

One Fold

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The essay on liberation theology previously announced for this issue's "One Fold" segment, has been postponed to accommodate "Grace and Works in Martin Luther and Joseph Smith."

Catholic Charismatics

Spiritual gifts and manifestations are the key to the new Catholic charismatic movement. In April, 450 Catholic bishops and priests convened the first Charismatic Renewal in Britain. Pope Paul sent a message expressing hope for "an abundant outpouring . . . of the Spirit's gifts and graces." For many, his hope was fulfilled in Father Vincent Baron, a clergyman from northwest England. According to the *Jesuit America*, Father Baron, who had been totally deaf in one ear and could hear but little in the other, "felt frustration as the battery in his hearing aid apparently went dead. . . . Removing the receiver from his ear, he felt a stab of pain, and then gradually began to hear the spontaneous praying of the others in the group.

"When the whole conference heard the event recounted, they rose to their feet to praise God at the top of their voices." One bishop said, "The Lord . . . has chosen to heal deafness. (He) is telling us that we priests must . . . listen to the Spirit. He will tell us clearly what He wants us to do in the church now."

When asked, "Do you want to be baptized in the Spirit?" the priests and bishops "roared in answer: 'I do!'" and came forward to receive an anointing. "Not a new sacrament, a spokesman explained, the anointing was meant to give new life to the graces the priests had received in baptism, confirmation and ordination." Concludes *America's* editor, "The new life in the church continues to take unexpected forms."

CWU Protests Working Conditions

The ecumenical Church Women United has cited poor labor practices at Mattel's Korean subsidiary where "Barbie" and "Marie Osmond" dolls and other toys are manufactured. The group reports Korean women

employees complain of working ten hour shifts (Korean law sets eight as maximum); no holidays are allowed; and the starting wage is \$1.13 per day. 90% of the company's 3,000 employees are women.

Catholics Prefer Latin

A recent Gallup poll indicated 64% of American Catholics in favor of return to "the old-style Latin mass."

Southern Baptist Membership

Despite a 10% decline in the number of baptisms last year, Southern Baptist membership topped 13 million for the first time in 1977.

Anti-abortion Violence

The National Abortion Rights Action League has charged anti-abortion demonstrators with a million dollars worth of damage and personal injuries across the country. Bombs have been thrown, windows broken, fires set, equipment damaged, bullets fired, and walls defaced at abortion clinics and related agencies. In NARAL's recent report, "Violence Against the Right to Choose," six burnings, two violent attacks, and trespassing at six more facilities are documented.

NBC Abortion Dispute

On April 9, NBC refused to broadcast a segment of "The Lutheran Hour," because it featured an antiabortion sermon. A Lutheran group pays \$75,000 a year to put its program on 32 network stations, but the network maintained the controversial nature of abortion would require both sides of the issue be presented.

Wheat for Vietnam

The National Council of Churches has made a \$2 million dollar shipment of wheat to Vietnam. The U.S. granted a special shipping license for the 10,000 metric tons of grain which left Houston for Ho Chi Minh City in March. Droughts and floods, in addition to war damage, have created a severe food shortage in Vietnam. Much of the wheat was donated by

mid-western farmers; an additional \$700,000 in shipping costs had to be raised by the churches when the government refused to reimburse the shipping expenses as it usually does when voluntary agencies ship food overseas.

Carter Meets Clergy

In February, President Carter met with twenty-eight leaders of the National Council of Churches. During the 25-minute meeting the church leaders raised issues of full employment, welfare reform, southern Africa, nuclear disarmament, and human rights questions, including the case of the Wilmington Ten. The President thanked the group for their concerns, and then told them, "The government has done a great deal to eliminate segregation, one of the afflictions of our society. The churches have done much less;" adding, "in many ways the last bastion of racial discrimination is in the churches." Conceding that government has fallen short, he concluded, "but on balance the government has done a better job than the churches. I say this as a member of both."

Family Report

The number of men and women living together out of wedlock (1.5 million) increased 14% in 1977, according to a U.S. Census Bureau study released in April. Divorce in America increased 34% between 1960 and 1970, and a dramatic 79% between 1970 and 1978. Most of the increase in divorce has been among younger couples.

Wilmington Ten

Over the protest of 58 UCC ministers, the Executive Council of the 1.8 million-member United Church of Christ recently reaffirmed its support of the Wilmington Ten. Up to \$125,000 of church funds has been designated for the appeals process, and an additional \$130,000 for an educational program about the case. The church has already spent half a million dollars defending the Ten, who were convicted of a 1971 fire bombing of a North Carolina store. Three key prosecution witnesses have acknowledged they lied during the trial; nevertheless, North Carolina Governor Hunt recently refused to grant pardons, reducing the sentences instead. Leader of the Ten, Ben Chavis will be eligible for parole in 1980. In the meantime, he continues to serve as director of the Washington office of the UCC's Commission for Racial Justice. Amnesty International has made the case a world-wide issue,

claiming that the men are prisoners of conscience. President Carter has said only that it is a state issue.

Women Clergy

According to the *Yearbook of American and Canadian churches*, women comprise 4.1% (10,500) of the total clergy in North America. Of 211 Christian churches polled, 76 ordain women. Since 1972 the number of women enrolled in seminary increased 118%, to 40% of present total enrollment.

Jeb Magruder

Watergate figure Jeb Stuart Magruder, now vice-president of Young Life International, an ecumenical youth organization, will enter Princeton Theological Seminary next fall to work on a master of divinity degree.

Religion on TV in East Germany

About two-thirds of East Germany's population is said to be Christian, and even after thirty years of atheist indoctrination, according to *America*, one-third are active churchgoers. Nevertheless, religious programming on state-controlled television has been restricted to a short Sunday-morning sermon shared by Catholics and Protestants. However, two weeks after meeting with Communist Party leader Erich Honecker, the Protestant Bishop of East Berlin, Albert Schonherr, was given a Good Friday broadcast.

Two years ago Pastor Oskar Brusewitz burned himself to death protesting discrimination against young

Christians in East Germany. Since then, Christian leaders have been more vocal in demanding reform of government policies. The Good Friday broadcast was a hopeful, if small, step forward.

McCall's Religion Survey

The May issue of *McCall's* reports the results of a survey of 60,000 readers. Acknowledging that "believers are more inclined than nonbelievers to respond to questions about religion," *McCall's* goes on to report that 59% of the women responding attend church once a week, but only 17% designate it as the principal influence on their morality, and only 5% turn to their clergyman first in times of trial—after God, husband, a good friend, and a close relative.

The magazine suggested women may not rely more on clergy because so few ministers are women. Most supported the ordination of women (92% Jews, 69% Catholics, 64% "born-again Christians").

Acts regarded by Christian women as "sinful, unethical or immoral" included premarital sex (50%), extramarital sex (73%), abortion (40%), suicide (70%) and homosexuality (62%).

The more conservative respondents came from the South, from the lower end of the income scale, and from the majority of women (56%) who identify themselves as "born-again"—including 22% of the Mormon respondents.

Title IX provides that separation of male and female students in on and off-campus housing is not discriminatory, and asked for clarification of the Department's position. In April, Senators Jake Garn (R-Utah), Charles Mathias (R-Md.) and James McClure (R-Idaho) announced new legislation which would permit private schools and colleges to require separate housing for men and women. According to the *Deseret News*, BYU officials would consider building new dorms and buying apartment buildings to house all students in university-owned facilities rather than give up the policy. That might satisfy Justice, but the economic consequences would be enormous since 19,000 of the school's 26,000 students live in the contested housing. Meanwhile, BYU and Justice are negotiating out of court.

BYU Fights ERA Boycott

Brigham Young University has threatened to withdraw from nine organizations which are boycotting states that have not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment. BYU President Dallin H. Oaks was quoted in the *Deseret News* as having written each organization that, "we are embarrassed to have membership in an organization that engages in such a repressive tactic."

IWY Fallout in Utah

The *Salt Lake Tribune*, on the basis of a state-wide poll, reports that 42% of the state's LDS women feel the status of women deteriorated as a result of recent women's conferences, including the International Women's Year convention. 36% felt their status had been improved by the conferences. Non-Mormon Utah women, on the other hand, felt their status had been improved by a 46-21% margin.

Mormon Trail Bill

The Historic Trail Bill, sponsored by Rep. Gunn McKay (D-Utah), and others has been approved by the House National Parks Subcommittee. The measure, which designates the Mormon Trail, the Oregon Trail and others as part of the National Historic Trails system, now goes to the Interior Committee.

Donnie & Marie, Mormon Image-makers

Ask your average American family who is Spencer W. Kimball, or any of the Apostles, points out an Osmond spokesman, and you will likely get no reaction. But ask, "Who are Donnie and Marie?" and you have instant recognition. The popular brother-sister team has produced consistently high

Update

UCSB Mormon Studies

Two Latter-day Saints at the University of California at Santa Barbara, Dr. G. Wesley Johnson (history) and Dr. M. Gerald Bradford (religious studies), have been named director and assistant of UCSB's four-year study of Mormon secular leaders. According to the University's Institute of Religious Studies, the nation-wide research project "will concentrate on Mormon secular elites rather than on members of the Mormon religious hierarchy," tracing the migration of secular leaders away from Utah through oral history interviews.

BYU Housing Controversy

On February 28, the U.S. Justice Department charged that BYU off-campus housing practices violate the Fair Housing Act, and gave the university one month to conform. The threatened suit grew out of an incident in which a BYU female applied for an apartment in a building approved for male student housing. BYU's policy is that unmarried male and female students may not live in the same building, even if they live in separate apartments, and all students must live in university-approved housing. In March the school's president, Dallin H. Oaks, pointed out to Justice that

Nielson ratings for ABC, are frequently seen on the covers of national publications, have been interviewed by Barbara Walters, and recently made headlines with Donnie's surprise marriage May 8 to BYU freshman Debra Glenn.

The twenty-minute Walters interview, broadcast April 4, dealt primarily with Donnie and Marie's religious attitudes. The family was shown holding Family Home Evening on the stage of their Orem, Utah studio where the "Donnie and Marie Show" is filmed. Observing that many people look to them as role-models, Ms. Walters asked Donnie and Marie about dating and marriage. After fielding questions about premarital sex, Donnie stopped the veteran interviewer point-blank: "Do you believe in the Bible?" Hesitantly, Ms. Walters replied, "In the exact words of the Bible, in the Bible as saying what one does in one's everyday life, no I don't." Donnie: "OK, but do you believe in its laws and principles?" Walters: "I'll tell you what. One of these days, you'll come back and interview me and (laughter) . . . I'll go through all of that." Donnie and Marie: "It's a deal. You heard it folks!" Walters: "That's right, and I hope you never have that kind of a program." (Laughter.) Other questions included the Church's policy towards blacks and women. The two made it clear that their religion is the key to their lives providing security, moral convictions, and purpose. President Kimball was described as "delighted" with the way they handled the interview.

Because of the constant media attention, the Osmonds' power for Mormon image-making is enormous. Consequently, according to Ron Clark, an Osmond public relations representative, the family has been given special status and responsibility. "The Osmonds are an auxiliary of the Church, *literally*," he recently told Associated Latter-day Media Artists. "They report directly to the First Presidency, through Elder Paul Dunn."

Almost quarterly, said Clark, the Osmonds, accompanied by Elder Dunn, present missionary firesides to which every Mormon individual attending must bring a non-Mormon family for admission. According to Clark, all Osmonds carry the family's own missionary tract, "This We Believe," of which nearly a million copies have been distributed. When asked for an autograph, Donnie reportedly whips out a tract and writes, "Read this. Sincerely, Donnie

Osmond." The family claims "25,000 documented baptisms" are attributable to their missionary efforts.

Genealogy Revamped

For five generations genealogy has been obligatory for all faithful Latter-day Saints. As of the April 1978 General Conference that has changed, and as a practical matter genealogy may soon be a concern only of new converts. In his opening address President Spencer W. Kimball announced that members are now responsible for a four-generation pedigree program. Beyond that, a "name extraction" program is being instituted in some stakes, whereby local records are processed *en masse*. . . The shift in emphasis from individual and family genealogy projects to professional and semi-professional genealogists with computer-age technology represents a giant step forward in quantitative capability and a significant change in the program aimed at turning the hearts of the children to their fathers.

Rosalyn Carter, ERA, Mormons

On her way to Europe in March, Barbara Smith, general president of the Relief Society, stopped in Washington to invite Rosalyn Carter to the dedication of the statutory park June 27-30 in Nauvoo. The First Lady apparently declined. "She was quite frank with me," Sister Smith was quoted in the *Deseret News*. "She said she differs with us on the Equal Rights Amendment, and she wondered if by attending she would seem to be endorsing our position on ERA."

Conference Is Good Business

When President Kimball urged Latter-day Saints to complete their food storage programs within one year, there was a boom in the industry. Some companies tripled business overnight and many new companies were started. When the year had passed, demand dropped, some went out of business and others are in difficult financial positions.

This year personal histories were stressed; immediately blank journals were prominently displayed in every bookstore in Salt Lake City. Bookcraft Publishers advertised in local papers, reminding Latter-day Saints that "President Kimball emphasized again this conference that members begin writing their personal histories," and displayed six varieties of their journals plus two "how to" booklets.

KSL reported that *Deseret Book*, which usually does \$10,000-12,000 worth of business a day, recorded a volume of

\$57,000 in one day during Conference.

Abortion Bill

Senators Jake Garn (R-Utah) and Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) have introduced a bill which would prohibit federal funding of agencies that promote or provide abortions unless necessary to save the life of the mother. Presently, \$182.5 million is provided for family planning projects under Title X of the Public Health Services Act. The proposed act would require federally-funded agencies to "inform each woman orally and in writing of the medical risks inherent for herself and for future pregnancies as a result of an abortion." The woman would then be required to sign a statement stating she understands the risks; then abortion would not be performed for two days unless a physician certifies that it is necessary to prevent the woman's death. Some of the Title X money would be given to Birthright, Birthchoice and other programs that counsel women on the benefits and services available in carrying children to term.

Anti-Gay Leader

San Jose Mormon Richard Harrington, chairman of the Citizens Committee Against Gay Pride Week, told the city council in March, "We do not want San Jose recognized as a city which honors homosexuals, and we do not want San Jose to become a symbol of sexual deviation." According to *Christianity Today*, Harrington told the council his group represented sixty churches with 60,000 members. After presentation of a petition signed by 30,000 protesting the city's approval for "gay Pride Week" in June, the council rescinded the resolution, and then designated the week "Gay Human Rights Week" instead. Vice-Mayor Susanne Wilson said she was "grieved" at the animosity expressed in letters received from "Christians" who opposed the special-week proclamation.

Convert Baptisms Up

Statistics released by the Church at April Conference show 25,300 full-time missionaries baptized 167,900 converts in 1977. That constitutes a 123% increase in the number of converts in just three years and an increase in productivity of 51% since 1974. The recent success is even more significant when it is recalled that the number of converts declined from 1971 (83,500) to 1974 (75,200) while the numbers of missionaries were steadily increasing. Whatever changes were made, they seem to be working.