

Co-Laborer

July, August, September 1980



Woman's National Auxiliary Convention

Anaheim, CA
July 21, 22, 1980



Blessed
To Be
A Blessing

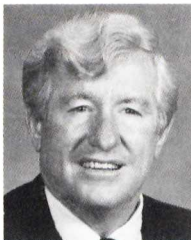


SPEAKERS

Jo Berry



Lonnie Sparks



Eunice Edwards



Vergel Maness



Co-Laborer

July, August, September 1980
Volume XX, Number 3

A missions minded woman realizes her blessings in Christ
and desires to be a channel of blessings to others

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Our Writers

Since her marriage four years ago, **Carol Reid** (Mrs. Garnett), Nashville, TN, has submitted a program annually. This one was selected to go along with our "blessing" theme. Three-month old Hugh, Jr. is Carol's main responsibility now. She also writes for CTS and serves as nursery helper and children's choir director at Cross Timbers FWB Church where her husband pastors.

Vaudine Lancaster (Mrs. James), Ethelsville, AL, is an active auxiliary worker and was instrumental in organizing the first district convention in her area. She is also involved in the Sunday school and CTS ministries of her church, historical Mt. Moriah. The Lancasters live next door to both sets of elderly parents and she devotes much of her time to caring for them. Her husband is a deacon and they have two children.

Co-Laborer rarely presents writers from the same church in the same issue. This is an exception. Two of the three programs were ready to go to press, when we lacked one on missions. Mrs. Plymon's came for the creative writing contest, and it was just what was needed for this issue.

Diane Plymon (Mrs. Mikel), Ethelsville, AL, also from Mt. Moriah, is a first time contributor. A graduate of University of Alabama, Diane taught six years before "retiring" to care for five-month old Alice Rebecca. Mr. Plymon is president of Master's Men and Diane serves as CTS teen teacher and church pianist. She receives a spiritual blessing from the auxiliary, she writes.

Patricia Mullins (Mrs. Roger), Strasburg, VA, is a busy mother and pastor's wife involved in the total church program. Mother of five and winner in our annual creative writing contest, Mrs. Mullins also serves as secretary of the Maryland state convention.

Reid



Lancaster



Plymon



Mullins



editorial



The secret is leadership.

Show me a good thriving auxiliary, and I can almost guarantee you there's an enthusiastic president in there infusing, energizing the program. What happens when an auxiliary lags and even folds up? It happens every time—there was no one to lead.

Our ranks are filled with dedicated women who love God and our missionaries, but let's face it, they're not leaders. They glow in service, but they're not the spark to ignite it.

So if the answer is leaders, how do we get them?

I believe in a Spirit-anointed presidency. A woman with leadership abilities **only** can get the auxiliary so high off the ground it wins wide acclamation at the state meeting. But the woman with leadership abilities **only** is quick to tucker out. It's the anointing of the Holy Spirit that keeps her going when the going gets rough,

when she is criticized or upset,

discouraged or sick,

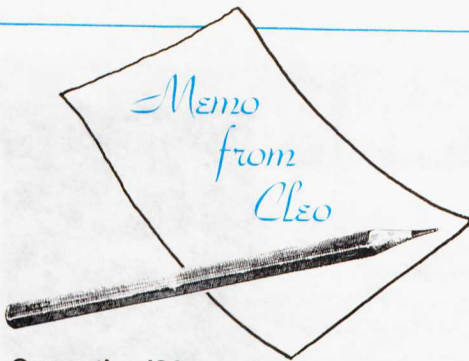
when the officers won't do their job,

or when other places of Christian service allure her.

So, in the final analysis, it's God who makes leaders. All He asks is an acknowledgement that without Him you can do nothing and with Him you can do everything (Phil. 4:13). The world has yet to see what will happen when women allow the Holy Spirit to use them completely.

"Is the auxiliary really worthy of my time and effort?" you ask. God thinks so. He thought it important enough that He brought me home from the mission field to work with our women here. Does it mean that much to you?

Lorene Miley



Convention '80

Beautiful California with its lakes, mountains, and deserts is the site of the 1980 WNAC annual meeting. Delegates and visitors will gather July 21-22 in the city of Anaheim to hear inspiring speakers and musicians, to conduct official business, and to enjoy fellowship with women from all over the country. (See program highlights elsewhere in this issue.) A special program has been prepared for the Tuesday afternoon session when we celebrate our **Blessed Heritage—45 Years Together!**

August is WNAC Emphasis Month

An excellent program and exciting visual aids have been prepared by Dr. Mary R. Wisheart for the annual WNAC Emphasis Month presentation. Remember your offering for WNAC's general fund is needed more than ever during these days of inflation.

WNAC Retreat

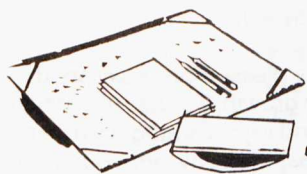
The response to WNAC's first retreat is overwhelming! A challenging program with dynamic speakers is planned. (Something for every woman.) In addition, for those who want them, there will be tours into nearby Gatlinburg and the great Smoky Mountains. Send \$15.00 for registration and two nights motel costs.

History Available

"The Free Will Baptist Woman's Missionary Society" which is a history covering the period of 1873-1921 will be available for sale at the convention. This amazing story of remarkable achievement in missions and Christian education by our early forbears is a must for every Free Will Baptist woman or Church library.

Missionary Provision Closet Needs

Thank you for your generous response to the needs of our missionary provision closet. Our missionaries are so appreciative of your gifts. Present needs are: Hand towels, heavy washclothes, bedspreads (all sizes), pressure cookers, mattress covers (all sizes), percolators, terry cloth dishtowels, and stainless steel flatware.



Co-Laborers Write & Share

Enlistment Luncheon

In two weeks we are planning an All Nations luncheon for our enlistment project. We got the idea from the Illinois women in the current **Co-Laborer**. We have been an auxiliary for less than a year and we are learning a lot.

Helen Kiser
Odessa, TX

Vernon Long, Jackson, TN

We have revived our woman's auxiliary and they have their first scheduled meeting next Thursday night. Remember to pray for them.

The Coscias, Brazil

Furlough is very important to us. Not only do we anticipate sharing with you about the work, but we look forward to your ministry to us. Besides preaching the Word, we have prepared a slide presentation which will help you see and feel more clearly the needs of the people in Brazil.

36 Mt. Vernon Circle
Asheville, NC 28804

No Scripture

We always receive a blessing from the lessons. My ladies did mention

that they miss the Scripture introduction in the first part of the lesson.

Mrs. Jerry Presley
Memphis, TN

We had auxiliary last night and I noticed that each lady for this January program had her own Scripture. We decided this was good in a way because it makes us dig deeper—if we have a part of the program. However, we feel that such good lessons should have a Scripture guide to go along with the writer's thoughts.

Barbara Clapp
Smithfield, NC

Love Gift to Morgans

The ladies of the class wanted to do something for a missionary, so we decided not to give each other a gift and to give a love offering to a missionary. We want to give it to the Clint Morgan family.

Myrtle Parris
Gastonia, NC

Postage Stamp Project

Here are some more stamps. I've asked everyone here at school to save stamps for me. I feel like it's about time I did something (however small) to repay in some way for all the things

you have done for us—plus the trips I've made through the provision closet.

Carol Pinkerton, Ivory Coast

Thank you for the wonderful programs and articles in Co-Laborer. Many of us don't realize all the time and effort behind the scenes . . . We would like more information about the postage stamp project.

**Fannie Smithen,
Gardena, CA**

The Trinity Temple woman's auxiliary has been saving postage stamps for about three months . . . All our ladies enjoy the programs and projects that we do for missions.

**Karen Summit
Tulsa, OK**

A Favorite Recipe

Seminole FWB auxiliary and CTS (Oklahoma) have produced a "Book of Favorite Recipes." Genevieve Brown submitted a recipe for a Never Fail Meringue

2 Tbsp. sugar	1/8 tsp. salt
1 Tbsp. cornstarch	1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/2 c. water	6 Tbsp. sugar

Combine 2 T. sugar and cornstarch in small pan. Add 1/2 c. water. Cook over med. heat, stirring constantly until thick and clear. Cool.

Beat 3 egg whites with 1/8 t. salt and 1/2 t. vanilla until soft mounds form. Add 6 T. sugar gradually, beating well after each addition. Add cornstarch mixture and continue beating until it stands in soft peaks.

Auxiliary Growth

God has blessed our auxiliary this past year in growth, wonderful spiritual services, and with **working** members. Just this past Tuesday night our auxiliary members brought items for the missionary provision closet as our Christmas offering—which we chose to do rather than exchange gifts among ourselves.

**Barbara Cutshall
Chuckey, TN**

Burt Hall, Wheeling, WVA

The Lord opened a new door by providing the opportunity to preach to the penitentiary. When the 15 convicts escaped recently, I was inside the prison preaching. Thank the Lord, I preached longer than usual or I would have been going out of the prison at the same time they were making their break-out.

Provision Closet

My main purpose is to request some information about the provision closet. I grew up in the FWB denomination and my home church contributed to the closet more than once. I have married a wonderful Christian man in the Mennonite Brethren church and would like to present this idea to the ladies of this denomination.

Mary Tuttle Foote

Correction

There's an error in second quarter Co-Laborer, page 8. Barbara Dunbar isn't our state president. Sister Donna Brewer is.

**Ozella Smith
Merriam, Kansas**

AUXILIARY Women IN ACTION

Alabama

Seven new auxiliary members resulted from an enlistment tea sponsored by the Pleasant Grove woman's auxiliary. Alice Hood, Center Point, was guest speaker, using the theme, "Woman's Auxiliary—A Place for every lady in 1980."



California

At Christmas time, the Clovis auxiliary sponsored a large greeting card on the bulletin board in the church foyer on which individual cards (tags) were attached. Each family or person could sign one if he desired. Each one who wishes to send greetings to the families signed his name on the appropriate tag. The money they saved on Christmas cards and postage by not mailing was placed in a container on a table by the board. The auxiliary netted \$75 to send as a Christmas gift to Sarah Mayhew, missionary to Ivory Coast.



Exeter auxiliary donated almost \$100 in Tupperware for the missionary provision closet.

Georgia

Newly formed Actionettes in Pine Level are girls of action. In addition to making cookies for sick church members and a surprise party for a shut-in, they delivered a fruit basket to a member in the Twin Oaks Nursing Home, Alma. Mrs. Lexie Floyd, leader, honored her girls with an out-of-town seafood dinner.





Kansas

New Home women, Meriam, interested three prospective members at a Valentine banquet. East Kansas district elected Jackie Elder as president.

Mississippi

Sixty seven women from ten auxiliaries gathered at the Antioch FWB Church, Pontotoc county, host church of the Northeast Mississippi District Convention. Lorene Miley, WNAC, was guest speaker.



Oklahoma

Rosemarie Laffoon, Seminole's president, is leading her women into expanded missionary vision by: 1) establishing a missionary-of-the-week bulletin board emphasis, 2) kitchen provision shower for the church and

food for needy families available for the pastor to give at his discretion, 3) a weekly prayer group with regular Hot line calls for current requests, and 4) ministering in a rest home and maintaining a tract ministry. Here they are preparing fruit baskets.



South Carolina

Pastor Cooper of Tabernacle FWB Church, Coward, turned the Sunday evening service to the auxiliary where they unveiled a huge painting they had purchased to hang behind the choir.





North Carolina

Victory women, Goldsboro, met at the Steak Barn for their Christmas meeting. Special feature was revealing "heart sisters" for the past year and getting new ones.

Virginia

The Fairwood auxiliary hosted a prayer breakfast for the North Virginia district with Alice O'Neil, guest speaker against ERA. This growing district has adopted quarterly projects to advance every phase of work, among them the support of the Rosses in Minnesota and the new work in Fredericksburg.

West Virginia

The district convention of the Beckley conference met at the conference building, Mt. Tabor, for fellowship, inspiration and challenge. Forty women from six auxiliaries were made aware of their personal obligation to obey Christ's last command to "go into all the world." Sophia ladies presented a skit, "The Invisible Guest."

The Sophia auxiliary donates money and books regularly to the church

library, promotes the tape ministry, and operates a bookstore in the library. The "I Sol" (I support our library) club encourages giving and support in order to know and grow.

PRESENTING

**BLESSED HERITAGE—
Forty Five Years
Together**

BY Mary Ruth Wisehart

**WNAC's Annual Auxiliary
Emphasis Program**

**Plan to produce it in your
auxiliary**

Convention Highlights

Theme: Blessed to be a Blessing
Scripture: "I will bless thee . . . and thou shalt be a blessing" (Gen. 12:12b)

Song Director: Mary Moore
 Organist: Brenda York
 Pianist: Donna Van Horn

Sunday 2-3 P.M.	WNAC Registration South Lobby Convention Center Chairperson: Betty Watson WNAC Executive Committee breakfast and meeting Nominating Committee Seminar for ministers' wives Brenda Evans, Georgia, speaker
Monday 8 A.M.	State Field Workers, presidents, and executive committee Fellowship Dinner Jo Berry, speaker
9 A.M.	
10 A.M.	
1 P.M.	
5 P.M.	
Tuesday 9 A.M.	Annual convention of WNAC Music—Judy Smith, missionary to Japan

1:30 P.M.

Devotions—
 Vergel Maness, home missionary, New Castle, DE
 Message—
 Lonnie Sparks missionary to Spain
 Music—The Teague Family, home missionaries in Longview, TX
 Visual presentation "Blessed Heritage—45 Years Together"
 Dr. Mary R. Wisehart
 Speaker—
 Eunice Edwards, Missouri, former WNAC executive secretary

WNAC Representation

Secretaries! Each state convention is entitled to 15 delegates plus its president and field worker. More than this number may represent by paying \$3.00 at the booth. Where there is no organized state, a district may represent with five delegates plus local presidents. Where there is no district, a local may send three delegates. Send annual reports (whether or not you send a delegate) to: Anne Worthington, 3308 Antioch Trail, Antioch, TN 37013

Treasurers! Send treasurers' reports and membership dues of \$1.00 per member to: Cleo Pursell, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

Deadline: July 1

Annual WNAC Fellowship Dinner

You won't want to miss this year's speaker. Jo Berry, lecturer, Bible teacher and freelance writer from Granada Hills, California, will speak on "Me? A Blessing?" Author of numerous articles and manuals, her latest books include *Growing, Sharing and Serving*, and *Beloved Unbeliever*.

Mrs. Berry, mother of three, is director of Center for Creative Ministries, an organized effort to motivate women to find their place

in God's service. Eight women offer workshops and seminars presenting the total scope of women's ministries.

All banquet seats are reserved for a certain number of people. To avoid disappointment you are urged to order tickets early. Both men and women are invited and tickets are \$8.00 each (including tax and tip). No tickets will be mailed or reserved without payment. Refunds are available through July 1, 1980. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request for tickets.

We encourage our auxiliaries to see that all our missionaries on furlough attend the dinner. While you are filling in the reservation form for yourself, purchase a ticket for a missionary, too. WNAC will see that the missionary receives the ticket. Clip and mail to: WNAC, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

Date _____

I would like to reserve _____ ticket(s) for the WNAC Fellowship Dinner, Monday, July 21, 1980, at 5 P.M. at the Concourse Hall, Inn at the Park, Anaheim, California.

Enclosed is _____ (\$8.00 each). I wish to purchase tickets for the missionary indicated below:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

September Is **Student Loan Fund** Month



Pastor

I want to express my thanks to you and the WNAC for the loans made to me and my wife. This ministry that WNAC carries on is a great asset to the Lord's work. I'm sure that others like myself could not have gotten all our education had not your organization been there to help.

Wade Conger
Sumter, SC

Missionary

Thank you so much for all the help you have been to us. The loan fund helped greatly as we finished our college preparation to meet the requirements of the foreign missions board.

John Murray
France

Book Store Manager

We received our degree only because of women like you who established and gave to the WNAC Student Loan Fund. We had to borrow

from it several times in order to stay in school. It kept us from being "financial drop-outs" and we will be forever grateful for the college education WNAC and Co-Laborers like you enabled us to receive.

Wayne and Brenda Spruill
Nashville, TN

Teacher

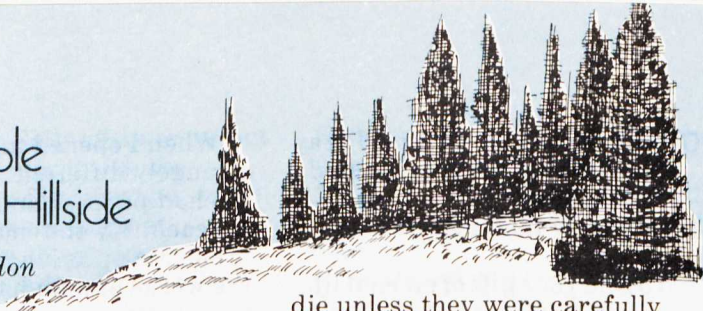
After a dozen or so years I still want to express my deepest gratitude for the WNAC Student Loan Fund. Thank God for laying it upon someone's heart years ago to establish such a fund! Being able to borrow from it during Bible College days met a real financial need for me and my family. Truly this fund is a good way of ministering to the needs of Christian workers as they prepare themselves to serve the Lord Jesus (Heb. 6:10).

Robert Woodard
Nashville, TN

Send your contributions to:
WNAC
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

The Parable Of The Hillside

Nelda Brandon



One day while walking down a dusty little path, I began to notice little things about me—rocks, sticks, dead leaves, bits of dirty paper. Then amid the filth and debris, something of beauty caught my eye. Tiny little flowers were growing with a radiance that seemed to outshine the ugliness of their surroundings. Some were growing in clusters and some were growing alone.

Isn't this just like life, I thought. Even though we're surrounded by many undesirable things, all along the way we find Christians whose radiance outshines the darkness of sin around them, whether they are alone or congregated in a group.

I observed the scattered flowers growing alone in the field. They reminded me of those Christians who answer the call to leave their homes and jobs to spread the Gospel around them.

I walked a few steps further to inspect a clump of wilted flowers. What could be the cause of their fading beauty? As I knelt to inspect the flowers, I saw that one small flower had been broken from the clump and was lying on the ground, ugly and brown. Apparently these flowers worked together to be able to live and when one flower broke away, the others naturally became weaker and would possibly

die unless they were carefully tended.

Why, this is exactly how some churches are today. Strong, healthy Christians working as a group can accomplish great things for God.

I lifted my eyes from the flowers for a moment to a rocky hillside just ahead. I immediately turned away in disgust. The filth and trash! Surely it had once been a dumping ground.

Somehow I was attracted to that barren place. I saw no flowers there, no sign of life. "I'm just too far away to see them," I thought and decided to check out the truth of that. I searched and searched but all I could see was dirty old trash strewn all about. I dropped my eyes in hopeless despair and turned to leave. Then I saw it! There at my feet grew one tiny flower, lonely and isolated, but standing tall and strong.

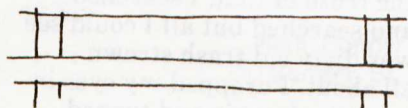
That one lone flower amid the filth of a hillside! Oh God, is this how You see our missionaries, struggling alone amidst the filth and superstition of paganism? America would be likened to that area down there with the scattered clusters and isolated flowers. Here the filth is greater and the flowers so few.

I knelt by this tiny flower and tears came to my eyes. I bowed my head and prayed as I've never prayed before:

O dearest Lord, thank You, I pray
For showing me your blessed
will today.
Now I know that a great many
strive
To find your gift of eternal life.

This precious gift in their out-
stretched hands
Is something your judgment
will surely demand.
But the one and only way this can
be
Is for someone to go and that
someone is me.

SALLY, GET OFF THAT FENCE



Patricia Mullins

Let me tell you a story about a lady named Sally. Sally was already in her early twenties with a small family before she gave her heart to God. My, she was such an enthusiastic young Christian. It seemed she couldn't do enough for her Lord.

I don't know just when it happened, but I think it was when Sally started feeling sorry for herself. With all the work she was already doing, she was asked to head up another committee in the auxiliary. As Sally, filled with self-pity, sat in her

When I opened my eyes, I felt strangely different. Now my life had purpose and I had a goal to reach. My one thought was to clean it up as it had been before the works of man had destroyed its beauty.

I know now that we can all have a part in this glorious plan of God. We just have to be willing.

Garden of God's Love and Blessings, her glance turned toward a high fence around the edge of her garden. It had been there all the time, but Sally had been so busy with God's work that she hadn't even noticed it.

A little while later, one of the sisters in the church made an unfair comment to Sue about Sally and Sue thought Sally should know. Sally was crushed. As she sat down to pout in her Garden of God's Love and Blessings, the first thing she saw was that fence.

Still feeling sorry for herself, she walked over to the fence and peeked through to the other side. She stared in amazement at the fancy dressed women who danced and laughed and seemed to be having so much fun.

Now Sally had nice clothes, but they weren't nearly as fashionable as those. To ease her hurt feelings, she went right out and bought some fancy new clothes. Now they weren't as short or tight or revealing as the other ladies wore (she could never go that far!) but they did look different from her usual wardrobe.

Although Sally still went about her work for the Lord, she never got too far from that fence. It held a certain fascination for her. One day she decided to watch these ladies for awhile. Why, they were watching soap operas on television! Of course, Sally watched television, too—the religious programs and news and things like that. But she had never watched a soap opera since she had been saved.

Well, I might as well see what's so interesting, thought Sally, and turned her set on to a soap opera. She was stunned! She had never seen such! And right here in her own living room!

After that it seemed that Sally had some time on her hands every day about the time that soap opera came on. And after all, she deserved a break in her day. Oh sure, Sally still worked for the Lord. She could never stop working for him because He had done so very much for her. But the joy was gone.

One day Sally's unsaved neighbor came over. Sally had witnessed to her many times and she had been thinking a lot about those things of late. But today they drank coffee and talked about the woman who had run off with another man and left her children with her mother. Then they discussed the soap opera until it was time to leave.

When the neighbor walked out of her door so lost and empty, Sally started thinking about her life in her Garden of God's Love and Blessings. Why did everything seem so different?

Suddenly it struck her! Why she was straddling that high fence and didn't even realize it! Why, she might have fallen right over!

As she sat and pondered on her dangerous position, hollow laughter pierced her ears from those brittle women in their skimpy clothes. She knew now they were trying to cover up the emptiness and loneliness in their life. Then, like the prodigal son, she began praying.

At one time Sally was so close to God that prayers just flowed, but now the words seem to stick in her throat. She didn't know if God even heard her, but one thing for sure, she didn't want to fall off that fence on the wrong side.

After awhile she seemed to hear a still, small voice, saying, "Sally, get off that fence." And she started right down. But it was much harder to get *off* that fence than it had been to climb *up*.

I wish I could say that life is as happy for Sally as it was before. The fence is a constant reminder of what almost happened, a scar that mars her fellowship. Sometimes she feels so stained by all the dirt that was on the fence, but the Holy Spirit lovingly assures her that she's forgiven. She knows now that the fence was not put there to punish her, but to protect her and she's planting lovely flowers there to hide it from sight.

The withdrawal pains about soap opera time each day are becoming less and less as God's love and forgiveness are allowed to fill her more and more.



SHARE-A-BOOK

Reviewed by Genny Waddell

Marooned on an island? I would choose the Bible and this book for reading companions. "Biblical Cures for Worrywarts" might have made a more appealing title, but you won't find this book dull—nor difficult to digest.

"Spiritual Depression" is theologically sound, totally practical and readable. This pastor, longing to see consistency in Christians, first shared these ideas from his pulpit at Westminster Chapel in London. He is also a medical doctor with a unique understanding of the spiritual psychological and physical nature of humans.

In simple terms, Dr. Lloyd-Jones diagnoses the epidemic disease of 'spiritual depression' as the state of being a Christian who has little joy. He considers it an amazing paradox that the Christian Faith, based on the event of Easter, has produced so many unhappy, powerless Christians. "Unhappy Christians are poor recommendation for the Christian Faith."

While he does not have a magic

SPIRITUAL DEPRESSION: Its Causes and Cure

*By Dr. D. Martin Lloyd-Jones
Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing
Company*

*Grand Rapids, Michigan
1974 \$2.95/paperback 300 pages*

cure—all for long-faced Christianity, Dr. Lloyd-Jones does offer some practical, workable answers for Believers who find themselves up one day and down the next. He points out that the "ultimate cause of all spiritual depression is unbelief." The cure, then, is to be found in listening to God, not one's own feelings or circumstances, and not the devil.

Best of all, the author does not leave you wondering "HOW DO I GET RID OF MY DEPRESSED, YO-YO FEELINGS?" He offers methodical suggestions, based on the Word of God, for you to apply to your own special case.

You cannot read "Spiritual Depression" without sharing the preacher-writer's burden for Christians everywhere who operate within the framework of an unrevived Church without God-given joy and peace. Ask yourself: "Am I a good advertisement for Christ?" If not, you will want to read this book.

And, Ladies, don't hide this book! Share it with your husband and brothers and sisters and church library and your pastor. It might well be the best investment you make in 1980!

Presenting Our State Leaders



Rolan



Shipman



Maness



Horton

California

June McLain Rolan (Mrs. Lonnie), Fresno, has been in auxiliary for almost as long as she can remember and a president most of the time. She now serves as WNAC's vice president and bookkeeper for a senior citizens complex. Her husband pastors Memorial FWB Church and they have two children, one of whom is married.

Phyllis Shipman (Mrs. Rex), San Jose, has been a state officer for ten years and field worker for six of them. Her husband pastors Newark FWB Church and they have two teenage daughters, Lynn and Kimberley.

Maryland

Alyne Maness (Mrs. Vergel), New Castle, Delaware, is part of the Maryland association and serves as president. Formerly from Missouri, she and her husband serve as joint missionaries under the Home Mission Board. They have three children.

Lottie Horton (Mrs. Lester), Fairfax Station, Virginia, helped organize the first local auxiliary in her area which led to the organization of the Maryland State. Elected first as president, then vice-president, Mrs. Horton now serves as field worker; also Sunday school teacher, song leader, and on the WNAC nominating committee. Labeled as her husband's right arm, they pastor the Fairwood FWBC church and have one son.



Norman

Missionary

The Richards Home town: Searcy, Arkansas

Gene age 13

What do you like best about being a missionary?

My greatest satisfaction comes in sharing the Good News and witnessing the power of God transform the lives of the African people and the joy that radiates from their faces when they find the peace they are seeking.

What do you like least?

Transacting business. It may take several trips to Abidjan (the capital city) and go through many offices to obtain a necessary paper. Even car repairs—what should take half a day usually takes a week!

How do you relax?

There is nothing more relaxing to me than grabbing my fishing pole and heading for the river. I also enjoy strumming on my guitar and singing. Last, but not least, I enjoy reading.

What has been your most frustrating experience?

As David met his Goliath, I met my “giant” in the form of language study. Never have I been so frustrated and tempted to quit as during those first months of French language study. It was agony not being able to understand or speak one word.

What has been your most rewarding experience?

Philip is an example. At age 12, he prayed but there was no evidence of a changed life. Three years later, Philip came saying he had prayed before to please his father; now he wanted to be a Christian. We knelt and he gave his heart to Christ. His life changed. Today he is living for the Lord.

How do you have family devotions?

We have a short devotional around the table after breakfast. Then before bedtime we gather in the living room for about 30 minutes of worship. We sing hymns or choruses accompanied by Bessie at the organ or me on the guitar.

Profile



Randal age 9

Bessie

?

I appreciate the close ties with our brothers and sisters in the States, also the unique privilege of sharing the Gospel, our lives, and our homes to people of other nations.

?

Having to be separated from family and friends for long periods of time has been difficult. Gene is in boarding school about 250 miles away and is only home for one month every three months.

?

I love to read. As a family, we play games and various sports. Occasionally we plan a day on the river, picnicing, fishing, and the boys swimming.

?

Learning two foreign languages and cultures has been the most frustrating experience for me. It doesn't make any difference how many degrees you have, you must begin as a little child in language learning.

?

We recently watched John, a convert of 1½ years, undergo a severe trial of seeing his wife and newborn baby die, yet he came through it with a strong faith and trust. It's experiences and people like John who make us very thankful we are in the country.

?

Sometimes the boys will sing a solo or a duet as a "special." We've studied a book of the Bible, taking turns reading a chapter, verse by verse, discussing it and making the application. Sometimes I give a flannelgraph lesson. When Gene is home, he occasionally leads.

PRAYER



FOCUS

by Kay Hampton

Programs designed for use in mission prayer groups, regular auxiliary meetings, or wherever a prayer burden is needed.

July 1980

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Brazil

Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world. Its land mass comprises half the land area of South America.

The Portuguese, African Negroes and native Indians shaped the culture of Brazil. Coffee has shaped the economy. Forty-five percent of the population is of European descent. Portuguese is the national language.

When our first missionary arrived in Brazil in 1957, Dave Franks entered a land claiming to be 90% Catholic. Almost half were in name only. Less than 10% are Protestants. Spiritism claims that as many as 60% have been experimentally involved in their religion. Both cults and Communism are making inroads.

Check your missions directory for names and locations of our missionaries in Brazil. At the present time a seasoned staff works alongside a few recent arrivals. Ask the Holy Spirit to

make you sensitive to needs.

Praise: Thank the Lord for each of our missionaries in Brazil. Call them by name, know their needs.

Thank God for the nationals who have been won to the Lord and are assuming places of leadership.

Prayer: Pray for the health needs of our missionaries, particularly the Aycocks, Franks and Valerie Sturgill.

For the different ministries conducted by our missionaries—youth camps, childrens' work, evangelistic campaigns, radio, and church planting.

Development of a strong national leadership. For a pastor in the mission in Ribeirao Preto.

For the five summer missionaries serving in this country.

That the Dennis Owenses will receive their visa to Brazil.

That the Cowarts and Mosers may have a good command of the language.

That the Aycocks, Eagletons, Combs and Coscias will have an effective furlough ministry.

For the Brazilian MK's—those in US schools and colleges, those in Portuguese schools, English ones, or by correspondence.

August 1980

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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India

In 1935, Laura Belle Barnard pioneered in South India to become the first FWB missionary in India in over 100 years. Now retired, Miss Barnard makes her home in Glennville, Georgia and is a popular missionary speaker and writer.

The Paul Woolseys and Dan Cronks started annual spiritual life conferences which resulted in the Free Will Baptist Association of North India, composed of eight churches. South India has four churches and two Christian day schools.

Carlisle and Marie Hanna are the only remaining FWB missionaries in India. Since 1950, no new visas have been granted missionaries. The Hannas minister in the communistic area of West Bengal, North India, doing village evangelism, Bible teaching and a hostel ministry. In addition he serves as coordinator of the South Indian work.

All three of the Hanna children are in the States.

Praise: Thank God for the missionaries who laid the ground work for a thriving work in India today.

Thank God for the dedication of the Hannas. And the faithful pastors in South India.

Prayer: Since missionaries are forbidden to enter, ask God to raise up more national workers.

That Carlisle and Marie would be granted the strength and stamina to serve in this difficult field.

Pray for the Hanna's three children—Brenda (married), Donald (medical school), and Mark (engineering).

September 1980

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Home Missions

The 70's ended on a triumphant note for the National Home Missions Department. A record number of missionaries were sent out, a record number of churches became self-supporting, a record number of conversions occurred in mission churches (over 1,300), and a record gift income was received—almost a million dollars!

Free Will Baptists have charged the Home Missions department with the responsibility of starting new churches where there are none—in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. If a work involves another language or culture, it is designated home missions. If a new church is begun within the U.S., this is designated church extension. Such a project may be launched solely by the Home Missions department or jointly with a state mission board. Presently there are churches being sponsored in 25 states as well as works in Mexico and the Virgin Islands.

The chaplaincy program is also administered by this department.

Praise: Thank God for the administrative staff of the Home Missions department—Roy Thomas, Trymon Messer and John Gibbs.

Thank God for the progress of the last decade.

And especially for the souls saved

through mission churches.

Prayer: That God would give safety of travel to the missionaries and staff as they crisscross our country.

That many would be challenged to give sacrificially to missions.

That God would give unusual strength to the pastors of these struggling missions.

Summer Missionary and Internship Programs

In 1975, FWBBC unveiled the summer internship program for ministerial students; as well as assistance in DVBS, visitation, bus ministries, and all the other summer programs of a busy church.

This year less than 500 aspiring pastors will minister in more than a dozen states.

Both Hillsdale and FWBBC sent out summer missionaries to our foreign fields. In addition to helping the resident missionary, this program helps the students discern their own capacities for foreign service. These students raise their own expense money, amounts ranging from \$1,100 to \$2,500.

This year 25 summer missionaries have been appointed to five countries.

Praise: That opportunities of service are afforded our young people, both at home and abroad.

That volunteers have answered God's call to service.

Prayer: That God would work in the life of each young person in revealing, at least in part, His plan for that life.

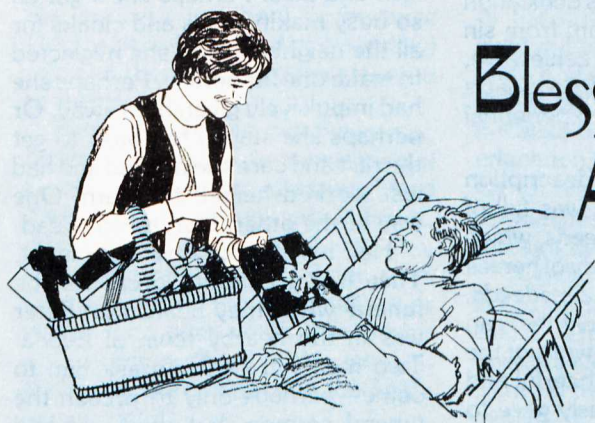
That each summer worker would have a fruitful ministry.

Two of Twenty Five

Dave Filkins dates his missionary call back to age ten when a missionary visited their church in northeast Missouri. While Dave didn't "call" his mom and dad to the mission field in Ivory Coast, Africa, no doubt he greatly influenced them to accept the position of dorm parents in the boarding school for missionary children in that country.

Dave was a teenager those years, but a missionary in every sense of the word. He loved the people, learned their language, and spent time with them, caring and witnessing.

Dave met (and married) a sweet little helpmate at Hillsdale College before transferring to FWBBC. He and Sharon are missionary candidates with a summer stopover in France as part of their preparation.



Blessed To Be A Blessing

AIM: To see that God blesses us with gifts (talents) in order that we may bless others.

Scripture: Acts 9:36-42

Song: "Make Me A Channel Of Blessing"

Perhaps you have lived in a situation where you got to the point that you would have been happy if your neighbors died, or at least moved away. In the dormitory when everyone needed the bathroom at once, in a motel room in the middle of a noisy night, or in a thin-walled apartment building or a compact subdivision, you may have had to fight the feeling. But Acts 9 tells us the story of a lady whose neighbors were really broken-hearted at her death. Her name was Dorcas.

What A Lady!

Acts 9:36 is Dorcas's biography, a description any Christian woman should be proud to have written of her—"Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple." We don't know who won Dorcas to the Lord. It may have been one of the disciples or it may have been Christ Himself. Possibly Peter led Dorcas to The Way, since it was Peter whom the townspeople brought to Joppa at her death. However, the importance of the statement focuses not on Dorcas's dwelling place, but on her discipleship. Dorcas had been called apart from this world to follow Jesus and had committed herself to daily doing that.

The word "disciple" means a student, a follower of a teacher. When

you accept Christ as your Savior, you, too, become a disciple—a follower of Jesus, led by the Spirit who will “teach you all things” (John 14:26), and a student of God’s Word. Discipleship is not an option for the believer. It is a demonstration of his dedication to the One who saved him from sin and its penalty. It is an achievable, living reality for the woman in today’s world—just as it was an experiential truth in Dorcas’s life.

Verse 36 continues its description of Dorcas: “this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.” Dorcas gave freely of herself to those around her. Her almsdeeds, or deeds of mercy, gave her an opportunity to share the work of the Lord in her life. With a cheerful and loving heart, she graciously gave to those in need.

Perhaps Dorcas was a one talent disciple, but she used the ability the Lord gave her—she was an excellent seamstress. Merciful Dorcas probably never charged a penny for any of the garments she made for her neighbors. She gave to anyone in need, though she probably only had a few simple outfits for herself. Perhaps she made baby clothes for every newborn on her street, the first grader’s school uniform, the teenager’s party dress, the bride’s veil, the grandmother’s shawl. She gave to those who did not deserve her gifts—perhaps a pair of mittens to the carelessly boy who had thrown a ball through her window or a cloak for the ruffians down the street.

So how could her neighbors help but love her? She loved them. She showed her love and the Heavenly Father’s love by using her ability with a needle and thread. God was honor-

ed by Dorcas’s sewing and the Gospel was spread by it.

What Happened

The story goes that Dorcas got sick and died. Perhaps she’s gotten so busy making caps and cloaks for all the neighbors that she neglected to make one for herself. Perhaps she had impulsively given hers away. Or perhaps she stayed too busy to get the rest and care she needed and had just worked herself to death. One way or the other, Dorcas was dead.

Her neighbors were distraught. They had prepared Dorcas for the funeral when they heard that Peter was in the nearby town of Lydda. Two men were sent to ask him to come—perhaps only to preach the funeral sermon, but the Lord had bigger plans for Peter in Joppa.

Peter hurried to the city, not even stopping to pack his bag, because of the urgency of the message. The neighbors took him immediately to the “funeral home.” They all had a handkerchief in one hand (for they were weeping), and a garment that Dorcas had made for them in the other. Can’t you imagine them all trying at once to tell Peter how Dorcas gave them to them?

Peter sent all of Dorcas’s friends out of the room. After he prayed, he commanded Dorcas, “Arise!” Dorcas opened her eyes and sat up.

Perhaps she smiled a sad sort of smile. After all, she’s been resting in Heaven with Jesus; and some days, after a long, hectic day, aren’t you eager for that? But Dorcas loved her neighbors. She knew she had an unfinished job, so she probably picked up her thimble and needle and started back to work.

What It Taught Them

Oh how glad Dorcas's neighbors were to see her. The saints and widows (those who were probably singled out because of Dorcas's special concern for them or because Dorcas herself was perhaps a widow) rejoiced that she had been returned to them.

Her death served two major purposes. First it was a demonstration of God's power. Verse 42 states, "And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord." No, they did *not* believe in Peter or in Dorcas, but in the Lord who was victor even over death. His power was clearly outlined in this incident and many were pointed to the Truth because of it.

Secondly, Dorcas's death and resurrection served the purpose of making her neighbors appreciate her even more. It made them act on their faith even as she acted on hers. They demonstrated their trust in God by believing that her resurrection was possible, just as she showed her faith in her daily devotion to the task and opportunities God had given her.

The measure of our faith is the measure of the blessing we shall transmit to others. How are you demonstrating to others Christ's love and work in your life?

What WNAC Can Do To Help

The formal statement of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention is: "To help each woman fulfill her part in the Great Commission through missions prayer, study and action." Each has a responsibility to go, win,

teach, baptize, and train others. God has a specific work for you.

The Lord may not want you to be a missionary, but He does want you to have a missionary vision.

Perhaps you have heard the story of the crippled young woman who lived in the tenements of New York City. She sincerely felt the Lord had called her to the mission field, but because of failing health and lack of education, she knew she would never go to the regions beyond. With a broken heart, she discussed the matter with her pastor.

"Doesn't a Puerto Rican family live in the building next to yours?" he asked. "And isn't the lady who lives upstairs a Viet Nameese refugee?" He went on to name others in her community—Chinese, Mexican, and Spanish neighbors. "Your mission field is here," the wise pastor told the crippled girl. "Ask the Lord to open your eyes to the needs of those around you."

You may need a new vision of the task the Lord has done for you to do. You may need a new willingness to give yourself to that task—to fill your part in the Great Commission. Not only will others be blessed, but you yourself will be blessed with a greater measure of spiritual growth than ever before.

We are not storerooms, but channels,

We are not cisterns, but springs,
Passing our benefits onward,
Fitting our blessings with wings
Letting the water flow outward
To spread o'er the desert forlorn,
Sharing our bread with our brothers,

Our comfort with those who mourn.

—copied

Program for August
Diane Plymon

The World Needs Christ



Scripture: Acts 4:12; Jer. 46:11b
Song: "We've a Story to Tell To The Nations"

Preparation: Designate on a world map the areas of world religions. Prepare the comparisons on flash cards, a chart, poster, or overhead transparencies.

Scene I

Pat and Sue are in the kitchen drinking coffee. She walks over and turns off the radio.

Sue: It seems everytime I turn on the radio or TV or open up a paper or magazine they have some big story about the Muslims.

Pat: You're absolutely right, Sue. But I heard there are seven billion of them.

Sue: Yes, and I think we Christians could learn a lot from their sincerity.

Pat: Yes, but we have to remember they are sincerely wrong.

Sue: Be that as it may, I am of the opinion we shouldn't send missionaries to such dogmatically wrong Muslims.

Pat: Sue! How can you say such a thing? They must know like everyone that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Sue: I guess that was a pretty hasty and unfair statement. Maybe I can't really be concerned about their souls since I'm rather ignorant of what the Muslims and other world religions believe. Do you know what they believe?

Pat: Sure . . . well, a little. Of course they believe Mohammed is their prophet instead of Jesus and they use the Koran instead of the Bible. Wait a minute! You don't belong to the auxiliary, do you?

Sue: No, I never seem to have the time.

Pat: Well, Sunday afternoon we're going to have a program on world religions. Why don't you come?

Sue: Sounds great! Can you pick me up?

Pat: Sure, see you at quarter 'til five. *(Voices fade out with excited discussion.)*

Scene II

The program on world religions is in progress, the speaker in front with the suggested visual aids.

Speaker: There are as many definitions of religion as there are religions. Most religions are organized systems of benefits based on traditions and teaching. Although there are 11 major religions in practice today, they

can be grouped into three convenient groups—Religions of Bible Lands, Religions of India, and Religions of China and Japan.

First, the religions of Bible Lands include Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Let's take them one by one.

Name

Judaism
Christianity
Islam

code of ethics

Old Testament, Talmud
Old and New Testaments
Book of Islam, the Koran

means to salvation

Keeping the Law
Trusting Christ for Salvation
Keeping the Koran

The **Jews** were the first nation to believe in one God. They reject Christ as God's Son and look for the Messiah who is yet to come.

Christianity has many diversified groups, yet all accept the basic belief that God revealed Himself through Jesus who lived, died and was resurrected. Salvation is obtained by accepting Christ's atonement.

Islam believes there is one god (Allah) and Mohammad was His prophet. Jesus was a prophet, but Mohammad was the final one they say.

Questioner #1: Am I right in assuming that the main difference in these religions is what they think of Jesus?

Speaker: That's a good observation. The Jews reject Jesus and the Muslims place Mohammad in a

superior position. Only Christians claim Jesus as God.

Speaker: The religions of India are many and varied; however, we can pick out the two most prominent ones—Hinduism and Buddhism.

Name

Hinduism
Buddhism

God

Braham
Budda

means to salvation

Through repeated reincarnations be united with Braham
Follow the 8-fold plan attaining nirvana

Hindu is the traditional religion of India. Much of this religion is full of superstition and maintains worship of powers and nature, as fire, sky and plants.

Question #3: I notice on the chart you have "reincarnation"; what does that mean?

Speaker: When the soul dies, they believe the soul returns to indwell another body, sometimes human and sometimes animal.

Questioner #1: Do we have missionaries in India?

Speaker: Only one couple—Carlisle and Marie Hanna. (pause) Now let's go on to *Buddhism*. Buddhists hope to reach complete peace and love (nirvana) by eliminating all desires and passions. Since they believe in reincarnation, death offers a relief.

Questioner #5: So in sharp contrast

to our Christian attitude, they view life as total misery?

Speaker: That's correct.

Speaker: Moving on to the religions of China and Japan, and other countries. The religions of these countries are characterized by ancestor, spirit, and nature worship.

Name

Taoism
Shintoism
Animism

God

Tao
Ancestors and idol (Kami) worship
Spirits which indwell objects (and people)

means to salvation

following the rules of nature
Incorporating Kami into daily life
Appeasing the Spirits

Taoism stresses a way that is naturally in harmony with nature. However, it includes much magic and superstition.

Shintoism is the native religion of Japan and ascribes divinity to all Japan and its inhabitants. Therefore they consider their island and the way of their ancestors holy.

Questioner #6: Are all Japanese Shintoists?

Speaker: Catholics brought Christianity to Japan in 1549, but there is still a small percentage who are Christians. Another question? (pause) No? Well, before we close this study, let's skip down to Africa and South America to see their **Animistic** religion. It

contains ethical and moral principles but these beliefs are expressed in a crude and primitive manner.

Questioner #7: Are these people receptive to the Gospel?

Speaker: In many ways they are receptive. You see, they worship their idols from fear. Accepting God and His love offers a promised release from all this.

In conclusion, the purpose of this program has been to acquaint you with just a few of the world's religions and to show you the fallacy of these beliefs.

There is only one way to be saved and that is through accepting Jesus Christ as one's Lord and Saviour. Christianity is superior to other religions in these ways:

1. The sacred books of other religions are of unknown origin and unbelievers are discouraged to read them. Christians go to great lengths and expense to translate and distribute Scriptures for they believe they contain God's Word to man.

2. Most religions reflect misery and hopelessness. Christ offers a joyous life here on earth as well as in the hereafter.

3. World religions stress salvation obtained by man's own works. Christ paid the price for our salvation and offers free salvation to all.

May we stand together and sing " 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" in a prayerful mood while remembering that many all over the world do not know this sweetness.

America's Malnutrition

Objective: To develop into mature Christians by comparing our spiritual diets with those of basic good nutrition in the physical realm.

Song: Break Thou The Bread of Life

Scripture: Matthew 5:6; 2 Peter 3:18

Malnutrition is the world's #1 health problem. Over half of the world goes to sleep hungry each night. These startling facts seem unbelievable since most of us end our day thinking, "Tomorrow I've just got to go on a diet."

Our affluent society has made us the richest, best-fed nation in the world. God has bestowed blessings on us which cannot be surpassed by any other nation in history. Truly, "We're blessed, we're blessed, we're blessed, we are blessed." Yet in the spiritual realm we are probably one of the most starved, undernourished people who ever lived. Spiritually, Americans can be compared to the malnourished refugees, mere skin and bones, with pop-eyes and bulging

stomachs.

What caused decay in a nation which was built upon the principle of "one nation under God," whose beginning was the very essence of religious freedom, who once gave thanks for spiritual and material blessings?

How can we remain strong and healthy in the things of God? As we study the principles which apply to basic good nutrition, we see that these same principles apply to our spiritual intake and spiritual nutrition.

Types of Spiritual Diets

It is a proven fact we need certain amounts from each of the four food groups *daily* in order to maintain a balanced diet. It is likewise important that we receive daily amounts of spiritual food.

The diets of some so-called Christians consists of an Easter, Decoration Day, revival (a time or two) and a Christmas "pew warming." Even the Sunday morning (once a week) worshippers cannot expect to reach spiritual maturity on such a puny spiritual

diet. This lack of spiritual intake could well explain why there are so many dwarfs in our churches today.

There are others who attend regularly and have an opportunity to spiritually mature, but they don't partake of the food available. While the spiritual food is being served, they pass it up by planning their dinner, wardrobe or weekly schedule. Because their minds are elsewhere, they leave the church without the infilling of the Holy Spirit they should receive. They ignore the nutritional "Guide" which instructs them on how to maintain a well-balanced spiritual life.

There is, however, a small select number who feast on God's Word. These well-fed, spiritual giants are ready for the time of testing. They draw from that abundant supply of spiritual strength and endurance flowing freely from the well that never runs dry.

Physical vs. Spiritual Diets

What constitutes the diet of this special group of people? Let's go back to our daily needs from the Basic Four Food Groups: The *Milk* group, the *Meat* group, the *Bread* and *Cereal* group, and the *Fruit* and *Vegetable* group.

First the *Milk* group. Milk is known as nature's most nearly perfect food. Be it fresh, dried, evaporated, condensed, or made into cheese, ice cream, or yogurt, it builds up and nourishes the body.

The Bible likens His Word to milk (1 Pet. 2:2) We may absorb God's Word from many sources—spoken, written, taped, or seen! but the result is the same—as we sincerely desire

to abide in Him through His Word, we grow and are being built up in Him.

Our bodies continue to need milk daily, but as we become stronger in the Lord, we must add meat (prophecy, the tabernacle, typology, etc.) to our spiritual diets. Only spiritual babies are kept on a soft or liquid diet.

Next the *Meat* group. Meat is necessary for muscle development and maintenance of bone and body structures. Personal witnessing and soul winning does this for the spiritual body. Jesus set the example in John 4:32, 34 when He told His disciples, "I have meat to eat that ye know not of . . . my meat is to do the will of Him that sent me and to finish His work." Every Christian should seek to lead others into the kingdom of God.

Meat broadens our vision to see the fields white already unto harvest and the laborers so few. Meat makes us burdened for our next door neighbor and those in nursing homes and prisons. Those who volunteer for mission fields maintain a protein-rich diet. Those who labor in intercessory prayer for our missionaries have matured from a milk-only diet.

The *Bread and Cereal* group is essential for body enrichment. Foods from this group offer our main source of energy. Jesus is called the Bread of Life. As we commune and fellowship with Him through prayer, we are enriched and energized, strengthened and refreshed.

Prayer enables us to be victorious over temptation. In the wilderness the devil sorely tempted our Lord to turn stones to bread in order to satisfy His physical hunger. His dynamic words, "It is written, man shall

not live by bread alone” defeated the Tempter. He who was in all points tempted as we and yet without sin is within us to be just as victorious. Daily.

In His model prayer, Jesus taught his disciples to pray, “Give us this day our daily bread” (John 6:53). God gave Moses and the children of Israel their supply of manna—daily. We, too, must rely upon God *daily* for our provisions.

The last group—the *Fruit and Vegetable group*—is necessary for a healthy appearance and sturdy bone development; it co-operates with other healthy body functions. Our service aids in the production of the fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22) We are told that by our fruits we will be judged of our spiritual depth.

Vitamins derived from this Fruit and Vegetable group help maintain ligaments, tendons and other supportive tissue. Christian service is helping others, working together, strengthening each other. The one who sings that special song (besides receiving a spiritual blessing herself) helps the preacher preach, prepares the audience for the message, and strengthens and challenges others through the message of the song.

Water Plays A Vital Role

Besides the basic four food groups, water is vital in the health of the body. John 4:14 speaks of water as being the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. This is the same water Jesus offered to the Samaritan at the well—living water in which she would thirst no more if she would only drink.

The Scriptures abound in verses

on praise. “In everything, with prayer and thanksgiving . . .” And “daily shall he be praised.” The Holy Spirit teaches us to know Him who is worthy to be praised.

Let’s look at our Lord during His last remaining hours on that awesome cross, bearing the sins of the whole world. He who declared Himself the Water of Life now utters the words, “I thirst.” The holy God could not look on sin and had turned His back on His son as He suffers under the weight of your sins and mine. What agony He went through that you and I might drink freely of this Water of Life!

The Great Nutritionist

A well-balanced spiritual diet will make us Christ-like. “Blessed is everyone that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine houses; thy children like olive plants round about thy table. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord” (Ps. 128:1-4).

Daily servings of Bible study, prayer, witnessing and service washed down with huge gulps of praise and thanksgiving makes for a spiritual healthy Christian. Malnutrition results when one of these food groups are slighted, omitted or replaced by too much of another group.

Are you getting your daily share of spiritual food? Perhaps you should make an appointment with the Great Physician, the Chief Nutritionist who can prescribe the exact spiritual diet just for you!

A WOMAN GOD HAS USED



Although Darlene Eby Melvin was raised a conservative Baptist, she married a Free Will Baptist preacher (both are Upland graduates) and has been actively involved in the total denominational program for the past 27 years. Almost half of those years have been at the Butterfield FWB Church, Aurora, Il.

Darlene's talents vary—auxiliary officer on all four levels, camp and DVBS teacher, nursery worker. However, it is in music that she excels, specializing in teen musicals and special choral arrangements.

Darlene is a pastor's crutch. She can be counted on to help him over impossible situations and ease difficult, trying ones. Every Wednesday is devoted to church visitation.

Counselor, friend and confidant, Darlene's gift lies in visiting those with spiritual needs, those who are lonely, and those who need special assistance (such as a blind lady she cares for) and building them up in the faith.

The Melvins are missions minded and keep in close touch with many of our missionaries. All find a warm welcome in their home. They also maintain open house to students and young people living in the Wheaton area.

Their two children, Debbie and Danny, have left the nest and are in full time Christian service. Both children inherited their mother's love for music and are excellent musicians and vocalists.

Darlene's husband, Billy, a former executive secretary of our denomination, is now serving that same office in the National Association of Evangelicals, a Wheaton based organization composed of 35 evangelical denominations.

What Darlene **is** reflected in what she **does**. More than 40 years ago she gave her heart to the Lord and each day she offers her **life** for service. A person of deep conviction, there is never any doubt whose side she is on—the Lord's side!

**ATTENTION! ALL AUXILIARY
MEMBERS!**

9th annual

**CREATIVE
WRITING
CONTEST**

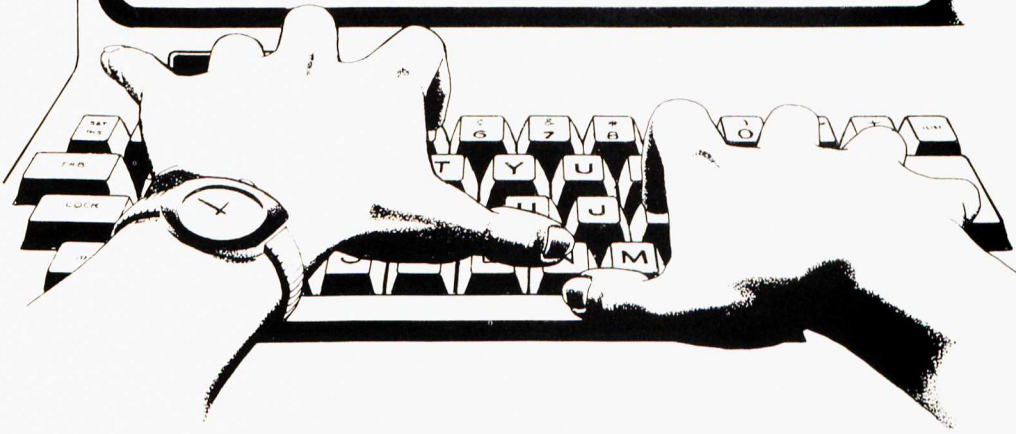
Categories

Programs
Articles
Plays/Skits
Poetry

Page Length

4-5
1-3
1-3
1-2

Deadline: March 1, 1981



1. Articles and programs must be suitable for publication in *Co-Laborer*.
2. Awards will be given in each of the four categories: first place, \$25; second, \$10; third, books; and fourth, honorable mention.
3. Entries will be judged on originality, content, interest, and suitability for Woman's Auxiliary work.
4. Manuscripts must be typed and double-spaced with the writer's name and address in the upper left hand corner of the first page. Please enclose the original and one copy. Send to:

WNAC Writing Contest
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

WNAC NATIONAL RETREAT

Because the first retreat was sold out six months early, a **back to back** retreat has been scheduled.

Same Program

Featured Speaker: **Helen Hosier**,
author and
lecturer



Seminars: Single and Single
Again
Help! I'm a Wife!
Help! Help! I'm a Pas-
tor's Wife!
Blessed Attitudes (Be-
attitudes)
How to be the Best
Mother in the Worst
Times



Smoky Shadows Conference Center
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

Same Location

Different Time

Tuesday-Thursday
September 23-25, 1980

Thursday-Saturday
September 25-27, 1980

Send your application
with \$15.00 for first retreat
(September 23-25) to:

WNAC
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202