

ADVENTIST REVIEW

WEEKLY NEWS AND INSPIRATION FOR SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

JUNE 21, 1990



Transcending the Economic Crisis in South America

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE, 8

FROM WHEELBARROW TO DIVISION LEADER, 20

Adventists and AIDS

The short sidebar "Adventists With AIDS" (Newsbreak, Apr. 26) brings up a problem from which our whole church suffers unnecessarily—that of judgmentalism beyond reason of any kind! We need to get off this "God's older brother" kick and learn to be forgiving, leaving the judgment to God.

The uninformed apparently assume that AIDS comes as a result of sin, but this is not always the case. Even if it is the reason, a church member is not authorized to condemn anyone, by any authority. We call ourselves the "caring church." Do we really mean this, or are we treating AIDS victims as the Pharisees treated the man healed of blindness?

Robert N. L. Forman
Monmouth, Illinois

In the news story "AIDS Conference Challenges Adventists" (Newsbreak, Apr. 26), I failed to mention that one of the conference cosponsors was the American Health and Temperance Society, an arm of the Health and Temperance Department of the North American Division. AHTS, funded by tithe money, made a significant contribution to help underwrite the cost of the AIDS conference.

Curt Dewees
Takoma Park, Maryland

We Can Do More

I appreciated the recent articles dealing with our environment and asking "What are Adventists doing?" ("Adventists and the Environment," Apr. 19).

I am a farmer and would like to ask others in my profession, "What are Adventist farmers doing?" Most of us are well aware of the widespread use of chemicals in our agricultural systems. Many of us are looking for safer production methods that don't depend on toxic chemicals to solve our problems. I want to encourage Adventist farmers to pursue these alternatives. We can produce quality food in a way that is safe for us, for the consumer, and for the environment.

Kimber Hoffman
Carrington, North Dakota

"Our Toxic Touch," "Nature—Our Estranged Partner," and "Adventists and the Environment" were timely. I hope these articles are the rustling of the leaves that will involve many church members in giving input and help to all levels of government, local through national, on natural resource and environmental problems. Government leaders and politicians, for the most part, would welcome our input and help.

Satan wants to make our planet a hostile place to live. He uses man's greed, ex-

is glaringly obvious that our church's stated concerns are mostly philosophical in nature. I don't keep exact figures, but it is safe to say that a large portion of mail from our own SDA publishers comes tightly bound in heavy, oversized plastic wrapping. This does not simply speak to the problem—it *is the problem!*

Adventists, of all people, have theological perspectives supporting the true stewardship of the planet. Let us choose as a church to become examples, from top to bottom, that we truly love and serve the God of Creation.

Shaun T. Lemnah
Quincy, California

Coming in the Adventist Review**In July**

Daily *Bulletins* from Indianapolis: the people, discussions, actions, and inspiration of the fifty-fifth session of the General Conference.

In August

"City Living/Country Living." Four-part series sets out the pros and cons, gives examples, and discusses Ellen White's counsel.

"Adventist Youth Today," by Chris Blake. In two parts.

In September

"How We Got Our Bible," by Dr. Arthur Ferch. In six parts.

In October

"The 'Celebration' Churches." Strengths, weaknesses, concerns. A report and evaluation in four parts.

ploitation of natural resources, and political-economic ambitions to degrade and destroy the environment God placed us in.

Our churches need encouragement and training in how to get involved. Let these articles open the door. There is much that Seventh-day Adventists can contribute to help make and keep the world a better place to live until Jesus returns.

Frank Gearhart
Gresham, Oregon

In regard to the issue of plastic use alone ("Adventists and the Environment"), it

Lepers of Nepal

The April 19 *Adventist Review* is undoubtedly one of the best you've published. I'm really proud of the *Review* and eagerly anticipate my Friday evening reading of it from cover to cover. It must take prodigious effort by the staff to produce such a beautiful and informative magazine.

I shall mark my next ADRA contribution for the lepers of Nepal ("Pure Religion in Nepal"). Keep up the wonderful work.

Louise T. Johnson
North Port, Florida

Censoring Pornography

While I realize that sticking up for pornographers is a bit like attacking motherhood, I would still like to address Ms. Blossom Engen's editorial "We Can Make a Difference" (May 3).

Despite her assertions to the contrary, freedom of speech, even including some of what Ms. Engen calls "obscene," is protected under the Constitution. And more important, I think she should be happy that this is the case. Need I remind Ms. Engen that Adventism itself is not such a mainstream religion as to be above attack from those who favor censorship?

Bruce Clements
Falls Church, Virginia

Letters should not exceed 250 words and should carry the writer's name, address, and telephone number. All will be edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's meaning will not be changed. Views expressed in the letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or denomination.

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Cover photo of Buenos Aries by Superstock
Inset photos courtesy of ADRA

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Vol. 167, No. 25



On Working for the Church

"This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God."—1 Corinthians 4:1, RSV.

Every Adventist is a minister, gifted by the Holy Spirit and assigned a ministry of the Lord's plan. Some, however, find their ministry in the full-time employ of the church. They are not better Christians than others, nor is their work necessarily more important. They serve—or should serve—because that is their calling.

I have worked for the church for more than 30 years. That is not the only work I have known: as a young man I first worked as a research chemist. My years in church employ have brought me enormous satisfaction and fulfillment, and I offer the following reflections for the consideration of others, especially young people, who may be thinking about working for the church:

☐ **The church needs the best.**

The church needs the best minds and best energies among us. While we deal in eternal verities unchanging as the mountains, we should be creative, modern, up-to-the-moment, in presenting them to the world. Our mission is vast and vital, and is worthy of all the resourcefulness and daring that human beings can muster.

One can easily settle for mediocrity in the church's work. Ministers who have been ordained or teachers who have gained tenure can easily lean back and coast. Getting by threatens workers in any enterprise, but it presses harder in the church because the church is a kind employer. The church finds it difficult to fire unproductive employees.

So I appeal to our best and brightest in college or graduate school: the church needs you! We need your freshness, your ideals, your brains. Perhaps the Lord has a place for you in the employ of the

church. Be ready to give Him a chance if you hear His call!

☐ **You need to love much to work for the church.**

If you would work for the church, you must love the Lord first of all, and love Him much. Then you must love also the church, and love her much.

Working for the church should never be just a job. You should always feel that this is where God wants you to be, that you are doing what He wants you to do.

The church is a bad place to be if your spiritual life goes sour. You will likely confuse the church's spiritual role with her role as your employer. You may fall into a vicious circle in which you become supercritical of your employer's faults and in turn less inclined to the spiritual home the church provides.

People often begin working for the church with high ideals. Quite soon they realize that the church is far from perfect, that the gospel according to the Scriptures gets distorted in the gospel according to Christians. That is because the church, although a divine institution, is also a human one. Like each of her members—and employees—the church is on the way; she hasn't yet arrived.

So if we would work for the church, we must love the Lord first of all, and love Him very much, and then we must love the church very much. We need a love that is realistic, clear-eyed, and tenacious; one that refuses to be quenched by disappointment and discouragement.

☐ **The church treats her employees well.**

That is my observation and my experience, although some readers, perceiving injustice or shabby treatment, will find it hard to accept.

Don't expect to get rich if you work for the church. You will not, and you should not. If making money is a big thing for you, choose a different employer.

But the church will provide you with an adequate salary. By careful planning you will find your needs are well met. If you do faithful work, you can expect high job security and a retirement without financial fears.

The church's treasurers pledge themselves to careful accounting of the church's money. Like watchdogs they see that funds are allocated prudently and spent wisely. They ensure that the church will pay her bills, and on time, and that the needs of workers and their families will be provided for. And contrary to stories that sometimes circulate, I have found treasurers to have a heart—to be understanding, reasonable, and even generous.

Public opinion surveys show that most people, given the chance to live their lives again, say they would do something different for their work. I would not. Despite the pockmarks and foibles I have seen at every level of the church—yes, right up to the General Conference—I have been blessed beyond measure in my work. Sometimes I wonder why the church should pay me for doing what I most love to do!

What I have written here does not apply directly to most readers. God calls the large majority to live and work for Him in a lay capacity, with opportunities to witness for Christ that church workers do not have.

Laypeople, pray for us! Church work opens up doors of special blessing, but also doors of special temptation—pride, arrogance, discouragement, laziness.

Let's pray for each other. By trying to understand one another and the calling God has given each, we will build up one another. And by working together in the Lord's task, we will do something beautiful and eternal, something for His glory.

WILLIAM G. JOHNSON



You're Right to Exercise

This issue of the *Review* carries the date of the first day of summer. What a great time of the year to be alive, outdoors, exercising, gardening! Recent studies should encourage us in this direction.

The *Journal of the American Medical Association* this past November reported that those who exercise even moderately live longer. Epidemiologist Steven Blair, who headed an eight-year study of more than 13,000 subjects, says that "if people who are sedentary and unfit would . . . do 30 to 40 minutes of brisk walking a day, they would get important health benefits." He advocates spending "human power rather than electricity" whenever possible.

The least fit men and women have death rates 3.4 and 4.6 times higher than the most fit, even after such factors as smoking and cholesterol are considered, according to the report. Exercise reduced deaths from all causes, but especially from cancer and heart disease. As reported in *USA Today*: "The study also found that low fitness was as important a risk factor for early death as smoking, blood cholesterol, blood pressure, and family history of heart disease."

Time magazine summarized the report in a chart that showed deaths per 10,000 people in a year. Least fit men had 64 deaths, the medium fit had just 26, while the most fit improved to only 20. Cardiovascular death rates for the three groups were 25, 8, and 3. Deaths from cancer ran 20, 7, and 5. The rates for women were similar.

Small Differences

The striking part of this study is the small difference between the results of medium fitness and high fitness. While the medium fit have a great advantage over the least fit, the most fit have rel-

atively little advantage over the medium fit. Concludes *Time*, "For the average man or woman, the message is clear: get moving."

What an encouragement to those of us who don't care for vigorous aerobic exercise, such as jogging, biking, swimming, or sports. We now know that walking or yard work will improve our health and longevity nearly as much as the more taxing activities, and with less risk of injury.

Or have we known it all along? More than 100 years ago Seventh-day Adventists were told: "Walking . . . is the best remedy for diseased bodies, because in this exercise all the organs of the body are brought into use. . . . There is no exercise that can take the place of walking. By it the circulation of the blood is greatly improved" (*Testimonies*, vol. 3, p. 78).

Garden Workout

In the March-April 1990 issue of *Flower and Garden* magazine, Mary Taylor, in "The Healthy Gardener," invites readers to "turn puttering in the garden into a healthful workout, and double the benefits of your labors." She notes that good health calls for burning 1,000 to 2,000 calories a week in some kind of exercise. This can be done by 30 minutes of moderate activity each day, and gardening qualifies as such an activity.

The article cites an authority who states that a person can use as many calories in 45 minutes of gardening as in a 30-minute aerobic workout. "One hour of weeding or raking can burn 300 calories, while mowing the lawn with a manual push mower will burn up to 500 calories," says Taylor. Five hours of yard work a week will take care of up to 2,500 calories. "Compared to sports and exercises, gardening chores are an efficient way to burn calories," she assures us.

An accompanying chart indicates that clipping the hedge burns more calories than golf, biking, or calisthenics; trimming, weeding, and raking beat aerobic dancing; and manual mowing provides more exercise than fast walking, swimming, or tennis.

Healing Body and Soul

A sidebar piece informs us that "the American Horticultural Therapy Association, a national organization founded in 1973 to promote gardening as a tool in health-care programs," has as its credo that "gardening can help heal the body and soul." Many institutions now use horticultural therapy in patient care, which in the past century has become "medically accepted for physical and emotional disabilities."

So what's new? At the turn of the century Adventists read: "Locate sanitariums . . . where, in the cultivation of the soil, patients can have opportunity for healthful, outdoor exercise" (*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 78). To ministers Ellen White wrote: "Brethren, when you take time to cultivate your garden, thus gaining the exercise needed to keep the system in good working order, you are just as much doing the work of God as in holding meetings" (*Gospel Workers*, p. 240).

Another article in the same issue carried the title "Gardening Is Good for Your Mental Health," which the Spirit of Prophecy has also told us in numerous comments on learning about God in the garden.

So, couch potatoes of the world, arise! Let's grow some real potatoes! Considering the physical and spiritual benefits, you might just live so long that you'll never die.

EUGENE F. DURAND

Lyn Behrens Elected New LLU President

Dr. B. Lyn Behrens, dean of the Loma Linda University (LLU) School of Medicine, will become the new president of LLU, replacing Norman J. Woods, whose February 12 announcement of resignation will be effective at a yet-to-be-determined date.

Elected during a special LLU board of trustees meeting held in Silver Spring, Maryland, on June 5, Behrens, 50, becomes the first woman to head the church's largest university and the only woman president of the church's 12 colleges and universities in North America. She has served at LLU for 17 years.

In announcing the appointment, Neal C. Wilson, chairman of the board and president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, says: "Dr. Behrens is eminently qualified to serve as president. Through her outstanding performances in several administrative roles, she has demonstrated a special talent as a leader with a vision for the future, at the same time making tough decisions to implement and improve current programs."

Born in Cooranbong, New South Wales, Australia, Behrens received her medical training at Sydney University, where she graduated with honors. She joined the university in 1966 as a resident in pediatrics. In 1970 she joined the university faculty in the Department of Pediatrics and later became chairperson of that department before being appointed Medical School dean.

Behrens takes the presidential post during a watershed period at LLU. Last February, the board voted to divide LLU's two campuses, forming two separate schools. A constituency session is scheduled for August 26 to finalize the decision.



Dr. B. Lyn Behrens

In the wake of the transition, university officials already have announced personnel cuts that will affect 50 to 75 employees starting July 2. By implementing the cuts, officials are endeavoring to trim \$3 million from the university's \$51 million budget.

Behrens also faces the task of finding a new Medical School dean. In her position as dean, Behrens has helped design a restructuring process for the School of Public Health, which had suffered financial losses. The newly restructured Public Health School will come under the auspices of the Medical School.

NORTH AMERICA

Southern California Votes Historic Management Plan. In an attempt to incorporate more ethnic leadership in administration, the Southern California Conference voted a historic new management model on April 29 that divides the conference into four geographic districts to be presided over by four vice presidents—an Anglo, Asian, Black, and Hispanic, reports the *Pacific Union Recorder*.

The new structure eliminates the need for ethnic coordinators because each vice president also will chair an advisory panel dealing with the affairs of his or her ethnic group.

Academy Week of Prayer Yields 25 Baptisms. In what is characterized as a spiritual

milestone, more than 140 students committed their lives to Christ during the April Week of Prayer at Glendale Adventist Academy, Glendale, California. Twenty-five have been baptized as of June 9, and many more are enrolled in baptismal classes, reports Rick Hodge, vice principal and Religion Department chairman at the academy.

"This has been a 180-degree turnaround from where these students were headed," says church member Pat Scott, whose nephew was baptized. "These kids are really giving their hearts to the Lord."

New Hospital Opens in Colorado. Avista Hospital opened May 7 in Louisville, Colorado, just 15 months after the sale of its forerunner, Me-

Civil Unrest Hampers Liberian Church

Civil unrest is disrupting the Adventist Church work in the West African country of Liberia, and missionaries are starting to evacuate, reports Jack Mahon, Africa-Indian Ocean Division (AID) communication director.

Troops occupy the church's Palmberg mission headquarters at Seahn, Grand Bassa County, southeast of Monrovia, and the mission church has been completely gutted. The Palmberg station—the first Adventist property in the country—was established by German missionaries in 1926. Virtually all schools have been closed, including the Konola Academy, the church's oldest educational center in Liberia.

O. E. Gordon

Three Adventist expatriate families and a missionary spouse have been evacuated from the country, leaving seven expatriate employees in the country as of June 5, Mahon says.

Liberia Mission president Oswald E. Gordon told General Conference officials that he plans to stay in the country until all Adventist missionaries are safely evacuated. Because communication is difficult in Liberia, the status of many local church employees and members remains unknown.

morial Hospital in Boulder, Colorado.

The new 50-bed facility features the latest in design and technology and is one of four Adventist hospitals serving the Denver area. The land for Avista Hospital was purchased at half its market value.

Georgia Outreach Ministry Recognized. Heaven's Grocery Store, an outreach ministry operated by the First Lithuania church in Atlanta, Georgia, received honorable mention as a finalist in the United Way/J. C. Penney Golden Rule Ninth Annual Volunteer Recognition Awards.

The store, which feeds homeless in the Atlanta area, was chosen from 220 nominations as one of 16 finalists for the Volunteer of the Year Award. It won the De Kalb County Volunteer of the Year Award in 1989.

WORLD CHURCH

Soviet Pastors Baptize 1,869 in One Day. The largest number of baptisms ever held in the Soviet Union came when 1,869 new converts joined the Adventist Church on May 26 during the Harvest 90 Victory baptism, reports Elder Mikhail P. Kulakov, president of the Russian Union Conference.

During the church's five-year Harvest 90 evangelistic campaign, which ends at the General Conference session in Indianapolis, more than 10,000 persons have been baptized in the Soviet Union.

ADRA Given \$1.5 Million for Child Survival Projects. A \$1.5 million grant to the



Hispanic Youth Converge on AUC.

More than 1,200 Hispanic young people gathered at Atlantic Union College June 1-3 for the Atlantic Union's first unionwide Hispanic youth festival,

reports Ted T. Jones, union communication director.

The program included the Agape Singers from Puerto Rico, and guest speaker Dr. Edwin Hernandez, pastoral care director at Hialeah Hospital in Florida.

"The young people expressed their gratitude to the Atlantic Union for showing their concern and support for their spiritual welfare," Jones says.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA) will help immunize 200,000 mothers and children in three countries, reports Ken Flemmer, ADRA's director of community development.

Awarded by the United States Agency for International Development, the three-year program will begin in October in Malawi, Nepal, and Pakistan. It will fund immunizations against deadly childhood diseases and help teach mothers about nutrition and care for the sick.

The goal of the projects is to reduce the child mortality rate and improve the health of mothers and children in each of these countries.

Adventist Statesman Dies. Benoit Azago, member of Parliament for three communities in Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) and former chief of the state railway, died April 14, reports Mark Attey, editorial assistant for the Africa-Indian Ocean Division. Azago was the first statesman to become a Seventh-day Adventist in Côte d'Ivoire.

After his conversion in 1978, Azago quickly achieved a reputation as a champion of religious liberty.

First Camp Meeting Sparks Revival. Church leaders in the Cayman Islands Mission conducted the first-ever camp meeting on the Caribbean island on April 15, reports Alwhyne Scavella, mission communication director.

Though the idea of a camp meeting was very new to local members, "the Spirit of God was poured out on His people, and a new spirit of revival has begun."

FOR YOUR INTEREST

GC Session to Offer 10K Run, 5K Events. The Adventist Inter-

national 10K and 5K runs and 5K walk will be held July 8 in conjunction with the General Conference session in Indianapolis. Runners from 190 countries have been invited to the race, which is open to the public.

The event is designed to focus public attention on healthful living. Four famous Adventist women runners will be participating.

A \$10 registration fee includes a T-shirt, a "health age" analysis, a vegetarian brunch courtesy of Worthington Foods, and free health screenings. For more information, contact DeWitt Williams at 301-680-6732.

ALSO IN THE NEWS

Supreme Court Keeps School Open to Religious Clubs. By an 8-1 vote, the Supreme Court upheld a 1984 federal law that guarantees religious and other non-curriculum-related groups access to federally funded high schools, reports *USA Today*.

The June 4 ruling is a landmark in church-state relations and a victory for former student Bridget Mergens Mayhew and others who sought to start a Bible club at Westside High School in Omaha, Nebraska. Mayhew said the court sends a message: "Religious students are not second-class citizens."

CHURCH CALENDAR

- | | |
|---------|---|
| July 1 | 1990 World Ministers Council begins at 7:00 p.m. in Indianapolis, Indiana |
| July 5 | General Conference session begins at 3:00 p.m. in Indianapolis, Indiana |
| July 7 | Church Ministries Day |
| July 14 | Christian Record Services Offering |
| July 28 | Home Study International Promotion Day |

Second of two parts

Transcending the Economic Crisis in South America

Young and old
united for a
common challenge

BY ROY ADAMS



I expected to find a half-empty church because it was both vacation time and a faculty retreat weekend. Instead I found a full house for the River Plate College worship service.

Among the first things to strike me as I sat waiting at the Buenos Aires airport upon my arrival in Argentina was the easy, uncontrived relationship between young and old.

Close by, a young man in his late teens, sitting on the armrest of a seat, talks calmly and matter-of-factly with an elderly couple—perhaps his grandparents. As they rise to leave, he puts his arm around his grandmother. They walk away and stop after about 20 yards as Grandmother attends to a minor errand with another relative. Now the young man, left alone with his grandfather, engages him in earnest conversation. And I wonder what they could possibly find to talk about so earnestly and so naturally. I wish I could eavesdrop a little—out of interest, not to be nosy—but language hampers me. I watch this scene repeated again and again, with variations, while I sit there waiting.

I was tired when I arrived in Buenos Aires, some 17 hours after leaving my home in Maryland. In the large crowd outside customs, I had seen a welcome sight—someone holding up my name on a piece of paper. It was Pastor Roberto

Gullon, manager of the Asociacion Casa Editora Sudamericana, our Spanish publishing house for the South American Division. As we shook hands enthusiastically, I cherished secret thoughts of being rushed to the place where I would stay, taking a warm shower, and rolling into bed to catch up on what I had been longing for all through the night: sleep! But that was not to be.

The handshake over, I learned that I must wait a good while at the airport—probably one to two hours—for other council delegates to arrive. So I waited, and with sleepy eyes observed the generations as they mingled.

Valuable Insights

As if to give voice to what I was seeing, South American Division church ministries director Henrique Berg appeared upon the scene. Talking to me briefly before catching a flight to division headquarters in Brasilia, he zeroed in (as if reading my thoughts) on the spirit of togetherness existing between adults and youth in the Adventist Church in South America.

For example, he said, there is no separate Sabbath school lesson for youth past 16 years of age in the division. Instead, young people mingle with adults during lesson study time—participating, listening, teaching, sharing. “The dichotomy between youth and adults that exists in many other places is simply nonexistent here in South America,” he said. The youth support and participate in the adult Sabbath school program, and adults, for their part, enthusiastically support the Sabbath afternoon youth meeting.

These Sabbath afternoon meetings, which older Adventists in North America and elsewhere would remember by the



When the full student body of 1,500 returns from vacation, there are no upturned chairs in the River Plate cafeteria.



This sprawling cemetery in the heart of Buenos Aires, filled with huge mausoleums, cenotaphs, and memorials of every description, symbolizes the influence and power of the Catholic Church in the country.

name "Missionary Volunteer," are still held in South America. "And they're held," he said, "not simply for entertainment, but as a training ground for public outreach."

As we spoke there at the airport with people, old and young, walking back and forth beside us (providing numerous illustrations of this generational amity he was describing), I thought of North America. In particular, I thought of a recent youth emphasis day at my home church in Maryland, in which young people pleaded for acceptance as equal partners and full participants in the work of the church. I wondered how they came to feel that sense of estrangement, what it is that told them that they were somehow less than full participants in the life and mission of the church. And I wondered why, as a new teenage Adventist years ago, I always felt a sense of belonging, a sense of being a part of the total program of the church.

I came to the conclusion that the answer probably lies in the presence or absence of this sense of togetherness between old and young that Pastor Berg was relating to me. For that, indeed, is what I had in common with the youth of South America as a teenager in my home church in Inter-America. In some places we have abandoned in recent years the old that worked in favor of the new that has not worked. That reminds me of a statement I saw in an advertisement recently: "It wasn't broke, but they fixed it."

Evangelism

All this notwithstanding, the youth of South America face the same challenges

that confront their counterparts in other areas of the world: the challenges of secularism, materialism, and worldliness.

With their elders, they also face in many, if not all, of the countries of South America the determined opposition of an entrenched state church whose hold on the political power structure is nothing short of formidable. In Argentina, for example, the constitution mandates that both the president and the vice president of the

ministerial secretary of the Buenos Aires Conference, coordinated a Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking at Parroquia de la Santísima Trinidad, a Catholic church located in one of the most prestigious areas of Buenos Aires. About 900 people attended, with almost everyone breaking the tobacco habit and promising to attend the upcoming evangelistic meetings at the new Nunez-Belgrano Seventh-day Adventist Church, conducted by Pastor Arturo Schmidt of the General Conference Ministerial Association.

As of this writing, those meetings have concluded. One thousand two hundred people, many from the educated affluent classes, attended nightly in two sessions. Pastor Carlos Aeschlimann, who worked as an evangelist in Buenos Aires for some six years (now an associate secretary in the Ministerial Association at the General Conference), describes it as one of the most secular cities in the world, and sees the attendance at the Schmidt crusade as nothing short of miraculous. On the morning of Pastor Schmidt's final Sabbath in the city, 325 non-Adventists attended Sabbath school and church.

And there have been other spectacular



Part of the 900 attending the Five-Day Plan listen to a comment from the audience.

country must be Roman Catholic. What enormous power this must put into the hands of the state church!

Despite these and other obstacles, however, the church (old and young linked hand in hand) moves forward—with even occasional breakthroughs into the very citadels of Catholicism. Just before I arrived in Argentina, Pastor Ariel Meda,

victories. Last year when Adventist television evangelist Henrique Chaij celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of *A Light on the Way*, 15,000 came out, 9,000 of whom were reported to be non-Adventists. In 1989 the Austral Union (Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay) baptized 6,000 new believers, for a membership increase of more than 9 percent.



In the federal district of Buenos Aires, where vacant land is almost nonexistent, the first SDA church in 50 years nears completion. Church officials view the rostrum area.


Sensing the Need for Revival

The church in the South American Division faces many challenges, not the least of which is the economy (see my June 7 report). Yet what I found uppermost in the minds of our leaders was not the economic crisis, but the crisis of evangelism. Their concern is that much more could be accomplished. Only 40 percent of the membership is actually involved in evangelism, they said. The president of the Central Brazil Union, for example, spoke

of meeting people everywhere in his field and in other parts of the division who know nothing about Seventh-day Adventists. Does this sound familiar?

Leaders in South America sense the need for revival—the need for empowerment by the Holy Spirit. This was the theme of the morning devotionals given by Mario Veloso, division secretary, and Joao Wolff, division president, during the editors' council. In his practical, down-to-earth message, Pastor Wolff spoke of the

coldness at some of our meetings (and he was referring to South America)—“no feeling, no animation, no life! What’s missing,” he said, “is the vivifying power of the Spirit.” But we cannot take a vote to bring in this power; rather, we must seek the Lord for it. The present is a time of expectation, he said, “like the period just before Pentecost.”

From reports reaching me and from my own personal observation, I am becoming convinced of a general new awareness of the absolute necessity of the Holy Spirit for the completion of the gospel commission. And I find the emphasis given by the South American Division officers coming into prominence in many different places around the world. Might it be that we are on the verge of the final Pentecost? Does not this general awakening constitute a sign that God is about to do something extraordinary in our time? I think so. 



Roy Adams is an associate editor of the Adventist Review.



Inseparable

BY DICK RENTFRO

The French Alpine goat is no ordinary goat. It is a goat that ranges great distances, just like a deer, and produces large amounts of milk. The French Alpine goat also varies in color.

But the two young goats pictured here are different from other goats I have seen. These two goats are always together! They are each other's best friend.

Hannah, left, and Spinach, right, live on a ranch in central Washington. They have never been farther than a few steps apart. They simply like each other's company and trust each other. They never seem to fight or disagree about anything.

Isn't that the way we are with our

best human friends? We feel comfortable with them, and we trust them. But to have good friends, we must first be good friends and show ourselves friendly.

Jesus is our best friend. And although we cannot see Him, we know He is always near us. We can talk to Him any time of the day or night. He never charges us for talking to Him. And He, in turn, speaks to us in the Bible, in nature, in our parents, and in various other ways.

The Bible speaks of Jesus as a friend who “sticketh closer than a brother” (Prov. 18:24). Isn't He the best friend of all?



What My Daughter Taught Me About Love

*How a father
left holding the
bag discovered
he had won the
Daddy Prize.*

BY ROBERT FULGHUM

The following article is reprinted without change from a book by best-selling author Robert Fulghum. Fulghum is not a Seventh-day Adventist, and a few of his statements are different from the way Adventists would express them. The message of the article, however, is appealing and useful. —Editors.

The cardboard box is marked "The Good Stuff." As I write, I can see where it is stored on a high shelf in my studio. I like being able to see it when I look up. The box contains those odds and ends of personal treasures that have survived many bouts of clean-it-out-and-throw-it-away that seize me from time to time. It has passed through the screening done as I've moved from house to house and hauled stuff from attic to attic. A thief looking into the box would not take anything. But if the house ever catches on fire, the box goes with me when I run.

One of the keepsakes in the box is a small paper bag. Lunch size. Though the top is sealed with duct tape, staples, and several paper clips, there is a ragged rip in one side through which the contents may be seen.

This particular lunch sack has been in my care for maybe 14 years. But it really belongs to my daughter, Molly. Soon after she came of school age, she became an enthusiastic participant in packing lunches for herself, her brothers, and me. Each bag got a share of sandwiches, apples, milk money, and sometimes a note or a treat. One morning, Molly handed me two bags. One regular lunch sack. And the one with the duct tape and staples and paper clips. "Why two bags?" "The other one is something else." "What's in it?" "Just some stuff—take it with you." Not wanting to hold court over the matter, I stuffed both sacks into my briefcase, kissed the child, and rushed off.

At midday, while hurriedly scarfing down my real lunch, I tore open Molly's bag and shook out the contents. Two hair ribbons, three small stones, a plastic dinosaur, a pencil stub, a tiny seashell, two animal crackers, a marble, a used lipstick, a small doll, two chocolate kisses, and 13 pennies.



I smiled. How charming. Rising to hustle off to all the important business of the afternoon, I swept the desk clean, into the wastebasket—leftover lunch, Molly's junk, and all. There wasn't anything in there I needed.

That evening Molly came to stand beside

Fulghum's List

What I am about to say fits in someplace between the Ten Commandments and Murphy's Law.

God, you will recall, invited old Moses up on a tall mountain out in the desert and handed him a couple solid-gold memos with some powerful words on them. Commandments. God didn't say "Here are 10 pretty good ideas; see what you think." Commandments. Do it or take the consequences.

Murphy, at the other extreme, was the ultimate, good-humored human cynic who said that no matter what you do, it's probably not going to work out very well anyhow. Some people think that Murphy was an optimist.

As a middle ground, I offer Fulghum's Recommendations. Items not touched on by God or Murphy, really. And neither as ironclad as the first 10 or as despairing as the endless variations on Murphy. Note that there are only nine in my list. I'm still working on the tenth. Or the eleventh, for that matter.

1. Buy lemonade from any kid who is selling.
2. Any time you can vote on anything, vote.
3. Attend the twenty-fifth reunion of your high school class.
4. Choose having time over having money.
5. Always take the scenic route.
6. Give at least something to any beggar who asks.
7. Give money to all street musicians.
8. Always be someone's valentine.
9. When the circus comes to town, be there.

me while I was reading the paper. "Where's my bag?" "What bag?" "You know, the one I gave you this morning." "I left it at the office. Why?" "I forgot to put this note in it." She handed over the note. "Besides, I want it back." "Why?" "Those are my things in the sack, Daddy, the ones I really like. I thought you might like to play with them, but now I want them back. You didn't lose the bag, did you, Daddy?" Tears puddled in her eyes. "Oh, no. I just forgot to bring it home," I lied. "Bring it tomorrow,

OK?" "Sure thing—don't worry." As she hugged my neck with relief, I unfolded the note that had not got into the sack: "I love you, Daddy."

Oh. And also—uh-oh.

I looked long at the face of my child.

She was right—what was in that sack was "something else." Molly had given me her treasures. All that a 7-year-old held dear. Love in a paper sack. And I had missed it. Not only missed it, but had thrown it away because "there wasn't



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Guests at a wedding feast—one of many photographs included in the book.

anything in there I needed." Dear God.

It wasn't the first or the last time I felt my Daddy Permit was about to run out.

It was a long trip back to the office. But there was nothing else to be done. So I went. The pilgrimage of a penitent. Just ahead of the janitor, I picked up the wastebasket and poured the contents on my desk. I was sorting it all out when the janitor came in to do his chores. "Lose something?" "Yeah, my mind." "It's probably in there, all right. What's it look

like, and I'll help you find it." I started not to tell him. But I couldn't feel any more of a fool than I was already in fact, so I told him. He didn't laugh. "I got kids too." So the brotherhood of fools searched the trash and found the jewels, and he smiled at me and I smiled at him. You are never alone in these things. Never.

After washing the mustard off the dinosaur and spraying the whole thing with breath freshener to kill the smell of onions, I carefully smoothed out the wadded ball of

brown paper into a semifunctional bag and put the treasures inside and carried it home gingerly, like an injured kitten. The next evening, I returned it to Molly, no questions asked, no explanation offered. The bag didn't look so good, but the stuff was all there, and that's what counted. After dinner, I asked her to tell me about the stuff in the sack, and so she took it all out a piece at a time and placed the objects in a row on the dining room table. It took a long time to tell. Everything had a story, a memory, or was attached to dreams and imaginary friends. Fairies had brought some of the things. And I had given her the chocolate kisses, and she had kept them for when she needed them. I managed to say "I see" very wisely several times in the telling. And, as a matter of fact, I did see.

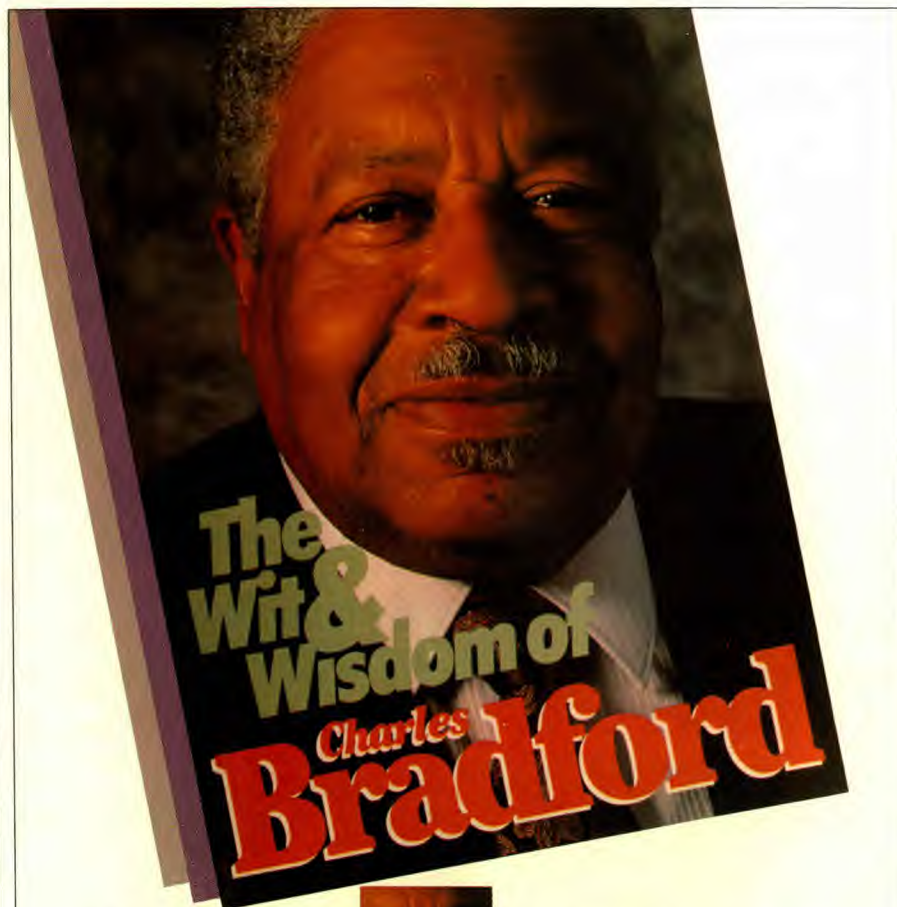
To my surprise, Molly gave the bag to me once again several days later. Same ratty bag. Same stuff inside. I felt forgiven. And trusted. And loved. And a little more comfortable wearing the title of Father. Over several months, the bag went with me from time to time. It was never clear to me why I did or did not get it on a given day. I began to think of it as the Daddy Prize and tried to be good the night before so I might be given it the next morning.

In time Molly turned her attention to other things—found other treasures, lost interest in the game, grew up. Something. Me? I was left holding the bag. She gave it to me one morning and never asked for its return. And so I have it still.

Sometimes I think of all the times in this sweet life when I must have missed the affection I was being given. A friend calls this "standing knee-deep in the river and dying of thirst."

So the worn paper sack is there in the box. Left from a time when a child said, "Here—this is the best I've got—take it—it's yours. Such as I have, give I to thee."

I missed it the first time. But it's my bag now.



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Life in the Fast Lane

BY JOE WHEELER

Part 2

It was one of those pea-soup nights for which the English Channel is famous. The *Midsummer Night's Dream* had seen some wild parties through the years, but none as unrestrained as this one. Even the pilot had succumbed to the mood of the orgy; thus there was no one at the helm when the ship struck, just off Dover.

There was the sound of screaming metal, followed by a horrible shudder, and within minutes the palatial yacht began to list, as water flooded into the hull. So inebriated were the guests and crew that the lifeboats were forgotten as they leaped overboard. Since they were so close to land, a little more than half (including Charles) made it to shore; others, immobilized by liquor, sank with the ship or drowned attempting to get to shore.

The media spotlight covered the trag-

*A story of greed,
recklessness,
and forgiveness*

edy to its fullest, then, tiring of the years of litigation that followed, turned elsewhere for their stories. The erstwhile friends who survived, and the heirs of those who did not, sued Charles for gross negligence—and collected, to the tune of several hundred million dollars. And he had no insurance—had laughed at ever needing any. For more than five years he was in the courts almost continually; with each judgment, yet another of his assets had to be sold—often at a heavy loss—in order to pay it.

Reeling from these judgments against

him but still confident that he could weather the storm, he was rocked—as was all Europe—when the president of the Swiss bank in which he kept the bulk of his reserves absconded with more than \$300 million and fled. There was, as a result, a massive run on the bank. Within 48 hours it closed its doors, never to reopen.

Almost frantic by now, Charles sold his remaining properties, one by one. Those slow to sell were repossessed because of his inability to keep up with the taxes. For yet another year he was able to hold out, then when a London jury awarded the largest maritime settlement yet, he declared bankruptcy one bleak March morning—the final straw. When as a last resort he turned to his friends who had lived off his largess for so many years to ask for help, he discovered there were none left—not one.

Chickens Come Home

Without money for drugs, he suffered agonizing withdrawal; his screams could be heard for blocks. The years of dissipation had taken a terrible toll and etched their trail across his face: no one looking at his face would have judged him to be under 50. But he still had enough pride left to change his name so as not to further besmirch a name that had never before been humiliated.

A four-pack-a-day chain smoker, another chicken came home to roost when he was diagnosed as having lung cancer. Fortunately the cancer was in a very early stage, and thanks to the staff of a London charity hospital, who treated him without remuneration, he was able, within 18 months, to pull through, but he lost more than 50 pounds in the process.

Charles moved into the twilight world of London's down-and-outers, a world of high crime in which life is cheap and meals are bought with bodies. A few odd jobs—he had no marketable skills—and begging at Trafalgar Square enabled him to eat once a day. The first winter was unusually mild, so he slept on the streets and managed to keep going. But the following winter, the worst most people could remember, was another matter entirely. Unable to keep warm, his resistance down, he came down with bronchial pneumonia.

One bitterly cold January morning—emaciated, coughing, and wheezing—Charles stood outside Buckingham Palace and thought back to the wedding of Prince Charles and Diana. As a cousin of the prince he had been a guest of the Windsors during the wedding festivities. Ruefully he looked down at his tattered clothes and unkempt beard, and wondered what Charles and Diana—and the queen and Prince Philip—would think if they could see him now.

In sheer desperation he turned and began walking out of the city. No one who saw this bony bundle of rags would possibly have recognized here the person the press had labeled “the Playboy of the Western World.” Unless he found food and warmth somewhere, he knew that he would be dead in a matter of days.

How far he walked, and for how many days and nights, he never knew. All he knew was that he woke up one morning in a haystack. Neither did he ever know

how long he stayed there before the wracking fever chills began to leave him. He'd been discovered one bone-chilling morning by an extremely irritable farmer, who permitted him to stay only because of the pleas of his wife—on one condition: that he would feed and care for the hogs, and that he would have to eat what *they* ate.

In the icy, snowy nightmare weeks and months that followed, he lived on slop—and an occasional glass of milk or piece of bread surreptitiously slipped to him by the sympathetic wife of the farmer.

Then the rains came. His beard matted, his body filthy and encumbered with lice, he'd forgotten the last time he'd had a bath. With only one pair of pants, one

*He moved and lived in a
twilight world of slow
motion—having lost all
track of time and reality
in this hoggish hell.*

shirt, and one pair of shoes full of holes, letting in water and muck with every step, the stench was, understandably, awful. But he was beyond caring. He moved and lived in a twilight world of slow motion—having lost all track of time and reality in this hoggish hell.

Then one day he heard the farmer ask his wife what day it was. The answer, April 28, stunned him. It was his fortieth birthday! For the first time in years he began to think rationally and take stock of who and what he had become. He realized that he was a total failure. As he looked ahead he despaired. With no skills, he could see no future for himself. Flesh and blood could stand no more; he broke down and cried like an orphaned child.

When reality intruded upon him in the shape of evening shadows, for the first

time in years he thought of home. In particular, he thought of Father. Was he still alive? Why not go home (if there still was a home) and beg for a job as a servant, chauffeur, butler, groom—any job would be better than this!

Within hours he had said his goodbyes and started walking toward London. A few days later he stowed away on an outbound freighter. When he was discovered, the ship captain was kinder than he deserved and allowed him to work for his food. Almost a year later the ship docked in New York City.

He couldn't wait to get out of New York City, for his values had changed. But instead of using the \$100 parting gift of the thoughtful sea captain for a plane ticket, he decided to walk the several hundred miles home, convinced that he needed more time before facing his father. His months on ship had deepened his childhood romance with the sea, thus it was that his journey south meandered down the coast of New Jersey.

At Cape May he spent almost all the money he had left for a ferry ticket across to the Delaware side. Just before he got to Ocean City, he turned inland. Just after he crossed the wide Choptank River he happened to look back, and saw what looked like a weighted sack being heaved (from the back of a passing pickup truck) out into the river. On a hunch, he ran back to the water's edge, dove in, and caught it before it sank out of sight. When he opened the sack, he discovered one very wet and terrified half-grown kitten. Charles adopted him, and from that time they foraged toward Baltimore together.

Changes at Home

Meanwhile, the world had not stood still on the Huntington estate. Mrs. Huntington had been killed by a drunk driver two years earlier. Robert had married into one of Boston's oldest and wealthiest families. Always civic-minded, he was currently United Way president for the annual fund drive, East Coast coordinator for the Johns Hopkins Cancer Center fund drives, and head deacon at Washington's National Cathedral. And notwithstanding heavy losses, the family's net assets still approached \$5 billion. As for the now silver-headed Marshall, he had moved his corporate

headquarters to the family estate several years ago. Out of his office window he could look down the half-mile drive to the gate.

During the almost two decades since that memorable day when Charles had left, Marshall had ever kept him in his daily thoughts and prayers. During the playboy years, he easily kept track of his son's whereabouts, but when the crash came and gossip and society columnists turned elsewhere, he lost contact. When the news of his son's bankruptcy reached him, he immediately sent one of his top executives to London with an offer of economic assistance; but his son was not to be found. Subsequently, he secured the services of a worldwide detective agency and asked them to find his son, no matter what the cost might be. As the years passed, these detective searches continued, but not a shred of a clue as to his son's existence surfaced; it was like the earth had swallowed him up. Lately Robert had become increasingly vocal about the mounting detective tab (more than \$100 million), but Marshall refused to give up the search.

With Charles gone, with his wife's death, with the death of his only brother, loneliness settled upon Marshall like a pall.

Several times each hour the father would find himself looking down the drive to the bay. But hour after hour, week after week, month after month, and year after weary year passed—and still no Charles. Robert often ridiculed him and told him that of *course* Charles was dead. If he had needed money, he'd most certainly have been back to mooch on them years ago! But somehow, the father felt that Charles was still alive somewhere, and he yearned to see him once more before he died.

Reunion

It was one of those absolutely perfect June days that bridge the heart-stopping beauty of the dogwood, cherry blossoms, and rainbow-hued azaleas of spring with the shimmering greens, returning gulls, and sultry heat of summer. Marshall had awakened early and after breakfast had gone into the study, trying to work. But his thoughts continually played truant and strayed to the long driveway.

Just before noon he again looked down the road to the water's edge and saw a figure talking to the gatekeeper. Allowed to enter, the figure slowly inched up the long hill, gradually becoming more distinct. Marshall reached for his binoculars—something familiar about that walk. Suddenly he *knew*! Leaping out of his chair, he knocked over a priceless Ming vase and, ignoring its shattering, ran for the door (almost tripping over his dumbfounded secretary), dashed down the steps, and sprinted down the hill.

Meanwhile, Charles had begun to slow his steps. What if his father would refuse to see him? Suddenly he noticed a far-off figure running toward him. Was he about to be thrown off the premises as a trespasser? He stopped, rooted in fear. Then he recognized the runner, and his heart stood still!

When he could at last read his father's face, relief washed over him. By this time the servants and corporate employees had streamed out of the mansion to see what had caused the boss to run down the road as if his life were at stake. They saw two men—one in tattered clothes—hugging each other. And those with binoculars saw the tears.

After the storm of their meeting subsided a little, Charles cleared his throat and started to ask for a job as a servant, a groom, a butler, a chauffeur—but each time he began, his father motioned him, with his upraised palm, to desist. Up the drive to the study they went, sat by the Tiffany window, and the story—not the wild years, but the way back—unfolded.

While the story was being told, the kitten was carefully studying the elder Huntington's face. Satisfied with the appraisal, he leaped onto Marshall's lap, stretched out his tired body, and purred like a Pratt & Whitney engine. Thus began the reign of Genghis Khan II.

The following day Marshall's attorney arrived and, after dinner in the Emerald Room, read out loud to Charles the new will, which made both sons equal heirs in the family fortune. Charles initially refused, declaring that he was unworthy. But his father refused to hear it. "The will has nothing to do with worthiness; I

make you an equal heir because I wish it so." At this, Charles broke down.

The Celebration

A week later, on Saturday evening, the limos of the nation's wealthy and powerful, one by one, were waved through the gate, and they wound up the winding drive to the portico, where door-men escorted the guests into the glittering grand ballroom—unused, at Marshall's express command, for almost 20 years.

At the height of the hubbub, Robert, who had been rafting down the Colorado and hence inaccessible by phone, arrived on the scene and promptly started a scene of his own. Informed that the festivities were in honor of his brother's return, he exploded.

Upon seeing Robert's almost livid face and his obvious fury, Marshall tried to calm him down, but Robert was in no mood for it: "Father, I have slaved for you all these years, have never once disobeyed your orders, never once brought on you and the family name a shadow of disgrace—yet you have not so much as given my friends and me a small party. But now . . . this worthless son of yours, this skunk, turns up—as I *knew* he would!—after blowing half our fortune on drugs, liquor, prostitutes, and dissipation. And you, Father, turn around and throw the party of the century for him!"

Through all this tirade, Marshall remained quiet—just listening. Finally, he walked over to his son, put his arm on his shoulder, and quietly suggested that they retire to the study. Once inside, Marshall, very softly—yet firmly—reasoned with his older son: "Yes, son, you have stayed with me, and I deeply appreciate your steadfast devotion to duty. But I do not like to see what greed has done to you and to your relationship with your brother. Half of all I have is still yours. But how could we help celebrating this happy day? Your brother here was dead, and has come back to life. He was lost, and is found."



Joe Wheeler, Ph.D., is professor of English at Columbia Union College, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Artificial Sweeteners

*Are they
better than
sugar and
honey?*

Historically sweeteners have a long, long record. The ancient Holy Scriptures contain references to the desirable characteristics of sweetness. In early times honey and later cane and beet sugar were used as special treats by those who could afford them.

In our own time, emerging societies tend to use more and more sugar as their economies improve. But with the desirability of sweetness comes the danger of consuming too much sugar. And overconsumption carries the risk of reduced vitamin, mineral, fiber, and protein intake, as well as increased tooth decay.

As a result, artificial sweeteners have become popular, on the supposition that they allow the benefits of sweetening while decreasing potential problems. But do they?

First of all, what *are* these artificial sweeteners? The accompanying table shows available sweeteners divided into (1) carbohydrate (sugar) sweeteners probably familiar to you, (2) intense sweeteners found in nature, (3) protein sweeten-

ers also found in nature, (4) low-calorie synthetic dipeptide sweeteners (from amino acids, the building blocks of protein), and (5) man-made noncaloric sweeteners.

The search continues to discover low-calorie sweeteners that are competitive with sugar. But questions persist. Are they safe? Will they help me lose weight? Will they help me keep trim? Do they decrease tooth decay? Do they cause headaches? Do they cause cancer? What are the risks? What are the advantages?

Caution Counseled

Regarding common table sugar, it is helpful to remember that neither the Bible nor Ellen White condemns sugar consumption per se. "My son, eat thou honey, because it is good" (Prov. 24:13). "We have always used a little milk and some sugar" (*Counsels on Diet and Foods*, p. 330). Both, however, condemn high consumption. "Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it" (Prov. 25:16). "Far too much sugar is ordinarily

Types of Sweeteners Available

Carbohydrate (sugars)

Honey
Sucrose (table sugar from beets or sugar cane)
Corn syrup
High-fructose corn syrup
Fructose (levulose)
Glucose (dextrose)
Maltose (malt sugar)
Lactose (milk sugar)
Sugar alcohols such as maltitol, mannitol, sorbitol, xylitol

Intense sweeteners of natural origin

Phyllodulcin
Stevioside
Glycyrrhizin (glycyrrhizic acid)

Osladin
Lo han fruit

Protein Sweeteners

Serendipity berries
Katemfe
Miracle fruit

Synthetic reduced-calorie sweeteners

Aspartame
Other

Noncaloric synthetic sweeteners

Acesulfame-K
Cyclamates
Dihydrochalcone sweeteners
Saccharin

used" (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 301).

High levels of sugar and liberal use of sugar-containing foods increase calorie consumption and may well lead to obesity. At the same time, since sugary foods are low in vitamins, minerals, fiber, and protein, their consumption may result in deprivation of these nutrients. High sugar consumption may also lead to tooth decay, as oral bacteria convert sugar into acid that leaches minerals from the teeth.

Obviously the generous use of sugar causes problems. Do low-calorie or noncaloric sweeteners allow you to "have your cake and eat it too"?

It is true that many of the low-calorie or noncaloric sweeteners do not promote tooth decay. But since products using these sweeteners still contain only low levels of vitamins, minerals, fiber, and protein, you would not want to eat them in large quantities, allowing them to displace other foods.

Do low-calorie or noncaloric sweeteners help you stay trim or lose weight? The January 1988 *Obesity International Newsletter* stated that although there was no clear consensus on the effect of low-calorie sweeteners on food intake, Dr. Steven Stellman of the American Cancer Society found that the percentage of artificial sweetener users who gained weight during a year of study was significantly higher than that of nonusers.

The problem may be summarized by the often-heard philosophy "Since I drank a diet soda, I can eat some premium (increased-calorie) ice cream," or "I can make up for eating that extra dessert by drinking diet sodas." The net result is a greatly increased caloric intake, with pounds added to an already ample image.

The Safety Factor

But what about the *safety* of low-calorie or noncaloric sweeteners? We normally think of two categories of questionable foods: those not good for you but doing no permanent harm, and those causing permanent or life-threatening harm, such as cancer. Questions about the second category are perhaps easier to answer than those about the first.

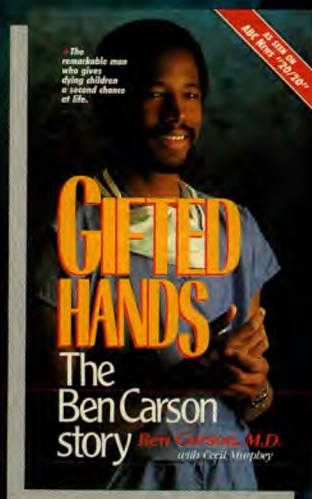
In the United States the Delaney, or anti-cancer, clause in the 1958 amendment to the 1938 Pure Food and Drug Act requires the Food and Drug Administra-

tion (FDA) to forbid, no matter how small the exposure, the use of any food additive that, at any dose, has caused an increase in tumors in test animals or man.¹ This clause was responsible for the FDA's attempt to ban saccharin, which at high dosages in rats appeared to increase their incidence of bladder tumors slightly. Because of the demand for low-calorie or noncaloric soft drinks, however, Congress has restrained the FDA from banning it.² Other than sac-

charin, no other currently used food additive has been shown to cause cancer in man or test animals.

Normally, if a food additive can be shown to cause cancer, it cannot be used. The low-calorie or noncaloric sweeteners aspartame (NutraSweet) and acesulfame-K (Sunette Sweetener) have not been shown to cause cancer in extensive animal trials.

Foods causing nondeadly harm are harder to assess. It is difficult to design



His medical breakthroughs brought him to the attention of the world while his humble demeanor and Christian lifestyle witnessed to thousands. Now his riveting autobiography takes you behind the success story to reveal the tremendous challenges and obstacles God helped him overcome. An inspiring story of triumph, *Gifted Hands* will leave you reassured of God's constant leading and strong personal interest in your own life. Hardcover, 232 pages. Available at your ABC for US\$14.95, Cdn\$18.70.



experiments demonstrating that a food product causes no bad effects, including headaches, for anyone. The FDA requires more than one type of test for food additives: an acute test to determine the "lethal dose," or level that will kill 50 percent of test animals (LD⁵⁰), then chronic testing for about two years (the life span of the animals) in two species, to help ensure that the test will be valid for humans. The dosage level per kilogram of body weight at which no appar-

ent harm occurred in the animal is chosen, and only 1 percent of that level is allowed per kilogram of body weight for human consumption.³

For instance, the level at which test animals display no bad effects from aspartame is greater than 4,000 milligrams per kilograms of body weight. So the FDA has set the safe acceptable daily intake (ADI) level at 40 milligrams per kilogram of body weight, or the sweetening level of 108 teaspoons of sugar

(432 grams), which comes to a little less than a pound for a 132-pound adult.⁴ The level at which test animals display no harm for acesulfame-K is about 1,500 milligrams per kilograms of body weight, or the sweetening level of 45 teaspoons of sugar, equaling 180 grams for a 132-pound adult.⁵

Avoiding Trouble

Yet some people still show adverse effects from these "safe" substances. Some are sensitive even to strawberries. But we need not ban strawberries. Instead, sensitive individuals should avoid consuming them.

So it is with additives. Congress, through the FDA, requires that all processed foods be labeled, with ingredients listed in descending order of concentration. Individuals sensitive to a food ingredient or food additive should be able, by reading labels, to avoid that which will cause them trouble.

The use of artificial sweeteners remains a personal decision. In general, why not become accustomed to less-processed foods? Use fruits and vegetables. Eat them fresh or cooked until just done in the smallest amount of water possible to avoid diluting the natural flavors. Drink water to quench your thirst instead of sweetened beverages. And consume small amounts of simple desserts made from high-quality fruits that need little if any additional sweetening, and only occasionally eat cakes, cookies, and other sweetened desserts.

Remember the advice: "Wherefore do ye spend money for that . . . which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good" (Isa. 55:2).

The salvation story in the language of children

Forever Stories helps preschool and early elementary children understand the plan of redemption and grasp its meaning for their lives. Written in simple terms, the stories begin with the fall of Lucifer and follow through to the new earth. Brilliantly colored illustrations on every page spread make the world of the Bible real and exciting. These delightful stories will quickly become your children's favorites, helping them develop a lifetime friendship with Jesus.

This five-volume set is available at your ABC for US\$49.95, Cdn\$59.95.



¹ Public Law 85-929.

² L. D. Stegink and L. J. Filer, Jr., *Aspartame, Physiology and Biochemistry* (New York: Marcel Dekker, Inc., 1984), p. 495.

³ Code of Federal Regulations 21 (revised as of Apr. 1, 1977), part 170, Subpart B, par. 170.22.

⁴ Stegink, p. 299.

⁵ "FDA Clears Hoechst's Noncaloric Sweetener for Use in Dry Foods," *Food Technology* 42, No. 10 (October 1988): 108.



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■ Bolivia

Youth Goes From Wheelbarrow to South American Division Leader

A doctor saves his leg; he saves hundreds of souls.

Doctorcito, por favor no me la corte, por favor!" ("Doctor, please don't cut it off, please!")

I looked into the face of the 17-year-old lad and saw terror in his pleading eyes. I had just shown him the X-ray of his badly infected right leg and explained that it would be best to amputate it.

It was 1950. Amasias had come to our jungle hospital in Bolivia in a wheelbarrow—a sorry-looking sight, with ragged shirt and trousers, no shoes, and with an anemic complexion. No relatives accompanied him, and he had no money. His right leg, wrapped in a filthy cloth, reeked with an awful stench.

About one year before, he and his horse had fallen, and Amasias had sustained a severe ankle fracture. The local witch doctor set it after a fashion and applied a poultice of leaves and cow dung, which caused a virulent bone infection. He also had a tropical ulcer that had extended almost to his knee by the time he reached us. We used antibiotics, potassium permanganate soaps, hot and cold Epsom salts, and a lot of prayer.

We held Sabbath school and church in temporary quarters. Gradually Amasias began to take an interest in spiritual things.

I promised that we would continue to pray and try to save his leg. Several operations were necessary, but he still has his leg today, even though somewhat deformed.

The Rest of the Story

The rest of the story bridges a period of about 35 years. It includes his recovery and desire to go back to school, his struggle over the decision to be baptized, his success in the colporteur work, and his marriage to a lovely young woman, Lydia, whom he met while colporteur-

ing. She later went to college and received a teaching degree.

Amasias' accomplishments include finishing the theology course in 1961 and pastoring the church in Trinidad, Bolivia, where he began his career as an evangelist. In 1964 he became pastor of the church in Cochabamba, where their son Samuel was born.

Amasias and Lydia were the only Adventists in their families, and suffered many frustrations and setbacks. In 1955, after three years at school, Amasias became so discouraged that he left and decided to give it all up and go back home. He got as far as the town of Trinidad,

where God intervened. Amasias realized his mistake and went back to school. He was baptized the next year, and from then on he knew he was called of God to be a minister. He had thought of becoming a doctor up until then.

While Amasias was pastoring the Cochabamba church, he felt the need to complete his fourth year of theology. So in 1965 he and Lydia found themselves bound for River Plate College. He finished with flying colors and a broader vision of our world work. Showing an aptitude for preaching, he was sent to Beni, his old home area, to hold meetings. After a successful campaign, Amasias was ordained

■ Yugoslavia

Zagreb Adventists Take to the Air

Adventists in Yugoslavia have made an important breakthrough in broadcasting. Since March, a program entitled *Thoughts From the Bible* has been heard daily on Radio Luna, a local commercial radio station in Zagreb. The station has offered the church a prime-time 10-minute slot in the evening. Zvonko Seb, program director of the station, is a Seventh-day Adventist and the first in Yugoslavia to produce programs for Adventist World Radio-Europe in the 1970s. Today he is involved with broadcasting on his own station and feels that his church should enter the "radio marketplace" in Yugoslavia with a positive Christian message.

The programs are produced by a group of 15 church members from Zagreb, who write their own scripts. Recording is produced at Radio Luna.

The Voice of Hope radio studio became operational in May. After major

refurbishing of the premises that house the West Yugoslavian Conference and the Zagreb Adventist Church, the programs are now produced there. The local radio ministry is enthusiastically supported by church members and local conference leaders, including Zdenko Hlisc, conference president. "We are all excited about using this new opportunity on the local station," he says.

Zvonko Seb and Tihomir Kukolja, editor of the Yugoslav *Voice of Hope* programs from Zagreb, are planning to introduce a regular 30-minute live phone-in program on Sundays, which would include a Bible vocabulary theme introduced by a street quiz on a particular topic. Listeners will be encouraged to call in and respond to what they hear.

By Ray Dabrowski, communication director, Trans-European Division.

By Elmer Bottsford, Ridgetop, Tennessee.

to the gospel ministry at Vinto. By providence I was in the area and so took part in the service. We both shed tears of joy. It had been a long hard road from the wheelbarrow to that moment.

In 1967 Amasias was sent to the city of Santa Cruz, where he had two successful evangelistic campaigns and their third child was born. At the end of 1968 he moved to La Paz to become ministerial secretary of the Bolivian Mission and pastor the main La Paz Adventist Church.

In 1969 Amasias was asked to become ministerial secretary of the Inca Union, with headquarters in Lima, Peru. He held this post for four years, during which he conducted many evangelistic campaigns. The one in Chiclayo, Peru, resulted in 280 baptisms; the one in Guayaquil, Ecuador, 360; and in Cuzco, Peru, 501.

First Bolivian President

In 1974 Amasias became the first national mission president of Bolivia, taking the new East Bolivia Mission jungle section. Three years later the Inca Union called Amasias back to serve in Sabbath school and home missions. He was also asked to be the speaker for the Spanish *Voice of Prophecy* radio program in 1981, which gave him an outlet for his evangelistic zeal.

A year later Amasias became ministerial secretary of the Chile Union. While there, Lydia initiated a program for pastors' wives, something new that has continued to be a great blessing to them.

In 1985 Amasias was asked to become president of the Chile Union, and he was really scared for once in his life. But he accepted the job, and soon afterward I saw him at General Conference session in New Orleans, where we talked over old times.

The nominating committee then asked Amasias to be the new ministerial secretary of the South American Division. He accepted, and at present Amasias and Lydia are in the division. The program that Lydia began for pastors' wives has been carried on in the division, and Amasias just has to have an evangelistic campaign now and then!

What a long and uphill way has been the trail from that wheelbarrow back in 1950.

General Conference

Headquarters' Archives Completes Move

Stored historical materials now occupy new vault.

What does a church organization do when its past records are not easily accessible? The General Conference has been living with this handicap since last May, when the contents of the Records Center and Archives vaults were stored in preparation for the move to the new building in Silver Spring, Maryland.

At the time, Archives director F. Donald Yost expected the records to be in storage for about a month, but the numerous difficulties encountered in obtaining an occupancy permit for the new vault stretched the storage time to February.

Meantime, Records Center manager Jim Ford had to make frequent trips to the warehouse in Virginia, where the records were stored, to retrieve urgently needed legal documents, missionary appointees folders, etc., for GC staffers.

Finally, on February 21, all of the county fire marshal's requirements were met, foremost of which was a successful test of the halon fire suppression system, which inhibits burning by chemical interaction.

High-Density Vault

By the end of the following week the more than 4,200 Records Center boxes and 1,300 Archives boxes, totaling more than 4,700 cubic feet, were in place in the new high-density vault (which replaces the old office's six converted or temporary vaults located in two buildings), and full service was again established. This system allows more storage in a given space by putting shelf sections on roller tracks that enable them to be compacted and separated as needed.

This came as good news for General Conference employees, who had placed many retrieval requests on hold over the intervening months. These included such diverse requests as Cambodian property records, nursing transcripts, and missionary transportation files. It also allowed of-

fice secretaries to transfer their previous year's files to the Records Center.

Researchers welcomed the renewed service and made use of the unique holdings of the GC Archives, according to research director Bert Haloviak. One of these was William White, assistant professor of educational administration at Grambling State University in Louisiana, who made arrangements to arrive as the boxes were still being unpacked. He came to continue his research into the history of our church's struggle with the issue of accreditation for our schools.

Correspondence files and minutes from Presidential, Secretariat, and the Department of Education are among Archives holdings that Dr. White made use of in his research, which has resulted in articles in *Andrews University Focus* and *Adventist Heritage*.

Archives holdings span the church's history from its beginning to the present. They include General Conference administrative records; personal collections of former GC staff members and others who have made an important contribution to the church; published records such as pamphlets and brochures; audio-visual materials such as photographs, films, slides, tapes, videos, and charts; and one of the largest and most complete collections of English-language Adventist periodicals found anywhere.

Church members or other scholars wishing to make use of General Conference Archives research capabilities should contact research director Bert Haloviak (301-680-5022). The research room provides study tables, numerous finding aids, microfilm, and microfiche readers, a Xerox machine, and a small library specializing in denominational history.

By Carol Grady, Yearbook archives assistant, General Conference.

■ Oregon

Church Leaders Study Small Group Ministries

More than 375 pastors, lay leaders, and church administrators from the United States, Canada, Africa, and Brazil met in Oregon during April for the second of two national conferences on small group ministries in local congregations.

The Oregon Conference Ministerial Association, which pioneered the neighborhood home Bible study program known as Homes of Hope, sponsored the four-day training and spiritual revival session at the Gresham church.

"From Ellen White to contemporary church growth scholars, we have counsel that the vitality of a congregation is directly proportionate to the effectiveness of its

small groups as they integrate with personal prayer, Holy Spirit power, and praise in worship," explained Garrie Williams, ministerial director and organizer of the conference. "The small group model is evident even in Jesus' ministry," he noted. "Though He had 12 disciples, He also relied on an inner circle that included Peter, James, and John."

The conference combined more than two dozen workshops with music and worship sessions. In addition to Oregon Conference leadership, program participants included North American Division adult ministries director Monte Sahlin; Solusi College professor Harold Peters; and Daniel dos Santos, minis-

terial director from São Paulo, Brazil.

Overlooked Heritage

"We must not overlook our Adventist heritage," Williams urged. "Our church began with people meeting in small groups. By the late nineteenth century, however, we had turned almost entirely to corporate worship and in some instances had institutionalized the gospel. Though we will continue to gather weekly for services of praise to God, the church must be a collection of small groups studying His Word, seeking the Holy Spirit's power, and reaching into the community to share the everlasting gospel."

Many came expecting to receive valuable information, but went away knowing they had experienced revival by the Holy Spirit. The response to Oregon's national small group conferences will lead to a third session to be held this fall at the Springfield, Oregon, church.

BULLETIN BOARD

Literature Requests

Each person below is in need of the following: Bibles, Spirit of Prophecy books, periodicals (*Adventist Review*, *Ministry*, *Liberty*, *Vibrant Life*, *Signs*, *Message*, *Insight*, *Guide*, *Primary Treasure*, *Our Little Friend*), hymnals, songbooks, sermon ideas and illustrations, audiovisual aids, sermons on cassette, Picture Rolls. Specific requests are listed after the address.

East Malaysia

Dorothy Walter, Associate Church Ministries Director, Seventh-day Adventist Mission, P.O. Box 41, Kuching, Sarawak, East Malaysia: **Morning Watch books, visual aids, children's storybooks, reference material for pastors**

Ghana

Owusu Ansah Abraham, SDA Church, P.O. Box 22, Kintampo-Jema B/A, Ghana, West Africa: **Used clothing**
Joseph Adu Acheampong, Home Health Education Service, P.O. Box 275, Sunyani, Brong-Ahafo, Ghana, West Africa: **Bible Commentary**

Amponsah Acheampong Richard, Adventist Missionary College, P.O. Box 9358, Airport-Accra, Ghana, West Africa
J. K. Addai, U.A.C. of Ghana Limited, P.O. Box 35, Sefwi-Wiaso, Ghana, West Africa

Pastor and Mrs. Handson Ranss Ankamah, P.O. Box 398, U.S.T., Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa: **evangelistic material, SDA Bible Commentary, devotional books, Bible games, visual aids, music books, slides**

Pastor J. Anane-Domeh, SDA Church, P.O. Box 40, Sampa, Brong-Ahafo Region, Ghana, West Africa
Samuel Kofi Asante, P.O. Box 2754, Kumasi, Ash-Town, Ghana, West Africa

Solomon Kofi Asante, Valley View College, P.O. Box 9358, Airport-Accra, Ghana, West Africa: **music books, devotional books, SDA Bible Commentary**

Pastor and Mrs. Moses Attah, SDA Church, P.O. Box 185, Konongo, A/A, Ghana, West Africa

Richard N. Gyadu, Home Health Education Service, P.O. Box 60, Koforidua, Ghana, West Africa: **Bible study helps, prophetic charts, Revelation Seminar materials, righteousness by faith books**

Kwadwo Amponsah-Guyan, Valley View College, P.O. Box 9358, Airport-Accra, Ghana, West Africa: **projector and films, SDA Bible Commentary**

Isaac Akuoko-Konadu, Tweneboa Kodua Secondary School, P.O. Box 23, Kumawu-Ashanti, Ghana, West Africa
Opoku Ernest, c/o Mr. George Mensah, P.O. Box 1864, Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa

C. K. Mensay, P.O. Box 2504, Ash-Town, Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa

Pastor H. Y. Omane, SDA Church, P.O. Box 163, Tepa/Ashanti, Ghana, West Africa

Joseph K. Owusu, P.O. Box 45, Bekwai-Ashanti, Ghana, West Africa

Baffoe Samuel, SDA Education Unit, P.O. Box 16, Sunyani, B/A, Ghana, West Africa

D. K. Tsibu-Darko, South Ghana Conference, Burma Camp Church, P.O. Box 803, Accra, Ghana, West Africa

India

Mr. Stanley Paul, Reach in India, Manthangal, Ranipet 632 402, Tamil Naud, India

Kenya

Dorcas Mosomi Ongaga, P.O. Box 195, Kisii, Kenya

Nigeria

Joseph J. Ekpo, The Apostolic Church, 87 Ekpo Abasi Street, Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria

Peru

Pam Baumgartner, Casilla, 4130, Lima 100, Peru: **Used greeting cards, visual aids, felts, Spanish literature**

Philippines

Merlynda A. Ando, 1207 USM Avenue, Kabacan, 9407

Cotabato, Philippines: **used Bible Story, SDA Bible Commentary**

Benjamin Apa, c/o Bayugan Photo Service, Narra Avenue, Bayugan, Agusan del Sur, Philippines 8502

Mrs. Jelly F. Cordero, Pandayan, Bauan, Batangas, Philippines 4201

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Delgado, English Labs, de La Salle University, Taft Avenue, Manila, Philippines: **used greeting cards, children's storybooks**

Mary B. Lapaz, c/o Northeastern Mindanao Mission, P.O. Box 77, Butuan City, Philippines

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel V. Nazareth, 022 Atis Street, General Santos City, 9500 Philippines: **food and diet books, marriage and family books, visual aids, used greeting cards**

Russia

The Gospel Center, Russian-American SDA Church, 1809 Gardena Avenue, Glendale, CA 91204, U.S.A.: **The Bible Story**

Zambia

A.F.S. Kamwi, Tazara Training School, Private Bag, Mpika, Zambia, Central Africa

H. T. Lemana, P.O. Box 11066, Chingola, Zambia, Central Africa

Rose B. Mungo, Office of the Provincial Medical Officer, Ministry of Health, Central Province, P.O. Box 80945, Kabwe, Zambia

To New Posts

REGULAR MISSIONARY SERVICE

Roy Evan Maki, returning to serve as music teacher, Chile College, Chillan, Chile, and **Teresa (Jesus) Maki** left March 1.

Marvin Dale Meeker, returning to serve as maintenance engineer, Valley of the Angels Hospital, Francisco Morazan, Honduras, and **Mildred Louise (Glidewell) Meeker** left March 21.

Listen! God Is Speaking

Many are the ways in which God is seeking to make Himself known to us and bring us into communion with Him. Nature speaks to our senses without ceasing.

The open heart will be impressed with the love and glory of God as revealed through the works of His hands. The listening ear can hear and understand the communications of God through the things of nature. The green fields, the lofty trees, the buds and flowers, the passing cloud, the falling rain, the babbling brook, the glories of the heavens, speak to our hearts, and invite us to become acquainted with Him who made them all.

Our Saviour bound up His precious lessons with the things of nature. The trees, the birds, the flowers of the valleys, the hills, the lakes, and the beautiful heavens, as well as the incidents and surroundings of daily life, were all linked with the words of truth, that His lessons might thus be often recalled to mind, even amid the busy cares of man's life of toil.

Quiet Graces

God would have His children appreciate His works and delight in the simple, quiet beauty with which He has adorned our earthly home. He is a lover of the beautiful, and above all that is outwardly attractive He loves beauty of character; He would have us cultivate purity and simplicity, the quiet graces of the flowers.

If we will but listen, God's created works will teach us precious lessons of obedience and trust. From the stars that in their trackless courses through space follow from age to age their appointed path, down to the minutest atom, the things of nature obey the Creator's will. And God cares for everything and sustains everything that He has created.

He who upholds the unnumbered worlds throughout immensity at the same time cares for the wants of the little brown sparrow that sings its humble song without fear. When men go forth to their daily toil, as when they engage in prayer; when they lie down at night, and when they rise in the morning; when the rich man feasts in his palace, or when the poor man gathers his children about the scanty board, each is tenderly watched



*If we will but
listen, God's
created works
will teach us
precious lessons
of obedience
and trust.*

By Ellen G. White

by the heavenly Father. No tears are shed that God does not notice. There is no smile that He does not mark.

Cure for Worry

If we would but fully believe this, all undue anxieties would be dismissed. Our lives would not be so filled with disappointment as now; for everything, whether great or small, would be left in the hands of God, who is not perplexed by the multiplicity of cares, or overwhelmed by their weight. We should then enjoy a rest of soul to which many have long been strangers.

As your senses delight in the attractive loveliness of the earth, think of the world that is to come, that shall never know the blight of sin and death; where the face of nature will no more wear the shadow of the curse. Let your imagination picture the home of the saved, and remember that it will be more glorious than your brightest imagination can portray.

In the varied gifts of God in nature we see but the faintest gleaming of His glory. It is written, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (1 Cor. 2:9).

The poet and the naturalist have many things to say about nature, but it is the Christian who enjoys the beauty of the earth with the highest appreciation, because he recognizes his Father's handiwork and perceives His love in flower and shrub and tree. No one can fully appreciate the significance of hill and vale, river and sea, who does not look upon them as an expression of God's love to man.

God speaks to us through His providential workings and through the influence of His Spirit upon the heart. In our circumstances and surroundings, in the changes daily taking place around us, we may find precious lessons if our hearts are but open to discern them. The psalmist, tracing the work of God's providence, says, "The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord." "Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the loving-kindness of the Lord" (Ps. 33:5; 107:43).

Steps to Christ, pp. 85-87.

Vegetarian menus for entertaining with style



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FABULOUS Food

For Family and Friends

by the author of *Quick and Easy Cooking*



Spiral, 128 pages
US\$10.50, Cdn\$13.15