

# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

MAY/JUNE 1981

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## CHET BITTERMAN'S UNFINISHED TRAIL

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**T**wo months before he was kidnapped, Chet Bitterman was sloshing along a remote jungle trail in Colombia, South America.

As a member of the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL), Chet had chosen to work with Carijona (Kah-ree-HO-nah) Indians, whose language had never been written before.

He had read everything he could get his hands on about them in the library at Lomalinda (SIL's Center), 85 air miles southeast of Bogota.

Now, he wanted to meet the Carijonas . . . learn their language . . . record it . . . and eventually translate the Bible for them.

### ***A Hard Journey***

To reach the Carijonas, Chet had to go two hours by single engine plane, three hours down-river by motor launch and then "walk all day" on a muddy trail.

He and a friend had been told the journey would be difficult

because of all the rain. Chet later wrote:

"To say the trail was in bad shape was about the best example of positive thinking I've ever experienced. The mud was over the tops of our boots.

"And our guide walked three times faster than we did. They're not joking when they say: 'He who walks with an Indian walks alone.'

"Under the circumstances, I suppose it was inevitable that we got lost. We never did make it to an Indian house that day."

But, in the days that followed, Chet did get to meet the Carijonas and find out quite a bit about their way of life.

He hoped to return and start building a simple house in their village by February. Then, when he was finished, Chet would go back and get his family.

His wife, Brenda, and daughters,

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**by Betty Blair and Phil Landrum**

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Anna Ruth, 3, and Esther Elizabeth, 1½, would follow Chet up that trail to their new adventure of being "alphabet makers" to the Carijonas.

### ***A Snag***

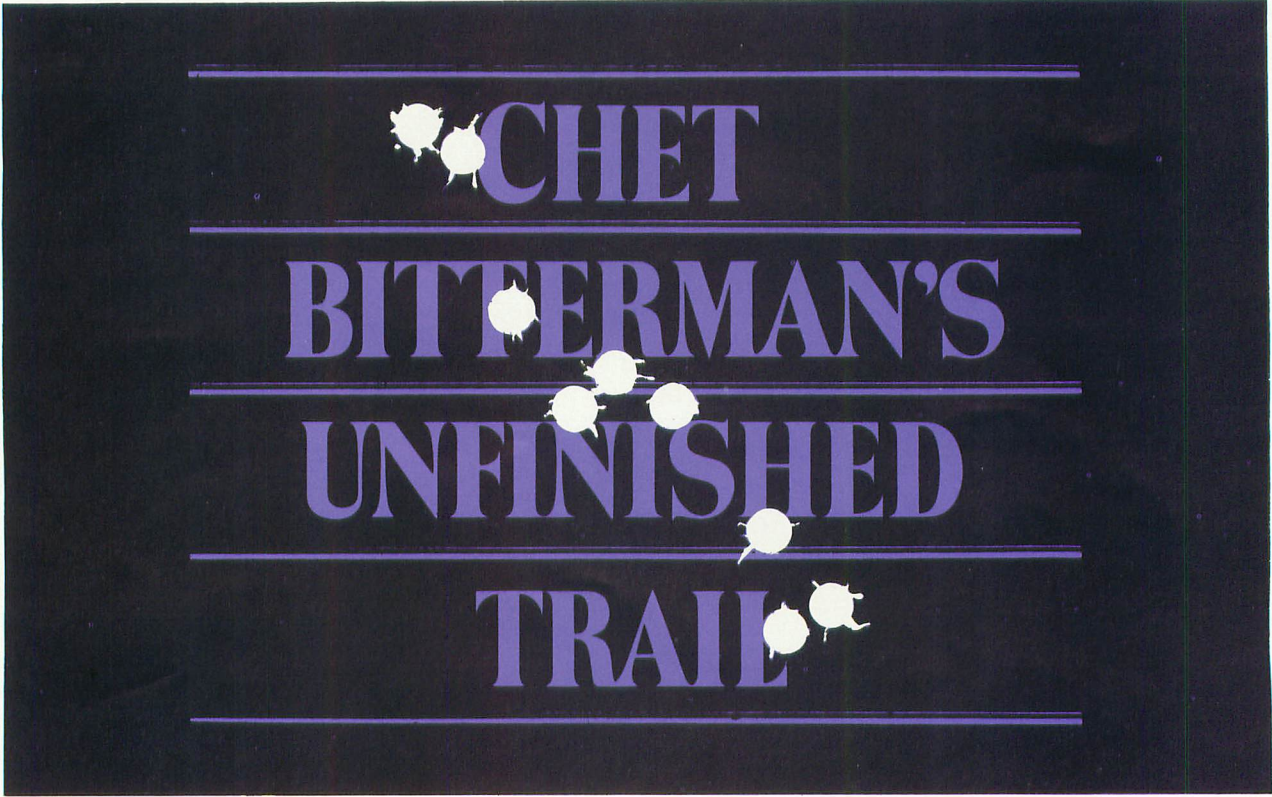
That's when a snag developed.

Chet started getting strong abdominal pains. A trip to the capital, Bogota, indicated he'd need a gallbladder operation.

But, three days before Chet's scheduled surgery, a man disguised as a policeman knocked at the door of the SIL guest house. It was 6:30, Monday morning, January 19, 1981. Twelve adults and five children were just starting to wake up.

When the door was opened, six terrorists, hooded and armed with machine guns and revolvers, pushed their way in. Apparently, they were looking for Al Wheeler, director of the Bogota SIL office.

When they couldn't find him, they settled on the man who seemed to be in charge—28-year-old Chet Bitterman. Maybe his fluency in Spanish attracted them, too.



# CHET BITTERMAN'S UNFINISHED TRAIL



They let Chet go back for his contact lenses. Then, Anna Ruth and Esther kissed their daddy goodbye. The terrorists put Chet in an SIL vehicle and sped off.

The odyssey had begun.

The big question was why.

Four days later, the answer came as the terrorists made their demands:

"Chet Bitterman will be executed unless the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) and all its members leave Colombia by 6:00 p.m., February 19. (Signed) M-19 National Coordinator Base."

### **Not Time to Leave**

It wasn't time to leave Colombia, no matter what demands the kidnappers made. The Summer Institute of Linguistics, sister organization of the Wycliffe Bible Translators, is dedicated to serve the forgotten people of the world—people neglected because of their isolation—both geographically and linguistically. No group is too small nor too isolated. They believe everyone should have the opportunity to read God's Word in his own language.

Because SIL linguists have dared to take enormous risks over the last 40 years, they've become the "alphabet makers to the world." They're presently studying nearly 700 of the world's 5,000 languages and have completed work in 150. With this kind of worldwide operation, SIL can't afford to be intimidated by terrorists and kidnappers.

J. Robertson McQuilkin, president of Columbia Bible College, where Chet graduated, agreed that negotiations were impossible:

"Once you start giving in to terrorists, you jeopardize every missionary the world over."

The terrorists demanded that President Reagan intervene and make SIL leave, insisting it was a front for imperialist politics and the CIA. They also demanded that the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* publish their

manifesto. The U. S. Embassy countered the demands:

"The Summer Institute of Linguists is a private, non-political institution engaged in scientific and humanitarian activities. The President can't tell private citizens where to live, nor members of the free press what to print."

### **Colombia to Negotiate**

Colombia's Minister of Government German Zea Hernandez insisted that since SIL was in the country by his government's invitation, Colombia would handle any negotiations.

SIL agreed.

"We've never been a part of the CIA, nor ever will be," added a spokesman.

The Institute stood firm, but it didn't lash out at the terrorists. Instead, it showed love through the entire ordeal.

The *New York Times* quoted W. Cameron Townsend, 84-year-old founder of Wycliffe Bible Translators:

"Never think of people as enemies. Look on them as your friends. They may be fighting you because they don't understand you."

Even Chet's father had compassion for the kidnappers:

"My first reaction was shock. I wanted to get a boat full of guns and go free my son. But then I started reading in Philippians: 'Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.'"

"When I started being thankful, my anger and frustration left. You have to thank the Lord even in the toughest moments," he said.

Down in Bogota, one day faded into the next with the February 19 deadline on everyone's mind.

### **Bright Signs**

Encouraging signs were evident, however. The kidnappers sent letters written by Chet to the local newspapers.

"I'm being treated well. I've had no gallbladder attacks," he wrote on January 24.

One of the photos released in Bogota newspapers showed Chet playing chess, an energetic smile on his face.

It seems Chet had lots of opportunity for "verbal volleyball," as his dad likes to call it. A radio station played a tape from Chet:

"We've talked. We've argued. We've even become friends. We respect each other though we view the world from opposite poles."

There's evidence that the kidnappers complied with Chet's request for a Spanish Bible. One letter to Brenda listed verses that had strengthened him, passages like Psalms 46, 56 and 121.

A leftist newspaper in Bogota picked up on this.

Thinking there might be hidden meaning in these words from the Bible, the editors filled an entire page with photos of Chet and dozens of verses. Underneath one picture were the words:

"Nothing can separate us from the love of God . . ."

### **Deadlines Come**

As the world waited, deadlines came and went . . . 6 p.m., February 19 . . . 6 p.m., February 21 . . . Midnight, February 21 . . . March 5.

Inside the guest house, unanswered questions plagued them. Little Anna Ruth kept asking:

"Did Daddy really want to go with those men? When's he coming back to play?"

Outside, there were threats, bomb scares, silences and uncertainty.

The listening world got used to rumors.

That's why it was so hard to believe the truth when it came.

March 7. Chet's body had been found on a bus.

The news fell on numb ears.

Only a few days earlier, Brenda had received word making her believe Chet would soon be free.

*Continued on page 4* →



## Unfinished Trail

—>Continued from page 3

She had started packing her suitcase in anticipation of the long-awaited reunion. She had even called Pennsylvania asking Chet's parents if there was snow. She hoped that soon the little girls could play in it for the first time, maybe even build a snowman with their daddy.

### Shattered Dreams

One bullet shattered Brenda's dreams. It also ended the dream she and Chet had shared about the Indians.

They had planned to spend the next 15-20 years with the Carijonas . . . loving them . . . living with them . . . learning their language . . . developing an alphabet . . . analyzing the grammar . . . developing primers . . . teaching them to read and write . . . ultimately translating the Bible into the language God had given specially to the Carijonas.

Now, everything was changed. Chet wouldn't build the house. He and his family would never slosh over the muddy trail together. The fun-loving linguist would never enjoy living with this isolated group of people.

Now, only one question remained:

Who would take his place?

Who would walk the trail for Chet?

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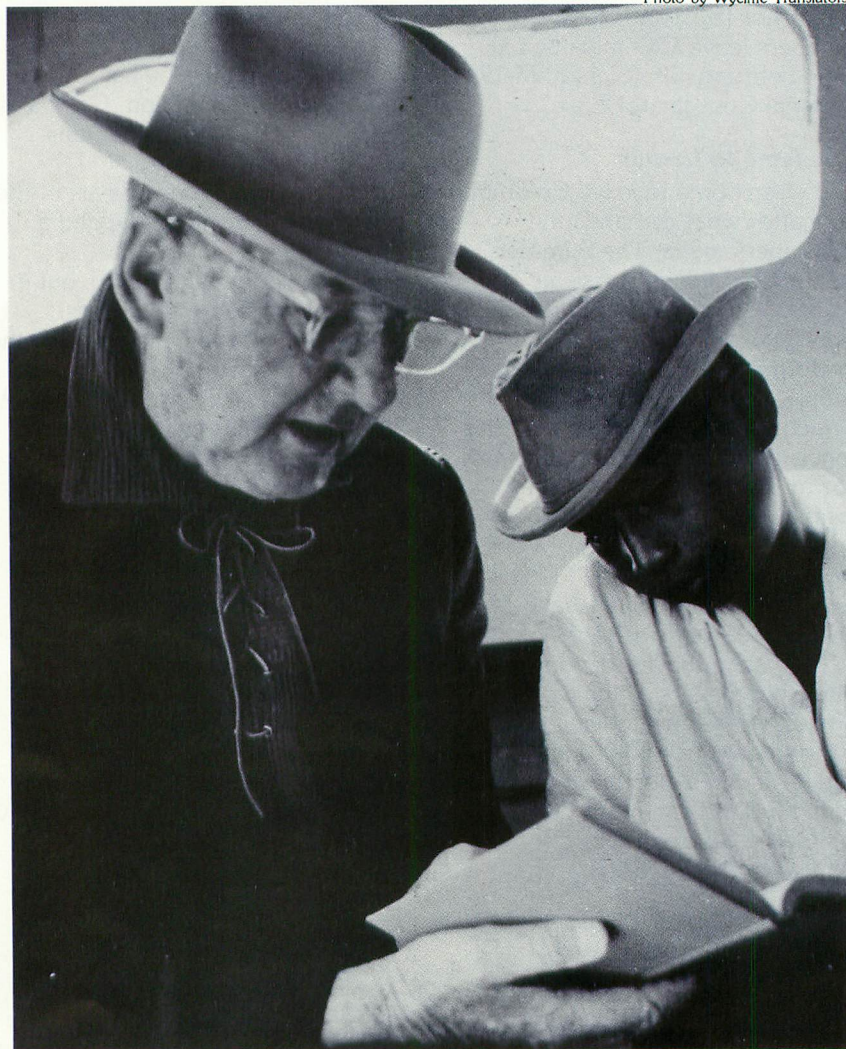
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# FRIENDS SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE

by Sheila Cragg

Photo by Wycliffe Translators



Cameron Townsend reads to a Cakchiquel boy.

**"U**tz avech, vuc-cachpochel?"  
"For the first time an Indian had called me his neighbor," wrote Cameron Townsend. "The welcome words in the Cakchiquel language meant, 'How are you, my neighbor?'"

"Of course, the primary etymology of the word for neighbor was not pleasant, for it meant 'companion in cootie-cracking,' but the Cakchiquels never stopped to think of the etymology, but rather the spirit of friendship that they



could see in the neighbor, the true friend . . . .”

But why had the Cakchiquel Indian suddenly called Cameron Townsend neighbor? It wasn't because they lived near each other. They had been in the same village for more than a year. During this time, however, Townsend had learned to speak the same language the Indian spoke.

Friends often say of each other, “We speak the same language.” They mean they understand each other's thoughts and intents. Townsend wrote about his experience with the Cakchiquel Indian to illustrate the spirit of friendship possible when people speak the same language.

In a similar situation, a translator in Mexico asked an Indian mother, “How is it you are not afraid of us like you used to be? You would never even speak to us.”

“You speak our language, now,” the mother answered.

“The Indian will be redeemed when we touch his heart, and we touch his heart when we speak the truth to him in his own language,” said a Latin American authority on Indian affairs.

### **Why Learn a Language?**

William Cameron Townsend, founder of Wycliffe Bible Translators and the Summer Institute of Linguistics, explains why he believes it's imperative to learn minority languages. “The Indian lives in the cloister of his language, and to get to know him, instruct him, and win his friendship, it is necessary to penetrate those sacred recesses. At first they may seem mysterious, but in reality they are marvelous when a person takes the trouble to investigate them. And take the trouble we must!”

For 12 years, Cameron Townsend took the trouble to learn Cakchiquel, reduce it to writing, and translate the New Testament into this Guatemalan language. May 1981 marks the fiftieth year since publication of the Cakchiquel New Testament and the beginnings of

Townsend's vision to reach out worldwide to our neighbors whose languages had never been written.

But the organizations which Townsend founded are dedicated not only to learning exotic languages and to Bible translation, but to teaching people to read and write their mother tongues. Otherwise, “If those who have God's Word in their own language can't read it, how can they grow effectively into mature Christians?” said Townsend. “The illiterates have to rely upon those who can read to feed them with the Word as a mother spoon-feeds a helpless child.”

### **What Drove Him On?**

But what were the driving motives and urgent reasons why Cameron Townsend devoted his life to reaching the Bibleless peoples of the world? “First of all,” he wrote, “our Lord commanded that every creature be told. That certainly includes every language and every tribe. Who can resist a command from such a Source?”

“Secondly, there are countless ills in this world. . . . There is only one thing that will bring them to an end. That is the return of our Lord and Savior. We are seeking to hasten this return by fulfilling His command.

### **How Close to Finishing?**

“Thirdly, the love of Christ constrains us. He so loved the world that He gave Himself.”

But how close is the church to finishing the Bible translation task? In over 40 countries, with the help of native co-translators, some 800 languages have been or are now being reduced to writing. One hundred and fifty languages have the whole New Testament, representing 4.5 million people. Even so, language barriers still deprive 200 million people, representing more than 3,000 languages from hearing or reading the life-giving message of Jesus Christ.

The goal of reaching those neighbors who haven't any portion of the Scriptures requires people now engaged in almost every kind of occupation. A team of literacy workers, pilots, printers, doctors, nurses, administrators, accountants, artists, builders, agriculturists, and others—helping on either a long or short-term basis—is necessary to back up the translators.

Today, 3,000 Christians willing to go to every “tongue, tribe, and nation” are needed. By learning foreign languages, translating the Scriptures and communicating God's love, these Christians will become their neighbors' friends.

### ***This Cakchiquel Indian, with his wife, was an evangelist in 1925.***



Photo by Wycliffe Translators



# Who Goes First?

by Dennis Wiggs

**W**e need all we can get here!"

"We must pay for the building before we send our money away!"

"I don't believe we should support missions until we get our own area evangelized!"

All of these arguments may sound good. But they are not scriptural!

Local bills must be paid. Building debts must be retired. The local area must be evangelized. But all of this should be done *at the same time* the church is ministering to the world's needs.

The church's obligation is neither limited to the local area nor to the heathen across the seas. The responsibility is two-fold: **HERE** and **THERE at the same time**. The key is found in the word "both." It is found in Jesus' last commission to His disciples in Acts 1:8. The instruction is to be witnesses **BOTH** in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, and the uttermost part of the earth.

The local challenge is biblically as great as the call from an unknown region. On the other hand, the overland or overseas needs call for just as much an effort as the unsaved banker, plumber, teacher or next-door neighbor. The only difference between the heathen here and there is their location. They are all lost sinners needing to hear the witness of a Christian.

**Nothing should hinder** the church in winning souls to Christ. "Missions" encompasses the task of

the church. Erecting buildings, establishing Christian schools, and organizing new programs should all point to one purpose—world evangelization. That purpose naturally begins at the local area but simultaneously continues around the world.

Church buildings should not stand in the way of missions. We pastors tell the business man that if his work keeps him from attending church services, he should get rid of the business. By the same token, if a building restrains a church from fulfilling the great commission, the members should vote to sell the building.

The best way to pay for a new church facility, begin a Christian school or pay the church bills is to increase the missions emphasis. Missions pulsates as the heartbeat of the Lord Jesus. As we obey His commands, we can be assured that He will help us pay what He ordered.

In Matthew's Gospel, Christ said: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations." Mark's Gospel states: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Luke records Jesus saying: "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." And John writes: "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: As My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you."

**Christ's commands must take precedence over our own**

**projects**, regardless of their spiritual quality. No church can escape the responsibility to reach the heathen in America while proclaiming the gospel to all parts of the world. In the biblical sense, we find no home missions and no foreign missions. But we see world missions. In light of this truth, the church must be busy everywhere at the same time.

Let me suggest this threefold application of the great commission: First, consider **money**. While it is not first in God's Word, it is probably first in most people's minds. So, we will deal with it first.

Get around most anyone for just a few minutes and one of two subjects seems to emerge sooner or later: money or the weather. That's natural! Both are essential for our physical survival. And money is essential for the survival of missions!

Whether it be a literature program in Brazil, a translation project in Africa, or beginning a new work in an untouched area, financial support is vital. God has commissioned the church to pay the bill for missionary endeavors.

Two major methods of supporting missions include the church's **general fund** and the **faith-promise plan**. *Both programs ought to exist in every church!* Through general fund contributions, every church member shares in world-wide evangelization. Through the faith-promise plan, certain concerned believers participate in personally supporting missionaries and their ministries.

People tend to be more concerned about people and ministries they personally support. By promising to support a particular missionary, we are reminded more often to pray for him. His letters mean more to us. When he comes home on furlough we especially want to see him. We take pride in his work for we feel a part of what God has done through our giving and his going.

The faith promise ought to be just that—a promise of faith. It should be a gift above regular



church giving. A good goal for Christians would be to give the church 10 percent of their total income. Then, faith promises and other designated gifts should be above the basic 10 percent.

As the Christian grows in grace and faith each year, he is enabled to increase the faith promise and the number of missionaries he supports. He stands amazed each week or month as he watches the Lord meet every financial need because he has put Him first in his finances.

The second item involved in the great commission is **prayer**. Perhaps this is first in the mind of God. Jesus said, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth labourers into His harvest."

Most missionaries are quite serious when they request prayer support above the financial support. Every Christian ought to pray for a certain number of missionaries by name each day. One way to do this would be to divide the Foreign Missions Directory or a list of missionaries by seven and daily call the names of those laborers before the Lord in private prayer. Then, request the church assembly to pray for those you support.

Paul knew the power of prayer when he requested the Roman church to pray for him: "I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; that I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints." God's servants definitely need the prayer support of those who are concerned about reaching the lost for Christ.

Parents need to ask God to send laborers into the harvest fields. Maybe the Lord will call their children. Financial giving is not enough. A real burden for the heathen will express itself in a willingness to send one's children to

the mission field. That prayer burden begins in family devotions, continues in the church at an altar of dedication, and consummates at the committal service.

Praying for laborers really takes on meaning when the parent realizes his or her precious boy or girl may be the next one God calls to a field of service many miles from home.

The third and most personal application to the great commission involves **a person's own life**. The checkbook is personal. The children are more personal. But the life is most personal!

The first two words in Matthew's record of Jesus' great commission are "go ye." More important than land, houses, or family is self. We love ourselves. That's natural. And the Christian is not really burdened for souls, yea, for a heathen world, until he yields himself to go wherever the Lord may lead!

Sometimes it's easy to attempt to "pay off" God through a liberal faith promise. For some it is simple to offer their children for Christian service. Praying regularly for missionaries isn't too difficult. But, offer self?

Why shouldn't the child of God say "yes" and go wherever and whenever the Lord leads? This life is short! What good are possessions anyway? Why do you suppose God leaves the saint on earth? If God calls, won't He meet every need?

Surrendered saints are needed. Not perfect saints. Just individuals committed to Christ! God is looking for a few men and women who will be willing to serve Him in the regions beyond. Not everyone is called. But He's looking for those who are willing to serve and those who will turn their backs on the allurements of this world to accept the challenge of the ripened harvest.

*Giving. Praying. Going.* Three ingredients of missions. Certainly, the church building costs must get paid! I know receipts are down and inflation is up. The pastor is likely

underpaid. Appeals arrive in every mail delivery. But, if we are to evangelize the world, we dare not cut back, reduce the budget, or drop out of missions involvement for a year or two. Instead, we must increase the missionary giving! Pray more for missionary endeavors! Be willing to go! Put the Lord's business first! Then, and only then, He will meet every need.

## Financial Summary

Through March 31

### Substance

Total receipts: February	\$ 140,038.07
March	156,585.91
Total receipts through March	434,408.32
Total disbursements through March	487,059.24
Projected receipts through March	505,713.75
Total 1981 Budget	2,022,855.00

### Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Allen	\$3,756.46	Inscoe	\$ 718.27
Barker	126.00	Miley	2,589.44
Bryan	198.41	Moser	2,532.34
Callaway	3,068.55	Murray	8,820.51
Caton	7,023.38	Owen	5,506.28
Cowart	800.75	Payne	1,183.62
Deeds	1,730.66	Poole	2,012.36
Dickens	4,169.75	Richards	1,425.94
Eagleton	490.63	Sparks	2,921.16
Filkins	4,888.11	Sturgill	2,695.47
Gibbs	5,666.99	Tallent	3,193.06
Haas	4,451.88	Turnbough	2,082.01
Hughes	6,351.97	Webb	8,722.54
		South India	1,458.66
Total			\$88,585.20

### State Quotas - 1981

State	Quota 1981	Quota thru Mar.	Receipts thru Mar.
Alabama	\$ 115,000	\$ 28,747	\$ 30,767.50
Arizona	3,000	750	300.91
Arkansas	90,000	22,500	22,051.40
California	65,000	16,247	11,635.56
Colorado	4,000	1,000	746.94
Florida	58,000	14,500	11,601.63
Georgia	65,000	16,247	12,224.32
Hawaii	1,000	250	00
Idaho	1,000	250	115.45
Illinois	73,000	18,247	12,434.99
Indiana	17,000	4,248	4,079.83
Iowa	1,500	375	40.00
Kansas	14,000	3,498	1,840.17
Kentucky	50,000	12,497	11,317.02
Louisiana	1,000	250	255.00
Maryland	9,000	2,250	2,046.01
Michigan	98,000	24,497	19,276.08
Minnesota	500	125	93.69
Mississippi	30,000	7,500	5,940.49
Missouri	138,000	34,500	24,859.85
Montana	1,000	250	88.29
New Mexico	1,000	250	83.35
"N. E. Assn.	3,000	750	1,124.00
"N. W. Assn.	7,000	1,750	1,456.97
North Carolina	283,000	70,747	63,828.21
Ohio	58,000	14,500	12,992.36
Oklahoma	258,000	64,500	61,705.44
Pennsylvania	1,000	250	215.00
South Carolina	123,000	30,750	29,331.78
Tennessee	258,000	64,500	55,158.51
Texas	48,000	12,000	12,801.62
Virginia	75,000	18,750	14,483.93
Virgin Islands	2,000	498	342.96
West Virginia	70,000	17,500	10,659.51
Other States	885	220	542.81
Total	\$2,022,855	\$505,706	\$436,542.58

\*Northeast Association  
New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine

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





## Dickens, Morgan Get Electrical Burns

*Ivory Coast*—On Saturday afternoon, February 14, Clint Morgan and Patrick Dickens were jolted and burned while attempting to repair an electrical circuit at the mission house in Abidjan. The flash caught Clint Morgan's eyes causing the same effect as a sunburn in the eyes. His right arm was burned to just above the elbow. Patrick received burns only on two fingers.

No hospitalization was required for either but Clint received first and second degree burns on his right hand and arm. Latest reports indicate the burned areas were healing normally.

## Bible Institute Enrolls 17 Students

*Brazil*—The Bible Institute held in the church at Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, opened on February 23 with 17 students.

Missionary Bobby Poole also reports 50 young people attended a youth meeting held on Saturday, March 7 in the Ribeirao church. "We had two daily vacation Bible schools

during the same week," writes Bobby. "We had one here in the First Free Will Baptist Church in the afternoon and another at Ipiranga at night. We had good attendance."

Poole baptized four teenagers on Sunday, March 1. He related plans to begin a baptism class and expects to have up to 15 in preparation to follow the Lord in baptism.

Sunday school attendance in Ribeirao Preto is currently running between 75 and 80 people.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*Panama*—A telephone call from missionary Larry Inscoe on April 1 revealed someone had broken into their automobile and had stolen all their money, valuables and documents. The Inscoes were in Panama City on vacation at the time of the incident.

academic, but it is real." Owen noted that the pressure comes from comparing one student with another and from the teachers when they show disgust or impatience.

*Costa Rica*—Miss June Arnold reported recently that she has begun attending a Sunday school for children in a slum area of San Jose, Costa Rica, where she is studying the Spanish language. "I'm playing my guitar for the music in the service," says June. "I'm learning some songs and Spanish words just being around the kids."

*Ivory Coast*—Robert and Judy Bryan are helping to develop and print materials which will be used for evangelism, teaching and training in 17 African nations. Robert currently serves as interim director of the Evangelical Publishing Center in Abidjan.

*Goldsboro, N.C.*—Bobby Aycock, missionary to Brazil, is scheduled to have surgery on his back sometime this summer. This is an effort to correct a condition which developed while in Brazil during his last term.

*Ivory Coast*—Elaine Allen arrived in the Ivory Coast in mid-March following language study in Albertville, France, and a tropical medicine course in Belgium. She is stationed at the Doropo medical clinic.



Judy Smith

*Nashville, Tenn.*—Miss Judy Smith returned to Japan on April 29 following a year's furlough. She is beginning her second term of service.

## Sturgill Says VBS, SS Attendance Good

*Brazil*—According to missionary Jim Sturgill in Campinas, Brazil, their recent vacation Bible school averaged 86 children for the week and peaked at 103 in attendance for one day. "We reached a lot of children who hardly knew what a church was," writes Sturgill.

The Sunday school at the Campinas church is now averaging in the eighties according to Jim. The attendance reached 95 one Sunday in January.

Jim has been working with the men of the church on the new church construction.

## Doors in Panama Continue to Open

*Panama*—A recent report from Larry Inscoe in Panama disclosed results of an invitation to show a Christian film in Macaracas, a town where they have not previously held a service. The film was shown in the town square with an attendance of more than 800 people. Larry urged Christians to pray that



Sherwood and Vada Lee

*Florence, S.C.*—Sherwood and Vada Lee are scheduled to return to the Ivory Coast in June following an extended furlough in the U.S. Vada received her B.S. degree in education, graduating magna cum laude from the Francis Marion College, Florence, S.C. on December 19, 1980.

*Spain*—Dennis and Trena Owen write regarding pressures of language school: "The pressure in class is not

## Special Gifts

These people gave special gifts in February and March in honor of or in memory of friends:

Donor	In Memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. McNew Nashville, Tenn.	Mrs. Inez G. Thompson
Cross Timbers FWB Church Nashville, Tenn.	Mrs. Inez G. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bozeman Nashville, Tenn.	Mrs. Inez G. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur P. Bryant Nashville, Tenn.	Mrs. Inez G. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Newborn Selma, N.C.	Mrs. Inez G. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Thomas Four Oaks, N.C.	Mrs. Inez G. Thompson
Mrs. Owen Thomas Four Oaks, N.C.	Rev. Lloyd Vernon
Mrs. Owen Thomas Four Oaks, N.C.	Mrs. Inez G. Thompson

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_



God would use this open door as an opportunity for further ministry.

Thirteen young people made decisions for Christ during the last month in Las Tablas, according to Inscoe. Almost all of these were from unsaved families.

## Morgan Praises Doropo Institute Results

*Ivory Coast*—As the Bible institute studies in Doropo drew to a close in February, Clint Morgan was rejoicing at the results:

"For their final exam we have divided them into teams (five teams) of two to invite people and present the gospel to the group that gathers," says Clint. "Two groups have already presented their program with an average attendance of well over 60. The Christians were really excited to see what could be accomplished if they tried."

Clint noted that the church is gaining in membership: Six former members have returned and several others are visiting on a regular basis. Two Christians from Upper Volta have joined the group.

## New Bible Club Formed in Rennes

*France*—Miss Charolette Tallent reported a new Bible Club has been organized in Rennes, France. The children, aged 9 to 12, were promoted from the already functioning clubs conducted by members of the church. The new club meets every Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. in the home of a church member, Mrs. Monique LaBalleur. Every six weeks, a student from the Bible Institute assists Charolette.

Andre Corgne and Daniel and Martine Loriet conduct other Bible clubs on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons.

## Banks Seeks Prayer for 11 Unsaved Adults

*Japan*—"We have at least 11 adults who attend our classes and are not saved," writes Jerry Banks from Kita Hiroshima on the island of Hokkaido, Japan. "Most of these have studied the Bible with us for quite some time. I feel they are ripe for the harvest. I ask as I never have in the past for you to bring these 11 before God in prayer."

Banks noted that although they have been down in church attendance due to illness, God is still blessing. He reported the baptism of Yuko, a junior high school student who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs.



Photo by Theresa Hensley

Students confer with "Mom" Mabel Willey during the retreat of FWBCC Foreign Missions Fellowship held at camp Na-Co-Me near Centerville, Tenn. March 27-29.

Sakamoto, members of the church. The girl's testimony and baptismal service were influential in causing two other young people to follow Christ.

Twelve people attended a monthly home worship meeting at the Banks' home in early February. Jerry declared that seven of these were not saved.

## Bondoukou Church Calls National Pastor

*Ivory Coast*—The Bondoukou Free Will Baptist Church voted recently to call a full-time national pastor according to a newsletter from Jimmy and Janie Aldridge. Pastor Victor and his wife Josephine were scheduled to move to Bondoukou in March. The members of the church were busy finishing the pastor's house.

Victor has been living and working in the village of Dedi near Nassian.

## Coscias Arrive in Brazil; Purchase Auto

*Brazil*—Louis and Florine Coscia arrived back in Brazil on March 10 to resume their missionary activities following furlough.

"Our trip back to Brazil was a good one," wrote the Coscias. "Everything went smoothly except the schedule. We did not have time to get through customs in Rio de Janeiro and catch the plane to Campinas." The Coscias had to catch a later flight into Sao Paulo and a taxi from there to Campinas.

Louis revealed that he has purchased a Ford station wagon which burns alcohol instead of gasoline. According to him, gasoline is over \$3.00 per gallon and alcohol costs about half as much.

Louis and Florine will resume their ministry in Uberaba where they have labored for the past two missionary terms.

## Second World-Outreach Sunday Nets \$3,744

*Midland City, Ala.*—The Corinth Free Will Baptist Church near Midland City, Ala., held its second annual World Outreach Sunday to launch a spring revival March 22-25 with Henry Van Kluyve as evangelist.

According to pastor and missionary appointee Jeff Turnbough, the church made faith-promise commitments totaling \$312 per month or \$3,744 per year. These commitments came from approximately 20 families.

The money was designated to the Turnbough account.

## Lorient Work Sees Progress; Needs Prayer

*France*—Missionary Lynn Miley writes from France: "Working with the Jerry Webbs, we have begun services in a rented building in Lorient. Several families have attended and we are optimistic that before long, we will have a Free Will Baptist church in this corner of France."

Lynn requested prayer "for the dozens of contacts that we have already made, that the Spirit of God will draw them to Himself." Miley also asked Christians to pray for their landlord and his family.

Ten thousand pieces of literature were handed out in February to inform people regarding the identity of Free Will Baptists and their location.

## Church Holds Rally With Puppet Show

*Japan*—In recent correspondence from northern Japan, Jim and Olena McLain reported the young people of the Higashi Tsukisamu church were preparing a puppet show for a Children's Rally during the school vacation in March. According to the McLains, the group made everything

Continued on page 10→



→Continued from page 9

from scratch. The title for the program was "Forty Days and Forty Nights."

The church building at Tsukisamu was built by Ben Abe for use as a church and for his English school. "For almost a year now bank after bank, loan company after loan company has refused to lend money," writes Olena. "Some have wanted very high interest rates or added hidden charges. But we see the Lord using pastor Ben Abe as a witness that the church doesn't act as the world. He refuses to engage in lying and cheating."

One young lady, baptized last fall, testified recently that her family had been opposed to her baptism. But the Lord has given her strength and leadership day by day. Now her parents' attitude has started to change."

## N. Carolina Pastor Visits Japan Work

*Japan*—Pastor Gordon Sebastian and his wife Hilda of Peace Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson, N.C., visited the Fred Herseys in Japan during February 3-6. Sebastian spoke to the Iriso church during prayer meeting on February 4.

According to Fred Hersey, "Our people really enjoyed his testimony. We're glad they went out of their way to stop here on their way to Guam for a revival."

Hersey requested prayer for several unsaved people who have been attending services. He also asked prayer for unsaved husbands of Christian women in the church, for revitalization of the weakening U.S. dollar in Japan, and for the physical and spiritual needs of his family.

## Dickens Move to Aid Language Study

*Ivory Coast*—In an effort to aid their language study, Patrick and Susan Dickens recently moved into two rooms in the courtyard of the former chief of the Dioulas (Julas). "Our Dioula is improving as we now hear it all day instead of Agni," writes Susan. "The Chief's family lives here as well as several people who rent rooms."

The Dickens urged Christians to pray for Baba (Papa) Tayuru, the old chief, and his family as they try to share with them the love of God.

## McCulloughs to End Language Study in June

*France*—Tom and Patty McCullough are expected to finish their first year of formal language study at the end of June. Upon completion of their course at Albertville, they will relocate in Rennes, France, where they will occupy the vacated home of the Joe Haas family. They plan to live there during the Haases' year of furlough.

In the fall of 1981, Tom and Patty will enroll in the University of Rennes to continue language requirements and to begin their student ministry.

## Conversions Continue; Caton Remains Hopeful

*Spain*—A 25-year-old mother has been added to the number of new converts at Majadahonda, Spain according to a February report from Dock Caton.

"A lot has happened in the short time we have been back," writes Caton. "We are still expecting greater things in the future. We have been

awfully bound down though, as we have no place to meet except in the home of one of our new converts about 10 miles away. We do hope to have a place soon though."

Dock indicated the work permit for their rented hall was in its final stages, lacking only the revision of the city's Urbanization Committee and the signature of the mayor.

## 46 Baptized Since Hughes Work Started

*Brazil*—A total of 46 people have been baptized in Uberlandia, Brazil, since Tommy and Nancy Hughes began their ministry there in 1977. According to Tommy, three of these are not currently attending and another is very weak. The rest are showing good Christian growth.

"We witnessed 20 conversions during this past year and spiritual growth among our people," says Hughes. "It was the first year of our Bible institute. We had an average of eight students enrolled for both semesters."

The Hugheses noted that two more young men from the church answered the call to preach. One of these feels led to work among the Indians in the Amazon River area. He is now studying at the New Tribes Bible Institute and plans to go out under their mission since Free Will Baptists do not have work among the Indians.

Tommy and Nancy are scheduled for furlough in 1981 and currently plan to return to the United States in August.

## Tanda Church Starts New Building

*Ivory Coast*—The foundations have been dug and all the concrete blocks made for the construction of a church building at Tanda in the Ivory Coast. The Ledge Ferguson and national workers Kouadio Koume and Jean-Baptiste, as well as some of the people from the group at Tanda are working on the construction.

According to Ledge Ferguson, the reading room is continuing to minister to the students at Tanda but their greatest concern is for the church. At present, the church is almost completely made up of students and teachers. If the church is to become stable, Ferguson noted, some of the permanent residents must be reached.

A resident pastor is also needed for the church. Currently, pastor Jean-Baptiste is commuting from Goumère on Sunday mornings.

Gordon and Hilda Sebastian of Wilson, N.C. visited the Fred Herseys in February.



Photo by Fred Hersey



## Bishops Report New Son, New Class

*Japan*—Dale and Sandra Bishop recently announced the arrival of their second son, Kevin Dale, who was born on February 13 in Sapporo, Japan. The baby weighed approximately eight and one-half pounds.

Dale also disclosed plans to begin another adult English and Bible class in Kitano beginning in April. The study was scheduled to be held in the evening for husbands of some of the women who study during the day. Plans were also in the making to restart a junior high school class that was suspended when Sandra had to quit teaching in January.

## Eight Saved in Uruguay DVBS

*Uruguay*—Eight souls in Rivera, Uruguay, were saved during two Bible schools held in mid-February according to a recent report by missionary Molly Barker. Two other students made decisions for Christ on the first day of the last Bible school for the summer.

A family camp was held February 28 through March 5 with 43 full-time campers. Some visitors also attended for a day at a time. Six other people from the Tubarao, Brazil work joined them.

Paul and Amy Robinson arrived in Uruguay in mid-January to resume their ministry. According to Paul, they made the trip just fine and had no problem with customs. "We had a great reception at the airport: Molly, plus two American missionaries and two nationals were there to meet us," says Paul.

While the Robinsons were in the United States on furlough, one man left the Rivera church but 21 people made professions of faith under the national leadership.

## Missionaries Scheduled to Begin Furlough

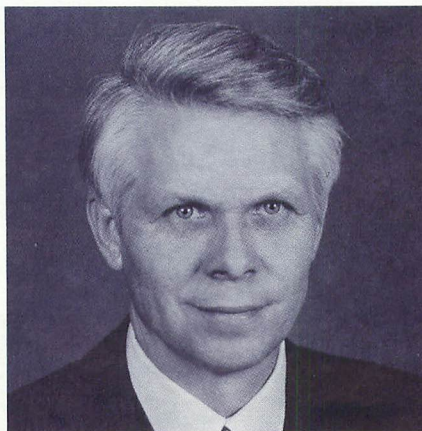
*Nashville, Tenn.*—Several missionaries are scheduled to begin furlough from their fields of service this summer:

Miss Arilla Wode arrived February 17 from the Ivory Coast. Patrick and Susan Dickens will be leaving Abidjan May 6, Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson plan to leave on May 8, and Clint and Lynette Morgan are to depart from the Ivory Coast on May 22.

The Dave Franks family plans to leave Brazil during the first or second

week of June. Bobby and Geneva Poole tentatively plan to arrive in the United States from Brazil near the end of June or the first of July.

Joe and Barbara Haas and Miss Charolette Tallent are scheduled to begin furlough from France on June 9. Steve and Becky Riggs, short-term missionaries to France, plan to return to the U.S. on June 2.



R. Eugene Waddell

## Eugene Waddell Joins Foreign Missions Staff

*Nashville, Tenn.*—R. Eugene Waddell, long-time pastor and former member of the Board of Foreign Missions has joined the foreign missions staff as associate director.

Waddell will assume much of the responsibility of the deputational ministry in addition to assisting the general director in certain areas.

Mr. Waddell has served as pastor of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tenn. for the past 16½ years. He served on the mission board for 19 years before his permitted tenure expired in 1978.

Eugene and his wife Genevieve have six children: Rhonda Sagraves, age 25; Robert, 24; Paul, 22; Marcia Thompson, 21; Mike, 13; and John, 10. Only the two younger boys remain at home.

The Waddells came to Nashville from Garner, N.C. where Eugene organized the First Free Will Baptist Church. He also pastored in South Carolina and Virginia.

Anyone desiring missionary ser-

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## CORRECTION

In the March-April *Heartbeat*, the Financial Summary showed "Total receipts for 1980" to be \$1,725,509.47. This should have been \$1,770,898.12.

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vices, conferences, rally days, etc. should address correspondence to R. Eugene Waddell, associate director, Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202 or phone (615) 361-1010.

## Juniors Hear Deeds; 12 Make Decisions

*Brazil*—Twelve junior-age campers made varying decisions during the annual youth camp held at Jaboticabal, Brazil, in early January.

Missionary Earnie Deeds of Conselheiro Lafaiete served as the camp evangelist.

## Refugee Handbook Available for Neighbors

*Pasadena, Calif.*—According to *The Church Around the World*, a refugee handbook entitled, "You and Your Refugee Neighbors," is available for those who have or will have refugee neighbors from Southeast Asia. It is a guide for helping to understand and communicate effectively. The book includes tips for sharing the gospel. It is available for \$3.06 from William Carey Library, P.O. Box 128-C, Pasadena, CA 91004.

## Young Tom Hughes Has Cast Removed

*Raleigh, N.C.*—Tom Hughes, son of missionaries Tommy and Nancy Hughes in Brazil, has finally had the cast removed from his leg. He injured the leg in an accident in October of last year. According to Nancy Hughes, "The doctor says it looks as if it won't need a bone graft. How very thankful we are. The X-rays show that the bone has started to heal."

## Southern Baptists Adopt Record Budget

*Richmond, Va.*—The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has adopted a record budget of \$90.4 million for 1981, according to the official magazine *The Commission* (December 1980). The new budget reflects a 17.83 percent increase over the 1980 budget.

Budget increases were included to upgrade board efforts to meet the Bold Mission Thrust goal of placing 5,000 missionaries in 125 countries by the century's end, plus increased planning for global missions and improved communications, evangelism and church growth.



# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Post Office Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 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; R. Eugene Waddell, associate director; Harold Critcher, director of finance; Don Roberts, director of communications

*Please clip and send this label with all correspondence.*

## COMMONWEALTH CONVENTION CENTER LOUISVILLE

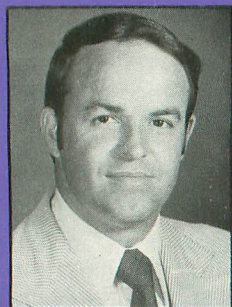
July 19-23, 1981



**45th  
Annual  
Session**

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

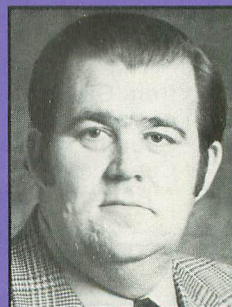
**Theme: "God's Man In Today's World"**



**Carl Cheshier**  
Pastor  
Cavanaugh FWB Church  
Fort Smith, Arkansas



**Jerry Dudley**  
Pastor  
Choctaw FWB Church  
Choctaw, Oklahoma



**Gene Parisher**  
Pastor  
Bethel FWB Church  
Hampton, Virginia



**Bobby Aycock**  
Missionary  
Brazil  
South America