

WEIMAR INSTITUTE BULLETIN

BOX A, WEIMAR, CALIFORNIA 95736

VOL. 4 NO. 1 JANUARY, 1980

Weimar - Thirty-One Months Later

Thirty-one months seems like an eternity to a young child. He could scarcely recall any but the most important events of more than two and one half years ago.

But to a newly-formed team of Seventh-day Adventist laymen sensing God's call to form a major new ministry at Weimar, thirty-one months hardly seems enough time to have begun. Remembering the bold plans we so confidently announced on paper, remembering the vast and very needy facility we had just purchased, and remembering the tiny cluster of persons gathered around the daily prayer circles, and the strong tendency of our bank account to cling near zero—it seems we needed at least thirty-one months just to collect our senses. Persons of more experience may have thought us foolish to even begin.

Yet as we start, this January, our fourth calendar year of operation, we stand in awe. God has acted, and we have been blessed. The results of these beginning months give us confidence as we face the goals yet ahead of us.

Won't you come with us on an ink-and-paper tour of Weimar Institute as we compare our original expectations with the realities of the present?

NEW WAYS TO HEALTH

One of the strongest objects of interest in the development of Weimar was a new approach to restoring and preserving health. A lifestyle re-education center, is what we envisioned, complete with a team of dedicated professionals qualified to teach persons a new way to live. Now we can behold the dream fulfilled.

The healing impact of God's eight natural remedies is more powerful than even we had anticipated. The more than 160 persons who have completed the 25-day live-in program have been so openly grateful for the results that we are openly grateful for the privilege of having a part. A beautiful facility which comfortably houses more than 25 guests has been in use for almost a year. The highly-trained medical staff

enjoys an excellent spirit of unity and accomplishment, and is growing in the unique skills this program requires.

A spacious, equipped physical therapy unit needs yet to be provided adjacent to the main Center. Slow but steady progress is being made toward providing outpatient care to persons in the community desiring a more natural form of healing.

The College students who are receiving training in the health Center have proven to be helpful "assistant staff," especially in their second and third quarter's of training. By the time they are fourth-year seniors, they will be qualified to carry major responsibilities. Special post-graduate training sessions for physicians and nurses are being arranged on an individual basis; but this service needs to be expanded to meet requests.

THE COLLEGE AT WEIMAR

Just two years ago, Weimar's Educational Advisory Committee proposed that a college—following the specific counsels given to the Adventist church—be started at Weimar. That very college is now a third of the way through its second year—and the reports are surprisingly positive!

From early indications, Winter quarter enrollment will likely take a 10-12% increase. Second-year students, comparing this year with the last, report increased efficiency, more accurate expectations, and a growing sense of loyalty to the unique style of education offered here.

Work continued over the year-end holidays to prepare the third and fourth dormitories for the 60 or more students anticipated by January. The totally refurbished Chapel will likely be ready for use by late in the month.

The needs are great, however, in the College department. By the Fall of 1980, the College will be offering all four years of courses in most major fields. Science-teaching facilities and more dormitories are vital. Expanded student industries are a must to keep



Discussing plans for 1980, Business Manager Kent Dickinson explains a proposal to Bob Fillman, President of Weimar Institute.

costs down. An increase in course offerings will require the addition of several new faculty in key areas. This will squeeze the already tight housing problem.

The Executive Board has just voted that, for the 1980-81 school year, tuition will once again not be raised. In view of the galloping inflation, this actually means a reduction of tuition for the second year in a row. In spite of this blessing, there are still students unable to attend Weimar College because of their lack of funds. Each time we are made keenly aware of their painful disappointment, we pray that more persons will let their compassion flow shamelessly toward the student aid fund.

QUICK GLANCES

Retreat Center: For more than 15 months, this very successful phase of Weimar's program has been "on the back burner." The primary reason is that the Retreat Lodge has been pressed into service as a women's dormitory; but extremely heavy demands on several Institute departments has also been a factor. Plans are being laid to reactivate a full retreat calen-

dar in the Spring of this year. Watch the Bulletin for announcements.

Senior Ministries: During Weimar's early months, we spoke often of plans for a facility to be occupied by active retired persons—those who most enjoy active involvement in mission as a part of their retirement years. Judging by the flow of interest this concept continues to bring in the mail, it is obviously a needed one. And we have not in the least modified our plan to provide it. Our problem at this point is primarily one of manpower. The construction team is spread so thin that they can only smile patiently at much smaller requests for their services. As we have done before, we wait to know the Lord's timing on this.

Bakery: Based on the public's enthusiastic acceptance of Walter Kummer's deliciously natural bread recipes, the bakery is facing almost unending growth pains. Even the output of more than 3500 loaves per week cannot meet the requests which come from more than 70 outlets in California, Oregon, and Nevada. A major grocery chain is eager to more than

double our sales, if we only had the facilities to meet their needs. As this would be an ideal student industry, as well as useful service to the community, we feel it deserves high attention.

Outpost—City Mission Complex: Most of Weimar's friends know that the Adventist church has been called to do a very special work in the large cities—but not by living in them. The concept of a country outpost is a uniquely Adventist one—though very rarely developed into an actual working model. The founders of Weimar Institute are committed to seeing just such a complex developed here. The outpost phase is growing, becoming more adequate to launch serious missions into the large cities. The students and staff have been serving in the smaller communities surrounding Weimar—learning, winning friends, refining methods. Beginning approaches are being made to the Sacramento area; but this part of Weimar's program is still in a healthy infancy.

Restaurant: Weimar's service to the city cannot be complete without establishing a unique, health-oriented restaurant in a nearby city. Paper-planning for this part of the over-all complex has begun in earnest—along with some interesting providences!

Staff: There are currently about 75 full-time workers on the staff. Add to these the spouses and dependent children, and the Weimar Family roster tops 125. Staff housing continues to be a critical problem, with many still living in hospital recovery rooms as their residences. Some small but very helpful increases in staff stipends have been provided in recent months, but the workers are still essentially volunteers!

Finances: The economic picture of Weimar—on paper—never looks secure; but with a look back over our shoulders for this past 31 months, it is absolutely secure—for God is faithful. We are now operating on a regular budget, and we offer a special prayer of praise for
Continued on page 4



FROM OUR PRESIDENT

By Robert Fillman

The series "When Will Jesus Come?" will resume next month.

All of us at one time or another have longed for a fresh start — the opportunity to begin with a clear slate. Louisa Fletcher Tarkington vividly expressed this desire when she wrote, "The Land of Beginning Again."

The Land of Beginning Again

I wish that there were some wonderful place
Called the land of Beginning Again;
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat at the door,
And never put on again.

I wish we could come on it all unaware,
Like the hunter who finds a lost trail.
And I wish that the one whom our blindness has done
The greatest injustice of all,
Could be at the gates, like an old friend that waits
For the comrade he's gladdest to hail.

We would find all the things we intended to do
But forgot and remembered — too late,
Little praises unspoken, little promises broken
And all of the thousand and one
Little duties neglected that might have perfected
The day for one less fortunate.

It wouldn't be possible not to be kind
In the Land of Beginning Again;
And the ones we misjudged and the ones whom we
grudged
Their moments of victory here,
Would find in the grasp of a loving handclasp
More than penitent lips could explain.

For what had been hardest we'd know had been best
And what had seemed loss would be gain;
For there isn't a sting that would not take wing
When we've faced it and laughed it away;
And I think that the laughter is most what we're after
In the Land of Beginning Again.

So I wish there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again.
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
And all our poor, selfish grief
Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat at the door,
And never put on again.

— Louisa Fletcher Tarkington.

Some believe that the beginning of a new year is such a land. Certainly the end of an old year and the beginning of a new is a good time to take inventory and possibly rechart our direction. But I am thankful that through God's forgiveness we as Christians do not need to wait for a new year to make a new beginning. It is my conviction that every day should be a fresh start. If we submit our lives to God anew each day and daily accept the gift of His forgiveness, we stand before God as if we had never sinned.

As we enter the territory of a new year, I challenge you to join me in making every day a 'land of beginning again.' Every single day "consecrate yourself to God in the morning. Make this your very first work. Let your prayer be, 'take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my cares at Thy feet. Use me today in Thy service. Abide with me, and let all my work be wrought in thee!'" (SC 70). If all God's people were to fully surrender themselves to Him each day, very soon Jesus could return and escort them to the only real Land of Beginning Again.

Sincerely,
Your brother in
Christ

Robert L. Fillman

The Value Of A Soul

By Eric W. Hon

In firm resolution, Jesus day by day moved toward the achievement of His goal, to bring to men the knowledge of salvation. And, while reaching the great multitude, He was never too busy to minister to an audience of one.

By this example of personal concern Jesus gave emphasis to the value He places on one soul. The potential and almost immeasurable possibilities of just one individual can be traced in the account of the woman of Samaria as recorded in the Bible. Found in John 4:6-42, we read of an encounter with the Master that led one woman into an experience that consequently touched the lives of many.

In these verses we may observe several vital guidelines in dealing with people, especially on a one-to-one basis. First of all, Jesus took the initiative. And the occasion was spontaneous. Always aware of the needs of others, He needed no particular setting in which to minister.

Secondly, Jesus turned an ordinary every-day event (the drawing of water) into an extraordinary occasion. He overcame a difficult situation by asking a favor, "Give me a drink." This, in the light of the differences in nationality, and the prevailing enmity, has deep significance.

Next, the Savior used an area of common interest (water) to create an attitude of inquiry that led the woman to sense a more important need, that of spiritual, living water. Furthermore, using the incident to help the woman to face herself honestly, He ultimately drew her to Himself. The results were far reaching as she consequently shared her new found faith with others.

Not only by example did Christ emphasize the value of a soul. In the fifteenth chapter of Luke, three parables taught by the Master depict with intensity the efforts expended by God for the recovery of just one individual.

In the story of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son each of us can find within our influence at least one person that fits that description. The lost sheep represents those who know they are lost, but cannot find their way back unless sought out and recovered. The lost coin represents a large class who are unaware of their lost condition. Blind to their precarious state, they are far from God. Unless warned, they will remain in their unconscious and unconcerned state, lost forever.

And how many thousands have turned their back on the church, never to be contacted again? Never to again experience the warmth of fellowship that they once

knew. These prodigal sons, shall they be left never to return?

Every lost sheep, lost coin, and prodigal son is a soul for the kingdom. How great is the value of a soul? Only as the believer becomes one with Christ, only as he is able to see through the eyes of the Savior, will it be possible for him to grasp the unspeakable value of just one individual. Who can estimate it? If you would know its worth...go to Gethsemane and there watch with Christ through those hours of anguish when He sweats, as it were, great drops of blood. Look upon the Savior uplifted on the cross. Hear that despairing cry, 'My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken Me?' Look upon the wounded head, the pierced side, the marred feet. Remember that Christ risked all. For our redemption, heaven itself was imperilled. At the foot of the cross, remembering that for one sinner Christ would have laid down His life, you may estimate the value of a soul." COL 196:4.

The saving of one soul influences whole neighborhoods. "And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost." Luke 15:6.

It concerns heaven itself. "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." Verse 7.

"One soul is of more value to Heaven than a whole world of property, houses, lands, money. For the conversion of one soul we should tax our resources to the utmost. One soul won to Christ will flash Heavens light all around him, penetrating the moral darkness, and saving other souls." 6T 21,22.

The value of a soul knows no barriers; it overrides national boundaries. "How is it that thou being a Jew, askest of me, which am a woman of Samaria?" John 4:9. It rises above religious prejudice. "Woman believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Verse 21.

"Every human being is the object of loving interest to Him who gave His life that He might bring men back to God. Souls guilty and helpless, liable to be destroyed by the arts and snares of Satan, are cared for as a shepherd cares for the sheep of his flock." MH 162:1.

"One such soul saved is of more value than worlds. Gold and earthly treasure can bear no comparison to the salvation of even one poor soul." 1T 513.

"One soul is of such value that, in comparison with it,

worlds sink into insignificance." DA 578.

As the shepherd searched, as the woman wept and as the father prayed and watched with loving concern, so the Lord is looking for the same dedicated, diligent effort by His people to seek out the lost sheep, lost coins and prodigal sons in the neighborhood of their homes and churches.

With God as a Partner, there is no question of failure. And, as in the parable, persistent, personal effort will be rewarded with success. "If you are in communion with Christ, you will place His estimate upon every human being. You will feel for others the same deep love that Christ felt for you. Then you will be able to win, not drive, to attract, not repulse, those for whom He died. None would have ever been brought back to God if Christ had not made personal effort for them; and it is by this personal work that we can rescue souls." COL 197:1

Never underestimate the value of a soul. Candidates for eternity are to be found in all levels of society. We cannot tell from outward appearances what is happening in the inner man. Some may appear to be uncouth and repulsive while others may have a front of careless abandon. Yet others may give the impression that they do not care for religious things. But behind the facade of indifference there may be great soul hunger; a longing for a life of substance and a yearning for a better way. It is the duty of the Christian to bring to these waiting souls the wisdom and knowledge of eternal riches.

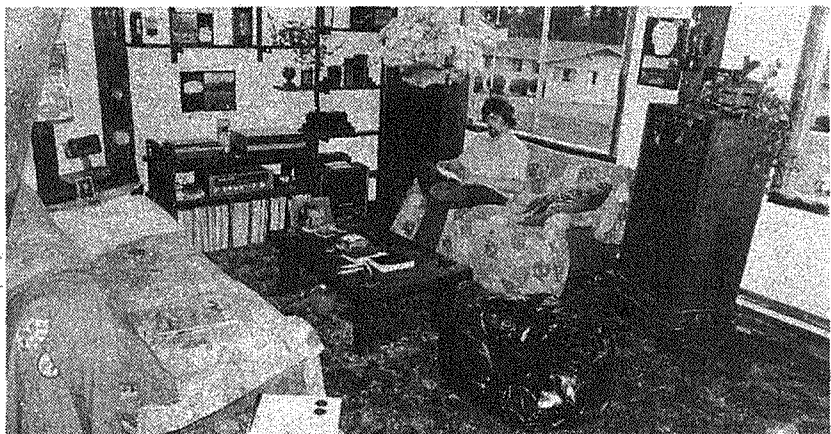
Regardless of class, many can be reached by simple human kindness — a heartfelt interest in people and their needs. And opportunity awaits us wherever there are people. As with Jesus, an ordinary day can turn into an extraordinary occasion with results that only eternity will reveal.

Let the events of today, which proclaim the imminence of Christ's return, be the rallying point to heed God's urgent call to work for the lost. And as we begin this new year, let us remember that He is not asking us to preach to vast multitudes. He does not wait for us to accomplish great deeds in His name. Nor does He ask us to do anything that is beyond our capacity. He simply desires us to work for one soul. And He promises that you will not be alone as you seek the lost, for He will be with you.

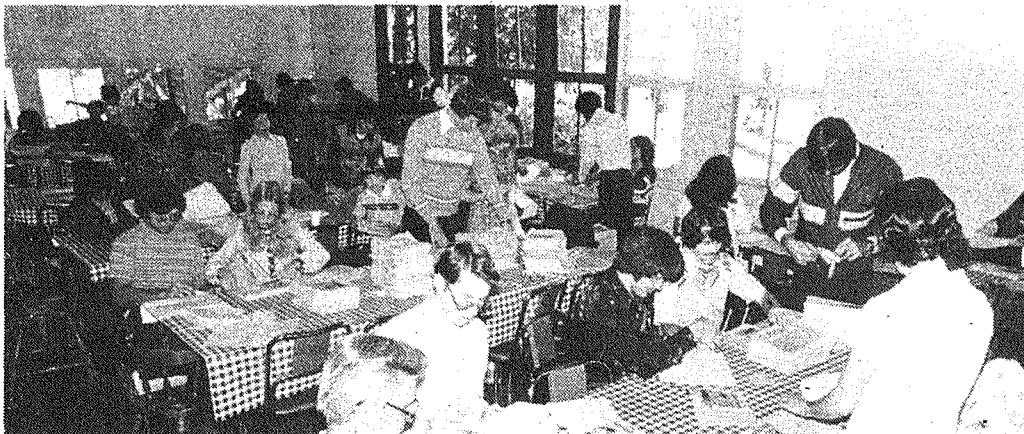
Join hands with the Savior. All the resources of heaven are available to you. It is a wonderful privilege to enter into this labor. Make 1980 a year of rich personal experience: bring one soul to the Master. ❖

Selections From

Our "Family" Album



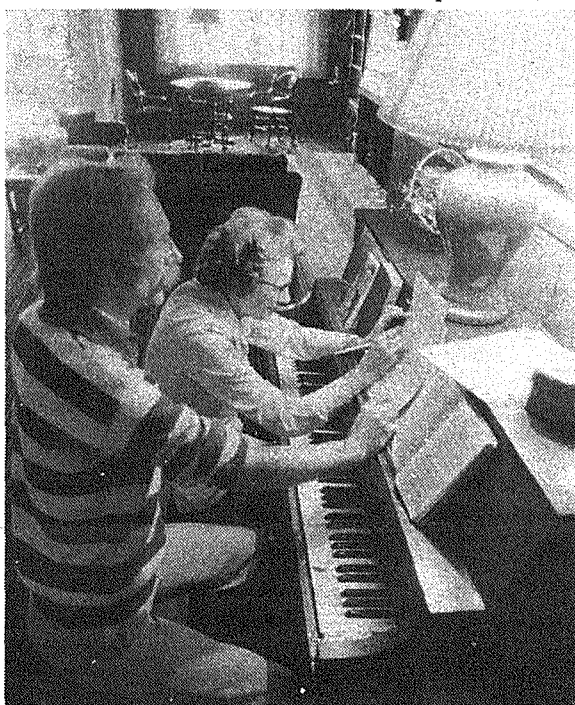
ARLEN DAVIS, maintenance, relaxes in his recently refurbished apartment. Most of the labor was done by Arlen himself.



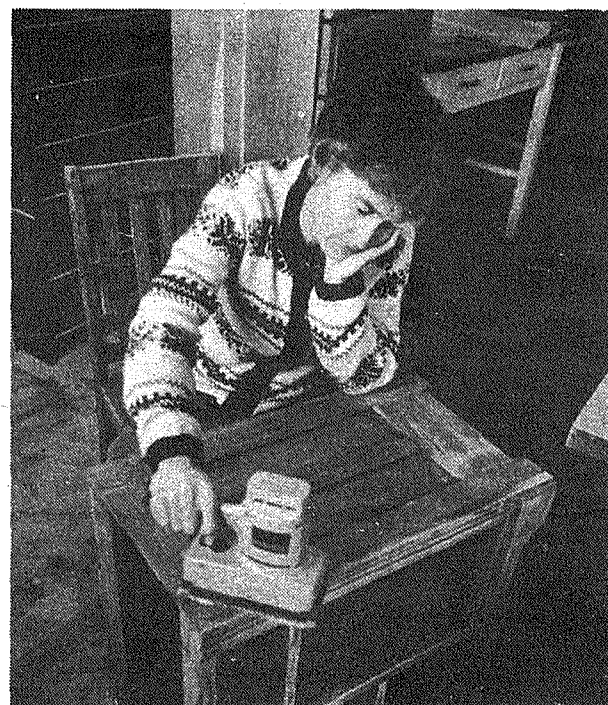
Did you ever wonder how we do it? Sticking labels on some 14,500 Bulletins becomes a time for fun and fellowship for both staff and students alike each month during our mailing-bee. Averaging around 1½ hours per session, the bee usually follows a joint staff/student worship.



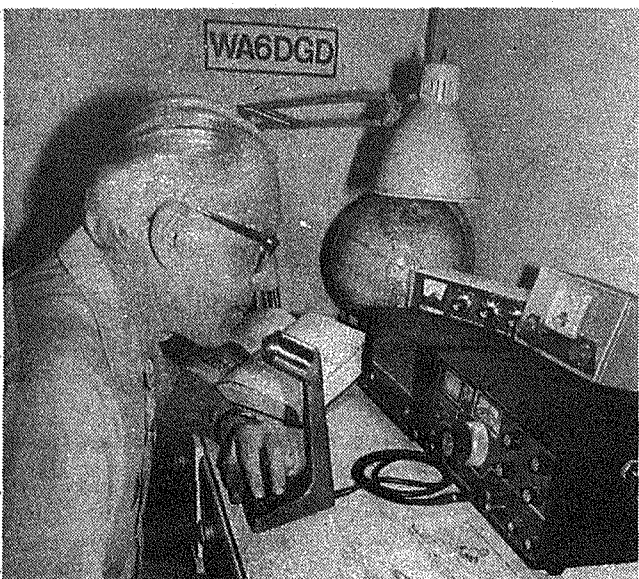
DAVID and GLORIA PATTERSON enjoy an evening together with their baby grand piano. Coming from Hagerstown, MD, the Pattersons joined the staff in July of '79. Dave is accountant for Weimar while Gloria's time is spent in Food Service.



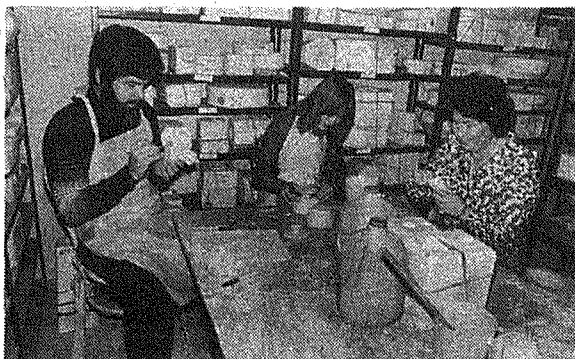
H.E.C. Chaplain; JOHN WOHLFEIL shares some happy moments at the piano with Guest Mary Goodrich. In the background can be seen the main lobby of the New Start Lodge.



Sanding one of her own projects, MARYILYN SMITH appears lost in thought. Marilyn's husband, CHARLES is in charge of the Wood Shop where students learn cabinet-making skills.



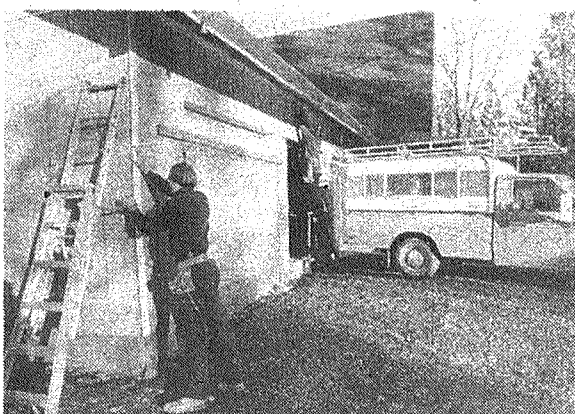
HAM radio operator, JOHN SIMMS, recently talked with Dr. Frank McNeil, head of the Valley Of The Angels Hospital in Honduras. As a result, in November of last year Mrs. Robbe Lloveras, accompanied by her maid Delia Lopez, arrived from Honduras for a 26 day stay in Weimar's Health Education Center. John, who works in maintenance, contacts friends around the globe on his radio.



Ceramics is a family affair for the BLUMS, DENNIS, wife CAROL and daughter DAWN. Carol recently accepted the position of Director of Occupational Therapy which involves teaching crafts each month to H.E.C. Guests. Completing his clerkship for his Doctorate in Health Science here at Weimar, Dennis' work centers around the H.E.C.



Shopping at the "Weimart", H.E.C. secretary JEANINE HOWARD looks on as MARGUERITE FLEMMING records items.



Weather holding, Weimar's president BOB FILLMAN and son BRUCE work together on the construction of their new home located on a quiet hillside on Weimar property.



One of the delightful aspects of living at Weimar is the family atmosphere that develops between staff members. H.E.C. cook, JOSEPHINE GONSALVES and RONDA POTTERTON, nurse, exchange pleasantries in staff residence hall.

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FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

by Dick Winn

BACK TO THE ORIGINAL

One of the most foolish mistakes of my life came as a result of thinking that I could improve on the original.

My brother and I, as a result of some teenage "horsetrading" had become the owners of an almost perfect 1932 Ford five-window coupe. It was a real charming little car, complete with the rumble seat, a dent-free body, and a tired but original flathead V-8 under the hood. It was a restorer's dream.

But alas, at that particular time in our lives, we were not restorers. Thinking that we could improve on Henry's designs, we went to work to "hot rod" the car. Out went the dainty flat-head, and with cutting torch and steel plates, in went a very hefty modern Buick V-8. The charming wire wheels (now almost impossible to find) were cast aside for shiny chrome rims and wide-tread tires. Dignified mohair upholstery was not the style

of our day; we wanted garish tuck-and-roll naugahyde. Even the graceful rear fenders had to be "bobbed" four inches to conform with custom. And the whole creation was then coated with five layers of bright plum-colored lacquer.

We, of course, were right proud of the work of our hands. It drew attention from the proper peer group. It was undeniably rapid, noisy, ego-building transportation. As with many teenagers, we were not the least interested in matters of lasting value.

Even a casual glance at a car collector's magazine of today would expose the folly of our youthful plans. Had that little Ford been brought back to its original condition — a relatively simple process in those days — it would today easily be worth more than forty times what we paid for it then. It would have enduring value — virtually an art piece. There are no doubt thousands of adults around the nation today who regret the handy cutting tor-


ches and paint sprayers of their youth, as they see the value of a truly original vintage automobile.

I've found it easy to keep this illustration in my mind as I've struggled both to understand and to explain to others the meaning of the word "faith". Wordy definitions don't seem to be adequate. I find it so much easier to paint a mental picture of that original relationship between God and His creatures — a relationship of trust, intimate sharing, mutual love and respect, based on personal acquaintance. I picture Adam and Eve, with neither the need nor the desire to rebel against God, to go their own self-centered way. I see contented, loyal friendship between God and His thoughtful creatures. And then I like to wrap up that whole relationship and give it a one-word title: FAITH.

Then when I hear about "righteousness by faith," I find it so much easier to put meaning into that word which describes my response

to God's gifts. I see that God doesn't want me to start modifying that original friendship pattern to suit my "modern" tastes. No need to trim back on the loyalty, reserving a little pocket of rebellion for myself. No need to replace my dependence upon God's power with a little supplemental power of my own. And old-fashioned-appearing virtues of careful obedience and gratitude can-

not be improved upon by the slick plastic of cheap grace.

Faith is God's desired response from me, because God wants to restore me to the ideal for which I was originally created. Nothing less than that is of enduring value — for Him or for me. Though the end results of the restoration are not immediate, I do not fear, for God Himself is the Great Restorer, and He is able. 

Months Later

Continued from page 1
each month's report. The needs for wise planning, for generous support from our friends, and for sacrificial living from all is still very critical—as it always will be for God's people.

Space does not allow a more detailed report—about the farm, the elementary school and academy, the outreach ministries that have been so effective—and dozens of other delightful details. But this will give you a picture,

at least, of God's activity in the realm of men and women who go on mission with Him.

Daniel Burnham once said, "Make no little plans, for they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing."
Amen! 