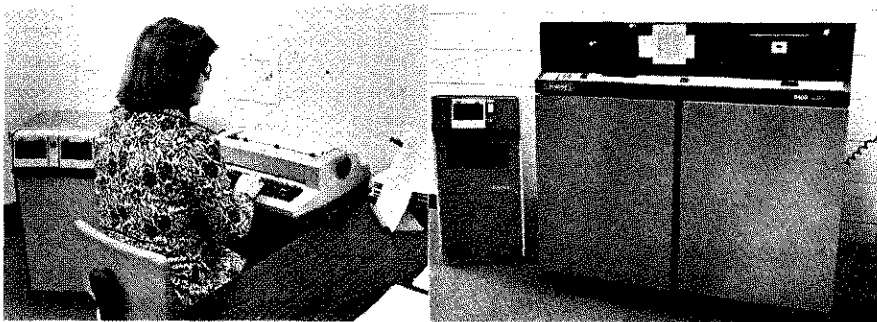


Phototypesetting Takes Over!



The Redactron editing typewriter and the Singer phototypesetter pictured above have brought considerable change to the Bible Advocate Press. The Redactron is used to record all manuscript on magnetic tape cassettes, and the phototypesetter reads the electronic recordings on the tapes and sets type by photo process.

This equipment has increased the selection of type styles and type sizes available to the B.A.P. printing operation. A font of type (a complete arrangement of 92 letters, figures and symbols in one style) for this system costs much less than for the Linotype, and the type can be set in 15 different sizes from a single font. The 29 fonts which have been purchased offer a very fine selection.

The investment for this equipment has already brought about pointed improvements in the typesetting operation. It holds promises for many more things in the future.

If the machines listed above, along with a headliner and photo paper processor had been purchased a few months earlier, the composite cost would have been over \$45,000. However, unusual events made the equipment available for \$28,500! The Lord has been good!

The Equipment Improvement Program depends on your help. The \$70,000 goal will finish paying for the equipment already purchased, and provide funds for automated bindery and packaging machines and other urgently needed items. By March 31, \$15,000 had been received. With God's blessing, and the generous help of concerned brethren, the goal will be reached during 1976.

Please send your contribution to:

BIBLE ADVOCATE PRESS, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, Colorado 80201

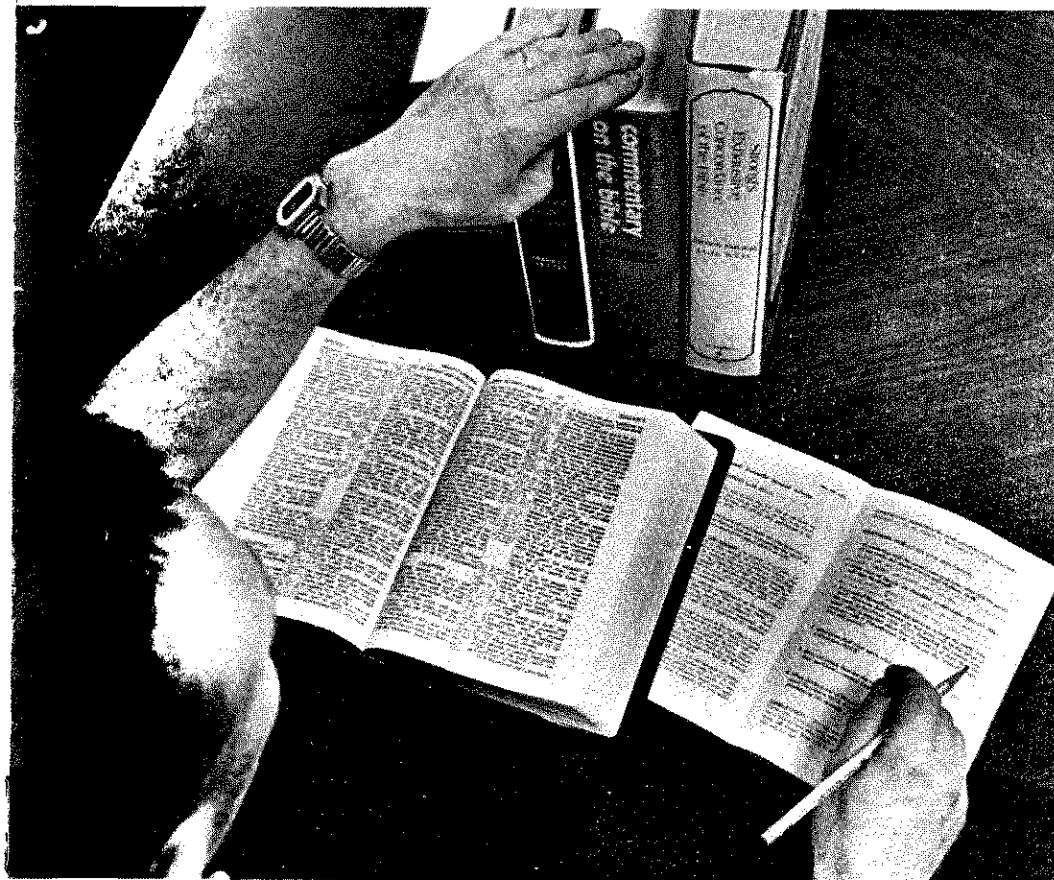
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APRIL-JUNE 1976

The Harvest Field

Messenger



Sabbath School lesson study is worthwhile and gives
a good understanding of the Scriptures.

GUATEMALAN REPORT

See center fold

The Gospel message reaches thousands of homes each month.

The BIBLE ADVOCATE is taken from mail boxes throughout the United States and in many distant countries.



The younger people receive guidance and training through FOOTPRINTS, their own magazine.



Publications is an agency of the United Missions.

The Harvest Field MESSENGER

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

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BEARING ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS

The apostle Paul, a man who was greatly burdened for the needs of others, made this remark, "... the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it" (I Corinthians 12:25, 26).

It is not hard to understand the fact that when we get sick or suffer an accident the whole body is affected. It may be harder to understand how the problems one church member suffers can hurt others, but that is the message Paul intended for he said further; "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular" (verse 27). He was comparing the human body to the body of the church.

The Church of God (7th Day) has demonstrated we have the "same care one for another" in a remarkable way. Although the brethren in Guatemala are many miles away, and almost totally unknown on a personal basis, the church has responded to their physical needs generously. Offerings have been contributed until a total of \$21,000 has been sent to alleviate their suffering as a result of the devastating earthquake they experienced. *(Continued on page 23)*

SUBSCRIPTIONS

U.S. and possessions and Canada (per year)	\$3.50
All other countries	4.00

Subscriptions are already paid for to supporting members of the Church of God (7th Day). One copy per family. Send subscriptions, changes of address and requests to receive the paper to Bible Advocate Press, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, Colorado 80201.

SPECIAL REPORT

MINISTERIAL TRAINING CENTER

Ray Straub, *Director*

The Church of God (Seventh Day) will experience a meaningful milestone this coming summer! The Ministerial Training Program will be moved from Stanberry, Missouri, to Denver, Colorado.

The change in location will introduce a new approach. Courses will be offered on the postgraduate level. Faculty trainees will be sponsored by the church to prepare them to teach on the higher level. The school will be known as the Ministerial Training Center (MTC).

The questions and answers which follow provide an introduction to the new Ministerial Training Center of the Church of God (Seventh Day).

Question: *Why are you seeking to train college graduates instead of high school graduates?*

Answer: The higher level of education throughout the church demands a better educated leadership. The training center will enroll more mature, better educated students. This will elevate the standard and quality of our ministry. There are only a few professional fields for which one can adequately train with four years of college work.

Q: *How many years of training will be added to college work?*

A: Eventually, three years, including internship.

Q: *What do you mean, "including internship"?*

A: A trainee will be eligible to apply for an internship after six quarters (two years) of postgraduate studies. If he qualifies, he will be assigned an internship his second summer at MTC. He will serve approximately six months in the field before returning for two additional quarters of classroom work, after which he will be eligible for assignment. This change will extend the ministerial training by only two years.

Q: *Why bring an intern back to the classroom?*

A: Field experience will reveal needs for further studies in certain areas. Actual field work, integrated with classroom study is a valuable procedure followed by many professions. In some cases returning interns may teach a class. Having students coming in from the field will give the Center constant contact with the field.

Q: *Do you think that ministerial trainees will stay with the program for that long?*

A: Yes. They will enter knowing how extensive their training will be. The demands for more education are well known. College classes may be taken near home and in areas where costs can be minimized. In some cases

the trainee who attends college near home will actually be gone a shorter term. The church has no alternative to requiring more training.

Q: *Do we need a more educated minister, or a more dedicated one?*

A: We need both. One is not the alternative to the other. Logically, those who concentrate longer in preparation will be more dedicated as well as better educated.

Q: *At what point are you interested in identifying a prospective minister?*

A: While he is in high school.

Q: *Why so early?*

A: Colleges and college courses are selected then. We would appreciate an opportunity to offer suggestions for majors and other courses which will offer the best foundation for further specialized ministerial training.

Q: *Will there be any advantage in attending a Bible college?*

A: Not particularly. We recommend a liberal arts course. Bible classes will be taught at MTC.

Q: *Will a degree be a requirement to enter MTC?*

A: Generally, yes. Consideration will be given to special cases. Applicants will receive attention on an individual basis.

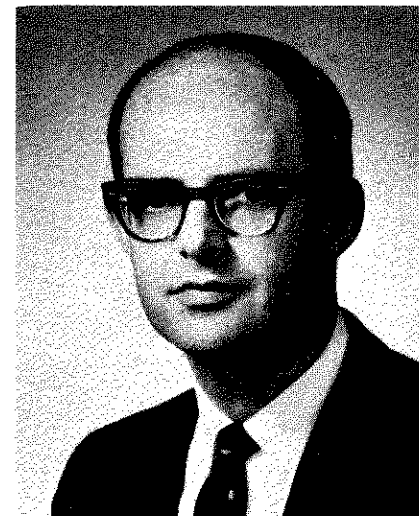
Q: *What will happen to Midwest Bible College in Stanberry?*

A: It is scheduled to terminate classroom instruction at the end of the present school term.

Q: *What about students now attending there? They hardly anticipated the extension of their ministerial training.*

A: Their needs and concerns will be respected. The new training center will keep faith and make appropriate adjustments.

Q: *What will happen to the build-*



Ray L. Straub

Elder Ray Straub is director of the Ministerial Training Center, scheduled to open in Denver, Colorado, in September, 1976. His duties will involve administration of the Center, recruiting, fund-raising, and promotion. He will teach Bible courses and church polity.

Elder Straub has 22 years' experience as a pastor in Fresno, Los Angeles, Sacramento, and Lodi, California; and in Marion, Oregon. He has served as a district overseer 10 years and five years as a radiobroadcaster.

ings now housing Midwest Bible College?

A: A committee, appointed by the Executive Board, will be visiting Stanberry to study this matter and offer recommendations. The local church will be consulted. Their feelings and suggestions will help to offer a sense of direction.

Q: *Is it possible that the dormitories can be retained to be used by students attending nearby schools?*

A: Such possibilities have not been ruled out.

Q: *What will happen to the equipment now at Stanberry?*

A: It will be transferred to Denver.

Q: *What facilities are available in Denver?*



Jerry Griffin

Elder Jerry Griffin will transfer to Denver this summer to join the staff of the Ministerial Training Center. He will attend school as a faculty-trainee in addition to his teaching duties at the Center.

A graduate of Midwest Bible College, Pastor Griffin served his internship at Sacramento, California, where he remained as pastor for three additional years.

A: The General Conference office building was designed for two floors of office space. The lower floor has not been finished. It will now be completed to offer adequate space for offices and classrooms to house MTC in its inception. Possibilities for larger facilities as the Center grows are already being discussed.

Q: *Won't the use of the lower floor of an office building be a step backward?*

A: By no means. The facilities in a modern building will be attractively finished and decorated. They will be comfortable, well-equipped and conducive to study.

Q: *How soon will you have a student body?*

A: That's difficult to say. It depends upon success in recruiting. We do not anticipate a sizeable student body for

about two years. This will allow time to train a faculty.

Q: *If several come, can you train them?*

A: Let them come! We accept the challenge to offer adequate training!

Q: *How will you do it?*

A: We will teach Bible-related subjects as well as those dealing with church polity and pastoral care. We will seek to work with other institutions of higher learning for special classes in non-doctrinal subjects such as Bible languages, history, philosophy, etc.

Q: *How will you prepare to teach on a postgraduate level?*

A: Elders Calvin Burrell and Jerry Griffin, both college graduates, will be entering post-graduate studies this fall. Both are talented student-educators and will be ready to offer excellent training on a postgraduate level soon. The sponsorship of the faculty-trainees will be an on-going program, offered to interested potential faculty members until the highest, most specialized, and dedicated training will be offered at MTC. It's designed to become a "beehive" of scholarly, dedicated and effective work for the glory of God, His church, and eternal truth.

Q: *Will you train only ministers?*

A: We will train primarily ministers. Those aspiring to other areas of church work will also be accepted, such as writers, administrators, teachers. MTC will provide a "crash course" in specialized church-related training, such as Bible doctrines and church polity. These students will receive their professional training at other institutions before entering MTC.

Q: *May lay members who do not aspire to professional church work attend the Center?*

A: Classes will be open to non-trainees who wish to audit. This suggests they may attend class, but not for credit. They would not be tested nor graded but may otherwise participate in class as any other student does.

Q: *What about those who wish to be pastors but who have neither time nor resources for the full ministerial training program?*

A: The License and Credentials Committee is proposing that a provisional ministerial license be offered which will provide documentation to men whose training is limited but whose services are acceptable under restricted circumstances. Should this proposal be adopted, aspiring pastors with limited means may take a concentrated one-year course which will introduce them to ministerial techniques, and refine their knowledge of Bible doctrines and church polity.

Q: *Have you plans to provide additional training for ministers already in the field?*

A: Yes. Summer classes will be offered to those interested in taking refresher courses.

Q: *How long will these summer classes run?*

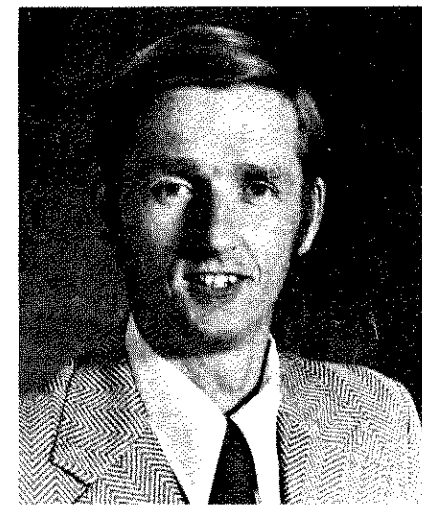
A: About four weeks. We may expand them later.

Q: *Who will finance the cost of the summer courses for ministers?*

A: Logically, the districts. It will be to their advantage. With good participation, costs can be held to a minimum.

Q: *What kind of classes will you make available for summer studies?*

A: A brief introduction to Bible languages so that correct use can be made of reference works like concordances, lexicons, etc.; courses in correct Biblical interpretation; parliamentary law; church polity; independent studies which will allow



Calvin A. Burrell

Elder Calvin Burrell will pastor a church while attending postgraduate school, both on a part-time basis. He is scheduled to join the faculty of the Ministerial Training Center as soon as appropriate studies have been completed.

Following graduation at Oklahoma's Northwestern State Teacher's College, Elder Burrell began his professional work for the Lord at Spring Vale Academy. He remained there six years before accepting assignment to pastor the Church of God (Seventh Day) in Fort Smith, Arkansas. After three years he returned to Spring Vale Academy as Principal, then Director, where he is completing the third year of his present tenure — nine years in all at the Academy.

for personal research under supervision and guidance of a faculty member; seminars conducted by other leaders whose offices are in the headquarters building, etc.

Q: *How soon will you begin to offer the summer courses?*

A: We hope to have some ready by Summer, 1977.

Q: *What arrangements is MTC making to house and feed its students?*

A: None. The more mature student will be expected to arrange his own living needs.

Q: *What gives you reason to think*
(Continued on page 22)



Calvin Burrell,
Director

Fourteen baptisms since January 12 have highlighted a successful second semester at the Academy this year. Both students and staff have often remarked about the pleasant experiences we have enjoyed this semester, and the spiritual emphasis has led the way. Somebody has been praying!

In addition to the 14 conversions in January/February, seven other students became Christians either in November/December or while at home over mid-winter break. We praise God for the move of His convicting and renewing spirit among our campus family.

+ + +

Our enrollment stands at 75 mid-way through the second semester.

+ + +

The singing group, *S.V.A. Sound*, is again making a week-long tour of churches through the north central and mid-western states. The dates are April 17-24, and the states to be covered are Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri.

The program is comprised mostly of the Otis Skillings cantata "Celebration of Hope," as presented by the *Sound* under the co-direction of Paul Heavilin and Vernon Patchen. If this *Messenger* reaches you before April 17, please contact your nearest local congregation in the above listed states for the program date and time.

+ + +

We hope everyone is receiving our

school newspaper, *The Torch*. It is professionally printed and full of pictures and articles of S.V.A. happenings.

+ + +

Basketball season has been completed for another year. The boys varsity team finished with a 7-5 record against area high schools of similar size (most of them Christian schools). The boys junior varsity and girls teams also finished with respectable records. We have an improved schedule already set up for next year.

+ + +

Looking ahead, the goal for the 1976-77 student body is to maintain 80 students throughout the year. Some gentle recruitment will surely identify this many applicants, but consistent student-aid offerings by interested persons back home will be necessary to provide financial backing for them all.

And the staff? This is one of those unusual years when the supply appears to exceed the demand in most areas of assignment. The board already has commitment to (and from) a music/Bible teacher, science teacher, a girls' dean and a communication/Bible teacher. Among other interested folk whom the board must now review are potential boys' deans, mathematics teachers, accountants, and VISTOC workers.

+ + +

Educational experiences at Spring Vale are not all confined to the classroom. Several worthwhile trips

are a part of the last few weeks of school, when the arrival of spring makes outdoor activity and travel feasible.

The *S.V.A. Sound* will travel 3000 miles through ten states in mid-April. The 19 seniors will take their class trip to Washington, D.C., from April 30-May 4 in this bi-centennial year. Honors Club members will have a skip-day to explore Michigan's attractions in mid-May, and the entire stu-

dent body is scheduled for a plant tour of Fischer Body in Lansing in May as part of our school picnic.

+ + +

Graduation weekend at the Academy is scheduled for May 22-23. Baccalaureate service will be on Sabbath morning at 11, and the commencement exercises are on Sunday morning at 10. The church public is invited.



Jim Fischer, Director

During the months of March or April (depending upon the U.S. Postal Service), FYC members will begin to receive a new, monthly publication from the Youth Agency. This new publication will be a newsletter called "Challenger," and will replace "Aim." For the past year, "Aim" has tried to serve as both a youth magazine and a newsletter, but the lack of original manuscript and sufficient funds for "Aim" prompted the Youth Agency to publish just a newsletter. If funds and manuscript become available, it is possible that an inspirational magazine may be produced again.

The basic purpose of "Challenger" will be to serve the local FYC groups. Any local FYC group that is registered with the Youth Agency can use "Challenger" for announcements (youth camps, youth retreats, district conferences, etc.) or news items (projects, awards received by local members, graduation of local members, etc.) which it wants to share with other FYC groups. The Youth Agency

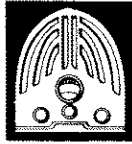
also encourages local groups to include pictures with their news items.

"Challenger" will be sent free of charge to all registered FYC members. At this printing, over 40 FYC groups have registered with the Youth Agency. If they haven't already done so, please encourage the young people in your church to register, so they can receive "Challenger," too.

It is going to cost the Youth agency \$8.60 per FYC member to print "Challenger." The United Missions Board has been generous in providing funds for this project, but you can also help the Youth Agency by giving a generous offering on the June 19 Youth Emphasis Sabbath.

URGENT PRAYER REQUEST

Elder Ray Moldenhauer is scheduled to undergo open-heart surgery for the second time on April 14. This is a serious operation, but with God's blessing it can be entirely successful. Please pray for him.



RADIO OUTREACH

Ray L. Straub, *Director*
Trinidad Padilla, *Speaker*

These are trying times. These are days of danger and uncertainty. The Bible says: "This know also, that in the last days perilous [dangerous] times shall come" (II Timothy 3:1). We live in a world of strife and confusion, and many people can no longer cope with the problems they encounter.

We are faced with these realities: **WARS, RIOTS, REVOLUTION, ANARCHY, OVERTHROW OF GOVERNMENTS, INCREASE IN MURDERS AND CRIME, ALCOHOLISM, DIVORCES AND BROKEN HOMES — RESULTING IN JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.** We have **DISHONESTY IN BUSINESS, ADDICTION OF NARCOTICS AND DOPE, JAILS, HOSPITALS AND MENTAL INSTITUTIONS ARE OVERFLOWING.** There are **DRASTIC CHANGES IN THE WEATHER . . . STORMS, FLOODS, DROUGHTS, HURRICANES, EARTHQUAKES AND TITIAL WAVES,** etc.

What do all these things mean? Will the world continue forever as it is today? Will it get worse? What is to happen in the immediate future? What will happen to this world? Is God still in control? **YOU NEED TO KNOW!**

If you are concerned and interested in knowing more, we urge you to continue to listen and support **FAITH FOR OUR TIME.** You will be amazed with the Bible knowledge you will receive.

Listen to what the Bible has to say about **YOU** and **ME:** "For we are

labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building" (I Corinthians 3:9).

A billion souls have yet to learn that Christ died for their sins. Sixty-five percent of the people of the world have never heard what happened at Calvary.

People are dying at the rate of 100,000 a day. The heathen world is increasing at the rate of 400 million each generation.

Therefore: "Necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel" (I Corinthians 9:16). "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14).

As co-workers in the service of Christ, we are enjoined to do works befitting a Christian. One of the greatest Christian characteristics we can manifest before the world as witnesses of Christ is **GIVING.** We give of our time, talents and finances to see souls saved for a better life.

By your prayers and support of **FAITH FOR OUR TIME** you demonstrate your desire to use these means to spread the Gospel.

Every week we are reaching uncounted numbers of people through our radio broadcasts. Many listeners request the location of the nearest church to them. This is truly encouraging, and the church is growing throughout our districts each year.

The true Gospel is now being heard over almost the entire nation. This is proven by correspondence received at

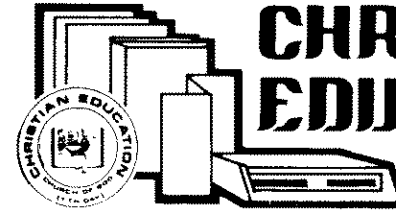
the main office. Pray much for the **SPEAKER** and for these broadcasts that they will reach homes **YOU** would never enter otherwise.

I would like to encourage every church and district to purchase radio time on a daily basis. This is the effective one way of reaching people. We now have a very good selection of

daily 15-minute broadcasts. It might cost you a little more, but the results will be worth it.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom . . ." (Luke 6:38).

—Trinidad Padilla



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Harvey Fischer, *Director*

For the past several months this agency has been involved in conducting a number of pilot programs in **YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES.** The purpose of this program is to coordinate activities of the young adults of the church and to organize a program that will place emphasis on outreach.

Since the last general conference business sessions in which the young people decided it would be in the best interests of the youth work to establish a new age standard it appeared that in some of our larger churches the young adult who was squeezed out of the youth program had no place to belong. It is in these churches that pastors became involved with the young adults of the church and put together viable programs to meet this need.

The Christian Education Agency provided materials from Gospel Light Publications entitled, "Peter's Principles." This material was used as a spring board for discussions on the book of Peter. It has not been nor should it be the function of the young adults in a local church to organize themselves into a group that would be

similar to that of the FYC, but rather to develop a common interest in getting together to discuss God's Word and to share God's goodness. It is in such informal settings that one is encouraged to bring visitors who will soon feel a part of the group.

The effects of an active young adult group cannot be over-emphasized. Since this is where the bulk of our population presently is it appears advantageous that we provide functions in our church to reach the age group.

Young adults through their restlessness carry with them a great deal of enthusiasm which must be channeled into church work. The church needs these new ideas and energy. If programs can be provided for its direction we will all be the better off for it.

If your church is interested in organizing a young adult program we would like to encourage you to get in contact with the Christian Education Agency as we will be happy to work with you and to share ideas with you that have proven productive in several of our churches in our pilot program.



Robert Coulter, *Director*

Missions Abroad

Did you notice the new name of this agency? Foreign Missions has become Missions Abroad. The name Missions Abroad is not original with us. It has been used for some time by Elder Roy Marrs of the Church of God Sabbatharian of Hawthorne, California, as the designation of its missions program. Prior to that, the late Elder Charles Adams used the name.

After Elder Adams' death, Missions Abroad was transferred to Elder Marrs and the Hawthorne Church. In the past month, it has been transferred to the United Missions of the Church of God (Seventh Day) to become the official title of the Missions Agency.

The transfer of Missions Abroad to our United Missions program means a great deal more than the mere adoption of a new name. For the past 18 months discussions between Elder Marrs and the General Conference were leading to the unification of our missions program with Missions Abroad.

We were hopeful that Elder Marrs would be able to assume the directorship of this combined work. He was working in that direction in concert with us. However, in the past several weeks Elder Marrs felt the need to introduce a new approach to our plan.

He felt he was physically unable to continue to direct a missions program. Therefore, he suggested Missions Abroad be united with our missions program and that it be directed by someone working at the Conference offices. This location has proven ideal for servicing a viable missions program.

Elder Marrs made this proposal in

time for the United Missions and Executive Boards to review and act upon it. In their meeting each responded favorably to Brother Marrs' offer. The responsibility for the program of Missions Abroad was adopted along with its name. Foreign Missions has become Missions Abroad.

The adoption of the work carried by Missions Abroad adds new dimensions to our own missionary endeavor in Nigeria, India and the Philippines. These are the principal areas served by Missions Abroad. It is our hope to unite our efforts in each of these places.

Nicaragua, Central America

The Church of God in Nicaragua is alive and well amid much adversity. Just over two years ago, like Guatemala of recent times, Managua, capital city of Nicaragua, was hit with a devastating earthquake. It destroyed our only church building and the



The Church of God in Managua, Nicaragua, with its Sabbath congregation.

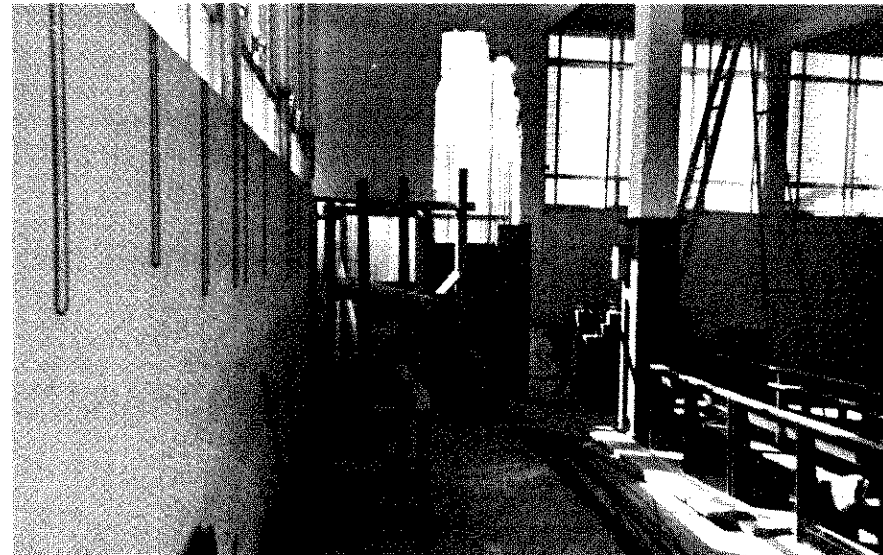
Exclusive!

AN UPDATED REPORT ON THE GUATEMALAN EARTHQUAKE

The devastating earthquakes which rocked Guatemala on February 4 and 6 caused great damage and loss of life. Nationally, more than one million people were left homeless, twenty five thousand were killed and eighty thousand were injured. Of these, 12 members of the Church of God were killed and four were injured. A total of 175 members lost their homes.

We thank God for His providential care over His people. There are nearly 1900 members of the church residing in Guatemala.

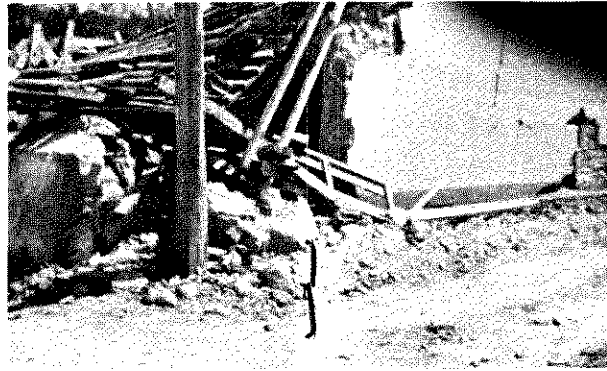
Thirteen of our church buildings were destroyed completely. Five buildings were damaged, including the large headquarters church in Guatemala City. Services had to be suspended in the headquarters church from the time of the earthquake until April 3, while repairs were being made.



Workmen are repairing the damage sustained to the wall of the headquarters church.



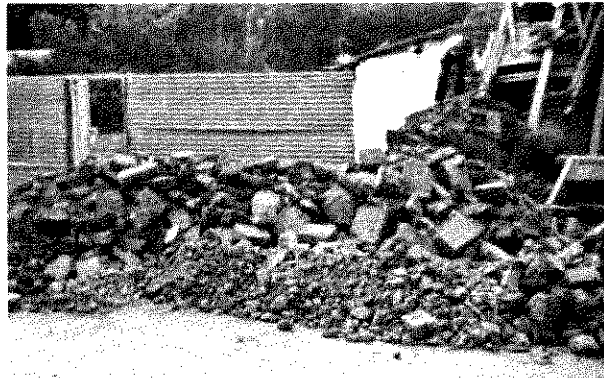
The remains of the church at Zaragoza, one of 13 churches which were completely destroyed.



The roof collapsed on the building at San Martin.



Sister Faustina de Osorio died in one of these houses.



The ruins of the Chimaltanango Church, high in the mountains west of Guatemala City. It was here that the earthquake was extremely destructive.



This sister's husband died in this fallen house. He was one of 12 members of the church who died in the earthquake.



The adobe home of the Arreagas of Guatemala City could not withstand the earthquake.



The remains of the church at Itzapa.



This sister was miraculously rescued from under the rubble of her fallen house.



The tent city which houses the inhabitants of San Martin, a city which was badly destroyed.

The Church Rebuilds!

Your generous response to our request for earthquake relief funds has been tremendous. The more than \$21,000 given for this purpose has been a great help to the church in Guatemala. The national committee administering these funds has called at every church location. It has in many instances been able to make an on-the-spot gift of funds to help rebuild a home or church.

The brethren in Guatemala send their sincerest thanks to you, their North American brothers and sisters, for the help you have given to them.

Your generosity has made it possible for the church to rebuild much faster than it would have been able to otherwise. Your gifts are serving to help families rebuild their homes. Buildings will be restored for worship services on sites like those pictured below. Your help to the brethren in Guatemala will not soon be forgotten.



The ruins of the church at Boca del Monte (left) and of the church at San Martin.

Missions' Assignment

Missions Abroad is your United Missions Agency, working with people in other lands. It is pleased to have been able to assist in coordinating the receipt and distribution of your help to our brethren in Guatemala.

The entire program of Missions Abroad reaches people in more than ten countries around the world. Your regular support of this program is needed. Send your offerings to:

MISSIONS ABROAD

Box 2370

Denver, Colorado



This church is located in a suburb of Managua known as "Open 3." It is one of the congregations served by Elder Cho.



A workers' conference held in December 24-26, in El Salvador, Central America. This group of brethren is comprised of ministers and lay leaders of local churches. This workers' seminar was held in San Salvador headquarters for the church in El Salvador.

homes of almost all the members.

Just as the church rallied behind the brethren in Guatemala, we received and sent several thousand dollars to the church in Managua. These funds were used to help rebuild homes and a new church building in Managua.

Missions has been assisting the Central American Conference with the support of a minister in Managua for several years. Elder Victor Nicolas

Cho Laz is presently leading out in the work in Nicaragua. The church in Managua has a membership of 37 with an average weekly attendance of 50, counting only the adults.

Elder Cho writes, "At the present time, I have six families with whom I am studying. None of these have been to our services yet but they are the most interested of all my contacts. Frequent visits to some of these are

Guatemala Earthquake Relief

In February, Missions made an appeal for funds for the earthquake victims of the Church of God in Guatemala. We learned that ten members had been killed and more than 100 church families were left homeless by this disaster. One church building was reported to be destroyed.

To date, the generosity of all of you has been great. We have received and sent \$21,000 to the Church of God in Guatemala. In addition to this amount, the Church of God in Mexico sent over \$4,000 to help in the reconstruction of the homes and church damaged by the earthquake.

We have learned that these funds are being administered by a special committee appointed by the Central American Conference Board. The committee has promised to provide us with a report and some photos in the near future. For present, the brethren of Guatemala send their sincerest expression of thanks and gratitude to all who have been so generous in their giving. Thank you!

difficult because of the high costs of transportation and the fact that my membership is spread over a large area. I concentrate my attention on those who show the most interest. I do not have time to work with all the contacts made available to me.

I have many plans for the church here, but the church is very poor. None of our members have very good jobs. Their occupations vary from low paying labor work to selling goods in the market places. That is why the

church's income is very low and it is difficult to do everything that needs to be done in our church program. As a country, Nicaragua has much poverty, sickness and unemployment."

Elder Cho has two lay workers who assist him in Managua and the surrounding area. Between these three brothers, they hold services in five different locations where congregations have been established. One of these congregations is over 45 miles from Managua.

WNA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Sandra Lawson, President

ATTENTION SEEKERS!

For some time we have been announcing that the SEEKERS program was being planned for children, ages 9-12. We are thrilled to announce the planning stage of this project is over!

SEEKERS is now a program ready for you to implement on a local level. The Leadership Guide has been printed, the SEEKERS MATERIAL IS READY.

We encourage you to use it, knowing the program will greatly benefit your church, your children, and the children in your community. Soon you will receive promotion material that will help you understand the details of the program and how you can best put it to use.

It is not necessary for you to have a large number of children in this age bracket (9-12) to make good use of this plan. A small number can go to work. We also want to emphasize that the SEEKERS plan can be effectively used with children in the community who do not attend our church, but

whom you can involve in it. It will, therefore, be a wonderful opportunity for an outreach project for your group.



Sandra Lawson and Hope Dais working on Seekers material.

We also encourage you to begin your SEEKERS program soon so it will be available to younger children when they reach the SEEKERS age.

Without reservation we state our enthusiasm over the SEEKERS material. When you have it and can put it to use we know you will share in our excitement! So go to work SEEKERS! HAPPY SEEKING!

Highlights of the Churches



ELDER DAVID KAUER, NEW SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

On Sunday, April 4, Elders Robert Coulter and David Kauer met with the Southeastern district board. The meeting was primarily to plan the work for the 1976-77 fiscal year.

It also initiated a change in district leadership, when Elder Kauer assumed his duties as Executive Board representative. Elder Kauer was appointed in March by the Executive Board to be the representative to the Southeastern district, a position which Elder Coulter has held for some years.

Elders Dale Lawson of Fort Payne, Alabama, and Sam Wade of Dayton, Tennessee, are the two full time ministers working in the district. Elder W. W. McMicken of Pierson, Florida, although retired, makes visits as he is able. The district is blessed with some very fine active lay leaders who help keep the work going.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THREE RIVERS CHURCH

Extensive improvements and remodeling have been completed at the Three Rivers, Texas, church. They have added two classrooms and rest rooms and have refurbished the interior of the chapel by paneling the walls and putting down a new carpet. Members have worked hard by having bake sales, garage sales and receiving donations for this expense. They are rightfully proud of their accomplishments. Elder L. L. Christenson is their pastor.

RECORD ALBUMS GIVEN FOR ATTENDANCE EFFORTS

At a recent revival in Roswell, New Mexico, where Elder John Kiesz is the pastor, *Amazing Grace* record albums were given to those who brought five or more people to the meetings. This gesture was helpful in increasing the attendance. Elder Harris Kinzler was the featured speaker.

TULSA CHURCH HOSTS FIFTH SABBATH MEETING

Inter-church meetings continue to be popular in northeast Oklahoma. The Tulsa church hosted the meeting for January 31, at which time the church was full for the afternoon service. Elder Wesley Walker, the district overseer, was also present for the occasion. A fine spirit of fellowship prevailed.

**SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT
CAMP MEETING
Dover, Oklahoma
July 18-24**

SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS

West Coast District

Oregon — Suttle Lake —
June 13-20
California — Kennolyn Camp,
Soquel — June 20-27

Southwestern District

Oklahoma — Lake Texoma —
July 18-25

Central District

Colorado — Woodbine Ranch,
Sedalia — June 13-19

Northeastern District

North Carolina, State Park,
Raleigh — June 20-25

DEATH NOTICES

Hallie Umbarger Baugh, 73, of Bland, Virginia (later Raleigh, North Carolina), passed away February 29, 1976.

Edmond E. Roche, 66, of Freeland, Michigan, passed away February 23, 1976.

Earl Pyle, 83, of Kirksville, Missouri, passed away March 3, 1976.

Roy C. Childs, 89, of Scranton, Iowa, passed away February 27, 1976.

Rose Hansen, 91, of Armour, South Dakota, passed away December 29, 1975.

Southeastern District Conference

June 30 — July 3



Covenant College

Lookout Mountain, Tennessee

A Bible Conference for every age group. Come and enjoy this Bible meeting on Lookout Mountain, only seven miles from Chattanooga.

RATES

Rooms and Meals: Adults — \$10.00, plus tax; Children 5-12 — \$8.00, plus tax; Children under 5 — free.

Individual Rates: Room: \$5.00; Meals, Breakfast — \$1.50; Lunch — \$2.00; Dinner — \$2.50.

Reservations may be made by writing to: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Pell, Route 1, Mentone, Alabama 39584.

Actions of Interest to You

by Robert Coulter

Every year in late winter or early spring, the work and programs of the Church of God (Seventh Day) receive a good scrutiny. It is at this time our two national boards meet to fulfill their respective assignment.

The United Missions Board usually meets first. Its assignment is to direct the work of our eight United Missions Agencies. Following that, the Executive Board meets to plan and adopt the total program of the Conference. The Executive Board has the broadest assignment. It functions on behalf of the Conference except when the General Conference is in session biennially.

In years past, these boards spent a great deal of their time in reviewing and evaluating the church's program. Any planning session still requires a degree of review. But happily, both of these boards have adapted to their assignments well enough to devote the greatest portion of their meetings to the development of plans and programs to assist every member and congregation of the church in their Gospel witness.

The United Missions Board, largely composed of lay businessmen has been performing an outstanding job in directing United Missions. In the three years this board has been functioning, the budget for United Missions has doubled. The output and effectiveness of the agency programs are reflected in this increased funding.

Perhaps the most significant decision resulting from the meetings of the United Missions and Executive Boards was the one relating to our ministerial training school. The United Missions Board developed the plan and recommended it to the Executive Board for

adoption. It was adopted unanimously by the Executive Board.

Basically the plan adopted by the boards calls for a Ministerial Training Center to be established in Denver. It will open this fall and will offer ministerial instruction on a postgraduate level. The Center will be housed in the office building of the General Conference until more space is needed. It will involve a two-faceted program. One, the Center will offer ministerial training.

Secondly, the staff of the Ministerial Training Center will be sponsored by the church for more advanced training. In this manner, we hope to provide an active training program which will constantly be improving its level of instruction. (For complete details on this program, be sure to read the special report contained in the front of this magazine.)

The United Missions and Executive Boards have been studying the church's ministerial and staff needs intensely for many months. To some degree this study has spanned more than five years. The personnel needs of the church have been easy to identify. The problem of recruiting and training our personnel was much more complex. It involved many questions regarding staff, curriculum, location of the school and the level of instruction.

All of these questions seemed to have multiple answers which were all examined. During the period of study and development of the adopted program, there was considerable speculation about the nature of the program which was to be implemented. In some cases, this may have caused misinformation or partial information to be offered about the train-



The executive board (left to right): Nathan Lawson, Kenneth Lawson, Ray Straub, Trinidad Padilla, Victor Youngs, David Kauer, secretary, Robert Coulter, chairman, Wesley Walker, O. T. Whitten, Max Morrow, Delvin O'Banion, Kenneth Knoll. Antonio Vega, not present.

ing program. That is past. Now, an excellent program has been developed and adopted. It deserves every member's support.

From time to time the United Missions Board has been approached with the suggestion that the church should have a T.V. program. To date, no serious study has been made of this kind of a ministry. Of course, we have our radiobroadcast in *Faith For Our Time*. However, there are several who raise the perennial question, "Why not T.V.?"

The United Missions Board has taken steps to make a study of the use of this media in our outreach program. Once the study has been made, a realistic decision can be made of our potential for developing a television ministry.

The United Missions Board made one decision affecting this magazine. Beginning with this issue the *Messenger* will be printed quarterly. You will notice this issue is for April — June. The next issue of the *Messenger* will be the July — September issue. It will be a special issue of interest to every member.

The Executive Board adopted several proposals of general interest.

In addition to adopting the plan for establishing the Ministerial Training Center in Denver, it decided to close Midwest Bible College in Stanberry, Missouri. This school has operated under the auspices of the Church of God since the early 50's. It has generally conducted the training program for church personnel. It will close at the end of this spring term.

The board implemented the recommendation of the General Conference in relation to the voting record of its membership. A voting record was maintained throughout its recent meeting. It may be made available to any member of the Church of God who requests it in writing.

The Executive Board authorized the completion of the lower floor of the General Conference office building. This is a garden level basement. It will house the Ministerial Training Center and overflow from the ground floor offices of the Conference and Bible Advocate Press. It also ordered a sign to be erected along Interstate 25 identifying the building as the general offices of the Church of God (Seventh Day).

Several appointments were made by the Board. These include district

overseers and representatives for two districts as follows:

Central District—

Delvin O'Banion, overseer

Northeastern District—

Melvin Sweet, overseer

Southeastern District—

David Kauer, representative

Southwestern District—

Wesley Walker, overseer

West Coast District—

Kenneth Lawson, overseer

Canadian Field—

Nathan Lawson, representative

The Executive Board has approved a plan which, once it is fully implemented, will assist local churches with their building programs. The object of this plan is to make some of the Conference reserve funds available on a short term basis to local churches. It will involve a program for receiving subscriptions from the local membership toward their own building projects. Thus, the Conference will help congregations to accelerate their fund-raising campaigns.

Both the United Missions and Executive Boards gratefully acknowledge the submission of Missions Abroad and its assignments to the General Conference. Elder Roy Marrs, director of Missions Abroad feels that his health will not permit him to continue to direct this missions program. He has, along with his associates, assigned Missions Abroad to the Conference. It is being fully integrated into our own missionary program which will be known from now on as Missions Abroad.

Due to the recent earthquake in Guatemala, Elder Antonio Vega was unable to make the necessary arrangements in time to attend the meeting of the Executive Board. Brother Vega was elected to the membership of the Board in July, 1975. He plans to attend the meeting of the International Ministerial Council in October.

The Executive and United Missions Boards each took action to express their appreciation to the Board and Staff of Midwest Bible College. The many contributions and sacrifices made by these outstanding brethren have greatly aided in the growth and development of the Church of God. These boards express their gratitude to all of those who have served Midwest and the Church so faithfully through the years. May God bless you.

CALENDAR

Faithful Youth Challengers Emphasis
Offering, June 19, 1976.

North American Regional Ministerial Council, October 5, 1976, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Glorieta Baptist Assembly, Glorieta, New Mexico.

International Ministerial Council, October 5-9, 1976, Glorieta Baptist Assembly, Glorieta, New Mexico.

1977 General Conference Meeting, July 11-16, 1977, Bethany Nazarene College, Bethany, Oklahoma.

Check the Youth Camp roster for a youth camp for the youth of your area.

Northeastern District Bible Conference

August 9 - 14, 1976 — Camp St. Marys, St. Marys, Ohio

For rates and reservations write:

Elder Melvin Sweet, P. O. Box 20236, Ferndale, Michigan 48220.

Camp Meeting in Canada!

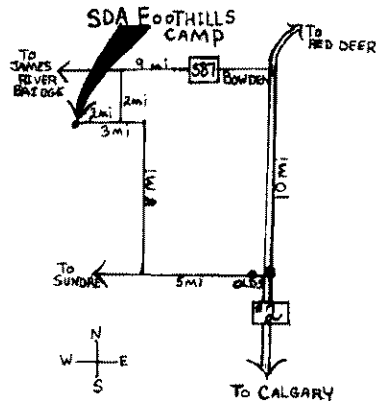
July 26-31

SDA Camp Ground, Bowden, Alberta

Enjoy an old-fashioned Canadian Camp Meeting in a comfortable facility: Special Speakers — Workshops — Bible Lectures and Studies — Youth Activities — Children's Program — Recreation Time — Good Food — Fellowship.

DIRECTIONS

Take the 587 highway west of Bowden for approximately 10 miles; turn left and go south for 2 miles; turn right and go west for 2 miles. Follow the signs.



ACCOMMODATION RATES

Rooms at Lodge: \$5.00 for one or two people; 50 cents for each additional person per room.

Rooms With Bath at Lodge: \$8.00 for one or two people.

Trailers, campers and tents: \$1.50 per night with no hookup.

Meals are \$5.95 per day per person; children under 6, \$3.75 per child.

A \$5.00 deposit is required with each reservation.

For reservations please write

Elder Paul Chalus, 18 Varslea Pl. N.W., Calgary, Alberta T3A 0C9, Canada

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- Serve as librarian?
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- Relate to and counsel young people?

Vistoc

If so, we will provide your travel expense, room and board, plus \$30 monthly when you volunteer to serve your church at Spring Vale Academy. If you're interested, write us at:

SPRING VALE ACADEMY
Route 5
Owosso, Mich. 48867

or

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P. O. Box 2370
Denver, Colo. 80201

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Development Committee, Church of God (7th Day)
P. O. Box 2370
Denver, Colorado, 80201

Dear Sirs:

Please send me information on how I can invest in CHURCH OF GOD BONDS.

Name

Address

SPECIAL REPORT

(Continued from page 7)

this new approach to training ministers will be successful?

A: Committed young men will respond when the urgent leadership needs of the church are made known. They will be willing to receive whatever preparation is needed. Active efforts will be put forth to make needs known and to recruit prospective ministers. Also, when the membership realizes it is as important to train ministers as it is to maintain them, the financial support will come. God's people always respond in times of crisis, and we are definitely in a leadership crisis now!

Q: *What can I do to help?*

A: Send us names of prospective ministerial trainees. Encourage young

people to enter church work professionally — particularly young men who have potential ministerial skills and who appear suited to this kind of work. Secondly, support the Ministerial Training Center financially on a REGULAR basis. Determine how much you can contribute each month — raise it a little — then send it. No part of God's work is in greater need of your support?

Q: *I would like more information. Where may I write?*

A: Write to: MINISTERIAL TRAINING CENTER, Church of God (Seventh Day), P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.

West Coast District Conference

Willamette University, Salem, Oregon

August 2-7

Gerry Pedersen, Box 248, Marion, OR 97359

“I Would Like to Know . . .”

Question: I understand that the office building shared by the General Conference offices and Bible Advocate Press is full. What thought has been given to completing the unfinished lower floor of this building to provide more office space?

Answer: It is true that all of the office space on the first floor of the new Conference office building is full. Presently, office space in this building is being used to house the officers of the General Conference, the staff of the Bible Advocate Press, the staff for Radio Agency's Searchlight Correspondence Bible Course and a secretary for the Youth Agency. A total of four United Missions Agencies are now being served from the Conference offices. One more will be added to this when the new Ministerial Training Center begins operation here in the fall.

Plans have been made and the work is presently under way to complete the lower floor of the Conference office building. The building was designed to permit us to double our office space when it was needed. Now that it is needed, we are finishing this space to provide classrooms and offices for the Ministerial Training Center. In addition, it will provide office space for the Conference and United Missions Agency staffs.

The cost of completing this space will be covered by funds made available to the Conference through its Bonding program.

ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS

(Continued from page 3)

This generosity is to be commended, and God knows the spirit of compassion and love that prompted every offering.



Physical needs should not be the limit of our concern, however. Neither should our concerns be only for the people in far away places. Again, we hear much about how we should love the sinner, and endeavor to bring the Gospel to that person. All of these responsibilities are worthy of our attention, but there is also something more.

We must be alert to the SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF THE BRETHREN who are in our midst. It is not unusual for someone to get discouraged — sometimes to the point of leaving the

fellowship of the church. It is very sad when they also give up their Christian walk.

We must do all we can to help these people. Perhaps we cannot sympathize with their actions and responses to temptations, or we might even be inclined to be hurt by their actions when they show some feeling of bitterness; but we need to consider the loss that is being sustained when they depart, and do all we can to stop it from happening. We do not want to lose a part of the body of Christ any more than we relish losing a part of our own physical bodies.

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:1,2).



You can be a direct participant in the radio ministry by sending \$2.00 each month to:

500 CLUB

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