

# \* F. Y. I. . . .

Warmest greetings to you from **Jeff Pippenger** and the staff of *Future for America*.

As I write, Jeff and Kathy are in the Philippines, joining **Dr. Mary Ann McNeilus** and **Catalina Mora** for a three-week evangelistic seminar in the city of Cebu, running from April 15<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Jeff is presenting the gospel message, along with the prophecies from an evangelistic standpoint, while Dr. McNeilus and Catalina Mora will be presenting the health message.

Dr. Mary Ann McNeilus divides much of her time between the Amish people in Minnesota and the people in the third world countries. She has written a book, *God's Healing Way*, which is also available in video format. (See **The Strawberry Patch** on page 12 for more information on this book in Africa.) Dr. McNeilus has the best presentation showing the spiritual application of the health message that I have ever heard. Do we have a God who heals? Do we really? What we do when we get sick may reveal what our answer would be.

At the same time that Jeff and Dr. McNeilus are holding their seminar, **Ron Goss** and **Ray Heathman** are holding a separate series of meetings in the same town, with Ron presenting the gospel message, and Ray giving the health message.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of May, Sebastian Teh has arranged for Jeff to speak on a small nearby island. This presentation was to Seventh-day Adventists, and was be on the fulfillment of the prophecies which are taking place before our very eyes.

After Jeff and Kathy return from the Philippines, they will be going to Oroville, California to hold meetings May 14-17; then to Portland, Oregon on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, returning home on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, if the Lord blesses, They will both be leaving for Armenia, Colombia, where Jeff will hold prophecy seminars June 3-9. Then it's off to Guayaquil, Ecuador for another week of meetings before going to Quito, for the final week of meetings in this series.

As you can see, Jeff has been—and is scheduled to be—very busy.

We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to those who have helped pay off the debt burden of the **Spanish Herald** radio station in Honduras. God has truly blessed, and it is completely paid off. This debt had been like a mill-stone around the neck, and now they are free of that burden and able to increase the radio range and upgrade the equipment—thanks to you, and the Lord who supplies all our needs!

The audio tape that we are sending with this newsletter, is *The Shadow of the Image*, by **Steven Spencer**. He and his wife, **Tanna**, are very much interested and involved in the medical missionary work, and, as with

many of us, it pains them to see that facet of the work neglected, or treated as a step-child.

Steve is also the president of *Future for America*, and all of us here are deeply committed to the medical missionary work. Wherever we go to hold seminars, we try to make sure that the medical missionary work is presented. There are so many people who are hungrily seeking a better knowledge of God's healing ways, but it is difficult to get "God-based" training. There is such a great work that needs to be done in the medical lines—both in treating illness and in training others to treat illness—that it is frustrating to us to see buildings which could be used for that work, going unused.

It is also for this reason that we are asking the Lord's guidance in securing an appropriate location to be used for a medical missionary training and life-style center, as well as for a small sanitarium. We believe that this is truly the right arm of the message, and that it is the "entering wedge." We have been told that we will be able to work in these lines when all other work has been closed to us. But now the question we must ask ourselves is, "Will we be trained and ready to work in this field when all other fields are closed? or will we wait until it is too late?"

In addition to providing a place for the medical missionary work, the appropriate property would also provide us with a place to locate the offices of the ministry, establish our own printing operation, and house our people. The time has come when it is unsafe to buy even fresh produce in the markets (see page 6), so we are also looking for a land suitable for an organic garden and orchard. Please pray for us, that the Lord may open the doors for us, and that we may see and submit to the Lord's will, doing all to His glory.

*Take a Walk!* by **Melissa Lindberg**, shows us the many benefits of this simplest method of exercise. Those of us who have sedentary lifestyles, should not only sit up and take notice—we should get up and put it into practice.

We are also pleased that this issue presents the first of a series of articles by **Restoration International**. The **Walters** and **Hohnberger** families have some very specific instruction for us in the area of practical Christianity. Whether we have children in the home, or whether our children are grown and gone, we can apply these principles to our lives and experience victorious Christian living.

In upcoming issues, we will be providing a lot more practical guides to assist you in successful country living, to provide some basic principles on healing sickness and disease using God's healing methods, and to help you prepare for Christ's return by living the victorious Christian life.

May God bless you as you seek His will in your life.  
Your sister in His service and in the blessed hope.

*Denise Matlean*

\*For Your Information

## COUNTRY LIVING: PREPARING A PEOPLE

By Jim Hohnberger

"It was not God's purpose that people should be crowded into cities, huddled together in terraces and tenements. In the beginning He placed our first parents amidst the beautiful sights and sounds He desires us to rejoice in today. The more nearly we come into harmony with God's original plan, the more favorable will be our position to secure health of body, and mind, and soul."—*Ministry of Healing*, 365.

God's original plan has not changed. He has given us abundant counsel that in choosing a place to live, we are to make the spiritual prosperity of our families our very first consideration.

When we chose a place to live, God would have us consider first of all the moral and religious influences which will surround us. We should choose the location most favorable to our spiritual advancement. Instead of living where only the works of men can be seen, where the sights and sounds frequently suggest thoughts of evil, where turmoil, rush and confusion bring only weariness and disquietude, we need to live where we can look upon the works of God. Here we will find rest of spirit, mind and body in the beauty, the quietude and the peace of nature. Here our eyes can rest on the green pastures, the majestic forests, and the rolling hills, the valleys and the inspiring mountains. Here, in the country, one may look up to the blue sky, unobscured by the city's dust and smog, and breathe the fresh, invigorating air of heaven.

God designed that the home of our first parents should be a pattern for **all** other homes. While we can not duplicate the Garden of Eden today, we can come into harmony with God's original plan. In the surroundings of the holy pair was a lesson for all time—that **true** happiness is found, not in the indulgence of pride, luxury and extravagance, but in communion, fellowship, and harmony with God. If men would give less attention to the artificial and the materialistic, and would cultivate greater simplicity, they would come far nearer to entering into the purpose of God in their lives. Pride and ambition are never satisfied, but those who are truly wise will search for the true purpose of life—which is to bring their lives into full and complete harmony with God.

Jesus came to this earth as God's

ambassador, to show us how to live so that we may secure life's best results. "What were the conditions chosen by the infinite Father for His Son? A secluded home in the Galilean hills; . . . a life of simplicity; . . . the quiet of dawn or twilight in the green valley; the holy ministries of nature; . . . and the soul's communion with God—these were the conditions and opportunities of the early life of Jesus."—*Ministry of Healing*, 365-366.

"His quiet and simple life, and even the silence of the Scriptures concerning His early years, teach an important lesson. The more quiet and simple the life of the child—the more free from artificial excitement, and the more in harmony with nature—the more favorable is it to physical and mental vigor and to spiritual strength."—*Desire of Ages*, 74.

Yes, "Jesus is our Example. There are many who dwell with interest upon the period of His public ministry, while they pass unnoticed the teaching of His first thirty years."—*Ibid.* Jesus had to develop and form a character just the same way you and I do, and our Heavenly Father gave Him thirty quiet, simple years in the Galilean hills to prepare Him for the greatest work ever done on earth.

"So with the great majority of the best and noblest of men of all ages. Read the history of Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, of Moses, David and Elisha. Study the lives of men of later times who have most worthily filled positions of trust and responsibility. . . .

"How many of these were reared in country homes. They knew little of luxury. They did not spend their youth in amusement. Many were forced to struggle with poverty and hardship. They early learned to work, and their active life in the open air gave vigor and elasticity to all their faculties. Forced to depend upon their own resources, they learned to combat difficulties and to surmount obstacles, and they gained courage and perseverance. They learned the lessons of self-reliance and self-control. Sheltered in a great degree from evil associations, they were satisfied with natural pleasures and wholesome companionships. They were simple in their tastes and temperate in their habits. They were governed by principle, and they grew up pure and strong and true. When called to their lifework, they brought to it physical and mental power, buoyancy of spirit, ability to plan and execute, and steadfastness in resisting evil, that made them a positive power for good in the world."—*Ministry of Healing*, 366.

Let us consider just one of these men. What was God's prescription for Moses to prepare him to lead His people out of bondage?

"By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward." Hebrews 11:24-26. "Moses was fitted to take pre-eminence among the great of the earth, to shine in the courts of its most glorious kingdom, and to sway the scepter of its power. His intellectual greatness distinguishes him above the great men of all ages. As historian, poet, philosopher, general of armies, and legislator he stands without a peer."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 246.

Yet Moses was not prepared for his great work. Infinite Wisdom had yet further training for him. Forty years in the solitude of the mountains, in the school of self-denial, simplicity and quiet—here would be his true training ground. Here his own heart would be brought into full and complete harmony with God's. He had to be trained in solitude before he could be an effective tool to deliver God's people from their cruel bondage.

We are told that "man would have dispensed with that long period of toil and obscurity, deeming it a great loss of time."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 247.

Friends, do you want to dispense with God's prescription with which He wants to prepare you as He did Moses and many others? Do you want to go out to save God's people as Moses originally did, before he was prepared? I love the following illustration:

"In the full light of day, and in hearing of the music of other voices, the caged bird will not sing the song that his master seeks to teach him. He learns a snatch of this, a trill of that, but never a separate and entire melody. But the master covers the cage, and places it where the bird will listen to the one song he is to sing. In the dark, he tries and tries again to sing that song until it is learned, and he breaks forth in perfect melody. Then the bird is brought forth, and ever after that he can sing that song in the light. Thus God deals with His children. He has a song to teach us, and when we have learned it amid the shadows of affliction, we can sing it ever afterward."—*Ministry of Healing*, 472.

God wants to teach us a song. John the Baptist was placed in the wilderness for thirty years to learn that song. The apostle Paul, after his Damascus experience, was not sent out immediately, but was sent into the wilderness of Arabia for three years to learn that song. See Galatians 1:15-18. God wants to teach us all the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb. See Revelation 15:3-4. Friends, this is what country living is all about. It is to "make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Luke 1:17. It is not to

go hide in selfish isolation atop a mountain and wait for the Lord to return. Nor is it to build lavish homes or facilities that lift up man and indulge his pride. Nor is it to build up self-sufficient outposts in which to glory and feel secure. The history of King Nebuchadnezzar certainly teaches us that "the strength of nations, as of individuals, is not found in the facilities that appear to make them invincible."—*Prophets and Kings*, 502. For **our strength is measured only by the fidelity with which we allow God's purpose to be accomplished in and through us.** We have only to read the history of men such as Elijah, Elisha, King David, Daniel, Joseph, Luther, Huss, Jerome, and Wesley to see that man's strength comes only from inward fidelity to God, rather than man-made facilities and armaments. King Hezekiah, when receiving the envoys from Babylon, was tested of the Lord. Would Hezekiah exalt the God of heaven as his strength and greatness? No! Instead he "shewed them the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armor, and all that was found in his treasures; there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not." 2 Kings 20:13. Is man's security or sufficiency ever in the works of our own hands? No! Never! It is only in the great I AM. The apostle Paul sums it up in five words: "Our sufficiency is of God." 2 Corinthians 3:5. Country living is neither a hiding place nor storehouse to run to in the time of trouble; nor a place in which to idle away our days in selfish leisure and recreation. No; no. True country living is none of these. It is for the purpose of learning a new song as did John the Baptist, the apostle Paul and the patriarch Moses. They were each—as was that caged bird—placed there by their heavenly Father to learn that new song.

Country living, if used properly, acts as a veil, as in the story of the caged bird, which shields us from the detrimental influences and distractions of the cities; for cities have become hotbeds of vice and corruption. On every hand are found the sights and sounds of evil. Everywhere are enticements to sensuality, worldliness, materialism and dissipation of every kind. The tide of corruption and crime is continually swelling. Every day the news bears record of violence, robberies, murders, suicides, and crimes unmentionable. And these atrocities have become so common that they hardly elicit a response.

There is also an intense passion for money-making, a constant whirl of ex-

citement and pleasure seeking, a thirst for display, luxury and extravagance. All are forces which have an almost irresistible power upon our youth—as well as ourselves. The youth, having nothing to do, often obtain a street education, and form close associations with undisciplined, non-Christian children, in which they acquire habits of vice and worldliness.

The physical surroundings in the cities are also a peril to our health. The constant liability to contact with disease, the prevalence of foul air, impure water, and the crowded, dark, unhealthy apartment complexes, are just some of the many perils to our physical health.

Truly Christian qualities are better gained in a retired country atmosphere. Please consider the following inspired statements:

"There is not one family in a hundred who will be improved physically, mentally, or spiritually by residing in the city. Faith, hope, love, happiness, can far better be gained in retired places, where there are fields, and hills and trees. Take your children away from the sights and sounds of the city, away from the rattle and din of streetcars and teams, and their minds will become more healthy. It will be found easier to bring home to their hearts the truths of the work of God."—*The Paulson Collection*, 14.

"Send the children to schools located in the city, where every phase of temptation is waiting to attract and demoralize them, and the work of character building is **tenfold harder** for both parents and children."—*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 326.

Parents, are you losing your children? Are they becoming more and more like the world? The above statement says that the work of character building in the city is tenfold harder for both parents and children! Can you not see that God has said, "Escape for thy life; look not behind thee . . . escape to the mountains"? Genesis 19:17. And the apostle Paul has admonished us, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate." 2 Corinthians 6:17. You see, God understands that **by beholding we will become changed.** Therefore when we choose a home for our families, God would have us first consider the moral and religious influences that will surround us and our children. The Scriptures summarize it well in Philippians 4:8: "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Could God have said it any simpler or made it any plainer? It is

our duty to cut off every influence, to break every habit, to sunder every tie, that keeps us from the most free, open, and hearty committal of ourselves and our families to God. This is the purpose of country living. This is the veil of protection that country living can provide, if we will rightly address ourselves to it.

But being sheltered from the evil influences of the city alone is not enough. Just for a moment consider the heathen in the remote jungles of the world. They are certainly in a retired country setting, but they are not made righteous by their setting. Jeremiah 3:23 says: "Truly in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, and from the multitude of mountains; truly in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel."

God sent John the Baptist, the apostle Paul, and the patriarch Moses, to their secluded settings in order to acquire something. It wasn't just a change of surroundings that prepared these men for their work. It was time and communion with God—much time and communion. He sent them there for the purpose of restoring in them the image of God, to teach them a new song, and to have them take that new song from the mountain out to the multitude. This, then, became their life's work.

Was forty years in the mountains too long for Moses, or the thirty years in the wilderness for John the Baptist, or the three years of quiet communion with his Lord for the apostle Paul? Were these periods too long? Was it an unwise decision to take Moses to the wilderness while the people of God languished in bondage—cruel bondage? No! There was no better use of the time. There was no better prescription for these men. Just listen to this inspired estimate of those forty years for Moses:

"Man would have dispensed with that long period of toil and obscurity, deeming it a great loss of time. But Infinite Wisdom called him who was to become the leader of his people, to spend forty years in the humble work of a shepherd. The habits of caretaking, of self-forgetfulness and tender solicitude for his flock, thus developed, would prepare him to become the compassionate, long-suffering shepherd of Israel. No advantage that human training or culture could bestow, could be a substitute for this experience."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 247-8.

Did Infinite Wisdom count the period too long—or the price too great? God knew what Moses needed. Before his forty years of country living, Moses was self-sufficient, self-confident, proud, zealous, highly educated, and very impatient. After his forty years in the country, Moses was self-distrustful, humble, meek above all men, timid, reverent, slow of speech and patient.

Now Moses was ready to rightly repre-

sent God—because he had partaken of the attributes of God's character. Moses was ready to be God's man because he had become intimately and personally acquainted with the great I AM.

Has God's prescription of time, change of surroundings and communion with Him lost its effectiveness? Does it still apply to us today in the hustle and bustle of our fast-paced, modern society? Can a prescription like this still be effective? God's prescription has not lost its effectiveness, friends, and it never will. We have lost the prescription. Like Moses, God has a plan for every one of us. But often we run ahead of the Lord, or try to accomplish our work in our own strength. Or we try to do the work before God has prepared us for it. When we run ahead of the Lord we may have to learn some very difficult lessons. Ask yourself this question: "Am I accomplishing the plan God has for my life?" The only way you will find the true answer is to take time to test this prescription. You must take time. We must take time to go to God's Word to see whether the lives we are living, the pace we are going, the work we are doing, is in accordance with God's prescription for our lives. We need time! Not time for selfish pleasure, but time to slow down and get clear directions from our Father in Heaven. We need time to think about what matters most in life. What is the most important thing? How much time must I set aside to bring my family to the throne of grace? Friends, take time to compare yourself with the standard of God's Word and the character of Jesus. Then apply the prescription, first to your own life, then to your own family members, and then God will lead you to bring His people out of bondage. This is what country living is all about—**preparing a people.**

PLEASE contact both your local and national elected leaders to protest this adulteration of our natural food supply.

At the very least, the producers of genetically altered products should be required to submit to extensive testing and mandated labeling.

Call 202-224-3121 for the address of Congressmen and Senators, or call the capital switchboard:

Senate: 1-800-962-3524

House: 1-800-972-3524

Also contact your local food supplier and register a complaint with them.

The life and health you save could be your child's, or grandchild's.

## WARNING: GMO'S ARE HERE!!!

We recently received a warning from our organic food supplier, warning us:

"The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced, on December 15, 1997, a proposed rule that will regulate the definition of organic foods by the federal government. Until now there has been no Federal definition of organic products, instead only individual state's laws. This Federal law will serve to standardize all of the state organic regulations."

Sounds good doesn't it? After all, we all want to know that when we pay extra for organic produce, we are getting what we want. But listen to the rest of it:

"Within this proposed rule there are practices which are not currently part of the organic farming process. USDA is considering allowing the use of genetic modified organisms (GMOs or Genetic Engineering), food irradiation, the use of municipal sewage sludge as a crop fertilizer, and the use of sulfur dioxide as a preservative for table grapes.

- **"GMOs** have genetic material from another organism artificially inserted into them. Fruits and vegetables with genes from animals, fish, insects, bacteria, viruses, and fungi, are now appearing on the market shelves. In some cases, their own genetic material is artificially manipulated. This is not a natural process, therefore it is considered a synthetic process that is presently not allowed in organic farming.
- **"Irradiation** is the bombardment of food with radioactive material to kill food pathogens. Irradiation destroys certain vitamins in food and some of its nutritional value is lost.
- **"Residential Sewage** and industrial sewage are unable to be separated. Sludge, therefore, is contaminated with industrial pollutants like PCBs and heavy metals, like cadmium or lead.
- **"Sulfur dioxide,** or sulfites can be life threatening for people who are allergic to them.

"In addition to these specifically mentioned points, the rest of the proposed rule considerably lowers the organic standards currently being used, causing it to be very similar to conventional farming. This would compromise the integrity of organic products and the trust of organic consumers."—*Organic Foods and Farming in Peril*, Azure Standard, April 1998.

They close with an urgent appeal for those of us who are concerned, to contact your elected officials.

But exactly what is a GMO? All organisms have 'blueprints' which are called genes. Genetic engineering is the process of altering the make-up, or 'blueprint' of an organism by artificially transferring genes from one organism to

another, even cross-species.

To get some idea as to what all this means, let's look at the tomato.

- Genes from a fish have been inserted into a tomato to create a more durable tomato, which is hardier in cool weather.
- Bovine somatotropin (BST) from cattle is inserted to improve flavor.
- Insect genes are inserted to provide resistance to other insects.
- Bacterial genes are inserted to make the tomato (and other fruits and vegetables) resistant to bacteria.

And this is increasingly true of all fruits and vegetables.

All of this may be sold as organic, without being labeled as GE (genetically engineered).

So which GE foods are currently on the market? Soybeans (which are used in 60% of the processed foods including bread, pasta, candy, ice cream, pies, biscuits, margarine, and vegetarian meat substitutes), tomatoes, yeast, dairy products, rape seed oil, canola oil, small fruits such as berries, squash, corn, potatoes, and more.

The problem is that these foods are allowed on the market with little or no testing, and no labeling. If the USDA has its way, it may even appear under the "organic" label.

Because the allergens in one type of food can become a permanent part of the new 'blueprint' of a product, a person who is allergic to tomatoes, may have an allergic reaction to any other type of food which has been engineered with the tomato gene. Changing the organic composition of our food could present unknown health hazards.

In a two to three month period in 1989, "a genetically engineered food supplement killed at least 37 people in the USA and permanently disabled 1,500 others. An epidemic of a new and mysterious disease, called eosinophilia-myalgia syndrome, was traced to the consumption of a supplement called tryptophan. The manufacturer had apparently altered its process of genetic engineering to speed up production, and not realized the toxic side effects."—*Natural Life*, March 1997.

Among things being test now, is a genetically engineered virus. "A gene for scorpion toxin has been inserted into an insect virus, which is sprayed onto vegetables to kill insects. This virus is highly potent in destroying insects, both pests and their natural predators, as well as pollinators. For humans, the impact of the toxin on cuts and other open sores is a concern. In addition, such a gene, if incorporated into the human chromosomes, could create a terrible nerve disease or a powerful autoimmune disease."—*Ibid*.

Puts growing your own in an entirely new perspective....doesn't it?

## ~LETTERS~

Dear Brother Jeff,

Please keep sending your tapes and newsletter. I look forward to them each month. I am so grateful for your ministry and the end time message which we need so we can be ready when Jesus comes real soon now. Thank you. I will keep praying for you and for **Future for America**.

God's blessings be with you all.  
—MJ-MN

Dear Jeff and Staff,

Please send the remaining tapes "The Purification of God's Church." Thank you for the tapes you have sent me. I will continue to help as I can.

I enjoyed your newsletter and the tapes. They are wonderful. I pray that your work will grow. May God's blessings be with you.

Your sister in Christ, —SM-CA

Please send me the tapes. I enjoy them very much and believe the messages. The end is very near.

God bless you and thank you.  
—VR-CA

Dear Mr. Jeff Pippenger,

Praise and thanks be to God, for He has given you wonderful spiritual strength to spread His true words.

I was born and brought up in the Seventh-day Adventist family. As I was growing up, I used to think just going to church on Saturday was good enough to be saved—until my parents invited me to the Hope International presentation a couple of years ago in Bakersfield, California. You and Ron Goss were the speakers. . . .After listening to your messages it really got me interested in studying and understanding the Bible, and it seem it has awakened me.

I really enjoy your sermon tapes that I receive by mail. As of now I'm in a difficult financial situation. I pray that I will do my best to help you spread God's word.

Your brother in Christ,—DC-CA

Dear FFA,

Please find the enclosed check. . . . I would like one of the "New Study Bible's." I would like a black cover; but if by chance that color is out of stock, I would gladly settle for the burgundy. The Bible itself is the most important thing, and I am desperate to have it.

Please pray for me, brothers and sisters. I am lost and want to be saved. I am dead and want to be alive. I am trapped in sin and want to be set free. I have been led around by the cattle prod of Satan, but desire to be led by the gentle hand of Christ. This Bible is my last effort to finally break free of this world and the sin in me. May it help me find the Lord I once served and loved.

May God bless your ministry as you proclaim His truth and prepare a people.

Yours truly, —BW-MI

**Comment: The Bible has been sent with our prayers for the Lord's blessings upon the Holy Bible and the one who will be reading it. Please join with us in praying that the Holy Spirit will break through in a mighty way and bring this troubled person to a complete surrender and submission to our blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ the Righteous. For He truly is able, and His strength is made whole in our weakness.**

Dear Jeff,

Thank you for the tapes that I have been receiving from **Future for America**. . . . Please send me a set of the tapes that you made and mentioned in your newsletter of which I received the first three. I have enjoyed them immensely and would like the whole set. I don't have the ones you sent me because I shared them.

Thank you and may the Lord continue to bless you.

Sincerely, —SHD-CA

Jeffery Pippenger,

Thank you so much. The book [which I want] is *The Final Rise and Fall of the King of the North*. . . .

Has Jeff written other books? If so, could you tell me what they are? Kind regards,

—RP-South Australia

Dear Brother Jeff,

I want you to know that we here in the Missouri state, thank you for your monthly newsletter.

I thank God that you have a wonderful ministry and powerful one. God bless you.

If you know someone who is on the same way as ours, please let me know where they live.

Thank you, and God bless you,  
—HP-MO

Dear Future for America,

I enjoyed the article on the pope billboard in your March issue, and decided to write him to see what he has to say.

I also want to thank you for your magazine and tapes.

God bless your work,  
—CG-CA

Dear \_\_\_\_

I have lost the address of Jeff Pippenger. I want the video tapes on Ezekiel.

Can you please help me, either give him my new address or send me his?

I would be most thankful.  
—BC-TX

We want to thank you for the tapes and letters you have sent.

Do you have a catalog or listing of your tapes and the price list?

Thank you Sincerely—EB-MO

Dear Jeff and Staff,

Thank the Lord for protecting us and our property for the tornado that went close to us.... We had no damage, but it was lightning so bad....

We are much impressed with the meetings you are holding all over, and your tapes and written messages are priceless.

God bless each one of you and the work you are doing. We will help as we can and pray for your work and safety. We share your tapes and time of the end booklets.

Again, God bless. —R&EE-TN

# ~TIMELINES~

In the stream of time, near the end of the line.

## INTO THE COUNTRY?

A new kind of 'white flight' is going on in America today, but unlike the middle-class exodus from multi-ethnic cities to the suburbs a generation ago, this middle-class migration is from crowded, predominantly white suburbs to small towns and rural counties. Rural America has enjoyed a net inflow of 2 million Americans this decade—that is, 2 million more people have moved from metropolitan centers to rural areas than have gone the traditional small town to big city route. In the 1980s, by contrast, rural areas suffered a net loss of 1.4 million people.—*Time*, December 8, 1997.

**Comment:** Does the world know something that God's people don't?

**"If possible, the home should be out of the city, where the children can have ground to cultivate."—*Councils to Parents Teachers and Students*, 124.**

"Serious times are before us, and there is great need for the families to get out of the cities into the country."—*Home and Church School Manual*, 42.

## THE LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE

This year **The Lord's Day Alliance** is celebrating its 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In a little magazine called *Sunday*, printed by The Lord's Day Alliance of the United States, there is a statement of the origin and purpose of the Alliance. It simply states:

"The Lord's Day Alliance of the United States was founded in 1888. That year representatives of six major Protestants denominations met in Washington DC to organize the American Sabbath Union; this name was later changed to The Lord's Day Alliance of the United States. The Alliance is the one national organization whose sole purpose is to maintain and cultivate the first day of the week as a time for rest, worship, Christian education and spiritual renewal."

Let us remember that 1888 carries peculiar significance for Seventh-day

Adventists. At the time that this organization was established to promote Sunday as the day of worship, the Lord was giving our church a precious message which was designed to prepare a people for Christ's second coming. That message was rejected.

But now both that message and the one promoted by The Lord's Day Alliance are once again receiving special emphasis. And friends, they may change their tactics, but the Alliance has not changed its agenda, and they have not given up. Jack Lowndes, editor of *Sunday*, writes:

"The history of the influence of this organization is without parallel. At different times in our history the particular emphasis may have changed and the method of our presentation has changed, but the message itself remains the same.

"Always the Alliance has sought to speak to the current generation in relevant ways. As we observe our 110<sup>th</sup> year we are continuing to educate our nation about the importance of Sunday observance in light of society's needs. At our February Board meeting, the messengers were challenged to confront a busy, harried, nerve wrecked generation with the Bible's answer for coping—a day of rest and worship.

"...Our organization is still strong and our message is more needed than ever: 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.' Our message of spiritual values in a culture dominated by secularism will continue...." —*Sunday*, Spring 1998.

In the same periodical are "Suggestions for the Lord's Day Alliance: (1) Pray and humble yourselves before God; (2) Strike a chord for moderation, one of the cardinal virtues; and (3) **Build coalitions with other groups and organizations that share convictions about keeping a day of rest.**" Note that they are saying "a day."

There is also an article on bringing back the "blue" laws, and the town leaders of Pembroke, Mass. Were congratulated "for planning a nonbinding referendum this spring in which voters will be asked if the town should petition the state to bring back the blue laws. I hope," says Robert Whitcomb, "if the answer is in the affirmative, that other towns—and other states—get the same idea."

## "RELIGIOUS LIBERTY" AMENDMENT

"A constitutional amendment designed to expand protections for religious liberty passed the first hurdle March 4 when the House Judiciary Committee voted 16-11 to send the proposed bill to the floor of the U.S. House. It was a straight party-line vote, with Republicans favoring the Religious Liberty Amendment and Democrats opposing.

"The amendment must be approved by a two-thirds majority in the House before being sent to the Senate. If the Senate approves it, 34 states will have to ratify it before it becomes part of the U.S. Constitution....

"Not all church leaders support the measure. The Rev. Thom Fasset, General Secretary of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, said, 'At best, this amendment is unnecessary as it calls for religious liberties that are already clearly part of our everyday lives. At worse, this resolution threatens the very religious liberties it proposes to strengthen.'

"The National Council of Churches also opposes the measure. The Rev. Oliver Thomas, special counsel for religious and civil liberties, said, 'The truth, of course, is that students already can pray—vocally or silently, alone or in groups—as long as they do not disrupt the classroom or infringe upon the rights of others. They may read their Bibles, form religious clubs, express religious viewpoints and even share their faith as long as they do not harass or intimidate their classmates.'...

"...Some have said that this could open the door to use of tax-funded vouchers at church-related schools."—*Southern California Christian Times*, April 1998.

## CATHOLICISM ON THE MOVE Courting unity with Orthodox

Washington—More than halfway through his month-long visit to the United States, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople has already given "great encouragement" to Catholic-Orthodox dialogue here and internationally, according to Cardinal William Keeler. The Baltimore archbishop, who hosted the Orthodox Christian leader early in his Oct. 19-Nov. 17 U.S. visit, told Catholic News Service in a phone interview Nov. 5 that Patriarch

Bartholomew has said "some wonderfully affirming things" about Catholic-Orthodox relations during the trip."

### Courting unity with Methodists

Washington—U.S. Catholic and Methodist scholars spent much of a three-day meeting in October working on how to translate 30 years of national and international dialog into resources for Catholic-Methodist dialog at the parish level. They also discussed three study papers on KOINONIA, or the understanding of the church as communion, a topic that has taken on an increasingly important role in international ecumenical discussions about the kind of unity the Churches seek together.

### Courting unity with Muslims

Indianapolis—At a mid-October dialog U.S. Catholic and Muslim scholars discussed what "the word of God" means in their respective traditions and in the Koran and the Bible. The meeting, the Second Annual Midwest Region Islamic-Catholic Dialogue, was held at Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis. The Midwest dialog is one of four major initiatives in Islamic dialog of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. On the Muslim side the co-sponsor of the Midwest dialog is the Islamic Society of North America.—*National Catholic Register*, Nov. 29, '97

### Ministerial Fellowship Admits Wiccan

Bakersfield, Ca.—The Bakersfield InterFaith Ministerial Association, meeting at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, agreed to open its membership to a Wiccan priest.

The Association's president and one other of the 20 members, who subsequently resigned, offered dissent, but the Wiccans framed the question as an issue of fairness. "I accept you...can you accept us?"

The former Southern Baptist Wiccan, Terry Cheeseman, stated that "the practices of modern witches are actually more akin to the religion of American Indians," and that "it seemed to be a more plausible lifestyle than Christianity. The God portrayed by the Old Testament is really nobody I want to be friends with," he said.—*The Bakersfield Californian*, February 19, 1998.

## No Separation of Church and State in Germany

BERLIN—German chancellor Helmut Kohl criticized calls for religious classes to be scrapped at state schools. In a message to the German Lutheran Church's governing synod at Wetzlar, Kohl said the teaching of religion according to the faith of pupils was not an "archaic privilege" of churches, but a "necessary task" of the state, adding that attempts to remove it as a voluntary feature of school timetables were a scandal.

"A religious upbringing is something completely different than mere knowledge about religion," Kohl said. "Even those who do not share a commitment to Christian doctrine must recognize its great role in the democratic order."

In a 1995 Forsa Institute survey, 84% of Germans favored keeping a choice between religion and ethics at schools, while only 4% wanted religion barred.—*National Catholic Register*, Nov. 29, '97

## HOMOSEXUALITY & THE STATE

### APPEALS COURT UPHOLDS FIRING OF ANTI-GAY CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSIONER

A federal appeals court in San Francisco has upheld Mayor Frank Jordan's 1993 firing of a Baptist pastor from the city Human Rights Commission for admitting to reporters that he adheres to Biblical admonitions against homosexuality. A lawyer for the Rev. Eugene Lumpkin said he was considering the possibility of an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. Lumpkin has sued the Mayor and the city in federal court, charging violations of state and federal anti-discrimination statutes.

The suit also alleged that the city had to show a "compelling interest" for firing Lumpkin, but U.S. District Judge Fern Smith decided for the city, ruling that a government has greater leeway to curb the religious speech of an employee, especially speech that is antithetical to the employee's workplace duties. And, Smith ruled, the law provides even less protection for religious speech of employees in policy-making positions. The Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco comes to an almost identical conclusion. "Rev. Lumpkin's statements explicitly condemning homosexuality as a sin and implicitly endorsing violence against homosexuals are not simply hos-

file to the Commission's charge, they are at war with it," the court held, in a decision written by Circuit Judge William A. Norris. "To be sure, when Rev. Lumpkin speaks as a private citizen, he has every right to preach that homosexuality is a sin and that Leviticus says that 'a man who sleeps with a man should be put to death,'" Norris added. "But the First Amendment does not assure him job security when he preaches homophobia while serving as a city official charged with the responsibility of eliminating prejudice and discrimination."

Lumpkin's attorney, James D. Struck, a Modesto, California lawyer who took the case, said he is considering an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. "What our Ninth Circuit is telling us is that if you are among the millions of people who hold the traditional belief that homosexuality is a sin, . . . you're homophobic." Struck continued, "It's pretty scary for the Ninth Circuit to be engaged in that sort of politically correct name-calling," and "a pretty sad state of affairs for the First Amendment and Free Exercise."—*Religious News Service*, April, 1997.

## NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION

Although HR 1858 is purported to be a "Civil Rights bill," according to Dr. Robert Grant of *Christian Voice*, it is the result of the joining together of the "North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) and their Militant Homosexual colleagues," and is one of the "most evil and vile movements" he has ever seen in Washington.

"Simply put, HR 1858 will amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to give special rights to Homosexuals....

"Churches, daycare centers, nursing homes, schools. . . every organization in America . . . will be forced to hire Radical Homosexuals. . . HR 1858 will allow homosexual child molesters to get jobs as teachers, coaches, and doctors. . . making our children constant prey for NAMBLA and their followers."

## HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

**Fremont**—School trustees voted 3-2 to approve a harassment workshop at Mission San Jose High School that includes a 90-minute presentation by school district personnel about homosexuality. The approval

(Continued on page 11.)

# Take a Walk!

"Doc Hale, can you give me anything to improve the way I feel? Anything? I promise I'll take it." The old gentleman had just rehearsed his ailments to a new doctor. He felt like he'd lived this scene a thousand times, yet no doctor seemed to do much to help him. Keen discouragement had almost kept him from trying again. But his few faithful friends urged him to keep trying and one had recommended seeing Dr. Hale, saying, "He's different. He will help you." The young doctor leaned back in his chair and studied his elderly patient. Was he sincere? Was he honest? Would he really keep this promise? Guess there was only one way to find out. "I'm sorry you suffer so. I have a number of things I could prescribe, but I fear you won't take my prescription if I do give it to you." Frankness always marked Dr. Hale's interactions. Now was no time to change. "You have my word, Doc." The old gentleman repeated. "Give me whatever you need to. I'll take it. I will! Just help me, please." Still the young doctor hesitated. Young as he was, he knew people. He knew reactions. He suspected he knew the response he would get when he did write the prescription, yet concern and wisdom told him he must. "Will you pay the price?" "Yes, Doc. Any price. Any price! Please, help me! Can you? . . . Will you? Please." Reaching for his pen, the young doctor picked up his prescription pad. Looking at his patient one last time, he began to write. The old man straightened a little in his chair. Hope again surged through his being. He might actually get feelin' better soon. A quiet gladness flowed through him. "Here," the young doctor folded the paper and held it out toward his now eager patient. "On your promise, I have prescribed something which I know will help you. It is the best medicine available for your troubles. Take one or two every day for two weeks, then return to see me."

The old man took the paper eagerly. What was this new doctor giving him? Surely it would help. It had to! He'd tried so many other things. Besides, Doc said it would! He opened the paper. It read:

**Anthony G. Hale, MD**  
General Practice

Prescription:  
Date: 6 / 17 / 97

**Take a walk.**

*Anthony G. Hale, M.D.*  
Signature

Now it was the old man who hesitated. "Take a walk"? Was that all the doctor was prescribing? "Take a walk—take one or two a day for two weeks." Finally he met eyes with the doctor. "On your word? Keep your promise?" Dr. Hale's eyes said what his lips did not voice. "Yes, Doc. I will keep my word." The old man rose to leave, a resolute new purpose in his manner. "I will do it."

Would you have the courage of either man? Knowing the human mind well, if you were a doctor would you have the courage to tell your patients to "take a walk"? If your doctor wrote you such a prescription, would you have the courage to "fill it"? The combination of fresh air, moderate exercise and sunshine provide the human body with more health-giving elements than any pharmacy ever put in a pill or syrup. With increased energy from the sunlight, increased oxygen from the air and the stimulation of the muscles and veins to move the enriched blood throughout the body, health must improve. Just increasing oxygen increases the vitality of the whole system. Every tissue and every organ is better able to accomplish its task in the an environment containing greater oxygen. You feel better, think better, plan better, live better! Exercise, by increasing the circulation of the blood, prompts the lungs to greater activity and opens more of the small cavities to an increased intake of oxygen. Thus the chest, diaphragm and lung muscles get more activity, more oxygen and more cleans-

ing. The deep breathing demanded by activity diverts the blood from areas of congestion, relieves tension and brings greater alertness. The body affects the mind, the mind the emotions, and the whole day looks better after a bit of outdoor exercise. Except for severe weather, every one of us should walk or work in the open air every day, regardless of the season. In cold weather, warm wraps and good boots will be necessary, but the invigoration from a brisk walk will well reward the time and effort it requires. To the old adage, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away," could be added, "A brisk walk every day is better than all the medicine in a drug store." It will bring elements and healing to the body that no apothecary ever mixed! Even if you don't get to walk, everyone benefits from spending as much time as possible outside in the open air. Children are pacified, their frazzled mothers relaxed; restlessness youth are calmed; stressed businessmen made tranquil and the elderly enlivened. The healthy will benefit by building even stronger immune systems; the sick will regain strength and provide their systems with the elements desperately needed for more rapid and more complete recovery. Severely ill persons may be so weakened that they are not even able to walk out of doors, but they can rest in a chair in the open air or take a brief ride. The combination of sunshine and fresh air, even in the absence of exercise, will do them much good. As they gain strength, they may venture to walk short distances, daily increasing their activity as their strength is rebuilt. Light work, such as caring for the flower beds and sweeping walks would bring all the muscles into unified activity and greatly aid in restoring total health. At whatever level, being outdoors is always more healing than staying within the closed confines of any building. Feeling the breezes blow across your face, hearing the songs of the birds, seeing the ever-changing patterns of light and shadow on the landscape, feeling the soft earth underfoot, smelling the flowers and trees—every sensation brings with it healing contact with God and with nature. Want to feel great? Want to enjoy improved health? Take Doc Hale's prescription: "Take a walk!"

"The redeemed shall walk there:  
and the ransomed of the LORD shall



return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Isaiah 35:9-10.

Source References: "When the weather will permit, all who can possibly do so ought to walk in the open air every day, summer and winter. But the clothing should be suitable for the exercise, and the feet should be well protected. A walk, even in winter, would be more beneficial to the health than all the medicine the doctors may prescribe. For those who can walk, walking is preferable to riding. The muscles and veins are enabled better to perform their work. There will be increased vitality, which is so necessary to health. The lungs will have needful action; for it is impossible to go out in the bracing air of a winter's morning without inflating the lungs." Ellen White, *Counsels on Health*, p. 52 (Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 2, p. 529.)

"All, both young and old, should be in the open air as much as possible. Those who are in health should share the benefit of employment in the open air, in order to keep well. But above all, should invalids, who have been unable to breast the chill winds of winter, make the most of these spring days of beautiful sunshine, and be out of doors all that they can, and rejoice with the happy songsters in the prospect of approaching summer. Those who cannot walk without great fatigue should ride out. Those who can engage in light employment should do so; for the muscles will be strengthened by exercise. Work out of doors, you invalids that can. But at all events do not remain shut up in your houses. Walk out. Ride out. And if you can do no more, sit out in the open air, where heaven's breezes can come to you in their freshness, and where you can view the sunshine and shadow upon the face of nature.." Ellen White, *The Health Reformer*, 03-01-71.

"Invalids, I advise you to venture something. Arouse your will power, and at least make a trial of this matter. Withdraw your thoughts and affections from yourselves. Walk out by faith. Are you inclined to center your thoughts upon yourselves, fearing to exercise, and fearing that if you expose yourself to the air you will lose your life; resist these thoughts and feelings. Do not yield to your diseased imagination. If you fail in the trial, you can but die. And what if you do die? One life might better be lost than many sacrificed. The whims and notions which you cher-

ish are not only destroying your own life, but injuring those whose lives are more valuable than yours. But the course we recommend will not deprive you of life or injure you. You will derive benefit from it. You need not be rash or reckless; commence moderately at first to have more air and exercise, and continue your reform until you become useful, a blessing to your families and to all around you. Let your judgment be convinced that exercise, sunlight, and air are the blessings which Heaven has provided to make the sick well and to keep in health those who are not sick. God does not deprive you of these free, Heaven-bestowed blessings, but you have punished yourselves by closing your doors against them. Properly used, these simple yet powerful agents will assist nature to overcome real difficulties, if such exist, and will give healthy tone to the mind and vigor to the body." Ellen White, *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 2, pp. 534-535.

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#### TIMELINES (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

came over the objections of Christian parents who saw the workshop as a step toward official endorsement of homosexuality by the school district. The plan approved by the board is a compromise; the original plan called for a four-hour workshop on homosexuality conducted by a homosexual advocacy group."—*Southern California Christian Times*, December 1997.

**Los Angeles**—A Los Angeles City Council committee has voted to permit a homosexual sex club called The Barracks to remain open, even though it is operating without permits in a location that violates zoning rules for adult entertainment. Neighbors have complained about public lewdness near the club, and about its nearness to a residential area and an elementary school. The committee heard testimony from police vice squad Detective Julio Duarte, who said, 'Patrons from the establishment will go to a quiet dark side street and engage in lewd conduct in somebody's front yard, in their cars in the street.' Los Angeles AIDS education coordinator Fred Eggan says gay sex clubs can help fight AIDS by providing AIDS education. City Councilwoman Jackie Goldberg, who strongly supports the club, wrote to Associate Zoning Administrator Horace Tramel, saying, 'Men's sexual encounter clubs help to reduce public sex that occur in our community.'"—*Southern California Christian Times*, December 1997.

#### CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM COLLEGE PROMOTES HOMOSEXUALITY AND ATTACKS CHRISTIANITY

A required English textbook at the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod's Concordia University System, Portland, Oregon, entitled *Queer Edward II*, by Derek Harman, includes homosexual photographs, profanity, and ridicules Christianity.

Ostensibly a treatise on film making, the title page says, "This book is dedicated to: the repeal of all anti-gay laws, particularly Section 28." One section is titled: "God Is a Black Jewish Lesbian." Another section is titled: "Jesus Was a Drag Queen." The student who informed *Christian News* about *Queer Edward II* being used at Concordia, Portland, noted that only a few copies of the Lutheran Book of Concord were available on campus, unlike the unusual textbook.—*Christian News*, April, 1997.

#### GAY CLERGY DISREGARDING CHURCH BAN

A study of 26 male and 9 female pastors in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America found that all had been sexually active and 21 lived in long-term homosexual relationships, despite a church rule requiring gay clergy to remain celibate.—*Christian News*, March, 1997.

#### DID GOD REALLY SAY THAT?

Former Rep. Steve Gunderson, R-Wis., who retired from the House last year, was one of the few self-acknowledged homosexuals in Congress. Gunderson, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, recently spoke at a Lutheran Campus Ministry Conference on gays in the Church:

"Every day for eight years I prayed to have this demon removed from me. Then God asked, 'Why are you so unhappy with the person I created?'"—*Religious News Service*.

**Editor's note:** If God is going to keep homosexuals out of heaven, as he says He will, then He has to pledge Himself to give them enough power to overcome it. "Over all the power of the enemy." Luke 10:19. Beware of the "self-esteem/self-acceptance" teachings of modern psychology!

#### Overcoming Homosexuality

Catholic psychologist Dr. Joseph Nicolosi says that homosexuality is not genetic or a spiritual gift from God—and has the results to prove it.

(Continued on page 14.)



# The Strawberry Patch

**Steve Dickie** was in Dallas, Texas, on the way to the printing operation in Mexico when he sent us this report:

This past December I went to Tanzania to visit the Rudy Harnisch family, who have been missionaries in Africa for over three years. Wherever they have gone as missionaries—even in Alaska—they have always demonstrated an interest in the book work. When Rudy worked at the Black Hills school, He would dress up like a cowboy, ride a horse through the near by National Parks and hand out books to the tourists. Rudy believes in the book work, because that is how he came into the message.

When Rudy, Michelle and their children first arrived at Kibidula farm, which is an OCI mission station, they were given a tour of the property. At one end of the property there was an old barn. When Rudy investigated it, he found cases of paperback Spirit of Prophecy books which had been stored in the loft of the barn, and which had almost been forgotten about.

The boxes of books were covered with dirt, dust, and the ever present African rat droppings. Some had been torn apart by the rats.

Rudy took the precious books of life, washed the covers, and cleaned as many as were salvageable. With such a demand for books, he wondered if they would sell in their cleaned-up condition.

Rudy built a little book rack, priced the books and took them to Mafinga, 25 kilometers away, where the mission's retail lumberyard is located. People who came to buy lumber also bought the books of life.

Not only did non-Seventh-day Adventists buy the books; but Seventh-day Adventist colporteurs, who did not have any Spirit of Prophecy books to sell, started to buy in quantity. As more and more colporteurs heard about the availability of salable books, Rudy soon started to run out.

Rudy located the conference press and found out why the colporteurs didn't have any books to sell. They had no inventory of E.G. White books in either English or Swahili. They did have the *Desire of Ages* printed in three parts; but only the first and third were available, and they had no plans for printing the

second part in the near future. If they ever did have all parts of the *Desire of Ages* printed in Swahili, it sold to colporteurs for \$26.50 US per set.

One of the colporteurs buying books told Rudy about the publishing house in Kenya at Kendu Bay. He got the directions and started out on the three day trip by African bus, spending nights in the famous African hotels.

When he arrived in Kenya, he found a publishing operation that really worked for the Lord. They had many of the books in Swahili needed to keep the Tanzanian colporteurs selling door to door.

The Kibidulan mission had no extra funds for purchasing the books, so Rudy put the money he had from the sale of the paperback books from the old barn, with that from the sale of some English Spirit of Prophecy books sent over from the United States in 1996, and what he and his wife could scrape up to purchase the much needed books. That is how this work started.

From this humble beginning it has now grown to an almost daily sale of truth-filled books to colporteurs, and he told me that the colporteurs are now coming late into the night to get books. I can not explain the amazement as we see the growth of the literature work. Why hasn't the book work become a power for the Lord in these countries?

I left Africa on December 26, and Rudy was going to Kenya to get books. He returned with over twenty cases. In the letter I just received, he wrote that he is running out already.

As I travel in the different Seventh-day Adventist cultures, there are many things that are difficult to understand. One is that the book work is much talked about, but very little is being done.

When you go back and read the history of the start of this movement, it was the published word that the Holy Spirit used to bring home the truth. In Psalms 68:11 the Lord says, "The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it."

I went to Tanzania to find out how we could help with the book work. Many of the Spirit of Prophecy books you and I love are not translated. We hired a translator and some helpers. We found

Moses, the retired Voice of Prophecy translator, who is only 62 years young.

The first book that he translated, was Dr. Mary Ann McNeilus' book, *God's Healing Way*.

Dr. McNeilus has been a practicing physician in third world countries for a number of years. She now divides her practice between an Amish settlement here in Southern Minnesota and traveling to third world countries to promote God's simple ways of healing. From her years of experience using God's methods of healing, she published a book showing how simple Gods ways are.

Rudy just sent me an E-mail message telling me that Moses' wife had been bit by a very poisonous snake while she was working in the field. The bite is normally fatal, but Moses remembered what he had translated in Dr. McNeilus' book about the use of charcoal. A charcoal poultice was made and applied. After four days, the fever broke, and his wife is back to normal now. Praise the Lord!

Moses now witnesses to the power of God in His simple ways of healing. Moses believes the devil was trying to kill his wife so the translation work would stop. What a personal testimony!

One Sunday morning, the local Seventh-day Adventist pastor rode his little motor scooter over and told us they had just organized two new companies on Sabbath. He told us that it was the result of free Swahili tracts that the church members had given out a few months before. Africa is so poor that any type of reading material is readily grasped and read.

Before I left for Africa I spoke with a former missionary who told me that the African people cannot afford to buy books. This may be true, as the African worker only gets about two dollars a day, but the Holy Spirit is moving on people's hearts to buy the message of salvation.

In Christian love,  
Steve and Donna Dickie



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By Dr. Mary Ann McNeilus

This book is an excellent source of information covering Dr. McNeilus' philosophy of health using the 8 laws of health and a few simple natural remedies. She also emphasizes the spiritual connection needed between God, His people and the health message in the end times.

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## SHARE!

We have just recently received a telephone call from a man whose friend had just shared a Future for America magazine with him.

He was on fire for the Lord and for the work that is being done, and he requested that his name be added to the mailing list.

If you have a friend who would be interested in this phase of God's work, please share with him/her, and then send us their addresses.

We truly believe that this is the message to prepare God's people! Let's get it out there!

Dr. Nicolosi is the founder and clinical director of the Thomas Aquinas Psychological Clinic, which is devoted to the treatment of homosexuals. He is also the executive director of the National Association for the Research and Therapy of Homosexuality (NARTH).

"We have more than 860 individuals who say that they have experienced varying degrees of sexual reorientation change and over 200 licensed psychotherapists who say they have participated in the successful treatment of homosexuality," said Dr. Nicolosi. "There's lots of information, but its being politically covered up. We have become so sensitized to protecting the sentiments and feelings of one minority, namely gays, that we are forsaking the needs and wants of another population, namely the non-gay homosexual—the person who wants to change, who may be having homosexual feelings but who does not want to assume the gay identity."—*National Catholic Register*, Dec. 7-13-97

## **FEMINISM'S FAILURE**

Feminism promised women personal fulfillment, but many of its adherents are finding only unhappiness in its doctrines. A new study conducted by Paul R. Amato from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and Alan Booth from Pennsylvania State University, reports that women whose sex-role attitudes reflect strong commitments to feminism and egalitarianism often report less happiness with their marriages than their peers whose sex-role attitudes are more traditional. Furthermore, wives whose sex-role attitudes become less traditional over time frequently report a simultaneous decline in their marital happiness. The researchers found a "negative and significant coefficient for wives (150), indicating that if wives' attitudes became more egalitarian during the study period, wives' perceived marital quality declined."

Amato and Booth analyzed data drawn from a national sample of over 2,000 married persons interviewed three times over the course of eight years. Their work led them to conclude, "changes toward non-traditional gender role attitudes among wives are accompanied by reports of general decline in marital quality (less happiness, less interaction, more disagreements, more problems, and higher divorce proneness). These findings are consistent with previous cross-sectional studies showing that women who hold non-traditional gender role attitudes are more likely than other women to be unhappy with their marriages." *American Sociological Review*, 58-66.—*Christian News*, June 2, 1997.

**Editor's note:** In other words, women do not seek refuge from a failing marriage in feminism. Rather, when they embrace feminism they often grow dissatisfied with their marriages. Is this why Seventh-day Adventist marriages fail at an equal rate with those of the world?

## **THE HEALTH MESSAGE**

### **A REASON FOR THE HEALTH MESSAGE!**

A study of 1000 pastors and family members by the Southern Baptist Convention found that most were overweight and more sedentary than the national average. About one-third didn't eat breakfast each day, had high blood pressure and suffered from sleep deprivation. Fast food topped their list of most regularly consumed meals.

The study also showed no signs of alcohol abuse and very little reported tobacco use. According to some observers, since Baptists are unofficially forbidden to drink or smoke, high fat and cholesterol is their vice of choice.—*Freedom Writer*, September/October, 1997.

### **WHERE ARE WE AS SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS?**

**"It is impossible for those who indulge the appetite to attain to Christian perfection."—*Testimonies*, vol. 2, 400.**

### **IS PSYCHOLOGY A SHAM?**

A psychologist who has practiced for more than 20 years says her profession is a sham. "Psychology is neither a science nor a profession," said Tana Dineen, "but an industry that turns healthy people into victims to give itself a constant source of income." Dineen, who has practiced in Ontario, but now lives in Victoria, is promoting her book, *Manufacturing Victims*, in which she is highly critical of her profession.—*The Berean Call*, February, 1997.

## **GOD'S JUDGMENTS**

**There shall be . . . pestilences . . . in divers places.—Matthew 24:7.**

### **THE NEW HONG KONG FLU**

A mysterious strain has already killed two people, and experts fear the potential for an epidemic . . . Since no human can count on having a natural immunity to what is essentially a bird virus, we could prove especially vulnerable to infection.—*Time*, December, 29, 1997.

### **AFRICAN DISEASE OUTBREAK**

## **African Disease Outbreak Now Less Mysterious—Experts Know What Its Not.**

Nairobi, Kenya (AP)—Medical experts have ruled out more than a dozen diseases in trying to identify one that has killed scores of Kenyans and Somalis—but they still haven't found the culprit yet.

Two key suspects remain: Rift Valley fever and anthrax. The fever, named after a valley in Kenya, is spread by mosquitoes while anthrax is spread by livestock. People with the disease suffer high fever, diarrhea, vomiting and bleeding from the nose and mouth. Afflicted livestock also experience external bleeding.

As of December 31, 1997 testing was still underway in Africa and at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta and Fort Collins, Colorado to determine the nature of the malady.

The disease does not transfer between people, but from sick animals eaten by people.—*The Daily Independent*, December 31, 1997.

### **WILL METHANE HYDRATES EXPLODE THE WORLD'S OCEANS?**

Last summer Jerry Dickens and his fellow geologists were hauling mud-filled pipes up from the seafloor onto the deck of the research vessel *Resolution* when one of the mud-core samples exploded. "Just as we were pulling it up, it blew, and mud shot 100 feet like a cannon," says Dickens. The geologists were not entirely surprised.

What gave the mud its kick was a huge load of methane. Geologists have long suspected that the seafloor is dotted with deposits of a slushy mix of methane and water, but the *Resolution's* crew was the first to measure how much is actually there. The amount is stunning. Along Blake Ridge alone, 250 miles off South Carolina, are 35 billion tons of buried methane—equivalent to the United States' natural-gas consumption over 105 years. Geologists believe it is only one of at least 50 such deposits worldwide.

Because the methane is too costly to extract, energy companies are not interested in the discovery, but people who study past and future climates are. Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas, and it doesn't always need a crew of geologists to [cause it to] come roaring out of the seafloor.

The geologic record shows that 55 million (sic) years ago the deep ocean warmed by at least 4 degrees, probably as a result of a change in ocean circulation. (i.e. The Flood?) Warmer ocean temperatures could have melted some buried hydrates, resulting in the explosive release of trapped methane. Dickens speculates that this release

ane. Dickens speculates that this release could have been catastrophic. Other researchers have found enormous craters on Blake Ridge, where melting hydrates apparently made the seafloor collapse. Their role in the past may make hydrates a wild card in our future climate.

Some computer simulations suggest that the global warming induced by burning fossil fuels could alter ocean temperatures. If the deep ocean suddenly warmed again, then the vast fields of hydrates that Dickens and his co-workers have discovered could be unleashed before our eyes.—*Discover*, May, 1997.

**Editor's note:** Methane is a highly flammable gas! Consider:  
"The whole earth appears like a desolate wilderness. The . . . ragged rocks thrown out by the sea . . . are scattered over its surface."—*The Great Controversy*, 657. "The sea boiled like a pot, and cast out stones upon the land."—*Early Writings*, 34, 285.

## ECONOMY

### BOOM OR BUST?

As East Asia sinks further into economic quicksand, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is swooping in money and advice. But is the IMF, whose biggest donor is the U.S., the perfect action hero, or will its help only make matters worse?

South Korea is requesting \$20 billion. That's just an initial request. The Koreans may eventually need more like \$60 billion to \$100 billion.—*Time*, December 8, 1997.

### WORST CASE SCENARIO:

#### How the good times could stop rolling.

According to University of Chicago political economist Marvin Zonis these possibilities could burst our bubble:

#### 1 THE EURO THREAT

On Jan. 1, 1999, Europe's 10 or 12 biggest economies plan to replace their local money with one currency—the euro. If confidence in the single currency gets shaky, investors will buy U.S. dollars, driving up their value and making U.S. exports harder to sell overseas. "If the euro breaks up in the end, that would really be catastrophic for all," says Zonis.

#### 2 THE OIL THREAT

Crown Prince Abdullah, the heir-apparent to the throne of Saudi Arabia, is more nationalistic than his father and is seeking better relations with Iran. Both nations want increased oil revenues and may cut oil production to do so. That would mean higher energy costs and drive up U.S. inflation.

#### 3. THE JAPAN THREAT

The world's second largest economy, in a severe slump for most of the 90's, could get pushed into depression by the financial crises in Southeast Asia, which gets nearly 40%

of all Japanese exports.

More alarming, roughly one-third of all loans in Southeast Asia—many now in default—came from fragile Japanese financial institutions. "To raise needed liquidity, they might sell their holdings of U.S. Treasury securities," says Zonis. Since Japan owns more U.S. Treasury debt than any other nation (more than \$300 billion), a sell-off would cause U.S. interest rates to climb, which would bludgeon stock prices and endanger America's economic expansion. The yen could plunge in value. Cheaper Japanese products could flood the markets and worsen the U.S. trade deficit. A trade war could result.

#### 4. THE CHINA THREAT

With Hong Kong in hand, is Taiwan next? Global risk managers believe Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui will soon move aggressively to gain independence for his country. That would cause China's leadership to rattle its sabers at the island, as it did in 1996, almost certainly drawing the U.S. into a conflict. The next shoe: Beijing, which holds about \$100 billion in U.S. Treasury securities, largely as a result of its huge trade surplus, could threaten to unload them, causing a major downturn in U.S. financial markets.

—*TIME*, Dec. 8, 1997

### 11 Countries Pass Monetary Union Muster

Friday, Feb. 27, Europe's most ambitious project to date, its planned single currency, passed its day of reckoning with virtual confirmation that the European Monetary Union will start with 11 member states. EU members hoping to qualify for EMU membership must produce budget deficit figures that meet the key monetary union qualification of 3% or less of gross domestic product. Four more states are pressing toward the mark for next year.

The new currency, the euro, is scheduled for kickoff in January 1999.—*Los Angeles Times*, February 28, 1998.

## FREEDOM OF SPEECH

### FREE SPEECH VS. HATE LITERATURE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Doug Collins, a 76-year-old journalist for the Vancouver, British Columbia, *North Shore News*, after 2 ½ years of legal wrangling, has been ordered to appear before a British Columbia human rights tribunal to face charges that his column has exposed Jews to hate.

In 1993, the New Democratic Party government quietly amended its Human Rights Act so it could begin disciplining newspapers or journalists for publishing anything "likely to expose a person or group or class of persons to hatred or contempt."

The British Columbia Press Council, which represents 125 publications in British Colum-

bia, has intervened in the case in a bid to have the law struck down as unconstitutional. "The government members feel impolite and rude speech should be unlawful, that people should not be allowed to say things that hurt other people's feelings. It is an extraordinary attempt to control the press."

The Council is arguing the Human Rights Act infringes on "freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication," freedoms guaranteed to all Canadians in the Charter of Rights. But the Canadian Jewish Congress, which has the support of anti-hate and multicultural groups in the province, believes the Collins case will underscore the importance of putting a limit on "hateful speech" in Canada. A representative said, "Free speech is not absolute. People who are victims of what you say have rights, too."

The British Columbia law is also considerably broader than its federal counterpart, the Criminal Code, which states that it is a crime only when someone "willfully promotes hatred." The province's law, which sets no limit on fines for those found to be spreading hate, also outlines no defense for the accused. In contrast, the Criminal Code states that no person can be convicted for spreading hate if a statement is true or believed to be true and "relevant to any subject of public interest."—*Christian News*, June 2, 1997.

**Editor's note:** Would *The Great Controversy* be viewed as "hateful speech" in British Columbia?

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"It is a dangerous thing on questions of truth and significance to be wrong. But there may be a more dangerous thing: being right and knowing it."—John Ortberg, *Christianity Today*, May 1997.

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### BISHOP DECRIES KILLING OF MISSIONARIES AROUND THE WORLD

At least 46 Roman Catholic missionaries were killed last year, and persecution of Christians continues to be a problem in many parts of the world, Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick of Newark, NJ, said April 2. He cited Zaire, Algeria and Burundi as especially dangerous for church personnel. "In China and Vietnam, Christians, both Catholic and Protestant, as well as Buddhists continue to suffer gravely for their religious beliefs and practices," McCarrick said.—*Religious News Service*.

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