THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE

No phase of New Testament teaching needs to be more insisted upon or constantly emphasized in the holiness church than the doctrine of perfect love so clearly enunciated in Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth.

Corinth—that ancient city of trade and pleasure, a city steeped in immorality and iniquity! The ancients spoke of the night life of Corinth saying, "It was unsafe to go about at night." It all sounds so contemporary, yet reveals the many difficult social and personal problems that faced citizens in that complex city of so long ago.

The church at Corinth had given Paul much trouble. News of strife, disorderly public worship, careless remembrance of the Lord's Supper, exaltation of man (such as those who were enamored of Apollos or those who wanted to exalt Paul or those who stressed the primacy of Peter). All of this was shattering the unity of the church. The church seems to have been infiltrated by the evils of ancient Corinth—immorality, questions about marriage, dress, the offering of meats to idols, heathen feasts, members of the church becoming involved in petty litigation and lawsuits. Some were claiming to be more spiritual than others because of certain gifts received. The whole situation was alarming.

The circumstances were so grave that Paul was compelled to write this letter stating that for the church—for the followers of Christ—the acceptance and teaching of perfect love was the more excellent way and that both by precept and example perfect love leads the way. Language was valueless without the spirit of love; prophecy was empty unless inspired by love; renunciation of the world and wealth ministered to pride without love; the martyr was nothing unless moved by love. This love was never jealous or boastful or proud. It was greater than faith, for one might have faith without love. It was greater than hope, because hope could be selfish. It never failed. It cast out fear, and no Satanic device could separate us from love if we "are Christ's; and Christ is God's" (1 Corinthians 3:23).

Today we live in a world whose unhealed wounds are constantly being torn open afresh. We see the failure of humankind and the bankruptcy of statesmanship. We shrink at the cutting edge of sorrow, and sin seems so immense that no single mind can grasp its total bitterness and tragedy. Our duty as Christians in an unchristian world is to display the truth in word and deed that "the greatest of these is love." We must demonstrate perfect love in face of abuse and oppression.

All who believe in Christ are called upon to display the creative power of perfect love which brings with it goodness, beauty, and truth. Perfect love, if intelligently enunciated and faithfully lived, will show that it is still "the greatest of these" and also the fulfilling of all law. As John Oxenham declared—"Love ever gives, forgives, outlives; and ever stands with open hands: and, while it lives, it gives—for this is love's prerogative: to give, and give, and give!"
The pastor asked my wife and me to accompany him to the hospital. He planned to visit a man dying of cancer and hoped for an opportunity to present the gospel.

As we drove, he told the story. Ralph, as we will call him, had been a dynamic, successful salesman. His desire was for material things. He drove himself relentlessly, spending little time with his family in his all-consuming passion to acquire wealth. The church picked up his children for Sunday school, but neither he nor his wife had time for spiritual values.

When his bone-tired weariness became too much to cope with, he consented to take time to consult a physician. The doctor sent him to the hospital for more extensive tests. His illness was diagnosed as terminal cancer and he was given three to six months to live. One kidney was practically destroyed and the other one infected. Surgery was not advisable, as the cancer had metastasized to other vital areas of the body.

The pastor, who had visited several times before, had immediate rapport with Ralph. After introducing us, and a short visit, he said, "Ralph, I would like Rev. Kline to tell you how he came to know for sure that he has eternal life, and how you can know it too."

I felt the definite help of the Spirit as I told the simple gospel story. At the close Ralph thanked me and then said, "Reverend, I have lived life selfishly, shutting out even my family in my desire for the status wealth brings. I have had no time for God, and I am sure He has no time now for me." It was not said bitterly, just as a matter of fact.

I did not know why, but I asked if I could read the story of Christ’s crucifixion. As he nodded his assent I turned to the Gospel of Luke and began reading chapter 22. It was soon evident the Holy Spirit was speaking to Ralph through this story of God’s love for man. Especially did his eyes quicken with interest as I read the part where Jesus forgave the repentant thief: “And Jesus said unto him . . . To day shalt thou be with me in paradise” (Luke 23: 43).

Noting the wonderment expressed on his face, I asked my wife to sing. Softly she began a song we have sung many times:

*If the thief on the Cross Christ could save,  
If pardon to others He gave,  
If He walked by the sea of the blue Galilee,  
I know He can save me, too!*

In the hush of God’s presence we prayed, and Ralph accepted God’s forgiveness. His joy knew no bounds. Immediately he called his wife, asking her to come to the hospital. As we were awaiting her arrival he said, “Pastor, I want to tell Mary what has happened. Then will you have the Reverend talk with her as he talked with me?”

Then, looking at me, he said something truly beautiful. “Reverend,” he continued, “when you come to the time for prayer, let me pray with Mary, will you?”

As it turned out, I did not have to say anything. As Ralph told his wife what God had done for him, he concluded by saying, “And, Mary, I know He will save you too!”

That was all that was needed. As Ralph held her in his arms, praying for her, Mary repented and received Christ as her Saviour. They remained for some time, locked in each other’s embrace, and in the embrace of God’s love.

Later the pastor wrote me saying that one of the happiest events of his ministry was receiving Ralph and Mary into church membership and serving them Communion in the same room where they had repented of their sins. It was the same room in which, not long afterward, Ralph went to be with his Saviour.

Mary told the pastor Ralph’s last words were whispered in her ear, “I know He can save me, too!”

— By David Kline, Boxboro, Mass.
IN THIS ISSUE

ARTICLES

THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE ...................... 2
General Superintendent Lawlor

I KNOW HE CAN SAVE ME, TOO! .................. 3
A miracle of salvation David Kline

GOD AND SCIENCE ........................................... 4
Poem Byron H. Maybury

BUT EVEN I ........................................ 4
Poem Laura Forinash

FAITH IN A FAILURE ........................................ 5
A special character quality Ross W. Hayslip

CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION:
NO ALTERNATIVE ........................................... 6
Development for the whole person Merrill S. Williams

PRAYER ..................................................... 7
Poem George Lyons

BASIC INGREDIENTS OF A HOLY LIFE .............. 8
Helps to holy living C. Paul Gray

WHEN CIVILIZATIONS DIE .............................. 9
Pen points Edmond P. Nash

THE PARABLE OF THE PUMPKIN SEED ............. 10
Places where faith thrives Nancy Wahonick

ON CHOOSING ............................................. 11
Directions James D. Hamilton

PETER ON THE PROBLEM OF SUFFERING .......... 12
Reactions, a crucial test Gerald E. Lane

WORTH IT ALL ............................................. 14
A cause for rejoicing Loretta Watts

HOW TO GET STARTED WRITING ...................... 15
A Christian woman's world Aarlie J. Hull

EDITORIALS ............................................... 16
W. T. Purkiser

STANDING FEATURES

NEWS OF RELIGION ........................................ 30
ANSWER CORNER .......................................... 31
BY ALL MEANS ........................................... 34
A Lap Robe and Answered Prayer Katherine Larson

GOD AND SCIENCE

Some speculate, philosophize,
About the universe,
About earth’s origin, its age,
With many views diverse.
Some pride themselves on knowledge gained,
And on their self-reliance;
And glory in inventiveness,
In research, and in science.

Many forget God's over all,
Creator and Sustainer.
The universe is in His hand;
This fact cannot be plainer.
The law and order of all things
Reveal God's master mind;
Design revealing in all—good,
Benefiting all mankind.

If all would humbly seek the truth
That life seems to conceal,
Through Nature's book and by His Word,
God knowledge would reveal;
Help men discover secrets rare
Of things that long existed;
God blesses humble scientists,
But proud ones are resisted.

—BYRON H. MAYBURY
Tampa, Fla.

BUT EVEN I

You are Almighty God,
Originator of all life.
But even I
Can have the life You sacrificed to give.
You are Almighty God,
Sole Owner of the universe.
But even I
Can claim rich blessings by Your hand bestowed.
You are Almighty God,
Commander of angelic hosts.
But even I
Can claim Your promise to direct my path.
You are Almighty God,
Receiver of angelic song.
But even I
Can know You wait to hear my humble praise.
You are Almighty God,
Creator of unnumbered worlds.
But even I
Can come to find sweet shelter in Your love.

—Laura Forinash
Lucedale, Miss.
It has been said that anyone can support success but it takes an exceptional person to have faith in a failure. Jesus showed this remarkable quality in His character time after time.

Peter had failed miserably when the testing came. Boisterous bragging quickly was changed into cringing cowardice. The fearless fisherman became the fearful follower from afar. The Christ that he swore to die for became the Lord about whom he swore in profane denial.

Jesus did not give up on Peter. In the tender look that He gave Peter was the assurance of mercy, understanding, and faith. He saw in Peter, not the coward that he had proved to be, but the man of rock that he would become.

It is easy to give up on the man who has failed at his assigned task. We have become so enamored with the glamour of success that we are willing to step on and over people in order to attain it in the areas of our ambitions.

James Hilton’s classic story Good-by, Mr. Chips illustrates how gloriously a failure can come to success. As you read this book you will find the story of an ordinary teacher in a boys’ school who was never successful enough to be considered for the position of headmaster.

The impact of World War II caused Mr. Chips to become indispensable in the eyes of his pupils. Hilton has drawn us a heartwarming character sketch of a grand old failure who wonderfully succeeded.

Be compassionate and patient with the failures with whom you come in contact.

Muretus, a saint of past generations, fell desperately ill while in exile for his faith. He was carried into the paupers’ ward of a hospital in Lombardy. There the surgeons, believing him to be as poor in mind as his shabby clothes proclaimed him to be in earthly goods, gave him an examination and began to discuss his condition within his hearing in scholarly Latin.

Muretus understood every word when one of the physicians said, “Let us experiment with this worthless animal.”

When Muretus heard this, he answered in the same learned language that was being used in the conversation and asked, “Will you call one worthless for whom Christ did not refuse to die?”

Faith in the fellowman who has honestly tried and failed will give us all hope that our tomorrows will be better than our yesterdays and todays.

OCTOBER 24, 1973
In the early days of the Church of the Nazarene, capable and spiritual leaders made a choice. After asking the question, "How can we most effectively spread the gospel of Christ and biblical holiness?" along with evangelism and missions, the founding fathers stressed education. But not just any kind—Christian education.

I think they chose wisely. In 1971, I graduated from Bethany Nazarene College. Because I spent four years of my life there, I can never be the same. So I want to recommend Christian higher education and tell you why.

The motto of my alma mater is "Character—Culture—Christ." I would like to recommend Christian higher education from these three viewpoints.

A Christian education helped shape my character. I believe I now have a greater understanding of diversity of opinion than I would if I had not gone to a Christian college. While certain beliefs in the church are standard and changeless, peripheral religious practices vary in different sections of the country. Being exposed to dedicated young people from all parts of our nation helped me see that Christians can hold differing opinions and still be genuinely Christian.

Life on the campus of a Christian college did more than anything else to help me mature as a person. Too many have the mistaken idea that young people come to college with a good degree of maturity. They tend to believe that college-age youth need no guidelines to assist them in living out their lives. Some go to the extreme either of assuming that young people need no guiding prohibitions or that they should have no privileges at all. I found a temperate, middle-of-the-road position on my campus.

When we are young, we seldom have the measure of self-discipline we need and want. It is necessary for someone more competent to impose discipline. I appreciated it. It helped me develop a healthy, guided self-discipline.

I began to see that I could give to society only as I channeled my efforts through the application of physical, mental, and spiritual discipline. Anything worthwhile that mankind has achieved has been done by rugged discipline of the whole man.

We should not discount the experience and good judgment of those who struggled before us in the conflict of life.

Character is never so solidly and permanently shaped as when it is shaped by the example of those who embody it adequately. My professors stamped their influence indelibly on the fabric of my life.

Someone has said that two things really change us: the books we read and the people we meet. A few good men and women shared their
offices, their time, and themselves when it might have been inconvenient for them but was indispensable to me. God loves through men. I will never forget how much God loved me through concerned Christian professors.

A Christian education also helped me develop culturally. Webster defines culture as the developing of the intellectual faculties ... especially by education.

Traditionally, there have been those who thought a person could not be educated and spiritual at the same time. But spiritual men, if not always educated themselves, have continually pled for Christian education. Would anyone doubt the spirituality of J. B. Chapman? In 1920 he stood before the General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene and urged that only an educated ministry could conserve and spread the gospel of holiness.

Men of spiritual vision have succeeded him. Hugh C. Benner pled for Nazarenes to establish a graduate school of theology, and in 1944 Nazarene Theological Seminary was born. Then in 1964, a three-year Bible college was voted into existence in Colorado Springs, Colo. —Nazarene Bible College.

Why not keep high academic standards and at the same time marshal spiritual men and women to wield the potent tools education gives them? Academic excellence is paramount in Christian education. The way to show a watching world that we are truly Christian is to rise above mediocrity to excellence in all we do, especially in education.

An educated man is not necessarily spiritual, but a spiritual man who is educated is more adequately prepared to present the gospel in our day.

Christian education did more than anything else to help me along toward spiritual maturity. If we accomplish much, but fail to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord, we have achieved little.

Nothing influenced me as much as the college revival meetings. Revival: the term rings foreign in the ears of most educators today. What do college and revival have in common? Nothing, they say. But in reality, they have everything in common.

The purpose of Christian education is to cultivate and develop the whole person. That includes the spiritual man. In daily chapel gatherings and nightly evangelistic services, impressionable, undecided, searching youth find life-changing answers to life's big questions. I know I did.

I thank God that our colleges have not deteriorated, as so many other church-related schools have, into just secular institutions. May God continue to guide us as He has in the past. Many today educate. Not many educate in the Christian sense. There is no alternative to Christian education.

PRAYER

Lord,
I would not be enslaved
By the worship
Of what this world holds sacred.

Give me an undying hate
For the things that fade.

Burn upon my heart the necessity
Of a consecration without reservation.

Forgive my duplicity.

Enflame my soul with zeal
To do the work of Christ,
Who came
To destroy the works of the devil,
To lead the unrighteous to repentance.

May I never entertain for a moment
Thoughts or acts
Whose only satisfaction is temporary.

Train my mind on things eternal.

My life has been
A wasteland,
Unfruitful,
Uncultivated,
Winter's ragged carpet.

Sow your Spirit in the soil
Of my heart.

May the refreshing breeze
Of heaven
Clear my stale atmosphere.

Holy Spirit,
Make yourself at home.

I was bought with a price.
I am not my own.

May I glorify God
In my body.

Come, freedom!
Go, slavery!

Winter is dying,
Spring reviving.

Christ is arisen,
And I,
I am a child of eternity.

Thanks.
Amen.

—George Lyons
Somonauk, Ill.

OCTOBER 24, 1973
By C. Paul Gray, Bethany, Okla.

OFA

Are you feeling the pressures of modern life? Do you need help in living the Christian life these days? Do you want to be a victorious Christian? Then Paul's words to the saints (lit., "holy ones") at Philippi should help you. In Philippians 4:1-9, Paul deals with some of the basic ingredients of holy living.

Among other things (and this chapter is packed with practical truths) the apostle indicates that **cheerfulness** is a basic characteristic of the Christian life. He cries, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!" (NASB).*

Paul had mastered this business of sadness and gloom. His cheerfulness did not come from *isolation* from trouble, but *insulation* in the midst of trouble.

At that very moment he was languishing in prison. But in a world where things had gone all wrong, he had found an amazing joy. In spite of his surroundings he radiated gladness instead of gloom.

The story is told of a man who, while going through a swamp where a green, slimy mold covered everything, suddenly came upon a patch of clear, fresh water. On examination he found that a spring bubbling up underneath had cleared away the scum.

This seems to have been Paul's secret. His own inner life had been cleared of conflicts, fears, resentments, self-preoccupation, and guilt. Now underneath the slimy mold of outer trials and suffering there was a spring of joy that kept the waters of his life clear, fresh, and sweet. He wanted everyone else to share this joy.

A church committee went to the railway station to meet the new pastor, whom they had never seen. They went up to a man whom they thought might be their preacher and asked him, "Are you our new pastor?"

"No," replied the man. "It's dyspepsia that makes me look this way."

Dr. E. Stanley Jones said that when he asked some people if they were happy, and they said they were, he suggested that they should notify their faces!

The world has seen and heard enough of the doleful, defeated, and sad negativism of many so-called Christians; it would like to hear some shouts of victory, and see some positive joy in the lives of church members. After all, cheerfulness—victory over sadness and gloom—is still the hallmark of a genuine Christian.

A further ingredient of holy living is found in verse 5, where Paul says, "Let your forbearing spirit be known to all men" (NASB). The King James Version says "moderation," but "forbearance," "gentleness," or "magnanimity" gives the real meaning of the Greek.

**Forbearance** is the ability to be patient and gentle with other people when they perhaps do not deserve it.

Paul was well aware of what he was saying. Two women at Philippi, Euodias and Syntyche (verse 2), were disrupting the life of the church. He admonishes them to live in harmony with one another.

To bear with other people and not get critical and bitter is a real achievement of divine grace. For when the grace of God is permitted to

work itself out in our lives it develops this quality of forbearance that is so indispensable for maintaining harmonious relationships among people.

Another help to holy living is found in verse 6, where Paul admonishes the church, “Have no anxiety about anything” (RSV). This requires a life of devout trustfulness.

There is much to worry about these days. Life is so vulnerable, and there are so many chances to get hurt that one could “worry his head off.” Some have questioned, How can one be devoutly trustful when there are so many uncertainties in life?

Paul’s solution for all the hurts and perplexities of life is talking things out with God with a grateful heart. He felt that earnest, honest prayer was the best answer to worry and anxiety. “Tell God every detail of your needs in earnest and thankful prayer” (Phillips).**

Real conversion and a genuine cleansing leave one with a deep sense of gratitude. You cannot worry and be truly thankful at one and the same time. “Worry is getting out at the elbows mentally and spiritually,” says Oswald Chambers.

Still another ingredient of holy living is disciplined thinking. In verse 8, Paul says, “whatsoever things are true . . . honest . . . just . . . pure . . . think on these things.” The human mind always sets itself on something; therefore let your mind dwell on good things, not the bad.


We are becoming like that which we think about. Christian people fail, fall back into sin, go down in terrible defeat by thinking along the line that the devil suggests! If this is true, and it is, what you think about is tremendously important.

Marcus Aurelius, the philosopher emperor, recognized this when he said, “As are thy habitual thoughts, so will be the character of thy mind, for the soul is dyed the color of its thoughts.”

And the wise man in the Old Testament put it even more succinctly, “As he [man] thinketh in his heart, so is he.”

We may cover things up with nice clothes and an agreeable manner, but the truth will come out. There is the story of the well-dressed man who seemed so handsome, kind, and gracious that he was taken by many to be a model gentleman. But the dog growled when he came around, and little children turned away from him instinctively. Later on it turned out that he was a crook and a murderer.

There is so much these days to catch the eye, the ear, to occupy the thoughts and disturb the mind, that we need help. In this passage of scripture Paul has spoken to the believer’s needs. One need not be defeated in living the Christian life.

If these basic ingredients of holy living find a place in our lives, then, as Paul says, “the peace of God . . . will keep constant guard over your hearts and minds as they rest in Christ Jesus” (Phillips). □

PEN POINTS

WHEN CIVILIZATIONS DIE

“I do not think the greatest threat to our future is from bombs, or guided missiles. I don’t think our civilization will die that way. I think it will die when we no longer care; when the spiritual forces that make us wish to be right and noble die in the hearts of men. Nineteen notable civilizations have died from within, and not been conquered from without. It happened slowly, in the quiet and dark, when no one was aware.”

These words from Lawrence K. Gould should make us think about what our responsibilities should be in the wake of Watergate, ITT, mishandled funds, payoffs, and the like.

Though we would be perplexed, frustrated, disen­chanted, and disgusted by it all, we nevertheless have the responsibility as Christians to be the genuine salt of the earth.

If ever our nation needed to hear voices crying loudly for ethics, morality, and Christ, it is now. We who have the message that can change men dramatically dare not keep quiet.

We need to share Jesus Christ with all men. We need to proclaim His kingdom and His lordship. Only then will the problems and sins of our nations be obliterated.

How can we save our nation? We can write our congressmen. We can vote in new leaders. But more than that, we can help reaffirm the fact, that, if we are to survive, we must honor God. He must come first.

Do your part in these times to be the kind of salt that Jesus talked about. This nation needs “salty” Christian men.

BY EDMOND P. NASH
Westminster, Colo.

OCTOBER 24, 1973
Last Halloween, as is the custom in our family, we bought a huge pumpkin to be carved into a jack-o'-lantern. Because carving a pumpkin is such a messy job, it was delegated to our teenage son, who did the carving in a little-used utility sink in the basement. I told him to clean up the sink when he was finished; but being a teenager, he did a rather sloppy job and left some seeds in the drain of the sink.

It was several days later when I again used the sink. I was startled to see a rather pale green sprout about five inches long growing from the drain. There were two tiny leaves on the end.

Investigating further, I discovered that one of the pumpkin seeds left in the almost unused drain had sprouted. Looking at the shell of that little pumpkin seed and the small green shoot, I realized with almost blinding clarity the meaning of the parable of the mustard seed.

I had never quite understood that parable. I thought that in some way it referred to the size of the seed. I suddenly realized that Jesus was talking about so much more than size—He was pointing out the enormous potential contained in the seed. Thinking about that pumpkin seed taught me much about the nature of faith.

_Faith does not need a specific place._ The little pumpkin seed grew in a dark, damp basement; the only light was from a tiny overhead window. Its nourishment was the dampness of a dirty drain. Yet it sprouted and grew.

_Faith works in any situation and any environment, and is not bound by location or surroundings. Faith should be a part of our daily lives, and be reflected in our dealings with those we meet and those around us, no matter the circumstances. Faith can be on a battlefront or on a peaceful hillside, for faith is in the heart. Faith works anywhere._

_Faith does not need a specific time to act._ A gardener will tell you that seeds usually do not sprout in November, but germinate in the spring of the year. Yet the pumpkin seed sprouted in November, when snow was on the ground outside. It was the wrong time for a seed to grow, but it did.

How often we neglect to witness for God, to show our faith to others, because the time is not right! A new neighbor moves in, and first it is too soon (she would not be settled) and then too late (she might resent the intrusion at this time), and a lonely woman waits for someone to call, to invite her to church, to bring her to God. Faith doesn’t need a right time to take action—NOW is the time for faith to work.

_Faith does not need special care._ I was so impressed with the fortitude of the pumpkin seed that I carefully prepared a pot of soil, lifted the seed and its shoot from the drain, and placed the planted seed on the windowsill.

I watered it carefully and fertilized it liberally.

---

By Nancy Wahonick, Lakewood, Ohio
ally. I wish I could say it thrived, but it did not. For while it had germinated in adversity, it withered and died in prosperity. I had given it too much care, and tried too hard to make it grow.

We can become so involved in trying to understand our faith that we lose it altogether. We become so interested in proving our faith intellectually that we kill it. Saving faith is the simple acceptance of the love of God and His salvation through Christ Jesus. When salvation comes, faith can grow and bloom and become a thing of beauty. We then have to study and seek to increase our knowledge of God, for a strong knowledge will increase our faith. And the stronger the faith, the more the knowledge of God becomes reality.

*Faith has a specific reason for being.* The reason for a pumpkin plant is to produce pumpkins. Had that tiny sprout been allowed to grow, a bud probably would have appeared on the vine, and eventually a pumpkin would have been produced. The pumpkin seed had a specific reason for coming into being.

What is the specific reason for faith? Is it for comfort? Comfort in times of trial and sorrow is an important result of faith. Is it strength? Strength to face the tasks and troubles that surround us is also an important result of faith.

One specific reason for faith is found in James 2:26, for “faith without works is dead.” A true faith must be a faith put to work doing things for God. It is in working for God and witnessing for Him that faith is strengthened and grows.

In loving our neighbors, helping those less fortunate than we are, and bringing others into the kingdom of God, we are returning to God a portion of that magnificent love He has given to us. And this gives purpose to faith.

Thus, faith knows no boundaries of time or place, grows and extends far beyond itself, and has unlimited potential for becoming. Faith is the evidence of the presence of God, and the potential of an ever-deepening relationship with Him.

Thus spake the pumpkin seed.

---

**ON CHOOSING**

Four-year-old David was faced with the pleasant task of choosing between two attractive alternatives. The alternatives were: (1) going to the airport to watch a houseguest depart on a huge jet, or (2) staying home and watching “Sesame Street” on television. With a child’s genius for insight he said, “My heart can’t make up his mind what to do.”

Wouldn’t it be great if all of our choices were such that either option could be good, that either could bring us legitimate pleasure?

In the little boy’s case there was no possibility of a wrong choice. The excitement of the air terminal, with the hope of a candy bar from a vending machine as an added bonus, was most attractive. On the other hand, watching “Sesame Street,” along with full refrigerator privileges, offered a delight one could not easily decline. No wonder his heart could not make up his mind what to do!

Unfortunately, the opportunity of choosing between two equally good options occurs rarely. Rather, choices are usually between a good and a lesser good, or between good and bad. In such cases it is imperative that the right choice is made, because each choice carries its own consequences.

To say it another way, we have the power to choose but we do not have the power to change the consequence of our choices. That is why it is essential that we carefully weigh our choices.

How awesome is the power of choice! God can aid us in our choices but He does not make our choices for us. Moses, speaking for God, said to the Israelites, “I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life” (Deuteronomy 30:19).

Neither does God alter the consequences of our choices. Of the same Israelites it was said that God gave them their request, but sent leanness into their souls (Psalm 106:15). God did not stop the Israelites in their wrong choice, nor did He stop the resulting outcome—leanness of soul. Leanness of soul was the inevitable consequence of opting for less than God’s best.

When our hearts “can’t make up his mind what to do,” let us remember to choose for God and for good.
One of the most perplexing problems faced by a Christian in any age is that of suffering. Is there a solution? If so, what is it?

In his First Epistle, Peter writes about several topics. One of the most prominent issues discussed is that of suffering and persecution.

Essentially Peter sets forth two truths: Christ suffered, and so will you. Such bluntness stands in striking contrast to many contemporary comments on suffering which smack of subtlety and sentimentality. But this directness is appropriate, for much of potential Christian benefit and blessing hinges on both a proper concept of and reaction to suffering.

First, says Peter, Christ suffered. The apostle calls himself an “elder” and a “partaker” of the future glory, but the title he bears in the proudest sense is “witness of the sufferings of Christ” (5:1). This experience to a great extent qualified and motivated him as a Christian leader.

Christ suffered innocently. He was just and sinless (2:22; 3:18), yet He died for the unjust. He suffered “for us” (2:21; 4:1). In fact this kind of willingness to suffer presupposes freedom from sin and produces, not selfishness and sensuality, but rather life according to God’s will (4:1-2).

Jesus’ undeserved suffering effected the
plan of salvation which reconciles us to God (3:18). And it provided for us the poignant example of the ideal attitude and action in the midst of suffering (2:21; 4:1).

Peter's second point—that a Christian will suffer—is often a difficult one to accept. We are quite willing to be beneficiaries, accepting Christ's suffering. However, when Peter calls us “partakers of Christ’s sufferings” (4:13), we are tempted to shrink back from the acceptance of our own suffering.

But we cannot do that, objects Peter—for Christian suffering is a calling (2:21). In much the same way that we are called to serve, we are also called upon to suffer.

Several important truths are given here. Peter suggests that Christian suffering is universal (5:9), inevitable (3:17), natural (4:12), and temporary (1:6; 5:10).

Have you ever complained, Why do these things always happen to me? Rest assured that many others have cried out similarly, for all Christians suffer at some time or another.

Do not be surprised when suffering confronts you as if something unusual had happened, counsels Peter. Few things are more certain in Christian living.

However, be encouraged, for it will not last forever. Christian suffering is inherently temporary—the Greek term which describes it in 1:6 and 5:10 means “short time” or “little while.” Faith at this point enables the Christian to begin to view suffering as does God.

Peter also suggests that nothing more readily identifies the Christian than the type of life lived while in the throes of suffering. Murder, stealing, evil action, sin, and the like are not found in Christian living (3:17; 4:1, 15-16). Consequently, the causes of Christian suffering must be found elsewhere.

It may well be, explains the apostle, that your suffering will be undeserved (2:19). Then again, it may stem from your faults (2:20). We are human and thereby prone to the mistakes and errors characteristic of finitude. On occasion we may suffer for doing good or “for righteousness’ sake” (2:20; 3:14, 17). And perhaps one of the greatest privileges for the Christian is to suffer either for the name of Christ (4:14) or according to the will of God (4:19). But whatever the reason for suffering might be, it is one’s reaction to suffering that is crucial.

It is possible for the pressure and discouragement characteristic of both temptation and suffering to weigh one down (1:6). Fear and apprehension may stink the sufferer as the foreboding form of trouble lurks nearby (3:14). Soon the once-confident Christian will cower and cringe as a feeling of shame permeates his spirit (4:16).

SUFFERING FOR CHRIST AND WITH HIM AS “PARTAKERS” PROMPTS REJOICING NOW AND A FUTURE GLADNESS AND JOY AT THE FULL REVELATION OF HIS GLORY. HOW UNUSUAL, AND YET HOW WONDERFUL—JESUS CAUSES JOY TO BURST FORTH FROM THE HEART OF THE SUFFERING CHRISTIAN!

But, explains Peter, this does not have to be the case! Even in the boiling caldron of pain and sorrow a Christian can feel “blessed” or happy in the Lord (3:14; 4:14). Suffering for Christ and with Him as “partakers” prompts rejoicing now and a future gladness and joy at the full revelation of His glory (4:13). How unusual, and yet how wonderful—Jesus causes joy to burst forth from the heart of the suffering Christian!

And that is not all, Peter reminds us. In addition to positive feelings during suffering, definite results may attend this experience:

First, suffering can make our faith flourish or bring out our real mettle, much as gold is refined by fire (1:7).

Second, life according to the will of God will replace the selfishness and sensuality of the past (4:2).

Third, victorious suffering results in a pure, mature, strong, and settled life (5:10).

Fourth, a heavenward glance in the midst of patient suffering will be greeted by God’s smile of approval (2:20).

Fifth, God’s Holy Spirit comes and rests on the faithful sufferer—the height of Christian communion (4:14).

And last, the intention and the effect of Jesus’ ministry are seen again, personalized in the arena of human life—God is glorified (4:14, 16).

It is true that, when Peter preaches his realistic sermon on Christian suffering, he does not tell us all there is to know about this vital experience. But it is also true that through his inspired statements he shares with us what we need to know.

Above all, he dispels the sentimental view that Christian life is always easy, comfortable, and painless. Effective contemporary Christianity is epitomized by the suffering servant who faces life’s challenges with a song in his heart. Peter reminds us that Jesus suffered; so will we.
Oh, brother,” I moaned to myself, “I wonder if it’s really worth it!”

The alarm had just shattered my dreams and my nerves. It was Saturday, and even earlier than on a weekday. Getting up to go would mean waking my daughter, feeding the baby, and taking my husband to work, so I could have the car.

“Oh, this is so nice,” I groaned to myself, tucking my head under a cover. “If I wake the kids, I’ve had it—if I don’t . . .”

“You’ll let everyone down,” my conscience said, “your team, yourself . . . Him.”

Somehow I managed to be the first one there. But one by one others joined me in the parking lot, and finally we all met inside the sanctuary with the pastor.

I could sense the same fear and tension in some of my colleagues that I was experiencing. From various comments, I gathered that many had battled the same spirit of opposition I had. I was thankful I hadn’t let the devil get the best of me.

It all crumbled away as we knelt around the altar. Some prayed aloud, others quietly; but we all realized anew the Source of our strength and power for this effort. He would be the one who got the job done.

If it hadn’t been for our use of the biblical “two by two,” I would have shaken all over at those first few doors. The fear problem is one with some basis in realism and much in imagination. When a rather big man with an “I don’t like anybody” look on his face slammed the door right in the middle of our introduction, we both beat a fast trot—AWAY! Not really dangerous, but very unpleasant!

Eventually we split in order to cover the area more quickly. Most people were too busy with their rush-about lives to listen to what we had to say about Jesus. Some were “not interested today.” Others listened to a certain point and weren’t interested in the rest. Not interested in Jesus.

But there were others. There was the brown-eyed teen-ager, whose boyfriend “didn’t have time” and returned to work on his motor cycle. Almost wistfully, and very seriously, she listened as I read through the scriptures on the leaflet and told her of my own discovery of abundant living through Jesus Christ.

And then there was Mitch, a gangly teen with a fuzzy chin, who point-blank admitted he didn’t really know Jesus. Again I told my own story and read the scriptures from the leaflet. Sensing his seriousness, I asked him to pray, and he willingly agreed.

Phrase by phrase we went through the prayer on the leaflet; and step by step Mitch confessed, accepted, and received.

When I asked if he believed Jesus was now his Saviour, Mitch swallowed hard and confirmed his decision with a smile and a nod. After giving him the follow-up pointers on Bible reading, prayer, and fellowship with other Christians, I asked him to sign the bottom of the leaflet. He would later receive more literature and a call in the home.

Then it was over. We just stood there a few minutes, smiling all over and rejoicing together about his newfound salvation. A few doors more and I had finished for the day, but somehow one didn’t seem like a small number at all.

Worth it? I’ll say it was worth it! The getting up, the rush, the fright, the slammed door, and all! Is it really worth it—all those knocks on all those doors? If sometimes there’s “just one,” then somehow I can’t think the Saviour would say anything but “Yes.”

By Loretta Watts,
Riverside, Calif.
HOW TO GET STARTED WRITING

One of the most frequent questions readers ask me is, "How did you get started writing?"

At first I was flattered by people's interest in my personal life, but then I began to realize that the reason they asked me about my beginning writing was because they were also interested in beginning to write.

It is amazing how many people have that restless urge to write. Unfortunately, too many urges remain only "restless" and never are mobilized into something published.

For women, and men too, writing can be a wonderful means of Christian expression. Not only do religious magazines need good articles by women telling how the Lord is working in their lives, but many secular magazines are looking for good writing by women who, with warmth and insight, can inspire or teach their readers about life and living it more effectively.

I am convinced that one of the reasons more people don't realize their dreams of being writers is because they have some misconceptions about writing and publishing.

To begin with, if you are waiting for an editor to ask you to write an article or story, you'll be waiting a long time!

Editors rely heavily on free-lance writers' submitting unsolicited manuscripts for their appraisal and approval. They assign special writing projects only to members of their staff or to established writers—and even then the idea was probably that of the writer in the first place.

For a comprehensive, convenient directory of thousands of publishers and what they publish, get Writer's Market from the library and you'll see that writing opportunities abound.

After you've decided where you might be able to publish your article or story, don't wait around for that special, creative "inspired" mood. Ironically for most women, that unpredictable "inspired" mood comes most often when they're folding clothes, cleaning the oven, driving children to piano lessons, or watching a little league baseball game. By the time they have a spare moment to sit and jot down their thoughts, the mood is gone as well as the thoughts. They ask discouragingly, "When do you have time to write?"

Experienced writers will not dispute the fact that the "inspired" mood is a great asset to writing. But they also realize that if they waited for that fickle little fellow to motivate them they wouldn't be experienced writers.

To become a writer you must realize that discipline and just sitting down to write (whether "inspired" or not) is the first step to publication. Happily, you will find that after a few minutes or hours of trying to create, that "inspired" mood often pops up its head and words begin to flow.

Finally, a degree in journalism is essential in landing a newspaper job, but not with freelancing. I've met free-lance writers who are housewives, doctors, file clerks, students, loggers, and retired businessmen. The important ingredients are a strong desire, something meaningful to say, an ability to catch the interest of your reader, and a good understanding of the English language. Dr. W. T. Purkiser, editor of the Herald of Holiness, says that "skill in writing comes only through constant practice and unflagging attention to detail."

There are many aids to writing. Writing clubs, writing magazines, and books on how to write all help you with your first by-line. Dr. Purkiser has written a booklet you can order from the Nazarene Publishing House entitled Writing for Christian Periodicals, and I recommend it to you as an excellent resource. Many writers have also found some of the correspondence courses beneficial.

Incidentally, I just returned from the Nazarene Writers' Conference, and the editors from the publishing house were all eager to receive more and better manuscripts from free-lance writers.

So begin to write, and when you get that first rejection slip from an editor, don't be discouraged. Write to me and I'll tell you about my drawerful.
Our Changing Moral Climate

Opinion polls do not tell everything. But they do reflect the ways people are thinking. Figures recently released by George Gallup and his Princeton-based Gallup Organization, Inc., are cause for real concern. In 1969, only four years ago, 68 percent of those questioned said they believed that sex before marriage is "wrong." In 1973, less than half (48 percent) responded to the same question in the same way.

Even more revealing are the opinions of those under the age of 30. Four years ago, 49 percent of the people under 30 condemned premarital sex. The 1973 figure for this age-group was 29 percent.

Similar results appeared in attitudes toward nudity in magazines, on the stage, and in nightclubs. From 73 percent opposed to nudity in magazine pictures four years ago, the percentage has dropped to 55 percent.

Four years ago, 81 percent of the respondents condemned nudity on the stage and 76 percent opposed "topless" waitresses in nightclubs. The 1973 figures are 65 percent and 59 percent for each of these items.

It would be easy to pass the matter off with a shrug and say, "Well, that's just the way it is with a godless world. It doesn't have anything to do with us."

We might like to think the prevailing moral climate of the times doesn't have much to do with those "sheltered" by the influence of the Church. It would be hard to be more wrong if we did.

Mr. Gallup's pollsters inquired about religious affiliations in their attitude poll. On the issue of premarital sex, four years ago 72 percent of the Catholics and 70 percent of the Protestants questioned thought it was wrong. In 1973, these percentages had dropped to 45 percent for Catholics and 53 percent for Protestants.

The time has come for at least some clear definitions. Using soft names for hard realities changes nothing.

What has come to be known as "premarital sex"—couples living together outside the sanctions of marriage—is described in the Bible simply as "fornication." The "affairs" that married people have—whether sustained or brief—are, in plain English, "adultery."

Fornication and adultery are ugly words for ugly sins. It does not change them in the least to pass them off as expressions of a "new morality" or a "situation ethic." One may call a skunk "a two-toned kitty with a fluid drive," but it still smells as bad as it always did.

Are Christians really sheltered from the effects of the moral climate of their times?

To some extent, the answer would be yes. One who sincerely prays, "Lead us not into temptation," will avoid situations and influences that lead to sin. A Christian does have a reinforcement to the moral will that others do not know.

Yet no one can fully escape the atmosphere in which he lives. Attitudes are as contagious as the measles. Jesus predicted that "because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold" (Matthew 24:12, NASB).* Any house is harder to heat in the dead of winter.

Especially are the young and immature influenced by the spirit of the times. When evil is made to appear natural, and biblical morality is shrugged off as Puritanical or Victorian, a not-so-subtle conditioning takes place that undercutts even the best of home and church influences.

Not only is the sex instinct one of the strongest in human experience; so is the herd instinct. The mind may tell us that matters of right and wrong are not settled by majority vote, but what "everybody (?) else does" becomes a powerful influence on emotions and will.

The very familiarity of evil makes it seem less repugnant. Alexander Pope's words in his "Essay on Man" have been quoted so much they have become trite. Yet the truth has rarely been better said:

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,
As to be hated needs but to be seen;
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

No one can fully escape the atmosphere in which he lives. Attitudes are as contagious as the measles. Especially are the young and immature influenced by the spirit of the times. When evil is made to appear natural, and biblical morality is shrugged off as Puritanical or Victorian, a not-so-subtle conditioning takes place that undercuts even the best of home and church influences.

Fornication and adultery are not new on the human scene. What is new is the utter lack of shame with which they are publicized by entertainment idols and people whose public prominence gives their example undue influence in the minds of the unwary.

That the Bible condemns sex outside marriage is so clear he who runs may read. “Thou shalt not commit adultery” (Exodus 20:14; Matthew 5:27) is the clear and unequivocal statement of the seventh commandment. Fornication and homosexual practices are clear violations of the ethical teaching of God’s Word (Acts 15:20; Romans 1:26-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-18; Galatians 5:19; Ephesians 5:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:3).

But one thing further must be said. The law of chastity is not only inscribed in the Scriptures; it is written deep in the fabric of human nature. People may indeed behave as animals, but when they do they miss the highest and best life has to offer: the enduring commitment of one man to one woman as long as both shall live.

A southern California newspaper carried a letter written by an advertising executive to his 22-year-old daughter at college in another city. She had written saying that she planned to live with her boyfriend during the summer. Her father’s reply speaks for itself:

“One of the reasons by which you sought to justify your decision is that you and Gary [the name was changed to safeguard the privacy of the couple] plan to be married eventually; and so, you argued, since you are both sincere and deeply committed to one another, why should you have to wait to enjoy one another’s total companionship?”

“I countered by suggesting that you get married now. You replied that it would be impractical because you will have to live apart next winter when you go back to school and he stays here on his job. Marriage under those conditions would, you said, impede the freedom of each of you.

“This, I believe, cuts right to the heart of the matter. You and Gary appear to have made a ‘commitment,’ but you don’t want to be all that committed to it.

“Why, if you truly care about one another, would it be easier to live apart if you aren’t married? Would it not, in fact, be more comforting to each of you to know, by the existence of a marriage contract, that the commitment was a real one and the separation only a hiatus?

“But you said, ‘If we love each other, what difference would a piece of paper make?’ And then, in the ensuing discussion you said, ‘Besides, I don’t want to say that I will never get a divorce or live with someone else or get married again, or whatever.’

“Plainly, my darling, if this is a commitment, then your father is hopelessly out of touch, an absolute fuddy-duddy. Or just possibly, you are building the structure of your life upon sand.

“I think it’s the latter—because I believe that the purpose of life is commitment, and that the meaning of the word has not changed and cannot be changed by all the rationalizations your generation can muster. Faith and trust are as unchangeable as the sun; they have prevailed for all of history, and they cannot be undone by the cop-outs to which you and Gary are now resorting.

“So it is not that I object to the proposed relationship itself. I oppose the sleazy foundation on which it is based. I do not oppose your decision; I merely find it no decision at all. It is, I think, an outright evasion of the responsibility that a marriage commitment would impose on you.

“As a final argument, you fell back on the cliché: ‘If it makes us happy, it’s nobody’s business but our own.’

“I beg to differ. First, such an argument is only an extension of the cop-out—indulging yourselves andthumbing your noses at any opposition, on the grounds that being ‘happy’ relieves you of all responsibility.

“Why, then, did you say our approval would make you happier? Isn’t it because you understand innately, as all civilized people do, our interdependence, our need for the love and respect of those around us?”

(Continued on page 18)
 editorials

 (Continued from page 17)

"That is what family and, in turn, society are all about. This is why we have evolved customs and standards to which we subscribe on reciprocal terms. If we did not have standards, would not our society be a jungle, with all of us running roughshod over one another?

"And, finally, I know this simply is not going to make you happy. You are buying yourself an artificial stone, set in a ring of fool's gold. Your 'commitment' is only a game, a substitute, a sham, a plastic relationship, and it cannot, by any manipulation of principle, buy you a single hour of true happiness."

"Bliss you may achieve—ecstasy, perhaps. But happiness? That is something larger and longer-lasting than pleasure. It doesn't well up from a summer of make-believe."

"With love, "Dad"

But what of those who have been ensnared? Is there forgiveness and a new start? Indeed, there is. Scars, there may be; but healing can come through the grace of God.

Listen again to the Apostle Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11: "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God" (RSV).

"Such were some of you." No blacker lines could be drawn. Only God's "But—" makes the difference. "But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified."

This is the compassion, the forgiveness, the acceptance of God. Christ Jesus still "receiveth sinners, and eateth with them" (Luke 15:2).

Can we change the moral climate of our times? Will there be a "counterrevolution" in morals?

Perhaps not radically, nor overnight. But faithfully, lovingly stating and restating the ethic of the New Testament will help.

At least, we can strive to help those who can be helped find in themselves the truth God has written deep in the human heart.

It was a symphony in black and white.
It was harmony from coast to coast.
It was postlude and prelude—climax and new beginning.
It was the first general Urban Ministries Conference of the Church of the Nazarene, held in Kansas City, September 13-15, under the sponsorship of the Department of Home Missions.

From Washington, D.C., to Sacramento, Calif., Nazarenes gathered for the prototype of a series of conferences to be held across the country. They came to join a rising chorus of Nazarene voices saying, "We care about the city and the people of the city."

The conference was a double-header, with the first day devoted to meetings of the Nazarene Council of Black Churchmen appointed by the Board of General Superintendents. Council members met with denominational executives and editors to explore specific problems in interracial evangelism.

In their deliberations, the Council had the warm encouragement of General Superintendent George Coulter, who told them, "You have the blessing, the prayers, and the goodwill and good wishes of every member of the Board of General Superintendents. We want you to know that we are with you, not just in spirit, but in body as well."

This is the time, Dr. Coulter said, to be reaching out to all with the gospel, "I have never seen more open doors, more hungry hearts, more needy people, or more interest in spiritual things than today," he said.

The conference, said Dr. Raymond Hurn, executive secretary of the Department of Home Missions, is a frank recognition that we are a young denomination. We did start late; we do have a long way to go. But we are now on the road, we do have progress to report, and the best is yet to be.

Recognizing that most of the nation's 23 million blacks live in the urban areas, conference leaders turned their attention to this largest of American minority groups.

"Ethnic evangelism," said Rev. Roger E. Bowman, conference director, "is the greatest challenge the Church of the Nazarene faces today."

Rev. Bowman, the first black minister to serve the Church of the Nazarene in a general administrative capacity, told the opening session of the conference that while "the ethnic population is often thought of as the minorities, we are actually the majority, because the world has more people whose skin color and culture are different than white."

The conference was a double-header, with the first day devoted to meetings of the Nazarene Council of Black Churchmen appointed by the Board of General Superintendents. Council members met with denominational executives and editors to explore specific problems in interracial evangelism.

In their deliberations, the Council had the warm encouragement of General Superintendent George Coulter, who told them, "You have the blessing, the prayers, and the goodwill and good wishes of every member of the Board of General Superintendents. We want you to know that we are with you, not just in spirit, but in body as well."

This is the time, Dr. Coulter said, to be reaching out to all with the gospel, "I have never seen more open doors, more hungry hearts, more needy people, or more interest in spiritual things than today," he said.

The conference, said Dr. Raymond Hurn, executive secretary of the Department of Home Missions, is a frank recognition that we are a young denomination. We did start late; we do have a long way to go. But we are now on the road, we do have progress to report, and the best is yet to be.

Recognizing that most of the nation's 23 million blacks live in the urban areas, conference leaders turned their attention to this largest of American minority groups.

"Ethnic evangelism," said Rev. Roger E. Bowman, conference director, "is the greatest challenge the Church of the Nazarene faces today."

Rev. Bowman, the first black minister to serve the Church of the Nazarene in a general administrative capacity, told the opening session of the conference that while "the ethnic population is often thought of as the minorities, we are actually the majority, because the world has more people whose skin color and culture are different than white.

Black Council sitting as a panel with Dr. Raymond Hurn, executive secretary of the Department of Home Missions, and Sergio Franco, moderator of the panel. (From 1. to r.)—Dr. Hurn, Warren Rogers, Roland Chopfield, Edward Husband, Sergio Franco, Rufus Sanders, Clarence Jacobs, Norflee Harrison, Roger Bowman.

Rufus Sanders (1.) and Clarence Jacobs.
HOLINESS EVANGELISM FOR OUR URBAN SOCIETY

Caucasion or white."

Emphasizing that black churchmen can play a key role in evangelizing all races, Rev. Bowman said, "Whites can win blacks and blacks can win whites. Let's come together in Jesus' name. It's not that black or white church as such; but it's that loving, caring, sharing community of believers reaching out in love to each other. Christ can still make men brothers."

General Superintendent Edward Lawlor challenged the conference in its closing moments to put into action the precepts that had been talked about.

"What we have," said Dr. Lawlor, "we must share with every person. EVERY PERSON! And it is only as the Holy Spirit transforms our personalities that we are ready and willing to do that."

Sharing the gospel with every person held the center of attention throughout the conference, which was held at several locations in Kansas City, including sessions at Nazarene Theological Seminary.

The specific burden of the conference was to discover the principles by which the gospel can best be communicated to those who live in concentrated urban areas, especially those who are of a minority race.

Rev. Rufus Sanders, full-time evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene, urged the church to "tell it like it is. People respond when they are told the truth. Tell it in love. Tell it straight. Holiness is a practical thing, a loving thing, a soul-searching thing, and a soul-blessing thing," he said.

Rev. Clarence Jacobs, pastor of Miller Memorial Church of the Nazarene in Brooklyn, added a plea for personal evangelism. "Lives today are complicated by sin," he said. "People need personal help more than anything else. When did you last win someone to Christ? When did you last try?"

Rev. Ralph Bell, associate evangelist on the Billy Graham team, declared that we must "penetrate the social structure with the practical and the powerful gospel."

"What is the Church?" he asked. "Is it a country club or a community of faith? Is it a bunch of bigots or the body of Christ?"

Rev. Melvin Banks, president of Chicago Urban Ministries, added a plea for ethnic-oriented literature. People of any color respond to what they are taught at the level where they are, he said. The child in the ghetto simply does not respond to story papers picturing white suburban families.

Dr. Albert Harper, executive editor of Nazarene Sunday school materials, responded that the need was indeed great to provide materials that relate to the people with whom the teacher is working, but he warned of literature that could further polarize the differences in people.

"All of us have a concern to find a society that pulls us together, rather than one that splits us further apart," he said.

Rev. Bob MacDonald, pastor of the Boston Chapel, Nazarene mission in inner-city Boston, spoke straight from his soul about the needs of the inner city.

Nowhere, he said, is there a greater mission field than in our own inner cities, and yet we "have run like scared rats from the inner city."

His plea was for a fuller commitment of men and money to the inner city without regard to financial return, but in the expectation of reclaiming human lives for Christ and eternity.

It was left to Sergio Franco, senior editor of the Latin Division and author of The Challenge of the Other Americans, to bring the conference to its natural climax by turning to the individual Christian and how he is to communicate his experience of the gospel to a person of another race or cultural background.

"Three little words tell the story," he said, "awareness, acceptance, and subordination."

No one could appreciate the significance of the historic conference with greater poignancy than Rev. Warren A. Rogers of Sacramento, Calif., a member of the Council of Black Churchmen and at one time district superintendent of the Gulf Central District, when that district comprised the denomination's black churches.

"We are experiencing around this table," he said, "something for which I have prayed for two generations."

"I actually believe," he said, "that we are now ready to accept the challenge and the commission. We are far behind. We have been neglectful, but I believe that God will forgive us for our neglect if we move quickly. This is our greatest challenge, the greatest challenge which we have ever faced as a church. It is before us now."

—John C. Oster, Reporter
Department of Home Missions
DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

HOUSTON

The twenty-sixth annual assembly of the Houston District convened at Houston First Church, July 18-19. General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins presided over the business sessions.

District Superintendent Raymond McClung, reelected to a one-year term, reported 275 members received by profession of faith. The district received 1,166 members toward its Key 73 goal. Total membership stood at 4,976. The Sunday school enrollment showed a gain of 684 for a total of 12,373. The average attendance showed a gain of 127 for a total of 4,775. The district gave $108,460 for general interests. The total income increased $107,249 to a total of $1,247,727.

Elected to the advisory board were (elders) D. W. Thaxton and Robert Britt; (laymen) Frank Thompson and John Bundy.

Mrs. Frank J. Kemendo was reelected NWMS president. Rev. Darrel Miley was elected president of the NYPS. Rev. Charles E. Jones was elected chairman of the church schools board.

CENTRAL OHIO

The thirtieth annual assembly of the Central Ohio District was held at the Columbus Campgrounds, July 17-20. General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe ordained Larry Burns, James E. Carson, Robert Allen Clipper, Charles Wayne Ellis, George McCorkel, Jr., Robert L. Stewart, and Ronald E. Willard.

District Superintendent Donald J. Gibson was reelected for a four-year term. He reported a record year of progress for the district. Churches received 1,166 members by profession of faith and 38 members from other denominations for a total of 1,204 new Nazarenes. Total membership of the 139 churches peaked at 14,976, a net gain of 684. Fifty-two churches were on the Evangelistic Honor Roll and 64 churches gave 10 percent of their income for world evangelism. The total missionary giving set a new record of $359,620, and the district went over the 10 percent goal for missions for the thirteenth consecutive year.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) D. E. Clay, E. K. Richey, and Clare St. John; (laymen) James Cline, Paul Forgrave, and Dale Foster.

Rev. Wesley B. Frederick was reelected district NYPS president. Mrs. Donald J. Gibson was reelected president of the NWMS. Rev. R. Dale Fruehling was reelected chairman of the church schools board.

(Continued on page 22)
I am disturbed. Profoundly disturbed.
And if God is not directly responsible for my being disturbed, at least His truth is. What is more, it is disturbing that not more of us are disturbed by things going on now, things which ought to disturb us.

Things like the way our Western world is changing. And our country, our cities. Naturally, change has been with us from the beginning. It was one of the first philosophical problems to occupy man's mind. But the change that inexorably, almost visibly, is taking place is far from a philosophical preoccupation—indeed it is affecting decisively, perhaps irreversibly, every aspect of life today. Once we talked, realistically or hopefully, of a Christian society. Then, even in our own lifetime we admitted the concept of post-Christian America. Now a new somber reality is pushing itself upon us: a heathen society. Hedonistic is just the term.

We are seeing—if we want to see—with ever increasing speed the coming of a society that has decided to be done practically, if not theoretically, with the concepts of right and wrong. We are witnessing a suspension of ethical and moral premises.

Nowhere is this more visible than in the great cities of the Western world. The issues that cause the deadly erosion are not a patrimony of any nation—small comfort!—but seem to be particularly keen where man living next to millions of his own kind is afflicted with unique diseases of the soul. Examples are all around us—if we just open our eyes.

The authorities in Mexico City are alarmed at the openness of drug consumption among university students. One of the leading French Catholic theologians, Pierre Chenu, granted recently an interview to a Brazilian publication. Chenu quoted a statement of Pope Paul: “Where are we going? Everything is falling apart.”

The end result of this process became crystal-clear to me during a recent stay in the community of one of our most famous universities located in the metropolitan area of Boston. My spirit was deeply stirred. What I saw was not merely one more case of university students showing temporary rebellion to a system of values to which eventually they would come back. What I sensed was, side by side with a deep commitment to scholarly endeavors, a freedom from moral concerns. It did not seem to me that the issue was immorality versus morality; rather the issue was amorality. And amorality is infinitely worse than immorality. It allows for men and women to face activities and structures—like marriage, education, social issues—in a purely secular fashion, away from the motivation and directions of God for each. In that community I sensed an atmosphere in which the issues of guilt, right, and wrong were not present. And it frightened me. Someone offered this comment: “Nothing is wrong anymore.”

Harvey Wheeler has a very penetrating concept for us at this point: “Revolution is not a storming of the palace gates; it is not the Weathermen bombing a bank; it is the dialectic of two competing cultural systems warring against each other in the same society” (The Politics of Revolution, 1972).

And that is just it. We must be there to counterattack—there, in the big cities of the world—Boston, Chicago, New York, Mexico City, San Juan, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Tokyo, London. Christianity has conquered every time it met its foe. But it must meet it. We can’t, as John P. Kildall suggests in his book, allow “the church to lose the city.” If we do, heathenism will prevail. And if we lose the cities, we will lose our influence in the prevailing culture.

Christ must be preached in the city. His gospel is what brings the issues of “oughtness” and guilt to the human heart. He reminds us what we are and what we can be by His grace. Let Christ be proclaimed, by radio, by television, by the best use possible of the printed page, and also, by the Church in the midst of the city.

We can’t afford—whatever the price—to retreat from the cities. To proclaim Him is a worthy goal to unify all of our efforts.

By Sergio Franco,
Kansas City
Book Editor, Latin Division
AN EXCITING PLACE TO SHOP AT

Christmas

For a large-print Bible for Grandpa Kindstedt; a devotional book for Uncle Ed, and something special for all the others in your family.

Our NEW “MASTER BUYING GUIDE” offering an outstanding selection of Bibles... translations... books for every age... pictures... plaques... gifts... L.P. records... games. Over 6,000 items to choose from!

Consult the latest Master Buying Guide just mailed to your pastor and ordering secretary or send for a personal copy, FREE upon request.

Why Christmas-shop elsewhere when your Nazarene Publishing House has it? As convenient as your nearest mailbox! And we pay the postage (on most items), to SERVE YOU BETTER.

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE
Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141

(Continued from page 20)

SOUTHWEST INDIANA
The twenty-fifth annual assembly of the Southwest Indiana District was held July 27-28 at Vanderburgh Auditorium, Evansville, Ind. General Superintendent George Coulter ordained Derl Keef er, John Lahmeyer, Miss Hilkka Malaska, Donald Maynard, and Ronald E. White. He recognized elder’s orders of Willis Clock.

District Superintendent W. Charles Oliver, completing the third year of an extended term, reported sizable gains in enrollment and finances. During the Herald campaign, the district reached 118 percent of its subscription goal. The Schools and Ft. Ritter churches were reopened during the year.

(Elders) Mark Hamilton, B. G. Wiggs, and Samuel Schimpf; and (laymen) Edwin Hill, Edward Mason, and Jesse Pitts were elected to the advisory board.

Reelected to their district posts were Mrs. W. Charles Oliver, NWMS president; Mr. Byron Bunker, NYPS president; and Rev. Mark Barnes, church school board chairman.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
The sixty-eighth annual assembly of the Northern California District was held July 26-27 at Mt. Chestnut near Point Arena, Calif. General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland ordained Edward Redfern, Rodney Tegethoff, and Robert Worthen.

District Superintendent E. E. Zachary, completing the first year of a four-year term, reported 428 new Nazarenes received and a total membership of 6,020. For all purposes, the district raised a total of $1,988,450. Campaign results showed 3,005 subscriptions to the Herald. Two new churches were organized: East Bay Korean, Oakland; and Novato.

Elected to the advisory board were (elders) James S. Shaw and Vernon L. Wilson; (laymen) Gus Bergesen and Paul Price.

Reelected to district offices were Mrs. Wilma Shaw, NWMS president, and Rev. Leslie G. Little, church schools board chairman. Rev. Donald Moore was elected NYPS president.

KANSAS
The sixty-fourth annual assembly of the Kansas District convened August 1-2 at Wichita (Kans.) First Church. General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland ordained Larry Adams, Gordon Barrick, Burl Gill, Jim Graham, Ralph Hughes, Frank Miller, and Stanley Sutter.

District Superintendent Ray Hance reported 603 new Nazarenes (record increase for one year); over $2 million raised for all purposes, with $316,440 given for general interests and representing 11.5 percent of the district’s income. Dr. Hance, who has completed 26 years as Kansas District leader, was reelected to a four-year term.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) Harold Jones, Leon Jennings, and Eugene Williams; (laymen) Dwight Sauers, Bob Youngman, and Don Bird.

Mrs. Ray Hance was reelected NWMS president to serve her twenty-fifth year. Rev. Milton Huxman was reelected chairman of the church schools board. Rev. Lyle Curtis was elected president of the NYPS.

PITTSBURGH

District Superintendent Robert I. Goasl was reelected to a four-year term. He reported Sunday school enrollment at 18,078, an increase of 1,293; average Sunday school attendance reached 8,627, an increase of 963; a net membership gain of 218, the second highest gain in 25 years; the district gave 12.6 percent of its total income for missions; and Pittsburg is an NWMS award district.

Elected to the advisory board were (elders) Wayne H. Acton and Jack Crammer; (laymen) Larry Adams, Gordon Barrick, Burt Ward, and Bill Byler.

Reelected to district posts were Mrs. Mar jorie Goasl, NWMS president; Rev. Barry V. Mohney, NYPS president; and Rev. Mayne Minich, Jr., church schools board chairman.

IOWA
The sixty-first annual assembly of the Iowa District convened at West Des Moines, August 8-10. General Superintendent Charles H.
Strickland ordained Gary L. Carr and James D. Turner.

District Superintendent Forrest E. Whittatch, completing the second year of an extended term, reported 389 new Nazarenes were received. A new home missions church was organized in Ankeny, Ia., with 35 charter members. The district gave over 11 percent of its total income for world evangelism.

A goal was set to receive 450 additional new members by December of this year. A Sunday school average attendance of 6,000 was set for the coming year. A district-wide missionary invasion was scheduled for March 25—April 7, 1974, with a missionary visiting every church on the district during the designated two weeks.

Elected to the advisory board were (elders) A. D. Foster and Gene C. Phillips; (laymen) Don A. Diehl and Merle Freed.

Mrs. Forrest E. Whittatch was reelected president of NYPS. Rev. J. L. Garmon was reelected NYPS president. Rev. Crawford Howe was elected chairman of the church schools board.

MISSOURI

The sixty-third annual assembly of the Missouri District was held August 9-10 at Ferguson, Mo., church. General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins ordained M. Eugene Myers, Gary W. Bunch, Bill T. Carr, P. Lindsay Faris, and Richard A. Bushey, Jr. The assembly granted the Christian education commission to Ronald Miller.

District Superintendent Arthur E. Mottram reported 516 members received by profession of faith, a gain of 218. The district raised $2,588,561 for all purposes, total of $2,588,561 for all purposes. Rev. Mottram received a unanimous one-year recall and a near-unanimous extended call—four-year term.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) Udell Moss, Paul Aldrich, and Fred Hartman; (laymen) Don Cork, Lee Richardson, and Ovville Bowers.

Reelected to their posts were Rev. Paul Aldrich, chairman of the church schools board, and Rev. Paul Williams, NYPS president. Mrs. Arthur E. Mottram was elected president of the NWMS.

VIRGINIA

The thirty-second annual assembly of the Virginia District convened August 9-11 at Buckingham, Va. General Superintendent George Coulter ordained Clarence A. Barhor, Timothy Best, William E. Colvin, William A. Judkins, Clarence Spaulding, and Larry Thomas. He recognized the elder's orders of Hold Davis.

District Superintendent Gene Fuller was reelected to a four-year term. He reported 484 members received by profession of faith and a total membership of 5,168. The district showed a $234,545, gain of $38,409, with 53 churches and 6,704. A total of 586 new Nazarenes were received. Total giving reached an all-time high of $1,678,000, an increase of $631,000 over last year. General giving was up $6,900 for a total of $118,000. Average Sunday school attendance showed a gain of 348 for a total of 6,570.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) James B. Hubbard and J. Emory Lindsey; (laymen) Kyle Fuller and John Faircloth.

Mrs. Billy Ring was elected NWMS president. Rev. Douglas Mills was elected president of the NYPS. Rev. Terry Soles was elected chairman of the church schools board.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The thirty-first annual assembly of the South Carolina District was held at Sumter, S.C., August 15-16. General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins ordained Ray Moore.

District Superintendent Otto Stucki was reelected to a three-year term. He reported 513 members received by profession of faith, 27 from other denominations, and 170 by transfer. The net gain in membership was 296. Three new churches were organized—Greenville Westside, Pageland, and York.

Elders elected to the advisory board were D. Woody Gunter and J. L. Powers; (laymen) Clarence I. Coleman and J. B. Hucks.

Reelected to their posts were Mrs. Nina G. Gunter, NWMS president; Rev. Gary F. Powell, NYPS president; and Rev. N. J. Lewis, chairman of the church schools board.

WEST VIRGINIA


District Superintendent M. E. Clay, completing the second year of an extended term, reported a membership total of 11,796 for a net gain of 6,551. Churches received 1,065 new Nazarenes. Sunday school enrollment reached 27,541, gain of 2,838; the average attendance peaked at 12,890, gain of 995. A total of $2,588,561 was raised for all purposes, general giving reached $342,977. General giving reached $234,545, gain of $38,409, with 53 churches giving 10 percent or more of their income for world evangelism. There were 46 churches on the Evangelistic Honor Roll.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) John Hancock, T. James Boell, and John F. Hay; (laymen) Donald Estep, Dallas Moore, and Elmer Snodgrass.

Mrs. M. E. Clay was reelected NWMS president by a unanimous vote. Rev. Edward J. Steinert was elected NYPS president. Rev. John F. Hay was reelected chairman of the church schools board.

GEORGIA

The fifty-ninth annual assembly of the Georgia District was held at Warner Robins, Ga., August 16. General Superintendent V. H. Lewis is ordained Michael B. Ross and Mary B. Peed. Leonard Ammons was granted a certificate as minister of Christian education from the district.

District Superintendent Jack Lee, serving on an extended call, reported increases in all departments. Membership showed a net gain of 162, reaching 6,704. A total of 586 new Nazarenes were received. Total giving reached an all-time high of $1,678,000, an increase of $631,000 over last year. General giving was up $6,900 for a total of $118,000. Average Sunday school attendance showed a gain of 348 for a total of 6,570.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) James B. Hubbard and J. Emory Lindsey; (laymen) Kyle Fuller and John Faircloth.

Mrs. Billy Ring was elected NWMS president. Rev. Douglas Mills was elected president of the NYPS. Rev. Terry Soles was elected chairman of the church schools board.

Well worth the investment of ONLY $8.50
No. VA-443384
NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE
Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141
CREWS: Amarillo, Tex. (Central), Nov. 5-11; Irving, Tex.
GOODMAN: Dawson, Minn., Nov. 6-11; Bena, Minn. (Chris.
FINE: Halltown, Mo.. Nov. 30—Dec. 2
EUDALEY: Mansfield, Mo., Nov. 5-11
DUNMIRE: Nashville, Tenn. (Radnor), Nov. 6-11; St.
FRODGE: Dayton, Ohio (Northridge), Nov. 6-11; Findlay,
FOX: Greenfield, Calif., Nov. 4-11
FREEMAN: Havana, III., Nov. 5-11; Rushville, III., Nov.
GREEN, JAMES: Columbus, Ohio (Whitehall), Nov. 6-11; richmond,
FINKBEINER: Pomeroy, Wash., Nov. 13-18; Crescent
JONES: Fredericksburg, Va., Nov. 6-11; Nazareth, Pa.,
HUBARTT: Long Beach, Calif. (West Side), Nov. 5-11;
HOECKLE: Harmon, Okla., Nov. 1-11
HEASLEY: Carlsbad, N.M. (church), Nov. 11-18; Perry,
HOLLOWAY: Cincinnati, Ohio (Fairfax), Nov. 6-11; Cleve­
IDE: Alexandria, Ind., Nov. 6-11; Port Elizabeth, N.J., Nov. 27—Dec. 2
ESTERLINE: Dakota Dist. of month November
EYARDLE: Manifold, Mo., Nov. 5-11
FLETCHER: Warren, Ohio, Nov. 8-11; Martinon, N.J. (Hol. Chr.), Nov. 13-18; Caldwell, Ohio, Nov. 20-25
FIRE: and Schenectady, N.Y. (Children’s Chu.), Nov. 13-18; Port Elizabeth, N.J. (Children’s Chu.), Nov. 20-25; Faw Grove, Pa., Nov. 27—Dec. 2
FINCH: Martin, Ohio, Nov. 30—Dec. 3
FINKBEINER: Pomposity, Wash., Nov. 13-18; Crescent
FISH: and (Central), Ind., Nov. 6-11; Huntington, Ala.
HUNGER: Indianapolis, Ind. (1st), Nov. 6-11; Bradford, Fla.
FLORENCED: Indiana, Nov. 7-18; Fairland, Ind. Nov. 21—Dec. 2
FOHR: Danville, Ind., Nov. 8-11; Rensselaer, Ind., Nov. 19-25
GOODMAN: Danish, Minn. Nov. 6-11; Lena, Minn. (Ch. & churches), Nov. 13-18
GREEN: Washington, D.C., Nov. 2-27
GREENES: Columbus, Ohio (Whitehall), Nov. 6-11; West Flint, Mich., Nov. 13-18; Cincinnati, Ohio (Spring·
GRIMSHAW: Loveland, Colo., Nov. 6-11; Nysse, Ore. Nov. 15-18; Haines, Ore. (North), Nov. 26-28; Canas, Wash. Nov. 27—Dec. 2
GRINDEL, Singing, Club: (Ind. Flowwood), Ind. Nov. 15—20 Ave. West Ave. 1510-15; Concert Tour (Mich. & Ohio, & Ind.), Nov. 20—Dec. 2
HARDROU, Peru, Ind. (1st), Nov. 4-11; Middletown, Ind. (1st), Nov. 13-18; Brodow, Wis., 1st, Nov. 20-25; Illawassa, Ill., Nov. 27—Dec. 2
HASELEY: Canton, Ohio, Nov. 11-18; Parry, Ohio, Nov. 21-25, Pwawasu, Ohio, Nov. 27—Dec. 2
HESTROM: Cader Rapids, Ia. (Trinity), Nov. 5-11; Mon­
HEISLER: Cienna, Ohio, Nov. 15-21; Prayer, Ohio, Nov. 21-25, Bloomfield, Ia., Nov. 26—Dec. 2
HENDERSON: Edwardsville, Ill., Nov. 11-18; Joseph, Ohio, Nov. 11-18; Heil, Ohio, 1st, Nov. 26—Dec. 2
HOECKEL: Horn, Ohio, Nov. 1-11
HOLLIDON: Arcadia, N.C., Nov. 6-11; New Orleans, La. (Keenan), Nov. (Charles E.), Nov. 27—Dec. 2
HOLLIDON: Arcadia, I. (1st), Nov. 8-11; Beardsley, Ind. Nov. 14-18; Indiana, Ind. (Benedicta) Nov. 27—Dec. 2
HOLLEY: Cincinatti, Ohio (Faith), Nov. 6-11; Cleve­
HOUGHTON: Richmond, Ohio (Richard H.3), Nov. 13-18; Can Cent.
HOLMES: Waltham, Mass. (2nd Ave.), Nov. 30—Dec. 2
HUBERT: Long Beach, Calif (West Side), Nov. 6-11; Myrtle Creek, Ore. (1st), Nov. 13-18; Bush, Ind. (1st), Nov. 15-20; Van Buren, Ind. (6. Liberty Cbn.), Nov. 28—Dec. 9
HUNDLEY, EDWARD: Norwalk, Ohio (1st), Nov. 4-11; Circus, Ohio, Nov. 11-18; HYSONG, Manawa, Va. (1st), Nov. 6-11; Rome, N.Y., Nov. 13-18; Milo, Mo. Nov. 20-25; East Millholland, Pa., Nov. 27—Dec. 2
IDE: Alexandria, Ind., Nov. 6-11; Port Huron, Mich., Nov. 13-18; Buchanan, Mich., Nov. 25—Dec. 2
IRWIN: Russellville, Ind. (1st), Nov. 6-11; Tuscumae, Mich. (1st), Nov. 13-18
JANTZ: Colorado Springs Colo. (Southgate), Nov. 5-11; Bishop, Ind. (1st), Nov. 20-25; Warren, Mo. (Wes.), Nov. 27—Dec. 2
JAYMES: Frankfurt, Pa. (B. Hr, (In Viet.)), Nov. 1-11; Sarajevo, Ohio, Nov. 14-25; Ewco City, Pa. (Us. Br.), Nov. 28—Dec. 9
JONES: Fredericksburg, Va., Nov. 6-11; Nazareth, Pa., Nov. 13-18; Skiatook, Md, Nov. 20-25, Muncy, Pa.
NORTHWEST INDIANA

The thirty-first annual assembly of the Northwest Indiana District was held August 9-10 at Kokomo (Ind.) First Church. General Superintendents Edward Lawlor ordained Douglas William Bolles, Harley David Fountain, Charles Vernon Otis, Gerald Thomas Walworth, Sr., and Ernest Lenzy Wishehart, Jr.

District Superintendent George Scott was reelected to a four-year term. He reported 164 new Nazarenes received by the churches. For eight successive years, the district has given 10 percent of its income for world evangelism. The NWMS raised a total of $161,552.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) Harold Graves and Everett Robertson, Jr.; (laymen) Tharen Evans and Bud Goble.

Reelected to their district positions were Mrs. K. V. Bateman, Sr., NWMS president; and Rev. Earl Roustio, chairman of the church schools board.

Rev. Kenneth V. Bateman, Jr., was elected president of the NYPS.

NORTHEASTERN INDIANA

The thirty-first annual assembly of the Northeastern Indiana District was held, July 20-22, at Marion, Ind. General Superintendent V. H. Lewis ordained Michael Shalley, James Steel, and Ben Brock.

District Superintendent Fletcher Spruce was reelected to a four-year term. He reported 631 new Nazarenes received by the churches. The district paid $150,000 to Olivet Nazarene College. Total giving was near $2.75 million.

Elected to the advisory board were (elders) Verdeen Owens, Lorne MacMillan, and William Watson; (laymen) Buel D. Bearden, Elmer Pasko, and Darrell Zimmerman.

Mrs. Fletcher Spruce was unanimously re-elected to her post as NWMS president. Rev. C. D. Westhafer was reelected chairman of the church schools board.

SOUTH ARKANSAS

The twenty-first annual assembly of the South Arkansas District convened August 15-16 at Little Rock (Ark.) First Church. General Superintendent Edward Lawlor ordained Villard Hunter and David C. Smith. He recognized the credentials of Tom Nosthine.

District Superintendent Thomas M. Hermon was reelected to a four-year term. He reported three newly organized churches, 521 members received by profession of faith, a net gain of 158 members, and a total of $1,098,628 raised for all purposes.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) M. V. Scott and Dean Galloway; (laymen) C. R. Sawrie and I. L. Stivers.

Reelected to district posts were Mrs. Kay Hermon, NWMS president; Rev. Bob Huf-faker, NYPS president; and Rev. A. L. Payne, chairman of the church schools board.

MINNESOTA

The thirty-fourth annual assembly of the Minnesota District was held August 23-24 at Lake Koronis Assembly Grounds. General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe led the business sessions.

District Superintendent Norman W. Bloom was unanimously reelected to a four-year term. He reported the district giving up $60,000 over the previous year. The district gave 10 percent of its income for world evangelism.

Elected to the advisory board were (elders) Stanley C. Gereth and Frank W. Watkins; (laymen) Melvin C. Thomsen and Mr. Ray Shuey.

Reelected to their district offices were Mrs. Norman W. Bloom, NWMS president; and Rev. Kenneth R. Wood, chairman of the church schools board.

Rev. Aaron N. Knapp was elected president of the NYPS.

COLORADO

The sixty-fifth annual assembly of the Colorado District was held, July 5-6, at Colorado Springs. General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe ordained William M. Dittmer, Sr.; Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Wood, chairman of the church schools board.

Ordination class of 1973, Colorado District—(1. to r.) Rev. and Mrs. William M. Dittmer, Sr.; Rev. and Mrs. E. Lee Holder; Rev. and Mrs. Larry W. Johnson; Rev. and Mrs. Randall Michael; and Rev. and Mrs. Robert H. Tripp.

District Superintendent M. Harold Daniels, completing the second year of a four-year call, reported 1,354 members received this year (277 by profession of faith), bringing the total membership to 8,472, an increase of 447 over the previous year. Average attendance for the Sunday schools reached 9,798, an increase of 22 in spite of a hard-hitting winter. The Sunday school enrollment reached 18,817, an increase of 685. A total of $2,447,200 was raised for all purposes with $300,367 expended for world evangelism. Total giving was $326,303 over last year.

The following were elected to the advisory board: (elders) W. Donald Wellman, Melvin G. Carpenter, and Bill M. Sullivan; (laymen) Willis Brown, Jarrell W. Gunstream, and Joe T. Difee.

Mrs. Eunice Phillips was reelected president of the NWMS. Rev. Henry Chestwood was reelected NYPS president. Rev. Bill M. Sullivan was elected chairman of the church schools board.

NORTHWEST INDIANA
(Continued from page 23)
NOTE: An appropriate tie-in with Christmas cantata LOVE CAME DOWN. See music section of our Master Buying Guide.

**ACT NOW**

**NAZAREN PUBLISHING HOUSE**
Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Rev. and Mrs. H. A. Carman, retired pastors from the Northeast Oklahoma District, were honored on their golden anniversary with a reception hosted by the Davenport, Okla., church. The couple have 4 children, 11 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Darrell Garrett of Sun City, Ariz., and former pastor of Shawnee, Kans., celebrated their fiftieth anniversary at a reception hosted by their son and two daughters at Olathe, Kans. All seven of Mr. Garrett's brothers and a sister attended the reception. A sister of Mrs. Garrett from California was also present. The couple have seven grandchildren.

Dr. and Mrs. W. Pierrett celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary at a family dinner celebration hosted by their daughters, Mrs. B. Edgar Johnson of Kansas City and Mrs. Clifford Rockel of Sherman Oaks, Calif. The Pierretts have been faithful Nazarenes for 50 years. They are members of the Upland, Calif., church.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Wallin were recently honored in special services at Pasadena (Calif.) First Church commemorating their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary and in recognition of 67 years that Dr. Wallin has served in the ministry. Since 1966, Dr. Wallin has served as minister of visitation at Pasadena First.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman E. Beaver, Bethany, Okla., were honored at an open house earlier this year celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary. The occasion was hosted by their daughters, Mrs. Joy Beaver and Mrs. Doris Schumann, and their families.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert C. Watts, members of the Altona, N.Y., church, celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary at an open house hosted by their five children. The couple have been Nazarenes for about 45 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Donnie G. Laughlin celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at a reception held in the Fountains Mobile Park recreation center, La Verne, Calif. The celebration was hosted by children and grandchildren of the couple. The Laughlins have been active in Sunday school and church work since they became Nazarenes (both in their early teens). They are members of the Pomona (Calif.) First Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Anderson, Ashtabula, Ohio, have celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. They have both been Nazarenes since 1921. Mr. Anderson was a church board member for 38 years. Mrs. Anderson served as church treasurer for 15 years. They are members of the Ashtabula Edgewood Church.

HAMLIN TO SPEAK AT SERVICEMEN'S RETREAT

Dr. Howard Hamlin will be the special speaker at the sixteenth annual Nazarene Servicemen's Retreat. The retreat will be held November 12-16 at the Armed Forces Recreation Center in Berchtesgaden, Germany.

Dr. Hamlin, distinguished surgeon and missionary, will speak from the theme "Traveling Light Is Traveling Right" (Luke 5:116).

Special military regulations authorize administrative absence for retreats for army personnel. Chaplain Bill Sharp is coordinator of the retreat at the General Walker Hotel. All questions and information regarding this event should be directed to:

Chaplain (Cpt.) Bill Sharp, Department of the Army, Headquarters, 552nd U.S.A. Artillery Group, APO New York 09069.
Todd Elliott Spittal, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. David Spittal, Jr., Muncie, Ind., has two sets of grandparents and two sets of great-grandparents living. Todd's maternal and paternal grandparents have given 209 years of service in the Nazarene ministry.

Seated (front row left) are great-grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Parrott, Bourbonnais, Ill. Dr. Parrott is a former president of Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill., pastor and evangelist. He was ordained by Dr. P. F. Bressee in 1912. Seated far right are Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Spittal, Daleville, Ind. Both are elders. Rev. J. R. Spittal served as a pioneer district superintendent in Canada for many years.

Standing (l. to r.) are grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Perry, Bourbonnais, Ill. Dr. Perry served as pastor and 23 years as professor at O.N.C. Mr. and Mrs. David Spittal, Sr., Chesterfield, Ind., pastored churches in Canada and Illinois.

Parents, David and Donna Spittal (front row center), are in public school education. David is presently working on the doctorate in school administration at Ball State University, Muncie, Ind. Donna teaches in the elementary grades in Muncie.

“Showers of Blessing”

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Dr. William Fisher

October 28—“Thou Shalt Not Kill”
November 4—“Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery”

MOVING MINISTERS

LARRY ADAMS from Terrell, Tex., to associate, Great Bend (Kans.) First.
THOMAS E. AKESTER from Smithton, Pa., to Brookville, Pa.
WILLIAM L. BAILEY from Corry, Pa., to Sharon, Pa.
DON N. BAKER from Jacksonville (Fla.) First to Scottsboro, Ala.
C. FRANK BECKETT from Mineola, Tex., to evangelism.
BRUCE W. CARPENTER from Dothan, Ala., to Hueytown, Ala.
BYRON B. CONNER from Toronto, Ohio, to Belleville, Ill.
CURTIS F. COOK from St. Augustine (Fla.) First to Memphis (Tenn.) North.
HENRY L. COSSEL from Marion (Ind.) Park Lynn to Albany, Ind.
CLARENCE E. DAVIS from Kirwin (Kans.) First to Winfield (Kans.) First.
FLETCHER M. DIGBY from Columbus (Ga.) First to Orlando (Fla.) Silver Springs.
LEE ROY ELZEY from Nowata, Okla., to Ada (Okla.) Arlington.
DAVID FOUNTAIN from Hobart (Ind.) St. Paul to Gaylord, Mich.
ROBERT F. GAUT from Chanute, Kans., to Kansas City (Kans.) Highland Crest.

HAROLD B. GRAVES from Gary (Ind.) Glen Park to Cincinnati Southport.
L. A. GRAY from associate of Missoula (Mont.) First to associate of Great Falls (Mont.) First.
MILTON HARRINGTON from Kennewick, Wash., to Walla Walla (Wash.) First.
JAMES IRWIN from Charleston (S.C.) Columbia to Sharpville, Pa.
THOMAS W. KELLEY from Hesston, Kans., to Trenton, Mo.
LEONARD A. KETCHERSIDE from Harrisonburg (Va.) First to Bassett (Va.) Martinsville-Fort Trail.
EARL KLEIN from Sharon, Pa., to Smithton, Pa.
CLARK E. LANGFORD from Hialeah, Fla., to Panama City (Fla.) First.
WALLACE C. MILLER from Camas, Wash., to Hillsboro, Ore.
JAMES A. MONCK from Imperial Beach, Calif., to Sandusky, Ohio.
S. T. MOORE from Connersville (Ind.) Gortner Memorial to Greenfield (Ind.) First.
RAY MORRISON from Roswell (N.M.) First to Stockton (Calif.) First.
CLIFTON B. NIXON from Ocala (Fla.) Silver Springs to Tampa (Fla.) First.
DONALD R. PADGETT from Indianapolis (Ind.) Northside to evangelism.
HAROLD J. POTTER from evangelism to Reading, Mich.
JOHN H. RAMSEY from Irondequoit, Mo., to Jacksonville (Fla.) First.
JERRY O. RICHARDS from Richmond, Mo., to Independence (Mo.) Trinity.
ELLEN E. ROWAN from Willow Creek, Calif., to Fremont (Calif.) First.
HAROLD LEE SMITH from Reading, Mich., to Battle Creek (Mich.) Michigan Avenue.
TERRY SOWDEN from Eastern Nazarene College to Kane, Pa.
JOHN SPOHN from Modoc, Ind., to Alma, Mich.

THANKSGIVING PROGRAM IDEAS

Two Thanksgiving program booklets to choose from! These rich store-houses of recitations, songs, readings, and other material are something to be thankful for! Simple, meaningful dramas included. Graded material for nursery through adult age-groups. Suitable for PTA and school programs as well as the church. Compiled by Grace Ramquist. Buy 3 copies: one for the director and two to clip.

MP-401 OUR GRATITUDE 75c
MP-403 THANKSGIVING PROGRAM BUILDER 75c

For a Full Range of Sacred Music

Religious Division of the

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE

Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141

VITAL STATISTICS

DEATHS

JAMES THOMAS AHERN, 53, died June 4 in Riverside, Calif. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. James J. Thomas and Rev. Dan Farrow. Survivors include his mother, one sister, his wife, Opal, three sons, and three grandsons.

MRS. ETHEL R. BEAN, 87, widow of Rev. Asa R. Bean, died in Beatrice, Neb. Sept. 1. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. William Campbell and Rev. John Frazier. She is survived by a son, Harold; a daughter, Velma Patnode; 7 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

MR. ROBERT L. GORTNER, 67, died in Neverland, Calif. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Russell V. Clay. He is survived by his wife, Opal, three sons, and two daughters.

REV. RUSSELL V. CLAY, 64, died June 10 at Pasadena, Calif. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. L. Guy Nees. Mr. Robert L. Foster, Dr. Earl E. Lee, and Rev. Roy Nash. He is survived by his wife, Marie, a son, Russell, Jr.; three daughters, Mrs. R. Gene (Patricia) Anspach, Mrs. L. F. (Kay) Heaberlin, and Mrs. Robert A. (Sharon) Densford; and nine grandchildren.
MRS. GLADYS M. HOPSON, 55, died Aug. 15 at St. Petersburg, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Herbert Nesseth. She is survived by her husband, Frederick; three daughters, Marilyn Townsend, Pancy Runyon, Patricia Hopson; one son, Larry Hopson; and seven grandchildren.

MRS. ELISIE THOMPSON LANGFORD, 68, died Sept. 5 at Rolla, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dan P. Ketchen. She is survived by her husband, Rev. O. F. Langford; three daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty; and two sons, Thomas H., and David Duane.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died Sept. 5 at Rolla, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dan P. Ketchen. She is survived by her husband, Richard, and two daughters, Doris and Linda.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died June 24 at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. She is survived by her husband, H. C. Maupin; two sons, Roy E. and David; and two daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty.

MRS. ELSIE THOMPSON LANGFORD, 66, died Aug. 15 at St. Petersburg, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Leon Martin and Rev. Herman Wright. She is survived by her husband, Rev. O. F. Langford; three daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty; and two sons, Thomas H., and David Duane.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died Sept. 5 at Rolla, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dan P. Ketchen. She is survived by her husband, Richard, and two daughters, Doris and Linda.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died Aug. 15 at St. Petersburg, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Leon Martin and Rev. Herman Wright. She is survived by her husband, Rev. O. F. Langford; three daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty; and two sons, Thomas H., and David Duane.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died Sept. 5 at Rolla, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dan P. Ketchen. She is survived by her husband, Richard, and two daughters, Doris and Linda.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died June 24 at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. She is survived by her husband, H. C. Maupin; two sons, Roy E. and David; and two daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty.

MRS. ELSIE THOMPSON LANGFORD, 66, died Aug. 15 at St. Petersburg, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Leon Martin and Rev. Herman Wright. She is survived by her husband, Rev. O. F. Langford; three daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty; and two sons, Thomas H., and David Duane.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died Sept. 5 at Rolla, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dan P. Ketchen. She is survived by her husband, Richard, and two daughters, Doris and Linda.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died June 24 at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. She is survived by her husband, H. C. Maupin; two sons, Roy E. and David; and two daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty.

MRS. ELSIE THOMPSON LANGFORD, 66, died Aug. 15 at St. Petersburg, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Leon Martin and Rev. Herman Wright. She is survived by her husband, Rev. O. F. Langford; three daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty; and two sons, Thomas H., and David Duane.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died Sept. 5 at Rolla, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dan P. Ketchen. She is survived by her husband, Richard, and two daughters, Doris and Linda.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died June 24 at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. She is survived by her husband, H. C. Maupin; two sons, Roy E. and David; and two daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty.

MRS. ELSIE THOMPSON LANGFORD, 66, died Aug. 15 at St. Petersburg, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Leon Martin and Rev. Herman Wright. She is survived by her husband, Rev. O. F. Langford; three daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty; and two sons, Thomas H., and David Duane.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died Sept. 5 at Rolla, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dan P. Ketchen. She is survived by her husband, Richard, and two daughters, Doris and Linda.

MRS. RILDA LEE LIGHT, 43, died June 24 at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. She is survived by her husband, H. C. Maupin; two sons, Roy E. and David; and two daughters, Mrs. Jay Hickox, Mrs. Richard Kunc, and Mrs. Dennis Doughty.
How can you reconcile the two accounts of the baptism of Jesus? Matthew says the voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Mark and Luke both say the voice said, "Thou art my beloved Son."

Both report exactly what happened. Jesus alone heard the voice say, "Thou art my beloved Son." John and others standing by heard the voice say, "This is my beloved Son."

The fact that any single Gospel does not give the full and complete account does not mean that it is therefore wrong. There is a reason we have the Gospel according to Matthew, and Mark, and Luke, and John instead of only one of the four.

There are minor problems in putting the four together, but our conviction of their truth and the resulting accuracy of the picture of Jesus is strengthened by having four witnesses, and not just one or two.

Please comment on Deuteronomy 22:5, "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God." Does it pertain to the pants suits our women and girls are wearing today?

The majority of Old Testament scholars believe these words have to do with women masquerading as men and men as women for immoral and idolatrous purposes.

The difference between male and female attire in Bible times was not as great as the difference between skirts and trousers. Both men and women wore robes or skirts (Ruth 3:9; 1 Samuel 15:27; 24:4-5; Psalm 133:2; etc.).

There is a general principle involved here, though, that should not be ignored. The distinction between the sexes should not be blurred. Men should look like men and women should look like women.

The basic biblical rule of dress is stated by both Paul and Peter (1 Timothy 2:9-10; 1 Peter 3:3-4). It is the rule of modesty.

Properly fitting, feminine pants suits (in which no self-respecting man would be caught dead) can be a great deal more modest than most of the skirts worn today.

The consciences of equally good people may well differ on this matter, and should be respected. This is another area where we may well practice the principles laid down by the Apostle Paul in Romans 14.

Please clear the air for me on Deuteronomy 24:5 and Luke 14:20. Deuteronomy 24:5 says, "When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: but he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken." Wouldn't this clear the man who said, "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come"?

The guests in the parable in Luke 14:15-24 were not required to come to the feast. They were invited to come.

Those who "made excuse" were not all legitimately engaged. Their problem was that they missed out on the greatest privilege they would ever have, by reason of preoccupation with legitimate concerns.

The man who was newly married is a type of all those who use the "law" as a means of evading the requirements of grace.

If the disciples were really followers of Jesus before Pentecost, how come Jesus said to Peter, "When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren" (Luke 22:32)?

"Converted" in Luke 22:32 is epistrephas. It does not mean "to come to Christ for the first time," or "to become a Christian," as the word suggests to us. It means "to turn around," "to come back," "to return."

It is a word that properly applies to the restoration of a backslider.

As to how Jesus regarded His disciples, check Luke 10:20, "Your names are written in heaven"; John 14:17, "Ye know him [the Holy Spirit]; for he dwelleth with you"; John 15:3, "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you"; John 17:6, "Thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word"; 10, "I am glorified in them"; 14, 16, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world"; and John 20:22, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost."

It takes a pretty doctrinaire mind to sweep all this aside in order to avoid the truth that the disciples of Jesus were "converted" or "saved" men before Pentecost.
Lewis Hadley Hall, *Herald* campaign manager for the Kentucky District (son of Pastor Hadley Hall), congratulates Pastor Hadley Hall on the record number of *Herald* subscriptions obtained during the recent campaign. The church reached a total of 1,031 subscriptions, an increase of 910 over last year’s goal. Pastor Hall presents his grandson, Lew (son of Lewis Hadley Hall), with a certificate of appreciation. The younger Lew was the local church *Herald* campaign manager. He secured numerous subscriptions by selling door to door.

GOLDEN BOY COLE’S GREATEST GAME
By Charles R. (Chuck) Millhuff, Olathe, Kans.

Not a very likely place for anything to happen—Logan, W. Va. It’s a town built in a West Virginia hollow, on West Virginia coal mine sweat. The sun gets in a few hours a day and lights up the crazy streets built on ledges and the houses stuck to sides of the hills.

It’s not the kind of place I often go for a revival. It’s the kind of place I should go to more.

The 70 miles from Huntington take two and a half hours to drive, to give you some idea about the roads and how far in Logan is. By in, I mean into a basically unchanged part of America.

It’s a whole different world—uncomplicated coal miners and just plain folks. The best place to eat is the railroad hotel down the line 20 crooked minutes.

And there’s a church there in Logan, a Church of the Nazarene. Place for two cars... in back—no room on the street, the street’s a one-laner. The people park and walk a block or two. No one thinks a thing of it—been doing it for years.

One family that had been going through the three-times-a-week routine for years were the Coles. A fine, attractive family in every way. It was an old story. I’ve seen it many times. Mrs. Cole, a glowing Christian; her husband, one of the best guys in the church but unsaved.


He played for the National Cable team, a company in the same little town of Logan. This was no ordinary team. Along with their wonder pitcher they had made it to the world series of softball more than once. It’s called the International Softball Congress.

Now anyone who knows anything about baseball knows that the pitcher makes the difference—and especially in softball. Here was such a phenomenal pitcher that he was called Golden Boy Cole. Not only was he a great pitcher, but a far above average hitter.

A 12-inch leather ball and a miracle golden arm, that’s what stood between Golden Boy Cole and a Christian home.

It was a bright, raw Sunday morning, February 18, 1973. There they were way back on the left, the Coles. The church was full and the revival had reached the zero hour, like most revivals Sunday morning.

Well, God came to a little West Virginia church that morning, and as Jim Bohi sang, without one bit of encouragement a woman stepped out into the aisle. Before Jim was through, the altar was lined, and among the seekers were many tough cases.

Then the church froze as a wife and mother broke into sobs. Golden Boy Cole walked slowly down the aisle, much as if he had been thrown out of a game. Now this man, who had thrown more no-hitters and shutouts than he could remember, stayed at the altar until the side was retired. I mean, he prayed clear through.

His simple testimony at the end:

“Nearly threw away the best things in my life. Thanks be to God for a praying church, a loving wife, and a wonderful God.”

I looked at his beautiful wife and kids, and there was the evidence of what he had nearly pitched away on a softball diamond.

In a recent letter to me he wrote:

“I’m not playing much ball, but I’m going to church a lot—after all, HE comes first.”

As I rode through the night for Huntington after the evening service, I felt as if I had been to the world series—and, praise God, my team had won.
SCENES O' CHRISTMAS
White parchment, French fold, and “mother-of-pearl” border combine to convey the feeling of festivity and elegance. 4 3/4 x 6 3/4". Box of 16 cards.
G-9773 $1.50

CHRISTMAS ENCHANTMENT
Beautiful pictorial expressions of the spirit of Christmas in daintily embossed settings. French fold. 5 x 7". Box of 16 cards.
G-9783 $1.50

JOYOUS CHRISTMAS
Features traditional art with bronze filigree on ivory-tinted parchment, and colorful sketches inside. French fold. 4 1/4 x 6 3/4". Box of 16 cards.
G-9543 $1.25

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES
Biblical scenes embossed for third-dimensional effect. Unique short fold with holly design border lends touch of warmth. 4 1/2 x 6 1/2".
G-9553 $1.25

LUSTROUS CHRISTMAS
Live, vibrant photo reproductions to help you express the joy of the season. Embossed stock. 4 x 6 3/4". Box of 14 cards.
G-9303 $1.00

TIDINGS OF CHRISTMAS
A delightful blend of art and verse beautifully proclaims the spirit of Christ’s birth. Single-fold. 4 1/2 x 6 3/4". Box of 14 cards.
G-9313 $1.00

SAVE ON BOX PURCHASES • Priced individually these cards would cost you three times as much or more.

Make Your Selection NOW While Ample Stock Is Available

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141
A LAP ROBE AND ANSWERED PRAYER

It all started last September when my brother-in-law was in the hospital. His wife spoke to a sweet old lady after hearing her singing an old hymn. Later she told this in prayer meeting.

Because of this I started visiting this lady when she was released from the hospital and moved to a nursing home. But on my third visit I found that she had gone to live with a daughter.

Something kept urging me to go back to the nursing home, although I didn’t know anyone there. I would walk up and down the halls, speaking to anyone who looked friendly.

Then one day I met Marge. She was suffering from emphysema and paralyzed from the waist down. And not too friendly.

It isn’t easy for me to talk to strangers about the Lord, and I felt somewhat dismayed at thought of efforts with Marge. Yet I had been praying the Lord would help me to win someone to Him—someone I could really and truly say that I had personally won. Marge presented a real challenge! Whenever I went into town to shop I always tried to stop by and see her, speaking a word for the Lord whenever I could.

One day it occurred to me that she could use a lap robe. I contacted the Helping Hands organization and, sure enough, they had one I could give her. Perhaps this would provide me with an avenue of communication to her for the Lord. I laid it aside, planning to give it to her the next time I went shopping.

It was a cold, blustery, Wisconsin winter day and the shopping took me longer than I had anticipated. The beautiful lap robe in one of my sacks reminded me of my intention to see Marge.

But it was 11 a.m. I would need to be home shortly to prepare lunch. Yet I couldn’t get away from the gentle urging in the back of my mind that I should go over to the rest home anyway to see Marge.

I went quickly, with lap robe in hand, apprehensively, knowing her spunky, independent disposition. Would she accept it?

Her eyes sparkled like that of a little girl when I presented her with the pretty lap robe. She couldn’t believe strangers had sent it to her. We talked about several things like the condition of the world and I mumbled something about how thankful I was to have the peace of Jesus in my heart.

Discouragement filled my heart as I made my way home. I had so wanted to win her to Christ that day.

It was late that afternoon when the ringing of the phone startled me. A voice on the other end of the line cheerfully inquired, “Are you the lady who brought a lap robe to my Aunt Marge?”

“Oh, she said she thought your name was Larson. I found your name in the phone book. I am her niece, Darlene. My Aunt Marge was so excited over this beautiful lap robe. And she told me that you had talked to her about having the peace of Jesus in your heart. She said that Jesus gave her that peace of heart and mind this afternoon. She’s such a different person!

“You see, I and some of my friends have prayed for four years for my aunt and sent several pastors to talk with her, but she wouldn’t have anything to do with them. She thought at first that I had sent you. The Lord has finally reached her!”

Gratefully I bowed my head. “Thank You, Lord, for answering prayer by the way of a lowly lap robe.”

By Katherine Larson, Mattoon, Wis.
NAZARENE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FALL ENROLLMENTS
ENROLLMENT REPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>1972</th>
<th>1973</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British Isles Nazarene College</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Manchester, England)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethany Nazarene College</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Bethany, Okla.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Nazarene College</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Winnipeg, Manitoba)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Nazarene College</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Quincy, Mass.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-America Nazarene College</td>
<td>832</td>
<td>833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Olathe, Kans.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Vernon Nazarene College</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mount Vernon, Ohio)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nazarene Bible College</td>
<td>601</td>
<td>704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Colorado Springs, Colo.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Nazarene College</td>
<td>1,006</td>
<td>1,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Nampa, Ida.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nazarene Theological Seminary</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Kansas City, Mo.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivet Nazarene College</td>
<td>1,778</td>
<td>1,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Kankakee, Ill.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Loma College</td>
<td>1,270</td>
<td>1,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(San Diego, Calif.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevecca Nazarene College</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Nashville, Tenn.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>9,503</td>
<td>9,470</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

—Edward S. Mann, Executive Secretary
Department of Education and the Ministry

SPANISH BIBLE COLLEGE
ON NEW CAMPUS

The Spanish-American Nazarene Seminary of San Antonio, Tex., celebrated its twenty-sixth year of service by moving from its old location on Lombrano Street to an oak-studded, 82-acre plot of land located in the scenic foothills just 15 miles from the heart of the city. The new campus lies just six minutes away from the multimillion-dollar University of Texas in San Antonio, presently under construction.

It is across the road from a government-projected satellite city that will become the home of more than 85,000 people within the very near future.

The proximity of the campus to these projects has increased the value of the campus to more than six times its original cost.

In spite of inclement weather and

President Vaughters said, "With the passing of 26 years, a new era in a beautiful new location has begun. The purpose that motivated the beginning of the Spanish Bible School so many years ago will continue to motivate and mold the educational processes of the institution through the years to come—the preparation of Latin American youth for Christian service.

"For many years the school has offered a four-year course of study in Spanish leading toward a ministerial diploma or a bachelor in theology degree. Already more than 200 young men and women have graduated, many of whom are filling the pulpits of our Latin American churches in the United States, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and areas of Central America.

To further help in the preparation of ministers, extension work has been initiated in Puerto Rico, and special summer classes are held for the pastors in Mexico.

"The membership gains realized in Mexico and north of the border in our Spanish-speaking churches is due in a large measure to those who have graduated and are serving as pastors and district leaders."
ATTENTION . . .
NEW NAZARENES!

Thousands of you who have joined the Church of the Nazarene this year will be interested in the educational opportunities provided for your youth.

Twelve educational institutions valued at $60 million, with nearly 10,000 students and 500 faculty members, welcome you and your sons and daughters.

DIRECTORY

Dr. Stephen W. Nease
**BETHANY NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Bethany, Oklahoma 73008
Dr. Hugh Rae
**BRITISH ISLES NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Manchester, M20 8GU, England
Dr. Arnold Airhart
**CANADIAN NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2P7, Canada
Dr. Leslie Parrott
**EASTERN NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Quincy, Massachusetts 02170
Dr. Curtis Smith
**MID-AMERICA NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Olathe, Kansas 66061
Dr. John A. Knight
**MOUNT VERNON NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
Dr. Leonard S. Oliver
**NAZARENE BIBLE COLLEGE**
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80930
Dr. William Greathouse
**NAZARENE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**
Kansas City, Missouri 64131
Dr. Kenneth H. Pearsall
**NORTHWEST NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Nampa, Idaho 83651
Dr. Harold W. Reed
**OLIVET NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Kankakee, Illinois 60901
Dr. W. Shelburne Brown
**POINT LOMA COLLEGE**
San Diego, California 92106
Dr. Mark R. Moore
**TREVECCA NAZARENE COLLEGE**
Nashville, Tennessee 37210

For complete information write today to the college of your zone, or address:

Edward S. Mann
Executive Secretary
Department of Education and the Ministry
6401 The Paseo
Kansas City, Mo. 64131