

Recovers from accident

Les Nicholas says Lord gave him new life

Les Nicholas is leading a new life and he owes it to the Lord. Without the Lord's help, he might not even have a life, for Les Nicholas came

very close to dying. It was in the early morning hours of Dec. 24, 1978, that his car went off M-81, about a mile west of Cass City, and rolled over several

times as it traveled about 200 feet through the air. Nicholas was thrown out and his body was found about 30 feet from where the car came to rest. He was on his way home from a Christmas party in Caro when the accident happened. He still has no idea what caused it and has no recollection of the moments immediately before it.

Nicholas was in the intensive care unit at St. Mary's Hospital, Bay City, for a while, in critical condition. His mother, Martha, told him later that it wasn't known for some days if he would live, and if he did, whether he would return to health or he would be a vegetable.

The divorced father of two was able to return to his Sherman Street home for further recuperation in mid-January, though he said it was still a while before he was totally aware of what was going on.

His younger brother, Dan, lived with him for a while to cook meals and drive him around until he could make it on his own. His mother did his laundry.

He also got lots of flowers and cards from the many people he knew, especially in Caro, where he was the delivery driver for United Parcel Service.

He went back to work in March, although the company wouldn't let him get

behind the wheel of a truck until May. He is now back at his Caro route.

EVEN THOUGH HE was back to work, his life wasn't right, and he knew it.

He was still having health problems resulting from the accident and he had no ambition.

That wasn't like Les Nicholas, who had always been extremely active and physical-fitness minded. Playing softball, baseball and basketball and hunting and fishing had been among his many activities.

"I just didn't have the drive, the fire," he explained. "I just wanted to stay home." And outside of going to work, that was about all he did.

He knew something was wrong, but he wasn't sure what. Then while watching television early last September, he found part of the answer.

The program he was watching was "The 700 Club," sort of a religious version of the Johnny Carson show (minus Johnny Carson).

A telephone number was broadcast for persons to call who needed help. Nicholas called.

He and the woman who answered prayed together over the telephone. She told him to trust the Lord and urged him to become involved with a church.

IT TOOK HIM TWO

months to take the next step.

Some friends belonged to the Deford Community Church and suggested he go. It was on Nov. 4 that he went and "got saved...and ever since then, changed my life around."

What happened at the church?

The church, he explained, is "so full of life, it's like walking into another world."

He gave high praise to the members—"a great bunch of people"—and to the minister, Rev. Gerald Rodgers, and his assistant, Lewis

Tibbits, for giving him guidance.

He made his decision that day, was baptized Dec. 23 and since then has become a member of the church.

HOW HAS HIS LIFE changed since then?

Before, going to church (a different one) was an on and off thing, out of an obligation that "I had to go."

Now, "It's in my heart. Now I know it." Nicholas attends church faithfully each Wednesday and Sunday evening and Sunday morning. He is hoping he will be able to go with a

church group for two weeks in February to build a building for use by missionaries.

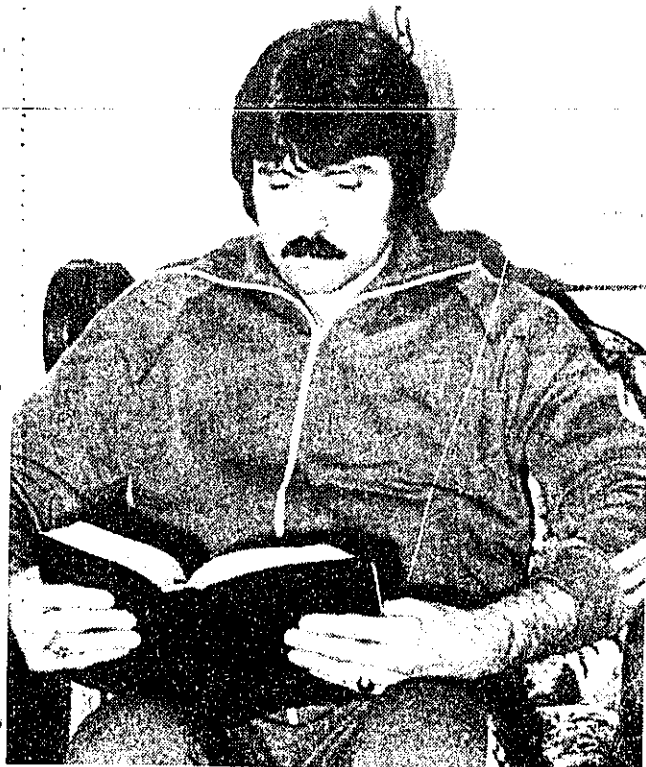
His health has improved. Pressure on his brain used to be common but now he seldom feels it. His vision has also improved. "It just means wonders to me to have my health back. By the grace of God, I got it back."

Nicholas is again active—very active. In addition to his church activities and work, he plays on three basketball teams. One is a team from his church; the others are from Caro and

Brown City. Although he usually now wears a cross hanging from his neck most of the time—"It means a lot to me."—he doesn't wear his religion on his sleeve.

If people ask him for help, he explained, he is more than willing to give it, but he doesn't try to push his beliefs on others. If people ask, "I just try to tell them what the Lord has done for me."

Nicholas sums up his new outlook on life very simply. "I'm more at peace at heart with everything."



GREAT BOOK—When Les Nicholas finds a quiet moment in his busy schedule, he often spends it reading the Bible.

Kitchen is high accident risk area in home

Safety should begin at home, judging from a National Safety Council statistic that one-third of the persons injured each year in the U.S. are either in the home or on the home premises.

High risk area With greater precautionary measures, this fig-

ure could be reduced—especially in particular areas of the home like the kitchen, where accident risk is high.

The Gillette Company, makers of smoke detectors and fire extinguishers designed to keep every room in the home safe from the threat of fire, has a particular concern for kitchen safety.

Because over 65 per cent of home fires start in the kitchen, special care should be taken in this room where there is a concentration of electrical appliances.

Hub of activity To keep the room that is usually the "hub of activity" safe from fire and other hazards, Gillette recommends these kitchen DOs and DON'Ts.

• DON'T overload sockets by plugging too many power-hungry appliances into one outlet. And remember to install outlets high enough above the counter so that water can't get into them.

• DO hang a knife rack in a convenient spot out of children's reach to avoid injury to curious little hands.

• DO install a fire extinguisher on a wall near to the stove for easy reach. Never install one over the stove,

where a surface fire could prevent you from reaching the safety unit.

• DO keep floor space clean and free from hazardous toys or other objects that might literally "trip you up."

• DON'T use an electric mixer or another small appliance next to a kitchen sink filled with water, where it might slip in and you would be apt to reach for it.

• DO check plugs and cords often for signs of wear.

• DO have a towel rack placed where it should be

—by the sink—for easy access to wipe up dripping slippery puddles on the floor.

• DON'T toss flammable hot pads carelessly over an electric range where they might start a fire on a burner that has been turned off but is still hot. Place a hook to hang hot pads close to the range so one can be grabbed quickly if necessary.

• DO keep a small first-aid kit in a drawer in the kitchen for easy reach.

• DON'T wait until after accidents happen to tell children the rules on kitchen safety.

Seek out energy savers

Homeowners planning to renovate their kitchens will find some surprising innovations in appliances, especially power-saving features and improved insulation.

One energy-saving refrigerator uses about a third less electricity than other models not equipped with its special thermostatically controlled motor.

While it is true that the amount of electricity consumed by a refrigerator each operating hour is a modest amount, it's also true that it is operated twenty-four hours around the clock for 365 days a year.

Even though frost-free refrigerators do use more kilowatts of energy annually than non-frost-free models, they avoid the extra energy drain resulting from frost accumulation.

Today's power-saving refrigerators also preserve food longer during power failures, which become alarmingly more common each year.

Naturally, there's a higher price tag on these models, but operating savings in the long run more than repay the initial purchase price, according to the National Home Improvement Council.

LET THE CHRONICLE HELP YOU PLAY CUPID

We've cut the cost of advertising for sending Valentine messages

in our Thursday, Feb. 14, issue

Just \$1.50 Sends Your Message With A Heart Face

5¢ a word sends a message in regular classified style. Look for these ads Feb. 14

See our classified display ad counselor now. She'll be happy to help you write your message.

Or Call 872-2010

1 COL. X 1 1/2" \$2.75

1 COL. X 1" \$1.50

Sample Sizes

Valentine Greeting Ads are available in several sizes.

An appropriate smiling heart face will appear in every ad!

1 COL. X 1 1/2" \$2.25

1 COL. X 1 1/4" \$2.00

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

6550 Main

Cass City

NOW UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP PIZZA VILLA

Featuring

- Fresh Salad Bar Daily
- Homemade Pies
- Daily Specials
- Pizza By The Piece
- Homemade Soups

VALUABLE COUPON

\$1.00 OFF
Any Style
LARGE PIZZA
Offer Good Mon. thru Thurs.
January 21 - 24

OPEN HOURS

Monday - Thursday
11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday - Saturday
11 a.m. - 12 midnight
Sunday
7:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

PHONE 872-4440

PIZZA VILLA

6637 Main Street
Cass City