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Dr. Guillermín Expects 'Great Year' For LBC

By BRENDA EASTERLING

Of all the great things concerning Liberty Baptist College, there is none greater than the students.

And this year the incoming freshman class will be double what it was last year, making this the greatest year yet. As of Tuesday, August 8, 955 new students have been accepted and over 1,400 applications have been received. Ten to 12 applications are being received daily, director of admissions Tom Diggs told the *Journal-Champion*. The expectation for this fall is 2,200 students.

Dr. Guillermín expects a potential of 3,500 resident students in Liberty Baptist Schools this fall. This includes LBC, Liberty Baptist Seminary, Thomas Road Bible Institute, and Lynchburg Christian Academy. Forty per cent of the post-high school students are married and have children, associate dean of student affairs John Baker said. This will multiply the growth of Sunday School and church services at Thomas Road Baptist Church.

Because of the avalanche of students at LBC, Treasure Island and the Downtown Campus will again be used for dormitories

this fall, in addition to 12 new dormitories on Liberty Mountain which are scheduled for completion by August 18.

What may be headline news to students, however, is a brand new food service, Dr. Guillermín said. America's leading food service for colleges, Saga Food Service, will include LBC in its list of service to more than 650 schools.

Another great thing about LBC this fall is Flames Football coached by Tom Dowling. This should be the strongest football season ever because Dowling has a good selection of 106 top-notch athletes to choose from who are trying out for the 85 team positions.

The first game September 1, with the University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio, will put LBC football on a national level, Dr. Guillermín said.

Then there are other new features. The LBC Student Government Association has been restructured, and president Danny Henderson has already proven himself. "He is a good leader, and a good example of the caliber of students LBC is trying to produce," Dr. Guillermín said.

Liberty Baptist College this year is host for a Sacred Concert Series. "There will be seven concerts, one a month plus a Saturday film festival sponsored by SGA," student activities director Lamar Keener

said.

If there is no greater thing about LBC than its students, there is likewise no greater attraction at LBC than its faculty. This year there are 29 new faculty members, and accreditation is on schedule for 1980-81, Dr. Guillermín said.

The spice which adds depth to LBC is the academic program which includes eight major divisions. All students are required to take Bible. "When a student graduates from LBC, he has the equivalent of a Bible minor or, in some cases, a Bible major in addition to his chosen major," Dr.

Guillermín said.

One more thing concerning LBC this year is that Thomas Road Baptist Church, which is already at capacity, will again have a special 8:15 service for students. Dr. Falwell has emphasized that the students must come to the early service to make room for the visitors and members at Sunday School and the 11:00 a.m. service. But what about Sunday School for the college students? They will be bussed back to the mountain, hotel, and island for special Sunday School classes. A series of exciting classes will be conducted by Gordon Luff, using teachers from different areas of the ministry.

The Thomas Road Family

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25 CENTS

AUGUST 18, 1978

for Truth

15,000 Club Serves Students As Backbone' For Low Tuition

Because of the 15,000 Club, Liberty Baptist College is the least expensive four-year liberal arts college of any kind for miles around — public or private, Christian or secular.

Lynchburg College — where Dr. Jerry Falwell attended in the early 1950's before he was saved — now charges its students \$2900 a year tuition.

Sweet Briar College and Randolph-Macon Woman's College, both private institutions; charge \$3,550 and \$3,850 a year, respectively.

And the University of Virginia, a public four-year school, comes the closest to LBC's low tuition rate by charging its students \$1,500 a year.

So LBC offers a quality education, and at a lower tuition rate than practically anybody else.

And it's because of this fact that the big push for the 15,000 Club begins every year in the second week of August and continues until the end of the year.

It's because of this that some 500 members and staff workers of Thomas Road Baptist Church volunteered their time to call 40,000 of last year's 15,000 Club members during a two-week phonathon.

According to Jimmy Thomas of the church Stewardship Department, well over half of those 40,000 members promised to join the club again this year.

About 25 per cent of them said they "may join" again, and Dr. Falwell believes the majority of those "maybes" actually will join.

A person becomes a member of the 15,000 Club by contributing a \$100 scholarship to LBC.

The club began when LBC began in 1971. Then, because 10,000 scholarships were needed, it was known as the 10,000 Club. Its sole purpose was to supplement the difference between what it costs to educate a student and the tuition the student is charged.

Two years later, Dr. Falwell changed the name of it to the 15,000 Club — its permanent name — and urged 15,000 members across the country to join.

Last year, the club had more than 80,000 members, contributing some \$8 million to the college.

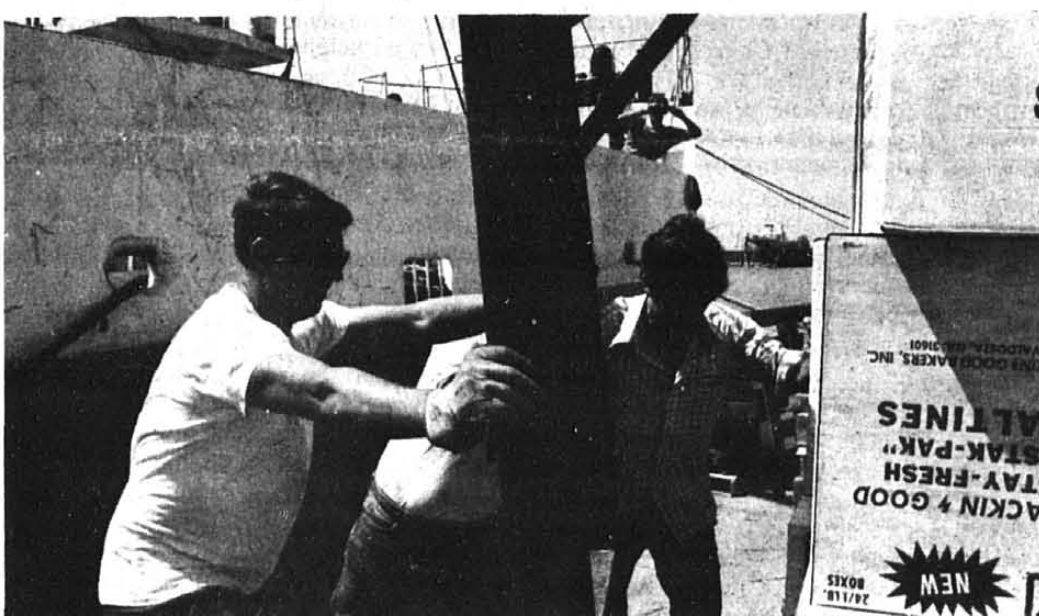
The 40,000 members called last week were those who have paid their \$100 scholarships in full. Some are still paying on an installment basis.

The goal this year is to double that figure with 160,000 members. And, with last week's phonathon results, Jimmy Thomas feels optimistic that the goal will be reached.

Members are sent an attractive gift in appreciation for their scholarship. This year, for every \$100 scholarship, a member is sent a set of three books making up the Layman's Library II — *The Liberty Family Heritage Bible*, *The Liberty New Testament Commentary* (written by the LBC religion faculty) and *Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*. Since they are printed and shipped in bulk, they actually cost the college a small fraction of the \$100.



Ship Hallelujah arrives in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.



Students unload 'precious' cargo to feed the needy.

645,339 Pounds of Food Delivered To Needy Haitians

More was done for foreign missions in 1978 by the Thomas Road family than ever before, and most of the effort and money was invested in Haiti. The high point of the year was July 16 when the ship *Hallelujah* arrived in Port-au-Prince with 645,339 pounds of food.

The food had finally arrived after several delays. Last Thanksgiving Liberty Baptist College students had painted the ship in exchange for its use to transport food to the starving of Haiti. LBC students also loaded the vessel in New Orleans.

Twenty-six students from the single adults department of Thomas Road were on hand to unload the food but could not. The private dock that was donated had collapsed in a storm, so the *Hallelujah* had to tie up at a commercial pier. The unions would not allow the students to unload the food, so labor cost an extra \$8,000.

Some food was dispatched directly to churches, other portions of the food were stored at Fernuthe and the vocational school in St. Marc. (The LBC students had built the school in February.) The single adults and 33 high school students from the Lynchburg church unloaded the trucks at the vocational school.

Food is distributed under the direction of local pastors and deacons. It goes to 139 churches under the supervision of missionary Wallace Turnbull and to 29 churches directed by Antoine Alexis, a graduate of Liberty Baptist College. Also, food was distributed through the canteens in Christian schools throughout the island.

LHBI REACHES FROZEN NORTH, HAS 6,500 STUDENTS

By BOB HARRIS

Crack!

With the force of what seemed like a million tons of dynamite, the bullet exploded from the shotgun barrel in a blaze of color and fury.

The rugged, red-faced young Indian man, his clean-shaven countenance peeking out from his heavy coon-skin parka, approached his prey with caution.

The man took one deep breath, reached out his powerful arms, and slowly rolled the caribou to his sled.

A day's hunt completed, the Indian shuffled into the cabin, took his heavy outer garments off, sat down beside the fireplace, rubbed his hands vigorously, took a pen in one

hand and a piece of white paper in the other, and began to write:

"To Dr. Harold L. Willmington. Dear Dr. Willmington," he wrote, "I'm sorry I haven't been able to complete my lessons this month. It's caribou season up here in the Northwest Territories; you can only hunt them a few months out of the year. I've just been too busy. Please be patient with me."

The young Indian man has to spend all day hunting caribou to eat and to feed his family in the long, lonely winters of the north country. But he also is a pastor to a small village of Indians living in the Yukon.

In addition to all this, he is one of 6,500 students of the Liberty Home Bible Institute, which at the present time is the fastest growing ministry of Thomas Road Baptist Church.

The Indian is part of a group of people who spend two to three hours a day in the Word, guided by taped lectures and written materials in the LHBI Bible correspondence course.

These people come from all backgrounds, all races, all classes, from 18 years old to 81 years old.

They listen to Dr. Willmington and others take them through a complete, two-year comprehensive Bible course. During that time, they are tested on what they've learned 56 times; they send their completed tests back to Lynchburg, and in the LHBI office at the Old-Time Gospel Hour Administrative Building, a staff of nine employees personally grade every test and send them back — with the help of a computer.

With that many students, that means they grade 86,800 tests per semester, or 347,200 tests for every two-year period.

In essence, LHBI takes to the people "out there" in correspondence course form what Thomas Road Bible Institute offers students here in Lynchburg — a two-year crash course through the Bible; "a brand new look at the grand old book," uniquely designed by Dr. Willmington.

Students are taken through the Scriptures

two times, in two ways. They learn the Bible through the chronological method — from Genesis straight through to Revelation. But they also learn through the doctrinal method. They are taught the doctrine of the Church, of the Holy Spirit, of the Father, of the Second Coming, and others.

LHBI also offers sort of a "bonus" to its students, known as the "Seminar Method." This is a series of "how-to" lectures—how to start a bus ministry, build a church, run the finances, have a junior church, as well as many other vital topics.

Finally, the curriculum includes a list of electives—a semester course on several individual books of the Bible, a course on hermeneutics, Sunday school growth, Christian journalism, archaeology, and how to study.

Every registrant is sent 200 tapes of 90-minute lectures—45 minutes on each side. (End-to-end, each student receives 16½ miles of cassette tape.)

Tuition is \$210 per semester; the registration fee is \$14. LHBI has an interest-free time payment plan, by which a student merely pays the \$14 registration fee at first and is then billed in three installments of \$70 each. If he pays full tuition at first, the registration fee is waived.

The course is written to be completed in two years. Upon completion, the students may travel to Lynchburg to participate in the Liberty Baptist Schools commencement exercises in May. Some 73 did so last May, dressed in green robes. At present, an average of 12 LHBI students a month complete the course.

Dr. Willmington has put Joel Pearson, a Moody Bible Institute graduate, in charge of LHBI. Pearson, a realtor for 23 years, was a music major at Moody and directed music at a small church in Hammond, Ind., for a time.

Though he had not met Dr. Willmington until he moved to Lynchburg, Pearson's old farm was located 25 miles from where Willmington used to preach in Valparaiso, Ind.

In spite of his real estate success, Joel and his wife Lois felt his two younger sons should

be in a Christian school. He watched the Old-Time Gospel Hour on TV and felt God leading him to move here in 1973.

His son Philip, who graduated from Lynchburg Christian Academy in 1975, now works for the Old-Time Gospel Hour in Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. His other son, David, graduated from LCA in 1977 and wants to go into aeronautical mechanics. The Pearsons have an older son, Timothy, who is a financial analyst for United Virginia Bank in Lynchburg and whose wife Connie is assistant dean of woman at LBC.

Pearson considers his past experience in real estate and the business world as an asset to his job with LHBI. Under his leadership, LHBI has the largest income of all the ministries at Thomas Road.

Pearson points to the brilliant teaching of Dr. Willmington as a catalyst in drawing students. Some 5600 requests came in shortly after LHBI started in 1976. Now, the course is sent to M.D.'s, Ph.D.'s, teachers, pastors, and even people with no more than a third-grade education.

Pearson thanks the Lord for the Liberty Home Bible Institute, and for the testimony of its students. He points to one letter with particular glee and humor:

"Dear Dr. Willmington, Thank you so much for the Liberty Home Bible Institute. If it weren't for you, I couldn't understand most of this blessed old book. Your course has opened this book up to me, and I see the truth of God, and what Jesus did for my sins as never before. Thank you. Ooops! Excuse me. These stains were just made when my pet raccoon spilled coffee on this paper. Sorry."

As for the Indian in the Yukon, he takes the course free of charge, because a friend in the U.S. sent in the money as a gift. He may be the only Indian in the Northwest Territories taking a Bible correspondence course—but many other Indians are benefiting by what he's learning.



Sam Kintner is chief of LHBI's grading section.



Joel Pearson directs study course.



Pat Harrell checks LHBI student records.

INSIDE INFO

Dr. Jerry Falwell answers recent criticisms leveled at the Thomas Road Baptist Church ministry from within the fundamentalist camp. He speaks with love and firmness on Page 2 of this issue with detailed comments.

Evangelist Charles Hughes is making a speedy recovery. A report of his preaching is on Page 4.

EDITORIAL

An Open Letter From Jerry Falwell

Dear Friends:

As a general rule, we do not take the time to answer all the libel and slander that is hurled against our ministry. Dr. B.R. Lakin often says, "Your friends don't need any explanations, and your enemies wouldn't believe them, regardless what you say." We do not care to get into a verbal or written battle with men we consider to be "brethren." In my opinion, we injure the cause of Christ before a gainsaying world when we wage war with other servants of God, especially those who, like us, are Fundamentalists.

There is another reason we seldom answer our critics. Presently, most of our critics are dedicated and godly men who lead fine fundamentalist churches and schools. Although they are guilty of sin, in our opinion, in spreading untrue statements and attacking another brother in the Lord in such a vicious way, we still believe them to be good men of God. I personally feel that the day will come when these men will realize they are wrong and will apologize.

At this moment, many of these men sincerely feel they are doing God a service by slandering the ministry here in Lynchburg. At any rate, we believe it is wrong for us to "touch God's anointed." Most of these men are "God's anointed servants." We would never want to do anything to hurt them or to damage their testimony before an unsaved world.

Since you are my friends and since many of you support this ministry, I feel you deserve an objective answer to what is being said in these church papers and religious tabloids. I will deal with issues and not with personalities.

First of all, some of these men are leaving the impression that we are not Fundamentalists and Separatists. Some of them call us neo-evangelicals. I was converted January 20, 1952, as a result of hearing Dr. Charles E. Fuller on the Old-Fashioned Revival Hour radio broadcast. I made my public profession of faith in Christ at an independent Baptist church in my hometown, Lynchburg, Va. This local church was associated with the Baptist Bible Fellowship. Therefore, at the advice of my pastor, I attended Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Mo. I sat under the ministry of men like Drs. G.B. Vick, W.E. Dowell, Noel Smith, Fred S. Donnellson, R.O. Woodworth, and John W. Rawlings.

Upon completion of my schooling there, and under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, I founded the Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Va., in June of 1956.

My theological convictions are exactly the same today as they were when I graduated from Baptist Bible College in 1956.

Our position on worldliness and separation is exactly the same as it was when this church was founded 22 years ago.

Our position on the dance, the hollywood theatre, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, immorality, etc., has not changed one iota during the years. All the students in the Liberty Baptist Schools are required to follow very stringent rules of Biblical separation. You may write for a copy of the "Liberty Way" which describes the code of conduct required of our students.

Some have falsely accused me of being too friendly with Charismatics. They would indicate that we are not consistent in our position on the charismatic movement.

We do not accept for enrollment in the Liberty Baptist Schools any young people who are involved in the charismatic movement or speaking in tongues. There is one exception. If a prospective student was once involved in the charismatic movement, but has repudiated his or her former position as erroneous, that student is considered. We are not trying to be cruel to these young people. We simply have learned by experience that the modern charismatic movement is creating division among good Bible-believing churches and schools. The hyper-calvinist on the one side of the spectrum, and tongues on the other, are probably the two most dangerous elements in Christendom today.

A number of years ago, my friend Doug Oldham was a guest singer on the Old-Time Gospel Hour each Sunday. Doug never was a staff member here, as he would quickly tell you. Doug was my personal friend at that time. He still is today. Doug Oldham never was a Charismatic, and he is not a Charismatic today. He was raised in the Anderson, Ind., Church of God. Some people who are not knowledgeable regarding the Church of God, Anderson, are not aware that this church is non-charismatic. Most of the people who assume Doug is charismatic because he comes from the Church of God, Anderson, have this denomination confused with the Cleveland, Tenn., Church of God which is charismatic. More than five years ago, the Bill Gaither family sang here. The critics have also accused the Gaithers of being Charismatic. This is likewise untrue. Gloria Gaither is not an ordained Pentecostal preacher as someone falsely stated. This information can be verified by contacting Doug Oldham and the Gaithers. The Oldhams and the Gaithers are wonderful Christian people. I love them dearly and consider them to be noble servants of God.

This does not mean that we endorse everything Doug and the Gaithers might do. Neither would they endorse everything I do. This does not mean that I approve of Doug singing on P.T.L. or the 700 Club. I have strong convictions regarding this matter, and, for that reason, I do not allow our staff members to participate on these charismatic television programs.

Recently, someone suggested that Jerome Hines had gone charismatic. That writer, in a subtle and dishonest way, said, "He is reported to have gone

charismatic." The writer was careful not to state this emphatically. He simply wanted to leave a false impression to hurt Jerome Hines. The fact is, Jerome Hines is not charismatic. He was offered the headship of the music department at Oral Roberts University at one time. He turned the offer down because he differed with the University regarding the tongues issue. Jerome Hines is a Metropolitan Opera star. He is also a dynamic Christian and a consistent soul-winner. Jerome Hines has performed here. Again, in no way do I endorse everything Jerome Hines may have done in the past or will yet do in the future. A leading Christian university has a Metropolitan cast come to their campus annually for a musical performance. Many of these performers are not Fundamentalist and Separatist Christians. In my opinion, this in no way compromises the integrity in the character of that school. They bring these artists in to, as I understand it, set a standard of good music for students of the university. Senator Strom Thurmond is a very fine senator and a committed Southern Baptist. His membership on the board of a leading fundamentalist school in no way commits that school to the endorsement of the cooperative program of the Southern Baptist. I believe that school is justified in having Senator Thurmond on its board and is not guilty of compromise in so doing.

Throughout the years, major magazines in America, Christian and otherwise, have written stories and feature articles about me and the Lynchburg ministries. Some of these articles have been critical. Some have been commendatory. Because I speak on a large religious television and radio network in America, my opinion on various issues is often sought by these magazines. They sometimes publish my opinions beside the opinions of others with whom I may differ theologically. This in no way means that I am endorsing these men or the magazines that carry my comments. For example, the *Wall Street Journal* carried an article about our ministry. That does not mean that Thomas Road Baptist Church is involved in the stock market on Wall Street. We are not. I have spoken at Congressional Prayer Breakfasts. This does not mean that I endorse everything the Congress of the United States does. Sometimes, civic clubs and national business organizations invite me to speak. Wherever and whenever I speak, I always give the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and take an uncompromising stand on Biblical righteousness.

I am vehemently opposed to the modern Ecumenical Movement. Never in my life have I conducted a meeting or crusade under the sponsorship of liberals or modernists. We have two standing rules for all staff members in our ministry. We do not allow our people to speak in churches or groups which are a part of the World Council of Churches or the National Council of Churches. Secondly, we do not participate in churches or organizations which are openly charismatic in nature. With hundreds of people involved in our ministry, we have erred in holding to this position a few times during the years. We have never done it intentionally. Whenever we find that one of our people or one of our teams have gone to the wrong place, we do everything we can to correct it and see that it doesn't happen again. We are human and lay no claim to sinless perfection.

However, I wish to make one thing clear. We do not hate Charismatics. Some of our good brethren seem to have an actual hatred for others who are not totally within their camp. As I interpret the Bible, we are to love everyone. While I take strong exception to the modern charismatic movement, I have a deep and sincere love for the people involved in it. I believe there are many sincere and genuine Christians in the charismatic movement. It is wrong to assume otherwise. Therefore, I do not openly attack and vilify persons who are in the charismatic movement. I do not feel this is right. I have my own standards and principles by which I live. I do not invite Charismatics to sing and preach here in Lynchburg. I do not preach for them. But, I repeat, I do not hate them. I love them everyone.

Mr. Bob Walker is editor-publisher of *Christian Life Magazine*. Recently, *Christian Life Magazine* did a cover story about this ministry. Bob Walker attended the Thomas Road Baptist Church shortly thereafter and worshipped with us in a morning service. I had him lead in prayer during this service. I was aware at the time that his magazine had been tolerant of the charismatic movement. However, I was not aware that he himself was a Charismatic. I learned this several days after he led in prayer in that service. I love Bob Walker. If I had known he was a Charismatic, however, I would not have asked him to lead in prayer. I feel this confuses young converts who watch our television program who would feel that I was endorsing the charismatic movement by having a Charismatic lead in prayer. I made a mistake in this instance; I feel it was based upon misjudgment and not compromise.

Shortly after the conversion of Eldridge Cleaver and Chuck Colson, I asked them to give their testimonies at Thomas Road Baptist Church. They did this. They gave good and clear testimonies. As a matter of fact, quite frequently we have someone give a salvation testimony at Thomas Road. This does not mean that our ministry is going on record as condoning everything every witness for Christ will do the rest of his or her life. Chuck Colson was an attorney. His witness is received by unsaved attorneys. Eldridge Cleaver was a black militant with communistic leaning. These guests gave us an inroad to many such people, and, as a matter of fact, a number of people were saved after hearing these testimonies. I do not believe that we are wrong in encouraging new converts to give their testimonies publicly. It has been my experience that this helps establish new converts in the faith. (By the way, neither Cleaver nor Colson are charismatic leaders as some have falsely reported.)

One periodical actually reported that Bob Harrington had once been a vice-president of Liberty Baptist College. This is an outright dishonest statement. Bob Harrington was walking with God many years ago, he conducted evangelistic meetings in many of the major fundamentalist churches in America. He preached here at Thomas Road as well. We pastors believed in his ministry then and had every reason to do so. However, just as soon as Bob began to waver on the charismatic issue, and his personal life came into question, we all ceased using him. If we are going to be cynics and assume everybody is



automatically bad, we would never have any evangelist or outside speaker in our pulpits. We have to love people and believe that they are what they claim to be when the evidence seems to support it. At the same time, as shepherds of our flocks, we must be very sensitive and not bring anyone into our pulpits who may hurt our people.

The same men who are presently attacking me on these issues are also attacking great men like Dr. John R. Rice and Dr. Jack Van Impe, Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. Jack Hudson, Dr. Jack Hyles and other giants of God. Drs. A.V. Henderson, David Cavin, John Rawlings, Charles Billington, Greg Dixon, Truman Dollar and others were accused, along with myself, of compromise for lecturing at the convocation of the California Graduate School of Theology, an independent fundamental school. It was alleged that this school has a Seventh Day Adventist teacher on its faculty. This is not true. Dr. Holland London, upon becoming president several years ago, immediately removed this Seventh Day Adventist from the faculty. Dr. London is a member of a large church in the Baptist Bible Fellowship. He preaches in a number of Baptist Bible Fellowship churches regularly. As far as we can determine, the faculty members at California Graduate School of Theology are all Fundamentalists. Men like Dr. Frank Collins lecture frequently at that school. There are students attending the school who are not Baptist. Again, I do not feel that any compromise is involved here whatsoever.

Dr. Elmer Towns assisted me in the founding of Liberty Baptist College in the fall of 1971. Before that, he taught at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School at Deerfield, Ill.,ois. As a writer, he had been a contributing editor to *Christian Life Magazine* as well. He later left our employ and went to Atlanta, Ga., where he assisted Dr. Cecil Hodges, Dr. Curtis Hutson and other good fundamentalist pastors in establishing and organizing Baptist University of America. In February of this year, he returned to Lynchburg as Editor-in-Chief of Old-Time Gospel Hour Publications. Dr. Towns had resigned from *Christian Life Magazine* as Sunday School Editor. One of the reasons which he states caused his resignation was the more than tolerant attitude of the magazine towards the modern charismatic movement. Dr. Towns has not taught at Trinity for many years. Yet, he is accused of being neo-evangelical because he once taught there. In the hundreds of Christian day schools across America, there are several thousand school teachers who formerly taught in public schools. Should we assume that all of these teachers espouse the public school philosophy because they once taught there? I think not.

A great deal has been said regarding my participation in an April, 1978, peace mission to the Middle East. During this fact-finding and peace mission, I was the spokesman in meetings with President Sadat of Egypt and Prime Minister Begin of Israel. The purpose of the mission was two-fold. We wanted to hear firsthand from the heads of state what the issues were which prevented a peace settlement between the Arabs and the Israelis. Secondly, we, as Bible-believing Christians, wanted to present to these leaders what we believe the Bible has to say regarding the Middle East, and Israel and Egypt in particular, and what we feel could help bring about at least a temporary peace in this part of the world. Most of the criticism centers around the fact that a number of men were involved in this peace mission who are not, in our definition, Fundamentalists. With our group was Dr. Jim Tozer, a Presbyterian. Dr. John Warwick Montgomery is a Lutheran. Rev. Ralph Wilkerson is a Charismatic and is pastor of Melodyland Christian Center in Anaheim, Ca. Rev. Billy Zeoli is an Interdenominationalist and is spiritual advisor to former President Ford. Roger Elwood is the editor of *Inspiration Magazine*.

The Egyptian and Israeli governments jointly sponsored and paid for the peace mission. They are aware that approximately fifty million adult Americans profess to have experienced the new birth. They call these people "Evangelicals." I do not consider myself an Evangelical. I am a Fundamentalist and a Separatist. However, the Egyptian and Israeli governments, in conjunction with *Inspiration Magazine*, selected the men who were to make this journey.

When I was called and asked to participate, I asked for time to consider the matter. I prayed much over the situation. I conferred with good men of God in the fundamentalist camp. I talked with Dr. John R. Rice, Dr. B.R. Lakin and men of this caliber. They all urged me to go. They stated, and I agreed, that this was not a theological happening. It was not a Bible conference or a religious event. It was a peace mission. I was urged to go representing the Lord, the Fundamentalists camp in America and the United States of America. That is exactly what I did. I was selected spokesman in the meetings with President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin. I told them what Fundamentalists believe. I shared the Gospel with both of them. I talked at length with President Sadat regarding the born-again experience. I also explained to them what I believe the Bible has to say regarding God's plan for His people and His land. A great deal of positive things happened. I am convinced that our involvement in this historical event was used of God in

a very effective way. Only eternity will reveal what the true accomplishments were.

I do not believe that any compromise whatever was involved. If the men who went with me had been politicians instead of preachers, it would have been all the same. Someone reported that Rev. Wilkerson stated that he and I were going to hold a joint crusade in Egypt later this year. I know nothing about this. I most certainly have not agreed to any such thing and will not participate in such a crusade. To my knowledge, no joint crusade has ever been suggested by the Egyptian government or by anyone else. I am making tentative plans at this time, with the agreement of the Egyptian government, to conduct a Pastors Counseling Institute in Egypt later this year. Hopefully, we will be able to conduct an evangelistic crusade in Egypt during 1979. This will not be an ecumenical event. At this moment, everything is still tentative; nothing has been definitely established.

Much more could be said regarding the many libelous charges which are made against our ministry. I can only say that God knows our hearts. We are Fundamentalists. We are Separatists. We stand where we have stood for nearly a quarter of a century. I believe the same can be said of Dr. John R. Rice, Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. Jack Hyles and many other great Fundamentalist and Separatist pastors and religious leaders who are being assaulted today.

I would like to say I harbor no bitterness towards the men who are writing and saying these things. I repeat, I believe these are for the main part, good men. They are men of God. God has used them in the past and is using them now. I pray for them regularly. I will never engage in a war with these men. If my ministry is of God, they cannot hurt me. If I should "come down from the wall and cease doing God's work" to attack these servants of God, I would most certainly hurt myself and the ministry here. We do not allow our students or staff to speak negatively of any men of God. We especially refuse to allow them to criticize men who may be criticizing us. As a matter of fact, we will discipline a student or staff member for being critical of any other fundamentalist ministry or fundamental leader.

I was recently urged to answer publicly all the charges and criticisms. As you know, the Old-Time Gospel Hour is carried weekly on 327 television stations. The Old-Time Gospel Hour radio broadcast is heard daily, Monday through Friday, on about 450 stations. The last issue of *Faith Aflame Magazine* went to 1,150,000 homes. The *Journal-Champion* bi-weekly newspaper goes to more than 19,000 pastors and laymen. I was pressured to take television, radio and the printed page for the purpose of answering my critics and attacking them in the same way we are being attacked. We chose not to do this. If we say or write anything about these men, it will be words of praise. We love them. We do not want to hurt them. We most certainly do not want to fight with them. What are we going to do? We are going to do what we feel Scripture commands. We are going to pray for them. We are going to love them. And, we are going to do everything we can to be reconciled to them.

Recently, I spent the day in a private meeting with Dr. Jack Hyles, Dr. A.V. Henderson and Dr. Truman Dollar. The purpose of this meeting centered around the creation of Sunday school curriculum for fundamentalist churches. However, the majority of the day was spent discussing the controversy that is raging in the fundamentalist world today. We reached the conclusion that, with the help of God, we are going to work aggressively and permanently towards reconciliation. We believe all these men are important to the cause of Christ. We believe that, if America is to be saved and this world reached for Christ, we need to reconcile and unify the forces of the fundamentalist camp in our world today. We agreed to jump at every opportunity for reconciliation. This is where I stand. This is where these brethren stand. This is where we shall continue to stand.

If the persons who wrote the articles which reported these matters in a critical way had bothered to call me on the telephone or write me a letter, I could have given them the facts before they published this misinformation.

I thank God for friends who are sincerely praying for and supporting this ministry for Christ. If any further clarification on any issue is needed, please feel free to call or write.

Yours in Christ,
Jerry Falwell

journal-champion

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Elmer L. Towns
Editor

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UPDATE

The TRBC Vacation Bible School children gave Dr. Falwell a birthday cake on Friday, August 11, Dr. Falwell's 45th birthday. The following Sunday, the congregation and staff presented Pastor Falwell with a gift, "a radio beeper." This practical gift will aid many (not just Dr. Falwell) because he can now be located anywhere!

Mr. Joe Brock, soloist for the Landmark Baptist Temple, Cincinnati, Oh., sang two songs at the evening service, August 13th, "Jesus Pilots My Ship" and "He Looked Beyond My Fault and Saw My Need." His beautiful baritone-bass voice and his love for Christ blessed hearts of the TRBC congregation.

Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Moore of Broadway Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., and several members of Broadway's congregation were guests in the TRBC worship services on Sunday, August 13. Dr. Falwell was to preach on August 16 at Broadway Baptist for Rev. Moore.

A hearty "thank-you" to the University of Virginia for allowing the LBC football team to practice on their astro turf field. The LBC Flames will be playing a couple of away games on astro turf this fall and needed some practice in order to perform more effectively for the '78-'79 season.

Asking God for a financial miracle, the Thomas Road Family banded together for a day of fasting and prayer from sundown Sunday to sundown Monday, August 13-14. The manager of a local restaurant reported that business has been down the last two Mondays. When he was told that the TRBC'ers were fasting, he said, "That's the reason I haven't seen any LBC faculty or students in here on Mondays."

Due to lack of space in the main auditorium, a junior high church service will be held each Sunday in the old sanctuary beginning September 3, at 11:00 a.m. The service will be conducted by Dave Adams and the other junior high pastors.

On August 12, Mrs. Bryan (Debby) Moquin celebrated her 4th anniversary of LBC employment. She is secretary for the Christian Service Department and Dr. Sumner Wemp. Debby wishes to express to her co-workers that she considers it a privilege and honor to be a part of such a great ministry.

On Sunday, August 6, LBC student Paul Carrey told the Old-Time Gospel Hour and the TRBC congregation the story of an old white-haired man who asked a teen-aged boy if he wanted to ask Jesus into his heart.

"That old man was my grandfather, and the teenager was Dr. Jerry Falwell. Little did anyone realize that the teenager would start a college that the elderly man's grandson would later attend," Paul said.

Dr. Falwell, his eyes filled with tears, said he well remembers that life-changing occasion.

One of the first LBC graduates, Rev. Mike Grooms, gave a brief testimony to the TRBC congregation Sunday, August 6. He said that the main reason he came to LBC in 1971 was because a free trip to the Holy Land was offered to the first 100 students. However, Mike caught a vision while at LBC and after graduation began pastoring Shenandoah Valley Baptist Church, Winchester, Va., which now runs 700-800 each Sunday in Sunday School.

Charles Hughes will be one of the featured speakers at a city-wide crusade August 18-20 in Michigan City, Ind.

More than 100 churches in the area have already enlisted the help of their buses to bring in some of the nearly 5,000 persons who are expected to attend.

David Musselman and Mark Lowry will fly with Charles to the crusade. This will be their first crusade since a near-fatal automobile accident last spring.

For five week-ends during the summer season Junior High teenagers involved in the Light Company personally led 76 people to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. The Light Company, a ministry of the Thomas Road Youth Department, travelled to Virginia Beach and Williamsburg to share their faith with hundreds of tourists and outdoor enthusiasts in the campgrounds. The last Light Company Campaign ran from August 4-14 and toured South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

The Old-Time Gospel Hour mail room staff is working on the second half of the 2 million "Jesus First" pins they began assembling in February.

The *Journal-Champion* and *Faith Aflame* staffs held a surprise birthday party at Gramp's 'n Granny's on August 8, for *Journal-Champion* research editor, Bob Harris.

Old-Time Gospel Hour soloist Jack Andrews and Don Norman's 11-year-old daughter, Dana, were involved in a head-on car collision on Friday, August 4. Although Jack's VW was demolished, Dana and Jack were spared any serious injuries.

After approximately three years of Old-Time Gospel Hour employment, Darlene Dillard resigned Wednesday, August 9. Her last position was secretary to Old-Time Gospel Hour controller Dave Brown. Darlene has all of our prayers and best wishes as the Lord leads her elsewhere.

Bob and Karen Branch moved to Bristol, Tenn., on August 7, for the purpose of starting a church. Bob and Karen graduated from LBC and Bob also graduated from LBS.

Mrs. George Hogan, secretary to Dr. Falwell, was admitted to Virginia Baptist Hospital on Saturday, August 5, suffering from elevated blood sugar. But, we are happy to report that she's now home from the hospital, feeling fine and back at work.

U.S. In Dark Times, Falwell 'Sees' Revival

Dr. Jerry Falwell delivered the keynote address at the annual Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul-Winning at Murfreesboro, Tenn., on July 31, 1978. Over 4,000 people heard Falwell say, "America is going through dark days, but revival is possible and it can come through you and many other preachers who have the same desire as you who attend this conference."

The *Sword of the Lord*, with almost 400,000 subscribers, aims to stir up revival and defend the fundamentals of the faith. The annual summer conference carries out the purpose of the newspaper.

Dr. John R. Rice, *Sword* editor and conference host, introduced Dr. Falwell, "He is my friend." Jerry Falwell returned the compliment by telling the conference, "Dr. Rice is the heart of fundamentalism and the rudder that gives us direction."

Falwell told the audience, "Without a question, Dr. Rice is the most powerful pen of this century." This statement is not an exaggeration. Years ago the sales of Dr. Rice's books reached 38 million copies. No other author has come close to selling this number of volumes.

But Rice has done more than sell books. He has a fighting pen that has defended the faith against liberalism, compromise and sin. Also, Dr. Rice provoked churches to aggressive soul winning by challenging preachers to baptize at least 200 converts or more per year. The results were printed in the *Sword of the Lord*.

Dr. Rice, age 83, appeared in vibrant health, which encouraged those who remembered he recently suffered a heart attack. Dr. Rice made nightly announcements, met his friends, and preached at the 6:45 service on Monday. His vigor was evident, as though he never had an attack. Falwell observed, "We lost Dr. Bill Rice (Dr. John R. Rice's brother) this year and we miss him sorely." Then the Lynchburg preacher observed, "I can't think of Dr. John R. Rice not being around. I hope he'll be here for another 15 years."

The opening rally was held in the modern 6,400 seat coliseum of Middle Tennessee State University. Over 1,000 preachers were in attendance. There were 105 booths surrounding the meeting area displaying Christian colleges, Sunday School curricula, church related materials, and items from Christian bookstores.

The Liberty Baptist College Singers presented the special music on Monday evening when Dr. Falwell spoke. Mr. Randy Rebold, director of the singing group, announced, "These young people have taken one year off from their schooling to

serve the Lord through music." This was just one of their many concerts throughout 1978-79. Rice complimented the singers, "I'm glad the girls have modest dresses and the fellows have clean haircuts." Dr. Rice's endorsement of Liberty Baptist College is evident, in as much as the Lynchburg group is among a select group of singers that return to the Sword Conference each year.

The opening night could have been called "A Lynchburg Evening," as Don Norman, executive assistant to Dr. Falwell, also presented a medley of songs.

When asked why he came to the conference, Pastor Don Richards, Corinth Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Ga., indicated, "I need it." Then he went on to explain, "I'm empty and I want power on my preaching. I can't think of any other place I can go and get stirred up like a Sword Conference."

Falwell spoke concerning revival, "We need a stirring like never before. Washington is in despair. Politicians are confessing that they don't have the answer. The United Nations doesn't have the answer...only a national revival can cure the ills of America."



Dr. Rice and Dr. Falwell

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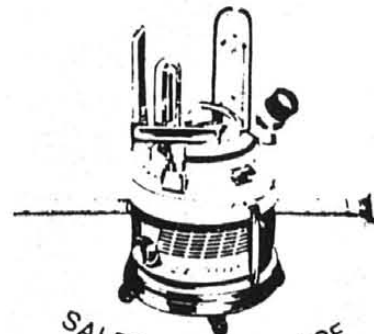
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Letters

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for your recent letter and the attached copy of the *Journal-Champion*. I am pleased to know of this new publication representing the conservative sector of the nation, a sector of which I consider myself an enthusiastic member.

Indeed, I share your fear of the effects of the mounting encroachment of federal bureaucracy upon democratic principles and our private rights. I believe, too, that federal agencies must be more responsible to the voters of America and to those who represent them in the Congress. For example, I am a long-standing sponsor of legislation to allow an automatic Congressional review of proposed agency rules; such a review might tame those within the Agriculture Department who wish to instruct Virginians on how to cure a ham or those within the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) who wish to eliminate split toilet seats at all costs. I also favor sunset legislation and a Constitutionally-mandated balanced budget, both steps which would tend to quell the waste and overexuberance of unneeded bureaucrats.

I will look forward to continuing my work on behalf of such legislation with your encouragement and that of your readership in mind. Thank you again for informing me of your activities.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,
Robert W. Daniel, Jr.
U.S. Representative
4th District, Virginia

Dear Editor:

Thank you for the *Journal-Champion* with Jerry's story, so well written of the revival at High Street Baptist Church. We are still rejoicing over the great things the Lord has done.

Yours in Christ,
Dr. David A. Cavin, Pastor
High Street Baptist Church
Springfield, Mo.

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Mt. Vernon Church Grows, Aged Building Has Goal Of 1,000

In the heart of a Campbell County community east of Lynchburg called Concord lies a church that is nothing less than the greatest of all New Testament Churches.

It is the Mount Vernon Baptist Church, pastored by Thomas Road Bible Institute graduate Glen Cook, who started it a year-and-a-half ago.

Sunday afternoon, August 6, Mt. Vernon Church held its first Old-Fashioned Homecoming Day and featured Dr. Jerry Falwell as guest speaker. J.O. Grooms also preached on this special day, and Don Norman sang.

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church is tabernacled inside a 192-year-old building which has withstood every United States presidency, the Civil War, two world wars, Korea and Vietnam. It is operated much as it was 200 years ago, said Rev. Cook, referring to the 10 gallon water jugs and portable toilets.

The church balcony, which once held slaves, has been changed into two Sunday school rooms. Another Sunday school class meets in the church bus, and the adult class meets in the main sanctuary.

When Rev. Cook found this old Baptist church building, he discovered it had been vacant for eight years. It was placarded and at the crossroads of condemnation or restoration. Rev. Cook chose to restore it.

As a first step towards building a church, he started The Mt. Vernon Gospel Hour Radio Program over WWOD-FM.

Immediately, the Lord began to bless, and the community gave Rev. Cook the building rent free, provided he would take care of it.

Restoration began, and Rev. Cook and his wife Evelyn began visiting in the area surrounding the church, inviting people to get saved and to come to opening day services March 13, 1977. Then, on opening day, the church, new paint and all, was begun.

Now Mt. Vernon is adding five to 10 members a week. Three to four people are being saved weekly. The church's goal for this time next year is to have 1,000 in attendance. Land on both sides of the church has been donated for the construction of a larger building since the present

one is now at capacity.

At homecoming, the building was packed and persons had to be turned away at the door. "Some of our members went home because there was not room for them inside," Rev. Cook said.

As he spoke to the young congregation, Dr. Falwell said a church starts small. But, if it is alive, a church will continue to grow. Growth, he said, is an indicator of a healthy church.

Dr. Falwell challenged Mt. Vernon to keep its stand for Christ as it grows. "This country for 202 years has enjoyed a tremendous heritage because of churches like this one," he said. "It is churches like Mt. Vernon that comprise the hope for our country."

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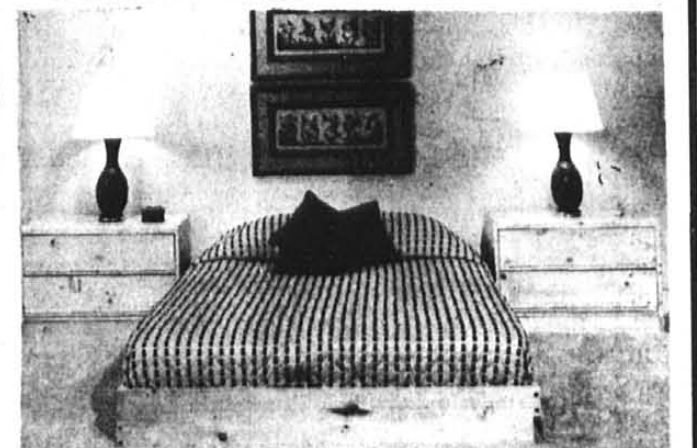
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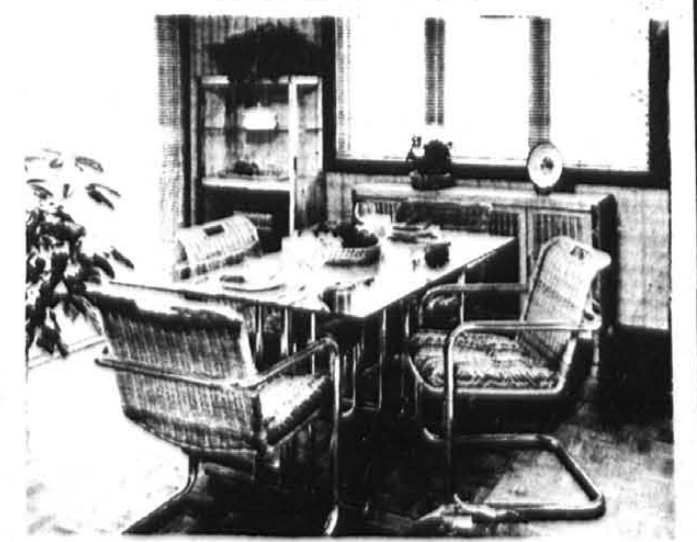
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From the Counselling Center

By WALLY MAJOR, M.ed.



Q. Soon after my conversion a real war began. I still went to bars with my friends and had immoral thoughts about women, although I discontinued my heavy drinking and improper relationships.

I still had the "desire" to satisfy these old habits. So much that when my friends went to a bar, I would go also, although I would only drink a soda. Is it wrong to go to these places when I don't do anything wrong while I am there? I don't find anything in the Bible that states that I shouldn't go. Are there any Biblical guidelines by which I can judge these situations?

A. There are many activities in the Christian life, which though not mentioned directly in Scripture, must be evaluated by a Christian as to whether they are profitable or unprofitable. Of course, anything expressly forbidden in the Bible is to be rejected, but how can one know God's will for those situations which are not directly named in the Bible? Here are some criteria to apply to any situation to guide you in your choices.

1. Is it to the glory of God? 1 Corinthians 10:31 - "Do all to the glory of God."

2. Can you do it in his name? Can you thank him for it? Colossians 3:17 - "Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him."

3. Can you do it in faith? Romans 14:23 - "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin."

4. Is it to please God, rather than man? Colossians 3:23 - "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as unto the Lord, and not unto men."

5. Is it a stumbling block to others? 1 Corinthians 8:9 - "But take heed, lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak."

With these principles in mind, and apart from the fact the Scripture forbids adultery, drinking, stealing, lying, etc., I think we can safely reject the activities you mentioned in favor of others that will be more beneficial to us and to our Christian brothers. When others pressure you and ask why you do not participate in these things, you have a chance to tell them that you have committed your life to Jesus Christ and want to please Him. Thus, you can use the temptations of Satan as opportunities to share the Gospel.

Falwell Preaches For His 'Boss'

Dr. Jerry Falwell preached at Jacksonville Baptist Temple on Thursday evening, August 3, 1978. The church moved its mid-week service to Thursday and invited great preachers for a mid-summer Bible conference. Thursday evening was chosen because most great preachers were free to come and Christians from other churches in Jacksonville would not be in prayer meeting.

"I'm pleased at this great crowd which came from our church and many other congregations to hear Jerry Falwell," stated Pastor Wendell Zimmerman. The evening gave Falwell a chance to renew acquaintances. He noted, "Dr. Zimmerman was my pastor and my boss during my senior year in college. I drove 150 miles each Friday night and ministered in the Kansas City Baptist Temple on the weekends where Dr. Zimmerman was pastor. I was twenty-one at the time and still 'wet behind the ears' and Dr. Zimmerman taught me much about being a pastor."

"Dr. Zimmerman is still one of the greatest preachers in America," Falwell told the audience.

Dr. Jack Dinsbeer brought a delegation from University Baptist Church of Jacksonville where he is pastor. Dr. Dinsbeer was youth pastor of Park Avenue Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Va., the night Jerry Falwell went forward and got saved. Dinsbeer was responsible for getting Falwell grounded in the Scriptures.

"Jack Dinsbeer brought me to Jacksonville when this church was named Beaver Street Baptist Church and I was a young convert," Falwell noted. "This was the greatest church I had ever seen."

Falwell preached on the

priority of the local church. "I believe the New Testament church is the sole agency for evangelism." He went on to note, "We support Gideons and other good ministries, but the Lord's priority is the local church. If the church had done all that it could, there would be no vacuum where these other agencies minister. God has established the church and has promised His unique blessing upon it."

Charles Hughes Speaks To Lynchburg Senior Saints

By BRENDA EASTERLING

Seven major operations shook his body. Tubes ran into his throat, his arms, his head.

Charles Hughes, who five months ago lay unconscious and on the verge of death, bowed his head and prayed silently as Mark Lowry sang "Amazing Grace."

The senior saints at the Lynchburg Nursing Home looked on.

"I had 11 broken bones in my body and Charles Hughes was in a coma about six weeks following a highway accident," said Lowry who is a member of the Charles Hughes Evangelistic Team, a part of the Jerry Falwell Evangelistic Association.

"We were out of commission about five months and now, for the first time since the accident, we're back."

In the rear of the room sat Charles' father, Dr. Robert Hughes, his mother, his lovely wife Kathy and his sister Sue. They had come to witness another miracle, another answer to their fervent prayers for Charles.

"Isn't it good to see young people take time with the elderly who have so few people who really care about them," whispered Dr. Hughes, his eyes frequently glancing up to where Charles was seated.

Now the moment had come for which Dr. Hughes had prayed when doctors, asking for Charles' vital organs, had said he had but 15 minutes to live.

"Oh, God," Dr. Hughes had prayed, "Please allow Charles to live so he can preach again. He is such a good soul-winner." The Lord heard Dr. Hughes' prayer, and the prayers of millions of persons who view the Old-Time Gospel Hour. With man, Charles' condition had been impossible, but with God it was possible, and God saw fit to allow him to live, to recover, and, now, to preach again.



Charles preaches and is a living example of a miracle.

"There are six things God does not know," began Charles. "He does not know a sinner he does not love."

As Charles preached, his family looked on proudly. Kathy's eyes twinkled, almost in amazement, as she watched her husband deliver his sermon. "I was afraid at first," she said, "I was afraid he would not be up to it physically. But afterwards, he said he felt fine."

Compared to his preaching before the accident, Charles did well, said Kathy. The circumstances were different, however, because Charles is accustomed to having a microphone and speaking in churches. "Ask me how well he is doing as compared to before the accident after his crusade in Michigan City, Ind.," said Kathy, referring to the upcoming city-wide crusade there August 18, 19, and 20.

"God does not know a more horrible place than hell. But he does not know a sweeter place than heaven," said Charles.

Then, as he began to describe heaven, he said he has never been there. "But, you came pretty near to going," interrupted Mary Blankenship who, like many others at Lynchburg nursing home, has prayed for Charles' recovery and has kept up with his progress.

Charles paused, described how near death he had come, and praised the Lord for allowing him to live. "God does not know

a better time for you to be saved than right now," he said as his Father and most faithful prayer warrior, Dr. Hughes, quietly praised the Lord with tears of gratitude. "I just couldn't hold them back," said Dr. Hughes. Mrs. Hughes, Sue, and Kathy shared his feelings and his tears.

As for Charles Hughes and Mark Lowry, they were experiencing the Lord's strength and power to work a miracle within and through their lives.

"I enjoyed it from my heart," exclaimed Mrs. Amelia Cook, who is a widow patient at the nursing home.

The Charles Hughes Evangelistic Team is gradually coming back together. David Musselman will join Charles and Mark in the Michigan City crusade and Dick Bernier will join them in September.

The team is booked every weekend from now through January. They will be at Thomas Road Baptist Church Labor Day weekend.

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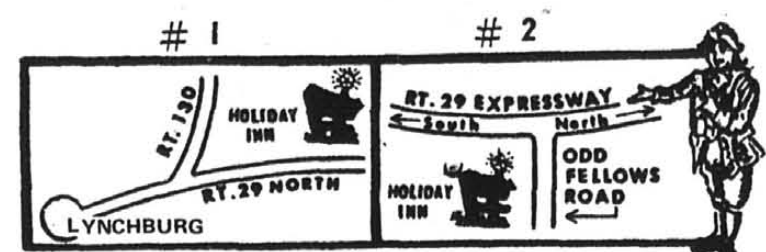
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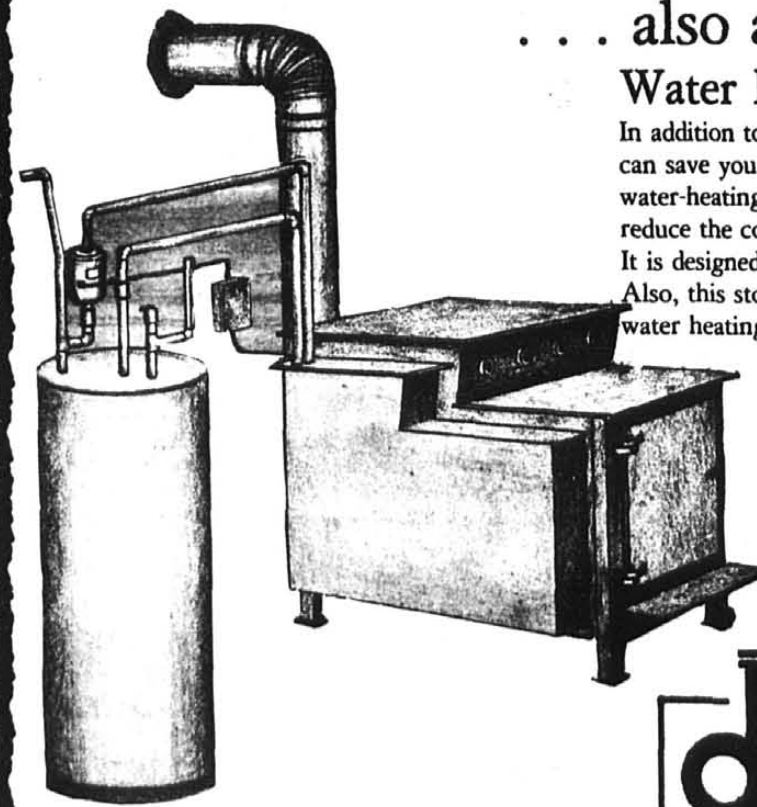
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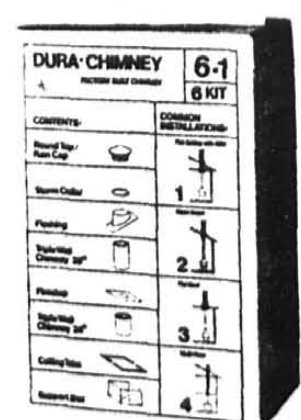
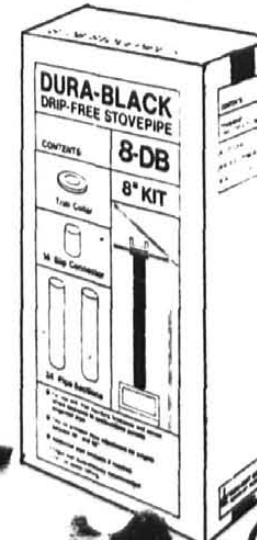


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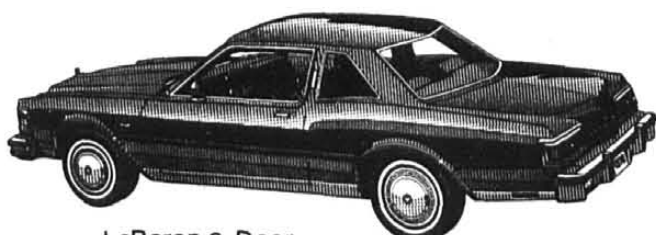
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Sue Karrer and her puppets, a busy 'brood.'

Area Flea Markets Not Just Junk Stores,

'Searchers' Find Bargains For 'Scratch'

By BRENDA EASTERLING

Flea markets, which were a rarity three years ago, are now becoming commonplace for curiosity seekers and inflation fighters.

Some of the best inflation fighters and curiosity seekers are from Thomas Road Baptist Church. Single adults and young married couples moving into town to attend any of the Liberty Baptist Schools are apt to find what they need in furnishings for dormitories, apartments and houses.

There are several flea markets in this area. The Fort Theatre Flea Market is located off Timberlake Road. Another is located behind the First Paper Company on Route 29 eight miles south of Lynchburg. One of the largest Flea Markets in the Southeast is located in Altavista, a city about 25 miles south of Lynchburg.

Miss Diane Williamson of LBC goes to flea markets occasionally in search of good buys on antiques and plants. "You really have to look, but you can usually get some good bargains," she said. Miss Williamson bought a plant stand for three dollars that retails for \$15.

Some people go to flea markets with one thing in mind that they want to buy. Often this can save them much expense. For example, Mrs. Paul (Tina) Barringer of TRBC went to a flea market to find a butter dish to match her sugar bowl.

"I found a sugar bowl with the exact pattern of my butter dish, and I was surprised to find what I was looking for because none of the stores have it," Mrs. Barringer said.

Mrs. Barringer does, however, caution people to be careful at flea markets because some of the items are sold for more than they are worth, "and you can get ripped off."

Ruth Ann Moody, who works for the Old-Time Gospel Hour, is also of the opinion that one should be selective at flea markets. "There are more professionals selling at flea markets than there are at yard sales, and some of them try to take up on other people's naivety," she said. Mrs. Moody did, however, find clothing for her children and she said she has also found good pieces of furniture.

There are often good buys at flea markets on dishes, plants and fruits. Occasionally a 16-piece set of dishes will sell for a dollar when it might otherwise retail for \$45, and individual dishes might



Flea markets are fun to visit.

sell for 10 cents apiece, says a lady from TRBC.

Sandra Witt, who is involved in the deaf ministry of Thomas Road, looks for books and jewelry at flea markets. This summer she found a copy of *Robert Browning's Shorter Poems* for 10 cents. She has bought three dollar bracelets for 25 cents and a sterling silver India ring. Once she found an electric blender for two dollars.

Furniture, appliances, clothing, toys, lawn and garden equipment, animals and plants may all be found at flea markets. And if you want a house trained rabbit, or a pair of gloves, or a bicycle, come to the flea markets and you may find what you are looking for, and some things you didn't know you needed.

On the other hand, if you have furniture or clothing or odds and ends in your way at home, and you could use a little extra money, a flea market is a good place to clean house.

SEAMSTRESS SUE KARRER

She Keeps 'Em In 'Stitches'

By BRENDA EASTERLING

Alexander is cute. His bright red hair and black and red freckles and big mouth make you think a real little red-haired boy is talking to you about Jesus.

Elpop does not look like a real person. But he's friendly, and you could easily accept him as a companion. He comes in different colors, and he is sewed together in the basement of Russ and Patti Damas. The seamstress is a talented young lady in the single adults department of Thomas Road Baptist Church where Russ is a youth pastor.

The lady is Miss Sue Karrer, and she had never sewed a puppet in her life until about two years ago when the singles department decided to start a puppet ministry.

Miss Karrer originally came to Lynchburg to visit her girlfriend at Thomas Road Bible Institute. "After I was up here a few days, I knew I would go home and pack my bags and return. I had been saved for only one year, and I wanted to get involved at Thomas Road," she said.

Sue, who had taught school for a year and had a degree in elementary education, could not find work right away in Lynchburg. "I had enough in savings to get an apartment and look for a job. I was down to two dollars when I found a job at a fabric shop sewing draperies. Then the single adults class wanted to start a puppet ministry, and I said, 'Why not make the puppets yourselves?' So they asked me to do it! I'm not a puppeteer, but I do love to sew," said Miss Karrer. So she decided to give it a try.

"I had never sewed a puppet in my life, but I thought it would be fun to learn how. So I began experimenting and making my own patterns. It took four weeks to make the first puppet, and now that same puppet is so simple," said Sue. She learned to sew when she was eight years old by making patterns for doll clothes and sewing them with her mother's assistance.

At first, Miss Karrer began sewing puppets in her spare time. Then the drapery job tapered off and the puppet making business became a fulltime job. "My first Elpop (a big life-size hairy puppet which must be used with a person inside to operate it) took me four weeks. Now it takes three days," laughs Miss Karrer as she remembers experimenting with fabrics and glues.

The first puppets she made did not hold together well because she did not have the

right kind of glue for their foam base. Then the company she bought foam from told her of another company which made a special kind of glue. "And we discovered that very company was in Lynchburg. But they don't like having to sell us just five gallon containers of glue because they are used to selling twenty gallon containers of it. What would I do with 20 gallons of glue!" exclaims Miss Karrer.

When Miss Karrer went to Haiti for two weeks with the single adults, her work piled up on her. For example, one church had placed an order with her for 18 puppets.

The purpose of the trip to Haiti, however, was to show single adults what

missions is all about. Miss Karrer said she was especially interested in the trip since her girlfriend, Ann, from back home who influenced her to come to Lynchburg is now married and has gone with husband Joe Hale to the mission field of Korea.

Although Miss Karrer enjoys making puppets, she wants to do more with her talents. In December she plans to move to Williamstown, N.J., where she will be working with troubled girls at a home called "Victory House," which is now under construction. It is being started by the youth pastor of Open Bible Baptist Church in Williamstown, Rev. Bob Smith, and senior pastor George Riddell.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL MADE EASIER FOR HANDICAPPED CHRISTIANS



Handicapped students are excited about new ministry, bus.

By BOB HARRIS

There's a new ministry at Thomas Road Baptist Church, and it is just about doubling in size Sunday after Sunday.

It is the ministry to physically handicapped people. Spearheaded by Special Education Pastor Bob O'Gorman, it has come to be known as the "wheel-chair ministry."

Now only about five weeks old, the ministry began as a dream in the mind of O'Gorman and Children's Ministries Director Eldridge Dunn about a year ago. They planned at that time -- and are still planning -- an extensive ministry in which several buses may be used with hydraulically operated lifts to transport the people -- wheelchairs and all -- to and from church. But for now, rather than a hydraulic lift, a ramp will be used.

Norm Hedding's Senior Saints ministry volunteered the use of its 12-passenger van, and O'Gorman was ready to start bringing the handicapped in. This happened back in July. After folding up wheelchairs and putting them in the back of the van, O'Gorman found he could bring eight paraplegics to Thomas Road.

It is important to O'Gorman to begin the handicapped ministry now. "As special education pastor, I do a lot of visiting to the Lynchburg Training School and Hospital mentally retarded residents. But practically every time I go there, I find many physically handicapped -- many of them not mentally retarded -- who beg me to take them to church. How can I turn them down?"

Dunn took the same attitude, and gave O'Gorman the go-ahead to start the ministry the next Sunday.

It took only two weeks for O'Gorman's wheelchair ministry to outgrow the Senior Saints' van. The first week, he stored the wheelchairs in the back, let the paraplegics sit in six of the seats, and allowed a seventh passenger to remain in his wheelchair while in the van.

But the second week there were nine who were waiting at the training school to go to church. O'Gorman quickly decided to use his own personal van, into which he could squeeze all nine. That took care of the second Sunday's problems.

But then came the third Sunday. Twelve paraplegics were waiting to go to church.

The situation was getting desperate. O'Gorman went to the Bus Ministry office and talked to Floyd Farris. "Can you give me any kind of bus that you're not using right now?"

"How about bus 98? It's too small for the bus ministry."

Upon looking it over, O'Gorman decided, "It's perfect for our use."

As a trial run, he tried busing the paraplegics to a picnic at a campground north of Lynchburg a few miles. Halfway there, Bus 98 broke down.

O'Gorman went back to the bus ministry office. "Floyd, I'm really desperate. They've got to come to church; we can't turn them down. Do you have anything else for us?"

"Well, there's Bus 69. It's twice as big as 98, but..."

"How long will you let us use it?"

"As long as you can fill it," Farris returned, "and I'm giving you six weeks to fill it."

"Well, then," O'Gorman said, "you'd better be looking for a bigger bus, because we'll fill it -- and more."

Seventeen handicapped rode Bus 69 that first Sunday. The next week, the bus carried 26 crippled riders to Thomas Road Baptist Church. The number of riders has grown every Sunday since the ministry began.

Once they get to church, the handicapped are greeted by an overwhelming number of passers-by who want to help them. The whole church has been alerted to the ministry, O'Gorman says, and he has more than enough volunteers to help carry them off the bus and then wheel them to church services.

"It takes a little elbow grease, but everybody seems willing to overlook it," O'Gorman says.

Most wheelchair riders on Bus 69 are not retarded. They may be hydrocephalic -- which sometimes results not only in their handicap but also in an abnormally large head -- but they are quite alert. In fact, unlike the retarded who attend TRBC, the handicapped are given a choice of where they want to go. They may either be wheeled to the main sanctuary to hear Dr. Jerry Falwell in the televised service, or they may stay in the Special Education department for church and Sunday school.

Some of them do attend the main service, but many of them decide to go to special ed Sunday school, which is held at the same time. They seem to enjoy the classes as much as the retarded, and they are learning, O'Gorman says. When they come, they attend a class taught by either Glenna Blaisdell, George Garancosky, or Larry Jester, O'Gorman's assistants.

O'Gorman is pleased with the comments he has been receiving about the ministry. "Two of our handicapped riders, Cynthia and Cassie, are just thrilled to be able to come to church. And they're really bright too. Cynthia told me, 'I sure do enjoy coming to your church.'"

O'Gorman's job as special education pastor means he'll be going all over Lynchburg -- not just the training school -- in search of handicapped and retarded people, to bring them to church to hear the Gospel. Among his leads are the LAARC School (Lynchburg Area Association for Retarded Citizens, Inc.), and Jimmy Canfield, one of the paraplegics who rides Bus 69. Dunn also has some leads which he has given to O'Gorman.



FELLOWSHIP OFFICERS -- Mrs. Cindy Birdwell (third from left) has been named president of the Liberty Baptist Seminary Ladies Fellowship. Other officers are (left to right) Mrs. Diane Cade, social chairman; Mrs. Claire Malenick, program chairman; Mrs. Birdwell; Miss Eleanor Henderson, vice president; and Mrs. Betsy Sargent, secretary.



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PASTORS' CONFERENCE: THREE-IN-ONE

The annual Thomas Road Pastor's Conference is the biggest conference to be sponsored by Thomas Road Baptist Church. It is the keynote element of the Super Conference to be held October 22-26.

However, this year it will be even bigger when it becomes a "three-in-one" conference, containing two mini-conferences on youth and missions.

Both of the "mini-conferences," as well as the general pastor's conference, will deal with their subjects from the senior pastor's perspective, according to conference coordinator, Bill Paul. The addition of the mini-conferences was a direct result of the favorable comments from last year's conference, he said. The main note of praise from those who attended last year was that Thomas Road's pastor's conference was the "best, most well-organized conference" they ever attended.

Rev. Eldon Martin with the Jack Van Impe Crusades team said, "I want to personally commend you for the super-outstanding job you did at the conference. I believe it is one of the finest conferences I have ever attended in my ministry. I came out greatly blessed and enriched and more prepared to be of service to my King."

Secondly, attendees liked the great abundance of workshops. Counting all seven major conferences in the Super Conference -- pastor's, media, Christian education, Sunday School, money management, women's and music -- the Super Conference will offer 325 separate workshops in nearly

every area of contemporary church work.

From Washington state, one pastor is bringing 10 of his staff members with him to Lynchburg; another church in Canada has already signed up for 20 people to come down. A church in Florida is bringing 12 people to the conference;

another church in Stockbridge, Ga., is sending seven people. And then there's another church

in Florida which has them all topped by planning to send 120 people.

"People are coming here by the droves, and pastors and staff

are all catching the same vision at one time," Paul said.

The pastor's conference, being the main conference of the entire Super Conference family, leads into the great morning and evening preaching services during the five-day extravaganza.

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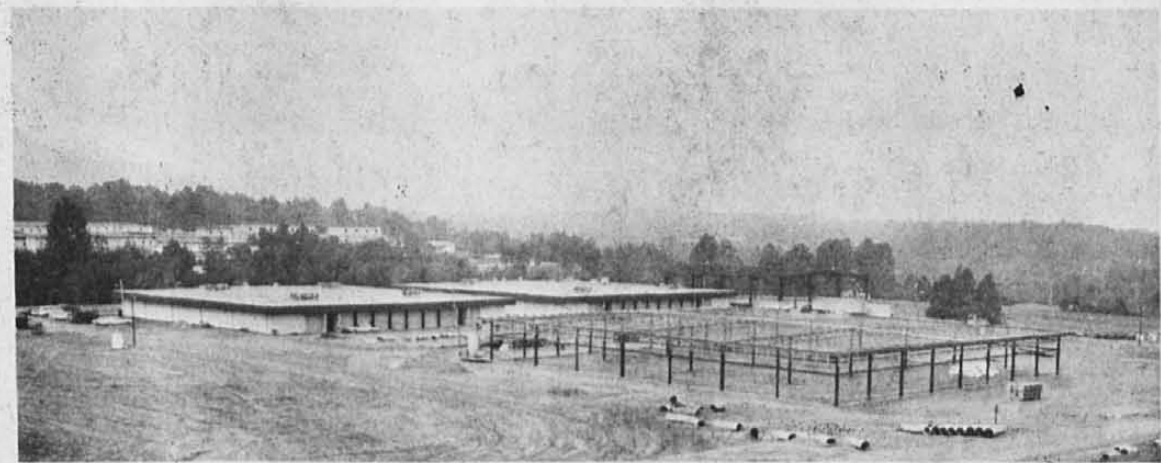
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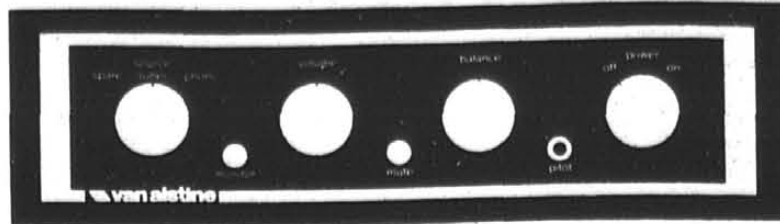


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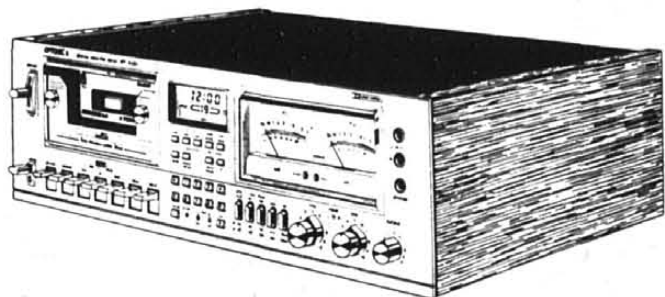
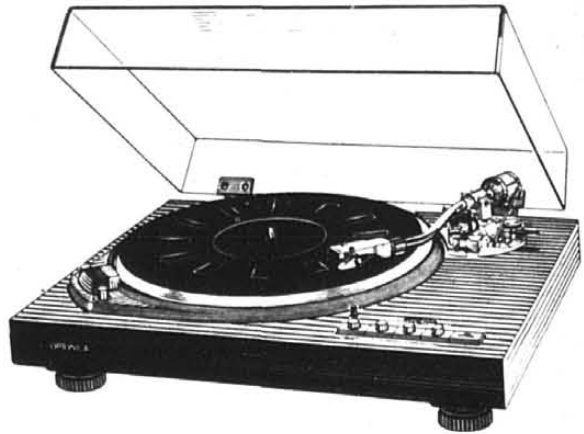
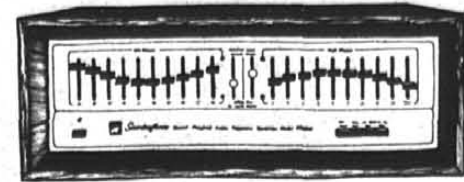
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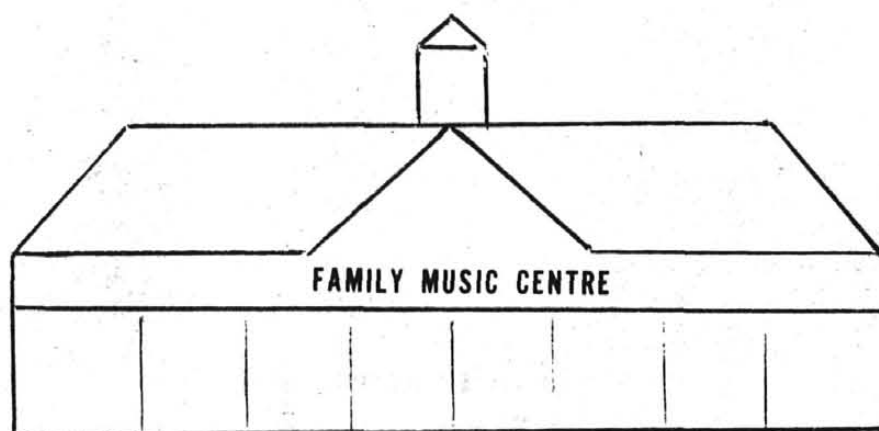
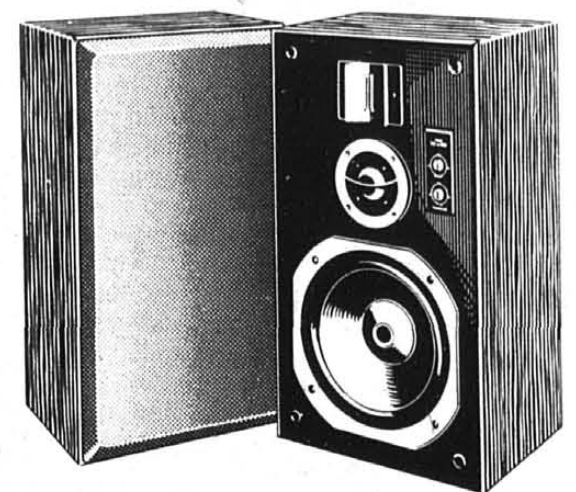
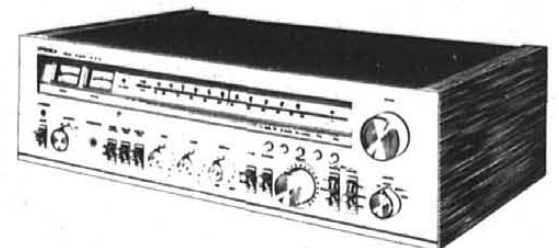
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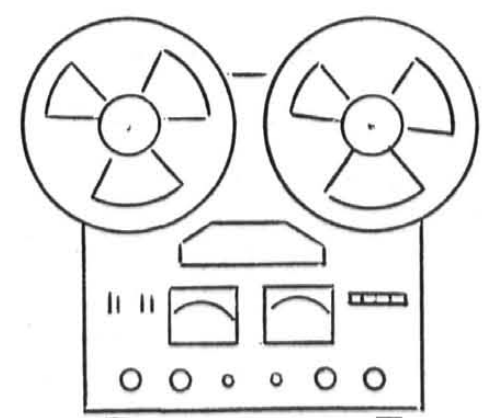
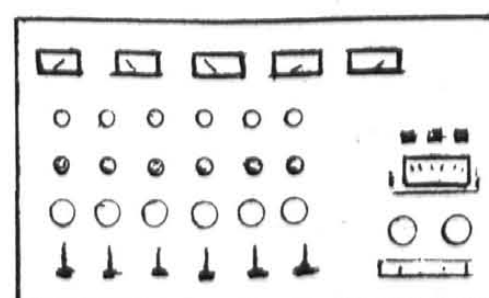
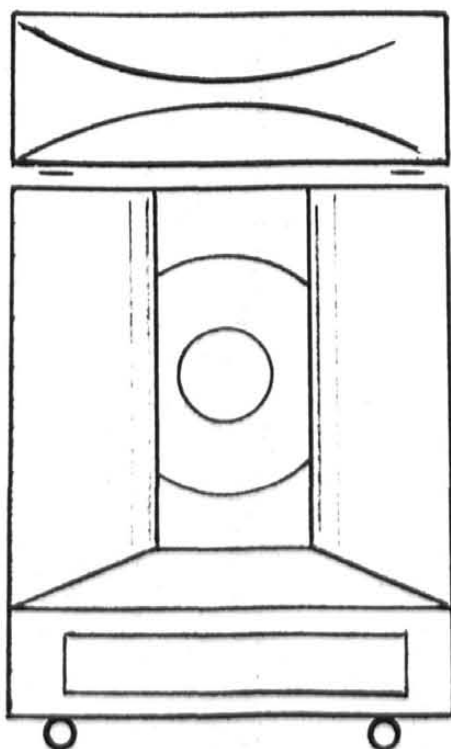
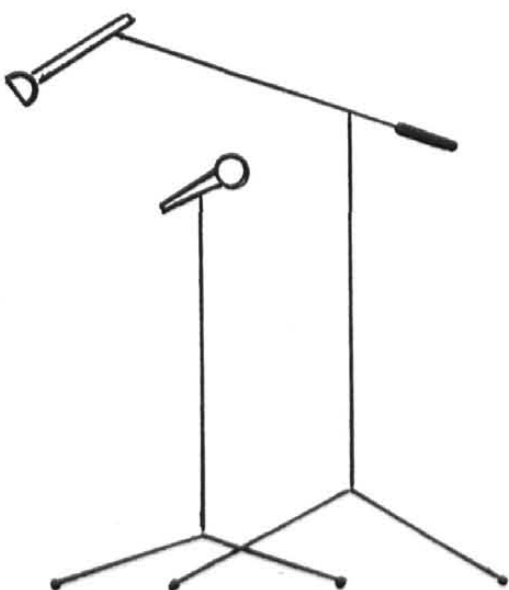
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Peterson Wed To Belles

The marriage of Miss Victoria L. Peterson to Walter D. Belles took place Saturday afternoon, August 5, at 1 o'clock in Thomas Road Baptist Church.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon M. Peterson of Rustburg and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard D. Belles of Plant City, Fla.

The Rev. James Moon, co-pastor of the church, officiated at the ceremony.

Miss Julie Peterson of Rustburg was her sister's maid of honor and attendants were Mrs. Charles Spitzer of Sterling Park, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Barbara Beach of Altavista.

Wayne Corey of Chantilly was best man and ushers were Les Belles and James Belles of Plant City, brothers of the bridegroom; Charles Spitzer of Sterling Park, brother-in-law of the bridegroom, and Scott Peterson of Rustburg, brother of the bride.

Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Peterson entertained with a reception at Gramps and Granny's Dining and Ice Cream Parlor.

The bride is a member of the senior class at Liberty Baptist



MRS. WALTER D. BELLES

College. After a wedding trip to Virginia Beach the couple will live in Lynchburg.



MRS. MICHAEL S. ELY

LBC and is employed with the Family Music Centre. After a wedding trip to the



Mrs. David Benior leads LBC cheerleaders in practice for 1978.

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After one week of cheerleading practice three times a day, the Liberty Baptist College cheerleaders tried out their new uniforms and showed off for pictures.

The LBC cheerleaders, coached by Mrs. David Benior, will be featured at all the football and basketball games this year,

and, this fall, will appear on the cover of the football program.

For the first time in LBC cheerleading history, the girls will represent LBC at the National Cheerleading Association Camp (NCA) August 13 to 17 in Knoxville, Tenn. "All the major universities and colleges in the country will be represented. This exposure should help us become more professional," Mrs. Benior said.

The LBC cheerleaders returning from last year are

captain Pam Lucas, a junior, and junior Carol Crowder. The other girls are sophomore Carrie Bowron, sophomore Kim Brownfield, sophomore Sandy Linburg and senior Terry Johnson.



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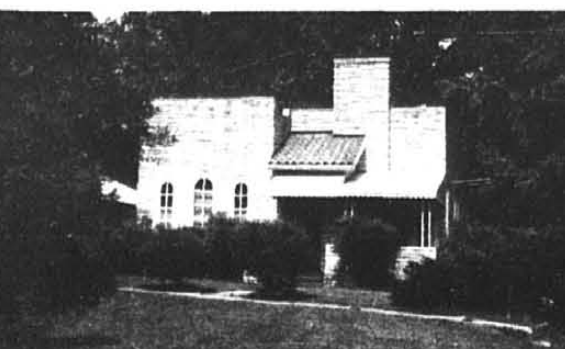
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Birth Jeremiah Edwards Boyle

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Boyle announce the birth of their son, Jeremiah Edwards Boyle. Jeremiah arrived at 3:20 p.m. on Thursday, August 10, 1977, weighing in at 7 lbs., 12 oz.

The proud father is manager of Lynchburg Battery Company in Madison Heights. The mother, Naomi, is a senior at Liberty Baptist College and will continue working part-time in the TRBC ministries.

DR. FALWELL TO SPEAK IN NEW YORK

Dr. Jerry Falwell will be in New York, N.Y., on Sunday, August 20, at 3:00 p.m. with Tom Mahairas. Sunday, August 27, will find Dr. Falwell at Holy Mountain Baptist Church in Kingsport, Tenn., with pastor Steve Ray, also at 3:00 p.m.

On September 8-9, our pastor will be preaching for Dr. Leland Kennedy at the First Baptist Church of New Castle, Del. On the afternoon of Sunday, September 17, the Kanawha Baptist Church of Charleston, W.Va., and pastor Jim Coleman will be Dr. Falwell's hosts.

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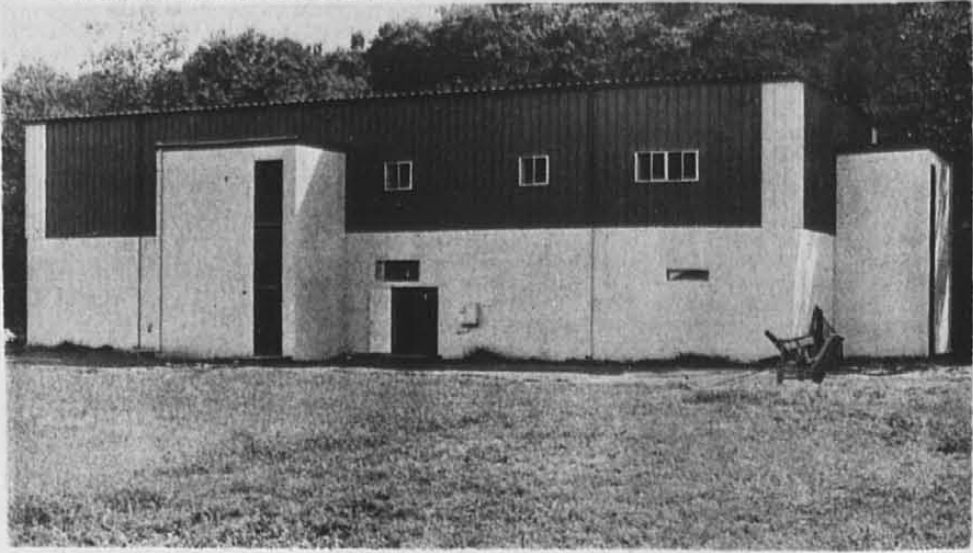
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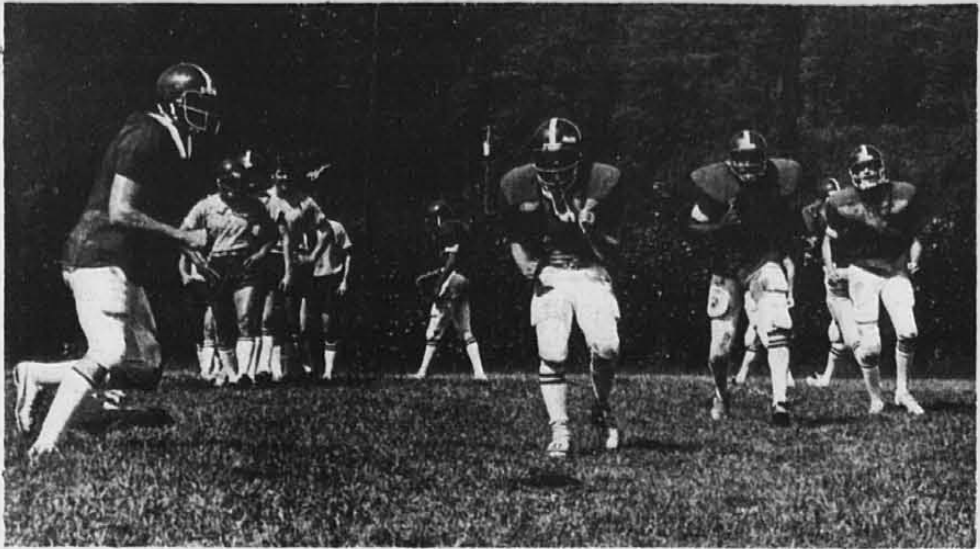
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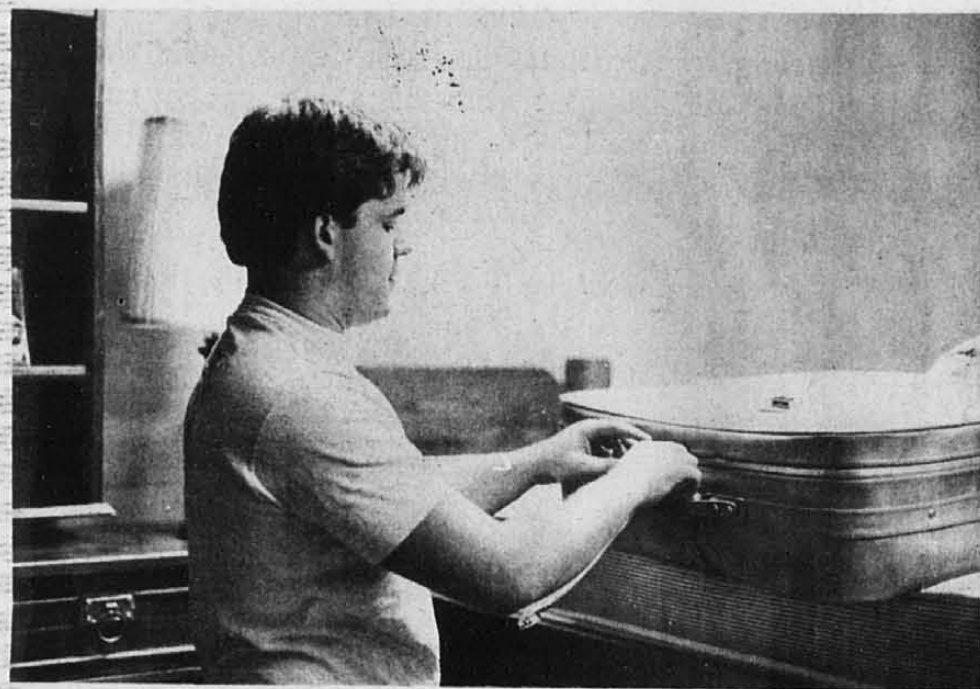




Football is king and a new building greets 1978 squad on Treasure Island.



Workouts for Coach Tom Dowling's Flames are scheduled twice daily.



Freshman Doug Stallard of Danville, Ky., checks into training camp.

106 Football Players Report To LBC, Coach Dowling Prepping For Opener

One hundred six players reported to football camp on August 7. Of that number 93 remain. Head coach Tom Dowling expects to have at least 90 players on the roster when the Flames open their season against the University of Dayton in Dayton, Oh., on September 1.

The Flames had their first full contact scrimmage of the 1978 season on August 12. The scrimmage was held at Scott Stadium on the campus of the University of Virginia.

The field, which is astro turf,

is being used to get the players acclimated to playing on an artificial surface.

"I was pleased with the performance of our team overall," said Coach Dowling after the scrimmage. "We made some mistakes, but that is to be expected after only one week of practice. The defense is ahead of the offense, but that is normal."

"I was especially pleased with the performances of Johnny Shepard and Timmy Saunders. They ran the ball exceptionally well for freshmen in their first full contact scrimmage."

Liberty will attempt to work out at Scott Stadium one or two more times before the end of August to better prepare for their opener.

The injury list stands at only five after the first week of practice. The injured include the following freshmen: Keith Batchelor, David McDonald, Bill Williams and Mike Wade.

Senior Mark Phillips is the only returning player with an injury. He is recovering from a strained hamstring muscle.

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL EXCITING

Aileen Ferrin Plays Marimba

Have you ever heard a marimba, or a vibraphone?

Mrs. Frank Ferrin, who works for Jolly 60's pastor Norm Hedding, is talented on these and numerous other musical instruments.

At the Old-Time Gospel Hour chapel recently, and at Jolly 60's meetings, she has performed on the marimba, the vibraphone, the accordion, the piano and cowbells.

The marimba, said Mrs. Ferrin, is a wooden percussion instrument which originates from South Africa and South America. The vibraphone is made with metal bars and motor driven resonators.

Frank and Aileen Ferrin moved from Florida to Thomas Road Baptist Church in March. Their sons, Rick and Ron, are juniors at Liberty Baptist College. The family has performed together in churches throughout Florida.

Porno Magazine Sales Stopped In Missouri

ST. LOUIS (EP)—Officials of 7-11 Stores have agreed to stop selling Playboy, Penthouse and other such pornographic materials at corporation owned 7-11 Stores in the St. Louis area. The action was taken in response to a request by members of the St. Louis Archdiocesan Council of the Laity (ACL), Morality in Media and Blasphemy in Media, groups which met recently with 7-11 officials.

"Until Vacation Bible School this summer, my boys never asked me for their offering. But they sure reminded me about it four or five times a day during Bible school because they needed pennies—a lot of pennies."

This is the overall consensus of parents of Thomas Road children who participated in Vacation Bible School August 7 to 11.

The offering at the end of every day was one of the major highlights, Bible school director Al Hickey said. The boys competed against the girls to see who would bring in the most pennies. Each day the pennies were weighed on a balance scale, boys against girls. When the last penny had been counted Friday afternoon, there was a total of \$674.06.

But as commencement Friday night showed, there was more excitement to Vacation Bible School than the offering. Miss Jan Euliss and the SMITE Children's Ministry used "Grandpaw" puppet to tell exciting missions stories. Mr. and Mrs. John Volkots used magical trick presentations with Bible lessons. Mr. Bob O'Gorman held special classes for the mentally retarded and taught them songs and crafts in addition to Bible lessons. In all, there were 136 workers and 547 children.

If holy men wrote the Bible, then holy men ought to teach it.

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Youth Aflame Sports is the "biggest thing since bread."

So says Youth Aflame athletic director Gaylord Davis who is challenging youth in grades seven to 12 to sign up for Youth Aflame Sports.

Lynchburg youth may sign up in the Youth Aflame office beginning August 20. Also, men who are interested in coaching or becoming team helpers may call Mr. Davis at 239-9281.

Youth Aflame Sports features eight teams. The sports include tackle football, basketball, softball and a new sport, volleyball.

Youth Aflame Sports, said Davis, has an evangelistic thrust for reaching youth through sports. Each team is organized individually and is a foundation for training Christian athletes.

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PACIFIC COAST BAPTIST

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Mark 'New' College

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of eight articles on great fundamental colleges of America. Not every school could be covered in this series. The editors made their choice to reflect a cross-section of fundamental colleges. The choice was made on the basis of age, size, educational attainment, geography, recognition among fundamentalists and the results of the graduates. No slight was intended in leaving any college off the list.

By Elmer Towns

The Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College is a young vibrant college that is already making an impact on fundamentalism. Seven years ago, there were only 42 students, a small campus, debts and little support. Today all of these have changed except one item. There are now 700 students, a beautiful new 150 acre campus worth seven million dollars, the loyal support of approximately 500 churches, and over 400 active graduates.

The only thing that remains the same is the debt, but the optimistic voice of Dr. Jack Baskin, executive vice-president proclaims, "If we didn't have a debt, we wouldn't be doing anything or going anywhere." Dr. Ted Hicks, president, was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, National City, Ca., and is characterized as "the man who wouldn't give up." When many felt the school should die, Ted Hicks kept it alive and still gives it forceful leadership. Today he is pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Santa Ana, Ca.

Baskin had been a successful missionary in Korea and served in the foreign missions office of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, Springfield, Mo. When he toured the small campus in 1971, they had just finished a budget year of \$256,000.00 with only 42 students. Yet Baskin felt, "This school had an exciting potential because the students had unlimited opportunities for soul-winning in greater Los Angeles, an area of almost twelve million people.

Also, Baskin knew that Christianity had traditionally gone from the east to the west and felt that fundamentalism had a great potential on the west coast. That first year, the college moved to a former Presbyterian campus in Pasadena. Forty-two students promised to attend, but 168 showed up.

What Baskin had done in Korea, he felt he could do in the United States by challenging the students to be pioneers. They



DR. JACK BASKIN

worked, cleaned up buildings, and got involved. Pastors from the area also got involved, such men as Dr. Ray Batema, Dr. Eli Garju, and later Dr. Bruce Melton and Rev. Gary Wilson.

Today Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College has an A-2 rating with the state board of education (the highest private school rating) and is approved to train veterans and accept foreign students. The college has students from 42 states and seven foreign countries.

Rick Beck, a graduate of the college, took a church in Gardena, Ca., and had a total of 200 people on his third Sunday. The church burned down and within 6 months, he reached 500 in attendance and rebuilt the church.

Evangelist Jack Gardner calls the college "the West Point of evangelism," "the Annapolis of missions," and "The Center of Fundamentalism in the west."

The school was the first college, outside of Baptist Bible College, Springfield, Mo., to be recognized by the Baptist Bible Fellowship to train foreign missionaries. With this feather in his hat, Baskin was able to convince many other BBF churches to support the school

financially, hence, assuring its growth.

The state college campus became available in San Demas. Baskin walked over the potential campus and prayed. Then he asked the students to pray. They agreed on a purchase price of 2.5 million dollars, but only leased the ground. The 150 acres made an excellent sight to reach to entire Los Angeles basin.

In September, 1977, Baskin was in Orlando, Fla., when he received a phone call that the state was putting the campus up for sale. The college either had to come up with the money by January 1, 1978, or the property would be offered on the open market. Baskin flew back to California and met with the student body on October 6. They went to their knees in prayer. The following day, 100 pastors gathered for an emergency meeting. Those men pledged \$1.2 million over a five year period. The school went into a crash fund raising drive over the Christmas holidays, 1977.

Baskins stood before the students and announced, "We have to set the level of sacrifice. I don't want any of you to give for emotional reasons. Ask God and do what He says." The students brought cars and trucks, bicycles and stereos, and their clothes. Some couples took the rings off their hands. According to Baskins, "I have never seen such a great outpouring of sacrifice in all of my life." They raised a total of \$560,000 for the downpayment on the property by Christmas, 1977. Bank America financed the remaining 2 million dollars for seven years. According to Baskins, "Our mortgage payment is \$1000 per day." Everytime he sees a pastor or potential supporter he asks, "Will you give \$1,000 to pay one day's mortgage for us?"

Someone said, "If the money comes in, that will be a great lesson to teach students to pray." To that a teacher responded, "When the \$2,000,000 comes in that will be a testimony that God answers prayer."

Wm. F. Sheehan

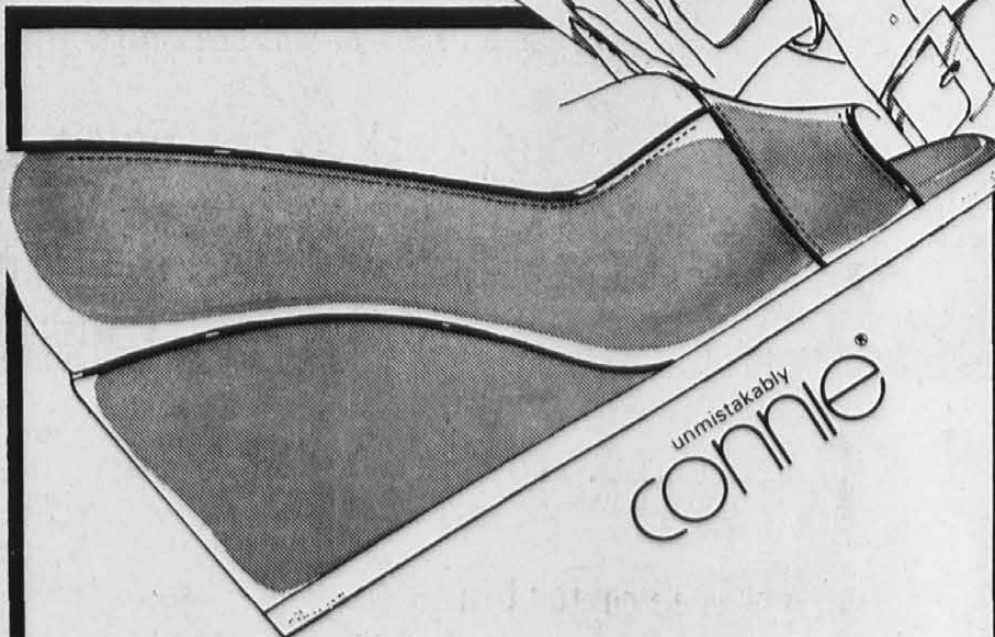
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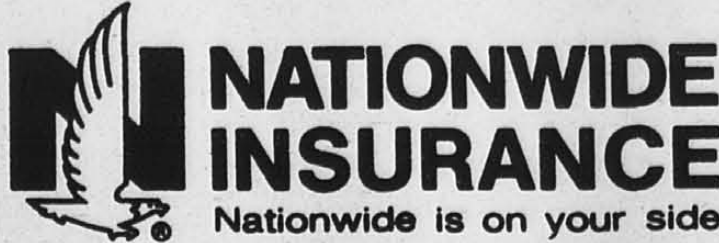
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DINO PEDRONE: BIBLE TEACHING 'ON FIRE'

By ELMER L. TOWNS

At 33 years of age, Dr. Dino Pedrone has accomplished more than most pastors do in a lifetime. When he came to Open Door Church on February 3, 1970, there were 136 attenders in Sunday School. Seven years later the church had a high attendance of 11,009 and averaged 1,956 per week in Sunday School. A new million dollar complex was built on 40 acres and a Christian school established.

But unlike the "morning glory" churches that blossom only to soon wither, Pedrone has built Open Door Church on a firm foundation of Bible preaching. He uses so much Scripture in his messages that they could be characterized as "Bible teaching on fire."

Twice the church won *Christian Life Magazine's* fastest growing Sunday School in Pennsylvania. The great fundamentalist leaders regularly preach from the church's pulpit; Dr. Jack Hyles, Dr. John R. Rice, Dr. B.R. Lakin, Dr. Jerry Falwell and a host of others.

Pedrone received Christ at seven years of age on the back porch of his home in Binghamton, N.Y. He did not attend Vacation Bible School that day and his mother led him to Christ.

From the moment he accepted Christ, he knew God wanted him to preach. "My call to full time Christian service was gradual with the full reality coming at age 18", testified Pedrone. His mother remembers him coming home on Sunday and re-preaching the pastor's sermon.

Pedrone graduated from Practical Bible Training School, Binghamton, in 1967, and remained in his home church for two years as Director of Christian Education. It was there he learned how to administer a church. Also, his home church was known for a quality program of teaching the Scriptures. This motivated him to dig into the Word of God because he was the church's educational leader. Pedrone was being prepared for a future ministry, still unknown to him.

Two years later, Dino Pedrone enrolled in Bob Jones University. Because he knew God had a purpose for his life, he wanted the best training possible. God stirred his heart through the chapel messages, especially those of Dr. Jack Hyles. He had always known about soul-winning, but here was a pastor whose church practiced it seven days a week. *The Sword of the Lord* also challenged him. He felt God calling him into the pastorate. A friend told him of a church in Chambersburg, Pa., that was looking for a pastor. During the Christmas holiday, young Pedrone was interviewed by the pulpit committee. That led to a candidate sermon. In his heart, Pedrone knew he was going to pastor the Chambersburg Church before they issued his call. He accepted immediately, left college and met 136 pupils in Sunday School when he arrived, February 3, 1970.

The men of the church were looking for leadership and they responded to the enthusiasm of their young pastor. People

began getting saved and attendance inched upward. But God was still stretching young Pedrone so he could "capture his town for Christ."

He read *The 10 Largest Sunday Schools*, a book that told about great soul-winning churches. He arranged to visit several of the churches to find their secret. The churches "awed" him and gave information on growth. "But Jerry Falwell did more to change my life than the others," confessed Dr. Pedrone.

"Jerry Falwell was believable", noted the young pastor. "Thomas Road Baptist Church was what I felt a church should be." Pedrone had an inner confidence that he could build a great church when he returned from Lynchburg. And attendance took off and soared.

After eight years of growth, there has been no outward growth in attendance this year. But like the tree whose toproot must be established before the foliage multiplies, the Open Door Church has experienced unseen growth. Bus attendance has dropped off, but the number of adults who drive into church has increased. There are 1,120 adults on the roll, with 700 to 900 in attendance each week. The high percentage reveals a strong church.

One of the reasons that growth has plateaued is that the old property downtown was just sold. It had been used for Sunday School. Also, the church has not had a big day in a couple of years. They could not keep the people they reached because of limited facilities, and they had saturated Chambersburg.

But Pedrone has a five point plan for continued growth. First, the plan involved selling the old property downtown with a view of total re-location on their 40 acres. They have done this. Second, they want to completely pay off the mortgage by next week. August 27, 1978 is designated "Burn The Note" day.

The third step is a "Growing Through Giving" financial campaign in September. Dr. Jerry Falwell will speak at a stewardship meeting. The aim is to raise weekly giving from \$6,000 to \$7,500 per week.

The next step will be a capital fund drive to raise finances to build more Christian Education space and a gym. The fifth and final step will be the actual construction.

An airplane cannot gain speed and altitude at the same time. Once the desired altitude is reached, then the plane gains speed. The same analogy is true in church growth. When a church is spending money and energy to reach people, it doesn't have money to expand its buildings and capital resources. Open Door Church is going through an "attendance breather" before it takes off again.

But this does not mean evangelism has taken a back seat. Soul-winning is still the number one priority. Last Sunday morning, 10 adults came forward for salvation or as a result of being saved in their homes. Seven were baptized. Four teens and four children prayed to receive Christ in the auditorium, plus other children who were saved in Children's church. Three came by letter of transfer.

The church reaches out through a 30 minute weekly telecast, "The Open Door Hour" over an NBC outlet in Hagerstown, Md. Also, they preach weekly over ten different radio stations, in addition to a five minute daily broadcast.

Some buses still travel 30 miles to Waynesboro to bring people to Sunday School (there is a Tuesday night prayer meeting with 40 to 50 people in Waynesboro) and the buses bring in approximately 900 each week.

Many fast-growing churches are built only on revival preaching, which tends to produce shallow Christians. But with all of the evangelism, Dr. Dino Pedrone's messages have strong Bible content. He observes, "I feel the weakness of some fundamentalist churches is their preaching. They say they believe the Bible, but their messages are filled with illustrations. After I prepare a message, I go back and examine it to make sure it has Biblical content."

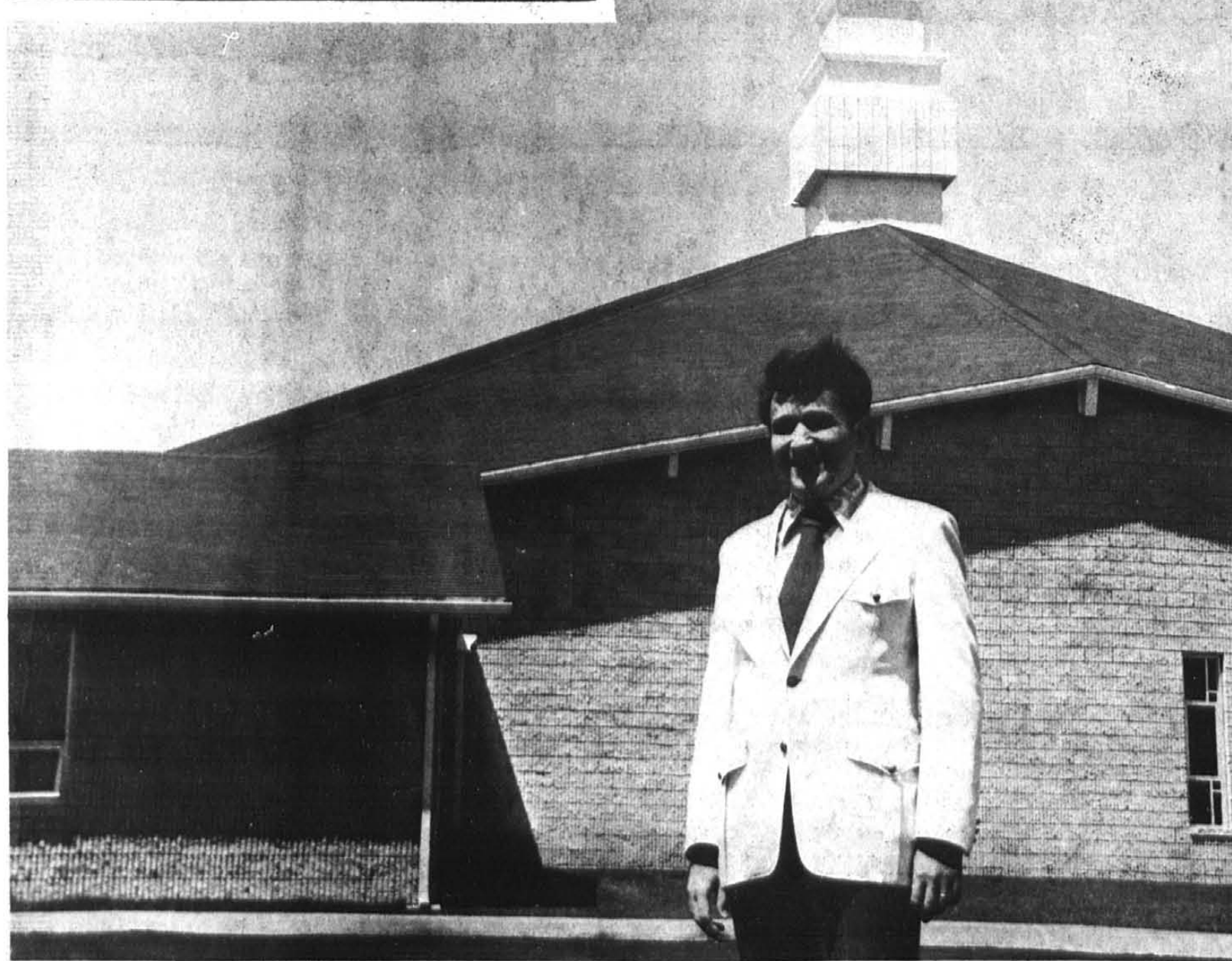
Just as every road has two sides, Dino Pedrone walks squarely between soul-winning and Bible teaching, building an unbelievable church in southern Pennsylvania.



Soul-winner explains plan of Salvation to young people.



Eager faces are evident in children's church.



Original Open Door Church Building (inset) burst at the seams under Pedrone's ministry. New building makes beautiful scene under the clouds.

Year Avg. Attendance

1970	198
1971	250
1972	404
1973	636
1974	812
1975	1284
1976	1533
1977	1956

The church grew because there was desire to grow. First they acquired a few lots and approximately 13 acres of land. This was enough property for most churches, but God had larger plans for Open Door Church.

One day, Dino Pedrone made phone calls to realtors and discussed buying extra property next to the church's future site. He put \$500 down on 25 acres, extending the future building site to 40 acres. The next day, another person tried to purchase the land. God's timing of one day secured the ground for future expansion.

In 1974, the church moved out of its small downtown facilities and dedicated a 1500 seat auditorium and Christian Education building at a cost of \$836,000. Now there was a base for growth.

Attendance reached 4,000 and 5,000 on several occasions. They bussed the kids in from surrounding towns. Chambersburg had a population of only 17,500 so extension Sunday Schools were started in other towns.

The church had the biggest Sunday School in Pennsylvania history as a result of a massive evangelistic thrust into areas not normally evangelized. Four services were conducted in Chambersburg, and hundreds of kids were bussed to Williams Grove Park where they heard the gospel under a huge tent. 8,008 came on buses that day. A total of 136 buses were in operation. They rented every available bus in Chambersburg, Harrisburg and other towns. One staff member was so committed to the project he gave \$2,500 to help reach children with the gospel.



Mrs. McLucas greets her pastor during services.

PERSISTENCE PAYS

On Sunday, August 13, 1978, Mrs. McLucas walked forward in Open Door Church, Chambersburg, Pa., to publicly profess salvation. Connie Baranolski had led Mrs. McLucas to pray to receive Christ the previous Thursday evening. There had been over 50 visits by different members of the church to her home to try to get her saved.

Last March, Mr. McLucas was saved in the church and got baptized that evening. He wanted his wife saved, but she said "No!" It is not that she was

against the church, nor was she a member of any other church, "I was nothing," she testified.

Pastor Dino Pedrone counseled the husband, "Be faithful and she will be saved." Mr. McLucas brought his wife to church regularly and they attended every service of a revival preached by Dr. B.R. Lakin.

When asked why she finally got saved, Mrs. McLucas answered, "Because they came to see me over 50 times."