

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1980



MISS

Don't Make Them Different

MKs need and desire the same love, understanding, and acceptance every other young person requires.

You're not a real MK. You grew up in the States." My friend's words really hurt me—I was proud of being an MK. The fact that Jim had been born in Ecuador and I had been there only three years didn't matter to me.

Having become an MK so late, I was able to see the life of a missionary kid through a double perspective: my memory, and the reality I was living. I had grown up in a missions-minded family and church. For years I heard of, prayed for, and pitied missionary kids—especially the ones who had to go to boarding school.

Little did I know then that my parents would become missionaries and I would spend my last three years of high school in the Alliance Academy in Quito, Ecuador. I learned there that my pity for MKs had been unnecessary. Boarding school life at the academy was the best thing that happened to me both educationally and socially. For the first time I felt academically challenged, and I had more friends than ever before.

Also, the cultural advantages were limitless. Because my parents were missionaries, I was able to

Cover and Feature Photo

Nine Free Will Baptist MKs are shown with flags representing the countries where they served with their parents. From the United States flag clockwise, top are Stephen Hersey, Japan; Noel Sparks, Spain; Laura Payne, Ivory Coast; Raymond Merkh, Christy Haas, and Jonathan Merkh, France; Rebecca Robinson, Uruguay; and Robert Poole and Terry Eagleton, Brazil.



travel and experience a new culture. How many high schoolers get to visit the Salt Cathedral and Gold Museum in Bogota, Colombia, view the gardens of the "Orchid Capital of the World," trek the jungles of the Amazon, swim any time of the year in the "City of Eternal Springtime," and spend a week at the Pacific Ocean with their senior class?

I also found that boarding school wasn't the frightening thing I'd imagined. At the Gospel Missionary Union dormitory, we lived like a big family. Sure, the cooking wasn't like Mom's, but the fun and fellowship were wonderful. I finally had the older brother(s) I'd always wished for, and a dozen "little kids" to satisfy any maternal instincts.

It was a very happy time for me. As a result, I liked being an MK. Then I spent one summer on deputation with my parents, and I

began to see another side.

My parents were the missionary speakers at a camp meeting in Wisconsin. As the missionaries' children, we were automatically put on the program. I suppose their rationale was that since we were MKs, we would definitely want to participate.

Providing special music was not too difficult since my sister and I play the piano and sing. But when it came to public speaking—or even facing an audience without my knees knocking—that was not one of my talents.

So it was frightening to find myself standing with my brother and sister on an old wooden platform facing an ocean of eyes—all focused on us.

Then it was time to ask the MKs questions: What kind of house do you live in? What kind of bed do you have? What kind of food do

Don't Make Them Different

by Lois Greenlee Stuck

you eat? Have you ever eaten fried ants?

I wanted to shout "Give me a break! I'm normal. I live in a normal house. I sleep in a normal bed. I eat normal food."

Then came the question, "What do you do for fun?"

I gave them the true answer: "We go to basketball and football games, swim, go out for pizza"

But that night my sister and I lay awake tittering as we dreamed up all sorts of answers that would have shocked those who assumed we were so different.

I wanted to shout, "Give me a break! I'm normal."

As years went by, my opinion of the glamour of being an MK was also tempered as I witnessed the emotional and spiritual struggles of several MK friends. Being pegged as different can cause resentment and rebellion.

During his college years, one friend refused to talk about Ecuador—where he had been born and raised. Another preferred to say his parents were agriculturalists or linguists rather than incur the negative stereotype (or even just the "differentness") from admitting they were missionaries.

These are typical reactions of many MKs. Unfortunately, it is difficult for most people to realize that the career choice of an MK's parents does not necessarily influence the child's personality,

intelligence, or spirituality.

It was also a new experience to be introduced, "This is Lois Greenlee; her parents are missionaries." Before going overseas, no one had introduced me as Lois Greenlee, the daughter of a Greek professor. I was tempted to turn the tables, "This is Mary Williams; her father is a realtor." But even that is not the same, since being a realtor's child does not carry the automatic stigma that an MK receives.

The MK stereotype is emphasized by well-meaning people. During spring vacation in Ecuador, a friend invited a group of us to her home in the jungle. While there, for an overnight hike we donned the practical clothing for it: girls in old dresses, heavy leotards and old tennis shoes, with our hair braided out of the way. The guys in khaki shirts, jeans and old tennis shoes—carried packs and rifles.

Just before we were to leave, a man from the States arrived on a special flight. He was taking pictures to show congregations back home. So, despite our murmurings, we were lined up and photographed. Add a few more notes for the MK stereotype: old clothes, funny stockings, weird hairdos, and carrying rifles.

Worse, with all good intentions, the man handed us pencils. We thought of ourselves as young adults, ready to start on an adventure, but he made us feel like toddlers who had just received a pat on the head.

What MKs need and desire,

however, is the same love, understanding and acceptance that every other young person requires.

When in your church or home, the MK probably desires more than anything else to be one of the crowd—to be accepted and understood. Only the exception wants to stand up front and tell about his life "on the foreign field." And to be dressed up in the national attire and paraded across

The MK stereotype is emphasized by well-meaning people.

the platform is embarrassing for anyone older than four.

In spite of stereotypes and misconceptions, however, I am proud of being an MK. My concern is that other MKs not lose their self-esteem through unintentional or unnecessary embarrassment.

The next time a missionary family comes to your church or home, remember:

MKs live normal lives.

Not every MK is a public speaker or performer.

MKs have the same emotional, physical, and spiritual struggles as the kid next door.

MKs seldom fit the stereotype.

Do your best to understand and help them fit in. Help them to like being an MK.

Lois Greenlee Stuck is the editor of *The Proclaimer*, the magazine of Azusa Pacific College. She is the daughter of OMS International missionaries Dr. and Mrs. J. Harold Greenlee. Reprinted by permission from the July/August 1979 issue of *OMS Outreach*.



Brazil

by Terry Eagleton

Have you ever tried watching a sporting event without being familiar with the game or the rules? Did you expect to enjoy the event through those who already had an appreciation for the sport? As awkward as that situation can be, one doesn't want to let his friends down. Still, somehow it's difficult to get excited like they can. Consequently, about all one can do is sit there and try to make the best of the situation.

Changing from one culture to another can be just about as awkward! One gets used to a certain lifestyle, and a certain way of thinking. Any other way of doing things is hard to understand, and appreciate.

When a person first comes into a new culture, he faces new "rules" and even the basic objectives of the "game" seem different. All games have the same basic ideal of competition, but the way each is played differs greatly. Cultures, likewise, have the same basic objective: living. But the way different peoples go about living varies a great deal.

In Acts chapter one, verse eight, our Lord Jesus gave His last words before His ascension. These were words of comfort and of command. The disciples were comforted with the idea that the Holy Spirit would be sent as the source of power to fulfill the command they had received. They were also

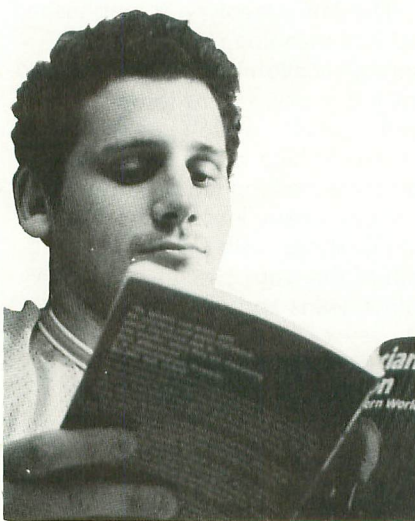
commanded to reach the world and given this strategy: Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, the WORLD.

We must reach the WORLD with the news of salvation through the blood of the Lamb. This involves going from one's home culture into a totally different culture. This can only be done by cross-cultural missionaries.

As the life of a missionary family progresses, the children come along. Then, not only does the missionary have to "worry" about

me. It was rewarding, because I was afforded many opportunities I never would have enjoyed if I had not been an MK. The privilege of traveling and becoming acquainted with different peoples and their cultures from the time I was born definitely had an influence on my outlook on the world in general. My whole value system was influenced heavily by observing contrasting cultures.

When an MK is born, immediately he or she receives a name and a stigma—American kid or missionary kid.



his work in the church, but his family responsibilities become much greater. When the child is born, he or she immediately receives a name, and a stigma. In the "foreign" country he or she will be known as an American kid (AK) and in the U.S. as a missionary kid (MK).

Growing up in this situation was both rewarding and frustrating to

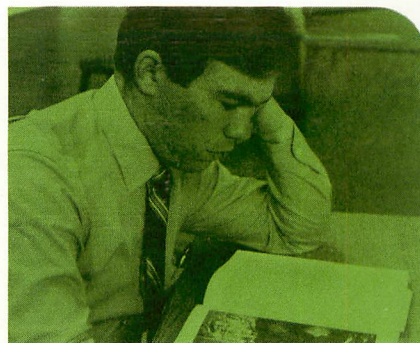
MK life was frustrating because I am an individual, and this means I think, feel, and act for myself. Sometimes in my country (Brazil) I act as if I were in the U.S. That type of action is looked down on; consequently, at that point in time I am marked as "weird." Well, if this happens enough, I know I'll end up being rejected by my own society.

The same is true vice-versa. When our family comes home on furlough, I sometimes act as if I were in Brazil. And sure enough, someone is almost always around to comment in a way which is devastating to a young man growing up.

I am now in my senior year at Free Will Baptist Bible College. After spending three consecutive years in the U.S. and being called an MK every time I am introduced anywhere, I am becoming more comfortable with the situation. I

LET ME BE ME

MKs share their personal feelings . . .



have now come to believe that I can be both American and Brazilian without choosing one over the other. I believe if I can be both, I will be a richer person. As for the Lord's work, I don't believe one can be in any more opportune situation. Yet, I understand the responsibility it places on me.

As we all work as one Body, I am praying that we will learn to respect the other members of this Body even if they do function differently.

Personally, if I had a choice, I would never have it any different than it has been in my life. I'm just glad the Lord has given me so many opportunities. And He has given me grace to get through the terribly difficult times that have come with being bi-cultural. I can definitely say with the apostle Paul, "His grace is sufficient"—in all.

Terry Eagleton was born in Brazil where his parents, Ken and Marvis Eagleton, have served with the Department of Foreign Missions for 22 years.

France

by Christy Haas

Being an MK is about all I've ever known.

Having gone to the mission field at five years of age, I grew up unaware that my life was different from anyone else's. It wasn't until we came home on furlough, four years later, that I realized what an unusual life our family led. By unusual, I mean that we had two homes, two cultures, two languages, and two totally different ways of life.

Our first home in Europe was in St. Legier, Switzerland, where my parents and my oldest brother went to language study for 18 months. Dad and Mom always recall those months of intense study as the most trying of their lives; but at my young age, the language came naturally. In fact, I never remember having to learn French. Although our family enjoyed the beauty of Switzerland and the fellowship of other missionaries in language school, we were excited about moving to Rennes, France. That

We had a happy family life; we always played, read the Bible, and prayed together.

was our first real "home" after so many months of preparation.

I don't really remember my first impressions of France. I started second grade in Rennes, in an all-girl primary school. I made friends quickly because everyone liked the "little American girl." Mother had a Child Evangelism club in our basement where I could invite my friends to hear about Jesus Christ.

Our family has always spoken English in the home, and we have lived like Americans. We had a happy family life; we always played, read the Bible, and prayed together. There were naturally times of sadness—when being made fun of at school or when one of my brothers or sisters had to leave France for the United States to enter Bible college.

I remember French people coming over to the house to eat or to fellowship. I recall a number of them around our dining room table accepting Jesus as Savior. I also remember how excited I used to get when someone new was at church. We started off with about 12 or 15 (including the seven in our family). To see the number grow was really encouraging, even to me as a child.

When we came home on our first furlough, I was nine years old. People in churches always asked me to speak French or to tell them what France was like. But I guess the most common question was, "Which country do you like the best, France or America?" I would always answer, "France"; but then I would tell my French friends how great and wonderful America was.

My next four years in France were spent in French schools. Our church grew tremendously during that time, and I had several Christian friends. I didn't realize how French I had become until we

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came back to the States on furlough when I was 13. Everything seemed so different, and I looked at everything with a different view!

The young people my age seemed so much more mature, and I couldn't get over the number of evangelical churches, etc. Although I felt comfortable with my new friends, during our year of furlough, I still wasn't completely American. I often thought to myself, "If I'm not fully American, and I'm not totally French, then what am I?" Well I'm an MK!

It is a privilege to be the daughter of missionaries, and I have loved every minute of it.

We returned to France at the end of summer in 1977. Only my parents, Melvin, and I returned since Joey, Trudy and Beverly were all married. I did my high school by correspondence, by myself in my room. These past three years have been great; it seems I've learned a great deal.

We have, in our church, a great group of young people who love the Lord and who truly want to serve Him. They count it a privilege to be able to go to church and hear God's Word. I'm often ashamed of myself when I realize how much of the Bible some of our new Christians know already.

I have dreaded the time when I would be the only child left at home. So, when Melvin left for Bible college, I thought I would be



lonely. But there is never a dull moment at our home! I missed all my brothers and sisters very much, but the Lord gave me a true inward joy even in their absence.

You may wonder what I did all day in France. During the school year we have about five services weekly. In the daytime I usually studied or kept children. I helped in Bible clubs, taught the children on prayer meeting nights, and helped print the literature. In addition to these tasks, I helped Dad and Mom around the house.

I was saved when I was three and one-half years old, during vacation Bible school at the church where Dad was pastoring in Tulsa, Okla. I can truly say that I have had a very happy life. It is a privilege to be the daughter of missionaries, and I have loved every moment of it. Even though being an MK has disadvantages, it also has certain advantages, such as seeing many people accept Christ as Savior, being bilingual, and having the opportunity to see many European countries.

I guess I never would have been an MK if my wonderful parents had



not accepted the call of the Lord to go to the regions beyond. My parents are the greatest in the world, and they have made my life as an MK so easy by living such a consistent Christian life. They are the same in France as they are in the States with their convictions and their Christian lives. I appreciate their examples very much.

I guess the hardest part of being an MK has hit me now that I have left "home" to go to Bible college in Nashville. Being away from Dad and Mom and the French people isn't easy, but the Lord gives me strength every day as He promised in Isaiah 40:31: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength . . ."

Christy Haas is the daughter of Joe and Barbara Haas who have served in Rennes, France, since 1962.

Spain

by Paul Sparks

Like all people, I was unable to tell my parents where I wished to be born. I might have chosen Switzerland, where the mountains reach the sky and the cows wear bells. But I was born in Ivory Coast, West Africa. It is the only place I know of that demands a repeat as it does each time I state my place of birth. People act as though I must be weird or something!

The Africa where I lived was a truly exotic place, filled with many pleasant memories. It was a hunter's paradise, and as a child, I was taken up by hunting. I used to



dream about getting a chance to shoot a cape buffalo or gazelle. Actually, I was never able to hunt big game, but the many species of birds which made their home around our mission station provided me ample opportunities to enjoy myself.

I attended Ivory Coast Academy, an MK school. To the few who attended there it was an oasis where friends were gathered. It was an America of sorts. And it was something of a melting pot of many denominations where differences in doctrinal matters did not bother us, because we were in our youth. The important matter was learning to get along.

The people who ran the school planned events so there was never a dull moment. The many activities included soccer, basketball, tennis, track, touch football, softball, and

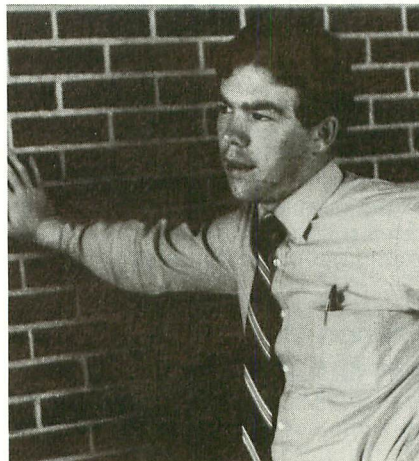
Probably the hardest thing one had to do was to wave good-bye to parents for a two-and-a-half month stretch.

bike-hiking. The food, like it is in many institutions, was not their strong point. The emphasis was placed on school, and they kept a high level of academics.

Boarding school was my second home, and not a bad one at that. Probably the hardest thing one had to do was to wave the last good-bye to parents for a two-and-a-half month stretch. Subdued sobbing on the pillow at night quit after a person got

adjusted, which in my case was a few days.

At the school we did feel isolated, though, and the thought of a return to civilization, in our case the U.S., was always exciting. In 1972 when our chance came, I didn't know I would be leaving for good. My parents had debated whether or not to return or possibly concentrate their efforts on pioneer work in



some other field. The latter came true and through the Lord's working they were appointed to Spain.

The country of Spain, where we settled in 1974, came to mean a lot to me. Initially, the antiquity and the preservation of it caught my eye. In other words, Spain is filled with cathedrals, castles, and remnants of Roman structures, all of which a history buff, such as I, can enjoy. Its many quaint villages offer hospitality to the tourist in a way only Mediterranean people can.

The people of Spain, as I came

to know them, build their life around other people instead of around material things such as cars, stereos, and other things. Their unconcealed aggressiveness, long a spirit of Spain, made itself known in their communication, often loud and self-confident. I was always the

The new-found faith of converts was a source of inspiration. It was the type of atmosphere which made one look forward to church.

quiet listener, yet I found it very enjoyable. Now I miss it!

Some of the first converts were people who had never considered Christ as an alternative. Although Christ was included in the Catholic religion, this had degenerated into a meaningless, ritualistic form. The new-found faith of these converts was a source of inspiration for me, and I have since treasured much of the good spirit that prevailed. It was the type of atmosphere which made one look forward to church, and I liked that.

In spite of this, I did see the other side of the coin, the world, if you please. Then I was able to sense the hopelessness of the lost, and my heart went out to them. That was when I took pride in knowing my parents had dedicated their lifetimes to help the world—people without hope apart from the gospel of Christ.

Paul Sparks is the son of veteran missionaries Lonnie and Anita Sparks who served in the Ivory Coast for 17 years prior to their current tenure in Spain.

Aldridge Reports Snares and Blessings

Ivory Coast—Soon after Jimmy and Janie Aldridge arrived back in the Ivory Coast (July), they spent a week at the annual conference of Ivory Coast Free Will Baptists. Over 220 delegates and visitors attended the week's sessions held at Nassian.

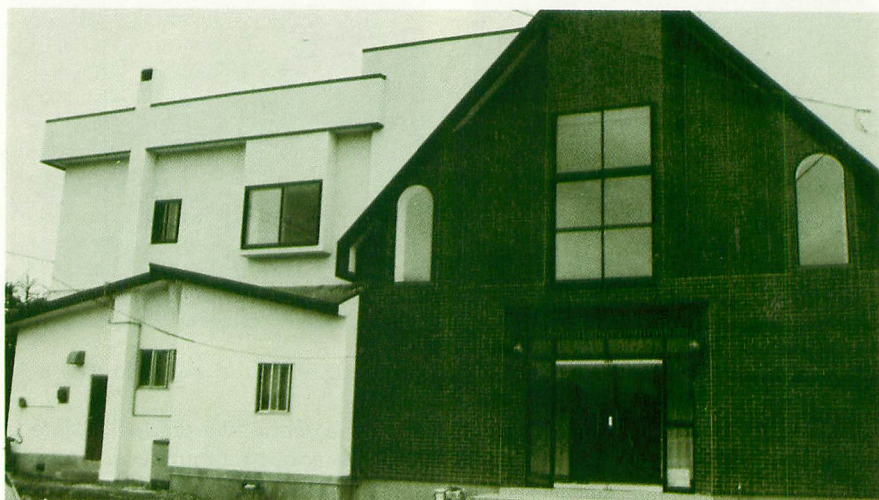
In Bondoukou, the Aldridges found some families snared by sin. "We joined in prayer for them and God has answered," writes Jimmy. "Two couples have been reconciled following confession of wrongs. Not only that, but two people have been saved and two backsliders restored!" he exclaimed.

Aldridge noted, "Madame Akwa, one of those saved, reminded us much of the 'woman at the well.' Under conviction for three years, she said, 'I am an unmarried mother of four, living a bad example. I want to be changed.' Immediately, she began witnessing and bringing others with her to hear the Word!"

The Aldridges expressed concern over several pentecostal groups which moved into Bondoukou while they were on furlough. Some confusion has occurred as one of the pentecostal preachers has tried to influence the church.

Callaways to Move to Majadahonda

Spain—Ron and Linda Callaway, who have been working with the church in Alcala de Henares while the Sparks are on furlough, plan to move to the



The Higashi Tsukisamu church met July 30 for the first service in the new building, shown here in a suburb of Sapporo, Japan. Jim and Olena McLain work with the church.

area of Majadahonda when Lonnie and Anita return at the end of this year.

"The Catons have many contacts already, and we believe that the Lord is going to save many of these," writes Ron. "Please pray that the work will progress in order to give God the maximum glory."

Callaway revealed that a teen-age girl in Alcala has been unduly influenced by a non-Christian friend. He urged people to pray for her as she faces a common battle for Christian young people in that area.

French Christians Escape Auto Fire

France—Madame Germaine Gilbert and her son David, of St. Nazaire, France, miraculously escaped being burned alive recently when their car caught fire while returning from vacation. Although they lost clothes, papers, and money, the Gilberts were able to park the car and get out seconds before it was engulfed in flames.

Madame Gilbert (featured in last November/December *Heartbeat*) is helping the Jerry Gibbs family in St. Nazaire.

which Ben Abe expects to make his living. The sanctuary is upstairs and will seat approximately 75 to 100 people.

The first day of activities featured an afternoon hamburger party for high school students. This was followed by a time of singing and testimonies. One young girl expressed a desire to become a Christian.

The McLains' daughter, Mary, has begun her senior year at Christian Academy of Japan. Jim and Olena expressed praise to the Lord that she has again been offered a full scholarship by an anonymous donor. The scholarship pays her entire school expenses for the year, equivalent to \$4,500 in savings to the McLains' account.

Landbridge Distribution to Kampuchea Reopens

Wheaton, Ill.—World Relief Corporation announced recently that the Thailand "landbridge" operation, disrupted following Vietnamese invasion of Thailand in June, is officially reopened. Distribution of rice, vegetable seed, and agricultural kits in the Nong Chan area was resumed. An estimated 40,000 Kampuchean civilians rely on outside aid for their survival needs.

The renewed distribution in this area calls for supplying 15,000 cool-season vegetable kits (at \$11.00 per kit), 8,500 agricultural packets (fishing nets and farming tools, at \$75.00 per packet), and 10,000 family survival kits (cooking utensils, sewing materials, blankets, mosquito netting, soap, disinfectant, bandages, and plastic sheeting at \$25.00 per kit).

Special Gifts

These people gave special gifts in August and September in honor of or in memory of friends:

Donor
Mrs. Eloise Jones
Smithfield, N.C.

In Memory of
Linda Underwood

Mrs. Selma A. Thompson
Beckly, W.V.

In Honor of
Ray Patton

Special Gift to Foreign Missions

Amount \$ _____
Given in memory/honor of _____
Given by: Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Please send memorial/honorary card to:
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

First Services Held in New Building

Japan—Missionary Jim McLain recently reported that the Higashi Tsukisamu church held its first worship service in the new building constructed by Ben Abe, one of the young Japanese preachers. The downstairs classrooms in the building will be used for an English school through



Joe and Barbara Haas (center, rear) meet in their home with the Rennes church board members and their wives. The Haases prepared a special appreciation dinner for the group.

Prayers Answered: Payments Delayed

Spain—In the September-October issue of *Heartbeat*, Doc Caton requested prayer regarding a "lawsuit" which is preventing their work on the building which they have rented for their work. Although this action has not been settled, an agreement made with the owner calls for no payments to be made on the building after September until the "suit" is settled.

Caton did urge people to pray that God would touch the hearts of the city officials so the work permit can be issued. Approximately \$5,000 will be needed to finish the building, once the permit is issued.

A city-wide evangelistic campaign in Madrid is currently being held in cooperation with many evangelical missionaries and churches in the area. This is scheduled to end sometime in the month of November.

At last report, six people were taking part in the Bible studies which were offered through brochures printed and distributed by summer missionaries in the area of Majadahonda.

Barker Shoulders Uruguay Load

Uruguay—In the absence of missionaries Paul and Amy Robinson, single missionary nurse Molly Barker has been shouldering the responsibility for the work in Uruguay. Recent spiritual and health problems in the area have made her responsibilities difficult to bear.

Christians have been urged to pray for Andrea, a nine-year old girl who

has cancer of the lungs. According to Molly, she has to go to Montevideo often for treatment. While her grandmother needs her gallbladder removed, she is unable to have this done due to Andrea's condition and due to the required travel to Montevideo.

Lay preachers helping in the work have also faced some extreme spiritual problems in recent months.

MK Terry Eagleton spent the summer in Uruguay helping with the work.

Mini Reports from Around the World

Panama—Larry and Priscilla Inscoe arrived in Las Tablas, Panama, on September 19. They had their first service on September 21 with 21 people in Sunday school and 26 attending the evening service.

Wheaton, Ill.—According to *The Church Around the World*, 16 million people are now classified as refugees or displaced persons. Most of these are women and children. Asia has seven million, Africa four million, and the Middle East three million.

Brazil—Tom Hughes reported a Sunday school average of 78 for the month of July. A new Sunday school attendance record of 101 was set and 11 converts were baptized.

Korea—Two and a half million Korean Christians gathered in Seoul to celebrate the centennial of Protestant missions in their country. Trained observers believe this was the largest assemblage of believers in history. The 1980 World Evangelization

Crusade, which set in motion a four-year evangelistic effort in Korea, attracted some seven million people over four days.

22 Campers Saved in Brazil Youth Camps

Brazil—Twenty-two campers made decisions for Christ during July youth camps in Brazil, according to reports in the *Folha Evangelica*, the news sheet published by the Free Will Baptist Association in the state of Sao Paulo.

Three camps were held: two in the state of Sao Paulo and one in Minas Gerais. Approximately 180 people were present at the junior and senior camps in Jaboticabal, S.P., while 25 campers and 10 workers were on hand for the camp in southern Minas Gerais.

Payne Urges Prayer for Bouna Church

Ivory Coast—According to a recent report from Sandra Payne, the church at Bouna has an attendance of approximately 60-80 on Sunday mornings "but it is evident that the quantity is much heavier than the quality."

"Koffi David really needs our prayers," Sandra continued, "that he will have the wisdom and courage to cope with the problems that Satan is constantly sending into the group."

"Bouna seems to be ripe for the gospel, but it is going to take a moving of the Holy Spirit," Payne concluded.

The youth center building in Bouna has been completed and Eddie is busy building book racks for the reading room.

Witness Expanding in Rennes Church

France—"During the summer we have had several saved as a result of the witness of our folks," writes Joe Haas from Rennes, France. "An older lady accepted the Lord through the witness of Mrs. LeBalleur, a young nurse accepted Christ through the testimony of Anne Marie Roue, and a man and wife were saved last week through the witness of Gerard."

The church conducted a street fair behind the church on September 20. According to Haas, the people from the church took care of all the details such as getting permission from the city, renting materials, making up

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games, and involving people in different activities.

Joe expressed praise for the financial blessings on the church as he disclosed a recent repayment by the church of \$11,500 on the building loan. The church also has enough money in savings to pay the salary of Gerard and Daniel during the year the Haases return to the States for furlough.

Two new ministries are being launched by the church: a telephone ministry and a tape ministry.

Ministry to Muslims Opens for Morgan

Ivory Coast—In recent correspondence, missionary Clint Morgan informed the mission office that an opportunity has opened to minister to some Muslim boys in the area of Doropo. According to Clint, the boys range from 13 to 20 years of age and show genuine interest in the gospel.

"We had 24 at our last meeting," writes Morgan. "We are using filmstrips to teach them Bible stories and about God. Although they have an understanding, it is darkened by many falsehoods."

The school term resumed in September and the Morgans will be conducting a school ministry three or four afternoons per week. This ministry was begun by Alice Smith and Vada Lee.

Clint noted that a mini Bible institute is scheduled to be held from December through February in the Doropo area. "Our church leaders are very excited about this and are hoping to see the church grow as a result of the study," Morgan concluded.

Hersey Finds Iriso Church Well, Growing

Japan—When Fred and Evelyn Hersey returned to Japan in September, they found the church at Iriso in good condition with evidence of spiritual growth in a number of the Christians.

Fred was "thrilled to see the young people take over the Sunday school teaching, etc." He noted that "one young man, Asano San, has become very active in not only teaching Sunday school but in bringing some of his friends to church. He has also started a young people's group that meets once or twice a month."

Hersey reported that the Tokyo area of Japan has had the worst weather in 75 years. Most of the summer, includ-

ing September, has been cloudy or rainy.

The all-Japan fellowship meeting was scheduled to meet October 10-11 in the Tokyo area.

Webbs Continue Search for Meeting Site

France—"We have been looking for a building in which we can have services," writes Jerry Webb from Lanester, France. "But so far we have found only dead ends. Sometimes the price is too high, sometimes because of city codes the building can't be used for a church, and sometimes the people who own the building won't rent it to a church group. Please pray with us about this problem."

The Webbs also urged prayer for them as they witness in France: They need boldness to present God's Word, health and stamina to fight the fatigue of working in a foreign language, and wisdom to know when to speak and when to listen and learn.

Station Maintenance Occupies Filkins

Ivory Coast—Since the arrival of Howard and Joan Filkins in the Ivory Coast this past April, Howard has been busy trying to keep up with the maintenance on the mission station in Doropo.

"So many things needed fixing that the first few months have been spent just administering first aid," write the Filkins. "The major repairs are still waiting. Days aren't planned; they just happen. One morning we got up to the news that the water line was

ruptured, the tractor was in the middle of an overhaul, and electric lines for the new generator needed to be hooked up."

According to Howard, the Lord has marvelously supplied tools for the station shop. The Doropo station has 15 buildings and 300 trees to maintain on approximately 10 acres of land.

Bible Institute Opens in Rennes Church

France—The newly established Bible institute opened on October 13 in the Free Will Baptist church in Rennes, France. Ten students enrolled and another was expected to join the group in November. Missionary Joe Haas is the pastor and will be in charge of the institute.

According to Miss Charolette Talent, one of the students is to work with her in a new Bible club for children 9-12 years of age.

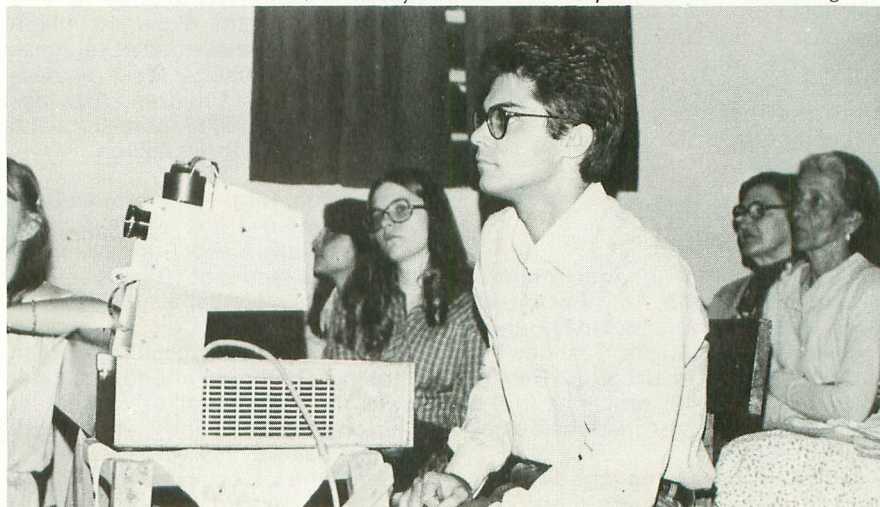
A retreat is scheduled to be held November 2-4 for the young people of the Rennes church.

Plans are also being made for a bimonthly Bible study with teenage girls of the church. Charolette requested prayer for direction as to the time, date, and subjects to be studied. She will be directing the class.

Richards Locates Hall for Church Services

Ivory Coast—Norman Richards reports having located a large room on main street in Agnibilekro where they can hold church services. "It is in an excellent location to give us good contact with the people of Ag-

Waldemar Travitzky, of the Araras FWB Church in Brazil, shows the Campinas church some work of Asas de Socorro (Missionary Aviation Fellowship) for which he is training.



nibilekro," writes Norman.

"We want to thank each of you who has been praying for this need," he continued. "We are considering using this room for a Christian literature room during the week. Literates are eager to read any kind of literature, so we feel this is an open door to share the gospel."

Richards noted that summer missionaries Darrell and Lila Nichols were helpful and encouraging in the work at Dame and Agnibilekro.

Believers Harassed in Rural Mexico

Mexico—A small group of believers was attacked in July during Sunday evening worship in the home of one of the families in San Nicolas de Guadalupe, according to a report from the Latin America Mission of Mexico.

Dozens of men armed with axes, clubs, and stones arrived by truck and attacked the believers in the house where they were gathered. Fifteen believers were injured, the house was destroyed, and three cars were badly damaged.

The people of the town, who were reportedly intimidated by the local Roman Catholic priest, refused to aid the stricken people.

The believers have declared their intentions to continue living in the town despite harassment.

Authorities have assured them that justice will be done.

Light Company Forces Change at Youth Camp

Brazil—In a September report from missionary Bobby Poole, the mission office was informed that the electric company in Jaboticabal is requiring the mission to change the electrical system on the youth camp property there. Costs for the change in this sys-

tem have been estimated at between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

Poole noted that at the last youth camp, the system was overloaded almost daily. They will be required to put in a larger transformer and system to augment power by another 50 percent.

Missionaries Survey Unreached Area

Ivory Coast—According to missionary Patrick Dickens, a group of four missionary men and one national Christian from the Doropo church made a survey trip into the Komono region of northern Ivory Coast during the summer.

The group spent three days in the largely Muslim area seeking to determine what languages were spoken and what was known about the gospel. They found the Dioula (pronounced Julia) is widely spoken and knowledge of the gospel is at zero.

Patrick is currently involved in a regular Bible study in Dioula at Dame and Susan has started a French Bible study for women. They are also continuing their language study.

Missionary Tax Bill Will Save Millions

Nashville, Tenn.—A bill (H.R. 1319) that would restore the \$20,000 foreign income exclusion for overseas missionaries is expected to pass Congress this year, according to a report in *Evangelical Newsletter*.

Until the tax year of 1979, Christian workers abroad, many of whom pay income taxes to the countries where they work, were permitted the \$20,000 tax exclusion. The Foreign Earned Income Act of 1978 eliminated the exclusion which, if not restored, could cost U.S.-based missionary societies millions of dollars in taxes on salaries.

A Senate version of the bill was to have been ready for Senate action soon after Labor Day.

Lytle Air Fare Raised by Church

St. Louis, Mo.—The Fourth Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis, Mo., recently raised \$1,135 to provide air fare for Steve and Judy Lytle to return to the United States from Panama to begin furlough.

"Bring the Lytles Home," was the slogan adopted by the church during this effort.

"Because of this effort, our account

was helped considerably," the Lytles stated. Steve and Judy plan to reside in the St. Louis area during their year of furlough. Leroy Blankenship is pastor of the church.

Wode Receives I.C. Orientation at Goumère

Ivory Coast—Miss Arilla Wode arrived in the Ivory Coast in July following language study in Albertville, France. She has temporarily settled at the mission station in Goumère where she will remain during a period of orientation.

Arilla was appointed to missionary service in August of 1976, so she expressed praise at finally reaching her destination. Location for her ministry had not been determined at the last report.

Soviet Soldiers Reported Executed

Wheaton, Ill.—The bodies of 15 Soviet soldiers were sent back to the Soviet Union after being executed for refusing to shoot at Afghans in Afghanistan. All were members of the unregistered Baptist Church, according to a story in *Sparks* (Summer, 1980), the journal of the Institute of Slavic Studies.

The article also reported that a Soviet emigre living in West Germany has received several letters from inside the Soviet Union indicating that Christians refusing to take the military oath are being sent to Afghanistan.

Financial Summary

Through September 30

Substance

Receipts: August	\$ 128,391.43
September	133,672.22
Total receipts through September	1,254,755.77
Total disbursements through September	1,356,222.84
Projected receipts through September	1,431,236.90
Total 1980 Budget	1,908,316.00

\$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Aycock	\$1,669.85	Payne	\$8,643.54
Caton	4,340.84	Pinkerton	1,287.03
Combs	7,176.65	Poole	841.80
Cowart	1,081.81	Richards	1,913.50
Crowson	2,718.21	Smith, J.	4,460.66
Filkins	3,873.98	Sturgill	852.11
Gibbs	4,285.41	Turnbough	606.58
Morgan	2,386.45	Webb	7,595.10
Moser	2,586.41	Wode	830.25
Murray	3,004.18	South India	247.28
Total			\$60,401.64

Missionary accounts are over \$60,000 in the red!

Note: URGENT NEEDS are on the back cover.

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

Board of Foreign Missions: James Murray, chairman; Dan Cronk, vice-chairman; Jim Walker, secretary; Fred Warner; Joseph Ange; J. Reford Wilson; Robert Trimble; Bill Fulcher; Bill Jones

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

Please clip and send this label with all correspondence.

LET US GIVE THANKS BY GIVING

URGENT NEEDS:

- 1 Paul Robinson—Return trip to Uruguay \$2,000
- 2 Dennis Owen—Extra travel, freight and customs fees to Spain 5,000
- 3 Youth Camp in Brazil—New electrical system required 3,400
- 4 Patrick Dickens (Ivory Coast)—New stove, car repair, tires, and station equipment 1,000
- 5 Dock Caton—Finishing of rented meeting hall in Spain 5,000
- 6 Arilla Wode (Ivory Coast)—Additional needed for vehicle purchase 5,000
- 7 Patsy Vanhook (France)—Vehicle replacement . . . 2,000
- 8 Howard Filkins (Ivory Coast)—Vehicle purchase and tires 3,000

Send to:

Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions
P.O. Box 1088—Nashville, TN 37202