

# Bawku one of places visited by 'Crossroads'

By DANIELLE THIBEAULT

Third in a series of four articles on Crossroads. This week Dan Fenety describes the sights and the sounds of Bawku an agricultural village of northern Ghana.

Bawku, agricultural town of northern Ghana. Population - 15,000. This is where Dan Fenety worked last summer as part of the Crossroads help-out program. He arrived at night in Southern Ghana, then flew part of the way to Accra.

He then bartered a ride on a mommy-lorry, which is a truck with seats on the back, to arrive in Bawku by nightfall.

He was surprised at the scarceness of light in the town and the number of people in the streets with their radios blaring with the sounds of the Ghanaian broadcasting companies. What impressed him the most at first was the friendliness of the Ghanaian people. And during

the three months that he spent in Bawku, he says, "I never thought of myself as being lonely."

His work in Bawku was related to construction work. He was put in charge of building a seven room extension on a maternity ward with a sanitary block attached to it.

The idea originated with Dr. Jan Osterink, a Dutch doctor who worked at the mission in Bawku and who had raised the \$15,000 needed for the project. But carrying a busy schedule (from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

Dr. Osterink found that he could not find the time to supervise the construction work and work with the men at the same time. So he applied for someone to take charge of the work and Fenety got the job, probably because he had some experience in construction.

At first he had to get all



Natives waiting outside the health clinic in Bawku for treatment.

of his workers together, which he did fairly easily by offering a wage of 75 pesos a day (a 10 peso increase over the normal wage) which is approximately \$1.50 in Canadian currency.

The material was ready, the blocks had been made and part of the foundation had already

been laid. What was left to do was to organize the work. And he noticed that the workmen had taken a special interest in the project.

He says he himself really enjoyed the work, once he got accustomed to the physical labour and especially the heat

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## Infirmary

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# The trickle down your armpits.

Some things make us nervous.

Some things turn us into a kind of stranger to ourselves. The old dryness of the mouth sets in. The sweat starts down.

How about those job interviews, where all of a sudden you've got to stand out very clearly from the herd? Inside half an hour you've got to establish yourself to a world you never made and may not even like.

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