

MAY-JUNE 1995

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work around the world



Church on the Offensive!

Church on the

by Ronald J. Callaway



Cuban families are keys in the offensive as they open their homes to share their faith with their neighbors.

The neighborhood of over 12,000 people was just a couple of miles from the center of Pinar del Rio. We parked the car where the pavement ended and walked down a rocky, bumpy street to visit the home of a Cuban Free Will Baptist family.

As we entered the yard, our new friends greeted us warmly, as did several of their neighbors. When we went into their home, we noticed it was clean and neat. But we did notice a hole where one wall and the pitch of roof were supposed to meet. We were quickly made to feel "at home," and the husband began to show us the "church building."

Several times a week, their living room becomes the meet-

ing place for 35-50 new Christians. Our Cuban brother showed us several homemade benches neatly stacked against one wall. The church bulletin board hung near the front door and from the main roof beam a sign displayed the name of this FWB mission church.

As Christians, they feel it is their duty and privilege to help others in the community.

The man and his family hold membership in the FWB Church of Pinar del Rio; however, due to the present transportation difficulties in Cuba (especially at night), they are only

able to attend the services in the city three or four times a month. This problem has led them to have their own weekly Sunday school, Bible studies, prayer meeting, youth meeting, ladies' meeting and evangelism outreach. In addition, a student from Cedars of Lebanon Seminary teaches a homiletic class to several of the leaders on Sunday afternoon just before the main weekly service.

According to the Christian gentleman, the group does not meet for any official service two nights each week. They use these two afternoons and nights to visit the sick, those who are not attending all the services and the lost people in their community.

Besides their usual services and different evangelistic outreach efforts, the mission church is also organized into two "work brigades" (one for the men, one for the ladies). When a need becomes evident in their community, the work brigades meet on Saturday mornings to help their neighbors. It doesn't matter to them whether the needy person is a Christian or an unbeliever. They might help a farmer get in his crops, or help a widow in need. The idea of the "work brigade" is theirs. As Christians, they feel it is their duty and privilege to help others in the community.

Since January, the mission church has been receiving tithes from the members. The people have always given offerings for

Offensive!

various projects, but systematic tithing was a new step for these brothers and sisters. The man of the house was quick to tell us, "We don't use the tithes for the church itself. We use the tithes to help the poor people of the community. We've just finished helping a widow rebuild her house which burned down."

I thought to myself, "This brother has a wife and three children. He has to ride a bicycle back and forth to work every day and has a hole in his house. Yet, he is talking about the 'poor people.'"

The seminary student who helps in this mission church is also a member of the FWB Church of Pinar del Rio. Just a couple of years earlier, he and three other young people of the church handed out gospel tracts and tried to talk to the people in this community about the Lord. One retired nurse opened her small home for them to have regular meetings but her house was quickly outgrown. The seminary student says, "What God is doing here in this community is a miracle. It's a dream we never thought could come about."

The man in whose home the mission now meets is a doctor, a specialist in internal medicine. In November or December of 1993, he made a house call to the home of a FWB pastor on the other side of the city (about four or five miles out of town). The pastor's wife was very ill. After the doctor had treated the

woman, the pastor began to witness to him. Because the Lord had already been working in the doctor's heart, he accepted Christ. The pastor gave him a Bible and put him in contact with the group in his community.

Soon, the doctor's family also was saved, and they offered their home to accommodate the rapidly growing church in their community. But someone might ask, "If this guy is a doctor, why is he living in a house with a hole in the wall?" Although doctors in Cuba are well trained and highly regarded by the Cuban people, they don't earn much money. The average doctor in Cuba probably only earns around \$12 per month.

Every FWB pastor is caring for a church and overseeing two to five mission works.

Now the group needs more space. Approximately 50 people crowd into the family's living room. Fortunately, the yard has room for people to stand and be able to see into the house. The church already is looking at a larger building.

The same scene is repeated over and over in Cuba. God is at work in the hearts of people everywhere. They stand outside listening because the buildings are not large enough to accommodate those interested.

The Lord of Harvest is gathering in a great crop of believers, and the Free Will Baptist churches in Cuba are experiencing tremendous growth in numbers and service! They have long desired and prayed for such growth.

Every FWB pastor is caring for a church and overseeing two to five mission works. These are usually headed up by a layman or a laywoman. For example, both missions in Pinar del Rio are led by medical doctors. A deaf ministry has also been started and the Lord has called a young deaf man to preach to the deaf people of his city.

Why is the Lord working at this time in Cuba? Only He knows, but we can observe His work and try to understand part of what He is doing there.

Currently, Cuba is a country with great material needs. Christians suffer alongside unbelievers from lack of food and materials. Yet, perhaps the way Christians handle suffering attracts unbelievers to the message of the Lord Jesus. Without a doubt, the joy and laughter found among the Cuban Christians is an attractive element in their witness to fellow countrymen.

Another key element in this growth is the zeal of the Cuban Christians to win their country for Christ. It is a zeal which occupies all of their lives and plans. Jesus Christ is the center of their thoughts and love. They

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know what He has done for them, and they are convinced He will do the same for others.

One of the married seminary students declared, "We used to have a defensive attitude; that is, we were always worried about protecting ourselves and our churches from attacks. But now, because of the moving of the Holy Spirit, our attitude is to be on the offensive, always moving forward and planning new ways to advance His church!"

Why isn't the Lord doing the same with our churches in America or in other countries? Perhaps it is because we are too concerned with the "holes" in our walls, and not concerned enough with helping the "poor" with our tithes and offerings.

Ronald J. Callaway and his wife, Linda, serve as missionaries in a suburb of Madrid, Spain. Ron recently accompanied General Director R. Eugene Waddell to Cuba and acted as translator during the annual convention of the Cuban Association of FWB Churches.

TEACHERS NEEDED

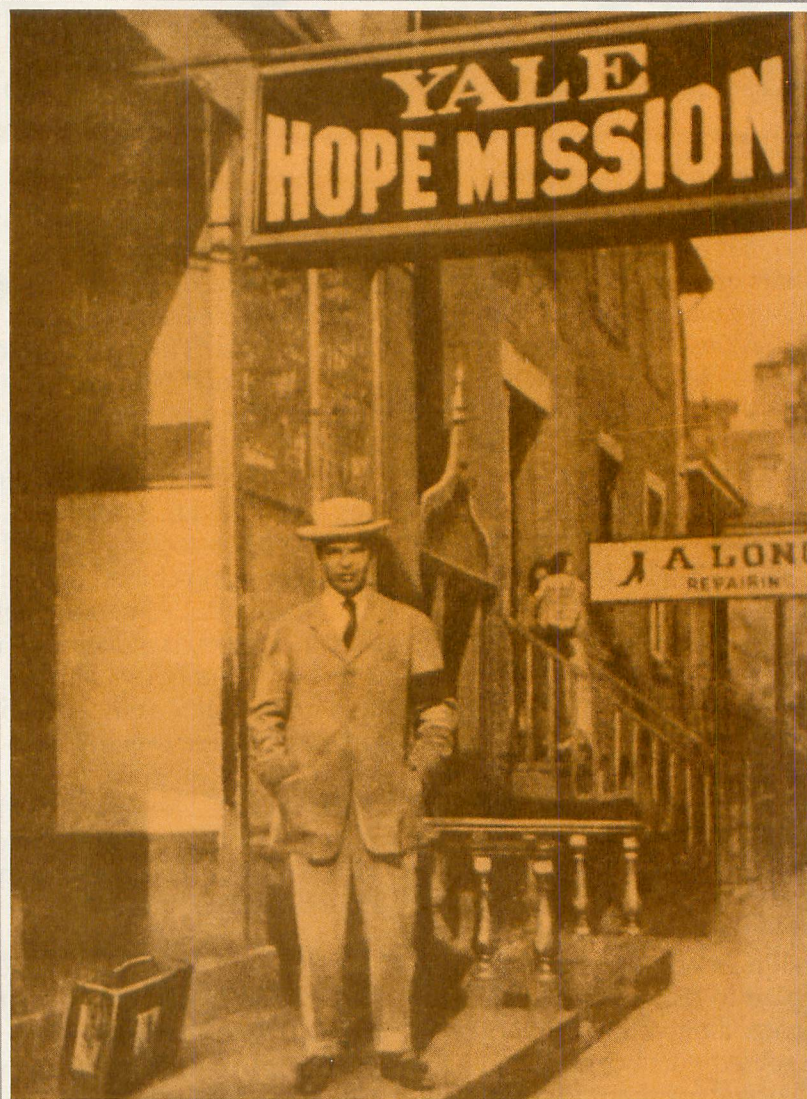
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Bill Borden stands on the steps of the Yale Hope Mission.

A layer of sweat lathered his body and drenched his bed in the drab turn-of-the-century Cairo hospital. Looking at him, you wouldn't have recognized him as a millionaire . . . or a brilliant scholar . . . or even as a young, well-built athlete.

He was all those things . . . and more!

Bill Borden grew up on Chicago's Gold Coast. His family's fortune had come from real

estate and from Borden's Condensed Milk. But when Bill was seven, his mother discovered the sincere milk of the Word, becoming a Christian and joining Moody Church. Bill began attending too, and was soon led to Christ by Pastor R. A. Torrey.

Bill attended an elite boarding high school and excelled in both academics and athletics. He graduated fourth in his class,

and as a reward, his father gave him a year-long trip around the world. Bill left California aboard a ship that carried several missionaries bound for Asia.

From Japan he wrote his mother: "Your request that I pray for God's very best for my life is not hard to do, for I've been praying that for a long time. Although I've never thought seriously about being a missionary until lately, I was somewhat interested in that line. I think this trip is going to show me things in new light. I met such pleasant young people on the steamer who were going out as missionaries and meeting them influenced me . . . I don't know what you will think of this."

From Japan, Bill and his guide crossed Asia to Europe. In Rome, Bill received a reply to

Back in America, Borden entered Yale University. A friend later wrote: "Bill came to college far ahead, spiritually, of any of us. He had already given his heart in full surrender to Christ. He had formed his purpose to become a missionary, and all through college and seminary that purpose never wavered. We, his classmates, learned to lean on him and find in him strength as solid as a rock."

Bill joined 4,000 others from across the nation at a student convention that year in Nashville, Tenn. Missionaries from 26 countries spoke of their fields, and one of them, Samuel Zwemer, made a moving appeal for Muslim evangelization: "Of course it will cost life. It is not an expedition of ease nor a picnic excursion to

lege sophomore worth 40 to 50 million dollars by today's standards—spent his evenings witnessing to broken men.

"If ten men are carrying a log, nine of them on the little end and one at the heavy end, and you want to help, which end will you lift?"

In addition, Bill led Bible studies on campus. He was chairman of the Student Missionary Union. He played football and baseball for Yale, and he was on the wrestling team. He was near the top of his class and was elected president of Phi Beta Kappa. Atop all that, he oversaw an incredible financial portfolio, devouring the Wall Street Journal daily and making frequent business trips to Chicago.

Following graduation, Bill attended Princeton Seminary and served on the boards of Moody Bible Institute, China Inland Mission and the National Bible Institute. He graduated from Princeton in 1912 and, after summering in Switzerland, he returned to tour American colleges on behalf of China Inland Mission. At Andover he ex-

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No Reserve! No Retreat!

No Regrets...

by Rogert J. Morgan

his letter. His mother rejoiced at his growing interest in missions; his father wanted him to wait till he was 21 before making a vocational decision.

In England, Bill encountered Pastor Torrey who was preaching in London. Borden attended one of the services, and Torrey challenged his listeners to surrender their lives totally to Christ. Bill was deeply moved as he stood with others and sang the hymn, "I Surrender All."

which we are called. It is going to cost many a life, and not lives only, but prayers and tears and blood . . ."

Borden returned to Yale committed to reaching the Chinese Muslims. But his eyes saw present needs, not just future challenges. Concerned that New Haven had no rescue mission, he purchased a downtown building, started a work and hired a director. Then Bill Borden—a handsome, athletic, brilliant col-

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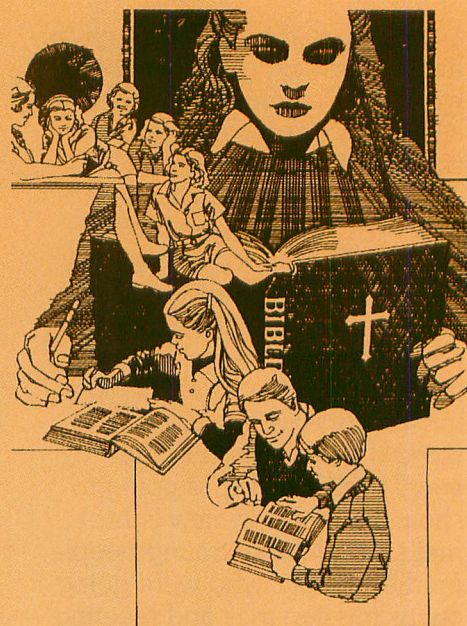
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Learning to trust God . . .

When Have We Seen You Hungry?

by Shirley Roberts Combs



These children and workers at Lar Nova Vida in Araras, Brazil, have proven God's faithfulness.



One of the necessities of life is food. When a child is left to fend for himself in the streets, his physical needs suffer. It shows up in his frail frame, hollow eyes, rotten teeth, sparse hair and infested skin.

As educated people, we maintained healthy bodies with proper nourishment. But *Lar Nova Vida* (New Life Children's Home) in Araras, Brazil, was faced with the responsibility of feeding street children in order to restore their health. Sometimes it meant giving them a chance of survival.

While Brazil's "death squads" sought to exterminate street children as "pests," we were anxious to rescue them from their plight.

While Brazil's "death squads" sought to exterminate street children as "pests," we were anxious to rescue them from their plight. We knew feeding them would be one of the ministry's biggest responsibilities, and one of its largest expenses. The ancient story of multiplying the few loaves and fishes reminded us of the Lord's interest in meeting the physical needs of His human creation. His modern-day miracles for us proved He is still interested.

Five Kilos of Rice

One of my favorite stories involves rice. Eva, a cook sent to us by the city, informed me she had prepared the last bit of rice for the noon meal and none was left for the evening meal. We cook a five-kilo sack of rice every day for the noon and evening meals. That is 11

pounds of rice. We try to have beans and rice every day whether or not we have much of anything else.

Since the meager funds we had on hand were for school supplies and uniforms, I told Eva, "Let's trust God to supply this need for the evening meal."

She dried her hands on her apron and declared, "Well, I go off duty at 4 p.m. and I can't work any miracles to make the rice stretch for dinner too."

Before Eva left for the day, a truck drove up from a plantation nearby. They had heard about the home and had brought a donation from their plantation. My mind raced, "Oh, could it be that God is sending the rice? What a witness that would be to Eva, who is not of our faith."

They unloaded two waist-high bags and revealed the contents—used clothing. After they left, I recorded the items in our "Thank-you Book." We were thankful for the much needed sandals and clothing.

My mind started meditating on the rice we needed for dinner. God had given the money for the school supplies. Should we use some of that money and trust Him to send more?

As I pulled the last item of clothing from the bag, I saw a five-kilo sack of rice.

As I pulled the last item of clothing from the second bag, you can guess what I saw. A five-kilo sack of rice.

I called, "Eva, come here and see what God has sent!"

She came in wiping her

hands on her apron and when she saw the sack of rice she hugged me and exclaimed, "Well, I said I couldn't work miracles in the kitchen, but it looks like God can!"

"Well, I said I couldn't work miracles in the kitchen, but it looks like God can!"

That was not the first provision God had sent nor was it the last.

Rainy Day Gave Leite

One day, during a tropical rainstorm, a horse and buggy stopped in front of the Children's Home and we let the driver inside our gate onto the covered veranda.

"*Senhora*, I'm not going to make my delivery across town in this storm. I'm going back home, so could you possibly use my cargo? I'll come back tomorrow and pick up the cans."

"Well, what is your cargo?"

He apologetically said, "*Leite*. It will have to be boiled first." The kids peeping through the door yelled, "Yes, keep it, keep it!" They preferred fresh milk to the donated powdered milk we served.

"Yes, we'll keep it. You see, *senhor*, God has sent you to the door of a Children's Home and we certainly thank you and Him."

Mechanical Problems Gave Carne

One hot summer day a truck broke down in front of the Children's Home. It was on its way to Campinas, an hour away. The truck was not

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When Have We Seen You Hungry?

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refrigerated so they asked if they could unload their cargo at the home.

"Certainly you may. How long do you need to leave it here?"

"Well, we would like to give it to you."

It was about 16 pounds of carne (meat)!

Salt Turns into Suds

Students at a dental college in Araras had a door-to-door campaign against hunger. They delivered a small pickup truck-load of goods to the Children's Home. Not only did it have food items, but it included much-needed toothpaste and soap powder. We used a whole box of soap powder every day. Two hundred pounds of salt also

made up part of their donation that day. When we saw we wouldn't be able to use it all before it collected moisture, we had a *sal da terra* (salt of the earth) campaign at church and distributed sacks of salt to the members. They brought toothpaste and soap powder to exchange for the salt. We saw salt turned into suds!

Wherefore Art Thou, Romeu?

One weekend several children were ill, as well as the governess and volunteers. Since other volunteers were Sunday school teachers, I had the home to myself. That Saturday night I finally put the last of 23 or so children to bed and I was exhausted and too numb to plan very far ahead. But I did know I

would have to prepare lunch for everyone the next day, Sunday.

Plenty of food was in the pantry, but picturing myself cleaning the amount of rice and beans needed to feed my bunch and getting children ready for Sunday school at the same time made me even more exhausted.

Romeu brought in huge pans of cooked spaghetti swimming in meat sauce, potato salad, soft drinks and the largest left-over piece of cake I had ever seen.

About that time I heard someone clap at the gate (in Brazil they clap at the gate instead of knocking at the door). It was Romeu, a businessman who had once visited our church. He explained that the Rotary Club had just finished a big meeting and wanted to give us a donation. He brought in huge pans of cooked spaghetti swimming in meat sauce, potato salad, soft drinks and the largest left-over piece of cake I had ever seen.

I couldn't even find words to thank Romeu whom God had used to take care of my particular need at that late hour. How sweet to walk with the Lord, for through sunshine or storm, He is our Jehovah Provider.

This article is taken from the new book, **A Second Chance**, by Shirley Roberts Combs. Jim and Shirley Combs, FWB missionaries to Araras, Brazil, have published the book which features their work with Brazil's street children. For information on ordering the book, contact Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002 or Rejoice Ministries International, P.O. Box 50, Owasso, OK 74055-0050.

Brazil's death squads saw "pests" to exterminate. Shirley Combs saw wounded lambs to rescue!

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They Deserve . . .

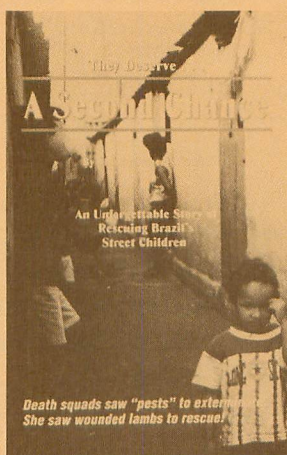
A Second Chance

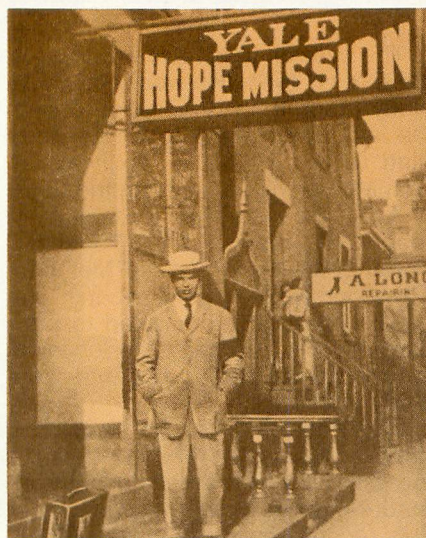
By Shirley Roberts Combs

Proceeds above costs of publishing will go to the New Life Children's Home.

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No Regrets . . .

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pressed his burden for missions this way: "If ten men are carrying a log, nine of them on the little end and one at the heavy end, and you want to help, which end will you lift?"

When a friend asked him about getting married he replied that he thought it cruel for a man to ask a girl to go with him to one of the most difficult mission fields; he said he had no intention of marrying. He felt it would be wrong to the girl and would hinder his highest efficiency in the field he had in view.

Another friend observed, "No one would have known from Borden's life and talk that he was a millionaire; but no one could have helped knowing that he was a Christian and alive for missions."

When Bill was ordained into the ministry at Moody Church the newspapers made much of it, and the nation followed him on December 17, 1912, as he boarded the S. S. Mauretania

bound for language study in Egypt. On the night before departure, his frail mother fell asleep asking herself again and again, "Is it, after all, worth while?" In the morning she awoke, a quiet voice in her heart answering, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."

"It was strength for the day," she said, "and for all the days to come."

Arriving in Cairo in 1913 at age 25, Bill immediately plunged into Arabic and Chinese studies. But within weeks, he developed a headache and fever. On Easter Sunday, the small missionary community in Cairo was shocked to hear that Bill had cerebral meningitis. Serum was injected into his spinal cord. Over the next several days, his friends watched with growing anxiety.

"No one would have known from Borden's life and talk that he was a millionaire; but no one could have helped knowing that he was a Christian and alive for missions."

Mrs. Borden had left America to join Bill for a vacation in Lebanon, but being informed of his illness, she diverted toward Egypt. His sister in London also set out for Cairo. In America, prayer circles activated from coast to coast. Strong men wept at the thought of losing him.

Bill's sister arrived at his bedside. Finally, his aged mother reached the Egyptian border and started by train for Cairo,

arriving there at 1 p.m.

Bill had passed away four hours earlier.

A wave of sorrow rose around the world. Practically every American newspaper told Borden's life story. Biographies of him were translated into Chinese and shipped across the nation he had dreamed of reaching.

R. A. Torrey wrote Mrs. Borden, "I know of no young man in this country or in England from whose life I expected greater things. But God has His own way of carrying out His purposes. He has some larger plan of usefulness through your son's departure than could have been realized by his remaining here."

Indeed, hundreds of young people, stirred by his example, offered themselves for overseas service. When his will was opened, it was discovered that Bill had left almost his entire fortune to Christian and missionary causes. Even today, his example has moved a new generation to consider global missions.

How can we explain such a life?

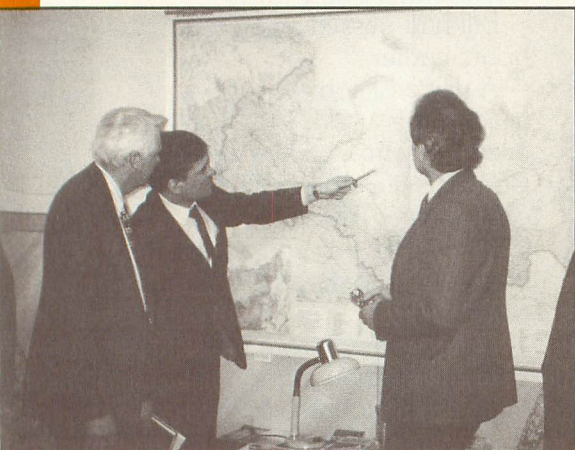
A final message from Bill Borden—a paper stuffed under his hospital pillow—told the secret. On it he had scribbled a message that summarized his life: No Reserve! No Retreat! No Regrets!

"Of course it will cost life," Zwemer had said. "It is not an expedition of ease nor a picnic excursion to which we are called. It is going to cost many a life."

It did. And it still does!

Robert J. Morgan is pastor of Donelson FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn. Quotations in this article are taken from the book, **Borden of Yale '09**, published in 1926 by China Inland Mission.

News Update



A leader in the Evangelical Christians-Baptist of Russia Federation (left photo) points on the map to Noyabrisk, Siberia, a city of 130,000 people which has no church of any kind. Mr. Waddell (right) gets fitted for a Russian hat.

F. Missions Team Surveys Russia for Future Plans

Antioch, Tenn.—General Director R. Eugene Waddell left the United States on March 21 en route to the former Soviet Union. His objective was to survey possibilities for future ministry in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Mr. Waddell was accompanied by Bill Jones of the Board of Foreign Missions and Mike Corley, a layman from Madison, Ala. Mr. Corley, who speaks Russian, acted as translator for the team. He studied the Russian language several years ago while he was in the military.

Overseas Secretary Jimmy Aldridge, who was already in France, met the trio in Moscow to accompany them on their busy itinerary. Janie Aldridge returned to Nashville the day before Jimmy left for Russia.

The four-man team traveled from Moscow to Novosibirsk, where they spent three days. From there they went to Bishkek for two days and returned to Moscow. They traveled by train to Donetsk and on to Kiev where they spent five days. Aldridge went from Kiev to Paris and back to the United States on April 8. Waddell, Jones and Corley went from Kiev to Frankfurt, Germany, and returned to the United States on April 8.

Mr. Waddell stated, "Everywhere we went, we received confirmation that Russian and Ukrainian Baptists hold the same doctrinal distinctives as Free Will Baptists. It was humbling to worship with those who have proven their devotion to the Lord

through many years of Soviet oppression. I personally felt unworthy to fill the pulpit of a pastor who paid for his open declaration of God's Word by serving three years in prison."

At press time the Board of Foreign Missions had not acted on recommendations from the team but the men came back with a tremendous challenge. Jimmy Aldridge declared, "I came away overwhelmed by the size of the country—7,000 miles long from side to side—and by the evident moving of the Spirit of God across the land. I believe it is God's hour for Russia and the C.I.S., and I feel we should be a part of what is happening."

Waddell added, "It was exciting to learn that Russian and Ukrainian Baptists are planting about 250 new churches each year. The leaders told us about needs in many areas. I came home with a burden to respond to the cry, 'Come over and help us.' I am convinced Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions should participate in reaping the whitened harvest in the Commonwealth of Independent States."

Moore, Pinkerton Plan 27 Easter Baptisms

Côte d'Ivoire—According to an early April report from Jerry and Carol Pinkerton in Côte d'Ivoire, missionary Ron Moore was scheduled to baptize 17 people at Bondoukou on Easter Sunday while Jerry planned to baptize 10 at Tanda the same day.

The missionaries have urged people to pray for a two-week intensive study program in Bondoukou during the last part of May. Jerry is scheduled to teach on the family while Ron Moore will be teaching the book of Acts. The two will also team up to teach a course on "Teaching Through the Decentralized Method." This course will target Bible institute graduates and is designed to prepare them to help carry the teaching load in an expanding decentralized study program.

The Pinkertons urged people to pray for Silas, who has been working with Ron in the development of leadership training materials. He was recently called as pastor of the Bondoukou church and was scheduled to be married in April.

The local leadership training program is currently involving more than 50 people from 12 villages.

Canadian Churches Provide for Creeches

Canada—When Paul and Rhoda Creech arrived in Quebec, Canada, in December to begin studying the French language, \$3,634 had already been raised on their behalf by the Canadian churches.

"Our church at Plaster Rock has given over \$3,000 (Canadian) which covered our school tuition this semester," writes Paul.

Paul took a major setback recently when he was diagnosed with diverticulitis and had to have a section of his colon surgically removed. Full recovery is expected to take several months. This means the Creeches will be delayed in proceeding to Côte d'Ivoire.

19 Missionaries Are to Arrive from Abroad

Antioch, Tenn.—Reports indicate 19 missionaries were to arrive in the United States between the middle of March and the first part of July.

Miss Cathy Crawford was scheduled to arrive in the United States from France on May 9.

Jim and Olena McLain were scheduled to arrive in the United States on April 25 to begin their regular furlough from Japan.

Ken and Marvis Eagleton have been working in Barbacena, Brazil, with Bobby and Sue Aycok since

March. They will be returning to the United States early in May.

Steve and Judy Lytle are scheduled to arrive in the United States on May 28 from Panama to begin their regular furlough.

Don and Ruth McDonald are to begin furlough from Japan during the first week of June.

Ron and Linda Callaway plan to arrive in the United States on June 7 from Spain to begin their furlough ministry.

Jeff and Susan Turnbough are also scheduled to arrive from Spain on June 18 to begin early furlough so field personnel needs will be adequate.

Dr. Kenneth and Rejane Eagleton plan to arrive in the United States during the first part of July to begin their regular furlough from Côte d'Ivoire.

Jim and Karen Cowart arrived in the United States from Brazil on March 10 and Tom and Nancy Hughes arrived on March 30. Both couples have been laboring in Uberlândia, Brazil. The Hughes began an early furlough after Nancy was thought to have suffered a stroke. Further examinations revealed she had Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA). They came to the States to pursue more extensive testing.

Lloyd and Betty Plunkett were scheduled to arrive in the United States in July but have agreed to stay on at International Christian Academy in Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire, until the Paul Creeches can get back to the field.

Sturgills Cite Goals, Report Two Saved

Brazil—In late March, missionary Jim Sturgill reported progress on goals they set in October of last year when they returned to Brazil.

"We set an attendance goal of 10. Soon that one was met," says Jim. "The goal of 15 came almost too easy to be true. The hard one to reach was 20. We really hoped to reach that before Dave, Pat and Regina Franks arrived, but we did not. The first Sunday they were here, we reached 22. The goal of 25 was left far behind this week when we reached 30."

The Sturgills noted that two young girls were saved on February 19:



These women attended the 1995 National Women's Retreat at Nassian, Côte d'Ivoire. The event was planned, organized and carried out by the women of the Nassian church.

Alceara, age 12, and Patricia, age 9. They had attended some before the Franks left for furlough then dropped out. They returned after the Sturgills arrived.

87 Women Attend Ivory Coast Retreat

Côte d'Ivoire—The 1995 National Women's Retreat was held February 19-21 in Nassian, Côte d'Ivoire, with 87 women from 15 different villages participating.

According to missionary Carol Pinkerton, the Nassian women asked missionaries for advice following the 1994 retreat, but they planned this year's program by themselves. They even sent out the schedule three months in advance. "They asked missionary women to speak, and that's about all we did!" says Carol.

The missionaries were very impressed with prayer requests this year since they were mainly about spiritual needs: lost family members, importance of witnessing, remaining faithful to church services, seeing the need for more evangelism, etc.

The missionary women spoke on *The Christian Woman: Her Family, Her Hospitality and Her Unity in Christ*. They also talked to the women about the devaluation of the African currency.

According to Carol, the women from Bouna and Doropo were not at the retreat for the first service. This caused much anxiety and many prayers. The women finally arrived at about 11 p.m. Their truck had broken down so they were forced to wait alongside the road nine hours until another truck could come and get them.

The 1996 retreat has been set for Tanda with Agnibilékrou to assist.

23 Attend Youth Gathering in Spain

Spain—A special youth gathering was held March 4 at the home of Dwain and Debbie Crosby in Galapagar, Spain, with 23 young people in attendance.

According to Dwain, 10 of the young people came from the Free Will Baptist church in Villalba. The other 13 youth were from Galapagar. "It was an exciting time to 'break the ice' with many of the younger contacts in the area," writes Crosby. "Several new friendships were also begun. We plan to get the group together again next month for an outing."

11 Student Missionaries to Serve Overseas

Antioch, Tenn.—Eleven student missionaries are scheduled to spend several weeks ministering overseas during the summer. Rachel Vandivort attended Hillsdale and Nathan Weidner is a school teacher from Ohio State University. The rest attend or have attended Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville.

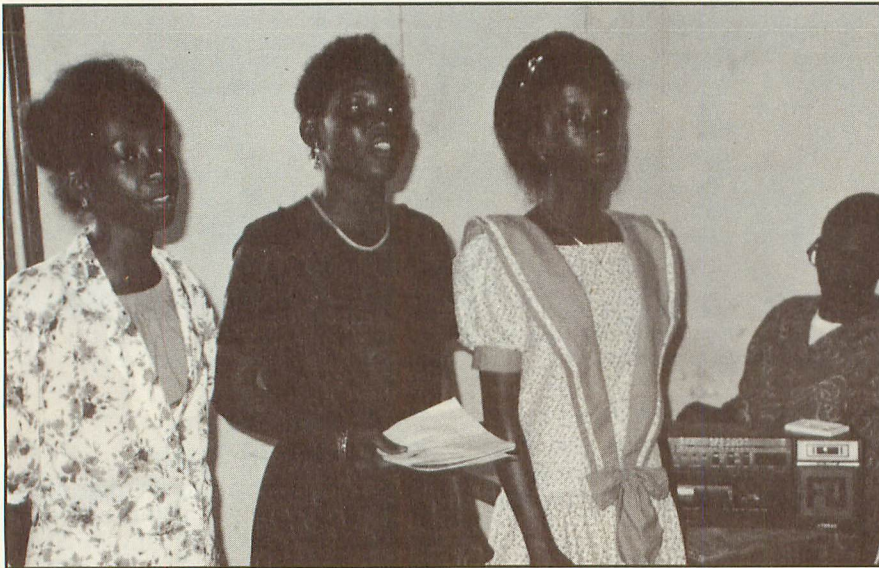
Leaving for BRAZIL on May 19 to serve with Jim and Shirley Combs in Araras will be Kathy Durden of Albany, Ga., and Rose Reed of Chandler, Ind.; serving with the Sturgills in Belo Horizonte will be Linda King of Carbon Hill, Ala.; and serving with Dave and Pat Franks in Belo Horizonte will be Rachel Vandivort of Edgar Springs, Mo.

Leaving for FRANCE on June 12 to serve with Dennis and Carol Teague in St. Sebastien, France, will be Nathan Weidner of Columbus, Oh., and James Beck of Norfolk, Va.

Joel Borden of Russellville, Ala.,

Continued on page 12 ➔

News Update



Three Girls from Agnibilékrou sing during a special celebration held by the youth group of the Agnibilékrou church.

—> Continued from page 11

is scheduled to leave on June 12 for PANAMA where he will be working with Stan and Brenda Bunch in Parita.

Sara Hutchinson of Huntington, W.Va., is scheduled to leave for JAPAN on June 1 where she is to serve with Debbie Griffin in Ai no Sato.

Stephanie Utley of Marion, Ill., is to depart on May 23 for IVORY COAST where she will be working with Robert and Judy Bryan in Abidjan.

Stephen Beck of Norfolk, Va., and Ryan McDougald of Blountstown, Fla., are tentatively scheduled to leave on May 22 for RUSSIA. They will be working with the Peter Deyneka Ministries. Beck is scheduled to work in Moscow while McDougald will be helping in Seltso.

Youth Group Holds Special Celebration

Côte d'Ivoire—The youth group of the Agnibilékrou Free Will Baptist Church in Côte d'Ivoire held a special day of celebration on February 18 marking the end of a two-year term of service for youth group officers.

According to missionary Alice Smith, approximately 50 youth (including four from the Bondoukou Free Will Baptist Church accompanied by Ernest Holland) were on

hand for a day of singing, praying, Bible games, presentation of awards, eating, watching Christian films, etc.

Robert Houéssou, Bini Koffi, Kobenan Somé and Chantal Somé were recognized for special contributions to the success of the youth group and for excellence in Bible competition and memorization.

Alice noted that Chantal had memorized and recited 180 verses.

Senior Women Quilt for Their Missionaries

Ashland City, Tenn.—"The Peacemakers" of Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church in Ashland City, Tenn., recently reported their project to make a quilt for each of the foreign missionaries supported by the church.

By mid-April, the senior citizens group of women had completed five quilts and had sent them to Bobby

Two ladies from Bethlehem FWB Church in Ashland City, Tenn., work on a quilt for a missionary couple.



and Geneva Poole, Ken and Judy Bailey, Tom and Nancy Hughes, Walter and Marcia Ellison and Allan and LaRue Crowson. The ladies are now in the process of completing quilts for Don and Ruth McDonald and Jeff and Susan Turnbough. In addition to these quilts, they have sent one to Gerald and Gail Fender, home missionaries to Knoxville, Tenn.

Mullen Speaks at Retreat for I.C. Missionaries

Côte d'Ivoire—Pastor Jim Mullen and his wife, Ruth, of First Bible Free Will Baptist Church in New Castle, Ind., left the United States on March 1 for Ivory Coast where Jim ministered to the FWB missionaries. Mullen spoke 10 times during the March 6-10 retreat at the SIL (Wycliffe) Conference Center in Bouake. Ruth spoke once.

The Mullens left Abidjan on March 15 and arrived in the United States on March 16.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Japan—According to missionary Debbie Griffin in Japan, a young man in the Ai no Sato church, Mr. Saputa, has announced his call to the ministry and will be entering Bible college soon. Mr. Saputa is an English teacher in the junior high school in the area. "Please pray that many more will be called," writes Debbie. "We desperately need national workers."

Côte d'Ivoire—Missionary Alice Smith recently reported from Agnibilékrou, Côte d'Ivoire, that 26 people had enrolled in a baptism class for those who have professed faith in Christ. Candidates are from Agnibilékrou, Ayénou and Kangakrou.

China—Miss Sara Malone, who is in China with English Language Institute/China, recently reported plans to travel by rail to visit her areas of responsibility as a supervisor with ELI/C. She also requested prayer for wisdom and patience among her friends and students back in Beijing.

Nashville, Tenn.—Mrs. Genevieve Waddell, wife of General Director R. Eugene Waddell, has tendered her

resignation from Free Will Baptist Bible College effective at the end of the current school term. She has taught in the English department for 10 years but now plans to travel with her husband. She will be available to speak to women and youth groups as she visits various churches with her husband.

China—Paul and Tanya Dean, who are in Wuhu, China, have been enjoying their relationships with the Chinese people. "Christmas was very special because of the many opportunities we had to share the story of Jesus," say the Deans. They are currently considering returning to Wuhu next year.

Brazil—Curt and Mary Holland recently moved to Uberlândia, Brazil, to assume the responsibility of the Second Church while Tom and Nancy Hughes are on furlough. The Hollands had been working in Ribeirão Preto.

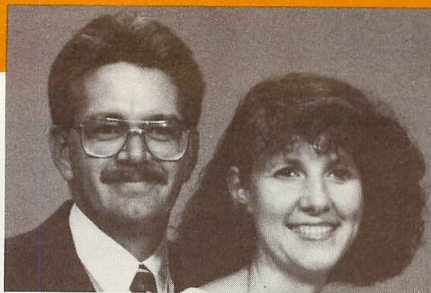
Côte d'Ivoire—Miss Jalayn Martens is currently working in Bondoukou with the Ernest Hollands in the foyer ministry. She is helping to start new Sunday schools in outlying villages and working with teens and child evangelism. She had been stationed in Doropo until the death of her co-worker, Glennnda Leatherbury.

Pensacola, Fla.—Marianne Waddell, daughter-in-law of General Director R. Eugene Waddell, underwent surgery on April 21 to remove her malignant thyroid gland. She is doing well and her surgeons do not expect further treatment.

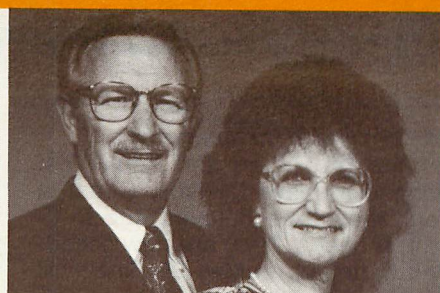
Côte d'Ivoire—The death of a young girl from the Sunday school at Bondoukou has had an impact on her family. One brother and two younger sisters have now accepted Jesus. According to Carol Pinkerton, the girl died shortly after being evacuated to a hospital in Abidjan.

Brazil—Curt and Mary Holland in Brazil recently expressed praise to the Lord for 180 people who attended the family retreat at Evangelândia campground February 24-26.

Japan—According to reports given to Ken and Judy Bailey who are home on furlough from Japan, the church at Iriso "seems to be holding



Returning to their fields of service are (top, left to right) Stan and Brenda Bunch and Jim and Shirley Combs; (bottom, left to right) Lynn Midgett and Darrel and Lila Nichols.



its own" in the absence of the Baileys. Two people have been converted recently: Mr. Shimazaki, who is in his eighties, and Mr. Murooka. Mr. Shimazaki's wife is also in her eighties but has not yet accepted Christ.

France—Tom and Patty McCullough traveled to France on April 5 to minister at the St. Nazaire Free Will Baptist Church for several weeks in the absence of missionary Jerry Gibbs. Jimmy and Janie Aldridge had been filling in from January through the end of March.

Côte d'Ivoire—Ron Moore began holding Bible institute classes in Agnibilékrou during the first week of February. Classes are held weekly on Thursday nights. Latest reports indicate 13 are attending on a regular basis. Eight of these are working toward a diploma.

Brazil—Pastor Eliseu of Araras, Brazil, held a weekend meeting in March at the Conselheiro Lafaiete Free Will Baptist Church. Earnie and Jean Deeds are laboring in Lafaiete.

Charleston, S.C.—A new daughter, Valerie Ann Deeds, was born on February 5 in Charleston, S.C., to Jeffrey and Kimberly Deeds. Jeffrey is the son of Earnie and Jean Deeds in Brazil. Jeffrey and Kimberly have two other daughters.

Hannas Back in India, Report Record Conference

India—Carlisle and Marie Hanna arrived safely in India at the beginning of March to resume their ministry in the area of Sonapurhat. The annual

conference of Free Will Baptists in North India was held shortly after their return. Carlisle reported the largest attendance they had witnessed for a conference. Several hundred people were packed into the meeting areas.

Carlisle and Marie requested prayer for the 369 new converts of 1994. They also urged people to pray for the 30 men who continue to go out in evangelistic teams.

Seven Missionaries to Return to Their Fields

Antioch, Tenn.—Three missionary couples and one single missionary are scheduled to return to their fields of service in May or June.

Stan and Brenda Bunch, who have been on furlough since July of 1993, are scheduled to return to Panama on May 8 to continue their work in the area of Parita. They were delayed due to the medical needs of their family.

Jim and Shirley Combs are scheduled to depart for Brazil on May 9 to continue their ministry with the New Life Children's Home in Araras. They also hope to get a new work started in another area of the city.

Miss Lynn Midgett, who has been on furlough in the United States since May of 1993, is scheduled to return to Spain on May 26. She was delayed due to financial needs and medical problems.

Darrel and Lila Nichols have been in the United States since June of 1993. They will be returning to Côte d'Ivoire on June 1.

Continued on page 14—

News Update

→ Continued from page 13

Although Robert and Pam West planned to leave for Ivory Coast in April, they were delayed due to financial needs. They are now scheduled to depart on May 25. They will be resuming their ministry at the medical station in Doropo.

Herseys Receive Welcome, Get Involved in Churches

Japan—"The churches have all given us a big welcome," write Fred and June Hersey from Nopporo, Japan. "Even with the language barriers, etc., they have gone all out to make June feel welcome and wanted." The Herseys arrived in Japan on February 1 and have already become very involved in the northern churches. They are cur-



Former missionary Sherwood Lee (left) presents missionaries Carlisle and Marie Hanna a book of remembrance during the special "Project 42" banquet at the South Carolina State Association in Conway, S.C.

rently working primarily with the Koinonia church in Nopporo, Ebetsu.

June has taken over the Tuesday evening English class for the church. She has about an hour of English followed with reading of the Bible in English and Japanese. The class has two Christians and four unsaved people who attend regularly.

In addition to their ministry at Koinonia, the Herseys also travel to Bihoro and Abashiri at various times to hold services.

600 Respond to "Mayors" Campaign in France

France—Missionary Steve Riggs in Nantes, France, reported in late March that the recent campaign, "Mayors of France," had sparked more than 600 responses. A letter and New Testament were sent to over 37,000 mayors and deputies in France. Although some of the response was negative, many were thankful for the gift and promised to read the New Testament regularly.

Riggs also reported a special couples' dinner which was held at the Nantes church on March 11 with 26 people present. Of the 13 couples who were on hand, two of the husbands did not know the Lord.

Steve noted an evangelistic concert was scheduled for April 27.

He asked people to pray for God's direction as they choose a means of financing a building for the Nantes church. He also requested prayer for the upcoming TEAM France '95 group which is scheduled to be in France during June and July.

Dr. Gentuso Busy with Weddings and Baptisms

Côte d'Ivoire—Dr. Paul Gentuso has been very busy during the week at the hospital. But he has recently traveled on the weekend to Djorbanedouo, a village 85 miles south of Doropo, to perform a wedding and baptize a group of believers.

Paul noted that the following weekend he went to Kafolo to baptize two more groups of believers. The next week he performed another wedding in the village of Varale.

South Carolina Honors Hannas with "Project 42"

Conway, S.C.—Carlisle and Marie Hanna, veteran South Carolina missionaries to India, were honored on February 23 by Free Will Baptists during the South Carolina State Association which met at White Savannah FWB Church in Conway, S.C.

A book of remembrance was presented by former missionary Sherwood Lee. South Carolina Promotional Director Norwood Gibson honored them with a plaque from the state and Fred Warner, director of missionary-church relations, gave them a plaque on behalf of foreign missions.

According to Norwood Gibson, an unofficial total of just over \$60,000 was raised for the Hanna account through "Project 42." This plan, which was started in November of 1994, called for individuals, Sunday school classes, women's groups,

Special Gifts

These individuals gave special gifts in February and March in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

| Donor | In Memory of |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Arthur S. Norris Nashville, Tenn. | Florence Norris |
| Fulton FWB Church Fulton, Miss. | Reford Wilson |
| Mr. and Mrs. Don Sexton Elizabethton, Tenn. | Bessie M. Lay Goldie I. Sexton |
| Carlisle FWB Sunday School Dover, Tenn. | James B. Hussey |
| Louise W. Kinder Fredericktown, Mo. | Harold Adams |
| Mr. and Mrs. Al Figlure Fredericktown, Mo. | Harold Adams |
| Mr. and Mrs. John Watkins Dover, Tenn. | James B. Hussey |
| Kathryn H. Watkins Dover, Tenn. | James B. Hussey |

The following gave special gifts in memory of
Glennnda Leatherbury:

| | |
|--|--|
| Kenner Chapel Sunday School Rudy, Ark. | Bethel FWB Church Kansas City, Ks. |
| Golden Gate FWB District WA Modesto, Calif. | Mr. and Mrs. Mark Vandivort Flagstaff, Az. |

| Donor | In Honor of |
|---|--------------|
| Adult Sunday School Class Sardis FWB Church Eufaula, Ala. | Earl Gilmore |

Clip and Mail Coupon

Special Gifts

Amount \$ _____ Date _____

Given in memory/honor of _____

Given by: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please send memorial/honorary card to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

churches, etc. to give one dollar for each of the 42 years the Hannas have served in North India.

A banquet was held on the evening of February 23 with approximately 175 people on hand to honor the Hannas. Pastor Buddy Seay headed up the program and the men of White Savannah church prepared a steak dinner for the event. All funds above the costs of the meal went toward the Hanna account.

The Hannas' children, Brenda and Don and their families, were guests of the state association. Their son, Mark, and his family were unable to attend.

Dollar Devaluation Hits Foreign Missions Budget

Antioch, Tenn.—Missionaries in Japan, Europe, Africa and Brazil have been forced to do some belt tightening and budget cutting in the wake of serious dollar devaluation. According to a recent article in *USA Today* "the dollar is losing its grip on the world."

The article further stated, "Analysts increasingly are sounding an alarm. The dollar's spectacular plunge, they say, signals a sweeping realignment of the world's currencies."

Rob Conley, treasurer for foreign missions, says, "Missionary accounts are being hit hard as some expenses just can't be cut. The dollar has lost significantly in value against the Japanese yen and German mark. This means missionary costs in Japan and Europe are extremely high at the present."

Supporters are urged to consider increasing their gifts to missionaries in areas affected most.

Washington State Church Provides Shirts for ICA

Côte d'Ivoire—According to a recent report from Lloyd and Betty Plunkett at International Christian Academy in Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire, new T-shirts were provided for their dorm students by the New Hope Free Will Baptist Church in Kent, Wash.

Jeff Halliburton designed the new T-shirts for the group. They show three stylized men together with the words Brethren Dorm (their assigned name) printed above them.

Financial Summary Through February 28

\$ubstance

The March books had not been closed at press time due to changing to a new computer system.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Total income for February | \$ 375,542.97 |
| Total income through February | 713,304.63 |
| Total expenditures through February | 962,403.93 |
| Projected income through February | 767,529.00 |
| Total 1995 Budget | \$ 4,605,174.00 |
| VISION gifts through February | \$ 735.84 |

\$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Bailey | \$ 9,815.21 | Owen | \$ 7,066.73 |
| Cowart | 9,198.24 | Richards, N. | 1,678.65 |
| Crawford | 1,643.30 | Robinson | 6,363.50 |
| Crosby | 1,000.98 | Snow | 9,324.80 |
| Crowson | 26,092.38 | Turnbough | 4,629.10 |
| Eagleton Sr. | 10,779.26 | West | 2,855.28 |
| Gibbs | 5,558.16 | Willey | 8,000.28 |
| Hanna | 32,881.72 | Wilson, V. | 342.24 |
| Morgan | 5,280.39 | Spec. Committee .. | 18,882.34 |
| Total | | | \$ 161,392.56 |

\$inking

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

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|----------|
| Barker | \$ 1,447.71 | McDonald | \$ 45.22 |
| Ellison | 117.76 | McLain | 37.60 |
| Griffin | 769.78 | Sturgill | 77.49 |
| Holland, C. | 748.22 | | |

State Goals—1995

| State | Goal 1995 | Goal Through February | Contributions Through February |
|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Alabama | \$ 174,000 | \$ 29,000.00 | \$ 51,001.97 |
| Arizona | 6,400 | 1,066.67 | 920.00 |
| Arkansas | 305,000 | 50,833.33 | 23,893.21 |
| California | 81,000 | 13,500.00 | 12,597.55 |
| Colorado | 8,500 | 1,416.67 | 1,277.57 |
| Florida | 79,000 | 13,166.67 | 12,259.18 |
| Georgia | 154,000 | 25,666.67 | 30,178.36 |
| Hawaii | 2,700 | 450.00 | 00.00 |
| Idaho | 3,000 | 500.00 | 137.60 |
| Illinois | 111,000 | 18,500.00 | 25,863.38 |
| Indiana | 35,000 | 5,833.33 | 6,171.68 |
| Iowa | 3,200 | 533.33 | 515.00 |
| Kansas | 14,000 | 2,333.33 | 1,681.89 |
| Kentucky | 82,000 | 13,666.67 | 8,879.26 |
| Louisiana | 1,700 | 283.33 | 390.92 |
| Maryland | 13,000 | 2,166.67 | 4,283.53 |
| Michigan | 205,000 | 34,166.67 | 11,295.01 |
| Mississippi | 76,000 | 12,666.67 | 12,793.37 |
| Missouri | 347,000 | 57,833.33 | 44,372.07 |
| Montana | 1,700 | 283.33 | 200.00 |
| Nebraska | 1,000 | 166.67 | 102.00 |
| New Mexico | 2,100 | 350.00 | 316.58 |
| *Northeast Assn. | 2,500 | 416.67 | 20.00 |
| **Northwest Assn. | 13,000 | 2,166.67 | 762.20 |
| North Carolina | 569,000 | 94,833.33 | 82,944.44 |
| Ohio | 133,000 | 22,166.67 | 20,146.77 |
| Oklahoma | 410,000 | 68,333.33 | 65,224.72 |
| Pennsylvania | 1,300 | 216.67 | 110.50 |
| South Carolina | 254,000 | 42,333.33 | 49,451.06 |
| Tennessee | 685,000 | 114,166.67 | 72,473.03 |
| Texas | 100,000 | 16,666.67 | 23,180.43 |
| Virginia | 121,000 | 20,166.67 | 20,373.57 |
| Virgin Islands | 2,400 | 400.00 | 210.00 |
| West Virginia | 110,000 | 18,333.33 | 11,880.49 |
| WNAC | 150,000 | 25,000.00 | 13,296.50 |
| Miscellaneous | 86,250 | 14,375.00 | 3,654.33 |
| Totals | \$ 4,343,750 | \$ 723,958.33 | \$ 612,858.17 |

*Northeast Association

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

**Northwest Association

Alaska, Oregon, and Washington

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Post Office Box 5002
Antioch, Tennessee 37011-5002

Board of Foreign Missions: Joe Grizzle, chairman; Dean Dobbs, vice-chairman; Galen Dunbar, secretary; Archie Mayhew, Bill Reagan, David Shores, Bill Jones, Milton Worthington, James Forlines.

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

Please clip and mail this label with all correspondence.

A Woman Should Have a WILL Too . . .

Certainly! It is just as important for a woman to make a WILL as it is for a man! To think otherwise would be failing to face reality. Possibly it could result in needless expense and unfulfilled wishes.

A woman has a responsibility to her heirs, ideals and charitable interests. Unless she makes a WILL, the state will settle her affairs . . . usually not exactly the way she would have wished.



But whether you are a man or woman, a WILL can extend your Christian influence down through the years. Through a bequest to Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions, you can continue giving after death.

**If you would like some information to help prepare your WILL,
clip the coupon and send this request to:**

Send me information on PREPARING A WILL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

I understand my telephone number will allow a representative to explain the opportunities to support Foreign Missions without obligations or presence.

My Will already includes Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions ____yes ____no.

Please send me information on other arrangements to benefit Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions. Gift Annuities____ Charitable Trust____

I would be interested in producing an income during my lifetime ____ (and the lifetime of my spouse____), creating a charitable income tax deduction now, and providing a gift to Foreign Missions after my death____.



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