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I. Letters
   1. Richard Samuel <samtrio@verizon.net> May 28:
      We certainly are thankful to God who is the great Physician for taking charge of uncle J. D. Moses' care. Over the years he has been the recipient of God's blessings and leading. Surely the God of Isaac, Jacob & Joseph is very much present and ever-willing to answer prayers.
   
   2. John M. Fowler <FowlerJ@gc.adventist.org> May 28:
      It is good to read that Dr. Vara Prasad Depati of Spicer has published a significant article in the MINISTRY magazine. As an Indian, I am proud of it. Perhaps this is the first time in many, many years an Indian from Spicer has published an article in Ministry. India has many good scholars both at Spicer and in other denominational entities. The worth of an institution or the value of one's ministry, particularly in teaching, receives considerable notice when a person publishes. Spicer has so many Ph.D.s, but hardly anyone writes. Not that they cannot, but opportunities and encouragement should be provided. Good English is needed, but our editors of all magazines are looking for content and willing to provide every possible editorial help. I would like to see more and more of our teachers and pastors take a good at writing. It is professionally rewarding and financially satisfying.
      Ministry, Dialogue, Journal of Adventist Education, Adventist Review and other journals are waiting for SUD to climb this tree of writing. A simple slogan to remember: Every good sermon can end up as a good article; and every good article ends up as a good sermon. SUD has many great preachers.
      John M. Fowler, Editor, Dialogue; Consulting Editor, Ministry
   
   3. Vara Prasad Deepati <vdeepati@aiias.edu>
      I am thankful that an article came out in the June issue of Ministry Magazine on The Ten Commandments. I request you to kindly read it for it will help to understand God's love a little better, particularly with regards to the Ten Commandments, His gift to mankind. Please feel free to send me your comments, concerns, questions, etc., on this article, for this is only the beginning of a new understanding on this very important theme--the Ten Commandment-law of God--in the Scriptures. Please pray also as I develop this into a book. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. Special thanks to Dr. Tidwell who wrote about this in the previous SUD newsletter.
   
   4. Falvo Fowler <falmar@gmail.com> May 29:
      For those of you who may remember "The (original) Remnant Singers" led by Mrs. Curnow, I have finally digitized their last concert from an old cassette. If you'd like a copy of the concert, email me. No donations, no project, no sponsorship, no likes on Facebook.just an email and I'll set you up with a download.
   
II. Family Reunion June 23rd in D. C. Area
   Connie Tidwell Wuerstlin <iamconniegail@gmail.com>
   Come Help Celebrate Dad's Birthday
Please join the children of Dr. Charles Tidwell to come to our home, address below, and wish him a "Happy 90th Birthday" on Sabbath, June 23. We will have an open house from 3-6 PM at 12756 Rt. 216, Highland, MD 20777. Light refreshments will be served. Please, no gifts, just come with a warm handshake and a big smile. If you would like to make a contribution to education, a fund has been set up for needy students at Spicer Memorial College in the Tidwell name. Contact number for Connie is: 301-938-5553 [Thanks, Dad, for putting this in the newsletter! -- Connie.] ~~~~~~~

III. Spicer’s Blind Students Remembered

Gordon Christo <gchristo@sud-adventist.org> March 28:

In today’s newsletter Romain Rabot mentioned another visually impaired Spicerian -- George Marimuthu. One day, just to test his senses, I stood in front of George as he walked down the road. He stopped just short of bumping into me. If we tried to sneak by him silently he would often call us by name identifying us from our footfalls.

But Spicer has been blessed by other visually impaired students. Sharath Babu who became blind in early childhood graduated from Spicer with bachelors and masters degrees, went on to the University to complete his MPhil and then completed DMin from Andrews on the Spicer campus. He has been teaching in the religion department there for the last twenty years. He will often address students in class as though he could actually see them. One of the more popular faculty members, Sharath Babu has become one of Spicer’s legends.

Another more recent student was Nirmala. I can recall taking her gently by the hand and guiding her to my office to write an exam privately. After the exam I asked if she needed help getting back to the hostel. She declined. I watched dumbstruck as she walked confidently down the corridor, turned exactly at the steps going down, strode to the Taj Mahal road, stepped up without undue caution and walked away. Every turn without hesitation. She has finished the MA in religion about ten years ago and is teaching in a school.

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IV. Remembering Beth Robinson

Obituary:

L. Beth Robinson, 88, passed away May 22, 2012 in Canon City, CO. She was born on June 18, 1923 in Warburton, Australia to Edgar H. and Florence R. James, who were China missionaries and were on furlough in Australia. After her birth, her parents went back to China where Beth grew up.

The family moved to America when she was in high school. Beth received her Bachelor of Arts degree in education and later on, to better equip her for ministry, took classes in Library Science and received her Master’s Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language from Pacific Union College in Angwin, CA.

On May 26, 1946, Beth was united in marriage to Arthur William Robinson II, in Angwin, CA. She became an American citizen in 1955.

Beth lived in 22 places and 7 countries during her married life. She was a missionary as well as an elementary and high school teacher and librarian.

Her duties included teaching many students how to speak English in her Special English classes. She started her career in San Jose, CA, and continued in Sri Lanka, Washington, Montana, Indiana, Guam, Singapore, Oregon, and Bangladesh.

Beth and Arthur moved to Canon City on January 7, 2011, from Tillamook, Oregon. Beth was a lifelong member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ms. Robinson is survived by her husband, Arthur; daughters, Judy (Steve) Schwarz of Canon City and Julia (Gordon) Johnson of Salem, OR; grandchildren, Jana Johnson, Joa Johnson both of OR, Jonathan (Lauren) Schwarz of San Rosa, CA, Julianne (Travis) Timmerman of Morrison, CO; sister, Irene Bowers of Ramona, CA; many nieces and nephews; numerous friends, co-workers, and students around the world. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Joyce Rice; niece Beth Dana and nephew Stanley Charbonneau.

A memorial service will be at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 9, 2012, at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canon City. Memorial donations may be made to Sangre de Cristo Hospice - West at 601 Greenwood Ave., Cañon City, CO 81212 or to Lakpahana Adventist College and Seminary C/O 1025 N. Orchard Ave., Lot C, Canon City, CO 81212.

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1. D. L. Ebenezer <dlebenezer@gmail.com> May 25:

Pastor Robinson, Judy, Julia & family:

Please accept our deep sympathy on the passing away of our beloved Mrs. Robinson. I knew her personally from my student days in Kottawa. She was my teacher and guide in many ways. Her passing away leaves a void that would be difficult to fill. We now await Christ to come and resurrect Mrs. Robinson and others who are resting to joint the redeemed. With deep sympathy, Eben
2. Christopher Edersinghe <singingaswejourney@att.net> May 25:

Mrs. Beth Robinson (wife of Pastor A.W. Robinson) will be sadly missed by her family, as well as the many former Lakpahana students who will remember her as one who was always sensitive to their needs. The Robinson’s served as missionaries in Sri Lanka between 1949 and the mid-1960’s. During most of that time they served at the Lakpahana school, where Pastor Robinson was Principal. While the Robinsons were at Lakpahana they did much to develop all phases of the school program. Their positive influence was also felt by those who lived in the surrounding community. She is survived by her husband, their two daughters and their families. Both their daughters were born in Sri Lanka. Their daughter Judy can be reached at the following e-mail address:< sjschwarz@bresnan.net> ~~~~~~~~~~~~

V. Spicer College to Offer Graduate Program in Fields

Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> May 31:

SUD Approves Spicer College Offering M Ed Programme in the Division

Field:

In the recent meeting of the College Board at Hosur, the Board approved the offering of Master of Education (M. Ed.) programme affiliated to Andrews University, Michigan, USA, in the various unions of the division field mostly as Summer Programme to help the school principals, headmasters and teachers who have successfully completed their B. Ed. with a minimum of 52 % and have a teaching experience of at least 3 years, to complete their M Ed. programme in about 2 years without leaving their jobs. Each union can select a central place for their school personnel, preferably the capital city of their state where the library, lodging and boarding facilities are better, so the Faculty from Spicer’s Graduate School of Education can come down and teach them some courses in summers and during major holidays and continue to guide them with the remaining project courses during the school year. This way the candidates can obtain their prestigious M Ed degree from Andrews University without actually attending Andrews University or Spicer Memorial College, unless they wish to meet the faculty briefly at Spicer regarding their project work.

Spicer College will pay salaries to their teachers but the unions are expected to care for their boarding and lodging. The total fee per student for the entire programme will be one lakh rupees and can be paid to Spicer College in one installment or as three installments : First installment of Rs. 50,000 to be paid at the beginning in the month of April, followed by the second installment of Rs 25,000 the following November and the third and last installment of Rs 25,000 the following April. This offer is open to all unions in the SUD division field on the "first come first served" basis. Alternately two or more unions can join together and avail this facility. Those interested may contact the President of Spicer College <president@spicermemorialcollege.org>; or the Vice President for Academic Administration <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> for further details.

VI. The Mother Jilani Story [Chapter 16 of 17] Chapter 16 Surrender

"Robbie, dear, isn't it right?" Sakinah had said each night as she related the morning's Bible study to her husband. "It's all there in the Bible. You can't get away from it. It's right, isn't it, Robbie?"

Most times Robinson would agree with what Sakinah told him and accept the pastor's views wholeheartedly. But there were some subjects that opposed his desires, and he very conveniently failed to see the truth in the pastor's viewpoint. Smoking was one of them.

"It can't be as bad as you say," he protested to Sakinah. "All the doctors at the hospital smoke. Oh, I know it's not good for some respiratory diseases, nor for high blood pressure. [This was in the days before any relationship between smoking and lung cancer was proved.] But I don't suffer from either, and it's not hurting me. I have no intention of stopping." He wouldn't admit that he was afraid that he couldn't stop even if he wanted to. Wearing of jewelry was another thing that he kicked about.

"Take off your jewelry?" he almost shouted when Sakinah told him about the Bible study on Christian dress. "You can't do that. What would people think?"

"I don't much care what people think," Sakinah replied. "I'm only worried about what God will think about me if I don't take it off."

"But I care," stormed her husband. "People will think I'm a pauper. They'll think I am a poor provider if my wife has not jewelry."

Throughout India the wife's clothing and jewelry are looked upon as an index of her husband's prosperity. Indeed, among the uneducated people who distrust banks and investments, the wife becomes the husband's safe deposit box. A
husband spends all his extra money on jewelry for his wife and daughters. Gold never loses its value in India, and if poverty strikes the family, the gold and jewelry can always be turned back into hard cash again.

Nothing more was said about the subject then, but as time passed and the family continued to accept all the Bible truths as they were presented, Pastor Nelson kept coming back to the subject. Time after time he asked Sakinah to decide to leave off her jewelry.

"Wait," she would say. But the impulsive little man could not wait. One day when he came to visit the Bazliels, Robinson was at home resting.

"Why don't you let your wife quit wearing jewelry?" the pastor asked him.
"O.K., O.K., let her take it off," Robinson snarled sarcastically, "and then I'll divorce her.
"That was a bad mistake," Sakinah told the pastor after Robinson had left the house. "You should have let me handle him. He'll come around. Just give him time. He can't be stubborn too much longer.

And finally he did. Like the persistent widow in the Bible, Sakinah gave him no rest. Again and again she came back to the subject until finally Robinson gave in.

"All right, take off your jewelry," he said testily. If you want people to think you married a pauper, it's all right with me."

That left only the smoking hurdle to overcome. Sakinah knew that she and God would win in the end.

It was with sad hearts that the Bazliel family said farewell to Pastor and Mrs. Nelson. Despite a few differences of opinions, the couples had become close friends.

The Nelsons were disappointed to be leaving before the whole Bazliel family had been baptized. For nearly two years they had labored for this family, and although Jamila had been baptized, still Major Bazliel hesitated. Smoking was holding him back.

"If I die tonight," Sakinah would sometime say to her husband, "my blood will be upon your head."
"Go ahead," he would reply sharply; "go ahead and be baptized. I'm not stopping you."
"No," Sakinah would reply. "No, we will both stand together in the baptismal tank. I'm waiting for you to give up your smoking. Jesus is coming soon. You believe that, don't you Robbie dear?" We must be ready. Leave the army and we shall both be baptized and join the mission. They need doctors for their hospitals. When Jesus comes, it will be better to be working for God than for the government, won't it?"

It was only a matter of time before the major gave in. How could he help it when his wife's pleas were reinforced by the prayers of so many people and by the urging of the mighty Spirit of God?

Their third son, Gulvaiz, was born into a Seventh-day Adventist family; and before he was six months old, Robinson and Sakinah had made their decision to accept a post in the mission hospital.

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