

# HEARTBEAT

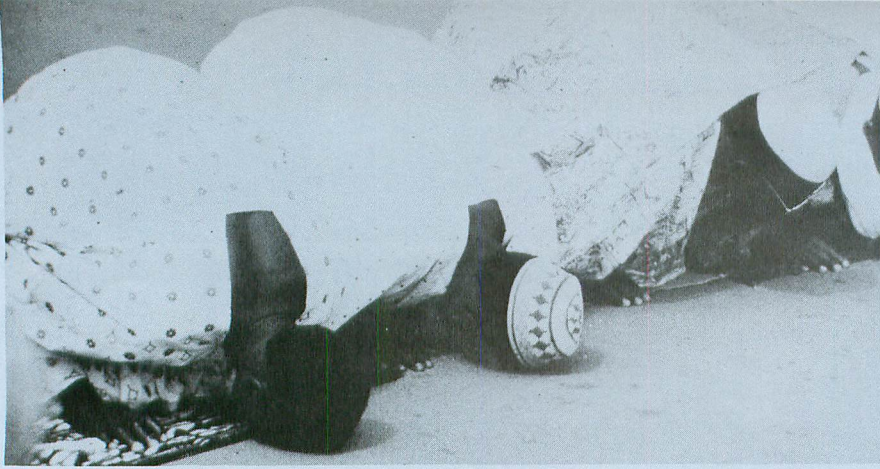
of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions



## Muslims: How Should We View Them?

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1980





# Muslims:

## How Should We View Them?

*Fighting between Muslims and Christians is as current as today's newspaper. The slaughters in Rhodesia and Uganda have been attributed, in part, to Islamic thought.*

*Now, the Iranian crisis has been brought on by reception of the deposed Iranian Shah in so-called "Christian United States."*

**O**ne out of every six people is a Muslim.

The word *Muslim* means someone who surrenders (to God). The name of the Muslims' religion is Islam, which means submission (to the will of God).

There are 700 million people in the household of Islam. They stretch from the southern tip of the Philippines to the Atlantic coast of the Sahara republics and beyond. There are 40 million Muslims in

China, 25 million in Russia, 16 million in Eastern Europe and eight million in Western Europe. More Muslims live in England than there are Englishmen in church on Sunday.

### **Two Million in U.S.**

Here in North America two million of our population are Muslims. Mosques are springing up everywhere. A brand-new, multimillion-dollar beauty has been erected in Washington, D.C. (as well as in Rome and in London). In the inner cities, abandoned churches are being purchased by Muslims and redesigned so as to permit worshipers to face Mecca.

We feel the Muslims' influence in our economy too, thanks to oil. Whether buying banks in Atlanta, farmland in Iowa or mansions in Beverly Hills, they are becoming increasingly visible. From boxing to basketball, names like Muhammad Ali and Karim Abdul Jabbar catch

the limelight. And quietly across the land Muslim student associations have been established on 150 North American campuses.

Islam is a missionary religion. Every year in Cairo thousands of missionaries are graduated and sent into all the world. In New York City special training is given to help Muslim missionaries learn how to win Americans to Islam. They naturally see themselves in competition with Christian missions. The heads of 37 Muslim countries recently resolved to expel Christian missions from their lands.

Who are these Muslims? What do they believe? What motivates them? It is time that we take a new look at our Muslim neighbors.

### **Founded by Muhammad**

Islam was born in the flaming zeal of an indomitable Arab who had a passion for God. His name was Muhammad. He was born in A.D. 570. His world was devoid of any healthy example of evangelical Christianity. In the year he was born, "Christian" Ethiopian invaders tried to conquer his hometown of Mecca.

In the northern part of his country corrupt "Christian" Byzantine armies used Arab tribesmen in their wars with the Persians. Throughout Arabia Muhammad saw Syrian Nestorian monks in strange-looking monasteries who worshiped three gods: the Father, Jesus and Mary.

Mecca was the pilgrim center for Arab tribes. The central shrine, called the Kaaba, was filled with 300 idols. Muhammad saw the heartless materialism of the merchants eroding the virtues of tribal culture.

From the time of his first "revelations" in A.D. 610, he thundered in dazzlingly fiery and eloquent sermons for his fellow Meccans to repent and turn to the one God. He denounced the loan sharks and the merciless rich. He defended widows and orphans. He forbade the killing of female infants. Above all, in his magnificent Arabic



oratory, he defended Allah against all other "gods."

Mecca was not ready for this firebrand. Threats were made against his life. The citizens of the rival city of Medina invited him to become their leader. In 622 Muhammad "immigrated" to Medina to become the military, political and religious head of the new nation of Islam. All Islamic history starts from this date.

Within ten years Muhammad welded the Arab tribes together as an invincible fighting force. Mecca fell without a fight. Muhammad purified the Kaaba of its idols and established it as the center to which all Muslims must face when they pray, and to which they must come on pilgrimage at least once in their lifetime.

### **Spread by Sword and Song**

The rest is history. By sword and song Islam spread. It has within it an impelling force toward world conquest. Muslims see themselves as God's chosen people to bring the whole world to His feet. This has put them on a collision course with Christianity. The "armies of Allah" swept through the churches of the Mideast and North Africa. In 711 they entered Spain and ruled until 1492.

And the Christians, whenever they could, bought the Muslims. The crusades were the first mistakes. Colonialism, with Western "Christian" powers dominating most of the Muslim world, was the second.

Fighting between Muslims and Christians is as current as today's newspaper. Muslim guerrillas attacking the Christian government forces of the Philippines. Syrian Muslims bombarding Lebanese Christians. "Christian" (Marxist) Ethiopia at war with Muslim Somalia and Eritrea. The Muslim president of Uganda trying to exterminate the Christians in his land. Christian Greece and Muslim Turkey ready for another war over Cyprus.

Theologically there are serious rivalries, too. Muslims see their strict

monotheism as superior to the "Three-gods heresy" of trinitarian Christians. They deny Jesus' death on the cross, and hence His atonement for sin.

Although Muhammad gave great honor to Christ, he thought of himself as the last and greatest of God's prophets. He saw all previous Biblical religions as superseded by Islam. He thought that Christianity had failed and that Christians had changed the Bible to fit their wrong doctrines.

### **Encouraging Signs**

In spite of the tragic history of Christian-Muslim relations, political wars fought in the name of Christianity, and serious theological differences, there are many encouraging signs for Christian missions among Muslims. Veteran missionaries are discovering a new openness. Enrollments in Bible correspondence courses are astoundingly high. Christian radio programs are being well received in Muslim countries. And the number of converts is increasing.

Two other phenomena are cause for encouragement. First, literally hundreds of thousands of Westerners are now working in Muslim countries. Many of them are dedicated Christians. The opportunities that God is giving them right in Muslim heartlands are extraordinary. Second, thousands of students and businessmen from Muslim countries are now living and visiting in the West. Many are becoming open to the gospel.

God has certainly arranged for a remarkable interpenetration of Muslims and Christians. This kind of extensive intermingling is something new in history. It seems that God is trying to get us to view our Muslim neighbors from a new perspective.

### **Need to Learn More**

One of the things we will need to do is learn more about them, about their beliefs and about their holy book, the Koran. A person reading the Koran will receive many pleasant surprises. Jesus is

mentioned over ninety times. He is called "The Word of God" and "The Spirit of God," as well as the "Messiah" and "The Righteous One." His virgin birth is affirmed. He is described as one who healed lepers, gave sight to the blind and raised the dead.

In the Koran Jesus refers to His own death and resurrection. Even though Muslims deny His crucifixion, they do believe He was taken alive from the cross and is alive in heaven now. They also believe He will return one day to lead the whole world back to God.

One Muslim who was searching for Christ started by reading the Koran. He wanted to know this miracle worker who was still alive in heaven. When he found Him, he was able to point many others to Him. After his baptism he was taken to the local mosque.

In answering the charges of becoming a traitor and infidel, he stood up, folded his arms, covered his head and began to chant the Koran in the accepted way. He used the passages about Jesus and amplified them with portions of the New Testament. The effect of this on his friends and family was profound.

There are not many Christian missionaries who could have done this. The truth is that we have been guilty of a colossal neglect of these 700 million unreached Muslims of that world. It is startling to learn that of the 36,000 North American missionaries at work in the world, no more than two percent are involved in evangelism among Muslims. Have we blindly written off Muslims as hopelessly resistant to the gospel?

### **Not All Resistant**

They may not be all that resistant to the gospel. Their resistance may be to Western imperialism, alien cultural forms and a misunderstood Christianity. This is illustrated by a brilliant, brand-new convert from Islam who was asked to share his impressions of Christian worship.

*Continued on page 4* →



→Continued from page 3

Remember, he was thoroughly converted to Christ and believed the Bible completely. But his anger may shock some of us. He said, "The Christian worship I saw was unclean, irreverent, arrogant, idolatrous and immoral."

When asked to explain further, he said: "You neither wash yourselves nor take off your shoes before entering God's house. You gossip irreverently and never cover your heads to pray. You put so much furniture in the place of prayer that no one can even prostrate himself before God to pray. You make pictures of Christ—something God has forbidden. And you mix women with men, making it impossible to have a pure thought life or concentrate on God."

Before we laugh, we might ask ourselves which approach is closer to Scriptural patterns. The apparent resistance of Muslims may not be to the gospel at all, but to the Western cultural forms of Christianity which we have thoughtlessly tried to impose on a people whose concepts are so very different.

The time has come to develop new approaches in presenting Christ to our Muslim friends here and abroad. Pray for your Muslim neighbors in North America. Pray for Muslim friends in 42 Islamic countries. And pray for those whom God is sending to work among them.

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# OPPORTUNITY'S OPEN DOOR

by Vada Lee

**M**adame, don't let Honore stay; his father is a fetish priest!" several of the children anxiously called to me as they went out the door.

The Tuesday afternoon Bible class in the public school was over and Honore, an 11-year-old Lobi boy, had stayed behind to hear what I was saying to three children who wanted to be saved. I explained to the children that Jesus died for those who worshipped idols, too. Honore was welcome to stay and listen.

Honore missed only one Bible class last year and only one the year before. Since he does not come to church, these weekly classes are his only opportunity to learn about the Lord.

### Doors Are Open

The doors of the elementary schools of Ivory Coast are presently wide open to us for Bible teaching. Regardless of their religious beliefs, many school administrators welcome Bible classes because, if for no other reason, these classes increase the students' opportunities to hear and speak French. (Many students use French only at school and speak their tribal languages the rest of the time. This impedes their French education.)

Although the director for one of the Doropo schools is a Muslim, he told me at the beginning of our last term (1975) that the students are

also better behaved due to the Bible classes. When I asked him how the classes had influenced students' behavior, he noted there was less stealing (chalk, pencils, etc.) and the students seemed more anxious to come to school.

The schools are open to others also, but in our corner of the Ivory Coast, Free Will Baptists were the first to take advantage of this opportunity. After our missionaries in Bondoukou and Koun began conducting Bible classes in the public school, the Catholics also availed themselves of the opportunity.

At Koun, the priest scheduled his classes to coincide with those taught by the Richards. He even sent someone to the Richards' classes to call out the children of Catholic families. Bessie indicated that forbidding these to attend the Protestant classes actually seemed to make the children more determined to attend. After about three weeks, the Catholic classes were discontinued.

The Catholics at Bondoukou did not give up so easily. Jimmy and Janie Aldridge started a student ministry there during their second term. They opened a youth center and started classes in the public schools. At that time Bondoukou and the surrounding area had only one priest and no resident nuns.

Within two years they increased







to four priests and seven resident nuns. One of the priests was designated as a full-time worker for the schools.

Thinking that success was a matter of methodology, the Catholics tried to duplicate everything Free Will Baptists did. They built a youth center, brought in films of Rome and the Vatican, and started Bible classes. These continue today.

Nearly 6,000 children attend elementary school in the Bouna, Doropo, Nassian, Tehini school district. This number represents 34 percent of the school-age population in that area. These figures are even larger for the Bondoukou and Agnibilekrou districts.

Bible classes are taught and conducted in a variety of ways. At Koun, the Richards had their class at the school on Saturday afternoon; Janie Aldridge taught at the Bondoukou schools in the afternoon after school was dismissed for the day. At Doropo, we have been very fortunate because we have been allowed to conduct classes during school hours one afternoon each week.

The Bible classes usually consist of boisterous singing, Bible stories, and Scripture memorization. Moody Bible filmstrips have also been used. Missionaries Eddie Payne, Dr. LaVerne Miley, Alice Smith, and I have taught in the Doropo schools,

so there has been an uninterrupted school ministry here for eight years. Classrooms in the two Doropo schools accommodate 272 children in grades one through six.

The second of the two schools went into operation shortly after Alice Smith's arrival, and she has been teaching there. When asked about her impressions of the school ministry, she said the thing which stood out most to her was the amazement expressed by the children when they learned that God loves them and knows them individually.

### **Students Enjoy Classes**

Perhaps one of the most gratifying features of this public school ministry is the knowledge that students really enjoy the classes. They enjoy singing and learning Bible verses. When asked what he enjoyed most about the classes, Moise (Moses), a student who has been a Christian for several years, said he enjoyed learning Bible verses most of all. I really expected him to say he enjoyed the music most.

Over the last four years, I've watched Thangba grow into a young woman. When she finishes CM2 (sixth grade) this year, she will be old enough by African standards to marry and have children. Although this sweet child/woman has prayed, she has never been to church. This is not unusual, but for

each one who has prayed at the Doropo school and then stayed away from church, at least four others have become faithful in church attendance.

Elizabeth has been in the Bible class for three years. Her father, a local veterinarian, is a Catholic (at least in name) but has never objected to his children's participation in the classes. Just recently, Elizabeth and her older sister Clautine have started attending church services, but they have not yet made decisions for the Lord.

Ollo accepted Christ this year and became a faithful church-goer in addition to attending the Bible classes. When asked what his parents thought about his becoming a Christian, Ollo replied that he hadn't told them. Several weeks passed before he finally told them of his decision.

Suzanne, on the other hand, comes from a fine Christian family. She was saved at Sunday school nearly three years ago. For her, the classes at school offer a chance to grow and learn more about the Bible.

### **Evaluation Difficult**

It is difficult to evaluate the long-range effect of these classes on the students' lives. Those who accepted the Lord through the school ministry last term have left Doropo to pursue their education or find work elsewhere. We don't know how many are still following the Lord. However, one incident demonstrates how the Word of God, sown in those early years, can bear fruit years later.

John, a student in a Bible class seven years ago, wanted to come to church, but his Muslim father forbade it saying he must remain a Muslim as long as his father lived. After his father's death, John could choose for himself. His father died, and John has been a Christian for over a year.

Vada Lee and her husband, Sherwood, have served two full terms at Doropo in the medical ministry of the Ivory Coast. They are currently on furlough.



The country church, from which I sprang, now frequently schedules films. I remember the time, however, when members came to abrasive disagreement over whether or not to allow the showing of a Bible teacher's slides from the Holy Land.

One of my friends from a neighboring congregation, whose parents were pious Scandinavians, begged for permission to attend. When they finally relented, and his mother saw him off at the door, she counseled, "But yust remember vun ting. If dem pitchers start to viggie, you come right home!"

In the wake of World War II, prejudices began to wane. Evangelical leaders became a prime market for 16mm movie cameras. Airplanes made global travel unprecedentedly feasible. Mission field films introduced a new era and became the forerunner of Christian dramatic presentations. Today one rarely finds an evangelical church that's against the use of films. So no longer do we forfeit the use of a powerful implement on the assumption it belongs to the devil. But we still aren't home free, for many persist in the notion that a film functions primarily as entertainment.

Do a bit of research this coming week. Ask three or four of the young people in your church how many films they saw in public school Monday through Friday. They'll likely have seen several. Not entertainment films. But films which inform and motivate.

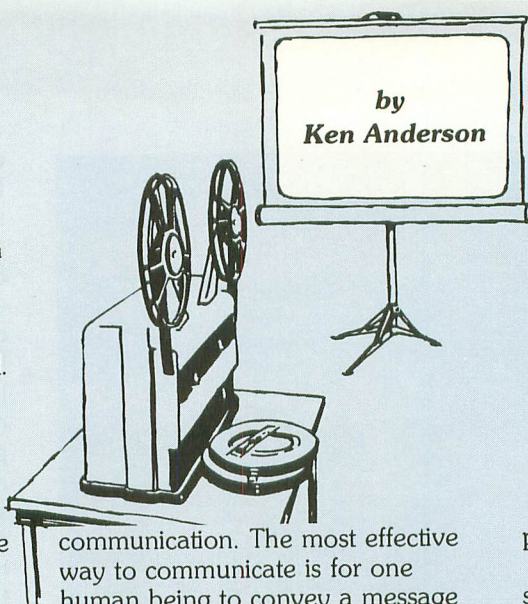
Inform and motivate!

Should we expect less of the audio visuals we use in our churches? Hasn't the time come for us to realize we're in the audio-visual age? *Life* magazine died because pictures speak louder than words—as long as the pictures move!

So what should you do?

Drastically renovate your program? Put a projector in every classroom? Replace the pulpit with a screen?

Hardly! The motion picture is not the most effective means of



communication. The most effective way to communicate is for one human being to convey a message to another human being. But the motion picture functions increasingly as a *viable aid* to the good salesman.

I'm in the motion picture industry. I have a fervent concern to know how best to produce and distribute films for church use. I suffer when we see so many evidences of misuse of films . . . such sparse examples of good implementation.

Our telephone rings. A banquet speaker can't keep his appointment and, in desperation, the customer wants a film.

"What kind?" we ask.

"Most anything," is the reply, "so long as it's not over 45 minutes long."

Or it could be that the preacher has laryngitis. Then, too, people contact us because they'd like a little more variety in their program. Or perhaps Sunday night attendance has lagged lately.

Now, in proper perspective, each of the above reasons can be valid. But unless people know how to use films, the reasons become woefully invalid.

No Christian film, however well-produced, functions best as an entity unto itself. Films are tools. People are the craftsmen who must use the tools. Good craftsmen use tools well.

Good films supplement, rather than supplant, the functions of effective Christians. We go so far in our organization as to say one of our films is only as effective as the

person who uses it.

I wish I could sound forth with some kind of definitive decalogue on how to effectively use films. I can't. We evangelicals are still much too much in the neophyte stage. But here are some guidelines you might find helpful.

### 1. **Care about people.**

Communication should be a "love" word, not a "promotional" word in the Christian worker's vocabulary. You want to reach many, of course. But never become such an ecclesiastical statistician you lose sight of individuals. The first step toward effective utilization of any ministry method is to care about the people you serve.

### 2. **Evaluate the films you use.**

Look for the message content and its relevancy to those you serve. Always leave room to realize that a film of lesser technical value just might be more effective than one of superb technical excellence. Before showing a film, carefully preview it. Insist on a user's guide when you rent.

### 3. **Be the living liaison between the film and the viewer.**

Help the viewer get the message by properly introducing and wrapping up a film showing. Effective user's guides will help you in this. Learn to think audience. Ask God for the special facility to make film showings truly productive experiences for viewers.

### 4. **Many films are designed to serve as discussion starters.**

Some have discussion guides available to help you use the film to

# Don't in You



# Show Films at Church!

## Use Them, Instead

best advantage. But other films, though not necessarily billed as a discussion tool, can serve that very purpose when you're aware of the needs and interests of the viewers. Enough time should be scheduled after the projector is turned off for a period of reaction and interaction.

**5. Insist on good procedure when showing films.** Use good equipment. Noisy projectors, worn screens, burned-out lamps and broken films can all but ruin the impact of an audio-visual presentation. Films get scratched when people are too lazy or thoughtless to clean the aperture

gate. You wouldn't tear a page out of someone's Bible. Why decimate the visual effectiveness of a good spiritual implement? Obtain and study a manual on the how-to-do-it of effective projection.

**6. Find out what's new in the way of projectors, screens and accessories.** Today's projectors are easy to load and simple to operate. Sound equipment has improved tremendously. Super 8 film-loops—excellent teaching aids—are now available.

**7. Integrate the film's message into the continuity of your own ministry.** Films should be

entertaining, of course, but only to hold audience interest for a larger purpose—driving home a message or disseminating the kind of information that can make people better Christians. Let this motive be a part of your own total emphasis. An effective film becomes an illustrative anecdote in an effective program of ministry.

### **8. Use films resourcefully.**

Think beyond the four walls of your church—to people untouched by your present program. Promote special showings for evangelism or just for making new contacts. Films can help evangelize, to be sure, but they can also help sow and nurture good seed. Enlarge your horizons. Go where people are.

Be a prophet, one of those so-needed Christians who keeps pace with the present and thus foresees the future. How can audio visuals be most effectively used by tomorrow's church? We all need to be building foundations today for tomorrow's structures.

Used by permission of Ken Anderson Films, P.O. Box 618, Winona Lake, Ind. 46590.

## Stir Vision Through A-V Presentations!

**P**eople remember approximately 20 percent of what they hear, 50 percent of what they see, and 80 percent of what they see and hear. Audio-visual aids provide for an extra 30 to 50 percent of effective communication. Why not use them to maximum potential in stimulating a world vision?

Perhaps establishing an A-V committee of five to seven people in the church would be the starting place. These could plan for A-V presentations at specific intervals or times with goals to enlist people in particular aspects of missions involvement. They could propose a budget for purchasing and renting of films, filmstrips, etc. as well as equipment such as projectors, screens, etc. They could be responsible for promotion of audio

visuals, for training of A-V personnel, and for maintaining an A-V library.

Advance planning is the key to effectiveness with audio visuals. Don't just "show a film," as Ken Anderson says, "use it." Determine the purpose for the film, filmstrip, slides, overlay or whatever and select it accordingly. Plan an introduction and an appropriate invitation or appeal at the conclusion. Be sure to carefully preview the film, checking the content and condition of the film or other visual, the projector, sound system, etc. Ask for a film user's guide if available.

Make a list of things needed: film, projector (right kind), extra take-up reel (proper size), good spare lamps (both projector and exciter for 16mm), extension cord and

adapter, projector stand or table, screen, power supply (outlets, circuit capacity, not connected to lights), and working condition of equipment.

Filmstrips and some slide presentations may be ordered from the Department of Foreign Missions (see the back cover, this issue).

Randall Inspiration Films handles rental of 16mm films. Write to them at P.O. Box 249, La Grange, IL 60525 or call (312) 246-7990. These may also be ordered through Randall House Publications, Harold Harrison, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217 or call (615) 361-1221. Another film outlet is Chapel Film Service, Inc., 2810 Azalean Place, Nashville, TN 37204 or phone (615) 292-4422. They will send catalogs, rental prices, etc.

Check the local Yellow Pages.



## Belo Horizonte Marks First Anniversary

*Brazil*—Dave and Pat Franks informed the mission office recently that the congregation had celebrated its first anniversary on September 21-23 with special services. Bobby Aycocock was the speaker. "One lady accepted Christ and several raised their hands for prayer," writes Dave. "The attendance varied from 22 to 30."

Dave revealed his surprise at learning recently that metropolitan Belo Horizonte now numbers 2,700,000. "Just three years ago we were on furlough," says Dave, "and we shared our burden for this city which was then approaching two million people."

The Franks urged Christians to pray for more workers—American missionaries and Brazilians.

## Arilla Wode Moves to St. Nazaire, France

*France*—After school was out in mid-August, Arilla Wode moved from Albertville to St. Nazaire, France. She will be helping Jerry and Barbara Gibbs and Patsy Vanhook in the Free

Will Baptist work in that city as she continues language study.

In October Arilla moved into a furnished apartment in La Baule, about five or six blocks from the ocean. She has begun classes with a private tutor, Dominique Briand, who is a professor of French and Latin studies at a Catholic high school in St. Nazaire. "Please pray as I share Bible stories and passages of Scripture with her," writes Arilla.

Wode will continue living and studying in France for a period of time to better prepare herself for the ministry in the Ivory Coast.

## Muslim Convert Faces Difficult Testing

*Ivory Coast*—A young Muslim visiting in Koun recently prayed and received Christ as Savior, according to Norman Richards. He expressed the desire to leave Islam and become a Christian, so when the Christians met for service that Sunday, they led him to the Lord.

The man was from Agnibilekro, and since giving his heart to Christ, he has faithfully attended the Bible study conducted there by the Richards.

Satan has applied a great deal of pressure to get him to denounce his faith, according to Norman. His Muslim parents told him to leave and never set foot in their house again. After that, his former teacher and several other men paid him a visit. They wanted to know what had happened to him. Learning of his faith in Christ, they forbade him to come to their house.

These men also went to the director of the school where the young man taught and applied pressure to require his dismissal.

The Richards urged Christians to pray that this young man will be able to remain faithful in the face of these difficulties.

Ribeirao Preto," writes Bobby. The city has a population of approximately 330,000.

Poole urged people to pray that God would give them someone who can dedicate his full time to this telephone ministry.

## Banks Reports Convert, Baptism, Bible Clubs

*Japan*—Jerry Banks reports a college student, Miss Kawahara, recently accepted Christ at Kita Hiroshima. He also relates that he baptized another lady, Mrs. Yokoyami, in early November.

Besides the work in Kita Hiroshima, the Banks have been conducting English and Bible classes for two years in the home of Mr. Uemori, a deacon at Airin Chapel. They have recently converted his garage into a meeting room and are now conducting Bible clubs as well as the Bible classes. Janice Banks and Judy Smith are teaching the Bible clubs which have been averaging 35 or 40 children in attendance.

## Dickens Return to I.C. After Language Study

*Ivory Coast*—Patrick and Susan Dickens returned in October to their home in Dame, Ivory Coast following a special language course in Dioula (pronounced *Jula*) in Upper Volta.

"During language study we stayed at the Christian and Missionary Alliance mission hotel," writes Patrick. "We had a nice room and the use of kitchen facilities. The market was a short walk away, and we enjoyed fresh tomatoes, lettuce, eggplant, onions, green peppers, etc. It was nice to fellowship again with some of the missionaries we studied French with in Albertville. The Dioula language course was taught by a Frenchman who lives in Mali."

The Dickens are now settled into a routine of several hours of language study each day and doing the necessary things for living.

## Panama Business Woman's Luncheon Held

*Panama*—"Mom" Mabel Willey announced the first Christian Business Woman's luncheon for Latin business women was held in Panama City on November 15 with 65 business women present.

"I can't tell you how thrilled I am," writes Mom. "If we had space for 100,

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

Remember a deceased friend through a Memorial Gift to Foreign Missions.

These people gave Memorial Gifts during the month of November:

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## Poole Says Phone Ministry Needs Help

*Brazil*—According to missionary Bobby Poole, a second telephone was scheduled to be installed in December for the telephone ministry in Ribeirao Preto. The first telephone was installed in December of 1978.

This new ministry has given the Pooles numerous opportunities to talk with people about the Lord. "With two phones giving out the taped messages and a third for callback, this ministry can have a real impact on



we could easily have sold all the tickets at \$4.50 each. A large majority of these coming are ladies who have never heard the gospel. Our aim is to reach the upperclass business women."

Mrs. Willey also revealed another special opening recently. She visited a business woman, the sister of a Chinese friend. "We had lunch together and over the luncheon I explained the claims of the gospel to her," says Mom. "She is spiritually hungry. She invited us to come to her office at 10:00 on Wednesday morning and have a Bible study. She said her four secretaries were also anxious to hear. She will stop all work for one hour for the class. You can't beat that, can you?" Mom concluded.

### Cousineaus, Allen Progress in French

*France*—Mike and Deleen Cousineau and Elaine Allen have been in intensive French language study at Albertville, France since September. They spend five hours each day in classroom instruction, 30-45 minutes speaking French around the lunch table and then engage in as much French conversation in the evening as time and "mind" will allow.

According to Mike Cousineau, "By the time 4:30 p.m. rolls around, our brains are exhausted."

Elaine Allen says, "French I cannot learn—not at all. I studied every night, I learned the text, I memorized first one thing then another, but I was getting nowhere. I turned it over to the Lord, claiming His promises: 'Lord, You will have to learn French for me. I

can't.' The following day in class, things began to make sense for the first time."

The Cousineaus noted that people in the U.S. are going to bed about the time those in Albertville are getting up. "That would be a terrific time for you to pray for us," they concluded.

### Paynes Face Snag in Construction

*Ivory Coast*—Eddie and Sandra Payne have hit a snag in their plans for construction of a youth center in Bouna and have been delayed on getting electricity for their house.

Eddie reported recently that a complete change in government personnel in the area of Bouna has virtually wiped out former commitments of property for the youth center. He noted that Muslims in town were not too happy about the prospects of having the Christian youth center in their midst. The new high school which prompted the idea of a youth center is due to open shortly.

The Paynes have been forced to use a small gasoline generator in their home for short periods of time until the electricity reaches them. This is very costly.

Payne is still having services in the local prison and is continuing a work in Konzie. Sandra conducts Sunday school classes at the house each week and intends to increase these when the youth center is built.

Plans have been laid for the distribution of the magazine *Echo du Tam Tam* in the Bouna schools again this year, according to Eddie.

### Hughes Cites New Attendance Record

*Brazil*—"We had the highest attendance yet for Sunday school November 4 with 67 people present," writes Tommy Hughes from Uberlandia, Brazil. "During the month of October our average was 50."

Tom also reported a special youth gathering on November 2, a Brazilian holiday. Sports and games in the afternoon were followed by a picnic supper. Then, Jim Sturgill led an informal Bible study.

A young man, 19 years of age, was saved. He had attended a youth encounter in February. "During testimony time he said that he had been running from God since he heard the plan of salvation in February," Tom stated. "Finally, he was ready to commit his life to the Lord."

### Jerry Pinkerton, Jr. Commended by NMSC

*Ivory Coast*—Miss Jan Daugherty, principal of Ivory Coast Academy, announced recently that Jerry Pinkerton, Jr. has been named a Commended Student in the twenty-fifth annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Jerry is the son of missionaries Jerry and Carol Pinkerton.

A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation was presented to young Pinkerton in recognition of outstanding performance on the PSAT/NMSQT, the qualifying test for the Merit Program. This test was administered nationwide to high school juniors in October of 1978.

Of the more than one million students entering the competition, about 35,000 throughout the U.S. are being commended for test performance that placed them among the top five percent of participants.

### Araras Observes Fourteenth Year

*Brazil*—The Araras Free Will Baptist Church celebrated its fourteenth birthday with a special service on Sunday night, September 30. Special music, a message, and slides of the work from its beginning were included in the service.

At the close of the service a huge cake, lemonade, and coffee were served to the 80 people present for the service.

In preparation for the special day, a new sign was built out of bricks. The

*Continued on page 10* →

*Deleen and Mike Cousineau and Elaine Allen apply themselves to a busy course in French at Albertville, France.*





→Continued from page 9

sign measures nine feet long and approximately four feet high. Individual letters of polished aluminum were used for the church name and address. Floodlights were installed with an automatic timer to turn them on and off.

Missionary Ken Eagleton disclosed that the church is in a special campaign to make the city aware of the Free Will Baptist name and the church location.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

**Brazil**—Cecilia Virdes, of the FWB church in Ribeirao Preto, is training at Wycliffe Bible School in Brazilia. Cecilia plans to take the Word of God to the Indians in Brazil.

**Ivory Coast**—The Ivory Coast field council met November 30-December 5 at Ivory Coast Academy in Bouake.

**Uruguay**—Molly Barker arrived safely back in Uruguay on November 10. "Looks like things are fairly much under control," writes Molly.

**France**—Joe Haas, missionary to Rennes, France, was ordered to bed recently due to what doctors called a "tired heart." At last report he was resting well and the men in the church were assuming much of the church responsibilities. The latest report indicated doctors were prescribing rest until the end of January.

**Panama**—On November 10, the Panama City Free Will Baptist Church celebrated its eighth anniversary since organization. Approximately 200 people attended the services. Ten new members were received into the church on Sunday, November 11. A new deacon was also ordained.

**Brazil**—Stephen Eagleton, youngest son of Ken and Marvis Eagleton, worked and lived for a short time on the Campus Crusades ship "Doulos" which was in Brazil recently. Stephen boarded the ship in Santos and left it in Rio de Janeiro.

**Panama**—Pastor Gabriel Perez of the Panama City FWB Church baptized 26 converts during the month of November, reports Steve Lytle. Seventeen were from the Buenos Aires Mission and nine were from his church.

**Brazil**—Mrs. Debbie Currington Aycock, 75-year-old mother of missionary Bobby Aycock, died October 4, in Goldsboro, N.C. She had been in

a coma for some time prior to her death.

**Panama**—Approximately 20 young people from five different churches and missions participated in special outreach efforts in Nuevo San Juan on November 17 according to Steve Lytle. "Five people accepted Christ as a result of these visits," writes Steve.

**France**—Miss Patsy Vanhook was involved in an automobile accident on November 25 in France when she pulled in front of an approaching vehicle at an intersection. She was considered at fault, and her car was a total loss. She was hospitalized for three days with a contusion of the spine in the neck area. At last report she was still feeling some aches, tiredness, and stiffness.

## Ribeirao Preto Holds Missionary Conference

**Brazil**—The First Free Will Baptist Church of Ribeirao Preto, Brazil held its annual missionary conference November 3-8, 1979. Special speakers during the week were Charles Taylor and Onesimo Castro, both with New Tribes Mission in Brazil.

The conference was launched with a special banquet on Saturday evening, November 3. A message by Missionary Taylor followed the meal. Approximately 60 people attended the banquet.

A missionary drama was presented on Sunday, November 4, and a number of people made commitments to do the will of God.

*Jerry and Janice Webb returned to France in November, 1979.*



*Larry and Priscilla Insko are to return to Panama shortly.*



## Koun Station Sale, Meets Opposition

**Ivory Coast**—Plans to sell the mission station at Koun met with some opposition by village leaders according to Norman Richards. The spokesman for the villagers "informed me angrily that they were against the sale of the buildings," writes Norman. "He said we couldn't sell the property. If we tried, they would cause trouble."

Since that meeting Richards and Eddie Payne have made further inquiry with government officials. After assurance that the mission had the right to sell the buildings, they proceeded with the sale.

Christians have been urged to pray that no problem would develop for the mission or national church as a result of this transaction.

The field council has determined to use these funds to build a missionary residence in Agnibilekro where response to the gospel promises to be better.

## Two Couples Return to Mission Fields

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Two missionary couples marked an end to furlough at the close of 1979 and made plans to return to their fields of service.

Jerry and Janice Webb and their three children left the U.S. on November 27 to return to France for their second term of service. They are tentatively planning to reopen services in the city of Lorient.

Larry and Priscilla Insko and their family were scheduled to leave in early 1980 to return to Panama where they will resume their work in Las Tablas in the Los Santos Province.

## Board Appoints 25 Summer Missionaries

**Nashville, Tenn.**—During the semi-annual session of the Board of Foreign Missions, December 3-5 in Nashville, 25 young people were appointed as 1980 summer missionaries.

These were appointed to serve in the countries indicated: **Brazil**—Tanya Bradley and Kimberly Knight of Tennessee; Wanda Carrier, Florida; and Mr. and Mrs. Russel Ray, Oklahoma; **France**—Sheila Carter, Virginia; Mr. and Mrs. Dave Filkins, Oklahoma; Teresa Hensley, North Carolina; Lester Johnson, Arkansas; Jeff Lunsford, Florida; Mr. and Mrs. Steve Riggs, Tennessee; and Tenie Sizemore, Ohio; **Ivory Coast**—Peggy





LaRue Crowson teaches a Sunday afternoon Bible class which meets under the Crowson carport.

Morgan, North Carolina; Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Nichols, Texas; Shawn Robinson, Kentucky; and Marcia Waddell, Tennessee; *Japan*—Kevin Cagle, Michigan; and Sandra Fender, North Carolina; *Panama*—Phyllis Dunn, Oregon; and Patricia Yoakum, Oklahoma; *Spain*—Mr. and Mrs. Steve Reeves, Oklahoma.

In other action, the board officially assigned Miss June Arnold to the field of Panama. Appointment will not be final until she has satisfactorily completed Missionary Internship training where she has been enrolled since September, 1979.

The board also voted to reduce requirements for summer missionary applicants from three complete years of college training to two full years of college.

## Coscias to Begin Furlough in January

*Brazil*—Louis and Florine Coscia are scheduled to arrive in the United States to begin furlough sometime during the month of January. They had made reservations for January 4, but in order to comply with a new Brazilian law, they have delayed departure. The new law will enable them to leave the country without having to put up a large monetary deposit.

The Coscias have urged people to pray that God would supply someone to assume their work.

## Rainy Season Brings Limited Travel

*Ivory Coast*—The rainy season in the Ivory Coast has begun. "One day we attempted to go to another town about 80 miles from here," writes

Allan Crowson from Nassian. "Twenty-five miles from home, we could no longer continue and headed back to Nassian. Washed-out bridges, flooded roads, wet sand, and mud delayed us so that it took eight hours to cover the 50-mile round trip."

In spite of the rainy weather, Allan expressed praise that they have seen growth in the lives of believers in Nassian and nearby Talahini. He indicated their understanding of the Christian's relationship to Christ has deepened as a result of a recent study through the book of Hebrews.

## 35-40 People Saved During Special Trip

*Panama*—During a special trip to Los Santos Province November 27-30, Steve Lytle and seven young people from the Panama City area visited five mission works and a school and opened a new work in the town of Parita.

Steve noted that 35-40 people made professions of faith during the trip. Eleven of these were saved at IFARHU, a school for young people, following a film showing and a gospel message.

## Rodriguez Speaks at Cuban Retreats

*Cuba*—During the week of August 5-12 two retreats were held at the Cedars of Lebanon Conference Center about seven miles from Pinar del Rio, Cuba. The Reverend and Mrs. Benito Rodriguez of the Ebenezer FWB Church in Miami, Fla., were the special speakers. Benito is editor of the Spanish edition of *Contacto* (*Contact*).

The couple taught and preached on the theme "Striving with Christ on the Road of Life." More than 112 young people registered for the youth retreat during the first four days.

The last part of the week featured a mixed retreat (youth and adult) with the theme "Let Us Be Clothed with the Spirit." More than 140 believers signed up for this retreat and large crowds from the surrounding churches attended each night.

## Financial Summary

### Substance

#### Through November 30

|                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| On deposit November 1 .....           | \$ 521,325.49       |
| Receipts: October .....               | 139,428.23          |
| November .....                        | 144,411.67          |
| Total receipts through November ..... | <b>1,444,343.66</b> |
| Total disbursements .....             | 1,332,277.15        |
| Projected receipts .....              | 1,694,629.75        |
| Total 1979 budget .....               | <b>1,848,687.00</b> |

### \$Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

|                  |           |                 |                    |
|------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Aycock .....     | \$ 563.09 | Payne .....     | \$3,774.96         |
| Bishop .....     | 81.92     | Pinkerton ..... | 378.36             |
| Bryan .....      | 153.35    | Poole .....     | 5,316.08           |
| Caton .....      | 1,111.70  | Richards .....  | 5,559.92           |
| Cowart .....     | 1,996.60  | Robinson .....  | 2,928.41           |
| Crowson .....    | 1,924.70  | Smith, J. ....  | 827.18             |
| Lytle .....      | 2,710.30  | South India ..  | 308.47             |
| Miley, M.D. .... | 1,293.60  | Sparks .....    | 441.18             |
| Moser .....      | 400.58    | Wilkinson ..... | 1,264.55           |
| Murray .....     | 2,769.69  | Willey, M. .... | 673.13             |
| Total .....      |           |                 | <b>\$35,477.77</b> |

## State Quotas — 1980

| State                         | Monthly Quota       | 1980 Quota            |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Alabama .....                 | \$ 7,916.67         | 95,000.00             |
| Arizona .....                 | 333.33              | 4,000.00              |
| Arkansas .....                | 7,666.67            | 92,000.00             |
| California .....              | 4,833.33            | 58,000.00             |
| Colorado .....                | 250.00              | 3,000.00              |
| Florida .....                 | 4,583.33            | 55,000.00             |
| Georgia .....                 | 5,000.00            | 60,000.00             |
| Hawaii .....                  | 83.33               | 1,000.00              |
| Idaho .....                   | 125.00              | 1,500.00              |
| Illinois .....                | 6,083.33            | 73,000.00             |
| Indiana .....                 | 1,833.33            | 22,000.00             |
| Iowa .....                    | 291.67              | 3,500.00              |
| Kansas .....                  | 1,416.67            | 17,000.00             |
| Kentucky .....                | 4,500.00            | 54,000.00             |
| Louisiana .....               | 166.67              | 2,000.00              |
| Maryland .....                | 500.00              | 6,000.00              |
| Michigan .....                | 9,166.67            | 110,000.00            |
| Minnesota .....               | 41.67               | 500.00                |
| Mississippi .....             | 2,500.00            | 30,000.00             |
| Missouri .....                | 12,166.67           | 146,000.00            |
| Montana .....                 | 125.00              | 1,500.00              |
| New Mexico .....              | 166.67              | 2,000.00              |
| *Northeast Association .....  | 333.33              | 4,000.00              |
| **Northwest Association ..... | 583.33              | 7,000.00              |
| North Carolina .....          | 20,833.33           | 250,000.00            |
| Ohio .....                    | 5,158.33            | 61,900.00             |
| Oklahoma .....                | 17,916.66           | 215,000.00            |
| Pennsylvania .....            | 83.33               | 1,000.00              |
| South Carolina .....          | 9,333.33            | 112,000.00            |
| Tennessee .....               | 19,583.33           | 235,000.00            |
| Texas .....                   | 3,583.33            | 43,000.00             |
| Virginia .....                | 6,250.00            | 75,000.00             |
| Virgin Islands .....          | 125.00              | 1,500.00              |
| West Virginia .....           | 5,416.67            | 65,000.00             |
| Other States .....            | 76.33               | 916.00                |
| Totals .....                  | <b>\$159,026.33</b> | <b>\$1,908,316.00</b> |

\*Northeast Association  
New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine

\*\*Northwest Association  
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington



# HEARTBEAT

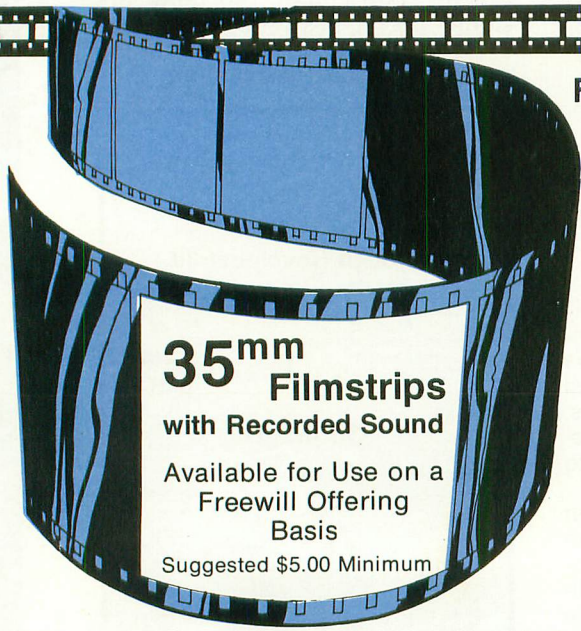
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