

## Aim THE MAGAZINE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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

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Gail Rincker, Editor

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Teach the World to See in '73

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The Aim Speaks

Don Lawson .....

BRADEN ACRES
GRADE SCHOOL

Teen

by Kenneth Knoll

Guidelines

## The Danger of

## Narrow-Mindedness

A science teacher introduced his lecture with the statement, "There are no absolutes." One questioning student asked, "Sir, are you sure?" "Absolutely," replied the teacher and he continued with his lecture.

We all know people who are narrow-minded in their attitudes. Once they have decided that they do or do not like something, or once they make up their mind concerning an issue, they refuse to change their mind and sometimes even refuse to listen to the opinions or beliefs of others. In their opinion, they are absolutely right—come what may. What causes this narrow-mindedness? Some possibilities are prejudices, pre-conceived ideas, and ignorance.

There are three main philosophies of thought which generally affect us all. These trends are generally described as conservative, moderate, and liberal. Supposedly, they represent the extremes of thought and policy. The conservatives are said to be set in their way and narrowminded. The liberal faction is said to be open-minded and available to follow and to adapt new trends of thought as the world changes. The moderates are somewhat between the two, ac-

cepting parts of both without any deep-seeded roots to either way of life.

Theologically, conservatives are usually fundamental in practice. This means they believe that the Bible is the framework of all truth and that it is God's plan for man. The liberals represent the social spectrum of religion and advocate God in experience and knowledge. To them the Bible is not conclusive of God's plan for man, and it

is not viewed as "that important" in understanding God. The moderates attempt to strike a happy medium between the conservatives and the liberals.

The Church of God traditionallv. and rightly so, is conservative and fundamental in nature. The Bible IS the source of our belief because it leads to God. We believe this represents the true way which requires that we live and practice what the Bible states even though it may not be popular. Do not misunderstand. We can be conservative without being narrow-minded. God's laws and commandments are absolute and strict. He gives us definite guidelines for living. The danger of narrow-mindedness in religion comes when we simply accept what we are taught without knowing it for ourselves. How many of us outwardly and mechanically follow the practices of the church because we were told that this is the right way? We must KNOW the truth personally and live our religion in that way.

Our world is an ever-changing one that displays its influence in fashion, music, attitudes and in many other ways. Not all of these are wrong, but the abuse of these influences can create friction with the religious mores of our background. This is where the danger of narrow-mindedness comes into the picture.

Traditionally the Christian young person has been instructed and trained from childhood through adolescence concerning the church and what it expects.

The doctrines of the church are taught in an effort to implant within our minds these truths so they are known, accepted, and practiced. Sometimes the manner of teaching and the way of accepting this doctrine feeds the fire of narrow-mindedness with attitudes such as "I am right—you are wrong."

There is no substitute for the Spirit of God and truth. However there is a danger of resting upon the tradition of a handeddown religion. If we practice a mere "handed-down religion." we defend the truth when called upon because we have been taught HOW to respond rather than defending it because of what we know and feel. This learned response reflects a narrow-minded approach and detracts from telling others what Christ really means! One thing we do not want to be accused of is having pre-conceived ideas and being ignorant of God's truths. We must be able to defend and communicate our beliefs logically and authoritatively.

The challenge to all of us is to avoid the sin of narrow-mindedness that draws us to one an-

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Ken Knoll, pastor of the church at Fairview, Oklahoma, is a member of the National Youth Committee. Since the time he was an FYCer, Ken has been active in the youth work.



Uninformed people choose to believe that idolatry in our modern age is but a dead sin. Nothing could be more naive.

Idolatry in the twentieth century is assuredly not dead; rather it is very much alive.

Certainly no intelligent individual can picture multitudes of prostrate worshipers in total adoration before literal dumb idols and images. But idolatry nevertheless does thrive. It has simply disguised itself and passed itself off as a mere sociological trend.

Thus Satan has scored again. Young people, beware lest you too be tricked by that cunning Master of Deceit. The dictionary defines "idolatry" as: Number one: the worship of idols. Number two: blind adoration. Is blind adoration not present in our modern world? Indeed, and very much so.

Although Satan has cunningly changed the objects of adoration, the blind adoration still remains. The object of adoration is no longer a deaf and dumb monstrous image made of stone. It is now a handsome, live young man with a twangy guitar-a mature, suave, rich executive seated behind a beautiful desk—a contented, pretty housewife in a lovely homea glorified athlete receiving the ovation of a crowded stadium —or a bearded, shaggy rebel denouncing the hypocrites of the Establishment Believe it or not. these are but a few of the current images of adoration.

## Satan

## Scores

# Again

by Noah Camero







At first glance these things all appear to be perfectly harmless. But let's take a closer look. Satan has deceived our present world into believing and living for this present life only so that men and women think and plot and work themselves to death to attain in life those things that have been presented by mass communication as valuable and worthwhile goals.

Today the masses are not adoring images made of stone, silver or gold. The current objects of today's blind adoration are worthless goals, false impressions, distorted images. Effective modern advertising has helped to bring this about. Education has been sold as the only sure way to success. "Success" is spelled with dollar signs. Dol-



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Noah Camero, former editor of the "Bible Advo" cate" and a graduate of Spring Vale Academu, is presently pastoring the church at Bloomington, California.



lars are thought to spell security, pleasure, happiness, to total a profitable, worthwhile, satisfying life.

So men and women dream and plan in blind adoration, investing a lifetime of service to these worthless idols. This is idolatry a blind adoration to SOME-THING OTHER THAN MAN'S CREATOR. Be it an object made of stone, or be it a mirage conceived in self.

God said we should worship HIM with all our mind, heart and strength. This we cannot do when our only love becomes the pursuit of happiness. LIFE WITHOUT GOD IS DEATH. Jesus said, "What would it profit a man if he gain the WHOLE WORLD and lose his own soul!"

"Little children, keep yourselves from idols" (I John 5:21).

#### "GO FORWARD!"

With stedfast heart and true Go forward on your way; God give you strength to do The duties of each day. Daily may this thought Your heart with courage fill, "I CAN, BECAUSE I OUGHT,

AND BY GOD'S HELP-I

WILL!"

"Good evening. I have asked this radio and television time tonight for the purpose of announcing that we today have concluded an agreement to end the war and bring peace with honor in Vietnam and Southeast Asia." This long-awaited announcement came from President Richard M. Nixon on January 23, 1973.

## At Long Last—

## It's Over

The war that became "just a way of life"—

The war that cost America 46,000 lives in combat and \$146 billion over a dozen years—

The war that in the end was viewed by a great majority of Americans as having been a terrible mistake—

The war that exhausted the nation and seriously wounded the American spirit-

The war that leaves no memory of famous victories, no national heroes, no patriotic songs, and no winner-

IS OVER.

The long wait has ended. Our troops are being withdrawn, our prisoners are returning home, and the American involvement in Vietnam is phasing out. For us, it's over ... but the shaky "peace" in Vietnam tells us that for Indo-China the war is far from over.

The past six weeks have been exciting ones for us Americans. We heard the rumors of impending peace in Vietnam... we heard President Nixon's solemn announcement that an agreement had been made to end the war... we felt great relief and thankfulness on January 27 when the treaty was signed and "peace" was officially established ... we thrilled to the thought of "our boys" coming home...we shared in the heart-touching experience of seeing families being reunited with their POW fathers, husbands, and sons...and we "relived" some of the agonies of this war as we viewed TV specials, and read magazine and newspaper coverage about the longest war in America's history.

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A.R.G.



Did you ever look at the tall handsome basketball star who has his pick of the girls and think, "Boy, there's a lucky guy." Or maybe it's the girl in your graduating class who is receiving a four-year scholarship. Some people just seem to have all the luck, don't they?

## Some People have all the luck!

by Cecyl Fischer

There's a children's story called "Nail Soup," about an old tramp who had traveled around the world and was on his way back when he came upon an old lady who lived by herself in the woods. When he asked for food and a place to sleep, she allowed that she had none and that she hadn't eaten all day herself. When the tramp saw her cabin he knew that she wasn't as poor as she pretended, so he suggested that since they were both hungry he should teach her how to make nail soup. He dropped a nail into a pot of boiling water and when it had boiled some he commented that it was too bad they didn't have a little oatmeal and a potato or two to make it extra special, but of course they would have to do without it.

The old lady was so fascinated with the whole idea that she decided she might be able to find a few potatoes and a little meal somewhere, and she did. Soon the tramp suggested that some barley and a piece of meat would make it just like the soup he ate with the king and queen in his travels. Well, of course

the old lady found some. Before long they had a delicious brew simmering in the pot and the old lady was beside herself. "Imagine, all from a little nail!"

The tramp pointed out that of course when the king and queen ate this soup they had a fine tablecloth and the best wine. The old lady decided that if the king and queen had such, they might as well, too, and before long she and the tramp sat down to a delicious spread. When the tramp left she thanked him warmly for teaching her such a valuable thing and he called back, "Oh, it's very simple indeed; just remember to always add something good to it."

Luck soup is made in much the same way. Like the nail, a little luck won't hurt anything, but neither will it help a great deal. The Roman historian, Sallust, remarked that "every man is the architect of his own fortune." And the wise Sophocles noted that "chance never helps those who do not help themselves." These are men who had learned the secret of always "adding something good," as the tramp said. Perhaps this accounts for their fame—they knew what success was made of—that it wasn't made of luck.

Most of us use luck as a table to hide under. We don't get better grades because we aren't lucky. We don't have many friends or much money because we aren't lucky. We don't get the good jobs or the good opportunities because we aren't lucky. Good luck is a lazy man's estimate of a worker's success. Don't fall into the trap. It's a loser's paradise.

Even salvation takes some effort on our part. How can we expect to be moved to repentance when we fill our lives with many things and leave no time for worship or introspection? True, it happened to Paul, but Paul was a CHOSEN vessel. Matthew 20:16 says that "many be called, but FEW CHOSEN." There is a promise that those who hunger and thirst after righteousness shall be filled, but a hungry man doesn't wait for food to fall on him. He goes looking for it. "Seek and ye shall find." (Continued on page 17)

Cecyl Fischer, who lives on the Spring Vale Academy campus where her husband serves as principal, has been involved in National FYC work for a number of years and has provided much material for AIM magazine.



# D<sub>ROPOUTS!</sub>

by Dorothy Nimchuk

An ever-increasing number of teenagers each year reach a decision to no longer attend classes at their various high schools. These young people are known as dropouts. Many of them are restless, shiftless, and jobless. For the majority, there will be little promise of a bright future in business or other forms of employment. Much stress in business is placed on preparation—at least high school education, with many places of employment demanding college graduates.

When instructed by Jesus to sell what he had and give to the poor, the rich young ruler of Matthew 19:16-22 "went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions." Here was a "dropout" from the Master's school.

Awaiting the coming of the bridegroom were ten virgins with their lamps trimmed and ready (Matthew 25:1-13). But the bridegroom tarried and the maids slept. At midnight a cry was heard. Excitement was rampant. The groom was approaching. Five frantic ladies discovered to their chagrin that their lamps had gone out. While they went to buy oil, the wedding party went in to the feast and the door was shut. More dropouts.

"Behold, a sower went forth to sow;..." (Matthew 13:3). Some seed fell on shallow ground where there was little earth. The seed germinated quickly and sprouted. However, when the hot sun began beating down on the tender blades, they withered and died because of lack of roots (verses 5, 6). So we, too, become spiritual dropouts if we are shallow in our experience. We need to be "...rooted and grounded in love...that (we) might be filled with all the fulness of God" (Ephesians 3:17-19).

Dorothy Nimchuk, who serves on the Leadership Committee and is the editor of WAND magazine, is an active promoter of the youth work in Canada.



Our work in the Master's vineyard will be "... revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is" (I Corinthians 3:13).

I Peter 1:7 speaks of the "trial of your faith" which "though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." We must determine, with God's help, that we will go all the way with Christ, graduating into the fulness of His glory in eternity.

 $\boldsymbol{A}$ 

## Great Man



Of the thousands of tributes to Abraham Lincoln, none has been more ably expressed than the following which was written by Homer Hoch, a Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court:

"There is no new thing to be said of Lincoln. There is no new thing to be said of mountains, or of the sea, or of the stars. The years go their way, but the old mountains lift their granite shoulders above the drifting clouds, and the same mysterious sea beats upon the shore, and the same silent stars keep holy vigil above a tired world. But to mountain and sea and stars, men turn forever in unwearied homage. And thus with Lincoln. For he was mountain in grandeur of spirit, he was sea in under-voice of mystic loneliness, he was star in steadfast purity of purpose and of service. And, he too, abides forever.

"The years go their way, but with the name of Lincoln childhood still learns to voice a patriot's devotion, and with the name of Lincoln tears are called from old men's eyes. And there is no new thing to be said of him.

"But while the Republic endures, upon whose altar he laid his great mind and heart, while liberty is cherished, while civic virtue and service and sacrifice are honored in the earth, the name of Lincoln will be spoken in undying love by the sons of men."

# Famines, Earthquakes and Pestilences

by Stanley J. Kauer

We often hear it said that we are living in the "last days," that Bible prophecy is being fulfilled, and that we can see this in the events of the Middle East and in general world political conditions. But are there other signs which are also being fulfilled? Yes, there are, and I now wish to call your attention to some of the signs in the natural elements.

In Matthew 24:7 in the last part of the verse we read, "... and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places." In Luke 21:1 we find that "Great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven." And verse 26 adds: "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth..."

## **EARTHQUAKES**

Let us consider what has been happening on the earth during the last few years. We notice that the prophecies emphasize earthquakes. If we have been watching or reading the news we know that several weeks ago there was a very great earthquake in Central America, in Managua, Nicaragua. The city was practically destroyed and hundreds of lives were lost. One earthquake is not a sign, but we remember that just a few years ago there was another great quake in Bolivía, South America. Then we remember just a year or

so ago the great quake in southern California. And just before that a very great quake in Alaska swallowed up streets and houses. These all happened so recently that they are still in the news and are fresh on our minds.

#### STORMS AND FLOODS

Great signs from heaven will include windstorms and floods. We immediately remember that the incidence of storms and floods during recent months and years has been unprecedented in history. The vast destruction of Louisiana by hurri-

cane Camille is still well-remembered. Then last year another great hurricane struck, and after extensive wind damage to the south it moved across the land causing torrential rains and floods. The vastly destructive flood in Pennsylvania is still in the news. And at almost the same time a great, sudden flood struck Rapid City, South Dakota, causing hundreds of deaths and vast destruction.

Some of the destruction of nature is not so spectacular but is just as unusual and can cause great loss. An example of this was America's middlewest harvest of this past fall. During the season when the weather is usually clear and dry, it was wet and rainy to such an extent that many farmers could not harvest their corn and sov beans. The size of the crop was one of the largest in recent years but a great amount of it spoiled in the fields causing huge loss. Russia is buying grain because of a poor harvest last year, and now we read of their fears for this year's crop because of lack of snow cover for the winter wheat. God sends calamity by sending too much moisture in America and by withholding snow in Russial

#### PESTILENCE

The prophecies mention that at the same time we experience the earthquakes and storms there will be pestilence or disease epidemics. It seems we are hearing of or experiencing one epidemic after the other. In different winters we have had influenza epidemics; Asiatic flu, Hong Kong flu, and this winter, the London flu. And along with this epidemic over which man has no control, there is another epidemic re-

sulting from sin-the epidemic of venereal disease.

All of these things happening together in such a short time span is surely not just coincidence. And as we think of these things, at the same time we can remember the things that have been happening in Vietnam, the wars and troubles in the Middle East, and the continued great build-up of Israel. We can see how all of these things fit together in fulfilling prophecies of the soon-coming of Christ. As we see these things, our faith in God and in His Word should be made stronger. Young people especially should be able to see that the Bible is not a dead book and that God is not dead!! So as we see, let us believe, let us heed the warning, and let us be obedient to God and accept His great salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Elder Stanley Kauer lives in Stanberry, Missouri, where he is an instructor at Midwest Bible College.



"God, who first ordered light to shine in darkness, has flooded our hearts with his light. We can now enlighten men only because we can give them knowledge of the glory of God, as we see it in the face of Jesus Christ" (II Corinthians 4:6, PHILLIP'S TRANSLATION).

## See the

## Organ Grinder's Monkey!

by Sheryl Blalock

"Boy! Can that guy preach!"

"What'd you say his name is?"



"Peters. Pastor John Peters. That's only the second time I've heard him, but CAN HE EVER PREACH!!"

"What'd he preach about?"

"Oh,...I can't remember right now."

Let's get one thing straight, kid . . . IF YOU AIN'T LEARNED NOTHIN' YOU AIN'T HEARD NO GOOD PREACHIN'!

If you listened to a man for one whole hour and can't remember a single point he made, you might just as well have watched the organ-grinder's monkey for the same length of time... your profit was 0.

Now, if you are one of those whose mind is never on the message

... "that green tie is abominable."

... "if Sister Butterbee nods one more time her wig is-great scot! She IS bald!!" then that's a different story.

But, if you've thoroughly engrossed yourself in a preacher's sermon and he's dealt you absolutely no substance, no meat you can "sink your teeth into," no point you can say of, "look, I learned something," no truth you can recall and say, "he proved that," no scripture you can tell your friend, "he told us what that means," then you DID NOT hear a good sermon!

Good, enticing words, "fair speeches," or eloquent dissertations that tickle the ear aren't worth 2¢.

The same guage might be applied to your Bible reading. Do vou boast?---

"I read a chapter every day."

"Last week I read the whole book of Jeremiah."

Don't be fooled! It's not what you read that counts, and it's not how much you enjoy reading that counts, BUT RATHER, what counts is what you LEARN!

—You heard a good sermon... WHAT DID YOU LEARN??

-You had a good lesson . . . WHAT DID YOU LEARN??

-You read the Bible BUT, THE IMPORTANT FACT IS WHAT HAVE YOU : --**LEARNED??** 

(Supporting texts: II Pet. 2:1-3, 18; Eccl. 12:9-11; James 7:12; I Cor. 2:1-5; Rom. 16:17, 18; II Tim. 2:1, 2, 14.)

Step I in EVANGELETTE is Bible Reading and Prayer. Perhaps you need to concentrate on developing some good Bible "learnin" habits. Participate in EVANGELETTE and take the seven steps to spiritual success.

Sheryl Blalock, director of the Evangelette program, lives in Georgia with her husband and young son. Sherul completed the Biblical Foundations Course at Midwest Bible College.



AIM



## Your Health Clinic

Specializing in Internal Medicine Counselling and advice by Dr. Victor Reeh

Dear Doctor Reeh,

I've been wondering if I should see a doctor or not, so I thought maybe you could give me some advice.

I'm only sixteen, but I worry like I was a hundred and sixteen. I always have this real keyed up feeling inside. Sometimes it is so bad I even get headaches from it. It seems like I've taken half my weight in aspirins since New Years. Some of the things I worry about are big things like nuclear war or finding a wife, and some are just "what if's" but I can worry just as bad about what to wear to school or something small like that. I hate to admit it but I even get kind of panicky walking a couple of blocks after dark.

I just wondered if it's natural for someone my age to be that way or if I should do something about it. I've read somewhere about phobias and hypertension, and I wondered if that could be what I have. I thought maybe if I got out more and went to parties and dances it would help me to forget things, but it seems like once the party is over I just get the

blues worse than ever. It seems like I don't know who I am or where I'm heading sometimes.

Can you give me some advice?

Sincerely, Harry D. Youth

Dear Harry D.,

You asked me whether your muddled, wrought-up emotional state is normal for a sixteen-year-old. It shouldn't be, but I'm afraid I'll have to admit that it is normal in this day and age. Our society is sick—our souls are sick, and we blame it on our bodies and take aspirin for it. Americans consume 21 million tons of aspirin every day to dull the pain when it is their souls that need rehabilitation.

Your parties and dances are just another form of aspirin. They relieve the symptoms for a short time but do virtually nothing for the malady itself. If you let this internal struggle continue you will soon be a member of the legion who graduate from parties to addiction to alcohol, drugs,

gambling or other distractions which simply multiply their problems. Tensions sometimes manifest themselves in hypochondria, ulcers, chronic indigestion, severe headaches or other physical and mental disorders.

This is a mad, rushing world we live in and the only lasting cure I can conscientiously recommend is to acquire a state of absolute peace and tranquility by daily concentrated exposure to the Lamp of Life (the Word of God) and frequent consultation with the Great Physician. You may find many doctors who would prescribe other treatments or sedatives as I could myself, but you will

find none to be lasting or effective though some may be easier or less rigorous. This remedy will not change your circumstances, but it will make you strong and able to face decisions and tests with perfect inner peace.

Let me quote the testimony of one who tried this cure and found it effective. "Thou wilt find him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the Lord forever; for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

Sincerely, Victor Reeh, D. S.

#### SOME PEOPLE HAVE ALL THE LUCK!

(Continued from page 9)

We may not be able to achieve all that we would like for ourselves, but we can find great satisfaction in doing our best. Are you sure you would be more popular if you were blessed with a more attractive face? Look around you. For every well-liked person who is naturally handsome or lovely you will find one who is merely neat, clean and attractive. For every valedictorian who learns easily, you'll find a valedictorian who burned the midnight oil. For every born leader there's a leader who started a little awkwardly and kept working at it.

How about starting your own little potluck soup instead of walking around envying others? What you put into your "soup" depends on the area in which you wish to be successful. Don't try to be a carbon copy of the next guy. He didn't start out with the same ingredients as you did. You can't make chicken soup with a piece of beef.

Like any soup, luck soup requires a long slow simmer. It won't happen overnight. "Fortunes made in no time are like shirts made in no time: it's ten to one if they hang long together." Luck soup will take some good ingredients, and a good deal of stirring and patience, and it's a good idea to taste once in a while to see how the flavor is improving. You're sure to find it's better than humble pie.

## National Youth Week - March 20-25

## FAITHFUL YOUTH CHALLENGERS P. O. Box 2370 Denver, CO 80201

Dear F.Y.C.ers:

For the past several years many local groups of Faithful Youth Challengers have experienced outstanding blessings from God through participation in NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK. And now again, in 1973, we want every youth group to plan for, and participate in, NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK. We want every F.Y.C. group to "get in on the blessings."

We are suggesting the dates of March 20 to 25 for NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK; however, each local group may change the dates to best fit their own situation. Anytime from March through May should be fine for your YOUTH WEEK activities.

Our theme for NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK is the same as this year's motto: Teach the Word To See in '73. Each activity of the week may be planned to develop various aspects of this theme.

We will give you a few suggestions for activities for your NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK. You may add to them whatever will be pleasing to your local group and to God.

Remember, a successful NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK is not an accident! It is the result of planning, preparing, participating, and praying—plus God's blessings. Let every F.Y.C.er do his part, and I know that our Heavenly Father will do His!

Sincerely,

Calvis a Burell

BANQUET: Choose one night (not Friday) to enjoy a "dress-up" meal together, either at the church fellowship hall or at a reserved room in a nearby restaurant. The program which follows your feast might include several songs by a guest singing group and a keynote address on the National Youth Week theme.

GUEST SPEAKER: Let the F.Y.C.ers choose whom they would like to invite to preach at one or more evening services (including the banquet). These special services should be planned by the youth in cooperation with the pastor. Perhaps you will want to request that only the youth attend the first few night's services before the weekend. Make it truly a youth revival—several groups have found this to be quite effective.

SABBATH SCHOOL: Wherever possible, let the F.Y.C.ers serve in the various offices of the Sabbath School for this one day: superintendent, pianist, song leader, teachers, etc. This will need to be cleared with your regular Sabbath School officers a week or two in advance, of course.

YOUTH RALLY: Friday night or Sabbath afternoon present the best time for a rally to which the entire congregation will be invited. We have not prepared a full outline for your rally, but the 1973 motto will certainly lend itself to many interesting uses of visual aids and skits. (Hint: The scene of the rally could be inside an optometrist's office and various people could come in with vision problems—spiritual, of course!) Get a committee to begin planning for this rally right away!

RECREATION: If the group is not too tired by Saturday night or Sunday, it will be worthwhile to schedule a time of recreation. A ballgame or hike would be fine, but something less strenuous like a wiener roast with a campfire service might be more popular. Perhaps you could plan a drive to a scenic attraction where the F.Y.C.ers could see something beautiful in this world—and be challenged to return and help the world to see something beautiful in Christ!



## If You Need A Friend...

by Harris Kinzler

Have you ever tried to pronounce "FRIEND" without an F or a D? Try it. Yes, it's impossible. But it does make my point...just as this word is incomplete without an F or a D so is your life incomplete without a "Friend" or friends. "IF YOU NEED A FRIEND" was the theme of our recent Texas Youth Retreat held at Camp Robinwood, near Conroe. Here, perhaps more than ever before, we realized that weyou and I-must be the "F," or the beginning, in every friendship. We must be the starting point.

Several fireside-lakeside services were held during the Retreat providing perfect settings for the services conducted there by Brothers David Robinson and Harris Kinzler. The lake was calm, the campfire was warm, and God's presence was felt re-

peatedly. They were such blessed services...especially the Sunday (New Year's Eve) Midnight Watch Service.

(Midnight seemed early compared to the previous night when we all stumbled into our rooms after a 15-mile hay ride on the back of a semi-trailer. Man, was it cold on the way back! But was it ever fun!!! The hay on the trailer kept us warm, and the wiener roast in the forest gave us added strength. We even got in some hiking, believe it or not.)

Sunday morning was spent in a relaxing football game and canoe racing. Incidentally, the Mexico team won the football game and the Michigan team won the canoe race.

On Sunday afternoon our "Jewish Specialty" began. We saw a film about Jerusalem and then spent the remainder of

the afternoon discussing Israel—past, present, and future. I even learned that there are still prophecies to be fulfilled in Israel. Did you know that? You'd better check this out and find how they will affect you. Sunday evening a delicious Jewish meal was served. Afterward we enjoyed loads of laughter as we played games. The night was wrapped up by a stirring fireside service.

Ken and Mary Jean Knoll presented a unique workshop on Monday morning. They led several humorous games, and each game served the purpose of exhibiting certain human characteristics. The discussion period after each game gave us good insight to our behavior and our

frame of thinking under various circumstances in life.

While at this retreat I made many new friendships and strengthened existing ones. But the best Friend of all, as Brother David Robinson, Elder Calvin Burrell, and Brother Harris Kinzler related, is JESUS. It is so great to know that He loves and cares for you and for me. Jesus is the F in FRIEND. He has proved His desire for your friendship...but you must complete the word ... you must add the D. Only you can make the word complete by attaching vourself to Jesus.

Next year, the Lord willing, you make a special effort to attend the Texas Youth Retreat. We want you as our friends!



For complete information write to: National F.Y.C., P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.

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## Reach Out

The Church In Latin America

by Daniel Davila

#### MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

The lives of the members of the Church of God (Seventh Day) of Managua, Nicaragua were spared in the recent disastrous earthquake. The building in which they have been meeting was also left standing.

Soon after the earthquake, Elder Antonio Vega, overseer of the Central American district, wrote:

"Because of the infinite mercy of God, none of the brethren were injured. The small house of prayer did not fall to the ground. The brethren have been waiting there for the blessing of God to protect them.

"We, here in Central America, have made collections in favor of the Managua brethren, since they have no employment. Thanks to God, the brethren of Guatemala were able to send a car full of food supplies. I went personally to Managua to assist them."

In a recent letter Elder Vega has given further information about conditions in Managua:

"In the last letter I explained to you that the church building did not suffer any damage, nor the brethren in their bodies.

"What they have lost is their small capital, since they were business people, and all the people that owed them have .beer .scattered .to .different places. Therefore, their capital, that is to say the money which they have worked has been lost.

"The brethren need at least \$7,000 (seven thousand dollars) to start again their business in the towns,

because in the capital city there is nothing. There is still movement in the towns since these did not suffer the consequences of the earthquake.

"If the church of the United States could help with that amount for the brethren of Nicaragua it would be very good.

"The churches of Central America are collaborating with them for their meals, but we do not have the sufficient strength to reestablish their business.

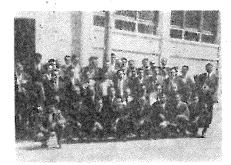
"We trust that you will understand the urgent need for our brethren."

Let us follow the example of the early disciples. In the days when they "were called Christians first in Antioch" they helped the saints in Jerusalem because there was a dearth.

Contribute with as much as you can. Like the disciples, "every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren" (Acts 11:26-30).

Any FYCer or FYC group wishing to help the brethren in Managua can send their offerings to the National F.Y.C. office. It will be dispatched quickly to help our Managua brethren. Send your "EARTHQUAKE RELIEF OFFERING" to:

National F.Y.C. P. O. Box 2370 Denver, CO 80201



## THE XIII CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNCIL

The Central American Council met in Guatemala from November 18-20, 1972. Delegations from Central America and Ecuador attended the council.

#### **NEW YOUTH LEADER**

Brother Rodolfo Chacon, former president of the youth Department in Guatemala, has been replaced by Brother Israel Madrid. Brother Madrid is the first president of the newly organized Central American Overseership of the Youth Department.



#### NICARAGUAN MISSIONARY

The council decided to reassign the same worker, Ernesto Barahona, in the field of Nicaragua. Brother Barahona was also elected president of the Leadership Board of Nicaragua.

Brother Barahona is supported by the Central American Overseership (50%) and the National FYC Project (50%). This covers his salary only! Your FYC can earn BONUS POINTS for your Mark of Merit by sending your contributions to:

> National FYC Nicaraguan Project P. O. Box 2370 Denver, CO 80201

Let's pray with much faith for God's church and youth in Latin America.

REMEMBER . . .

MANAGUA, NICARAGUA!

Daniel Davila, FYC foreign correspondent for the countries of Central America, Mexico, and South America, is presently serving as boys' dean and Bible instructor at Spring Vale Academy.



Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from all old memories of bitterness, hate, and jealousy; cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them as fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time.—Sunshine



Thirty-one local F.Y.C. groups reported their activities to the Mark of Merit director for at least *one* quarter of 1972. Twenty-two gold and silver marks will be awarded for 1972's accomplishments. Congratulations to the winners!

The official winner of the 1972 Lighthouse Award will be announced in next month's AIM, including a feature article and pictures of this outstanding F.Y.C. group. Also, the gold and silver mark winners for 1972 will be announced next month.

But this is 1973 and each group has an equal chance for a gold mark. Start now! Organize your group! Plan and perform projects! Attend and support meetings! Work hard for your local group and for our Lord!

1972 Mark of Merit Scoreboard:

	4th Quarter Points			
	· Merit	Bonus	Merit Pts.	Support
ARKANSAS				
Deleplaine	165	215	360	\$ 25.00
Ft. Smith	95	15	475	75.00
CALIFORNIA				
Bloomington	30	200	375	
Lodi	45	280	475	33.75
Ontario	85	327	500	80.00
Sacramento	108		418	28.68
Stockton	47	327	500	80.00
COLORADO				
Denver	47	198	500	120.00
IOWA				
Marion	. 60	75	500	45.00
MICHIGAN				
Southwest	112	10	435	75.00
MINNESOTA				
St. Paul	47	130	500	60.00
MISSOURI				
Joplin	102	885	500	60.00
Stanberry	57		260	60.00
		(Continu	ed on page	32)

## Don't Worry... You're NOT Going to Die

by Marcia Woods

"Sure you can eat of the forbidden tree, Eve! You're not going to die. Listen, God's just jealous because He knows that whenever you take a bite you're going to be able to distinguish between good and evil just like He can."

Satan's same old lie that worked so well on Eve centuries ago is still working today on millions of people. "Don't worry about sin, you're not going to die," is still being proclaimed around the world, and the sad part is that it is being proclaimed from the pulpits of many churches. Discrediting the Ten Commandments, teaching of purgatory, and of universal salvation are but three ways that Satan's message is still being heralded throughout the nations.

We know, however, that all men are doomed to die unless they accept God's message of salvation. As our doctrinal belief states, "Man was created a perfect, sinless being, but through disobedience he became a sinner. This caused imperfection, the curse of God, and death to come upon all mankind."

Created perfect? Yes, God created mankind pure and sinless, but man refused to remain in that right path...he willfully took of that which was specifically forbidden him. Still, God loved him and laid out the right path for him. Throughout the Old Testament we can read how God not only took care of and protected His people, but how He also laid before them a blessing and a cursing hinging upon their obedience. Again, His chosen people disobeyed, and today they are still reaping what they have sown through disobedience.

Being the merciful God that He is, God took another step in man's favor when He sent His only begotten Son to die a very

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cruel death for YOU, for me, and for every man who is living, who has lived and who will live in the future.

God goes much farther than halfway to give you eternal life. He is not willing that any should perish. But . . . He left the decision up to you. You are not a robot. You have a mind of your own and the ability to reason. Consider the odds: life, peace and happiness if you obey; discontent and death if you disobey. Read in Leviticus 26 of the blessings and cursings outlined for Israel and then read the rest of the Old Testament to discover how each came true and is still coming true today. In the New Testament, we find the blessings and cursings laid down before us. It is our choice to make.

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). The condemnation is there. We all have carnal natures, BUT if we obey God's Word and live for Him, we can escape that punishment.

#### It's YOUR decision.

Genesis 3:15 Romans 5:19 Romans 5:8 Romans 6:23 Romans 2:12 Gal. 3:27 I Cor. 15:21, 22 Genesis 3:19

#### AT LONG LAST

All of these events have deeply impressed me. Just observing the great relief, the joy, and the thankful spirit the "peace" in Vietnam has brought to Americans and to people of many other countries has given me increased vision of the GREATNESS, the BLESSEDNESS, th REAL JOY of the true and lasting peace we will know when Christ returns to earth.

i'm truly thankful for the present "peace" in Vietnam. It's a blessing that the fighting has ceased even if it be only for a time. (Knowing what lies ahead according to God's prophecy, we can be sure that there is more war to come, more bloodshed. more tears and more sorrow before this world knows real peace.) i'm even morethankful that in a troubled, war-torn world such as this we Christians can know the blessedness of everyday sweet peace in Christ Jesus. But most of all i'm thankful that we have such a great and wonderful PEACE to look forward to.

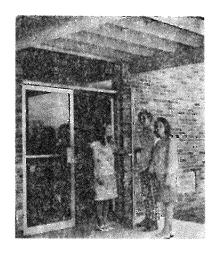
Soon Christ is coming to bring to this world PEACE like it has never known...

Swords will be beaten into plowshares, and spears into pruning hooks...

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation...

War will no longer be learned . . .

EVEN SO, COME LORD JESUS



# Open Doors

by Linda McNeal

The open doors of Spring Vale have welcomed several new faces to the school during the past several weeks. The doors were happy to see the familiar face of Mike Vlad, who arrived on December 21 to hold revival services at Spring Vale. Along with Mike came Midwest Bible College students David Neighbors, Tom Orr, and Tim Youngs. If doors have feelings, I am sure that these rejoiced to see the spirits of Spring Vale so uplifted by the revival meetings.

About a week earlier, from December 15-17, Spring Vale doors endured a period of inactivity because of the Winter Retreat, which was held near Chelsea, Michigan. But the doors weren't sad to see the students leave because they knew how much peace and love a retreat can cause a young person to feel. Indeed, the retreat was a real blessing to those who attended. David Robinson, a student at Midwest Bible College, gave several inspirational and thought-provoking talks. Steve Kurtright, Larry Moldenhauer, and Gerry Schlenker, also from Midwest, were in charge of the interesting classes. The retreat ended and the mirror-like glass doors of the school building reflected the happy faces of the returning students.

Although the students eagerly awaited the date of December 25 when they would be dismissed for Midwinter Vacation, Spring Vale's doors were not eager for that day to come. They knew from past experience how lonely they would be when the students went home on vacation. They knew how much they would miss the warm, friendly touch of each Spring Valer's hand. But December 25 inevitably rolled around and soon all of the students were gone. The doors knew that the students were having good times wherever they were, but still they couldn't help but count the

days till their return. "Only 5 more days till the kids will be back ... 4 more days... 3 more days..." Finally the long-awaited day of January 9 arrived, and with happy sighs of relief, the doors welcomed the students back with open arms. The doors noticed that most of the students returned for second semester, but they missed the smiling faces of Mary Jordan, Dawn Roberts, and Gilbert Walker, who did not return. Their sorrow was quickly turned to joy, however, when they noticed that three new students, Lori Johnston, Tim Stack, and David Stucker, had come for second semester. The doors became even more excited when they heard that more students might come to increase Spring Vale's present enrollment of almost 50.



David Stucker, Karen Larson, Lori Johnston, Randy Brunson.

New FYC officers were elected for second semester. David Stucker was chosen to shoulder the responsibility of FYC leader with Randy Brunson as his assistant. The newly-elected secretary is Karen Larson with Lori Johnston as her assistant. As the newly-elected officers walked away from the old school building, the doors swung shut with pride.

Each and every door on Spring Vale's campus is proud to be a door on one of the buildings of a Christian school, and they wouldn't exchange places with any other door in the whole world. Similarly, the students at Spring Vale are thankful for the opportunity to get a Christian education, and many wouldn't trade this year of their life for anything.

THE DANGER OF NARROW-MINDEDNESS

(Continued from page 4)

other through our religious faith but separates us from our friends who may really need God. We must know what we believe and practice what we know. In other words the imperative is to objectively, practically and openly tell others of the saving power of Jesus Christ!

The danger of narrow-minded-

ness is turning others off by resting too heavily upon Christian heritage. We must be open to the Spirit that we might express the Word of truth in love to a world in dire need of the message of truth. One sure way to stifle narrow-mindedness is to actively read God's Word, know and practice it, and demonstrate through Christian character and action what we know Christ to be.

## Happiness Is . .

by Marilyn Current

Happiness is . . .

"More taste, fine tobacco!"??? "Sex appeal"???? A new car??? A great date???

Let's see what God's Word says happiness is: "... Happy is he that condemneth not himself..." (Rom. 14:22). In other words. happiness is a clear, guiltless conscience.

Prayer: "Heavenly Father, help me rid my life of all impurities and false priorities so that I can find TRUE and LASTING happiness.

#### HAPPINESS IS . . .

- ► A clear conscience Mar. 1. Rom. 14 (verse 22).
- > Salvation by the Lord Mar. 2. Deut. 33 (verse 29). Mar. 3. Luke 10 (verse 20).
- ► Knowing of the salvation of others

Mar. 4. Acts 15 (verse 3).

- ► Having God for our Lord Mar. 5. Psalm 144 (verse 15). Mar. 6. Psalm 89 (verse 16).
- ➤ Trusting in God Mar. 7. Prov. 16 (verse 20). Mar. 8. Psa. 146 (verse 5).
- Fearing God and obeying Him Mar. 9. Prov. 28 (verses 13 & 14).

Mar. 10, Prov. 29 (verse 18).

- Mar. 11. Psa. 128 (verses 1 & 2).
- Receiving gifts from God Mar. 12. James 1:17.

Mar. 13, Eph. 2:8.

Mar. 14. Acts 8 (verses 7, 8).

Mar. 15. Eccl. 3:13 5:19.

Mar. 16, Rom. 6:23.

Receiving chastisement from God

Mar. 17. Job 5 (verse 17). Mar. 18. I Pet 1 (verses 6, 7).

- ► Receiving wisdom from God Mar. 19. I Kings 10 (verse 8). Mar. 20. Prov. 3 (verse 13). Mar. 21. Prov. 15 (verse 23).
- ➤ Helping others Mar. 22. Prov. 14 (verse 21).
- ► Witnessing of our faith Mar. 23. Acts 26. (verse 2).

Mar. 24. II Cor. 6 (verse 10).

**▶** Persecution for Christ's sake Mar. 25, I Pet. 4 (verses 13, 14, & 16).

Mar. 26. II Cor. 7 (verse 4).

Mar. 27. II Cor. 12 (verse 10).

Mar. 28. Matt. 5. (verse 12). Mar. 29. Acts 5 (verse 21).

Mar. 30, Jas. 5 (verse 21).

## ➤ Is NOT self-pride

Mar. 31. Mal. 3 (verse 15 & Chapter 4).

Happiness is to know the Saviour, Living a life that's in His favor, Having a change in my behavior, Happiness is Lord."

"Happiness is a new creation, Jesus and me in close relation Having a part in His salvation, Happiness is the Lord."

"Happiness is to be forgiven, Living a life that's worth the living, Taking a trip that leads to glory, Happiness is the LORD!"

Those FYCers who reported their 2T4G completions for the 4th quarter of 1972 are as follows:

ARKANSAS

Larry Gillean-2 mo., 19 days

Martha Gillean-1st quarter Marlene Smith—1st quarter Letia Snider—1st quarter Teddy Snider-10 days **MICHIGAN** 

Glenda Caswell-2 mo., 6 days Mary Carol Davis-1st quarter, 2nd year Deanne Jackson-4 mo., 1 day Bob Salazar-3rd quarter, 2nd year MISSOURI

Karen Hart-2nd guarter, 2 mo., 26 days David Robinson-2 months, 25 days

NORTH CAROLINA Rose Clark-1st quarter

OHIO

Luann Reed—1st quarter

#### **OREGON**

Peggy Williams-3rd quarter SOUTH DAKOTA

Joyce Meier-1st-3rd quarters Roy Meier-1st-3rd quarters Sharon Meier—3rd and 4th quarters Shirley Meier-3rd & 4th augrters

Marilyn Current. our 2T4G Director, lives in Durand, Michigan with her husband and small son. She is a graduate of Spring Vale Academy.



Man courts happiness in a thousand shapes, and the faster he follows it the swifter it flies from him. Almost everything promiseth happiness to us at a distance, but when we come nearer, either we fall short of it, or it falls short of our expectation; and it is hard to say which of these is the greatest disappointment. Our hopes are usually bigger than the enjoyment can satisfy; and an evil long feared, besides that it may never come, is many times more painful and troublesome than the evil when it comes.

-Tillotson

MARK OF MERIT	(Continued	from page	25)	
NORTH DAKOTA			•	
Alfred	47	155	500	68.00
OHIO				
Toledo	35	300	500	23.00
OKLAHOMA				
Claremore	105	10	375	
Tahlequah	72	150	500	32.00
OREGON				
Elmira	37	120	430	36.00
Harrisburg	45	375	500	120.00
Marion	90	257	405	140.00
SOUTH DAKOTA				•
Eureka	90	55	425	45.00
TEXAS				
Houston (E)	10	20	110	
San Antonio (S)	47	75	500	75.00
WASHINGTON				
Tacoma	85	350	480	74.00

Mark of Merit is alive and well in 1973! Our goal in the National F.Y.C. is thirty-five participating groups all year long. Each local F.Y.C. group should send its completed quarterly reports to MARK OF MERIT, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.

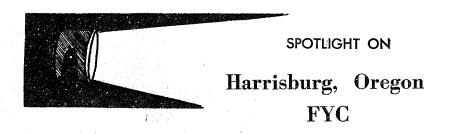


#### ANNOUNCING . . .

We are happy to welcome the following three young people, all from Alfred, North Dakota, as new members of the F.Y.C.

Gayle Lynn Schlenker Marsha Schlenker Paula Schlenker

REMINDER TO LOCAL FYC GROUPS: We need YOUR help to make this monthly feature successful. Please report names and addresses of any new members of your group to National FYC, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.





"I'm gonna' tell as I go abroad..." These words and the words to many other familiar choruses rang out loud and clear as the 22 young people in our FYC sang while we pedaled our bikes down country roads. We began our "Bike-a-Thon" at 9:30 on a Sunday morning and finished our 32 mile ride late in the afternoon. After riding 18 miles we stopped for lunch and hot chocolate (a welcome sight to everyone!) at the home of one of the F.Y.C.ers.

We gained many blessings from our 32-mile bike ride... among these blessings were the privilege of enjoying beautiful fall scenery; good fun and fellowship; sore muscles in tired, but healthy bodies; and most important, \$600 for our church's building fund.

Our F.Y.C. presented a check for \$600 to the chairman of our church board at our Harvest of Thanks Banquet. We thank everyone who sponsored us on our "Bike-a-Thon" as well as those who spent their time planning this successful project. And most of all we thank God for His blessings to us and our F.Y.C.

-Reported by Pam Moore

We'd like to see YOUR F.Y.C. in the "Spotlight"! Remember... in each month's AIM we want to feature a brief summary of an outstanding project some local FYC has accomplished. Please send 2 or 3 action photos (black and white preferred) and a summary of a project your group considers notable. We want to see YOU in the spotlight!

## Will You Lend a Helping Hand?

Because of the recent earthquake in Managua, Nicaragua, many of our brethren there are lacking the real necessities of life. Will you or your F.Y.C. group be willing to help them through this tragedy? Please read the article on page 22 of this AIM for more information.

#### Last Call!!

Any Mark of Merit reports for the last quarter of 1972 should be sent immediately to the National F.Y.C., P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.

Announcement of the Outstanding F.Y.C. of the year (the Lighthouse Award Winner) plus all the gold and silver award winners for 1972 will be made in next month's AIM.

#### Do It Now!

If your local group has not sent in your 1973 registration list including your new officers, please do so very soon. We want our files to be completely up-to-date so that no one will miss any of the mailings from the national office.

## It's Time to Get Ready

March 20-25 has been suggested by the National F.Y.C. as *National Youth Week*. Every local youth group is urged to



plan for special spiritual activities during that time or during a week shortly thereafter. Please read the letter and suggestions concerning National Youth Week on pages 18-19 of this AIM.

## Yours for the Asking

The National F.Y.C. wants to issue an attractive billfold-size membership card to each youth who participates in a local F.Y.C. group. To receive such a personalized card signed by a member of the National F.Y.C. Committee (you need not be a member of the Church of God, 7th Day), just write to us and request one. Please include your name, address, age and the local church you attend when you write. Send your request for a membership card to: National F.Y.C., P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.

Write on your heart that every day is the best day of the year.

-R. W. Emerson

#### THE AIM SPEAKS

I am sending you a message Where'er you live or roam Asking for an invitation To come into your home.

I am just a little lady Full of comfort and good cheer, And for just three dollars and a half I can come and stay a year.

I'm not dressed in frills and laces
But I'll give to you a hint
I'll come to you neatly and lovely
dressed

In the very finest print.

My cover is not of bright and glaring colors

Like Journal, Glamour and all the rest

But my coat and other garments Are all clean and freshly pressed.

I'm a lovely little lady
It is true; but all the same
Perhaps you wouldn't want to send
for me

Unless you know my name.

It is not so grand and fancy Like the kings and queens and such, But I think it's very pretty And I love it very much.

Now if you will only send for me, When I reach your place You will find my name is printed On my clean and shining face.

Although it's not so grand or fancy You'll love it just the same; Now it only has three letters And it says A - I - M, Aim.

I'm often asked the question, (Perhaps you will ask the same) "Now, won't you please tell us, Miss, Just why you are called AIM?"

Well I AIM to bring good tidings Wherever I may roam; I AIM to be a blessing When I come into your home. by Don Lawson

I AIM to cheer and comfort
The weary, worn and sad.
I AIM to lend a helping hand
To those who still are bad.

I AIM to stand beside your girls And tell them to be good, To grow up to be kind and gentle Just like we know they should.

I AIM to tell them not to be Shallow, fast or flirts; I AIM to get within your boys' hearts And sweep out all the dirt.

I AIM to help the grandpas and grandmas

In their waning years, To comfort and to strengthen And to always bring good cheer.

I AIM to help the weak and weary, The fearful and the brave; I AIM to stand beside you From the cradle to the grave.

I don't AIM to cause you sorrow, I don't AIM to make you sad, I don't AIM to criticize you Even though you may be bad.

I don't AIM to cause you pain or heartache.

Nor AIM to tempt or bring you shame:

I AIM to speak the truth And I AIM to make it plain.

I AIM to fill my mission; My mission is to save, So AIM is printed on my forehead Where the golden tresses wave.

The good folks here have me printed Pressed and bundled with care. I'd like to reach into many more homes,

"Won't you send the fare?"