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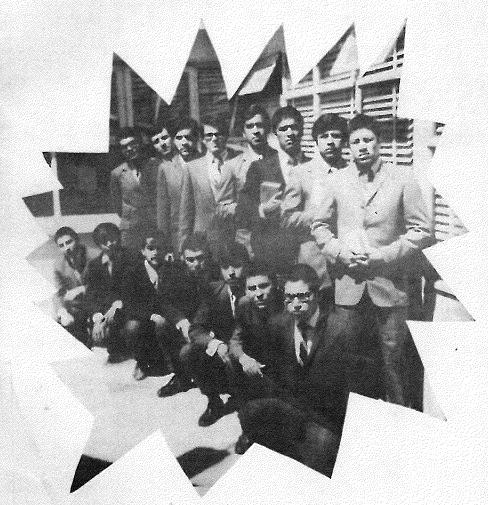
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- lives, not fortunes
- faith, not misgiving
- character, not contention
- usefulness, not futility
- love, not selfishness

Aim

The magazine for young people



Ministerial students at the Church of God (Seventh Day) Seminary in Puebla, Puebla, Mexico.

Aim THE MAGAZINE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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Vol. XXXV, No. 12 Hope E. Dais, Editor

Strong feelings do not necessarily make a strong character. The strength of a man is to be measured by the power of the feelings he subdues, not by the power of those who subdue him.

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BRADEN ACRES GRADE SCHOOL

A Purpose in Life

by Carol Sue (Mann) Mitchell

A purpose in life is important to an individual, as water is essential for a fish to survive.

The heights and depths of our purpose determine the degree of vitality we have for living. The higher we reach, the farther we look, the greater are the energies that are stirred within.

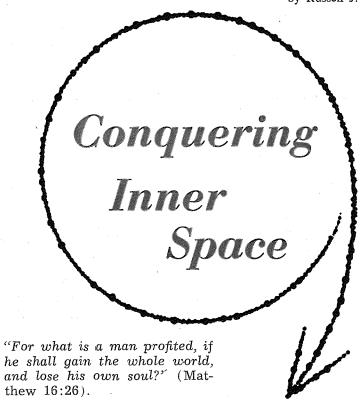
(Col. 3:23, 24) "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

To be possessed of a dynamic and far-reaching purpose is to feel alive, responsive and awake. If one feels his hold on life is not as strong as it should be, it may be that he needs to reaffirm his purpose for living.

(James 4:14) "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Stand up and declare that your one purpose in life is to let more and more of God's spiritual light shine through your being. Have the faith to believe and expect that God will work with you in all that you undertake.

Affirm that your one purpose is to let more and more of the Spirit radiate from you to everyone with whom you come in contact—share in spreading His love, His good, throughout the world.



All the world is excited about the conquest of outer space! All of Russia and America have rejoiced in the fantastic accomplishments of their cosmonauts and astronauts. And both countries want to do even "greater works than these." Our own government has spent billions of dollars over a period of years to land a man on the moon.

Man has always had the desire to conquer unknown space, whether it be a country, a continent, or, as now, the cosmos. But there is a "greater work" than the conquest of the cosmos. It is the conquest of one's

character—the conquest of inner space.

You, too, can be a great conqueror—greater than any military leader, dictator, czar, emperor, or astronaut! You can conquer the great space within you.

With all our rockets and missiles and space capsules, we are conquering outer space. But how much are we conquering our hates? Here and there we still see evidences of racial or religious hatred. Bias and bigotry are part of the inner space which many of us have to conquer.

Put more love in orbit, and you will conquer the hostility in your heart. With kindness, patience, and tolerance as your satellites, you can make the accomplishments of Cape Kennedy look like "peanuts."

Our "inner space" is filled with habits, both good and bad. So if we would do "greater works than these," we can strive to strengthen the good ones and work for victory over those that are undesirable. Habits such as fingernail biting, constant nagging, or faultfinding, monopolizing conversation, and whispering in company might seem trite and trivial. But victory over them can spell social and vocational success

Would you like to do something big in your world? Something even bigger than being first to the moon? Perhaps all you need do is conquer procrastination, carelessness, indecision, or indiscretion. It is a real victory when a person becomes lord over laziness, lust, or laxness of any kind.

Are you afraid of the water? Do you shudder when it begins to thunder and lightning? Do you fear the dark? Do you fear bad luck if you walk under a ladder or break a mirror? Are you afraid of the dentist or doctor? Are you constantly afraid of failing? Whatever your fear, try to conquer it. Win a victory over the phobias that fill your inner space. Smash the superstitions that keep you tied up in mental or emotional knots.

Probably some day man will

conquer the moon; but for many people, the more important thing is to master a mood. Have you ever seen people sulk when they do not get their own way? They may go and sit in a corner or be moody all day. Sometimes they go around wearing a sad face, filled with self-pity. They might not know it, but they have much to conquer and should begin the countdown to conquer their moodiness immediately.

The papers are full of man's attempts to conquer the altitudes. But a "greater work" is the conquest of attitudes. Do you go around looking for people's faults? Do you see clouds on sunny days? Do you always expect the worst to happen? Perhaps a negative attitude is the inner space you need to conquer. Start looking for the good in your friends and neighbors, parents or children, employer or employees—even in the people you do not like.

Remember the quotation about the two men in prison who were looking out from behind the bars? One man saw the mud; the other saw the stars. Conquer your negative attitude, and the stars in your inner space will shine as brightly as those in the heavens.

The greatest conquest many people can make is to conquer their emotions. This can often mean a lifetime of hard work. It is not easy to throw off jealousy. It is not easy to banish bias, bigotry, and bitterness. But we have the assurance of the

Bible that with God all things are possible.

False pride takes up a lot of inner space in some people. Have you ever watched how some boys and girls can stand in front of mirrors literally for hours admiring their good looks? They will primp, preen, and polish themselves by the hour. There are other people who buy expensive homes or cars to impress their neighbors and friends. They buy furs or jewelry on credit in order to keep up with others. Victory over vanity can make a visit to Venus look like a very small thing.

We should, of course, be grateful for all the gifts which God has given us. But self-praise, self-seeking, and self-righteousness, if they are part of our inner space, must be conquered.

What have you hidden away in that inner space of yours? Some people are harboring grudges, gripes, grouches, grievances, and griefs. Others are holding on to pet peeves and pettiness. Still others are full of hate, disrespect, revenge, or spite. One of the greatest works anyone can do is to conquer that "I'll-get-even-with-him" attitude.

Conquer your talent. If you have an aptitude in art, baking, selling, teaching, music, shoemaking, brick laying, or printing, develop it to the fullest. The conquest of your talent can be the "greater works than these."

Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms

were great conquerors in the world of music. But there is room for more. Shakespeare, Shelly, and Shaw were conquerors in literature. So were Hawthorne, Homer, and Hemingway. Ford and Firestone were among our famous conquerors in the industrial world.

Still another greater work most of us can do is to conquer our time. Year after year more leisure is coming our way. Many men and women, however, are losing the battle of time through addiction to drugs and drink and other undesirable diversions.

The conquest of outer space is important, to be sure. It is vital to the defense of our country. It is necessary in the development of communications, weather prediction, and interplanetary travel. We have a right to be all excited about rocket trips to the moon. But "greater works than these" can we do. We can conquer inner space.

—Lighted Pathway

I remember how, on summer nights, when I was a little girl, I used to catch "lightning bugs" and put them in a bottle and seal them up tight, so the tiny lights would glow in the dark. Next morning, when I looked, all the glow was gone! The tiny lightning bugs had all died. It is the very same way with happiness. You cannot seal it up in your heart and keep it to yourself. When we share our happiness with God's world, it keeps on living and glowing for everybody to enjoy.

-Margaret Moore Jacobs

... Into Every Nation

by Daniel Davila

My wife Holly and I had the privilege of accompanying Elder Robert Coulter to the beautiful port of Acapulco for the Mexican Ministerial Council of the

Church of God (7th Day), where I interpreted for him! There we joined Elder Noah Camero and his wife Belinia.

New General Overseership...

Elections were held to fill in the offices of General Overseer, General Sub-Overseer, and Secretary-Treasurer. Elder Raul Escalante, who was once the chairman of the Mexican Youth Department, was elected general overseer; Elder Alberto Garcia, who pastors the largest Church of God (7th Day) in Mexico, was elected general sub-overseer; and Elder Jonathan Martinez, who pastors the church in Reynosa, was elected secretary-treasurer.



The new officers elected at the recent Ministerial Council in Acapulco, Mexico. They are (left to right): Jonathan Martinez, Alberto Garcia, and Raul Escalante. (You will note by the lettering in the background that the engraving for this picture was made in reverse.)

New progress and new ideas in gospel work...

The theme for the Council there was "The Kingdom of Heaven Is Near." With that in mind the councilors reported on the progress of the work and



Pot luck Dinner at Villa De Teontepec, Hidalgo, Mexico.

planned for better ideas to promote the gospel in a country that is constantly changing economically, culturally, educationally and religiously.

Among the reports of information that were given were:

- (1) The new publications and increase of literature distribution.
 - (One of the new publications that was outstanding was the FIRST youth publication, FULGOR JUVENIL [YOUTH RADIANCE], Vol. 1, No.1, November, 1971.)
- (2) A national radio program which has listeners who have responded very favorably from different parts of the republic, requesting literature and information about the Church of God (7th Day).

- (3) Introduction of new workers and ministers by the Ministerial Department.
- (4) Report of the youth work by the National FJC Chairman.

"The Voice of the Youth"...

Elder Edmundo Arteaga Rivadeneyra, FJC Chairman, addressed the council on behalf of the Mexican Youth Department entitling his speech "The Voice of the Youth." His message concerned the NEEDS and DEMANDS of the youth which need the full support of the whole ministry. After he finished speaking he was reassured by a ministerial vote of confidence that they will do whatever possible to supply these needs.

Letter from U.S. FYC Chairman...

Elder Calvin A. Burrell, FYC Chairman, sent a letter to the Ministry and youth in Mexico, which I read at the Council. Elder Burrell informed them about his recently-appointed position in which he will do as much as he can to continue with the good FYC work left by Elder Dale Lawson, former FYC chairman.

Dedication . . .

At the end of the Council a special service was directed by Elder Noah Camero and Elder Robert Coulter to dedicate the General Overseership of the Church of God (7th Day) in Mexico. After the council had ended, the youth met by the beach to have a farewell devotion, because several young

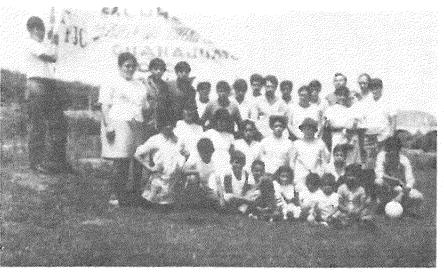
people came from all over Mexico to attend the evangelistic meetings held every evening in the Acapulco Church.

First National Mexican Leadership Congress...

The first National Congress of the Youth Leaders was held in Mexico City. Youth leaders came from the various districts of the church work in Mexico. This magnificent meeting took place on September 30 of this year.

"The Great Youth Radiance"...

The National Youth Week that was celebrated during June 21-27 was a tremendous success for the FJC. It could be called "the great youth radiance" because these meetings encouraged the youth there to continue working for God's glory.



FIC of Guanajuato, Mexico



FJC group in Caleras, Michoacan, Mexico

GUATEMALA, CENTRAL AMERICA

Sister Belinia Camero returned to Bloomington, California, and the rest of us continued to Guatemala, Central America, to attend the twelfth Central American Ministerial Council of the Church of God (7th Day). Guatemala City has a very nice climate somewhat similar to Denver's climate. The country is famous for its "eternal spring" which is a fact—"muy bonita primavera."

Enthusiastic Young Men at Ministerial Council...

A great percentage of those attending council in Central America were very young men. They are bubbling with the precious message of salvation and they are not ashamed of the gospel. They are men of

great courage who go through jungles, climb mountains, cross rivers, and overcome any obstacle possible to prepare their people to meet their God. The theme of the Central American Ministerial Council was, "Prepare to Meet Thy God."

New Fields of Evangelism...

The Church of God (7th Day) has made a tremendous progress in the field of evangelization. One of the main ways of doing this is by the broadcast that is presented Monday through Saturday from 6-6:30 a.m. It is broadcasted over a medium and a short wave. The next step is to visit the new prospects who write, but the visitation is not easy because of the geographical, international, political and economical barriers.

The church in Guatemala has a wonderful missionary plan

that out of twelve persons and their pastor, Elder Antonio Vega, we now have churches in most of the Central American countries. The reports in the council gave evidence of a magnificent progress. But they need more workers to go and another need is the financial assistance. It was also because of this work that we now have a church in South America.

Youth Work Organized ...

In the past, the youth work in Guatemala was not organized. Instead, the young men were highly trained in the church doctrines and methods of evangelizing. The FYC sent them literature and invited them to organize the youth there as we are organized here in the United States. And the brethren in Guatemala were very receptive. The youth work is now organized and calls itself DEPART-MENTO JUVENIL DE LA IG-

LESIA DE DIOS (YOUTH DE-PARTMENT OF THE CHURCH OF GOD). The reason the church in Guatemala calls itself only Church of God is because they were the very first ones to register with the government by that name. So the people know them as Sabbathkeepers even if that does not appear in the name. The youth organized by using the FYC literature as a guide.

The young men still continue to be trained, but now they have an opportunity to meet with both young men and women. In their activities they exclude sports, but they have had field trips and other activities that involve missionary work. The youth there are very enthusiastic and were greatly encouraged to hear me read Elder Calvin Burrell's letter, which was full of encouragement and congratulations for their fine work in the youth activities. He wrote them that this is exactly



Youth group in Guatemala, Central America. Seen in the front row are: Holly Davila, Rodolfo Chacon Paiz, and Daniel Davila. Brother Chacon holds in his hands the letter sent to the youth in Guatemala.



All-Day Meeting in San Augustin, Hidalgo, Mexico

what we must do as a Christian people—to do good, and to do missionary work.

The chairman of the youth work in Guatemala is Brother Rodolfo Chacon Paiz and his assistants are Elder Artemio Soto, Brother Carlos Rodanes, Sister Salazar and Sister Nathaniel Argueta. One of the suggestions I made was that they could adopt the name of FJC (Fraternidad Juvenil Cristiana) and Brother Chacon said he believes that it can be done.

Encouragement . . . and a Challenge . . .

Some of the delegations that attended the council attended a youth meeting in Guatemala City. They were greatly encouraged by what they saw and demonstrated that they want to organize their young people. Just as the church as a whole is moving at an exceeding pace, so

are the youth in Central America.

Both of the youth departments in Mexico and Guatemala on behalf of all their young people send their Christian love to the rest of the youth that read AIM all over the world. They also request to be remembered in prayer by the rest of God's youth.

We as Faithful Youth Challengers are youth who claim to have faith and who are ready to challenge others—and accept a challenge. Here in this article I challenge you to recognize the needs of that youth—more workers and financial assistance. What are we going to do? Just pray about it, and then tell them to work it out for themselves (James 2:14-16)?

If you have any suggestions or feel the burden to help, write to Elder Calvin Burrell or to me, Daniel Davila, 1611-A N Hayes, Springfield, Mo. 65803.

Tell Me, Please

Youth Questions answered by Ray L. Straub



Dear young friends,

This will be my last time to communicate with you via this column, at least for the foreseeable future. To be asked to write such a column is an honor first class! I think it offers one of the best platforms available to discuss that which matters most

In visiting various parts of this and other countries, I have run into friends made through this column. How good this feels every time it happens! Further, I suppose my contact through AIM has given me opportunity to address you at camp meetings, youth camps, special church services, etc. I am hoping that the disappearance of my face from this page will not seriously cut out my chances of continuing to communicate with you at these special functions.

I requested release from writing this column due to the press of other work. Just recently, I was asked to fill in, on an interim basis, as speaker of the FAITH FOR OUR TIME radio broadcasts. I hardly needed this on top of my responsibilities as

pastor of the Church of God (Seventh Day) in Sacramento, California, and serving as overseer of the West Coast District. On the other hand, it opens up new challenges and new adventures. It opens doors to the kind of evangelistic outreach a minister finds difficult to pass up. If FAITH FOR OUR TIME is broadcast in your area, we may be in closer contact with each other than ever!

My closing comments seek to gain your special appreciation for two men. The first is your pastor. Get to know him better. He is a nice man. He wants to be more than your friend. He wishes to be helpful to you in every way possible.

Sometimes young people shy away from their pastor because they feel that he disapproves of them. That is a tragic conclusion. He may not be entirely happy about everything you do. Big deal! Neither are you happy about everything you do! That doesn't mean that your pastor does not want to get to know you better. He's big enough to separate the person you are

from the flaws he sees in *every-one's* behavior.

Too many young people allow the image of their pastor's being a judge to rob them of the beautiful relationship they might otherwise have with one of the nicest and most concerned of men. Not all pastors fit the description, but chances are no less than excellent that yours will.

The next man I want you to appreciate is Elder Dale Lawson. He will be answering your questions through this column.

He is a mighty fine selection. The change of personnel here will be an improvement.

Somewhere—at camp meeting, summer camp, your church, your home, my church, my home—I hope to see you again soon. You add a lot of laughter and "zing" to my life.

It's been fun—lots of it! I'll see you again!

If you aren't big enough for criticism, you're really too small for praise.

Driver's Seat

by Katherine Benion

Two women were sitting in back of me on the bus. One had traveled widely and was telling the other many interesting highlights of her experiences.

"I've done all this traveling in the month's vacation I get each year," she explained.

"I rarely go any farther than from Lewisburg to Sunbury," said the other. "I used to have a job on which I had to travel a lot, but I got a nervous breakdown from it. Maybe I wouldn't have if I'd enjoyed riding as you seem to. I'm always on edge in a car, a bus, in anything that moves. I guess it's the possibility of an accident that keeps me uneasy. How do you overcome it?"

The woman hesitated a mo-(Continued on page 23)



Mini Oaths

By Kenneth Lawson

We are influenced by many things in the world around us—either directly or indirectly. This influence often causes us to act and live according to the way people around us are acting and living.

We are influenced in the way we dress. We want to look like our friends. We want to dress so we will be accepted in society. (And this desire is okay, to an extent—as long as modesty prevails.)

Another area in which we are easily influenced by environment is our use of words. Words can gradually slip into our conversation without our even being aware of it! We need to *become* aware of it! THE WORDS MANY OF GOD'S PEOPLE SPEAK ARE NOT WORDS THAT ARE PLEASING TO HIM!!

This is something about which many of God's people are not at all concerned; and it is certain that there is reason to be concerned. NOTICE-Jesus' own words in Matthew 12:37: "... BY THY WORDS THOU SHALT BE CONDEMNED." We must accept the fact that there are certain words that a Christian is not to have in his or her vocabulary! Yet in our church today we find many people who speak words that are neither wholesome nor enlightening! The way Satan has worked is quite underhanded—and yet successful—for he has won many people, even professed Christians—to talk like he wants them to!

Let us notice one more text of scripture; then we will examine some words that are considered "OKAY" even by many "Christians."

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT! "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy god in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his

name in vain" (Exodus 20:7).

We all agree that this commandment is still for us to obey, and we certainly frown on anyone who uses "GOD" or "JESUS" or "CHRIST" as an oath! And yet—let us notice some of the words that even YOU may be using as substitutes for these—words that are condemned along with the original word itself.

This information was taken from the Dictionary of American Slang:

GOSH-a term used by many as a substitute for GOD!

GOL-derived from the word God, and is now often used by children.

GOLLY—an extension of Gol, a substitute for God; used as a mild oath by many children.

DAD—a word used as a substitute for God—used in the following oaths:

DAD BLAMED—which means God be blamed!

DAD BLASTED—which means God be blasted!

DAD BURNED—which means God be burned!

DAD NABBED-which means to damn or curse God!

GEE—Shortened term for Jesus, began to be used when there was opposition to using the full word Jesus as an expression of amazement or disgust in swearing. The public simply shortened the word to GEE!

GEES—Used profanely—comes from the word Jesus!

GEE WHIZ—Used as a common swear word—mostly by teenagers—comes directly from the word Jesus!

GEEPERS—Used by many teenagers—comes directly from the words JESUS CHRIST!

The book stated: "Even though these words stem from God and Jesus, they are not now considered taboo, because of their wide use by almost everyone, including the people who claim to be most righteous."

LET US EXAMINE EVEN MORE WORDS USED BY "CHRISTIANS":

HECK—Comes directly from the often-used and very dynamic swear word HELL. Heck is considered useable by most people who do not swear, though it was definitely derived from the word Hell!

DARN—Derived from the word DAMN. Darn is a milder word, but still carries the same meaning: to curse a person or an object. It is used mostly in a fit of anger!

DOGGONE—Means to damn or curse!

DANG—Was, in its original use, a very vulgar word. It eventually became adopted by people as a swear word without even knowing its real meaning! The word is now used to damn or curse!

HOLY COW—Substituted for the words Holy Christ. This slang is in wide usage today by most people!

UP-THE-CREEK—Very widely accepted term today, was once one of the most taboo, with the most filthy meaning. Many use it never knowing what its original meaning was.

The book stated that such phrases as Damn or Hell do not give enough emphasis so the shorter more emphatic uses began to be substituted and are now far more dynamic swear words.

We cannot take salvation too lightly. If we want to enter in to the eternal reward, we must live the life. WE CANNOT BE TOO STRICT IN CLEAN CHRISTIAN LIVING, ACTING AND SPEAKING!!

If you young people or adults are gripped by the habit of using any of these or other UNCHRISTIAN words, PRAY TO GOD for strength to rid yourself of the habit. Again let us notice what our Master said in the text in Matthew 12:37:

"For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

LOCK THESE WORDS OF JESUS INTO YOUR MIND!!! Think about them. Think about your desire for eternal life. Then you will see how serious it is to speak only pure words.

Christ is coming back for a SPOTLESS CHURCH. This means the people who are the Church must be spotless, clean living, clean talking—with pure hearts, minds, and thoughts.

God can give you strength to break the habit of using bad words. TALK TO HIM ABOUT IT!

SERVICE

There are strange ways of serving God;

You sweep a room or turn a sod, And suddenly, to your surprise, You hear the whirr of seraphim, And find you're under God's own eyes.

And building palaces for Him.

—Hermann Hagedorn in

Cheerful Letter

Self-made men and women have quite an acceptance and a "pull" in the world; but if God is to have them He will have to unmake them and obliterate all the "works of men's hands," that He may have a chance to show His Divine power in and through them. If you want God to really use you for His glory, do not spend your precious time and means in "making yourself." Why create kindling for the burning, when you may have precious stones for your eternal enjoyment? If you want

to be spared much suffering, let God do the making of you, and then watch Him work His wonders in your life.—H.

SCOURGING THE SAVIOUR

A man dreamed that he saw Jesus tied to a whipping post and a soldier was scourging Him. He saw the whip in the soldier's hand, with its thick lashes studded here and there with lead, which was intended to cut into the flesh. And as the soldier brought the whip down on the bare shoulders of Jesus, the dreamer shuddered when he saw the marks and bloodstains it left behind. When the soldier raised his hand to strike again, the dreamer rushed forward intending to stop him. As he did so, the soldier turned around and the dreamer saw—himself.

We often think how cruel those men must have been who scourged and crucified Jesus. But whenever we do wrong, we, too, cause the heart of Jesus to bleed with sorrow and pain.—Prophecy Monthly

Retreat? or Advance??

Dear Bonnie,

I sure wish you had been able to attend the Stanberry FYC fall retreat. Like you said, maybe next time. But let me tell you about this one.

When we got there, some of the latecomers were finishing supper. It looked good but I was too excited to eat. I had so much fun greeting friends and was surprised to see so many young people I didn't know. I did know that this would be some weekend!

Later, Jerry Griffin (he's a senior at Midwest Bible College) talked to all of us about happiness—where it's really found and where lots of kids are looking for it but cannot find it. He reminded us that popularity, money, possessions, sex, etc., would not assure peace of mind.

I awakened early Sabbath morning staring at someone in the bed next to me who wasn't there when I went to sleep. (I couldn't really see without my glasses.) I guess a group from Joplin came in during the night.

I had buried my head under the sleeping bag because it was so cold so I slept through the commotion of their arrival. It was a blessing that they were able to return for the retreat. Through a misunderstanding, they had made the trip (over 300 miles) the previous weekend expecting the retreat to be held then.

The Sabbath School hour (which turned out to be an hour and a half) was filled with an open discussion about the recent "Jesus Movement." Several kids knew so much about the move-



A Sunday morning highlight of retreat is a football game.

ment that I was really enlightened. Did you know there are 22 sects within the movement, and that some use drugs while others are seriously seeking truth?

During the opening choruses for worship service, the Young Faith, a singing group from Stanberry, set up their instruments in preparation for their special music. It was really nice of them to come and sing. I hope they enjoyed it as much as we did. They also presented a series of songs with a dialogue in the afternoon.

During the worship service, Ken Durham, a graduate of Midwest Bible College, spoke about salvation. It seemed like some of us should have known all about it, but I found out I didn't. I noticed that everyone listened carefully to the message, including those who had already taken the steps to salvation.

I missed out on the afternoon service. Now I wish I could have been there. It seems like one of the special links in the chain of events is missing.

The evening service was one of the high points as Mike Vlad, junior at MBC, revealed to us through events in the life of Christ, the great love He has for us. That night many responded to Christ's love with tears and new commitments—and I know prayers were answered.

After that service, a group gathered around the piano and sang choruses for quite some time. Then came the games, im-



Cooks Charlotte Yarbrough and Ginger Youngs provided delicious food for the youthful appetites. Ginger is shown here, surrounded by "helpers."

promptu skits, and finally sleep.

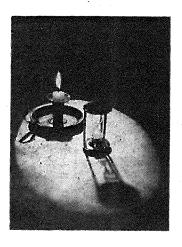
In the morning, after breakfast, we had our final devotional service. David Robinson, junior at MBC, reminded us of our obligations as Christians to let Christ be seen in our every action and reaction.

Following tradition, as soon as clean-up was completed, the guys took part in a game of football. I know that is one of the highlights of retreat for them.

Saying good-bye didn't seem unbearably sad since we look forward to seeing everyone at the annual spring retreat, providing the Stanberry FYC follows their practice of recent years and hosts one next spring.

There were a couple of things I almost forgot to mention. The food was exceptionally good so you won't have to worry about

(Continued on page 34)



$2T_4G$

Take Time for God

by Martha Ling

SUFFERING

PRAYER: Dear Heavenly Father, give us strength to endure suffering and afflictions unto the end, and to help others in their time of need.

- Dec. 15—Psalm 44. Thought: Should not we be ready to suffer for Christ, since He suffered so much for us?
- Dec. 16—Isaiah 53. Thought: Think of all the ways Christ was persecuted for us.
- Dec. 17—Matt. 10. Thought: "...he that endureth to the end shall be saved."
- Dec. 18—Matt. 20. Thought: Are we worthy of following Christ if we aren't willing to suffer as He did also? Verse 22.
- Dec. 19—Acts 9. Thought: "I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake."
- Dec. 20—1 Cor. 4. Thought: What is a Christian's attitude during persecution? See yerse 12.
- Dec. 21—2 Cor. 12. Thought: Paul said he enjoyed suffering, because he knew that was a sign of strength in a Christian.

- Dec. 22—2 Cor. 1. Thought: God is going to comfort those who suffer for him.
- Dec. 23—Phil. 1. Thought: If we believe on Christ, we will suffer in some way for Him.
- Dec. 24.—I Peter 4. Thought: "Let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful creator" (verse 19).
- Dec. 25—1 Peter 5. Thought: Do you think it is the suffering that makes us perfect, stablishes, strengthens, and settles us? See verse 10.
- Dec. 26—Rev. 2. Thought: "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer." Why?
- Dec. 27—Prov. 29. Thought: The wicked hate the righteous, and will make it tough on us.
- Dec. 28—Isaiah 51. Thought: Why

- should we fear what mortal man can do to us, when the immortal God has promised to care for us?
- Dec. 29—Isaiah 59. Thought: People can be persecuted for their evil ways—from a different source—God. But the righteous are persecuted by the wicked.
- Dec. 30—Amos 5. Thought: The wicked abhor those who speak the truth.
- Dec. 31—Hab. 1, Thought: "The wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he."
- Jan. 1—Mark 8. Thought: The person who has to give his life for God's sake will surely be blessed.
- Jan. 2—John 15. Thought: The world hates us because God has called us out of this world.
- Jan. 3—2 Cor. 4. Thought: Why are we not forsaken even tho' we are persecuted?
- Jan. 4—2 Sam. 22. Thought: We must be careful about our attitude, for God will help us when we are sorrowful; but not when we are proud of ourselves (haughty).
- Jan. 5—Job 6. Thought: We should care about our friends who are persecuted and afflicted.
- Jan. 6—Job 36. Thought: Sometimes we are allowed to be persecuted to bring to our attention our faults.
- Jan. 7—Psalm 55. Thought: "...He shall sustain thee...."
- Jan. 8—Psalm 140. Thought: "I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted...."
- Jan. 9—Proverbs 24. Thought: "If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small," and so is your faith in God.

- Jan. 10—John 16. Thought: In the world there is much tribulation, but Christ has overcome the world for our cause.
- Jan. 11—Acts 14. Thought: It is only through tribulation that we can enter the kingdom of God.
- Jan. 12—Romans 5. Thought: "... knowing that tribulation worketh patience."
- Jan. 13—Heb. 13. Thought: "The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."
- Jan. 14—Psalm 73. Thought: "God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever."

* * *

The reports have been slowing down the last few months. I hope you are not becoming discouraged. Still, we would like to acknowledge those who have turned in reports. Both Anita Rodriguez and Deanne Jackson have finished half a year; while Bonnie Asher has finished nine months. Good work, girls, and may God bless you.

I have enjoyed these past few years in 2T4G work. Many of your letters and testimonies have been very inspiring. I have resigned from the post of 2T4G representative so as to allow someone to take over with new ideas for the growth of the program. My sister, Marilyn Current, is taking over as leader, and I pray God will bless the program under her leadership. From now on, all folders should be sent to:

Mrs. Marilyn Current RR No. 3, Box 563 Edwardsburg, Michigan 49112

AIM

What You Believe Is What You Are

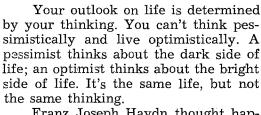
by Nathaniel Olson

Amazing, but true! Psychologists have proven that if a person thinks often enough and long enough about committing a crime he will commit the crime or at least try. They say, "What you believe is what you are."

Behind every wicked act is a process of wicked thinking. Murder is preceded by murderous thoughts; immorality is preceded by unclean thinking. It is impossible to think wickedly and do righteously. "As he (a man) thinketh in his heart, so is he." Outward actions and words are just the expressions of inner thoughts.

For years before her public service actually began. Florence Nightingale planned about such a work of mercy.

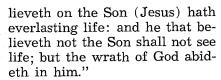
The assassin of Abraham Lincoln, John Wilkes Booth, schemed and dreamed about this murder. The wicked act climaxed his wicked thinking.



Franz Joseph Haydn thought happy thoughts and wrote cheerful bright music.

Stephen Foster had a melancholy mood and his songs reveal his sadness. Life, like music, responds to your think-

Believing is important in regard to what matters the most: the eternal welfare of your soul. Just as certain as your life here is determined by your thinking, your life hereafter is determind by your believing. "He that be-



Many say, "It doesn't matter what a man believes as long as he is sincere." But it does matter! Sincerity will not help a man who takes strychnine in place of medicine. Poison is poison: medicine is medicine. Sincerity does not change these facts.

Sincerity does not change sin. Sincerity does not alter the fact that "it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

It's good to have sincerity if you have security, such as is offered in God's Word, the Holy Bible, "As many as received Him (Jesus), to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name." Believing in and receiving Jesus Christ gives you security for time and eternity. How blessed it is to believe in Christ in a topsy-turvy, sin-silly, crime-crazy world!

Do you believe Jesus is the Son of God who died for the remission of your sins, rose again, and is in Heaven with the Father? And is your believing heart-knowledge as well as Remember. head-knowledge? vou must have a possession of Christ before you can have a profession of Him.

What you believe is what you are. You can't change this fact, but you can change your believing.

"To every man there openeth a high way and a low. And every man decideth which way his soul shall go."

You can change your belief. You can believe the truth by believing Jesus who is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

What you believe is what you are. You have to believe someone or something. Why not believe someone, and may this someone be God, who "gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." — Tract available ..from American Tract Society.

DRIVER'S SEAT

(Continued from page 14)

ment, then said, "I let the driver do the driving. Sitting there worrying about every jerk and turn can make anybody a nervous wreck and accomplishes nothing ... "

"Sounds simple enough," agreed the other woman, "but how did you get yourself to do

The traveler seemed to be pondering how to explain it. Then she came up with some excellent words of experience.

"By applying to traveling a lesson I learned by living," she said. "I was a nervous traveler in my journey through life, worried and troubled in my daily living till I learned one important thing—to let God in the driver's seat where He belongs and trust Him."—The Lutheran

AIM



by Nathan Lawson

As you read this report for the third quarter, the 1971 Mark of Merit Year will be coming to an end. We will be starting a new year, 1972. The Mark of Merit program in 1972 will be under the direction of Elder Fred Walter. We hope that every group will continue in the program, and more will join until every FYC in the United States will be active in the Mark of Merit.

REPORT FOR THIRD QUARTER

24

FYC Group	Merit	Bonus	15%	Foreign
	Points	Points	Support	Project
Tahlequah, Okla.	435	455	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.50
Conroe, Tex.	355	180		1.50
Ontario, Calif	435	558	3.03	6.00
Stockton, Calif.	415	591	12.60	
Lodi, Calif.	445	90		
Sacramento, Calif.	435	247	15.33	
St. Paul, Minn.	445	540	9.28	
San Antonio, Tex. (Sp.)	410	340	40.10	
White Fox, Sask., Can.	395	69	2.55	
New Auburn, Wisc.	435	355	13.36	
Toledo, Ohio	445	547	1.00	
Bloomington, Calif.	380	510		
Harrisburg, Ore.	445	1160	10.13	
Manhattan, N. Y. (one qtr.) 120	233	5.11	6.00
Marion, Iowa	445	1280	10.00	
Eureka, S. Dak	400	391	2.33	
Elmira, Ore.	345	260	2.78	
Fort Smith, Ark.	425	315	11.02	
South West Mich.	355	280	5.86	
Denver, Colo.	365	320	20.00	
Marion, Ore.	405	354		
Alfred, N. Dak.	445	265	4.50	6.00

Notice the extremely fine donation from the San Antonio, Texas, Spanish Church of \$40.10. This was their 15% support to the National FYC for the third quarter. God bless such faithful support and faithful young people who want to help finance their National FYC.

Welcome, Manhattan, New York, to the Mark of Merit! Their report is only for the third quarter of the year and was a very good report. We hope that the fine youth from this group will stay with the Mark of Merit Program through the coming 1972 year.

Youth are a part of the Church today—not just tomorrow. Without the work of our youth, our Church would be dead. God help us as His young people to be active for Him.

The new "Merit" Director's address is: Elder Fred Walter, 5171 Bay Shore Road, Oregon, Ohio 43616.

Midwest Bible College

Poland, Turkey, and Snow

Is your impression of a Midwest Bible College student a tired-looking person who attends classes all morning, works at a part-time job all afternoon, and then studies almost all night before hitting the sack? If so, your impression is CORRECT in some ways but WRONG in others. It's true that here at Midwest much of our time is devoted to class attendance and lesson preparation, but it is also very true that we enjoy many special activities and programs and have a lot of fun.

One of the special events in November was a one-night tour of thirteen foreign countries. Is such a journey possible?? YES, when Elder and Sister John Kiesz are your tour-guides and they share with you the pictures they took while traveling in Europe and the Mid-East this past summer. It was indeed a blessing and an inspiration to view the great progress being made by our brethren in the European countries.

We are expecting some new additions to our college group next semester and are looking forward to the registration of new students. We are very proud of a new addition to Midwest this semester—our new Midwest Bible College sign. The sign, a project of the Student Council, gives a new look to Midwest. Its prominent location on the campus lawn assures us that no passerby will ever wonder what that big red brick building is!



This attractive new sign now identifies Midwest Bible College

The month of November seemed to have a bit of festivity about it, for it was the month that brought our first taste of vacation, or "freedom," as some students referred to it. Before the vacation arrived, the college board, staff, students and their families enjoyed a very pleasant evening at the annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Special dinner guests included Elders E. A. Straub and Reuben Moldenhauer. After a splendid turkey dinner and a fine program, Elder Max M. Morrow delivered the keynote address. Truly we had much to thank the Lord for that evening as we do always.

Being the first real vacation since classes began in September, Thanksgiving vacation was welcomed with great sighs of relief and shouts of joy. When the last bell rang signifying the end of school and the beginning of vacation, students jumped into their cars and headed all directions... Texas, Oklahoma, Alabama, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. After a wonderful 5-day vacation we all returned to Stanberry to find the town covered with snow. It was cold and gray on the outside, but inside the college as classes resumed, the smiles and warm greetings of all the college students once again told us that it is good to be BACK HOME A MIDWEST!—David Robinson

NOTICE: LOCAL FYC LEADERS!

The deadline for mailing your local FYC registration lists is December 15. However, if you have not yet mailed your registration form by the time you receive this copy of AIM, please do mail it immediately to David Robinson, P. O. Box 6, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

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MINUTEMAN

(Verse Memorization Program)

Deuteronomy 5:32

Job 13:15

Psalm 37:5

Proverbs 15:1

John 14:1

Philippians 3:8

2 Timothy 2:22

James 1:20

A BOY AND HIS LUNCH

Remember the story where Jesus fed the multitudes with five loaves and two fishes? Think what a blessing that miracle was to the little fellow who offered his lunch to Jesus. How pleased he must have felt to be a small part of that miracle—to be used by God. And how pleased Jesus must have been with the little boy who was willing to sacrifice his own lunch in his concern for others, willing to give everything he had to help Jesus.

How many of us would have stolen away quietly to eat our lunch by ourself, thinking, "What good would so little be among so many? I can't really help"? How selfish we are, how weak our faith. How we limit our blessings!

Do we think for a moment that Jesus couldn't have fed the people without the little boy's loaves and fishes? Jesus, Who was present when the earth was formed from nothing; Jesus, Who healed with a touch. But I dare say this little boy's life was never the same after he had been used by Jesus. What a blessing he would have missed had he soothed his conscience and eaten the lunch privately.

I wonder how often we miss a blessing by thinking what we have to offer is so small, so humble, that God wouldn't want it. If we feel our only ability is to study or to pray, God still wants it. It is not how much we have to give, but our willingness to give it that God is interested in. Let's remember that we need God more than He needs us. Isaiah said that "God is able even of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham" (Matt. 3:9). God's work will be done, but what a shame if after sending His Son to die for us He would have to raise up, of the stones, a people to do His work. The more we give to God, the more we will have to give. God is so pleased if we are only willing. (Turn to next page.)

Our verse memorization seems like such a small thing. Yet it shows God that we are willing to give Him our time. He will make these verses useful to us in ways we never thought of and He will send us greater things to do as we remain faithful and willing.

Here are eight more verses to memorize this month. Hide them in your heart.

—Cecyl Fischer

DO YOU KNOW YOUR BOOKS OF THE BIBLE?

Hidden in the letters below are all 66 books of the Bible—the New and the Old Testaments. They may be listed diagonally, vertically horizontally, or backwards. Circle and list them as you go. Puzzle created by Alice and Harvey Vence.

A	2 C	2 C
A	С	D
1 C	1 C	\mathbf{D}

E	2 J	1 P
E	3 John	2 P
E	J	P
Ē	J	P
E	J	P
Ē	J	P
G	1 K	R
Ğ	2 K	R
H	\mathbf{L}	R
Hankka	L	1 S
H	L	2 S
H	$\overline{\mathbf{M}}$	S
Ī	M	1 Thessalonians
$\overline{\mathbf{J}}$	M	2 T
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Ĵ	N	2 T
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Don't Live in the Shadow

Harleigh M. Rosenberger

Long ago someone planted a small tree in our front lawn. But they planted it beneath a large elm. For several years the small tree struggled bravely. Its leaves were sparse, its trunk thin. It had no chance to reach the sunlight. It lived in the shadow of the larger, more beautiful elm. Its normal growth was stunted and it became misshapen and deformed.

There are people who feel they live in the shadow, they withdraw, or sometimes grow resentful. Often they become hostile in their envy, occasionally turning to violence against the more prominent person.

Each person ought to remember that he is a creation of God. He is unique, with talents that are his own. We do not all have the same number of talents. Some folks are more gifted than others. The intellectual capacity of one is greater than another's. Yet, who can say which one will make the greatest contribution to life? For each person is asked to contribute to life that which is his to give.

If we are to be carpenters, let us be the best. Or, if we teach, let us be the finest in our power. Whether you be a scientist or a scholar, a mechanic or a janitor, do your best wherever you are. Develop the talents God has given. Do not envy others, for you have a gift to bring that no one else can contribute.



Sandy Williams

Attention: Every high school student concerned about preparing himself for a better life.

Student-of-the-month Invites You . . .

"Prayerfully and carefully consider coming to Spring Vale Academy this next semester. Christian Education, usually not available at your neighborhood school, can provide you with that extra dimension for a better

"Join us January 11, why don't you?" Sandy Williams, Class of '72 Elmira, Oregon



The Spring Vale Sound

This pictured vocal musical ensemble, under the direction of Jim Fischer, contributes to many programs, services, and special activities this school year. This year, with an expanded music program of vocal and instrumental lessons, more students are singing and playing better. Let the Lord put a new song in your heart and greater accent in your step as you walk with God.

For enrollment information write:

Spring Vale Academy Route 5 Owosso, Michigan 48867 Phone 725-2391

Just One Big Coincidence?

In May of 1919 at Dusseldorf, Germany, the Allied Forces obtained a copy of some of the "Communist Rules for Revolution." Nearly 50 years later, the Reds are still following the rules. As you read the list, stop after each item and think about the presentday situation where you live-and all around our nation. We quote from the Red Rules:

- A. Corrupt the young; get them away from religion. Get them interested in sex. Make them superficial; destroy their ruggedness.
 - B. Get control of all means of publicity, thereby:
- 1. Get people's minds off of their government by focusing their attention on athletics, sexy books and plays and other trivialities.
- 2. Divide the people into hostile groups by constantly harping on controversial matters of no importance.
- 3. Destroy the people's faith in their natural leaders by holding the latter up in contempt, ridicule and obliquity (public reproach).
- 4. Always preach true democracy, but seize power as fast and as ruthlessly as possible.
- 5. By encouraging government extravagance, destroy its credit, produce fear of inflation with rising prices and general discontent.
- 6. Foment unnecessary strikes in vital industries, encourage civil disorders and foster a lenient and soft attitude on the part of government toward disorders.
- 7. By specious argument, cause the breakdown of the old moral virtues-honesty, sobriety, continence, faith in the pledged word, ruggedness.
- C. Cause the registration of all firearms on some pretext, with a view to confiscating them and leaving the population helpless.

That was quite a list, wasn't it? NOW stop and think-how many of these rules are being carried out in this nation today? We don't see how any thinking person can truthfully say that the communists do not have any part in the chaos that is upsetting our nation. Or is it just one big coincidence?

—Winona Daily News



Book Review Corner

by Marilyn Current

IT WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR FATHER

By Ruth Wilkerson Harris; Fleming H. Revell Co.; \$3.50

The author, Ruth Wilkerson Harris, is a pastor's wife and the mother of four small children.

In her book, It Was Good Enough For Father, Ruth Harris traces the Wilkerson family history back through her Great-Grandfather Jackson Wilkerson. She tells of the deep religious faith that guided her forefathers, and that so greatly influenced their lineage.

Ruth and David Wilkerson were from a family of five children. Their father, Kenneth Wilkerson, was a minister. In this heartwarming book, Ruth tells what it was like living in a parsonage. Her parents were fervent believers in the power of prayer. She remembers often walking past their prayer rooms, and hearing one of her parents praying for her and her four brothers and sisters.

Their faith was very similar to ours in the "don't" aspect. The children weren't allowed to participate in Halloween activities, most sport activities, not even amusement parks. These restrictions seemed hard when they were teenagers, but as they grew older, the children realized why there were so many "don'ts." But they also began to realize that the "do's" of their religion far overpowered the "don'ts." When they realized this, their faith became a joyful and personal thing for them.

Often we, too, may think our religion has more "don'ts" than "do's" but if you read this book I'm sure you'll agree with Ruth that following God's plan for our lives is more rewarding than all of the entertainment and tinsel happiness found in the world. She writes the story of her family in such a refreshing, simple style that you'll enjoy every page of it. The Christian life is such a wonderful life!

Midwinter Meeting

The National Committee of the Young People's Department will hold an important meeting during the last part of December, probably in Conroe, Texas. They will be considering several matters relating to all FYCers. Please support the work of this committee with your letters, suggestions, and prayers. The committee is composed of Calvin A. Burrell, Kenneth Knoll, Gerald Mol-

denhauer, and David Robinson.

By December 15, Please! It's Important!

Attention all local leaders and sponsors: The Youth Department is urgently in need of an up-dated mailing list of all FYCers in the United States and Canada. Will you please help us by compiling a list of names and addresses of all young people between ages 12 and 25 who attend your local church? Send the list to David Robinson, P. O. Box 6, Stanberry, Mo. 64489.

For Sale!

The following articles are being sold through the National FYC office:

FAITH TRIO Records—\$4 CHALLENGERS Records—\$4 1965 Youth Team Records—\$2

F.Y.C. Sweaters—\$2 each

F.Y.C. Stationery—\$.75 per packet

F.Y.C. Decals-\$.25 each

F,Y.C. Plaques-\$1.50 each

F.Y.C. Car Tags-\$1.50 each

Most of these items have already been paid for by the Youth Depart-



ment, so every penny you spend on them will go directly into the work of the National F.Y.C. When you buy, you help us as you help yourself.

A Traveling Correspondent

Brother Daniel Davila, our Foreign Correspondent with all Spanish-speaking countries, has recently made a trip into Mexico and Guatemala to meet with Church of God youth groups there. Be sure to read Brother Davila's report of his journey in this issue of AIM.

Free Booklets Available

The following booklets are available free of charge from the National F.Y.C. office:

Mark of Merit—explanation of local F.Y.C. group's organization and work.

Active—Active—hints for more active local F.Y.C. group.

Christian Witnessing for FYCers practical pointers on communicating Christ.

The Gospel Around the World—reports Church of God youth work in foreign nations.

Evangelette — complete descrip-

tion of fine youth program of Christian service.

2T4G Folders—for you to record your daily Bible readings.

You may order quantites of any of these materials for distribution to local groups, and at F.Y.C. rallies, retreats, etc.

Features in '72 "AIM"

Beginning in January, 1972, look for these articles as a regular feature of AIM each month: TEEN GUIDE-LINES (written by National Committeemen on such subjects as Drugs, Jesus Movement, Women's Liberation, Space Race, New Morality, Racism, etc.); RALLY-OF-THE-MONTH; PRACTICAL, PRESENT-DAY PROPHECY; and many others.

Address of New 2T4G Director

Marilyn Current is our new 2T4G Director. Please send all folders to her home address: RR No. 3, Box 563, Edwardsburg, Michigan 49112

Evangelette Director

We are rather tardy in reporting the significant change in the name of our "Evangelette" Director. Sheryl Youngs became the bride of Joe Blalock on August 15. Her new address is: Box 129, Cloudland, Georgia 30709.

National FYC Office Address

Remember the address of the new National F.Y.C. office:

National Faithful Youth Challengers 1004 Fayetteville Road Van Buren, Arkansas 72956

Program Directors for 1972

Mark of Merit Program Director— Elder Fred Walter

2T4G Program Director—Marilyn Current

"Tell Me, Please" Adviser — Elder Dale Lawson

Evangelette Director—Sheryl Blalock Minuteman Director—Marcia Woods

Address of "Mark of Merit" Director

Report forms for the Mark of Merit program should be mailed to Elder Fred Walter, 5171 Bay Shore Road, Oregon, Ohio 43616.

RETREAT OR ADVANCE

(Continued from page 19)

that if you come next spring. Also, the special music and enthusiastic chorus sessions were most inspiring. All the services were held around the fireplace—setting the mood and keeping us warm.

One recurrent subject of discussion was the question of the name "retreat." Wouldn't an outing such as this better be called an "advance"? We came to the conclusion that, as in some war strategy, we retreat in order to advance to an even better position—our position being in Christian warfare.

I know this is a long letter about one subject, but retreat is just this exciting. I hope YOU will be there next time. God bless you.

Love, Janice

You are invited to attend these

WINTER YOUTH RETREATS

TEXAS RETREAT

at
CAMP ROBINWOOD, near Conroe
December 24-26

Ages: 12-25

Total cost: \$7.00

Don't miss the Texas youth retreat production, "WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN."

Send registration (with \$3.00 deposit) to: Kenneth Knoll, Route 3, Box 441, Conroe, Texas 77301

DISTRICT TWO RETREAT

at
LAKE BEAUTY BIBLE COVENANT CAMP
near Long Prairie, Minnesota
December 28-30

Total cost: \$18.00

Write to: Larry Hadden, Alfred, North Dakota 58411

The harvest is past . . .

The summer is ended . . .

The subscription campaign is drawing to a close ...

... and have you not given a gift subscription— not even one gift subscription??? The harvest?? ... Could you help in the harvest in this way???

How about sending in a subscription today? Help us make this subscription campaign a real success. We need your help. We really do!!

AIM, P. O. Box 158, Stanberry, Mo. 64489