

Did you ever try to bake A PIECE OF PIE?

By Charles C. Ryrie, President of CAM

I like pies, and my wife makes delicious ones. I eat my pies piece by piece, but she bakes them pie by pie. And that's the way it should be.

The missionary you support is a most important piece in the work of the Central American Mission. If that piece were not present we would not be able to carry on the total work of the Mission as effectively. The evangelism you pray for, the building you pray for, and all the other aspects of the ministry are so individually important, it is difficult to think how impoverished we would be if any one of them were missing.

Together, all our missionaries form the team which is known as the CAM. That's the pie. Some of the pieces are different because of where they are, for there are pieces from Spain to South America, from Dallas to Panama. Some are different because of their type of ministry, for there are evangelists, pastors, teachers, administrators, builders, technicians, and many more. Each is different, but all are important.

Each of you that reads this Bulletin and supports the work of the CAM has your own particular interest. Many of you support individual missionaries. Some contribute to building projects. Others are especially interested in schools, or literature, or medical work, or Indian work, or radio. But all of these interests are vital because they support each other. Missionaries need buildings, so supporting a missionary is not enough; he must also have a place to work. Buildings have to be built, but if they are empty of workers they are useless. So building a building is not enough; supporting the workers who will work

in it is also necessary. Someone must pay for the printing of literature, but unless someone supports the worker who gives that literature out, it might remain unused.

But there's one piece of the pie most people forget. And that is the home office. Occasionally I

hear it said of a missionary who has been called to serve in the home office,

"Isn't it too bad he has to go home and will no longer be a missionary!" But in the

home office he is even more of a missionary, for he serves

the entire Mission and every phase of its work. I even

dare to say he is still a foreign missionary for

that is the central focus of all his work.

The faithful employees who

put out this Bulletin, those who re-

ceive your gifts and who tend to the many

needs of the missionaries on the fields are so very es-

sential to the pie.

But back to the original question. Did you ever try to bake a piece of pie?

Oh, you can bake a little pie, but not a single piece. You have to be concerned about the whole pie if you

are going to be able to have good pieces. I am not suggesting that everyone can or should have equal

interest in every aspect of the work of the CAM. But I do hope that all of us will stretch our vision to in-

clude some of the other pieces of the work. The general fund, though not nearly so exciting, is as

important as special funds. Prayer for missionaries you do not know so well is more difficult, but equally

rewarding. God loves people in every country, not only in those I particularly know about.

So, as you savor your piece of the pie, remember — it's part of the whole.

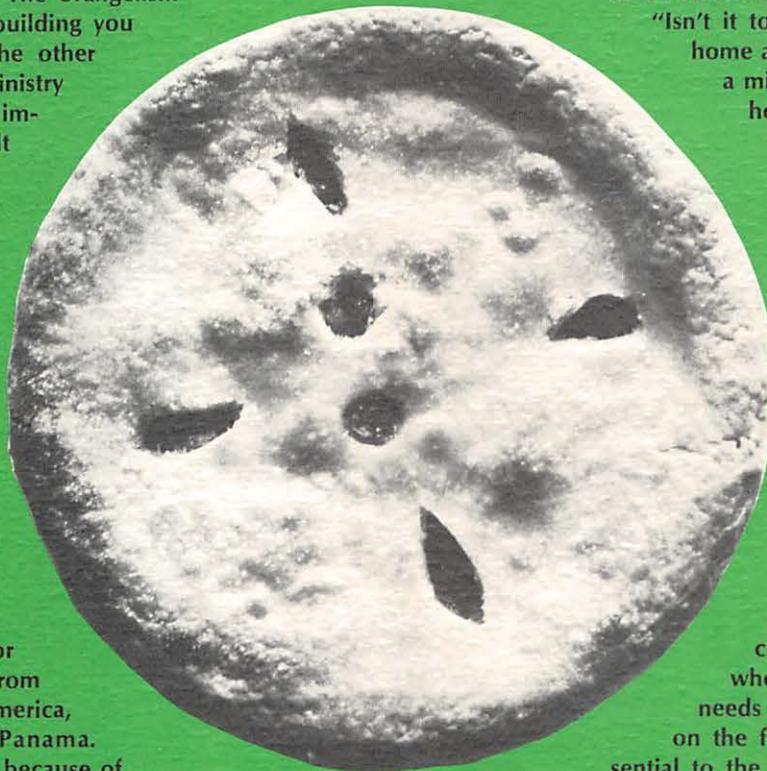


Photo by Pat Stanley