

The Threat of the Occult



NOVEMBER, 1972

contact

Of The National Association
Of Free Will Baptists

THE REAL TRUTH

By Mae Fry

Thank God above measure for TRUTH that will stand
As at this Thanksgiving season we ponder
The millions in isms and cults today,
Who in error and ignorance do wander.

Groping in darkness, they're looking for truth,
Searching for what satisfies,
Desperate, empty, not finding the way,
They've settled for nothing but lies!

The "signs in the sky" on the day of your birth
Determine your fate, they contend.
By looking to the stars you can plan your life
From the present day to the end.

Others are sure if you look *below*
To the dead that have gone on before,
The god of this world, the devil,
Will reveal to you what is in store.

These witches and fables and astrologies,
Are all but new to the scene.
They have been plaguing the universe
Since the days of the early Chaldean.

Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar
Sought their help in a desperate plight,
But they found them helpless and useless
In bringing a ray of light.

Instead, the messages, sent from God,
Were interpreted quickly and plain
By David, a man after God's own heart,
And glory was brought to HIS name.

King Saul sought a witch, in fear of his life,
Calling Samuel out of the ground.
He broke his own law and the heart of God
And nothing but sorrow he found.

The "works of the flesh" will find their end,
And witchcraft will vanish away.
Spirits, astrologies, wizards will cease,
But God's TRUTH is here to stay!

No "god of this world" or earth below
Can grant us ought that we ask
Nor can they guide us in any way
Through even the meagerest task.

But there is one, praise His Holy Name,
Who's in tune to the faintest cry
And who's presence will guide 'til the earth shall cease
And our Lord shall come in the sky!

We look for signs, as the saints of old,
And these signs are all coming true.
Thank God for the signs of His coming again
He promised to me and to you!

We know not the day, and we know not the hour —
Like a thief in the night He will steal
And take us to be with Him — precious Lord!
Oh, truth of all truths — *this* is REAL!

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Fry is the writer and coordinator of the Junior Adventurer C.T.S. material. The mother of four is actively engaged in a ministry to the deaf at the Woodbine Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, of which she is a member.

SPIRITISM NOT LIMITED TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

United States: A Seedbed For The Occult

By Bobby Poole

"By far the oldest form of religious cult extant today, and certainly one of the deadliest where the certainty of divine judgment is concerned, is that of Spiritism, often erroneously referred to as 'Spiritualism'," says Walter R. Martin in his book, *The Kingdom of the Cults*.

Spiritism is usually associated with other countries, such as Africa or Brazil, but the United States may be more of a seedbed for the occult than one cares to admit. As Free Will Baptist and other missionaries returned to Brazil after furloughs, they would relate experiences and trends in America. Upon returning to the States in May of 1971, I, too, was brought face to face with many circumstances very similar to what we faced in Brazil. I would like to share some of my observations about the influence and inroads of Spiritism in America.

I believe that Satan, in the wake of materialism, modernism and general rebellion against authority (both man's authority and God's authority), is "brain-washing" Americans to accept Spiritism and witchcraft. I shall list some of the things I notice the devil is using as means to incite the mind and heart toward the works of darkness.

There is no doubt that there is a real interest throughout the country in the occult. "Occult is defined as 'beyond the bounds of ordinary knowledge; mysterious; concealed or hidden from view; pertaining to certain reputed sciences, such as magic, astrology, and other arts and practices involving use of divination, incantation, magical

formulae, etc.' The King James Bible used the word 'sorcerers' as the general term to include all occultism and calls occult practitioners 'sorcerers.'" (Christian Reader, August-September, 1972, page 2) From New York to California, the explorers of the occult are searching for a religious experience that leads many of them into witchcraft.

How does this affect you and other Free Will Baptists? In my travels I have discovered that witchcraft is not confined to the Churches of Satan scattered around the country (one such church claims 10,000 members) but touches cities, suburban America, small country towns and communities, homes, schools and even churches. This rise of interest in the occult does affect your churches and your schools.

TELEVISION

The devil is using television to stimulate interest in the occult. There are a number of programs that deal with witchcraft and Spiritism. Some are comedies such as "I Dream of Jeannie" and "Bewitched." The devil likes for one to laugh at such programs because witchcraft is then more readily viewed as harmless and innocent fun. This is the purpose of the programs.

A number of individuals have spoken to me about the late night talk shows and noted that many of them deal with the occult. Many of the television films and even series programs have dealings with voodoo and spiritism. Even cartoons have not escaped the influences of spiritism, witches, witchcraft and blackmagic. Check a copy of "TV Guide" and notice how

many programs deal with the occult. If the devil can get us into "neutral gear" and persuade us to think there is nothing bad about witchcraft or that it all is make believe, he has us prepared to accept manifestations of his power in other forms.

LITERATURE

The devil is using literature as never before. Many major magazines have carried articles on Spiritism and witchcraft within the past year. In bookstores across the country, one can see book after book that deals with the occult. These books are not under the counter or to be found in "adult only" type of bookstores, but they are found in major department and discount stores across the nation. As one examines these books, he will find that many of them deal with perverted sex. Sexual perversion and Spiritism, as well as other forms of the occult, are associated together. One reads of nude women being used as altars in satan worship services and of meetings held in the nude. This "sexular freedom" craze that is sweeping America is satanic and demonic. The devil is using literature to stimulate interest in sex and Spiritism and this misdirected interest can be very dangerous. Dr. Vance Havner says, in speaking of the filth that is available in bookstores and newsstands, "Not since Manhattan Island was sold for \$26.00 has so much dirt been for sale for so cheap."

Even the Sunday comics or "funnies" have not escaped. I have in my files a Sunday cartoon of "Li'l Abner" that deals with reincarnation, trance, and communication with the dead. Also, I have copies of the daily cartoon of "Gil Thorpe" that deal with witches, witchcraft, hexes, spells and curses. The newspaper comic "Friday Foster" is now dealing with the same subjects.

CONTACT

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"One mother, in a western state, told me how the Ouija Board enslaved her and almost destroyed her except for the grace of God."

MUSIC

Music is another tool the devil is using in America. The First Church of Satan in San Francisco, according to *Look* (Aug. 24, 1971) "specializes in ceremonial psychodramas designed to eliminate all inhibition." Much of today's music is designed to accomplish the same purpose... eliminate all inhibitions. I do not believe that anyone can listen to that ungodly rock and roll and acid rock music without being affected. It tears down the inhibitions and the will power to resist moral temptations. "The term 'Rock and Roll' was coined by a Cleveland disc jockey who borrowed the phrase from the ghetto where it was used as a descriptive sex expression. 'Rock and Roll' actually means 'Promiscuous sexual relationship music'." (*Rock and the Church*, Bob Larson, page 54) Much of this music is claimed to be written while the writer is "possessed" or in a trance. Churches should not allow this ungodly rhythm, hipswinging music into their services even under the guise of Gospel singing. I have seen so-called gospel quartets that had more rock and roll rhythm and hip swinging than some of the rock and roll groups. *The devil's music cannot edify the saints of God.* Christians must exercise caution in this area.

GAMES

Christmas is almost here and I dare say that some of you will buy gifts of occult games for your children. *Christian Reader* (August-September 1971) says, "Popularity of occult games is at an all time high, and new ones flood the market with ever wider acceptance." These games can be deadly as they can destroy faith, mental stability, marriages and even open up one's life to demon possession.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mr. Poole, a native of Tennessee, returned to Brazil in July of '72 to begin his third term as a Free Will Baptist missionary. An alumnus of Free Will Baptist Bible College, he is one of several missionaries to witness overt expressions of satanic forces in the lives of some to whom he has ministered.

One of the most popular games is the Ouija board. From all over the country different people have told me how it affected their lives. Many are living in fear because it told them the day they were to die. Others are held in fear because of the correct answers it gave. One mother, in a western state, told me how the Ouija board enslaved her and almost destroyed her except for the grace of God. This dear woman, a very attractive and successful business woman, when completely enslaved to the Ouija board asked "Who are you?" She received the answer, "The devil." Broken, both mentally and emotionally, she was interned in a state hospital for a month. Prayers of her family and friends brought her out and today she is actively working in a Free Will Baptist church.

If there are those in the church who have games or books that deal with the occult, I would suggest the church sponsor a parking lot bonfire like they had in Ephesus as is recorded in Acts 19:13-20.

ASTROLOGY

One East Coast paper had this note: "Beginning Monday, February 28, the Sun-Journal will present a new daily feature called 'Astro-Graphs'. Due to the increasing interest, in some circles, in Astrology, the series is being offered as a service to the readers." Richard Levinsohn, in his book, *Science, Prophecy and Prediction*, says, "Astrology, far from bothering about real stars, simply operates with signs, words and symbols which... have no real relevance to any known process." Yet, many Christians read their horoscope more faithfully than they read their Bibles. This is a substitute for faith and God. The Word of God teaches we should be concerned about how we are living today and not concerned about tomorrow. A person's destiny is not related to the movements of the stars but is related only to his relationship to Jesus Christ. But millions would disagree and follow this religion condemned in the Holy Scriptures.

THREE WARNINGS

Let me share with you warnings about three things related to Spiritism and demon possession.

(1) The use of drugs — I believe that anyone who uses and stays on drugs for any length of time is in danger of demon possession. Drug users have used the term "I blew my mind," for years, which to me means they have lost control of themselves and their willpower. If a person cannot resist the devil, then the devil is able to freely move into that person's life.

(2) Experimentation with Spiritism — Many young people treat seances as games. I have been told of seances being held in church basements (even Free Will Baptist churches), high schools, colleges and even grade schools. In one state, sixth grade students testified they had seances and after going into a trance they had communicated with the spirit of a friend killed in an accident. You cannot play with fire without getting burned. Parents, check with our children about this and for their sake do not let them get involved.

(3) False doctrine — It is important what one believes. In this age of doctrinal compromise and modernism, when the blood of Christ, His death and resurrection are seldom mentioned, the devil and his demons have nothing to hold them back. There will be greater manifestations of satanic power in America because of the apostasy of the professing church.

The Bible teaches that in the last days the people "neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts." Now how about you? Are you oppressed by satanic powers? I invite you to come to Jesus, taking a firm stand on the teachings and promises of the Bible and claiming His blood for yourself, your family and your church.

Are you obsessed with the occult or sex that is demonic in origin? Are you willing to give these things up, confess and forsake them and ask forgiveness? "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9) "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (James 4:7) Victory is ours over the devil and his cohorts. Accept it and go forth to live for Him who died for you. ▲

MY EYES ARE OPEN



By Judy Hines

A church oriented legalism constituted much of my early life; however, a meaningful Biblically-oriented Christianity was not presented. In the pursuit of meaning, the result was the discovery of the occult.

College proved to be fertile ground for assuming one's self as the highest authority and I found a philosophic base to explain my existence. The theory of evolution stated that I existed by chance and, therefore, was accountable to no one; I could construct my own value system, moral code, philosophic attitude. I remember I was excited by the adventure of creating my own life as I saw fit.¹ It was later that I realized that I had no reason to live based on my system of thought.² Still I hoped I'd find something that had meaning.³

Drugs seemed to provide that meaning. I couldn't explain what that meaning was, but drug experiences were so different from reality as I had known it, that it seemed obvious that *these* experiences *were* real, had meaning and value. (For a while I really felt free and excited by life again.) At this point I began teaching in a Richmond, Virginia high school. Sensing the need of the students to know the truth, recognizing their trust in me, I realized my answers were inadequate... could not be communicated; therefore, were useless in trying to help other people. Again, I tried to rethink my position. It seemed I had exhausted the possibilities.

I had become interested in palmistry and astrology, being impressed by the apparent mathematical validity I perceived in my superficial study of the

"... TO OPEN THEIR EYES AND TO TURN THEM FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT, AND FROM THE POWER OF SATAN UNTO GOD ..."

—Acts 26:18

occult. I moved to Berkeley, California, adding fortune-telling via tarot cards (and the *I Ching*) to my list of interests. From this time on, I was supplied with sufficient supernatural experiences to convince me that the spirit world existed.⁴ As I look back I recognize the hand of Satan in each of these experiences, but at the time I was merely assured I was finally on the road to truth.⁵

As my involvement in the spirit world increased, I was forced to acknowledge its effect on my life. I became even more involved in astrology, astral projection (soul travel) and simple magical charms. The astrological predictions were more times right than wrong it seemed; the charms worked; several people I knew thought they had traveled out of their bodies and I was deceived into believing I could do the same. My intellectual pursuit had deteriorated into a hunger to know and control the power in the spirit world. I studied extra-sensory perception techniques, thought transfer, spirit healing, learning under hypnosis and alpha-wave medication. I began to lean on the spirit world much more in my daily life, looking to the unseen forces about me for answers in dealing with life. I became aware of the terrifying aspect of the spirit world and less sure of my ability to control it.

Finally, during the illness of a person close to me I became so aware of the evil, the force of destruction in our lives, that I could perceive an unseen, but powerful manifestation of it in the room. I remember wanting to run, but instead I asked for help. I asked that if any one of the spirits was good, would he help us in some way. I felt calmed, as if someone had heard. The next day I borrowed a Bible and after ten years of neglect, began reading in Proverbs. I understood little, but there was strength and security in reading it. The crisis passed, and I put the Bible aside; it seemed impossible for this to be the

answer. But God in His grace did not abandon His pursuit of me.⁶

I came home to visit my parents in Nashville where my sister told me of Jesus Christ's love for me. She encouraged me to call her pastor, Eugene Waddell, for help in understanding the gospel. I didn't understand what he was talking about, but I felt his compassion and I trusted him. He urged me to read the Scriptures, and for weeks I spent almost every waking hour in reading the amazing account of Jesus and His love for me. Finally, God's Spirit and His Word were victorious over the powers of darkness in my life.⁷

As Mr. Waddell counselled me from the Word, he identified that eternal life could be received as a gift by faith in Christ⁸ and that Christ was offering this gift to me. I prayed, "Yes, Lord, I'll take it" and Jesus Christ came into my life.⁹

The result has been the perception that my involvement in the supernatural was actually a participation in the demonic unseen, but natural aspect of the war existent between God and Satan. Further results have been a new desire to become progressively more intimately acquainted with Jesus Christ¹⁰ through a study of His Word, with a major on the application of His truth rather than on acquisition only,¹¹ and a total life-style change which has included geographic relocation for the purpose of being involved in an active fellowship of believers encouraging me in the above.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

1. Romans 1:20-22
2. Ephesians 2:12
3. II Timothy 3:7
4. Ephesians 6:12
5. II Timothy 3:13
6. Romans 10:20
7. II Corinthians 10:3-5
8. Ephesians 2:8-9
9. Revelation 3:20
10. Phillipians 3:10
11. James 1:22

ABOUT THE WRITER: Miss Hines, who is a member of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, is currently assisting in the ministry of the Navigators at Clarksville, Tennessee. This program of soul winning and scripture memorization is nationally known. Miss Hines is a graduate of Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia at Fredricksburg.



By Jesse Webb

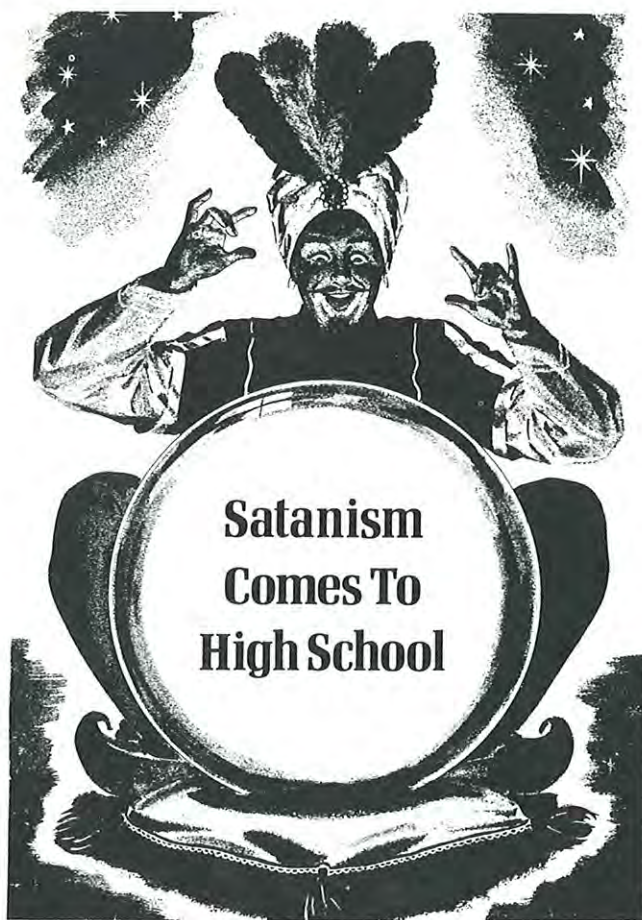
“WOULD YOU like to come to a seance? My mother uses me as a medium.”

This shocking statement came from a high school junior. Careful observation of the student began to reveal definite signs of control by Satan. This control was manifested through the physical body and also the attitudes. Chronic depression, moodiness, complete disregard for moral behavior, defiance to any established authority along with attempts of suicide became a part of this student's life.

When this writer tried to share Jesus Christ, she refused to listen. At times she would scream obscenities and say, “Don't mention the name of Jesus!” The school year for her was punctuated by several nervous disturbances. She liked to boast about reading the Satanic Bible, books on witches and books on the occult. Drugs became her daily fare and the last time I saw this Satan-possessed girl, I didn't know her. Satan had extracted a heavy toll. She remains bound.

High schools have become seed beds for “innocently dabbling” in the occult. The growing interest in horoscopes, Ouija boards, ESP, fortune-telling, seances and witchcraft is the reason for this article. The devastating effects of participating in any area of occultism cannot be under estimated. So many people are not aware that anyone who has “dabbled” in any form of the occult has opened the door to oppression by Satan and his damnable hosts. Once anyone allows Satan a foothold, he is always around to see that nothing disturbs his legal claim on a soul.

The terror and tragedy is that even after a person is saved, Satan can still exercise control. This is manifested through attitudes, depression, moods, manners, doubts, temper, indifference to spiritual things, obsessions (fear of dying, jealousy) and even suicide. Many teens today are chained to the past because of allowing Satan great freedom in their lives through the occult. Satan often accommodates the teen with hidden information or help and this opens the door to the forces of darkness.



Examples of Satanic Deceit

IT IS a typical day at City High. The halls are full of teens walking, chatting, pushing, shoving and hurrying to class. The classroom door is open and as the students arrive they hear that their teacher is away. They sit and talk for awhile when one “jokingly” says, “let's hold a seance.” To those in the class it will not be new. The lights are turned off — the teen leader, a person with a record of serious emotional problems, having attempted suicide on three different occasions, once at school, begins to summon the spirits. They have tried it before. Several seances have been held in City High. Before there was no visible manifestation, but this time its different.

When they started the seance a student placed a blank piece of paper in a typewriter. During the seance the teen leader lost the ability to speak clearly and the tongue refused to form any words. Others began to cry. One boy went to the typewriter immediately after the lights were turned on and found a typed message “Help Me...”

No one heard the typewriter keys move. The spirits seek help. Now it is no longer funny. This is a new fear and also a new curiosity. Some want to hold another seance. Others are too scared.

Of the students who participated all but one were nominal Christians. The leader was a preacher's youngster. Others are members of Christian youth groups. All of this was under the disguise of having fun. Actually, Satan was delighted — now he has a legal claim. They invited him in and he will not leave until ordered to do so. What a dreadful toll is about to be extracted from each participant, physically, mentally and spiritually.

THIS IS a story of one who participated in a seance, consulted with a palm reader and sought guidance from a Ouija board. The writer shared Jesus with the student and there was a real desire to accept Christ as Saviour. The student sincerely desired to be born again, but there was a strange inability to trust Christ. Finally, the student attended church where she came under great conviction. She left the services only to return immediately, as if drawn.

We counseled with the student again and she gave her heart to Christ.

This started the strangest chain of events the writer has ever encountered. Soon after conversion she backslid, yet there was the deepest desire to be a faithful Christian. But something seemed to be driving her. She was miserable. I longed to help. God, for some time, had been leading this writer to study the occult (participation or involvement in any way with fortune-telling, magic practices, spiritism or religious cults and teachings) because of some of the experiences I had been having with other students. The Holy Spirit led me to question her, "Have you ever been involved in the occult?"

She had. Her mother had taken her to a fortuneteller (so had her grandmother) and she had attended seances (once with a church sponsored group). She was completely bound by Satan. Fears possessed her. She could not sleep and when she did there had to be a light in the room. She fought with her parents and developed a great bitterness toward her father. She also developed an inability to pray, became indifferent to spiritual things. She could not exercise faith. Great depression came. There were thoughts of suicide. She made out her will and gave it to this writer for safe keeping. The thoughts of self-destruction drove her to spend hours in the cemetery. We prayed earnestly for her. My wife counseled with her, and found she could not pray using the name of Jesus. Bound — it was frightening.

At this time the author was sharing with a group of new converts, meeting in a city park. We found many were involved in the occult. The Lord led us to have a book burning. We burned books on witchcraft, horoscopes, ESP, Ouija boards, and even charms. We burned the student's Ouija board, but not before she asked it the source of its information. In a seance setting in a darkened room it spelled out D-E-V-I, then she pulled her hands away. This was not a surprise to the author. Others had shared similar incidents. In one

setting, the board spelled out H-E-L-L in answer to its source of information. This student had allowed Satan great freedom in her life. We continued to counsel and pray. Still the problems in her life exist and they are growing. She now has chronic doubts and cannot or will not pray and call upon the delivering name of Jesus Christ. This all began quiet innocently — now she is shackled by satanic power!

J. S. WAS a fervent Christian after allowing Jesus Christ first place in her life. She was greatly used of the Lord to win her classmates; then, she attended a seance held in school during her lunch break. From this time forth she began to lose her desire to pray and study the Bible. She gave up her office in the Bible Club. Her life quickly lost its glow. She became more involved in the occult, yet not knowing or understanding what was happening in her life. She became very frightened.

One day she came to share some of her fears. I asked her if she knew anything about the occult? She didn't. I shared what I had been studying. God spoke to her heart and she wanted to be delivered. She realized how Satan had bound her. On Friday we prayed together and she commanded Satan to depart. We knew he left. On Sunday she went forward to commit her whole life to Christ. She burned her books on witchcraft and astrology and quit dating a boy who has been involved in the occult. Immediately her joy returned. Her life just radiated Christ. She had acted ugly in class. She went to the teacher and asked forgiveness. God began to use her again. She was free.

K. R. WAS a typical nominal Christian. She had never really committed her life totally to Christ. She had never heard about the claims of Christ. I shared Christ with her. She responded with eagerness. But afterwards, she couldn't sleep and when she did she had terrible dreams. I inquired about her spiritual growth, and she related these experiences. She said she thought when a person became a Christian, Christ came in to give joy and peace, but this was not the case in her life. She was very discouraged, depressed, and filled with doubts about her commitment to Christ. Somehow Satan refused to let her go.

The Holy Spirit led me to ask, "Have you ever been involved in the occult?" "What's that?"

In sharing with her it became very clear that she had. A friend had taught her how to read the cards. For days she had been seeking guidance about the boy she wanted to marry. She got an answer she didn't want. She had consented to marriage, but the tarot cards said the opposite. So she continued to read the cards to see if they were mistaken. She was bound by Satan, but upon discovering what was wrong, she immediately rebuked Satan, in Jesus' name, and she was set free.

Harmless Fad?

IS THIS all just a harmless fad? One city has appointed an official "city witch." Several colleges are now offering degrees in witchcraft and sorcery. Book stores can't keep enough books on the occult. In some college towns the Satanic Bible is out-selling the Holy Scriptures as much as 100 to 1. National magazines are carrying cover stories. Young people are buying books on witchcraft, spells, spiritism, demons, devil worship; reading tarot cards; having seances for "fun" and going to fortunetellers. Recently "Current Event," which is used by thousands of high schools, carried an occult article (very skeptical) with pictures. Movies involving murder, witchcraft and torture are growing in popularity. Parents and some Christian leaders laugh — some even scoff. The "enlightened" feel a sense of pity for those who believe this to be serious and devastating and binding.

The occult has also made its roads into the homes through television. We take it lightly, but programs such as "Dark Shadows," "Bewitched," "Twilight Zone," "Night Gallery," "Ghost Story," "Sixth Sense" and even soap operas are involved in the occult. Everything around the teen makes it attractive — books, movies, pictures and programs. And the shabby lives of many believers make it more interesting than the Gospel. Ignorance on the part of believers support it because the uninformed offer the teen no ammunition for his spiritual battle — making him easy prey for Satanic wiles. Many parents every year buy so-called innocent toys and games for little Johnny. Horoscopes are even appearing on cereal boxes so you can read it every morning. The ever present danger is taking the devil too lightly. Scripture and experience reveal that Satan is ready to catch men unaware with new and more horrible manifestations. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mr. Webb, who pastors the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church at Guthrie, Kentucky, teaches in the high school system of Clarksville, Tennessee. He attended Free Will Baptist Bible College and was graduated from Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee.

COLORADO CHURCH SEEKS GREEN STAMPS TO "BUY" MISSIONARY PLANE

LAKEWOOD, COLO. — The First Free Will Baptist Church here has launched a campaign to collect 13,675 books of S&H Green Stamps to purchase a 1973 Cessna 180 airplane for Bob Carr, a lay missionary in Alaska.

The Carr family left Lakewood September 10, for the Fairbanks, Alaska area where they plan to minister to the natives in that region. Mr. Carr reports there are approximately 30 villages in the surrounding area with a population of 6,500 natives, primarily Eskimos. There are few roads in the area, thus an airplane is essential for the type of work they will be doing, according to Mr. Carr. The Carrs are undertaking this work independent of any missions board. The layman and his family are members of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Denver.

The downpayment on the plane has been paid and the remainder of the purchase price will be defrayed through the collection of the green stamps. Mr. Bill Campbell is serving as chairman of this project for his church. His address is 944 South Parfet Way, Lakewood, Colorado, 80226.

The Reverend Gary Terrell, a native of Missouri, is pastor of the Lakewood Church.



FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORTS EVANGELISM ECHOES

NASHVILLE, TENN. — In recent travels about the denomination and in personal communications, Executive Secretary Rufus Coffey reports a continued surge of evangelism within the Free Will Baptist ranks.

OKLAHOMA — Pastor Bob Ketchum reports over 200 conversions at the Owasso Church since January 1 of this year. There have been only three Sundays that someone has not been saved. With a record attendance of 416, the Sunday school is averaging 308 each Sunday. The church has called Henry Pirtle as assistant pastor. He will assume his duties January 1, 1973.

OHIO — The Reverend Floyd Wolfenbarger, pastor of the First Church in Springfield, Ohio reports conversions every Sunday for the past three months. The pastor has 21 attending a "new converts class."

NORTH CAROLINA — The Peace Free Will Baptist Church at Wilson recently had a record Sunday night attendance of 668 according to Pastor Gordon Sebastin. The Sunday school attendance is averaging 400 this year. Approximately 150 first time decisions have been recorded since January with almost 100 baptized.

TENNESSEE — The Canah Chapel Church in Erwin has more than doubled in attendance during the past year to reach an average of near 300. Pastor Jack Cox had baptized 61 since Easter in this growing church which has as its motto, "A going church for a coming Lord." The congregation recently completed a new sanctuary.

The Reverend Richard Adams, pastor of the Eastside Church in Elizabethton reports that a Sunday School rally on the second Sunday in October resulted in more than 500 being present for an outdoor service. Mr. George Scalf, who was saved about six months ago, brought 86 visitors, five of whom were converted.

VIRGINIA — The First Free Will Baptist Church of Newport News had a record attendance of 614 Sunday, October 15. Since the pastor, Don Pegram, began his ministry one year ago attendance has increased from an average of 119 to 407. The church has experienced conversions every week and church membership has doubled during the year. Plans are being finalized for an auditorium seating 876 to take care of the surging attendance.

CALIFORNIA — Claudie Hames, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church at Bakersfield, reports a record attendance of 457 on a recent October Sunday. Conversions and additions to the church almost weekly has necessitated plans for the construction of a 700 seat auditorium in 1973.

OKLAHOMA CITY MISSION ORGANIZES INTO CHURCH

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. — Less than 18 months after services were first begun in the northern section of Oklahoma City, twenty-eight people presented themselves as charter members of the Western Avenue Free Will Baptist Church during the organizational services September 17, 1972. According to the pastor, the Reverend Robert Duncan, the charter will remain open through the month of October at which time the membership is expected to reach 40.

The group, under the leadership of Mr. Duncan, began services in a mobile chapel in May of 1971, located on the ten acres of land purchased the month prior by the Oklahoma State Free Will Baptist Board of Missions and Church Extension. The mission was a joint project of the Oklahoma Board and the National Home Missions Department. The church was the first one started under Oklahoma's Church

Establishment Program (CEP). The goal of the program, which was initiated in 1970, is to establish one new Free Will Baptist church in a heavily populated urban area of Oklahoma each year during the decade of the '70's.

Upon organization, the church voted to support the Cooperative Plan with ten per cent of its income and support all denominational enterprises with special offerings.

The group is now worshipping in the first structure of their proposed complex. The present building consists of a chapel which will seat 150 people and 15 classrooms. This first unit was constructed at an approximate cost of \$30,000.00.

September was a good month for the new church. Four people were saved, \$1,158.00 was received in tithes and offerings and the average attendance was 52.

OKLAHOMA CHURCH OCCUPIES NEW SANCTUARY

NORMAN, OKLA. — Beneath laminated arches which pierce skyward some 40 feet, 456 worshippers joined together Sunday, September 17 for the first service in the recently completed sanctuary of the First Free Will Baptist Church.

This memorable occasion came almost to the day, 22 years after the church was first organized September 16, 1950, with 44 charter members. The church now averages near 200 in Sunday school attendance.

The dedication of the new sanctuary was held in conjunction with the annual homecoming day Sunday, October 15.

The new auditorium seats approximately 500 persons and has been designed so that a balcony can be added when necessary. One of the distinctive features of the new sanctuary is the large expanse of cathedral glass at the back of the pulpit area which encases a 28 foot high cross. The colors of the cathedral glass blend with the wall to wall carpeting and the padded pews. The cost of the new facility was near \$100,000.

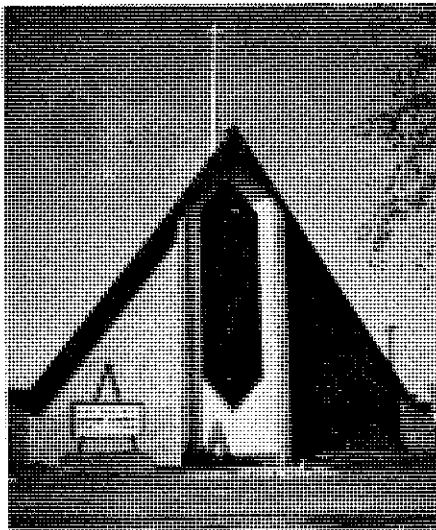
Pastor O. T. Dixon stated the addition which joins the new sanctuary to the original church plant is being utilized for additional office space.

WYOMING CHURCH UNDERGOES RENOVATION, BUYS PARSONAGE

TORRINGTON, WYO. — The interior of the church building purchased three years ago by the First Free Will Baptist Church of Torrington has been completely renovated according to the pastor, the Reverend Fred Lucas. In addition to the remodeling program, the church has purchased a four bedroom parsonage.

Pastor Lucas reports that a peak attendance of 61 has been reached with an average of almost 50 in attendance each Sunday. He reports the work is becoming more firmly established as converts are becoming actively involved in the church's outreach.

This work was started in 1969 when the Lucas family moved from California to Torrington. Except for regular monthly support from the Antioch Church in California and one year of support from the Exeter Church in California, the church has been established without any outside assistance.



OUTDOOR SERVICE BREAKS ATTENDANCE RECORD

JOHNSON CITY, TENN. — "The Sermon On The Mount" Sunday attracted 706 people to the outdoor services of the Central Free Will Baptist Church on the first Sunday of October. This attendance set a Sunday school record for the church according to the pastor, George Higgins, who was observing his tenth anniversary as minister of this East Tennessee church.

The Reverend Rufus Coffey, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, was present for this special Sunday. He stated that the attendance sets a record for any Free Will Baptist Sunday school in Tennessee. Mr. Coffey spoke during the Sunday school hour on the sixth Commandment, "Thou shalt not kill."

The services were held on the newly-acquired five acre tract of land on which the church is planning to relocate. With more than 700 feet of street frontage on John Exum Parkway, the property is located across the street from the Science Hill High School. The property, with a ten room house, was purchased for \$150,000.00. Tentative plans now call for the erection of a 1,150 seat auditorium to accommodate the surging attendance.

In addition to operating ten buses, special attention is being given to building a large adult Sunday school class. On this Sunday, the adult class had 181 present. The class goal for November is a record of 390 with an average of 300 to be present each Sunday.

CALIFORNIA CHURCH DEDICATES NEW EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

SANTA PAULA, CALIF. — The newly-constructed educational wing of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Santa Paula was dedicated in special services Sunday afternoon, September 17, 1972.

The special speaker for this occasion was Mr. Jack Williams, dean of California Christian College at Fresno.

The new unit consists of eight classrooms, a nursery and restrooms. Last January, the church dedicated the first phase of its new building which consisted of an auditorium and classrooms. The Reverend Gordon Bradshaw is pastor.

The church has already achieved one of its projected goals for 1972, that of reaching an average attendance of 500 in Sunday school. During the month of September the average was 514. The status of other 1972 goals is as follows: 277 saved, goal is 300; 58 baptized, goal is 200; and 70 of the forecast goal of 200 have united with the church.

ALL DRESSED UP — Pastor and Mrs. Higgins and two year old daughter, Wendy, joined with other members of the Central congregation by dressing "old fashion" for the special "Sermon On The Mount" Sunday.



Inside Anton LaVey's Church Of Satan

In front of a black, three story Victorian house at 6114 California Street in San Francisco sits a black Oldsmobile with the license plate "VAMPYR."

An eight foot cyclone fence is strung across the front of the house, and entry can be made only through the electronically locked gate. A large red and white "No Trespassing" sign is on the garage door.

This is the headquarters for the Church of Satan, a church that its founder Anton Szandor La Vey estimates has more than 10,000 active members in the United States and thousands more in countries abroad.

This is the church that practices the Black Mass, where a naked girl lies on the altar and is defiled sexually by the High Priest. This is the church that has captured the attention of many non-believers in Christianity, preying on their pocketbooks and desire for hedonistic pleasure.

This is also the church whose Satanic Bible has been read and possessed by youthful murderers in Florida, Montana and California. It is a church that has attracted the attention of dozens of show business personalities, some of whom have died violently later.

SATANIC CHURCH HEAD

Its founder, Anton Szandor La Vey in April, 1966 shaved his head in the tradition of ancient strongmen and announced formation of the church. He put on a clerical collar and with his shaved head, satanic cut beard and narrow eyes, took on the proper demonic appearance to head the Devil's church.

The purpose of the gathering was to get together "a group of like-minded individuals for the use of their combined energies in calling up the dark force in nature that is called Satan," La Vey says in his paperback, pocket-sized Satanic Bible, which outsells the Holy Bible 100 to one in some sections of the country.

La Vey, 41, got the idea that the Devil is alive and popular with people

while playing the organ for carnival sideshows.

La Vey then went to work on formulating his religion, which serves as the antithesis to Christianity and its Judaic heritage.

The original intent of the back orders he studied was to blaspheme, mock the Christian church, and address themselves to the Devil as an anthropomorphic deity that represented the reverse of God.

By its own admission, "there is no altruism or love-thy-neighbor concept in the Satanic religion, except in the sense of helping other adherents of the Black Path to gain their desires by group energy.

"Satanism is a blatantly selfish, brutal religion," the "bible" states. "It is based on the belief that man is inherently a selfish, violent creature, that life is a Darwinian struggle for survival of the fittest, that the earth will be ruled by those who fight to win the ceaseless competition that exists in all jungles — including that of urban societies. On that score, the Church of Satan may be justly criticized, although even its critics will have to admit that its philosophy is based on logic and real conditions that exist in the world."

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

Applicants for membership are subjected to a questionnaire which asks:

"Have you gone out of your way to study occultism? If so, which aspect(s) interests you most? Do you own books on occult subjects? How many? Do you like horror films? Do you believe in the power or force that is termed "magic?" Do you think you are highly sexed? If you are a woman, would you consider serving as an altar for a ceremony? Is there anything you fear as a consequence of your involvement in Satanism?

On the back page of the application is the admonition "PLEASE DON'T FORGET YOUR APPLICATION FEE AND SNAPSHOT."

SATANIC STATEMENT

On a yellow sheet are the nine Satanic Statements:

1. Satan represents indulgence, instead of abstinence!

2. Satan represents vital existence, instead of spiritual pipe dreams!

3. Satan represents undefiled wisdom, instead of hypocritical self-deceit!

4. Satan represents kindness to those who deserve it, instead of love wasted on ingrates!

5. Satan represents vengeance, instead of turning the other cheek!

6. Satan represents responsibility to the responsible, instead of concern for psychic vampires!

7. Satan represents man as just another animal — sometimes better, more often worse than those that walk on all-fours, who, because of his "divine spiritual and intellectual development," has become the most vicious animal of all!

8. Satan represents all of the so called sins, as they all lead to physical, mental or emotional gratification!

9. Satan has been the best friend the Church has ever had, as he has kept it in business all these years!

CONDONES SEX

La Vey states that "Satanism condones any type of sexual activity which properly satisfies your individual desires — be it heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, or even asexual, if you choose.

"Satanism also sanctions any fetish or deviation which will enhance your sex life . . .

"Adherence to the sensible and humanistic new morality of Satanism can — and will — evolve society in which our children can grow up healthy and without the devastating moral encumbrances of our existing sick society."

The church of Satan, as the reader can see, is the antithesis of Christianity. Its beliefs are an outrage, blasphemous to those who know Jesus Christ. It is easy for anyone with a smattering of decency to see the selfishness, lust, power and hateful overtones of this so-called "church."

If Christians see the obvious flaws in Satanism and readily reject La Vey's

self-indulgence, anti-Christ philosophy, why should they be concerned about the growth and increasing popularity of this force?

WHY BE CONCERNED

Concerned citizens and Christians should be alerted about the Satanic influences for several reasons, according to Rev. Morris Cerullo, founder of the San Diego youth Action Center:

1. Satanism poses a threat to the values that have long held the fabric of our society together.

These are the values known as love of our fellow man, belief in God, abstinence from overindulgence, moderation, fair play, respect for the rights of other, liberty and freedom.

When one embraces the selfish philosophy of the Satanist church, one is rejecting those positive values that come with the humanitarian respect for others.

Satanism reduces man to a selfish animal, greedy and lustful.

Improving the lot of mankind on this earth is impossible when we think only of ourselves. Christian commitment, Christ's love teaches us that we must love others as ourselves. A life that is based solely on "me first" quickly resorts to a low form of barbarism.

2. Satanism's growth is a sign of the decay that threatens to cripple the moral fiber of any strong nation. America was built on individualism, but not the kind of individualism proposed by La Vey. America's forefathers made no bones about their belief in God, their dependence upon the Almighty to forge ahead in building the greatest nation on the face of the earth.

Allowing the philosophy of Satanism to permeate society is like gradually poisoning the body of the nation. Satanism promotes a brand of permissiveness which is inconsistent with promoting individual responsibility for the improvement of the individual or fellow man.

3. Satanism attracts, and encourages anti-social behavior. While La Vey attempts to cover up and deny that the church would encourage anyone to murder or wrong others, nonetheless its rituals encourage hate. Nothing or little is said about the real power of love.

The mentally unbalanced who follow it go off the deep end committing crimes.

(Courtesy of Morris Cerullo Evangelism.)

WHAT CITIZENS CAN DO TO STEM WITCHCRAFT

What can citizens do to stem the rising tide of witchcraft?

That is a question being asked frequently as the far-reaching effects of this dangerous practice becomes blatantly obvious.

"There is something you can do if you're concerned," according to Dr. Morris Cerullo, president of The San Diego youth Action Center.

"To do something about it, one must first be aware of its existence. After becoming aware of the situation," Rev. Cerullo said, "The next step is to educate yourself and your friends to the dangers."

He listed 12 additional pertinent steps which the concerned individual might take.

1. Write letters to newspaper and magazine editors criticizing their use of horoscopes, columns and articles glamorizing witchcraft. Encourage editors to investigate the seriousness of the occult problem and to run articles on it.

2. Sponsor occult awareness programs at churches. Get the churches of the community educated to the problem and seek joint action against occult trouble spots.

3. Boycott stores which sell items dealing with the occult. Let store owners know of your boycott via letters, telephone calls or personal visits. Group or club boycotts are even more effective than individual boycotts.

4. Investigate to see if occult subjects are being taught in your schools. Protest the teaching of occult courses in tax supported schools to the local school board and to the state superintendent of schools. To find out if the occult is being taught as a course, check with students and school administrators for the latter has been known to keep this information confidential.

5. Report suspicious persons and activities to the police. People conducting meetings during full moon nights could be practicing witchcraft and blood sacrifices. Also, any person

carrying finger or arm bones as jewelry or pocket items, should be reported for investigation.

6. Seek to have age limitations established on those who may check occult books out of the local library. Many of the how-to-do it sex books are handled in this manner with great success. Also point out to the library board such a system would curtail stealing of the books which has been a big problem.

7. Write legislative leaders opposing federal, state or local funding to underwrite occult programs in schools or research projects. Seek legislation to keep occultism from being taught in schools.

8. Initiate school "occult stop" seminars. Get a team of students together who are ex-occultists to visit schools giving educational seminars on the subject. Your team should be composed of Christians since they are the only ones who really know how to deal with these spiritual forces.

9. Keep media opinion makers and civic leaders posted of the occult problem, so they will not endorse or glamorize it. Protest to the FCC about television and radio witchcraft shows or if fair treatment was not given to both sides of the situation.

10. Get women's clubs and other service organizations to sponsor knowledgeable speakers on the subject. Often occultism develops through the mentioned groups who frequently book occult speakers, so there is no better place to nip it than in these same groups.

11. Write or picket movie houses that show offensive occult films. Parents should screen the movie ads closely to be sure their children are not attending such films.

12. Pray for or with those involved in the occult. Jesus is the only effective answer to delivering the occult depressed and oppressed.

(Courtesy of Morris Cerullo Evangelism.)

Flying High With The Vice President



By Eugene Workman

Carl Markham in one Free Will Baptist who is flying high with Vice President Spiro Agnew.

The Tennessean can't help but fly high with Agnew since he is co-piloting the Boeing 727 American Airlines jet carrying Secret Service men and news reporters accompanying Agnew in his bid for reelection to the number two post in the United States.

Although he did not disclose his personal political affiliation, Markham spoke quite enthusiastically of his role in the Republican's current election efforts. He is a co-pilot with one of the Nashville based American Airlines crews who are flying the news media and Secret Service men assigned to Mr. Agnew as he tours the country in his appeal for votes for the presidential ticket and other Republicans. The plane has been dubbed, The Kimberly, named for Agnew's daughter. The plane carrying Agnew also is manned by veteran crews based in Nashville.

The two planes, especially equipped with telephones and office space, each have two crews, with one crew on duty with the vice president while the other is off-duty in Nashville. Markham said he bid for his position on a crew and

that it was awarded according to seniority with American Airlines.

Markham, who is chairman of the deacon board and treasurer of the Donelson Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, began his role in the current election campaign September 18. To be involved in a presidential campaign in this manner did not cross the mind of the Kentucky native when he became a part of the American Airlines family in 1965. Having graduated from Los Angeles Junior College, he was attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville when he decided to utilize his flight experience in the Air Force for a career with American.

The vice presidential assignment went to Nashville men, including four pilots, four co-pilots and four flight engineers, because the most experienced senior 727 pilots and career flight engineers are based here, airlines officials said. Markham said that the pilots take refresher courses about every three years in order to maintain and update that experience.

The Vice President requires a 727 in his travels from one American city to another during this election campaign because it is big enough for his needs but can land on the short runways that some airports have.

In 1968, Agnew also chartered American planes for his first campaign of national prominence. However, crews based in Chicago flew those planes. The Republican Party has chartered American planes for many years.

Markham stated that he had not meet the Vice President personally. However, a pilot friend described him as a "fabulous" man who "keeps a very rigorous schedule, making three and four speeches a day, but he is still smiling and doesn't seem to let anything upset him."

"All the people traveling on the vice president's plane are well organized and working all the time," another pilot observed, "and Mr. Agnew had all the Bloody Marys thrown off with nothing left for them to drink except ginger ale and cokes."

Markham said that a vast majority of the pilots are conservative but they are not all Christians. "It is just like almost any place a man works, the Christians are in the minority."

Markham bids on flights each month which will allow him to be home for the Sunday services at the Donelson Church. And, he said he is usually successful at least three week-ends each month.

It was in 1965, just a few months after he moved to the Donelson community, that a knock on his door by the Reverend Rolla Smith, then pastor of the Donelson Church, introduced Markham to the ministry of this church and Free Will Baptists. Since the denomination with which he and his family had been affiliated did not have a church in Nashville, they had been searching unsuccessfully for a church home. The Donelson Church was the end of that search.

Asked if there were any extra benefits to flying with the Vice President, Markham said he had just returned from a four day "working vacation" in Palm Springs, California where he had leisurely waited for Agnew to resume his campaign tour. In the meantime, good eats and interesting sights were his to enjoy at Agnew's expense.



CHECKING FLIGHT LOG — Co-pilot Carlos Markham, right, and Pilot James Adkins check the flight log for a campaign trip with Mr. Agnew.

THE CHURCH'S ROLE IN RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

By Leroy Forlines

In continuing the series on the causes of "cheap-easy believism," I would like to discuss the problem of church sponsored recreation and entertainment. Let me make it clear from the beginning that I am not taking a totally negative view toward church sponsored entertainment. I am, however, of the opinion that some serious attempts need to be made toward reducing the risks involved in church sponsored entertainment.

The point of primary interest in this article is the matter of how church sponsored entertainment has contributed to cheap-easy believism. At its very heart, Christianity is serious. It deals with redemption from sin, its penalty, and its ruin. On the other hand, recreation is at its very heart light. Its very purpose is to bring relaxation and fun. I am not saying that Christianity does not have a place for the light side. It does, but it must never be allowed to tone down the serious side of Christianity. The mission of the church is a serious one. It calls for sorrow, repentance, compassion, suffering, endurance, and the bearing of burdens.

The problem is this: is there not a risk that the lightness of entertainment may so permeate church life that those so affected may develop a shallow, superficial concept of Christianity. The church cannot tolerate such a concept. The salvation relationship with God through Jesus Christ is serious and must be taken seriously. We can make some allowances for those who are young, but being saved and serving God is serious business for people of all ages. It takes more than quoting "Jesus saves" and a few popular slogans to be a Christian. When a person is brought into the fellowship of the lightness of church sponsored entertainment, but is not brought into fellowship with the burden of convictions against sin, compassion for souls, and the wrestling with the powers of darkness, he will inevitably have a shallow concept of Christianity, a shallow or superficial experience, and promote the same. The church cannot

afford this. Whatever validity there may be in church sponsored recreation and entertainment, the moral and spiritual tone of the church must overshadow it. Those involved in the recreation and entertainment must be introduced to the seriousness of worshipping and serving a holy God. If this cannot be done, a recreation and entertainment program is a liability the church cannot afford. To continue with such will inevitably aid and abet the heresy of cheap-easy believism which offers salvation by faith with no significant change of heart and life.

GIMMICKS AND MUSIC

The use of gimmicks and some types of church music needs to be placed under the same scrutiny as entertainment and recreation so far as contributing to the shallow and superficial are concerned. The use of prizes with discretion may have a place in the church, but when gimmicks introduce the ridiculous and absurd into the church a problem is created that a good sermon will not fully off-set. Carnal people who never really tune in on the real seriousness of what it is to be a Christian will be hanging around to see what will happen next. This would not be so serious were it not for the fact that the carnality of these people is so contagious and spreads so rapidly. Remember you can be orthodox on every other doctrine, except the doctrine that salvation brings a definite change into the heart and life of every believer that introduces him to the seriousness of worshipping and serving God, and be preaching heresy. The idea that a person can be forgiven of his sin by faith in Jesus without having his heart and life changed is not true. It is false doctrine.

The problem of church music may not have an easy answer. There are some things that may be used some, but if overdone are a liability. Personally, I would put gospel choruses in this category. They are too light to fill very much of the musical diet without leaving the impression that we are skipping and hopping our way to heaven. The main musical diet of

Christians must remain the great gospel songs and hymns of the church. Christians need to be acquainted with the side of the Christian life depicted by "Am I a Soldier of the Cross?" which ends by saying:

Sure I must fight, if I would reign;
Increase my courage, Lord;
I'll bear the toil endure the pain,
Supported by Thy Word.

While some types of music may be good for limited use, there are other kinds that should not be used at all. Rock and roll fits into this category. Many people also are wondering about some other types of modern music. Can they be used to accompany the Christian message without doing detriment to the cause of Christ? The answer may not always be easy, but it should come from people who have deep convictions and depth of discernment. We dare not let the shallow and light hearted determine our policies.

There is another way in which church sponsored entertainment and recreation sometimes contribute to cheap-easy believism. Shallow convictions are a manifestation of a shallow experience or a lack of any real Christian experience. Whatever happens at church sponsored occasions that is either condoned or not seriously challenged is considered in the eyes of observers as having semi-official church approval. Entertainment and recreation have a tendency to introduce questionable things if they are not kept under strong controls. For example, the dress at ball games and socials in many cases may not be fitting for a church sponsored occasion if controls are not strong. When this is allowed to happen, the church allows its semi-official stamp to be placed on the cheap and in some cases the immoral. All of this make it hard to get people to have deep convictions against sin. The sinner finds it hard to see himself as a sinner under the wrath of God and in need of the blood of Christ for the forgiveness of his sins. He finds it hard to see the need of a drastic change in his life if he sees the life of church people differing so little from his own. It is easy for him to be misled into thinking he can quote a prayer prescribed by somebody, pick up a few slogans used by church people and join the crowd and think he has been saved. This may happen with no real change in his heart and life. We dare not let church sponsored recreation lower our standards. If we cannot avoid this, we would be better off without it. We must rid ourselves of the false gospel of "cheap-easy believism." ▲

HOW TO TRAIN WORKERS FOR YOUR CHURCH

By Jerry Dudley

To do anything properly, we must know how. We don't have to be very bright to understand this. There is probably not a pastor who has not experienced a session in which he approaches someone to work in a specific project or in some department or phase of the church's program and meet a somewhat classic answer, "I'd be happy to help; but I just don't know what to do." How many Sunday school superintendents get an answer like this, "Oh, I'd be happy to teach but I'm just not qualified and besides Mrs. Doe can do a much better job than I."

Someone has suggested that we face three basic problems in utilizing people in the service of Christ through the church: misuse, disuse and abuse. The first is a reference to the employing of unqualified teachers and workers. The second, to the many uninvolved Christians that throng our church pews. And the last to the problem of overburdened workers in the church.

In a very real sense, most of the specific answers which can be given to the question of why there is a shortage of church workers categorize into problems which are either spiritual or organizational. The spiritual problems direct attention to the individual Christian and his relationship to Jesus Christ, while the organizational problem focuses on the program itself and on deficiencies which hinder rather than promote recruitment of workers and training them.

I. RECRUITING WORKERS

Recruiting workers is a very distinct part of Christian service to the church. The demanding passage of Matt. 9:35-38 indicates that the necessity of harvesting laborers began with Jesus Christ and continues through the present. One reason for the shortage of

workers in the church is that *Christians are inconsistent to their responsibility of service*. Such a person has never come to grips with the demands Christ makes upon his time, talent, and being.

Other workers lack confidence in their ability to teach or lead. This may be the result of a failure in either the spiritual or organizational structure of our churches. One worker in our church indicated that she had absolutely no talent. After attending a teacher training class, became convinced that she, too, would be able to teach, she has made one of our finest primary teachers. She simply had to be convinced that she could work.

Another problem is lack of consecration and unwillingness to put His work first. The most common excuse offered by potential church leaders is "I don't have time." Many times this is an invalid excuse because this same person has time for pleasure and materialistic enterprises.

Others misunderstand what we ask them to do. Every potential leader should ask what, how long, how often, and extensive are the duties expected of them. Therefore, a job analysis of all tasks is an obvious need.

Poor organization robs us of many fine leaders. The business world spends millions of dollars recruiting new talent. They enlist, train, and retain those who do a job well. Competent workers and leaders seldom come seeking a job. We must be so organized so as to seek out and effectively use the ability of every person.

We must sensitize people to the call of God and praying for them is a part of the biblical spiritual methodology of recruiting workers. Lastly, *some have just never been asked*. Many of our finest workers are sitting idle on our pews because nobody has asked them to work and if we do, it is something they didn't want to do or don't know how.

Proper techniques for securing workers can best be summed up by

conducting a complete need and task survey. Then paralleling this survey would be a talent and ability survey. This can be accomplished by a simple survey of the church membership. Secondly, we must continually promote and instruct our people in the total task of the church. This is done by sermons from the pulpit, bulletin board announcements, church bulletins, church papers or personal interviews. Most important is that every position in the church must relate to the church's task of reaching souls and equipping them for effective service. Thus we must make our approach "person-centered."

II. ESTABLISHING AN ATMOSPHERE FOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING

We must understand the basic cause involved in training by determining why we need trained leaders. It has been argued that God calls a person and then equips them by the power of the Holy Spirit and we are getting rid of God's program by trying to train on a human level. Yet, the Bible indicates that Jesus trained his disciples, Paul trained Silas, Barnabas trained Timothy, Moses trained Joshua. Therefore, a distinctive part in leadership training is to provide other leaders. A good leader, worker, and soul winner, when trained, will be given a job. Then we must turn them loose and let them work. In other words, we must learn to delegate responsibility. Expect and demand that this responsibility be carried and the work completed. This does not mean that every person in the church should be trained for every job in the church. But we should establish an atmosphere that people will want to do the best job possible for Jesus Christ. Workers who know what to do and how to do it are happy workers doing a good job and accomplishing the most. This means convincing people of their ability, creating a desire, and providing adequate opportunity for training.

III. ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM OF WORKER TRAINING

The first step in establishing a program of worker training is to determine the content of the program. The scriptural content must be adequate and appropriate. Methodology must be balanced with theology. The theology must contain the basic fundamentals of evangelical doctrine and our denominational distinctives. We should train our people by teaching them our own church history, missions in God's plan, Modernism and its apostasy, the cults and their heresy. Of course, we will teach them personal soul winning, both the why and how, as well as the organizational and administration structure of our church.

A vital factor in establishing our program is structuring our program. We should first outline all our aims. Ross and Hendry in their booklet entitled "New Understanding of Leadership" list these aims.

- A. Inventory of possible leaders based on intimate contact.
- B. Audit all tasks requiring workers.
- C. Determine your method for securing and placing workers.
- D. Develop a framework for appraising both the task and the worker.
- E. Develop a program of supervision.
- F. Develop the necessary study courses.

Who teaches in the program is of vital importance. We should make every effort possible to secure the finest teachers possible for every course we teach.

We should utilize every effective method available. Such methods are the coaching plan, apprentice training, workshops, specialized classes, conferences, and cycling and continuing class work.

Last but not least is giving recognition to every worker for a job well done. Encourage them to set goals, win souls, and do their job well and show them our deep appreciation.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mr. Dudley shared this insight in the training of church workers with the pastors and laymen present for the special session designed for them at the 1972 National Association of Free Will Baptists in Fort Worth, Texas. He is the pastor of the Southern Oaks Free Will Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. ▲



By R. Eugene Waddell

what's your problem?

QUESTION: I need a clarification of our church's position on marriage between first cousins. The Bible confuses me on this (1 Corinthians 5:12,13). Is it too late for me?

ANSWER: To my knowledge there is no statement in the treatise or Bible forbidding marriage between first cousins.

Jacob and his wives were first cousins. But people nowadays raise questions about it. Perhaps their feelings arise from the rarity of the occurrence.

Perhaps you should consider the question as to how your kinship may affect your children, if the two of you should become parents. There is considerable scientific proof that when cousins marry and have children, their offspring are highly subject to inherit the defects of the family.

I understand that some states prohibit marriage between cousins for that reason. I would suggest you discuss this question with your physician and seek to learn your state's legal stand.

QUESTION: I want to assure you first of all that I am a Christian. But I have a problem, a serious problem. At times, I become deeply depressed. The only way out seems to be taking my own life. I don't want to commit suicide but I'm afraid I might lose control of myself sometime and kill myself. Can you help me?

ANSWER: Your problem sounds like an attack from the devil. As we know, Christians are not immune from Satan's attacks. He can take advantage of circumstances and weaknesses to damage God's children.

You didn't give any details as to what makes you feel so depressed. But we know that depression can be traced to physical problems. Sometimes men and women grow older and find it difficult to adjust to life's changes and demands. A disappointment, loss or death can lead to thoughts of suicide.

You have taken one good step toward help by recognizing your need. Follow through by discussing these feelings with your pastor and possibly your doctor. Ask God to give you a mature Christian friend to whom you can turn in hours of despondency. Don't try to handle this problem alone.

Most important, turn to God for help. Allow Him to encourage you through the great truths of His Word. He loves you. He has a meaningful plan for your life. Spiritual success rests on His faithfulness — not on your feelings.

Accept each day's opportunity for service, however small or large, remembering He promises His presence and power to those following His will. Don't sit alone and brood but reach out to others who are in need — especially the unsaved.

Since your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, consciously invite the Lord to take full control of your body and mind.

Although you may be passing through a dark tunnel, be assured that the bright light of God's glory shines at the other end. ▲

Readers may address their questions to Mr. Waddell at P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Please limit each question to one specific topic. There will be no personal correspondence regarding those questions which are not used in the magazine. The column will not necessarily be considered the official voice of the denomination relative to the problems involved.



WORDS FOR WOMEN

God In His World

By Mrs. D. W. Key

The creative purpose of God is evident in His handiwork. He chooses to display something of His glory through the visible heavens, (Psalm 19:1-6). Many of the attributes of our God can be traced in the magnificence and order of His creation. Dr. H. Guy Moore in his book, *The Christian Life* says: "Wherever we look — from the farthest star to the tiniest flower, to the inner world of the atom — we find our finest mood in the spirit of praise."

The astronomers tell us that the heavens we see are only a small part of the thousands of galaxies extending into fathomless space. In our smallness, we behold His greatness and exclaim with the composer, "O Lord my God, how great thou art."

So clearly is God revealed in creation that the apostle Paul tells the Romans: "His eternal power and divinity have been made intelligible and clearly discernable in and through the things that have been made — His handiwork" (Rom. 1:20, Amplified New Testament).

The inference might well be made that a man who has sight should recognize and acknowledge the Creator.

The world waited breathlessly as final plans were made to send astronaut John Glenn on his historic trip through space. During his flight, through means of television and radio, persons around the world listened eagerly to every word concerning him. Prayers of anxiety were sent up to God before and during his flight; prayers of gratitude went heavenward when the news was released that his mission had been successfully completed. The first American ever to be projected into space had circled the globe three times in approximately five hours.

John Glenn probably saw more of God's universe than any of us will ever see. According to scientists, however, he actually saw only a small part of the whole.

Astronomers speak in terms of several solar systems and millions of

stars. Many of these stars are so far away that light traveling at a speed of 186,000 miles per second takes many years to reach the earth. The firmament is filled with great mysteries, yet we know so little about them.

The visitor making a tour of the capital city can tell whether or not the President is in Washington. He is told by the guide that the flag flies at the White House if the President is at home, but that the flag is not displayed when the President is out of the city. Look up, friend, and you will see that God is forever flying his starry flag to tell the world that the King is at home and His guiding hand is on the affairs of men.

Just as Psalm 19, verses 1-6, brought us face to face with the greatness of God by giving us a glimpse of the glory of the universe, Psalm 95, verses 1-8a and 148, brings us to our knees in deep humility, worshiping the great God who created and governs it.

A CALL TO WORSHIP — Man is thrown to his knees in humility as he thinks about the goodness and the greatness of God. Psalm 95 is a call to worship. Individual worship is important; family prayer is inspiring; but the psalmist knew that nothing could take the place of cooperative worship. He used the plural pronoun "us" in his call to worship. Because of his greatness, God is deserving of our thanks and our worship.

Can we truly say that we have worshiped when we call on God to help us in times of distress? Does worship consist only of asking His blessings on us in our daily living? Seeking God's help is certainly included, but that is not all of worship. True worship involves our love and adoration for God. This is the kind of worship to which the 95th Psalm calls us.

WHY WORSHIP? — The psalmist gave us the reason for worship. Our "Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods." The psalmist did not mean to attribute any real existence to the gods of the pagan. He was

expressing the pre-eminence of God over any and all objects of heathen worship. He spoke of God as the rock of our salvation, denoting his steadfastness and unchangeable nature. Happiness and joy are key words.

WE ARE HIS PEOPLE — what a happy thought! He has chosen us and we are His. Verse 7 draws us quickly to our knees in humble gratitude. He is our God; we are His people; we are the sheep of His hand. The Oriental shepherd often tended his sheep with his own hand. This Psalm gives us the assurance that God, our shepherd, has the same relationships with us.

We Christians are His chosen people. The heavens declare His glory; we declare that He is our guide. The firmament proclaims the work of His hands; we proclaim that He is our Father and we are His children. The earth and the sea acknowledge His ownership; we acknowledge His lordship.

Why do we worship Him? Because we must.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Key, a widow, is an active member of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church of Bryan, Texas. She shared these thoughts in a recent Sunday school assembly.

The Contribution Of A Mule

By Mary R. Wisheart

Even the mules have made their contribution to Free Will Baptist education. In October, 1921, the Cumberland Association of Tennessee authorized its Board of Education to raise \$25,000 in the next five years. One day after a service at Bethel Church a man, not a member of the church, came up the pastor, G. W. Fambrough, and told him that he would like to give a mule to the drive. The article added, "It goes without saying that Brother Fambrough was glad to accept it with thanks and said as soon as a vault big enough became empty he would deposit it in the bank. However, he has since sold the mule for \$125 and deposited the money instead."

This gem appears in a paper titled *Words of Life*, published in Nashville,

PAUL WAS A "SEPARATED" MAN

By Dr. Robert Picirilli

Paul was an unusual man. We would be hard put to name anyone who ever accomplished so much as he in the Lord's work. For that reason, it is interesting, from time to time, to notice how he thinks of himself. The expressions he uses about himself will often give us helpful insight into the story behind his success.

One particular expression has attracted my attention recently, the word "separated." Now this particular word, in Greek, is *not* the one which means withdrawal, nor is it the one which means set apart or holy. This one has nothing to do with separation from sin. I have no doubt that Paul was "separated" in that sense, but the one I refer to in this column is a different kind of separatedness.

The Greek word used in the expressions I have in mind is *aphorizo*. This word is itself a compound of two roots, the *orizo* part coming from a word meaning "a boundary-line," and the *aph* coming from a preposition meaning "off." Literally, then, the verb

gems

from the
Greek New Testament

aphorizo means "to mark off a boundary-line."

Notice, first, Galatians 1:15, where Paul indicates that at his conversion he somehow understood that God had "separated" him even from the time he came out of his mother's womb. In other words, Paul means God had drawn a boundary-line around him since his birth. God had marked Paul out to be His servant since he came into this world.

Naturally, we will not understand this to mean some sort of mysterious and blind predestination that laid hold of Paul against his will. But, we will see it as an indication that God had His eye on Paul all of Paul's life, and Paul did not know it until he received Jesus. When he was converted, he became aware that God had always had a purpose for him, and that he would only now begin to

fulfill that purpose. He realized that the providential hand of God had lovingly steered him, since his birth, toward that very hour and toward the divinely-selected place of service.

Many of us have been able to look back over our pre-conversion experiences and come to the same conclusion. How tragic are those who continue to reject Jesus and never come to such a blessed awareness that God has staked out a place for them, too, in His vineyard of service!

Now look to Romans 1:1 for another use Paul makes of this same word, speaking of himself as one "separated unto the gospel of God." In other words, his life's purpose was staked out. The boundaries were marked off, clearly, and within those boundaries was a place of service for the gospel. Paul's life was off-limits, we might say, to anything but the carrying of the gospel. Compare the same word in Acts 13:2.

Paul's success is thus the more clearly understood. He was a man conscious that God had marked him out for His service. Consequently, his life was marked out for the ministry of the Gospel. Such consciousness of divine choice, and commitment to one service, are apt to create an attitude for success in any man. ▲

Tennessee. The masthead states that it was published monthly in the interest of the Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville and the Cumberland Association. John L. Welch was the editor. The first issue appeared October, 1920, and the paper continued until November, 1922, with some issues missing because of a lack of funds or pressing duties.

Although *Words of Life* made no claim to reach farther than the Cumberland Association of Tennessee, there were some subscribers in other places, for example S. H. Styron wrote from Pineville, N. C. The paper was largely eclectic, printing articles from various other sources. It included also original articles, ranging from poetry by Stanley Gower to an address by Miss Mary Patton, delivered at the Ladies' Aid Convention in 1921.

Women were well represented by announcements concerning Ladies' Aid, letters and articles. One such article, headed "Our Debt to Womanhood" began "Down through the ages, woman has been the civilizer of man." It ends with two questions: "What are you doing for the elevation of womanhood

HISTORY CORNER

in the world of religion? Do you believe, with some of our brethren of the non-missionary persuasion, that she should be seen and not heard, or do you believe that she has a worthy place side by side, at least, with the men of the congregation?" An article called "Who's Big Sister Are You?" and signed, simply "A Woman," made the point that women were meeting the responsibility, authority, and opportunities given to them, but was still considered the "weaker" sex in health reports. The writer suggested that "Girls should be trained the same as boys. The right sort of girl is a tom-boy. She enjoys running, climbing trees and other active sports. It is girls of this sort who develop into real women... The clinging vine style of womanhood has been left in the distant past."

Church news and announcements, letters to the editor, and a children's department were a regular part of this paper. Not everything was grave or serious, for the paper usually contained

some laugh lines, such as an advertisement for the Boston *Transcript*: "For Sale — Elegant home, all improvements, fish pond and running water in house." There was also food for thought, such as "Deep breathing increases the will power;" or a comforting thought, "Smiles, at least, haven't risen in price."

Several events of historical importance appear in its pages. The November, 1920 issue mentioned the organization of Tennessee State Ladies' Aid Societies on October 28. The March, 1921 issue cited the organization of the Free Will Baptist League one year before at Cofer's Chapel Church.

In June, 1921, the paper announced a meeting of delegates from Alabama, Georgia, Ohio, North Carolina and Tennessee in Nashville to organize a national convention of Free Will Baptists of the United States. This organization was the General Conference of Free Will Baptists, later known as the Eastern General Conference.

Our copies of this early Free Will Baptist magazine came to us from the collection of Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Welch.

FAIR EVANGELISTS SAY "GIDDAP" TO SALVATION

GILL, COLORADO (EP) — At Colorado county fairs this year, Child Evangelism Fellowship workers introduced an innovation that resulted in good fruit for their evangelistic labors.

A team of ponies pulling a small

stagecoach gave rides to hundreds of children. The stagecoach took them to "Storyland" where they heard the story of the Gospel through the device of the "Wordless Book."

Some 218 youngsters reportedly received Christ through this effort.

Thank You for Your Gifts to the . . .

COOPERATIVE PLAN OF SUPPORT September 1972

RECEIPTS:

State	Sept. '72		Sept. '71	Yr. to Date
	Co-op	Design.		
Alabama	\$. . .		\$ 84.13	\$ 4,023.68
Arizona	. . .		. . .	2,040.46
Arkansas	848.51		1,798.64	8,554.80
California	701.42	(109.08)	665.63	5,609.14
Colorado	. . .		20.71	25.12
Florida	1,299.06		715.24	5,447.80
Georgia	829.12		600.48	5,546.17
Idaho	. . .		. . .	287.42
Illinois	819.72		796.28	9,526.68
Indiana	. . .		. . .	227.69
Kansas	. . .		198.90	1,258.00
Kentucky	151.25	(151.25)	281.63	1,855.23
Maryland	31.16		. . .	259.09
Michigan	. . .		. . .	560.68
Minnesota	54.79		48.57	499.43
Mississippi	22.29		46.61	590.04
Missouri	2,333.36	(2,333.36)	2,290.71	22,980.33
New Mexico	. . .		51.70	34.48
North Carolina	. . .		112.50	465.31
North West Assoc.	. . .		. . .	420.40
Ohio	839.39		44.28	4,868.91
Oklahoma	1,458.21		2,097.25	22,179.75
Tennessee	86.00		294.44	1,560.45
Texas	157.67		264.57	1,212.65
Virginia	26.57		29.27	384.69
West Virginia	25.00		20.00	120.00
Wyoming	. . .		. . .	36.46
Totals	\$ 9,683.52		\$ 10,461.54	\$100,574.86

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Dept.	\$ 3,245.03	(474.58)	\$ 3,434.74	\$ 29,434.96
Foreign Missions	2,116.21	(819.54)	2,302.98	23,011.78
Bible College	1,735.55	(520.94)	1,925.60	19,442.31
Home Missions	1,299.60	(528.14)	1,311.02	13,640.12
Church Training Serv.	563.77	(131.83)	655.73	6,779.64
Retirement & Ins.	424.66	(79.10)	478.75	4,784.19
Layman's Board	229.16	(13.19)	276.95	2,696.23
Commission on Theolog- ical Liberalism	69.54	(26.37)	75.77	746.51
Misc.	. . .		. . .	39.12
Totals	\$ 9,683.52		\$ 10,461.54	\$100,574.86

JUDGE CUTS OFF FUNDS FOR BOB JONES U PROGRAMS

COLUMBIA, S.C. (EP) — A federal judge here has ordered termination of Bob Jones University's right to participate in programs of the federal government, such as assistance for veterans and their dependents.

The reason given by Judge Michael E. Hanrahan was that the religiously oriented institution in Greenville, S.C., is "not in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964."

The order, dated Sept. 12, denies approval of enrollment under the Vocational Rehabilitation, Veterans Educational Assistance, War Orphans and Widows Educational Assistance and Administration of Education Assistance Programs. The order also ends payment of reporting fees authorized in the law cited, and BJU's right to participate in any new contracts for the training of veterans under the law. Also stopped by the order is any federal financial assistance under the National Science Foundation Act of 1958.

BJU, noted Judge Hanrahan, has not applied for, nor received, direct federal financial assistance except a reporting fee involved in the VA programs. He said there are no Negro students at BJU and observed that it is the university's "admitted policy to exclude black persons from the student body." He said BJU authorities have repeatedly failed and refused to sign assurances that the school would adopt an admissions policy which did not discriminate on the basis of race, color or national origin.

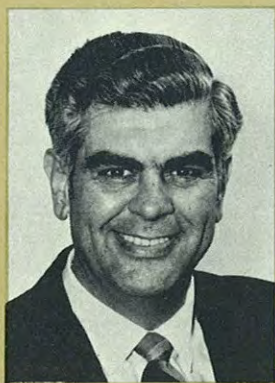
Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 provides that: "No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

President Bob Jones III had appeared as the only witness, stating that the school's policy on race prevails because it feels social contact among the races leads to intermarriage which is contrary to the Word of God. To sign a statement of compliance, Dr. Jones said, would be to "sign away all future rights."

Dr. Jones said, of the action, "It is nothing less than religious persecution." He told newsmen here that BJU officials were not surprised at the decision and that "effective action" to reverse the order is being planned.

KOREA — NEXT EXPLO SITE

MODESTO, Calif. (EP) — Dr. Bill Bright, who organized the Explo '72 gathering of young people in Dallas, said here that the next Explo would be held in Korea in 1974 and that the attendance goal for it would be 300,000. ▲



by the
Executive Secretary
Rufus Coffey

Missions On The Home Front

This is Home Missions month among Free Will Baptists. It is so designated in order to focus greater attention on this particular ministry. Traditionally, it has also become a time to give a special Thanksgiving offering toward spreading the Gospel in North America. Oftentimes the task of reaching those in our homeland has been ignored or considered secondary in importance. However, several factors indicate that more of our people are seeing the need for augmenting our efforts to evangelize our continent.

Declining morals, increased wickedness, false religions and other Satanic forces have given rise to a new paganism in America. Added to the spiritual decline is the loss of dynamics among liberal churches which has left them impotent to stem the tide of paganism. Consequently, Free Will Baptist, like the majority of conservative churches, are becoming more conscious of their responsibility to reach North America for Christ. They are the only hope.

In his book "Why Conservative Churches Are Growing," Dean M. Kelly, Director of Civil and Religious Liberty for the National Council of Churches, verifies what many have long assumed. While the larger denominations with a more liberal, ecumenically inclined orientation are declining in membership, churches which hold to a conservative and separatist position are growing. Conservative churches are able to attain a greater degree of cohesion, vitality and functional effectiveness because of their dynamic thrust. On the other hand, an anemic position of tolerance and openness to other beliefs and a willingness to enter into dialogue concerning various views has tended to weaken instead of strengthen liberally minded churches. Strong commitments to a position and a group, along with high demands in discipline and a fervent evangelistic spirit, are characteristics of those churches which are growing rapidly. As a conservative church body we can be grateful to God that we have

the message and the motive to evangelize our nation.

Furthermore, a maturing concept of missions has enabled us to put the Great Commission in a more proper perspective. Our mission response is becoming more an act of obedience rather than an emotional or personality appeal. The effectiveness of our missions education program is seen by the fact that more people recognize that world evangelism cannot be completed if we neglect or exclude our own nation.

Conferences on evangelism and the ministry of a larger number of home and foreign missionaries have stimulated a greater zeal for winning the lost everywhere. More believers have come to realize the superficiality of their commitment to missions if they are not personally involved in reaching souls wherever possible.

This growing vision and concern for our homeland is seen by the number of states that have adopted a specific home mission project. And it is not just the larger states which are actively promoting the establishment of churches. Several smaller states, such as Kansas and Indiana, are sponsoring a mission work. States with a smaller constituency and more limited resources are combining their energies and resources to establish a witness for Christ.

State letters to the National Association reflects the extent of our home mission outreach. This past year there was an addition of 47 churches in 15 states. However, this three per cent increase is offset by the discouraging fact that nine states reported a loss of 24 churches. Despite this relatively small net gain of 23 churches, it is encouraging and gratifying to see a measure of progress by a majority of state associations.

Support for home mission work continues to rise. The National Home Missions Office reports record offerings of approximately \$27,000 for the month of September. In comparison to an average of just over \$65 a month when the mission board was first organized and considering the September offering was almost as much as that given for the whole year in 1957, we see how much we have progressed.

The continued advance of Home Missions and Church Extension is heartening. But we are far from reaching our full potentials. More adequate support and additional missionary personnel are urgently needed if we are to glorify the Lord. A more concerted effort is needed to enlarge our witness in North America. Greater priority must be given to broadening our home base if we are to expand our world witness.

More intensified prayer is imperative. Specific requests should be made for more workers. We must join in asking God to call experienced men out of comfortable pastorates to build more churches in the neglected cities of America.

We particularly appeal to the churches to respond generously to the financial needs. Funds are needed to erase several deficit missionary accounts. And the expansion of home missions is contingent upon increased support. Each church would do well to receive a special Thanksgiving offering this month and designate it for National Home Missions.

Souls in North America are just as precious to the Saviour as anywhere else in the world. When each believer understands that "all nations" also includes Canada, Mexico, the islands of the Caribbean and the United States he will give greater priority to the task of evangelizing these nations. ▲

VIEWPOINT

CONTACT

P. O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

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Editor-in-Chief / Rufus Coffey
Administrative Editor / Eugene Workman
Circulation / Lucy Boyle, Jean Stone



NOTES from the Editor

Eugene Workman

A psychology magazine recently came across my desk unsolicited. While thumbing through it, an advertisement caught my attention. The ad was offering a complete 78-card deck of "authentic" Tarot Cards free if one would accept a trial membership in The Mystic Arts Book Society.

The Tarot Cards are said to be used in divination, character analysis, fortune telling and in personal and financial guidance. The ad said "Science insists Tarot Cards cannot work-but is at a loss

to explain why they do."

Personally, I had never heard of Tarot Cards until about a year ago when the occult began to leap into prominence. But if a Christian had never heard of these cards, a closer examination of the descriptions of recent Society selections would convince him that if the cards complimented or compared with the books, both were of the devil. *The Cult Of Desire* is described as an "uncensored photographic report of Indian sect which sought higher spiritual powers through what the U.S. Govt. stigmatized as illegal aberrant sexual positions." How about *The Book Of The Dead* which boasted that it contained a "long banned system of spells, charms, hymns to control life, death, love, success." Some club members might be interested in *The Geography Of Witchcraft*, a book of "infamous orgies from stone age to 20th century."

These are examples of the filth which a large majority of people are reading today! What a frightening thought.

All of this is a part of today's occult

scene. It is for this reason that this issue primarily is devoted to the occult in hopes of awakening Christian people to the threat of this manifestation of "Satanism."

The occult is a general term for that which pertains to, concerns with, or designates magic, astrology, witchcraft and other arts and practices involving use of divination, incantation, magical formulae etc. It's influence is now being experienced in the public schools to the extent that courses dealing with the subject are being taught. Occult practices are now an integral part of worship in the California-based Church of Satan and he would like to see them become a part of worship in some of our Free Will Baptist churches. Even now some Christians put great confidence in such things as horoscopes and Ouija Boards, not realizing these are a part of the occult scene.

As Christians, we need to be aware of this avenue which is now being used effectively by Satan to blind and bind believers and non-believers alike. ▲