



# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

MAY/JUNE 1980

**DEATH'S STING VS.  
GRAVE'S VICTORY!**



# DEATH'S STING VS. GRAVE'S VICTORY!

## **Blackness! Uncertainty! Murk! Gloominess! Ignorance! Obscurity! Dread!**

These all could readily describe death as much of the world might sense it. And because of this, they are held in BONDAGE. Enslaved by FEAR! Under the power of DARKNESS, Satan himself (Hebrews 2:14, 15).

Down through the centuries, such fears have led to superstition.

They have given rise to many a cult or pagan religion. And once enslaved by such, adherents find great difficulty in twisting free from the satanic clutches of such sin.

Even Christians are often wrestled down and gripped in depression or despair at the thought of dying or losing a loved one. And only the promise of the risen Christ can adequately comfort these hearts.

What about the millions, yes even billions, who live "all their lifetime subject to bondage"?

What should our attitude be toward the hordes who have never heard Jesus' words: "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live"?

The two following articles depict some of the despair, fear, and bondage which missionaries encounter when trying to turn men from darkness to light. And despite

## Death among the Agni-Bona

*by Bessie Richards*

**T**he tranquillity of the warm African day was shattered by the sudden beating of the "talking" drums. Everyone working in his fields or living in neighboring villages stopped abruptly his activity to listen to the message. "Koffi is dead. Return to the village to assist our brother in his departure to the land of the ancestors."

In the village, pitiful wailing sounds could be heard coming from Koffi's courtyard as family members mourned his death. Why had death claimed another victim? Had not the appropriate sacrifices, offerings, and libations been made to chase death away from the village? There must be no remedy for death!

The chief and elders of the village hurried to "faire ya-ko" (offer

condolences) to the bereaved family. A few minutes later, they left the courtyard and gathered under the shade of a mango tree to discuss important details of the death and to plan funeral activities.

Did Koffi have a right to a funeral? Who was responsible for his death? These and many other questions would soon be posed to the deceased by certain men of the village in a special divination ceremony.

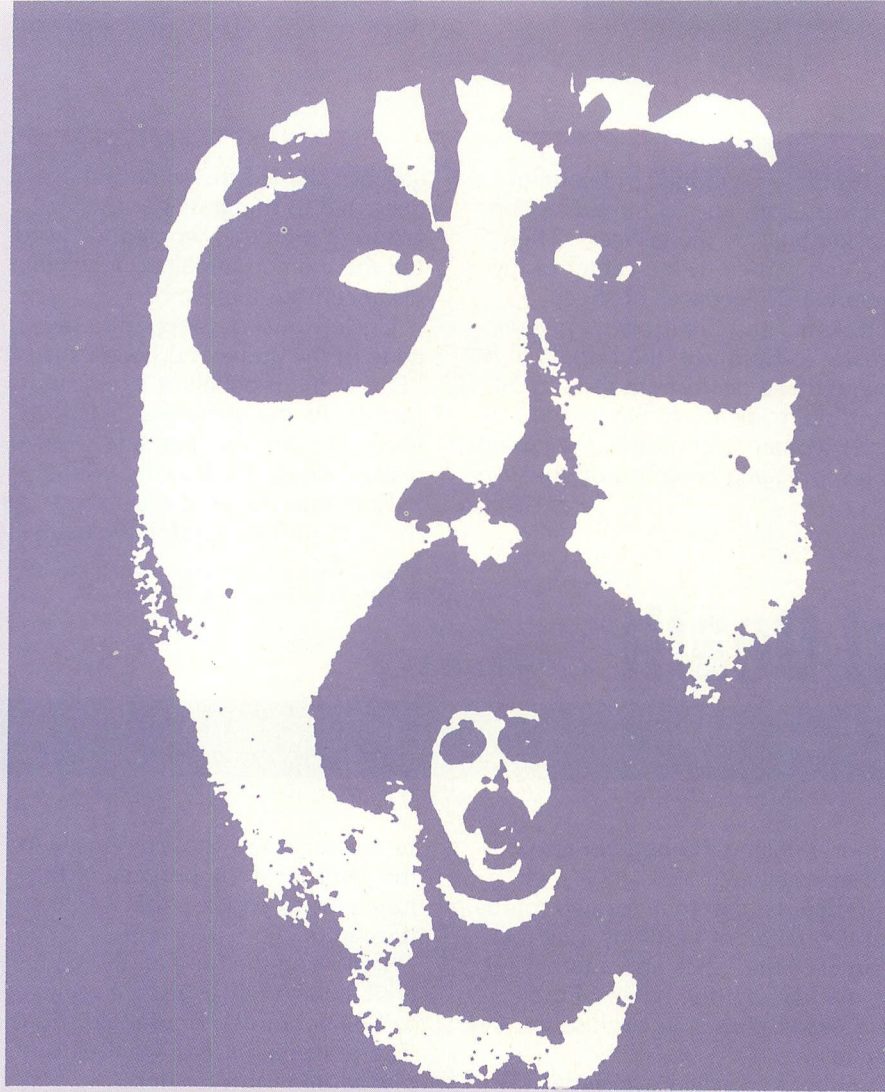
But before this communication between the deceased and the men could take place, some of the old ladies must remove from the corpse fingernails, toenails, body hair,

saliva, and scrapings off the tongue. These symbols of Koffi's whole personality would be wrapped in a piece of the cloth on which Koffi had lain at the moment of death.

Later, during the divination ceremony, two men would carry a stretcher constructed of poles with these body relics tied to the center. The deceased's spirit would take possession of these two men and force them to make certain movements in response to the questions asked by the men of the village.

Several hours later that afternoon, news spread through the village. A favorable verdict had been reached at the divination ceremony! Funeral activities could





the supreme brightness of that light, the god of this world is still blinding the minds of the unsaved "lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (II Corinthians 4:4b).

As you read these two articles, pray for the missionaries who are ministering to these people. Ask God to overrule Satan and open their eyes to see and receive the eternal life offered through Jesus Christ.

follow their usual pattern!

Preparations for the exhibition of the deceased was begun immediately.

First of all, Koffi must have his "bath" in a sheltered spot outside the courtyard. While Koffi was being bathed in warm, lemon-scented water, family members cleaned the section of the concession where the deceased would lie during the funeral activities.

The wall was decorated and the bed covered with expensive, African cloth. Family treasures were displayed near the bed to impress

villagers and visitors.

Bathed, perfumed, and nicely dressed, Koffi was now ready to re-join family and friends. He was placed upon the bed with his eyes open in order to enjoy the activities in his honor. (Agnis believe that as long as the burial has not taken place the deceased has not departed to ancestor land.)

The "body guards" took their places beside the bed and began shooing away flies, insects, and animals. Nothing must touch the corpse.

Nearby sat the women of the village wailing softly. As other groups of visitors arrived from neighboring villages, they, too, must approach the deceased and cry.

Around the courtyard, seated

according to age and social status, the men sat drinking palm wine and soda pop. As male visitors finished the required mourning sounds before the deceased, they were greeted by the men of the village and were given opportunity to offer their condolences.

Time passed. Night shadows enveloped the village. This was the signal to begin the funeral dances—symbol of the ties which unite mankind, the universe, and the ancestors.

Some men formed a large circle and began beating drums. The older women began dancing and chanting. As the night hours slipped

*Continued on page 4* →



→Continued from page 3  
away, others (including family members) joined the merriment. The palm wine and dance helped them forget their grief.

With the dawning of the morning came burial responsibilities. An elder chose the gravesite, and several volunteers began digging the grave in an east-west direction. They worked diligently, knowing that they would be rewarded with jugs of foaming palm wine.

Koffi was wrapped in beautiful African cloth and laid in a wooden casket built by the villagers. Then he was carried to the center of the courtyard. Sacrifices of sheep, chickens, and drink offering were made to Koffi with the hope that he would take death from their midst and return peace to the village.

A woman approached the casket and, dragging branches on the

ground, she led the spirit of the deceased to the gravesite. A small group of men and women followed, but the women remained a lengthy distance from the tomb.

Uncle Kouakou stepped to the edge of the grave and bade Koffi "Farewell" in behalf of family and friends. As the grave was being filled with dirt, the men and women walked slowly back to the village.

Koffi must make the journey to the land of the ancestors—all alone.

Bessie Richards is the missionary wife of Norman Richards in the Ivory Coast, West Africa.

## Japan's way of Death by Vernie Hersey

**T**he dead are seldom far from the thoughts of the vast majority of Japanese. Religious duties to the dead are a daily routine.

Upon arising, the mother or wife prepares hot water for tea and places the first cup on the household shrine before the tablets of the dead. Daily, the family places fresh flowers in the shrine vases, makes an offering of boiled rice and burns incense to the ancestor gods.

The rituals vary from family to family. Although Buddhism is the leading religion in Japan, most Japanese also practice Shintoism, observe Confucianist rituals and are influenced by the superstitions of Taoism.

Through these ancient religions Japan came to believe in reincarnation and practice ancestor worship. And, these beliefs greatly influence her rituals and ceremonies regarding the dead today.

When death occurs, the Buddhist priest is called immediately. He burns incense to please or appease the departed spirit who is believed to hover about the home or grave for 49 days.

To confuse the departed spirit and keep it from haunting them, the family never uses the same

door in taking the body in and out of any building.

They may arrange for two tombs at two different locations, one for burial of the ashes and another for a marker with the name of the deceased. This is to confuse the evil spirits.

Other superstitions include reversing any standing screens in the home, inverting hanging scrolls, refraining from eating fish and airing the deceased's clothes turned wrong side out.

An all-night wake is held the night before the funeral according to Missionary Fred Hersey of Iriso, Japan: "The family furnishes food, liquor and beer for neighbors and friends who drink and have a big party to comfort the departed spirit."

A Buddhist priest conducts the funeral in the home, a hall or temple. "Gifts of flowers and money are presented to the departed spirit," continues Missionary Hersey. "A picture of the dead person is placed in front of the casket. Incense is burned and the family and friends bow and worship before the picture. Eulogies

or messages are spoken directly to the spirit since the purpose of the funeral is to appease the deceased."

Following the funeral, the body is cremated. A few ashes are removed to be kept on the household shrine. The remaining ashes are then placed in an urn for burial.

But, that is only the beginning. The family's greatest responsibility for the departed spirit is ahead. During the 49 days the spirit is believed to be hovering between two worlds, it must die seven times.

"These succeeding deaths occur every seven days until the seventh death or the forty-ninth day," writes Marion Moorhead, "Funerals in Japan," *Japan Harvest*, Fall, 1975. "Since the spirit is present for each of these recurring deaths and due to the rather strenuous schedule demanded of it during this trying time, food must be provided for it every day," Marion continues.

Memorial services are held every seventh day for "it becomes the responsibility of the family to go through certain rituals in order to insure the very best possibilities for the spirit on the six paths it must confront on its way to paradise," says Mr. Moorhead.





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"These are as follows: (1) Hell; (2) Reincarnation as a hungry child or devil; (3) Reincarnation as a bird or beast; (4) Reincarnation in a state of carnage or pandemonium; (5) Reincarnation as a human being; and (6) Paradise."

A farewell service is held at the end of the 49 days when the spirit of the dead finally leaves this world and enters a new life, reincarnated. According to Mock Joya in "Things Japanese," Tokyo News Service, "In this new reincarnation the happiness of the new soul is believed to be in proportion to the frequency and earnestness of the prayers offered and the religious services performed by those who are left behind. If a relative is leading a miserable life in his new existence, he can be saved and helped to a better existence."

It is a seemingly endless process. Again Marion Moorhead says, "It may and probably does take thousands of years. It is never made clear how many times one may go around the cycle of these many existences. It could possibly be the last time but then it may not."

So, for the Japanese family death means a never-ending series of memorial services, offerings before the tablets of the dead and the responsibility for the eternal destiny of family and friends.

But, that is not the case for every Japanese family. For Christianity has an influence in Japan today. Scores of missionaries, including Free Will Baptists, now preach the good news of eternal life in Christ. For those who believe, Japan's way of death is changed.

One such family is the Mochizukis of Sayama. In 1968 Mrs. Toshi Mochizuki accepted Christ. During the next 10 years she fervently prayed that her husband would turn to Christ also. Only two weeks before his death in June of 1978, he did.

God had been working in Mrs. Mochizuki's heart over the years, and she had a sincere desire to obey the Bible in everything. Now that God had answered her prayer for her husband's salvation, she wanted a Christian funeral for him.

She called her pastor, Missionary Fred Hersey, who explained what would be involved—rejecting ALL heathen customs and traditions. His heart rejoiced as she and her family

agreed to an all-Christian service.

It was no small victory. After 22 years in Japan, Missionary Hersey still found that winning and discipling Japanese requires years of patient instruction. Practicing several religions simultaneously for hundreds of generations hinders the Japanese from accepting Christ as the *one and only* way. For, Christianity cannot coexist with Buddhism, Shintoism, Confucianism or Taoism.

With the help of a friend, Missionary Hersey prepared the body and made arrangements for the funeral, cremation and burial. And, the Free Will Baptist church at Iryo experienced its first all-Christian funeral.

Leaving the cemetery, Mrs. Mochizuki remarked, "Ojisan (Mr. Mochizuki) is with the Lord," declaring her freedom from the shackles of the vain religions of her ancestors and Japan's way of death.

Vernie Hersey is bookkeeper for the Board of Retirement and Insurance and is a sister-in-law to Missionary Fred Hersey of Japan.



# MISSIONARY NUMBERS GAME

by Bobby Poole



**O**bviously troubled, the man picks up the telephone, hesitates, then dials a number. He pauses.

Is there no answer?

Is the phone busy?

Then, there in his eye one catches a gleam. Something that had not been there before. He is listening! His expression gradually seems to change. He seems more relaxed! Finally, he hangs up the phone, writes on a piece of paper, and stares into space—his thoughts apparently on something unseen.

After a time, he once again plucks the receiver from the hook, carefully places it to his ear, glances at the paper in his hand, and dials another number.

This time someone definitely answers. Slowly the conversation weaves its way through the troubled circumstances. The person on the other end is listening. He cares! He even offers a solution, one taken right from the Bible, the Word of God.

When the clear presentation of the gospel answers life's crisis in a positive way, the caller is asked if he will pray. He does. And the one talking to him requests his name,

address, telephone number, etc. and promises a personal visit.

The man calmly replaces the receiver, pulls a handkerchief from his pocket, and wipes a tear from his eye. He has just participated in a missionary numbers game! Not a gambling system, but a telephone ministry we have launched in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil. A phone number is listed under *Tele-esperanca* (tele-hope) for people in despair to dial and hear a message of hope.

## ***Its Conception***

The idea for this all came to me sometime ago as I was continuing a habit which I started in language school—reading the daily newspaper. I came across an article in the *Folha de Sao Paulo* regarding a phone ministry. It had been started by missionaries from OMS International in the city of Londrina in the state of Parana. As I read, I thought, "Maybe this will work in Ribeirao Preto."

At a leadership conference soon after that, Geneva and I had lunch with one of the missionaries heading the program in Londrina. The possibilities appeared to be

fantastic.

All during my ensuing furlough the phone ministry lay in the back of my mind. On my return to the field I found in a stack of mail, a copy of *Christian Life* magazine. It was the first and only copy we received. But one of the articles dealt with a phone ministry referred to as "Tele-evangelism." It was founded by Reverend Hubert F. Paynter, Sr. of Lawrenceville, Ga.

I corresponded with Mr. Paynter who kindly responded with materials and suggestions on how to start. With these in hand, we faced the problem of where and how to get answering machines and telephones.

The next returning missionary brought two telephone answering units. That left only the acquiring of the telephones. We needed three: two for recorded messages and one for call-back so people with needs could talk with someone personally.

## ***Acquiring Phones***

In Brazil, acquiring a telephone is no simple matter! Most cities have two types of telephones—commercial and residential. While residential phones can only be





installed in homes, all other places must have commercial phones. At that time, residential phones were costing approximately \$1,000 while commercial units cost \$1,500 each. We needed \$3,000 to start!

After prayer and a business meeting, the Ribeirao Preto church voted to buy a phone and initiate the telephone ministry. We bought a second phone from our missionary account. Since we already had a mission phone in our home, this gave us the three phones we needed.

When we negotiated for the two new telephones, it was understood that they would be installed within two weeks. After almost three months of waiting, the first was installed. More than a year later, the second phone was connected.

Each of these new phones is joined to an automatic answering unit which greets the caller with a pre-recorded gospel message from two to three minutes in length. The machine automatically stops at the end of the message which is recorded on an endless tape.

At the conclusion of the message, the caller is given the number of our call-back phone where he or

she can speak directly to someone. A counselor is now on duty from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Friday. We hope to have someone soon from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

### **100 to 200 Calls Daily**

The results of this ministry have been encouraging. We receive from 100 to 200 calls per day on each phone. And one of the great advantages of this ministry is that the caller places the call when he is ready and from wherever he may be. This places him at the disposal of the counselor when his heart is open and feeling a need.

As the counselor listens, he seeks to discover the *real* need. And through that avenue he points the person to Christ who changes lives. Almost daily, callers ask Christ into their hearts. Then we follow up with literature and other phone calls.

### **Reaches 40 Miles**

A part-time secretary has been hired by the church to help in this ministry along with that of the Bible Institute work. For those who call but do not make a decision, we send literature such as tracts. We

also include a letter explaining how to be saved and expressing our concern for them.

Interestingly, most of our advertising has been strictly by word of mouth. In spite of this, it has covered the city and has even reached cities in a radius of 40 miles surrounding Ribeirao Preto.

Although we may never know the real impact of this "tele-hope" ministry, it is an exciting extension of our church which is on duty 24 hours per day.

We need Christians to pray that these brief messages of salvation and hope will be effective. A worker is also needed who can dedicate his full time to follow up on those who make decisions for Christ. Then, we will probably need more phones and equipment as this ministry grows.

It was not just by chance that the materials related to this phone ministry fell into my hands. I believe it is a tool the Lord himself is using to build His Church in Ribeirao Preto. Yes, numbers are involved, but I can assure you this is no cheap game!

Bobby Poole is currently serving his fourth term of missionary service in Brazil.





Mrs. Rachel Torrijos (left) stands with "Mom" Mabel Willey following the Christian Business Women's Luncheon held in Panama City, Panama.

## Second Luncheon Held for Business Women

**Panama**—The second Christian Business Women's Luncheon was held in Panama City on February 14 with approximately 100 women attending. Among those present was Mrs. Rachel Torrijos, wife of General Omar Torrijos, former head of the Panamanian government.

The speaker was Millie Reitz who discussed the true meaning of life and presented God as the source of all love. Mrs. Torrijos commented to Mom Willey that she had never heard anything like that before. She requested to be notified of all future luncheons so she can attend.

## Morgan Car Damaged in Rear-end Collision

**Ivory Coast**—The Clint Morgan family was involved in an auto-truck collision between Bondoukou and Bouna on February 22. No serious injuries were sustained but the Morgan car was severely damaged.

Morgan reported the truck had been stopped at the side of the road but eased onto the roadway as their car approached. As they proceeded slowly, Clint was following rather closely behind. A distraction caused him to look in another direction as the truck stopped. The Morgan vehicle rammed it in the back. Clint was considered to be at fault.

Total cost for repairs of the car and truck were expected to run around \$3,000.

Lynette is having to "take it easy" after the accident, as she is expecting their third child soon.

## Bible Institute Doing Well in Uberlandia

**Brazil**—"We are excited about the Bible institute," writes Nancy Hughes from Uberlandia, Brazil. "Our first Saturday afternoon class had ten and the second, eleven. Many of these would like to study full-time. All are boys except two."

According to Nancy, Luiz is finishing his last year of high school and taking another course in preparation for college in addition to his Bible institute studies.

A second young man, Carlos, has felt the call to minister to the Indians in Brazil. He plans to study next year in the New Tribes Bible Institute.

"He (Carlos) has five years of training before he begins his work," Hughes noted. "Our church wants to support him, and we are trusting the Lord for this."

The church is also preparing to begin a puppet ministry as soon as Tommy finishes building the puppet theater.

## MK's Advance in Educational Standing

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Several missionary children (MK's) will complete a stage of their training this summer:

Completing high school will be Merry Mayhew and Jerry Pinkerton, Jr., Ivory Coast Academy; Rebecca Robinson, Savannah, Ga.; Tom Hughes, New Bern, N.C.; Noel Sparks, Elkhart, Ind.; Christy Haas, Rennes, France; and Stephen Eagleton, Henderson, Tex.

Although Robert Poole finished his course of study last year in Brazil, he arrived in the States early this year and plans to enter college this fall.

Future plans of all of these were not available at press time.

## Project 20/20 Launched to Meet Rising Costs

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Challenging donors with an Acts 20:20 vision for the world, the Department of Foreign Missions has launched a new program of giving called Project 20/20 to provide "public and house to house" ministry around the globe.

By giving \$20 only twice a year, Project 20/20 members should provide a significant sum toward carrying out the missions program. Appointees will be enabled to depart sooner, furloughing missionaries can get back to their fields on time, special projects can be funded, and

evangelism efforts can be expanded.

"Those who have been members of the Project 5000 may desire to change to this 'updated' plan with a biblical vision," says Henry Van Kluyve, director of deputation. "But no one will be obligated to do so even though the current \$20 gift does not value as much as the \$10 gift was worth when Project 5000 was first initiated in 1966."

Each Project 20/20 member will be asked to give \$20 once each six-month period upon request but never more than twice in any given year.

## Lytle Baptizes Nine, Requests Prayer

**Panama**—"Pastor, I want to be baptized," said ten-year-old Edwin Rojas. So, Steve Lytle conducted a baptismal class for him and three others. On March 2, these four from the work in Betania and five converts from Agua Buena were baptized in the Chagres River, near Panama City.

Lytle noted, "There are now 14 baptized believers in our work in Betania." Although spiritual growth is evident, some of these are having difficulty in applying scriptural principles to their family problems. Steve requested prayer for two sisters who can't seem to get along and for a young couple who are having marriage difficulties.

Vacation Bible School was held in Betania during the week of March 17-21. An average attendance of 33 was recorded for the week. "Several of the children accepted Christ as Savior on the final day," concluded Lytle.

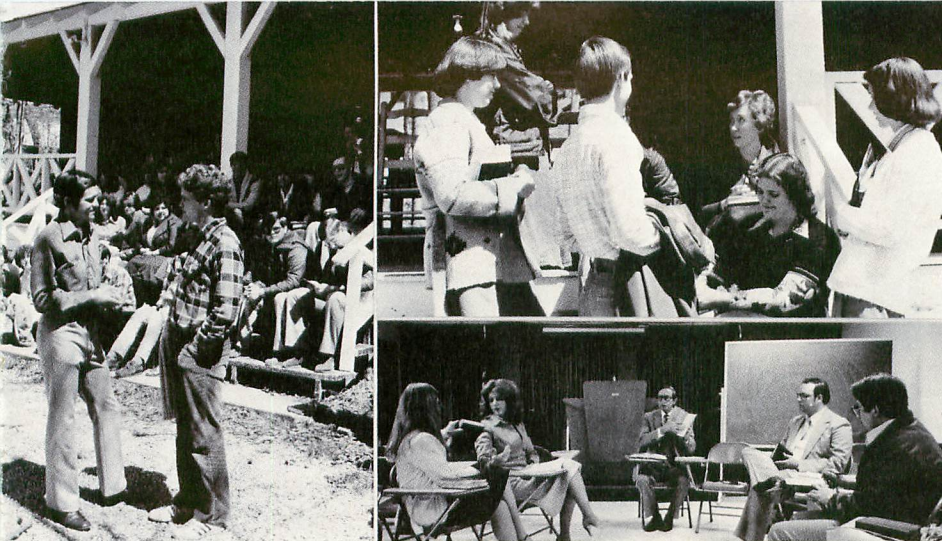
## Aldridges Face Dilemma in Travel to I.C.

**Jasper, Ala.**—Jimmy and Janie Aldridge have been faced with a dilemma since being notified that no more passenger service by boat is offered from New York to West Africa. Currently, the Aldridges are contemplating the possibility of flying to the Ivory Coast and shipping everything by boat. This could entail a 100 percent customs charge when arriving at the Ivory Coast.

Jimmy and Janie request prayer for guidance regarding their departure which is scheduled for some time in May or June.

A recurrence of Jimmy's eye problem in February and March threatened to delay the Aldridges, but medication has apparently brought the condition under control.





**RETREATS**—Robert Bryan (pictured at left) and Judy (seated, top right) share with students of Free Will Baptist Bible College during the April FMF retreat. Reford Wilson (lower picture) ministers to Hillsdale FMF retreat participants.

## College FMF Retreats Feature Missionaries

**Nashville, Tenn.**—More than 130 people, including students, faculty, missionaries, and missions executives gathered April 4-6 at Camp Na-Co-Me, about 70 miles southwest of Nashville, Tenn., for the annual retreat of Foreign Missions Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Missionaries Robert and Judy Bryan of Ivory Coast and Paul Robinson of Uruguay challenged the group with Bible messages and personal experiences on their fields. Also on hand and participating on a limited basis were missionaries Larry and Priscilla Inscoe of Panama. Don Robirds, director of communications; Daniel Cronk, missions instructor at the college; and John Gibbs, director of development of National Home Missions, also took part.

The Hillsdale FWB College FMF group met March 28-29 on campus in Moore, Okla., with missionary Robert Bryan, former director of foreign missions Reford Wilson, and Miss June Arnold, missionary intern preparing to serve in Panama. Approximately 25 people attended the two-day event.

## Dickens Reports Busy Daily Schedule

**Ivory Coast**—In a recent newsletter from Patrick and Susan Dickens at Dame in the Ivory Coast, they disclosed a busy daily schedule: breakfast, news on "Voice of America" radio, family devotions, personal devotions, three hours of Dioula (*Jula*) study, lunch, reading aloud to each other, dishes, siesta, Dioula study, walk to Dioula part of Dame for visiting and listening to Dioula, supper, visitors, etc. This is typical for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

On Saturday, the Dickens clean,

bake, grind beef, and travel to Agnibilekrou to help Norman and Bessie Richards with their Bible class. On Sunday they again travel to Agnibilekrou to attend the morning Bible study in the Richards' home. Patrick conducts the study every other week.

"The Dioula chief told me he is old and doesn't have long to live," says Patrick. "He wants to follow the 'true way.' He is a Muslim and doesn't speak French. How can I tell him about the true way unless I can speak his language?"

## Call-a-thon Total Tops \$20,000 Mark

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Call-a-thon participants were fewer in number this year and just over \$21,000 toward deficit missionary accounts was reported on Call-a-thon Sunday, April 20, 1980. Last year's total topped \$30,000.

A more complete report will be given in the next issue of *Heartbeat*.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

**Brazil**—A 21-year-old man was saved in the Araras church on March 2, reports Ken Eagleton. Three other members of his family were baptized by Eagleton last September.

**France**—Joe Haas has been preaching messages on the family during March which has been designated "family month" at the Rennes church. Joe has requested prayer that the Lord will use these messages to make the family life what it should be. He also urged the people to continue praying for his physical strength and healing.

**Ivory Coast**—A missionary team sent by the Doropo church to a village (Tehini) approximately 50 kilometers

from Doropo was reported by two Wycliffe Translators to be quite effective: four people made decisions and many showed interest.

**Asheville, N.C.**—Mr. Ransom B. Lytle, father of missionary Steve Lytle of Panama, underwent surgery on April 2 in the Veteran's Hospital in Asheville for a malignancy of the pancreas. At last report he was in intensive care but hoped to go home within two weeks. Steve flew home to be with the family during this time.

**Brazil**—A family retreat was held recently at the farm, Evangelandia, in Jaboticabal, Brazil, with 84 people registered. The day's activities included preaching services, classes for children, youth, and adults, and a fellowship meal.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Two missionary couples are still being delayed in going to their fields of service: Dennis and Trena Owen are awaiting visas so they can depart for Brazil and Larry and Priscilla Inscoe are awaiting naturalization papers for their adopted

*Continued on page 10* →

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

These people gave Memorial Gifts during the months of December and January:

| Donor  | In Memory of                    |
|--|---------------------------------|
| James S. Shook<br>Crescent City, Fla.              | Rev. John Craft                 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie D. McKinney<br>Woodbridge, Va. | Rev. R. C. Bowers               |
| Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur R. Worthington<br>Ayden, N.C.  | Rev. John Craft                 |
| Mrs. Owen Thomas<br>Four Oaks, N.C.                | Father of Mrs. Virginia Johnson |
| Unity FWB Church<br>Smithfield, N.C.               | Rev. John Craft                 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Harold F. Warren<br>Pensacola, Fla.   | William Matthew Casler          |
| Mrs. Owen Thomas<br>Four Oaks, N.C.                | Frank Walker                    |

### Memorial Gift to Foreign Missions

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Given in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please send memorial card to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



→Continued from page 9

daughter, Debora, so they can return to Panama.

**Florence, S.C.**—Mr. John Hicks, father of Brazil missionary Geneva Hicks Poole, suffered a heart attack recently in South Carolina and was placed in intensive care at Florence General Hospital. At last report his condition was stable.

**Ivory Coast**—Rats and termites have infested the well at the Doropo medical station, according to a recent report from Clint Morgan. "We are using our cistern water which is now reaching an all-time low," writes Clint. The Morgans requested prayer that the well might be cleared and usable soon.

**Brazil**—The annual fellowship meeting of the Sao Paulo Association of Free Will Baptists met on April 4 in the Free Will Baptist church in Araras. Details of the event were not available at press time.

## Wode Resumes French Study at Albertville

**France**—After just getting settled in St. Nazaire following a year of French language study, Miss Arilla Wode returned to Albertville, France, for more study in an advanced French curriculum. Current plans call for her to proceed to the Ivory Coast this summer.

Arilla was hampered by health problems during her early days of language study and has had some difficulty in speaking with fluency and freedom. She has requested special prayer for her language learning during this difficult period.

## Richards Sees Fruit After Sowing Seed

**Ivory Coast**—"The seed (God's Word) which we were privileged to sow in 1979 is beginning to bear fruit," writes Norman Richards from Agnibilekro in the Ivory Coast. "Praise the Lord!"

According to Norman, several adults have made decisions after attending Sunday services in Agnibilekro. "Mr. Glaise, a faithful attendant for nine months, announced the commitment of his life to the Lord recently. Others who have given their lives to Christ include an English teacher and his wife, and two high school boys," Richards noted.

Approximately 100 children are attending the children's Bible class in



Jerry Banks loads the van for the return trip from Abashiri following the yearly conference of Hokkaido Free Will Baptist churches.

Agnibilekro which is held each Saturday afternoon.

On January 20, Norman baptized three converts who had made decisions in outlying villages. Every two weeks, he goes to the bush villages of Koun-Fao, Kouadiokro, and Kouasikro for services.

## Catons Locate, Rent Site in Majadahonda

**Spain**—"For many months since our return from furlough we have looked for a meeting place to rent," writes Norma Caton from Spain. "Without a place to meet, we felt our hands were tied as far as what we could do here."

Through a friend to whom the Catons had been witnessing for five years, a new storefront of 63 square meters was located recently. As the Catons made an appointment to see the owner, the Alcalá church banded together in prayer for God's will to be done.

When he met with the owner, a friendly old veteran of the Spanish Civil War, Dock said, "We understand that you are asking \$300 a month." (Most everything else they had found was averaging just under \$1,000 per month.) The owner replied, "Well, yes, I was thinking of \$300, but this morning when my wife and I were talking about it, she said, 'Let's ask them \$285.'"

As is customary in Spain, the renter, not the owner, is responsible to complete the construction on the inside. The Catons requested prayer that they would be able to complete the building very soon.

Caton is planning an evangelistic campaign in Majadahonda within two or three months.

## Hokkaido Churches Hold Yearly Conference

**Japan**—The yearly conference of the Hokkaido area churches was held in Abashiri, Japan, during the early part of January, according to Jerry Banks. "Everyone from our area traveled together in my van," writes Jerry. "This saved money and provided several hours of good fellowship." The van was purchased with funds raised by the Oklahoma Woman's Auxiliary.

The Banks indicated continued progress in the work at Kita Hiroshima as well as in the work at Kitano. Judy Smith revealed the February 8 conversion of a woman who attends her Thursday Bible study at Kita Hiroshima.

## Mosers to Assume Barbacena Ministry

**Brazil**—Jim and Susan Moser, who have worked for the past year with Bobby and Sue Aycock in Barbacena, Brazil, will assume full responsibility for this work when the Aycocks return to the States for furlough this summer.

"The church is growing," writes Moser. "Our church building has been finished a little over a year, and the people are thankful for it and its ministry. They are hard workers."

Jim reported plans for the church to start a mission work in a nearby city. He requested prayer for a young Brazilian in the church who will be the preacher for the new work.

Prayer was also requested for the young people of the church who are witnessing and for three men who have shown interest in the gospel: Carlos, Evanee, and a young doctor.



## Murray Reveals Plans for Posters, Tracts

*France*—John Murray recently revealed plans to place 2,000 large posters on poster boards around the city of Nantes. They also plan to distribute smaller tracts with the same design by placing them in mailboxes, etc.

"We believe that one will draw attention to the other and that the Lord can use this means to let people know that a Bible-preaching and teaching church is in town," writes John. The poster and tract display the following expressions: "The Bible, All the Bible, and Uniquely the Bible."

Although a new church sign had been painted only recently by a young man in the Rennes church, it was stolen while the Murrys were visiting the missionaries in Spain. The short-lived sign pointed a 67-year-old lady to the church. She said, "I prayed that God would give me a safe trip from Guadalupe and He would give me a temple that I could worship in. I had a wonderful trip. Upon leaving the train station I passed by the door and saw the sign. I have found a temple in which I can serve my Lord."

## Heartbeat Back Issues Urgently Needed Now

*Nashville, Tenn.*—The *Heartbeat* staff has discovered a shortage of back issues of the magazine: June, 1977; November, 1977; and May/June, 1979. These issues are needed to complete bound volumes of the magazine for libraries, national offices, etc.

*Heartbeat* readers who may have accumulated back issues of *Heartbeat* are urged to check their files to see if any or all of these three issues are on hand. Those who would be willing to give up their copies are urged to send them to *Heartbeat*, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

## Church Buys Property in Belo Horizonte

*Brazil*—According to a recent report from missionary Dave Franks, the church in Belo Horizonte has made a down payment on a corner lot containing 639 square meters of land. The lot is located in a new housing development in a suburb not far from the center of the city. The church will have three years of monthly payments to complete the purchase.

Dave reported that the young people of the church had presented

special music on a recent Sunday night. Dave Franks, Jr. played the guitar for the group and Suzanne sang.

Franks also stated that a 17-year-old boy, Juliano, was saved in December and continues to be faithful in attendance. He is actively participating in the youth meetings started by Plauto, the medical student in the church.

## Swiss, French Youth Minister in Doropo

*Ivory Coast*—A group of 20 Swiss and French young people from "Youth in a Mission" spent three days in Doropo near the end of January ministering in song and testimony to the schools and in the village. Four young men accepted the Lord.

Clint Morgan disclosed that he taught a week of classes recently in Doropo using a pictorial chart designed for use in witnessing. After the week, each of the 14 Christians received a miniature chart for his own personal use.

Clint and Lynette have started a three-month course of weekly seminars for couples and families. "The devil is working full-force in this area," declared Clint. "Several people in the church are having spiritual problems, yet will not face up to them."

## Brazilian Begins Missionary Training

*Brazil*—Waldemar Travitz Jr., of the Araras Free Will Baptist Church, began training February 19 to become a jungle pilot with the Brazil division of Missionary Aviation Fellowship (Asas de Socorro). To qualify, according to Ken Eagleton, he will have to get his private and commercial pilot's licenses, complete two years of Bible training and have three years of mechanical training.

Flight time is expensive and Waldemar will be required to log at least 200 hours for his commercial license. At current prices, Eagleton noted, "It will cost him about \$320 a month. I have challenged our church to help support him through faith-promise giving. We have established the second Sunday of the month as missions Sunday."

The first offering more than doubled the amount of Ken's challenge as \$430 was received. This was more than double the regular monthly offerings of the church.

## Pinkertons Report ICA "Glory Week"

*Ivory Coast*—According to a recent report from the Jerry Pinkertons, Ivory Coast Academy held "Glory Week" in late February with preaching services twice each day. Jack Johnston of the Sudan Interior Mission was the speaker during the week.

"MK's face many problems," writes Carol Pinkerton. "Our desire is that the Word, God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit will be more than just head knowledge."

The Pinkertons revealed that Jerry, Jr. has been accepted at Wheaton College this fall after his graduation in July.

## Deed Finally Clear on Campinas Church

*Brazil*—When Jim Sturgill was officially installed as pastor of the FWB Church of Campinas in the state of Sao Paulo, he discovered that everything was in a precarious state regarding the property deeds and organizational documents of the congregation.

"As I followed through the maze of city, state, and federal offices, I realized the Lord had been there before me," writes Jim. "He had placed Christians in key positions to help me get it all straightened out. Then today, Valentine's Day of 1980, I received the final draft of the registration of our church property deed, marking the end of almost two years of blood, sweat, and tears. Praise the Lord with us!"

### Financial Summary

#### Substance

#### Through March 31

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| On deposit March 1                | \$ 589,522.60  |
| Receipts: February                | 124,667.24     |
| March                             | 121,549.76     |
| Total receipts through March      | 386,933.69     |
| Total disbursements through March | 379,909.75     |
| Projected receipts through March  | 477,078.99     |
| Total 1980 Budget                 | \$1,908,316.00 |

#### Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

|         |           |             |             |
|---------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| Aycock  | \$ 565.66 | Poole       | \$ 2,444.02 |
| Caton   | 3,675.28  | Richards    | 4,730.97    |
| Cowart  | 1,599.19  | Robinson    | 845.07      |
| Crowson | 3,188.26  | Smith, A.   | 533.85      |
| Dickens | 172.44    | Smith, J.   | 2,557.24    |
| Gibbs   | 1,470.06  | Sturgill    | 1,961.28    |
| Lytte   | 1,853.26  | Webb        | 2,409.02    |
| Moser   | 1,317.86  | Willey      | 640.11      |
| Murray  | 6,267.73  | South India | 1,764.28    |
| Payne   | 3,696.14  |             |             |

Total .....\$41,691.72



# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

P.O. Box 1088  
Nashville, TN 37202

Board of Foreign Missions: James Murray, chairman;  
Dennis Wiggs, vice-chairman; Jim Walker, secretary;  
Dan Cronk; Allen Moore; Fred Warner; Joseph Ange;  
J. Reford Wilson; Robert Trimble

Administrative Staff: Rolla D. Smith, general director;  
Harold Critcher, director of finance; Henry Van Kluyve,  
director of deputation; Don Robirds, director of com-  
munications

Please clip and send this label with all correspondence.

## CONVENTION CENTER

# ANAHEIM

July 20-24, 1980

44th Annual Session

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



*Theme:*  
*"Year of the Sunday School"*



**JACK RICHEY**  
Pastor  
First Free Will Baptist Church  
Purcell, Oklahoma



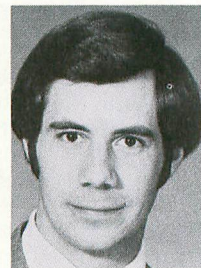
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Church Training Department  
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