



## Treasure from Kansas City

by P. W. Gustine

Many members of the Independent Baptist Fellowship of North America and other attendees treasured the Ninth Annual Family Bible Conference in Kansas City. They returned to their churches and ministries with renewed vision and encouragement. June 22-24 were busy days **filled with powerful preaching, consecrated music and warm fellowship.** The Adam's Mark Hotel, which looks down on the Kauffman Stadium of the Royals and Arrowhead Stadium of the Chiefs, was a lovely site for the gathering.

Kansas City was a timely place for this conference because one hundred years ago another wonderful spiritual event with elaborate plans took place in the city. Unfortunately, it came to a sudden end because D. L. Moody's health broke down in his last campaign, November 16, 1899. He was taken by train back to Northfield, MA, where on December 22 he said, "Earth recedes; Heaven opens before me."

*"Don't assume  
your missionary is  
starting a Baptist  
church!"*

*Mark Nelsen*

### **Evangelist's Appeal . . .**

It was fitting, then, that five evangelists addressed the conference. **Dean Myers**, Grand Rapids, Ohio, challenged the youth each evening. Calling for a continuing faithfulness in the exposition of the Bible from II Timothy 3:14, **Jack Mount**, evangelist with the Bill Rice Ranch, Murfreesboro, TN, applied the Scriptures to define the proper relation-

ship of truth, unity and love. He gave illustrations of some who have departed from these Biblical standards for obedience. **Charles Kempf**, Fremont, MI, made a stirring appeal for courage and faith to fight the Lord's battles today (I Samuel 17). He called on the Fellowship to exalt Christ in everything and to accurately represent Him. A warning about the spirit of Diotrophes in missions came from **Mark Nelsen**, Church Planter (BWM), La Rochelle, France. From III John and Acts 13 he developed the pattern of the Holy Spirit guiding the missionary and his accountability to the commissioning church and supporting

continued, page two

### *Inside pages:*

- 2 | • **Powerful Preaching**  
• **Seasons of Prayer**
- 3 | • **Warm Fellowship**  
• **Workshops**  
• **Discussions**  
• **Consecrated Music**
- 4 | • **Numerous Activities**  
• **Looking Ahead**  
• **Join the IBFNA**
- 5 | **Tape Order Form**
- 6 | **New Membership System Began . . .**
- 6 | **Directory Changes**
- 7 | **Resolutions 1 & 4**
- 8 | **Resolution 2**
- 9 | **Resolution 3**
- 10 | **A Unique Fellowship**
- 11 | **Membership Form**
- 12 | **Coming Events**

churches. The missionary's work was summarized from Ephesians 4:11-16. His final warning was "Don't assume your missionary is starting a Baptist church!"

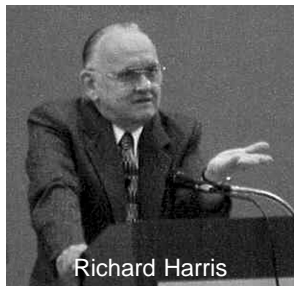
And **Carlos DiLeo**, Church Planter, Montevideo, Uruguay, gave Biblical principles for doing damage to Satan's strongholds. He stressed decisive action to do the will of God which requires a separatist position in deed and word (I Kings 17:1-14). He urged that cultural barriers should be knocked down to show the grace of God in helping each other do God's work (II Cor. 8:1-5). He pleaded for prayer about one's friendships (Ps. 119:76-79). Every faithful servant of the Lord must let God choose his friends. One's friends must be those who follow God in doctrine and practice. Otherwise one's friends may be a danger to obedience to God.



Carlos DiLeo

### ***Powerful Preaching . . .***

There was good preaching. With a strong combination of theme and topics, matched together with seasoned preachers from near and far, no previous conference could boast of a better program. Other contributions to the theme, *Unconventional Warfare*, came from pastors. The Keynote Address by **Richard Harris**, Sellersville, PA, from II Corinthians 10:1-11 started



Richard Harris

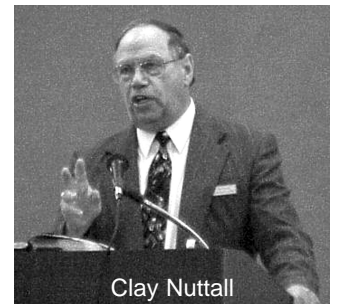
with an analysis of the Apostle Paul's circumstances and message to the Corinthians. In applying the lessons from Paul he identified the enemy's weapons against the saints and the weapons provided by the Lord.

**William Darrow**, Milwaukee, WI, walked the assembly through an overview of the spiritual battle from Lucifer's "I wills" to the "It is finished" by the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. With this perspective daily skirmishes can be faced claiming the victory in Him. Giving sound exposition of Jude 20-21, **Laurence**

**Brown**, North Conway, NH, reminded all hearers of their personal spiritual responsibility. The vital elements in maintaining spiritual vitality are recognition of one's position in Christ and obedience to the Word of God.

Moderator **Charles Dear**, Philadelphia, PA, had to stand in for Martin Masitto, West Chester, PA, because he needed to stay at home to support Leo D'Arcangelo and his family. (Brother Leo went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, June 27, right after the conference.) Dear identified the worthy battles as those for the Lord's honor and name (I Samuel 17). He stressed the benefit of fellowship with other believers while in the battle from Joshua 22. He cautioned that principle must rule in evaluating the rightness of battle—not politics (Gal. 2:11-14). "Think of doing damage to Satan's kingdom and build the Kingdom of God."

**Willard Benedict**, Summerfield, FL, identified three areas where the local church is being counterfeited. The counterfeits are those who do not identify whom they are or what they believe, those who have forsaken congregational church government, and those who employ conformity to the world for popular success. Concluding the messages and summarizing the theme, **Clay Nuttall**, Piedmont Baptist College, Winston-Salem, NC, brought the assembly back to the believer's responsibility to trust and obey God's truth (I John 5:1-13). He sent the assembly home with the encouragement that victory is assured in Jesus Christ. All of the IBFNA members can claim His victory by using the Word of God in every aspect of their lives.



Clay Nuttall

### ***Seasons of Prayer . . .***

Seasons of prayer time were led by **Jim Wendorf**, Sellersville, PA, and **Gary Freeland**, Boone, IA. These were not the only times of prayer. Informal fellowship in rooms and hallways often led to supplication to God when urgent needs were made known.

## **Warm Fellowship . . .**

The half-hour breaks between messages, the milling around the exhibits and the refreshment together at meals evidenced the enjoyment of being together with loving brothers and sisters in Christ.



With regard to the benefit of fellowship, **Robert Delnay**, Clearwater, FL, observed, *"Whatever else, we appreciated the good fellowship between the meetings. There are not so many convicted separatists left in this country, and where are we to find one another? We are one endangered species that the world would like to see go extinct. So it was real pleasure to get together and compare notes with our friends."*

## **Informative Workshops / Discussions . . .**

**Robert Delnay** ("The Dangers of the Deliverance Movement"), **Jeff Bailey**, Attleboro, MA, along with **Jim Singleton**, Tempe, AZ, ("Small Groups Without Cells") shared the fruits of their studies and experiences during seminars.

There was a panel discussion regarding membership qualifications for our Fellowship. Presentations were made pro and con answering the question, "Should membership be withheld from those who are members in a GARB church?" One point of view was presented by **Bob Payne**, Belleville, MI, and **Clay Nuttall** and the other perspective came from **Richard Harris** and **Duane Brown**, Brooksville, FL. Bob Payne later presented an amendment to the IBFNA Constitution on the subject at the business session.

**Jeff Kistler**, Pittsburgh, PA, made these observations about the discussions and the business session: *"I really appreciated the spiritual atmosphere and Christ-like fellowship that allowed for discussion, debate, and to 'disagree without being disagreeable.' Really, when you think about it, we talked about some rather 'heavy' and difficult topics. Many of these issues had the potential of setting the course and the direction of the IBFNA for years to come. Yet, in the midst of all of this discussion there was always the feeling of mutual respect and love among the brethren. Being a part of many church and fellowship business meetings through the years, I have never seen the depth of love among brothers and sisters in Christ as we have had the privilege to see demonstrated in this recent conference. We thank the Lord for His great working in our midst!"*

## **Consecrated Music . . .**

The music of the conferences of the IBFNA is distinctive. The spiritual tone is uplifting and complements the preaching of the Word. Everyone enjoyed singing with **George Zinn**, Greenwood, IN, in this year's sessions, and it is always a blessing to hear him praise God in song. Some of the accompanists were **Lois**

**Tilson**, Stony Point Baptist Church, Kansas City, KS, and **Michelle Tilson Volante**, Ghana, Africa. Other special music was provided by **Tim Clinkenbeard**,

Omaha, NE, the **George Lovely family**, Atchison, KS; **John and Lois Tilson**, the **Ladies Ensemble** and **Lori Reeves** of Stony Point Baptist Church.



John & Lois Tilson

## **Political Resolutions . . .**

The resolutions this year took on a definite political flavor. Resolutions about Littleton, CO, the Second Amendment and Jack Kevorkian were presented and passed, as you can read on pages 7-9. While there are other spiritual issues around us, the Fellowship has addressed most of them in the past.