

# **Sunnybrae**

## **1980 to 1990**

*(Compiled for the 50th Anniversary Committee)*



## Preface to the Second Edition

It gives me great joy to write the Preface to the second edition of the history of Sunnybrae Bible Camp. To be able to look back over fifty years of God's great providence and grace - in supplying the material needs, in providing personnel, in blessing the lives of children and adults in increasing numbers - is cause for overwhelming gratitude to God. I am personally thankful to the Lord for sparing my wife and me to see the fruition of a work we initiated fifty years ago.

In this fiftieth anniversary year we must be careful not to consider it as the culmination of an era. As all previous decades have been, so this, too, is but a juncture in an on-going ministry which we trust will glorify the Lord and serve His glorious purpose until He fulfils His promise to return!

This past decade has fulfilled a significant role in the development of our Camp. We have had to adjust to the changes of an affluent, humanistic and promiscuous society, while demonstrating the relevancy of the gospel of Christ to be "the power of God to salvation to everyone who believes." Among the many who have served with distinction over this period are the churches of our Association that have contributed leadership for specific camps, the Young People's organization, now known as F.B.I.Teens, and the directorships of Al & Shiela Hern (for the first four years) and Phil & Carol Cole (1984-'90).

We look to the "nineties" with confidence in our risen Lord. To begin the new decade He has already brought to us an able and affable couple, Terry & Elaine Bowen to take the directorship. The future is as bright as the promises of God, for

He who began "a good work" among us in 1940, and has sustained us in service to this day, will surely "perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." May we be prayerfully dedicated to Him in soul and in substance, and committed to each other in harmonious endeavour.

George R. Dawe.



## FOREWORD:

### FIFTY YEARS OF FAITHFULNESS

Standing on the shore of the Shuswap half a century ago, not even the most optimistic dreamer could have visualized our camp's expansion into the computer age.

"Little did we realize," reflects founding father George Dawe, "back in the winter of 1939-40, what God had in store." In his history of Sunnybrae, Dr. Dawe emphasizes that this multi-faceted ministry began with a simple vision ---no money, no equipment, no land---"just a vision" and a dogged determination to do God's will.

From this small seed of faith the Lord has flourished an amazing, five-decade outreach that has blossomed, spread, and blessed thousands. Yet over the years the root of the ministry has remained solid. Leaders have come and gone, methods have changed, facilities have expanded, programs have boomed, but at the core of it all is the same God-given dream that first planted this ministry here.

In the summer of 1940, six adults and a group of children cut fir boughs for beds and washed their dishes, one by one, in the lake. In the summer of 1990, campers check into motel-type units and dine in a modern cafeteria. But when today's campers gather round their counsellors in the evening for devotions, nothing really has changed. The Gospel is still the same, the human needs are still the same. Close your eyes and listen to the prayers ---are these the voices of wartime children in second-hand forestry tents? Or are these the prayers of computer kids seeking God's will for the year 2000? Nothing really has changed. All the important things are still here, and here to stay, as God continues His faithfulness to us in the years and camps to come.

- Judy Eadie

OUR HALF-CENTURY OF SERVICE:  
A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEERS

Missing from these pages are many special people like you -- Sunnybrae's behind-the-scenes saints. How wonderful it would be if we could somehow research, name, and thank every single person who has been part of this camp's heritage. But the task is simply humanly impossible.

Yet none of what you read in this book could have been accomplished without you! Over the past fifty years you have created a tremendous legacy of love--every nail you have hammered, every pie you have baked, every program you have planned has been a tribute to your spirit of servanthood.

Not until we encircle God's throne someday will we discover the full story of Sunnybrae.

In the meantime, isn't it thrilling to look back and see how thousands of volunteered hours and gifts have intermeshed to form one powerful ministry? And isn't it comforting to know that all the sweat and struggle you poured into our camp is being recorded in full by God? Maybe nobody ever noticed your efforts at the time, and maybe you yourself have now forgotten the details, but your investment will continue paying rich spiritual dividends long into the future.

Campers of tomorrow will owe a vast debt to a vast army of yesterday's volunteers. Thank you for praying, caring, giving, working, serving, sacrificing.

THANK YOU EACH ONE FOR YOUR LEGACY OF LOVE!

1980 --THE YEAR OF THE CAMP SONG AND CELEBRATION

"In the Okanagan there's a special place  
Where everything is moving at a different pace  
The name that brings a smile to almost every face  
Is Sunnybrae,  
    Bird songs in the morning  
    What a joy to tell  
    Of the people who gather to worship  
    When they hear that dear old chapel bell-  
Listen to the teaching of the Saviour's love-  
Join your hearts in praises to the Lord above-  
What a treat to meet and be a member of  
Old Sunnybrae!"

We started the new decade of the eighties with a bang---a brand-new camp song and a brand-new building. The Sunnybrae Song, composed by Pastor Jack Purdie, became an instant hit with every season's campers. Yet those opening lines---"In the Okanagan there's a special place Where everything is moving at a different pace"---must have struck a few funnybones among staff and volunteers still recovering from the madhouse pace of moving into the new dining hall the previous summer.

No lights...no hot water...no flooring...no stove...and camp is starting!

Camp Committee Chairman Pastor Allen Hern was there to see it happen: "The final weekend before camp began was a hectic time. The electricity was not hooked up nor the wiring complete. The plumbing was not in, in fact the water pump wouldn't work; no flooring was down, the fluorescent light fixtures had not even come yet; the cupboards were built but counter tops had yet to be put on, and of course all the equipment had to be moved from the old dining hall.

During the week an increasing group of people came to hang doors, build remaining cupboards, clean, etc. and as that final Friday, Saturday, and Monday came, many other people came to help. It was very interesting to see the variety of skills represented in those who arrived. The work produced was phenomenal, all under the able direction of our builder, Dave Phillips, of the Armstrong Baptist church. Plumbing, electricity, flooring, clean-up, etc. were all in progress and by Monday evening when the intermediate girls camp began to arrive, Sunnybrae kitchen and dining complex was essentially ready for use.

Some inconveniences remained of course. The dishwasher still was not working, in fact no hot water was available for the first day, supplies were inadequate, and the tile was not laid in the dining room. A long string of lightbulbs provided light. It was usable, however, and camp began."

We should have put it all on video, and sold the comedy at canteen!

Through all this situation comedy, the heroic efforts of volunteers soon brought order and ministry out of the chaos, and by the time our 1980 camps rolled around, things were shaping up nicely.

The Interior youth organization had bought carpet for the chapel, the WMS came through with a new washer and dryer, and through all the improvements Caretakers Percy and Jean Howard would "come out to greet you and make you feel entirely at home," Allen recalls warmly. Percy had no sooner been hired than he found himself faced with the impossible task of hooking up propane and water lines while moving in the big gas stove, at the same time that carloads of intermediate girls were streaming in. Some days the job was like being an air traffic controller, and Howards had

taken it on for the stipend of \$2,000 per year, providing their own 14' x 70' trailer. Small wonder that our Sunnybrae caretakers have won high praise, year after year, for their loving sacrifices.

#### Spruced up and ready for company

When the big day arrived, Sunnybrae was decked out in her Sunday best for the official opening of the new dining hall. Some 200 wellwishers turned out for the 40th anniversary celebrations and first annual sacred concert featuring choirs and special music plus a mouthwatering chicken barbecue donated by the Hooglands (also to become a popular tradition!). Funds collected that day bought us round tables and 100 chairs. One of Sunnybrae's pioneers, Rev. E.V. Apps, presented a burl clock for the dining hall, and George Dawe, the camp's founding father, gave us a valuable 40 year history of the camp entitled The Sunnybrae Story. Interestingly, three of the camp staff from the earliest days were present for the occasion, and were credited with mailing out of invitations to all former campers and workers. They were: Mrs. Wilmer Aslin, Mrs. A. Carlstrom, and Mrs. V. Durnin, all of Kamloops.

#### No more cooking cabbages over a wood stove

"There can be no doubt," observes Al Hern, "that the building of the new dining hall was one of the most significant moves the camp had made, as it provided the focus and starting point around which to plan continuing improvements."

And improvements there were, continuing throughout 1980 at an amazing clip: old washrooms renovated into a double cabin, pumps installed, cement cover built for the septic tank, foam replacement mattresses, a drain field under the ball field with grading, levelling, seeding. New washrooms were

installed in the dining hall, with all toilets and washbasins donated by the Crane Company. To match the brand-new kitchen, we had a brand-new job created: Food Services Coordinator, with Mrs. Alma Gauld taking on the first year. Things had come a long way from 1940 when Mrs. A Hausfeld "coordinated" whatever "food services" she could manage with a wood stove under a canvas cover, using up cabbages bought cheap from a Chinese gardener, and washing up pots in the lake.

"Two to three thousand dollars would appear in our hands..."

Over all, the camps ran smoothly, with a positive spirit. Allen Hern points out the strategic placement of the adult camp: "One reason we chose to put the Seniors Camp first in the season was to encourage their prayer for the rest of the programme. Each day we would review various facets of the ministry and pray for the coming camps, the work of the summer and also for the churches of the Association...Inevitably, before the week was out, and with no persuasion or promotion, bills and cheques would begin to appear in our hands, and usually by camp end, two to three thousand dollars would be contributed for the work of Sunnybrae. I cannot recall now what all projects were financed through these donations, but they were considerable."

1981 --- GOODBYE, OLD LANDMARKS...HELLO, NEW PROGRAMS

Remember the quaint old barrel stove in the first dining hall? Remember the stovepipes that didn't quite meet and looked as if they would fall down? Not everyone was eager to see the old landmark go, but finally, after considering all kinds of uses and renovations, we made the decision to clear it away. But in the spirit of keeping alive some of our

nostalgia, we brought back the "Pilgrim Trail" of earlier days, with its 24 pictures portraying the story of Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, on a woodland walk.

Were the horses for the Deacons Retreat or the Ladies Retreat?

With the passing of the old, new improvements and ministries were cropping up everywhere: the dining hall basement was given finishing touches, (with dropped ceiling, panelling, insulation), and the youth groups came through with a handy riding lawn mower.

It was a year of 'firsts': first horsemanship program, led by Dr. Art Weir of Armstrong; first Deacons Retreat; first Ladies Retreat; first hired summer staff using government grants (Opportunities For Youth); first Sunnybrae camp emblem tee shirts and caps for sale; and first detailed camp study (by Rev. R.D. Holliday of Muskoka Baptist Conference), including recommendations for improving grounds, facilities, and programs. And to top it off, it was our first year of using the camp chapel for Sunnybrae Fellowship Baptist Church.

"Turkeys would go over big"...and sauerkraut for sickness"

Having a Food Services Coordinator didn't mean that our camp was becoming snobbish and bureaucratic---Mrs. Margaret Weir proved you could get a ton of free potatoes if you knew whom to ask. Since 1940, folks have been donating beef, pork, fruit, and saying, "come pick whatever you want at our garden all season long". Unfortunately, services of our faithful milk suppliers (Hansons, Andersons) were cancelled this year because of health regulations. To keep food donations coming, Elmore T. Paull of Armstrong wrote a poem for the Camp Committee Report (July 80) titled "Sunnybrae Camp Needs Help". Part of it goes like this:

"E'en in this land of milk and honey  
There always is a need for money.  
Or, you could raise a steer or pig  
And turkeys would go over big...

We'd welcome pickles, jellies, jam,  
And bacon, sausages, and ham,  
Hamburgers, too, of Big Mac thickness,  
And sauerkraut, in case of sickness."

Sure enough, the 'flu bug struck several camps in '81, plus a spell of rainy weather, but the records don't say whether the sauerkraut remedy helped!

"We've had a different boy in our home since Junior Boys Camp..."

Good thing the kitchen help was ready that year, because the camps were overflowing. Registration hit the 580 mark, which fattened the camp pocketbook, plus we landed \$12,000 in interest-free loans and gifts. But the biggest boon was spiritual. The Camp Committee Report was upbeat: "All camp reports held favourable comments on nearly every aspect of the camp program," and quoted one father:

"We've had a different boy in our home since  
he received Christ at Sunnybrae this summer  
at Junior Boys Camp. Our family then  
spent one of the best weeks of our lives  
at Family Camp."

#### 1982 --- THE SPACE SQUEEZE

When last year's registration nudged the 600 mark, the '82 Camp Committee started looking around for more floorspace, little realizing that next year's totals would zoom to nearly 1000! First on our priority list was more sleeping quarters. By ingeniously combining cabins into a motel-type unit, building new wooden bunks, and winterizing all cabins, we boosted accomodation and gave Sunnybrae a new bonus--off-season renters.



Child Evangelism Fellowship and Intervarsity both used the camp that winter. A new cabin (#1) was also donated by the Cinnamon family of Kelowna in memory of their son.

More room needed? Go for the chapel basement, if you dare!

"To say that this area was a disaster would be an understatement," says Allen Hern, "Those who were familiar with this dark, smelly place will need no reminders of its condition. To see the transformation that took place under Percy Howard's hand was to see a wonderful thing. Converted into an office, meeting room, and dormitories for staff, and with an inside stairway, a very undesirable, useless space became a thing of worth and value. In many ways, that basement would stand as an example of the transformation that salvation brings to the converted sinner. How many dark and musty 'life rooms' have been cleaned out and made into useful and attractive testimonies to the grace of God at Sunnybrae?"

Who let this monster into the kitchen?

"Who else but Homer Bloomfield?" the cooks would sigh every time some new contraption appeared. Homer's incredible bargains were not always instantly welcomed, especially his industrial-strength bread mixer! His wisdom triumphed, however, and who can calculate the number of loaves the "Monster" produced? Soon Homer had rounded up a bread slicer and convection oven as part of his tireless, unique service to the camp.

Meanwhile, our Camp Committee and staff were tireless in their efforts to streamline the ministry: evaluation sessions every fall, yearly training programs, overhauling the staff handbook, clarifying job descriptions and staff applications, tightly coordinating the camps for more unified ministry. Our Program Director, Lorrie Wasyliw, had

previously served in the same capacity for the Kelowna Pioneer Girls camp. Allen Hern gives special credit to Sunnybrae's original founder, Dr. George Dawe, for his valued input: "It takes a great deal of grace to give over the project for which you have ..devoted years of your time and energy. I would like to honor my dear friend for his wisdom and graciousness. Always involved, always interested, always encouraging, and yet to his credit...his only interest being in finding the Lord's way."

A third family camp was added, and the summer student workers increased to five---readying the camp for summer, manning the waterfront program, and helping with sports.

#### 1983 --- BIGGER AND BETTER

##### A thousand storming the camp gates!

Nearly one thousand campers and workers were ministered to in 1983, as summer camps passed the 600 mark, teen camps hit 121, and the tally of leaders, speakers, cooks and counsellors reached 225, for a grand total of 950.

Canteen goodies alone pulled in nearly \$3,000 that year, and shirt and cap sales earned another \$1600---which meant that an awful lot of Sunnybrae emblems would be showing up around the country. The "bigger and better" theme carried over to record keeping, with Allen Hern serving as Summer Director. He blitzed former campers with brochures and letters--500 in all--based on a master file of all campers since 1980. "This was in hope of running full camps" he notes, and it certainly worked. He gathered valuable statistics from questionnaires to churches, preparing an information base for our future paid Director:

"It became more and more evident that the camp had gone about as far as it could without permanent leadership. To demonstrate the need, the committee worked out an arrangement with the Dallas-Barnhartvale Baptist church that allowed me to serve half time at the camp and half time at church."

As Herns were winding up their service to Sunnybrae, Howards were moving out of the mobile home, which they sold to Jack and Shirley Hansen, the new caretakers. Percy Howard, forced to retire because of heart problems, recalls that for the last couple of years Jack Hansen would show up from Kamloops on Saturdays with his truck and say, "So what do you want done today, Percy?" His expertise had perfectly prepared him for this new role, while Howards left a tremendous legacy of warmth and service to build upon. There was plenty to be done that year--complete upgrading of the electrical system with underground wiring, and building a cold storage and freezer room with funds donated by the Seniors Camps.

From disappointment...to "five years of undiluted joy!"

After half a decade as Camp Committee Chairman, Allen Hern contrasted his first and last impressions: "Sunnybrae! To a young pastor in Ontario, the name carried with it a musical ring and a pleasant mental image of a quiet glen...I looked forward so much to my first sight of this idealistic setting.

"To tell the truth, as so often happens, my first actual look did not measure up to the mental expectation. I remember pulling up on the road in front of the camp, and looking at the old dining hall and the white cabins. I did not know then that in a few short months I would have the privilege of chairing the first Camp Committee, and would have the opportunity to do



**Archery**



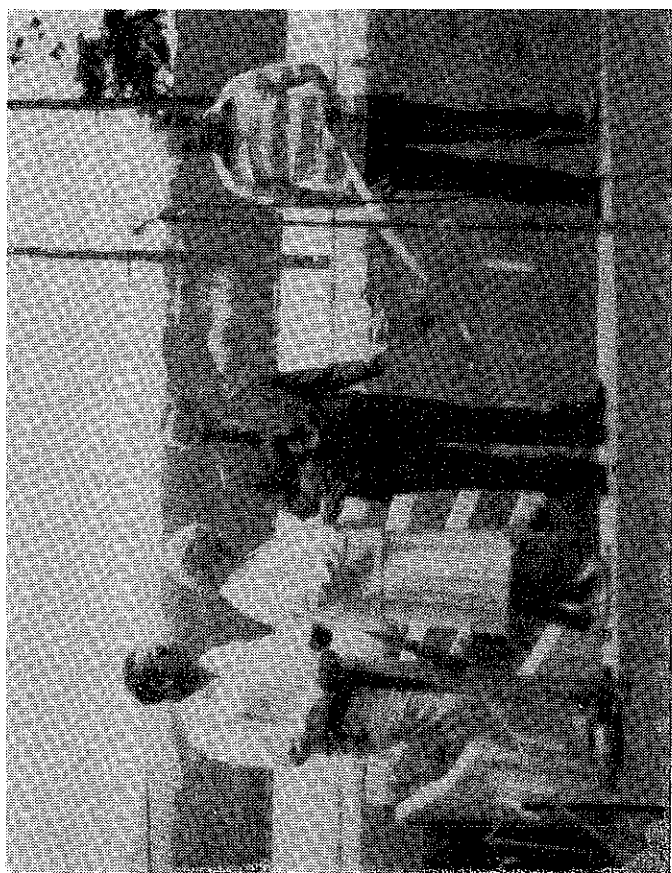
**Never a dull moment.**



**Hern family Kamloops  
bound from Ontario.**



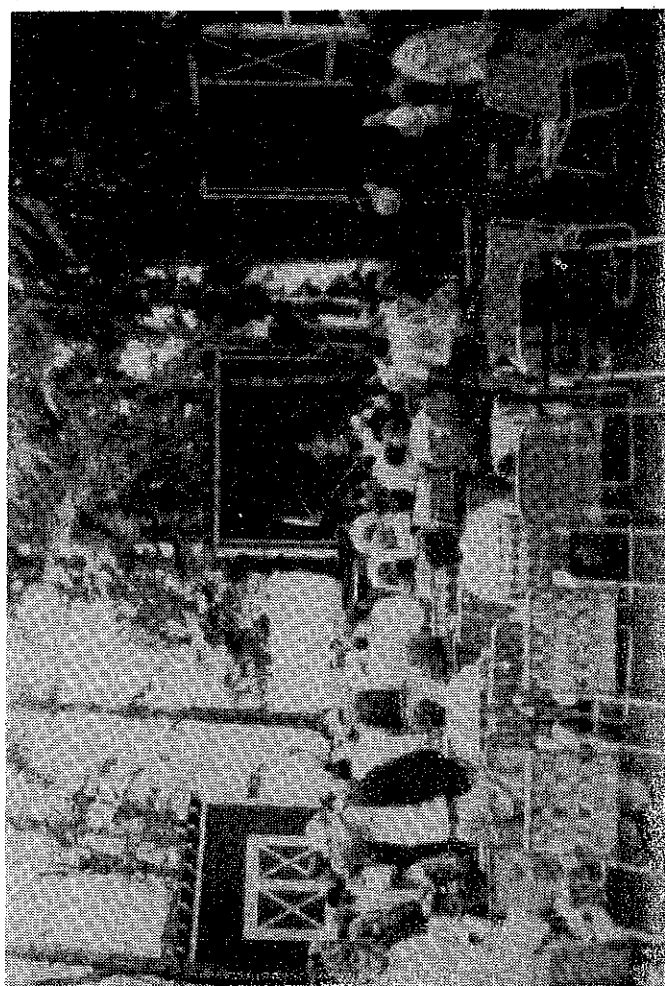
**Future  
loggers?**



George and Evelyn Dawe, grand opening of the underpass.



Crafts.

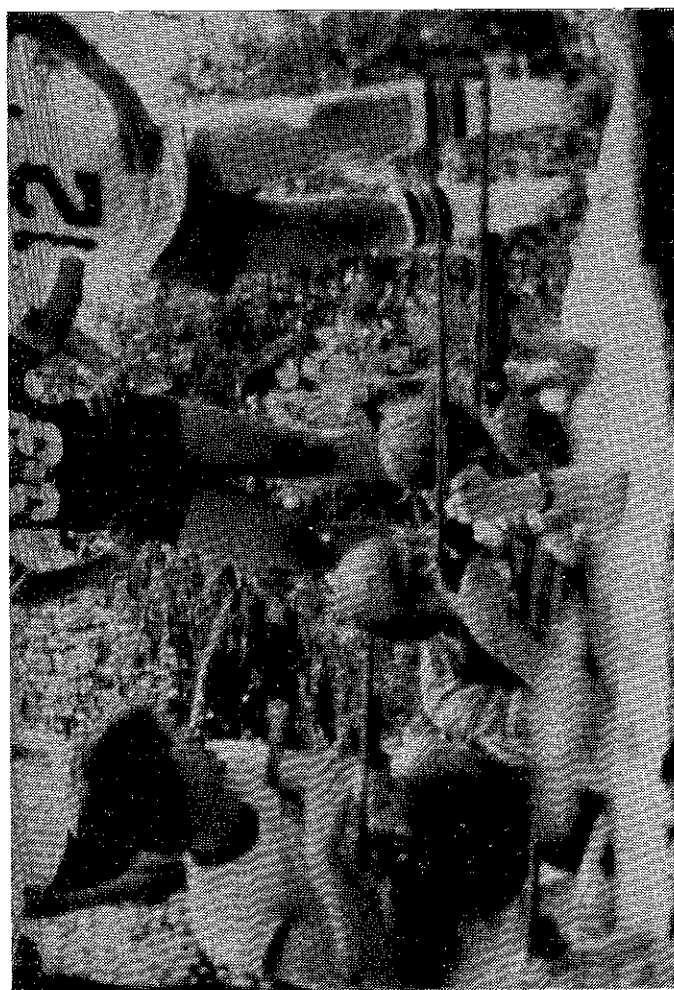


June concert.

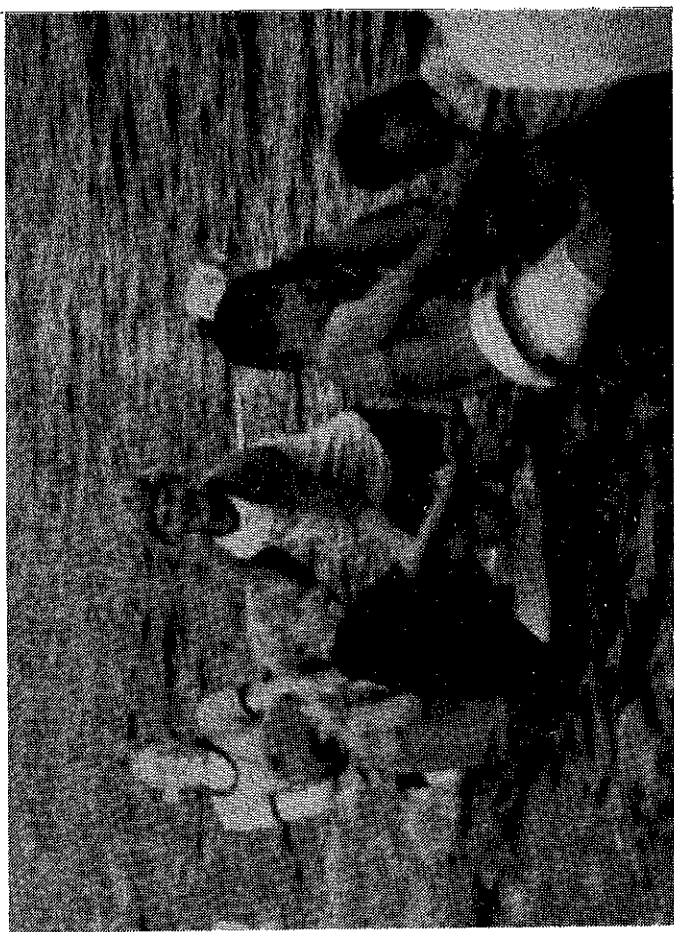


We're really cookin'!





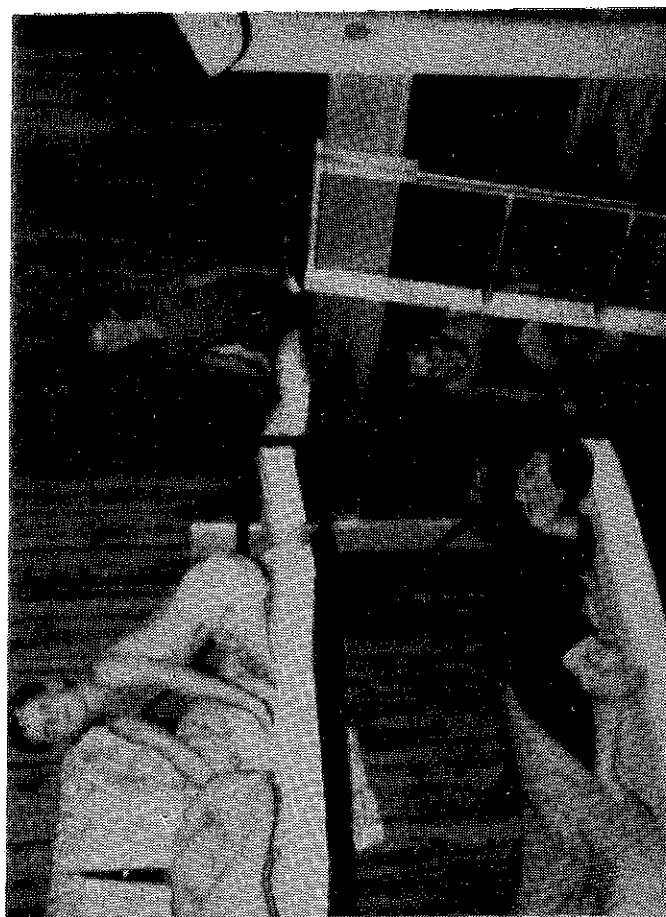
Ready, aim . . .



Keep pulling.



Ye olde trail ride.



Who's ready for sleep?



Clean up prize winners.



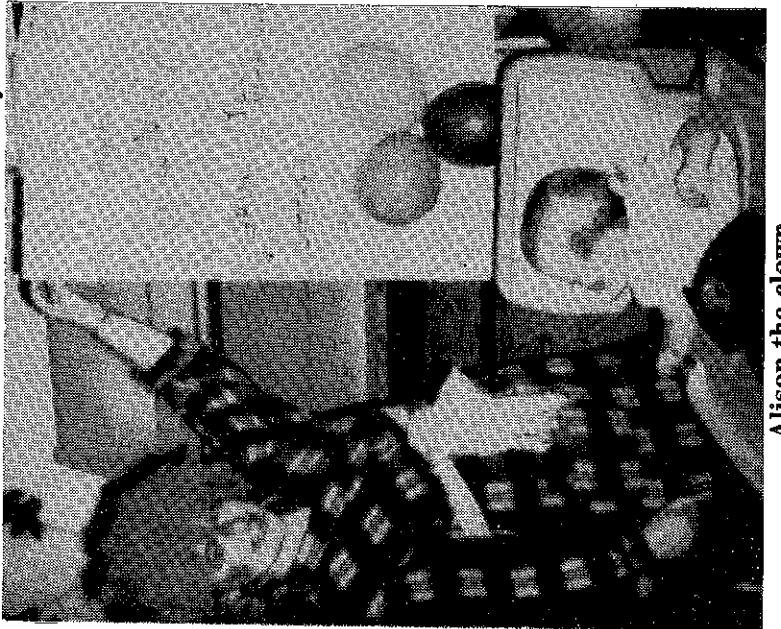
Let's see you do better.



Awards day

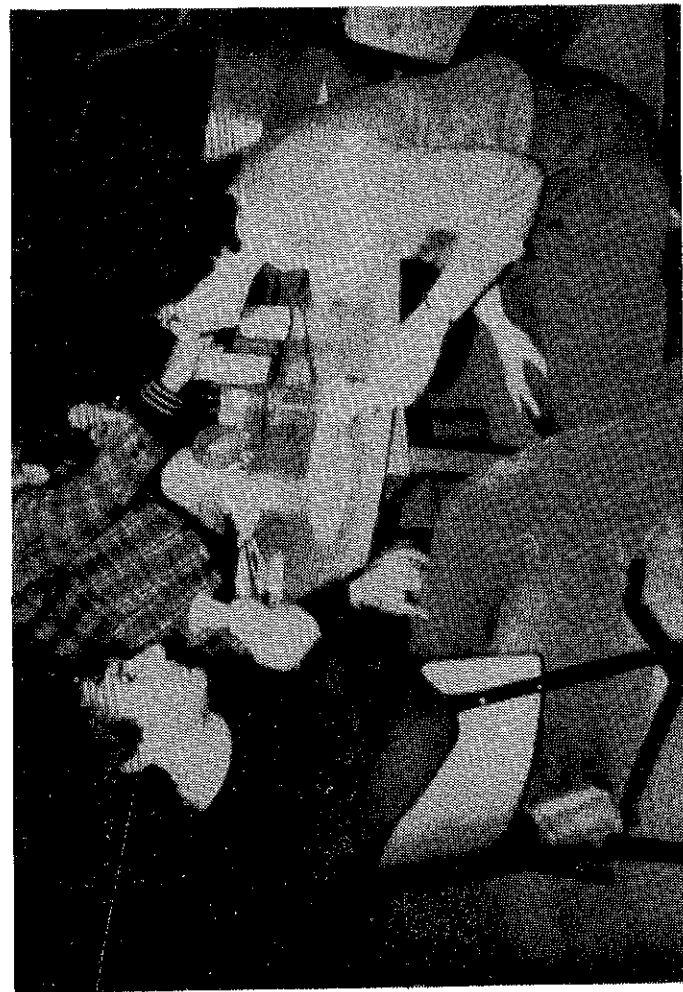


My pet frog.

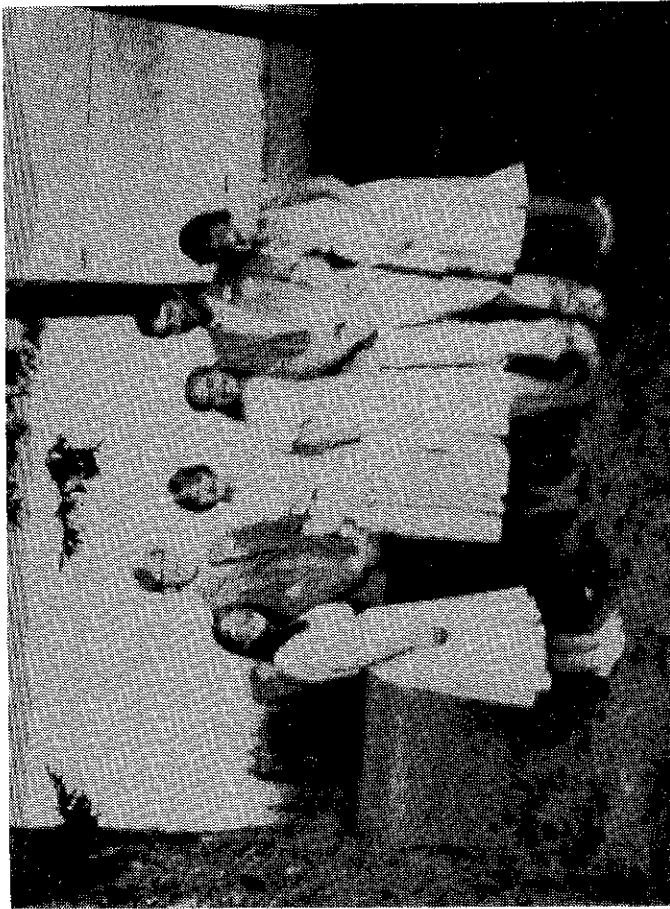


Alison the clown.

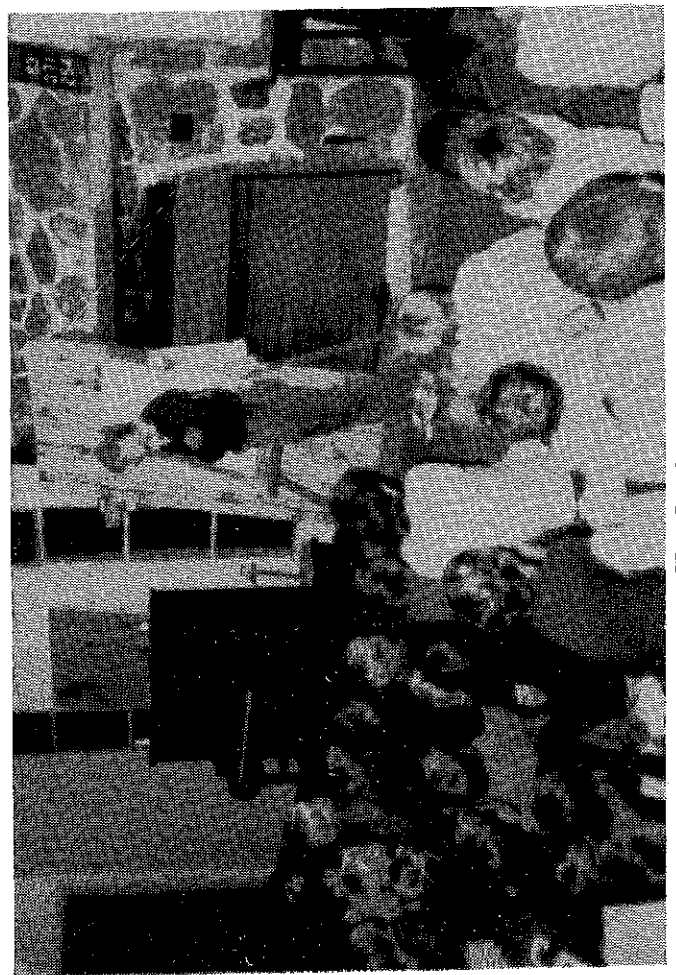




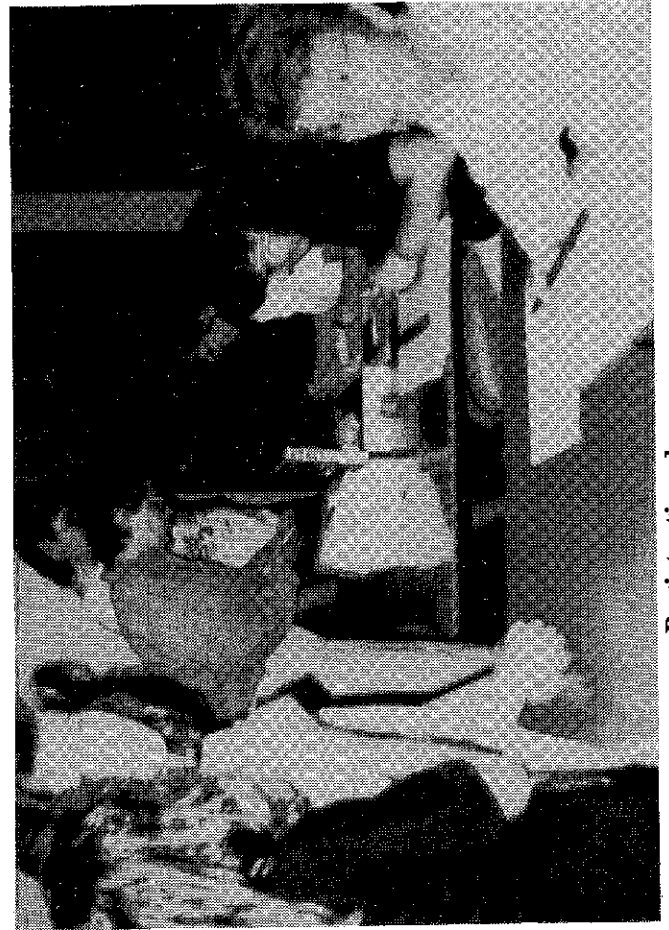
Taking a break, Phil and Carol Cole.



Sweet team no. 1.

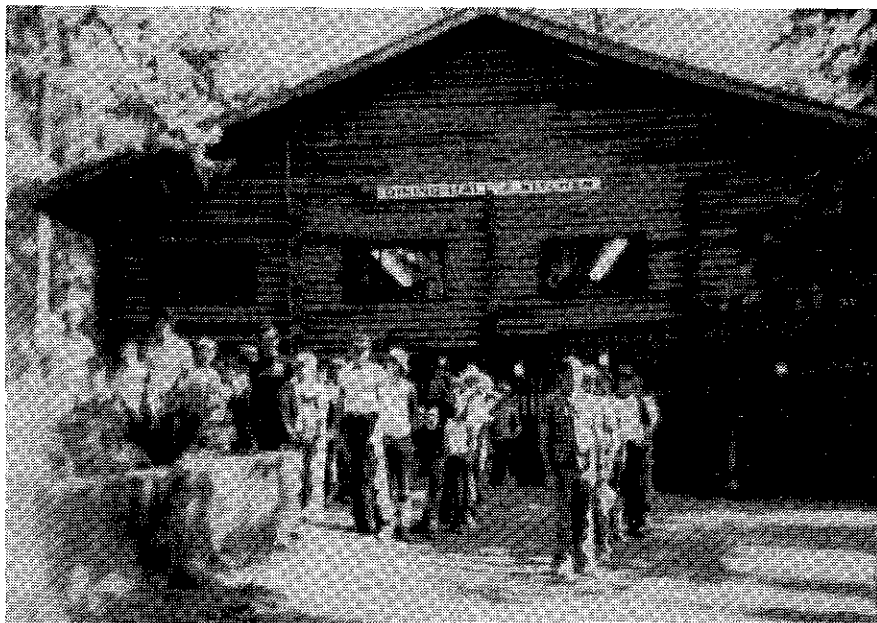


Chaple time.



Registration day.





**Just waiting to eat.**



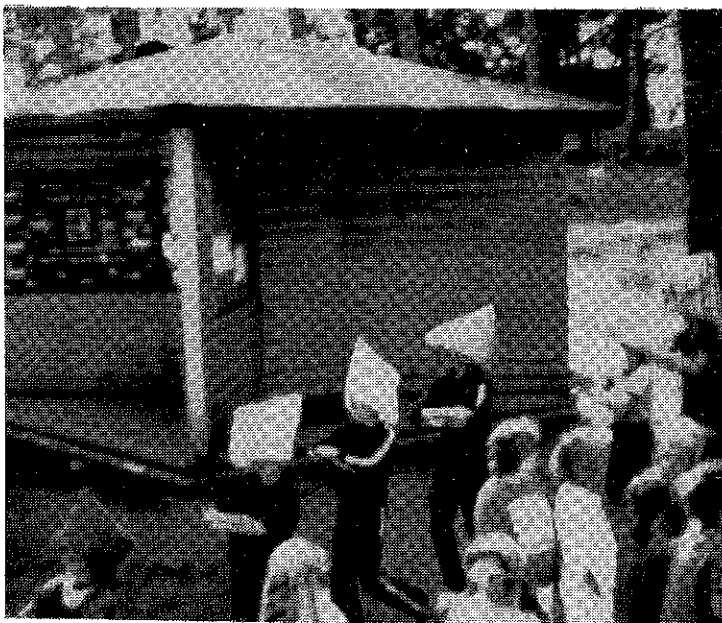
**R.V. park 'Home Sweet Home'.**



**Adult camp — memories.**



**The famous Hoogland Chicken Barbecue.**



**Lining up for meal time.**



**Raft rats!**

something about that image. May I say, though, that over those next years, that idyllic mental image came more and more into reality...because we were in love with the camp.

"As we turned over the files and keys, we felt that an end came to one of the most enjoyable periods of our lives. Nothing but the fondest memories prevail of the many with whom we had the privilege of working. Percy and Jean and Sheila and I look back from this perspective and still view those five years with undiluted joy."

#### 1984 --- STRATEGIES FOR MORE EXPANSION

Like his predecessor, the new Camp Director (hired at \$15,000 year) arrived from Ontario with glowing dreams of Camp Sunnybrae which would soon be reduced to reality. "First impressions are important," Phil Cole says, "and when I arrived in my office all there was in the room was a chair, a telephone, and a filing cabinet." During this initial letdown, the first couple of weeks for the single fellow were lonely ones---no one from the Camp Committee or Association greeted him or gave guidance, and he had trouble renting an apartment in Salmon Arm without local references. However, like Allen Hern, Phil forged his initial disappointments into an enthusiastic, prayerful desire to make his dreams for the camp come true.

#### Mapping out a vision for the future

One of Phil's dominant impressions of Sunnybrae is the fantastic scenery and the fabulous potential for the property. "I particularly came to enjoy viewing the countryside from the top of Bastion Mountain, and I never tired of taking walks to Margaret Falls." One of the very first projects he tackled was mapping the property accurately. "My vision and

challenge was to lay a foundation which could be built upon in later years." With Jack Hansen building a new workshop and Barry Jackson heading the Camp Committee, Phil began blueprinting ideas for new programs. With Graham Geldart he designed the present camp letterhead, while the Committee worked out policies for summer staff, program expenses, property damage, etc.

Cook Martha Dinwoodie and crew were feeding a full slate of camps; we wound up the year with 53 decisions for Christ. This was also the year we received a memorial gift (\$1130.00) in memory of Mark Hoogland, which was slated for the construction of an Information Centre. This handy feature was later built above our water holding reservoir, at a main traffic area on the grounds (completed, 1985).

#### 1985 --- PROGRAM EXPLOSION

The prayer and paperwork of '84 burst forth in an unprecedented explosion of new programs. Campers and churches found a new 8-page camp newspaper brochure in their mailboxes, a catchy new format announcing all camp attractions, programs, and facilities. Parents were pleased to see six standardized skill classes offered, with professional instruction and manuals for all categories: archery, outdoorsmanship, horsemanship, canoeing, red cross swimming, crafts. Two important philosophies undergirded the skill classes concept: first, progressive and standardized training sequences; and second, spiritual focus on biblical illustrations and example in training.

#### Over the rainbow of fresh new beginnings...

Children were immediately intrigued by the new names and themes which

gave focus to each camp: Rainbow Seekers (i.e. juniors) who "search out the promises of God for their lives by developing and acquiring new knowledge and skills and be determining the potential of their uniqueness"; Trail Breakers who "develop the necessary skill needed for easier trail breaking into this new world of Adults"; Sunrisers (a new co-ed camp for 8 and 9 year olds) who "as the sun rises in the morning to begin a new day, so these campers are dawning a new period in their lives".

And the list of innovations goes on: we formed a committee to foster greater winter camp use...promoted Vision 85 to develop capital funds...designed and distributed a church retreat manual to help congregations organize successful Sunnybrae gatherings...and we laid down a firm borrowing policy (lesson learned after a loaned boat was damaged during the camp ski program). Staff manuals, in constant need of updating, were revised by Graham Geldart.

This was the first of some effective summer ministries by the S.W.E.T. Team (Summer Workers Evangelistic Training), a group of college students in charge of leading chapel services. Although the number of campers dropped this year, the proportion of decisions was high---90 decisions from 442 campers---with 56 for salvation, 34 for rededication.

It's either in the Lost & Found, or the dog's got it

Camp Committee records never included official reports on Kenobi, our camp pooch. Yet, along with the horses, this four-legged friend added a lot of colour to camp life---especially when the shoe-stealing urge struck. Phil says, "I can still picture this counsellor leading a troop of girls from her cabin around the bushes by the missionary cabin. One look at their feet made it obvious that some practical joker had made off with one

shoe belonging to each girl!" Of course the other campers were blamed, until they caught Kenobi in the act.

And other good things that get lost in the camping shuffle...

Besides shoes, a lot of other things can get lost in the shuffle around camp. In a busy season like 1985's, overflowing with new projects, some of the ideas simply are going to get bypassed. For example, a college and careers camp was shelved because of lack of interest. Then, a strategy to follow-up campers who had made decisions at camp did not work out, and Phil concludes: "We tried all kinds of means and methods, but the response was poor. Finally, we resolved to leave this task in the hands of the churches." Likewise, a training camp for workers, called Counsellor Internship Program, bombed. "Another good idea that didn't get off the ground," says Phil, "in that attendance to workshops was sporadic and few in numbers".

The big news this year had been program development, with a minor emphasis on facilities. We inherited some practical items, however, when the church services were discontinued in the chapel---for example, an overhead projector---to go with our new photocopier. And of course it made headlines in our churches when we announced that our dining hall was now debt-free after only five years, the result of one generous donation.

Goodbye, bachelor cabin!

Phil eked out the last of his bachelor days in the cabin attached to the sports shed, just off the parking lot. Things were definitely looking up now that he was engaged to Carol Elliott. You wouldn't expect a camp director to plan a summer wedding, right? Thus, on December 30, during the temporary midwinter lull in camping schedules, Phil and Carol were married.

It was an especially fitting way to close off a year's agenda richly loaded with decisions and new beginnings, as Phil found himself making one more, very special, commitment.

#### 1986 --- CONSOLIDATING THE GAINS

The honeymooners settled into the mobile home on the camp property, which Sunnybrae purchased from Hansens for \$20,000 plus legal fees (funds raised by the Vision 86 appeal to our churches). When Jack stepped down as caretaker, Phil shouldered a dual position--Director/Caretaker--with Carol working as part-time Camp Secretary. The record keeping methods of the good old days--when a single 1940 notebook could track all data--were long past, and efficient administration was demanding more and more manpower.

#### Have you heard the "Murphy's Law" for camp caretakers?

It goes like this: "Anything that can break down will do so at the same time something else is backing up and overflowing, at the precise moment the dinner bell is sounding and one hundred nine-year-olds are trampling you underfoot".

Phil Cole was getting the Director's role down pat, but when he came home from his honeymoon to discover all the water lines had frozen at the camp and would have to be dug up and reburied six feet deep, he had a new appreciation for the guy who had just resigned. This was also the year that thieves broke into the workshop and stole many tools. An alarm system was urgently needed, and so was an extension on the dining hall roof to prevent further damage to the balcony. As always, a faithful corps of volunteers would show up to help with handyman tasks: replacing the

infirmary floor, installing the water softener the W.M.S. bought, building handicap washrooms, and constructing the outdoor chapel donated by Mrs. Kope in memory of her grandson, Jason. Phil and Carol emphasize their tremendous appreciation of all the volunteers who supported Sunnybrae during their leadership: "As much as we would like to start reciting names of people whose work we appreciated, we hope it will suffice to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you who showed such a sincere desire to see the Lord's work advance."

#### Giving Sunnybrae a chance to catch her breath..

For the bedazzled Camp Committee still in a state of shock from their past year's creativity, could there possibly be anything new left under the sun? You bet. A Pastor's and Deacon's Retreat, with Rev. Doug Harris as speaker, for one thing. Or how about having the Camp Committee assume total leadership for all Mens Retreats? And how about compiling a kitchen workers manual with standardized menus and recipes? And yes, we should set honorarium guidelines so high school workers can earn part of their camp fees. But after this, Phil Cole called a breather: "Last year, there were too many changes too fast."

Nevertheless, there were scores of other changes being made at camp that summer --90, in fact--that made all the other structural and administrative changes at Sunnybrae pale into insignificance. That was the tally of spiritual decisions in '86---58 people praying to receive Christ as Saviour, and another 32 pledging their lives in rededication and obedience. Camper numbers were up to 562, a boost of 100-plus over the previous year. Again, the S.W.E.T. Team planned a vibrant and challenging chapel ministry.

## 1987 --- THE YEAR OF THE REVIVALS

Campers and staff will remember '87 as the year that two spontaneous movings of the Holy Spirit swept Sunnybrae, and as a result, says Phil Cole, "we simply have no accurate record of salvation decisions, as there were two camp revivals, one at Music and Drama camp and one at Trailbreakers. This was exciting to see campers leading other campers to the Lord along with so many tears and hugs as campers confessed and rededicated their lives."

This was a special encouragement to leadership adjusting to the absence of the S.W.E.T. Team this year (unfortunately discontinued because of shortage of applicants) and to the format of the new kind of camp--Music and Drama--for the first time. Attendances totaled 578, with Pastor Bruce Mateika as Camp Committee Chairman, and the Coles sum up the unexpected blessing this way: "We will always remember that Friday night at Trailbreakers in 1987, when Dave Martunnen was speaker. That revival is a spiritual highlight in our memories."

### And then there was routine, day-by-day faithfulness

Meanwhile, the Lord was also blessing His people and His work here through daily provisions and answers to prayer. Dorms finally completed in the dining hall basement boosted off-season usage by an amazing 60%. Improvements were made to meet all kinds of needs--everything from a slide projector and screen, to a photocopier, to a computer (donated by Frank Grusing), to new horse corrals. Trees were felled along the east property line to clarify camp boundary lines. And a 20-site R.V. park was added "with the goal of eventually seeing the camp filled with children and



adults all summer long" say Coles.

Here comes a camper carrying his false teeth in a glass..

Most people seem to think that childrens camps are funny and noisy, but that Adult Camps must be dull as dishwater. Not so! Phil and Carol describe their funniest memories: "Even when no one was trying to be humorous, it was often good medicine to just watch the guests in their various activities, because they put so much gusto into everything--whether they were acting in skits, singing old favourites, or putting around the tree roots on their makeshift mini-golf course. Or maybe they would be parading around in their costumes on Old Fashioned Day...Walter Tompkins looking for all the world like Wee Willie Winkie, and Sid Pearce (also in a night-shirt) carrying his false teeth in a glass! Marion Lagassee was always the life of the party, whether she was blowing the horn on her wheelchair, or hamming it up in her clown suit."

#### 1988 --- TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS

Remember the year the walk-in freezer broke down and we lost all our perishable supplies? That was the same year the camp water system failed right in the middle of a busy week. "It was some kind of freak natural occurrence," explains Phil, "and it caused our spring to dry up for about six hours."

In spite of such headaches, Sunnybrae continued to have a tremendous summer---camp numbers which had been steadily climbing, peaked now at 673. "This was a 40% increase over 1985," announced Phil, "and it works out to an increase of 206 campers." Salvation decisions were climbing too, now at the level of 66, with 51 rededications. The childrens camps had featured

child evangelist Wayne Bertness, with Maureen Parks hired as Staff Leader (a newly created position) to provide counsel and spiritual leadership to the high school staff.

If there had been a "Camp Kid Of The Year" Award, guess who would have won? Baby Alison Cole, of course, who was not only born during a Home Missions Retreat, but for an encore attended the Christian Camping International conference in California with Mom and Dad! Following baby's arrival Feb. 21, Lana Thompson temporarily replaced Carol as camp Secretary.

What do the oldtimers think of this coin-operated laundry?

If you are one of the early pioneers of Sunnybrae, driving up to our property brings one surprise after another: "Look, there's a new stone planter by the chapel...and I see they've enclosed the kitchen porch...and built a new swimming dock...and a new ladies shower...and, what's this? A coin-operated washer and dryer? Why, in the old days we scrubbed everything in the lake!"

Fifty years ago, guest speakers bedded down on the forest floor "between a rock and a hard place", but now we offer a cabin with ensuite facilities, and a cushy lodging called "The V.I.P. Cabin".

During all these renovations, Fred and Grace Kitchen served as 1988 Summer Caretakers.

Head Wrangler says "neigh" to another year's program

Rounding up eight summer's worth of wonderful memories of kids on horseback, Dr. Art Weir retired from the ministry he had initiated, and was presented with a painting by Mary Scales at the Annual Association Meeting. Despite setbacks, the program had become a top favourite with the

children, who remember the horses as old friends. In every cabin you could hear campers listing their pet steeds and bragging about their riding skills, as they learned respect and appreciation for God's creatures.

#### 1989 --- CELEBRATING ANOTHER LANDMARK

We began the decade celebrating the new dining hall, and we rounded it off with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at our new underpass. For many years, intensive prayer sessions had been held at the camp and in our churches concerning the dangers of children crossing the highway in order to swim in the lake. Finally, as George and Evelyn Dawe officially opened the underpass named in their honor, the perfect safety solution was provided. On June 18, Pastor Phil Johnson unveiled the commemorative plaque, and engineer Brian Johnson handed over the keys to Phil Cole. Edith Rizi from the M.L.A. office presented a cheque for \$8,567.00, and Pastor Bruce Mateika spoke of the significance of the underpass to Sunnybrae's future ministry.

#### New decade ahead...new adjustments...

In many areas, large and small, our camp would soon face changes. For example, the horsemanship program lost out in some respects, yet gained in others. Anne Johnson had to borrow horses where ever she could, and run a curtailed program with only 3 camps. Yet, for the first time Sunnybrae offered official C.H.A. horsemanship instruction, with 23 kids receiving certification in the elementary level.

Another area we lost out in was lack of 1989 volunteer staff. For the first time, we were turning away campers not because of lack of facilities but because we were short of cooks, counsellors, etc. This lack of workers

unfortunately barred more than 100 campers from our outreach. However, God blessed us with a very high ratio of spiritual commitments, with 91 rededications and 43 conversions!

Meanwhile, Pastor Phil Johnson took over the reins of chairing the Camp Committee, and we hired Harvey Seimens as our Summer Caretaker. Phil and Carol donated a truck for camp use. Other changes were featured in the kitchen (where major renovations were begun with the first \$5000 donated), and at the dock, which now boasted eight new canoes.

#### Memories of six summers at Sunnybrae

As our first fulltime Camp Director, Phil Cole would look back on his initial impressions and reflect on all that God had accomplished. He had arrived, like Allen Hern before him, with a vision of building a better Sunnybrae---better programs, better facilities, better administration. "We are grateful for those people who with a willing, consecrated spirit, gave of their time, talents, and financial resources to the camp. During our time there we sought to help in laying a foundation which could be built upon in later years." As they took a last fond gaze over the shimmering Shuswap, Carol and Phil realized that "Sunnybrae will always hold some precious memories for both of us, as it was here that we established our first home." As they prepared for the trip back to Ontario they would be not only taking valuable experience, friendships and memories with them, but also some very precious cargo---a baby sister for Alison, (Emily), born Dec. 2, 1989. Meanwhile, plans were readied for the new Director, Pastor Terry Bowen of Calgary, who would assume leadership March 15, 1990.

#### Setting a new pace for the 1990's

As the decade wound to a close, Phil laid groundwork for the next camp

projects: a total upgrading of the rental and honorarium systems; a major restructuring of camps for 1990; and plans for a lodge facility. To help set directions for the future, he recommended setting up a Camp Program Committee. The Association has also approved (as a project for the 50th anniversary) the purchasing of additional property along the west boundary for another camp access.

#### Fantastic Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration

"The Lord has done great things for us,  
and we are filled with joy."

--Psalm 126:3 NIV

"Remember when?" Back in 1940, before ballpoint pens and calculators, our camp ministry --campers and staff--totalled three dozen people. Today, computer spreadsheets track camp data involving over one thousand campers and personnel, year after year. In honor of this half century of God's work among us, Sunnybrae is hosting a weekend extravaganza and inviting all our camp alumni, both staff and campers, to celebrate in time-honored fashion.

"Remember when?" That will be the fun of the weekend---reminiscing about the "good old days"! Friday night singing and "mug up" around the campfire will start those memories and testimonies flowing. Saturday morning's continental breakfast hosted by our Salmon Arm church will feature an historical slide presentation highlighting the first 25 years of camp. Luncheon at Sunnybrae's dining hall will spotlight testimonials from the next 25 years, and then to bring the future into focus we'll wind up with one of those famous Hoogland chicken barbecues and a "Big Top" tent

rally on the playing field. Rev. Dave Reeves will challenge us to greater ministry, a special concert will stir our praises, and our teen drama group will present "As It Was In The Beginning".

"Remember when?" Displays of historic pictures will bring back yesteryear, as will our "Pilgrim's Trail" popular with earlier campers. A tour of new facilities, plus a choice of sporting events --everything from horseshoe pitching, table tennis, ballfield games, volleyball matches, to a variety of waterfront activities---will work off the celebration meals.

As campers, staff and volunteers from decades past gather round to swap stories of Sunnybrae, the opportunity is perfect for meeting new folks who share this common bond of ministry. And the opportunity will be there, in song and testimony, drama and picture, to realize all over again that all this is the handiwork of our God. As we walk the old trails, sing the old favourites, and relive the old memories, we will be awed once more at the faithfulness of the One who makes it all possible. As the last car pulls out of our camp parking lot and quiet settles once more over the shoreline, let this be the prayer that lingers over Sunnybrae:

"Not to us, O LORD, not to us  
but to your name be the glory,  
because of your love and faithfulness."

Psalm 115:1

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# **Sunnybrae**

**The First 40 Years**





## PREAMBLE

Before the idea of Camp Sunnybrae was conceived in the mind of this writer, God wonderfully prepared the fabric out of which it was to emerge in His own time. There lived a large family at Sunnybrae who owned a large tract of land along the shoreline of Shuswap Lake. The christian wife and mother in that home prayed for many years for the salvation of her husband. The family's name was Mobley.

In the fulness of time a young man in far-off Wales was moved, in the providence of God, to come to Canada. Ivor Bennett left his homeland and came to Toronto. There the Lord dealt with him and he yielded his life to Christ for service wherever He would lead him. In obedience to that commitment Mr. Bennett moved to British Columbia and became the pastor of First Baptist Church of Salmon Arm. His service to the community took him as far as Tappen where he ministered to a bereaved family and conducted the funeral service. Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mobley attended that service and God's Spirit spoke to Mr. Mobley's heart. As a result Pastor Bennett was invited to the Mobley home at Sunnybrae to conduct meetings for young people, and it was at one of these meetings that the Lord brought father Mobley under conviction and he received the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour. Thus mother Mobley's prayers for her husband were answered after thirty years of intercession.

Mr. Mobley not only had a concern for the spiritual well-being of his own family, but for young people in general. It was this concern that led him to loan his forestry equipment to be used in a christian camp and later to make 18½ acres of his valuable property available, at very nominal cost, to the Convention of Regular Baptist Churches of B. C. as a permanent site for what was to become known as the Sunnybrae Bible Camp.



## 1940 TO 1949 - DECADE OF BEGINNINGS

In September of 1939 Rev. G. R. Dawe accepted a call to the pastorate of First Baptist Church in Salmon Arm. Having previously found camp work profitable in reaching young people for Christ, it seemed only natural that this pastor's mind should be similarly stimulated in "the land of the shimmering waters" of the Shuswap.

Little did we realize, back in the winter of 1939-'40, what God had in store for an idea which He caused to germinate in the minds of the pastor and people of the Salmon Arm Baptist Church when they visualized a summer camp for the boys and girls of that immediate area. We had no equipment, no money, no professional expertise - just a vision and "a will to do of His good pleasure."

Early in 1940 Pastor Dawe, with two of his young people, went in search of a suitable campsite on the shores of Shuswap Lake. We decided on a point of land approximately half way between the Trans-Canada highway and the present campsite, but it was on an Indian Reservation and we had to obtain permission to use the property. We placed our request before the Indian Agent in Salmon Arm who told us we would have to get permission from the Indian Chief who lived about 42 kilometers distant at the Village of Squilax.

Soon thereafter we drove to Squilax (no pavement then) in search of an Indian Chief. Arriving at the Indian Village we were told that the Chief had been away for two weeks but, if we would drive back toward Salmon Arm, we would meet him driving a team of horses with a wagon and a colt trailing on behind. Doubtingly we began the return journey, but the Indians' word was right. We met the honoured gentleman as described! But how does one approach an Indian Chief? I walked toward the wagon, and he stopped. As courteously as I knew how, I told him what I wanted, describing the type of operation and asking per-



mission to use the property for one month.

The Chief listened in silence and when I had finished, the only reply was a grunt. But what did the grunt mean? I went over the whole matter again. Did he understand? But, again, only a grunt. Then I thought of another approach - perhaps if we offer him some money as rental we might get a response. But how much ought we to offer - five dollars or one hundred dollars? Well, we didn't have a hundred dollars so thought we would start bargaining at five. No sooner had we mentioned the five dollars than that cold, unrevealing face lit up with a smile and he said, "Yes, you may have land!" We presented the five dollars, the Chief accepted, gave another grunt as he tugged on the lines, the horses moved on and we were left standing on the side of the road. How glad I was that we had not offered him one hundred dollars! So, on we went - no written agreement, no receipt for the five dollars - just the word of an Indian. But it was a good word and we never heard from him again.

With "squatters' rights" we proceeded to lay our plans. It was at this time that we confided in Mr. C. W. Mobley at Sunnybrae. He had been a Forest Ranger and a Big Game Guide and had all kinds of camping equipment which he placed at our disposal - a large tent for a dining room, tents for campers, a cook-stove and meat safe. We organized a Camp Executive, assembled a Staff of six and were in business!

### The First Year

That first year we held two camps - one for girls and one for boys - with a total attendance of about thirty-six. We made our beds of fir boughs and hauled our drinking water in cream cans from a nearby spring. We washed our dishes, individually, in the lake. We collected donations of groceries and food-stuffs, and bargained with a Chinese gardener for our vegetables. "Cabbagee, cabbagee, fitty poun's, dolla-hap - cheap," he would say.

Perhaps it would not be out of place to name the Camp Staff for this first year:



Camp Director: Pastor G. R. Dawe

Registrar and Treasurer: Miss. Vera Hausfeld (who later married Mr. Ralph Borthwick and became a missionary to South America under Wycliffe Bible Translators)

Teachers: Mrs. Olive Aslin  
Miss. Vera Hausfeld (who became a missionary to South America)  
Mr. Harold Branton (who later entered the ministry)  
Mr. Ewen Paras (who became a missionary to South America)

Camp Cook: Mrs. A. Hausfeld (member of Salmon Arm Baptist Church). She cooked on a small wood stove, under a canvas fly, in the great outdoors.

As for spiritual results from that first camp, a number of boys and girls were saved. From it, three went to the foreign mission field: three are pastors: two are missionary-pastors on the home field among Indians in Northern Saskatchewan; at least one is a pastor's wife and others are living normal christian lives. From this humble beginning we never looked back.

One couple that supported the Camp from its very inception, both in prayer and in many practical ways, was Mr. & Mrs. Hazelet McLean of Tappen. They furnished three boys and one girl for the first camp, and three of the four children later went into christian service. Both parents have since gone to their eternal reward.

In 1941, in search of a better site, we discovered a family by the name of Reedman at Blind Bay who, some years previously, had dedicated a piece of their property along the lakeshore to the Girl Guides and Boy Scouts for camping purposes. A Service Club from Kamloops (I believe it was Rotary International) had erected a small kitchen and furnished it with a cook-stove. They had constructed a roof over a dining area also. For some reason the Guides and Scouts had ceased using the site and it was standing idle. Mr. & Mrs. Reedman kindly invited us to use their property and, with the help of tents and other equipment loaned by Mr. & Mrs. Mobley, Blind Bay became our camp home for three consecutive years.





Seeing the potential for camp and other projects in the Interior if the churches were united in an Association, Pastor Dawe was instrumental in bringing such an organization into being in the early nineteen forties. With the churches of Kamloops, Barriere, Salmon Arm, Enderby, Armstrong, Vernon and Kelowna working together, the Camp grew rapidly with children from these centers and the pastors heartily cooperating to give much needed personnel to Camp teaching and leadership.

A few pictures will tell the story of that first year at Blind Bay. This was the second year of the Camp's operation and we held three camps, adding a Young People's session to those for the boys and girls. Here are the Junior Girls, just waiting for class to begin.



This pictures the Junior and Intermediate Boys who were combined for Boy's Camp. The three boys to the extreme left all dedicated their lives to the Lord and became Pastors. They are Elmer (Bud) McLean, his brother Elwood, and Ken Branton. Their Camp Leader was Ewhe Paras (center) who later became a missionary in South America.

Here  
is a  
pic-  
ture

of the Camp Staff in 1941. They are, from l. to r: M.Dyck; Les McLean; F. Hausfeld; Mrs. Milligan; Rev. E.Carter. Edna Hausfeld (Mrs. Carlstrom) shared the cooking duties with her mother in 1941.







By 1942 the Camp was beginning to gain momentum. Intermediate Girls 1. was one of our largest camps that year. In the picture to the right the Young People are shown with their Leaders, Pastors McKee and Dawe. Mr. A. E. Codd is seen in the center in a squatting position. His daughter, Joyce, served in varying capacities over a number of years.



The  
photo to  
the left  
shows a  
group of  
Junior  
Girls who  
were sav-



ed that year, out of a total of twenty-four.

To the right the Young People are shown washing their dishes on the lakeshore after a meal (no automatic dish-washers in those days!). Standing, is Agnes Dyck of Enderby, who later became Mrs. Stan Milton. She, also, served the Camp in varying capacities.

Blind Bay holds many happy memories of hikes up the mountain, still on the Reedman farm; trips by boat and raft to Copper Island, about a mile and a half off shore; of frequent visits of porcupines to the tents at night, scaring the girls out of their wits! On one trip to Copper Island a very strong wind arose



on the return journey. We could make no progress and the campers became panicky. The Leader wisely got the boats together and held a prayer meeting. Almost immediately the wind changed direction and blew toward the camp, and all praised the Lord for a safe return to shore. It reminded them of the experience of Jesus' disciples on the Sea of Galilee, recorded in John 6:16-21.



pert and held the children spellbound with his artistry. Above is pictured Miss Vera Hausfeld, Camp Registrar and Teacher, with Mrs. John Penner, who with her husband, have been life-long helpers and contributors to the Camp.

The picture to the right shows the Young People's Camp of 1942. Mrs.



The picture to the right shows Rev. John Bennett, a veteran pastor of our B. C. churches, with pastors Milligan and Dawe, who took teaching duties at Blind Bay in 1942. Mr. Bennett was a flannelgraph ex-





W. A. Aslin, who assisted Mrs. Dawe with the cooking, may be seen at the extreme left in the photo. Rev. D. Milligan, pictured above, and Edna and Vera Hausfeld were all graduates of the Western Baptist Bible College of Calgary, Alberta.

To the right may be seen the "dining room" - just a roof over head. Pastor Don Hills is seated in the front of the picture, with the coffee pot in front of him, and Mrs. Dawe is seen just beyond him in the picture.



Following the camping season, in September of 1942, the Dawe family moved to Edmonton to serve in the pastorate of Norwood Baptist Church (now Fellowship Baptist), but returned in the Summer of 1943 to direct the last camp at Blind Bay before it was moved to its present home at Sunnybrae. In the Fall of 1943, Rev. E. V. Apps of Vernon was appointed Camp Superintendent.

In 1944 the Camp operation was moved from Blind Bay to Sunnybrae on property owned by Mr. C. W. Mobley. Mr. Mobley continued to take great interest in the Camp project and loaned tents and equipment, as much as was needed. All



camps in 1944 were held under canvas and it was a great year. The following pictures will convey what words would fail to describe.

Junior Boys' Camp with Teachers, left, Miss Ruth Stauffer, graduate of Western Baptist Bible College, and right, Miss Esther Peacock of Manchuria.





Girls' Camp at a Sunday Service held in the old log Schoolhouse up on Mobley Road (now demolished).



Staff workers, left to right: Vera Hausfeld, Edna Hausfeld, Agda Schmidt, Ruth Schmidt, Hazel Swadling and Mary Aslin.

Intermediate Girls: center front, Audrey Annala and extreme right, Hazel McLean, became missionaries to Africa.



While mothers and dads were busy cooking meals and doing a-hundred-and-one other jobs, the small fry enjoyed the beach to the full. Here are Donnie Carter and Laurel & Hazel Dawe. All

are now established in teaching and other professions.



Among the experiences of a Camp worker is the following story of an answer to prayer.

"Oh no! This table has been used and cleaned off three times since this afternoon, and I have only just now thought of my ring."

The year of 1944 I came from Edmonton with my husband and two little girls, to cook for several weeks of Camp. The cook stove had an awning stretched above it, but was well ventilated on all sides! The cook's work-table was under the sky, to one side, and the other side along the ridge, stretched several long tables with a long roof over the top for dining.

One afternoon I made pies on the work-table and as is my custom, I took off my diamond ring, laid it on one end of the table, and made a mental note to take it up as soon as I finished that task. But the computer failed! After I cleaned off the table, it was used for an overflow group of people for supper, and then dishes were washed there. Then the sickening shock came - "My ring! Where is my ring?"

Another cook came by just then and began looking on the ground, covered with dust and fir needles about three inches deep. Then a pastor came by and said he couldn't stay as he had to lead the camp-fire meeting, but he offered a short, simple prayer to God that He would help us find the ring. The pastor's name was Rev. Don Harry of Mission Baptist Church. Then I got my husband to come and look. In less than two minutes a happy cry came from the other cook, at a distance of about six feet away from the table, "I've found it!" What a swift and wonderful answer to prayer. "I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore, for great is thy mercy toward me....." (Psalm 86:12, 13)

---Evelyn Dawe

From the pictures preceding, it is quite evident that the time had come to establish the Camp on a permanent footing. The Interior Association Executive



began to think seriously about the purchase of a suitable campsite. These were war years when C. W. Mobley led a contingent of men overseas under the Forestry Division. He received the rank of Major and was stationed with his men in Scotland. Before he left home in the service of his country, he offered to sell 18½ acres of his valuable lakeside property, at a very reasonable price, to be used as a Youth Camp. Another organization offered him a higher bid, but the Major was loyal to the group with whom he had previously worked, and declined the higher offer in favour of the Regular Baptists. The arrangements were negotiated between the camping seasons of 1944 and 1945 and the parcel of land was purchased by the Convention of Regular Baptist Churches of B. C. as a campsite to be operated by the Association of Regular Baptist Churches of the Interior. The team that negotiated the purchase was comprised of

Rev. Andrew Grieve, representing the Convention

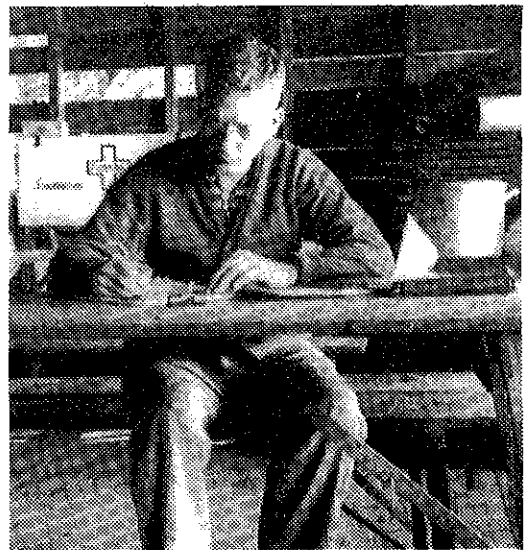
Rev. F. J. Carter, Pastor First Baptist Church, Kamloops

Rev. W. O. McKee, Pastor of Salmon Arm and Armstrong Baptist Churches

Rev. E. V. Apps, Pastor of Vernon and Enderby Baptist Churches

Dr. J. H. Kope, Physician & Surgeon, Enderby, B. C.

From 1943, through most of the forties, Rev. E. V. Apps was Camp Superintendent and Rev. W. O. McKee was Secretary. Through their wise leadership and dogged persistence the first phase of development, including a complex of buildings, was carried out. During this period Mrs. McKee contributed her teaching skills to the Camp and Mrs. Apps served as cook and assisted her husband in many ways.



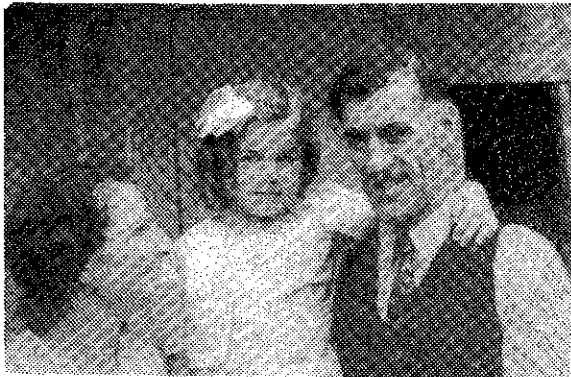
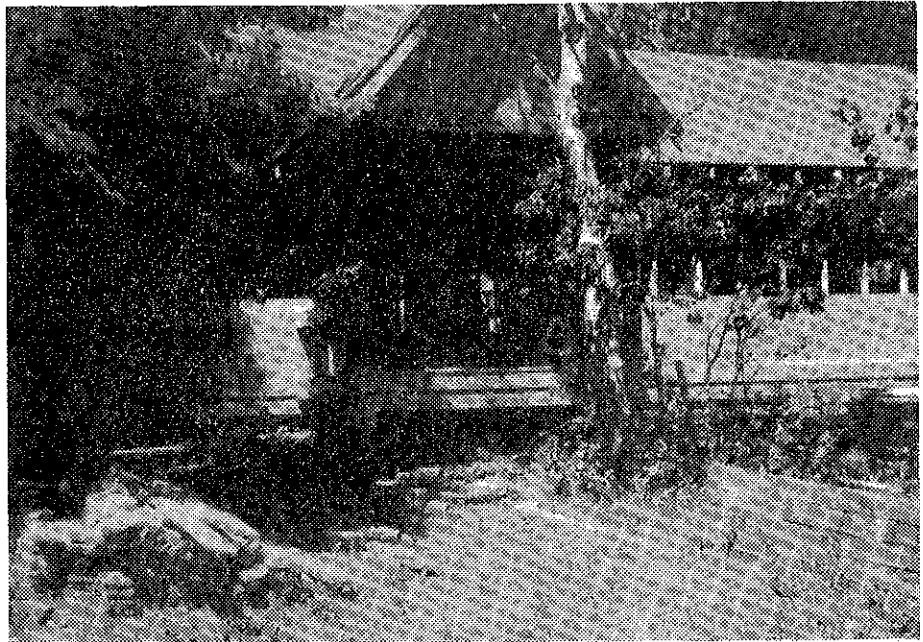
Rev. E. V. Apps

The first building to be erected was a kitchen-dining room unit in the Spring of 1945. It accommodated 125 people at mealtime and from 200 to 250 as



a meeting hall. Here is a picture of the almost completed building which was ready for the 1945 season.

A "Name the Camp" contest was held throughout the Interior churches in 1945. Out of a large list of entries, the name Sunnybrae Bible Camp was chosen.



Rev. & Mrs. W.O. McKee & Margaret

It was submitted by Ken Branton of Armstrong. The word "Sunnybrae" denotes the Camp's location and the word "Bible" holds the central position because it was the determination of the Association to keep the Bible always at the center of the Camp's activities.

To the right is a picture of Ken Branton, whose name-selection for the Camp was chosen, with a wheelbarrow load of "monkies!" Ken served the Camp in many ways and was loved by everyone - campers and staff alike.

The first well (really a sand-point) was sunk in 1945, near the back door of the kitchen, and an oscillating hand pump installed. For several years







the water supply for the kitchen was carried in pails, and the dish-washing was done outside under the trees, as may be seen in this picture of the Young People's Camp.



A bus was used to pick up campers from points South, which reduced the cost of their transportation.



From l. to r. above are Pastor D. G. Milligan of Kamloops, Miss Hazel Swadling and Pastor E. V. Apps of Vernon-Enderby.



Part of camping is a good hike. In the picture above we see Hazel Swadling leading an expedition up Mount Vella, and left shows the summit with a superb view of Shuswap Lake far below.

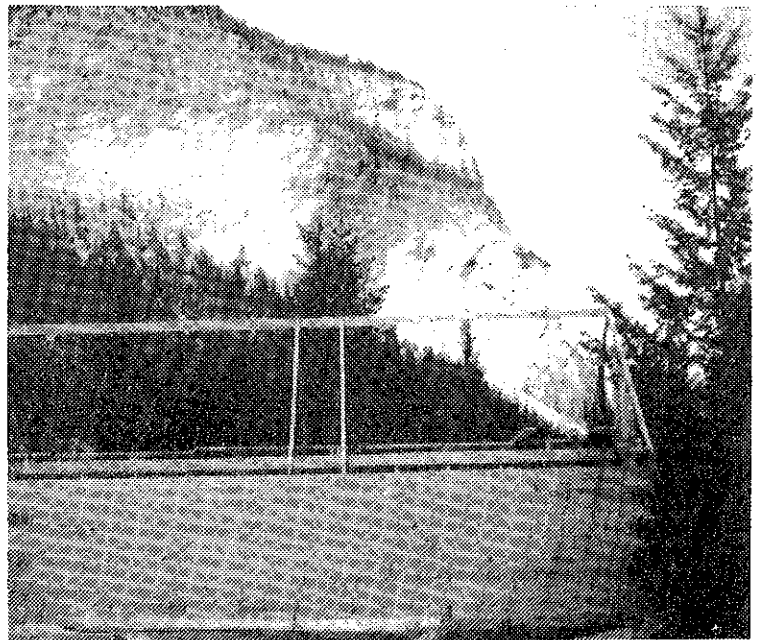
One afternoon while on the hike one of the campers tired and decided to remain



and rest on a ledge and to rejoin the others on their return from the summit. Having reached the top, however, the party decided to return to camp over a different route. All went well and they arrived back in time for the evening meal. At supper time a count was made and suddenly they remembered the missing hiker, way up the mountain slope! A search-party was organized immediately and with first-aid equipment, lanterns and a stretcher they set out to look for Agnes Dyck. She was found, unharmed but cold, on the ledge where they had left her several hours before. A cry of a cougar in the evening's dusk added extra chills to the cooling night!

Mention should be made of many other people who served the Camp during these years, among them Marion Durnin, Joyce Codd, Joshua Wollman and members of the Branton family.

The following year (1946) a dormitory, 20 x 40 ft. was built to accommodate about 30 campers. The picture shows Dorm I in construction, with Mt. Vella in the background. During the same year the Camp purchased 50 double-decker beds, 100 folding benches,



30 tables and some kitchenware, all from war surplus. Dorm I was used for about eight years until it was destroyed one winter, under the weight of a heavy snowfall.

To the left, Young People's Camp in '46 enjoys a sing-song on



the steps of the dining hall. Stan Bradshaw was male chef that year, with several lady assistants. Rev. & Mrs. L. G. Baker were missionary speakers - Mr. Baker is seated at the extreme right and Mrs. Baker is in the third row to the left.



Cooks and Staff members are shown to the left: front row, l. to r., Marion Durnin, Shirley Apps, Evelyn Dawe and Laurel. Second row, l. to r., Margaret Ridgeway and Edith Broadfoot. Back row, l. to r. Pastor E.V. Apps and Pastor Raymond Frame of Bethel, Kelowna.

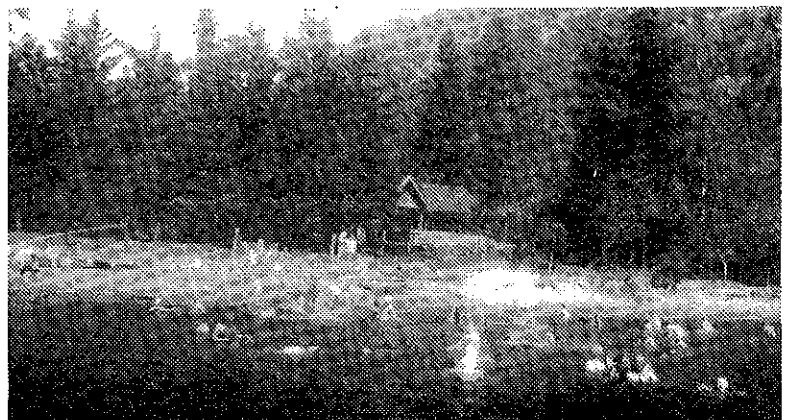
Rev. Frame served Bethel Baptist Church in Kelowna in 1946-'47. He was a missionary on furlough from the C.I.M. (now the O.M.F.) and took

great interest in the Camp work. He led the Young People in the construction of the Camp's first boat (all boats were borrowed previously). Another boat (clinker built) was purchased the following year and added to the Camp equipment.



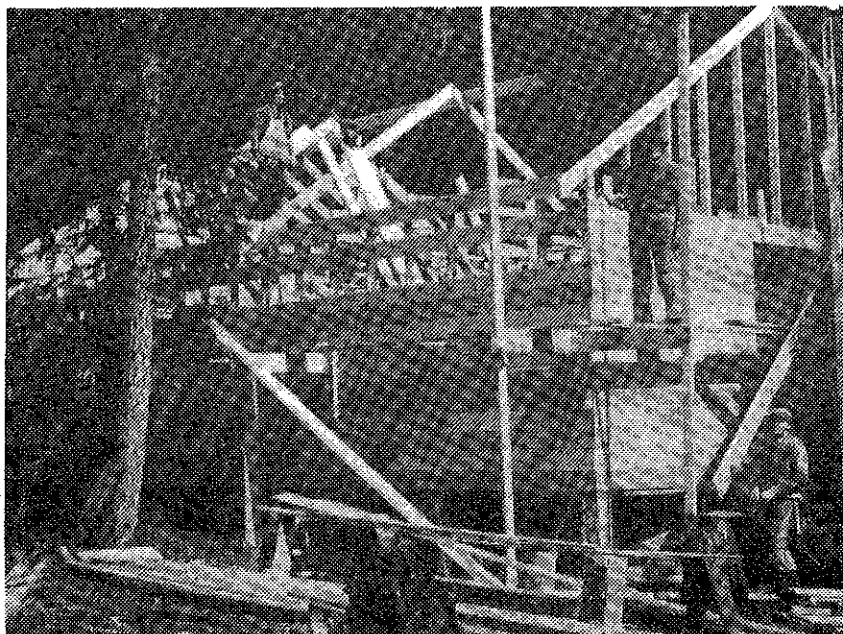
The year 1947 witnessed further advance. Another dormitory was constructed. In the first picture on page 16 we see Dr. Kope and John Penner (both of Enderby), with two other men on the ridge, hard at

The girls just loved P. T. (!?)



Intermediate Girls enjoy swim-time.





work.

The first cabin on the ridge east of the Dining Hall, was built in 1947. Below, see Pastor Apps ( with Brian ) working on the cabin, known henceforth as No. 1.

Before the cabins were put up,

four tent bottoms (floor and walls) were built to accommodate tents of varying sizes that had been donated to the Camp and were used largely for workers' quarters. The two largest tents have a history. They were made from one large tent donated by the Convention of Regular Baptist Churches of B. C. to Pastor Dawe for evangelistic work in 1931. The large tent was used for campaigns in Lytton, Lillooet, Vernon, Armstrong, Hope, East Chilliwack and Prince George. When it was no longer required for this purpose it was donated to the Camp, cut in two, and re-made into two smaller tents 12 x 16 ft.

The Camp has always had a missionary emphasis and many missionaries have kept the cause of missions before the boys and girls down over









the years.

On the left are pictured two such missionaries - Miss Lillian Ward of Bolivia and Miss Jean Dougan of Taiwan.



Many pastors & their families, too, have enjoyed times of refreshing (and work) during and after camp sessions. To the right are Rev. & Mrs. H. C. Phillips and family at Camp in 1947.

The picture below shows the girls assembled on the beach that same year. In the background can be seen a cairn erected by Mr. Joshua Wollman, bearing the words:

"The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin."

The row of cabins on the first ridge was completed in 1948 and improvements made to the beach under the superintendency of Rev. W. L. Robertson. Up until this time Camp activ-



ities were confined to three sessions per season - Young People's (lasting from 10 to 12 days), followed by a camp for girls and one for boys, each for



one week. Camp Secretary, Rev. W. O. McKee, wrote prophetically as follows: "Last year the Girls' Camp was almost filled to capacity, with the Boys' rapidly gaining. The time is not far distant when extra camps will have to be arranged." How true were his words! In 1948 the attendances were:

Young People,	44
Girls,	67
Boys,	61.



This picture was taken at one of the work-bees while the men were enjoying their lunch. The two in the center of the front row are Jim King and Sid Sharpe deacons of First Baptist Church, Kamloops. Standing in the back is Mr. S. F. Branton, a generous friend of the Camp, whose family attended as campers and helpers for many years.

At the end of the season of 1947 Mr. Apps resigned the superintendency and not long after was called to the pastorate of Mission City Baptist Church. He had served since 1943 and had contributed greatly to the initial development of the Camp as an important arm of the Association of Regular Baptist Churches of the Interior.



Rev. W. L. Robertson of Enderby succeeded Pastor Apps as Superintendent in 1948, with Rev. D. G. Milligan as Assistant, and served in that capacity until 1953. It was in 1949 that a new well was dug on the first ridge, cribbed with cement tiling and capped. A drainage field, also, was engineered by Pastor Robertson that year.

Thus far we have named mostly pastors who gave leadership to the Camp project, because they were more free to give continuous service at a given time. The churches, realizing the importance of the Camp ministry, released their pastors freely. This does not mean that the lay people were inactive. It would be impossible to name all the men who, by volunteer labour, built all the buildings now forming the complex. Nor could we begin to name all the women who served as cooks and counsellors; the W. M. S. groups who helped with clean-ups, sewing and baking. Meat and other produce was given, gardens planted and harvested, canning done and wells dug. Over the years the churches of the Interior Association have worked as a harmonious, happy family as unto the Lord, and many visitors have made significant contributions also.

Before concluding the history of the first decade of operation, it might be profitable to reflect a little on the past. The decade emerged from the era of the great depression of "the hungry thirties." During the first years of Camp, World War II raged on the continent of Europe and our country was deeply involved. They were years of stringency and progress seemed slow compared with the fast-moving pace of our present era of affluence. The success and growth of our Camp were due to two important factors. On the one hand, God willed the Camp to be established, and it was by the power and grace of God that the project survived during those difficult years. His purpose it was to provide for the spiritual needs of young people at such a time. On the other hand, it was due to the generosity, hard work and personal sacrifice of a large number of common people who, without academic expertise, were willing to be used of God in such a venture.



It is fitting at this juncture to state the concepts and convictions that guided the founders and leaders of Camp Sunnybrae in these early years of its history. We will endeavour to summarize these in the following outline:

1. The Bible was the center of its program, as well as the center of its name.
2. It was open to girls and boys of all faiths or of no faith - no denominational restrictions.
3. It was a Baptist Camp, which safeguarded its curriculum and objectives.
4. The fees were kept as low as possible so that no child would be kept away who could not afford to pay.

No one who wanted to attend, to our knowledge, was ever turned away because of the inability of parents to pay. Some of our people dug into their own pockets to make possible a week of camp for children whose parents could not afford the fee. In 1940 the fee was \$1.50 per week. By 1949 it had advanced to \$3.00 per week for children and \$7.50 for twelve days for Young People.

5. The Camp was operated strictly on a volunteer basis - no paid help.
6. The Bible was the textbook - we had no printed or "tailor-made" curricula.
7. Beside the study of the Bible, the program included recreation - swimming, riflery and crafts of various kinds.
8. All the activities were kept in as natural and practical a setting as possible. Classes were held in small groups in the woods or on the beach as weather permitted. Great importance was attached to campers going to a quiet, selected spot to read the Bible and pray by themselves. Help and direction were given where needed, but we tried to create an atmosphere in which each child could have personal fellowship with God.
9. Being a christian camp, we tried to set an example of behaviour for the campers and the observing community. The Lord's Day was sacred and no swimming or noisy sports were allowed.

In those days, Sunday was not the problem it seems to be today:





- (1) Classes for the children were more like Sunday School in the home church.
  - (2) Services were held for staff, campers and visitors at church service times.
  - (3) For Sunday afternoons, long walks were planned, and at intervals along the trail when we would stop to rest, a lesson would be given by a Camp Leader from some object of nature collected or observed along the route.
10. Campfires were always held on the beach in the evenings - no inside, structured meetings. At these there would be lots of singing, stories, skits, object lessons, testimonies and a soul-searching evangelistic or devotional message by one of the Leaders.
  11. Everyone on Staff was concerned about the spiritual status of each camper. Opportunities were given for personal yielding to Christ, but this was done in low key without pressure.
  12. One very meaningful thing was done in the early camps. A daily report sheet was prepared by teachers and counsellors on each camper, daily, covering such matters as promptness, aptitudes, response to teaching, attitudes toward the Camp program, personal appearance, health, problems, tidiness, etc. A Report Card was then compiled from this information and a progress report sent to the camper's parents with timely advice or suggestions. Many parents expressed appreciation of this thorough, personal supervision of their children.
  13. Of course, conversions were reported to the pastors for their follow-up of the decisions made.

It would be impossible to tabulate the results of this first ten-year period, but we will include a few testimonies which will indicate the value of a Bible Camp program. As far as this scribe knows, there has never been a camp session, in any year of its history, when conversions to Christ were not recorded. Many, many more have received spiritual encouragement, renewal and revival. A large number of young people have received a call to their life's



work, not a few to full-time christian service. From the early records, here are a few testimonies:

"Rev. Dave Milligan talked and prayed with me, successfully helping me overcome home-sickness when I was determined to go home. He asked me if I thought Jesus was not at times homesick for heaven when He was here to seek and save the lost. Since then I've often been 'campsick' wishing those weeks would never end."

---From a boy who later became a Camp Leader and Pastor.

From one who joined the Camp Staff at Blind Bay in 1941 and has contributed some fifteen years of service of varying types to the Camp: "An incident that really impressed me and has lingered in my memory was a prayer group of three or four young teen-age girls. They started to hold prayer meetings, on their own, to pray for the unsaved girls at Blind Bay. And then, later in the week, to hear their praises to God, along with tears of joy, when they heard the testimonies of the newly born-again girls at campfire. I think my greatest enjoyment at Camp over the years was to be a counsellor and a teacher of God's Word; and then having girls come to me wanting me to tell them how to be saved, to hear them pray, haltingly, asking Jesus to forgive their sins."

---Edna Carlstrom.

From a girl who missed only one year in nineteen at Camp: "I was saved at Sunnybrae in 1946 and attended each year as a camper until 1955. In 1956 I returned as a counsellor and have served also as Camp Leader, Cook, Sports' director, Teacher and Camp Nurse until 1975. My greatest joy has been seeing answers to prayer and counselling many re. salvation and christian living."

---Grace Rosen Reeves.

In response to a questionnaire sent to Pastor Dave Reeves, the following quote: "Do you remember back in probably '47 and '48, when the North Kamloops United Church had an evangelical pastor who sent so many campers to Sunnybrae that they chartered a Greyhound Bus to bring them? Franklin Wayne ("Cinch")



Arthur was one of them - that resulted in his and my own first contacts with the Baptists - resulting in our baptisms and memberships in First Baptist, Kamloops, in 1954, several years later. Certainly were it not for Sunnybrae Bible Camp I would never have gone to N. B. T. C. nor become a Baptist pastor."

---Rev. D. H. Reeves.

Not often do we hear of a pastor cutting short his vacation in order to come and work at Camp, but Mr. Lloyd Gregory wrote: "As a pastor (of Salmon Arm) at that time, I remember how much I appreciated the times of fellowship with the other pastors. In 1950 I cut my holiday short to get back to Sunnybrae and enjoy the work there. Certainly those months were some of the happiest in my Christian experience."

---Pastor Lloyd Gregory.

"I was born again July 8, 1946, at Sunnybrae Bible Camp (Young People's) in my bunk in the dormitory, after three days of severe Holy Spirit conviction."

---Joyce Codd Hearn.

Joyce attended Camp for eight years and served as a counsellor. Her parents, Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Codd, have supported the Camp for many years.

We will conclude this chapter with the following human interest story:

#### HE CARED

It was the Summer of 1946. A wheel-chair came bouncing over the gentle slopes of Sunnybrae Camp. Ken Branton was pushing. In it sat Ken's good friend, Bill Degner, a paraplegic. He dearly loved the Lord and he loved camp. He was there because someone cared. Ken couldn't have enjoyed that week without Bill. Bill couldn't come without Ken. Ken unselfishly became Bill's "batman" and Bill brought his guitar. How that boy could sing!

'Does Jesus care when my heart is pained  
Too deeply for mirth or song?  
-----

0, yes, He cares, I KNOW HE CARES,  
His heart is touched with my grief.'



Our hearts were stirred. We knew Bill had actually experienced what he was singing. The glow of peace and joy on his face was a living testimony to us young people. We felt the Lord so close!

Ken had not only helped his friend that Summer. Because he cared, he brought a special blessing to the whole camp."

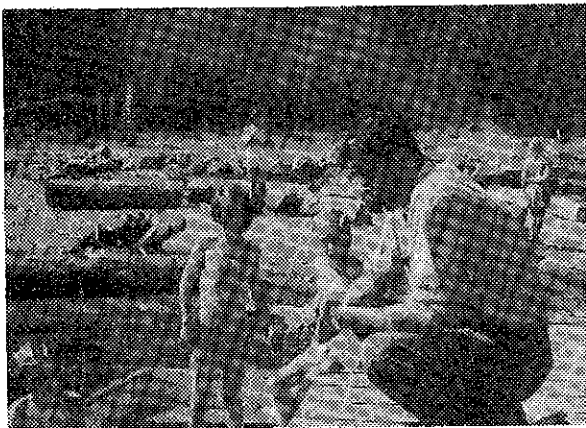
--- Hazel M. Swadling.





## 1950 TO 1959 - DECADE OF CONSOLIDATION

Information covering the second decade of the Camp operation seems rather meagre, but it was an era in which the seedling of the forties, transplanted several times, became rooted in its own soil. During the superintendency of Rev. W. L. Robertson much progress was made in modernizing our facilities and adding to the complex of buildings. In 1950 the first plumbing was installed in the kitchen, the triple galvanized sinks being made by Mr. Robertson himself. At first a small delco system produced light and operated a pressure system which brought water to the kitchen. The following year a new raft and diving board were constructed and a portable wharf was made.



The picture to the left (above) shows Pastor Robertson on the newly constructed wharf talking to some children. He loved the children and that love was reciprocated. On the right is a better view of the wharf, made portable so that it could be dismantled and stored for the winter. In the foreground, girls with sticks are interested in a garter snake! Heavy winds would sometimes churn up the waters and we would awaken in the morning to find a boat or the raft torn away from its moorings and drifting out of sight. Many times aquatic equipment was retrieved after many hours of diligent search.

In the years 1953 and '54 Rev. Don Reed, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Vernon, became Superintendent, and it was during this period that electricity



was installed. How good to be rid of the fire hazards of candles and kerosene lamps! The wiring was done, without charge, by a christian brother by the name of Rev. W. W. McNaughton who later became Principal of the Sexsmith Bible Institute. He, with Pastor Reed as his helper, did the wiring adequately serving the kitchen-dining room complex and taking outlets to all existing buildings on the campgrounds with the exception of the out-houses which often had to be sought out in the dark! A new, but smaller, dormitory was built in the Spring of '53, housing 12 to 14 campers. Two more dorms of this size were added later, just East of the large Dorm II.

Pastor Don Reed, who served the Camp in various capacities from 1951 to 1954, lists among his outstanding memories of Sunnybrae:

"The fellowship enjoyed with visiting speakers and the families of the Camp Executive."

"Those were precious days, and many came to know the Lord. I well remember pumping full the gravity tank around six each morning. That was also the time when Bill Robertson built the large dish rack."

"I'll never forget a hail storm we had one day (after camp was finished). It came from the Salmon Arm side of the lake and I have never seen such a seething cauldron as the lake was that day. It was a frightening but fascinating experience."

"Another thing I remember was dividing up the 'surplus' at the end of the camp season. We always got some real bargains on groceries, which meant a lot to us in those days. That was kind of an exciting wind-up."

Incidentally, he wrote, "Don't forget to mention the poison ivy!" The grounds were infested with it and we had quite a battle, over a number of years, before it became subdued. Some people would become infected by just brushing against it or by standing in the smoke of a burning sprig, but others of us could pick it with bare hands with no ill effects!

In 1953 a change was made in the designation of camp groups. Instead of



them being determined by geographical areas, they were now formed by age-grouping which proved to be much more satisfactory.

In 1954 Pastor and Mrs. Dawe and family returned to the Interior Association to pastor the First Baptist Church of Salmon Arm (1954-'56) and the First Baptist Church of Kamloops (1956-'66) and participated in the Camp ministry again for twelve consecutive years.

Through a plan drawn up by the Camp Committee, Dr. J. H. Kope was permitted to build a cabin for his own use on the Camp grounds, with the understanding that it could be used by the Camp when in session if it were needed, and that it would revert to Camp ownership by purchase when no longer needed by the Kope family. He painted his cabin green and later donated it to the Camp. It became known as the Green Cabin and has housed many a missionary family over the years. We cannot resist telling this little amusing incident: When Mr. McNaughton and Mr. Reed were wiring the cabins they came to Dr. Kope's green cabin and wondered whether or not to wire it along with the rest. They tried to reach Dr. Kope but he was nowhere to be found, so they decided to go ahead and wire it. When the doctor discovered it, however, he was furious - he "wanted to be away from all the city amenities!" Perhaps that was one reason why he decided to give the green cabin to the Camp and build another nearby!! Dr. & Mr. Kope were great supporters of the Camp project, and daughter Corriene (now Mrs. Garth Johnson) served as Camp Nurse and in other capacities for many years. Garth, also, rendered valuable service to the Camp at various times and in various manners.

Many ladies from the various Association churches deserve to have their names inscribed in gold in the "Cooking Hall of Fame," could we but recall them. Mrs. A. Hausfeld, Mrs. J. Penner, Mrs. W. A. Aslin, Mrs. H. McLean and Mrs. G. R. Dawe were among the first cooks; Mrs. Freda Popowich served in the kitchen for some nineteen years, and Mrs. J. Kineshanko, Mrs. E. V. Apps, Mrs. Reta Sigalet and Mrs. Caryk served similarly for many seasons. Perhaps the one



who has given the most time, and contributed the greatest amount of expertise to the economic operation of the kitchen, is Mrs. Freda Swadling. Through the year, and especially in the months preceding camp, she would keep her eyes open for grocery bargains and buy in quantity lots. Her husband, Ralph, would transport them free of charge from Kamloops by truck, and on week-ends and vacations would work at the Camp as handyman. Many others deserve to be mentioned but memory fails and space will not permit. Groceries and vegetables were stored on the kitchen shelves and in storage rooms built under the kitchen. Dr. Kope and John Penner constructed the first storage area in the early 1950's and this was enlarged at a later date.

In 1955 the Camp program was enlarged to include six camps, commencing on June 25th with the Young People, followed by four children's camps and ending with the first Family Conference. Pastor Gus Ewert of Kamloops led the Young People's Camp and Rev. Jack Manley of Brazil was the main speaker. Over twenty young people enjoyed the week, and the evening campfires on the beach were the choice sessions of the day. One evening, testimonies and sharing were so spontaneous and numerous the speaker did not get a chance to give his message!

The Junior and Intermediate Boys' Camps were led by Pastor Bruce Mateika of Barriere. An aggregate of 63 boys were enrolled and the lesson material on the Ten Commandments was prepared by the Camp Superintendent, Pastor G. R. Dawe of Salmon Arm. Missionary emphasis was supplied by Rev. & Mrs. Jack Manley of Brazil, Miss Hazel McLean of Africa and Mr. Elmer McLean who laboured among the Cree Indians of Northern Saskatchewan. The two latter had been campers among those who attended the very first camp in 1940.

The Junior and Intermediate Girls' Camps were led by Miss. Helen Hausfeld (who later became Mrs. Bruce Mateika). There was a total of 74 girls at Camp and they used the same materials as were used with the boys. The missionary emphasis was supplied by lesson material prepared by our missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. Frank Pickering of Japan, augmented by colorful slides provided by the





Foreign Missions Committee of our British Columbia Convention.

The first Family Camp ever, at Sunnybrae, convened from August 4-14, with Pastor Gus Ewert of Kamloops in charge. Some 35 men, women and children were in attendance and the speaker was Rev. Leslie Cockram of Brazil. Sessions for the adults were held in the open air in the "Cathedral in the Woods." While the adults were enjoying their meetings, the children attended Daily Vacation Bible School led by Miss Esther Peacock, assisted by Grace Manley and Hazel Dawe. At the evening campfire, Miss Peacock spoke and showed pictures of Japan and our missionary work there, and Mr. Cockram showed pictures of his work in Brazil.

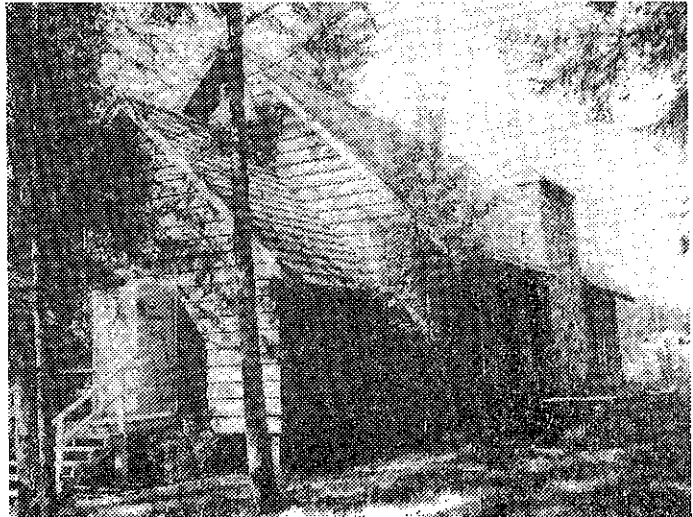
During the 1955 season, between 55 and 60 persons made profession of faith in Christ.

Nineteen fifty-seven was another good year. An aggregate of 340 attended, with 46 professions of faith. The Young People's Conference speaker was Rev. Ken Beaumont of Princeton, B. C. The Family Conference had an evangelist from Belfast, Ireland, Rev. Alfred Olley, as speaker. Camp Leaders were Rev. D. G. Slaney for the Young People; Pastor Bruce Mateika for the Junior and Intermediate Boys; Mrs. Helen Mateika for Junior Girls and Mrs. Olive Aslin for the Intermediates.

A major building was added to the complex in the late 1950's, in the form of a Camp Chapel. Plans were drawn for the chapel by Mr. Stan Milton of Enderby in 1957. Lumber and building materials were gathered in the Fall, ready for the beginning of construction in early 1958. Construction was under the direction of Mr. E. H. Needham, a building contractor, and son-in-law of Major Mobley. Mr. Needham had really retired by this time and he and Mrs. Needham had come to live in the Sunnybrae district. The Camp is greatly indebted to Mr. Needham for his devotion to Christ, for his willingness at all times to help the Camp in its building needs, for professional advice, loan of tools and many, many hours of labour. He, with the help of the men of the Association



(pastors and laymen), worked at various times over an extended period to bring the chapel to completion. The excavation for the basement was dug by Mr. Max Turner of Sunnybrae. Lumber was purchased from the Canoe Co-op Lumber Mill. Rev. D. A. Corbett, pastor of First Baptist



Church, Salmon Arm, placed the order for 3,000 ft. of 1 x 12 rough spruce siding at \$78,00 per M. When the foreman of the mill heard it was for Sunnybrae Bible Camp, he offered 1,000 ft. free of charge. The electrical fixtures came from a school in Princeton which was being remodelled. The large rock fireplace and chimney were constructed by a stonemason from Kamloops, Mr. H. Blumensheit, out of stone quarried from a rock slide on Mount Vella (Sebastian) and hauled in Mr. Needham's truck.

Various pastors served as Camp Directors in the late 1950's and were responsible for the Camp programs, curricula and the conduct of camp on a day-to-day basis. Pastor G. R. Dawe directed the Camp from 1954-'57; Pastor Bruce Mateika in 1958 and Pastor Gordon Beck of Vernon, in 1959 & '60. Special mention should be made of Pastor Ken Beaumont, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Vernon, who served the Camp in various capacities for twelve years, from 1958 to 1970. It was during this time that Family Camps became popular, and Pastors' Spring Conferences were begun as well, with many outstanding speakers over the years. Mrs. Beaumont, also, contributed much to camp life. She was Leader of Intermediate Girls' Camp in 1959 and was a Camp Cook from 1960 to '69.

Another person who served over a long period was Mrs. A. (Grace) Haller of Armstrong. She was Assistant Camp Leader of Junior Girls in 1957, '58 and '61;



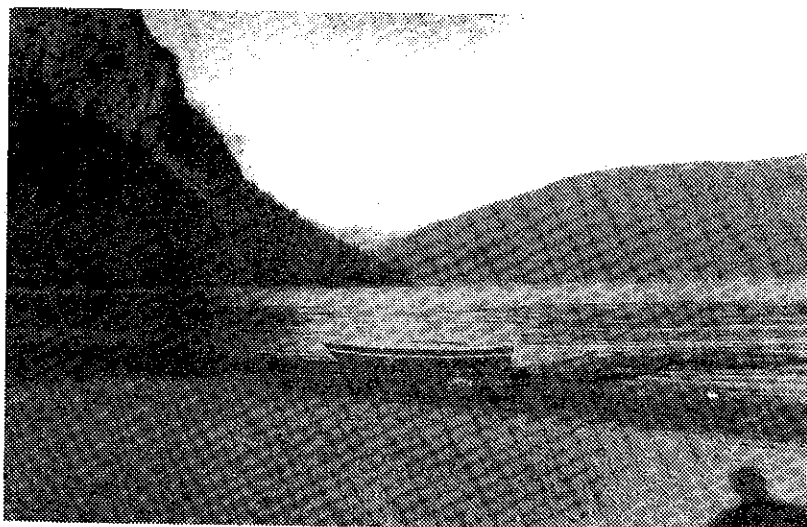
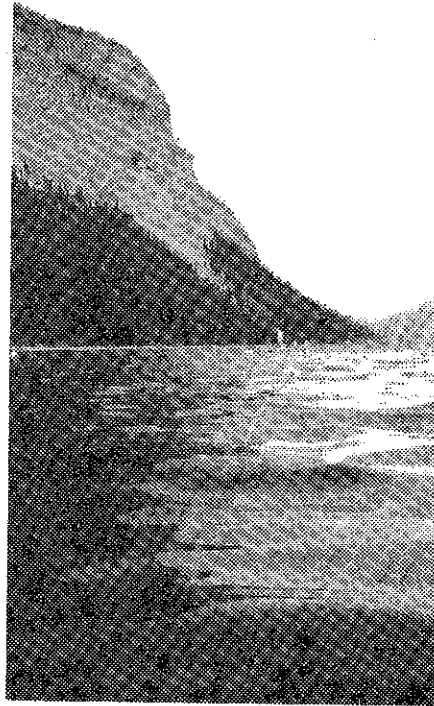
Camp Cook in 1971 and '73, and Leader of Junior Girls' Camp from 1973 to 1975.

Speaking of teaching materials, this writer was asked in 1955 to prepare a series of lessons for Intermediate Boys' Camp. The subject of the Ten Commandments was impressed upon my mind. I wrote them up, and they were later printed in booklet form. At camptime the boys were divided into classes and the teachers began their instruction. Following the second lesson, a boy came to his teacher to ask how he could be saved. The teacher asked the boy what prompted him to ask, and why he wanted to be saved. His reply was, "Because I have broken God's commandments." More boys came after each lesson, without urging, and by the end of the week practically every unconverted boy in camp had received the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour because God's Word had convicted them of sin. This made quite an impact upon us all, and we began to realize the truth of Romans 3:20 in a new light, "By the law is the knowledge of sin." Perhaps we could learn something about the importance and place of the decalogue in the preaching of the Gospel.

To conclude the decade of the fifties, we will mention the names of several people outside the area of the Interior Association, whose presence and ministries enriched camp life immensely. Miss Dora Hunt from Nigeria was our missionary speaker in 1957, and Evangelist Alfred Olley of Belfast, Ireland, was speaker at Family Conference. In 1958, Rev. J. R. Armstrong of Edmonton was Family Conference speaker and expounded on First and Second Thessalonians. Daily Vacation School Leaders during this Conference were Miss Florence Kenis and Miss Helen Birch from Northwest Baptist Theological College. Nineteen fifty-nine saw a total of 323 at Camp. There was a shortage of workers, so many did double duty, perhaps the heaviest load falling upon the Superintendent, Pastor Corbett. Among the visiting personnel this year were Rev. & Mrs. Doug Harris of Faith, Vancouver, who ministered at the Young People's Conference. Miss G. Jones meant much to the campers and staff at the Intermediate Girls' Camp. At the Family Conference, Rev. D. Renton of Vancouver was the



speaker and Bible Teacher, while Miss H. Carlson of Multnomah School of the Bible brought inspirational messages and a challenge from the mission fields.



Views of Shuswap Lake and the face of Mount Sebastian, otherwise known as Mount Vella, after one of Major Mobley's daughters.





## 1960 TO 1969 - DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT

The decade of the sixties may be termed a decade of development. Not that there was the absence of development before - indeed the Camp facilities had shown marked development since the era of tents and squatter's rights of the early forties. But by this time some of the buildings and equipment needed replacement. With the growth of the Camp, new facilities needed to be added and the program itself updated.

By the late nineteen fifties Rev. D. A. Corbett had become pastor at Salmon Arm and he and Mrs. Corbett gave unstintingly of their time and energy to the Camp for over a decade. In 1960 Mr. Corbett was appointed Superintendent and he, with Pastor Gordon Beck as Camp Director, became a great team. With the exception of the year 1964, when Mr. W. W. Lister was Superintendent, Mr. Corbett served in this capacity until 1967. During these years another couple from Salmon Arm, Chris and Florence Andersen, contributed much to the Camp cause by way of labour and produce.



In 1960 Camp attendance decreased somewhat due to the suspension of the Family Conference, but the spiritual tone was high. The Camp Leaders were as follows:

Young People - Pastor G. R. Dawe

Junior Girls - Miss Hazel Dawe

Intermediate Girls - Mrs. Olive Aslin

Junior Boys - Pastor K. Beaumont

Intermediate Boys - Pastor Reuben A. Wicks.

Camp missionaries were Rev. & Mrs. Ken Chapman of Bogota, Colombia. Rev. Percy Wills, Shantyman from Victoria, was Young People's speaker. Miss Margery



Benedict of Baptist Mid-Missions doubled as missionary speaker and Camp Nurse during Intermediate Girls' Camp. During the Summer, the staff from the Association churches was augmented by Miss Barbara Kreller, Kamloops, Camp Nurse; Misses Lorraine Riddell and Hazel Dawe from McGill University and Miss Beth Reeve of N. B. T. C., Vancouver. Mrs. Waldo Nickel of Kamloops was the appreciated Chief Cook for the season.

This year the Camp acquired its first deep freezer, a gift from Dr. & Mrs. J. H. Kope, and this became a great boon. Meat donated could now be properly processed and kept on the premises to be used as needed. Speaking of meat, Mr. A. E. Codd of Tappen raised a beef every year and donated it to the Camp larder. Mr. Chris Andersen and others made donations of meat frequently, also, which helped immensely with an expensive commodity. In 1961 Dr. Kope built a second cabin, just East of the Green Cabin, and donated the green one to the Camp.

The order of the camps was changed in 1961 owing to road construction in front of the Camp, affecting the beach. Both Junior camps were held at the end of the season. Rev. G. R. Dawe was appointed Camp Director, again, assisted by a committee from Kamloops, Mrs. V. Durnin and Miss Hazel Swadling. Rev. D. A. Corbett of Salmon Arm was Superintendent, assisted also by a committee composed of Messrs. Chris Andersen, Garth Johnson and Gordon Donnelly.

Visiting missionaries were a tremendous asset. Rev. & Mrs. George P. James of Africa attended and Mr. James was Camp Leader for the Intermediate Boys. Present, also, were Rev. & Mrs. Wm. Davis from India and Rev. & Mrs. Bill Neef, also from Africa.

This year was marked by the installation of electric lights in the dorms and cabins, a distinct improvement over oil lamps and candles! Over the Labour Day weekend, the Young People held another short Conference with missionary David Martin of Irian Jaya as speaker. The following excerpt from the 1961 Camp Report expresses the happy results of another successful year:



"The 1961 season at Sunnybrae Bible Camp has ended, and great is our volume of praise to God for a most wonderful year. The weather was perfect; the support and donations of foodstuffs, excellent; the response of our people to the appeal for helpers, the best yet; the spiritual results, gratifying; the fellowship, superb."

Construction work on the Chapel had given place to more pressing needs. First use of this facility, in its unfinished state, was in the Summer of 1961 but following the camping season of that year a determined effort was made to complete the structure. The first "Camp Flyer" of 1962 (April) carried this announcement: We have "Put new siding on the Chapel, long windows, and steps both front and back - it's looking more and more like a real church building."

In 1962 a new approach was made to the Camp teaching program. Instead of dividing the campers into classes, with a teacher (who actually was teacher, counsellor and guardian for the whole day) for each class, a switch was made to one main speaker and a number of counsellors who took care of the more personal needs of the campers' instruction. A children's evangelist, Rev. J. Gallop, was secured from the Children's Evangelistic Association of B. C., and he gave an excellent and thorough teaching ministry as well as careful guidance in leading the children to saving faith in Christ.

As for material improvements in '62, a new roofing job was done on the remaining large dormitory; a new well was dug on the second ridge, preparatory to a future project of building washrooms and flush-toilet facilities; the dining-room was screened and the Chapel painted.

There was a growing conviction among Camp personnel at this time that the program should be expanded and that the site and facilities should be used more extensively. Out of this conviction there emerged the first Pastors' Retreat in June of 1963, with Rev. H. Hindry, Rev. E. Keefe and Dr. J. B. Rowell as speakers. From this humble beginning has developed a popular Pastors' Conference which has brought a number of outstanding speakers to Sunnybrae.



In 1963 the Camp Executive was comprised of the following:

Camp Director: Pastor A. R. Wicks of Barriere

Camp Registrar: Mrs. W. W. Lister of Salmon Arm

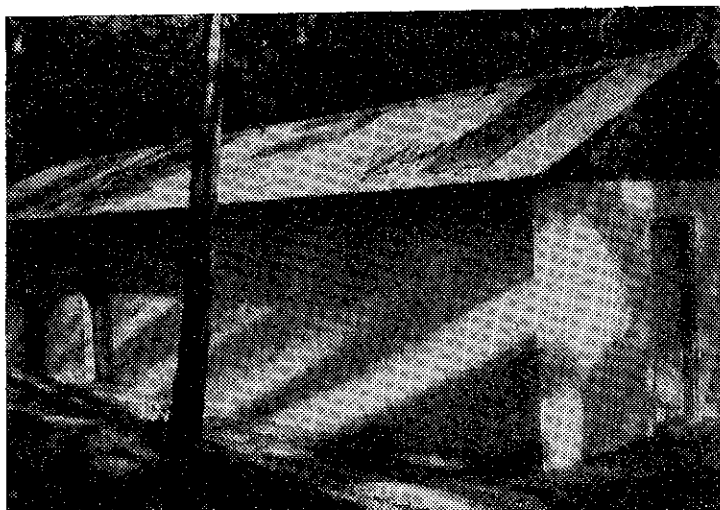
Camp Superintendent: Pastor D. A. Corbett of Salmon Arm.

Pastor Wicks continued to serve as Director for three successive years. Camp fees were adjusted upwards in 1963, but on a sliding scale so that families with more than one child attending, might not find the cost prohibitive. The cost for the first child was \$10.00; for the second, \$9.00; for the third or more, \$7.00. Campers staying for less than one week, were charged \$2.00 per day.

The following year Family Camp was reinstated after a suspension of four years and, although it got off to a rocky start due to lack of facilities, has now grown to be a very popular family retreat, to two full-capacity camps per season, with features for children, young people and adults.

In the early sixties there came to Sunnybrae two very hard-working men who made a substantial contribution to the Camp facilities. One was Mr. Ed. Fenton who, with his wife and foster daughter, had moved from Alberta to Eagle Bay on Shuswap Lake. Suddenly, and in a tragic manner, their daughter died and they came to Pastor Corbett to discuss funeral arrangements. As a result of this relationship Mr. Corbett introduced them to the Camp program in which they became keenly interested.

Up until this time the Camp used outdoor privies and the Health authorities were urging that proper bathroom and toilet facilities be built. Mr. Fenton was a





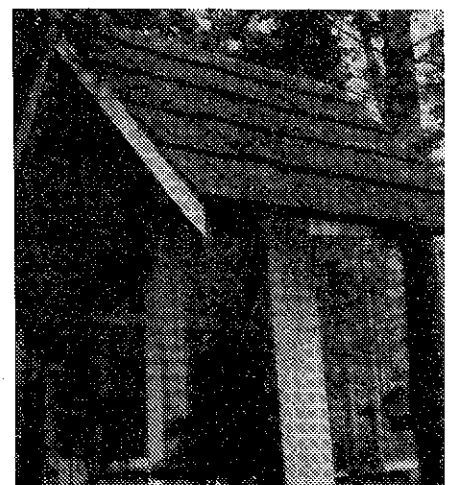


plumber by trade and offered to instal all the plumbing and wiring for the complex, if the Camp would provide the building. The work was commenced in 1963 and completed in 1964. A suitable cement block building was erected on the slope of the second ridge by Mr. T. Horner, assisted by Mr. E. Needham, both of the Sunnybrae area. It was a rectangular shaped building consisting of two large rooms - one at each end for girls and boys respectively. They each contained an ample supply of washbasins and toilets. On the girls' end there was a smaller room set aside for the pumphouse and laundry room. Dividing the boys' and girls' units were two rooms, each containing toilet and shower for male and female staff members.

In 1964 Mr. W. W. Lister of Salmon Arm was appointed Superintendent. He, too, was a very handy, hard-working man. He supervised the digging of the second well and the installation of the pump which were to serve the washroom complex. He assisted Mr. Fenton with the plumbing, also. Mr. Lister served again as Superintendent in 1968. Mrs. Lister served as Camp Registrar from 1964 to 1971 and assisted Mrs. Netterfield in that capacity in '72 and '73. The first Camp sign to be erected on the Trans-Canada Highway was donated by Mrs. Lister and installed by Pastor Vern Priebe of Enderby.



On January 21, 1964, Major C. W. Mobley passed away at the age of 80 years, and Sunnybrae Bible Camp lost a great friend



Major Mobley with daughter Aline and 2 grandchildren. and benefactor. The Chapel Bell  
Rev. G. R. Dawe conducted the funeral service in Salmon Arm, assisted by Rev.



Dan Corbett. On the 28th of June that same year the Chapel was fittingly dedicated, according to the citation, "To the memory of the late Major C. W. Mobley whose encouragement, practical help and wise counsel over the past twenty-three years has contributed greatly to the development of this Institution for the spiritual and physical blessing of Youth." Pastor A. Reuben Wicks of Barriere read the citation and plaque and led in the Prayer of Dedication, and Pastor Dawe delivered the address.

In 1965 a Children's Playground was set aside on the grounds, equipped with swings, teter-totter and outdoor checker board donated to the memory of Shirley Fenton by Joe Lister, son of Mr. & Mrs. W. W. Lister. A concrete ramp, from the road to the beach, was constructed also in 1965. Following their helpful stay at Sunnybrae, Mr. & Mrs. Fenton went to India as support missionaries to assist the Canadian Baptist Mission in maintenance work.

For the 1966 season, Rev. Ken Beaumont of Vernon was appointed Camp Director, and served in this capacity for four consecutive years. Attendance increased to 286 and over 90 decisions for Christ were recorded in '66. The Camp Leaders were:

Intermediate Boys - Pastor D. Reeves of Castlegar

Intermediate Girls - Pastor & Mrs. Elmer Fehr of Armstrong

Junior Girls - Mrs. Edna Carlstrom of Barriere

Junior Boys - Pastor Ken Beaumont

Family Conference - Pastor G. R. Dawe of Kamloops.

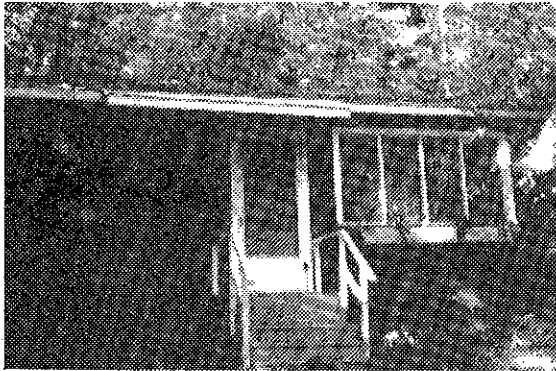
Special speakers included Rev. Joe Gallop, Children's Evangelist; Rev. Frank Pickering, missionary from Japan; Rev. Wm. Clayton at Family Camp; and Rev. D. Loveday of Brantford, Ont., who was the guest speaker at the Pastors' Conference.

During this season, three large bell tents were purchased and circular cement slabs were constructed as a base for same. A heavy-duty vacuum cleaner was a welcomed addition to the equipment also.



In 1967 Camp fees were again increased two dollars across the board, to \$12.00, reflecting the inflationary spiral of the times.

As the Camp was now expanding, the need became apparent for a resident caretaker. Not knowing who would be the first occupants, work began in 1964 on another new building to be known as the "Missionary Cabin." Pastor Corbett sub-



mitted the first plans and, to use his own words, "every Tom, Dick and Harry on the Camp Committee suggested a change here and there!" The building was completed in 1968, and just in time, as we shall see.

Before Sunnybrae Bible Camp was ever dreamed of, a young pastor and his wife by the name of Netterfield moved to the Okanagan Valley from the Prairies. Rev. Joel M. Netterfield pastored the churches of Armstrong, Enderby and Salmon Arm, and he and his wife, Verna, exerted a gracious influence for God over this combined field for over a decade. In the early nineteen-forties the Netterfields, with their four children, moved North to the Peace River where they battled the rigours of that frontier country for twenty-five years preaching, teaching, road-building and farming. In 1967 the Lord led them back to Salmon Arm - just the two of them, for now their children were on their own - and Mr. & Mrs. Netterfield became the first resident Caretakers of Sunnybrae, occupying the new Missionary Cabin. For six years they served the Lord in the Camp, in the Community and as members of the Salmon Arm Baptist Church. They endeared themselves to all who came to camp. Their home was open, day and night, to anyone who needed help and encouragement. They shared everything they owned and beautified both the Camp grounds and the Camp spirit with their gracious care of things.

One outstanding thing for which Mr. Netterfield will be remembered is the Pilgrim Trail, patterned after Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress." He devised a plan

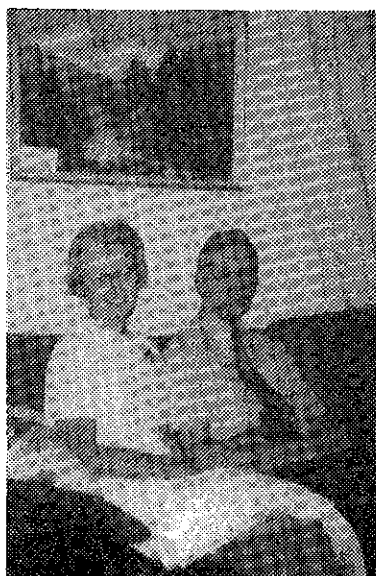


whereby the message of Bunyan's immortal allegory could be depicted to boys and girls by their Leaders. In the wooded area on the back of the Camp property he mapped out a trail with about two dozen stops or stations en route. Engaging the delightful artistry of Mrs. Elizabeth



Lockley of Blind Bay, the scenes of Pilgrim's Progress were beautifully painted on sheets of plywood which he erected at the "stations" along the pathway. To the delight and blessing of many children (and older people too) Camp Leaders have conducted hikes along this trail, telling the story of Pilgrim as they paused to view the various scenes of his journey to the Celestial City.

Mrs. Netterfield (affectionately known as "Aunt Verna") served as Camp Registrar, helped in the kitchen and dining room and entertained friends and strangers. Failing health made it necessary for the Netterfields to relinquish their happy relationship with the Camp following the camping season in November 1973. Aunt Verna happily responded to the call of her heavenly Lord and passed to her eternal reward on Friday, March 12, 1976, in her 77th year.



Another couple who contributed much to the Camp life from 1968 to 1974 was Pastor & Mrs. W. Tompkins of Kamloops. While Mr. Tompkins took his share of responsibility in the children's camps, perhaps the area of his special interest was the development of the Family Camp. His introduction to this phase of the work came when he was the featured speaker in 1964 when the Family Camp was reinstated in the Camp program. Pastor Ernest Martin of Kelowna was the Camp Leader and





Miss Jean Dougan of Taiwan was the missionary speaker.

One more item will conclude the story of this decade - the building of the first cement block cabin on the second ridge overlooking the recreation area. That was in 1969. It was wired by a young man by the name of Bruce Christensen, a graduate of Northwest Baptist Theological College. In 1969 Bruce was called to the pastorate of Bethany Baptist Church in Barriere. This church has supported the Camp



project from its inception, and its pastors, such as Bruce Mateika, Reuben Wicks and Stan Robinson, have made a splendid contribution to its leadership. Pastor Bruce Christensen was no exception. He pitched in immediately to use his practical skills, and to work as counsellor, handyman and Leader of the Youth Camp, all in his first year.



## 1970 TO 1979 - DECADE OF EXPANSION

Coming into the nineteen-seventies, we enter an era of expansion of Camp facilities:

Block cabins, begun in '69, were increased in number to 5.

The Pilgrim Trail was inaugurated.

An adequate water system was installed.

A Sports Area was developed.

A new Kitchen-Dining Room building was constructed.

In 1970 Pastor Ken Beaumont fulfilled his concluding year as Director. Among the Camp personnel during this Summer were our missionaries from Japan, Rev. & Mrs. David Slaney, Susan & Betty. They participated in practically every phase of the program, especially in the Junior Girls' activities. Miss H. M. Swadling was Junior Girls' Camp Leader and Miss Mary Drake took a very active part also. Mary is now a missionary serving with her husband, Mr. Ken Widmer, in Thailand.

The Young People's Conference was held September 5th to 7th, 1970, with a very good attendance and excellent results in spite of some difficulties caused mainly through lack of sufficient counsellor help. Camp Leader was Pastor C. Davie of Salmon Arm. The Conference speaker was Rev. Jack Graham of Vancouver, whose theme was, "The Holy Spirit in the Life of the Believer." Youth President, Jim Schelin, stated that he had "never attended a rally that left the same impression upon him as this one did." Pastor & Mrs. Reuben Wicks & family and Mrs. Nancy Sidle, did a masterful job in the kitchen.

From 1971 to 1975, Rev. Walter Tompkins of Kamloops was the general Camp Director. As already mentioned, Pastor Tompkins did much to popularize the Family Camp, and Mrs. Tompkins contributed greatly to the general program by providing a special program for children during its teaching sessions. She also led the Junior Girls' Camp from 1971 to '73. During these years both the Family and Junior Girls' Camps increased in attendance and two camps of each



group became necessary.

Serving under Pastor Tompkins' direction were the following Camp Leaders:

Pastor Duane Harder of Vernon was in charge of Intermediate Boys in 1970 & '71, and Junior Boys in 1972 & '73.

Pastor Ken Anderson of Princeton led the Intermediate Girls from 1972 to '75; he was also Family Camp II Leader in 1975.

Pastor Bruce Christensen of Armstrong was Camp Leader for the Intermediate Boys from 1972 to '74, and Family Camp I Leader from 1976 to '78.

Following Pastor Tompkins, Pastor Bill Spletzer was appointed Camp Director for 1976, but had to resign the office that same year because of poor health. Pastor Bruce Christensen served in that capacity for the balance of 1976 and continued as Camp Director until October 1978. Pastor Bruce was an inspirer of young people and gave good leadership in Youth Work both in the Camp and the Interior Association, and continues to do so.

Pastor Ken Anderson, also, was a very practical man and became Camp Superintendent from 1972 to '75. He was instrumental in the purchase and installation of a dish-washer and a new stove. He compiled a beautiful set of Camp slides which were used for promotional purposes throughout the constituency. Pastor Ken took special delight in the Pastors' Conferences and wrote of his appreciation of the Pilgrim Trail as follows: "Pilgrim's Trail is unquestionably one of the high water marks for our family at Family Camp. I, personally, have seen quite a few decide to become pilgrims (i.e., of the Christ) on the trail."

In the Fall of 1973, when the Netterfields moved to the Coast, Stan and Agnes Milton and their family moved onto the Camp property and served as interim Caretakers until the following year. Three new cabins were built under Stan's direction, as well as an Equipment building which served also as a Canteen and Registration building. The cabins were of cement block construction, and well insulated to help keep them cool in Summer and to make them suitable



for possible winterized camping as well. Pastor Christensen writes: "All this work was directed by Stan Milton, and little did we know, then, that he was dying of cancer. In November, 1975, Stan was promoted to Glory. The last work he was able to do on earth was the construction of these four buildings. How we praise God for men like him; they encourage our faith to carry on in spite of mounting obstacles. We knew he was not well, but he never let us know of the extent of his suffering while labouring for the Lord at Sunnybrae. As I visited him in the hospital, just before he passed away, I was privileged to see a man who lived victoriously by faith. He looked forward with great anticipation to the glory that was soon to be his."

Among the blessings that accrue to Camp workers, one of the outstanding is the involvement of their children in Camp life. They usually get to attend more often than the registered camper and enjoy the beach, their friends, and camp-life in general. The author's family all have the fondest memories of "Sunnybrae." Our youngest daughter, Carol, came to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ at Sunnybrae in July of 1954. When Carol grew up she trained



as a nurse, obtaining her R.N. from the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, B.C. One year she served as Camp Nurse and Counsellor. Her career, however, was short-lived for she was called away suddenly from this earthly scene in a tragic automobile accident on February 10th, 1971, at the age of 24. As a dear pastor friend expressed it, "Her sun is gone down while it was yet day," Jeremiah 15:9. Her parents and sisters desired to do something at Sunnybrae in her memory, and concluded that a small infirmary would be most appropriate. Many friends contributed

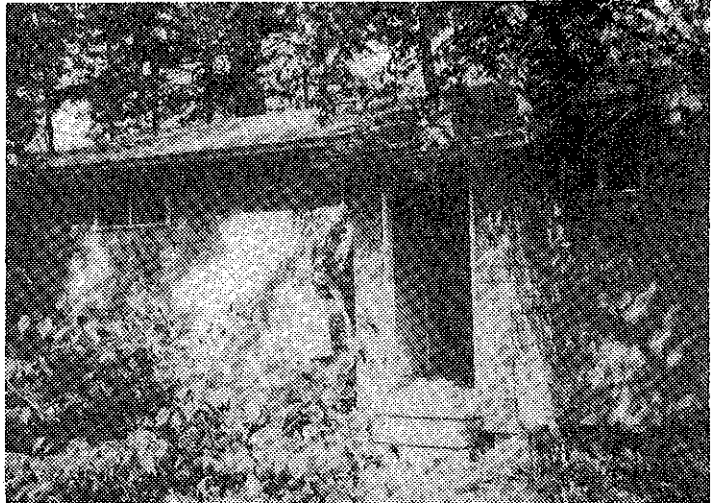
to the project, and in the Spring of 1972 work was begun. Again, Mr. E. Needham came to our assistance supervising the laying of the concrete floor and build-





ing the cement block walls.

The structure comprises two small wards with toilet and bath, a Nurse's Room with private toilet and shower, and a First Aid Station, all fully equipped. The infirmary was publicly dedicated on May 20th, 1973, as part of the Camp complex.



In 1974 Rev. & Mrs. Charles Rhoads were appointed Caretakers, and under their guidance many good features were developed. In one recent dry year, the water table became very low. One well dried up, the other became dangerously low and there was no reserve of water to serve the fire protection equipment. There was, however, an adequate supply of good water issuing from a spring near the upper, north-eastern boundary of the Camp property. It was decided, in March 1976, to utilize this prolific source and to take the necessary legal steps to secure the water rights. This was done by Pastor H. Duckworth of Kamloops. Under the engineering ingenuity of Mr. Rhoads, a holding tank was

installed at the spring and the water piped to a reservoir near the new Dining Hall. This has provided an adequate supply of good water for all purposes.



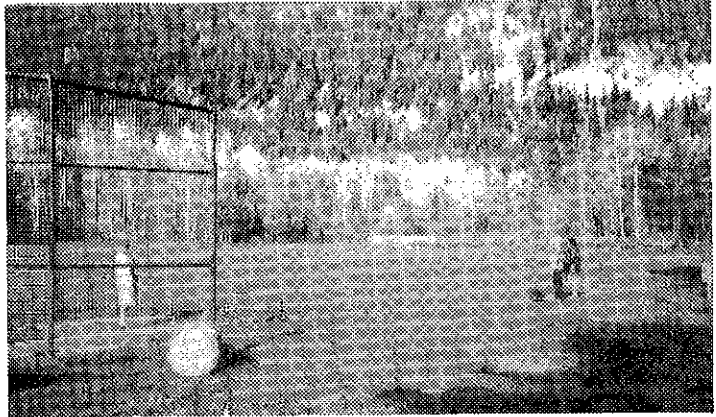
Under the direction of Mr. Rhoads, also, the wooded area on the Camp grounds East of the buildings was cleared out and given a park-like appearance. The recreation area was improved likewise, flattened and seeded. This includes a ball diamond, soccer field and a place for arch-



ery.

The picture, right, shows the playing field and a new back-stop built by the Young People in 1978.

The Rhoads served the Camp for a period of four years, until 1978.



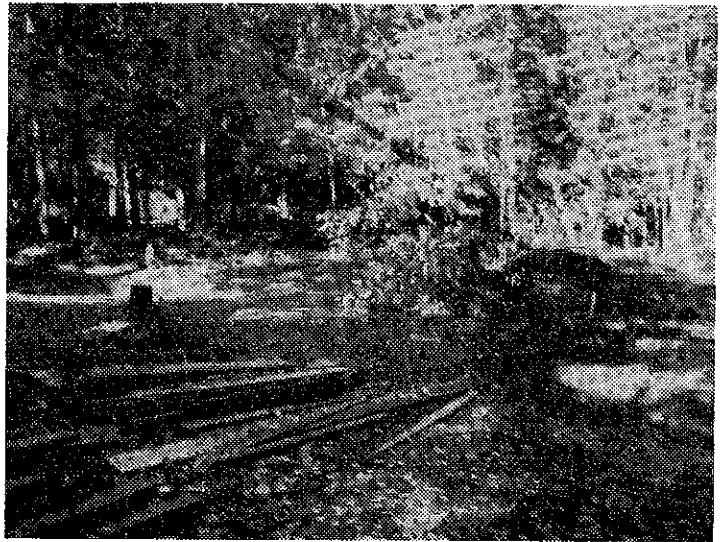
In October, 1978, Pastor Bob Roth of Merritt was appointed Camp Director, but ill health forced him to resign before the 1979 season actually began. Pastor Al Hern and his Committee concluded the year's activities.

The years of the "seventies" witnessed a much greater lay representation on the Board of the Interior Association. For many years the Executive and the Camp Committee were composed largely of pastors. Now there is a much larger Board which includes many people from the churches who are accepting responsibility in decision making.

This chapter would not be complete without recording the role the Interior Young People's organization played in the Camp's development. Not only do the young people use the Camp facility; they consider themselves part of its on-going witness, and put their energies and gifts into it. About mid-way through the decade the Salmon Arm Young People's Group donated a new aluminum raft which has been a source of great enjoyment on the waterfront. The following year the Young People of the Association undertook, jointly with the Interior Association, the obtaining of 500 crests for the Camp. Again, when it was decided, finally, in March of 1978, to proceed with the new Kitchen-Dining Hall building, the Young People volunteered to take down the one existing dormitory and clear the site for the new construction. The picture on the next page may not convey a great deal to the casual reader, but it represents a lot of hard work as far as the young people are concerned, and it also represents the spot

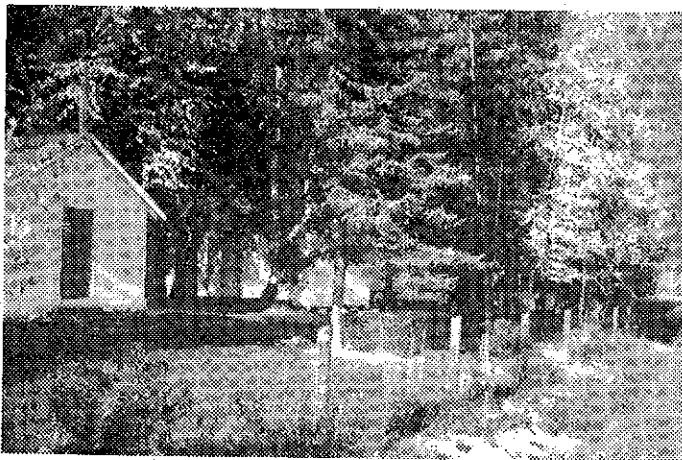


of sacred and happy memories in the dormitory that once stood there. The Young People also undertook a renovation project in the Chapel by removing the old floor covering and installing new carpet. Their labour and enthusiasm were commendable and much appreciated by the Camp Committee and the churches of the Association.



Included in the efforts to add to the attractiveness of the Camp, was a

face-lifting job applied to the old cabins on the first ridge. Responsibility for this was divided among the churches of the Association. The cabins were painted and refurnished; some were carpeted, and their appearance in general greatly improved. The Missionary Ca-



bin, likewise, came in for renovation. Carpets were installed, along with a stove, refrigerator, bedding, linen, couch and table. It has been made into a very attractive prophet's chamber and made available for missionaries attending Camp as speakers or as guests, and for the use of any passing through the area.

Three canoes were added to the recreation equipment in 1977, along with life-jackets and paddles. Mr. Wm. Danal of Armstrong volunteered to paint the Camp name on all the Camp boats. He also painted two new signs - one for the Camp property and another (a direction sign) for the highway at the junction of



the Sunnybrae road. In 1977, also, a John Deere tractor was added to the equipment and has proved invaluable for the large construction jobs of the late seventies.

In an earlier chapter, mention was made of garden and farm produce grown and donated to the Camp in order to reduce the food bills. Without exception this practice has continued and increased through the years. Of late, some of this produce has come from a distance. Although not residents of this area, or belonging to the Interior Association, the Heppel brothers of Cloverdale have kindly donated potatoes and turkeys to the Camp larder. Their generosity has been greatly appreciated.

Owing to the ever-increasing demands of Camp growth, the Board of the Interior Association found its time and energies very largely taken up with Camp business. The larger challenges of the churches, in the constituency as a whole, were being neglected. Consequently, in 1978, some constitutional changes were introduced which provided for a more efficient functioning of both the Association and of the Camp. A special Camp Committee was appointed whose sole responsibility it would be to operate the Camp, plan its topographical development and its growth pattern for the years ahead. This Committee was comprised of the following:

Pastor Al Hern, Dallas-Barnhartvale, general Camp Director

Mr. Homer Bloomfield, Dallas-Barnhartvale, Equipment and Supplies

Mr. Al Gienger, Salmon Arm, Property and Site Development

Pastor Bruce Christensen, Armstrong, Programming

Mr. John Rutledge, Merritt, Promotion

Mr. Jake Janzen, Merritt, Business.

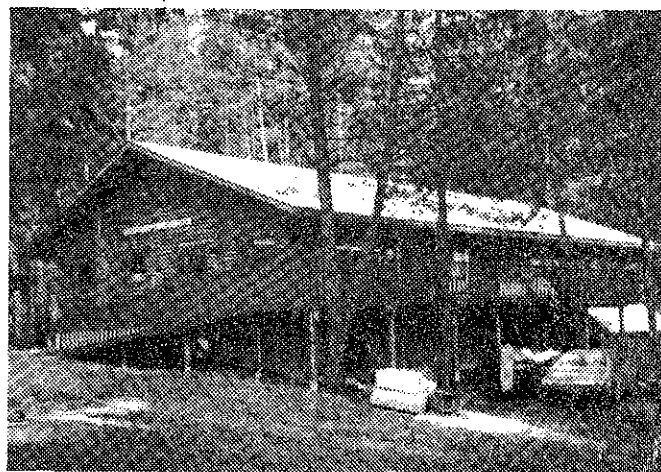
This Committee, appointed by the Association of Regular Baptist Churches of the Interior, makes periodic reports at its Business Meetings and is responsible to that body in its function. The personnel of the Committee may be changed at the Association's Annual Meeting as deemed advisable.



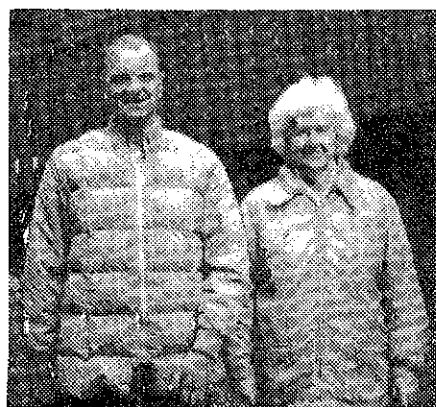


The concluding years of the decade of the "seventies" saw the Camp fulfilling its spiritual mission. The Camp schedule was full with an excellent attendance and gratifying results. In keeping with the desire to expand the Camp's usefulness, a Senior Citizens' Camp was introduced in 1978 and has continued to the present. Pastors Al Hern and Stan Robinson were co-Leaders of this camp for the first two years, and Rev. R. W. Affleck of the Okanagan Bible Institute and Dr. G. R. Dawe were speakers in 1978 and 1979 respectively.

Undoubtedly, the greatest physical achievement of the decade was the erection of a new Kitchen-Dining Hall facility to replace the building constructed in 1945, which had become inadequate. The plans were submitted by Pastor Stan Robinson of Barriere, and construction was un-



der the able direction of Dave Phillips, with many volunteers participating. By great determination and concentrated effort, the beautiful log structure, 74 x 48 feet, with full basement, was completed sufficiently for use by the end of June, 1979. Much work has been done on the building since the camping season, and landscaping and other improvements continue. The total cost approximates \$79,000, and the building will permit greater utilization of the Camp over a longer season.



In July, 1979, Mr. & Mrs. Percy Howard and their lovely family moved to Sunnybrae Camp Grounds, having been appointed resident Care-takers. Much has been accomplished already under Mr. Howard's direction, including the lay-



ing of a sewage disposal system under about half of the recreation area.

Plans projected for the future include transference of the washrooms to the basement of the new Dining Hall and the completion of a central pumping system; a more adequate network of roads; the construction of a new implement shed and workshop; provision of a parking area for trailers and campers and the further beautifying of the whole Camp complex. The old washrooms will be converted into more dormitory space.

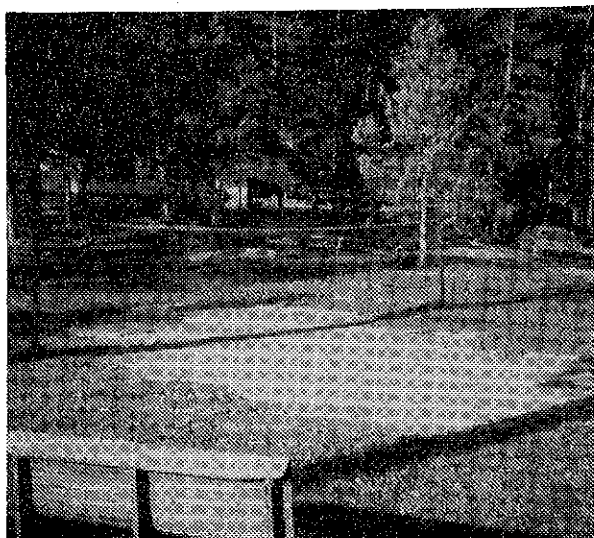
In recording the history of "Sunnybrae," we are grateful indeed for the fulfilling, to date, of God's promise, "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ," and in the strength of that promise, turn our faces toward the future and the day of His appearing.

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This volume of  
"THE SUNNYBRAE STORY"  
covers the first forty years  
of its history, from 1940 to  
the end of 1979.



New Block Cabins on the 2nd Ridge



Volleyball Court

The new decade of the Nineteen Eighties has begun, and plans for the 1980 camping season are well underway. Its history will no doubt be recorded by other hands in a future volume.

--- G. R. D.



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Upon completing the compilation of this history of Sunnybrae Bible Camp,  
I wish to acknowledge with grateful thanks:

Those who answered my questionnaire for information.

Those who sent pictures, some from personal albums, for use herein.

Mrs. Eleanor Eliason, for typing the final Printer's Copy.

My wife, for her painstaking care in reading the proofs.

The patience of the Executive of the Interior Association who asked me,  
four years ago, to write this story. I acquiesced with much pleasure, but  
press of duties has prolonged the process. I think I must feel somewhat like  
the little dog of whom someone wrote:

"There was a dachshund once, so long  
He hadn't any notion  
How long it took to notify  
His tail of his emotion;  
And so it happened, while his eyes  
Were filled with woe and sadness,  
His little tail went wagging on  
Because of previous gladness!"

