

Heartbeat®

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

MARCH 1975

STRATEGY OF MISSIONS



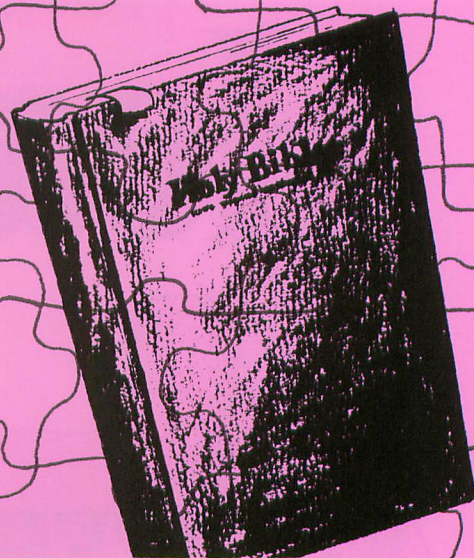
Holy Bible

"AND WE PROCLAIM HIM,
ADMONISHING EVERY MAN
AND TEACHING EVERY
MAN WITH ALL WISDOM,
THAT WE MAY PRESENT
EVERY MAN COMPLETE
IN CHRIST."

COLOSSIANS 1:28

STRATEGY OF MISSIONS

by Lynn Miley



Note to the readers:

Mr. Lynn Miley, author of this article, is an appointee to Ivory Coast, West Africa, where he lived for several years with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. LaVerne Miley. Lynn is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He received his M.A. in Missions from Columbia Bible College.

This timely article is written from the author's standpoint of the ideal, taking into account that he has not had the opportunity to put all of this into practice.

—The Editor

Free Will Baptist missionaries are the perpetrators of a multiplicity of activities. Faithful readers of *Heartbeat* have probably already noticed. In India we operate hostels; in Japan, we coach basketball teams and folk music groups; in Brazil, we broadcast over radio and conduct a Bible Institute; in Panama, we fly an airplane; in the Ivory Coast, we teach literacy classes and run a hospital.

Have you ever wondered why we do all these things and what we are trying to accomplish with them?

I think the answer is found in Colossians 1:28, "And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ." In other words, the objective or

mandate of Free Will Baptist missions is to ultimately present complete, mature, perfect Christians to Jesus Christ.

But defining a mandate is relatively easy; the difficult task is "How do we bring the mandate to reality?" It seems to me that there is a logical strategy for bringing men to the place that they become complete, mature Christians. I have outlined this strategy under three phases with steps under each phase.

PHASE I

We evangelize. We proclaim the gospel and persuade men to accept Christ as Lord of their lives. This sounds simple enough, but now, how do we do it?

Step 1

We must identify in our area segments of the population which appear most responsive to

the gospel. In other words, we have to identify the evangelistic target.

In a Brazilian city of 100,000, for example, there may be five to seven easily identifiable social classes. Research by various mission societies has found that the social class composed of immigrant workers who have recently moved into the city from a rural area tend to be quite responsive to the gospel. The large apartment complex dweller tends to be resistant. In Africa, the responsive segment of society may be a particular tribe or clan or village.

Step 2

Next, we are to identify and use evangelistic methods which are compatible with the culture. House-to-house visitation may work well in France but not in Japan. Literature distribution may be effective in Uruguay but not in the Ivory Coast among illiterate Lobis.

Step 3

Then, we have to set specific evangelistic outreach goals which are realistic.

While it would be impossible for the Brazilian missionary to personally reach the 100,000 people in his city, it may be very possible for him to set as his goal for one month (1) to saturate 500 immigrant workers' homes

with Christian literature, (2) to visit inside 50 of these homes, and (3) to start three home Bible study groups.

Step 4

It is important that we use indigenous decision-making processes to lead people to make a decision for Christ. In a highly patriarchal society, it may be a mistake to encourage children to become Christian until their fathers have. In a tightly knit village, it may be a mistake to encourage several individuals to become Christian before a sizable portion of the village is ready to embrace Christianity.

PHASE II

We teach new Christians Biblical truths.

Step 1

We must develop a curriculum of Biblical teaching and training. The missionary must identify his people's needs and decide which Biblical truths will need special emphasis or clarification. In France, for example, the teaching may need especially to correct errors of the Roman Catholic Church. In Brazil, special attention will need to be given to the spirit world. In Japan, the missionary will have to deal with ancestor worship.

Step 2

We are pressed to identify and use indigenous teaching and learning methods. Not all people are accustomed to learning or thinking in the same way. The Japanese may learn well in a formal, classroom setting, but the Lobi in Africa may learn best while sitting around a fire or by acting out Biblical truths.

PHASE III

We seek to incorporate believers into an indigenous

church. The following steps are not intended to denote a logical or chronological order. All four steps, to one degree or another, should be taking place at the same time.

Step 1

Our hope is to develop indigenous church personnel. The church with Scripture as its guide should be free to decide which personnel it needs and what should be their qualifications and duties. Some churches may decide they need a council of pastors rather than a single pastor. They may or may not need deacons. If they do have deacons, the duties and qualifications of a Japanese deacon may be quite different from those of a Uruguayan deacon.

Step 2

We plan to develop indigenous Christian worship activities such as singing, giving, praying, baptism, communion, etc. The church should be free to express these activities in terms of its own culture.

Singing may take the form of chanting. Giving could be presenting chickens or farm produce rather than dropping money in an offering plate.

Step 3

Indigenous Christian materials must be developed. The physical objects that Christians use (church buildings, musical instruments, hymn books, communion plates, etc.) should be consistent with the culture.

If there is a church building, it should reflect the culture of the people, not Western architecture. The typical church with four walls, pointed roof, rows of pews and a pulpit in front is, by and large, Western. In some places of

Africa, the church meets under the trees, not in a building. Other African Christians meet in round church buildings with the pastor seated in the middle and the congregation seated around him.

Musical instruments should be native. Few third world peoples are accustomed to singing to an organ or piano, but rather to a drum, xylophone, flute, or guitar.

Step 4

We encourage the indigenous expression of the spiritual gifts. This is probably the most important step of all, since any church whose members are exercising their spiritual gifts in their proper perspective will be a healthy, growing, autonomous church.

This means that the missionary must make a deliberate effort to help his people discover their spiritual gifts and how to exercise them in their church. For example, in a society which has no social security program, it may befall those with the gift of generosity to support widows or orphans in the church. Those with the gift of teaching may conduct the services. The man with the gift of healings may serve as a spiritual counselor and advisor to heal spiritual wounds rather than physical ills.

In a sense, I have presented only half the picture. I have focused primarily on the missionary and his responsibilities, but, the national church is at the same time responsible for evangelizing, teaching and establishing indigenous churches. As the church does these things, the missionary has fulfilled his mandate. The missionary task is accomplished in the national church when it can say, "We are mature; we are complete; we no longer need you."



BY ALL MEANS WIN SOME

By Tom Hughes

Different! Yes, all things are different!

Every city is different.

Every stage of the work is different. Every year is different. And every missionary is different. But in spite of these differences, each missionary has a common goal: to win souls and make disciples for Christ.

As a relatively new missionary in Brazil, I have experimented with various methods of evangelism to determine which ones would be workable for me, the city of Araras and for the church here at the present time.

From the start we have used the customary door-to-door method of inviting people to the regular church services, evangelistic meetings, plays, etc. At the time of this writing, this approach had reaped few visitors and NO converts.

Tools and methods which have proven to be effective in our ministry include Moody Science films, Bible studies in the jails, English classes and the day-to-day personal encounters with people as we maintain life.

FILMS

One tool of evangelism that will quickly draw a large crowd in Brazil is the Moody Science film. These interesting films utilize pertinent scientific material to communicate the gospel message. We have shown these films in the streets many times with crowds of well over 200.

But even though we attracted large crowds and passed out Gospels of John, most of these

people were not being evangelized. This was made evident one night when Sebastiao, one of the national pastors, attempted to preach after we had shown a film. Within a few minutes the crowd retreated into the shadows and then disappeared. Since then, we have moved the film showings to the social hall of the church. We continue to go from door-to-door to invite people. The crowds are much smaller and preaching has been eliminated at these showings but people are entering our church for the first time.

As doors opened we entered homes with these films. Also, on several occasions we have had small groups in our home for a film and homemade ice cream. (Our ice cream freezer is a real "opener" for conversation with the Brazilians since it is a novelty here.) Natural opportunities were provided to discuss the Bible because of questions which arose from the films.

Recently a lady from our church invited us to show a film at her son's birthday party. This was a typical "festa" which involved a gathering of all the relatives as well as friends. Nearly all of those present were Spiritists or Catholics. I showed a film which demonstrated the literal accuracy of Bible prophecy. This provoked a discussion which resulted in an opportunity to present the Bible plan of salvation.

ENGLISH

Soon after we moved to Araras we had people coming to our

home requesting English classes. Because of our inexperience in the work and language, and due to our role as "school teacher" for our children, we felt the time was not right. We have now started classes and are enjoying contact with people whom we probably could reach in no other way.

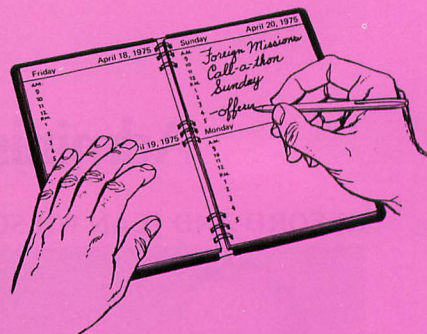
As in any place, at any time, we realize the need to be alert for opportunities to share our faith in our day-to-day encounters with people. About ten months ago, our lives were confused by the necessity of our third move in two years. We felt that God was allowing this for a special reason. In looking for a home we met a frustrated young lady with many personal problems. She had turned from Catholicism to Spiritism and both had failed to bring the answers or peace she sought. Through her problems God had already prepared her and it was not long before she committed her life to Him.

JAIL MINISTRY

After much prayer, patience, and red tape, another door for evangelism was opened: I was given permission to have Bible studies with inmates of the city jail. One man and a woman have been won as a result of these studies.

Through these various approaches we have had contact with many Brazilians. Some of these have been won. We would like to see more, but we are trying by all means to win some.

Plan now-



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- or
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And don't forget to call

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getting to know them



Administrative Staff

REFORD AND JEAN WILSON



Since 1962, J. Reford Wilson has served as General Director of the Department of Foreign Missions. His responsibilities include providing overall leadership for the department, traveling extensively to acquaint himself with missionary problems, as well as giving counsel to missionaries. Even when missionaries disagree with the advice given, for the most part, they know it is given out of love for them and concern for their ministries.

Prior to coming to the department, Reverend Wilson was in the pastorate for 15 years. He served on the Board of Foreign Missions for ten of those years.

Reford attended Oklahoma State University for two years. Then, in 1946, he and Jean Lane, both from Oklahoma, became students at Free Will Baptist Bible College. They were married during the summer of 1947, before coming back for a second year.

Mrs. Wilson has worked for

the FWB Sunday School Department for nine years. When they have time for hobbies, Jean sews while Reford raises gardens and Schipperke dogs.

The Wilsons are parents of two grown children: Jon, who will graduate from FWBBC this spring, and Rebecca Reddick, who works with her husband L.T. in a home for delinquents in Oklahoma City.

HENRY AND VIRGINIA VAN KLUYVE



Although he was baptized as an infant in the Christian Reformed Church and attended church regularly, Henry Van Kluyve didn't find Christ as his Savior until age 20, when he was saved aboard his ship in Norfolk, Va. He began attending Fairmount Park Free Will Baptist Church, where he was licensed to preach.

Virginia Hales, daughter of the

Fairmount pastor, had been converted at age 12, and was very active in the church's youth group. It was here that she met and dated Henry. They were married in 1952 and a year later entered Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Henry served in the pastorate for 12 years, beginning while they were in school. As a pastor, he led his churches to support missions and to extend their ministries beyond the local level. His desire to encourage pastors and churches to share in the world-wide outreach of Free Will Baptists caused him to assume the duties of Director of Deputation in 1967.

The Van Kluyves have three children: Johnny, a freshman at FWBBC; Ricky, age 17; and Cindy, age 13.

HAROLD AND JUNE CRITCHER



Both Harold and June Critcher grew up in North Carolina in Christian homes and both were graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College, she in 1954, and he two years later. After graduation, Harold began a six-year ministry as Christian Education Director at Fairmount Park Free Will Baptist Church, Norfolk, Va.

While serving in Norfolk, Harold renewed acquaintance with June, daughter of the pastor, Reverend Fred Rivenbark. They were married two years later, in 1958.

In 1962, Harold was employed as Administrative Assistant in the Executive Department. Five years later, he joined the foreign missions staff as Director of Finances.

Mr. Critcher's duties include helping prepare the annual budget, receipting monies received, transacting all financial operations at home and monetary transfers overseas, as well as assisting missionaries with income tax declarations. Harold's specialized knowledge and his willingness to help, make him extremely valuable to the missionary trying to file tax forms and keep funds straight while thousands of miles from the bank.

Although he is not an ordained minister, Harold has been noted as an outstanding Bible preacher. He has actively served in his church and in the Master's Men program of the denomination.

The Critchers have two children: Del, a high school freshman, and Von, age 12.



sionaries, Don is uniquely qualified for this ministry: he worked for seven years as printer and typesetter before going overseas in 1964; then, during his first term in Brazil, he was responsible for printing and distributing numerous publications.

Neither Don nor Carol was saved when they married in 1954. One year later, they accepted the Lord in the First FWB Church, Modesto, Calif. They entered Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1958. Don received his B.A. degree in 1961. After graduation he served as teacher and Dean of California Bible Institute (forerunner of California Christian College) for three years, prior to their appointment as missionaries in 1964.

The Robirds are parents of four children: a grown daughter, Judith; Teresa, age 16; Stephen, age 13; and Michael, age 8.

Don's missionary experience gives him insight into Free Will Baptist ministries around the world and helps him present clearly to stateside audiences the goals and needs of our missionaries.

DON AND CAROL ROBIRDS

Don and Carol Robirds left a growing ministry in Brazil in 1972 to transfer to the Nashville office, where Don assumed responsibilities as Director of Communications. This involved production of *Heartbeat* and all other printed materials, production of filmstrips, and assistance to missionaries.

Among Free Will Baptist mis-

deputational echoes

by Henry
Van Kluyve



Overwhelming Response

God is blessing the deputational ministry of our department "... exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."

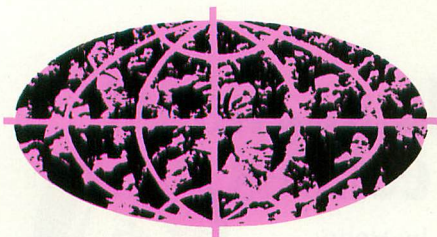
Foreign missions conferences, rally days, and faith-promise results in 1974 caused my heart to overflow with joy and gratitude. I was in conferences nearly 70% of the weekends.

The MONTHLY FAITH PROMISES recorded in these services reached an all-time high of \$14,940. This does not include those received by the missionaries on deputation.

Scores of decisions for full-time service, rededication, etc., were also recorded. The days spent in California in November yielded much fruit. We (Mayhew, Combs, Webb, Van Kluyve) spent three days at California Christian College. We were given "red carpet" treatment. I preached twice. Pastors and students responded to the invitation. Two students answered God's call to go to "regions beyond." Students and faculty responded with \$177 per month in faith promises for the Jerry Webb ministry (Jerry is a CCC alumnus). A pastor and two missionaries raised the total to \$212.

My heart is again optimistic as we approach Spring of 1975. Faith-promise missionary conferences are catching fire. Pastors' conferences offer greater opportunity to share what God is doing and will do for a missionary church.

To God be the glory for all that has been accomplished.



emphasis: world

EVENTS OF NEWS AND PRAYER SIGNIFICANCE

six baptized in january

Rennes, France—Joe Haas baptized six people here on January 12. These included a man, his wife and son, another couple and an American girl. In addition to these baptisms, Joe indicated a mother of nine children, a university girl and a young man from Niger have been saved since that time.

Two films were shown recently: One was shown in the church. This required 30 extra rented chairs to seat the crowd. The second film was shown in a rented building in town. Over 300 university students attended this showing, and a long discussion followed.

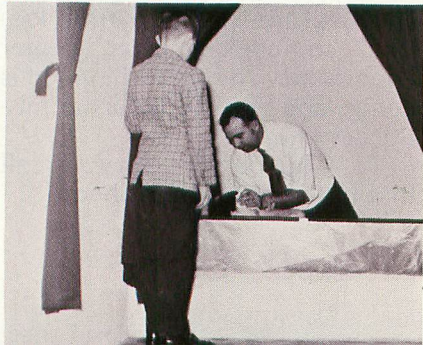
visas denied

Nashville, Tenn.—Visas and United States government clearances to visit Cuba were denied General Director J. Reford Wilson, Missionary Tom Willey, Jr., and Mrs. Mabel Willey. The three had planned to attend the Cuban Association of Free Will Baptists, February 20-23. Following the visit to Panama by two Cuban pastors last year, hopes had been raised that the visas and clearances might be granted.

new approach

Tokyo, Japan—Fred Hersey has taken a new approach to helping unbelievers who attend Sunday morning services in the Iriso church. According to Fred, he is "cutting the service (message) a little short." This gives him time to meet in the bus with the unbelievers

haas baptizes believer



for a time when they can be a little less formal and can ask questions, etc.

Fred adds, "You see, even without an engine, I am trying to get as much mileage as possible out of our 'bus ministry.' It makes a handy extra room."

While they meet, the Christians remain in the building to pray, give testimonies, etc.

students witnessing

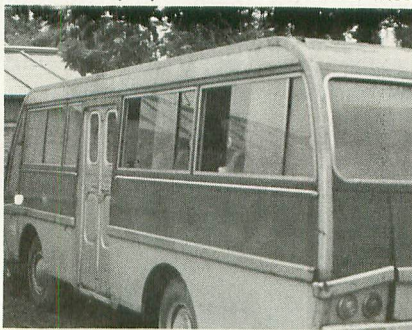
Bouake, Ivory Coast—Students at Ivory Coast Academy, where many of our M.K.'s attend, won over 20 souls for the Lord during the first two weeks of the trimester. According to the Howard Filkins, many have been participating in an outreach program including teaching teams in public schools, street witnessing, and musical groups. Over 50 have "prayed" as a result of this ministry.

Students were also asked to participate in a youth rally February 1 at the youth center here. More than 2,000 were expected to attend the rally.

pastors visit north india

Sonapurhat, India—Carlisle Hanna reports a gathering of the national South India pastors here January 9-13, after attending the Evangelical Fellowship of India Conference at Gauhati January 4-8. "The pastors visited our villages," writes Hanna, "and we had a day of prayer and fellowship together here in Sonapurhat." Carlisle reports that the South Indian pastors are doing a good work. Many people are being saved.

"bus ministry" provides classroom for iriso



prospect for the ministry

Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil—Earnie Deeds and Dave Franks have both expressed the possibility and hope that the Lord may be calling Luiz, a young man in their work, to preach the gospel.

According to Earnie, he "is very faithful and growing. He is studying his Bible and reading everything we give him. He is witnessing to his family and friends."

Although Luiz's father wants him to go to medical college, Earnie says Luiz is seeking the Lord's will and thinks the Lord may want him to prepare for the ministry. Pray for him and his family.

miley receives car

Raytown, Mo.—Challenged by missionary appointee Lynn Miley's enthusiasm for foreign missions, Tim Altis, a young member of the Beacon Free Will Baptist Church here, "felt that God showed him a need and that he was able to meet this need by giving Lynn his 1972 Maverick to use in his missionary work."

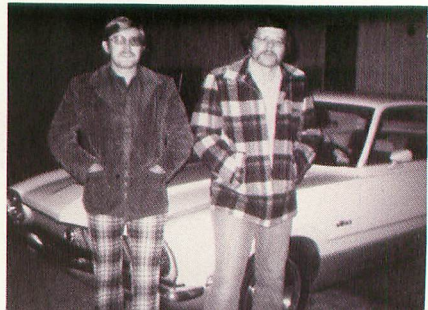
Pastor of the church is Reverend Jimmie Bundy.

cassette ministry expanding

Doropo, Ivory Coast—Eddie Payne, anxiously awaiting the arrival of a recent shipment of cassette players, tapes, etc., writes concerning latest developments for the tape ministry:

"We now have several tapes in use in Lobi. Just last week (week of

lynn miley, tim altis, and 1972 maverick



January 5) we completed recording the Gospel of Mark in Lobi. I hope to have copies in use in a short while in the villages. We are also working at the idea of literacy via tape. I'm using one village with this experiment. So far there seems to be real progress using the primer and tapes together."

Eddie also indicated that two other mission groups in the area are interested in using this ministry.

ham radio opens door

Barbacena, Brazil—Jim Sturgill is a licensed amateur radio operator. Because of this, he was sought out about six months ago by a young man interested in locating amateur radio operators. Through friendship he was eventually persuaded to attend church services. Stirred by what he heard, he began seeking help and finally made a decision for Christ.

news briefs

Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil—Dave Franks writes concerning daughter Regina: "After three trips to Belo Horizonte—one to see her surgeon, another to make the barium X-rays of her intestines, and the last to get the results—the surgeon said that she is in excellent condition."

Memphis, Tenn.—Mr. Louia Coscia, father of Missionary Louis Coscia, died February 10 of a heart attack while having minor surgery in a local hospital.

Lausanne, Switzerland—Jimmy and Janie Aldridge have finished their language refresher course here and are scheduled to return to the Ivory Coast soon. They planned to spend some time in France prior to their departure.

Nashville, Tenn.—Dr. Joseph Ange, chairman of the Board of Foreign Missions, underwent open-heart surgery January 29. He was released from

the hospital February 8, and at last report he appeared to be recovering fine.

Smithville, Tenn.—Gladys Robinson, mother of Missionary Paul Robinson, died here on February 7. She had been under a doctor's care for several months due to cancer.

Kirkville, Mo.—Neva Thomas and Wanda Newland of Kirkville, hometown of Howard and Joan Filkins and Dr. LaVerne Miley, vacationed in the Ivory Coast Nov. 25-Dec. 21. They assisted the Howard Filkins in the closing activities of Ivory Coast Academy and had opportunity to visit each mission station.

Doropo, Ivory Coast—The clinic reported being open 287 days during the year 1974 with 28,582 registered patients. Average daily patient load was approximately 100. Many evening and night patients are not included in this count. Several decisions for Christ were recorded as a result of the preaching-witnessing of clinic help.

Koun, Ivory Coast—Norman Richards recently began working in the village of Ngato and reports the conversion of two young Catholic men and the wife of a Moslem.

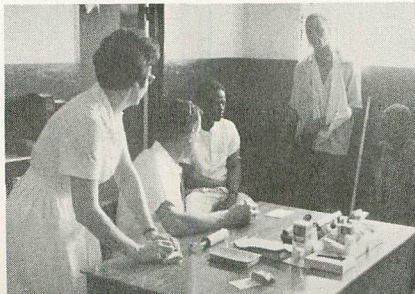
Laoudi-Ba, Ivory Coast—According to information received recently, Lonnie Palmer has completed the translation of I Samuel in Koulango and plans to begin translating II Samuel soon.

communist criticism

Rennes, France—Recent correspondence from Missionary Joe Haas included excerpts from two articles which he claims were written by communists in Rennes:

"The American missionaries that direct the church have the tendency to consider totally bad Communism, Catholicism, and the ecumenical movement. In short, we find that they are very simple-minded and on the extreme right, Facist."

miles have 28,582 patients in '74



"The very small children are drawn by the pastor of this candy and coca cola sect with the intentions of putting into their mind the very dangerous ideas concerning the power of the United States and their superiority over all other nations of the world. Principally they attack the countries that have a socialistic and communistic government."

Joe requested prayer that "God will turn their slanderous attacks into blessings."

missionary conference

Liberia, West Africa—In an interior village of Liberia, some 700 forest dwellers from the Sinoe region gathered for a missionary conference. Rev. Augustus Marwieh, a native Liberian, planned, organized, and directed the eight-day conference which featured a missionary challenge and ended with Faith-Promise commitments of \$8,721.51. The average income of people in the region is about \$125 annually.

brazil-uruguay camp

Rivera, Uruguay—A recent report from the Robinsons and Ellisons expressed their evaluation of their recent camp as "one of the best." Attendance was 58 for the five days, February 8-13. On Sunday, February 13, 117 people were on hand for the concluding events.

Area churches also recently made plans for vacation Bible schools. The children voted to give their missions offerings for a food package to our missionaries in India.

koulango radio programs

Laoudi-Ba, Ivory Coast—Lonnie Palmer recently reported a continually growing audience for the Koulango radio program being broadcast over ELWA radio in Abidjan. Reports have shown listeners in Ghana and even as far away as Agogo.

koulango preachers at abidjan



heart surgery for chairman ange



get rid of the administration

Why not do away with the administration? Why do we need to have so many chiefs, anyway? Why not just carry on missions in a simpler way? Just why do we need four "directors" in the missions department?

Have you ever asked these questions? Have you thought about asking them? Well, many have thought about it and others have asked them. I must admit I've thought about asking them myself in the past.

Church leaders have raised these questions at various times. They are concerned that we have "too many chiefs and not enough indians." Their concern lies principally in the areas of "control" and "costs."

In the area of control, some feel that the administration tends to wield too much control over the lives of the missionaries. They think that any administration will hinder the working of the Holy Spirit. They argue that individuality tends to be lost. In effect they are echoing the same objection of the youth of today: "Do away with the establishment!"

The second objection to administrative directors is that of "too much overhead." Naturally, the more leaders or executive officers an organization has, the more expense it is going to have. This expense seems, to some at least, to be totally unjustified. After all, mission money is given to send missionaries, not to hire men to order missionaries around.

Personally, I think these arguments are valid—at least in some degree. But a great deal more is involved than just "control" and "cost."

Let me explain:

Human limitation demands that we provide adequate personnel to effectively carry out the

objectives of any organization. U. S. Government "red tape" has increased the demands on U. S. organizations. Just ask any businessman. Along with this, foreign government "red tape" is often more involved than that of our country. It sometimes takes months to get visas for new and returning missionaries. Overseas shipments and purchases often involve phone calls, correspondence, money transactions, etc., which consume a great deal of time. And the one dealing with such conditions has to have authority to make an on-the-spot decision.

Added numbers of foreign personnel have also increased the work load. Limited concern and limited mission knowledge by Free Will Baptists in general have compelled an extra amount of promotional and informational preparation. This all contributes to our need for more administrative personnel. One mission group about our size needs very little promotion or missionary education. Their people respond without this necessity. Consequently, they spend very little, comparably, on these two areas.

On this basis, the Board of Foreign Missions has set up the missions office with three basic departments: Deputational Ministries, Finance, and Informational Services, each headed by an executive officer. The General Director is overseer and coordinator of the entire missionary office and force.

Without someone to give direction, keep people challenged, keep financial records, and keep the public informed, the overall missions program would likely end in chaos and calamity.

Should we do away with the administration? No! We need men in "authority." This is a scriptural principle. But perhaps as we restudy the economical aspects, the workability of our system, and the constantly changing world to which we minister, our administrative setup may need to be revised.

Whatever the need, however, we dare not think in terms of eliminating administration. We must make it effective for God's glory. And we must seek to keep up-to-date on methods and means available to eliminate any unnecessary overhead.

This, the Board of Foreign Missions will seek to do. They and the staff will need your prayers, not criticism, toward this end.

'out of my heart'

J. Reford Wilson

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

A man once offered money to possess the power of the Holy Ghost. Men of all cultures—either by offering sacrifices, making arduous pilgrimages, self-inflicting pain, or through following mystic religious rituals of multitudinous good works—seek to merit the power of supernatural life. Moral values, commendable acts of mercy, and sincerity of effort may be attributed to tens of thousands who so involve themselves. To them, the plan of redemption is relative rather than absolute.

Biblical authority is absolute. The writer of Hebrews declared, "God . . . hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son . . ." (Hebrews 1:1, 2). This Son, Jesus Christ, demanded repentance (Luke 13:3; 24:45-47); declared himself as the "I AM"—the Way, the Truth, the Life (John 14:6), the Door, the Light, and the Bread (John 10:7; 8:12; 6:35).

Never has the Christian of this generation been confronted with such a tremendous task. More people are in the world today than during any other generation. More people to tell! More people lost! More people to hear!

Never has the Church had better means of communicating the gospel. Skilled missionaries, the Bible in more languages, literature, radio, television, and everything from hand puppets to overhead projectors enhance communication of the message.

Dedicated, committed, Spirit-filled men and women go and tell the "good news." Thousands give and pray for those who go.

FACE THE FACTS! We are confronted with determining values. The last issue of HEARTBEAT informed you of the costs of sending and supporting missionaries. Before passing judgment on the question, "Is it worth it?" put yourself in the place of the God-called missionary, or better yet, in the place of that one without an opportunity to hear the gospel.

We, in the foreign missions department, live daily with the facts. In 1974, our receipts of \$932,916.53 fell below our 1973 receipts of \$955,904.69. This occurred when costs continued to soar. It is usually a fact that during times of economic depression, outside giving is the first to be withheld. This is like cutting off the supply line to the army engaged in front-line battle. The battle rages; the conflict continues. Support is essential. Missionaries are on remote front lines. Souls are perishing. We cannot, we dare not cut off the supplies. Now is the time to show the genuineness of our discipleship—denying self to save others.

In the depression days of the '30s, a mother of one of our missionaries heard a missionary tell of the need in China. The mother did not have money to give, but she placed her ring in the offering plate as a "sacrificial" gift to send this missionary to China. I am asking you to make a "sacrificial" gift to Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions during the month of April. Will you join me and members of my staff and give a week's salary? This gift will be beyond tithes and offerings and the faith promises already committed. We have eight missionaries waiting to go and ten missionaries in Missionary Internship who will soon be ready to go. Your "sacrificial" gift is desperately needed. Ask God what He would have you give.

financial facts

THROUGH JANUARY 31

On deposit Jan. 1	\$ 269,529.01
Receipts thru Jan. 31	79,643.00
Disbursements thru Jan. 31	87,288.79
Projected receipts thru Jan. 31	102,500.00
Total 1975 Foreign Missions budget	\$1,230,000.00

MISSIONARY ACCOUNTS*

Aldridge . . .	\$(2,315.69)	Merkh . . .	\$5,516.10
Aycock . . .	1,549.60	L. Miley . . .	3,540.49
Banks . . .	7,301.95	Miley, M.D. . .	20,029.30
Barker . . .	3,486.98	Palmer . . .	174.30
Bishop . . .	2,181.31	Payne . . .	941.83
Bryan . . .	1,434.13	Pinkerton . . .	3,275.77
Calvary . . .	(2,297.83)	Poole . . .	2,922.25
Caton . . .	(1,185.88)	Richards . . .	2,588.94
Combs . . .	24,053.10	Roberts . . .	843.02
Coscia . . .	(43.81)	Robinson . . .	9,574.40
Cronk . . .	5,134.83	Sexton . . .	23,344.46
Crowson . . .	(362.57)	Smith, A. . .	1,260.93
Deeds . . .	418.84	Smith, J. . .	321.24
Dickens . . .	(344.47)	Sparks . . .	6,108.09
Eagleton . . .	4,331.17	Stevens . . .	2,614.68
Ellison . . .	461.34	Sturgill . . .	2,774.01
Filkins . . .	(1,974.89)	Teague . . .	1,989.45
Franks . . .	2.57	Vanhook . . .	10,020.65
Fulcher . . .	2,508.76	Wald . . .	(2,157.04)
Gage . . .	(992.64)	Webb . . .	(2,323.81)
Gainer . . .	3.28	Wilkinson . . .	1,594.22
Gibbs . . .	3,411.03	Willey, Jr. . .	2,029.16
Haas . . .	(2,332.00)	M. Willey . . .	868.40
Hanna . . .	20,764.45	Wode . . .	46.80
Hersey . . .	(905.75)	Brazil Inst. . .	1,088.53
Hughes . . .	7,293.31	Brazil Veh. . .	5,589.17
Inscoc . . .	1,463.34	S. India . . .	437.67
Lee . . .	15,564.24	Sum. Miss. . .	1,853.82
Lytle . . .	118.86	Willey Mem. . .	1,158.91
McLain . . .	(336.11)	Proj. 5000 . . .	1,474.76
Mayhew . . .	4,339.98	Cass. Proj. . .	954.65

* Amounts in parenthesis indicate deficits.

payne's people



BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS: Joseph Ange, chairman; Raymond Riggs, vice chairman; Rolla Smith, secretary; James Murray; Gene Rogers; R. Eugene Waddell; Fred Warner; Allen Moore; Dennis Wiggs

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