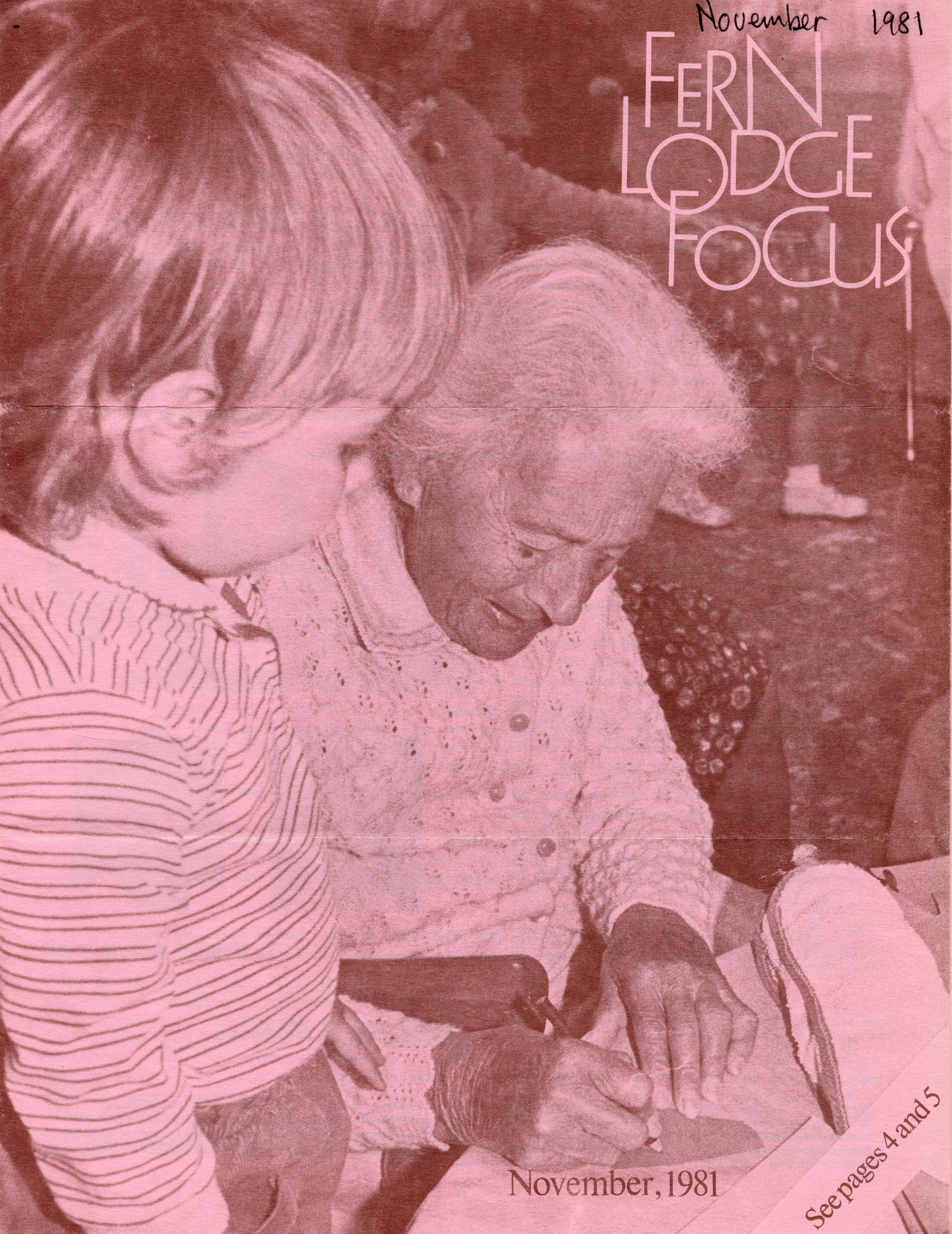


November 1981

FERN LODGE FOCUS



November, 1981

See pages 4 and 5

Fern Lodge, Inc.

18457 Madison Avenue, Castro Valley, Ca. 94546, 415 886-2448

A Non-Profit Nursing Facility for Christian Scientists Accredited by The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Friends:

October 1981

We nearly lost our breath at the news that this year's Medi-Cal increase is only 2.6 percent when we expected 9.2 percent. Because we are grateful for your continuing financial support and do not wish the burden to become too heavy, we thought it only right to reassess our mode of operation to determine just where we can cut down expenses without sacrificing our Christly purpose of providing for a balance of both private and Medi-Cal patients. We're finding them: the nursing department discovers more and more economical ways of providing for basic physical needs without sacrificing comfort and utility; our innovative garden and maintenance department has introduced considerable savings with automatic timers on both the night lighting system and a new drip watering procedure; a donation to the office supplied 25,000 envelopes; a donation was made of a used electric bed; a long time Pupil's Association, disbanding after 62 years, sent us a welcome gift of \$5,000; and of course, the continued savings effected by the excellent volunteer services rendered.

With your metaphysical and financial help, we continue to prove ineffective the claims of rising inflation and cutbacks in supply.

Yes, we still very much need your continued financial support. Your contribution is tax-deductible because we are a non-profit tax-exempt nursing facility under both Federal and State law. Your entire gift is utilized for improvement and operation of Fern Lodge and no portion of your contribution has been or will be used for fund-raising expenses. Remember when giving through the United Way this year, you may specify Fern Lodge on your Donor Option Card.

There is much forward momentum to be thankful for this Thanksgiving season:

1. We are working with an architect to prepare a MASTER PLAN to incorporate improvements we still envision, so, as we are financially able, each item will fit into an over-all harmonious order. Still first on the list is much needed storage space for nursing equipment.
2. Our traveling SLIDE SHOW on Christian Science Nursing is literally on the road. Watch for a showing near you!
3. We have scheduled TWO INTRODUCTORY NURSING ADVENTURES at Thanksgiving and New Years, hoping that one of these will fit into your schedule. Will branch churches PLEASE POST the enclosed letter and application on your bulletin boards.

We are pleased to enclose a brand new BROCHURE of Fern Lodge which we hope you will SAVE for sharing with someone who may need our services.

Gratefully,

Charles J. Arden

Board of Directors

President: Charles Arden, Walnut Creek; Vice-President: Betty Dempsey, Castro Valley; Secretary: Hazel Wilson, Hayward; Treasurer: Harriett Eagerblade, Castro Valley; Directors: Raymond Bishop, Walnut Creek; Muriel Chisholm, Castro Valley; Sylvia Cook, Castro Valley; Eugene DeBolt, Danville; Frances Griffeth, Walnut Creek; Robert Griffin, San Leandro; Kathryn Grover, Pleasanton; Alan Jones, Oakland; Joseph Landisman, Berkeley; Ronald Macdonald, Oakland; Jane Schweitzer, Oakland. Newsletter Editor: Arliss Harmon, Hayward.

Announcing Two Adventure·in·Learning Sessions

***A two-day Thanksgiving weekend session: Friday and Saturday, November 27, 28, 1981.**

***A one-day session: Saturday, January 2, 1982.**

In answer to an apparent need for two types of informational sessions, our On-the-job trainer, George Strong, will conduct two separate get-acquainted-with-nursing programs. If you're curious to know more, please read the enclosed letter, then send in your application as soon as you know which date fits your needs.

Christian Scientists use nursing qualities every day - that is, they are "cheerful, orderly, punctual, patient, full of faith, - receptive to Truth and Love." (Science and Health, p.395) Nurtured from within, and then applied to the care of others, these qualities are the basis of a Christian Science nursing career, a profession which enriches the life of anyone who even considers it.



Slide Show Ready for Churches, Groups

An edited, refined and expanded version of the audio-visual report on Christian Science nursing at Fern Lodge, shown at our Annual Meeting in May, now includes Christian Science nursing in general and the nursing services provided by other northern California nursing facilities.

Although most church members are familiar with the offices of the Christian Science practitioner and the Christian Science teacher, there is oftentimes a lack of acquaintance with the Manual-authorized office of the Christian Science nurse.

Our "top executives" are so enthused with the presentation, that all three have accompanied its dates, shown at local branch churches, to answer questions. Administrator Bob McVey, Superintendent of Nurses Camille Lindsay and Assistant Superintendent George Strong are eager to schedule showings for any group of Christian Scientists who send a request to Fern Lodge. It takes about twenty minutes, not including the question and answer period.

Branch churches may set aside time before or during a regular church meeting or arrange a separate date. Some churches have scheduled afternoon or evening meetings devoted to a broad discussion of Christian Science care, inviting nearby branches or societies to attend. For further information, call (415) 886-2448.



Scholarship Awards

The Fern Lodge Scholarship Fund recently allowed the awarding of two scholarships for first year nurses training at Arden Wood. Nurses aide Mrs. Nancy Bearden, of Modesto, has enrolled in the November 2nd class. Her introduction to the possibilities of a nursing career came while attending Fern Lodge's annual meeting last May. Nurses aide Mrs. Jewell Mitchell, who we profiled in the last Newsletter, will begin in February.



FLOCK to Fern Lodge on Tuesdays . . .



BIG NEWS at Fern Lodge is its innovative "FLOCK" program: a perfect example of age-busting. Those intriguing initials stand for Fern Lodge On-going Creative Kinship.

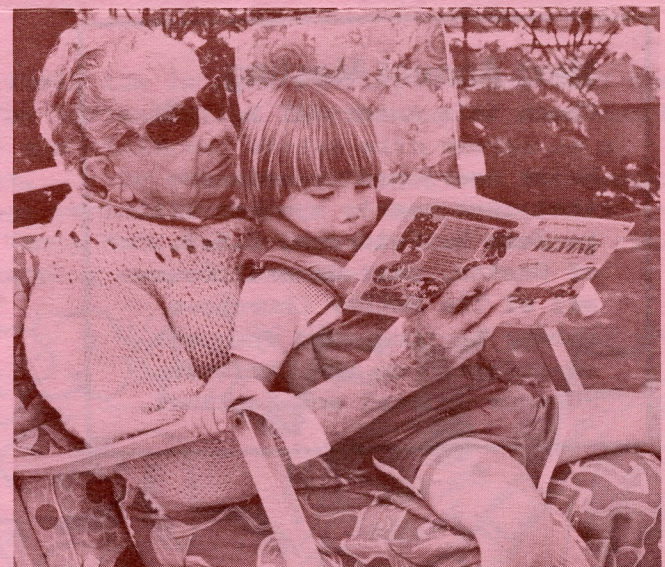
Each Tuesday morning our guests hurry through breakfast, eager to welcome once again the 8 to 10 preschoolers who themselves are more than delighted to have play-and-learning time with these grand mothers and fathers. At least two of the mothers stay with Coordinator Anna Lisa McVey to help direct the morning's activities.

The young Christian Scientists accept these loving mature ladies and gentlemen with all the purity of thought that sees no "problems that are being worked on." And our long time Christian Scientists feel the freshness of life and sharing that takes thought away from themselves.



Time telescopes as they work and play in perfectly matched teamwork: seniors sew bean bags; everyone fills them; macaroni, Cheerios and Corn Chex are strung into necklaces; paper bags become face masks to fit over every sized head. Juice and crackers lend themselves to a period of sharing and learning to say please and thank you.

As 11 o'clock arrives, mothers stash away toys and crafts, and help, along with little ones, to push wheelchairs, while others go hand-in-hand, into the all-purpose room. While adults stay for the reading of the Lesson Sermon, the children dash to the lawn in front of Creekside House for active playtime 'til it's time to go home for lunch and naps.



"On the Same Branch Bend"

This was the keynote of the eighth annual Administrators Seminar held April 27-29, at the Church Center in Boston.

Many important ideas came forth: *The Administrator serves, ministers, with spiritual poise, having quiet dominion, and sets the example in maintaining a healing atmosphere; *Lists of spiritual qualities for each department; *New accreditation standards for facilities are designed for a more spiritually based operation; *Our facilities are places of refuge and healing; *Several nursing facilities are being planned for Germany and Switzerland.

In a talk entitled "Healing the Aged - Is it Realistic?" Nathan Talbot emphasized that aligning the concept of immortality with qualities that are here and now, instead of associating immortality with unending time, we can expect to discover fresh, new concepts every day.

The seminar concluded with a talk entitled "First Christian Duty - Christian Healing." Michael Thorneloe admonished us to turn to the Bible as a recipe for all healing. It is up to us to become great demonstrators of Truth and Love. He said Mrs. Eddy established a movement of active practitioners, not patients.

I'm very grateful for the inspiration and support shown by The Mother Church through its Department of Practitioners and Nursing Activities.

Bob McVey
Administrator

Next Annual Meeting

Check this date: MAY 2, 1982

We're overjoyed to announce that next year's speaker will be John R. Peterson, C.S.B. of Boston, past General Counsel of The Mother Church, a former lecturer and frequent contributor to the Christian Science Journal and Sentinel.

List of Services at Fern Lodge

Because you may not be aware of the extent of Fern Lodge's services available to the Field, herewith is a quick list:

- * Complete range of nursing care: Supportive through intensive.
- * Medi-Cal financing accepted.
- * Nursing equipment to loan: Wheelchairs, commodes, walkers, etc.
- * Emergency room.
- * Out-patient care: Bandages, etc.
- * Ten-week nurse-aide training, pre-requisite for on-the-job training.
- * On-the-job training for first year nursing students.

"Being of One Accord, of One Mind"

This was the keynote of the Superintendents Seminar held at the Church Center, Boston, attended by superintendents from each of 35 nursing facilities in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain.

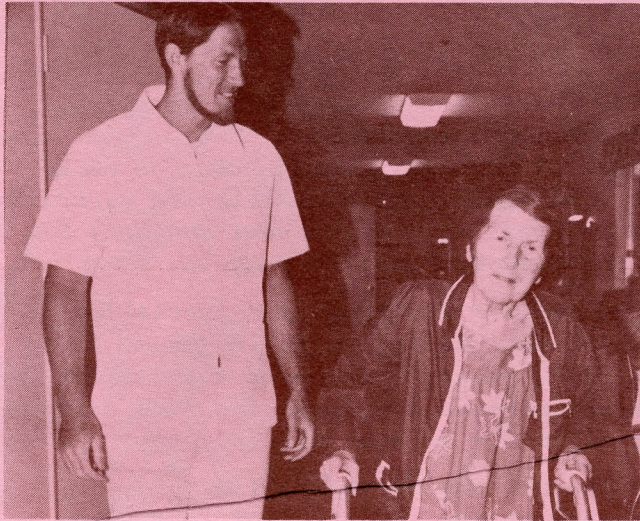
The overall objectives were:

- A. To increase the unity of motives and efforts of the nursing staff.
- B. To provide the superintendents with new tools for effective supervision.
- C. To provide a forum for sharing ideas and experiences with colleagues.

Each area was pursued in depth and gave me a wonderful feeling of greater appreciation for the office of Christian Science nurse, spiritual substance for being more effective in my work as superintendent, and a spiritual arousing that left me committed to being a better Christian Scientist.

James Spencer, one of the speakers, said "To be a good supervisor, you must have super-vision!"

Camille Lindsay
Superintendent



Summer Workers from Prin.

Returning for a third stint at nurse aiding was Mary Wells of Lafayette, she of the happy face and the lilting flute. It was Mary who interested two fellow Principians in applying for summer service.

Dale Prestin from Tulare signed on as a full time nurse aide, all 6'3" of him lending tender support and youthful humor.

Carol Yourl from West Palm Beach, Florida, repainted much of our indoor areas.



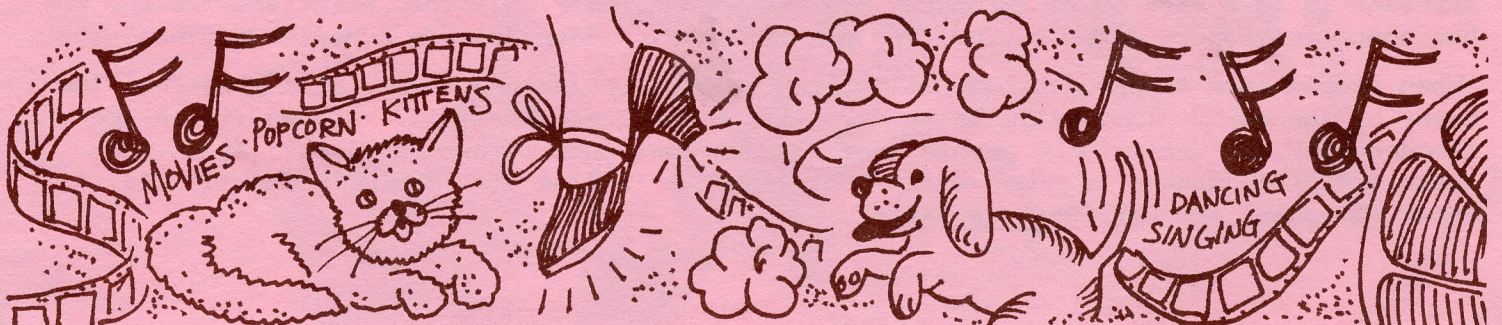
Focus on This

Two new Board Members have joined our illustrious group: Mrs. Kathryn Grover, C.S. of Pleasanton, who spoke at our September 26 staff inspirational meeting; and Joseph Landisman, an attorney from Berkeley.

Additional training tools for our nurses are the Sony Video Cassette player with Random Access unit. The first set of tapes is for nurses aides and first year trainees.

Our thanks to the hairdresser who made the 40 mile trek from Pittsburg to Fern Lodge on her days off to spend 4 or 5 hours "doing" hair. On the way she picked up an enthusiastic friend. They were introduced to our needs through this year's Annual Meeting.

"All Work and No Play ..." Fern Lodgers take their fun in good stride, proving that the nursing qualities are not limited to the nurse. For instance: the last Monday of each month when former Board member Art Brandenburg, his wife and children, arrive with movies or a slide show, and all the popcorn the viewers can eat. Or, the first Tuesday of the month, when a young representative from the S.P.C.A. brings various live pets to be fondled and learned about. Or, Hayward First Church member Nancy Mack who brings her tap dancing class to perform. We noticed any number of other feet tapping away to the beat.



"HOW REAL is God to You?" asks Duane Gunnison, CSB

Here are a few excerpts from Mr. Duane Gunnison's talk at our Annual Meeting last May:

"We suffer because of our ignorance of God. The only remedy for ignorance is to learn, and so our goal must be to learn more of the nature and character of God, that He may be so real to us that healing becomes the spontaneous effect of our daily lives. How do we do this? Jesus used the analogy of birth, 'ye must be born again,' to symbolize the experience which must come to us to better know God. This was not just an intellectual concept, but such a deep spiritual growth that Jesus likened it to being born all over again.

"...as time went on the Christian church came to give quite a different interpretation to this phrase 'ye must be born again.' It came merely to mean having faith in Jesus, and that having this faith we are saved, having nothing to do really but accept that salvation. The result was that healing soon went out of the church because simply having such a faith is not enough to change one's life deeply enough to allow one to heal consistently.

"...and so, too, often Christian Science came to be thought of, in the public mind, as simply an intellectual belief, rather than an experience of the Christ. But in the New Birth, (Misc.pp.15-20) Mrs. Eddy emphasizes the need to evangelize human consciousness, to have the new birth experience. 'This Adam legacy must first be seen, and then must be subdued...' (Misc. p.2:11-12) she said. See the belief, and then see through it. The seeing through it is being born again.

"When I was a Chaplain in the Air Force I was disturbed to see how many Christian Scientists coming in from our Sunday Schools had simply a belief or a faith in Christian Science on very shallow ground. Oh, they had the words right, but their hearts didn't burn within them. When faced with a sergeant who didn't particularly love them and the hard world of the military, they couldn't relate what they had been taught in Sunday School to every day life. But Christian Science is more than a belief. Certain demands are made upon us to evangelize human consciousness.

"We must start working at the new birth, that is the demand. If we say that healing is delayed, or not as much healing is going on as there should be, let's ask ourselves, how willing are we to work at the new birth?

"I wonder if Mrs. Eddy is not speaking to the great need to have Christian Science be an experience in her Communion Hymn, 'Saw ye my Saviour?' She's not asking did you believe the Christ, did you accept the Christ, but 'Saw ye, Heard ye, Felt ye?' ...The answer is in the disciplining of thought. The service men said they hadn't any time to study, their schedules were full - and they were. But I would remind them that they were always thinking. We would learn a hymn or some statement of Truth that they could take with them to think about. Then when I would be with them again I'd hear comments like, 'the whole world is changed, I'm not home-sick any more, I feel loved!' They were saying that they had seen the Saviour, no longer was Christian Science a lot of words or beliefs, but it was now an experience of the Christ. The result was that healings came quickly. We didn't have to have a Church Outreach Committee to increase attendance. They would invite their friends to come without any urging at all from me, because they had seen the Christ.

"I'm sure Jesus didn't see the perfect man by getting up in the morning and saying, 'today I'm not going to see any error.' No, he was so filled with the light of the Christ that wherever that light was, there was no darkness to see.

"Christian Science is practical Christianity.....You can't fathom Christian Science if you approach it as a sage or philosopher, Mrs. Eddy says, it's only the Christian, the one who has completely surrendered to God, who can fathom it. (See Science & Health p.556:13-15)

"When people come to our churches will their hearts burn within them? Will they feel the power of the word? They will, if we do. It's a challenge isn't it? Are we filled and flooded with the Christ? Do people know it when they come to our services? Again and again the Bible speaks of those early Christians as 'filled with the Holy Ghost.' To Peter, Stephen, and Paul God was real!"