

MARCH-APRIL 1993

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work around the world

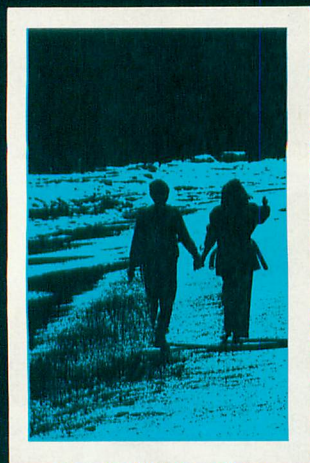


**TOWARD
A.D. 2000**



TOWARD A.D. 2000

by Mark McPeak



As a Free Will Baptist strongly interested in world missions, I recently had the privilege of spending some time with General Director R. Eugene Waddell. I'm encouraged about his vision for our future. I want to share some of the ideas which flowed from our discussions.

"Christ has given the church a very clear command," Brother

Waddell declared to me. "We are obligated to go and witness to every nation. It is to our shame that 2,000 years after receiving the Great Commission, 12,000 ethnic groups in the world are still without a single church."

This sense of obligation forms the basis for our general director's vision for our missions program. As members of

Christ's kingdom, we are obligated to practice evangelism and church planting around the world, especially where Jesus Christ has not been named.

Looking toward the future, Waddell cites several world trends we must consider in our missions strategy: "The collapse of Communism has created a great and dangerous vacuum in the world. We must work to fill that vacuum with the message of Christ."

The Department of Foreign Missions is diligently praying and conducting feasibility studies to possibly begin a work in the former Soviet Union. Our board is asking God to direct us to a needy people group, perhaps among the Muslims in the region. And I believe we are compelled to join the board in this prayer!

By the year 2,000 some 65 cities in the world will have a population in excess of five million.

"The urbanization of the world is another important trend we seek to address," Brother Eugene told me. "During the decade of the eighties, one out of five people moved from a rural area to the city. Dr. Roger Greenway, noted missiologist, estimates by the year 2,000 some 65 cities in the world will have a population in excess of five million. These large cities are plagued by poverty and crime, but many of the people are open to the gospel."

We must continue to target urban areas, just as the apostle Paul did. Our ministry in Uruguay has adapted to this

trend. In the past decade our focus has shifted from a rural ministry to a thriving work in the capital city of Montevideo. We've begun several mission works and are training workers in our Bible institute to reach out to all areas of the country. We are taking the same approach in other countries as well.

Free Will Baptists topped the four million dollar mark in 1992 for the first time.

A trend toward global communication and interdependence is also important. "We can now make contact with many of our missionaries in moments through electronic mail and fax machines," Waddell explained. "We can know immediately what is happening all over the world through satellite communications. We're constantly seeking ways to use this technology to the church's advantage."

We all know that finances are vital to world outreach, and the general director sees the economies of this "global village" becoming intertwined so as to react to each other in a cause-and-effect relationship. What happens in one country may cause a great backlash in another. Corporations are multinational, and their decisions have a ripple effect around the world. The value of the American dollar fluctuates almost daily and our cost to place missionaries in some countries is increasing dramatically!

I praise God for our Free Will

Baptist people! They topped the four million dollar mark in 1992 for the first time as they contributed \$4,139,538 to foreign missions. Although the soaring inflation and dollar devaluation overseas still caused excessive costs, expenditures surpassed income by less than one-third of one percent.

General Director Waddell is appealing to our entire missions staff to focus on exactly what God has called us to do: "Many challenges relate to trends and changes occurring in our world. As we get older, we resist changes, but in reality we must prepare for them. We cannot afford to get off track. So, in order to finish the task, we must focus our energy on planning and equipping to face six key challenges."

Mr. Waddell's **first priority** was made clear to me: "We will hold to our purpose statement: The primary task of the mission is to **proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to the unevangelized in the world, to disciple those who evidence personal faith in Christ, and to organize them into local, self-propagating churches that are self-governing and self-supporting.** Our passion is and will continue to be seeking to win lost people to Christ!"

Field councils on our fields have requested 80 new missionaries who can plant churches. The goal of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions is to have 250 new churches overseas by A.D. 2000. Only a missions program clearly focused and a missions team full of passion can reach such a goal!

Our **second** challenge

centers on **equipping national workers.** God has said He wants us to commit the Word to faithful men who can teach others also. The Lord builds His church when we reproduce ourselves in others. Many of our missionaries train leaders one-on-one, and often this leads to more formalized leadership training. For this reason, we have eleven Bible institutes in eight countries. We've set a goal to have 400 students enrolled by A.D. 2000. To meet this goal we're praying for God to call 10 new teachers.

The goal of FWB Foreign Missions is to have 250 new churches overseas by A.D. 2000.

Our **third** opportunity lies in **nurturing partnership with sister churches around the world.** The reports from the International Consultation held in Panama last August certainly were exciting. I believe this body of believers can provide the means of unity and continuity among our Free Will Baptist churches around the world.

In India, Cuba, Panama and

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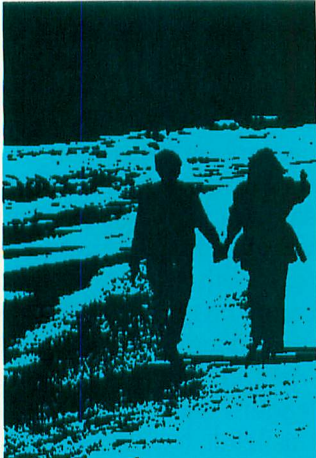
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→ *Continued from page 3*
Côte d'Ivoire the Lord has raised up national Free Will Baptist leaders who are winning many of their people to Christ. They are also catching the vision for missions. By A.D. 2000 non-Western missionaries will likely outnumber Western missionaries. Plans are being laid to send out international teams within the next five years.

By A.D. 2000 non-Western missionaries will likely outnumber Western missionaries.

Challenge number **four** calls for **opening new fields**. We realize God may not plan for any one missions organization to enter every country on the globe. But our missions staff is convinced He has more work for us to do. Brother Waddell says, "We plan to enter two new fields by A.D. 2000. We hope these will target some ethnic groups without a witness. Whatever the field, the work will be hard and the cost will be high. However, we are obligated to be on the move until every one has heard the gospel."

Fifth, we face the challenge of **innovation**. Demonstrating his sensitivity to current opportunities, the general director states, "We see the

possibility of utilizing many types of workers in addition to the traditional missionary. While we will always focus on church-planting missionaries, we will also need short-term workers, tentmakers and bi-vocational workers."

I rejoice with Brother Waddell that Sarah Malone is representing Free Will Baptists as an English teacher in China for two years. Two more students have been approved to go to China this year.

This summer a total of 22 student missionaries will be sent to various fields. Another 32 high school students will go to Uruguay and Panama this summer under the TEAM program. That's a new record for total participants in summer programs!

Our colleges now list a total of 75 missions students. The future appears bright in terms of prospective missionaries as well as Free Will Baptists with a heart for missions.

On the other hand, Brother Eugene opened his heart of concern as he pointed out the **sixth** challenge: "We must continue to **refine our system of supporting our missionaries**. We are praying that God will give us the wisdom to make our system better and broaden the base of support."



In evaluating our missions effort, we realize it is not perfect, neither are our mission churches. But as one reads Acts and Paul's epistles, he will find that those early missionaries and churches weren't perfect either. Most of the New Testament epistles were written to address concerns and needs in young mission churches. Our board and missions staff regularly deal with problems and concerns. However, they seek to do it with a spirit of love and grace.

"We must continue to refine our system of supporting our missionaries."

"We see young churches as we think Christ sees them," says the general director. "They need guidance and patience. Demanding their compliance to our ways and attempting to manipulate them will not work. It never works with people! But I can assure every Free Will Baptist that all known problems are dealt with as wisely as God enables. It is important that people allow the board which represents them to act on problem issues. We are always open to individual inquiries."

As I write this article, I am personally grieved. We face a grave danger of losing focus or being forced to spend time away from our objective. In the early eighties we saw what happened when we were forced off track. Our missionaries in Côte d'Ivoire were beginning to see an incredible harvest. The Lord was adding souls almost daily. Then attacks came, our people were divided and we

spent many months, incredible energy and a large sum of money on activities outside our focus. As a result, Satan got what he wanted. Our national church was divided and the harvest was interrupted.

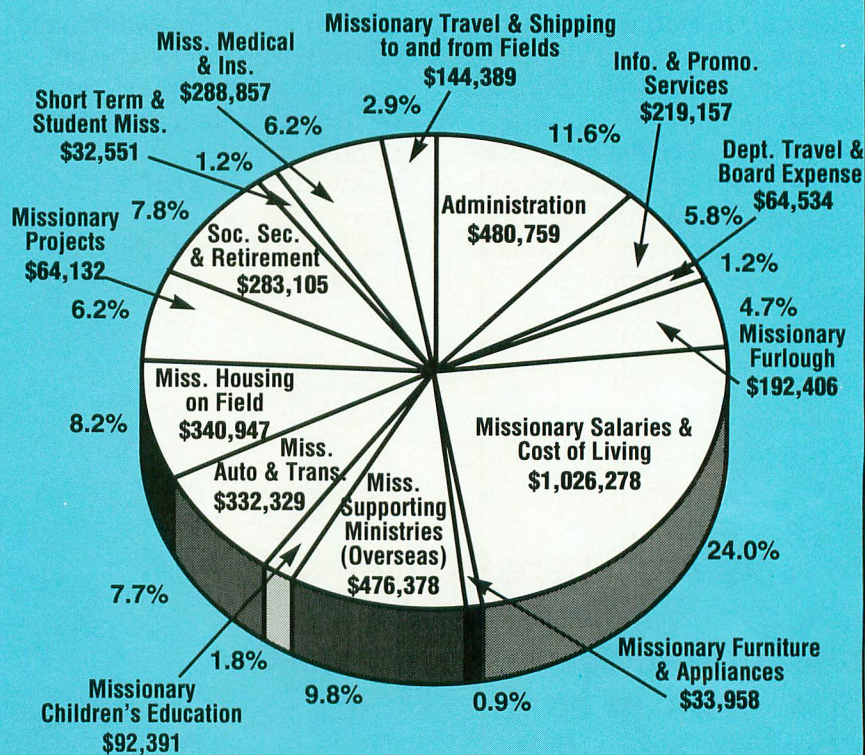
Once again we face similar distractions. At a unique time of harvest and open doors, our board, staff and missionaries are being attacked. And worst of all, the national church could be irreparably damaged. The energy needed to face the challenges of world outreach and to prepare for the future is being used to answer accusations, clarify issues and defend missions personnel.

Our board members were selected by Free Will Baptists at our national convention. Our missionaries were closely examined (most of them two times—in ordination and missionary commissioning). Our staff is directly accountable to that board. If we allow any accusation, working outside the proper channels of responsibility, to derail our purpose, we'll never accomplish our mandate!

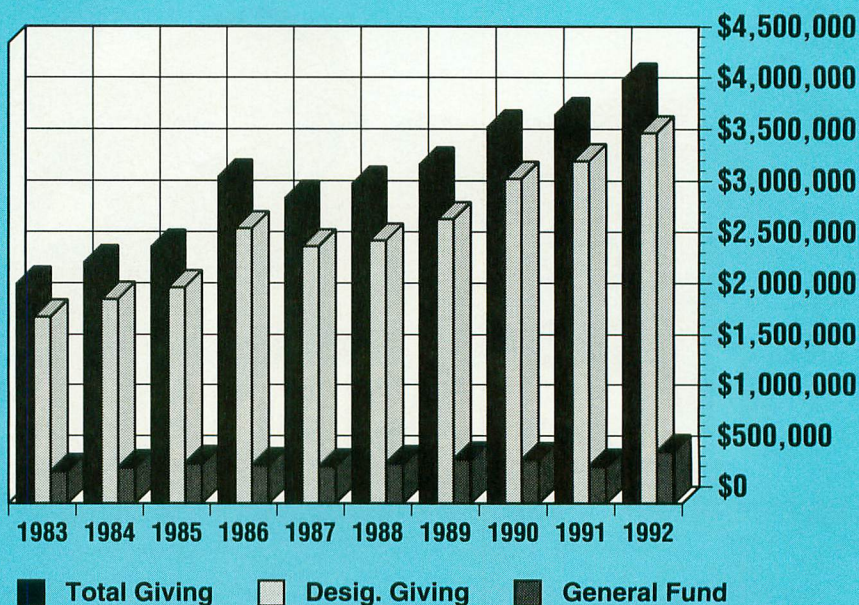
I sincerely hope we will accept the challenges set forth by our general director. I personally want my vision to echo his. I am convinced that we must allow everyone involved in our program of world outreach to remain committed to the task at hand. The powerful impact and success of our witness abroad depend upon a unified vision. Only then can we hope to move toward A.D. 2000 in victory!

Mark McPeak is currently serving as minister of evangelism at Donelson FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn. He served as president of Foreign Missionary Fellowship at Free Will Baptist Bible College and served a summer in Panama under the Board of Foreign Missions.

Expenditures for 1992



Income for the Past 10 Years



Charles Delaney was in his first term of service as a young missionary to Africa 25 years ago. One of his first tasks was to try to start a church in an area where none existed. At first, things went well with good crowds in the school building where they were meeting. But before long it became evident that the mission work was not going to progress in that village. For you see, no men were

among the congregation.

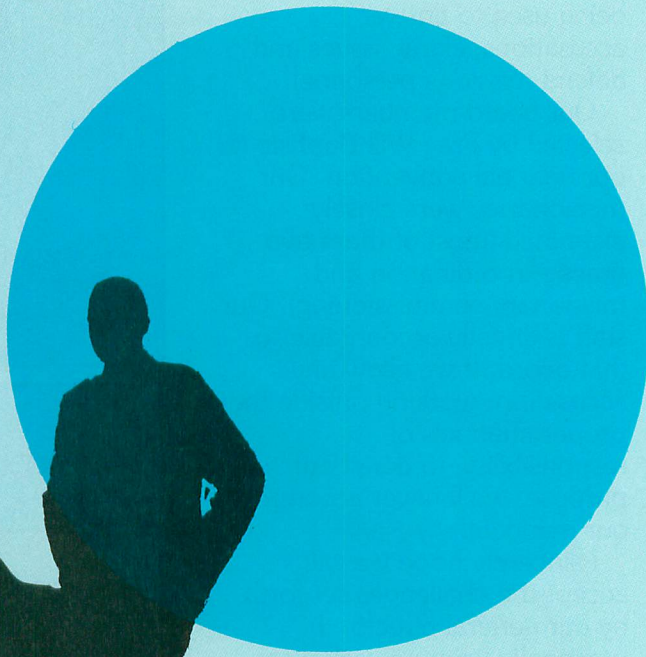
In that particular culture women and children were considered unimportant. And even though many women and children were in the church, it was unlikely the church would be able to make a real impact upon that village unless it received the support of the men.

Charles did everything he knew to convince men of the

village to attend the services, but to no avail. Finally, he decided he would commit this to the Lord. He began praying a simple, sincere prayer: "Lord, send us a man." After praying this prayer for several weeks he became convinced that God was going to answer that prayer the very next Lord's Day!

That Sunday morning Charles got up early to go to the village some fifteen miles

In a culture where women and children are considered unimportant, reaching at least one man can be the key to planting a church.



LORD, SEND US A MAN!

by Dr. John A. Owston

away. Perhaps the man God would send would be encountered along the road. All during the 15-mile trek Charles kept an eye out for someone needing a ride. Perhaps this would be the way God would answer his prayer: He would pick up a man along the way and invite him to church. But Charles did not see a single man during his trip to the village that Sunday.

Finally, he arrived at the village. As he entered the school where the congregation was meeting, he looked over the crowd, searching for the man God was going to send. But no man was there. During the song service Charles was beginning to get more and more discouraged. Not only was he questioning his call to the mission field, but he was beginning to wonder about the effectiveness of his prayer, "Lord, send us a man." But he wasn't ready to give up yet.

Charles did everything he knew to convince men of the village to attend the services, but to no avail.

The Africans love to sing, so the song service is usually longer than many of us are accustomed. Charles thought, "Maybe God will send us a man during the song service." But no man appeared! When it came time to preach, Charles said to the song leader, "Let's sing some more songs." So the congregation sang some more songs. Still no man appeared. Finally, the song leader turned to Charles and said, "It's time for you to preach."

With a heavy heart, Charles stood before the congregation. He was so sure that God was going to answer his prayer. At that point he was so discouraged he was not sure if he could preach that day at all. He read his Scripture, then bowed to offer a prayer. Even while he was praying he thought, "Maybe God is just testing me and when I finish this prayer I will open my eyes and a man will be sitting on the front row." But when Charles looked up from his prayer he saw only women and children in the congregation.

Delaney began his message on one of the parables of Jesus. He wasn't sure if he could speak very long with such a heavy heart. But not long after he had begun the message he noticed an old, bent-over man approaching the door. The old man came to the entrance and stood there for a moment and then walked in and took a seat. God had answered his prayer! God had sent a man!

After the service Charles learned that the man was named Ba Mahongo. As he was returning home, however, Charles began to question the wisdom of God sending this man: he was old and had obvious health problems. But Charles thought, "I didn't ask God for a young man or a healthy man, just a man. And that's what God sent me—a man."

The next day Charles made his way back to the village to speak with Ba Mahongo. He learned the old man was searching for God. Like Cornelius, Ba Mahongo had been praying that God would lead him to someone who

would show him the way of God. Before long, Ba Mahongo made a profession of faith and was baptized in a pond not far from his hut.

The old man began taking a very active role in the church, and he proved to be a man of both prayer and Bible study. He would take Charles to other villages where the gospel had not been preached. And in time, he began preaching the gospel himself. When a church in the United States heard about the work of Ba Mahongo, they purchased a bicycle so this 80-year-old man could travel more easily to the villages and share the good news.

Like Cornelius, Ba Mahongo had been praying that God would lead him to someone who would show him the way of God.

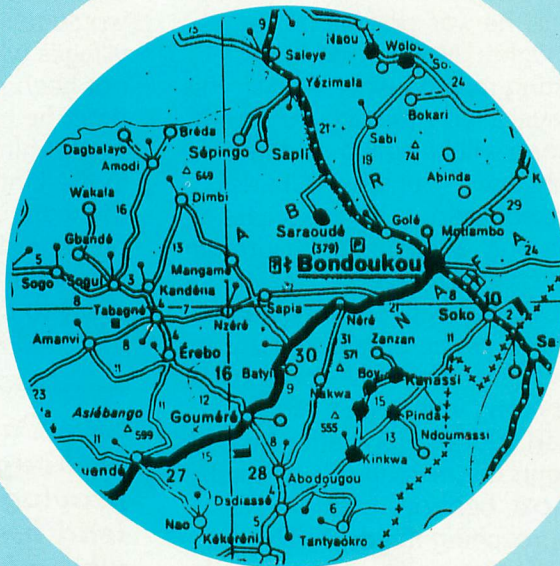
Ba Mahongo has gone to be with the Lord, but the work he began continues. Today, churches can be found in areas where there were none. They exist because Ba Mahongo actively shared the gospel.

We may think that older people will not respond to the gospel. Or we may feel that if they do, their best days are behind them. Ba Mahongo is a shining example of one who came to Christ later in life and then used his talents to lead others to know God's saving grace. Perhaps, like missionary Charles Delaney, we need to pray, "Lord, send us a man!"

John A. Owston is a free lance writer. He holds a doctorate from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. He pastors a nondenominational church in Kingsport, Tenn.

A CENTER IN THE CIRCLE

by Carol Pinkerton



Youth! The “Bondoukou Circle”! Free Will Baptists! Zealous leaders! This combination in the Ivory Coast of West Africa cultivates excitement, opportunity, challenge and blessings.

As a preteen I heard about the “Bondoukou Circle” in the northeast corner of Ivory Coast from a loving pastor who cared about kids in his local area. He showed us his concern also reached those halfway around the world. I’ve never forgotten the dedication of Pastor Lester Jones.

At that time I viewed Africa as a faraway place where snakes crawled on the ground and Tarzan swung through the air. Since then, I’ve learned quite a bit about Africa in general, and the town of Bondoukou in particular.

Bondoukou is a heavily populated Muslim center. It claims to harbor over 27 mosques. Yet its 37,000 people host a variety of religions including Catholic, Methodist, Assembly of God, Pentecostal, several homemade cults and witch doctors. Free Will Baptists are seeking to work amid all of these influences.

Bondoukou receives around 3,000 to 4,000 high school students each year.



Students (above) make use of the new Youth/Training Center (below) located in Bondoukou, Côte d'Ivoire.

Several missionaries have labored at different times in Bondoukou. Now, as we minister, one of the most exciting aspects of the work here revolves around the youth.

While most villages have elementary schools, only the larger towns have junior and

senior high schools. Thus, Bondoukou receives around 3,000 to 4,000 high school students each year from various parts of the country. Students live with relatives or anyone who will provide housing.

This unique student population is open market for gospel witness. And Free Will Baptists are responding to the challenge. A youth center and reading room ministry was begun many years ago, and it has proven to be effective. Until recently, the youth center was housed in a rented room. Although the location was ideal, the building was too small.

In 1991 the board granted missionaries permission to construct a building to house a Youth/Training Center. But it was difficult to find suitable land on which to build. All property belongs to the government.

Missionaries and church officials went to ask for land only to be told that no lots were available. After many visits and much prayer they were told about two lots which had been promised to someone else. But the man who had asked for them had not paid his taxes; neither had he put a wall around the property. In light of this, officials said they would give these two lots to Free Will Baptists and give other land to the original "owner."

The lots were cleared. Truckloads of sand and gravel were delivered. Sacks of cement were unloaded by hand. Workers started making cement blocks. Cement mixers (not trucks but people with shovels) arrived. Although no water was at the site, women gladly carried large panfuls on their heads from a nearby stream. For each

50 gallon drum they filled, they received \$1.25—good pay according to local salaries.

In February of 1992 nine Master's Men came to help with the construction. They made A-frames, put on a tin roof, made and installed windows, mixed cement and poured a cement floor.

The large structure (66 feet x 66 feet) is located directly across from one of the town's three high schools (2,000 students). It is also near one of the 15 elementary schools (900 students). This is the first permanent building in the area aimed at reaching, teaching, and training people.

Students are encouraged to come to the center, read Christian literature, and listen to Christian music at their leisure.

After almost a year of construction and delays, this beautiful, spacious new building has finally become a reality. First estimates for electrical hookups were outrageous. Light fixtures, ceiling fans and plug-ins were installed in faith. Months and many prayers later, the hookup cost was lowered more than half! Today, the power is on and the new Youth/Training Center is in use.

Students are encouraged to come to the center, read Christian literature, and listen to Christian music at their leisure. At least one Christian is there eight hours each day, six days a week to assist, counsel, encourage and show a genuine interest in each one who enters.

Youth meetings are held each

Saturday afternoon under the direction of Silas, the youth president of the Bondoukou church. Bible lessons are taught by missionaries or Christian students, and songs and drama presentations are given.

Very few of the students who come to the Youth/Training Center are residents of Bondoukou. Most are young, intelligent kids away from home and family, looking for something that is true. They seek someone in whom they can have complete confidence.

The Training Center aspect of the building focuses on the Leadership Training Program. The pilot project of this field-wide training program has been launched in Bondoukou. The building serves as a classroom as qualified teachers from the Bondoukou church meet each week to train leaders who are unable to attend the Bible institute. Six villages currently participate in this program. Their leaders take the lesson they are taught and present it in the local village churches.

Subjects offered in the training program include Old/New Testament Survey, Life and Teachings of Christ, Evangelism, individual books of the Bible, Spiritual Gifts, Doctrine and Theology.

Plans are being made to bring 30 area leaders together for seminars. At that time, the building will go beyond being a center for youth and training. It will also serve as a motel.

Yes, this new building is a social center for students, it is a teaching center, and most important, it is a place where people of all ages can learn about Jesus Christ!

Carol Pinkerton and her husband, Jerry, serve in Bondoukou, Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa.

News Update



Uriel Valesquez (right), outgoing president, installs new officers of the Panama Association of Free Will Baptists.

131 Attend Woman's Retreat in Bouna

Côte d'Ivoire—According to missionary Carol Pinkerton, 131 women attended the National Woman's Retreat held in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire, February 9-12. Forty-one of these came from the southern churches. They met in Bondoukou and traveled in two trucks for nearly four hours to attend the meeting.

The next annual retreat is set for Goumère in 1994.

McAllister Speaks at Brazil Conference

Brazil—A Christian worker's conference was held at Jaboticabal, Brazil, December 26-30 with Jim McAllister, president of California Christian College, as speaker.

Five young people traveled from Uruguay to attend the special conference. Missionary Bobby Poole was in charge of the meeting.

Villalba Still Seeks Building Permit and Loan

Spain—"It appears that the church will have to hire a lawyer and take the town hall to court," writes Jeff Turnbough from Villalba, Spain. "They still refuse to consider our petition for a building permit."

The church is also seeking money for a loan to construct the building but has been unable to make the arrangements.

Turnbough noted that two young men, Enrique and Ruben, are "on trial" for the next few months to move into leadership roles.

Jeff urged people to pray that the Lord will use His Word as he ministers to Oscar, another young man, Thursdays from 9:00 p.m. until midnight.

Panama Association Meets at Parita Church

Panama—The Annual Panama Association of Free Will Baptists met January 9-10 at the Free Will Baptist Church in Parita, Panama.

"Stan (Bunch) and his folks did a marvelous job of providing food, lodging, etc., and making our stay enjoyable," writes Steve Lytle.

According to Steve, the business was expedited smoothly and delegates showed more maturity than missionaries had seen previously.

Eusebio Asprilla, missionary in the Rio de Jesus work, preached Friday night in a special service. Saturday was dedicated to business and interspersed with singing and fellowship. On Saturday evening, Uri Gonzalez, pastor of the San Miguelito church, preached on the characteristics of a good leader.

On Sunday morning a devotional time was followed by the election of new officers and the meeting was concluded at 11:00 a.m.

Officers included Nicolas Valdes, president; Daniel Dorati, vice-president; Noris Cano, treasurer; Pilar

Gordon de Castillo, recording secretary; and Uri Gonzalez, executive secretary.

Reports at the convention indicated that attendance in all the works averaged 420 for Sunday school and church membership totaled 443. Some 85 professions of faith were recorded, but only reported five baptisms.

Witch Doctor Saved After Wife's Death

Côte d'Ivoire—Following the death of an elderly Christian woman, her husband who was a fetisher called for Clint and Lynette Morgan and gave his heart to Christ. Two days later they burned his fetishes.

According to Deleen Cousineau, the Bouna church is flourishing. They have made 20 new benches and have about 100 children attending every Sunday.

Eight Saved as New Meeting Place Dedicated

Brazil—Eight people received Christ as Savior on December 23 as the new building was dedicated for the Araraquara Free Will Baptist work in Brazil. Six of those who made decisions made public their professions later.

Fifteen people were on hand from the Jaboticabal work and another 25 people were present from Araraquara. Missionary Jim Sturgill and Pastor Jean Carlo conducted the service.

The teenagers presented a Christmas play.

Two Ordained, 30 People Baptized in India

India—Two young men, Philip and Benoy, were ordained to the gospel ministry on January 25 in India.

"It was one of the most precious services we have had," writes the missionary in charge. "At the close of the service, I invited those to come forward to rededicate their lives to Christ and to pray for and work with our pastors. Everyone in the service came forward for this final altar of prayer and dedication."

Some 30 people followed the Lord in baptism in late January and were received into fellowship of the church.

Smith Says Two Women Saved in Agnibilekrou

Côte d'Ivoire—"Two women from the village of Ayenou came to the Agnibilekrou church on the Sunday morning before Christmas and confessed Christ as Savior," writes Alice Smith. Then they asked about burning their fetishes. "The fire was lit, their 'gods' were thrown in, and we all rejoiced with them as they took this very important step in abandoning their old way of life," Alice concluded.

According to Miss Smith, the holiday worship services at Agnibilekrou were "uplifting and well-attended." The youth put on two plays: one about the prodigal son, and one which warned of the dangers of Christians associating with the wrong crowd.

Richards Delayed, Hope for Spring Departure

Antioch, Tenn.—As reported in the January-February issue of *Heartbeat*, missionaries Norman and Bessie Richards were scheduled to leave for their field of service in January. They were ultimately delayed since they lacked approximately \$1,200 in monthly support.

The Richards hope to be ready to leave sometime in the spring.

New Hospital Building Dedicated in December

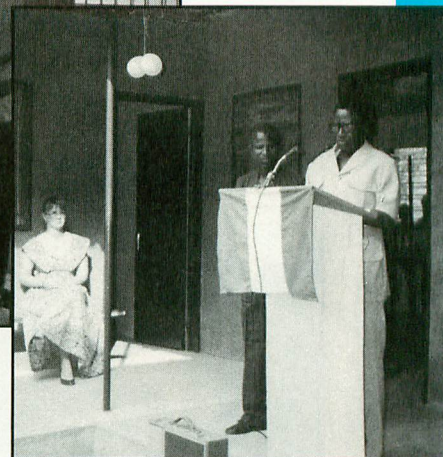
Côte d'Ivoire—The new hospital at the medical center in Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire, was dedicated on Wednesday, December 23. According to Dr. Kenneth Eagleton, all of the high officials of the Bouna area were present. The old hospital was destroyed by fire on June 5, 1991.

Dr. Eagleton opened the dedication ceremonies by giving a speech explaining that the churches financed the building and reminding everyone of the mission's purpose for being in the Ivory Coast. "We began by cutting a ribbon that was strung across the front door and then giving the officials a tour," says Kenneth.

The governor of the Bouna area gave a speech thanking the mission for its presence in the country and especially for coming to an area that was very needy medically.



Dr. Kenneth Eagleton (left, above) watches as the governor of the Bouna area unties the ribbon to initiate the dedication ceremony for the new hospital building in Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire. The governor thanks the mission (right) for its presence in the country and especially for coming to such a needy area.



Pastor Jerome Kambou of the Doropo church preached a short message and had a good opportunity to witness to 150 people who were present. Two people offered prayers of dedication: Mike Cousineau, as representative of the mission, and Pastor Jerome, as president of the Northeastern Association of Free Will Baptists. Refreshments were served following the ceremony.

The hospital staff has been forced to work under a tremendous handicap for the last year and a half without the hospital facilities.

"We have had many very sick patients lately," wrote Kenneth recently. "One case involved a man who came to the hospital two days after he had received a snake bite. It was too late to use the snake serum and he was already bleeding from many areas as a result of the anti-coagulant effect of the snake venom. We treated him intensely including many blood transfusions, but he died about five days later."

Dr. Eagleton has also been busy trying to get medical supplies that were shipped from the United States. He had already made three trips to Abidjan to get the 22 barrels and one trunk out of Customs. They had been in the country for more than a month at that time.

Bailey Baptizes Another Girl at Iriso in February

Japan—Missionary Ken Bailey recently reported another baptism at the Iriso church on February 7. Ken baptized Sayoko Suzuki, a 17-year-old high school girl who was saved

last summer at Bible camp.

Bailey indicated three other unsaved people were in the service. He urged people to pray that this event might be used to touch them and cause them to consider their need of salvation.

Another lady in the church, Mrs. Nomura, is planning to be baptized in the near future. The Baileys asked people to pray for Mr. Yanagi, who was saved at the end of last year. He has expressed a desire to follow Christ in baptism also but has hesitated due to his mother's Buddhist influence.

Ken also requested Christians to pray for a middle-aged man who has mental problems. He has been causing some disturbance in the church.

Herseys Face Extended Medical Furlough

Antioch, Tenn.—When Fred and Evelyn Hersey returned to the United States in July of 1992 so Evelyn could receive proper medical treatment, they were unsure of their future. In light of Evelyn's diagnosis of recurring cancer and subsequent chemotherapy treatments, Fred returned to Japan on September 22 to clear out their apartment and get things ready for an extended medical furlough.

On November 23, after 36 and one half years of missionary service, Fred left Japan uncertain of his and Evelyn's future ministry.

Reports indicate that Evelyn is much improved and has regained most of her strength. She has com-

Continued on page 12 ➔



Missionary Pat Franks (center) teaches a class during vacation Bible school at the Belo Horizonte church in Brazil. Suzanne Franks (right) plays the electronic organ.

—Continued from page 11

pleted her chemotherapy treatments, but her doctor has told her he doesn't expect her cancer problem to go away completely.

Fred continues to represent Japan in missionary conferences and special services and hopes to return to Japan for short periods of ministry if Evelyn's condition stabilizes. He has urged people to pray for God's guidance for the future.

Deeds Back in Brazil, Sets Goals for Lafaiete

Brazil—Missionaries Earnie and Jean Deeds finally returned to Brazil in January following a furlough which lasted nearly a year and a half due to financial needs.

Deeds has set several goals for himself and the Lafaiete church during this term of service: complete construction on the church building, build up the body of believers, win more people to Christ, encourage believers to start a new work in a new area, and leave the work under national leadership.

Côte d'Ivoire Institute Enrolls 10 Students

Côte d'Ivoire—According to missionary Mike Cousineau in February, 10 students are enrolled in the second year of training at the Bible institute in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire.

Cousineau noted that two student

pastors organized a conference on spiritual growth recently. Approximately 850 people attended the conference.

A team of students from the institute is also working on the weekends in a village some 25 miles from Bouna in an effort to plant a new church.

Over 30 Attend VBS in Belo Horizonte

Brazil—The first vacation Bible school of the Belo Horizonte church was held in January with over 30 people attending.

According to missionary Dave Franks, 10 children prayed to receive the Lord as their Savior.

Fruit Observed 31 Years After Seeds Sown

Côte d'Ivoire—Missionary Lynette Morgan recently reported that a Lobi lady, whom she had met as a child 31 years earlier, realized her only hope was in God as she was nearing death.

"I visited her in her little round mud hut," writes Lynette. "Her body, wracked with pain, is but wrinkled skin stretched over a bony skeleton. She cannot eat, cannot rise, and one can hardly understand the few words she whispered. I read to her from John 14 and assured her of the mansion awaiting her as well as the relief from her pain. She grunted to

acknowledge my words. 'Just ask God to come quickly,' she begged. 'I am ready. And please don't let the pagans bury my body.'"

Sparks, Riggs Resign from Service Under Board

Antioch, Tenn.—Missionaries Lonnie and Anita Sparks and Mark and Juli Riggs have resigned from service under the Board of Foreign Missions effective April 11.

The Sparks first served in Ivory Coast from 1956 to 1972 and were appointed to Spain in 1973. The Riggs were appointed as associate missionaries in 1989.

The board accepted their resignations and expressed appreciation for their years of service.

13 Profess Faith at Appimadoum in February

Côte d'Ivoire—When Jerry Pinkerton went to the village of Appimadoum in mid-February, he preached on how to become a Christian. As he was ready to get on his motorcycle to return home, George, the leader there, said some people wanted to talk with Jerry. Thirteen young men (ages 15-20) wanted to "pray." So they did!

During the next week, George was in Bondoukou "still beaming from what God did in the conversion of

Mark and Juli Riggs (top) and Lonnie and Anita Sparks (bottom) have resigned from service under the board.



the 13 young men," writes Carol Pinkerton. "He is responsible for helping to build a good, solid foundation in their lives. He said he had 55 kids in his Sunday school class last Sunday. They just meet under a tree. Each child brings something to sit on during the class."

New Church Building Dedicated in Las Tablas

Panama—Approximately 300 people were present in Las Tablas, Panama, on January 10 for the dedication of the new church building. People traveled to Las Tablas from Parita following the Panama associational meeting.

Missionary Steve Lytle says, "They had worked non-stop for several days to finish painting and fixing up things, and the building really looked nice."

The church is under the leadership of Martin Plicet.

Paschalls Teach Missions to Children's Group

Royal Oak, Mich.—Dr. Mark and Kathy Paschall, missionary appointees to Côte d'Ivoire, recently reported teaching missions to a children's group at Central Free Will Baptist Church in Royal Oak, Mich.

The children's group, "God's Creations," has been having a monthly missions night during the regular Wednesday evening services. The lessons have included France and Africa and will feature Uruguay and Japan.



Dr. Mark Paschall (left, above) teaches missions to "God's Creations" children's group at Central FWB Church in Royal Oak, Mich. Kathy Paschall (right) introduces the children to village life in Côte d'Ivoire during the special missions classes at the church.



"On Africa Night we introduced the children to village life with a hut, sights and sounds of the village, typical chores, and a children's African game," writes Mark. "They saw a video, a slide presentation, wrote cards to African MKs and ended the evening with an African snack. The girls' favorite part seemed to be carrying babies on their back while the boys enjoyed the stories of hunting."

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Kent, Wash.—Benjamin Plunkett, 19-year-old son of missionary appointees Lloyd and Betty Plunkett of Kent, Wash., underwent surgery on December 9 to correct birth abnormalities. He spent 10 full hours in

surgery but was reported doing well. He has been released from the doctor's care.

Florence, S.C.—Missionary Linda Moore, home for furlough from Côte d'Ivoire, underwent surgery in Florence, S.C., on Wednesday, February 24, to remove a fibroid cyst. Pathology exams showed no malignancy. Latest information indicated she was recovering normally.

Japan—Dale and Sandra Bishop in Noppo, Japan, have requested prayer for six unsaved adults who are attending the Koinonia church regularly.

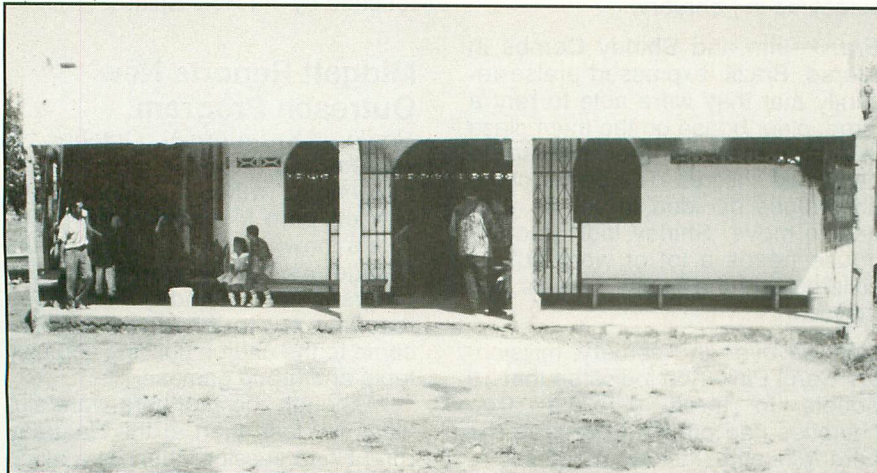
Spain—People from the Móstoles Free Will Baptist Church joined with those at the Alcalá de Henares Free Will Baptist Church in Spain on the first Sunday night in January to celebrate the Lord's supper and feet washing. "It was a joyful time," writes Ron Callaway.

Nashville, Tenn.—Missionary Evelyn Hersey was hospitalized in Nashville, Tenn., in February due to blood clots forming in a deep vein of her left leg. Doctors treated the problem with blood thinner while monitoring her progress. Latest reports indicated she was recovering at home.

Spain—Approximately 60 people attended a special Christmas service on Saturday, December 19, at the Móstoles Free Will Baptist Church in a suburb of Madrid, Spain. Most of those attending were unsaved.

Continued on page 14—

The new church building at Las Tablas, Panama, was dedicated on January 10 with approximately 300 people on hand.



News Update

—Continued from page 13

Detroit, Mich.—Missionary Patty McCullough, who underwent exploratory surgery on February 23, has expressed praise that no malignancy was found. She had undergone surgery earlier for the removal of a malignant tumor. Latest reports indicated doctors were keeping her in the hospital because the incision was not healing properly.

Nashville, Tenn.—Missionary Trena Owen and her son, Jonathan, accompanied Miranda, the Owens' daughter, from Uruguay to the United States on December 9. Miranda enrolled at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville. Trena and Jonathan returned to Uruguay on January 18.

France—"We have just finished our first week of language school and already our heads are full of French," write Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson from Albertville, France. "It has been

15 years since we were first here and little has changed. We stand very much in need of your prayers during this time. We spend 22 hours each week in class and approximately another 20 hours in study. At the end of the day we are mentally drained."

Kent, Wash.—"Since the first of the year I have been in nearly 110 parsonages and churches in 22 states," writes Lloyd Plunkett from Kent, Wash. Traveling expenses totaled only \$70.27 since the traveling was done by telephone," Plunkett concluded. Lloyd and Betty are scheduled to replace the Paul Creeches at International Christian Academy in Côte d'Ivoire.

Côte d'Ivoire—Ernest and Elaine Holland have moved from Doropo to Bondoukou to work with the Youth Center. They recently requested prayer for their adjustment to city life, for health for their children, and for an effective witness in Bondoukou.

Brazil—Jim and Vicki Sturgill in Jaboticabal, Brazil, have requested prayer for Valdevino, the groundskeeper at the camp in Jaboticabal. Valdevino was thrown from his horse on December 18 and was dragged along a barbed wire fence hitting several concrete posts. He suffered a severely broken nose and a fractured skull.

Japan—According to a January report from Olena McLain, the city has granted the Higashi Tsukisamu church in Japan permission to build a new building in accord with plans that have been drawn up. Construction was scheduled to begin sometime in February.

Brazil—Jim and Shirley Combs in Araras, Brazil, expressed praise recently that they were able to rent a large, older house on the main plaza in Araras to house their ministry to neglected children. The owner of the first house decided to sell so they had to move. Shirley indicated the house needs a lot of work but 21 children and the house parents had moved in.

Côte d'Ivoire—In February, missionary Carol Pinkerton indicated that 19 people in three different area churches had prayed to receive the Lord within the past two months.



Trymon Messer, associate director of home missions, teaches soul winning during Wednesday night coffee time in the home of missionary affiliates Dennis and Mary Heath in Germany.

Messer Preaches in Germany; Two Saved

Germany—Trymon Messer, associate director of home missions, held services during February at Kusel, Germany, where Dennis and Mary Heath and Kim Zegelian, missionary affiliates, are laboring.

According to Dennis, two people were saved and two others rededicated their lives. Bill Siebert, age 14, and Angelika Burkart, age 35, received Christ.

"We have been asking prayer for Angelika for some time," says Dennis. She is the wife of Patrick Burkart who is already an active Christian in the work.

Dennis expressed excitement that the dentist next door had attended the meetings and was deeply touched by the Holy Spirit.

Midgett Reports New Outreach Program

Spain—"On Saturday, October 17, we renewed the Bible club under a new name," writes missionary Lynn Midgett from Mostoles, Spain. The club's new name is "Club of the Navigators." They also initiated a program on Sunday afternoon reaching out to those who want to come to the church building and play table and group games.

"Although the numbers were significantly less than at the Saturday Ping Pong session, there is a much

Special Gifts

These individuals gave special gifts in December 1992 and January 1993 in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory of
Rev. Proctor Barber Joelton, Tenn.	Mae Qualls
Oak Hill FWB Church Union, Mo.	Virgil Pilkenton
Kathryn Overcast Paris, Tenn.	Ovie Hughes
Theodosia White Flint, Mich.	Gernie White
Arthur Norris Nashville, Tenn.	Flo Norris
Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Wiggs New Bern, N.C.	John S. Craft
Rev. and Mrs. R. Eugene Waddell Nashville, Tenn.	Wade Trimble
Donor	In Honor of
Ladies' S.S. Class First FWB Church Dayton, Ohio	Betty Ashley

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calmer atmosphere, more conducive to just talking," writes Lynn.

In the Bible club, Bible stories are being presented through the adventures of two puppet space travelers. Not only have the puppets attracted a good deal of attention, but the children have been more faithful to attend than in the past.

Bible League Reports Thousands Converted

Chicago, Ill.—According to the Annual Ministries Summary of The Bible League for 1992, the organization spent \$10,255,000 to produce and place 27,322,399 Scriptures in 1992. This resulted in at least 133,000 known conversions and 871 newly planted churches.

The Bible League is a Scripture placement agency based near Chicago, Ill., which records not only the number of Scriptures they distribute, but also the effects these Scriptures have on their recipients.

Franks Jr. Begins Preaching in Spanish

Uruguay—According to a late January report from missionary Dave Franks Jr., he has already preached eight times in the Spanish language. Dave Jr. and his wife, Becky, are enrolled in Spanish language study in Montevideo, Uruguay. Dave has been filling in for missionary Walter Ellison who traveled to Brazil.

"An extra opportunity comes from having one of my Catholic teachers correct the grammar and style of my Spanish," writes Franks. "I believe she will at least give an ear to the message under the pretext of helping me to learn Spanish." Dave reduced his hours of Spanish study in January.

West Baptizes Eight from Doropo Church

Côte d'Ivoire—Dr. Kenneth Eagleton reported in late December that missionary Robert West baptized eight people from Doropo on December 20, 1992.

According to Kenneth, the church at Doropo has been packed almost every Sunday with upwards of 200 people. The group has been studying the possibility of building a new church building.

Financial Summary Through January 31

\$ubstance

Total income through January	\$ 318,842.78
Total disbursements through January	349,049.40
Projected income through January	364,944.33
Total 1993 Budget	\$4,379,332.00
VISION gifts through January	\$ 245.01
Total income for December 1992	\$ 397,760.27
Total income through December 1992	4,139,538.12
Total disbursements through December 1992	4,153,161.80
Total 1993 Budget	\$3,775,205.00
VISION gifts through December 1992	\$ 42,222.40

\$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bailey	\$ 7,971.97	Morgan	\$ 2,733.76
Barker	259.46	Nichols	10,924.67
Bryan	4,876.03	Owen	1,281.78
Callaway	119.58	Poole	516.75
Combs	5,410.79	Reeves	6,874.18
Creech	760.69	Robinson	5,493.09
Crosby	10,686.60	Sparks	7,213.14
Crowson	3,570.41	Sturgill	9,066.40
Ellison	1,795.57	Turnbough	5,900.01
Franks Sr.	5,147.90	Willey	3,861.78
Gibbs	4,148.69	Wilson	408.64
Hanna	6,017.34	General Fund	13,243.39
Midgett	2,843.11	Spec. Comm.	18,882.34
Total			\$140,008.07

\$inking

All of the following accounts are in the black but in serious need:

Moore	\$ 966.74	Richards, R.	\$ 99.11
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State Goals—1993

State	Goal 1993	Goal Through January	Contributions Through January
Alabama	\$ 186,000	\$15,500	\$21,881.15
Arizona	6,200	517	310.00
Arkansas	218,000	18,167	17,561.66
California	89,000	7,417	5,607.37
Colorado	6,800	567	250.00
Florida	92,000	7,667	8,623.89
Georgia	179,000	14,917	12,379.40
Hawaii	4,000	333	800.00
Idaho	2,000	167	0.00
Illinois	125,000	10,417	5,166.09
Indiana	55,000	4,583	1,969.24
Iowa	3,000	250	443.00
Kansas	27,000	2,250	1,339.41
Kentucky	82,000	6,833	5,779.68
Louisiana	300	25	75.00
Maryland	30,000	2,500	471.56
Michigan	155,000	12,917	17,680.19
Mississippi	72,000	6,000	10,659.85
Missouri	413,000	34,417	28,706.69
Montana	2,000	167	90.00
Nebraska	1,500	125	61.00
New Mexico	2,000	167	0.00
* Northeast Assn.	6,000	500	380.00
** Northwest Assn.	8,000	667	1,097.10
North Carolina	535,000	44,583	35,517.28
Ohio	133,000	11,083	8,691.64
Oklahoma	432,000	36,000	28,406.90
Pennsylvania	00	00	10.00
South Carolina	227,000	18,917	15,827.73
Tennessee	650,000	54,167	42,232.05
Texas	138,000	11,500	10,595.09
Virginia	144,000	12,000	10,372.79
Virgin Islands	2,500	208	100.00
West Virginia	87,000	7,250	6,436.24
WNAC	120,000	10,000	8,982.32
Miscellaneous	146,032	12,166	10,338.46
Totals	\$4,379,332	\$364,944	\$318,842.78

* Northeast Association

New Hampshire, Vermont, New Jersey, Maine,
Connecticut, Washington, D.C., and Massachusetts

** Northwest Association

Alaska, Oregon, and Washington

HEARTBEAT

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Administrative Staff: R. Eugene Waddell, general director; Fred Warner, director of missionary-church relations; Don Robirds, director of communications; Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary; Michael Johnston, treasurer.

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