

LETTERS

PICTURE BENCH

We always enjoy Focus, particularly the recent summer issue featuring AU benches.

We came across a couple pictures of my wife Velma and me on benches taken in 1946. At my 50th reunion in 1997 we sat on one of the same benches near the old library and took our picture with a self-timer. I'm sure lots of alumni have taken pictures on AU's benches. It would be interesting to see some.

*Fred (BA '47) and Velma Beavon
Dayton, Montana*



Then



Now

TIED DOWN

I was intrigued by the pictures of the benches in the summer issue of Focus (Vol. 36, No. 3). In all of the illustrations, the benches were tied down by some kind of anchoring device. I am not sure, but I don't remember the benches around the sun dial back in the forties being anchored quite so obviously. Maybe this is a sign of the times even on a Christian campus!

*Kenneth Spaulding (BA '48)
Lawrenceburg, Tenn.*

HOOVER-HERBERT OR EDGAR?

I have read with interest the article about special agent Marla Talbot. However, the author got the Hoovers mixed up. It was J. Edgar Hoover who was the long-time head of the FBI. The Herbert Hoover mentioned in the article was actually J. Edgar's boss for a period of time, when Herbert was President of the United States from 1929 to 1933. Herbert Hoover died in October of 1964, and J. Edgar in 1972.

*William Worth
Principal, Munising SDA Junior Academy*

Editor's note: *You are correct. Despite our best attempts to weed out errors, the mistakes always seem most obvious once the issue has been published! Sorry, but you don't get a prize for bringing it to our attention, but we do say "thanks" and keep on keeping us on our toes.*

STORY, NOT RELIGION

I read with interest the review of Roger L. Dudley's book *Why Our Teenagers Leave the Church*. A very important question indeed. Although I haven't read the book, I would venture the following reasons. It's too tough for me! Nobody answers my questions! Those in charge are phonies! If Christ is waiting for me to get perfect, He's got a mighty long wait—more time than I've got!

The next and better question should be "How do we keep our teenagers in touch with Christ?" For starters: 1. Deep-six *Messages to Young People* and all other "compilations." There is not a shred of gospel in the lot. 2. Stop publishing *Steps to Christ*, which is simply another works approach to salvation—substitute Pilgrim's Progress or anything by Stott or Sproul. Why not picture Christ as the Hound of Heaven tirelessly seeking the lost? 3. Abandon the Herbert Douglas straw man built from E. G. White's selected quotations concept of a "perfect final generation." 4. Abandon the concept of "keep the Sabbath holy" and rather try an approach to worship and fellowship in celebration of creation.

Remember that the entire ministry of Christ was antireligious. Christianity is not a religion. It is a story. We are called to be story tellers. "Ye are my witnesses."

"I love to tell the story!"

*Tom Zwemer (att.)
Augusta, Ga.*

IDENTIFIED COUPLE

When I first saw this picture I was amazed. I was pretty sure it was of myself and my first wife, Glenda B. Reynolds (att.). We are divorced and I am remarried. After I sent the picture to her, she confirmed my thoughts.



Howard and Glenda Reynolds

I entered the Theological Seminary in 1967-68. I think we were eating our lunch together and this was either in the summer of 1967 or the late spring of 1968.

The place where we were sitting is between the seminary and the library and was just off the seminary parking lot.

We had been married at least a year when this picture was taken.

*Howard J. Reynolds (MA '97)
Dinuba, Calif.*

Letters to FOCUS are welcome and should be sent to Editor, FOCUS, University Relations Office, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI, 49103-1000 or by e-mail to: <alumni@andrews.edu> with "Letter to FOCUS Editor" in the subject line. The editors reserve the right to edit for content, style and space. Opinions expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the editors or university officers.