

747-4853

September 1 . . .
promises to be a day to remember! This is the day students are to register at Midwest Bible College for 1970-71.

MIDWEST BIBLE COLLEGE
P. O. Box 86
Stanberry, Missouri 64489

The Move

The registration is almost sure to be a record breaker. Training for service is sweeping the Church. High school graduates want to do something well for the Lord.

Young men and women are daring to say, "Lord, use me!" This is the 20th century way of saying like young Isaiah, "Here am I; send me." This is the way to happy, useful years of service in the Church of God.

Is

Application for enrollment ought to be made immediately. Midwest is ready to help young people move ahead with Christ. The doors are open and many young people are entering in; others linger in indecision. Who will dare to join the move this fall?

On

Join

Watch the crowd at camp meeting; likely you will spot happy teenagers who are a part of the Spring Vale family. They have an abundance of pleasant memories to color their conversation. They have shared in the years of growth at SVA.

the

Expanded facilities make it possible for more teenagers to be among SVA's crowd. The new classroom building stands finished and ready for use; the remodeled cafeteria awaits enrollment day—August 25.

Happy

The dormitories were big when they were built, but they may be filled to capacity this year. Those students who are admitted are in for a year of happy experiences.

Crowd

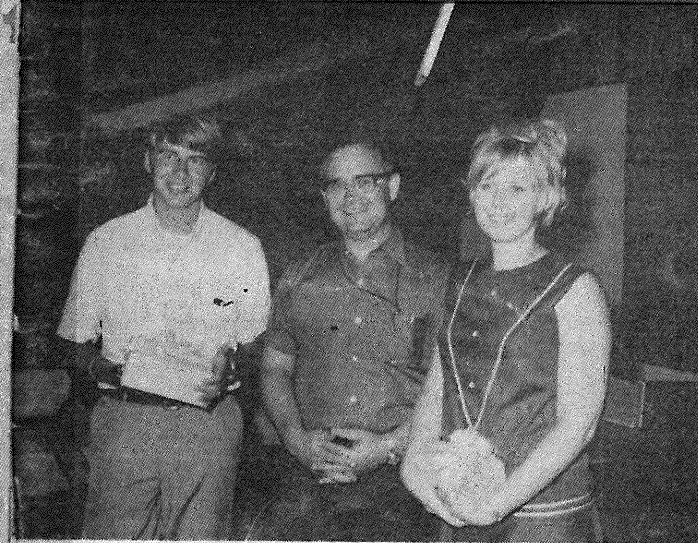
Contact Spring Vale this week if you want to join the happy crowd. It is an opportunity that cannot be compared! Be ready for . . .

August 25

SPRING VALE ACADEMY
Route 5
Owosso, Michigan 48867

Aim

The magazine for young people



Texoma Youth
Camp—
Awards are presented to outstanding boy and girl campers—Steve Kurtright and Debbie Scott.

YOUTH CAMP -- 1970

Inspiration Point—
Young people listen and talk of God's blessings as the fire flickers and the moon casts its beam across the water.



Aim The magazine for young people

AIM is dedicated to the promotion of higher ideals and more challenging spiritual goals among young people.

It is published monthly by the Bible Advocate Press at Second and Willow Streets in Stanberry, Missouri 64489. Second-class postage is paid at Stanberry, Missouri.

Contributions of material for publication are greatly appreciated. No responsibility is assumed for the care of manuscript, however, and only manuscript which is accompanied by return postage will be returned. Material which is original with this publication may be reprinted to the Glory of God. Please give proper credit.

Subscription rates: \$3.00 per year in the United States and Canada. Foreign, \$3.50. Clubs of 6 or more to one address, U. S. and Canada only, \$2.25 each.

A change of address must be allowed two weeks for processing. Please send both old and new addresses.

Address all mail to: AIM, P. O. Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

Vol. XXXIV, No. 8

Hope E. Dais, Editor

Surely there is something in the unruffled calm of nature that overawes our little anxieties and doubts: the sight of the deep-blue sky, and the clustering stars above, seem to impart a quiet to the mind.

—JONATHAN EDWARDS


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BRADEN ACRES
GRADE SCHOOL

A Star to Steer By

by Fred L. Copeland



In February of 1970 the mining company for which I work sent me to Costa Mesa, California, to a training school in atomic absorption spectrophotometry so that I could learn more about the operation of one of the three machines with which I run assays for the Research Department at the mine. I made the trip by air, and there was a stop at Phoenix on the way over. Coming back it was nonstop from Los Angeles to Tucson, and the distance of over 500 miles was made in one even hour. I had been up in small private planes a few times, but this was my first experience with commercial airlines. I am not used to getting around quite that fast, and it was quite an experience for me.

There has been another journey in my life that has taken somewhat longer than the one described above. With our modern methods of transportation we can hop across the oceans in a matter of a few hours, and I am sure most of us would become discouraged if we were to set out on a voyage that took something like a quarter of a century to complete. But that was about the length of the trip I want to tell about. And the journey was my search for the kingdom of God.

There was a good friend of our family by the name of Straughan who owned one or two small hotels in Phoenix. He came over to see us one evening a few days before I graduated from North Phoenix High School. We were sitting out in the yard talking and he said, “Fred, I understand you have decided to study for the ministry.” I told him that was correct. Then he said, “Let me ask

you one question . . . Do you consider your particular denomination to be the one and only true church?" I felt a little insulted at a question like this and did not know exactly how to answer it. Finally I said, "Well, if I didn't believe it was the true church I wouldn't belong to it." Little did I realize then that the day would come when I would no longer consider it to be the true church, and would no longer belong to it.

I attended George Pepperdine College in Los Angeles for three years and Abilene Christian College in Texas for one year, receiving my B. A. degree in Bible from the latter institution. My grandfather had been an M.D. and I had some thoughts of being a medical missionary, so took quite a bit of chemistry along with my theological training. During my college years I began to have serious doubts as to some of the doctrines my church taught, and by the time I received my degree I had decided that the ministry as a profession was "not for me." I tried bookkeeping for a while, did drafting work for a power company, built houses, worked on a ranch, and finally wound up as a mine assayer. Even though I no longer believed many of the doctrines of the church in which I was reared, I continued to attend their services until the breaking point came on Easter Sunday of 1953. For the next 17 years I was unaffiliated with any denomination, but considered myself simply as an "ecumenical" Christian, in fellowship with all of God's people in all denominations. I worked a lot with so-called Community Churches, where people of all faiths are welcome. In one of these, The Artesia Community Church, south of Safford, I met

a man named Max Cordell, who was largely responsible for teaching me the truth in regard to the Sabbath and the Passover. He and I held debates for many nights on the law and the gospel, and I finally wrote most of these thoughts down in an article, which I named "The Glory of Israel."

When I moved to the Dewey area near Prescott and went to work for the Iron King Mine, I made the acquaintance of Fred and Bertha Willhelm, who were holding services in their home each Sabbath. I began to attend these services, and these two kindly and godly souls were instrumental in completing the good work that Max Cordell had begun in my life, in teaching me the way of the Lord more accurately (Acts 18:26). When Elder Victor Youngs and other members of the Ontario, California, congregation stopped by to visit us at Dewey during the summer of 1969, we held in my home a service of joyful praise and rejoicing that I will never forget. And when Elder Youngs visited me again in February of 1970, I was ready to become affiliated with the Church of God (Seventh Day). I have never regretted that decision, for I believe I have found the people with whom I want to work in a spir-

itual way, the true people of God who believe all of His Word and actually try to follow it, who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

It has been a long voyage. And even now, the voyage is not yet ended. But I believe with all my heart that I have found a star to steer by, and that I have turned my ship in the right direction and am on my way again.

The Lord is my light and my salvation. So long as I keep my eyes upon Him I know that He will guide my steps aright. There may be many storms yet to come on life's tempestuous sea, but in the strength that He supplies I am confident that I can weather them all. With Him as my pilot I know that at last I shall reach my port on the other shore.

Youth Doctrine Corner

"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).



THE NEW EARTH

Official Church of God Doctrine—Article No. 27

. . . **At the close of the millennium the restitution will have been completed, and the earth will have been made new—restored to its original state of perfection with all sin and the results of it having been eradicated. The new (renovated) earth will then become the eternal home of the redeemed.**

Beginning of New Earth

. . . **After the 1000-year reign of Christ** (1 Cor. 15:22-28).
 . . . **After judgment** (Rev. 20:9-15; Rev. 21:1).

Perfect Life on New Earth

. . . **No tears, death, sorrow, pain, etc.** (Rev. 21:1-5; Rev. 22:3).

Holy City Present on New Earth

. . . **Comes down out of heaven** (Rev. 21:2).
 . . . **Extremely beautiful** (Rev. 21:10-27).

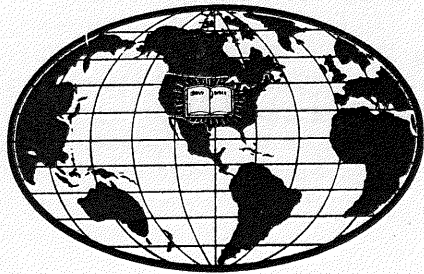
God and Jesus Present on New Earth

. . . **In Holy City** (Rev. 21:22).
 . . . **Throne of God and of the Lamb** (Rev. 22:3).

Eternity on the New Earth

. . . **No more death** (Rev. 21:4; 1 Cor. 15:25-28).
 . . . **Eternal life the reward of the righteous** (Rom. 6:23; John 11:25).

Gospel Around



the World

By John Lemley

"Yet have I left me seven thousand . . . which have not bowed unto Baal" (1 Kings 19:18).

Perhaps you have lamented the fact of our small size just as Elijah did about 2800 years ago. So, I am sure you will rejoice, as I did, to learn of people of God in numerous little-known areas of the world.

Young People's Christian Endeavor Anniversary Report—Jamaica

"March 22nd was one of the most exciting days. The rays of the sun shone down brightly on the city and one could feel the presence of the Almighty through and through. Truly our hearts leapt for joy as we remembered that today we would be celebrating our anniversary. We waited patiently. Watching the direction from which our bus would come with anticipation. At last the bus arrived and we gaily took our seats. On our way we sang choruses and God's presence was drawn continually nearer.



"We journeyed for some time before reaching our destination. A beautiful beach was before us, the waves inviting us to come and play. Thanks was given to God for bringing us safely, then we hurriedly made our way out of the bus, undressed, and the beach-lovers went for a swim.

"After swimming for a while lunch was ready on the beach. Everyone enjoyed themselves. After a bit more recreation we all got back in the bus and headed for the Church at St. Thomas where we were scheduled to put on a programme at 5 o'clock.

"The programme consisted of solos, recitations, duets, and spirituals. As a whole, it was very inspiring. The programme ended, the day ended, and we packed our things and headed for our homes.

"Our YPCE Anniversary ended. It will be long remembered even as we look forward to another anniversary, if not on earth then in the kingdom."

Nigerian tells of his search for truth
and of his work with war orphans . . .



Evangelist E. T. Nssien.

"Formerly I was an Evangelist in the Qualboe Church, a dead church. But through the lessons and strong prayer and the studies of Bible, Sister Willhelm instructed me days and nights, filled with the Holy Spirit. Then the Lord told me to draw back myself from among them with their false teachings. I did and tried to spread the teaching I received from Searchlight Bible Course.

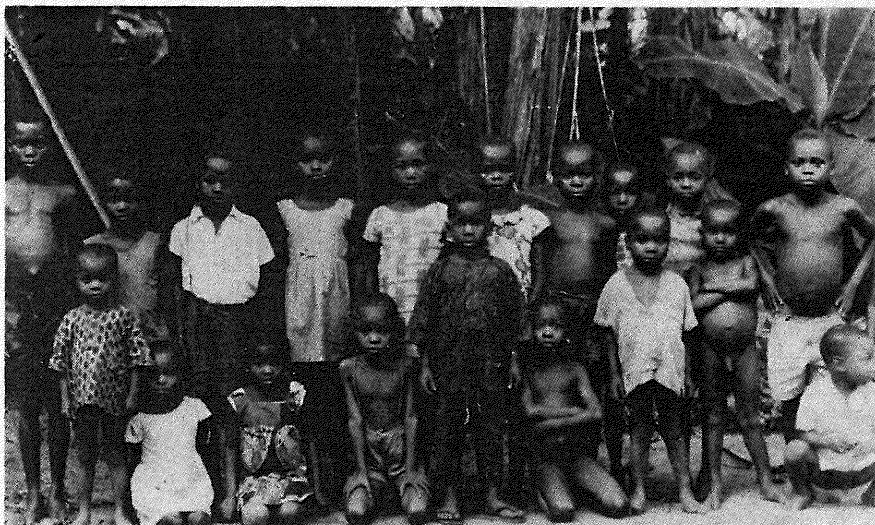
Since then I have established a church in my home town—Ikpa. And many people received healing without paying nothing for. Such miracles from the hand of God have caused this church to start to function. It is now moving up and down spiritually. The small house I have established. Now it can not hold all members again. Even in a newly-reached area, I have asked a man to let me use his house to hold meetings. It is now too small. We need a house to be built. There is another man who has offered to volunteer to win souls for Christ by preaching house to house. He is 27 and already seeming like a big brother to me.

"Yes, brother, I can not describe how things are very hard here on our area. Only God knows about everything. How the war destroyed most houses, even many people lost their lives.

"There are 20 orphans whom I send their photos to you. They are ages 2 to 9 and need some person who will sponsor them. They have no parents and there is nobody who will take care of them. The war has kidnapped their



Homeless members of Church of God (7th Day) at Ikpa who have survived the civil war.



Orphans cared for by Evangelist E. T. Nssien, Nigeria.

parents. But I love them and have sympathy against them according to how Bible proved to me that he that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again (Prov. 19:17 and James 1:27).

"I am, yours on the war front, E. T. Nssien"

Good news from Don Carlos, Philippines

Greetings to all brothers and sisters, in Jesus' precious name.

We are so pleased to receive the youth materials. I have them distributed to our FYCers. But we need more for our proposed reading center, which is one of our projects for this year. We have almost finished our chapel, except the flooring and pulpit. This was done through our self-help project, but due to lack of funds and materials we had to suspend the construction. Besides, we are all busy planting our crops.

We have just received the check for the radio broadcast. It is highly appreciated by us. By June we will begin on the radio DXMB station in Bukidnon. Please pray for big results.

We are pleased to report that the Don Carlos FYC has sponsored a weekly rally in the Don Carlos Public Market place every Sunday 4 to 6:30 p.m. We have done this for five Sundays already. We have invited Elder E. Barangot, our pastor in Quezon, to preach on the subject entitled "Signs of Our Times." Elder Dingal's topic has been "Saturday as the Sabbath or rest day." I serve as the M.C. Also, I have invited one of the Municipal Councilors to speak on the subject "Freedom of Religion." We have speakers and topics lined up for other Sundays too and will do this every Sunday.

"On June 2 a debate was arranged with a Catholic defender. Elder Rosell will be our speaker during most of the program. If we have a camera by then for every speaker we can have a picture, and of the crowd too.

"We are truly thankful to you and to all who have gained interest in the Philippines and our needs. May God bless all of you."

Your brother in Christ, Prude Sausa



After a quartet practice, the partakers pause for a picture in front of our newly-built chapel.

Cameras needed

Recently the need for cameras has been repeatedly expressed by our brethren all over the world for reasons which you will read about next. I trust that various FYCs will make it a project to supply a camera to a foreign FYC.

PHILIPPINES . . .

"But for pictures we are really having difficulty in producing pictures. We are having to hire a photographer to take our pictures and he charges a price that most of us can not afford. Besides, the Don Carlos FYCers have no money at all. How happy we shall be if you could help us secure a camera and films, so we could supply you all the pictures you need, including beautiful sceneries of the Philippines. It shall be highly appreciated."

JAMAICA . . .

The reason for a lack of pictures is just this—the shortage of a camera. We would be grateful if a camera was given to our group then you could see more of us as we demonstrate in the service of the King.

INDIA . . .

Even though we have no camera I used to lend from graphers and studios and still have some dues now. If you count it good to help us by sending a camera to help us in the work we will be so thankful that I will have no words to express enough our thanks. Save the tears of joy. I can do most

of the developing on my own. With whatever you help us, small or great, will strengthen us.

GERMANY . . .

(A camera was already sent. Elder Strauss acknowledges receipt.) First of all let me thank you for your nice letters from February and March and also for the photo camera. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. And it makes us feel good to have such very good friends and brothers over the ocean. The Lord may bless you very much for your love.

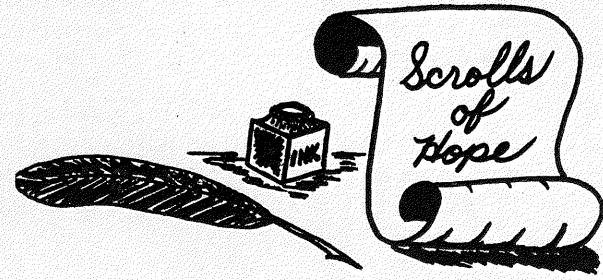


Young workers at the Church of God (7th Day) in Churhandpur, India.



Some who attended the Zionist Evangelical Campaign; Euongpeh, G. Khonom (Happy Valley) Tuining Area, Churhandpur Nampur, India.

(Report appeared in July AIM)



The enthusiasm that is being felt by our young people seems evident in the exuberance and sincerity expressed in the testimonies which appear in this issue of AIM.

Many of you are starting out on a new life, having taken the hand of God as your guide. Others have found a new sense of loving and belonging as you rededicated your hearts to Him and to the spreading of the Gospel to others. Whether you found God at youth camp or (perhaps not being privileged to attend camp) at home or elsewhere, God is everywhere and He is just the same.

The important thing now is that we allow God to remain *very real* in our individual lives—that it be a personal thing, renewed day after day. The kind of Christian life you live depends upon you. You can become a church member (like thousands already existing) who goes to church once a week, and hardly thinking or feeling what he is saying, sings “In all that I say, In all that I do, . . . I’ll put Jesus first in my life.” You can be a church member who lives a good moral life but never goes deep enough into the heart of Jesus to gain the real joy of complete commitment and complete faith. In such a case, you “deprive” yourself (if such a word is appropriate here) of the pleasures of the world, and at the same time, deprive yourself of the *real joys* in Christ.

I would guess that any individual who has been a Christian for some time has experienced the contrast between the days that are in frequent communion with God and the days which seem to neglect that communion.

Perhaps it is too vague to say “any individual.” May I make it more personal than that? *I* have noted the contrast. There have been the mornings when I awakened and dived into the day much too hurriedly to stop and pray. This is not to say that I went through the entire day without prayer nor that I neglected to at least utter a prayer at bedtime. —But what a difference I note when I awaken and spend even a short time pouring out a grateful heart to God for all He has done—asking for His help and guidance through the day! It starts the day with an assurance and satisfaction which prepares one so much better to meet the frustrations which come. This is not to say

(Continued on page 21)



"...Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh..."

by Michael D. Vlad

MINUTEMAN

John 5:39
Jeremiah 29:13
Colossians 3:16
Mark 16:15
Acts 1:8
Luke 24:46-48
Isaiah 58:1
Mark 16:20

BIBLE READING AND WITNESSING

Last month we started studying on the subject of "Christian Duty." We discussed the importance of prayer in the life of a Christian. This month we want to continue this study of our Christian duty with the topic of "Bible Reading and Witnessing."

Through my experiences, and the experiences of others, I have found that Bible reading and witnessing are as important as is prayer. To draw close to God we not only have to pray, but read of God in His Holy

Word. To be able to tell of God and His plan of Salvation, we must be able to explain it thoroughly. This is done through the study of the scriptures. Jesus said in John 5:39, "Search the scriptures..." The Apostle Paul said in 2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God..." The more we read of God and of Jesus Christ, and the more we study the scriptures, the closer we draw to God.

Witnessing is also important to a Christian. Since we have met Jesus and know Him as our personal Saviour, it is our duty to tell others of Christ so they too can find Salvation. This isn't the only reason we need to witness though. It seems as though the more we tell others of Christ, the stronger we feel. It does a great deal for one when he witnesses to someone of Jesus Christ. This is the reason for Christ's choosing the apostles to witness. Jesus knew that in order for the gospel to spread, He needed people who would witness. Today original apostles are gone. Who will witness? We will! The responsibility is ours. Christ is depending on us to help Him.

If we are going to work for Christ and the Church, we need to fulfill our Christian duty by constantly praying, witnessing and studying God's Word.

Again this month, in our Minuteman program, we are choosing special portions of this Word to memorize for more effective use in our witnessing.

Teen Guidelines

Teenagers --Dating --Christian Image

Jewell Linville, National FYC secretary

"HAVE YE NOT READ, that he which made them AT THE BEGINNING made them MALE and FEMALE" (Matthew 19:4)???

This text, along with its counterpart found in Genesis 1:27 makes it clear to us why young men and young women have a *natural* attraction one to the other—why they enjoy each other's company—why they seek to please each other—and, of course, why they ultimately unite in holy matrimony. It is simply because *that is the way God intended it to be* "from the beginning."

Are we to assume, then, that the primary objective of a young person's dating years is to find someone who will say "yes" and thereby fulfill the plan of God? Is this really all God has in mind—is it simply a matter of "replenishing the earth," and if so, does your choice of a mate make any difference or will "just anyone" do? Where does *dating* enter into this picture? Is dating just some modern thing that has evolved be-

cause of man's desire to exploit the mutual attraction of the sexes and "have a blast"?—Or is there more??

These are questions which cause considerable controversy among groups of teenagers and parents as well, especially as they relate to this matter of the purpose of dating and the standards involved. Many of our answers can be found in the Scriptures, taking into consideration, of course, the change in custom and practice since the time of the authorship of the Bible.

Dating in the Bible??

Do we find any Biblical proof of dating? If we only look for examples of dating as we picture it today, we would have to say "no, we do not see any examples of a young man's riding on his white horse (or his superduper auto) and taking his fair lady out for an evening of entertainment." However, have you ever considered what Jacob did those seven

years he served Laban for Rachel? Do you suppose that he never visited with her, enjoyed her company on a moonlit evening, or strolled through her father's fields with her hand in his? Somehow, I just cannot imagine that they were so completely unaware of each other's presence for seven years as to never "have a date" as our modern colloquial expression would be.

Whatever the case, God surely led Jacob to Rachel so the "twain might be one flesh" even as He led Abraham's servant to choose Rebekah for Isaac.

These examples indicate a clear-cut answer to the aforestated question "Will just anyone do?" NO—God has a plan for you in every phase of your life and an important part of the plan is your choice of a mate. I do not believe that "just anyone" will do, or that it is a simple matter of just finding someone who will agree to enter into the marriage contract.

This reveals to us a very important purpose for dating—to find the proper mate. Although we do not advocate using every date as a means of evaluating your companion to see if he would make a satisfactory mate for you, we must agree with the theory that you should date within the realm of those members of the opposite sex who would be within your own fields of interest, giving special consideration to the religious issues. Perhaps the adage "don't date anyone with whom you cannot pray" could well be applied here.

What Standards??—and WHY??

While dating is a definite prerequisite to finding a mate, it does

have another outstanding purpose in the lives of young people, and this is simply a matter of FUN. This should especially be the case for those early years of dating when the young person is just beginning to desire and enjoy the boy-girl type relationship. Dating really is a very fine means of recreation, of enjoying another's company and enjoying good times with someone you like.

These thoughts on dating for fun bring to mind those controversial issues on dating standards, bounds of conduct, and today's trends toward quick marriages, free love, trial marriages, etc. As I am reminded of such things, I am prompted to sit down with pen in hand and simply make a big long list of "dos and don'ts" for our young people. Somehow, one has the feeling that if everything were written out in short little "teen" commandments, our young people would simply read, accept, and follow the guidelines set forth. After all, aren't our young people seeking such guides on these matters? *What could be farther from facts in today's society*—the fact is that young people everywhere ARE seeking answers, but they are no longer satisfied with direct answers as in grandmother's day—now they want to know the WHY! This, of course, is not wrong, but it surely does make it harder for moms, dads, pastors, and counselors!

I hope the few issues we can cover solidly in this short space will provoke enough thought and offer enough guide that you young people can, with God's help, answer your own questions according to God's standards. If no other accomplishment were made, it would be worth every effort here if young people could

simply realize and accept the fact that, as Christian young people, they MUST not, they CANNOT, join with the crowds who are ready to "... crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame" (Hebrews 6:6) by their immoral dating standards and illicit exploitation of sex! God forbid! I know our young people have more originality today than merely to "follow the crowd" in these ungodly dating activities! I know that our young people can find more worthwhile and entertaining ways to spend their times together than that of immoral behavior that ultimately leads to a lifetime of bitterness and unhappiness with a marriage partner you do not love or with an illegitimate child who has to begin his own life with two strikes against him already! Young people, you simply cannot allow yourselves to be a part of this kind of dating! This is NOT FUN. It is the quickest route I know to self ruination and eternal destruction!

But rather, young people, I pray that your dating will be such that will be pleasing in God's sight—dating that will receive God's blessings because you are enjoying the pure relationship of Christian companionship and good clean fun! Every young person should know the joy of coming home from a date and going to sleep with a prayer of thanks on his lips for a lovely time rather than spending that time in a bed of tears because of improper dating behavior. One might say that those things just don't happen to Christian young people, but believe me, when a counselor sits and listens to the heartbreaking story of a young couple who were "just exploring" and found themselves caught in the net of sin and

degradation, one certainly sees the urgency of warning our Christian young people to beware "... because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). And what more effective way for Satan to work than on the natural instincts and desires of young people? He can so quickly change the God-given desires and emotions into lustful, unclean exploitations of sacred activities meant for marriage only.

To escape such evils, it is imperative that every young person stay very close to God and "Commit thy way unto the Lord..." (Psalm 37:5).

Too Serious—Too Soon

Along with avoiding exploitation of sex just for "something to do," every young person must be extremely careful about "getting too serious too soon." In the first place, the person dating with an obsession to win a mate not only stands a chance of getting caught "in the net," but also misses out on much of the real fun that goes with a relaxed atmosphere of simply enjoying another's company.

This reminds me of the story of 14-year-old Mary Jane who was so eager to capture all of John's attention that she lost him completely because of her possessiveness. The real climax to his frustration with her attitude came one sweltering August evening when the two of them were together as a couple with a number of other young people who were all enjoying the "excitement" of a country drive in Tom's "silver bird" which was, in reality, an A-1 "rattle trap"! What could be more perfect for a group of pleasure-seek-

ing teenagers? —But not so for Mary Jane! As a final exasperating attempt to divert John from his fun of climbing on, under, off of and all over the “silver bird” amid all its voluntary starts, stops, coughs and sputters, Mary Jane sarcastically remarked: “Well, who are you with anyway—‘me’ or this car?” THAT did it! John’s enthusiasm for the “auto” faded, but so did his enthusiasm for Mary Jane—and permanently so!

First of all, Mary Jane was far too young to have such serious thoughts about dating! She was far too young to want John to hold her hand, put his arm around her, etc., but somehow her impression of dating had always been one of physical displays of affection. She had never learned the real joy of dating and having a good time. She learned her lesson the hard way!

Let Mary Jane’s loss be your gain—learn to have fun dating; learn to enjoy companionship for the sake of its own merits; learn to share good times; and by all means, learn to take God with you EVERYWHERE!

Getting serious in early years of dating or in early stages of adult dating can only hamper your chances of finding that “one and only” for you. Not only does “going steady” take you out of circulation, and often lead to intimacies that should be reserved only for marriage, but it makes it doubly hard to “break it off” when you feel you really should.

Guidelines, Did You Say?

When one begins to date for the first time, it is well to follow guidelines such as the following:

1. Date with groups or couples—

never just the two of you.

2. Choose places to go where you can enjoy good, wholesome group activities.
3. Except for picnics or outings, dates should be conservative as far as length of time is concerned.
4. Respect the desires of your and your date’s parents concerning any rules of dating they request.
5. Don’t depend upon your date for all your pleasure—enjoy the association of others around you.

Dating is never a time for such displays of affection as those reserved for courtship, engagement or marriage. You should give consideration to the guidelines set forth in the following:

Holding Hands —Remembering that dating is that step which precedes the “going steady” or “courtship” stage, it is really difficult to see any purpose in hand holding unless, of course, it is a matter of courtesy such as assisting a young lady out of a car, across a mud puddle, or through a busy street. This thing of holding hands in public to the extent that it appears the hands are “glued” together makes a very distasteful appearance and certainly does nothing to establish or maintain your Christian image.

Sitting Close —Other than on a crowded church pew, there is no excuse for sensible young Christians to “snuggle” close to a dating partner. Besides being distasteful to the public eye, it is simply a step toward an emotional build-up that could be nothing more than “physical” during the early stages of getting to know each other.

Embracing —Again, there should be nothing in the young Christian’s

“Love is not getting, but giving; not a wild dream of pleasure and a madness of desire—oh, no—love is not that! It is goodness and honor, and peace and pure living—yes, love is that and is the best thing in the world, and the thing that lives longest.”—Van Dyke

character that calls for or allows such pleasure-seeking actions as holding your date in a close embrace. It only leads to an unhealthy and unholy sensual stimulation. It must be avoided.

Kissing —Kissing is a means of showing one’s affection to another. It is never a thing that is done “just for fun” as we see so rampant in today’s generation. God meant it as a true display of love and, in marriage, as a prerequisite to the sex act itself. It should not be exploited by young people for fun or sensual pleasure. Kissing is a sacred act and should be reserved for the one you truly love. Not only does it limit your ability to restrain your own physical drives, but it can cause you guilt and remorse presently and especially in the future as you look back upon periods of “experimenting” with someone you didn’t love. Do yourself the favor of saving this sacred proof of love for the “one and only” with whom you intend to spend the rest of your life! You will never regret it!

Petting —Petting is simply *off limits!* It has no place in the life of an unmarried person, and this should be especially the case with Christian young people. It is a pure and holy thing *in marriage* as a delightful pre-

requisite to the sex act itself. Truly we are, as the Psalmist says, “fearfully and wonderfully made.” God gave us our natural drives and desires for fulfillment with a life-long companion in a divine state of love. Young people, let God grant you that glorious state of happiness by reserving your intimacies for marriage with one you love!

* * *

Are the guidelines set forth above “out of bounds” in your reasoning? Perhaps you are chuckling to yourself now about such “ole’ fogey” ideas!—YOUNG PEOPLE, PLEASE! If you could just sit through session after session of counseling where one or both mates are living under a heavy cloud of guilt because of improper dating standards, you would redeem that chuckle, drop to your knees and seek God’s help for your own self-preservation and restraint so that you may not fall into this horrible pit with countless other young couples—Live your lives for TOMORROW’S happiness God has for you—NOT for the momentary thrills and fulfillment of sensual desires of TODAY! Then someday you will be able to understand the meaning of James Russell Lowell’s statement that “They who love are but one step from heaven”!

Michigan Youth Camp

Michigan Youth Camp attracted a total of 85 campers and 24 staff for its "HAPPENING" the week of July 5-11.

Although there is much that we could report about the camp, here are some of the highlights:

Tuesday Evening: Camp banquet—Staff serves campers—musical program.

Thursday Evening — Off-camp trip to play miniature golf and view the scenic Cascades.

Friday Afternoon: Camper-staff ballgame played in steady drizzle: Staff wins 4-2.

Sabbath Afternoon: Seven young people were baptized by Elder Fred Walter as result of the camp's spiritual program.

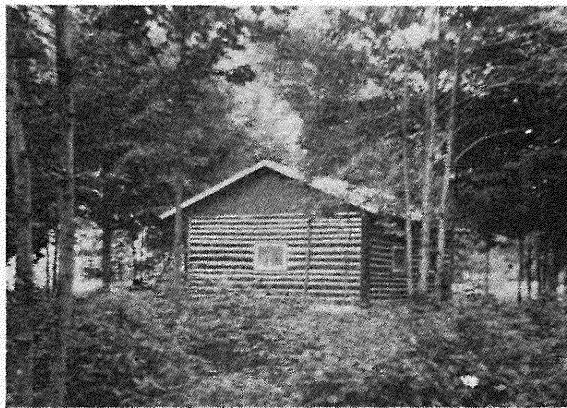
Janna Patchen received a trophy as outstanding girl camper

Michigan "Happenings"

er of the week, and Carl Pedersen was likewise honored as outstanding boy camper.

Perhaps the most unusual news about camp would be that a harmless water snake died soon after it bit one of our campers. The camper, 10-year-old Brian Souder, was unhurt.

We do want to thank the Lord for a successful camp, and we are looking forward to a better camp next year.



Back of cabin (girls' cabin, dining hall, meeting place)

Youth Retreat

A couple of hours before sundown on Friday, the 19th of June, a bright red pick-up carrying a canoe, pulled up to a little one-room cabin in Northern Lower Michigan. Before the dust could settle, a station wagon with a canoe on top and a camper trailer in tow arrived at the same site. As the occupants of the truck and car got out and stretched legs, another station wagon with a canoe pulled a second camper trailer into the clearing. The cabin was unlocked, a fire was kindled in its old pot-bellied stove, and a spot for the camper trailers was being located when a fourth canoe came winding down the trail on a rusty '57 Chevy.

The Decatur-Grand Rapids-West Olive retreat was underway! It was a cool evening, but the sky was clear and the nineteen people who had come in the various vehicles were looking forward to a weekend of spiritual strengthening and outdoor fun. Among those anticipating and helping achieve such a weekend were five "adult retreaters"; Elder Calvin Burrell, Brother and Sister Lee Meadows, and the F.Y.C. sponsors for the group, Brother and Sister Art Cummings.

After everyone had arrived, the "fellas" set up the campers and put the handle on the pump,

while the girls organized things in the cabin. Then as the sun settled behind a cedar swamp, the retreaters gathered in the warm cabin for pie and milk before an evening devotion service. After the service, the guys headed out for the campers and the girls turned the meeting hall into sleeping quarters. Not long after lanterns and lamps were put out, a full moon came up over the tree tops. It was a beautiful night! The distinctive whistle of whip-poor-wills carried through the still air all right, as testified by those who were too excited or too cold to sleep soundly.

With morning, the sun came up "bright and warm" and made short work of the frost which had formed during one of the coldest nights of the summer. After breakfast in the sun and a short period of free time, the group went on a short walk down in the "swamp."

After the walk, a "meeting place" developed in front of the cabin as campers brought out quilts and chairs on which to sit. Birds could be heard singing in the nearby woods as Sabbath services began. The first service consisted mainly of a discussion centered around the first chapters of Proverbs. Worship service followed, with Elder Burrell drawing some important and meaningful lessons from the record of the life of Jehu.

A program of specials was organized after lunch. Several musical instruments had been brought along, including an accordion which provided accom-

paniment for specials and choruses throughout the retreat.

Following the afternoon program there was a short interval of free time before retreaters began gathering for a longer hike. This hike took them several miles along a marked trail and ended at a state campground. A campfire was built at the campground and the hikers roasted weiners as part of their supper before gathering around the fire to sing choruses. During quiet times between choruses or when someone was speaking, the sound of water bubbling over rocks came from the small river a few yards away. It was a memorable way to close a

day spent worshipping God in His outdoors.

The pick-up and a station wagon provided transportation back to the camp where everyone seemed ready to get some rest. It had been a full day and many were planning on getting up early the next morning.

Canoeing was planned for Sunday morning, and since there were not enough canoes for everyone to go at once, the most eager were invited to get up and go at 5:30. Accordingly, eleven sleepy campers headed for the river bright and early Sunday morning, while the remaining eight tried to get back to sleep. The "early-birds" had to forfeit

some sleep and a hot breakfast, but they had a slightly longer trip than the others. Everyone had a good time paddling down the clear, cold stream, and only four people took unintentional dips, although there were several other "close calls." Frequently, canoes were seen going downstream with the paddlers facing upstream. This was generally after an encounter with a log jam, a bend in the river, or another canoe.

After canoeing all morning, the campers returned to the cabin for a hearty meal of spaghetti and meat balls before choosing up teams for a "blooper ball game. The big, well-used ball only lasted a few innings before its cover was knocked off, but that was long enough for a lot of action in a high-scoring game.

With the ball game over, it was time to start packing up, and all too soon a station wagon with its extra gear had left, soon followed by another. A while later the pick-up headed out the trail. And finally, the old Chevy took up its place at the rear.

The cabin and surrounding area settled down to the sounds of the wind and the birds. But the sounds of slapping paddles, laughing young people, choruses, and spiritual admonitions were still echoing in 38 ears—ears which had been part of a week-end of blessings—blessings in fellowship, in nature, in fun, and in worship.

SCROLLS OF HOPE

(Continued from page 11)

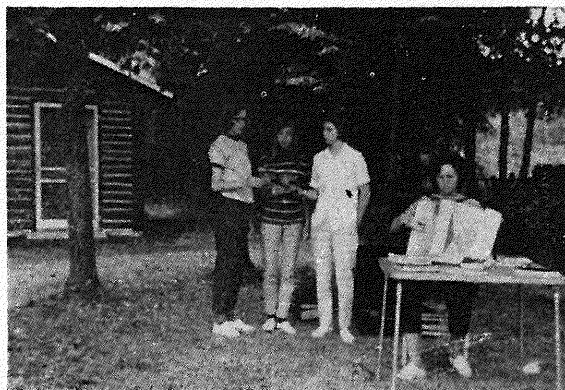
that this brief communion with God upon awakening completely replaces a deeper devotional sometime throughout the day; but what a tremendous "additive" it is from the first moment of wakefulness.

It is your own opportunities for communion with God and His Word that determine the depths of joy and satisfaction you personally will experience in serving Him. The attention and effort you put forth are essential ingredients. Indeed this is no doubt the Key which is found at youth camps. What is youth camp but several days of retreat from everyday life to "concentrate" on God? So it is that our own daily, personal "retreats" must never be neglected. There we will find the strength and assurance we need.

"... according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus..." (Ephesians 3:16-21).

Before we set our hearts too much on anything, let us examine how happy they are who already possess it.

*Sabbath afternoon trio
—Kathleen Leach, Janet Meadows, and Iva Meadows, accompanied by Martha Cummings.*

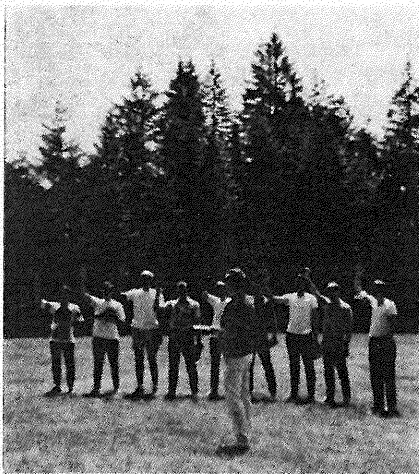


Boys' camp area (Sunrise Sabbath morning)

Communicating Christ

OREGON YOUTH CAMP

Oregon's tenth annual summer camp was held in Silver Falls State Park June 22-28. Official registration, including junior and senior campers and the staff was 186; but by the weekend, the attendance was well over 200! Eleven states were represented.



The staff team lines up for the "All-Star" baseball game.

Soggy memories of last year's camp evidently prompted this announcement to be made the first morning: "Anyone caught singing 'There shall be showers—' shall be sent home immediately!" and apparently, no young "prophet" found it necessary to sing, because no one was sent home and the sun shone until Sabbath—after which it didn't matter if you were sent home anyway. Lack of rain just added to our showers of blessings.

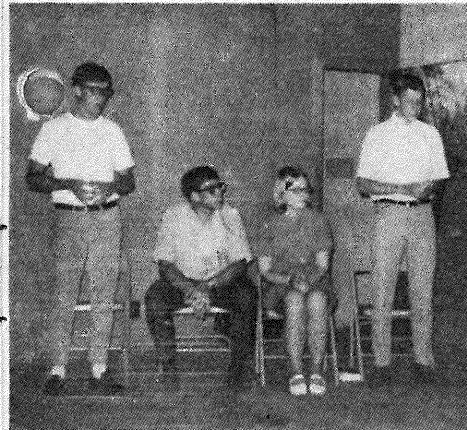
"I Woke Up This Morning Feeling Fine" was undoubtedly the favorite song. (I think the junior campers used it for reveille and taps both!) And the campers were feeling "mighty fine" right up until the last inning of the All-Star baseball game when the staff finally managed to get in the run that made the score 13-12. (Of course; four of the staff team were really campers!!)

The quiz competition over Mark was also close. Imagine, a true-or-false question to break a tie! It was often hard to tell who stood up first. Being the size of Zaccheus and wearing tennis shoes seemed to help!

A very outstanding choir was directed by Jim Fischer, and we were fortunate to have the Challengers Quartet with us.

The junior citizenship trophy went to Steve Feigum, and the senior award to David Kiesz. Many Honorable Mention certificates were also given.

Thursday's hike to see over half a dozen waterfalls in the area and the banquet that eve-



Larry Marrs, Ken Merriam, Janice Carlin, and Ken Moldenhauer made up one of the quiz teams on Sabbath afternoon. Close competition really kept it exciting.

ning were camp highlights. Another outstanding time was the presentation of a barbecue grill to Will and Lucy McGill by the campers in appreciation for the tremendous job they have done

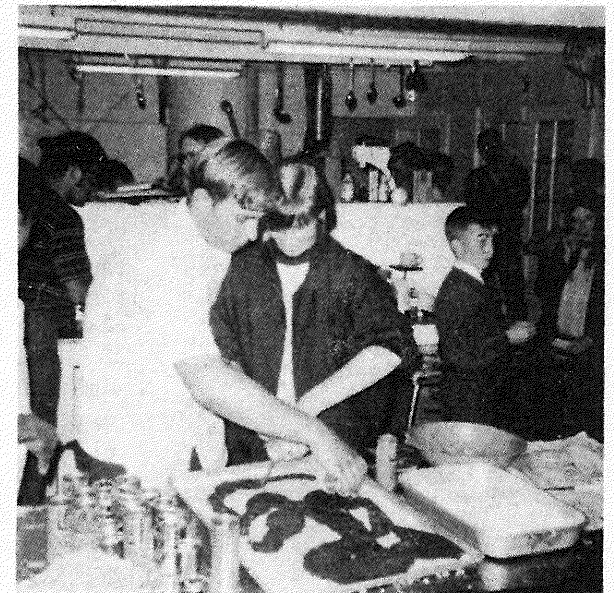
as camp directors the past few years. It was an impressive moment when they were given a standing ovation.

A more challenging and relevant theme than "Communicating Christ in the 70's" could not have been chosen. We talked a lot about relevancy and witnessing. Did you ever stop to think that you are a witness no matter what you do, what you say? Either for good or bad, you are constantly witnessing. And what is more, *it is possible to put out the message of Christ and still not communicate!* We were concerned about *communicating*.

In our discussion groups we talked about how. We discussed concepts and attitudes, approaches to life, its meaning and Christianity. What does being a Christian really mean? To you? To others? How well do

A luscious occasion at camp was the last night when everyone had their fill of pizzas.

—Looks like Billy Dais and Carol Durham had a hand in it.



the Christian cliches we use, communicate Christ to this generation? Is Christianity so remote from the love and peace today's youth proclaim . . . and seek? How can we let them know it's not? Is there a communication gap within our own generation?

So many questions, problems. Not always, not often, pat answers. But a lot of thinking, sharing of ideas and experiences, praying—realizing our need to dedicate ourselves to God in Whom we ultimately find our answers and learn to communicate.

A great youth camp with God!
Carolyn Clements

Here is what four campers had to say about it:

Testimonies

Gloria Mooney . . .

I'm very glad that I had the opportunity to attend Oregon Youth Camp and Oregon Camp Meeting this year. It's been four years since the last time I attended camp and I thank God that I went this year. The campers were really great, and the most important thing was that God's presence was felt by everyone. All we had to do was reach out for Him.

I think the most memorable times came at the campfires. It was here that many campers found the Lord. Here also one had a chance to talk to people who really cared about your problems and tried to help you find an answer.

I know for myself, that God was

really working with my heart. For the past two years I've been fighting against the Lord. Even when I went to Spring Vale, I really fought going over to His side. I was really making myself miserable, along with many other people. It took me many nights of earnestly seeking the Lord. It seemed like the more I prayed the more mixed up I got! When I left camp I felt a little better but I still felt that something was wrong.

I also had the privilege of attending camp meeting, which started the day camp closed. In the middle of the week it seemed like everything was going wrong, and like usual, I didn't think of praying. That night the sermon really touched my heart. I went to the altar and there I really found the Lord.

It seemed like the world was lifted off my shoulders. The one realization I had to come to was that of complete submission. I had heard of it before but that night I really found out what it meant. Before, I was always trying to hang on to some little part of my past life. Now, I realize that I had to become a new person. I praise God that I am that new person now.

I hope that if your children want to attend camp, camp meeting, a retreat, S.V.A. or M.B.C. that you will do everything in your power to see that they get there. It's worth it! They'll make Christian friends, and they'll have an excellent opportunity of finding the Lord and learning more about *Him*.

The church needs more young people in the work. I hope you'll pray for me as I try to witness and live the life Christ would want me to live. I will be praying for you.

Iva Pruitt . . .

I had a problem at the beginning of Youth Camp. I went with the wrong attitude about camp.

It seemed as though there it was hard for me to make friends and to even be a part of the camp.

But the second day was different, there was something brought out in class that helped me through the rest of camp and that was the verse in Proverbs 18:24: "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

Another thing brought out in the classes was witnessing to others.

I know it is important to witness to others and when I listened to the different opinions of witnessing in our class discussions I realized how little I even know about witnessing and how interesting it was to listen to the different experiences of the campers.

I feel every young person should attend a youth camp. Not only for spiritual value but also for the many kids to get acquainted with and remember in the years ahead.

Leo Lebitty . . .

Great. This word describes the week I spent at Oregon youth camp. I can't think of a better adjective for it. Almost two hundred kids attended this camp and I guess I made as many new friends. I know God was at camp with us; it couldn't have been as fun and spiritually inspired if He hadn't been.

From the outdoor morning devotional, through a day of classes, a ball game or a hike, or swimming, to the campfire services under the stars which was the very highlight of the day, it was a week to be remembered.

I know for myself that already I'm counting the days till the camp opens again next year.

Lyndon McGill . . .

This year Oregon youth camp provided more of the many blessings which have been evident since its beginning ten years ago. There were many wonderful representations from local churches; however, out-of-state campers—especially from California—made up the majority of our overall attendance. In Matthew 18:20, we find Jesus saying that ". . . where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." With a few more than "two or three," we found that Christ was with us in all of our endeavors at camp.

I have been privileged to attend every one of the Oregon youth camps to date, and have received a blessing each time—not only from my own experience with Christ, but from witnessing others, younger and older, giving their lives to Christ and dedicating themselves to His cause.

I would like to take this opportunity to reach many people of the church at one time and thank those who have given their time and effort to help young people by providing and running the many wonderful youth camps across the country. Although many do not voice their thanks, I'm sure that all who have attended a youth camp are appreciative of the fine work done by such "initiative" people. I would also like to encourage those who feel they would enjoy witnessing the growth of the church and enjoy aiding in this growth, to become involved in these

(Continued on page 35)

"These Things Are Ours"

TEXOMA YOUTH CAMP

Sunday afternoon, July 19th, cars of all sizes, shapes, and colors crowded into the parking area of the Lake Texoma Youth Camp at Texoma, Oklahoma. The sounds of banging car doors and youthful laughter filled the air as precious cargo poured forth from the cars. 110 campers, 28 staff members, and 7 pre-campers flooded the scenic camp area and with much excitement and anticipation settled in for a week at the District Four Youth Camp.

Sunday morning, July 26th, the parking area was again crowded with cars. Camp activities were ended,



Largely responsible for the delicious food enjoyed on Spanish day were Mr. and Mrs. Louie Espinosa. Louie is shown here accompanying his daughters, Rebekah and Martha, as they render a special number.

good-byes were said, tears were shed, and the 110 campers, 28 staff members, and 7 pre-campers returned to their homes in Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Oregon and Texas, taking with them many fond and precious memories of a wonderful week shared with friends and with God.

The seven days of Youth Camp were like seven days in another world. Campers and staff members alike forgot the hustle and bustle of everyday life and escaped the pressures of their daily routines. It was an exhilarating and refreshing experience to be completely surrounded by the awesome beauty of God's great outdoor world. It was an uplifting, joyful experience to be reunited with old friends and to enter into new friendships. It was exciting and invigorating to run, to laugh, and to play. It was thrilling and deeply satisfying to study and learn God's Word and way. It was tremendously heart-warming to sing praises unto the Creator and to unite with others in earnest prayer to Him.

"This is the greatest camp ever" is a comment that loudly echoed



Elder Ken Knoll presents the outstanding sportsmanship awards to Priscilla Banda and Jack Henderson.

throughout the camp all week long. This camp really was "the greatest ever" because God was ever present with us. He blessed in a great way each of the classes, programs, and activities planned for both the junior group and senior group of campers. God richly blessed this Youth Camp with a dedicated staff and with outstanding young people who exhibited a true spirit of love, unity, and cooperation.

The camp schedule was full and demanding, but was also fulfilling and rewarding. Each morning the campers attended a devotional, Bible class, a general assembly, and a discussion group or craft class. The entire afternoon period was devoted to recreational activities. The campers showed much enthusiasm for the competition in basketball, horseshoes, and softball, but the favorite activity of each afternoon's recreation was a cooling, refreshing swim in beautiful Lake Texoma. The evening was a most inspiring time of each day for it was at this time that the campers gathered in the chapel or around a campfire to worship God in song and prayer and to receive the words of our

guest speaker Elder Ray Straub. Then there were the quiet times when individuals could slip away to sit in solitude and admire a sunrise or gaze at the stars. And there was time for walking in the woods or strolling along the beach. There was time for meditation and there was time for prayer. There was time for young people to seek God and to find Him.

The busy daily schedule was punctuated by a favorite time for everyone—Mealtime! The daily meals were made especially enjoyable by the hard-working kitchen staff who provided smiles, cheerful words, and much good food for all.

"Spanish Day" was a special feature of our camp this year. The Spanish theme was carried out all day long, especially at mealtime when we enjoyed delicious Mexican foods. The evening of Spanish Day the Junior Campers enjoyed a hike, a weiner roast, and a pinyata party while the Senior Campers enjoyed a festive Spanish-style banquet.

In keeping with the tradition of all previous District Four Youth Camps, we enjoyed the annual stunt and talent night, the "Honor Cabin" compe-

tion, and the Camper vs. Staff softball game. This year the staff made a comeback after facing defeat the three previous years and won the game with a score of 22-16!

The week at Youth Camp was climaxed by a marvelous Sabbath day long-to-be-remembered. Over 300 were in attendance at the morning worship service at which Elder Robert Coulter presented a most inspiring message from God's Word. After lunch was served, the campers presented a Youth Rally based on the theme of our camp, "These Things Are Ours."

Following the Youth Rally everyone gathered on the shore of the lake for the most blessed of all the Youth Camp services. We were overjoyed to watch eight young people walk out into the water for baptism. We thank and praise God for these eight who took their stand for Him, and we also praise His name for eleven more young persons who decided while at camp to take the all-important step of baptism when they returned to their home churches.

Sabbath evening we gathered together for "Youth Camp Presents," the annual program that highlights each Youth Camp. During this program the campers and staff shared

with the parents and guests the activities and experiences of the past week at camp. Various awards and gifts were presented to the kitchen staff, to the honor cabins, and to the young people chosen as most outstanding campers.

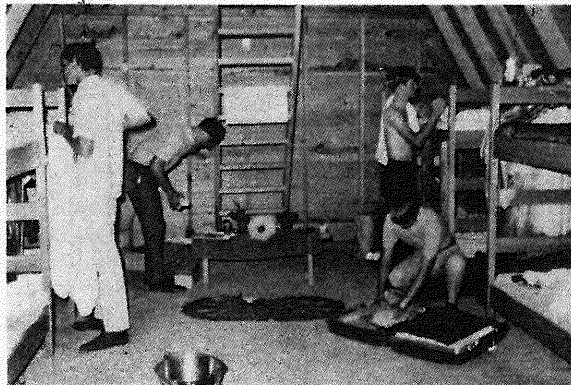
This lovely Sabbath day became even more meaningful when we once again gathered at the shore of the lake to witness another baptism. A young man took hold of God's hand and stepped out into the water, and our hearts were filled with joy unspeakable as we stood in the twilight and saw this one rise from the water to walk in newness of life.

His Testimony follows:

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE BLIND and then to suddenly be able to see? It's like going to the Oklahoma Youth Camp and spending a week listening, talking, and experiencing God.

The camp was very well situated, overlooking Lake Texoma. The camp and the people who attended inspired the spirit of Jesus Christ to burst forth within the hearts of everyone. This spirit put a new light on our troubled world and the young

(Continued on page 34)



A peek inside the senior boys' cabin as they pack to leave a week not to be forgotten.

Inspiration Point

The moonlight laid a golden beam across the top of the water. A fish leaped from its lily pad cover and splashed loudly as it returned to the water under those spreading green leaves. The hilarious laughter of the loon came floating over the water, momentarily causing one to forget the insistent whine of the attacking mosquitoes.

Young people scooted a little closer to the fire and found the mosquitoes were not so insistent there by the peaceful flames that flickered in the coolness of the night.

This was Inspiration Point, Minnesota, and those young people had come to the camp meeting to find friends, fellowship and spiritual blessings.

District No. 2 held its camp meeting in a beautiful place not far from Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Youth activities were under the direction of Elder Daniel Camero.

Each morning the young people had lively singspirations and Bible classes and then found ample time in the afternoons for recreation such as boating, swimming, tether ball, softball and football.

Some of the young men found great sport in trying to throw

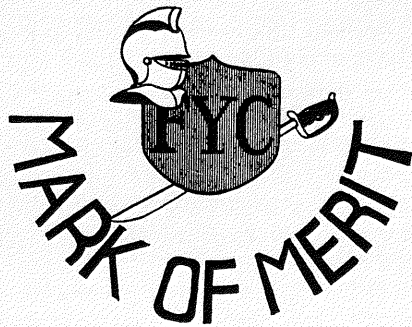
some of the ministers into the lake but the challenge was too great and more campers got wet than preachers.

Each night the young people gathered in the main meeting hall to listen to the inspiring sermons presented by several of the ministers in attendance at the camp meeting.

Following these services, the youth campers always made their way to the spot down by the lake shore where they gathered around the camp fire and watched the moon lay its golden beam on the water. The chairman of the Young People's Department, Elder Dale Lawson, then spoke to the campers each night.

The moon beam seemed to act as a warm glow from heaven and the sounds of the fish, the loons and even the mosquitoes seemed to drift over the water to the distant shoreline and lose themselves in the blackness of the night.

All that could be heard was the soft tones as young people sang, "How Great is our God" along with many other lovely choruses. Then the richness of young voices being lifted to God in prayer seemed to dominate the air around the group. Prayers for salvation, prayers for guidance to Christian service and prayers for others lifted higher than the smoke that was curling upward from the fire and they never stopped until they reached the ears of the Master Who is on the right hand of "our Father which art in heaven."



by Nathan Lawson

“But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer” (1 Peter 4:7).

Summer is going quickly by. Next month school will begin again. This is life. We only have one life. The years count up fast. One grows from a child to a youth, a youth to an adult, and finally, the body grows old, wears out, and we die.

It is what we do with this short life that counts. When the story of your life ends, it will only be those things that you have done for Christ and the Church that will mean anything.

“Only one life, 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last.”

Mold your life into helping your FYC be active for Christ and His Church. 1970 will soon be over. Are you and your FYC members BUILDING FOR ETERNITY?

Following is a report of Mark of Merit activities through the second quarter of the 1970 year. (This includes reports received in my office by July 15.)

	Mark of Merit Points	Bonus Points	National FYC Support—15%
Tacoma, Wash.	330	637	8.89
Stockton, Calif.	330	340	17.16
Lodi, Calif.	330	100	6.30
Eureka, S. D.	330	384	18.74
Wichita, Kans.	330	467	3.00
Sacramento, Calif.	330	280	23.61
Elmira, Oregon	295	156	6.23
Ontario, Calif.	330	508	16.31

Marion, Iowa	330	452	46.28
Harrisburg, Ore.	310	417	44.10
Kansas City, Mo.	310	244	9.08
Alfred, N. D.	300	241	3.50
San Antonio, Tex. (Sp.)	305	111	17.36
Saginaw, Mich.	220	225	
San Antonio, Tex. (Eng.)	255	54	
Michigan	235	35	2.69
Toledo, Ohio	220	268	1.47
Austin, Tex.	270	112	4.78
Nipawin, Sas., Canada	225	35	6.75
Tahlequah, Okla.	300	243	3.78
Midway, Okla.	280	183	4.50

We want to thank each FYC group for faithful support of the National FYC with 15% of their local income. The National FYC exists only for the purpose of benefiting the local FYC groups and as a tool for a unified effort in promoting the Gospel by the youth of the Church of God. Many projects are being carried on. Much material has been made available to the local FYC groups to help them with their work. Your faithful support is a tremendous help. We are just beginning to really march forward and make gains for God. Let us each find a VISION for God's work and move with His Church.

REMEMBER, REMEMBER, REMEMBER

Don't be a “drop-out.” If you have not sent in your report for the second quarter, then do so. If your report did not reach my office by July 15, then it will appear in next month's issue of AIM. Stay with the Mark of Merit Program. It exists for your benefit. It gives you a guideline for an active FYC. Keep up the good work. Our goal is still to have every FYC working for Christ through the Mark of Merit Program.

PROJECT OF THE MONTH—September

ICE CREAM. Make homemade ice cream. The warm days of summer are almost at their end. Such an event would make a good outing for your FYC and Church. Have a good chorus time and devotional in connection with this event. If you desire, you could turn this into a money-raising event for your local FYC fund. If the materials for the ice cream are donated, it would allow you to charge a small amount for the ice cream and reap a profit for your fund.

2T₄G - Take Time for God



By Martha Ling

"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham" (Matthew 1:1). Perhaps this is the best summary anyone could give of the first book of the New Testament. Matthew, the first book of the four gospels, gives the life story of this "Jesus Christ," Who came into the world to give us hope.

Not only does the book tell about Jesus' life, but it gives many of Jesus' teachings which may drastically change our lives. But they can only change our lives if we believe in the story presented in Matthew—the story of salvation through the life and death of Christ.

Once we believe the story presented by Matthew, we are given an opportunity to bring others to His saving grace, as Matthew 28:19, 20 command: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, *I am with you always*, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

* * *

I am sorry I cannot fill you in on the completions this month. As I write this, we are in the process of moving and my records are all packed. Be looking next month for the list as well as for my new address.

Aug. 15	Mal. 2
Aug. 16	Mal. 3
Aug. 17	Mal. 4
Aug. 18	Matt. 1
Aug. 19	Matt. 2
Aug. 20	Matt. 3
Aug. 21	Matt. 4
Aug. 22	Matt. 5
Aug. 23	Matt. 6
Aug. 24	Matt. 7
Aug. 25	Matt. 8
Aug. 26	Matt. 9
Aug. 27	Matt. 10
Aug. 28	Matt. 11
Aug. 29	Matt. 12
Aug. 30	Matt. 13
Aug. 31	Matt. 14
Sept. 1	Matt. 15
Sept. 2	Matt. 16
Sept. 3	Matt. 17
Sept. 4	Matt. 18
Sept. 5	Matt. 19
Sept. 6	Matt. 20
Sept. 7	Matt. 21
Sept. 8	Matt. 22
Sept. 9	Matt. 23
Sept. 10	Matt. 24
Sept. 11	Matt. 25
Sept. 12	Matt. 26
Sept. 13	Matt. 27
Sept. 14	Matt. 28

Faithful Youth Challengers Hour

The National FYC is sponsoring a weekly radio program over DXMB from Malaybalay, Bukidnon, Philippines.

The brethren in the Philippines are broadcasting the program under the name "Faithful Youth Challengers Hour." The program was to have begun on July 5.

The funds for this project are raised through one of the standards of the Mark of Merit Program. Any FYC group that has not become involved with support of this project may do so by sending \$6.00 per year to Mark of Merit, c/o Elder Nathan Lawson, 841 S. Washington, Lodi, California 95240.

Leadership Retreat! Where to Go!

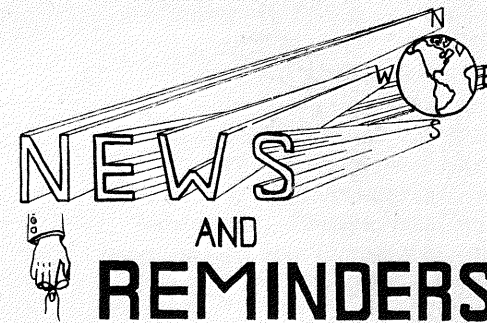
"Go north of Boulder on Route 93 to the Old Armory and take Lee Hill Rd., turn left at Boulder Heights and follow Deer Trail Rd. and Mine Rd. to the camp entrance.

Leadership Retreat! What to Bring!!

All FYCers and youth workers attending the National Leadership Retreat should bring bedding (including a blanket for cool nights), flashlight, Bibles, and a notebook and pencil with them.

Spring Valers May Attend National Leadership Retreat

If you are an FYC officer and would like to attend the National FYC Leadership Retreat, but are facing a conflict with Spring Vale's



opening date, you may plan to attend the "retreat," before traveling on to SVA. The principal of SVA, Elden Fischer, gave the National FYC office permission to invite you to the retreat and should you come, there will be no penalties for being late to SVA.

We hope to see you at the National Leadership Retreat.

Mark of Merit Zooms Upward

Thirty-five FYC groups are now participating in the Mark of Merit program. This is a tremendous increase over any previous year but we are thinking that it could be even better.

If your group is not among these, you can still participate by reporting your activities to Elder Nathan Lawson, Mark of Merit Director.

FYC Merchandise

The "70" National FYC sweaters are sold out; but a new order is being placed. This new order will be made especially to fill specific orders so if you want one of the "70" sweaters, immediately send your order to: National FYC, 316 N. Willow, Stanberry, Mo. 64489.

Order your FYC ballpoint pen today. They come in blue, green, and black colors and have imprinted on them:

**Faithful Youth Challengers
Church of God (7th Day)**
"Let no man despise thy youth..."
2T4G—Evangelette—Minuteman

Only a few FYC bookmarks are left. Order one now for 35¢ or order three for \$1.00. They are silver blue with royal blue printing on them.

THESE THINGS ARE OURS

(Continued from page 28)

people's troubled minds.

CAMP WAS LYING AWAKE NIGHTS, PRAYING and crying that you might have peace within. Camp was kneeling in the dirt and rocks praying to God for mercy upon your soul and everyone around you.

Peace and Mercy did not come... not until individuals stopped fighting the truth and accepted God's hand.

Oklahoma Youth Camp was God-inspired. God touched the hearts of everyone there. You could see it in the actions, the conversations, and in the attitude of the young people there.

TO ME THE MOST BEAUTIFUL TIME at camp was Sabbath afternoon when eight campers were baptized.

That beauty stayed with me. I was torn between God and 20 years of up-bringing in the darkness of the customized church. I let my feelings take hold that afternoon, and I fought God with all my strength, but it was to no avail. That night I became

a child of God and a member of God's church.

I was blind and He made me see. That to me was the biggest blessing ever bestowed on me.

"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:5-7).

Steve Kurtright

Words alone can never express the blessings and true worth of this camp. The blessings of camp will be seen in the lives of the many young people who, while at camp, experienced the real power of God in their lives and who felt a great measure of His love in their hearts. Problems were solved, burdens were lifted, and many lives were changed during the seven short days of camp. We pray for God's special guidance in the lives of all the young people who attended this Youth Camp, and we pray for His presence with His young people everywhere. We will never cease thanking God for this wonderful youth camp. We thank Him for His love and mercy toward us, for His Son, for the joy and peace of Christian living, and for the glorious future that awaits us. What a thrill it is to know that THESE THINGS ARE OURS.

—Gail Rincker

COMMUNICATING CHRIST

(Continued from page 25)

camp. The young people need good and outstanding leaders who can clear a trail that will be rewarding to follow. All this can be done by the examples set by these leaders and their fine work.

Rita Fischer . . .

The theme—"Communicating Christ"—of the '70 Oregon Youth Camp has come to mean something special to me.

Throughout the sun-filled days

and around the star-lit campfires, I found a greater understanding of what communicating Christ really is—an understanding I would like to share with other young people. Being a Christian is not just clinging to your own salvation, not just "hanging in there" and not just making it to the kingdom. Rather, it is reaching out to serve the gospel as a main goal in life. It is employing effective ways to bring others the beauty of Christ, and it is finding a deep joy in doing so. This is communicating Christ!

**The Time is Upon Us!!
Pray for your FYC leaders as
they meet near Boulder, Colorado for
Leadership Retreat
August 21 — 24**

Fort Smith Youth Retreat No. 2

September 4-6, 1970

After a successful youth retreat in the spring of 1969, the FYC of Ft. Smith are again planning a great weekend for any young people within 998 miles of here.

Special activities will include youth services and special singing on Friday night and Sabbath, plus campfire, recreation, hayride, surprises and fun on Saturday night and Sunday.

We are asking all young people to bring along \$3.00 to help with the expenses for the weekend. If you want further information, Please write

Fort Smith FYC
3908 Waldron Road
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901