“If I rise on the wings of the dawn, . . . even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast” (Psalm 139:9-10, NIV).
CELEBRATING HOLINESS—
THE PERSONAL DIMENSION

The celebration continues. The theme for this five-year period in our church's history was enthusiastically endorsed in Kansas City last year. "Celebrating Christian Holiness" has moved out from a mere emphasis to become a serious commitment on the part of Nazarenes everywhere. There is no waning of interest in its promotion. To the contrary, Christian holiness is being preached, talked about and testified to in all corners of our church.

The celebration is being carried on worldwide with no apparent geographical limitations to it. The emphasis has sparked revival in many quarters with accompanying renewed emphasis on evangelistic outreach for the church. We have every reason to believe that church statistics will reflect encouraging and exciting trends upward as we continue in this emphasis.

There is an interesting resemblance to the enthusiasm for the "spreading of scriptural holiness throughout these lands" which characterized the early pioneers of the church.

Now would seem to be the proper time for some serious personal assessments to be made. These assessments are for the purpose of determining individual relationships with God. In short, we need to declare our own testimonies regarding Christian holiness. If the testimony is crystal clear, then let it be known.

Early pioneers of the modern holiness movement urged those who had received the blessing of "entire sanctification" to express it in public testimony. They were concerned that one might lose the experience by failing to do so. We recognize that faith is further exercised in such public affirmations. Furthermore, those who are still seeking will be encouraged to express their own faith in claiming the experience for themselves.

It's possible there are those who do not testify to having been sanctified simply because they have not as yet met the requirements for such assurance. This is where serious commitment to a personal assessment of one's standing before God is so all important. Has He saved you? Do you know your sins have been forgiven? Have you accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior? If the answers are affirmative, then you are a candidate for being sanctified.

Throughout the Acts of the Apostles, one observes that the infilling of the Holy Spirit, that blessing which occasions the experience of entire sanctification, was always encouraged upon the new believers in the Lord. The promise extends to today's believers as well; with no reasons given for any delay as far as the Lord is concerned. Our lack of faith or our lack of total commitment is the only reason for not receiving the experience.

The one who is a candidate shall then meet the conditions of consecration and faith in order to be sanctified wholly. Even now while reading these lines one may enter into the experience. Or, if there are hindrances to understanding and believing, one should seek out his minister for prayer and counsel. Kneeling at a public altar may remove the blocks to faith. Whatever the promptings of the Spirit may be, let there be an obedient response.

Then will the celebration being enjoyed by the entire denomination become personal. "Living in the Spirit" will be reality and the joys of holy living will be something to which one is able to personally testify. Let all, by decisive and specific acts of commitment and faith, become active participants in this great celebration of Christian holiness.

"LIVING IN THE SPIRIT" . . . WILL BE SOMETHING TO WHICH ONE IS ABLE TO PERSONALLY TESTIFY.

by General Superintendent Jerald D. Johnson
REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS!

We had gone as far as we could go. Now we stood at the window in the airport terminal and watched our 21-year-old son walk to the waiting jet. Nelson was a Navy man, and Uncle Sam wanted him in Asmara, Ethiopia, for a term of service.

Boot camp and the years following had not been so hard, because he had been able to come home occasionally. But now we knew we would not see him for at least a year.

The plane taxied down the runway and lifted into the sky with the burst of jet power.

We waved one last good-bye, and turned to go back home. My heart was breaking and questions flooded my mind: Would we ever see him again? Would he be true to God? What kind of problems would he face in that foreign country? And how could we endure the months of separation ahead?

As we walked through the terminal and to our car, neither of us spoke. Each was busy with his own thoughts. I was fighting back tears of loneliness already.

We started the drive home and my husband, sensing my tearful situation, said, "Rejoice, Honey."

Rejoice! How could I rejoice about Uncle Sam taking my firstborn away from me? He was so young! He would miss home so much, and we would miss him and long for him to be again in our family circle.

But then my husband spoke again. "We can rejoice because they were not taking him off to prison for some crime he had committed. We can rejoice because he is not a drug addict. His life is dedicated to God. Seems as if we have lots to rejoice about."

"Yes, I know you are right, Honey. Although he will be far away from us, God will be right there with him and bring him back to us safely." Then I looked up through my tears to thank our Heavenly Father for His great love.

Eighteen months later we stood in the airport again and watched the door anxiously. Our boy was to be on that plane! Once again my mind was full of questions: How will he look? Will he be glad to see us?

But as he came into sight, my heart nearly burst with love and joy and thankfulness. He was the

nicest, cleanest-looking man coming off that plane! He was our son, and God had kept him and brought him back to us. And we rejoiced!

"And again I say, rejoice."

David was gone. God had taken him.

Four hours earlier, he had left for the softball game, anxious to play. He would rather play ball than eat.

Coming back home to get a new softball, David was riding with one of the other young men. As they rounded a curve in the road, for some unknown reason the car crossed the center line and crashed head-on with another car.

David was pulled from the wreckage and treated for a deep cut on his head. He was rushed to the hospital. He never regained consciousness. About nine o'clock in the evening, the doctor came out of the emergency room and said, "I'm sorry, your son has expired."

We went in and stood by the table where he lay—lifeless. Oh, David! A six-footer plus, full of life and vitality, the picture of health, a bright future ahead—now he was gone.

This was our youngest son, just 15. Why had God taken him from us? It is impossible to come up with an answer to that question, but God makes no mistakes.

In the hours and days that followed, God was preciously near. In my turmoil of thoughts came the words again, "Rejoice."

Rejoice? Yes, rejoice! David had made his peace with God. He had been sanctified about a month before his death. We could rejoice because of the knowledge that we would see him again. He could never come back to us, but we could and would, someday, go and see him again.

Friends and relatives gathered to share our sorrow, and brought such comfort. God's presence was so near and real in the funeral home and again during the funeral service.

As we stood by the grave, Marjorie Goslaw started singing, "Amazing Grace." So amazing is the grace of God! Our hearts were broken, but we sang: "'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me Home."

And we rejoiced!

M. ROSALYN EAGLE is the wife of the pastor of the Smithton, Pennsylvania, Church of the Nazarene.
Thank-You Letter

I want to say "Thanks" for your very timely editorials. Some I have kept in my scrapbook. I mention "Means, Ends, and Idols," "Getting Along," and "Do What You Can and Be Content." Then "A Perfect Fit," by Merrill Williams, was so very well explained. I've kept it for future feasting also. Now comes "Are We Singing Our Faith?" in March issue of the Herald. This is the very admonition we need in our local church.

As a teenager, I toured the Alabama District as pianist in a campaign with District Superintendent H. H. Hooker and wife, and Uncle Buddy Robinson as special speaker. And how Uncle Buddy spoke so faithfully to secure subscriptions to the Herald!

Mrs. Linus Jackson Swindle
Jasper, Alabama

A Prisoner Writes

I'm an inmate at the Central Correctional Institute in Columbia, S.C. I've been here nearly five and a half years and it seems like a lifetime.

While on my knees one night, praying in my little prison cell, the Lord took hold of me and put me on the right road.

Thanks to miracles, which God performs every day, I can live my life in a more sophisticated, mannerly way.

I want to share my favorite passage from the Bible with you. It's 1 John 5:10. This is God's testimony to us, proving Jesus was His Son, and believing in Him we have eternal life.

Richard E. Workman
Columbia, South Carolina

College Chaplains Commended

My two daughters had the privilege of attending Bethany Nazarene College this past school year. They have also had the immense privilege of knowing as minister, friend, and counselor, Rev. Jim Martin, who is the chaplain there.

He has taken time in the last two years to listen to, counsel (Continued on page 20)
ON A WEDNESDAY EVENING, the sun was setting over the abandoned, fire-beaten homes of Bedford Stuyvesant in Brooklyn. As I stood on the corner waiting for my bus, my eyes were fixed on a church building standing in the midst of the city streets. I felt within myself a desire to reach out and hold that church in my arms, for I knew that my search for a church was over.

My desire grew so strong that I began to walk toward the building. Within me was the feeling, “Is this it? Is my search really over?” I thought, “I have tried every cult there is; I have tried the Unification Church, the Mormon Church, the Hare Krishna movement, I have tried every denomination existing in Brooklyn. Have I finally found my church home?”

As I approached the simple wooden doors my desire to know the people of this church grew.

About to knock on the door, I noticed a man who was completely intoxicated, or as we say in New York, “drunk.” He was standing behind me shaking his head. He mumbled, “Boy, are you trying to get yourself killed? In this neighborhood it’s not too safe after dark.” I assured him that I would be safe because I was going to church. I didn’t realize then, but I would be safe from that moment on because I would be obeying God’s will for my life.

When I knocked on the door it was opened reluctantly by a woman. I could not understand why she was afraid. I was a quiet person, I wasn’t on dope, and I didn’t drink. Then I realized that my hair was well below my shoulders, my beard was long and thick, I was 6 ft. 3 in. tall, and was wearing a heavy overcoat. In the evening sun I must have looked like a bear.

She inquired, “May I help you?” I asked her if there would be a service that evening. “Yes,” she replied. “At 7:30.” I looked at my watch. It was only six o’clock. I thanked her for the information and walked away. She closed the door.

That evening I was back at the church. As I entered I could hear the sounds of prayers being lifted up to God from the altar; young and old alike opening their hearts to the Lord. Their words flowed freely from their lips; they spoke as if they were close friends with God. Not a word was spoken that did not reach down deep within me and speak to my heart. Above the altar on the wall hung a banner which read, “Holiness unto the Lord.” I had never seen nor heard of the word “holiness” before. It was so clean and pure. It was something I wanted. When they had finished, the people at the altar returned to their seats. Some were crying and some were smiling, but they all came over to me and gave me a warm, loving handshake. I was immediately welcomed into this church called Beulah Church of the Nazarene.

Soon people from the church began to visit me. Pastor and Mrs. Holder took me into their hearts and I remain there today. The many brothers and sisters truly loved me. I was the only Italian in a West Indian congregation, and yet I was part of the family of God. I grew spiritually, as the years progressed, in true love for all Christians. The words “Holiness unto the Lord” proved to be real because they were practiced as much as they were preached. Brothers came to my home to help me dig my garden; they drove me home from church in the rain and snow; they gave without ever asking for anything in return. I was shown agape love, God’s love.

Today, if you are in New York City, in Queens, you will see a church on a corner called Agape Church of the Nazarene. If you walk in you will see people from all parts of the world praising God together in love. You will hear the old traditional hymns, Christian rock music, and gospel tunes. You will also see a young, bearded pastor at the altar. His delivery is quite different from that of most preachers. He speaks of Jesus as the Greatest Psychologist who ever lived. He talks about, what he calls, “Preventive Psychology.” He speaks a language that unchurched people can understand. But the message is the same—“holiness unto the Lord.”

ROBERT TAORMINA is the pastor of the Agape Church of the Nazarene in Flushing, New York.
THE PRACTICALITY OF ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION

by MARION K. RICH

THE 727 JET soared through the brilliant sunlit sky flecked with fleecy cumulus clouds. Through the window of the plane I watched the changing, shifting pattern of cloud formations. My eyes delighted in the refracted light that bounced on the silvery wing surface of the plane. Flying usually puts me in a meditative or creative mood. This gorgeous day, the magnificent view enabled me to empty my mind of all clutter and attune my soul to hear from God.

I was on my way to a women’s retreat and I pondered the subject I was given: “Achieving Emotional Wholeness”—that state of good inner adjustment. There would be people in the audience who were hurting. I was anxious to tell them that God is in the business of making people whole. By faith they could appropriate His healing. The victory is not of ourselves nor of our striving; it is the gift of God’s grace.

One of the most urgent needs today is to find the secret of emotional stability—the absence of inner warfare. I thought of professing Christians who have never faced up to their unhealthy attitudes. They are tolerating and condoning such emotional states as bitterness, resentment, an unforgiving spirit, pride, jealousy, and anger. These are painful attitudes that have been nursed over a period of time. Such Christians have no vibrant testimony, no real joy, and no fruit. Many are living for self-centered purposes. Their lives seem to lack spiritual victory and their spirits have become critical and sour.

With such unbalanced emotions, one is not experiencing the wholeness which Jesus came to bring. Paul calls this emotional imbalance by such names as “the carnal mind,” “the old man,” or “the body of sin.” It is a disposition or inclination toward evil—an inward proneness to do wrong. It is inbred sin. It affects one’s motives, affections, and attitudes. “The carnal mind is enmity against God” (Romans 8:7).

I know of no better basis for emotional wholeness than the crisis experience of entire sanctification. It is an experience that brings inner cleansing to the heart from the root of sin, the carnal nature. It brings cleansing from all inner conflict and division. The pure heart is the undivided heart. Paul says: “And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly;” meaning, “make you holy, through and through every part.” He continues, “and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:23). The terms “spirit and soul and body” surely indicate the total person.

Our chief problem in life is usually our self. At the heart of sanctification is a total surrender. The self with all of its “rights” must be crucified and the ego must be submerged in God. In surrender we turn over our right to ourselves and make a complete consecration of all that we are and have. In response to the cry from the depths of our being, the Holy Spirit will come flooding into our spirit, into our soul, into our entire body and being. He brings the blessing of heart purity in His fullness. He sheds abroad the very life of God—the love of Christ.

This definite experience of entire sanctification is dependent on our faith just as any other aspect of our salvation is. Surrender is more than a single act at the time of seeking the experience of entire sanctification. Surrender must be maintained as a condition. The sanctified life is an intensely disciplined life. Continual victory is ours by a careful walk under the constant guidance of the Holy Spirit and instant obedience to Him. When He is in control of our hearts, He is absolutely faithful to check and prompt us whenever we approach a danger line.

The sanctified life is life with a plus and can be lived only in the Holy Spirit. He indwells us. His life is poured into every fiber of our being. He brings wholeness. He

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brings a life of complete balance. Life is no longer lived for self but for Him. His impact in our life creates an inner serenity and steadiness of spirit which nothing can destroy. Life is unified at the center.

How amazingly practical is the doctrine of entire sanctification in this 20th-century society. It goes right to the heart of our problem. It is not some complicated formula or technique. It is not like the cults of self-cultivation that ultimately let you down. It is not centering our pattern of life around self. But the basis of our life is shifted from a self-centered person to a Christ-centered person. Our total personality—mind, will and, emotions are at Christ's command. He then sends us out with humility, sincerity, and simplicity to bring His wholeness to a sick society.

What Is That Smell?

You have a knife stuck in your back. Your friend put it there. A passionate yet logical voice says, "This is it. You have taken all you can take. You cannot, must not, forgive."

And why not? Why not just this time listen to the voice. You have earned the right.

But no one can carry the weight of bitterness without breaking down. The wounds of an enemy are minor compared to the sickness of resentment.

The unforgiving heart is a garbage collector. The moment you open the wounds of the past you tune in to gossip, slander, and ridicule. You automatically learn to pick up every hate-laden object that will build your case.

The unforgiving heart is also a garbage litterer. You think that you can carry your load without any trouble. But whatever you store within must some day come out. The problem is that you never know just when it will emerge. And you never know who you're going to dump it on. Often it's your closest friends.

Since the unforgiving heart carries garbage, it always smells. Especially when it gets warm and human relationships heat up. Have you ever noticed that people shrink from the bitter in heart? It's the smell.

Does it matter if you nurture resentment? Not if you don't mind living with garbage, losing your friends, and destroying yourself. But it does matter if you want to grow in love and sensitivity to others. The next time the velvet voice speaks about the logic of unforgiveness, remember the voice of God when He says, "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life" (Proverbs 4:23 NIV).

Sidney Smith is a Baptist minister in Winchester Bay, Oregon.
The term “backslider” occurs only once in Scripture, whereas the verb backsliding is used 13 times in Jeremiah’s prophecy alone. Above all others, the Weeping Prophet felt and depicted the shame of departing from God. Hosea uses the verb once, from a personal background of burden over a wife who preferred a life of prostitution to her husband’s love and home. His personal tragedy gave insight into God’s grief over the persistent backsliding of His covenant people.

Remarkably, the noun backslider is found only in Proverbs 14:12-15 and in connection with secret backsliding: “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful; and the end of that mirth is heaviness. The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.”

Secret backsliding is known only unto God until its fruits appear and the hidden breakdown of love and consecration is evident to all. The biblical descriptions of backsliding are graphic and solemn, and its appeals and warnings to God’s people are legion.

Paul likens backsliding to the surrender of a race by a runner who seemed set to win; “Ye did run well; who did hinder you?” (Galatians 5:7). The tripping up of the Galatian Christians necessitated apostolic travail for the rebirth of their first love and zeal.

Peter viewed backsliding as a nauseating state; akin to a dog or sow returning to the unclean and unpleasant; a sickening change of desire and direction caused by the old nature rejecting the command to be holy, producing a last state worse than the previous ignorance of God’s ways.

The writer to the Hebrews placed backsliding in the same category as those Israelites who perished in the wilderness, overthrown by an evil heart of unbelief after being redeemed, protected, guided, and destined for Canaan.

The collector and editor of Proverbs unerringly places the root of backsliding in the heart, however varied backsliders may be in processes and crises.

Spiritual heart failure begins within. Its roots and its fruit are compressed into one pregnant verse: “The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways.” This secret failure may be caused by words that seem right. “The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going” (Proverbs 14:15). In Galatians 3:1, Paul asked in sorrow and reproach, “O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you” with the seducing error of salvation by works?

An artless, childlike simplicity is attractive. But there is an admirable, wise maturity that makes complicated things seem easy to accomplish. An expert craftsman, artist, or athlete achieves this. Paul coveted both for his converts. “I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil” (Romans 16:19)—artless and unresponsive to solicitations of evil, but alert and wholehearted for good. Both are far removed from the suicidal simplicity that accepts the subtleties of heresy and of Satan. This spiritual naivety makes people easy prey for modern cults and eastern religions.

A way that seems right may also cause secret backsliding. It is often presented when the narrow way is hard and apparently unrewarding. John Bunyan shrewdly observed that Hill Difficulty always has a Bypath Meadow and a summerhouse called Ease nearby. Pilgrims easily become careless when climbing is difficult. Easier ways that seem right attend every stage of experience but their result never varies—“The end thereof are the ways of death.”

A lost satisfaction eventually and inevitably attends a backslidden heart. A worldly person’s satisfaction is limited, for “even in laughter the heart is
sorrowful; and the end of that mirth is heaviness.”
The unsaved should not be envied.

A good man's satisfaction is unlimited; he is
“satisfied from himself.” Fellowship with God, a
good conscience, godly company and loving service
reap divine approval and inner treasure. Changing
circumstances may bring increased usefulness or
added testing, but they do not diminish the inward
wealth.

But a backslider is aware of a lost satisfaction.
Sooner or later, the heart that has turned away from
God realizes with Paul that gaining “all things” is
but a trash heap compared with “winning Christ.”
“To whom else can we go” is the backslider's ul-
timate despair.

A bygone dedication marks the backslider. The one
whose heart was hot for the ways of God is now “filled
with his own ways.” Time, energy, and means once
freely used for God are now channeled into personal
interests. The sad waning of heart devotion to Christ
brings sure and serious consequences; priorities
change and things of the spirit and church that once
absorbed life are laid aside. “Demas [a missionary]
hath forsaken me,” Paul lamented, “having loved
this present world” (2 Timothy 4:10). Shame and
remorse may be hidden, excused, or wistfully ac-
knowledged, but the loss of Christ is such a loss that
nothing can restore or compensate.

Heart transplant surgery has made tremendous
progress but still faces the problem of rejection.
Spiritual heart failure is serious, but it need not be
fatal, providing there is no rejection of the way of
repentance, confession, and return to first love and
first works. God is ready to give a new heart and
restore the soul.

In moving lines of regret and hope, the hymn
writer prayed for this restoration:

Return, O heavenly dove; return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn
And drove Thee from my breast.

Much of the Bible is addressed to backsliders.
Many of its characters, including Abraham, David,
Jonah, and Peter, testify that to return unto the Lord
is to receive mercy and abundant pardon. If fringe
and failing members returned to their former devo-
tion and covenants, the revolution in attendance
and in the power of the church cannot be imagined.
FIFTY-SIX YEARS ago I went to a Methodist church near my home and that night I entered into the faith. A feeling akin to admiration toward Christianity through American movies, and a respect toward Christianity in my heart may have helped. I then began to attend church in earnest and to read the Bible and devotional books.

At that time the services and other activities of the church weren't especially formal, but there were both a university student group and a group of employed people. The former group focused their discussion and reading on theological controversies; the latter group devoted their time to testimony and prayer and on holidays went to some solitary place for prayer meetings.

I wanted to be with these employed people. I was led by them and began to seek the blessing of sanctification. At that time phrases such as “the baptism of the Holy Spirit” or “the second blessing” were a big challenge and had great appeal to me. I read greedily the works of Hills, Buxton, Juji Nadada, and Tetsusaburo Sasao.

Now when I think back upon it, I am sure that the Holy Spirit was arresting me. Awake or asleep, I fervently sought purity of heart, at times kneeling in lonely fields and praying earnestly.

Along with that, under the searchlight of the Holy Spirit, I was being searched to the depth and detail of my heart and life. At that point I began confessing and making restitution for sins. And I walked in the light I was given so that there would be no reproach from my conscience before God or man.

Then God gave me an experience that I won’t forget. It happened August 3 of the year after I entered the faith. While I was walking down the road, being led by Hills’s Holiness and Power, I realized what Romans 6:11 meant: “Even so reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, but alive unto God in Jesus Christ our Lord.” And again I made a firm resolve.

Two days later, an hour before prayer meeting, when I was praying in a room at the church, I had a marvelous experience. God’s glory filled my heart, should I say? Or should I say God’s love was poured into my heart? Or should I say that it overflowed? I became aware of being God’s own possession. I was so happy I couldn’t stand it; I walked around and around shouting “Hallelujah.” And when I thought about this which is called “the baptism of the Holy Spirit,” my heart overflowed again with joy.

Fifty-five years have passed. My long “Pilgrim’s Progress” began with “conversion,” but “the baptism of the Holy Spirit” stands as a second milestone in my life. During these 55 years I have received influence and inspiration from various people. But I have been kept until today by the blessing of “sanctification” which Wesley discovered in the Bible.

In the 16th century, Luther discovered in the Bible “Justification by Faith,” but in the 18th century Wesley discovered “Sanctification by Faith” in the Bible and placed emphasis upon it. The “Methodism” of Wesley, in the words of Cell, was the “great synthesis of the view of Sanctification of Catholicism and Justification by faith of Protestantism.” This doctrine of “sanctification” or “Christian perfection”

**Always Welcome**

I come to you, Father,  
Knowing I am always welcome.  
It matters not the reason,  
Or the time or the place I seek Your face.  
You are there, glad to see me,  
Never too busy for Your child.

O God, help me,  
Within these bonds of my humanity,  
To find time for those who need me;  
The children, the elderly, the lonely,  
Even the stranger who comes to my door.  
Help me, Father, never to be “too busy.”

—MABEL P. ADAMSON  
Kansas City, Missouri

YOZO SEO is a Nazarene pastor in Japan. Translator Ruth Rawlings is a missionary teacher, and describes Rev. Seo as “a first-rate scholar, teacher, preacher, and writer.”
became the “great commission” God has given Methodists and, subsequently, the Nazarenes.

Wesley taught that, “along with the “attainment” or “crisis” of “entire sanctification,” there is also the “pursuit” or “process” of it. The reason is that “sanctification” changes one into the likeness of Jesus Christ, the very image of God. Therefore, while we are here on this earth, we should strive for that likeness of Christ continually.

Paul says in his letter to the Philippians, the third chapter, “Brethren, not that I have already attained, nor am already made perfect: but I press on,” and “So should a man be perfect-minded.” Wesley urged the believers to pursue Christian perfection.

However, with us, including me, who have experienced sanctification, this attitude of continual pursuit can easily give way or crumble. We, like Paul, “seek,” and “are given.” But the difference between Paul and us is that Paul “sought” and “was given,” then “sought” more. But we “seek” and “are given” and don’t seek beyond that, and fall into self-satisfaction. To us, if there is no thirst for righteousness, we cannot say we are spiritually healthy. Those who fervently seek and are given God’s grace, God rewards with a thirst for even more. And indeed, it can be said that God is truly Lord of the heart that seeks Him continually.

To us, sanctification, which is said to be the “second turning point of the Christian experience,” is vital. It is something to be obtained by giving all in faith. Then it is just as necessary to seek the blessing of being transformed in Christ who is the very image of God. Every day through His Word, with humility, we are to consider our own insufficiency and immaturity, and continue our adoration and devotion toward Jesus Christ.

HE SPRING DAY was mild so after my time with R. F., I rewarded him by crossing the street to look at the house that so fascinates him. It looks as though it may have burned in a fire. Some workers were there. R. F. thought maybe they were tearing it down. I knew better but I wanted him to check it out for himself.

Part of the reason for the one-block walk was to have this mentally retarded boy cross the street safely. On the way back I got caught up in greeting several of our residents as they were returning from a nearby Special Education School. R. F. was learning his safety lessons and warned me of the approaching pickup truck which I confess I hadn’t really stopped, looked, or listened for at all.

As the truck went by a boy’s voice shouted out to me, “Hey, Chaplain, I’m goin’ home.”

I looked up and recognized Patrick quickly enough to join the celebration and holler back, “Great, Man, great!”

My attention went to R. F. and the others. In a few minutes I was back in the office, reflecting on Patrick and his shouted news. I remember the day I met him. He was not in the cafeteria at supper, and I discovered that he was leaving the very moment he had passed me on the road. I glowed to think that it was important that ye would yell it out to me like that. I couldn’t let it end that way. I wrote a letter to him, expressing my faith in him. I told him God would help him say No to temptation. I also shared a true story of another boy who stole something, got caught, and how it had helped him.

As the days and weeks went by, Patrick observed the others with a thirst for even more. And indeed, it can be said that God is truly Lord of the heart that seeks Him continually.

As the days and weeks went by, Patrick observed me coming to the cottage at odd times and interacting with the other residents. He kept a cautious distance as I played Ping-Pong, pool, or just visited. Gradually he warmed up and became friendly. We had little direct contact, but he seemed to like it when I was around. He and several others enjoyed the morning I not only watched them on the trampoline but joined them at the very end. When some of them decided to come to the Sunday morning service (geared much more for the mentally retarded than this “normal” group), Patrick came along, too. He evidently was really warming up to me. Once he talked to me and told me how he gave in to peer pressure to steal and how he got caught. Was he beginning to accept the subtle influence of this chaplain’s ministry?

He was not in the cafeteria at supper, and I discovered that he was leaving the very moment he had passed me on the road. I glowed to think that it was important for him to share his good news with me, so important that ye would yell it out to me like that. I couldn’t let it end that way. I wrote a letter to him, expressing my faith in him. I told him God would help him say No to temptation. I also shared a true story of another boy who stole something, got caught, and how it had helped me to decide never to steal again.

I thank God that I had spoken about “temptation” in the two services Patrick chose to attend. I cannot predict the outcome, but I know Patrick was worth all my efforts to help.
WE FINALLY found it, a church where people cared, a church where people loved, a church where people were genuinely concerned, a church where people were not playing church, but had the love of God in their hearts and showed it in the way they lived and worshiped.

We had gotten our eyes on people before and had learned our lesson well. We were expecting to be disappointed, but these people showed us a love we had never seen before and one we did not understand, a love that is unselfish, understanding, and giving. That kind of love comes from God. Before long we found that love too, and the peace and joy that go with it. We could not have been happier.

Only two months after we joined the church and the fellowship of these good people, I became seriously ill. I became anemic and the doctor said I should go to the hospital for a blood transfusion. I was terrified. I had never been in a hospital before except when our two daughters were born.

I am not a brave person when it comes to needles and things. I went into the hospital and was out in a few days. Shortly after I went home, my condition worsened and I had to go back for more blood and tests. Doctors discovered that I had aplastic anemia. This means the bone marrow had stopped producing blood. I was in and out of the hospital for the next two years for about 100 units of blood and hundreds of units of platelets.

During those hospital stays, I grew closer and closer to God. I prayed and studied His word. I prayed for healing, and the church prayed, and friends and family prayed, and my doctor prayed. My children, who were five and seven years old prayed. I wanted to live. Many people thought that I would not.

The church was such a blessing. They took care of our children, fixed meals for us, visited me in the hospital and at home, but most of all they prayed.

My father died when I was eight years old. As I grew up, I always thought I had been a little cheated. I missed that relationship that other girls had with their fathers. I began to think how it would be for our daughters not to have a mother and I began to plead with God to somehow get more glory.

One beautiful day, as I was sitting in the hospital next to a window. I looked at the fluffy clouds and breathed the fresh air. I was wishing I could be home when the girls got home from school to share it with them. It was then that I looked up to God and He came down to me. His presence filled me with peace. I knew that I was in His hands and He had everything in control. I no longer feared or worried about my future.

Yes, there were more trips to the hospital. But I was happy and I used this time to witness to patients and nurses, and to read the Bible and study.

One day in the hospital I was feeling a little lonely, and God gave me a scripture—Psalm 116. This is what I read: "I was facing..."
ORD, give us another miracle!” I prayed as I energetically cleaned our parsonage in Kankakee, Illinois.

We had been blessed with so many! New couples had been saved. A Moslem family had been won to the church. Attendance was climbing. Finances were at a record high for the year.

My prayer was cut short by the telephone. Lifting the receiver, I heard the sobs of Paula, one of my Sunday School class members. Her voice shaking, she asked if I would come to the doctor’s office and take her to the hospital.

Hurrying to my car, I breathed a prayer for Paula. She and Steve were expecting their first child. She was in her third month and she had suffered more than the usual morning nausea. For weeks, she had been able to eat very little.

Minutes later, I was in front of the medical building. As Paula came out, I saw that she could hardly walk and was almost doubled up with pain. Jumping out to help her, I had to lift her legs into the car. “I’m in agony,” she cried. “My side feels like it’s on fire!”

Checking into the local hospital, Paula was more concerned about the baby than herself. For the next two months she was hospitalized, growing weaker every day. Her weight loss was precarious and she was in constant pain. Her ailment had been diagnosed as Regional Enteritis—acute inflammation of the intestines.

Because she was weakening, Paula was transferred to a large Chicago hospital, where they rushed her to surgery and drained a horribly large abscess in her small intestine.

Although surgical removal of the affected part was the only remedy, physicians were fearful that the life of her unborn child would be jeopardized. Therefore, they opted to insert a temporary drainage tube and administer treatment to keep down the infection for the next four months.

The lives of mother and unborn child were in constant danger during those months, most of which were spent in the hospital. Paula’s principle nourishment was a special protein supplement. My husband and I made scores of visits and prayed unceasingly for Paula. A nurse was required to change the dressing and irrigate the drainage opening in her side daily during those times she was allowed out of the hospital.

Paula Street needed a miracle! The wonderful people of Kankakee First Nazarene prayed and fasted. At the altar, Paula was anointed with oil by the pastor while our people lifted her to God in prayer. Paula’s doctor continued to say he could make no promises concerning the baby’s chances. It was wait and see.

During our vacation Bible school one morning in June, I felt impressed to call Paula. “I’m on my way to the hospital,” she cried excitedly. “The baby is coming!”

Later in the labor room we prayed together, asking God to help her through the night. He did! Stephanie Street was born near midnight, with no complications. The doctor was amazed! A few weeks later, Paula returned to the Chicago hospital and underwent successful surgery for removal of the inflamed section of intestine. Her recovery was remarkable!

When my pastor husband dedicated little Stephanie to the Lord, with Paula and Steve standing happily at the altar, I rejoiced in that beautiful and sacred service. The Lord’s blessing was upon our congregation that morning, and we all knew that the miracle for which I had prayed at the parsonage had happened.

God had given us spiritual life. This time He had given a miracle of physical life. Another miracle at First Church!

I am praying for another one today.

VENITA HANCOCK

Another Miracle
AT FIRST CHURCH

by VENITA HANCOCK

I am praying for another one today.

I have never been in the hospital since then. It has been five years now. I am not the same person who went that day for the first transfusion. Every day is very precious and a blessing from God. I watch our daughters grow into young ladies and praise His name for that privilege. I do not worry about our tomorrows because “I know who holds the future, and I know who holds my hand.”

I know His grace is sufficient! I have proven Him true. When valleys come, He will be there so close you can reach out and touch. He will hold your hand and give you strength far beyond yourself.

Jesus is the head of our family and the Lord of my life. I can never praise Him enough or thank Him enough for saving me from sin, for sanctifying me wholly, and for healing me physically. Praise His name!
WHEN I WAS INTERVIEWED by the local religious editor previous to a recent “Holiness Revival,” I asked her, “What came to your mind when I said, ‘Holiness’?” She would not respond.

I asked again, “Did you think of the snake-handlers of East Tennessee or judgmental purists?”

“Yes,” she said, “that is what I thought of.”

Words are empty vessels which have meaning only as they are filled by their users. The meanings of some terms have so changed that we are no longer able to use them. Others have fallen out of usage for a while only to become meaningful, and thus usable again.

The words “holiness” and “revival” are good words. They have a long and precious history. To most of us they elicit good feelings and memories. But they have fallen into distortion and misuse these days.

Because the terms have been distorted, many have abandoned their use. The use of replacement terms has become widespread. “Spirit-filled,” and “deeper life,” seem easier to say than “holiness.” “Commitment” or even “second touch” is more palatable than “sanctified.” “Revival” has been replaced in our vocabulary by “crusade,” “convention” or “conference.” In some instances we have sidestepped the whole struggle with terms by simply calling ourselves “Nazarenes” and our services “Nazarene services” assuming that our denominational title would give clear definition to our intent.

The result of our well-intentioned shift has been vagueness. We are unclear in our message. Our terminology may be more palatable but it is not as definite. “Deeper life,” “commitment” and “second touch” are all fine phrases but they are not as specific as “sanctified.”

The terms we replaced have a substantial biblical base. “Holiness” and “holy” and “sanctified wholly” are terms the meaning of which can be intelligently drawn from the Scripture. We have sometimes departed from scriptural terminology in our search for adequate words and soon strayed from the centrality of the “image of Christ” as our goal and “perfect love” as our standard. Far too often “the bugle has had an uncertain sound.” In our legitimate fear of narrow sectarianism we have been guilty of vague generalities that have been neither convincing to the mind nor converting to the heart.

What are we to do? Return to traditional terms and affirm their biblical meaning! I am convinced that our world is desperately hungry for a “call to holiness.” People are sick of fruitless permissivism. They long for moral transformation.

Our people cry out for power to change. They will not subscribe to narrow sectarianism or be impressed by vague generalities. But they will respond gladly to a clear message of the life-changing power available in the experience and walk of holiness.

The Church of the Nazarene has a commitment to preach holiness in traditional terms free of sectarian distortion or vague generalities. With this in mind, Nashville First Church had a “holiness revival.” The Lordship of Jesus Christ was our theme and our text was 1 Corinthians 12:3: “No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.” We went Sunday through Sunday, services every night, preaching holi-

**HOW ABOUT A “HOLINESS REVIVAL”?**

by MILLARD REED

MILLARD REED pastors the Nashville First Church of the Nazarene.
ness. Ever service applied the Lordship of Christ to some particular phase of life. In each sermon I attempted to show that Christ’s Lordship in that area of concern is possible only by the empowering of the Holy Ghost.

One message dealt with the Lordship of Jesus Christ in interpersonal relationships, another with His sovereignty in the presence of the law. When I preached about Christ’s reign over earthly possessions, I had to speak of tithing and restitution. The implications of the Lordship of Jesus over the physical body led us to an anointing service. The whole front of the sanctuary was full of people wishing to pray for physical healing.

Ten sermons were not nearly enough. (That is one of the advantages of the pastor’s doing the preaching—he could continue on the theme after the scheduled services were over.)

Guest singer Helen Kelly came to sing nothing but the old songs. But we discovered that songs like “I’ve Just Heard from Heaven” and “It’s Real” were old enough to be “brand new” to many of our people who delighted in the forthright musical testimony.

The results proved our theory right. People are hungry to hear about the holiness of God and His available power for everyday living. The largest crowds ever to attend First Church revivals responded night after night. Many understood holiness for the first time. One long-time attender said, “Oh, if I had only seen this truth years ago!” Another said, “I have found joy in the walk of holiness that I have not known for years.” Most essential is the fact that many found the experience for the first time. And the spirit of revival continues.

The power of communication is in the hands of the Holy Spirit. Anytime any person can communicate with another person, by use of words or without words, it is His gracious activity. Many of us have abandoned good words because they have become distorted. We have been a bit naive, failing to see that the terms we have used to replace them have their weaknesses as well. Possibly we have not trusted the work of the Holy Spirit as the “Power of Pentecost.” If mankind is to hear the message, it will be because He will take “weak words” and give power to them. It is time for us to return to the time-authenticated, biblical terms, as weak as they may be, and trust Him to make them speak His mighty truth. It is time for “holiness revival.”

HOW PRAYER HELPS

by J. GRANT SWANK, JR.

Prayer reminds me I’m not alone. The world is cold, unfeeling. I am surrounded by many who do not care. The heavi ness of self-centeredness encompasses me. Yet when I come to God in prayer, I am assured that I stand not alone.

Prayer refocuses my mind. I have difficulty seeing clearly, for I am one of a fallen race with a fallen mind. Therefore, I need to come to God so that my thought process can be aligned with the mind of Christ; it is then I come out of the blur.

Prayer refreshes my spirit. There is much to cause decay to set in. In fact, decay happens within a very short time if I am not careful to chat with the Lord frequently. However, when I do take the time to meet with Him, life is sprinkled anew with the precious dew from heaven, so desperately needed.

Prayer rearranges my priorities. Again, realizing my egocentric tendencies, I am in moment-by-moment need of purging. Only then can I live out the expectations of my Master who commands me to put first the kingdom of God.

Prayer reduces my fears. Nuclear potential, rising inflation, inner-city turmoil, spread of cancer, increase of a starving humanity—all this looms before me and the rest of my human fellows. Yet when I pray, that fear becomes absorbed into a power from beyond me. It is overcome by the awesome realization that He is in final control of the planet He has created.

Prayer reinforces my resources. I know my limitations; they stare me baldly in the face. However, in prayer I augment my resources by taking on His might. Without prayer I hobble along still spouting the God-words, but the reality of their power is gone.

Prayer reexamines my motives. Satan would have me do my church work for applause. I know in my heart that all I do is to be for the Father’s glory and in His will. Truly the only way I can remain “on the track” is in prayer, permitting the Father to prune, prime, and prepare my heart for purity of motive and service.

Prayer reacquaints me with my First Love. I came to Jesus when I fell in love with Him. I am tempted now to live for Him simply because I know I should “keep the rules.” But that gets empty fast. Prayer restores the friendship, makes the Christian heart warm once more. Prayer brings me back to that meaningful embrace I long for so very much. This is my reason for breathing. It is my purpose for praying.

J. GRANT SWANK, JR., is the pastor of the Walpole, Massachusetts, Church of the Nazarene.
WRITING in the Chicago Tribune, Anne Keegan told the heartrending story of a Chicago boy’s rescue from the bizarre world of his mother’s making.

When David was seven, his mother locked the door and shut the world off from herself and her son. She had the telephone disconnected so no one could call them. She had the gas meter removed and stopped cooking hot food. She stopped using electricity—no television, no radio, no phonograph, no refrigerator, no lights.

She unplugged all the lamps and stored them in a corner. She unscrewed the bulbs from every socket and placed them in a paper sack. From that day on she and her son lived in darkness, totally cut off from contact with life outside.

When it came time for David to begin the third grade at McPherson School, he stayed home, hidden away with his mother in their third-floor apartment. Relatives who came by stood in the hall begging David’s mother to open the door and let them in. She never did. Even the landlord never saw them; he found the rent check slipped out under the door each month.

Occasionally when it was dark and presumably no one could see them, David and his mother would venture out. Furtively they would walk to a nearby grocery to buy food—potato chips, crackers, bread, luncheon meat—things that were cheap and required no refrigeration or cooking.

David saw no other children. He had no friends. So he created “friends” out of dolls in the apartment and out of his pets: two goldfish, a bird and a hamster named Charlie.

Mrs. Dunbar, a neighbor down the street, worried about them and about David in particular.

“If I didn’t see them at night sometimes coming home with a pitiful little bag of food, you’d never know anyone lived up there,” she said. “No lights, no gas, no food, no sign of life. It’s like that child was being kept in jail. David had been completely removed from the world, and I couldn’t take it any longer.”

Mrs. Dunbar joined David’s aunt and another neighbor who lived downstairs in trying to bring about David’s release. They contacted the Department of Children and Family Services, the McPherson School, the Board of Education, the state attorney’s office, and Juvenile Court—all to no avail.

Time passed. David missed all of third grade. All that summer he was locked inside. Fourth grade began, but without David. The mother’s family was getting desperate. They wanted to get him out.

Then an unpaid volunteer worker named Diane took up the fight. By now it was November, and they set a goal of freeing David by Thanksgiving. But Thanksgiving Day passed with David still in darkness. So did his ninth birthday on December 12. So did Christmas Day.

In a last desperate move just before the new year, the volunteer and the family presented the case to the mental health division of the state attorney’s office. That very day a judge issued a writ of detention. David’s nightmare of more than a year and a half was ending.

Two policemen had to force the door to get in and take his mother, kicking and sobbing, to a mental hospital.

In the dark apartment, filled with belongings packed in boxes ready to go nowhere, sat David with his “friends.” Charlie the hamster, dead for months, had been tenderly wrapped in a washcloth as if asleep.

Also in the apartment was a miniature city David had built, and in his room was a little book he had written and illustrated about a child who had fallen into a deep, dark hole.

In the story, two policemen finally found the hole after a long, long time, got a crane and “up, up, up
went the rope,” wrote David, “and they pulled the child out.”

“I am so happy to get out of here,” said the child in the story. “We’re happy too,” said the policemen.

David’s bizarre experience is the very picture of sin at work in the human heart. The biblical image of sin is that of darkness, of night, and unbelievers are called “children of darkness.”

Like the furtive nighttime excursions of David and his mother, sin gives a distorted view of life. The contrasts of blinding lights and looming, ominous shadows never allow us to see the infinite variety of hues the Creator has provided.

Dr. Kenneth Hoover, professor of biology at Messiah College, used to tell his students, “When my non-Christian friends tell me I’m missing half of life by being a Christian, I remind them that they are the ones whose lives are incomplete. I’ve lived both lifestyles and have found life in Christ to be ever so much more fulfilling and enjoyable!”

Sin fills one with fear and hate without cause or justification. William Ernest Henley, a Victorian poet, striking out in anger at God and the world, wrote these words in his poem entitled “Invictus”:

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

Contrast that mood and mind-set with the words of a seeker after Christ as reflected in William T. Sleeper’s hymn of invitation.

Out of my bondage, sorrow, and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Christian’s faith in the Word as an authoritative guide. In doing so, he has given the reader a scholarly presentation that cannot be casually skimmed. But the message needs to be heard and digested by the laity and clergy alike.

In reflecting upon his reason for writing, author Taylor has said:

“The subject matter of this small book has been of deep interest to me for many years. That interest was greatly sharpened by the fine papers read at the Nazarene Theological Conference of 1976. So when the opportunity came to develop a series of lectures on this theme for an interterm session at one of our Nazarene colleges, I jumped at the chance. They were delivered again at three other schools. During this time they were being refined and, I trust, improved. In shaping them for publication I endeavored to make them both readable and practical.”

And so they are. While not out of the reach of any serious reader, the book is scholarly and reflects the author’s rare gift of expressing profound truth in readable, even pleasing style. Make sure your church library, pastor, and you, yourself, have a copy of this book.

Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City
To order, see page 23.
THE DRIVE was tiresome and exhausting. Within a short distance there were school zones, railroad crossings, traffic lights, stop signs, large trucks, and a 25-mile-per-hour speed limit most of the way. Now there is an expressway. The road signs are different: “45 mph Minimum Speed,” “No Stopping, Only for Emergency,” “Food and Fuel Ahead.” Solid roadbeds, strong bridges, informational signs, smooth surfaced roads, all thoroughly engineered, combine to make the highway timesaving and safe.

Twenty-seven hundred years ago Isaiah the prophet saw through a telescope another road: “And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called 'The way of holiness’” (Isaiah 35:8). This interstellar highway is the only way from earth to heaven.

Engineers spend a lot of time in the preparation of the building of today’s super highways. Before construction begins, the contractor diligently studies all the detailed plans. God was no less careful in making an exact course for man to reach heaven; “according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love” (Ephesians 1:4).

God did not leave man to find his own route to heaven, for no man would have succeeded any more than the men at Babel. Man is foolish to waste his time in trying to find another plan. God’s divine wisdom provided the road and made it known through His Word.

A devout Quaker told the famous Cornish evangelist, Billy Bray, that he believed the Lord wanted him to give him one of his suits of clothes if they would fit. Billy Bray answered that if the Lord told him, they would be sure to fit for God knew his size exactly. When God planned the experience of holiness, He knew specifically what man needed and made abundant provision.

The roads over which men drive their autos are not very safe in these hurried days. The highways of life also tell a woeful tale. The lions of lust are thirsty for prey. The beasts of greed are ever ready to destroy men. But “there is a path which no fowl knoweth, and which the vulture’s eye hath not seen: The lion’s whelps have not trodden it, nor the fierce lion passed by it” (Job 28:7-8). It is the highway of holiness.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah guides and guards those who travel this way. “Lo I am with you alway” (Matthew 28:20). Satan may erect many signs tempting to worldly pleasure, but if the eyes are kept on the highway and Guide, there is perfect safety.

Ira D. Sankey discovered physical safety on this road. While traveling by steamboat up the Delaware River, by request he sang, “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us.” A man with a rough, weather-beaten face was deeply moved for he was reminded of the time he heard that same song during the Civil War. Completely concealed, he had raised his musket to shoot a Union soldier doing picket duty when the latter began to sing. The shot was never fired. Sankey was that soldier and when he became aware of his former danger he thanked God for divine protection.

HOWARD S. SYLVIA is the assistant pastor and director of music at the Sebring, Florida, Church of the Nazarene. He resides in nearby Avon Park.
Bodily safety may not always be guaranteed, but spiritual dangers are the greatest threat, and from them preservation is assured. However, it is necessary to remain on the highway. It is so easy to get sidetracked. The evil one sees to it that something blocks the pathway, and the attention is drawn to selfish or worldly concerns. At times it is just a tiny irritation, a petty grievance, or a little worldly thing. Thus a lot of side interests divert one from pursuing the Lord's purpose. Getting on the median strip is a favorite with those who reason that just a little freedom will not be harmful. But the median is dangerously close to the opposite line of traffic—those traveling toward hell. There is sufficient protection for all who keep on this highway of holiness.

Some say they don't understand the way of holiness but it is not complicated, for "the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein" (Isaiah 35:8). Many who previously lived in heathen darkness have received this glorious experience.

Only a refusal to meet the conditions brings failure. The steps are within the possibility of everyone. The road of regeneration is the only access by which a sinner can reach the toll station that admits to the interstellar highway of holiness. The toll includes a complete dedication plus faith. A continuation of these same provisions assures one of his right to remain on this highway. No one can say that such terms are out of reach.

It is admitted that some things about holiness are unexplainable. Man is incapable of understanding how the Holy Spirit is able to cleanse the heart from sin and give him enabling power to live a pure life. Complete knowledge is not necessary in order to experience it. This heavenly highway is not confusing, but so plain that all men can journey on it.

Since heaven is a holy place, men must have a pure heart to gain entrance. Man, however, is naturally sinful. The Holy Spirit has power to transform man, forgiving sins, and cleansing the heart from the evil nature. Thus only is man able to walk on the highway of holiness and be assured of entrance to a holy heaven. There are no uncrossable rivers. Problems and tests will come, but God has a bridge for each one. Dangers are carefully revealed in the Word. But the perfection of this way is supremely unveiled by its cleanliness. The adventurers on this road are fit for communion with a holy God. It is a spotlessly perfect way.

Such perfection, heart perfection, is not beyond man's potential. Before the American astronauts rocketed to the moon, they, along with the engineers, insisted on superexcellence. There was no tolerance for error. The engineers were seldom satisfied to have something work well. They kept on testing and testing a system until they were assured that it was as perfect as humanly attainable. Men should be just as diligent in being perfect in order to traverse the interstellar highway to heaven. By the assistance of the Holy Spirit, it is possible.

The grace of God abounds on this highway. Men formerly crippled by sin now leap with joy. The tongue is loosed in sincere praise. The sorrowing find genuine hope. Hungers are satisfied and thirsts are quenched. The travelers experience fulfilling and lasting pleasure. Yet multitudes have neglected to take advantage of their opportunity.

The story is told of a poor man who inherited unexpectedly a big ranch. Being unable to conceive how such fortune could come to him, he made many trips to the county seat to see if there was any flaw in the will. Time that could have been spent cultivating the land was wasted in needless pursuits. He could have moved onto the ranch and enjoyed its benefits. Realizing the provisions and benefits of the highway of holiness, all men should meet the conditions and joyfully enter this interstellar highway that leads to heaven.
with, and pray for my two daughters. There is no way I can financially repay him for his time and ability. I should like to say a "thank you" to him and to all the college chaplains in our Nazarene college who love and pray for our children.

Mrs. N. June Owens
Shreveport, Louisiana

PREPARED AND BLESSED
For the past two years I’ve received a special spiritual blessing through attending Christian Writers’ Conferences.

As anyone who has attended a writers’ conference knows, it is an active, frenetic, exhausting time of learning and inspiration. Yet for me it has also been a time of spiritual growth and renewal. Consequently I look forward to attending them when I can, and usually tell my friends, “I need to attend a writers’ conference” when I really mean “revival.”

I wondered why the Lord blessed me at those times, and decided that for one thing, I made special preparation for those times. I also paid whatever was required so that I could attend. For me that meant occasional odd jobs outside my home, and extra scrimping from my family. The third and most important thing I always did was pray—for God’s will, for the conference leaders, for everything relative to the conference.

It shouldn’t have surprised me, but it did. God chose to bless those special times for me because I chose to make a special commitment to Him. I’m asking God to help me to make the same preparation for revival that I’ve made where my writing is concerned, for His glory.

Dee Barrett
Council Bluffs, Iowa

TRINITY EXPLAINED
I read your question and answer column and noticed that you seemed to be in a quandary about the Trinity. Here is my explanation of it. We ourselves are triune beings. We each have a body, a soul, and a spirit. A tree has a body but no soul or spirit. A dog has a body and a soul. The soul is the part that has a personality, can love, talk, or bark, but dogs have no spirit. The spirit is the part that lives on into eternity. Man, or rather the human race, has a spirit, the part that is eternal.

Now perhaps God simply dismissed one part of the Trinity in the form of Christ and sent Him here to be our example, our intercessor, our elder brother. He could talk, and love, and teach us how to prepare for eternity. He had a body and we could see Him.

It isn’t hard to believe that He was the outward manifestation of the Godhead. Since God created the world and hung it on nothing, anything is possible with Him.

Mrs. George Quigley
Portland, Oregon

Editor’s Note: Sorry. It’s still a profound mystery to me. But thanks for trying to help me out of my quandary.

by JUDI MANKE

Jesus, Take His Hand

MY SON DONNIE had a rare disease, discovered when he was four. He had many surgeries, including leg surgeries for the removal of tumors, followed by radiation therapy which sometimes healed slowly. This disease was similar to Hodgkins Disease. Donnie became worse and he knew he would not get well.

Donnie loved to read and to discuss what he had read. He sat in on our devotions and Bible studies. I shall never forget the night that my husband, John, explained the 23rd Psalm to him. He especially wanted verse four explained; “Even when walking through the dark valley of death I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me, guarding, guiding all the way” (TLB). After this he really did not have much fear, though his condition worsened during the next few months.

JUDI MANKE is a businesswoman and a member of the Medford, Oregon, First Church of the Nazarene.

“By ALL MEANS... Save Some”

On Sunday, September 13, Donnie had trouble breathing. I knew the end was very near and called the ambulance. While we were waiting alone, as John had taken the other children for a ride, he suddenly became frightened. I knelt beside him and we prayed. I told him Jesus was going to take his hand, and we turned the situation over to Him.

He died a few minutes after we reached the hospital. He was just 10 years old. Over the years I have thanked the Lord for allowing me to hand my son to Him.

The funeral was beautiful. The music selected—"How Great Thou Art"—was Donnie’s favorite. His class at school presented us with a donation for the purchase of children’s books for the church library.

Our pastor said that the spiritual understanding Donnie achieved was greater than that of many adults.

Two days after the funeral I was shopping at the grocery store when a man from our church rushed up with exciting news. He had told a lady about my son, and she had accepted Christ! She had never met Donnie, and had not attended the funeral, but had heard his story. I rejoiced with him. Winning this woman to Christ made losing Donnie a bit easier. □
Eric Scott Musser, a member of the Pittsburgh Lincoln Place Church, recently graduated a Distinguished Cadet with a B.S. degree in nuclear engineering, and a commission as a 2nd Lt. from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. As 14th in his class of over 900, Eric was honored by receiving his diploma from the commencement speaker, President Ronald Reagan.

He taught Sunday School to Post Chapel children, was a company Honor Representative sitting in on Honor Boards, and was appointed regimental operations officer his last year at the academy. Eric is the son of Fory and Margaret Musser of Lincoln Place Church.

Philip Weatherill, who was a member of the 1976 Student Mission Corp to the Dominican Republic, has gained his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Dundee University in Scotland. He graduated with a B.Sc. degree after studying in Dundee, majoring in biochemistry, and has since been involved in research in the area of drug metabolism.

For the past seven years Philip has been a member of the Perth Church of the Nazarene, Scotland. Philip and his wife Laura are now in Cardiff, Wales, where Philip will be continuing postdoctoral research.

Deborah Nixon Peercy, a certified public accountant in Franklin, Tenn., and a faculty member at Trevecca Nazarene College in Nashville, has been selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America.

Mrs. Peercy graduated summa cum laude from Trevecca Nazarene College with a degree in business administration and mathematics. She won the Wall Street Journal Award and was named to Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges. She also holds a master's degree in business administration from Middle Tennessee State University at Murfreesboro. She has done additional study at the University of Tennessee and at British Isles Nazarene College.

Mrs. Peercy holds membership in Phi Delta Lambda honorary society, Beta Gamma Sigma national honor society of mathematics, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Society of Certified Public Accountants of Tennessee, and the American Women's Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Mrs. Peercy and her husband, Kenneth, live in Franklin, Tenn., with their children Andrew (age four) and Margaret (age nine months). She is active in the Franklin Church of the Nazarene.

MILLER DIRECTS PLC ALUMNI

Rev. Robert L. Miller has become director of alumni affairs as of April 1, 1981, at Point Loma College, San Diego, Calif. Miller returns to San Diego after serving as an associate in Christian education at Nampa, Idaho, First Church.

During his 12-year stay in Idaho, Miller conducted the thrice-awarded fastest growing Sunday School in the state. He also served 8-year stints as the chairman of the Intermountain District Church Schools Board and the Nazarene Directors of Christian Education Fellowship, an international organization.

The 1960 Pasadena College graduate has organized and directed national conferences on college campuses in Illinois, Kansas, Idaho, and California. Miller has also been on the ministerial staffs of San Diego University Avenue Church and the Altadena, Calif., church.

Rev. Miller and his wife, Jane, have three children. Two sons, Bob and Jeff, respectively serve as an associate minister in Hawaii and youth minister in Boise, Idaho. The Millers have a married daughter, Rhonda.

MVNC HOSTS PALCON II

Over 500 Nazarene preachers and leaders from the East Central Educational Region attended the second PALCON conference at Mount Vernon Nazarene College on June 8-11. The purpose of PALCON II is to serve as a general refresher seminar for Nazarene pastors and church leaders. Sponsored by the general Church of the Nazarene, the four-day event featured numerous seminars on the basic elements of holiness, discipleship, and the pastoral ministry. Featured speakers included Dr. Dennis Kinlaw of Asbury Seminary in Kentucky, Rev. Sydney Martin of South Africa, and Leon Doane of Kansas City.

Directing the conference were R. Wayne Stallings, assistant to the president of MVNC, Dick Pritchard of Eastern Nazarene College, and Rev. John Nielsen of Kansas City.

One of the most inspirational aspects of PALCON II was the presentation by D. Paul Thomas, "The Sun Never Sets in the Morning," a one-man drama based on the life of Phineas F. Bresee. Written by Thomas, with accompanying music arranged and conducted by his wife Janet, the 90-minute performance resulted in a 10-minute standing ovation at its conclusion.
MANC HONORS TWO CHURCHMEN

Mid-America Nazarene College recognized the contributions of two outstanding churchmen, Rev. Charles R. Millhuff and Rev. James C. Hester, by conferring on them the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. They were honored at the college's annual commencement ceremony.

James C. Hester, superintendent of the Joplin District for 11 years, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in recognition of his contributions to the kingdom of God, to the Church of the Nazarene, and to MANC.

Hester was born at Pittsburg, Tex. He graduated from Bethany Nazarene College and has done graduate work at Lamar University, Panhandle A. and M., and Northwestern University. He has served pastorates in Corpus Christi and Port Arthur, Tex., Guymon, Okla., and Chicago. He has served as a district superintendent for 23 years, 12 years on the San Antonio District.

Hester's achievements include organizing 27 new churches and receiving the Quadrennial Award for outstanding achievement, 1972-76. Under his leadership, the Joplin District was recognized for being first in enrollment

Rev. Charles R. Millhuff, speaking at the 10th graduation ceremony of MANC. The college conferred an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in recognition of his outstanding contributions.

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The new 4,000-seat sanctuary of College Church was the setting for MANC’s annual commencement.

ENC RECEIVES TWO ACCREDITATIONS

Institutional accreditation for Eastern Nazarene College for 10 years was voted by the Commission on Institutions for Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and approved by its Executive Committee recently.

The visiting committee which evaluated the college found “much to admire and some things to be improved at ENC.” The commission expressed its appreciation for the quality of the self-study prepared by ENC faculty and staff with appropriate student and trustee involvement, under the overall direction of Academic Dean Donald L. Young.

The Council on Social Work Education granted initial accreditation to the Baccalaureate Social Work program at ENC. This approval of the professional major in social work resulted from months of intensive self-study, program redesign, and a site visit from social work educators on behalf of the council. This accreditation effort was led by Professor Wayne Dunlop, program director in social work at ENC, assisted by Professor Phyllis Bailey.

TENTH COMMENCEMENT AT MANC

The 10th annual commencement was held at Olathe, Kans., College Church, adjacent to the college campus on Monday, May 25, 1981. Commencement signaled completion of years of academic preparation for the seniors and construction for the local church. The sanctuary was readied just in time for regular services and baccalaureate on Sunday, May 24.

Dr. Eugene L. Stowe, general superintendent, spoke in the baccalaureate service on Sunday, May 24, 1981. Dr. Stowe spoke at the dedication of the new Donald S. Metz Career Education Building on the MANC campus earlier in the day.

Evangelist Chuck Millhuff delivered the annual commencement address to 242 seniors, the largest class in Mid-America Nazarene College's history. Quoting Robert Louis Stevenson, Millhuff said, "Sooner or later everyone sits down to a banquet of consequences." He read Joshua 24:15 as his text, "Choose you this day whom you will serve."
NIROGA UPDATE

Niroga Days are being conducted at Nazarene churches near Niroga sites.

William Fisher and the Ashevelle, N.C., First Church extend their hand of fellowship to Nirogans who arrive in the area before Ridgecrest. This will be their first.

Pastor Cannon and the Santa Fe, N.M., church will be having their eighth or ninth such occasion. Ernest Armstrong has been the favorite personality there for years. A great day awaits early arrivals at Glorieta.

Dr. Jerald D. Johnson will be the featured speaker at Niroga Day, Calgary First Church, prior to the Banff, Canada, retreat. Host Pastor Bob Lindsey welcomes Nirogans to Calgary First Church.

Nirogans who arrive early in the area of the respective retreats are encouraged to avail themselves of these opportunities.

A postal strike in Canada has the registrar concerned that some may have sent applications for Banff which have not been received. Anyone who has applied at Banff and has not re-
PRESIDENT REAGAN APPOINTS NAZARENE TO NAVY POSITION

Chapman B. Cox, 40, a Marine corps veteran and Denver attorney, was sworn in as deputy assistant secretary of the Navy on June 25, 1981 at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. He was named to the post in mid-May by the Reagan administration. His responsibilities in the top-level position include providing policy direction in the management and coordination of all major logistic programs.

Mr. Cox has been with the Denver law firm of Sherman and Howard since 1972. At the time of his appointment to the Navy post, he was the firm’s managing partner. He has been legal counsel for the Colorado Republican Party since 1977. He was on the national campaign staff of Senator Howard Baker, R-Tenn., and later served as liaison officer between the Reagan campaign and the Colorado state party organization.

Mr. Cox is a member of the Supreme Court of the State of Colorado, the Supreme Court of the State of California, and since his years of active duty in Vietnam, a member of the United States Military Court of Appeals. He is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of Southern California with a B.A. degree in political science. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1965.

Mr. Cox is the son of Mrs. Jewel Cox, and the late Rev. C. B. Cox, Nazarene evangelists. His wife is Jeanette Korody, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. M. R. Korody, who serve at the Kansas City Nail Avenue Church. They have two children: Charles Benjamin, 12; and Andrew David, 10.

REVIVAL SPIRIT CHARACTERIZES PALCONE II

A spirit of revival continues to dominate the mood of PALCONE II. In recent PALCONEs at Olivet and Eastern, pastors and church leaders have responded to invitations for prayer and recommitment to the task of the ministry.

At Eastern, Dr. Jerald D. Johnson’s Wednesday night message resulted in a prayer service involving scores of pastors. Enthusiastic and spontaneous singing and shouts of praise filled the sanctuary of the new College Church.

Major presentations on stress, discipleship, lay ministry, and holiness preaching have been well received. Practical workshop-type seminars have also drawn a wide and appreciative response.

PALCONE II participants are continuing to demonstrate deep appreciation for the presentation of “The Sun Never Sets in the Morning,” by D. Paul Thomas. The closing challenge of Dennis Kinlaw, president of Asbury College, provided a soul-searching conclusion to the Olivet and Eastern conferences.

Pastors have openly expressed appreciation for the work of Dr. Mark Moore, director; and John M. Nielson, PALCONE II coordinator.

INTERSECT REACHES OUT

Where God’s love and human need meet—that’s the theme of INTERSECT, sponsored by Youth Ministries. Eleven Nazarene college students in three U.S. locations are reaching out to do that this summer, serving in local churches in Conejo Valley and Los Angeles, Calif., and Lehigh Acres, Fla. They are working in various areas of church ministry: personal evangelism, vacation Bible schools, outreach, Sunday School visitation, one-on-one discipleship, and children’s, youth, and singles ministries. They are also involved in supportive efforts to those who work in the church, helping them meet the needs of those they serve.

INTERSECT teams began their summer of ministry on June 21, after an extensive training camp in Golden Bell, Colo. They conclude their efforts on August 17. Churches sponsoring an INTERSECT team this summer are: Conejo Valley church, Rev. Norman Shoemaker, pastor; Los Angeles First Church, Rev. William Boggs, pastor; and Lehigh Acres church, Rev. Kenneth J. Blish, pastor. Directing this year’s INTERSECT program is David Best, director of Campus/Career Ministries.

INTERSECT is a program unit of Youth in Mission, under the coordination of Mike Estep, Campus Ministries Program Director for Youth Ministries.

INTERSECT - CONEJO VALLEY

Rick Bartlett TNC
Robert Nooe BNC

Lori Haynes MANC
Michele Tingley ONC

Pamela Belzer NNC
Glynnia McArthur BNC

LEHIGH ACRES

INTERSECT - LOS ANGELES

Neil Allan NBC
Tracy Lynch MVNC

Dana Bays MVNC
Susanna Woodroof NNC

Renee Bonar NNC

Mrs. Roger Lane and Pastor A. A. Farris present Dexter Burton with a plaque expressing the appreciation of the Somerset, Ky., church for his 27 years of continuous service as Sunday School superintendent and Board of Christian Life chairman.
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2. Determine your needs and order an adequate supply of the text—a special study edition of "1 & II Corinthians" from Volume 8 Beacon Bible Commentary.
3. Be sure to report the study to the Christian Service Training office when the study is completed.

Here's what's required...
1. Attend at least 10 out of the 13 class sessions
2. Study the regular Sunday School lesson
3. Read the textbook—the special edition on "1 & II Corinthians."

Lesson Commentary Cassette
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Enduring Word Filmstrip
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First Corinthians has much to say about the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the born-again Christian. Time spent with these books by three respected Bible scholars will deepen your understanding of a currently vital subject.

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By W. T. Purkiser. Brings together some basic teachings of the Scripture as it relates to the Holy Spirit's ministry in the 80s. 80 pages. Paper.

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The Fullness of the Spirit

$1.50

Believe and Behave
By Wilbur E. Nelson. Translates the message to the Corinthian church into the contemporary scene. Devotional reading you will thoroughly enjoy. 192 pages. Paper.

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Order NOW and have ready to use the first Sunday in September

Prices subject to change without notice
Dr. Leslie Parrott, president of Olivet Nazarene College, congratulates Pastor Melvin McCullough on the reception of the Doctor of Ministry Degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif. Dr. Melvin McCullough is the pastor of Kankakee, Ill., College Church, located adjacent to Olivet Nazarene College. Dr. McCullough is a graduate of Bethany Nazarene College and Nazarene Theological Seminary. Prior to coming to Kankakee he served as pastor of Colorado Springs, First Church.

FOR THE RECORD

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

CANADA WEST
The 33rd annual assembly of the Canada West District convened in Medicine Hat, Alberta, District Superintendent Alexander Ardrey, completing the second year of an extended term, reported new churches in Sherwood Park, Alberta, and Eatonia, Saskatchewan. Presiding General Superintendent William M. Greathouse ordained Douglas Cooney, Terrence Goudy, Alan Griffin, J. J. Ross Johnston, Edward Lykens, Hilda Moen, and Paul Robbins. Elders Glenn Folis and Charles Westhafer and laymen Dale Beckman and Don Goings were elected to the Advisory Board. Mrs. Darlene Fach was elected NWMS president; Rev. J. J. Ross Johnston was elected NYI president, and Rev. Riley Coulter was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

CANADA ATLANTIC
The 38th annual assembly of the Canada Atlantic District met in Lutes Mountain church, New Brunswick. District Superintendent William F. Bahan, completing the third year of an extended term, reported.

John Richard Doige was ordained by presiding General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins. Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Bert Collins and David Parker and laymen Ken Hardy and Bert Rogers.

Mrs. Mae Bahan was reelected NWMS president; Rev. Bob Barnes was elected NYI president, and Rev. Rick Doige was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

ALASKA
The 31st annual assembly of the Alaska District met in Soldotna. Alaska District Superintendent Robert W. Sheppard, completing the third year of an extended term, reported.

Dr. Jerald D. Johnson, general superintendent, ordained David H. McNutt, Riley S. Hunter, and Larry L. Hawn. Donald B. McCullough and Ronald J. Wells, elders, and Jerry Woods and Harry Reimer, laymen, were elected to the Advisory Board.

Adeline Reimer, NWMS president, was reelected. Paul Bentley was elected NYI president, and Rev. Bob Denham was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

UPSTATE NEW YORK
The 44th annual assembly of the Upstate New York District met at Brooktondale, N.Y. District Superintendent George Teague, serving under appointment, was elected for a one-year term. He reported a new church in Parish, N.Y. Dale Fitch was ordained by presiding General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland. Elders Arthur Hughes and Newell Smith and

ACTS 29—THE CHURCH GOES ON

Acts 29 could be the story of the church in action. The discipling group sponsored by Youth Ministries, Acts 29, is living the story out in Colorado Springs, Colo., in the summer of 1981. Eleven Nazarene college students, along with leader couple Phil and Deann Tate, have become a Christian discipling community for the summer, focusing on disciplship principles, personal ministry skills, and leadership training. In addition to their meeting together each evening and weekends for training, they work 40 hours a week on the staff at the North Pole Amusement Park and contribute their paychecks to the group to earn their support. While working, they are challenged to "live the Word" daily in life-style and testimony.

Acts 29 is a program unit of Youth in Mission, under the supervision of Mike Estep, Campus Ministries program director for Youth Ministries. Acts 29 is coordinated by David Best, director of Campus/Career Ministries.

[Image of ordination candidates]
laymen Donald Bausman and John Bodine were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Vera McKim, NWMS president; Rev. Kim Richardson, NYI president; and Rev. Donna Littlefield, chairman of the Board of Christian Life, were all reelected to their respective offices.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

The 50th annual assembly of the Rocky Mountain District met in Billings, Mont. District Superintendent Darrel Slack, completing the second year of an extended term, reported the organization of a church in Gillette, Wyoming.

Dr. Eugene L. Stowe was the presiding general superintendent.

Elders Jim Bartz and Fred Moon and laymen Jim Beets and Garrett Lund were elected to the Advisory Board.

Louis Thorpe was reelected NWMS president; Howard Ours was elected NYI president; and Rev. John Bullock was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA

The 30th annual assembly of the Northeast Oklahoma District was held in Sapulpa, Okla. District Superintendent W. T. Dougherty, completing the third year of an extended term, reported a new church organized in Stroud, Okla.

The presiding general superintendent was Dr. Charles H. Strickland.

Elected to the Advisory Board were elders W. B. (Bill) Livingston and Tommy Loving and laymen Bill Johnson and Bob Kannady.

Mrs. W. T. Dougherty was reelected NWMS president; Rev. Kim Smith was elected NYI president; and Rev. Francis H. Bolerjack was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

CANADA PACIFIC

The 28th annual assembly of the Canada Pacific District met in Vancouver B.C. First Church District Superintendent Daniel J. Derksen, completing the third year of an extended term, reported.

Dr. William M. Greathouse, general superintendent, recognized the credentials of Rev. John Peng.

Wesley Campbell and John McIntrye elders.

ARIZONA

The 60th annual assembly of the Arizona District met in Phoenix. District Superintendent Crawford T. Vanderpool, completing the second year of an extended term, reported a new church, the Carefree, Ariz., Moapa Valley church.

Dr. Eugene L. Stowe, general superintendent, ordained Norman Knoodle and Randall Tipton.

Elders elected to the Advisory Board were Ross Hayslip and Stanley McElrath. laymen elected were David Gipe and J. R. Porter.

Mrs. Phyllis Cheatham was elected NWMS president; Rev. Mark Harmon was elected NYI president; and Rev. Lee Steele was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

MAINE

The 21st annual assembly of the Maine District met in Augusta. Me. District Superintendent J. E. Shankel, completing the first year of an extended term, reported.


Elders John C. Evans and Harry E. Trask and laymen Raymon A. Hunter, Jr., and Edison Mitchell were elected to the Advisory Board.

Reelected to their respective offices were Dorothy Brown, NWMS president; Rev. Cecil Jones, NYI president; and Rev. Larry R. Farnbanks, Sr., chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

MOVING MINISTERS

RICHARD CHEW from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, to Utica, N.Y.

WILLIAM C. COULTER JR., from Kansas City Nall Avenue, to Colorado Springs First

CLARENCE P. DRIFTMYER from Painesville, Ohio, to Homer City, Pa.

LEE ELLINGSON from evangelism to Pearl River, La.

ROBERT E. FERRELL from Lawrence (Kans.) Holiday Hills to Leopax, Ohio

JOHN M. GARDNER from Lakeland (Fla.) South Florida Heights to Kansas City Nall Avenue

CHARLES W. GROVES from Columbus (Ohio) Frank Road to evangelism

MARK HOLLAND from associate, Royston, Pa., to associate, Lindsale, Pa.

ORVILLE JACKSON from Mobile (Ala.) Parkview to Searcy, Ariz.

RICHARD A. JORGENSEN from associate, Port Orchard, Wash., to Boise (Ida.) Overland

DENNIS L. LIBERTY from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, to Leonia, N.J.

LEE R. MCCLEERY from Upper Marboro (Md.) Melwood to Minneapolis First

MIKE NORRIS from Dayton (Ohio) First to Baltimore First

General Superintendent V. H. Lewis (center) stands with Rev. and Mrs. Robert M. Mitchell (r.) and Rev. and Mrs. Norman A. Shaw (l.) following the ordination service at the 21st annual Maine District Assembly held at Augusta, Me., June 10-11.

and Robert Collier and Ken Harter, laymen, were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Joyce Derksen was reelected NWMS president; Lorna Bartram was elected NYI president; and Rev. Melvin A. Tucker was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.
SUNDAY SCHOOL

LEONARD D. ADAMS from Fulmer, Mich., formerly district superintendent of the Ohio District, was installed as the new superintendent of the Western Pennsylvania District at a meeting of the Board of District Superintendents. He said the people of the district are looking forward to his leadership as they enter a new era of growth and development.

Hall of Fame members were honored at the Nevada district assembly. These members were: Dr. D. I. Vanderpool, Rev. A. D. Coates, and Rev. W. M. Shefield.

The ordination class of 1941 on the Northwest District met in an anniversary fellowship and dinner on May 6, 1981 at Yakima, Wash., at the district assembly. Seven of the 12 men and their spouses, with some of their children and grandchildren, were present for this 40-year event. On May 23, 1941 Dr. R. T. Williams ordained this group of 12 men, which was the largest class of ordinands in the history of the district.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Brush, Colo., church will observe their 60th anniversary with special services August 19-23. Rev. Arthur Smith, a former pastor, will speak at the banquet on the evening of the 22nd. All former members, pastors, and friends are invited. Address all correspondence to the pastor, Rev. G. Morris, 1520 Edmunds, Brush, CO 80723.

The Chickasha, Okla., church's anniversary celebration has been changed to September 12-13. For further information, contact Rev. Richard Olsen, 906 S. 9th, Chickasha, OK 73018.

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RECOMMENDATION

I am pleased to recommend BARBARA SMITH as an exceptional soloist. She desires to present the message of Christ's love through the beautiful contemporary gospel music of today. She is a graduate of the University of California and has taught vocal music nine years in the public school system. She is a committed Christian and would bring blessing to any church through her singing. Her mailing address is: Miss Barbara Smith, 1855 Newton St., Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V8R 2R3. —Dan J. Deeken, Canada Pacific District superintendent.

Evangelists may be reached through the Department of Evangelism's toll-free number, 800-821-2154.

VITAL STATISTICS

VETERAN NAZARENE ELDER DIES

Rev. Dowie Swarth, Nazarene elder and home missions pioneer, died June 11 at his home in Duarte, Calif. He was 95.

Rev. Swarth was born and educated in Holland for government diplomatic service. He emigrated to the United States as a young man, married, and entered business. Soon after, he was converted and joined the Church of the Nazarene. He served as pastor, evangelist, and district superintendent of the Alberta, Canada, and Arizona, U.S.A., districts, after which he became the pioneer missionary superintendent of the North American Indian District.

Throughout the 54 years of his active service in the ministry, he maintained a burden for his native Holland. In his later years, he was instrumental in making possible the first buildings to begin the Nazarene work in Haarlem, Holland.

He was preceded in death by his wife Theresa and their daughter, Mary Lou Bass. He is survived by five daughters, Mary Lou Bass and Iva Johnson, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

The ordination class of 1941 on the Northwest District met in an anniversary fellowship and dinner on May 6, 1981 at Yakima, Wash., at the district assembly. Seven of the 12 men and their spouses, with some of their children and grandchildren, were present for this 40-year event. On May 23, 1941 Dr. R. T. Williams ordained this group of 12 men, which was the largest class of ordinands in the history of the district. Dr. D. I. Vanderpool was the district superintendent, and Dr. Hugh C. Benner was the pastor of Spokane First Church where the district assembly was being held. Those who were present to celebrate the anniversary occasion are shown (l. to r., standing): Lyle Robinson, Leland Salisbury, Walter Watson, Carl Lindbloom; (l. to r., seated): Ray Kellom, Ed McConnell, and Raymond Kratzer. Those unable to attend were: Larry Bone, Glenn Butler, Carroll Etter, Reuben Newsom, and Bradford McDowell.
COALITION FOR BETTER TELEVISION MAKES IMPACT. Procter and Gamble, television’s biggest spender, got mixed reviews from Hollywood and Madison Avenue on June 17 for refusing to advertise on 50 shows it deemed too violent or sexually explicit and for saying it listens “very carefully” to conservative critics of television. Procter and Gamble chairman Owen B. Butler revealed the decisions, involving programs last season, in a speech before the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences in Los Angeles on June 15.

He denied that the company, which spent $125.2 million on TV ads last year, was reacting to threats of boycotts by conservative coalitions monitoring TV programming. But he said those groups are “expressing some very important and broadly held views about gratuitous sex, violence, and profanity, . . .”

Among advertisers, many companies insisted they had been pre-screening TV programs for good taste for decades—long before the current wave of conservative groups came along. But others said the Procter and Gamble statement meant the impact of new conservative coalitions on advertising was undesirable.

WEST GERMANS FORM NATIONAL BIBLE SOCIETY. West Germans have formed their first national Bible society, according to a report reaching the American Bible Society in New York.

Thirty regional societies recently united to form one single West German Bible Society which is now a member of the international fellowship known as the United Bible Societies.

The merger concludes a long process of uniting the various German Bible societies and organizations which were formed in the 18th and 19th centuries.

With headquarters in Stuttgart, the amalgamated society will be among the largest worldwide, with 60 full-time staff members.

In East Germany, a federation of 14 regional societies continues its work of Bible distribution in the German Democratic Republic.

SUPREME COURT FACES NEW CHURCH SOLICITATION CASE. The U.S. Supreme Court will decide whether religious groups receiving more than half their income from public solicitation should be exempt from state registration and reporting requirements. At stake is the constitutionality of the Minnesota Charitable Solicitations Act.

The Minnesota law requires charitable organizations, including church-related groups, to register with the state before soliciting funds from the general public and to comply with certain reporting requirements. Three years ago, four members of Sun Myung Moon’s Unification Church challenged the law as unconstitutional under the First Amendment’s ban on establishment of religion. A U.S. district court last year agreed with Moon’s followers. It struck down provisions that applied to churches and church-related groups and left the law in effect for nonreligious charitable organizations.

Supreme Court justices now must untangle the conflicting views from lower courts and decide whether the Minnesota exemption unconstitutionally favors some religions over others. The case will be held over for full argument in the high court’s new term beginning in October.

DOOMSDAY CLOCK. The symbolic “doomsday clock” used by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists to dramatize the danger of worldwide nuclear catastrophe, was moved to four minutes to the midnight hour early in January.

The recent move was made because of the failure of the SALT II treaty and because of each nation’s stated willingness to engage in a limited nuclear war.
MARRIAGES

FAITH SOLOMON and ANDY SHIMKO at Olathe, Kans., May 23
BRENDA MINOR and JERRY RICE at Olathe, Kans., May 29
DEBBIE ANGER and BRAD DYNES at Willmar, Minn., May 30

ANNIVERSARIES

REV. KEITH AND LUELLA TAYLOR of Wichita, Kans., were honored June 7 on their 50th wedding anniversary. The Taylors were married June 7, 1931, at Chanute, Kans. The reception took place at the Westside Church Fellowship Hall. There was Scripture reading and prayer by Pastor Leon Hendrix, and a short program by the family. The reception was hosted by their four daughters: Mrs. Don (Rowene) Reedy, Wichita, Kans.; Mrs. Don (Pauline) Farmer, Olathe, Kans.; Mrs. Charles (Ann) See, Houston, Tex.; and Mrs. Charles (Kathy) Howell, Oklahoma City. They also have seven grandchildren.

DEBBIE SELFRIDGE and DAVE PERSELL at Olathe, Kans., June 20

THE ANSWER

Conducted by W. E. McCumber, Editor

Should people who smoke, play cards, and attend theaters be received as members of our church? Should members who do these things serve on our church boards?

Prospective members should be acquainted with, and agree to abide by, the General and Special Rules of the Church (which do not mention card playing specifically), and board members should be elected from among our most exemplary members.

It has been my observation that the Church of the Nazarene takes much better care of, and provides better for, its foreign missionaries than its home missionary pastors. Is there some valid reason for this? Doesn't the church have a minimum salary scale for home mission pastors?

Salary scales for home mission pastors, where they exist, are fixed by districts, not by the general church. In most cases, the local church served by the pastor determines his salary, unless it is paid or subsidized by district funds. All our pastors, throughout the world, should be supported as well as possible. Failure to do so discourages them, disgraces their churches, and helps to make agnostics of their children.

Could you give me some light on Hebrews 4:12? Does this scripture imply that the human soul is not one and the same?

Scripture does not make the fine psychological distinction between soul and spirit as functional, not constitutional. By the terms “soul” and “spirit,” the inner life is viewed in two perspectives. “Soul” is the inner life on its “lower” side, where that inner life contacts the physical region, and “spirit” is the inner life on its “higher” side, where it contacts the rational and spiritual regions.

Some scholars view “soul” as the principle of animal life, which man shares with beasts, combining emotion, sensibility, and understanding. “Spirit” is viewed as the principle of man’s rational life combining will and reason which man shares with God. In any case, Hebrews 4:12 does not emphasize the distinction between soul and spirit, but stresses the power of God’s Word to penetrate the inner life, so that man can have no secrets from God.

Would you please explain why the phrase “He died for our sins and rose by his own power” has been removed from the Apostles’ Creed in our new hymnal?

I don’t know why. I can only guess. The committee responsible for the hymnal must have thought the descent into hell is a belief of our church. The “descent” is not mentioned, either, in our Acephal form of the Apostles’ Creed in our new hymnal? I understand the Apostles’ Creed is universal and cannot be changed by one denomination. Also, in checking with two Nazarene ministers, the descent into hell is a belief of our church. Why, then, has it been removed?

I don’t know why. I can only guess. The committee responsible for the hymnal must have thought the clause was more confusing than enlightening.

In any case, Hebrews 4:12 does not emphasize the distinction between soul and spirit, but stresses the power of God’s Word to penetrate the inner life, so that man can have no secrets from God.
Muskegon, Mich.: First Church had a great revival with Rev. Morris E. Wilson as evangelist and Larry and Pat Neff as singers and musicians. The presence of God was evident in the services, and preaching wasn’t necessary on Sunday morning. People were saved and sanctified, with a total of 64 seekers at the altar.

—Bill Sessoms, pastor

McPherson, Kans.: First Church recently had an outstanding revival with Spirit-anointed preaching by Evangelist Raymond Canfield. Also, the Spirit broke through the singing of song evangelists Jon and Beth Le-Crone and family. Over 50 souls received spiritual help at the altar. The entire church family is full of renewed faith as a result of this revival effort.

—W. L. Albright, pastor

Bluford, Ill.: The Markham City Church has recently had a revival under the ministry of Evangelist Harold

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Excellent in Homes with Young Children

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For Preschool Children: Approximately 87 songs with finger plays, musical activities, and instructional material for teaching toddler, nursery, and kindergarten boys and girls. Songs cover a wide range of relevant topics, including worship and praise, seasonal, self-concepts, family, relationships with others, God the Father, God the Son, and so on. Sample song titles are: “At Night,” “The Butterfly Song,” “Can You Clap Your Hands?” “Exercise Song,” “God Cares,” “God Is Watching over You,” “God Needs Helpers,” “The Wiggle Song.”

MB-482 Songbook $3.50
L-9025 Double Album $9.98 TA-9025C Cassette $9.98

SONGS OF GOD AND ME

For Primary Children: This teacher’s book contains approximately 102 songs. The book also provides instructional helps for a variety of musical activities and tips for introducing and teaching songs. Among the choruses, songs, and hymns included are: “I Was Glad,” “Come into His Presence,” “The Church Is Wherever God’s People Are Praising,” “All Night, All Day,” “All Things Bright and Beautiful,” “Psalm 8,” “Get in the Ark,” “Apple-red Happiness,” “Missionaries,” “My God Is So Big.”

MB-483 Songbook $3.95
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SING!

For Junior Children: Designed for use by 9- through 11-year-olds (middlers and juniors), this collection of approximately 95 choruses, songs, and hymns is aimed at the child. Notes and words are easily read and attractively laid out. Sectional headings include such topics as Worship and Praise, God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, Discipleship, the Church, seasonal songs. Among the titles are: “Clap Your Hands,” “When We Talk to Him,” “He’s Got Everything Under Control,” “How Big Is God?” “Did You Ever Talk to God?” “The Family of God.”

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FOR ADDED USE AND ENJOYMENT: All songs have been recorded on a split channel. This unique production device makes it possible to use as a sing-along accompaniment or for listening.

Help Your Kids Put a Song in the Air

NOTE: For use in the Sunday School, see editors’ recommendations in teachers’ quarterlies. Prices subject to change without notice.

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There were around 40 seekers at the altar seeking salvation, sanctification, and physical healing. The power of God was so real, that a businessman driving past the church to work, felt the Spirit of God's tug into the church. He was a backslider, but received wonderful victory. In the evening a young man dropped in on impulse and was converted.

—Harvey A. Shrout, pastor

Hillsboro, Ohio: First Church recently had an outstanding revival with Evangelist D. F. Hail. As Rev. Hail preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit each evening, God came in a mighty way, and each night seekers received help. God has given the church an increase from that revival. Several have been baptized, and a number are planning to join the church.

—Daniel McCollum, pastor

Marriage Enrichment Training—Kansas City

Eight couples attended the denomination's ninth Marriage Enrichment training retreat at King Conference Center, located within the Headquarters complex.

The eight couples represented five districts: Richard and Sharon Bushey, Missouri; Wayne and Joan LaForce, Missouri; David and Sally Bostick, Southwest Oklahoma; Charles and Nancy Hail, Colorado; Bob and June Owens, Louisiana; Tim and Jadonna Trout, Eastern Michigan; Gary and Carol Sivewright, Kansas City; Dick and Fran Godfrey, Kansas City.

These couples are primarily committed to the ongoing nurture and equipping of marriages in their local church.

With this ninth training retreat, the denomination has 70 couples involved in a marital health ministry. The format of this ministry is normally reflected in a weekend retreat with a subsequent support group. Another major local church format is Marriage Enrichment Growth Group. Both are described in more detail in the free promotional packet available from the Marriage and Family Life Office, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

—J. Paul and Marilyn Turner

MEMO

To church board members:

Where does your pastor live? Many Nazarene churches provide a nice, well-maintained parsonage. But where will he live when he retires—when there is no parsonage? You see, your pastor does not build equity in a home the way most people in your congregation do, because he doesn't own his home. In a sense, a pastor leaves a part of his salary with the congregation when he transfers to another congregation. He is not able to take this portion of life's earnings with him.

You can help equalize this economic factor by helping your pastor build equity through another excellent investment—the Nazarene Supplemental Retirement Program. Current deposits in this annuity earn 11 percent interest and are sheltered from current federal income taxes.

More and more churches are enrolling their pastor in the Nazarene Supplemental Retirement Program.

—Pensions and Benefits Services
JOSE CARDONA TO BE FEATURED ON LA HORA NAZARENA

Rev. José Cardona, superintendent of the Eastern Latin American District, will be the featured speaker on the international Spanish broadcast, "La Hora Nazarena." His series of 15 messages will be broadcast beginning in March, 1982, and will continue through June, 1982. His series will continue the theme of holiness, with special emphasis on holiness and family relationships. Rev. Cardona has carefully and creatively interwoven certain characteristics of the strong Latin emphasis on the family unit in order to substantiate the biblical approach to harmony in the home and the need for sanctified relationships.

Prior to accepting the superintendency of the Eastern Latin American District, Rev. Cardona pastored in San Antonio, Kansas City, and Puerto Rico. He is a graduate of Seminario de Nazareno in San Antonio, Tex., and Mid-America Nazarene College in Olathe, Kans. Rev. Cardona is married to the former Adelaida (Heidi) Colon. They have five children: Laurie and Eileen, both attending Rutgers University; Wendy, a high school senior; Joey, a 10th grader; and Becky, a 7th grader.

NEW LIFE FOR THE BROOKS FAMILY

This beautiful family is another "Miracle Product" of the 20/20 VISION television special, "Family: Handle with Care."

Residing in Sacramento, Calif., Fred and Mary met when Fred was discharged from the military service. They were married shortly afterward and now have a beautiful young teenage daughter, Anna. Fred presently works as a computer programmer with a private company in Sacramento.

The Brookses, like many families, were struggling with marital problems and the pressures of raising a teenager in today's world. During this time of conflict and frustration they watched the local TV airing of "Family: Handle with Care." They responded and were visited by Rev. Wilbur Brannon, pastor of the Sacramento Liberty Towers Church of the Nazarene. Surprised that the pastor would hand-deliver the book, Mary was apprehensive and did not invite Rev. Brannon into the house. However, as they visited at the door she sensed a pastor reaching out in a desire to be helpful to the family. Mary expressed her appreciation for the visit and an interest in visiting the church.

The following Sunday, Fred, Mary, and Anna were in church. They responded openly to the personal interest extended through the warm acceptance and personal calls of the church people. They continued attending and soon made a new commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Brannon reports: "In spite of severe pressures and family adjustments, they have remained constant in their commitment to the church. In the 1980 district summer camp meeting, Mary and Fred were sanctified and have continued to grow spiritually. Mary is now working as a teacher's aide in the church's Early Childhood Center. Fred is serving in the ministry of ushering and is active in his Sunday School class. Anna is in the youth group and attends the church's Christian School."

UPDATE ON NEW CHURCH PLANTING

The best first six months in new church starts since 1964 was recorded January through June, 1981. Thirty-five new churches were officially recorded, which compares most favorably with the 49 recorded for the entire 12 months of 1980. Eighty-four fully organized churches are recorded for the quinquennium, from January 1, 1980 through July 2, 1981.

As of July 2, 1981, 856 sites have been targeted for new Churches of the Nazarene in Britain, Canada, and the United States. Regular services are being held in 274. Eighty-four are organized (as mentioned above), while 190 continue to hold regular services, planning for eventual organization.

The goal for Britain, Canada, and the United States is 546 new churches this quinquennium. The total world goal is 1,000 new churches. The target for 1985 is 8,000 total churches and 800,000 members around the world.
I want to use this page in this issue as a vehicle for my testimony. Before I was a preacher or an editor, I was a witness. While I am a preacher and an editor, I will be an active witness. Witnessing has a kind of priority that justifies the preemption of this page for testimony.

By the grace of God I have been delivered from sin. My experience was not dramatic for my sins were not uncommon. Worse than my sins of the flesh—and they were bad enough—were my sins of the spirit. As Paul could never forget that he once persecuted the church, so I cannot forget that I denied God, scoffed at the Bible, and ridiculed all that my heart now embraces as sacred.

God brought me to repentance through His Word as it found expression in a beautiful Christian life. My sins were forgiven and my direction reversed. I was baptized in Jesus’ name and admitted to His church. In that fellowship my life has been happy and, to some little measure, it has been useful.

Not long after I found Christ, I was filled with the Spirit. My heart had begun to hunger for holiness and power—power to live consistently and to witness convincingly. Something within me warred against God’s will and made me weak and hesitant in the face of temptation. I needed purity and power at the center of my being. The message of holiness was preached to me, and the people of God prayed for me. At an altar of prayer, I experienced my personal Gethsemane and Pentecost. A sense of cleanliness and strength within thrilled me as my will was aligned with the will of God. The deep inward change I experienced has persisted as I have grown in grace and in the knowledge of Christ.

By God’s grace I have been delivered, also, from illness. Most of the time, healing has come through “ordinary” means. God has healed me through His servants the doctors, and through His instruments of medicine and therapy. Twice I have been healed by “extraordinary” means—immediately and directly by the power of the Lord. From an ulcerous condition of the stomach and from a cancerous condition of the mind, the Lord was pleased to heal me through prayer and faith.

By God’s grace I have been delivered from fear. To live obsessed by fear is worse than living in sickness, though not as bad as living in sin. For reasons I will not elaborate, I was very fearful of others’ opinions, especially their opinions of me. I was also fearful of failing, at least of failing in the eyes of others. I still respect the opinions of others, but I don’t fear them. I respect the successes of others, but I don’t envy them. If I can be faithful to what I perceive to be God’s will for my life, how others rate me is insignificant. The Lord is my Judge. If others try to be, that’s their problem, not mine. I praise Him for deliverance from unhealthy, crippling fears.
EVERYBODY
ought to know Jesus

OCTOBER SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY

Inform the whole church with the impact of this
EVERYBODY BANNER
Displayed where all can see, this three-color silk-screened message will get attention
and inspire action. Processed on a plastic-coated canvaslike weather-resistant
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SI-19805 ........................................ Only $9.50
UX-400 WOODEN FRAME for displaying above banner outside.
Hardware included ................................................ $10.95
Plus transportation

Encourage each member to wear this
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Raised gold letters highlighted on a black background becomes a conversational
piece which can lead into a meaningful witnessing opportunity. Made of finest
quality metal, gold-plated. Comes with card giving a brief explanation of program.
PI-19805 Clutch style ........................................ Each $1.50; 10 or more, each $1.25
PI-19805S Stick pin style

Strengthen that personal witness with this
EVERYBODY JESUS INFORMATION CARD
Ideal to give to person who has inquired about your “Everybody” pin. Attractively
designed with scriptures declaring “Who He Is,” “Why He Came,” “What
He Said,” “How He Saves.” 2” x 3½”.
U-19805 ...................................................... Package of 50 for $1.50

Introduce and sing this
EVERYBODY OUGHT TO KNOW CHORUS
Make it the theme song during the four weeks of your “Everybody” campaign. An
easy and fun sing-along for all ages as well as a meaningful keepsake of the occasion.
6” x 9”.
SF-19805 ...................................................... Package of 25 for $1.50

Display your goals on this eye catching
EVERYBODY POSTER
Add interest, excitement, and a challenge by placing this colorful poster in each classroom.
Provides lines for projecting goals, and recording attendance each of the four Sundays in
October. 14” x 22”.
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An every-member effort to acquaint your church community
with the Savior and the hope of eternal life

Children’s Rally Day October 4
“Everybody ought to know who Jesus is”
—JOHN 3:16

Youth Rally Day October 11
“Everybody ought to know why Jesus came”
—ROMANS 5:8

Adult Rally Day October 18
“Everybody ought to know what Jesus said”
—REVELATION 3:20

Sunday School Rally October 25
“Everybody ought to know how Jesus saves”
—1 JOHN 1:9

PLAN NOW! NOTE: Material should be in your hands ready to use
by the week of September 21.

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