. The average bulletin listing foreign appointees is telltale. The following male to female ratio of personnel (unmarried), under foreign appointment, represents three well-known independent mission boards:

The first shows twenty-six single women to three single men. The second names forty-one American women, with no male representation; and twenty-two to one, Canadian. The third pictures forty-eight single women and not one unmarried man.

It is understandable that pagan peoples should inquire of Christian missionaries, "Is your God a female god?"

No one knows where the idea ever came from, but the notion that foreign missions is a woman's domain practically permeates Christendom. Men let the women tackle the job of rescuing the fallen race as if they were unaware that Adam ate the apple too! When the issue of foreign missions is raised, seldom does the idea crease the brain of the average male that this is his area of responsibility also. To him, foreign missions is for the girls. It has something to do with lace and pink teas.

Where does one ever find a Men's Missionary Fellowship in the home church? On just how many foreign mission stations do men outnumber the women? Most men are merely touching this matter with the tips of their fingers. Many are not touching it at all.

American colleges and universities field more men on the gridiron on a given Saturday afternoon, than the American church can boast serving in Christ's foreign legion. Perhaps not more than twenty thousand Protestant missionaries are actually at their foreign posts at any one time. The male head count among these is so disproportionate as to be absurd.

Because so few see masculinity and missions at the same glance, women are obliged to serve as stand-ins and attempt the impossible . . . fill men's shoes. A classic illustration comes from the steaming jungles of Malaya. A young woman, manning a remote station alone, farewelled the visiting mission director with: "God has called a man to do this job out here. So far, he hasn't responded. But, until he does, I will stick here for Jesus' sake."

She recognized herself as only a willing substitute for God's plan . . . a man!

An English proverb bears on this point: "It's a sad house when the hen crows louder than the cock." What is sad for a house, is sad for a world. But it would be sadder still were it not for the Dorcas Societies, Ladies Aids, Martha-Mary Sewing Circles, and Women's Missionary Groups. Without them, the whole venture would be in real trouble.

Much of mankind's dilemma will be solved by lifting the load of world evangelization off the burdened shoulders of women and placing it back where it belongs. There are some prerogatives for which the male alone was endowed and one of them is leadership in God's army. Whenever earth's redemption goes forward apace, a predominant masculine element is in the forefront.

Today's world issues call for re-masculinizing missions. To continue the present trend becomes as ludicrous as sending a preponderately female expeditionary force in wartime, or manning subs, ships and planes with them . . . and still expecting to win. A tightly packed he-man phalanx forging ahead, making a missionary plans, thinking missionary thoughts and embracing missionary problems will provide much of the solution to the present mid-century crises.

Of a perilous time in the dim past, it was recorded: "I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap . . ." (Ezekiel 22:30). Without question, this is the call of the Almighty again.

Christ is going about looking for men who will relate themselves to His world objectives.*

How about it George? Will you continue to "let Georgia do it?" Or will you start now to become involved and responsible to reach the world with the gospel of Christ?

*The above article reprinted from Clay Cooper's *Nothing to Win—But the World*, Copyright 1965, by permission of Zondervon Publishing House.

getting to know them

(Your Missionaries)



Serving in
Spain

Serving in India

DAN AND TRULA CRONK



After 24 years of missionary service in India, Dan and Trula Cronk are now in Nashville, Tenn., where Dan is teaching Missions at the Free Will Baptist Bible College on loan from the Board of Foreign Missions. He taught at FWBBC in 1947 for one year.

Dan, a 1945 graduate of the Bible college, was born in Detroit, Mich., attended Hazel Park High School, George Peabody College, and received a B.A. degree from Columbia Bible College in 1947. In 1946 he had his first pastorate in Lake City, S.C. He studied linguistics at Scarritt College for Christian Workers in 1963 and took advanced study in sociology this year at Middle Tennessee State University.

Trula (Gunter) Cronk of Greene County, Tenn., graduated from FWBBC in 1945, received B.A. degrees from Columbia Bible College in 1947 and from George Peabody College in 1948.

In 1947 Trula taught for one year at FWBBC. She taught one

year at Woodbine Christian Academy in Nashville in 1972. She has also taught school in India and Michigan.

The Cronks were married June 7, 1945 and appointed for missionary service in July, 1947. They first departed for the field in August, 1948.

They have one son, Randall, age 19, who is presently employed in the Nashville area.

The Cronks spent most of their time in India ministering to the Santals, an old aboriginal tribe, in and around the North Indian town of Kishanganj. While there, the Cronks developed an annual conference for Indian Christians.

The Cronks are the senior Free Will Baptist Missionaries behind Miss Laura Belle Barnard and Mrs. Mabel Willey.

CARLISLE AND MARIE HANNA



In 1948 Carlisle Hanna yielded his life to God's will. The Lord placed on him an unending burden for India and its millions of

souls. While still studying at Free Will Baptist Bible College, he married Marie Wright of Platteville, Wis. They applied for missionary service and were appointed in April of 1951. They sailed for India in October, 1952.

Carlisle, from Lake City, S.C., received his B.A. degree from FWBBC in January, 1952. He had previously studied at Newberry College, and Columbia Commercial College in South Carolina. In 1964 he received his B.S. degree in Business Education from George Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn. He also studied for one summer at Columbia Bible College.

Marie studied at Harris Teachers College for one year and graduated from FWBBC with a B.A. degree in 1951. Her home church is in St. Louis, Mo.

The Hannas have three children: Brenda, married to Ronald Ledford; Donald, age 17; and Mark, age 14. They lost their first child, Sheila, in 1953 just a few months after their arrival in India.

Though they suffered hardships and faced the difficulties of the Indian caste system and the radically different culture, the Hannas have faithfully served for many years in Sonapurhat, North India near West Bengal. Carlisle has been involved in a pastoral, evangelistic and teaching ministry.

The Hannas are scheduled for the regular furlough in 1975 following their fourth term of service. They were home in 1972-73 for a three-month furlough.

DOCK AND NORMA CATON



Dock Caton, from Ada, Okla., married Norma Jean Haas of Ava, Mo., in August of 1968. Norma's father, the Reverend Jim Haas, is pastor of Skiatook Free Will Baptist Church, Skiatook, Okla. The Catons have one daughter, Deborah, age one year.

Dock has had a variety of educational experiences. He studied data processing at Tulsa Technical College, spent one year studying at Oklahoma Bible College (now Hillsdale), studied one year at California Christian College, and graduated with a B.A. degree from Free Will Baptist Bible College in May, 1972. He has worked in a number of pastoral assistant programs from Oklahoma to California and in Tennessee. He was ordained to the ministry in Stockton, Calif., in 1968.

Norma graduated from Claremore High School in Claremore, Okla., in 1967. She attended California Christian College for one year, and studied at Free Will Baptist Bible College for one year.

The Catons went to Brazil as summer missionaries in 1971. They were appointed to missionary service in May, 1972. They departed for Spain to begin Spanish language study in Madrid in July of this year. They will be attempting to establish Free Will Baptist works in Spain.

LONNIE AND ANITA SPARKS



Lonnie and Anita Sparks first departed for French language study and the mission field in 1956. They arrived in the Ivory Coast and began their ministry in Goumère in 1958. They served three terms, during which time Lonnie worked in church planting, village evangelism and translation of the New Testament in Koulango.

Lonnie, born in Sulphur, Okla., attended Murray State School of Agriculture for one year and received a B.A. degree from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1954. He also attended Winona Lake School of Theology, Oklahoma Baptist University, and Oklahoma University. He received his M.A. from the University of Michigan and another M.A. degree from Columbia Bible College.

In August of 1954 Lonnie married Anita Kaminsky of Edwardsburg, Mich. They have two sons: Paul, age 15, and Noel, age 12.

Anita studied at South Bend College of Commerce, South Bend, Ind., and at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville.

After much prayer and a great deal of personal questioning, Lonnie and Anita decided to change fields of service. They decided to initiate Free Will Baptist outreach in Spain. They left the U.S. in July.

deputational echoes

by Henry
Van Kluyve



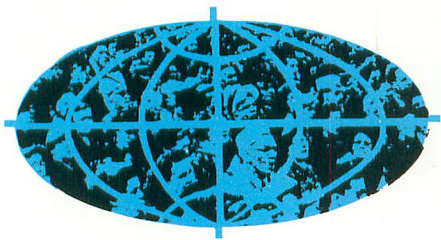
In the Vineyard

Recently I was privileged to take part in two foreign missions conferences in Arkansas. The churches involved were First Free Will Baptist Church, Walnut Ridge and Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church in Saffell. The pastors are Reverend Terry Forrest and Reverend Jerry Smith, respectively. The results were thrilling. In addition to decisions involving full surrender to do God's bidding (even to the ends of the earth), faith promise commitments were gratifying.

Mt. Harmony church (organized 96 years ago) experienced their first missionary conference. This fine church responded with \$127 per month; 70% will go to Aileen Calvery and 30% will be allocated for the Bishops, appointees to Japan. The church at Walnut Ridge responded with a total of \$400 per month. Praise the Lord for these results! The Bishops will be the recipients of 80% of this commitment.

In September I took part in the annual conference at Victory Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, N.C., where Reverend George Lee is pastor. This marked my second meeting at the church. Last year \$3,000 in faith promise commitments were recorded. This year they almost doubled that with a commitment tally of \$5,700. How thrilling! Thank God for this missionary vision.

While in the North Carolina area I conducted two pastor's conferences—one in Goldsboro, and the other at New Bern. Attendance was 7 and 12 respectively. The Lord challenged us anew for souls in the regions beyond.



emphasis: world

EVENTS OF NEWS AND PRAYER SIGNIFICANCE

13 saved at camps

Jaboticabal, Brazil—A late report received from missionary Sam Wilkinson shows 13 decisions for Christ were made in the July Youth Camp held here. According to Sam, three young girls and one young man from Jaboticabal have continued to be faithful since that time.

An adult retreat has been scheduled for the month of November at the camp grounds here. This will be the first time anything like this has been done for the adults.

Sam also announced ordination of a young Brazilian preacher, Ivan, here recently. Ivan has been assuming pastoral responsibilities at the Jaboticabal church for some time.

food situation worse

New Delhi, India—India's grave food situation has become increasingly worse with millions having hunger in several states in the North. According to recent news reports, a minister in West Bengal stated 15 million people in rural areas are either "starving or living on one meal a day."

One report even indicated that more than 500 people had died of malnutrition in that state. Villagers in West Bengal are reported wandering through the countryside in search of food and are, in the words of one report, "eating whatever they can possibly chew."

Some believe this to be the worst drought in 75 years. The prolonged dry spell, coupled with the absence of power for irrigation, a chaotic food

ivan lopes (circled) at brazil camp



distribution system, dwindling food stocks, shortages of diesel oil, and the worst inflation in India's post-independence history along with a relentlessly growing population have created a serious condition in this part of the world.

Missionaries Carlisle and Marie Hanna are stationed in North India near West Bengal, one of the areas most affected. Pray for them and the national Christians.

news briefs

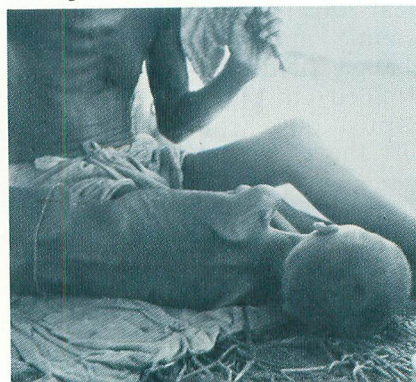
Ribeirao Preto, Brazil—Missionary Bobby Poole announced recently that six people were saved in the church here during the month of August. He expressed satisfaction that one couple is doing especially well and showing real promise. The man is manager of a large supermarket. Pray for this couple.

Colombia, South Am.—Protestant churches in Colombia have grown 42 percent in the last six years, to a total of 300,000. This is 1.3 percent of the total population.

Nashville—The world's population is expected to pass the four billion mark in the next three months. Most of these babies will be born in countries that can least afford to care for and feed them.

Ribeirao Preto, Brazil—The church here was the first international entry in the fall enlargement drive conducted by the Sunday School Department of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

starving child in india



Africa—Missionaries in Maradi, Niger, report the drought in their area is broken. Rains have come, and this portion of the African countryside is green. Earlier, deaths from starvation and disease were dramatically minimized through missionary medicine.

Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil—Opposition is being posed for Valerie, the new convert reported in last *Heartbeat*. Earnie Deeds reports pressure to attend Catholic mass is being applied by an aunt who reared the girl. No religious interest or pressure had appeared before the girl's conversion.

Central America—World Gospel Crusades has placed a gospel of John in every home in Central America.

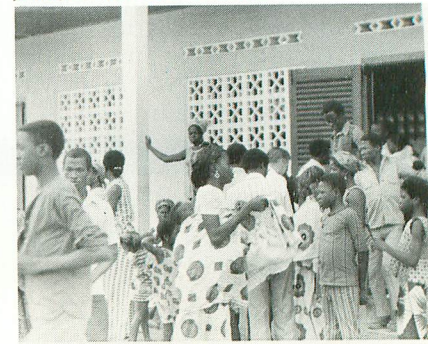
belated conference report

Laoudi-Ba, Ivory Coast—A belated report of the yearly conference at Assiasso (in July) was received recently from Missionary Lonnie Palmer. According to Lonnie, the village chief and elders allowed the Christians to use the school building for this meeting. Some of the village residents even moved in with neighbors and provided their houses to accommodate the Christians.

"In the afternoon people began to arrive on foot (some walked as much as 30 miles), on bicycles, and in cars or trucks," writes Lonnie. "The village rang with Christian hymns as they came singing."

The national Christians conducted the entire meeting as the missionaries observed and rejoiced. A decision to provide for and finance a radio broadcast over radio ELWA in Monrovia in

yearly conference at assiasso



the Koulango language was one of the major actions taken by the group, according to Lonnie.

Licenses to preach were issued to seven evangelists and as previously reported in *Heartbeat*, Victor Anani and Koffi David were ordained.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's supper and feet washing and an open air service in the village.

special prayer and witness

Barbacena, Brazil—Missionary Jim Sturgill recently reported three people were saved as a result of a special prayer and witness challenge a few weeks before. The challenge to select a family for special prayer and witness was accepted by approximately 12 people in the church. One couple, which was saved as a result, accepted the challenge to pray and witness to another couple as well.

The Sturgills report an average of 60 in Sunday school for the month of September. They made a special prayer request for more Sunday school classroom space.

filkins busy at bouake

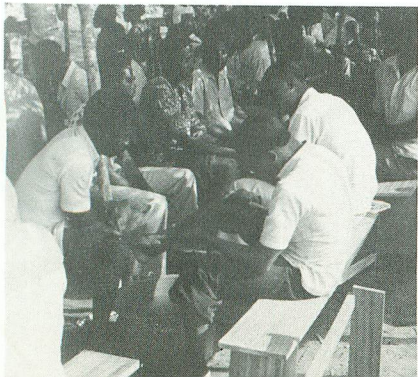
Bouake, Ivory Coast—With the starting of the new school year, Howard and Joan Filkins report they are busy once again. Howard is serving on the dormitory staff executive committee, on the chapel committee, as one of four bus drivers, and is committed to one day a week in maintenance of the campus.

He is also director of the Outreach program. This includes involving students in village evangelism, child evangelism fellowship, rallies, hospital visitation, and fellowship with needy Christian young people.

Joan is teaching piano and sewing in addition to her chores as dormitory "mother."

At last report estimates indicated

washing feet at yearly conference



165-170 students would be on hand for this year's school program. This represents ten different mission groups from approximately 12 countries. A total of 33 staff members are working on campus this year.

interest in organizing

Tokyo, Japan—Interest in organizing into a church has been expressed by the people of the Iriso work here, according to a recent report from Fred Hersey. Several of the people have assumed responsibilities in the work.

A mini three-day Vacation Bible School was held here recently with the help of the church people. An average attendance for each day was approximately 25.

dinner for clyde taylor

Winona Lake, Ind.—During the annual Mission Executives Retreat held here September 30-October 3, leaders of the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association honored Dr. Clyde W. Taylor for his leadership of the evangelical mission cause during the last 30 years.

Dr. Taylor was active in bringing together the missionary agencies which formed EFMA in 1945. He was chosen as its Executive Secretary and has held that post through all the intervening years. At the end of 1974 he is to retire from service with EFMA.

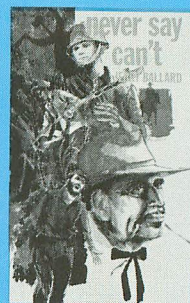
Dr. Wade T. Coggins has been appointed to succeed Dr. Taylor. Coggins came to EFMA as Assistant Executive Secretary in 1958 after about six years of missionary service with the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Colombia, South America.

The Evangelical Foreign Missions Association has 69 member agencies which send a total of over 8,000 missionaries to virtually every accessible country of the world.

japanese christians in tokyo



never say can't



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is furlough travel necessary?

"Furlough!" This is a strange word for what a missionary experiences during absence from his field! Webster says furlough is a granted "leave of absence from duty."

Is it right, then, for the missionary to spend his time in the U.S. on the road? Should he have to speak in churches most every night of the week? drive thousands of miles? make countless appeals? leave his family at home night after night?

Now, you'll have to admit, that doesn't seem like a "furlough." Certainly, it isn't an "absence from duty!" So, why does a missionary do it? Why doesn't he just spend his year visiting with family and relatives, working in a local church, resting, studying, etc.?

I recently read an article which put it very idealistically: According to the article, the local church is to assume responsibility for a missionary family. At least half of their total support is to come from that church. That church would help them enlist the necessary extra support from two or three other churches in their area. The family would join that local church (or already be members). They would spend most of their time while in the U.S. helping in that church.

Perhaps this was and still is nearer the scriptural method. Nevertheless, what "should be" and "what is" seem to be two very distinct things much of the time—even among Christians. But why doesn't it work this way?

Let me suggest some reasons why:

First of all, Free Will Baptist churches are, on the whole, not missions oriented. Few have been taught missions in its true biblical perspective. They do not understand the program nor the necessity for the program of foreign missions.

Another problem lies in the area of inadequate missions leadership from the average pulpit. Because the denomination as a whole has had an inadequate missions educational program, not too many pastors know enough about missions themselves. Few have ever realistically faced the challenge of serving on a foreign field. Many have been afraid to do so lest God say, "Go!" They have hedged the issue or watered it down lest they be touched by the Hand of God and sent to some distant shore.

Then there has been the "poor mouth" approach to these activities: "Free Will Baptists just don't have that kind of money!" Pastors and the people have excused themselves on this basis until they honestly believe it's true. In reality, Free Will Baptists are not much different monetarily across these United States from most other Christians. Perhaps the difference lies in dedication and understanding of God's "give-and-it-shall-be-given-unto-you" principle.

And, although I by no means imply these are the only reasons, let me wind up the list by suggesting one of the major factors involved: few churches have a "missions vision." They may know about missions. They may have missionaries in their church. But they have never sensed a responsibility to the regions beyond. They have become caloused to the need of hungry, perishing souls.

Why do missionaries travel? Because they must raise support for themselves, as well as for other members of the team. They must enlist enough prayer warriors from across the land to stand good for them while they are in the "territory of the enemy." They must seek to challenge non-missionary churches to become missionary churches so that some day the traveling may at least be limited and "furlough" can be somewhat more like what the word suggests.

But for that to ever be, Free Will Baptists must make a very conscious effort to "know" and "feel" the responsibility for the world and every creature in it.

'out of my heart'

J. Reford Wilson

VICTORY OR DEFEAT?

Christians are not pessimists!
Christians are not defeatists!
Christians are not antisocial!
Christians are not cowards!
Christians are not selfish!
Christians are not paupers!

These are times when Christians have an opportunity to "shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life" (Philippians 2:15-16). Another apostle declared you should "show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (I Peter 2:9).

The political, social, moral and economical climate today appears as a funeral shroud. But to the Christian these conditions appear as rays of the dawn preceding the coming of our Lord. The early disciples could have become pessimists when Jesus left them in His ascension. They could have admitted defeat and forgotten His promise of the Comforter. They could have retreated and neglected to share their hope with the world. They could have fled in despair. They could have given up their treasures in heaven for rusty coins and moth-eaten garments. NEVER!! They waited, they received, they witnessed (Luke 24:40; Acts 2:1-11; 2:32).

The 20th century Church is not without its pessimists, defeatists, cowards and selfish ones. By and large, however, the Church has its millions who are devoted to Jesus Christ. These spirit-filled believers are dedicated to making Christ known in this generation.

The present-time missions thrust reads like a chapter from Acts. God is moving mightily in the Korean Army. The Church in Indonesia continues its advance. The Church in India is awakening to its awesome task of reaching its millions. A sense of excitement and expectancy pervades the atmosphere of Latin America when thousands fill public stadiums to hear the gospel. Out of Europe influential evangelical

voices are being heard. "Onward Christian Soldiers" is the marching tune of this generation for the gospel to "cover the earth as waters cover the sea."

Thousands of Free Will Baptist are concerned about a lost world. Thousands of prayers every week tune in to God's throne for the missionaries and souls to whom they are ministering. Thousands of dollars every month are given to support our ministry of foreign missions. The angels of heaven rejoice when 13 young people are converted in a youth camp in Brazil; when a Hindu Badga girl is delivered from demonism; when four Panamanian young people make decisions; when one African man walks ten miles to hear the gospel then returns to his village and burns his idols.

As I learn of these wonderful works of grace in the lives of fellow believers, I enter my church to sing with greater fervency, "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," "Count Your Many Blessings," "Rescue the Perishing," "Jesus Saves!" and "Have Thine Own Way Lord."

I dare you this week to declare your life *victorious* in Jesus Christ. I dare you to *tell* some unsaved soul this week that Jesus saves. I dare you to *pray* twice as much this week as you did last week. I dare you to *increase* your giving to share your hope with the thousands who are hopeless. Only you can choose to fulfill your personal response to the Great Commission.

financial facts

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30

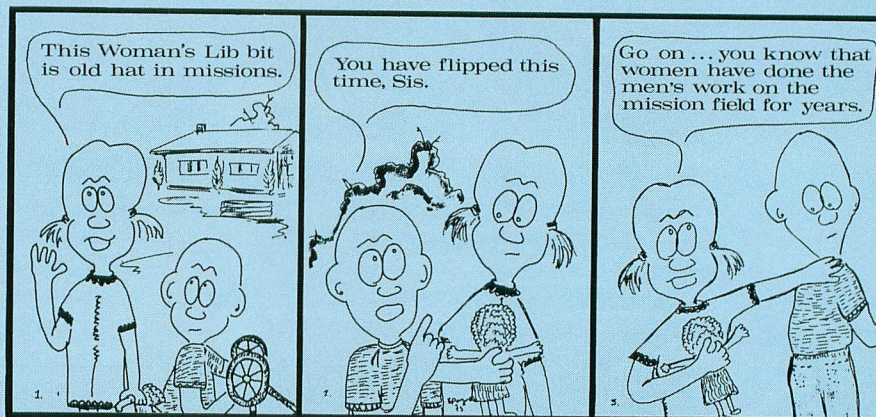
ON DEPOSIT SEPT. 1	\$ 251,072.14
RECEIPTS THRU SEPT. 30	680,784.21
DISBURSEMENTS THRU SEPT. 30	737,991.64
PROJECTED RECEIPTS THRU SEPT. 30	815,031.00
TOTAL 1974 FOREIGN MISSIONS BUDGET	1,086,716.00

MISSIONARY ACCOUNTS*

Aldridge	\$ 4,360.32	Merkh	\$ 928.65
Aycock	2,375.62	L. Miley	(393.37)
Banks	6,172.35	Miley, M.D.	17,902.07
Barker	3,004.14	Palmer	(3,313.26)
Bishop	166.87	Payne	1,073.02
Bryan	1,038.62	Pinkerton	(1,270.63)
Calvery	(5,219.74)	Poole	2,952.59
Caton	(347.07)	Richards	(213.54)
Combs	25,999.47	Roberts	494.12
Coscia	974.33	Robinson	10,278.30
Cronk	5,123.39	Sexton	23,310.18
Crowson	85.23	Smith, A.	536.53
Deeds	1,435.25	Smith, J.	327.94
Dickens	35.00	Sparks	7,633.17
Eagleton	1,151.22	Stevens	1,461.46
Ellison	2,872.78	Sturgill	3,027.13
Filkins	(2,549.97)	Teague	2,359.09
Franks	2,588.33	Vanhook	9,031.55
Fulcher	(526.69)	Waid	(476.08)
Gage	(659.96)	Webb	(3,015.11)
Gainer	(449.64)	Wilkinson	1,355.56
Gibbs	4,939.45	Willey, Jr.	4,603.72
Haas	(6,010.38)	M. Willey	582.34
Hanna	20,441.94	Wode	47.80
Hersey	(375.57)	Braz. Insti.	3,280.51
Hughes	3,666.52	Braz. Veh.	3,989.17
Inscoe	2,469.46	S. India	834.18
Lee	13,895.58	Sum. Miss.	1,683.66
Lytle	157.00	Willey Mem.	1,133.91
McLain	1,396.92	Proj. 5000	1,000.24
Mayhew	2,322.37	Cass. Proj.	36.00

*Amounts in parenthesis indicate deficits.

payne's people



Heartbeat

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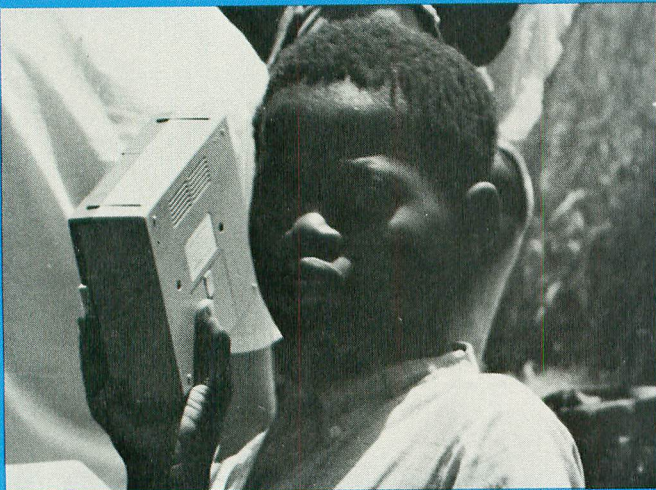
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: J. Reford Wilson, general director; Harold Critcher, director of finance; Don Robirds, director of communications; Henry Van Kluyve, director of deputation

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