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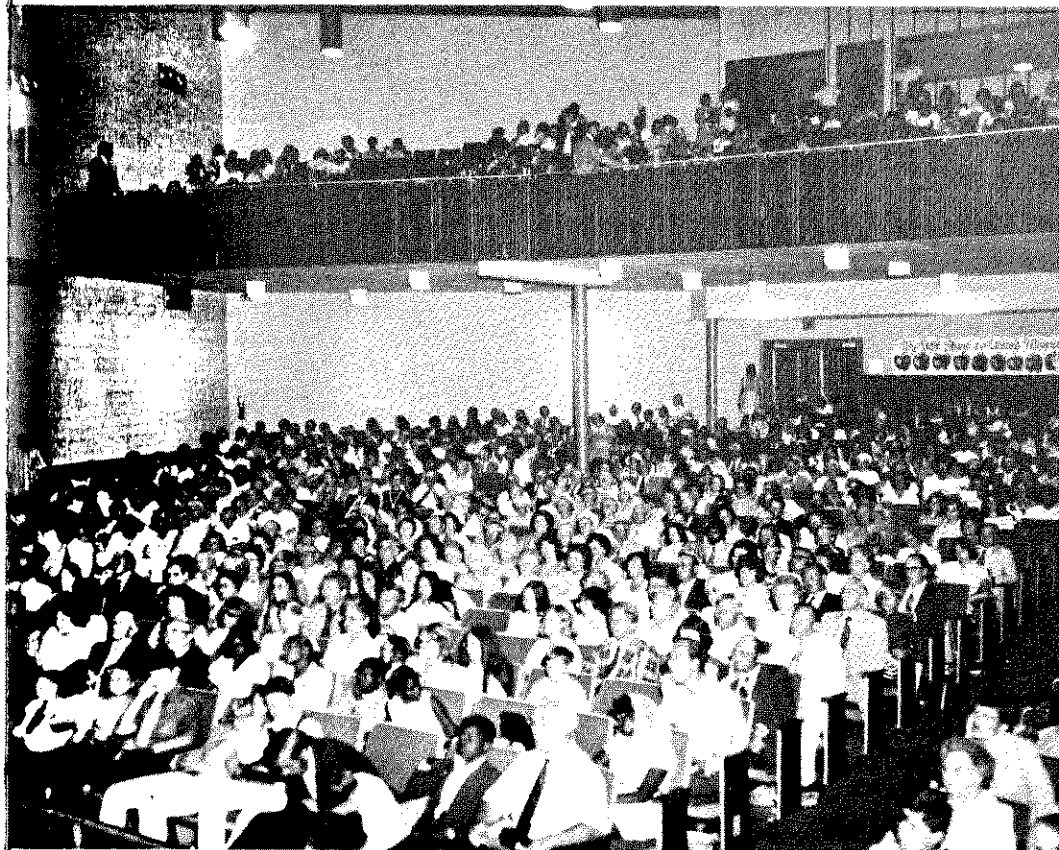
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The National Women's Association is pleased to announce a new and exciting organization—the "SEEKERS." This is a challenging organization designed for 9-12 year old youth. Educational, religious, and social activities are combined with a system of earning achievement badges to provide a program to meet the needs of these boys and girls. The Seekers program also provides a great opportunity for outreach to other young people.

Current plans are to have this program ready to introduce in all interested churches by January 1, 1976. Start making plans now!

For more information contact:

"SEEKERS"
c/o Mary Jean Knoll
P. O. Box 33
Harrisburg, Oregon 97446



A record attendance was present at the General Conference and Camp Meeting held in Fulton, Missouri from July 14-19, 1975.

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Editorial Staff Floyd A. Turner, Robert Coulter, S. J. Kauer

Address correspondence on editorial matters to *The Harvest Field Messenger*, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, Colorado 80201.

WHERE TO FIND IT

Getting the Church Into the World	4
Spring Vale Academy	8
Women's Association	9
Faithful Youth Challengers	10
Foreign Missions	12
Christian Education	14
Summary of the 1975 Business Convention	15
New Literature	18
New Ministerial Training Program Being Planned	21
"I Would Like to Know . . ."	22

ADVERTISING THE CHURCH

An extraordinary testimony was given by one couple who attended the recent General Conference meeting. It seems they were looking for a Sabbath-keeping denomination who believed more nearly like they do, but for a matter of months had been unable to find that body of believers. They knew nothing about the Church of God (7th Day).

Somehow a Stanberry, Missouri, telephone book was mailed to them by mistake. They wondered why they received the book and were casually looking through it. They observed a listing for the Church of God (7th Day) and decided to make a call to Stanberry to inquire about what we believe. The answers were favorable to them. They attended a portion of the General Conference, and have now joined the church.

We could draw a rather practical conclusion from this episode. If the distribution of a Stanberry telephone book to a stranger can do so much to let the world know about the Church of God (7th Day) perhaps we should

(Continued on page 19)

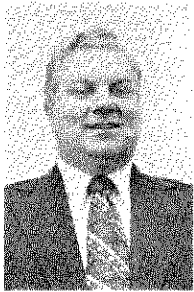
SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Becky Heavilin is seen using the compound microscope in her biology class at Spring Vale where students are taught an appreciation for their Creator as they study His creation.



Getting the Church Into the World

ROBERT COULTER,
General Conference Chairman

(This is a portion of the State of the Conference address delivered at the General Conference held at Fulton, Missouri in July 1975).

Recently a pastor of a fair-sized city church was standing at the door of the church following the morning services. He was approached by one of the older members, a pillar of the church for more than thirty years.

"Good morning, pastor," he said. "I hear you now have nearly fifty young adults coming out to that new Wednesday evening program you started last winter. Is that true?"

"Yes, it is," replied the pastor with a heart-felt smile. "Attendance is beyond our expectation. It averages between forty and fifty each week." As he offered this response, he felt a sense of delight that one of the older members recognized what an effort this program had been. Now it was beginning to bear fruit.

The warm glow soon turned to disappointment when the member dropped his hand with the comment: "Harumph, if you have 40 to 50 youth attending that meeting, you must be letting in a lot of outsiders! There aren't more than 30 young adults in this congregation."

This dialogue may seem extreme but it helps to illustrate the difficulty some folk have in identifying the major task of the church.

Someone has wisely observed: "In the twentieth century, the biggest problem with the church is to get it out of the building and into the world where it belongs."

Jesus recognized that the scene of operation for the church is the world. In His prayer, prior to Calvary, Jesus petitioned the Father on behalf of His disciples:

"I do not ask thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one" (John 17:15).

Along with our concern to keep the world out of the church, we must become preoccupied with keeping the church in the world. Because the world *needs* the church!

In attempting to formulate a Biblical philosophy for the church or develop a contemporary strategy—a methodology for its operation which stands on a scriptural foundation—we must ask and answer very fundamental questions:

Why does the church exist? What is its ultimate purpose? Why has God left it in the world in the first place?

The Bible has not left us without the answer. There are purposes and principles growing out of the New Testament which should help us formulate

guidelines for the twentieth century church. To discover these we need only to look at the experiences of the first century Christian. The precepts and experiences recorded in the New Testament can serve as our guidelines today.

Jesus Christ spoke directly to the question of the church's purpose. One day on a mountain in Galilee He spoke in clear and simple language.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them . . . teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19, 20).

Earlier, He had said in the presence of His disciples, but specifically to Peter, "I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it" (Matthew 16:18).

Now prior to leaving the disciples to carry on His work, He tells them what they must do:

1. Make disciples of all nations.
2. Teach new converts to observe all that was commanded.

Jesus' command is clear, concise, comprehensive! The disciples understood it! The Book of Acts demonstrates this beyond a doubt.

A clear illustration of the way Jesus' command was carried out may be seen in the actions of the disciples as persecution arose in Jerusalem and the disciples were scattered:

"Therefore, those who had been scattered went abroad preaching the Word" (Acts 8:4).

Of passages like this, J. B. Phillips writes in his translation of Acts entitled *The Young Church in Action*.

"The reader is stirred because he is seeing Christianity, the real thing, in action for the first time in human history. The newborn church, as vulnerable as any human child, having neither money, influence nor power in the ordinary sense, is setting forth joyfully and courageously to win the pagan world for God through Christ."

The church exists, therefore, to carry out two functions—"evangelism" (to make disciples) and "edification" (to teach them). Hence these two functions answer the question:

"Why does the church exist in the world?"

In view of these scriptural reasons for the existence of the church, the Church of God (Seventh Day) *justifies its presence in the world on the basis of its efforts to evangelize and teach members.*

We must find vindication for our existence in the gospel work we have performed in our congregations, in our districts and in our conference programs of a church-wide nature. Let us look at them for the past two years together.

United Missions

The 1973 Conference in session amended our Constitution and By-laws so the departmental work of the church could be reorganized. This was an important and much needed move which created the United Missions of the Church of God (Seventh Day).

The United Missions is one of the most important entities in the church. Its assignments comprehend all of our national and international programs directed toward individuals and congregations. The programs of United Missions are of such a scope and nature that most individual members or con-

gregations are unable to develop them by themselves. *However, by joining together in one united effort* we have been able to provide *every member and congregation with tools which they can employ in extending their evangelistic and teaching ministries.*

In the past two years the work of the United Missions has been organized under the direction of the United Missions Board composed of seven men appointed by the conference's Executive Board. The United Missions Board, assuming the work of the former departments reviewed and divided the departmental assignments between eight divisions of United Missions, known as "agencies."

In addition to reassigning the departmental work to its eight agencies, the United Missions Board reviewed past budgeting procedures and completely overhauled them. It adopted a consolidated budget for United Missions. This practically eliminated individual agency treasuries by combining most of them into one general fund administered by the treasurer of the General Conference. This released funds which had formerly been pigeonholed by individual departments and made them available to United Missions.

The benefits of these two moves became apparent immediately upon their implementation. The aggregate work of the United Missions is better coordinated and financed as the result of placing it under one board. At the same time, nearly every program assigned to United Missions has been able to expand through the funds allotted to it.

United Missions has an aggregate budget of \$403,585 for this current fiscal year which began on April 1. This represents a new level of operation for this segment of our church. But, a high level of activity can be observed in the *many programs and materials available to you as individuals and congregations for a greater gospel work.* No entity in the Conference offers you more for the *money you invest or directly serves you better* than United Missions.

The United Missions Board, composed mostly of laymen, deserves our thanks for the fine job it has done in working out the transition from the Seven Departments to United Missions. They have done a fantastic job!

North American Regional Ministerial Council

Until last year, Ministerial Council meetings were losing their reputation for accomplishments. In October, 1974, the North American Regional Ministerial Council held its first meeting under the provisions of an amendment to our Constitution and Bylaws adopted in 1973.

Unlike so many of our old councils, this one really came alive. Its list of important accomplishments is extensive:

1. It adopted a set of bylaws which contain many innovations to help expedite its work. These are working very well and may account for much of the accomplishments of the Councils.
2. It engaged in two rather extensive Bible studies of importance.
 - a. The subject of "Divorce and Remarriage" had been discussed for several years but without decisive action by the Council except to adopt a new doctrinal statement in 1972. This past year the Council went one step farther and adopted a comprehensive interpretation of that statement.
 - b. The subject of the "Time and Nature of the Kingdom of Christ"

was the second study discussed by the Council. In this case the Council retained our traditional position on the 1000 year reign of Christ.

3. The final accomplishment of the Council was the review and adoption of an update on our Doctrinal Statements. Our newly adopted statements are clearer, more concise and accurate than our old ones. They have also been classified by subject matter to make them more usable as reference material. This document is an important achievement for the Ministerial Council because it represents its intention to keep the church an active and viable witness for Jesus Christ in the world!

Dialogues

One final activity of the past two years needs some comment. It concerns the dialogues in which representatives of the Conference have engaged with the Associated Churches of God and the Church of God, Sabbatarian.

Associated Churches

The Associated Churches of God came into being a little over a year ago when several ministers left the Worldwide Church of God of Pasadena, California and organized under the name Associated Churches of God.

Our dialogue with the leaders of this organization has been directed toward becoming acquainted with each other, the definition of our respective goals, a review of doctrinal points and the identification of common interests which could lead to an integration of our efforts.

To date, the results of our talks have been inconclusive, but we believe our efforts have helped to promote understanding and good will. A recent telephone conversation with Mr. Kenneth Westby, President of the Associated Churches, indicates a continuing interest to pursue our discussion further in the future.

Church of God, Sabbatarian

The second dialogue in which we have participated has been very decisive. We have held talks with Elder Roy Marrs and the Board of the *Church of God, Sabbatarian, Hawthorne, California*, regarding our common interest in missionary endeavors abroad and the integration of that congregation into the work of our West Coast District.

At this point ground rules have been laid down and agreed upon which we believe will lead to a full accomplishment of our goals. They are:

1. To unite our missionary activities in the Philippines, India and Nigeria. Progress has already been made in this direction.
2. To appoint Elder Marrs director of our integrated missions work which will function under the United Missions Board.
3. To integrate the work of the Hawthorne congregation into the West Coast District. Progress has been made toward this with the recent placement of one of our ministers as pastor of that church.

We are thankful that God has led in these matters and unity appears certain. Further we are thankful that the church is at peace.

This Conference belongs to you. It is your forum . . . In all that we do

(Continued on page 22)



spring vale academy

CALVIN BURRELL,
Principal

On August 26 of this year, approximately 70 high schoolers representing nearly every section of the United States will enroll in the 28th year of Spring Vale Academy's operation.

They will be welcomed by a staff and faculty of Christian men and women who believe "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom," and are willing to verify that faith with works which are to be done here.

These 70 teenagers will have chosen the Academy as an alternative to public education. Obviously, this choice carries with it certain liabilities: cost, distance, and lack of vocational training. One must weigh these against the benefits available, however, before determining the worthiness of the choice.

From a student's viewpoint, probably the chief advantage of a Church of God (7th Day) Academy is the opportunity it affords for acquaintance, fellowship, and lasting friendship with other youth of the church.

This normal and desirable phe-

nomenon may be observed; it is manifested in tears and sad farewells at parting times, and in happy hugs when school resumes again. These words poorly describe it, but it is real to each student; they experience it. It is the kind of experience upon which godly lives are built.

Further benefits, some probably as important, may be listed: more personal instruction made possible by small class size; Christian instructors; development of Christian musical talents and leadership abilities; no conflict in Sabbath activities; less temptation to do evil, where the "in-group" are Christians; daily Bible instruction and Christian counseling, etc.

On August 26, 70 young people will cast their vote for Christian Academies in the Church of God, believing that the advantages firmly outweigh the liabilities. Your prayers for the success of this 28th year at Spring Vale Academy are sincerely requested.

Although one or two assignments are yet tentative, here is the line-up of S.V.A. staff and faculty, as of August 1:

Director	—	Calvin A. Burrell	Teaching faculty
Principal	—	Ronald Grubis	Elsie Eyler
Boys' Dean	—	Kenneth Brunson	Judy Williams
Girls' Dean	—	(undetermined)	Paul Heavilin
Accountant	—	Paula Wilson	Daniel Davila
Cook	—	Vernon I. Patchen	Elden Fischer (part-time)
Maintenance	—	Wayne Truman	Ronald Grubis
Other	—	Jessie Truman	Calvin Burrell
		Barbara Burrell	

Several students depend on the student-aid fund to continue their education at Spring Vale. Others would come if more student-aid were available. Contributions to this fund may be mailed directly to the Academy, Route 5, Owosso, Michigan 48867.

To subscribe to the Academy newspaper, the "S.V.A. Torch," please send your name and address and \$2 to the Academy, Route 5, Owosso, Michigan 48867.

For information about enrollment, please write to the Academy, or call 517-725-2391. Even if you should decide after August 26, your inquiries are welcomed.

WPA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

SANDRA LAWSON, *President*

The Women's Association was able to complete several important items of business during the General Conference held at Fulton, Missouri, in July.

The bazaar was a tremendous success in that \$1,145 was raised to help with several projects. A lovely assortment of items was sent by women from all parts of the country to be sold at the bazaar. A special "thanks" to them! Without all of these items the project would not have been the success it was.

Because of a large income from the bazaar, the purchase price of the video tape machine for Midwest Bible College was met. The announcement of its purchase was made during the Midwest alumni dinner held during conference. The machine which was purchased was on display in the same area as the bazaar. Everyone was able to examine this fine equipment and see it in action. The video tape machine will be a great asset to our ministerial college.

The Women's Association membership adopted the new bylaws which were presented. They will necessitate some changes in the operation of the association, but it will now be easier to function smoothly as an

agency under the direction of the United Missions Board.

A very special event was a luncheon held for all of the women. The guest speaker was Alvena Blatchley from "Philosophy of Christian Womanhood," Denver, Colorado. She presented some very timely thoughts on the true meaning of the marriage vows. A special "thank you" to Kae Carlin and the women from Missouri for arranging this lovely occasion.

May the blessings received from all of the services held during Conference continue to bless everyone as we work in our local areas. Pass them on!



Women's General Conference Bazaar.



The 1975 biennial General Conference was a record-breaking one for the FYC. More than 250 young people attended the FYC workshops, business sessions, devotional and recreational activities. Far more significant than the large number in attendance is the inspiration, instruction, and rich

times of fellowship these 250 young people gained from the youth program at conference.

The most exciting result of the FYC business session at conference was the adoption of the following charter to replace the old FYC constitution:

I. NAME

The organization of the Young People's Agency of the United Missions of the Church of God (Seventh Day), with headquarters at Denver, Colorado, shall be called Faithful Youth Challengers, hereinafter referred to as "FYC."

II. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

- A. This organization shall promote spiritual welfare, develop leadership, provide wholesome activities, and encourage active participation in the Church of God (Seventh Day).
- B. This organization shall help encourage the establishment of local chapters of the FYC.

III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all young people ages 13 through 19 who are members of the Church of God (Seventh Day), or who are sympathetic to the aims and purposes of the FYC.

IV. STRUCTURE

- A. The administrative body of the FYC shall be a coordinating committee composed of three members appointed by the United Missions Board. It shall serve a term of two years. The United Missions Board shall name the director of the Young People's Agency who shall act as chairman of the committee and represent the FYC to the United Missions Board.
 1. A secretary may be appointed by the committee.
 2. The treasurer of the United Missions shall act as treasurer of the FYC.
- B. The organizational structure of the local chapters of the FYC shall be outlined in SHAPE.
- C. The FYC may charter local chapters.

V. PUBLICATIONS

AIM, a monthly periodical for young people, shall be sent to all registered FYCers and to others who subscribe.

VI. METHOD OF AMENDMENT

This charter may be amended by the young people through a petition to the United Missions Board.

There is a two-fold advantage of the new charter over the old constitution: 1) It allows the FYC Coordinating Committee flexibility in the work of the agency with local chapters; and, 2) It allows local chapters of the FYC flexibility in conducting a program most ideal for the young people in their local setting. Another advantage of the charter is its streamlining effect on FYC business at General Conference thus allowing more time for inspirational, instructional and fellowship activities.

An important provision of the charter is the revised age limit for national FYC membership. Whereas the constitution previously set the membership age at 13-25, the charter establishes the age as 13-19. For several years we have experienced difficulty in producing an FYC program that adequately meets the needs and expectations of young people ranging in age from 13 all the way to 25.

This new age bracket for FYCers narrows the age span of young people the FYC program is designed for; thus it will allow both the National and local FYC to present a program that effectively meets the needs of this one age group.

It is important to note, however, that this new age membership is only a requirement for national FYC participation, and local FYC chapters may adjust their age limits to best satisfy the needs of the young people represented in their local situation.

The Christian Education Agency has launched a program encouraging each local church to establish a young adult group for young people, ages 20 and up. If it is impossible to organize such a group in your church,

we do encourage your FYC to include those young people ages 19-25. Also, we encourage young people ages 19-25 to enroll in DESIGN III, an outstanding program for personal spiritual growth.

It is important to point out that the charter DOES NOT BIND the local FYC to certain organizational policies; but rather, it offers guidelines and suggestions leaving the local FYC chapter responsible for adjusting them to best meet the needs of their own group.

A few months ago AIM took on a new look and format, changing from a magazine to a newsletter-style publication. Although the purpose of AIM as a youth paper still remains to "promote higher ideals and more challenging spiritual goals among young people," its primary purpose is to serve and promote the needs and interests of the FYC.

It is an important medium of communication between the National FYC and its local chapters. The new AIM is automatically sent to all registered FYCers so that every young person involved in the FYC will have information about the FYC readily

(Continued on page 19)



Elder Kenneth Knoll, FYC Director, presiding at conference meeting in Fulton, Missouri.



FOREIGN MISSIONS

by ROBERT COULTER

Sad News from India

The Church of God (Seventh Day) has lost a worker and friend in India. A report has been received by Missions that Elder Ponuku Joseph died on August 6. Elder Joseph had been a member of the Church of God (Seventh Day) since 1936. He has acted as Mission's representative for the Church of God (Seventh Day) in India since 1954.

Foreign Missions has been supporting four national workers in Southern India. Elder Joseph did not receive a salary from Foreign Missions. He was a retired schoolmaster who had an income sufficient to meet his needs.

Our concern now is to keep the good work of the church in southern India moving forward. We shall miss Elder Joseph, but we are confident God will provide other leadership for the church.

Ministerial Conference

A ministerial and workers' conference will be held in Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies, on October 12, 13. Foreign Missions hopes to have representatives at this conference for the purpose of holding several periods of instruction and Bible study.

Meetings of this nature are a part of the Missions program. They provide some of the best opportunities for Missions to provide instruction

and assistance in the fields of endeavor in which Missions is active.

Attendance at the Kingston meeting is expected to include representatives from the church in the Bahamas and Trinidad.

Good News From Ecuador

Elder Leiva reports that the work in Ecuador is making progress. First, the national conference board which Elder Padilla and I helped to establish last winter is functioning well. All the churches are cooperating and supporting it.

Through this cooperative effort and with some assistance from us, the church in Ecuador has been able to employ Brother Luis Montero full-time. He works in Guayaquil. They have been able to buy time over a radio station near Pujili and now rent buildings in three locations for the purpose of holding services.

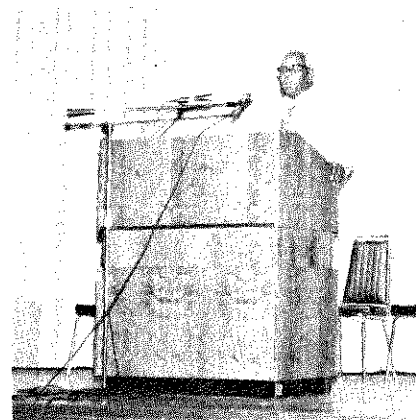
Secondly, the church held a conference in July in which it used visual aids, much good music and preaching in its program. Elder Leiva felt this was of great benefit to the church in that it helped to introduce the church to the community. It helped to inspire the church's membership as well.

The church in Ecuador has 60 members and sympathizers. Through the radio and other evangelistic programs the list of members and contacts has been growing.

Jamaican Addresses Conference

Elder Gersham N. Wallen, Secretary-Treasurer of the Jamaican Con-

ference of the Church of God (Seventh Day) addressed the General Conference in its Thursday, July 17, services. Elder Wallen is active in



Elder Wallen addressing the congregation.

the church in Jamaica as a member of the conference board, and pastor of four congregations in and near Kingston.

Philippine Open Air Dialogue

Elders Elias Flores, Benjamin Dingal and Exequiel Barangot, of the Church of God (Seventh Day) engaged in a dialogue with members of the Roman Catholic Faith Defenders at an open meeting held in Valencia, Bukidnon, Philippine Islands.

Many doctrines were discussed with the result that several active contacts were made for the Church of God. Elder Barangot reports they have returned to this community for the purpose of studying with those who expressed an interest in the Church.

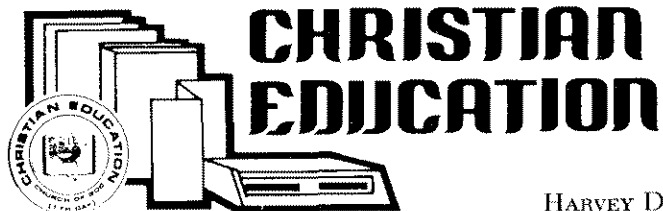
He also reported that the literature we have sent them was very helpful in following up these contacts. Your support of Missions helps to support Elders Dingal and Barangot's full-time employment and provide these brethren with literature.

"Doctrinal Beliefs" Tract Published in Native Dialect

Recently Missions made it possible
(Continued on page 18)



Elder Barangot is speaking in the microphone. He is reading from the Bible. An attorney, Mr. Caimoran is standing on his left. He represented the Catholic Faith Defenders.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

HARVEY D. FISCHER, *Director*

Perhaps one of the more exciting aspects of education is that it realizes constant change. It is interesting to try to keep pace with the changes as they are suggested and not lose the central purpose of what we are to be teaching. This aspect of education is referred to as **APPLICATION**.

In the past number of years this agency has given attention to this matter of application in the form of a **SABBATH SCHOOL HANDBOOK**, personal growth literature, rearrangement of format in our lesson materials to include "Lesson application," and finally a **TEACHER'S GUIDE** for Sabbath school lessons assigned to adults. While all of these features have contributed considerably to the Christian Education programs of the church they fall short of that personal commitment to share God's goodness with others.

A careful reader of any religious or educational magazine will recognize that the trend in education is to emphasize the "caring" and "sharing" aspects of value clarifications. This approach certainly is not new to the Bible student as Christ's example throughout His life was to address Himself to the needs of the individuals whom He contacted.

It is important that we solidify our doctrine but perhaps we have not kept pace with making this important message relevant to the many individuals seeking meaning to their lives. People have become very sensitive to being indoctrinated but continue to respond to love. Love is the very basis of creation. Love is that which

identifies values. Love is something that must be given in order to be received.

With an appreciation for God's Word in all its beauty and accuracy saturated with a love for our fellowman, how can Christian Education go wrong? Our willingness to love God in exposing His goodness to others serves as the common denominator for our assignment as disciples of Christ.

Have you found yourself involved in an assignment as a teacher, director or assistant in the Christian Education programs of your church and experienced the privilege of sharing God's blessings with others? What precious opportunities are provided by such assignments!

CALENDAR

EMPHASIS OFFERING SCHEDULE:

October 18—Spring Vale Academy

December 20—"Faith For Our Time" Radio Broadcast.

INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL COUNCIL:

October 5-9—Glorieta Baptist Assembly, Glorieta, New Mexico

1977 GENERAL CONFERENCE MEETING:

July 11-16, 1977—Bethany Nazarene College, Bethany, Oklahoma

CONFERENCE MINUTES

Minutes of the 1975 General Conference Business Convention will be available to members upon request.

Summary of the Business Convention of the 1975 General Conference

An outstanding feature of the 1975 business convention of the General Conference was its attendance. There was a registration of 458 delegates for the business meetings. Attendance at the Sabbath worship services is reported to have topped 1100. That made this one of the largest, or perhaps the largest, conference in memory.

The business conducted by the General Conference could be divided into three basic categories. One category was the election of six members to the twelve-man Executive Board, the second was the consideration of resolutions and the third basic category was the consideration of the adoption of new bylaws as a substitute for the conference's Constitution and Bylaws.

Usually, the conference only elects four members to the Executive Board in each of its meetings. This conference was faced with two additional vacancies on the board; thus, it had to elect four members for a regular six-year term, one member to complete a term with four years remaining and one member to complete a term with two years remaining.

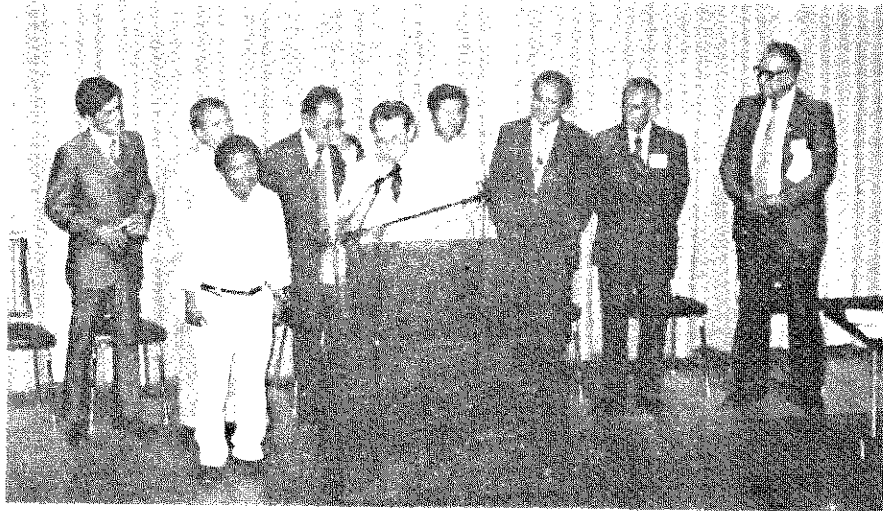
The conference elected Elders Kenneth Kuoll, Kenneth Lawson, Wesley Walker and Victor Youngs for regular six-year terms on the Board. Elder Delvin O'Banion was elected to a four-year term and Elder Antonio Vega was elected to fill the term of two years.

The most important single item of business, after the election, to come before the conference was the adop-

tion of the proposed Bylaws. This proposal was developed as the result of the action of the 1973 conference. It ordered a study to be made of the conference's organizational documents for the purpose of updating and streamlining them.

The adopted Bylaws offer major changes in traditional conference procedures in four areas. They should be noted.

1. The new bylaws provide that nominations for members of the Executive Board be made by a nominating committee. This will not prevent nominations from being made from the floor as they had been in the past. What it does, is offer the conference a committee's recommendation on nominees its feels are best qualified to serve on the Executive Board.
2. The election of the Executive Board will be by a majority ballot vote in all future elections. Unlike past provisions for this election, no lot will be employed in the selection of the board's membership. Election will be by a majority vote.
3. The new bylaws recognize the ministry of the Church of God to be universal. However, these bylaws limit the scope of this conference's authority to serve the membership of the church in the United States and Canada. The exception to this is the assignment given to the International Ministerial Council and Foreign Missions Agency in the bylaws. →



Representatives from the Church of God in Mexico and Central America are pictured as they were introduced to the conference by Elder Trinidad Padilla. Elders Jonathan Martinez, Mexico (third from left), and Nataneal Argueta, Guatemala (far left), gave a brief report on the work of the church in their respective fields.

This may sound quite restrictive at first glance, but it is practical in application. Presently, every field in which the Church of God is represented abroad has its own conference organization which operates autonomously.

The conference offers its greatest contact and assistance in funds and counsel through the Foreign Missions Agency of the United Missions and the International Ministerial Council. These agencies act as the arm of the conference to coordinate and unify the worldwide ministerial staff of the Church of God (Seventh Day).

In reality this provision does not limit the international endeavors of the conference. What it does is to assign them to entities in the conference prepared to pursue them. It also clarifies the origin and the assignment

of the Executive Board.

4. The bylaw which establishes district boards was changed considerably. In the past its provisions were rather rigid. That made it difficult to apply them from coast to coast on a fair or equal basis. The new bylaw provides greater latitude. Under its provisions, each district is free to develop its own plan for the equal and fair representation of its membership on the district board. Each plan must receive the approval of the Executive Board and be prepared in accordance with the provisions of the bylaw. However, it allows each district enough flexibility so its organization of the district board can meet conference bylaw requirements.

A second feature of this bylaw which is a departure from previous provisions is the restriction of district board mem-

bership to laymen. Under this provision the overseer may be a minister but ministers will not be eligible to serve as members of the board.

When the bylaws were adopted by the conference, they became a substitute for the Constitution and Bylaws by which the conference had been operating up to this meeting. Now, the conference's Articles of Incorporation are its Constitution. These Articles are supported by the newly adopted bylaws.

The resolutions adopted by the conference vary in their content a great deal. One of the first resolutions presented to the conference for adoption confirmed the Executive Board's nominees to membership in the International Ministerial Council. This Council is slated to meet in the fall of 1976.

The second resolution adopted by the conference recommends that local churches develop a Free Bible Advocate Fund to assist the districts in

the cost of the distribution of the magazine to its constituents.

Another resolution adopted by the General Conference requests the Executive Board to implement a plan to compile a voting record for each of its members. This record is to be made available to the membership of the church upon request.

The last action of the General Conference was to ask the Executive Board to study the world-wide scope of the work of the Church of God. It suggests that the board establish a representative type of world-wide organization to help carry out the objectives and work of the church.

In all, the conduct of the business of the Conference consumed 15.5 hours of its five-day program. The remainder of the daily and evening program was devoted to Bible classes, workshops on many "how to" subjects and inspiration and preaching.

The 1975 Convention of the General Conference will long be remembered for its inspiration, size and accomplishments.



The front entrance of the auditorium between services. Fellowship is an important part of the meeting.

New Literature

New Edition of "Introducing the Church of God (Seventh Day)"

A new, concise edition of the tract, "Introducing the Church of God (Seventh Day)" is now available. This leaflet can help open the church door to people who are not familiar with our organization.

Each Church of God congregation should have a supply of these tracts on hand, and each member should make use of this tract to introduce the church—and Christ—to those whom they meet. Space is provided on the tract for the local church address and service schedule to be imprinted with a rubber stamp.

Order a supply real soon.

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New Leaflet Tract on Israel Prophecy

A new leaflet entitled *The Middle East in Bible Prophecy* was introduced in July. This concise leaflet will help arouse interest in the prophecies concerning Israel and the Middle East. It should be on top of the list of tracts to use in door-to-door missionary work.

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Leaflet Tracts Becoming More Attractive

The Literature Committee has turned its attention to improving the content and appearance of the leaflet tracts being published by the Bible Advocate Press. To draw attention to the vital message within the tract, the outside of the leaflets must be printed attractively also.

Tracts which were given an uplift recently include *Two Appointments with God You Must Meet, What Must I Do to Be Saved?*, and *The Danger of Counterfeits*.

New United Missions Leaflet

A recently published leaflet briefly explains the United Missions work of the Church of God (Seventh Day). It contains a chart which clearly illustrates how the United Missions is organized. Those who are not familiar with the United Missions work will find this leaflet informative.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from page 13)

for the *Doctrinal Beliefs* tract to be published in a native dialect in India. Elder G. L. Hnamte, general secretary of the Church of God (Seventh Day), Mizoram, has made the translation. Missions has assisted with the cost of publishing it for distribution.

The Church of God in Mizoram is located a great distance from the work which Elder Joseph had been directing in southern India. It is located near the border of Burma. Elder Hnamte reports there are 15 churches with a membership of more than 900 members in that region.

Other than the financial assistance for the publication of the *Doctrinal Beliefs* tract, this group of churches has not been receiving financial help. Earlier, Elder Hnamte had translated the *Church Manual*. It is being used as a guideline for the organization at the church in Mizoram.

RECORD ALBUM AVAILABLE

John and Katherine Kiesz, the Singing Evangelists, have produced another long-play (12 songs) record album, entitled *Amazing Grace*, which is a successor to their first recording named *Harvest Time*. A five-dollar donation will bring either album to your mailing address postpaid. Address: John Kiesz, 1508 North Ohio, Roswell, N. M. 88201.

Record Attendance

Sister Avus O'Banion holds a record in camp meeting attendance that is unequalled in the history of the church. She has attended a Church of God conference and camp meeting every year of her life. This includes all of the General Conference meetings. She attended the first meeting at the tender age of four months.

How many meetings has she attended? Well that might be telling her age but we are permitted to say it includes at least 70 meetings.

Customs and lifestyles have changed over the years. Most people who attend the meetings now expect comfortable living conditions. Many insist on either air-conditioned motels or dormitories, and they travel to the meetings in comfortable cars or by fast and efficient airline service.

Sister O'Banion remembers the early conference meetings when many came with covered wagons, and really camped out. It is unlikely, however, that the present-day good spirit of fellowship and worship that we enjoy is any better than that of the early meetings. People who love the Lord have always found a way of gathering together. May it ever be so.

YOUTH REPORT

(Continued from page 11)

available to him each month through AIM.

Since the AIM is sent to all FYCs, we will soon begin distributing it in bulk through the local FYCs. If your church does not have an organized FYC or if your FYC is not registered with the National office, please write to us today so you can be included in this program and so the young people in your area will receive AIM. The National FYC, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.

ADVERTISING THE CHURCH

(Continued from page 3)

get busy and mail out many, many more of these books.

Really, we have many more enlightening books and literature than telephone books. We are constantly printing literature which teaches the doctrines of the Bible and which advertises the church. We would like to print many thousands more pieces of such literature. The church is doing a good job of distributing this literature—and with favorable results—but there is so much more to be done.

Whether we realize it or not there are perhaps millions of people who have no knowledge of our work. Some of these people are looking for us and are eager to find a church that teaches the doctrines of the Bible as we do. We must develop a greater sense of urgency and act to get this information before the people.

There are many other people who are confused with so many doctrines being taught they don't know what to believe. They welcome a practical, truthful doctrine and are eager to receive the Church of God message.

Of course, these people are in a minority when we consider the tremendous population of the earth and even that of the United States. It is also obvious that many of the people we approach with the Gospel are ungrateful and would prefer to be left alone. This discourages many would-be missionaries, but it should not. The value of the good accomplished outweighs the frustrations and humiliation that one receives when he meets opposition.

It is imperative that the church reach out to more people. Literature distribution is a good method and it should involve every member. Do you have a supply of booklets, and are you distributing them to your friends and associates?

Church Highlights

ELDER WALKER BAPTIZES THREE IN ARKANSAS

July 7 was a happy occasion when three persons were baptized by Elder Wesley Walker. Brother and Sister John Schwabe are from Mona and Brother Ezekiel Samples is from Van Buren, Arkansas. We welcome them into the fellowship of the church.

NEW PASTORS

Elder Marvin Keim and family have recently moved from Delaplaine, Arkansas, to McAlester, Oklahoma, to assume the pastorate of the McAlester church.

Elder Bob Markee, formerly from Columbus, Ohio, has entered the full time ministry and has assumed the pastorate of the Detroit, Michigan church.

Elder Harold Carlson, formerly of Joplin, Missouri, is now pastor of the New Auburn, Wisconsin, church. Elder Ivan Burrell is the new pastor at Joplin.

DETROIT MEMBER PRAISED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Ainsley H. Edison, an octogenarian and a member of the Detroit church, was recently recognized by the City of Ferndale, Michigan, for the public service he has given to that community. The city commission unanimously passed a resolution commending him. One part reads: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the elected officials of the City of Ferndale, do hereby officially take note of the manner in which Ainsley H. Edison has helped better the way of life for so many of our local citizens, and do commend him for the various ways he has extended himself to others." Ferndale is a sub-

urb of Detroit with approximately 31,000 population. The Detroit church is in this suburb.

DEATH NOTICES

Joseph Seth Webster, 88, of Orange, California, passed away on August 4, 1975.

Erland Howard Lakin, of Woodland, Maine, passed away on August 8, 1975.

Carrie Edith Lippincott, 78, of Stanberry, Missouri, passed away on August 11, 1975.

Jacob (Jack) Hrenyk, 40, of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, passed away on June 2, 1975.

CARRIE EDITH LIPPINCOTT

Carrie Edith Lippincott was born February 5, 1897, at Keystone, Oklahoma and passed away August 11, 1975.

She was united in marriage to Clarence Lippincott on October 17, 1921. Brother Lippincott passed away in 1969.

Three children were born to this union: Lee Lippincott of Kansas City, Missouri; Marvin Lippincott of Oakland, New Jersey; and Margie Anderson of Slater, Missouri, all of whom survive. She is also survived by two brothers, four sisters, one uncle, ten grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

Sister Lippincott was employed at the Bible Advocate publishing plant for a number of years, her first employment beginning in 1919. She had part in the composition of both the original Bible Home Instructor and the later printing of the New Bible Home Instructor. She was also active in the organization of the Women's Organization on the national level.



New Ministerial Training Program Being Planned

The Executive Board has authorized the United Missions Board to implement a plan to move the church's ministerial training program from Stanberry, Missouri, to Denver, Colorado.

The project which the United Missions Board will endeavor to establish in Denver is described as a cluster or cooperative program. It will involve two phases of training.

One portion of the training program will be provided by Rockmont College. The other part of the program will be provided by a school operated by the Church of God and staffed by teachers who are ministers and/or members of the church.

The implementation of such a program is feasible in Denver. The church has an offer from Rockmont College which provides the basis for this arrangement. The provisions of Rockmont's offer are:

1. Students, past and present, of Midwest Bible College may apply for admission to Rockmont.
2. Work performed at Midwest will be accepted by Rockmont for credit toward a degree.
3. Rockmont will permit the church to use college facilities to hold classes for the purpose of teaching doctrines and classes distinctive of the church.
4. When the church can provide instructors to teach in its own portion of the program who qualify, Rockmont will give credit for the church's instruction toward the degrees they give. In the meantime, the church's

instructions may be offered without credit.

Rockmont College is a logical location and facility around which to initiate a cooperative program. Its offer is considered acceptable. Its background as an accredited, non-sectarian, liberal arts college seems ideal. While it is a liberal arts college, it places special emphasis on Bible study and Christian service which will help to complement the program of the church.

An important part of the church's program is to be its continuous contact with its students. It is projected that students enrolled in this program will receive counseling and instruction distinctive of the church throughout their entire training period.

The United Missions Board will meet in the latter part of October, 1975, to make plans for the implementation of this program. Presently, there are many details of the program which must be worked out before it is completely developed.

Because these details must yet be worked out, the United Missions Board has arranged for Midwest Bible College to operate through the 1975-76 school year. While it is in operation, it represents the church's official ministerial training program.

The Church of God (Seventh Day) will maintain and enhance a worker and ministerial training program.

The church's ministerial training program first began to come under serious study and discussion more than five years ago. Over that period the board and staff of Midwest Bible College, its students and

alumni have all had opportunity to participate in the evaluation of the church's training program.

This has resulted in a thorough examination of the church's existing program and exploration of alternatives to it. The decision of these Boards to move our training program has not been made hastily nor with any intent of withdrawing from the training field.

NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

The 1975-77 executive board consists of the following ministers: Robert Coulter, chairman, Ray Straub, vice chairman, Kenneth Knoll, Kenneth Lawson, Nathan Lawson, Max Morrow, Delvin O'Banion, Trinidad Padilla, Antonio Vega, Wesley Walker, O. T. Whitten, Victor Youngs. David Kauer was reappointed secretary-treasurer.

GETTING THE CHURCH INTO THE WORLD

(Continued from page 7)

here to shape the future development of our church we must seek to make the Church of God of the 70's like that of the apostles' days. We must seek to be the human channel through which God works to evangelize the world and assist believers in attaining Christian maturity.

This can be done... "With our Witness."
(Scriptures are quoted from: *New American Standard Bible.*)

Question: I have been reading about the new "Seekers" program sponsored by the Women's Association. How will this project be financed?

Answer: The initial research and formation of the "Seekers" program, an organization for children, ages 9-12, was funded by the United Missions Board.

At the recent Women's Association meeting held during General Conference at Fulton, Missouri, the membership voted to assume full financial responsibility for this children's program. It will be funded from several areas. Part of the finance will be from a reserve of present Women's Association funds. Local women's groups are being asked to sponsor a fund raising project this fall with the proceeds to be sent for the "Seekers" development. Several individuals have given donations to help get this special program on its way. Also a portion of the dues from each member of the Women's Association will go toward the "Seekers."

Once the handbooks and badges have been printed, the local churches will be responsible for the costs of operating the "Seekers" program within their local group.

Those wishing to send donations for the "Seekers," or their \$5 dues to join the Women's Association may send them to: Women's Association, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, Colorado 80201.

FAITH FOR OUR TIME

Speaker, Ray L. Straub

CALIFORNIA, Delano

KCHJ (1010 kHz)—7:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.

Glendale

KIEV (870 kHz)—12:30 p.m. Sun.

Sacramento

KRAK (1140 kHz)—8:45-9:00 p.m. Sun.

KRAK (1140 kHz)—9:30-9:45 p.m.

Mon.-Fri.

GEORGIA, Summerville

WGTA (950 kHz)—6:00 p.m. Sun.

Waycross

WACL (570 kHz)—10:00 a.m. Sun.

INDIANA, Boonville

WBNI (1540 kHz and 107.1 mHz)

7:45 a.m. Sun.

IOWA, Cedar Rapids

KTOF-fm (104.5 mHz)—1:00 p.m. Sab.

Des Moines

KWKY (1150 kHz)—12:15 p.m. Sun.

KANSAS, Salina

KSAL (1150 kHz)—8:45 a.m. Sun.

MICHIGAN, Bay City

WGER-fm (102.5 mHz)—5:30 a.m. Sun.

South Haven

WJOR (940 kHz)—9:45 a.m. Sun.

Traverse City

WCCW (1310 kHz)—8:50-8:55 a.m. Sun.

WCCW-fm (92.1 mHz)—8:50-8:55 a.m.

Sun.

Zeeland

WZND-fm (99.3 mHz)—12:45 p.m. Sab.

1:30 p.m. Sun.

12:55-1:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

MINNESOTA, Faribault

KDHL (920 kHz)—6:45 p.m. Sun.

NORTH DAKOTA, Jamestown

KSJB (600 kHz)—6:45 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

OHIO, Oberlin

WOBL (1570 kHz)—8:00 a.m. Sun.

OKLAHOMA, Atoka

KEOR (1110 kHz)—9:30 a.m. Sun.

El Reno

KELR (1460 kHz)—4:55-5:00 p.m.

Mon.-Fri.

Oklahoma City

KBYE (890 kHz)—12:30 p.m. Sab.

Shawnee

KGFF (1450 kHz)—11:55 a.m. Sab.

Wewoka

KWSH (1260 kHz)—11:55 a.m. Sun.

OREGON, Eugene

KPNW (1120 kHz)—7:30 a.m. Sun.

Salem

KSLM (1390 kHz)—9:30 a.m. Sun.

Springfield

KORE (1050 kHz)—11:05 a.m. Mon.-Fri.

KORE (1050 kHz)—12:15 p.m. Sun.

TENNESSEE, Chattanooga

WFLI (1070 kHz)—10:45 a.m. Sun.

Dayton

WDNT (1280 kHz)—10:15 a.m. Sun.

McMinnville

WBMC (960 kHz)—12:15 p.m. Sun.

WASHINGTON, Seattle

KBLE (1050 kHz)—9:45 a.m. Sun.

WISCONSIN, Chippewa Falls

WAXX (1150 kHz)—9:15 a.m. Sun.