

## REPORT OF COLPORTEUR ACTIVITIES FOR 1978

In January and February there were two teams working in the field. Two sisters colporteurd the **Phoenix, Arizona** area. They sold 128 Volumes, plus many booklets. Their summation was: “Our experiences consisted of a good many discussions on speaking in tongues and faith healing, topics which are growing in importance by the day.”

Another team of sisters did follow-up work and tracting in **Portland and Salem, Oregon**.

March and April saw six active in the field. Two brothers colporteurd in **Albany, Georgia** and vicinity. In March they sold 83 Volumes and continued to do well in April, although no statistics are available. They experienced several interesting encounters with ministers in the area.

One brother was engaged in colporturing and follow-up work in the **Duncan, B.C., Canada**, territory.

The team of two sisters split up to heed a call for help. One sister took time out from full time colporturing to care for a shut-in couple in the Truth. However, each afternoon she managed to spend some time colporturing. The other sister went to **Denver, Colorado**, and did follow-up work with sisters in the Arvada Class.

In May and June the team of two brothers who colporteurd in **Georgia** now moved on to **Grand Rapids, Michigan**, where they co-operated with the class in colporturing, follow-up work and tracting.

During the months of May, June, July and August a team of three engaged in a co-operative arrangement that has possibilities for sustaining brethren full time in the field during our “high cost of living era.” Two did colporteur and follow-up work while the third person worked at a secular job to help support the others.

The **Columbus, Indiana, Class** sent out a call for a team of two sisters or a married couple to do follow-up work. A brother who was in between jobs accepted the call. He and his wife spent parts of October and November in Columbus. During this time, they colporteurd, followed-up on past interest, and placed posters for an upcoming presentation of “For This Cause.” Many of those followed-up on appreciated the literature they had received and planned on attending the presentation. Their fellowship and service was enjoyed so much that the class insisted they be lodged in several homes, so that more could enjoy this partnership of service.

One of the main blessings which all colporteurs and follow-up workers express is the fellowship in the homes and classes they are working with. And those who entertain them say their homes come alive in Truth fellowship and service—emitting a joy which engulfs the whole household including the children.

## SOME OF THEIR EXPERIENCES

“We had studies with an older couple in Portland. They originally responded to an ad in the paper put in by the Portland area Class. On a phone follow-up call we asked her what she thought the future was for people who never heard of Jesus, and for children that have died never having accepted Jesus. ‘I have been wondering about that, and I’ve been praying to know. What do you think?’”

“We also met a woman who told us about her friend’s very hard experience. Her friend had a one-year-old, and this baby had severe birth defects. After many operations the crisis period was finally over. That is when their baby died. WHY? The friend wanted to know. This reminded me of Jesus’ words in Matt. 9:36,37 which show his motivation for sharing Truth. He heard ‘WHY?’ from the hearts of many anguished people—people that had no answers and no direction; and so he offered them the shepherding Truth that gave answers and a direction.”

“Had some opportunities to witness by attending a young mothers’ study on the book of James. Was able to vie tracts and some volumes to some of the women. The movie “The Holocaust” was a good way to initiate discussion: ‘Did you see that movie? How would you explain to someone why the Jews suffered so much?’”

“Appreciated come long discussions with a man who is an alcoholic battling to stay ‘clean.’ He was just going through a divorce which really hurt him because he still loved his wife. This man was trying very hard to put the principles and love of Christ in his heart. He was an example to me in his honesty, and his desire to be a better person (especially in fighting bitterness and also fighting against the rough ways of the loggers he works with). I was very thankful to have the hopefulness of the Kingdom to share with him.”

“One woman showed a sincere interest in learning more about God’s plan and requested additional study visits. The brethren in the class have made arrangements to continue in that work.”

“One Baptist Minister bought a set of six volumes. We left a first volume for him to look over and quite honestly we expected him to read it and throw us out when we returned. But instead he said he liked it and wanted the entire set!”

“I had a nice conversation with a minister. He asked me what gave me the right to preach having had no formal training in the ministry. I told him that neither did Jesus nor the Apostles.”

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Donations for 1978	\$810.00
Interest on Savings	<u>19.45</u>
	\$829.45

### Expenses

Colporteurs	\$1,150.00
Literature	<u>117.48</u>
Total	\$1,267.48

Balance on hand, December 31, 1978    \$1,714.95